

WRC UPDATE -FEBRUARY- JANUARY 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**



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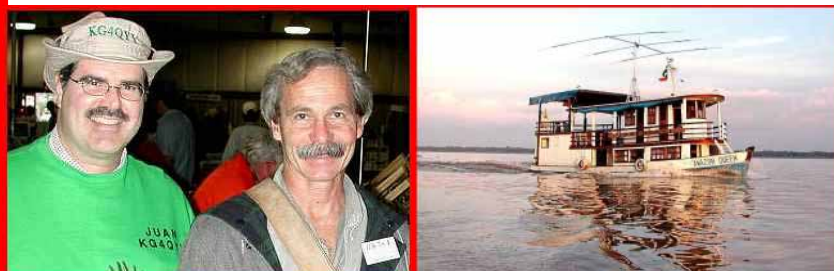
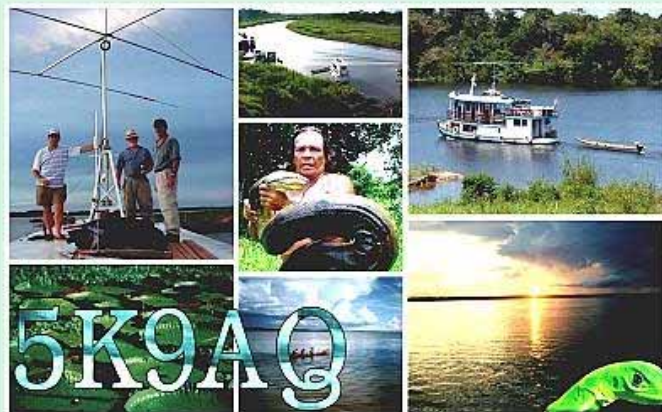
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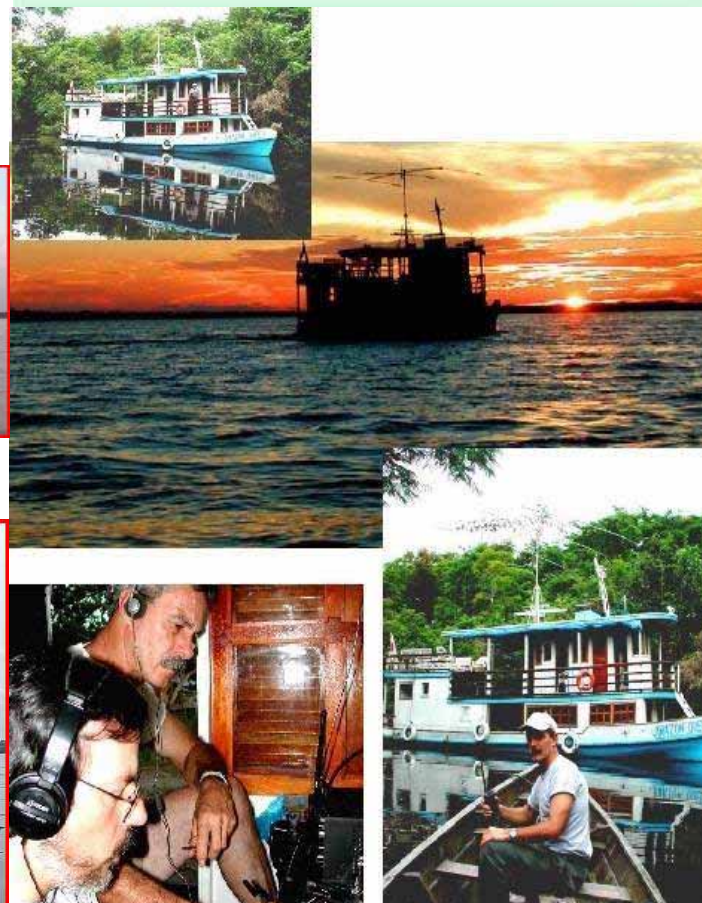
Next Meeting FEB 16th... ONE TIME DATE CHANGE FOR A SPECIAL GUEST: Phil HK3SA/AA8JV Presents A HAM'S LIFE ON THE AMAZON As HK3SA and 5K9AQ

Just looking at the collection of photos on this page reveals the tip of the iceberg when it comes to Phil's experiences in South America. While cruising the Amazon River and traversing parts of Colombia, Brazil and Venezuela, learn how he communicates, handles breakdowns, is greeted by the authorities, avoids waterway hazards and is received by natives. He has agreed to share his adventures with us at our February 16th meeting. It's unlikely to be dull!

