

N2JIE 2011 JOTA Report

From 1553Z through 1748Z 15 October 2011 in Scout Building

From 1601Z through 1943Z 16 October 2011 at Home QTH

Local council name and number:

South Jersey Council #334

Unit number:

Troop 98

Amateur call sign used:

N2JIE

Amateur call signs heard and worked:

DJ6YX

IW0HQE

K7DG

OE9MON

UR3IFD

WB7WNF

KF6VMC

W0DHB

CO6CAC

YW3Y

DK0CN

DL9GS

KP2VI

HA9RT

N2WLS

W2UJ

WB2OQQ

K2JMY

W4BAN

N4NE

IK3/ZL1SLO

OK2SAI

FG5DO

MI0SMK

LW6DG

PY1RY

PY5AS

D4C

HK6F

W4BAN

AB3CX

HK6P

N9FUW

KG9N

CX2DDP

States Contacted:

Washington
New York
South Carolina
Texas
Georgia
Colorado
Pennsylvania

Countries Contacted:

United States of America
Italy
Norway
Ukraine
Germany
Cuba
Venezuela
Virgin Islands
Hungary
Czech Republic
Guadeloupe
Northern Ireland
Argentina
Brazil
Cape Verde
Colombia

Number of Stations Participating in Our JOTA Event:

One (1)

Number of participants in JOTA

Cub Scouts:	-0-
Boy Scouts:	-4-
Venturers:	-0-
Girl Scouts:	-0-
Radio amateurs:	-1- (Operating)
Visitors:	-2- (Including one non-operating amateur)

Please Add My Story, Funny Incidents, Discoveries, etc. in This Space.

Where shall I start? Let's begin with the antenna. I had purchased at 10-160 fan dipole some months ago, and never opened the package. I wanted to attach it to the roof of the Scout

Building, which is the second half of a two car garage converted for scout usage. There is hardly any slope to the roof, and I wasn't about to nail anything to the shingles. I wound up purchasing a 2x4x12 piece of treated lumber at the local lumber store the morning of JOTA.

When I got to the Scout Building, Gary, N2WHV, was waiting for me. Gary is waiting to buy his first rig so he can have his first QSO. Even though he didn't operate, Gary assisted me throughout the day and made a food run. For that we are all grateful.

With the help of my son, Tommy, a Star Scout, the three of us got the antenna set up. The directions said it would take one person 15 minutes to set it up—it took three of us over an hour and a half to do it.

We finally got the antenna erected, and the other three scouts showed up. Now we had Tommy, a Star Scout, and Alex, Eddie and Miguel, First Class Scouts, along with Gary and me, ready to rock and roll with my Kenwood 570S(G).

Our first contact was with Germany, then Italy. Some of the stations weren't actively "participating" in JOTA, but unbeknownst to them, they were. After all, I wanted to show all of the aspects of Amateur Radio to the boys, including a little bit of shooting DX.

The boys made some great contacts with scouts throughout the country, and some hams who just enjoyed speaking with the scouts. They spoke with Scott, Bradley and Brendon (Brandon?) out of Aurora, Colorado, under K7DG's callsign. They then had a great QSO with Raleigh, WB7WNF in Washington State. Raleigh already sent me his QSL card, and I just picked up my cards printed for JOTA today so I can return the favor.

They had a 30 minute QSO with Larry, KF6NMC, and spoke with Dave, W0DHM in Texas, and had several more QSOs.

After a while, boys will be boys, and they got bored with the radio, so we (me included) started hunting the flies that were prevalent inside the building. We used our hands, rubber bands, and whatever else we could find to kill them. Tommy even got on the floor on his hands and knees trying to sneak up on them.

After an even longer while, they became bored with the great hunt. All was not to be lost, however, for a little four-footed friend decided to pay us a visit. I guess he wanted some of our delicious scout popcorn. Anyhow, the boys chased the mouse for a few minutes until it was apparent they couldn't catch it.

Just before dark, we took the antenna off of the door hinge, off of the tree and antenna tower, off of the roof where it was held in place by a weight, and disassembled the antenna support structure that we constructed out of the lumber, a large wooden box and some nails. The next day, Tommy and I operated at our home QTH, still using my Kenwood, but this time we used my home antenna, a 10m vertical mounted three feet off of the ground, mounted on my gas grill.

This was not my first JOTA, and it definitely will not be my last!!