

THE EAGLE

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



VOLUME SEVEN NUMBER 2

OCTOBER 2006

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 subscribe@ocarg.org 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://ocarg.org> .

JOTA! JOTA! JOTA! 20-22 OCTOBER

The 49th Jamboree On The Air will be the weekend of 20-22 October 2006. This is ham-Scouting's big chance to show what we can do. The Eagle will publish unit, District, Council, club, individual and any other news and schedules and frequencies related to JOTA. Last year, we published a special edition in October with mostly schedules and will do the same again this year if the demand warrants.

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).

JOTA sites to bookmark:

Boy Scouts of America International Division:
<http://www.scouting.org/international/22-218.html>

World of Scouting Movement:

<http://home.hetnet.nl/~richard.middelkoop/Jota/jota.htm>

<http://home.hetnet.nl/~richard.middelkoop/>

American Radio Relay League:

<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/jota.html#frequencies>

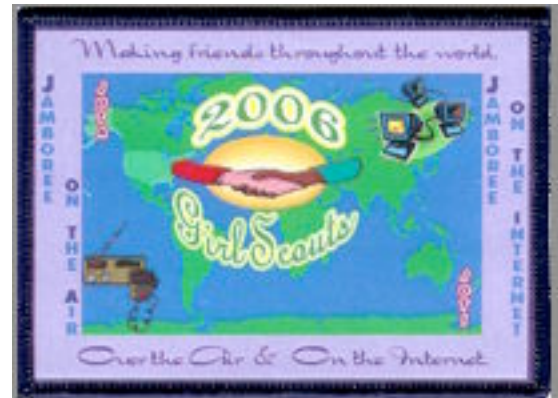
Following JOTA activities, reports should be made to ARRL and BSA if the operations were in the United States. Elsewhere, the National JOTA Organizer should be notified. It is very likely that JOTA participation is badly underestimated each year since reports are not filed. Reporting Bookmarks:

ARRL Survey:

<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/jotalog/>

Boy Scouts of America JOTA Organizer Ray Moyer WD8JKV RMoyer@netbsa.org

List of National JOTA Organizers (PDF) <http://home.hetnet.nl/~richard.middelkoop/jota/njolist.pdf>



K2BSA CALLSIGN STILL AVAILABLE FOR JOTA

Per Ray Moyer WD8JKV, BSA JOTA Organizer, call areas 1, 2, 3, and 6 are still available for the K2BSA callsign for JOTA weekend. If anyone wants to use the K2BSA callsign, he may be contacted at RMoyer@netbsa.org .

FROM THE EDITOR:

For those attending or participating in JOTA operations, the EAGLE would love to publish some of your pictures, preferably with lots of Scouts in them. Please send images and brief captions to K2FRD@ocarg.org . Credit given to all images.

JOTA AND VOICE OVER INTERNET PROTOCOL (VOIP).

By Sjaak van Dam, W4RIS ex-PA3GVR

You can't switch on a TV nowadays without seeing a commercial about VOIP or Voice Over Internet Protocol. Amateur Radio Operators have been using VOIP for a long time already in several different ways. The three more popular and remaining systems are IRLP (Internet Radio Linking Project), EchoLink and eQSO.

Yaesu sells a system called Wires II but this systems is not so popular.

All these systems allow Amateur Radio operators to get in contact with each other without having to count on good conditions or the need for a HF class license (General / Advanced or Extra in the US).

What these VOIP systems do is turn your voice in to computer data and transmit this over the internet to a receiving station where it gets turned back into sound again.

EchoLink and eQSO allow you to contact remote stations directly from your Windows** computer. IRLP needs a dedicated LINUX computer that is connected to a radio or repeater and only allows radio to radio contacts.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: We Mac users can also use IRLP software, available as a free download at <http://www.dogparksoftware.com/EchoMac.html> . Approximately ten to 17% of ham operators are Mac users.