Map and directions to the meeting at: www.qsl.net/k4wrc



Above Left: Juan KG4QYY and Phil HK3SA at the 2003 Orlando Hamfest.
Above Right & Below: The Amazon Queen is a comfortable, medium size vessel that is often dwarfed by BIG ships plying the same waters.



WELLINGTON RADIO CLUB

A Message From the Board

January 17, 2004

Dear WRC Member,

These days your mail usually contains just junk or bills. We are pleased to say this letter is a little different. It carries a recap of WRC activities and it bears some good news too... **WRC membership dues have been cut in half!** The explanation and details were published in the December WRC Newsletter. It is reprinted below for those who missed it.

"The November WRC meeting produced a motion that will make most members happy. At a time when most peoples' expenses are going up, WRC members will be getting a break!

There was a treasurer's report by Georg KR4WD that assured us of sufficient funds to meet the club's normal needs. Larry KS4NB then presented a summary of the Board's discussion about dues for the 2003/2004 membership year. He then informed members of the Board's final recommendation that was confirmed by a motion unanimously approved by the membership:

"Motion for there to be a 50% discount due to the shift in the dues schedule and that we are half a year behind in the billing cycle."

Among the revisions of the Constitution and By-Laws, adopted August 2002, was the change in the dues period... from the calendar year to a July 1-to-June 30th fiscal year. Because the revisions were adopted after the fiscal year was to have begun, its implementation was delayed.

Shortly, dues statements will be sent out that will cover membership through June 30, 2004:

\$ 9.00 Full and Associate Members

\$ 4.50 Retirees, students, spouse, other family members, etc.

To receive the 50% discount, dues **must** be paid **WITHIN 30 DAYS OF RECEIPT** and members must have been in good standing as of August 2002."

If there is no dues statement enclosed, you received it personally in November. If you took care of it, thanks. If not, please do so now.

About the Past Year

The past 12 months were very productive... a wide range of activities and programs reflected our Constitution's and By-Laws' goals and objectives. The WRC Board tried to balance the needs of the majority of WRC Members and the Club's long-term interests. We realize that a small number of members were unhappy with a few of our decisions. However, we are certain that if they honestly looked at all the activities, the "big picture", they will continue their membership and work towards an even better WRC. We know of no other radio club in the county that offers its members and their communities more services.

The WRC remains committed to all the core activities needed to maintain our emergency preparedness and communications skills. They include traditional ventures such as maintaining and improving our two repeaters, monthly meeting presentations, and weekly Emergency and Memory Lane Nets. A major activity was designing and building Wellington's EOC communications center...an ongoing project. A new WRC activity, the Beginner's Amateur Radio Course is being held in the Western Communities for the first time ever. There are eight students...all expected to be welcome additions to the county's shrinking ham population. In another arena but related to emergency communications, the WRC is committed to learning about and using newer technologies such as IRLP, EchoLink and digital modes.

All these programs and projects contribute to fulfilling our written agreements with the Village of Wellington and in turn, the Village has been unwavering in its support of the WRC.

Additional activities were geared to create a positive, community-oriented image of the radio amateur. From Club emails, our website, and the **WRC UPDATE NEWSLETTER**, you know that those WRC activities have been on-going. We continued frequent contact with Village officials and community activities such as the WRC's Lost Child Center and Child Identification services. No radio club, anywhere that we know of, has reached out to our communities as we have tried to. The local press and even Community TV have covered many of these activities.

Ken Roundtree, Wellington's Emergency Management Director, believes that the average person in this area has learned more about amateur radio through our Public Services than in almost any other area of the County. Of course, none of these activities would have been possible without substantial Member support and involvement.

The Board thanks you... whether you simply wanted to be a Member to show support of WRC goals; support amateur radio; participate in WRC activities; brush up on your technical skills; or just enjoy ham camaraderie.

It is also our sincere hope that you will continue to consider the WRC worthy of renewed membership.

