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TO: OCARG MAILING LIST BCC <THEFRED@ASCENT.NET>
FROM: FRED STEVENS K2FRD <THEFRED@ASCENT.NET>
SUBJECT: APRIL 2002 OCARG EAGLE
X-RCPT-TO: <THEFRED@ASCENT.NET>



OCARG EAGLE
BULLETIN OF THE
OTSCHODELA COUNCIL AMATEUR RADIO GROUP

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 8

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SCOUTING HAMS AND HAMMING SCOUTERS--

OTSCHODELA COUNCIL AMATEUR RADIO GROUP (OCARG) IS DEDICATED TO THE ENHANCEMENT OF THE SCOUTING PROGRAM THROUGH AMATEUR RADIO AND TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO IN BOY SCOUTING. MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN TO ANY AND ALL SCOUTERS, AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS, AND SCOUTING AND HAM CLUBS WITH AN INTEREST IN THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA, PARTICULARLY WITHIN, BUT NOT EXCLUSIVE OF OTSCHODELA COUNCIL, BSA. THERE ARE NO MEMBERSHIP DUES, NO OFFICERS, NO CONSTITUTION, NO NEWSLETTER CHARGES, AND NO ORGANIZED MEETINGS. ALL COMMUNICATIONS ARE VIA EMAIL OR HAM RADIO. ALL THAT'S REQUIRED TO JOIN IS AN INTEREST IN HAM-SCOUTING AND AN EMAIL TO THE ABOVE SENDER.

COPIES OF THE *OCARG EAGLE* ARE SENT TO MANY INTERESTED PERSONS IN ADDITION TO OCARG MEMBERS. IF YOU FEEL THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS BULLETIN IN ERROR AND NO LONGER WISH TO RECEIVE IT, PLEASE SEND A MESSAGE SO STATING TO THE ABOVE SENDER <[MAILTO:K2FRD@ARRL.NET](mailto:K2FRD@ARRL.NET)>.

THIS NEWSLETTER IS BROUGHT TO YOU IN LIVING COLOR, COMPLIMENTS OF EUDORA PRO 5.1.3 EMAILER. IF YOU HAVE RICH TEXT FORMAT (RTF) OR STYLIZED TEXT CAPABILITY AND WANT TO SEE EVERYTHING AS IT WAS SENT, MAKE SURE YOUR RTF OR STYLED TEXT PREFERENCE/OPTION/CONTROL PANEL/SETTING IS TURNED ON OR SET. IF YOU WANT TO SEE IT ONLY IN BLACK TYPEFACE, TURN IT OFF. FONTS ARE COMIC SANS MS, CAPITAL, AND MISHIWAKA BOLD (WITH THE SLASHED ZERO), AVAILABLE FROM EDITOR IF DESIRED.

THE *OCARG EAGLE* IS MAILED ONLY VIA BLIND CC TO CUT DOWN ON YOUR HEADER'S SIZE AND TO AVOID PROVIDING A READY-MADE LIST TO SPAMMERS.

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GRAPHICS PROBLEMS WITH THE EAGLE?

IF YOU HAVE TROUBLE WITH THE OCARG EAGLE'S GRAPHICS, E.G. SCRAMBLING, DISTORTION, OR TROUBLE DOWNLOADING, LET US KNOW AND WE'LL RESEND IT IN PLAIN TEXT AND/OR WITHOUT THE GRAPHICS.

TWO NEW SCOUT HAMS!

TIME WITH SCOUTS.

A VERY GOOD LUNCH WAS SERVED TO THE GROUP BY MS. NORTHRUP.

DE JIM LEBARON WA2IAX

JOHN IS AN EAGLE SCOUT AND GRADUATE OF THE JIM LEBARON WA2IAX TROOP 99 ACADEMY OF RADIO. - K2FRD

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HAVE HAMS FORGOTTEN HOW TO TALK? EDITORIAL

I RECENTLY RECEIVED AN EMAIL FROM A CLUB MEMBER COMPLAINING THAT NO ONE WANTS TO TALK ON HF ANYMORE, THAT ALL THEY WANT TO DO IS EXCHANGE CALLSIGNS AND SIGNAL REPORTS. HE¹ S A TECH PLUS AND HAS A LIMITED AMOUNT OF SSB BANDWIDTH AVAILABLE ON TEN METERS FOR RAGCHEWING. BEEN THERE, DONE THAT. I WAS A NOVICE FOR 38 YEARS, OFF AND ON BEFORE I FINALLY UPGRADED.

HE¹ S ABSOLUTELY RIGHT. THE SPACE BETWEEN 28.300 AND 28.500 IS THE ONLY PART OF THE HF SPECTRUM WHERE A NOVICE OR A TECH PLUS CAN WORK SSB YET FOR SOME REASON, IT SEEMS EVERY DXER IN THE WORLD WORKS THERE. IT¹ S EVEN WORSE ON CONTEST WEEKENDS OR IF A DXPEDITION TO A RARE OR UNCOMMON QTH IS ON; EVERYONE SEEMS TO START IN, THEN CONCENTRATE IN THOSE 200 KILOHERTZ. WHY? THERE¹ S A WHOLE WORLD ABOVE 28.500 AND MOST OF THE TIME, IF PROPAGATION SUITS 28.3 TO 28.5, IT ALSO SUITS AT HIGHER FREQUENCIES. AND, MUCH ABOVE 28.5 IS UNUSED. SOUTH AMERICAN STATIONS IN PARTICULAR SEEM TO KNOW NO OTHER SET OF FREQUENCIES BESIDE 28.3 TO 28.5.

OUT OF CURIOSITY, I CHECKED THE APRIL QST: OF THOSE CONTESTS WHICH SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED TEN METER FREQUENCIES (SEVEN OF THEM), EVERY SINGLE ONE ASSIGNED A CALLING FREQUENCY BETWEEN 28.3 AND 28.5 MHZ.

THIS ISN¹ T RIGHT. THERE¹ S NO REASON I KNOW THAT THE CONTESTS CAN¹ T GO HIGHER, I.E. ABOVE 28.5 MHZ AND THERE¹ S NO REASON WHY MAJOR CONTEST SPONSORS SUCH AS THE ARRL, CQ MAGAZINE, IARU, AND THE QSO PARTY ORGANIZERS CAN¹ T EXCLUDE THIS PART OF THE BAND FROM THE CONTESTS. NOVICES AND TECH PLUSES ARE SUPPOSED TO BE³ TRAINING² LICENSES ALTHOUGH MANY, MANY HAMS ARE PERFECTLY HAPPY WITH THESE LEVELS AND THEIR LIMITED SSB PRIVILEGES. SO, PERHAPS THE BALL SHOULD START ROLLING FROM SOMEWHERE: LET¹ S START BRINGING IT TO THE ATTENTION OF CONTEST SPONSORS THAT 28.3 AND 28.5 SHOULD BE FOR RAGCHEWERS, NOVICES, TECH PLUSES, AND THOSE WHO JUST WANT A SIMPLE QSO WITHOUT HAVING TO COMPETE WITH THE WORLD.

DEK2FRD

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UPCOMING VE SESSIONS

20 APRIL 2PM AT THE MARGARETVILLE TELEPHONE Co. (845)586-2324.

