

# W7O – SOTA Oregon Newsletter

## September-October 2015

**Another Party? You are invited again! – September 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> is the annual North America Summits-on-the-Air Activity Weekend** – Per the press release, “North America SOTA Activity Weekend 2015 is a casual event involving tiny battery-powered radios on mountain summits” (or any radio you are willing to carry of course!). It is intended to introduce Summits on the Air to newcomers so let’s head to a summit and invite others. Post (or look for) alerts on SOTAWatch.org with “NA SOTA Weekend - please join me” in the comment field and invite another ham to give SOTA a try.

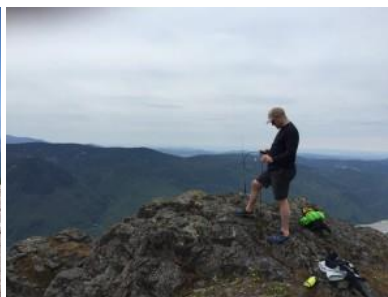
**Upcoming Event – September VHF Contest 12-13 September** – Looky, it’s the same weekend as the NA SOTA Activity Event above! It’s another chance to carry small antennas to a summit. This might be a time to invite a Technician to a SOTA summit as there will be lots of 6m and 2m SSB activity – Lots! (See the rules about sharing rigs, however.) Here are the details: [www.arrl.org/september-vhf](http://www.arrl.org/september-vhf).



K7ATN on WV-050



KK7DS on CN-008



W7PEA on LC-060

**Activation Ideas – Lovely Hikes.** With summer now passing behind us – where were your most beautiful hikes? Or maybe those with a great view? Here’s a list of some to consider for this fall:

- W7O/WV-050 - Huckleberry Mountain (beautiful woods to hike through and a view of Mount Hood)
- W7O/CN-008 - Lookout Mountain (a short hike with awesome views from the east side of Mount Hood)
- W7O/CE-009 - Paulina Peak (great views for a drive-up summit)
- W7O/WV-009 - Bull of the Woods (a lookout at the top)
- W7O/CM-033 - Black Butte (what, another lookout?)
- W7W/LC-069 - Big Huckleberry Mtn (access via the Pacific Crest Trail is lovely)
- W7W/NO-134 - Mount Zion
- W7W/LC-058 - Silver Star Mtn (better hiking from the north if you vehicle can clear the road)
- W7W/LC-060 - Elk Rock (awesome views of Mount St. Helens)
- W7W/WH-122 - Winchester Mtn (rough road to the trailhead and great views from the top)
- W7W/SN-105 - Mt Pilchuck (a lookout here also!)
- W7I/SR-038 - Granite Mountain

If you have ideas for summits that you’d highly recommend, post a trip report on [www.pnwsota.org](http://www.pnwsota.org) and let me know about it for a future issue of the newsletter.

**Active Activators – who are they?** Here's who has been busy on summits in 2015...

W7O – Oregon	W7I – Idaho	W7W – Washington
Guy-N7UN	Scott-W7IMC	Tim-KG7EJT
Doug-N7CNH	Jim-K7MK	Grover-KG7O
Roger-ND7PA	Chris-AF7FQ	Howard-NU7A
Jen-K7GEN	Scott-K7ZO	Darryl-WW7D

**Logging those QSOs.** This can be one of the burdens of SOTA activation and chasing. Logging does get easier over time and by using csv files instead of doing it manually. But here are some clues. You'll need to register at [www.sotadata.org.uk](http://www.sotadata.org.uk). Log your contacts as soon as you can - **all of them** – while you can still read your writing. Note that you'll need to work four DIFFERENT stations for points, but you will get activation credit for just one contact, so log **all** of your activations. Be sure to use the right band, mode, and correct UTC time and date as SOTAdat compares chaser and activator logs to verify awards, so getting everything correct could help someone else. Don't forget to log Summit-to-Summit contacts as Chaser contacts (then click S2S and enter your summit). (Microwave contacts are more complicated – ask me if you want help to get distance credit for contacts 1.2GHz and up.)

**Operating Tips – Watch for VHF Activations!** In the last newsletter we had some ideas from Chris-KG7OFQ on how to successfully activate using 2m FM with a HT. Let's consider the other side and perhaps monitor 146.52 from our cars or at home when we can, especially on weekends, as we might catch a activator needing just one more contact. Looking over the alerts on SOTAWatch.org (searching for W7O or W7W or W7I) can give an idea of who might be on summits that day, and if their QRG includes 2m FM and they are in your neighborhood, give a listen and work 'em if you can.

**Activating Tip – Nice drive-ups.** So long as you remember to not activate in the vicinity of a vehicle and have nothing attached to a vehicle, and your final approach is under human power and you consider the guidelines for recommended vertical ascent, some of these drive-ups can be a fun way to activate a summit. General rules here: [www.sota.org.uk/docs/SOTA-General-Rules-April-2015.pdf](http://www.sota.org.uk/docs/SOTA-General-Rules-April-2015.pdf).

- W7W/NO-163 - Mt Walker (the north end is a lovely spot)
- W7W/CW-030 - Lion Rock
- W7W/CW-033 - Quartz Mountain
- W7W/CW-061 - Red Top Mtn (well not quite a drive-up, it's only about a half mile hike)
- W7O/SE-001 - Steens Mountain (a ten point drive up, but WAY out of the way in SE Oregon)
- W7O/WV-062 - Larch Mountain (about a quarter mile paved hike to the summit)
- W7O/CE-051 - Hamaker Mountain (paved road to the top)
- W7O/CE-073 - Chase Mountain (there's a lookout there too)
- W7O/CN-074 - Round Butte (a neat spot, paved all the way)
- W7O/NC-051 - Bald Peak (State Park at the summit)



**Welcome New AM for W7M-Montana – Rob-AE7AP.** Montana has a new Association Manager in Rob-AE7AP. Rob is an avid hiker and an active promoter of SOTA – including authoring a great article in last month's QST. Rob will be posting trip reports for Montana on [www.pnwsota.org](http://www.pnwsota.org) – so we can welcome W7M to the 'Northwest' too.

This newsletter is brought to you by the W7O Association Manager, Etienne-K7ATN. Share this newsletter with others and suggest ideas for the newsletter or subscribe or unsubscribe by email to [climb2ski@gmail.com](mailto:climb2ski@gmail.com). Find all issues here: [www.pnwsota.org/content/w7o-sota-oregon-newsletters](http://www.pnwsota.org/content/w7o-sota-oregon-newsletters).