

BSA VENTURE CREW 7388 || CALLSIGN KE3BSA || ARRL 2011 JOTA

BSA Venture Crew 7388, Amateur Radio Callsign - KE3BSA, ARRL 2011 JOTA

Two Bays Council, Choptank District, Hosted by Troop 130 and Crew 2130

Kent County Maryland Agriculture Center near Chestertown, MD

Date & Time: 15-Oct 8 AM to 5 PM, Saturday October 15, 2011

Approximately 200 Scouts attending

All JOTA Frequencies, SSB, CW, PSK31, SSTV, RTTY, Satellite



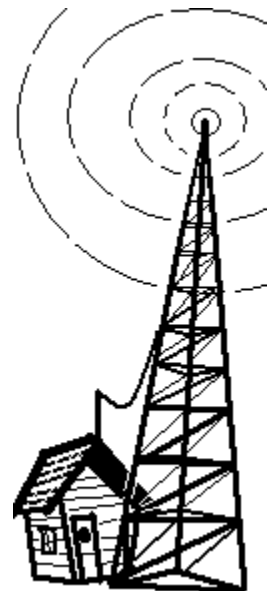
The BSA Baltimore Council, Dulaney District, Venture Crew 7388 of Perry Hall Maryland attended the Two Bays Council, Choptank Camporee near Chestertown, Maryland on October 14-16, participating in the ARRL 2011 Jamboree-On-The-Air (JOTA) and Camporee.

Venture Crew 7388 ARRL 2011 JOTA team consists of five Scouts, three are licensed Technician Class operators and five Adult Advisors with FCC licenses ranging from Technician through Extra Class. Our JOTA location is the Kent County Maryland Agriculture Center, a former Nike-Ajax missile complex during the Cold-War era, on the Maryland peninsula of the Eastern-shore.

As invited guests of Troop 135 we provide numerous opportunities for Camporee Scouts to participate in Amateur Radio by contacting other stations hundreds and thousands of miles away. We demonstrate many fascinating aspects of Amateur Radio including Satellite Communication, Digital PSK, a History of Morse Code, Geography and Radio Propagation, plus other relevant topics. Included are examples of using Amateur Radio for search/rescue and talking with Scouts worldwide.

Three radio stations are ready by Saturday morning using vertical and dipole antennas. Crew 7388 operates as KE3BSA covering multiband transceivers on 40, 20, 17, 15 & 24 meters, allowing Scouts to witness voice (Phone -SSB) and CW (Morse Code) High Frequency (HF) communication. We talked with local Hams and Scouts using a 2-meter Frequency Modulated (FM) Very High Frequency (VHF) station with a directional Yagi antenna pointed at different statewide 2-meter repeaters. The highlight of the 2-meter operations is when the Crew served as Net Control Station (NCS) for the ARRL National Traffic System (NTS), 2 meter Baltimore Traffic Net (BTN) for the Cycle-4 daily 18:30 Net.

The Crew station collected callsigns between 9 AM and 9 PM Saturday, October 15th and worked a total of 25 stations in twelve U.S. States, eight Foreign Countries on three Continents and several local 2 meter stations. Over 42



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visiting Scouts from various local Crews, Troops and Packs participated in the Ham Radio experience. Several visiting Scouts spoke with stations in Europe, while others talked to Scouts across the U.S. and England.

ARRL 2011 JOTA Log File includes:

The list of U.S. States worked for 2011 JOTA:

Michigan, Wyoming, Nebraska, Oregon, Texas, Washington, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, Florida, Ohio and Maine.

The list of Countries and Continents worked during the 2011 JOTA event:

Ukraine - Europe, Belarus - Europe, England - Europe, Italy - Europe, France - Europe, Germany - Europe, Hispaniola - North America, and Russian Federation – Russia



At first the “Orange Hat” seem somewhat out-of-place with distinctive “7388” number which is based on Amateur Radio as a symbol for friendship, greetings and best wishes but most of all "best regards" to all whom join us in our exciting hobby . Starting in 2010, the Crew elected to wear the distinctive “Orange Hat” as an easy identifier amidst the many attending Scouts or Hams – it worked. Now as we travel around the Maryland participating in Scouting and Amateur Radio activities the “Orange Hat” symbolizes our commitment, respect, and dedication to Scouting values and Amateur Radio responsibilities as a qualified Amateur Radio Operators and proud Venture Crew members.

In closing we thank the Kent Amateur Radio Society and their support of our JOTA weekend by allowing an opportunity to also participate with their Emergency Operation Center (EOC) Communication Center at the Camporee. It provides an excellent example of preparedness and readiness serving as a backup communication center, if needed. We would like to thank the Crew, Advisors, Kent Amateur Radio Society members, the Two Bays – Choptank District and everyone assisting in a very successfully ARRL 2011 JOTA.

Additional photographs and stories:

William said, “Is that really someone is England?”

Jeremy asked, “How do you talk to the Astronauts on the Space Station?”

Tim asked, “What kind of radio do Police and Fire use and can we talk to them too?”

A group of Scouts said when demonstrating PSK, “Wow, look at all those people chatting.”

Some Troops took turns sending their first name in Morse Code on our Practice CW set.