IRLP:

Several stations have already announced on the IRLP mailing list they will be listening on IRLP for any JOTA contacts:

- Chris, N3CB will be Likely active around 2100z 10/21 through 0100z 10/22 on Node 4948.
- Ray, WA4WGA in North Carolina was told to expect 140 to 180 scouts on Saturday US EDT. And he will be listening to Node 4866.
- Carter, KH6FV will be running a JOTA station from the deck of the USS Missouri in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on October 21/22. Feel free to contact Node 3217 for JOTA Scouts.
- Cohen, VK3FCL will be operating at VK3SCC and they will be listening to Node 6300.
- If you want to contact some Dutch stations (most kids will speak English) you can try nodes 8600, 8610, 8620 and perhaps node 8690.

There will be more JOTA stations on IRLP but they have not yet (on 10-01-06) announced their presence. You can always connect to reflectors 9000, 9250 and 9254 to call "CQ Jamboree". Once you have found an other JOTA station you can go QSY and connect to each others node directly. Once the QSO is over both stations come back to the reflector to find other stations.

EchoLink (quoted form the WOSM JOTA bulletin):

Echolink makes radio-waves travel over the internet If you have an internet connection available at your radio station, we recommend that you use the Echolink system. Echolink allows you to make radio contacts over very large distances, regardless of the propagation conditions, using even small handheld radios. Echolink works via computers that are connected both to the internet and to an amateur radio station. By contacting one of these, your signals can go from the airwaves onto the internet and vice-versa. Echolink even allows PC users and amateur radio stations to directly communicate with each other. In fact, if you don't have amateur radio equipment you can still use it. You need a PC with a soundcard, speakers and a microphone. Your PC transmits your voice signals over the internet, to another Amateur Radio station. Suppose you are at a location that does not allow you to put up antennas, or you have easy access to the computer classroom in a school building, well now you have the chance to take part in JOTA from the school's PC's, simply by connecting to Echolink. The same regulations apply for regular, on the air, radio contacts. The transmissions are identified with the radio call sign, so they are not anonymous, and can be traced to the responsible operator. The license of the operator is checked before access to the system is granted. This way, Echolink protects youngsters from unwanted elements present on the internet and ensures child safety. Your radio amateur has to register with Echolink beforehand. This takes a few days; so don't wait until the last moment to prepare your Echolink station. Special-event call signs can be used on Echolink, but not to register; instead you must use the call sign of the 1st operator. The software, however, allows you to set a station descriptor. In order to easily recognize them, JOTA stations are asked to put in their station descriptor: "JOTA: your call sign" (e.g. JOTA: HB9S). Detailed instructions for JOTA stations on Echolink are available on the radio-scouting web site, together with the free software. Register with Echolink before 1 October 2006 if you intend to use it for JOTA.

eQSO:

I am not active on eQSO but I'm sure there will be JOTA stations active on eQSO. Like with EchoLink, eQSO JOTA stations will probably be easily identifiable in the eQSO software.

Links for more information:

IRLP - <http://www.irlp.net/>

EchoLink - <http://www.echolink.org/>

eQSO - <http://www.eqso.net/>

WIRES II - <http://www.vxstd.com/en/wiresinfo-en/>

The World JOTA organizer's (PA3BAR) page on Echolink:

