

OCARG EAGLE
NEWSLETTER OF THE
OTSCHODELA COUNCIL AMATEUR
RADIO GROUP

VOL 1, NUMBER #8 MARCH 2001

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 and an email to the above Sender.

Please note that the mailing list is larger than the OCARG membership list. Copies of the Bulletin 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 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 and Mishiwaka Bold (with the slash/zero), available from Editor if desired.

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MEMBERSHIP NEWS

John Hampel AB2IC is now an Official ARRL Instructor. Congratulations, John-In-Guilford!

John Copeland KC2ELN is steadily progressing toward his Eagle rank as he proceeds on his Eagle Service Project. Progress report follows below.

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CLASS IN PROGRESS

Here is some news tidbits from KA2BSA.

The Technician license class being instructed by members of KA2BSA and SMARA has started. We had our first class Sunday afternoon February 18, 2001 at the Schenectady Museum. There are 11 Scouts and Scouters enrolled in the class from both Troop 73 and Troop 71. We have a total of 17 students. Of the 17 students, more than 50% are youth participants. It is great to see so many kids involved in this class. The final class and test session will be in May. I will keep you posted of the outcome of the class and the new call signs as they receive them.

Ray Ginter
N2ZQF

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FOUR-TROOP CAMPOUT AT HENDERSON SCOUT RESERVATION

A four Troop campout was held at Henderson Scout Reservation Feb. 23/25,2001. Troops 1 (Unadilla), 34, 88 & 99 (Sidney) attended. Communication for Scouts was via KB2EZR, Kevin and WA2IAX, Jim. Eight Scouts talked on the radio and received participation certificates. Ten Amateur Stations checked in to listen for Scouts at three scheduled times: Feb 24, Sat at 11:00 AM, 1:00 PM and 3:00 PM. Six messages were originated at Camp and were confirmed as delivered "home". All received a reply.

Scouts "On the Air":

- Travis TR 1
- Rich TR 1
- Kyle TR 88
- Andrew TR 99
- Anthony TR 99
- Troy TR 99
- Billy TR 99
- Ryan TR 99

Stations (Many Thanks) checking in:

- N2ZXT Bob
- K2FRD Fred
- K2KN John
- K2TNN Jerry
- WA2TTD Al
- WB2EME Bill
- AA2RM Bill
- N2OZS Darlene

KC2ELN John  
KB2ZJG Marvin

'73 Jim WA2IAX

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UPCOMING VE EXAMS

EDITOR'S NOTE: We are more than pleased to reproduce your VE or Class session's formal advertisement in these pages. Please submit copy anytime before about the 15th of each month. We may make minor editorial changes for spelling, punctuation, typo's, and spacing, but we will not alter the content nor, if possible, the format in which it is submitted. Also, please do not include logos nor other images (gif or jpeg); we've found they often freeze computers or otherwise interfere with the message.

More details and contact information of area VE sessions may be found at:  
<http://www2.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml> .

MARGARETVILLE 17 March 2001

AMATEUR RADIO EXAMS

Sponsored by the Margaretville Amateur Radio Club

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 2001

2:00 PM

MARGARETVILLE TELEPHONE COMPANY MEETING ROOM LOCATED ON SWART STREET IN MARGARETVILLE, NY

WALK INS ALLOWED

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR DIRECTIONS CONTACT

MARY A. BOURKE KC2AAP

AT 845-586-2324

845-586-3186 OR

E-MAIL [bourke@catskill.net](mailto:bourke@catskill.net)

OR CHECK OUR CLUBS WEB SITE AT

[www.catskill.net/marc](http://www.catskill.net/marc)

for a map with directions

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NORWICH 17 March 2001

Volunteer Examiner session on Saturday 17 March 2001 starting at 0830 (8:30AM) at Norwich BOCES on East River Road, Town of Norwich. Sponsored by Chenango Valley Amateur Radio Association.

For information, please contact: Ken Cassidy WN2WNC, email:  
[wn2wnc@clarityconnect.com](mailto:wn2wnc@clarityconnect.com)

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SCHOHARIE 24 March 2001

VE session on Saturday 24 March 2001 starting at 1000 (10AM) at Schoharie County Emergency Management Office, Public Safety Building in Schoharie.

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ITHACA 26 March 2001

VE session on Monday 26 March 2001 starting at 1900 (7PM) in Room 230, Rockefeller Building, Cornell Campus.

