

THE EAGLE

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



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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 Scouting. Membership is open to any and all Scouters, amateur radio operators, Scouting and ham clubs and organizations, and all individuals, each with an interest in the Boy Scouts of America, World Of Scouting Movement, Girl Scouts of the USA, World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, and other youth organizations as they relate to amateur radio. While originally intended for Otschodela Council, Oneonta, New York, OCARG has expanded into a worldwide organization with members in more than twenty states and provinces, and seven nations. There are no membership dues, no officers, no constitution, no newsletter charges, no commercial advertisements, 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 k2frd@arrl.net requesting membership. OCARG is an FCC-licensed Amateur Radio Club Station with the callsign KZ2BSA. The *EAGLE* in PDF format is best read with the latest version of Adobe Reader v.7 (activates hyperlinks) available at <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>.

Copies of the *OCARG EAGLE* are sent to many interested persons in addition to OCARG members. If you feel that you have received this newsletter in error or no longer wish to receive it, kindly sent a message so stating to the above address.

The online edition of the *OCARG EAGLE* may be found at: <http://homepage.mac.com/k2frd/ocarg.htm>.

CALLING PLANS ESTABLISHED FOR SCOUT CAMPS THIS SUMMER: FINAL VERSION

By Daniel Fisher, AI4GK
South Brevard County, Florida PIO, ARRL

A small group of Amateur Radio operators who also are involved in Boy Scouts of America (BSA) recently established a calling plan for Boy Scout camps.

In late April, Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF, posed a challenge, of sorts, to members of the Scout Radio Yahoo group <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ScoutRadio>, to come up with a summer camp net so that Scouts can talk to one another. Frissell said, "Scout camp radio stations are often frustrated when they have limited times to get on the air and cant find anyone to talk with."

What happened was astounding. After a very few weeks of discussion led by Frank Krizan, KR1ZAN, President of the K2BSA Amateur Radio Association, the Scout Radio members came up with an HF calling plan, dubbed Scout Camps Calling Protocol, or SCCP. According to Krizan, SCCP is not a net, but rather, a plan for ham-Scouts and Scouters throughout the United States, Canada and the world to make contact with other Scouts and Scouters for Radio Merit Badge requirements, Amateur Radio demonstrations, emergency preparedness, passing NTS traffic, or any other purpose, including ragchewing. "The intent is to encourage camps and folks at home to get on the air at prescribed times and provide radio contacts for scouts at camp ^ for many of whom this will be their first amateur radio contact," said Krizan. The plan is broad-based, and with the many camps and time zones, the likelihood of a Scout camp contacting another specific camp is slim. Ham-Scouters and other interested hams not at camp are encouraged to support to Scouts and Scouters who are attending camp by providing contacts for them.

The SCCP plan's strength is its simplicity.

- 1. Scout camps, and any interested ham-Scouters not at camp, are encouraged to get on the air at 1300, 1900, and 2100 hours local time.**
- 2. Calling times extend from 5 minutes before to 5 minutes after the hour. The recognized call will be "CQ SCOUT CAMPS."**
- 3. Use the traditional Scout calling frequencies, +/- 10 KHz, avoiding any nets. <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/lead/jota.html#frequencies> has additional information.**

BAND	SSB	CW
80 Meters	3.740 / 3.940 MHz	3.590 MHz
40 Meters	7.270 MHz *	7.030 MHz
20 Meters	14.290 MHz **	14.070 MHz ***

- 4. There are two frequency bands for each time. Participating stations will use the higher band during the 5 minutes before the hour and the lower band during the 5 minutes after the hour to maximize propagation conditions.**
- 5. The bands to use are:**
 - 1. Daytime (1300 and 1900 hours): 20m/40m.**
 - 2. Nighttime (2100 hours): 40m/80m.**
- 6. Scout camps, Scouts and Scouters from the United States, Canada, and the rest of the world are encouraged to monitor according to the plan from 1700Z to 2000Z and from 2300Z to 0400Z to support Scout camps with traffic handling and talking with Scouts.**