<http://home.hetnet.nl/~richard.middelkoop/JOTI/echolink.htm>

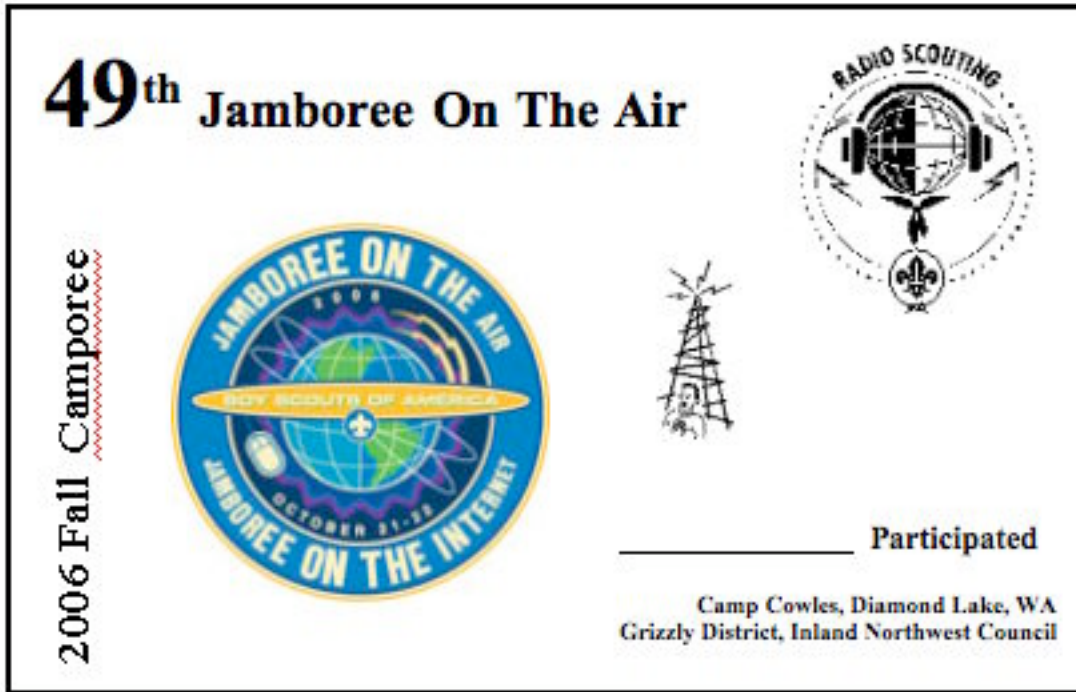
de Sjaak, W4RIS ex-PA3GVR

JOTA SCHEDULES, CAMPOREES

The following JOTA schedules are gleaned from the ScoutRadio Group, the Radio-Scouting-UK Group, the

JOTaskedbook Group and messages sent directly to the EAGLE. If anyone wants to make contact via email to arrange a specific schedule and frequency, if an email address is not included, it is recommended that one uses QRZ.com to find the address listed with the callsign.

MORE SCHEDULES ARE LISTED AFTER "SHORTS" NEAR THE LAST PAGE



LEFT: Sample JOTA certificate for Scout participants. Designed and submitted by Michael Carey KD7GHZ

We are the Hong Kong Scout Hong Kong Island Region, Island IT Club.

Our callsign: VR2HKS
We will QRV on 14.260MHz, 21.360MHz and Echolink
We will also be on MIRC

Please QSL via HK bureau, for details please visit our website:
<http://www.it-scout.org> Looking forward to have QSO with you!

73, Dawood VR2XNG
HKIR Island IT Club VR2HKS
Email: vr2xng@it-scout.org
Website: <http://www.it-scout.org/>

Hi we are a small group in the southern parts of norway..

Im looking for skeds in any time during the JOTA both with DigiModes and SSB 73' de LA5SS
op by LA3BNA Karl Kristian Markman la5ss@yahoo.co.uk

The Central Nottingham Scouts will again be on the air from their Sherbrooke Camp Site using the callsign GB4CNS. It is hoped to be QRV on HF bands 10/15/17/20m, LF bands 40/80m, Echolink through GB3IN Repeater (Node No. 98258) and probably 6/2m.

Test transmissions from 20:00hrs Friday and operating from 06:00hrs

Saturday until 12:00hrs Sunday (local time).

Skeds welcome to ivor.jordang4get@blueyonder.co.uk

Venturing Crew 80 will be operating JOTA weekend from the NCAC, Colonial District camporee. The camporee will be held at Camp Highroad, a Methodist Church camp in Aldie, VA. The theme will be Pioneering so we are going to try and build a signal tower for antenna support.

73 and Yours in Scouting,
Bill Stewart, W2BSA, Venturing Crew 80

Catalina Council Spanish Trails District will have their Fall Camporee on Oct 13-15 at the Double V Campground in Tucson Arizona. At the Camporee will be our JOTA a week early from the real JOTA. We should be on near 14.200 from noon to 5pm on Friday, 8am to 5pm Saturday and 8am to noon on Sunday. We will also be on several of the local repeaters.

Tom Fagan WB7NXH
ADC Spanish Trails District
ARRL Section Manager Arizona
WB7NXH@arrl.org

Our upcoming Council Camporee Oct 13,14, and 15 the Camporee will center around emergency preparedness. We are going to set up some radio's on the 14th between 9:00 and 5:00 CST and we are going to use K2BSA/Garland Scout Ranch as the call sign. I do not know what freq we are going to use so everyone will just have to look for us.

