

WX6MTR, The Monterey National Weather Service office participates in SKYWARN Recognition Day again.

This year marked the 10th edition of SKYWARN Recognition Day (SRD), which began at 0000 UTC on December 6, 2008 and lasted for 24 hours. SRD was established in 1999 by the National Weather Service and the American Radio Relay League. It was designed to foster relationships between area amateur radio operators and the National Weather Service. Many amateur radio operators are also Storm Spotters and they can be a vital communication link between mobile weather spotters, the general public and the National Weather Service during severe weather emergencies. Around the nation, many National Weather Services active SKYWARN nets during severe weather situations to monitor and receive storm reports. In most instances, storm reports received through amateur radios can provide instantaneous verification of local storm conditions, which would further aid in future warnings.

On average, over 100 National Weather Service Offices, including three national centers and one foreign country participate in the special event. Each weather service office used a wide variety of modes and frequencies depending on the stations capabilities. This year, the Monterey Office was able to utilize 80, 40, 20, 10 and 2 meters, 440, Packet (APRS), Echolink and IRLP modes. When the event ended on Saturday December 6th, the Monterey NWSFO had its best year yet with approximately 165 contacts including a half dozen countries and 41 National Weather Service Offices. Hopefully, conditions on the HF bands will be better next year and we'll get even more contacts.

For more information regarding SRD please visit:

<http://hamradio.noaa.gov>

73...

Matt Mehle, KCØTER
SKYWARN Program Manager
National Weather Service – Monterey

Larry (KE6PPE) is getting ready to string an antenna using his Pneumatic Antenna Launcher.



Randolph (KG6CGO) is watching Matt (KC0TER) call CQ on IRLP.

