

OCARG EAGLE
BULLETIN OF THE
OTSCHODELA COUNCIL AMATEUR RADIO GROUP

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 1 September 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 in Ham-Scouting and an email to the above Sender.

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 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.

=====

TERRORIST ATTACKS AFFECT LOCAL HAM-SCOUTS

Tuesday 11 September 2001 ranks with Pearl Harbor and John Kennedy's assassination as the keystone date by which Americans and the world became traumatized. Each of us will always remember where we were and what we were doing when we first heard the news. Like most everyone else, I immediately turned on the TV and tuned to CNN in time to watch in shock and horror as the second plane hit the South Tower of the World Trade Center and, shortly after, as both towers collapsed. Early on, I turned on the two-meter rig to discover whether or not ARES would be activated and if other area hams had heard the news. I also tuned onto various HF Nets (SATERN @ 14.265; Maritime Mobile @ 14.300) to learn more details about the attacks and to see if there was anything I could do. There was no other news being discussed and thousands of hams were on the air; the World Trade Center attack monopolized all QSOs.

Local ARES organizations were not activated although they might as well have been; virtually every ham with two-meter capability checked into the 146.685 repeater at some point in the day and the other Net frequencies were similarly active. If I had called a Net, we might have set a record for check-ins. Many area hams installed fresh batteries or recharged battery packs into their HTs and checked their mobile rigs for proper operation. Importantly, we were there if needed.

Some of us were activated during the crisis: Dennis Klimowski KC2IKQ's New York Guard unit activated to replace the Army National guard unit in Binghamton when it was called to active duty in New York City. I'm presently awaiting word on whether or not to drive to the City to relieve over-burdened ham volunteers providing disaster communication. All of us know friends who are presently in NYC on special duty: Military Reserve personnel, firemen, State Troopers, Sheriff Deputies.

More importantly, the attacks united Americans as nothing else has since Pearl Harbor and World War Two; everyone is trying to assist in whatever manner and with whatever means we are capable in both disaster relief and emergency communications. Hams are no exception: being good Ham-Scouters, we are Prepared to do whatever is necessary to aid in this time of crisis.

#####

FALL HAM-SCOUT SEASON BEGINS; SO DOES OCARG EAGLE

With September, we begin the Fall amateur radio and Boy Scouting season. And, with this issue, we're starting a new Volume: Number TWO. We're now starting our second year of publication and still hanging in there!

Some reminders: Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) is the weekend of 19-21 October 2001. Are you ready for it? See below article.

Keep track of these pages for news on local and regional ham classes and Volunteer Examiner sessions. With Scouts returning to school, this is a good time for potential hams to study for their Tech licenses or for Scout-hams to upgrade to Tech Plus or General.

~~~~~  
THE AREA'S NEWEST SCOUT-HAM: KC2IQK