Wayne Hatfield KD5JJP hatfield_ice@bellsouth.net
Norwela Council
Shreveport, Louisiana

MORE JOTA SCHEDULES MAY BE FOUND AFTER THE "SHORTS" SECTION.

FLORIDA HAM-SCOUT DOES ANTENNA EAGLE PROJECT

by Dan Fisher AI4GK, South Brevard Co, FL ARRL PIO

Jim Schreiber KG4OAE, a West Melbourne, Florida Life Scout, finished his Eagle project this past Friday, September 29.. Jim waded through the School Board bureaucracy and oversaw the installation of a 2-meter J-pole on Bayside High School, which serves as two hurricane shelters: a special needs shelter and a general population shelter.

RIGHT: Eagle Scout Jim Schreiber KG4OAE with antenna on top of school which serves as a hurricane shelter.

Jim is a member of Troop 314 and the Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society (www.pcars.org) in Melbourne, Florida. Jim, his father, KC0DIV, and his newly-licensed younger brother Mark, KI4OBE, typically volunteer their time and equipment to provide Amateur Radio communications at Red Cross evacuation shelters during hurricanes and tropical storms. Jim saw a need to install antennas at the hurricane shelters to relieve Amateur Radio volunteers from having to try and select a place to fasten an antenna, either with duct tape or rope, where the antenna will radiate but not blow away in the storm.

Jim navigated through the Brevard County School Board bureaucracy for nearly 18 months before the final okay was given and he was allowed to install the antenna. His project was begun





after the Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne season, and extended through the Hurricanes Katrina and Wilma season.

LEFT: Jim Schreiber KG4OAE and Matt Brothers work on Jim's Eagle Project.

Even though he volunteers at another shelter in the Brevard County area, Jim chose Bayside High because it is a special needs shelter and because of its distance from the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Rockledge--approximately 26 miles away.



RIGHT: Finished antenna on top of the school.

[A media news release is at <http://www.floridatoday.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060930/NEWS01/609300315/1/archives>]

de Dan Fisher AI4GK

OCARG HAM WA2IAX IN NE FLOOD RELIEF OPERATIONS

Editor's Note: On 27-28 June 2006, the Northeast U.S. was hit by near-record (might have been a record) rainfall resulting in major floods throughout the region. Severely affected were the Susquehanna and Delaware River watersheds from their sources in upstate New York down to their outlets in Chesapeake and Delaware Bays where record floods caused numerous deaths, massive destruction, and evacuation of hundreds of thousands from their homes. In upstate NY very near the rivers' sources (where in places one may wade across the rivers), the floods' severity was exacerbated by more than a century of uncontrolled and often illegal fill in the adjacent flood plains resulting in loss of life, extensive property damage, large-scale evacuations, and major power, telephone, and cellphone outages. Jim LeBaron WA2IAX of Sidney, NY, an ARES/RACES member, frequent contributor to the EAGLE, and KZ2BSA Trustee was activated for emergency communications service at a shelter at the Unatego School in Otego (Otsego County), NY, about 23 road miles WSW of Cooperstown (Baseball Hall of Fame) and about 16 radio miles from Sidney. This operation was a locally run shelter rather than an ARC shelter. Jim, not an ARC member, but diligent emcom volunteer with the ARC had taken a number of Red Cross training courses including the Shelter Operations course to give him a better understand of ARC operations in the advent of future activations in which the ARC required communications support. He sent me several emails describing his service shortly after reliable commercial communications was restored to the area and he returned home. Except for minor editing for content and amplification, the text is as I received it, not originally intended for publication.

by Jim LeBaron WA2IAX

Was monitoring 146.850 [local ARES/RACES Hub repeater] and Brian N2KGC asked if anyone could deploy to the

Unatego School shelter.

Grabbed what grab bag[s] I could and rigs and headed out. Unatego School is on the north side of the Susquehanna River, I was on the south. Sidney Policemen had the main Route 8 bridge blocked and so could not get across there. Officer Casey said he did not think there was any way across to the north side. I headed to Unadilla [5 miles upstream from Sidney] on the South side of the river but was blocked at Tryon's Corners by Unadilla Fireman Tom Stone. Nice fellow but no way he could help. The road I wanted to use [Delaware County 23] was just downstream on Carr's Creek from Route 88 where 2 truckers had died when their rigs crashed into the huge void left when the Rt 88 culvert was washed out just east of the County 23 overpass. The Carr's Creek bridge was under water. As we were talking, a Scouting friend and trooper Jim Guerierre [also former Law Enforcement Post 121 Advisor] came by and I flagged him down.