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COOPERSTOWN 3 April 2001

VE session on Tuesday 3 April 2001 starting at 1800 (6PM) in Otsego County Emergency Operations Center, Cooperstown. OCARA.

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MARGARETVILLE 7 APRIL 2001

VE session on Saturday 7 April 2001 starting at 1400 (2PM) at the Margaretville Telephone Company. MARC.



NOTE: I recently won the same radio off eBay for exactly \$500 for use in Labrador. It is all as advertised and more. It also has the traditional Kenwood ruggedness as well as simplicity of operation; hams might get scared away by the 1/2" thick owner's manual, but most information is on menu items which the average amateur will never use or use only once, e.g. scan speed, mike wiring diagrams, 10m HF repeater operation. Most TS-50s are selling on eBay for right around \$500.

Tony may be contacted on 146.685mhz or at asharki@clarityconnect.com or at (607)336-5336.

For the record, I don't get any commission out of this! It's just a very good radio! - K2FRD

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TM-261A FOR SALE

Ray K2DAR has a new boxed Kenwood TM-261A 2-meter mobile transceiver for sale. This rig has been used only once, hasn't had anything put into memory, and still has the plastic on most of its ancillary parts. The radio was purchased as a control for CVARA's repeater, but is no longer needed for that purpose since different frequencies will be used instead. The TM-261A is a broadband receiver (117-172MHz), multi-mode (AM, FM, FSK) transmitter, and is extremely easy to use and program. I have one in my car and if I had the money, this ad would not be appearing here. Please contact Ray and negotiate with him at his home number at (607)895-6560.

TECHNICIAN LICENSING CLASS OFFERED

An eight-week Technician licensing class sponsored by Chenango Valley Amateur Radio Association will be conducted weekly from 26 September through 14 November 2001 (Wednesdays 6:30 - 9PM) as part of the four-county (DCMO) BOCES program at the BOCES Center on River Road near Norwich, Chenango County, NY. Primary Instructors will be Bob Levin N2KYZ and Bob Benton N2RXX. Cost is \$30 which includes the manual "Look Who's Talking". A VE testing session will be provided on Saturday 17 November 2001 at the same location. The course is limited to 20 students. Registration and other information will be found in the next BOCES catalog to be mailed in the near future.

MORE FWIW

The Fishing Merit Badge, offered at Henderson Scout Reservation as part of the Fishing and Radio Program Area, is the second-most earned Merit Badge in Otschodela Council, behind only Indian Lore. Of course, K2FRD has been the Fishing Program Director since the Program's inception in 1993. However, Labrador beckons and K2FRD will be replaced by Darryl Smith, Assistant Scoutmaster of Troop 34 Sidney and currently a computer student at SUNY Delhi. Also, FWIW, Radio Merit Badge is waaaaaaay down on the list! I signed off on only four in two years although one went on and earned his Technician License (Don, KC2GVS).

KC2ELN EAGLE PROJECT UPDATE

As reported by Jim WAZIAX:

Gang:

Troop 99 reports another chapter in Project RAT (repeater accessibility test). March 4th. KC2ELN and 2 Troop Leaders set out for tests in Margaretville and Stamford. Unfortunately no youth members were able to participate due to health and commitment deficiencies.

Repeaters accessed in Margaretville were Walton 146.955, Oneonta 146.85 and Margaretville 146.985.

Repeaters accessed in Stamford were Walton 146.955, Oneonta 146.85 and Cobleskill 146.61 PL123.0.

Unfortunately we were informed that the Stamford machine 145.230 was out of service.

Many thanks to K2EZK, Al, Sidney; AB2IC, John in Downsville; KC2CQS Pete, Sidney Center and Bernie WA1UGB, Salisbury Center who all listened for KC2ELN and gave signal reports. Looks like Bernie wins the "DX" award for being about 8 miles north of the Mohawk and Little Falls.

'73 to all.

Jim WAZIAX

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OCARG HOMEPAGE

Homepage for the Otschodela Council Amateur Radio Group is:

<http://sites.netscape.net/thefred3/homepage> .

FWIW, I have spent a fair amount of money getting this site registered with the various Search Engines (over 300, supposedly) through a commercial registration company. It is my understanding that it takes several weeks before a Website is picked up by these engines, but this is getting ridiculous; it's been over two months. We shall just wait and see...

EDITORIAL

There will be no editorial this month due to lack of time. If someone wants to write one for next month, HAVE AT IT!

The usual disclaimers and if anyone does not want to continue to receive the OCARG EAGLE, just drop us a line.