***7.270 might be unusable in the evening and night hours due to Asian broadcast stations. Tune up or down to find an opening.**

****Avoid 14.300, since the Maritime Mobile Service Net and the Intercontinental Traffic Net use this frequency.**

*****Although 14.070 is listed as the Scout CW calling frequency, do not use it because it is the international PSK-31 frequency. Suggested frequency is 14.065. Please refer to the following link for more details.**

<http://homepage.mac.com/k2frd/JOTA.htm> .

Bob Bruninga, WB4APR, developer of Automatic Position Reporting System (APRS) and another avid ham-Scouter, has added the following suggestions for Scout camps and ham-Scouters equipped with APRS.

- 1. If your camp has APRS, send a message to SCOUTS at the beginning and end of all operating periods. An APRS message to SCOUTS will be retransmitted everywhere in the USA and the world where SCOUTS has been added to the automatic "pass-to-RF" at the local IGate.**
- 2. Contact the local IGate that serves your camp area and ask the SYSOP to include "SCOUTS" in its automatic "pass-to-RF" list. This way, you can receive, in real time, any other SCOUTS messages in the world alerting you of other stations on the air.**
- 3. Make sure that your station is using the APRS symbol for Scouts. That way, any other station in the world can check the APRS FINDU Web page and see live which other SCOUT stations are on the air. <http://www.findu.com/cgi-bin/symbol.cgi?icon=/,&limit=2000>**

The Scout Camp Calling Protocol was originally published in the OCARG EAGLE, an e-Zine dedicated to RadioScouting. The editor is Fred Stevens, K2FRD. Current and archived copies of the EAGLE are available at <http://homepage.mac.com/k2frd/ocarg.htm> Scouts and scouters interested in RadioScouting are encouraged to subscribe to the OCARG EAGLE, free of charge. Our thanks to Fred and the EAGLE for permission to use parts of his article in this report.

Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF, a very active ham-Scouter from Bloomfield, New Jersey, runs the technology program and Amateur Radio activities at Forestburg Scout Reservation (W2FSR) in Forestburg, NY. The program includes a Technician license class and VE sessions each week during the camp. During the summer of 2005, Nathaniel also served on the K2BSA staff at the National Boy Scout Jamboree at Fort A.P. Hill, VA.

Daniel Fisher, AI4GK is a ham-Scouter and a public information officer for the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) in Palm Bay, Florida. He has assisted in operating JOTA stations in South Brevard County, Florida for several years and regularly operates HF and VHF stations at Boy Scout camps. Dan previously has contributed Scouting stories to the ARRL Web site. He can be contacted at ai4gk@arrl.net.

K2BSA-11 BALLOON REPEATER ON FIELD DAY; K2BSA/0

Frank Krizan KR1ZAN submitted this Field Day - Scouting article originally intended for the Rockwell-Collins Amateur Radio Club in Richardson, Texas as written by Keith Kaiser WA0TJT who will also be operating as K2BSA/0 from Naish Scout Reservation:

Near Space Ventures and Venture Crew 239 will be launching a high altitude balloon on Field Day, June 24, 2006 from the Theodore Naish Scout Reservation in Bonner springs, Kansas.

The launch is set for early morning between 7:30 and 8:00AM CDT, and it will carry a simplex repeater on 147.555mhz with an expected radio horizon of 400 miles at altitude. Field Day participants are encouraged to call any of the several operators that will be monitoring this special event station, they include Scout Ham operators at the H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation near Osceola, Missouri as well as the Bonner Springs site.

The balloon itself will be using the call sign K2BSA-11 for the inaugural flight of the VentureStar2 Nearsat spacecraft. Any additional questions about the launch or if you are a Venturer or Boy Scout and interested in attending the launch please contact me at keith.kaiser@gmail.com, or look for more information on our web site at <http://nearspaceventures.com/> .

