

DATE: FRI, 15 MAR 2002 09:00:48 -0500  
TO: OCARG MAILING LIST BCC <THEFRED@ASCENT.NET>  
FROM: FRED STEVENS K2FRD <THEFRED@ASCENT.NET>  
SUBJECT: MARCH 2002 OCARG EAGLE  
X-RCPT-TO: <THEFRED@ASCENT.NET>



**OCARG EAGLE**  
**BULLETIN OF THE**  
**OTSCHODELA COUNCIL AMATEUR RADIO GROUP**

**VOLUME 2 NUMBER 7**

**MARCH 2002**

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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 (THEFRED@ASCENT.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. ALL GRAPHICS ARE EMBEDDED JPEGS OR PICTS WHICH MAY CAUSE PROBLEMS ON SOME MACHINES. IF YOU'RE HAVING PROBLEMS, WE'D LIKE TO KNOW ABOUT IT.

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# THE DAM BURSTS! OCARG'S NEW CALLSIGN!

ALMOST FOUR MONTHS AFTER THE OFFICIAL APPLICATION DATE OF 19 NOVEMBER 2001, OCARG'S VANITY CALLSIGN WAS FINALLY ISSUED BY THE FCC. FOLLOWING THE OCTOBER ANTHRAX ATTACKS AND POSSIBLE EXPOSURE TO THE DISEASE SPORES AT ITS GETTYSBURG OFFICE'S POSTAL FACILITY, ALL VANITY CALLSIGN APPLICATIONS WERE SUSPENDED UNTIL THE SITE AND CONTENTS WERE DECONTAMINATED. THAT FINALLY HAPPENED IN JANUARY, BUT DUE TO A STANDING FAIRNESS POLICY, THE FCC TREATED ALL PAPER AND ELECTRONIC APPLICATIONS EQUALLY AND IN STRICT ORDER OF THEIR APPLICATION DATE. A NUMBER OF PAPER APPLICATIONS WERE LOST DURING THE CLEAN-UP AND UNTIL THE APPLICANTS COULD BE CONTACTED FOR RESUBMISSIONS AND THOSE APPLICATIONS WERE RECEIVED, NO VANITY CALLSIGNS COULD BE ISSUED. A SINGLE APPLICATION, PERSON UNKNOWN, HELD UP MORE THAN 4000 APPLICATIONS; THE APPLICANT APPARENTLY MOVED WITH NO CHANGE OF ADDRESS NOR EMAIL ADDRESS FILED, SO IT TOOK MORE THAN 10 DAYS TO TRACK HIM/HER DOWN. ON 4 MARCH, THE MISSING PERSON WAS FOUND, A COPY OF HIS/HER APPLICATION REFILED BY FACSIMILE, AND THE LOGJAM BROKE. OCARG LEARNED DURING THE AFTERNOON OF 7 MARCH THAT ITS NEW CALLSIGN WAS ISSUED EARLIER THAT DAY.

OUR NEW CALLSIGN IS **KZ2BSA**. WE WERE UNABLE TO OBTAIN OUR ORIGINAL PREFIX CHOICES OF "NY2" NOR "NE2". A PHONE CALL TO THE FCC REVEALED THAT "NA" THROUGH "NZ" PREFIXES ARE NOT AVAILABLE FOR 2X3 CALLSIGNS ALTHOUGH PERMITTED FOR 2X2 CALLSIGNS; NO REASON WAS GIVEN EXCEPT AN INFERENCE MAY BE MADE THAT THEY ARE RESERVED FOR GOVERNMENT AGENCIES IN THE SAME MANNER THAT "WX#" IS RESERVED FOR THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE. NEVERTHELESS, WE NOW HAVE A "BSA" SUFFIX, IDENTIFYING US WITH THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA.

COROLLARY TO THE NEW OCARG CALLSIGN, THE FCC CORRECTED THE GROUP'S NAME TO READ "GROUP" INSTEAD OF "CLUB", AN APPARENT TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR INSERTED SOMEWHERE IN THE ORIGINAL APPLICATION PROCESS.

