

# WRC UPDATE

## -APRIL-

MARCH 28, 2004

**RADIO AMATEURS SERVING THE  
WESTERN COMMUNITIES OF  
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA**

REMEMBER TO Z-O-O-M IN  
ON THE PHOTOS... 200% RECOMMENDED



### How MANY HAMS ARE THERE IN YOUR FAMILY TREE?

LEARN ABOUT A FAMILY OF 29 HAMS  
AND HOW THEY WORK TOGETHER  
TO PROMOTE HAM RADIO!

More info on page 2

### WALK TO CURE DIABETES THIS SATURDAY... APRIL 3RD

ENTERTAINMENT... BRING THE FAMILY...  
HELP OUT AT THE WRC'S  
LOST CHILD & COMMUNICATIONS BOOTH

More info on page 5

### GRAPHICAL COMPARISONS OF SOLAR CYCLES...

OR,  
How THINGS WILL GET MUCH  
WORSE BEFORE THEY GET BETTER!

More info on page 3

### APRIL 5TH MEETING...

CAPT. GREG RICHTER, WELLINGTON PBSO COMMANDER AND  
MEMBERS OF THE PBSO BOMB AND ARSON SQUAD DISCUSS:

### WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION AND RESPONDER SAFETY

With the characterization of hams as *First Responders* by Homeland Security officials, we are reminded of the grave risks faced by all public safety agencies and volunteer organizations.

Some would argue that the US is safer now than before 911. However, the frequency and spread of terrorist acts, and reports of WMDs purchased by terrorist groups in the world's black markets should cause us to remain cautious. Learn about WMDs and responder safety at Monday evening's meeting. [Map on page 4.](#)



Capt. Greg Richter, Fire/Rescue Chief Art Miller and Mayor Tom Wenham at June's EOC dedication and WRC meeting.



### HERB N4UNT... NOMINEE FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY'S DISTINGUISHED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR

With an upbeat personality, a thirst for the new and different and a broad knowledge of ham radio and computers, Herb has always caught the attention of his fellow radio amateurs.

Add a pinch of courage, hard work, dedication and the willingness to take on a multitude of different assignments and you can appreciate why Herb was chosen from among 5000 Palm Beach County law en-

forcement officers to be a candidate for this prestigious award.

For example, while Herb is a Traffic Homicide Investigator, he is also a certified trainer in a number of specialty fields and is on the FHP's Tactical Response (SWAT) Team.

The Wellington Radio Club is proud to have Herb as a member and wishes continued career success and, of course, DX.



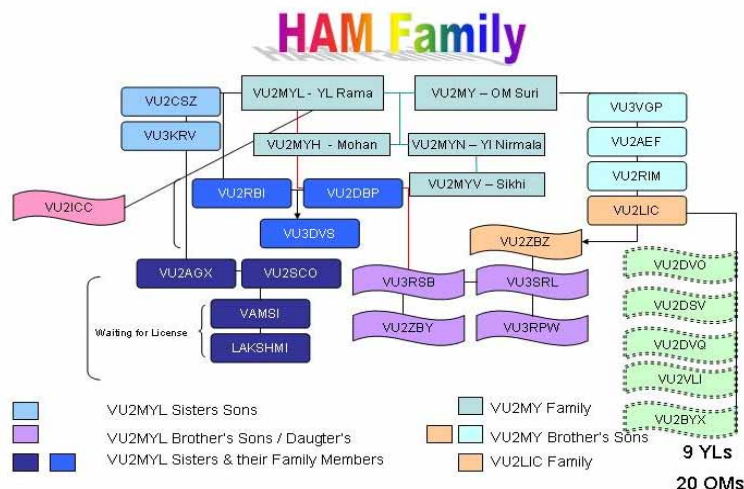
# A GUINNESS RECORD? HAM FAMILY WITH 29 LICENSED MEMBERS KEEPS TRADITION OF COMMUNITY SERVICE ALIVE...

How many hams do you know who lament the fact that their kids want nothing to do with radio? Many hams in the U.S. are in that situation. They can't share their excitement or work with family members on a common project. Granted, we do know a lot of hams fortunate to have one son or daughter take up the hobby.

But it's rare to see a whole family enjoy ham radio and even rarer to see an incredibly large, extended family of hams who have had a great impact on the development of amateur radio in their country.

That's why when Sara VU3RSB told me there were 29 hams in his family, I nearly fell out of my chair! In the process of researching this story, I also came to learn that this family has altered the history of ham radio in India by working together.