Sincerely,

Larry ks4nb

Larry Lazar, KS4NB
President

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Juan Abellon, KG4QYY
Vice President

Bruce Fondiller, K2MDF
Activities Chairman

John Moorman, KG4JMO
Secretary

Georg Samulkewitsch, KR4WD
Treasurer

BEHIND THE SCENES ON YOUR BEHALF...

Work goes into achieving the WRC's goals that often escapes the notice of our average Member. An example is informing your neighbors about what we do. Below is a news release prepared by the Club but released by the Village of Wellington because it involves its departments.

The background material is written for the non-ham and

the photos are teasers for editors. Whether anything results from the release is all up to some editor and how well written or newsworthy it is. Some will assign a reporter, a few might just print the release as is and others may feel it not newsworthy enough.

But it's said...*nothing ventured, nothing gained.*

NEWS RELEASE...

WHAT: ADDING TO EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS RESOURCES IN THE WESTERN COMMUNITIES

WHO: THE VILLAGE OF WELLINGTON AND THE WELLINGTON RADIO CLUB

WHEN: SATURDAYS, JAN. 10TH THRU FEB. 7TH, FROM 1 TO 4 PM

PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES: JAN. 24TH AND JAN. 31ST

WHERE: WELLINGTON EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER IN THE PUBLIC WORKS AND ENGINEERING COMPLEX ON PIERSON ROAD

CONTACTS: KEN ROUNDTREE, DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT 791-4003 & LARRY LAZAR PRESIDENT WRC 385-2986

BACKGROUND: SEE BELOW

THE WELLINGTON RADIO CLUB, WELLINGTON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND WELLINGTON'S PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT WORK ON... RAISING A NEW BREED OF HAMS IN THE WESTERN COMMUNITIES

Eight "ham" want-to-bes with the thirst for knowledge about amateur radio are giving up precious weekend time to prepare for their FCC license exams at the Wellington Emergency Operations Center.

They are studying entry-level radio phenomena, basic engineering practices, FCC regulations and how to setup, maintain and operate their own radio stations.

Wellington Radio Club President, Larry Lazar reports "Sounds tough? Maybe for a few... but the course materials published by the American Radio Relay League are superb and the Club's instructors are experienced and hold advanced licenses. Despite the comfortable surroundings, no one has fallen asleep. Even more important, no one has dropped out!"

to not only transmit voice but also text, data, television, photos and teletype. There is even a new "amateur" system that can automatically bypass parts of the Internet that are "down".

Ken Roundtree, Wellington's Director of Emergency Management, said "It's no wonder that the Homeland Security Agency deemed radio amateurs a "Critical Infrastructure Resource"...a group to be supported and integrated with public safety first responders.

This is the very first time an amateur radio licensing course has been offered in the Western Communities. All but one of the students reside west of the Turnpike in Wellington, Royal Palm Beach, Loxahatchee and West Palm Beach. There is a waiting list for those interested in the Wellington Radio Club's



These students come from all walks of life... accounting, banking, fire/rescue, public works and retirement. Their common denominator may be the feeling of empowerment from mastering the skills and knowledge that soon will place the world at their fingertips.

Even with the entry-level Technician license the successful students will have the opportunity to talk around the world, help their communities during emergencies and explore the amazing new world of amateur telecommunications. This is where the traditional voice and Morse code modes of transmission are being supplemented by computer aided communications.

Today, radios can be tied into the Internet and satellites



next course offering.

The 15 hour accelerated course is a joint effort between the WRC and both Wellington's Emergency Management and Parks & Recreation Departments. Taught on Saturday's from 1-4pm, the course concludes at the Miami Hamboree on February 7th where the group will take FCC exams. Hopefully, all eight will pass and begin their search for their first rigs at the Hamboree!

For further information about the Wellington Radio Club or being placed on the waiting list for the next "Beginner's Amateur Radio Course" contact President, Larry Lazar at 385-2986. The website for the radio club is www.qsl.net/k4wrc and that of the American Radio Relay League is www.arrrl.org

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



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

WELLINGTON
PEDIATRICS, PA

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WRC RESOURCE GUIDE OF MEMBERS, FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS

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.

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A GOOD PORTRAIT PHOTO.

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CAPTAIN
RADIO OPERATIONS

CITIZEN OBSERVER PATROL
PBSO

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Contact:
Major Len Cohen
Administration



W2AGX - Member

433-2003
9am-4pm M-F

FROM THE EDITOR ABOUT A FRIEND AND SUPPORTER OF AMATEUR RADIO...