YIS/YIV

Keith D Kaiser -- Venturing Roundtable Commissioner

<http://www.kaiserklan.com>

<http://bsaroundtable.com>

<http://www.kaiserklan.com/wa0tjt.html> (has K2BSA/0 QSL card and APRS info - Editor.)

keith.kaiser@gmail.com

VENTURING CREW 80'S FIELD DAY ACTIVITIES

Venture Crew 80 of Alexandria, Virginia will be operating Field Day as W3BSA. Here is our activity plan for Field Day. We will be operating 1A VA section.

We will most likely be on 20 meters near the Scout SSB calling frequencies. However, we will move as needed to other bands/frequencies.

We will campout at Bull Run Regional Park in Fairfax County, VA right across the creek from the battlefield. Our operating hours will be from the Start time until 10:00pm local on Saturday due to noise restrictions. Then reopen on Sunday at approximately 0600 local until finish again due to noise restrictions.

73,

Bill Stewart, W2BSA

Editor's note: Venture Crew 80 of the National Capitol Area Council, BSA is sponsored by the 1st Christian Church and Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club.

TROOP 99, SIDNEY, NY SCOUTS ORIGINATE TRAFFIC AT RAILROAD CAMPOREE



LEFT: Scouts Trey Crawford and Chris Omahen L-R – New Scouts of Troop 99 Sidney, NY hold their "Yellow forms" on which they wrote messages home. They were received at home and relayed via phone to their parents by Scout dad Jeff KC2NTT and alumni dad Al K2EZK. These Scouts are holding their "Flaming Arrow Patrol" flag in front of a retired caboose.

May 19-21, Troop 99 of Sidney, NY was among the 200+ Scouts that attended the Foothills District Camporee in Arkville, Delaware County, NY, having a Railroad theme. The excursion railroad, the Ulster and Delaware, hosted Scouts on a train ride and permitted use of their land in Arkville for the campout. "Railroad Mobile" contacts were made by KC2JJY and KC2NTR [Connor and Alex] as they were riding the train, to their leader back at camp. Scouts were also able to complete 80% of the "Railroading Merit Badge" and top off the evening Saturday with a worship service and showtime of songs and skits. Noteworthy was the old Hunting skit byline, "I followed the tracks but got hit by a train."

de Jim LeBaron WA2IAX

HAM RADIO A HIT AT EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS CAMPOREE

This article should have appeared in the May edition of the EAGLE. My apologies to its author, ham-Scouter and fellow Buddipoler Gary Wilson K2GW. I also gotta get some new glasses (am awaiting new bifocals from the VA, but until then will have to live with WalMart specials) which is a really lousy excuse for missing his article in my files, but it's the only excuse I have.

The weekend of Saturday April 29 saw 5000 Scouts, Cubs and parents attend the Central New Jersey Camporee held at the Middlesex County fairgrounds. Saturday featured exhibits by many groups involved in Emergency Services. These included the NJ State Police, NJ TF-1, American Red Cross, Salvation Army, NJ Technical Rescue, National Guard, PSEG, US Coast Guard, Police, Fire, and the Middlesex OEM. Amateur radio was there as well.

Because of our longstanding support of JOTA and our annual Radio Merit Badge Day, the camporee committee

invited Amateur Radio to participate from the beginning. In fact, when they designed the camporee patches, each of which had a symbol representing an aspect of emergency services, they included one with the traditional lightning bolt for radio communications!

Since we knew Middlesex County would bring their Communication vehicle to show the high tech side of Amateur radio, Mercer County ARES/RACES decided to set up near it to show the low tech way to get on the air in the emergency. We emphasized how hams in disasters such as Hurricane Katrina worked with just a radio, wire and a car battery.

