

K2BSA Amateur Radio Vision for Jamboree 2013

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Introduce the science, technology, and fun of amateur radio operation to Scouts and Scout leaders. Also serve as the amateur radio voice of the Jamboree via two-way radio contacts with others who are not able to attend the Jamboree. Provide amateur radio communication within the Summit area. Facilitate earning the Radio Merit Badge.

GOALS

- Provide amateur radio demonstrations to at least 10% of the Jamboree participants (4,000). This will include HF SSB and PSK, VHF/UHF FM, and EchoLink via Internet.
- Provide Radio Merit Badge training, counseling, and activities sufficient to allow a Scout to earn the badge within a four-hour time commitment. Target 500 badges earned during the Jamboree.

HISTORY

K2BSA was established as the amateur radio station for the National Office of the BSA in 1971. It has been in operation at every Jamboree since 1981. It has made numerous contacts around the world during each Jamboree and at many other events including the annual Jamboree on the Air. It is looking forward to establishing enduring installations at the Summit in West Virginia. More information can be found at <http://www.k2bsa.net>

EQUIPMENT NEEDS --- SPONSOR OPPORTUNITIES

Amateur radio equipment is needed for the operations cited below, from radio transceivers to antennas and support equipment, including networked computers. It is felt that the Summit offers an opportunity to build an enduring infrastructure that can serve not only the Jamboree but year-round Summit events and operations as well as supporting the local community. K2BSA further envisions putting in place a sponsor program that initially puts equipment in place at the Jamboree that is then moved on a permanent basis to local council amateur radio installations, via an application process. This program allows the sponsor to reach grassroots Scouting activities throughout the year and year to year that is then further refreshed at each subsequent Jamboree.

DEMONSTRATION STATION

- Four identical demonstration stations with low-cost HF transceivers, simple antennas, computer logging software, PSK digital interface, and large screen computer displays.
- Two VHF-UHF stations for demonstrations and repeater monitoring.
- Two satellite communication systems.
- One high power HF station for maximizing world-wide coverage of the Jamboree. High capability HF transceiver, HF power amplifier, tower and directional antennas.
- Networked computer logging and control.

RADIO MERIT BADGE

- Highly interactive and engaging computer-based and classroom presentations followed by on-the-air activities at the nearby demonstration station. Seating for 36 Scouts separated into four class areas.
- Computer based training for 18 stations to provide introductory level training.
- Large display television screen (LED) for presentation of slides, videos, etc. in lecture format.
- Whiteboard and flipcharts.
- Facility is used in the evenings to offer FCC amateur radio license testing.

VHF-UHF REPEATERS

- Permanent installation of VHF (146 MHz) and UHF (440 MHz) amateur radio repeaters that can support communication throughout the Summit property via hand-held transceivers.
- Active Internet connection to the repeaters for control purposes and to facilitate EchoLink communication around the world.
- On-going 365/24/7 operation in support of other Summit events as well as the local community.