What is Radio Scouting?

And what does it mean to me?
Jim Wilson, K5ND
World JOTA-JOTI Team
Chairman, USA Radio Scouting Committee
President, K2BSA Amateur Radio Assn.
What is Radio Scouting?

- Jamboree on the Air
- Radio Merit Badge
- Amateur Radio Operator Rating Strip
- Morse Code Interpreter Strip
- National Scout Jamboree Operation
Radio Scouting Path

- Introduction
- Jamboree on the Air
- Rank Advancement
- Radio Merit Badge
- Special Recognition
  - Morse Code Interpreter Strip
  - Amateur Radio Operator Rating Strip
What is Jamboree on the Air?

- World-Wide Annual Event --- Third Weekend in October --- Started 1958
- Largest Scouting Event in the World
- 750,000+ Scouts
- 29,000+ Radio Amateurs
- 12,000+ Stations
- 150+ Countries
What are the Benefits?

- Scouts engage in conversations with other Scouts across the country and around the world.
- They get a glimpse of other cultures and regional differences.
- Scouts get exposed to the technology, fun and magic of amateur radio.
- Natural starting point for Radio Merit Badge.
Scouts Having Fun in Conversations Across the Country and Around the World
# USA JOTA Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stations</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growth</td>
<td></td>
<td>119%</td>
<td>200%</td>
<td>33%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scouts</td>
<td>454</td>
<td>3,185</td>
<td>18,537</td>
<td>13,866</td>
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<tr>
<td>Growth</td>
<td>602%</td>
<td>482%</td>
<td></td>
<td>-25%</td>
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</table>
How do I organize a JOTA event?

- Work with your local Scout Council, District, or Unit.
- See JOTA Talking points at [http://www.k2bsa.net/talking-points/](http://www.k2bsa.net/talking-points/)
- Line up with an existing Scouting event that happens on JOTA weekend --- October 17-19, 2014
- Go where the Scouts are as one more supporting activity for their event --- camporee, etc.
What Resources are Available?

- The go-to website is [http://www.scouting.org/jota.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/jota.aspx)

- Leader guidelines, operator guidelines, planning and calendars, program ideas, success stories, activity books, participation certificates, graphics.

- Supporting website is [http://www.k2bsa.net](http://www.k2bsa.net)
Get on the Air during JOTA
Demonstrate Hospitality
Hand out QSO’s and Conversations
Invite Scouts to our Hobby
Radio Scouting Path

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What is Radio Merit Badge?

- Introduction to Radio
- Broadcast, SWL, and Ham Radio Options
- Can be completed in a day-long workshop
- Jamboree used a four-hour time frame
Strong Interest & Growth

Radio Merit Badges Earned/Decade

- 1954 to 1963
- 1964 to 1973
- 1974 to 1983
- 1984 to 1993
- 1994 to 2003
- 2004 to 2013
Radio Scouting Path

Introduction

Jamboree on the Air

Rank Advancement

Radio Merit Badge

Special Recognition

Morse Code Interpreter Strip | Amateur Radio Operator Rating Strip
Amateur Radio Operator Rating Strip

- Builds on Senior Scout Radioman Strip from 1940’s
- All licensed youth and adult members can wear it
- Natural follow-on to Radio Merit Badge with Technician license training and uniform patch reward
- Highly Popular --- 6,800+ sold in first year
Morse Code Interpreter Strip

- 5 wpm send and receive, requirements online at http://www.k2bsa.net/morse-code/
- Already the second largest selling interpreter strip at 1,200 in the past year
National Scout Jamboree

- K2BSA Operation, July 2013
- Demonstration Station --- 2,600 Scouts
- Radio Merit Badge --- 339 Scouts
- ARDF-Foxhunting --- 100+
- ISS Contact, 10 Scouts
- High-Altitude Balloon Launches
- Permanent Repeater Installation (3)
Jamboree Sponsors

- Icom America --- transceivers, repeaters and so much more --- on site and great support
- SteppIR --- verticals and beam antennas
- Array Solutions --- band pass filters
- GigaParts --- headphones/microphones
- Thanks for such great support
World JOTA-JOTI

New World JOTA-JOTI Team in 2014
HQ Move to Kuala Lumpur from Geneva
Registration System and Supporting Website
What does it mean to me?
Mentoring the Next Generation of Hams
ICOM

- 10 Complete Stations for loan to Councils, entering third year of the program
- Promotion of Radio Scouting year round
- Official Jamboree Transceiver/Repeater Sponsor
- Installed 3 repeaters at The Summit in WV
For More Info

- K2BSA Website [http://www.k2bsa.net](http://www.k2bsa.net)
- K2BSA Twitter [http://twitter.com/K2BSA_Scouting](http://twitter.com/K2BSA_Scouting)
- JOTA Pages [http://www.scouting.org/jota](http://www.scouting.org/jota)
- Jim Wilson, K5ND [jim.wilson@k2bsa.net](mailto:jim.wilson@k2bsa.net)
Q & A

Radio Scouting