I showed him my ARES card and he said "Go up toward Sidney Center and over Crane Hill. Then back west on the East River Road to the Unadilla entrance ramp. Rte 88 is still open from there to the Otego bridge. The bridge is still sound. You can then come back west on route 7 to get to the school."



LEFT: Carr Creek near Unadilla, NY wash-out of Interstate 88. Two truckers were killed when they drove into the breach.

Thanked him and set out for Crane Hill. At the overpass there was a clear view of the washout. One truck trailer was still in the void. At that time one driver's body had not been found. Very sad.

Well, Crane Hill and East river Road were OK but when I got to the 88 entrance approach, there were cones across it. Didn't want to get arrested so I started back the E. River Rd. toward the cemetery and in the S curve came across Jim again.

"Just go around the cones." he said, "Tell 'em I said so."

But then he said, "Follow me, I have to go up there and I can give you an escort."

So away we went. The old Bronco had to squeak to keep up with his cruiser. We got to the Otego exit and he stopped and said, "You going to be able to make it now?"

"Oh yes, thank you a whole lot. Good to have people tell you what you CAN do rather than what you CAN'T do."

***** [Denotes another email]

When I got up there [at the Unatego School ARC Shelter] led on the air by Brian N2KGC [District EC], net control, I found Adam there just ahead of me and he was coming around the west side of the school. I drove over there and introduced myself. He was a GBSF [great big strong fellow] and took a lot of my stuff including my backpack with overnight gear. I also had 2 small 6-pack-sized lunch containers with one HT, extra battery, 2.3 Ah gel cell, roll-up j-pole in one and patch cords. Then there was the "bucket rig" in a 5 gal [4?] kitty litter bucket. An old Azden [50W] if needed more power. It also holds an 18Ah gel cell but this time I just brought it in its separate wooden box [1 of 3 in stock]. Also had the everything bag from connector adapters, orange vest, tape, VOM, AA's, AAA's paper pencils.....etc.

Good to have GBSF for all that.

We were sent into the principal's office [not the first time for me!]. Lady seemingly in charge was Judy Pitel, very professional and diplomatic attractive 35-40 and a terrific help. Seemed to be the HS office chief in real life. Asst. Principal Roger Brown and Mrs. Brown were also great helps.

At one point there was a question to which I needed an answer and someone said, "Ask Becca, she is wearing a blue tee shirt that says 'kids first' or something."

Soon I found a lady with the required tee shirt, 35-40, and I asked, "Are you Becca?"

"Yes, can I help you?"

"I am Jim LeBaron with the Amateur radio team and I have a couple questions I think you can answer." I gave her one of my Scout/Ham calling cards.

"Oh, pleased to meet you here is my card too. I am Dr. Rebecca Furlong, Superintendent of schools and I hope I can be of help!"

Very fine buncha people.

Note: This shelter was not managed by the Red Cross or Salvation Army. They were "Too busy" understandably. The administrators of Unatego School did it all themselves. There was some supply missions by both the S/A and ARC but the whole shelter was managed by school personnel, volunteers from the immediate area and the clients themselves.

Now Adam was set up with an HT and a mag-mount on an aluminum window sill and, although [Otsego Co] EOC was making hard copy, it was working and he WAS first on-the-scene.

I got my old sock out of the Everything bag and hunted up a few small stones in the parking lot and chucked up the j-pole over the parapet of the outside wall. Got it on the second try and it STAYED up there! Adam wrestled the coax around and was able to close the screen too. Worked very well into Oneonta with the 5W HT. Used his for a while but, he had it running on the 115 V. charger all the time and I dunno if maybe it wasn't charging and the batt got low although my Kenwood HT does not transmit while plugged into 115 via the charger. No time to read the manual. Nice that it will work with a regulated 115 V. supply or from a 12 V. battery.

Adam was a Marine Corps Reservist and was working for a landscape company. Also was going to school ...something to do with Clark University (Worcester, MA).