ANY MEMBER OR MEMBERS OF THE OTSCHODELA COUNCIL AMATEUR RADIO GROUP MAY USE THE **KZ2BSA** CALLSIGN DURING ANY OFFICIAL BOY SCOUTING EVENT OR ACTIVITY WITH THE TRUSTEE'S (K2FRD) PERMISSION (CONTACT <[MAILTO:K2FRD@ARRL.NET](mailto:k2frd@arrl.net)>).

DE K2FRD

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## COMPETITION FOR KZ2BSA QSL CARD

NOW THAT WE HAVE OUR NEW CALLSIGN, WE NEED A STANDARD QSL CARD. HOW ABOUT A LITTLE FRIENDLY COMPETITION FOR A DESIGN? THIS CONTEST IS OPEN TO ALL PERSONS, MEMBERS OR NOT, HAMS OR NOT, SCOUTS AND/OR SCOUTERS OR NOT. THE SKY IS THE LIMIT ALTHOUGH IT MUST BE ABLE TO FIT ONTO A STANDARD QSL-SIZED CARD OF 3 1/2" X 5 1/2" (89MM X 140MM) AND MAY NOT USE THE OFFICIAL BSA LOGO, NEITHER OLD NOR NEW NOR COLOR NOR BLACK AND WHITE; WE STILL HAVE NOT RECEIVED AN OFFICIAL READOUT REGARDING ITS USAGE EXCEPT BY COUNCILS, DISTRICTS, AND SCOUTING UNITS.

MORE RULES AND/OR SPECIFICATIONS: (1) IT SHOULD BE IN DIGITAL FORM FOR SENDING/RECEIVING VIA EMAIL OR EMAIL ATTACHMENT AND FOR EASY CUSTOMIZING FOR INDIVIDUAL EVENTS, IF NECESSARY; (2) THERE IS NO LIMIT TO NUMBERS OF COLORS; (3) DEADLINE IS 0900R (EST)(=1400Z) 15 APRIL 2002; (4) EAGLE EDITOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND/OR ALL APPLICATIONS FOR UNSPECIFIED AND UNREASONABLE







DE K2FRD

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# NEWS WANTED FROM OTHER COUNCILS, GROUPS

THE OCARG EAGLE NOW REACHES READERS IN EIGHT STATES AND TWO COUNTRIES, SO WE MAY RIGHTLY BRAG ABOUT BEING A "UNIVERSAL" NEWSLETTER. BECAUSE IT APPEARS THE EAGLE MAY BE THE ONLY ONLINE EMAIL BULLETIN OF ITS TYPE, I.E. FOR AND ABOUT SCOUT-HAMS AND THEIR ACTIVITIES, AND WE ARE EXPERIMENTING OUT HERE ALL ALONE, WE WOULD LIKE TO READ ABOUT OTHER SCOUTING-HAM (OR HAMMING-SCOUT) PEOPLE AND ACTIVITIES. SO, WE INVITE PERSONS FROM OTHER THAN OTSCHODELA COUNCIL TO PROVIDE NEWS TO THE EAGLE. WE WANT TO LEARN WHAT AND HOW OTHERS ARE COMBINING BOY SCOUTING AND AMATEUR RADIO ACTIVITIES. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO SUBMIT JUST ABOUT ANYTHING YOU WANT, NO MATTER HOW WELL (OR NOT) YOU WRITE. JUST PROVIDE THE FACTS (WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, HOW, AND WHY) AND, IF NECESSARY, WE'LL PUT IT INTO PUBLISHABLE FORM. PLEASE SEND ALL MATERIAL TO: <[MAILTO:K2FRD@ARRL.NET](mailto:K2FRD@ARRL.NET)>.

DE K2FRD

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# KEVIN KB2EZR "PROMOTED" TO GENERAL

KEVIN KIEL KB2EZR, ASSISTANT SCOUTMASTER OF TROOP 99 IN SIDNEY, NY, TOOK AND PASSED HIS GENERAL LICENSE EXAM AT THE VESTAL HIGH SCHOOL ON SATURDAY 9 MARCH 2002. AS A FORMER U.S. ARMY RESERVIST WITH THE RANK OF STAFF SERGEANT E-6, HE MAY NOW BE CONSIDERED "PROMOTED" TO THE PERMANENT RANK OF GENERAL! CONGRATULATIONS, KEV!