For example, in the last Wellington Update, Sara told us about a trip to introduce ham radio to the youth of the Himalayan region. We didn't realize that the NIAR New Delhi team actually consisted of his aunt, uncle and cousins. That's what you can call quality time with the family!



A Ham Family Tree like none other... Sara did a terrific job putting together this amazing family tree. By working together, during normal times and emergencies, they have been a credit to amateur radio in India.

**A. The youngest ham is OM VARUN, VU3DVS, harmonic of YL Bharathi, VU2RBI. He's 14 years old.**

**Q. Are the women of the family very interested in radio?**

**A. There are now 9 YL and XYL licensees in the family and a few more are joining this ham group soon.**

**Q. Are most family members in the Hyderabad area and do they get together?**

**A. They all are in different parts of India. In earlier days, we had nets to meet one another.**

**Q. Are most of your ham relatives in a particular**



**LEFT:** NIAR Delegation, including five family members, meets the President of India, Bharata Ratna Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam on 26-08-2003 in New Delhi. From L-R: Mr. S.Ram Mohan **VU2MYH**, Mr. S.B.Ram **VU2LIC**, Dr. Shrikant Jichkar **VU2SJA**, Chairman, N.I.A.R. His Excellency Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, receiving NIAR's Proposals from Mr. S. Suri **VU2MY**, and Mrs. Bharathi Prasad **VU2RBI**, Mr. P.V.S.N. Sastry **VU2SCO**, Dr. Pankaj Chande, Vice-Chancellor, Kavikulaguru Kalidas Sanskrit University. (Family members in bold print.)

**RIGHT:** Goodwill "ambassador" Bharathi VU2RBI at the Connecticut DX Association station during 1987 visit Stateside. Bharathi is well known in DX circles for her expeditions and operating skills.

Sara agreed to share some information about his extended family that also lets us appreciate some of the results of their hard work.

**Q. Who was the first ham in the family? The oldest?**

**A. The first, oldest and most inspiring to us is OM Suri, VU2MY. He is the founder and Executive Vice Chairman of National Institute of Amateur Radio in Hyderabad. His promotional efforts have helped amateur radio grow tenfold and he's still promoting it in various regions in India.**

**Q. Who's the youngest?**

**profession or occupation?**

**A. You can find them in all walks of life... engineers, computer professionals, accountants, technicians, teachers, insurance advisors, students and housewives.**

Reading the history of the National Institute of Radio, you realize that Sara's relatives have met and influenced some of India's greatest historical figures... such as Prime Ministers Indira Gandhi and her son Rajiv VU2RG. The family still works together to make sure amateur radio remains a vital part of India's rapid technological development.

## FROM THE DX LISTENERS' CLUB WEBPAGE...

### *Graphical Comparisons of Solar Cycles... or, How Things Will Get M-u-c-h Worse Before They Get Better!*

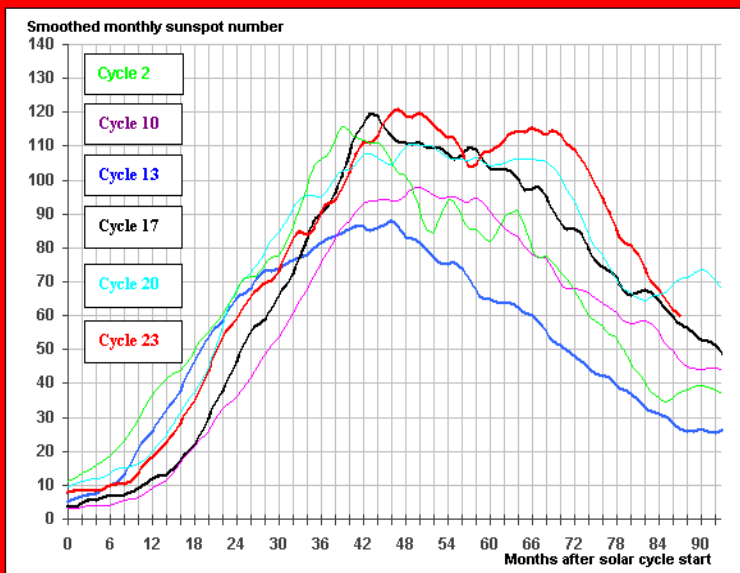
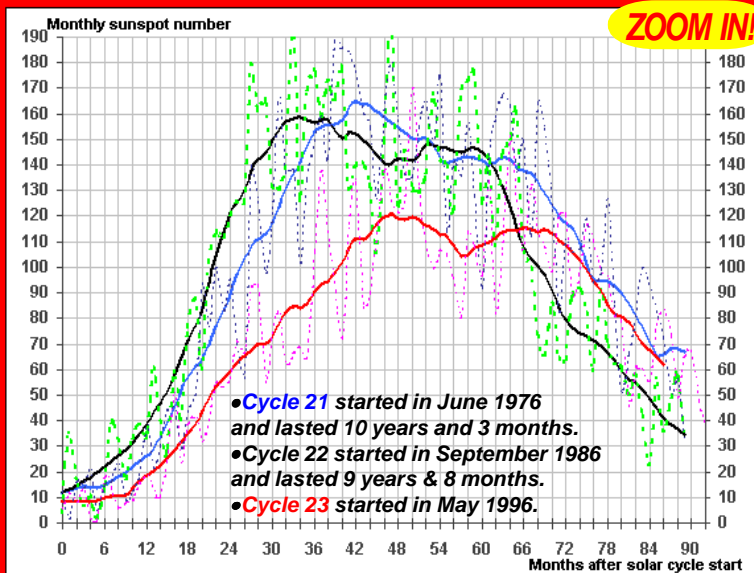
While there have been frequent band HF openings, many HF operators have noticed the continued decline of propagation conditions on 20 through 10 meters.