Most peoples' worries were about what roads were still open.



Well. Adam is probably about 22 or so and his callsign is KC2DXG. Lives north of Wells Bridge [3 mi SW of Otego]....maybe a family farm. I think he said his dad was Dan Friedman a teacher at Bainbridge. Apparently was showing a friend his HT after a couple years' hiatus from hamming and just happened to hear the call for volunteers.

LEFT: Section of the Unadilla River, a tributary of the Susquehanna River in upstate New York about 50 river miles WSW of its source from Otsego Lake, Cooperstown, NY.

Everyone was great, patient and friendly. Clients were great....knew quite a few of them. The Unadilla Fire Dept came twice a day with updates. Was able to fax transcripts to EOC....when the phones worked.

Had a couple of interesting duties: One was a lady who was very pregnant and was concerned that she could not get to the hospital if she were to go into labor. EOC was able to confirm a clear route to Oneonta where she could stay with family. Judy Pitel drove there with her to be sure and all went well.

Had one scare when the 146.850 went down Had to rig up the 50W Azden with the big gel cell to hit the alternate machine: 146.64 in Cooperstown. The '.85 came back up within the hour, though.

Another one was kind of a surprise. Lady had older parents whose RX's were just about gone and needed refills. Their drug store [Sturges'/Brown's] in Unadilla [8 mi SW of Otego] was drowned. She had the bottles.

Our ham at Fox Hospital [Oneonta, NY, 5 mi NE] was able to determine that their pharmacy had a protocol to renew

RX's with 3 [or so] days worth of dosage without a referral. I had all the info but, not wanting to yak it all over on the air and, again, thanks to the working fax, was able to fax the info on the bottles to Fox and they put up the RX's and said that the daughter could pick up at the ER after hours.

Ya know, most of the time, it seems that people want to tell you what you CAN'T do. During this disaster, it seemed that folks wanted to HELP you DO it!

Can't believe the fine accommodations they gave us at Unatego. I had brought a lot of granola-type food but failed to bring stuff to wash up. Never fear, their food was excellent and plentiful. First night had dinner of spaghetti and hot dogs. Had one doughnut each breakfast but there were eggs and all the "good" stuff available too. Lunch was some FB sandwiches and the second dinner was hamburgs and "Tater Tots".

Retired NYS Trooper "Fred" [Shelton?] said, "Don't you guys leave until you get dessert." I had noticed people bringing in pies and cakes. They had a push cart full of servings and you got to pick out the one you wanted! Like at the Ritz! This kind of thing is above and beyond but a great morale booster.

As to the hygiene issue, was able to do the wet, soapy paper towel thing and at least wash up. Next morning there were buckets of razors and toothpaste and brushes and soap and BO deployed outside the showers. They had doled out shampoo in little plastic cups [1/2 oz?]. Good to have a hot shower.

NOW I have all that stuff in my grab-bag.

Another thing that was a boon to folks was their ability to bring their pets with them. There were a lot of them but seemed like very little problems. Most of the time folks were outside walking them or attending to them in shade shelters that they improvised outside. Judi [Jim's wife KC2MYX] was on the repeater and my friend Virginia was at the shelter with her cat who was doing very well. When I got relieved by Jerry Tiffany KC2JUJ on Friday [30 June], Judi [on 146.85 repeater after QNF - traffic net] said, "Invite her and her kitty here for the duration." She graciously declined because she had left phone messages for a lot of people that she could be reached at the shelter. Sent a nice letter of thanks later.

Called [NYS Police] Troop C. Trooper said "Take Rt I-88 from Otego Bridge, Off at Unadilla, Over Crane Hill to Sidney Center Road, Over Road 13 and Parker Hollow to Masonville. Then Rt 8 to Sidney. [Editor's note: this is REALLY a roundabout way to get to Sidney.]

9 AM Dave Welsh and Greg Relic came back with an update [on the flooding in Unadilla where the entire downtown area was flooded and evacuated]. The folks that lived between Main St. and the tracks were going to be able to go back to their homes. Pumpers would be around for them. Also NYSEG [electric company] inspectors. They could come back to the shelter if they were not comfortable staying home that night. Got THAT faxed to EOC. Greg said that Rte 7 [parallels I-88, the direct route between villages] was open to Sidney. It had been closed due to water around Green Acres.

