



## For Immediate Release

## PRESS RELEASE

**Jupiter, Florida – April 1, 2011, 8:00am – Jupiter Tequesta Repeater Group, Inc. (JTRG) [www.jtrg.org]**, in conjunction with the Palm Beach Maritime Museum, Inc., the U. S. Coast Guard, and the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), today announced their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual International Amateur Radio DXpedition event to be held on the West Palm Beach's Peanut Island, honoring John Fitzgerald "Jack" Kennedy's birthday, on **May 28<sup>th</sup>** and the **29<sup>th</sup>**, 2011, from 8:00am **Saturday** to 5:30pm on **Sunday**. A "Special Call Sign," has been designated by the FCC: **W4K**.

This event will draw unique communications to the island from amateur radio, commonly referred to as "hams," from all over the world, during the 24-hour event. The public is encouraged to participate in the event by traveling to the island via transportation provided by, Water Taxi or Personal Vessel, to interact with the special radio communications operators that will be facilitated in the Presidential Nuclear Fallout Bunker built during the early 1960's, by the U. S. Army Corp of Engineers, during the Cuban Missile Crisis, for the Kennedy's while they were visiting the West Palm Beach Kennedy compound.

"We think that everyone in West Palm Beach, and throughout the world, will want to come to the island and be a part of history, as we celebrate the birthday of John F. Kennedy on Peanut Island, Florida witnessing emergency Amateur Radio Operators communicate live from the Kennedy Bunker, the old Coast Guard Station, and Boat house. In times of disaster, whether communicating with other Hams around the world, Ham Radio is always there because it works," said Albert Moreschi II, AG4BV, President JTRG.

Tours will be held for the public throughout the event by Maritime Museum staff exploring the history of the Island, the retired U. S. Coast Guard Station and Boat House. A variety of vendors will be displaying their wares and special presentations will be conducted throughout the event.

Boaters and their families are invited to dock and enjoy the recently refurbished nature trails, swimming beach.

Allen Pitts, W1AGP, ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager, contributes the fact that, "DXpeditions, such as this one, historically cause excitement throughout the amateur radio community as Ham Operators worldwide enjoy contacting remote sites and unusual places. The fun and fellowship that this brings is a large part of the attraction to amateur radio."

Individuals interested in learning about the world of Amateur Radio will find a wealth of information about the hobby and how it is a vital community service during times of emergency.

## Donations are Welcome

We are also taking tax deductible donations in the form of money and merchandise for auction.

## About Jupiter Tequesta Repeater Group, Inc.

JTRG, a 501(c)(3) corporation, was founded over 25 years ago as an ARRL Affiliated Club, premised on providing ongoing training and support for the benefit of the community.

As an all volunteer organization, JTRG has grown to over 125 members and provides an international venue for Amateur Radio operators to further their interest in the hobby, while also providing critical emergency backup communication services to the citizens North Palm Beach County Florida.

Members, and their families, are also engaged in numerous civic oriented activities, including providing logistics for city parades, Adopt-a-Highway program, Jupiter Jubilee, and Skywarn weather spotting for the National Weather Service.

Since communications are an integral component to providing emergency services, JTRG has been instrumental in training and FCC licensing of personnel from Palm Beach County Fire Rescue, American Red Cross, Jupiter Police CERT, and private citizens from within the community.

We also conduct numerous field demonstrations to educate the public on the variety of critical services provided through Amateur Radio.

Kevin Jackson - W4JKJ, JTRG Secretary

Albert Moreschi II - AG4BV, JTRG President

Visit us at [DXpedition.jtrg.org](http://DXpedition.jtrg.org)

Contact Albert Moreschi II at [ag4bv@jtrg.org](mailto:ag4bv@jtrg.org) or Call: (561) 746-7421.

### **About Palm Beach Maritime Museum and JFK Bunker**

The Palm Beach Maritime Museum, Inc., a 501(c)(3) corporation, on Palm Beach's Peanut Island has four facilities:

1. Former U.S. Coast Guard Station, Boathouse and President John F. Kennedy Command Post and Bomb Shelter;
2. Marine Science Field Office and Dock on the Intracoastal Waterway;
3. Educational Center, Preview Building and Ferry Dock at Currie Park; and,
4. Palm Beach Maritime Academy K-8 Charter School at 7719 S. Dixie Hwy.

In 1961, just before the Cuban Missile Crisis, the SeaBees secretly, and very quickly, built a bunker for the President, who spent a great deal of time at the Kennedy Compound in Palm Beach, Florida. It was constructed adjacent to the U.S. Coast Guard Station, about 100 yards away, concealed in the woods, underground, but above the water table.

Visit PBMM at [www.pbmm.org](http://www.pbmm.org), eMail: [Museum@pbmm.org](mailto:Museum@pbmm.org), or Call: (561) 540-5147.

