

K2BSA Amateur Radio Vision for Jamboree 2013

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Introduce the science, technology, and fun of amateur radio operation to Scouts and Scout leaders. Facilitate earning the Radio Merit Badge. Serve as the amateur radio voice of the Jamboree via two-way radio contacts within the Summit and worldwide.

GOALS

- Provide amateur radio demonstrations to 10% of Jamboree participant. This will include HF SSB and PSK, VHF/UHF FM, and EchoLink via Internet. Target 4,000 demonstrations.
- Provide Radio Merit Badge training, counseling, and activities sufficient to allow a Scout to earn the badge within a four-hour time commitment. Target 400 badges earned.

HISTORY

K2BSA was established as the amateur radio station for the BSA National Office in 1971. It has been in operation at every Jamboree since 1981. It has made numerous contacts around the world during each Jamboree and at the annual Jamboree on the Air. It is looking forward to establishing enduring installations at the Summit in West Virginia. More information can be found at <http://www.k2bsa.net>

EQUIPMENT NEEDS --- SPONSOR OPPORTUNITIES

Amateur radio equipment is needed for the operations cited below, from transceivers to antennas and support equipment. ICOM America has stepped up to be the official Jamboree sponsor for amateur radio transceivers and repeaters. Sponsorship opportunities remain for antennas, headphones, foxhunting gear, band-pass filters, test equipment, etc. Contact Jim Wilson, K5ND, at jim.wilson@scouting.org

DEMONSTRATION STATION

- Four identical demonstration stations with low-cost HF transceivers, simple antennas, computer logging software, PSK digital interface, and large screen computer displays for demonstration.
- Two VHF-UHF stations for demonstrations and repeater monitoring.
- One high power HF station for maximizing world-wide coverage of the Jamboree.
- Networked computer logging and control.
- Standardized demos to optimize learning.

RADIO MERIT BADGE

- Classes start every hour and commit to merit badge completion within 4 hours.
- Highly interactive and engaging classroom presentations for 90 minutes followed by 30 minutes on the air, completed by 90 minutes additional class time, with 30 minute range of flexibility.
- Four class areas over two tents.
- Large display television screens (LED).
- Whiteboard and flipcharts.
- Facility is used in the evenings to offer FCC amateur radio license testing.

ARDF --- FOXHUNTING & MORE

- Amateur radio direction finding to find hidden transmitters across challenging outdoor courses.
- Courses of several levels of complexity.
- Satellite communication with low-orbit satellites as well as International Space Station contacts.
- High-altitude amateur radio balloon launches with tracking systems.

VHF-UHF REPEATERS

- Permanent installation of VHF and UHF amateur radio repeaters that can support communication throughout the Summit.
- Internet connection for APRS/Echolink.
- On-going 365/24/7 operation.

More information at www.k2bsa.net/2013-plan

Contact Jim Wilson, K5ND, Chairman K2BSA Jamboree Operations at jim.wilson@scouting.org