KEVIN'S SON TROY, A TROOP 99 SCOUT, IS STUDYING HARD FOR HIS TECHNICIAN LICENSE AS A MEMBER OF THE C-CORPS CLASS UNDER ASSISTANT SCOUTMASTER JIM LEBARON WA2IAX.

DE K2FRD

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# DELHI 146.745 REPEATER BACK ON LINE

BOB KAFARSKI K2NK NOTIFIED US THAT THE 146.745 REPEATER IS NOW OPERATIONAL AFTER A CONSIDERABLE PERIOD OF DOWN TIME DUE TO EQUIPMENT PROBLEMS. THE REPEATER, LOCATED NORTHWEST OF DELHI AT ELEVATION ABOUT 2100 FEET IS THE ONLY ONE WHICH DIRECTLY SERVES THE DELHI AREA. DURING A SKYWARN OR OTHER ARES ALERT, IT IS PART OF THE ONEONTA HUB NETWORK. IT IS ACCESSABLE FROM GUILFORD, EAST-CENTRAL CHENANGO COUNTY, ABOUT 40 RADIO MILES DISTANT. NO PL (CTCSS) TONE IS REQUIRED TO KEY THE REPEATER.

DE K2NK AND K2FRD



[HTTP://GROUPS.YAHOO.COM/GROUP/SCOUTRADIOYOUTH/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ScoutRadioYouth/)

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## UPCOMING LICENSE EXAM SESSIONS

2 APRIL 6PM AT THE OTSEGO COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER, COOPERSTOWN. (607)746-2777.

13 APRIL 8AM AT NORWICH BOCES. (607)847-6152.

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

20 APRIL 9AM AT THE RED CROSS BUILDING IN CORNING (607)936-3522.

22 APRIL 7PM AT THE SCHOHARIE CO. PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING. (518)827-4800.

THESE ARE THE ONLY VE SESSIONS LISTED BY ARRL FOR THIS AREA. IF SOMEONE KNOWS OF UNLISTED SESSIONS, PLEASE SEND US AN EMAIL <[MAILTO:THEFRED@ASCENT.NET](mailto:thefred@ascend.net)>. MORE DETAILS ARE IN:

[HTTP://WWW2.ARRL.ORG/ARRLVEC/EXAMSEARCH.PHTML](http://www2.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml) .

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THE OCARG EAGLE IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY ON OR ABOUT THE 15TH. IF YOU FEEL YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS NEWSLETTER IN ERROR, PLEASE SEND AN EMAIL TO <[MAILTO:THEFRED@ASCENT.NET](mailto:thefred@ascend.net)>.

SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE FREE; THERE IS NO SPAM, NO ADS. EACH EDITION IS ADDRESSED VIA BLIND CC TO REDUCE THE SIZE OF RECIPIENTS' HEADERS AND TO PREVENT SPAMMERS FROM RECEIVING A READY-MADE SPAM LIST. COPIES OF THE ADDRESS AND OCARG MEMBERSHIP LISTS ARE AVAILABLE BY APPLICATION TO THE SUBSCRIPTION ADDRESS. SUBSCRIBE TO: <[MAILTO:THEFRED@ASCENT.NET](mailto:thefred@ascend.net)>.

PERMISSION IS HEREBY GRANTED TO COPY, RE-PUBLISH, AND/OR QUOTE ANY PART OF THIS NEWSLETTER IF CREDIT IS GIVEN TO OCARG? KZ2BSA AND W. FREDERICK STEVENS K2FRD.

ALL EMAIL AND URL LINKS ARE HYPERLINKS AND MAY BE DIRECTLY ACCESSED BY DOUBLE-CLICKING ONTO THE APPROPRIATE LINK IN MOST EMAILER CLIENTS.

FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING OTSCHODELA COUNCIL AMATEUR RADIO GROUP MAY BE FOUND AT: [HTTP://WWW.ASCENT.NET/THEFRED/OCARG.HTM](http://www.ascend.net/thefred/ocarg.htm) .

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