We have a long way to go before we hit the bottom of this cycle... in fact another two to four years! So get used to worsening conditions, tweak up your antenna systems and listen more often to the lower bands (160 to 40 meters). In the current Cycle 23 we hit the first peak Sunspot Number, SSN, of about 120 some

three years ago and current SSNs are averaging around 60. At its worst, we should see SSNs of between 5 and 10 before we'll see gradual improvement that marks the start of Cycle 24.

The charts below and the accompanying explanatory note are found at [www.dxlisteners.com](http://www.dxlisteners.com). They help give you a feeling for how Solar Cycles vary and, unfortunately, what you can look forward to.

On the positive side, you have plenty of time to get up low band antennas!



**LEFT:** Cycles 21 & 22 spoiled us by providing GREAT conditions. **RIGHT:** The current cycle is thought to be more like Cycles 20, 17, 13, 10 & 2... all with much lower SSN peaks. Comments from the DX LISTENERS CLUB: Note... the start date for each cycle is calculated using the 13-month smoothed monthly mean sunspot number. One advantage of using this

statistical (numerical) approach is that the start month of a solar cycle is the same as the month of the solar minimum. It is possible to use other criteria to separate solar minimum and the start of a solar sunspot cycle, however, which criteria to use & how much importance each is given, unfortunately leaves room for individual opinion.

## THE WELLINGTON RADIO CLUB PRESENTS ITS 2ND **BEGINNER'S... AMATEUR RADIO COURSE**



**Wednesdays from 7pm-9:30pm  
July 7 through August 11**  
*Optional weekend activities and tutoring at the EOC.  
Last date includes review and FCC exam.*

### **REGISTRATION COSTS:**

**\$ 6. Course Fee - Wellington Resident  
\$ 8. Course Fee - Non Resident**

**Age: 14+    Minimum class size: 6    Maximum: 12**

### **PAYABLE TO INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF:**

**\$20. Study guide    \$12. FCC examination Fee**

**CLASSES ARE HELD AT THE WELLINGTON EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER**



**There's Still Time... CERT TRAINING FOR WRC MEMBERS. BEGINS APRIL ???**  
**Space Limited... Pre-Register Now by Email: [LARRY33414@AOL.COM](mailto:LARRY33414@AOL.COM)**

## THE WRC RESOURCE GUIDE: A SERVICE FOR MEMBERS, FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS... ZOOM IN!

THIS SECTION IS A SERVICE TO MEMBERS, FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS WISHING TO MAKE THEMSELVES KNOWN AND AVAILABLE TO ASSIST OTHERS. BY BEING ON THIS PAGE, THEY PLEDGE TO PROVIDE SERVICES AND/OR GOODS WITH INTEGRITY AND THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF THEIR PROFESSIONS.

THE FINE PRINT... WRC Resource Guide insertions must comply with all applicable Federal, State and Local Statutes. **THE WRC UPDATE** reserves the right to reject any insertion for

any reason. All insertion information is accurate to the best of our knowledge and a proof has been sent to all submitters before publication. The WRC assumes no responsibility for errors.



