



RADIO AMATEUR NEWS & VIEWS

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October RANV Meeting

Prepare Scout Jamboree on the Air

Jeff **N1YD**

In our October meeting you will see more equipment and more on the air activity. Several club members are going to bring radios and set up for a dry run of whatever we are going to show the local Scout troop at Jamboree on the Air.

We hope to demonstrate Single Side Band, PSK-31, Crystal Radio, Morse Code, ADS-B, and software defined radio. By trying everything out on Tuesday night, it should go smoothly with the Scouts on Saturday.

Scouts on the Air Jamboree

George **KC1JGM**

Jamboree-on-the-Air, or JOTA, is the largest Scouting event in the world. It is held annually the third full weekend in October. JOTA uses amateur radio to link Scouts and hams around the world, around the nation, and in your own community. This jamboree requires no travel, other than to a

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Meetings: 2nd Tuesday • 7:00 PM
Holy Family Parrish Hall
30 Lincoln Street
Essex Junction, Vt

Repeater: 145.150, PL 100; WB1GQR

New Hams, Mentoring:
RANVMentor@gmail.com

nearby amateur radio operators ham shack. Many times, you can find the hams will come to you by setting up a station at your Scout camporee, at the park down the block, or perhaps at a ham shack already set up at your council's camp.

Tell Me More

Scouts of any age can participate, from Cub Scouts to Scouts BSA, Venturers, Sea Scouts and Leaders. Once at the ham radio station, the communication typically involves talking on a microphone and listening on the station speakers. However, many forms of specialized communication may also be taking place, such as video communication, digital communication (much like sending a message on your smartphone but transmitted by radio), or communication through a satellite relay or an earth-based relay (called a repeater). The exchanges include such information as name, location (called QTH in ham speak), Scout rank, age, and hobbies. The stations you'll be communicating with can be across town, across the country, or even around the world! JOTA-JOTI attracts almost 2 million Scout participants from more than 170 countries!

When Is It?



Jamboree-on-the-Air is held the third weekend in October. There are no official hours, so you have the whole weekend to make JOTA contacts. The event officially starts Friday evening during the JOTA Jump Start and runs through Sunday evening.

How Can I Participate as a Scout?

Contact your local Scout council and see what may already be planned in your area. You can also contact a local ham radio operator or a local amateur radio club. You can find a searchable database of clubs at www.arrl.org/find-a-club. This website is operated by the American Radio Relay League, the national association for amateur radio,

which is cooperating closely with Scouting America on JOTA and many other activities.

Your local club may be able to direct you to its planned JOTA activities. These can include ham stations set up at camporees or other events. Or, if there are no planned activities, you can either work with them to get something set up or arrange to visit a local radio operator's ham shack at a scheduled time to participate in JOTA.

How Can I Participate as an Amateur Radio Operator?

Contact your local Scout council and see what may already be planned in your area and how you can help. You can find your council using [the Council locator](#).

If nothing is currently planned, or if current plans aren't reaching your area, you can work with the council or a local unit (pack, troop, crew) to set up a JOTA station or arrange for visits to your ham shack. You can also participate just by making QSOs with the many JOTA stations that will be on the air. A good resource to find a local Scout unit is the Be-A-Scout website at .

For more information, go to: www.jotajoti.info

RANV ACTIVITIES COMING UP

Mitch W1SJ

We have a host of activities coming up in the next few months. I'll focus on two of them.

Our Holiday Party will be Saturday, December 20th at 11AM through 3PM at the Holy Family Parish Hall. The club will provide a cold cuts platter and everyone else provides the rest. We typically get 20 people to show up. Not a great turn out when you consider we have 85 members in the club, most of whom are less than 30 minutes away. Let's see if we can achieve a better turn out so that we can meet ALL of you in person, instead of via text and E-mail. Should we be doing something different at the party? Let us know!

HAM-CON, the Vermont ARRL Convention will be Saturday, February 28, 8AM-1PM at the

Hampton Inn Convention Center. Club turnout for this is typically good, but it could be better. As a club member, if you renew your membership and purchase tickets at the Holiday Party or prior you get the extreme discount of \$5. The normal advance sale ticket price is \$8 until mid-February and the door price is \$14. Ouch! That is what we need to charge to cover the costs of the hotel which goes up each year. Can you spell inflation? Here is a little secret: If we doubled the number of attendees, we could lower those ticket prices. Hint hint. And again, should we be doing something (or not be doing something) to convince the non-attendees to become attendees?

We will again stream the forums and demonstrations to allow those who are far away or who cannot travel the opportunity to get benefit from the show. Get out your calendars and make plans to join us at these and other events.

Chittenden County Region FM Simplex Net Zachary [K1ZK](#)

QST: The next edition of the monthly Chittenden County region 2m FM simplex net will be on 146.55 MHz on Thursday, October 23, 2025 at 7pm local time (immediately following the conclusion of the Mole Day 2025 festivities).

All amateur radio stations are welcome to join.

Hamstick vs. Buddipole

The September Meeting

Jeff [N1YD](#)

Our September meeting had fourteen people attending, along with Paul and Logan by zoom. Two guests named Scott and Dave showed up to see what we do, and Stu brought his two kids.

The theme of the meeting was "Hamstick vs Buddipole". The idea was to set up two similar stations on the balcony of the building, and try to get as many contacts as possible. Each station used a KX3 transmitter at about 5 watts, and the idea was to spend 20 minutes on each band.

Both antennas are light and easy to set up. Each one stood on a simple tripod, with a ground wire dangling off the edge of the balcony. Bob K1BIF brought the Buddipole, and a lot of experience from all his Parks On The Air activations, (although I don't know that he uses the Buddipole for POTA).

Stu set up his Hamstick and powered it with a fancy state of the art battery.

After 20 minutes on the 20 meter band, the competitors were tied 1 to 1.

Their contacts were from two separate stations, by the way. From his station at home, Paul AA1SU could easily hear them. Then they switched to the 40 meter band and K1BIF pulled ahead, making three contacts vs. one for Stu and his Hamstick. Logging all those contacts was not a problem! So K1BIF and his Buddipole won the competition.

I was wondering why they did not both contact the same distant station and ask which antenna sounded better. Somehow no one thought of doing it that way.



Jeff Bonn N1YD



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NEXT MEETING

Tuesday October 14th 7:00pm
Holy Family Parish Hall
30 Lincoln St, Essex Junction, VT 05452

Meeting Topic

Preparation Boy Scouts Jamboree on the Air

Saturday October 18th

If the main room is in use, we will use the classroom downstairs

Upcoming, Notices, & Misc

- Steering Wheel: 3rd Tue Noon; JP's Essex, Vt
- VE Exams every 2nd Friday;
- Contact AB1WG for information
- Dues due? Pay online at www.ranv.org/ranvpay.html