Local Council name: National Capitol Area Council

District: Zekiah District (Charles County, MD)

Amateur call sign used: K2BSA/3

Call signs heard/State or Country:
W1WCN Florida
KC0CK Iowa
W5I Texas (Special Event Station)
W0BH Iowa
AA1KS Maine at Moose Island (Special Event Station)
NC4AR New York
KG2V New York
W2JJ New York
WA3WGL Maryland
WD4EIB Virginia
GB2LC Manchester, UK
PE0RVA Netherlands

Number of Stations participating in JOTA: 1 (HF)

Number of Individuals participating in JOTA:

Boy Scouts: 2

Radio amateurs: 3

Visitors: 6

We were set up at the Thomas Stone National Historic Site and Park and also operated as a “Parks-On-The-Air (POTA) site for the day. The park staff went above and beyond in their assistance.

This year due to a number of reasons, Zekiah District did not have their ‘Fall Camporee’ on the same weekend as JOTA, so we advertised via the local Scout email group and promoted it as a family event. We didn’t want a large crowd due to having just one station to operate (lessons learned from past events).

This was the best HF we’ve seen in the past few years. It was busy on the bands between JOTA and both the IOWA and New York QSO parties; however, we used that to our advantage for the Scouts to make several contacts as part of the Radio Merit Badge. We also had one operator take the time to talk with the Scouts for the 10 minute QSO requirement.
The best contact was with GB2LC, a Scout camp outside of Manchester, UK. During the QSO we noted we were at a historical site. It got a chuckle that the ‘history’ was that Thomas Stone was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

We did wish more Scouts had taken the opportunity to visit both the JOTA station and the Thomas Stone Park. I think part of the issue is that it was a beautiful fall weekend after a number of rain filled days and families took the opportunity to do other events. We’re not too worried as there is always next year.

One of the Park rangers listen in and the Scouts making some contacts.

73
The 2011 JOTA Team
Pat KB3UYZ
Rob N2OMC
Bob KB3KOW