**JUAN A. ABELLON**  
**M.D., FAAP.**  
 DIPLOMATE OF THE  
 AMERICAN BOARD OF PEDIATRICS

**WELLINGTON**  
**PEDIATRICS, PA**

KG4QYY-Vice Pres.  
 at WRC's Free  
 Child ID Project  
 Palms West Medical Mall 1  
 13005 Southern Blvd., Ste 115  
 Loxahatchee, FL 33470

Office Hours  
 by Appointment:  
 790 - KIDS  
 790 - 5437

**WRC MEMBERS...**  
**YOUR FREE INSERTION**  
**CAN BE HERE NEXT MONTH.**  
**EMAIL THE EDITOR YOUR**  
**PROPOSED CONTENT AND**  
**A GOOD PORTRAIT PHOTO.**

**Dennis Gershwin**  
 REAL ESTATE INSTRUCTOR  
 Gold Coast School of  
 Real Estate

**BROKER/ASSOCIATE**  
 Coldwell-Banker  
 Residential Real Estate

7035 Beracasa Way, Boca Raton, FL 33433

Office: 561-392-2822 Pager: 561-554-3328  
 Home: 561-967-7871 Pager: 954-574-6901



KA2TGQ-Member



**STEPHEN A. WOLF**  
 GENERAL MANAGER  
**ALARM**  
**GUARD**

ELECTRONIC, SECURITY,  
 CCTV ACCESS CONTROL,  
 FIRE DETECTION & BUILDING SECURITY ALARM SYSTEMS

Established 1977



793-1812 3965 Investment Lane  
 800-637-0344 W.P.B. FL 33404 FL License EF 13



www.mppa.com  
 Tech Info: 561-848-8236

**MARLIN P. JONES & ASSOCIATES**

This Area's Best Selection of and Prices for  
 Coax Connectors and a Multitude of  
 Electronic Parts, Test Equipment, Power  
 Supplies, Gadgets, Tools and More!

Orders: 800-652-6733 Lake Park, FL  
 Old Dixie Hwy.

**THE MOST COMPLETE LINE OF**  
**REGULAR, CRIMP & TWIST-ON**  
**COAX CONNECTORS**  
**IN PALM BEACH COUNTY**

UHF SMA BNC  
 MINI-UHF N F  
 AND A MULTITUDE OF COAX ADAPTORS

**AUSTIN GRANAT**  
 CAPTAIN  
 RADIO OPERATIONS

**CITIZEN OBSERVER PATROL**  
**PBSO**

Volunteers Needed in All Communities

Contact:  
 Major Len Cohen 433-2003  
 Administration 9am-4pm M-F



W2AGX - Member

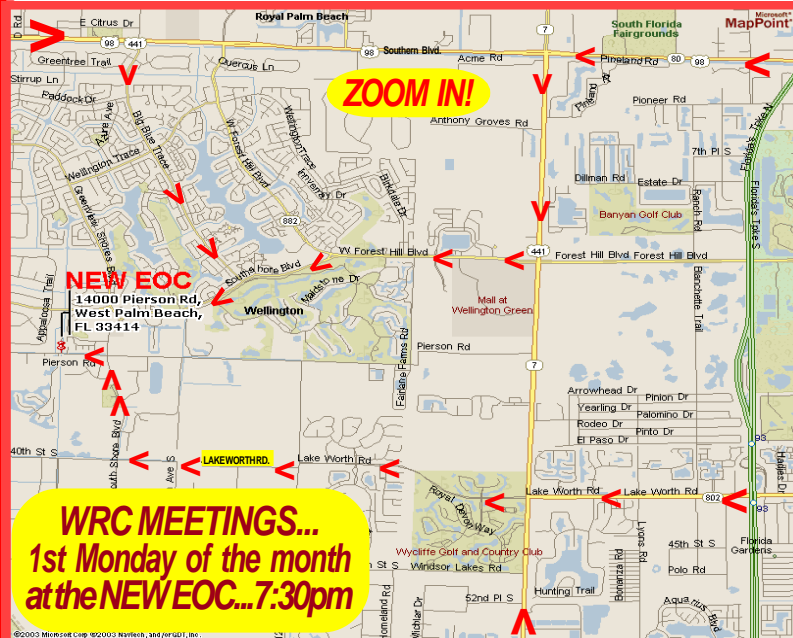
## WELLINGTON RADIO CLUB... Nets Open to All!

