

# THE EAGLE

BULLETIN OF THE  
OTSCHODELA  
COUNCIL  
AMATEUR  
RADIO GROUP



VOLUME FIVE NUMBER 3

NOVEMBER 2004

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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, Scouting and ham clubs and organizations, and all individuals, each with an interest in the Boy Scouts of America 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 six 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](mailto:k2frd@arrl.net) or [wa2wvu@arrl.net](mailto:wa2wvu@arrl.net) requesting membership. 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 newsletter in error or no longer wish to receive it, kindly send a message so stating to one of the above addresses.

The online edition of the *OCARG EAGLE* may be found at: <http://homepage.mac.com/k2frd/ocarg.htm> . The *OCARG EAGLE* is mailed only via Blind CC ("recipient list suppressed") to cut down on your header's size and to avoid providing a ready-made list to potential spammers.

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## 47th JOTA NOT OVER YET

Now that JOTA has taken place, there are still a few things to be done. Please file your reports with the National Council BSA and with the ARRL or with your country's national radio organization and Scout headquarters. Addresses for filing in the United States are: <http://www.scouting.org/international/jota-samp.pdf> where the pdf form is to be filled out and snail-mailed to: BSA, JOTA Coordinator, International Division S221, PO Box 152079, Irving, TX 75015-2079. There is a 30 November deadline for filing this report with National since it must be forwarded to World Scouting headquarters.

File the ARRL report online at: <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/jotalog/>

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**Sidney, NY Troop 99's, Jesse Hornbeck sends his name in CW on an 80 meter QSO during JOTA, Oct. 16, 2004.**

## **OCARG'S JOTA HAS LOTS OF CHILLY FUN**

The Foothills District Camporee, Otschodela Council, Oneonta, NY was held on JOTA (Jamboree On The Air) weekend, Oct 15-17, 2004 at Hartwick College's Pine Lake near Davenport Center, Otsego County, NY.

Davenport Troop 63 (SM Ron Marsh) hosted the event and kindly included JOTA and Amateur radio.

Over 80 Scouts attended and 16 made QSO's on Amateur Radio. Seven messages to home and friends were originated with the NTS, Three replies were received.

Each Scout who talked on Amateur Radio was given a participation slip authorizing his Troop to order a special commemorative pocket patch as shown below.

We were lucky to have N2GVB (Tony from West Bainbridge) join us as a second operator. OCARG operated under its callsign KZ2BSA, Jim LeBaron WA2IAX, Trustee.

Other events staged by the host troops centered around an overall Native American theme and included period cooking, tree identification, fire building, compass course, and other problem solving contests.

A campfire ceremony followed the day's events Troops put on skits and led songs. Awards were given for the contest winners.

We would like to thank the owners and trustee of the 146.85, repeater for allowing us to tie up the machine for some periods of time as well as many Amateurs at home who listened for us, talked with Scouts and handled our traffic.

Much appreciation to our host troops for a great Camporee and to Hartwick for the use of their property.

de Jim LeBaron WA2IAX, edited by K2FRD

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**MORE OCARG JOTA PICTURES (following page)**



Jim WA2IAX and Scout from Troop 41 Roxbury, NY, at Jim's JOTA station.



Tony N2GVB and Scouts from Troop 25, Prattsville, NY at Tony's JOTA station.

Photos by Tony Masi N2GVB

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## TROOP 99 SIDNEY CAMPS AT SIDNEY CENTER, MOVES TRAFFIC



**Members of C-Corps** [the communications staff of Troop 99, Sidney, NY] stands by their radio equipment at their November campout on Vandervoort Hill near Sidney Center, NY. Rear: Alex Latta and Jesse Hornbeck, now attending Radio School for their FCC Amateur license. Front: Licensed Operators, SPL Derrick McHenry KC2JIX and Connor Hornbeck KC2JJY.

The Scouts were treated to exceptionally fine weather, sunny, in 60's during the day and barely going down to 40 overnight.

Troop-assigned traffic handler Connor Hornbeck KC2JJY sent 3 messages home for Scouts. Senior Patrol Leader Derrick McHenry KC2JJY brought his mobile 2M Rig with remote battery pack and mag-mount antenna which used a cook pot as a ground plane. Thanks to Stan WB2PPN for passing traffic via the W2RME repeater in Chenango Co.

Tech license candidates Alex Latta and Jesse Hornbeck are 1/3 of their way through license training and expect to take their tests before the end of the year.

