

TO: OCARG MAILING LIST BCC <THEFRED@ASCENT.NET>
FROM: FRED STEVENS K2FRD <k2frd@mac.com>
SUBJECT: NOVEMBER 2002 OCARG EAGLE
CC:
BCC:
ATTACHMENTS:

OCARG EAGLE



BULLETIN OF THE OTSCHODELA COUNCIL AMATEUR RADIO GROUP

VOLUME 3 NUMBER 3

NOVEMBER 2002

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. OCARG IS AN FCC-LICENSED AMATEUR RADIO CLUB STATION WITH THE CALLSIGN KZ2BSA.

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@arrrl.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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JOTA 2002: COLD, WET, AND MISERABLE



TROOP 99, SIDNEY NY SCOUT GUEST OPERATORS COREY [STEFFEN](#) AND ANDREW [FRITZSCH](#) WORK A RAINY LATE SHIFT ON 40M [SSB](#) DURING THE [JOTA 2002](#) FROM THEIR CAMPSITE

WE ALSO THANK LOCAL RADIO OPERATORS KB2EZR, KC2JMN, K2FRD, N2ZPY, N2RXK, N2ZQF, KC2IBF, KC2ELN, KC2JIX, KC2JJY, N4MAI AND WA2IAX AND TROOP 73 [KA2BSA], A GUEST TROOP FROM [VOORHEESVILLE](#) FOR HOSTING SCOUTS ON THE [JOTA](#).

GREAT JOB BY TROOP 99'S CO-HOSTS TROOP 88 AND 34 FOR THEIR PART IN ORGANIZING THE EVENT.

TROOP MEMBERS ARE: ERIC [ECHARD](#), KEN [ECHARD](#), [JORDIN](#) FITZGERALD, ANDREW [FRITZSCH](#), TOM [HANEY](#), ERIC [HITT](#), [CONNER HORNBECK](#), TROY KIEL, ALEX KING, ALEX [LATTA](#), RYAN [LATTA](#), DAN [MADDALONE](#), JOSH MCCLENON, DERRICK MCHENRY, DAN [METCH](#), JAMES [MUNHOLAND](#), [SKYLER REITHOFFER](#), KYLE [RUTENBER](#), ADAM [SOROKA](#), ANDY [SOROKA](#), COREY [STEFFEN](#), STEVE WINSTON AND DAN [ZIENO](#). OUR SPONSOR IS THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, MAIN AT BRIDGE STREETS, SIDNEY. THE TROOP MEETS EVERY MONDAY NIGHT AT THE CHURCH AT 7:00 PM. SCOUTING IS OPEN TO ALL BOYS, AGES 11 THROUGH 17 REGARDLESS OF PREVIOUS CUB SCOUT OR BOY SCOUT EXPERIENCE. PLEASE SEE THE TROOP WEBSITE: [HTTP://WWW.UPSTATE88.COM/99](http://www.upstate88.com/99) FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

DE JIM LEBARON WA2IAX

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FROM JEAN AT [ARRL](#): REPORT YOUR [JOTA OPS](#)

WOULD YOU PLEASE PUT A REMINDER IN YOUR NEWSLETTER ASKING PEOPLE TO COMPLETE THE [ARRL JOTA](#) SURVEY IF THEY HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO?

HERE IS A LITTLE BLURB THAT I HAVE WRITTEN UP.

[ARRL](#) EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS COORDINATOR, JEAN [WOLFGANG](#), WB3IOS, REPORTS OVER 125 [JOTA](#) SURVEY HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FOR [JOTA](#) 2002. THE REPORTS SHOW OVER 9079 SCOUTS , 2855 VISITORS , AND 657 HAMS PARTICIPATED. THIS IS A SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT OVER LAST YEAR WHEN ONLY 65 SURVEYS WERE RETURNED!

