



Radio Scouting
events at **Camp La-No-Che**
41940 Boy Scout Rd, Paisley, FL 32767
Newsletter 2019Q4-Dec - www.RadioScouting.US



We would like to thank everyone for their support and assistance with the December Jubilee'19. The model drone definitely attracted attention thanks to Dan from the Orlando Drone Club. Several dozen scouts got their first QSO on air and several hundred learned about Morse code, HF, and our activities. At the event they did the Lego game and a new attraction showing several devices across the radio spectrum: Automotive radio, Aircraft HT, boat/marine radio, weatherWX, frs, Satellite radio, Wifi, and a 5GHz high-end drone model.

Photos: <http://www.radioscouting.us/desktop/photos.cgi>

We didn't seem to get any photos of Rick and his helper, nor our PCARS counterparts, have to remember to do photos on arrival next event. Our helpers: Rick KM4KQQ, Dean KM4QMB, Ken KN4MDJ, Tom KM4MAL (1st event with us), Trista WRBM807 (gmrs) Special thanks to our sister group PCARS for helping with simplex and prior jubilee's ham veterans. Tim Shoemaker (AK4ZZ), Bill Kight (KK4SMA), plus more.

This issue reviews our 2019 year of Central Florida Councils - Radio Scouting program (wb4SA) for 26,000 scouts in 9 counties. The club was started initially to get a callsign for camp (wb4sa) but it's morphed in to a full blown ARRL youth club, soon offering tech licenses at summer camp. **In 2019 alone we've presented before 12,300 scouts at our events.** (April-2k, July-300, 4xOct-8k, Dec-2k) Our combined JOTA/JOTI Stats in 2018 were 1,010 participants and in 2019 was 1,503 participants with plans to expand to Rybold in 2020 for Scouts BSA.

Our STEM activities are engaging and **presented quarterly with 200 - 2000 scouts per event.** They teach scouts about radio technology and communications. Our last two JOTA's had over 1,000 participants each, and just in **October 2019 we introduced ham, cw and ardf to 7,800 scouts.** Our scouts, both boys and girls, are aged 5-21 and come from across Florida and the South East.

Several clubs nationally are now adding a "Youth/Junior Member" so newly minted youth techs can join their local clubs free of charge as non-voting members (until 18). We'd like to encourage all clubs and the ARRL to adopt this so youth can afford to take part in local club activities.

We are holding our first elections since formation this month so **don't forget to vote for our 2020 board:**
<http://www.radioscouting.us/vote/> (voting extended to 31 Dec) This election is open to everyone for any position.

We don't have a formal club award but if I had one, I'd nominate Larry Schnaudigel, KN4LSY for one regarding his dedication. He has attended almost as many events as I have, with the long 12-18 hour days. He stepped back from his BSA District Position in scouting so that he could focus on our program and I'm proud he has been so supportive. Even today he called and was thinking of ways to help promote our program and bring awareness in the ham community through his leather work. – Ken, KN4MDJ

Continued on next page.

Below outlines some of our goals for the coming year and how to assist us and other Radio Scouting programs.

It should be noted that K2BSA is the National Club for BSA supporting JOTA and the national jamboree's. Our club directly supports local scouts in Florida and is helping to reignite neighboring council programs. It's hoped that our program and progress can be duplicated across scouting.

1. The first and most obvious is funding, we thank the ARRL foundation for a small grant for our 2020 program. Funds cover overhead, printouts, flyers, tech lic. manuals, fuel, equip. repairs, coax, supplies, even the solder the youth use when learning to build J-poles or make circuit boards.
2. Many small ham clubs don't have funding but one thing that almost every ARRL club has is SK gear, some collecting dust, others waiting to be sold at hamcation or fests. Usable items could be used directly by the scouts, duplicate or unneeded items given to other programs or sold off for income. We'd like to make a few dozen small VHF go boxes that new techs could take camping or use for troop level JOTA.
3. We are also collecting Baofeng/Btech and other low-cost VHF radios for scouts to use...we'd like to phase out spotty FRS in the woods. The FCC recently limited sales of units that have spurious emissions, however these same units can still be used as receivers for ARDF and other projects.
4. Participate in events. Come out to help mentor at a GOTA(get on the air) station, or monitor 2M calling, HF and local repeaters. The worst thing in the world is having a youth calling CQ or trying to show a QSO and no one responds. We now setup sister stations off-site so we can fallback to simplex to avoid that. Special thanks to PCARS, LARA & OARC, our neighbor clubs who assist.
5. ***Join the youth club membership*** to show your support.
(Our club wB4SA www.RadioScouting.us is free and the national club K2BSA www.k2bsa.net is \$12 once.) All our programs are FREE to the scouts, currently funded by the volunteers. You can be members of as many clubs as you desire, we have no dues. We still haven't broken the 100 members mark but we are growing. – Ken, KN4MDJ



wB4SA \$100 Youth Scholarship

Did you know that having an interest in amateur radio makes you eligible for some amazing youth scholarships?

Over \$50,000 is given out each year from the ARRL, local clubs and several foundations all split among nearly 200 winning applicants.

<https://www.studentscholarshipsearch.com/interest/amateur-radio/>

Available: wB4SA \$100 - Spring 2020

Membership drive: <http://www.radioscouting.us/join.shtml> open to the public. **The more members we have the more grants we can get for youth scholarships** and to underwrite all our STEM programs. Everything we do is free of charge and supported by our volunteers. If we get enough members we've been offered income streams (small ad's) in our monthly newsletter to underwrite these grants.

Continued on next page.

Something new, we're offering the Radio Merit Badge during HamCation. We'll need more helpers for it, also youth need to apply soon so we'll have enough materials for each scout. We also have a youth speaker spot for a licensed scout.

Scouts BSA

Radio Merit Badge

Feb 8, 2020

2020 HamCation (2nd largest ham radio convention in the US)

9am

CFL Fairgrounds, Orlando



wB4SA

www.RadioScouting.US

Youth & Scout
Amateur Radio Club

RSVP: RadioScoutingUS@gmail.com

Earn your Radio Merit Badge and have fun touring HamCation!

An elective badge for Eagle rank (13 required + 8 elective) created in 1923 (replaced 1918 Wireless badge)
Carry on a 10-minute real amateur radio contact using voice, Morse code, or digital mode
Learn about the electromagnetic spectrum and see exhibits of the latest radio technology.
Learn how radio waves travel around the world and how the tech is used in everything.

Free HamCation admission to all scouts in uniform!



www.HamCation.com

www.RadioScouting.US

Template from: Rochester Amateur Radio Association <http://rochesterham.org>

We've been working on a list of all the councils in the US that have an active radio scouting program. <http://www.radioscouting.us/radio-scouting-programs.shtml> It's hoped that we can schedule inter-council events in addition to the annual JOTA. We also have co-operation with www.radio-scouting.de to arrange for trans-atlantic events for hundreds of scouts at a time.

Our mission statement:

Radio Scouting, Inc., (wB4SA) is the amateur radio station and club of the Boy Scouts of America, Central Florida Council. It shall be our purpose to further the exchange of information and cooperation between the public and scouting, to promote radio knowledge, youth activities, fraternalism, individual operating efficiency, and to conduct programs and activities as to advance the general interest and welfare of Amateur Radio and Scouting in the community.

Radio Scouting, Inc. is a IRS 501(c)3 non-profit charity to promote radio knowledge and youth activities for scouting and the community. www.RadioScouting.US
Reg: N19000004441, Lic: CH58787, Ein: 83-4513134 A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE 1-800-HELP-FLA (435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE OF FLORIDA.