

# Camp La-No-Che Radio Merit Badge w/ FCC Tech Lic 2020 Summer Camp



My name is Ken Lyons (KN4MDJ) and I'm working to get a permanent amateur radio station setup at BSA Camp La-No-che, Paisley, FL. In past years scouts taking the Radio merit badge had to be bussed to a fire-station 30 minutes away to view a rig, this hurdle has discounted the merit badge from being offered.

I see this as an opportunity to install a simple permanent station and also expand the merit badge course to include a tech license by overlaying the FCC Requirements to the material they are already covering in the merit badge. They already have an existing telephone pole with a 400mhz antennae for their camp radios (MURS). The station can be mounted on a shelf/desk in this building for the required demonstrations.

Camp La-No-Che is one of the largest scout camps in Florida and averages about 2000 scouts per week during summer camp and dozens of scouting weekends. About 6 hours per day are devoted to merit badge classes. This class could represent from 150 (1 period/day) to 900 (6 periods/day) new Tech Licenses during summer camp. (25 scouts x 6 periods x 6 weeks) Giving each scout an earned life skill and federal recognition which can be applied in their working lives. With the closure and reduction of camps in south Florida due to hurricane damage we expect even more interest and use of the camp.

So I'm looking for Equipment donations/sponsorships/partners. For the Radio (1 older analog & 1 newer w/sdr waterfall), Powersupply, Antenna, 100' Cables, etc. along with curriculum to over cover the course. We'll be teaming up with the local ham groups to get VE's to visit on the last day to do testing.

I'm currently fostering interest with these partners from Hamvention and hope they will reciprocate.

FlexRadio Systems – Matt, Showcase the latest in SDR radio w/waterfall display, wireless & multiplex units  
ARRL Foundation – Lauren, assistance with funds, contacts, VE's, establishing a BSA club w/ callsign  
Gigaparts - Robby Sperr, assistance with funds, equipment, parts, materials, flyers.  
Michael Burnette (AF7KB) – Fast Track License book author, assistance with curriculum

Last year we offered JOTA for the first time in a decade, and broke national records just in participants for the country. With 994 cubs scouts, 235 visitors, 16 boy scouts, and 5 Hams running it all. This has sparked an interest to bring radio to most of the events and we're aiming for 1500 now.



Thank you for any support you can offer.

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