IF YOU PARTICIPATED IN [JOTA](#) 2002 AND HAVE NOT YET COMPLETED THE [ARRL](#) SURVEY AT [HTTP://WWW.ARRL.ORG/FANDES/EAD/JOTALOG/](http://www.arrl.org/fandes/ead/jotalog/), PLEASE HAVE A REPRESENTATIVE OF YOUR [JOTA](#) EVENT COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THE SURVEY ASAP. JEAN READS EVERY SURVEY AND TRIES TO RESPOND TO EACH ONE. THE COMMENTS AND/OR PICTURES ARE SOMETIMES USED IN FUTURE [JOTA](#) ARTICLES. THE SURVEY ALSO HELP POINT OUT THINGS THE [ARRL](#) CAN PROVIDE TO ASSIST IN A SUCCESSFUL EVENT AND TRACK THE GROWTH OF THE EVENT.

IF YOU SUBMIT PICTURES, PLEASE INCLUDE ALL PERTINENT INFORMATION INCLUDING PHOTO CREDIT AND NAMES OF PEOPLE IN THE PICTURE. DIGITAL PICTURES MUST BE AT LEAST 300 [DPI](#) RESOLUTION AT A SIZE OF 4 X 5 INCHES, HOWEVER, YOU CAN ALSO SEND TRADITIONAL PICTURES TO JEAN [WOLFGANG](#), WB3IOS, AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE, FIELD & EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT, 225 MAIN ST., [NEWINGTON](#), CT 06111.

DE JEAN [WOLFGANG](#), WB3IOS
[ARRL](#) EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS COORDINATOR

[EDITOR'S COMMENT: IF I RECALL CORRECTLY, THE NUMBERS REPORTED SO FAR THIS YEAR ARE SOME 50 PERCENT GREATER THAN LAST YEAR. IT'S ALWAYS BEEN MY FEELING THAT [JOTA](#) IS SEVERELY UNDER-REPORTED, POSSIBLY DUE TO OPERATORS NOT KNOWING THE REPORTING MECHANISMS.]

GOING PORTABLE: WHAT IS THIS ALL ABOUT? IT IS ALL ABOUT HAVING FUN. WITH TODAY'S ADVENT OF SMALLER HF EQUIPMENT, IT IS MUCH EASIER TO TAKE YOUR HF RIG WHEREVER YOU GO.