Using two popup shelters and tables borrowed from the DVRA, we quickly set up two amateur stations operating on 40, 20 and 2 and 0.7 (440mhz) meters operating off of battery and solar power. Antennas were a Buddipole for twenty meters; a home brew vertical for forty meters and a dual band Arrow J Pole on a painter's pole for 144/440.

Although we didn't actually use it, we also had an Arrow 2 meter/440 crossed Yagi on a tripod aimed up at the sky for satellite work. This and the four fold-up solar panels charging the gel cell battery packs drew curious folks into the station

We then used this improvised station to help the Scouts complete some Radio Merit Badge requirements. About one hundred Scouts made on the air contacts or completed some of the Radio Merit Badge requirements, and nine who did prerequisite work actually completed the badge there. Because of the large interest we wound up running nets locally on two simplex frequencies to help process the Scouts wanting to make on the air contacts.

Thanks to Alex, AB2RC, Ben, KC2OWE, Tom, KC2ODK, Dick N2LMK and Nick K2JMK for helping bring Amateur Radio to the next generation of hams!

Gary Wilson, K2GW

AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS HELP AT SCOUT CAMPOREE

On March 18, 2006, Amateur Radio operators, in conjunction with the Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society (PCARS) assisted at a Boy Scout Emergency Preparedness camporee.

On March 17 through 19, Manatee District of Central Florida Council held the camporee at Ais Hammock west of Palm Bay. Ais Hammock is a portion of a St. John's River Water Management District recreation area that is set aside for youth activities and camping, and is pronounced eye-EES. It is named after the Ais Indians who inhabited this area until the middle of the 18th Century.

On Saturday, several hams set up a communications net at an outdoor command post. Greg Turnquist, KC0ISU, served as Net Control Station, as Dan Fisher, AI4GK, Alex Fisher, KG4WMM, Keith Schreiber, KC0DIV, Jim Schreiber, KG4OAE, Adam Brigham, KI4KDT, and Javier Bermudez, KI4KDV manned the activity areas where the Scouts learned and practiced the requirements for Emergency Preparation Merit Badge. Chris Miller, KI4KOI also assisted. Dan, Keith, Adam and Javier are Boy Scout leaders. Alex, Jim, and Chris are Scouts. Keith's 12-year-old son Mark, KI4OBE, received his call sign eight days earlier. He was earning his Merit Badge this time around, and didn't serve on Staff. However, he did carry an HT and provided assistance during the Camporee. Ken Johnson, N4ZEB, ran an HF station.

This is the second time hams from PCARS have assisted with this merit badge camporee. Three years ago, PCARS also assisted. A major difference is that this year, all but two of the hams were Scouts and Scouters (leaders). Three years ago, only four members of the team were Scouts or Scouters. Since then, Adam, Javier, Chris, and Mark have become licensed in conjunction with their Scouting activities.

Dan and Keith continue to expose members of BSA in the south Brevard County area to Amateur Radio, and will be running a Radio Merit Badge course at Merit Badge University on April 8.

de Dan Fisher AI4GK

49TH JOTA INFORMATION NOW AVAILABLE

Richard Middelkoop PA3BAR, World of Scouting Movement JOTA Organizer has announced that the information package for the 49th JOTA is now available for you at your radio scouting web site: <http://www.scout.org/jota> (follow the links from there to the JOTA library <http://home.hetnet.nl/~richard.middelkoop/Jota/library.htm> for the news release).



ANOTHER HAM-SCOUTING NEWSLETTER!

For several years now, we have made the claim that the OCARG EAGLE is the only regularly published newsletter dedicated to ham radio in Scouting and Scouting in ham radio. Well, we were challenged this past month. Malcolm Bell G4CXT from the UK (United Kingdom) Radio Scouting Group <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/radio-scouting-uk/> mentioned that the quarterly Scout Radio Newsletter, a hard copy publication was printed in and mailed from the UK from 1982 until 2002 when it converted to online news via the Radio Scouting website and forum <http://www.radio-scouting.org.uk/>.