### **About the American Radio Relay League (ARRL)**

ARRL is the national membership association for Amateur Radio operators.

The seed for Amateur Radio was planted in the 1890s, when Guglielmo Marconi began his experiments in wireless telegraphy. Soon he was joined by dozens, then hundreds, of others who were enthusiastic about sending and receiving messages through the air--some with a commercial interest, but others solely out of a love for this new communications medium. The United States government began licensing Amateur Radio operators in 1912.

By 1914, there were thousands of Amateur Radio operators--hams--in the United States. Hiram Percy Maxim, a leading Hartford, Connecticut, inventor and industrialist saw the need for an organization to band together this fledgling group of radio experimenters. In May 1914 he founded the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) to meet that need.

Today ARRL, with approximately 156,000 members, is the largest organization of radio amateurs in the United States. The ARRL is a not-for-profit organization that:

- Promotes interest in Amateur Radio communications and experimentation;
- Represents US radio amateurs in legislative matters; and,
- Maintains fraternalism and a high standard of conduct among Amateur Radio operators.

At ARRL headquarters in the Hartford suburb of Newington, a staff of 120 helps serve the needs of members. ARRL is also International Secretariat for the International Amateur Radio Union, which is made up of similar societies in 150 countries around the world.

ARRL publishes the monthly journal QST, as well as newsletters and many publications covering all aspects of Amateur Radio. Its headquarters station, W1AW, transmits bulletins of interest to radio amateurs and Morse code practice sessions. The ARRL also coordinates an extensive field organization, which includes volunteers who provide technical information for radio amateurs and public-service activities. In addition, ARRL represents US amateurs with the Federal Communications Commission and other government agencies in the US and abroad.

Membership in ARRL means much more than receiving QST each month. In addition to the services already described, ARRL offers membership services on a personal level, such as the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator Program and a QSL bureau.

Full ARRL membership (available only to licensed radio amateurs) gives you a voice in how the affairs of the organization are governed. ARRL policy is set by a Board of Directors (one from each of 15 Divisions). Each year, one-third of the ARRL Board of Directors stands for election by the full members they represent. The day-to-day operation of ARRL HQ is managed by an Executive Vice President.

No matter what aspect of Amateur Radio attracts you, ARRL membership is relevant and important. There would be no Amateur Radio as we know it today were it not for the ARRL. We would be happy to welcome you as a member! (An Amateur Radio license is not required for Associate Membership.) For more information about ARRL and answers to any questions you may have about Amateur Radio, write or call:

ARRL--The national association for Amateur Radio

225 Main Street

Newington CT 06111-1494

Voice: 860-594-0200

Fax: 860-594-0259

E-mail: [hq@arrl.org](mailto:hq@arrl.org)

Internet: <http://www.arrl.org/>

Prospective new amateurs call (toll-free): 800-32-NEW HAM (800-326-3942)

You can also contact us via e-mail at [newham@arrl.org](mailto:newham@arrl.org).

### **About Amateur Radio (Ham Radio)**

Amateur Radio Operators (affectionately referred to as "Hams"), who play a critical role in maintaining emergency communications, including between Local Red Cross and County Emergency Services, before, during, and after Disaster events. Yearly, local ham volunteers provide training and practice exercises with the goal of being totally prepared for emergency operations.

Many of the hams are members of the SKYWARN Organization an all volunteer Public Service Group Dedicated to Providing Local Emergency Weather Information to the National Weather Service and the National Hurricane Center in Miami, Florida, the citizens of West Palm Beach, Florida, Martin County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, and When Requested, to The West Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners and any other Allied County or National Agency. Learn more about the Martin County SKYWARN Organization by visiting their WEB site at [www.gate.net/~ke4uei/](http://www.gate.net/~ke4uei/).

SKYWARN falls under the command structure of The National Weather Service, and is an ALL VOLUNTEER PROGRAM. SKYWARN also works together with the County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES/RACES) when a disaster emergency takes place. When severe weather is reported and confirmed, Spotters report conditions to the SKYWARN Coordinator, who in turn notifies the NWS in Melbourne, FL, and members of County ARES/RACES, and other NWS and "media" services.

There are 660,000 Amateur Radio operators in the US, and more than 2.5 million around the world. Under the auspices of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), ham volunteers provide emergency communications for the DHS Citizens' Corps, the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, FEMA and thousands of state and local agencies, all for free.

During Hurricanes Katrina and in the Philippines Islands, and earthquakes in Haiti and Chile, Amateur Radio was often the ONLY way people could communicate, and hundreds of volunteer "hams" traveled across country to save lives and property. When trouble is brewing, ham radio people are often the first to provide critical information and communications.

### **For additional information contact:**

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