At 10 called Troop C again. "Go up to Idumea....." the gist was to travel the high country to the north.

I checked the map and made lot of notes about how to get out of Wells Bridge on Cty 3A, then on 3 then on Martin Brook to Rogers Hollow nd then Kipps Hill and home. Just in case. as not sure of a bridge at Sidney either.

Well, Jerry KC2JUJ came in about 2 PM and had a couple mobile rigs and a P/S. We got a coax through the window screen/frame interstices and he set up his "Fan Vertical".

It was a big wire-form weldment guard for a large propeller fan with a vertical coming out of its center. Fan housing laid on ground....vertical stuck up! Seemed to work just fine. Might have been good to put some orange flags around it but no one came around anyway.

I got all my stuff together and found Mr. Clint Hall, head facilities guy and he assigned Lillian to let me up on the roof to retrieve my "Sock-a-rocks".

She found some keys and let me into a closet with a steel ladder going way up to a catwalk. There was another door out to the roof but it was locked. From the OUTSIDE! Must be that they didn't want anyone to get OUT!

Well, I said, "Let me try and yank it down. Was afraid I'd get it caught on something and mess it up. I went outside and looked at the antenna; figured there was about a 50/50 chance of it being stuck. Well, I just gave it a gentle pull and the thing came over the parapet smoothly!

Had all gear in car after wheeling it out on a 5-wheeled office chair. I was humping my camp pack out when Fred the-retired-Trooper said, "Don't leave without lunch."

So had a last talk with Sly Lord and Ruthie, Carl Staff & Mrs. along with Jim Starbuck. then shouldered my pack and started home.

Met a line crew outside from PA and they had their own cat. She was hanging around their work site and had a little apartment in one of the big toolboxes on the side of the truck. She was busy eating some roast chicken at the time.

"Is Rte 7 open to Sidney?"

"Don't know we came from the other way."

"Well, thanks, you guys looked like you knew stuff so thought I'd try." Big laugh there.

Anyway, went back to Otego and gassed up at the truck stop. Bridge was open and looked good. Came back across and went west on 7. All OK. Called a truck on CB [Ok Ok, I deserved that] and he had such an echo/reverb on his mic that I could not copy his answer to my bridge question. Then truck from Mirabito's [local gasoline supplier] came along and he said the Rt 8 bridge was open but Main St. was not.

Not fussy at that point. Got home fine.

de Jim LeBaron WA2IAX via email to K2FRD

NEXT MONTH: Lessons learned and what worked right.

SHORTS

ALLEN PITTS W1AGP, ARRL MEDIA & PUBLIC RELATIONS

Allen Pitts W1AGP, ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager suggests a visit to the ARRL pio website <http://www.arrl.org/pio> for helpful information for anyone involved in media relations such as a Public Information Officer or Public Information Coordinator. Of particular interest are back issues of **Contact!**, the newsletter of ARRL PIOs <http://www.arrl.org/pio/contact/#current>. This information is of especial use for ham-Scoutmasters and many of the rest of us ham-Scouters who might be a little weak when writing news releases or making contact with the media to cover ham-Scouting events.

Importantly, there is plenty of information on the ARRL's very successful **HELLO** program on the main page.

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/arrivec/examsearch.phtml> or at the W5YI site (often not listed in ARRL Exam Search): http://www.w5yi.org/exam_locations_ama.php.

Canadians wishing to obtain their ham license need to find an Accredited Examiner. These may be found at: <http://www.rac.ca/regulatory/examiner.htm>. Further licensing and non-Canadian operating information is at: <http://www.rac.ca/regulatory/arast.htm>

SCOUTMASTER'S MINUTE

"Fortune favors the prepared mind."

- Louis Pasteur

EDITOR NEEDS FEEDBACK

As the OCARG EAGLE subscriber numbers grows, so does the amount of news available for each month's publication as more ham-Scouters contribute very welcome material. We would like to learn from readers what might be the best means for presenting this information, particularly with regard to indexing each month's edition. Below are some alternatives presented to us. Please send any thoughts, opinions, and/or ideas to Fred K2FRD at K2FRD@orcarg.org.