MARLIN P. JONES & ASSOCIATES:

For many years WRC members have patronized MPJA and had only the best, most friendly yet professional service. Whether it's been an item purchased from their great catalog or one from their \$1. bins, we have rarely been disappointed. In fact at WRC meetings, a great many of the give-aways and dirt cheap items (like \$1. or \$2. kits) have come through the generosity of MPJA.

While Radio Shack shrinks, this local business becomes even more of a unique resource for hams, electronics enthusiasts and industry. It merits our support. Please visit their website or request their catalog. See if they can supply your needs. (PS: MPJA has not requested nor paid for this endorsement. Our only expectation is that they maintain their reasonable prices, goodwill and fair business practices).



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THE FINE PRINT... WRC MEMBER 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 INFORMATION CONTAINED IN AN INSERTION IS ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE AND A PROOF HAS BEEN SENT TO ALL SUBMITTING MEMBERS, FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS.

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

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Wellington Radio Club

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Wellington, FL 33414

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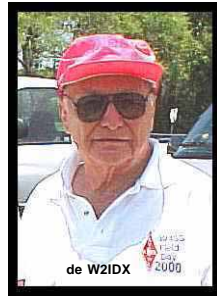
President & Editor - Larry Lazar, KS4NB
Vice President - Juan Abellon, MD, KG4QYY
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www.qsl.net/k4wrc

FROM THE
PAPANDREAS FAMILY
TO THE
AMATEUR RADIO
COMMUNITY



Manny Papandreas W4SS

Dear Larry,

Thank you for your kind words at my father's funeral and in the WRC Update. His ham friends were a great source of pleasure in his life and their presence was a wonderful tribute to my father's life.

I don't have addresses to write thanks to the many others who spoke and shared memories, but will you please convey the family's deep gratitude to them.

Chris Papandreas

PHOTO SUMMARY-JANUARY MEETING:

PB Packet Group President

Doug WB4KGY on...

"BUT WHAT IF THE INTERNET FAILS?"

Doug WB4KGY took on a difficult assignment... introducing us to combinations of communications technologies and software packages that have the potential of elevating the role of radio amateurs during major communications emergencies.

With governments, both large and small corporations and major telecommunications companies shifting their communications traffic to the Internet, the chance of such emergencies occurring is increased significantly. Could amateurs meet the demand for moving vastly larger volumes of message traffic?

Doug explained that it could be possible if our amateur radio traffic networks expanded to embrace digital modes and interfaced with the Internet in newer, unique ways. He provided an overview of amateur radio systems that now have the ability to permit the average ham, with little other than familiarity with the typical email software, to send traffic via combined radio-Internet modes.

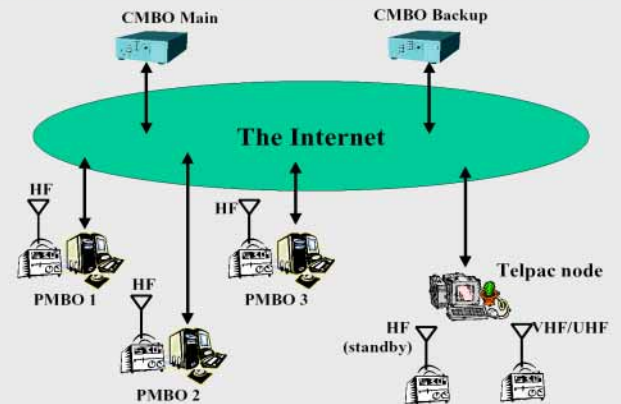
Moreover, our systems have evolved to the point where, should there be the loss of access to the Internet on a local or even regional basis, bypasses could be automatically established... a kind of smart system.

Doug's presentation fired the imaginations of many of the attendees who hope to learn more about and, perhaps, establish these systems locally.

Thanks Doug for another fine job!

