

Jamboree on the Air USA 2016



PARTICIPATION vs 2015

10,761

+51%

TOTAL SCOUTS

For those reporting Cub Scouts vs. Boy Scouts = 52% Cub Scouts + 48% Boy Scouts

6,668

+30%

TOTAL VISITORS

Combined total Scouts and Visitors is at 17,429. The record is 18,537 in 2012.

267

+28%

TOTAL STATIONS

The record is 271 in 2013

The number of amateur radio operators was up 14% to 1,120 but the number of radios reported in use dropped 25% to 631. Total contacts remained flat at 8,254.

Station registrations dropped 15% to 295. Although Jamboree on the Internet registrations jumped to 505 from 100 the previous year. Total Scout Councils participating improved by 24% to 151.

HIGHLIGHTS

ScoutLink and Skype use was reported by roughly 40 JOTA stations. Several stations were limited by no Internet access. Many also reported using Echolink, DMR, and D-Star and requested more JOTA dedicated nodes and reflectors.

Many reported aligning STEM events in their council with JOTA-JOTI Weekend. This included a council-wide STEM-o-ree.

K2BSA/0 had a contact with the International Space Station during Jamboree on the Air.

Several reported licensed Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts helped with their events and served as a model for other Scouts.

GB2GP

Many stations worked or heard this station at Gilwell Park

V55JOTA

A few worked this station in Namibia in Africa

ARDF-Foxhunting

This was a popular activity for many JOTA events

QUOTES

AI4BJ

The youngest scout in the troop made the best DX contact, S51DX. When we told him where Slovenia was, he couldn't quite believe it!

His father sent me an email later that evening that read, in part, "As soon as we got in the car to leave the shelter Daniel told me he wanted to get his license. I'm interested too, and I think Daniel talked my wife into it as well. Looks like we will be studying soon."

N6CXR

It was fun to talk with a Senior Scout in Indonesia and find out they have to be careful of Komodo dragons when they camp out.

KE5WMA

Setting up at a Scout event gave us better results than previous years

W5PAA

The scouts were amazed when we utilized Winlink to send an email using HF radio to the smartphone of a scout.

W2KGY

All fifty Boy Scouts received their Radio Merit Badge with the assistance of two merit badge counselors and four West Point Cadets from the United States Military Academy.

KK6FUT

We've found that by stretching our reach to three events each year – one around JOTA in October, another in June during Field Day, and one during the annual Camporee, usually in April – the overall result has been a lot more exposure of amateur radio to the scouting community at large.

PHOTOS

N4USA



K6A



W3PL



K9RSR



K2S



SUGGESTIONS FOR 2017

KE4YVF

We need slick pre-event handouts to stimulate interest at district, council, and unit meetings!

K5AUW

PLEASE make the registration procedure as easy as it was in past years.

K2S

I know the date can't be changed but maybe K2BSA can get the QSO parties to pick a different date. That would be a tremendous help in getting kids on the air and in QSO.

WC8VOA

We made 42 contacts, and when I asked each one if they had a JOTA ID(JID) they all said no, a lot of them didn't register. We had printed the JamPuz sheets for the Scouts to play along but we couldn't do it.

I'm not sure if it's worth it to have the JamPuz, maybe look at another game type to keep kids interested.

WB6IVS

For HF it would be helpful to have email address or some kind of contact info in order to make some pre jota contacts.

KB3BSA

It would be nice if you had a site to go to where we could say "hey, I am on 40 meters at 7.235" to make it a little easier for stations with boys to find other stations with boys to talk to each other.

W5E

Establish regional nets on one or more HF bands to facilitate connections between stations that have Scouts on hand to communicate.

KB0BSA

We need to better publicize the event, beginning at least 3 months out, to spread the word and get Scout units to plan JOTA into their activities calendar.

N4SJJ

Encourage operators to move up or down from standard scout frequencies.

ANNUAL NUMBERS UPDATE

6,709

Radio Merit Badges earned in 2015

1,825

Amateur Radio Operator Rating Strips sold in the past 12 months

304

Morse Code Interpreter Strips sold in the past 12 months

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