1. An index to the pdf page number at the beginning of each edition.
2. An index as a separate page in pdf at the beginning of each edition.
3. An index within the cover email containing each edition's pdf version.
4. No index at all.

Any other ideas for improvement of the EAGLE.

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MORE JOTA SCHEDULES

K2BSA/8 JOTA operation from Clinton Township, Michigan on 21 October, 1400z until approx. 2200z, mainly on 20m and 40m scout frequencies, though will try other bands if open. Coordinator is KA8JJN.

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YiS,
Frank Maynard, NF8M
MC, Troop 407; CR, Pack 54; District Cub Training Chair & Roundtable Staff
...and a good old Bobwhite too! (C-23-04)
Mighty Ottawa District, Clinton Valley Council
Novi, Michigan

DX9RI, 4H50O, DZ50W, DZ50O, DV9HLA, DW9ARM will be up and running on 40,20,15 mtrs from October 20 1200z to October 22 0400z for JOTA2006. We will also be up on echolink through DU9DWV link. We are expecting about 1000 scouts this year (we had 900 last year) which explains why we will start early. We would appreciate it if you could include us in your contact schedule. 73 <ricruds@yahoo.com>

Skyview Radio Society will be operating the Jamboree on the Air on October 21st from 13:00 to 17:00 UTC from the Skyview Radio Society Clubhouse in New Kensington PA (Near Pittsburgh). On Saturday October 28th, Skyview Radio Society will be holding a Radio Merit Badge class, also at our clubhouse. Registration required. Skyview Radio Society on the web: <http://www.skyviewradio.net> also, JOTA and Merit Badge class information at <http://www.phtroop891.org/index.html#jota>

YIS KB3HGJ

Chelmsford District Scouts Amateur Radio Fellowship (ScARF) will be operating GB4CDS (to be confirmed) from 2nd Chelmsford HQ from 10.00 to 16.00 Saturday and 10.00 to 14.00 on Sunday. We will be operational on HF and 2m plus echolink and hopefully JOTI.

We will also be operating MX5CDS on HF and 2m from 1st Woodham Ferrers (South Woodham Ferrers) on Saturday from 10.00 to approximately 14.00.

Geoff Blake G8GNZ

The Quetzalcoatl Grupo 5 de Villa de Alvarez Colima will again be on the air from their Las Golondrinas Camp Site using the callsign XE1BBU. It is hoped to be QRV on HF bands 10/15/17/20m, LF bands 40/80m. Test transmissions from 20:00hrs Friday and operating from 15:00hrs Saturday until 14:00hrs Sunday (local time; - 7 hours GMT).

Skeds welcome to zianjulio@yahoo.com

Crew 73 of Buckeye Council in Canton, Ohio will be active from BSA Camp McKinley on Saturday 10/21 from 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM local EDT (16:00 - 22:00 UTC same day). A Fall Camporee is scheduled for the same weekend.

We plan to be on 40-20-17 meters, SSB, SSTV, PSK31, RTTY and perhaps CW. Will be using 100 watts and a doublet from a portable setup near Lisbon, Ohio in the eastern part of the state. Callsign will be NX8J.

Crew members will continue activity from their home QTH on a "time available" basis throughout the remainder of JOTA.

73 & YIS, Dale NX8J

Greetings to Scouts around the world.

VE7PEP
(British Columbia Provincial Emergency Program)
Victoria, Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada,
will be on the air and looking for contacts on JOTA weekend.

We'll likely be on 80 m, 40 m and 2 m.

Victoria is at longitude 123:22 W, 8.224 time zones west of 000:00.
(Pacific Standard Time is 8 hours behind Greenwich time.)

Regards.

Doug Pattison
VE7XAT
5th/6th Cedar Hill & 6th Garry Oak
Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers

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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@ocarg.org. Subscriptions are free; there is no spam, no ads, no solicitations. 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. Subscribe to: subscribe@ocarg.org. OCARG's mailing list is NEVER sold nor otherwise made available to spammers nor anyone else. Since the EAGLE is a subscriber contribution newsletter, a message is sent out about the first of each month requesting news.

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Further information regarding Otschodela Council Amateur Radio Group may be found at: <http://ocarg.org> .

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