

WS1SM

Pine Tree Council

Local Council: Pine Tree Council, Downeast district, Troop 648 (and others)

Call sign used: WS1SM

Call signs worked: KA3UNQ, WB2UFF, AA1VU, K3BSA, W3HZW, K2JMY, W3BEE, N0LOH, AB8P, K4RC, K0SXY, AC6AA, DP6T, KB9ZUV, KI4BWS, N8NAV, N9NAQ, KD8GYS, YP9W, DL0WJ, DH8BQA, DK4K, AA8DC, KD8OTQ, DL1BKT, N8IW, DJ8OG, DP9I, DL1A, DF5A, DJ1AA, D44AC, DF0VK, DL0UM, N8WGT, DF7ZS, 7X5QB, DK0FR, WA9BSA

States worked: MD, NJ, RI, PA, DE, NY, IA, OH, VA, AZ, IN, NC, MI, IL

Number of stations participating: 1 (WS1SM)

Countries worked: USA, Germany, Romania, Cape Verde, Algeria

Participants:

Cub Scouts: 24

Boy Scouts: 42

Girl Scouts: 1

Radio Amateurs: 2 (W1WMG, and KB1HNZ)

Visitors: 18

WS1SM, the club station for the Wireless Society of Southern Maine was invited to Camp Bomazeen in North Belgrade, ME

to take part in their Camporee weekend. We setup a portable HF station, operating on battery power, using dipole antennas for the 40 and 20 meter bands. The transceiver used was an Icom 706MKIIG. The setup location was right on the lakeshore, only about 15' away from the water.

It was a lot of fun introducing amateur radio to all the scouts at Camp Bomazeen, but also in taking the time to talk to scouts from other JOTA events around the world. We even had some of our boys talking with scouts in other places - with the most interesting QSO's taking place between the kids who differed on which football teams they liked. Many of the scouts from the other JOTA stations we talked to were at Camporees of their own, and they enjoyed sharing details about the different activities they were taking part in, like tug-of-war, tower building, capture-the-flag, and even archery. At one point, one of our younger scouts was talking to an elderly ham and asked him how long he had his amateur radio license. The man said, surprisingly, that he had only been licensed since 2006 and had waited almost 60 years to get his ticket. This prompted the boy to say "I'm not gonna wait that long!"