**MONDAYS... INCLUDING HOLIDAYS**  
**7:30PM - WELLINGTON EMERGENCY NET**  
**147.285**

**THURSDAYS... EXCLUDING HOLIDAYS**  
**7:30PM - MEMORY LANE NET**  
**147.285**

**SATURDAYS... EXCLUDING HOLIDAYS**  
**7:00PM - IRLP SKYWARN NET**  
**442.050/103.5**

**SUNDAYS... EXCLUDING HOLIDAYS**  
**7:30PM - SLOW SCAN TV NET**  
**147.285**



## THE WRC UPDATE

is the official publication of the  
 Wellington Radio Club  
 1213 White Pine Drive,  
 Wellington, FL 33414

(561) 793-0788 Email: [LARRY33414@AOL.COM](mailto:LARRY33414@AOL.COM)

President & Editor - Larry Lazar, KS4NB  
 Vice President - Juan Abellon, MD, KG4QYY  
 Secretary - John Moorman, KG4JMO  
 Treasurer - Georg Samulkewitsch, KR4WD  
 Program/Activities Chairperson - Bruce Fondiller, K2MDF

© 2003 - This publication maybe circulated freely only in its  
 entirety. Partial reproduction in any form or its editing,  
 without permission, is prohibited.

Permission may be requested from the Editor, via email  
 at the address above or through the WRC website at:

[www.qsl.net/k4wrc](http://www.qsl.net/k4wrc)

## Volunteer for Field Day 2004 - June 26/27

Let's not have a repeat of last year when Mike K4PCM and Georg KR4WD were the lone operators at 3:45 am. In fact from about midnight until 7am, operators and loggers were desperately needed. There should have been at least five people there *around the clock* to keep our two stations operating and to have relief.

To be a *competitive* FD site there must be volunteer leaders to ensure staffing, a smooth, accurate logging process, monitor band conditions and advise operators of activity, take advantage of bonus points, ensure compliance with all the rules, etc., etc. Now is the time to start preparations.

Last year our appeals for volunteers drew enough people for setup, takedown and early operations. We are grateful for that... it enabled the WRC to have a fun and successful exercise. However, the requests for leaders in vital contest related areas went unheeded.

**NOW is the time to volunteer for Field Day!**  
**Consider being a leader!**

Let Bruce K2MDF, 281-6396 know when you can attend and what you would like to handle.



## Walk to Cure Diabetes



## BOCA WALK SUCCESSFUL... ONE LOST PERSON!

THE WRC LOST CHILD & COMMUNICATIONS BOOTH CONCEPT  
AGAIN PROVEN EFFECTIVE IN REUNITING LOST CHILDREN,

PARENTS, PETS AND NOW A LOST SPECIAL ADULT!

**NEXT WALK: APRIL 3RD IN WPB**

**AT THE MEYER AMPHITHEATER ON FLAGLER**

With perfect weather, thousands attended the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation's **WALK TO CURE DIABETES** in Boca Raton. The first order of business was handing out radios to, and coordinating with, the Boca Police Dept., Fire/Rescue, event organizers and the DJ at the public address system. Afterwards, we set up alongside the nurses from the Boca Raton Community Hospital who provided first aid.

The WRC Team began handing out literature about ham radio, missing children and severe weather to the crowds. Passersby were able to talk to Sweden and elsewhere via IRLP on the 444.600 Boca repeater.

The Lost Child Team sprang into action immedi-



Hundreds of walkers prepare for the main event close to the Lost Child Booth. As usual, the JDRF did a superb job of organizing the event. Immediately after the volunteer guardian of a mentally challenged walking group reported that one of her charges was missing. A physical description was compiled and relayed to everyone. Within minutes, the lost person approached an alert policeman and was guided back to her group.

And so we can add another type of person that can benefit from our services at this type event. The unique communications niche that the Lost Children and Communications Booth fills seems to broaden with each event. Also with each event, there's no doubt that the positive image we all seek is improved with the public, the event organizers and public safety agencies.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED,  
FAMILIES WELCOMED!**

**COMPLIMENTARY BREAKFAST & LUNCH... ENTERTAINMENT**

**APRIL 3RD IN WEST PALM**

Contact Bruce K2MDF at 281-6396 or  
Larry KS4NB at 385-2986 to join the Lost Child Team.

### **DIRECTIONS TO W.P.B. EVENT...**

**FREE PARKING AT WPB EVERNIA STREET GARAGE:**

**OKEECHOBEE BLVD. EAST TO OLIVE**

**NORTH ON OLIVE**

**EAST ON EVERNIA TO GARAGE ENTRANCE.**

**Be Sure to Ask for FREE Parking Pass!**

**WALK ONE BLOCK EAST TO  
MEYER AMPHITHEATER SITE.**

**Look for our banner on the Eastside of the field.**