



Shark's Teeth

K2FA



Sporadic Ham Radio Club
PO Box 591 - Getzville, NY 14068
www.k2fa.org

October, 2001



HALLOWEEN ISSUE



President's Letter

Dan Emblidge, W2HQ
Happy Halloween

K2FA has a major event this month. Jamboree On The Air on Oct. 20th. The planning that KA2KQP has done is unprecedented (as far as I know). We made it to the big times. Front page of WWW.QRZ.COM. Nice article that Mike got published on there. I am confident that all the scouts and the adults will have a great time, and an event to remember for a long time. It's going to be a lot of fun. Looking forward to seeing all of you there.

Speaking of Front page. The WWW.K2FA.ORG site is taking shape. It is turning out to be a very enjoyable task of maintaining the site, now that I have the proper tools to do so. Finally got my new laptop with all the necessary software programs to perform such a monumental task. Remember it is OUR site, so come forward with some ideas. Haven't heard any suggestions or recommendations yet.

I am looking forward to next month, when yours truly will be on the Orlando Florida DX-Pedition. November 28th thru December 3rd. There will be more to follow on

that next month.

Here's my take on last month's atrocities. I am a firm believer in "an eye for an eye" Tenfold. Whatever it takes to insure that something like that will never happen again. I am all for it. Thank GOD level heads are prevailing. But I think that they have prevailed long enough now. Lets go to work and wipe out terrorism. My prayers and sympathy go out to all effected Human Beings. GOD Bless us all.

73 de W2HQ
The Prez

Editorial

With all that has happened recently I've decided to add the US flags to our masthead. You'll notice that we've also modified our web-site to reflect a little more patriotic theme. I hope we see more of this as time goes on.

JOTA

Mike Bucklaew, KA2KQP



The 44th Jamboree-On-The-Air is October 20-21, 2001. Thanks to all those who volunteered to help out and or bring equipment. Special thanks to first year Webelos Scouts George and Eric who will be assisting us.

The first group of Cub Scouts will be arriving at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday October 20. Our station set-up should be completed by Friday

In this issue...

President's Letter	1
Editorial	1
JOTA	1
From the Web	2
From ARRL	2
From Amateur Radio Newsline™	3
Freq'n Out!	3
For Sale	4

night and some test contacts will be made to verify that we have everything in order and that mutual interference has been minimized.

This will be the first amateur radio experience for most of the scouts and their parents. The age range for Cub Scouts is 7 to 11 years old. I've put together an agenda that should be interesting to all of them. We are scheduling 4 sessions of 1-1/2 hours each. There is a LEO satellite available for a time during each session. We will try to make sure that each scout makes an HF voice contact as well as demonstrate SSTV, PSK-31, RTTY, LEO satellites and morse code.

Our QSL card design for this event is finalized. We will also be presenting "First Contact" awards to everyone who participates.

Our special JOTA web page www.k2fa.org/~jota will have a link to our current operating frequencies and modes. We have an article published on QRZ.com to help publicize our effort.

This will be the first amateur radio experience for most of the scouts and their parents. Lets hope there isn't a solar flare on Saturday!



From the Web

Our web-site continues to evolve. Dan (W2HQ) has been busy modifying and updating each page on the club site as well as his own. It's really taking on a polished look. If you think of something that should be added to our web site, please send an e-mail to webmaster@k2fa.org.

From ARRL

Salvation Army Still Needs Ham Volunteers in New York City

NEWINGTON, CT, Oct 2, 2001--Although the Salvation Army has cut one shift of radio operators to support the organization's World Trade Center relief operation in New York City, it still needs fresh Amateur

Radio volunteers. "We are still short of people," said Jeff Schneller, N2HPO--who's coordinating the Salvation Army Team Emergency Response Network, or SATERN, operation.

Schneller said the midnight to 8 AM shift has been suspended, but SATERN still needs six Amateur Radio operators per shift--a total of 12 per day--for the indefinite future. He said he appreciates the volunteers who have turned out so far to assist the Salvation Army effort, but those there the longest now "are getting weary," he said.

SATERN needs operators at the Kennedy Airport warehouse with their own base station set up from about 8 AM until about 9 PM--possibly broken into shifts. In addition, SATERN needs operators to ride with trucks to provide communication. He said the Salvation Army now has three trucks running from morning till night. He said this effort also can be broken into shifts, but determining exact shift times is difficult because of traffic and loading and unloading delays. "They try for 4 PM as a shift change time," he said. Operators start and end these shifts at Salvation Army Division HQ on 14th Street in Manhattan, where SATERN also needs operators.

Schneller said that, if sufficient additional operators are available, they may be deployed to check on canteen sites and/or ride with other vehicles that are providing Ground Zero support or relief.

"Radio usage is becoming less emergency-oriented and more long-term logistical support oriented as time goes by," Schneller said. "Response from around the nation and the world has been heart-warming, especially those amateur operators who were willing to put their life on hold, so that they could come help out for a few days or weeks in NYC."

Schneller said the word he has from Salvation Army is that the organization is happy with the Amateur Radio support they've been getting. "They want us to keep going," he said. So far, he said, some 40 Amateur Radio operators have turned out to help support the Salvation Army relief effort--some from the New York City area but others from as far away as Missouri, North Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

Schneller requested that potential volunteers contact him directly:

Home: 718-461-0370

Cell : 917-226-1339

Page: 718-939-3939 (give message to operator)

Ham radio: Call N2HPO on the 147.270 repeater (141.3 or 127.3 CTCSS).