MY WIFE AND I CAMP AS MUCH AS WE CAN IN THE SUMMER. WE GO TO DIFFERENT PLACES TO SEE AND DO THINGS. WELL, LIKE ALL **BEST-LAYED** PLANS, IT DOESN'T ALWAYS TURN OUT TO BE THE PERFECT WEATHER FOR DOING OUTDOOR THINGS. BEFORE I STARTED TAKING MY FT-757 WITH ME, A RAINY DAY MEANT WE DID NOT GO ANYWHERE; I WOULD SIT IN THE CAMPER DOING NOTHING OTHER THEN READING OR WATCHING THE SMALL TV THAT WE HAVE. THIS IS GOOD FOR A WHILE, BUT IT DOES WEAR THIN. THEN I GOT THE BRAIN STORM TO GO PORTABLE (WHICH IS NOT NEW TO HAM RADIO). FROM READING ABOUT OTHER HAMS GOING PORTABLE, I WOULD TAKE MY FT-757 AND POWER SUPPLY WITH US CAMPING! THE 757 IS NOT A LIGHT TRANSCEIVER BUT IT WAS ALL THAT I HAD. NOW FOR AN ANTENNA. AFTER MUCH RESEARCH AND ARTICLE READINGS, WHAT KIND OF ANTENNA SHOULD I GET? AT HOME I HAVE A **TRI** - BANDER AND A G5RV AND A R7 VERTICAL. WELL, IT IS NOT PRACTICAL TO TRY AND TAKE ONE OF THESE ANTENNAS WITH ME. MOST OF THE CAMPSITES ARE IN TREES AND I DIDN'T WANT A LOT OF WEIGHT TO TAKE WITH ME. I STARTED LOOKING THROUGH THE HAM ADS FOR A QUICK AND EASY ANTENNA SET UP AND TAKE DOWN. " THEN IT HIT ME ". WHAT ABOUT A MOBILE ANTENNA? WELL, AS IT TURNED OUT, **MFJ** CARRIES SEVERAL MOBILE **HAM-TENNAS**. THEY COME IN SEVERAL BANDS AND THEY ARE SMALL (7 FT WHEN PUT TOGETHER). IT WAS JUST WHAT I WAS LOOKING FOR! I ORDERED TWO. ONE FOR MY TRUCK AND ONE FOR THE CAMPER. NOW TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO SET IT UP FOR THE CAMPER AND KEEP THE WEIGHT DOWN FOR TRAVELING. I HAD SOME SPARE LIGHT WEIGHT TUBING LAYING AROUND AND SOME 3/4 INCH DOWEL. I BOUGHT AN ANTENNA MOUNT THAT WAS AT A RIGHT ANGLE, FASTENED IT TO THE TUBING WHICH I HAD CUT IN TO THREE FOUR FOOT SECTIONS. THE REASON FOR THE FOUR FOOT SECTIONS WAS SO THAT IT WOULD FIT IN THE FRONT STORAGE COMPARTMENT OF THE CAMPER. I PRE-TUNED THE ANTENNA AND FASTENED A STOP ON THE WHIP PART SO I COULD REMOVE IT AND INSTALL IT RIGHT BACK TO THE TUNED LENGTH. I THEN CUT MY COAX TO A WORKABLE LENGTH (IN INCREMENTS OF 19 INCHES) SO I HAD ENOUGH LEAD FROM THE ANTENNA CONNECTION TO MY RIG AND COULD MOVE AROUND IN CASE OF BAD WEATHER. THE SET UP WAS READY FOR IT'S FIRST MAIDEN VOYAGE. MY FIRST TRIP OUT WITH IT WAS TO **PLYMOUTH**, MASS. THE FIRST NIGHT THAT WE WERE THERE, I SET UP OUT SIDE OF THE CAMPER AND PUT OUT A GENERAL **CQ**. THE FIRST STATION TO COME BACK TO ME WAS AN " OK " STATION. " OK - IS THE CZECH REPUBLIC ". I WAS SO STUNNED THAT A STATION SO FAR AWAY COULD COPY MY **CQ**, I COULD NOT TALK FOR A FEW SECONDS! WE HAD A GOOD QSO. THIS MADE MY DAY. EVER SINCE THEN, I HAVE BEEN GOING PORTABLE. SINCE THAT FIRST CONTACT, I HAVE ALSO RUN LOW POWER (10 WATTS) JUST TO SEE HOW WELL IT WOULD WORK. I WORKED A COUPLE OF **DX** STATIONS AS WELL AS STATE SIDE CONTACTS. I HAVE MADE SEVERAL MODIFICATIONS SINCE THAT FIRST CONTACT. I HAVE INSTALLED A CONNECTION FROM OUTSIDE TO INSIDE OF THE CAMPER SO I CAN OPERATE WHEN IT IS RAINING. I WENT TO THE CAMPER OUTLET AND BOUGHT ANOTHER OUTSIDE PORT THAT I RETROFITTED A SO239 CONNECTOR TO SO I COULD FASTEN THE COAX TO THIS, ALLOWING ME TO SET UP INSIDE OF THE CAMPER ON A RAINY DAY. THE CONNECTION ON THE OUT SIDE ALSO HAS A WEATHER COVER ON IT. I ALSO MADE A BREAK DOWN TABLE FOR MY SET UP SO WHEN WE ARE ON THE MOVE, THE TABLE LAYS FLAT ON THE FLOOR. TO SETUP, I JUST PULL OUT THE DRAW A FEW INCHES AND HOOK THE ONE EDGE OF THE TABLE ON IT, AND LOWER THE LEG ON THE OTHER END. MY RIG, POWER SUPPLY AND BRIDGE ALL SIT ON THE SMALL COUNTER BY THE BED AND THE BED SERVES AS MY CHAIR. THERE IT IS. ALL READY FOR OPERATING. ALL THIS WAS DONE AT A MINIMUM COAST. I HAVE SINCE FOUND OUT THAT THE MOBILE ANTENNA WILL LOAD ON SEVERAL BANDS, SO THIS GIVES ME MORE SPACE TO WORK DX.

