

## ARRL Ad-hoc Committee on Scouting Report to the Board – July 17, 2009

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**ARRL ad-hoc Committee on Scouting charge:** To study the interface between ARRL and scouting organizations and make recommendations for improvement, and survey ARRL and scouting literature for effectiveness and adequacy.

**Members:** Brian Milesosky N5ZGT, Bill Edgar N3LLR, Jim Fenstermaker K9JF, Larry Wolfgang WR1B

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The ARRL ad hoc Committee on Scouting continues to be involved in executing its charge as well as setting up the framework for fulfilling some of its many recommendations presented to the Board at its January 2008 meeting.

**Memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Boy Scouts of America.** The committee has created a draft MOU and is happy to report that it's quickly nearing the point (i.e. as early as August 2009) where ARRL leadership and BSA leadership can become engaged with one another regarding the MOU. The committee has been working with a point of contact at BSA National to optimize the language as much as possible leading up to this point.

**Assistance to K2BSA at that 2010 National Scout Jamboree.** ARRL has provided support to K2BSA at the National Scout Jamboree for many years. 2010 marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America as well as the next Jamboree. At its January 2009 board meeting the ARRL board of directors authorized the offering of support to the extensive K2BSA operations at the upcoming Jamboree. Since then Larry Wolfgang has once again been appointed as the ARRL liaison to K2BSA at the Jamboree, and Brian Milesosky is also serving on staff. Dave Sumner K1ZZ and Mike Childers W9MC (K2BSA Director) have been in contact with one another to discuss the details of ARRL's support to what is perhaps the largest hands-on ham radio exhibit for youth in the world.

**Reaching out to the Girl Scouts of the USA.** The committee continues to reach out to the Girl Scouts of the USA by initiating contact with hams who are affiliated with the council level, as well as members of their national board of directors. Shortly we hope to have established enough contact to better understand their leadership structure, recruiting "adjunct" members made of youth and adult Girl Scouts who are also hams to the committee such as what we did when focusing on the Boy Scouts of America, and beginning work to fulfill our committee's charge, this time focusing on the Girl Scouts of the USA program and organization.

**Scouting booth at the 2009 ARRL National Convention (Dayton Hamvention).** The committee wishes to congratulate and thank the many scouting volunteers led by ARRL member Brian Walker K9BKW for organizing and running a fantastic *Scouting and Amateur Radio* booth within the ARRL Expo area at this year's Dayton Hamvention. It was estimated that 3,000 Hamvention visitors stopped by the booth. An after-action report submitted by Brian containing many other statistics of interest is included with this document. We believe that the *Scouting and Amateur Radio* booth provides a great rallying point for those who enjoy scouting and ham radio, as well as a forum for ARRL to show its support to this segment of the youth population we want involved in our hobby. We recommend that, if possible, space be afforded for *Scouting and Amateur Radio* booth at future ARRL Expo exhibits, in coordination with local volunteers who are involved in both activities, such as how the booth was coordinated and run this year.

**New ARRL website.** With the brand-new ARRL website planned for rollout in early 2010, it is the committee's strong desire that its recommendations with regard to Scouting-related web content (among others submitted to the Board of Directors at its January 2008 meeting) be acted upon,

especially during this period of time when content is being designed and integrated with the new site. We offer our assistance with the creation of content.

The ARRL ad hoc Committee on Scouting wishes to thank the ARRL Board for its continued support. As stated in the past ham radio and scouting form a near-perfect marriage, per se. As the general ham population continues to age, there is a growing need to involve younger, enthusiastic people to its ranks to secure a healthy future. Likewise, as the scouting community remains active in such activities as backpacking, camping, and public service, ham radio serves as a resource to provide not only a measure of safety, but an additional element of excitement. Simply put, the ham community can benefit the scouting community, and vice-versa.

Respectfully submitted,

*Bill Edgar N3LLR*

*Jim Fenstermaker K9JF*

*Larry Wolfgang WR1B*

*Brian Mileschosky N5ZGT, Chairman*

## Brian Mileschosky

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**From:** Brian Walker  
**Sent:** Monday, June 01, 2009 8:44 PM  
**To:** Brian Mileschosky  
**Cc:** Hurtado, Amy KB1NXO; Inderbitzen, Bob, NQ1R; Johnson, Debra, K1DMJ; Kramer, Harold, WJ1B; Sumner, David, K1ZZ; Hobart, Mary K1MMH  
**Subject:** Scouting ARRL Booth, Thank You

Brian,

On behalf of the 2009 Hamvention Scouting Booth Team, I would like to thank the League and the Scouting Committee for their help in making the "Scouting and Amateur Radio" booth possible. It was an overwhelming success, with many hams saying that they appreciated the League providing an opportunity for them to learn how to introduce youth to Amateur Radio through the Scouting program. This is definitely a win-win-win result, with Amateur Radio, Scouting and the League all benefiting from the booth.

We estimate that about three thousand Hams visited the booth, with 400 taking our brochure that gave them tools to use back at home to introduce Scouts to Amateur Radio. An additional 120 hams signed up for us to help them locate local scout units in their area. We expect increased JOTA participation, summer camp Amateur Radio Stations, and Radio Merit Badge classes as a result of the booth.

We were also able to identify a few Girl Scout leaders as resources for the League's Scouting Committee and welcome their active participation in the booth next year.

There also was much interest in the BSA's Radio Merit Badge pamphlet. We will try to explore ways for the pamphlet to be available to hams at next year's Hamvention, possibly through the League sales area.

I'd like to recognize the following League members who staffed the booth: Matt Murphy, KC8BEW; Dale Lamm, NX8J; Dave Long, ND4SU; Gary Wilson, K2GW; John Deegan K9XT; Brian Walker K9BKW.

Also, a big thanks to Richard Garriott, W5KWQ; Austin Walker, KC9EVS our Scout interviewer, and the ARISS team for participating in our Scout Radio video interview. The video will be a big help in promoting Amateur Radio to Scouts. We will provide the League links to the video for the ARRL.org/Scout page. We look forward to more ARISS contacts with Scout groups, especially at Jamborees and during JOTA.

We also look forward with working with the league on staffing the booth again next year, and will be happy to help the league with organizing similar booths at other major hamfests where the ARRL sets up an exposition area.

Thanks again to the League for its support in using Scouting as a way of getting more youth interested in Amateur Radio.

Make it a Tremendous Day,

Brian K Walker  
2009 Hamvention Scouting Booth Committee Chairman K9BKW WB9SA Trustee  
[www.spacejamboree.com](http://www.spacejamboree.com) [www.troop272.com](http://www.troop272.com)