From Amateur Radio Newsline™

Attack on America: How to Find Terrorists and Spies on the Air - Part 2

Ham radio operators across the nation and around the world continue to look for ways to help in the United States war against terrorism. Some are still providing communications in the New York City area. Others have headed the call by FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth to watch the radio spectrum and report suspicious transmissions.

Last week, monitoring specialist Joe Schroeder, W9JUV, gave us a bit of insight into what to listen for on the high frequency bands. Joe is back with a look at the spectrum above 50 MHz and the way that terrorists cells might try to use it:

FRS probably not an option because there are just too many people on it. There's not so much the chance of being overheard and having the whistle blown. More likely, some kid is going to inadvertently break in and break up the communications. Especially in a mall or some downtown area.

CB at 27 MHz is also a no. I would also say that the ham bands are not a good alternative because there is too much of an opportunity for radio amateurs to come across such communications and recognize that it is not normal ham radio talk. What goes on in the Amateur VHF and

UHF bands is so normal sounding that many hams readily recognize all of the voices. If there was something abnormal going on it would stick out much more than on an HF band like 20 or 40 meters.

One thing Riley Hollingsworth suggested was to tape any suspicious communications. If you do, we would suggest using fresh tape and also using a direct connection to your recorder from your station receiver.

This will eliminate the chance of room noise obscuring what you are trying to record.

And, if you do happen across something that needs to be reported, probably the best place to forward it is directly to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The FBI has set up a toll free number for leads or other information on the terrorist attack. It's at:

(866) 483-5137

Leads can also be sent via a special website at:

www.ifccfbi.gov

The e-mail address for reports to the FCC is:

fccham@fcc.gov

(ARNewsline(tm))

Freq'n Out!

George Braun, KB2ZHX (Confessions of a Scanner Nut)

It's a never-ending obsession... it's attached to my person nearly every possible waking hour (sometimes lulling me to sleep at night). It simultaneously raises my adrenaline level and provides me with a feeling of security. It's a small window on a very large world. Surfing taken to the extreme... That's it! The instrument of this obsession is my scanner! No, not the garden variety though I own several of those as well. Mine is a multi-band transceiver capable of transmitting on the ham bands, although seldom used for that purpose. On the other bands, it's all receive, it's 'Hello World'. Public

service frequencies mostly, allowing me the opportunity to keep tabs on the daily events within my city, my little corner of the world. That was before the events of September 11th.

I was at work when the first plane hit, I think most of us thought it was an accidental tragedy. Then plane number two took its toll. It was then that the surfing began, first on the Internet, looking for live coverage, emergency announcements, pictures, most of now in disbelief and denial that this could possibly happen on our soil. After all, this is America, land of the free, home of the brave, mom's apple pie and baseball.

The surfing continued, while many of us tried to phone friends and relatives to verify their well being, others running around the building looking for television sets, finding several, and then standing around in awe, some in tears, watching the events unfold. After all, what else could we possibly do?

After work, it was a quick dinner with my family, with talk of the events of that fateful day. To attempt to re-assure my family that they are safe. To ensure to them that their lives will continue as they knew them to be, and that our Government will protect us. Then it struck me...

What is our Government doing? There's no time for chit-chat, Mom can handle that. There are frequencies to be found, to be programmed in, critical frequencies that had been missed previously, deemed unnecessary in our peaceful existence. Military Aircraft, Government Agencies, Emergency Management, Border Patrol, Parks Department, Sanitation Department, School Busses for crying out loud! Quick, to the Internet, searching, searching... Finally, there they are. Now, on to the task of programming them all in. One after another, giving them all four-character names, as that is all my device will allow for. One after another, frantically listening, and then another, and change the channel from one major network to another on the TV to scan that as well. Over and over the process was repeated. Looking, listening, surfing to gather as much intelligence as possible.

As the night drew to a close, with all of my new found freqs programmed in, I hit the 'SCAN' button. Exhausted, I watched the LCD display dancing from channel to channel, a bit slower I noticed, but still scanning; scanning

like it had never scanned before. Then the squelch broke, local police, normal stuff, a domestic, a gang of kids at the local corner store that needed to be disbursed, a fire call, emergency rescue. And finally, it happened, the call I was waiting for. My unit stopped scanning, the squelch broke and there it was. It had stopped on one of the US Border Patrol Frequencies. Instantaneously I knew living in close proximity to a Canadian Border Crossing that this was bad and it had to involve our neighborhood. Then the voice,

"435... 6724 at 22:00". And the return, "Yeah, that's fine, see you in the morning Ed".*

**This is not the actual transmission. But it dramatizes the routine nature of the communications overheard . Ed.*

It affected us all right. And although the scanning is the same as it ever was, the window on the world has changed.

73 de KB2ZHX



For Sale

YAESU VX5R
VX5R 2/440/6 Handheld \$279.99
ADMS1 Computer Interface cable \$ 39.99
EDC5B DC Adapter with Filter \$ 26.99

\$346.97 Total

\$250.00 or reasonable offer
de W2HQ 716-553-7009