IF YOU WANT TO HAVE FUN AT A MINIMUM COST, AROUND \$35.00-\$45.00, GET A MOBILE ANTENNA AND PUT IT ON THE AIR. I HAVE WORKED SEVEN COUNTRIES AND SEVERAL STATES WHILE CAMPING, WHILE ONLY OPERATING FOR AN HOUR IN THE EVENING. IT IS A LOT OF FUN. I NOW USE MY IC-706MKG FOR MY PORTABLE STATION. GIVE " GOING PORTABLE A TRY ". YOU WILL BE SURPRISED AT WHAT YOU CAN WORK!

"PS". THE SECOND MOBILE HAM-TENNA I USE ON MY TRUCK AND DID SOME OPERATING FROM THE PARKING LOT OF MY WORK PLACE WHEN ON LUNCH. I AM NOW RETIRED SO NOW I CAN OPERATE WHILE THE XYL IS SHOPPING...HI HI. HAVE FUN AND GO " PORTABLE " EVEN IF IT IS ONLY IN THE BACK YARD..... NEXT YEAR I WANT TO TRY HFPACKING. MORE ON THIS LATER.....

DE TONY MASI N2GVB/P

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR FROM KC2GKY

JUST WANTED TO SAY THANK YOU, RUDY AULT N2JZK IS THE ONE WHO LET ME KNOW ABOUT THE OCARG EAGLE; HE AND HIS WIFE DOROTHY KB2LGA ARE THE SCOUT MASTER AND ASST. SCOUT MASTER OF MY KIDS' TROOP AND ALSO VERY GOOD FAMILY FRIENDS. I JUST JOINED THEIR TROOP COMMITTEE AND AM LOOKING FORWARD TO HELPING OUT IN ANY WAY THAT I CAN. I HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN SCOUTING FOR ALMOST 20 YEARS IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, IN LEADERSHIP OR JUST ON THE SIDELINES IT'S A GREAT THING FOR KIDS AND SO IS HAM RADIO THE TWO GO TOGETHER GREAT. MY BOYS ARE STUDYING TO GET THEIR TICKET HOPEFULLY SOON WITH THE GUIDANCE OF RUDY AND DOROTHY, WELL AGAIN THANK YOU.

VICKY LABARR KC2GKY

EDITOR'S NOTE: WE'RE VERY HAPPY TO HAVE YOU WITH US, VICKY! AND THANKS FOR THE PRAISE!

DE K2FRD

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FOR FANS OF BRITNEY SPEARS AND PHYSICS

IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE HOW BRITNEY SPEARS AND SEMI-CONDUCTOR PHYSICS COULD BE FOUND IN THE SAME SENTENCE, BUT HERE IT IS: [HTTP://BRITNEYSPEARS.AC/LASERS.HTM](http://BRITNEYSPEARS.AC/LASERS.HTM) .

AND HERE'S THE REASON WHY: [HTTP://BRITNEYSPEARS.AC/PHYSICS/ABOUT/ABOUT.HTM](http://BRITNEYSPEARS.AC/PHYSICS/ABOUT/ABOUT.HTM) .

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THE STORY OF WA2IAX'S CLOTHSPIN KEY



WA2IAX'S CLOTHSPIN POUNDER KEY

CHENANGO COUNTY ARES HELD ITS ANNUAL SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST (SET) ON 5 OCTOBER DURING WHICH A MODULATED CW (MCW) MESSAGE WAS SENT TO JIM WA2IAX. THE MESSAGE WAS CREATED ON A LAPTOP WHICH CONVERTED IT TO AUDIO CW, THEN ITS AUDIO PLAYBACK TRANSMITTED OVER THE 2-METER FM REPEATER WHILE A MIKE BUTTON WAS PUSHED. UNEXPECTEDLY, JIM WA2IAX RESPONDED IN SHORT ORDER WITH AN MCW MESSAGE OF HIS OWN. JIM HANDS OUT CLOTHSPIN KEYS AS AWARDS AT JOTA CAMPOREES.

16 NOVEMBER 2002, 9AM, RED CROSS BUILDING, CORNING, NY. (607)936-3522.

25 NOVEMBER 2002, 6PM, ONEONTA (NY) NYSEG. (607)746-2777.

14 DECEMBER 2002, 9AM, RED CROSS BUILDING, CORNING, NY. (607)936-3522.

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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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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