Fortunately for our egos, the EAGLE did not start making our claim until late 2002 or later, after the RSN ceased publication, so we can maintain our claim (we don't claim to be the first one; we claim to be the "only" one). Unfortunately for both the EAGLE and RSN, we did not learn of each others' existence four years ago. We could have combined resources, news, contacts, and shared articles.

Malcolm, as the last editor of RSN has managed to keep the last two years (six issues) of Radio Scout Newsletter online and available in PDF format. Also, at some point as time permits (he is on the 2007 World Jamboree Staff), he will post earlier copies of RSN onto the website. For those looking for interesting reading, I recommend downloading the RSN copies: <http://website.lineone.net/~scoutradio.news/>.

de K2FRD

OCARG WEBSITE CHANGES

We have made a few changes and a lot of additions to the OCARG website in an attempt to make it more pleasing to the eye, more navigable, and now include all previous copies of the OCARG EAGLE, at least those on hand. I am not an artist and am functionally color blind. If you have suggestions on how we might improve the site, please feel free to contact me. I need some serious input.

<http://homepage.mac.com/k2frd/ocarg.htm>

de Fred K2FRD
Editor Publisher
OCARG EAGLE

EAGLE CLOSES DOWN FOR THE SUMMER... AGAIN ;-]

And so we close out the OCARG EAGLE's sixth year of publication. It has been my pleasure to serve you all in the worthy cause of amateur radio in Scouting, but I could not have done it without you, the ham-Scout and

ham-Scouters of the World. As the Bette Midler song goes, "You are the wind beneath my wings".

We will recommence publication with the September edition, as always. And as always, I hope you all have a great time and good ham-Scouting at Scout Camp, Dayton Hamvention, on campouts, summer barbecues, Cub Family Camp, Cub Day Camp, Webelos Camp, or whatever you do and wherever you go. And please take lots of notes and pictures: we can use them all!

And, as a teaser, look for some possible major changes here at the EAGLE come September (or December)!

73 and Yours In Scouting de Fred K2FRD
OCARG EAGLE Editor-Publisher

P.S. This June issue was NOT the surprise mentioned.

WATCHING FOR A NEW LICENSE? HERE'S THE BEST WAY

The following URL takes one directly to the FCC's license lists. If one knows a new or upgraded license is due to be issued, one may check in frequently at this site and beat the standard license databases by anywhere from eight to 24 hours: <http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/cgi-bin/ws.exe/genmen/licensee.hts>

Enter: last name; Scroll down to `HA` (Amateur Radio); NO `Wildcard`

Then (next page): click on ULS Database. Look for name(s), new callsign.

Canadian new licenses are searched in a different manner since specific callsigns may be requested upon examination. Use the Royal Amateurs of Canada homepage <http://www.rac.ca/> and <http://www.rac.ca/acl/> (search by Province).

UPCOMING VE SESSIONS

Knowledge of dates and locations of VE sessions is important to those ham-Scouts and Scouters who wish to earn their amateur radio license or upgrade their present license. For persons in the United States, this information is available at <http://www2.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml> or at the W5YI site (often not listed in ARRL Exam Search): http://www.w5yi.org/exam_locations_ama.php.

SCOUTMASTER'S MINUTE

"Scouting is not an abstruse or difficult science: rather it is a jolly game if you take it in the right light. In the same time it is educative, and (like Mercy) it is apt to benefit him that giveth as well as him that receives!"

- Lord Robert Baden-Powell

Editor's note: These Baden-Powell quotes are available from the following sites:

<http://twc-woodbadge.freesevers.com/bpsays.htm>

http://en.thinkexist.com/quotes/sir_robert_baden-powell/

The OCARG EAGLE is published monthly on or about the 15th except publication is suspended for the summer months. If you feel you have received this newsletter in error, please send an email to K2FRD@arrl.net.

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