Additional activities included fire building, patrol cooking, animal signs, pack hike preparation and work on camping merit badge.

Troop 99 is sponsored by the First Congregational Church, Main at Bridge Streets, Sidney, NY and meets every Wednesday 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: [www.upstate88.com/99](http://www.upstate88.com/99) for additional information.

de Jim LeBaron WA2IAX

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## **RADIO MERIT BADGE: NOT JUST AT JOTA. FROM NEW JERSEY:**

From the ScoutRadio reflector: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ScoutRadio>

JOTA is an ideal time to get Boy Scouts interested in Radio Merit Badge. So after the Scouts speak on the radio and write down the details of their contact, make sure that they know they they just completed two requirements of Radio Merit Badge. Then let them know when you'll be offering a class to help them finish the badge! It's easy to do with the Powerpoint Slides and workbooks in the files area of the ScoutRadio group on <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ScoutRadio>

I've made some slight revisions (mostly shortening and reordering some slides) in the PowerPoint Slides and workbooks based on my experience teaching the MB at Ockanickon Scout Reservation this past summer. These updated presentations and workbooks are available now in the files area of this Yahoo group.

Each module provides PowerPoint slides for a one hour class, three of which are needed to cover all of the material. The accompanying workbook in MicroSoft Word makes it easy for the Scouts to take notes. In a large class, it also makes it easy for the instructor to know that each boy has completed each requirement.

The course could be offered as a half day event, three evenings at Scout camp, or at three troop meetings. The fourth hour would be a visit to ham station and an on the air contact. This obviously could be done by participation in Field Day.

So have fun and let me know how you make out.

Good Scouting & 73

Gary Wilson, K2GW  
Mercer Area District  
Central New Jersey Council, BSA

Gary may be contacted for details at [k2gw at arrl.net](mailto:k2gw@arrl.net)

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## **A LITTLE HISTORY**

From Tony Masi N2GVB comes this little tidbit to spice up your next unit meeting (via the QRP-L list:

Just in case you wonderful readers didn't know. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the invention of the "Fleming Valve" also known as the "TUBE". In 1904 Sir Ambrose Fleming patented the Valve Diode and thus led us faster down the path of electronics. So Happy 100th Birthday for the VALVE!

Gregg R. Lengling, W9DHI, Retired

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## JOHN K2TN, SK, FRIEND OF HAM-SCOUTING



**K2KN, John Gallagher** receives the Legion of Honor award at an early June 2004 ceremony in Paris for his part in the D-Day Invasion at its 60 anniversary.

John, a long time friend, benefactor and traffic handler for Troop 99, Sidney, NY passed away Friday November 5 after a short illness.

A hero of WWII, he was a young Radioman First Class with the Sixth Beach Battalion, a unit whose activities have been only recently de-classified. Their now famous mission was to provide intelligence for the invading troops from their positions where they had landed ahead of the main forces. The first few minutes of the movie "Saving Private Ryan" were centered on this operation.

He was also awarded the Purple Heart and the French Croix de Guerre. An article and photo of John receiving the Legion of Honor were published in the August 2004 QST

A long time employee of IBM Poughkeepsie, John retired in 1984 and lived his last years in Sidney.

John will be sorely missed by Scouting, the Amateur Community and all who knew him.

de Jim LeBaron WA2IAX, edited by K2FRD

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## MORSE CODE TO MUSIC: LEARNING CODE THE FUN WAY

Tony Masi N2GVB sent in the following URL. For those trying to upgrade and are having trouble learning Morse Code, putting it to rhythm and music may be the solution. Or, if anyone is tired of listening to 800 hertz beeps, here's something different. Note, you'll need to have the latest Netscape 7, Internet Explorer, or Safari browsers for it to work; I didn't try Firefox.

de K2FRD

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## UPCOMING VE SESSIONS

Because the *EAGLE* has an international readership, there is little point continuing to list upcoming Volunteer Examiner sessions only on a local basis. However, 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> . We will post the comparable website for other countries on a monthly basis if we can locate the URL.

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## SCOUTMASTER'S MINUTE

"The most worth-while thing is to try to put happiness into the lives of others."

- Lord Robert Baden-Powell

Age 80. From his last letters, September, 1940.

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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](mailto:K2FRD@arrl.net) .

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Further information regarding Otschodela Council Amateur Radio Group may be found at:  
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