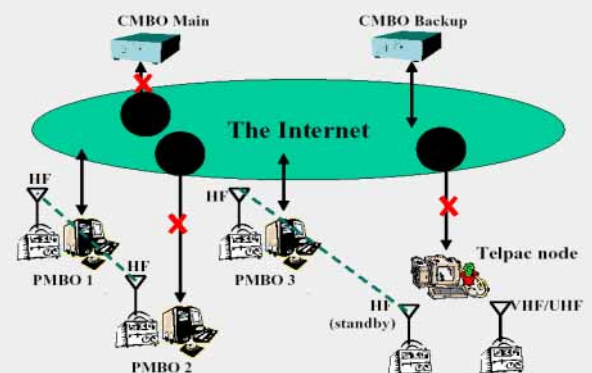
Much more information is available at www.winlink.org

Normal Internet Operation



Above: Normal access to the Internet can be achieved by computer or VHF/UHF modes. Below: At time of failed access points, HF or VHF/UHF bypasses can bridge the downed parts of the Internet.

Loss of Internet?



Above Left: Doug WB4KGY giving Power Point presentation to 22 or so attendees. Center: l-r Bart WA2HRC, Doug, Ross WB2WJF, Juan KG4QYY and Jerry N3HVC discuss hardware and software issues after the meeting. Right: l-r Ross, Dick WB2JPQ, Bart and Dick WB2NBU are all from the Buffalo-Rochester area.

HEAR YEA... HEAR YEA...
LET IT BE KNOWN THAT ON FEBRUARY 22ND, THE

Northampton Radio Club

**WILL PROUDLY OPERATE THE SPECIAL EVENT STATION
GB2GWB**

IN HONOR OF GEORGE WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

**THE STARS AND STRIPES FLY OUTSIDE THIS VERY ENGLISH SOUTH NORTHANTS MANOR HOUSE.
THAT'S BECAUSE GEORGE WASHINGTON'S ANCESTORS LIVED THERE...**



**"WE WANT THIS HOUSE TO BE A SHRINE FOR ALL AMERICANS WHO VISIT THE OLD COUNTRY AND A CENTRE FROM WHICH
SENTIMENTS OF FRIENDSHIP AND GOODWILL BETWEEN THE BRITISH AND AMERICAN PEOPLES WILL FOREVER RADIATE."**

- MARQUESS OF CAMBRIDGE AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF SULGRAVE MANOR, 1921

Little did the Marquess of Cambridge know in 1921 that the Northampton Radio Club would be able to literally "radiate" friendship and goodwill to help fulfill her dream!

Led by Events Manager Mike M0DMD, WRC visitors Cris M0DOL, Phil G3ILO and others will operate GB2GWB on February 22nd as a reminder of the strong bond between our two countries.

Contact them on IRLP node 5364...their HF frequencies will be announced on WRC Nets when known.

THE WASHINGTON FAMILY AND SULGRAVE MANOR

The American flag and a bust of George Washington adorn the cover of the Sulgrave Manor guide book. Clearly, the transatlantic connection is a big selling point for this 460-year-old house. The first president of the United States of America didn't live here, but George Washington's great-great-great-great grandfather did.

Lawrence Washington obtained the house in 1539. He had come to Northamptonshire from Lancashire and became a successful wool merchant. After the dissolution of the monasteries by Henry VIII, Lawrence had the opportunity of buying Sulgrave Manor, which had belonged to the Priory of St Andrew at Northampton. He bought it from the Crown for £324-14s-10d.

(Editor's note: That was probably a fair price. During the same period, the Dutch bought an undeveloped island for about \$24...Manhattan!)

BIRTH OF THE STARS AND STRIPES?

A copy of Lawrence Washington's coat-of-arms, including stars and stripes, hangs in the great hall of the manor house. Was this the inspiration for the Ameri-



can flag two centuries later? Incidentally, the original stained glass coat-of-arms are at the nearby Fawsley Church.

The Manor House passed down through the generations until the American president's great-grandfather Col. John Washington, emigrated to Virginia in 1656.

You can't get away from the George Washington connection at the house. You can see a lock of his hair, his saddlebags, and his wax seal.

TEDDY ROOSEVELT CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF PEACE

More than 250 years after the first Washingtons landed in America, President Theodore Roosevelt decided that there should be a proper celebration of the centenary of the end of the war of 1812 - the last serious armed conflict between England and America. Prominent statesmen and civic leaders were recruited to form peace committees in the United States, in Great Britain and in Canada. The British committee decided to purchase George Washington's ancestral home on behalf of the British and American people and, after World War I, King George V was a leading contributor to the Sulgrave Manor Restoration Fund.

(These excerpts are from the BBC & Sulgrave Manor websites.)