

Summits on the Air (SOTA)

Cherokee Amateur Radio Society (CARS)

12 May 2018



What is SOTA?

- The purpose of SOTA is to encourage Amateur Radio based activity from the summits of hills and mountains in countries around the world and to provide an award system for Radio Amateurs in all DXCC Entities.
- Started in the UK in March 2002 and has been growing rapidly ever since.
- Similar to Islands on the Air (IOTA) but governed by its own set of rules and award system.

Structure

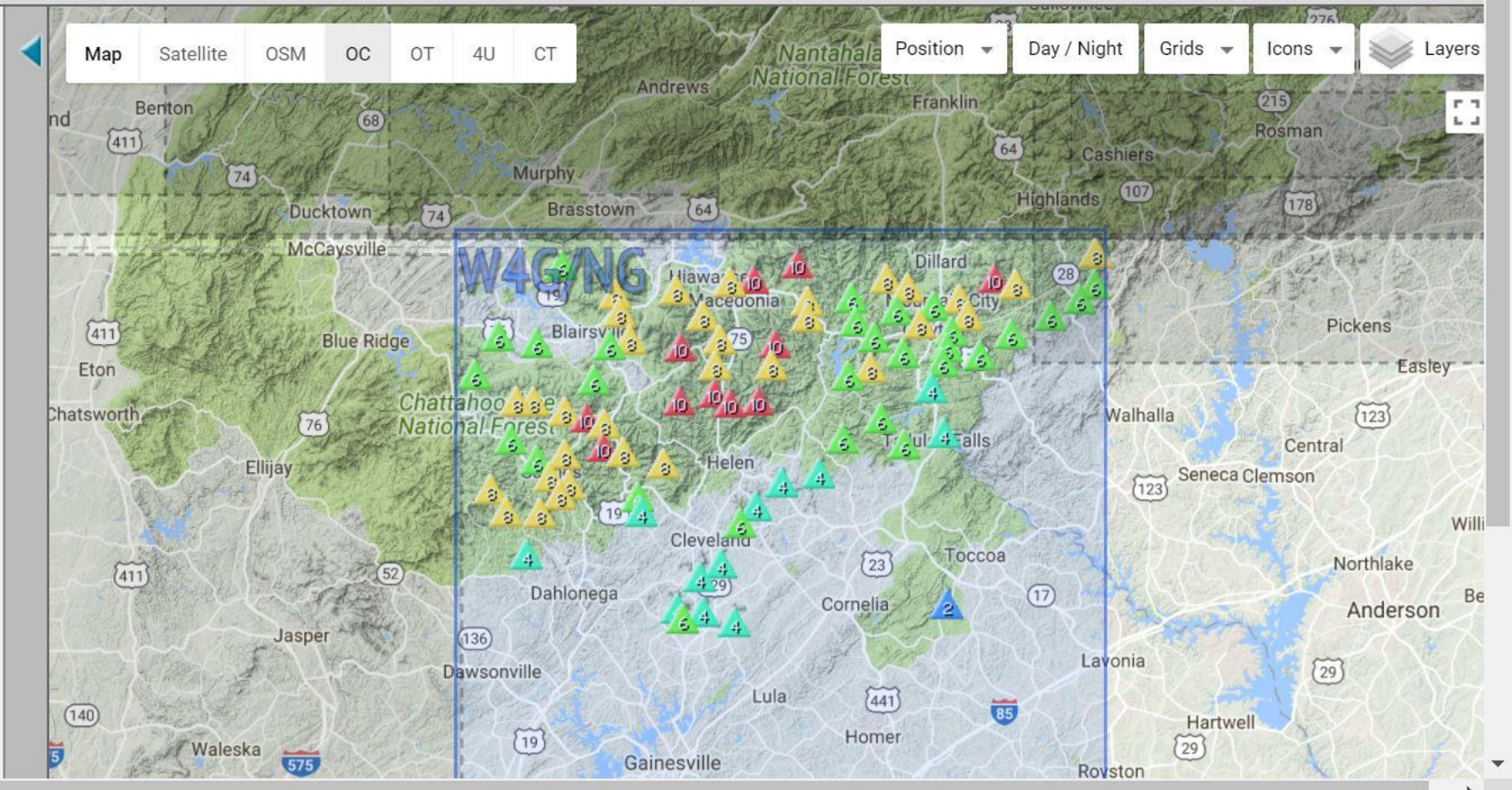
- Distinct geographical areas are organized by Associations
 - Each DXCC entity may form an Association
 - Large DXCC entities such as the US may be subdivided into separate Associations
 - Small DXCC entities may combine to form an Association

Choose Association: Multi W4G - USA - Georgia
 Choose Region: Multi W4G/NG - North Georgia (86 sur)
 Choose Summit: --- Please choose ---
 Sort Summits: By code 👤 37

Chosen Summits Listing

Show: All summits in Region Load »

Summit Code	Summit Name	All Act.	My Act.	Pts.
W4G/NG-001	Brasstown Bald	48	0	10
W4G/NG-002	Rabun Bald ★	21	0	10
W4G/NG-003	Hightower Bald ★	3	0	10
W4G/NG-004	Blood Mountain ★	20	0	10
W4G/NG-005	Tray Mountain ★	22	0	10
W4G/NG-006	Coosa Bald ★	18	0	10
W4G/NG-007	Double Spring Knob ★	5	0	10
W4G/NG-008	Eagle Mountain ★	3	0	10
W4G/NG-009	Horsetrough Mountain ★	6	0	10
W4G/NG-010	Blue Mountain ★	22	0	10
W4G/NG-011	Rocky Mountain ★	26	0	10
W4G/NG-012	Wolf Knob ★	4	0	8
W4G/NG-013	Round Top ★	6	0	8
W4G/NG-014	Levelland Mountain ★	11	0	8
W4G/NG-015	Oakey Mountain ★	2	0	8
W4G/NG-016	Rocky Mountain ★	4	0	8
W4G/NG-017	Buckeye Knob ★	7	0	8
W4G/NG-018	Spaniard Mountain ★	2	0	8
W4G/NG-019	<i>Person Knob</i>	0	0	8
W4G/NG-020	Wildcat Mountain ★	27	0	8
W4G/NG-021	Buzzard Knob ★	8	0	8



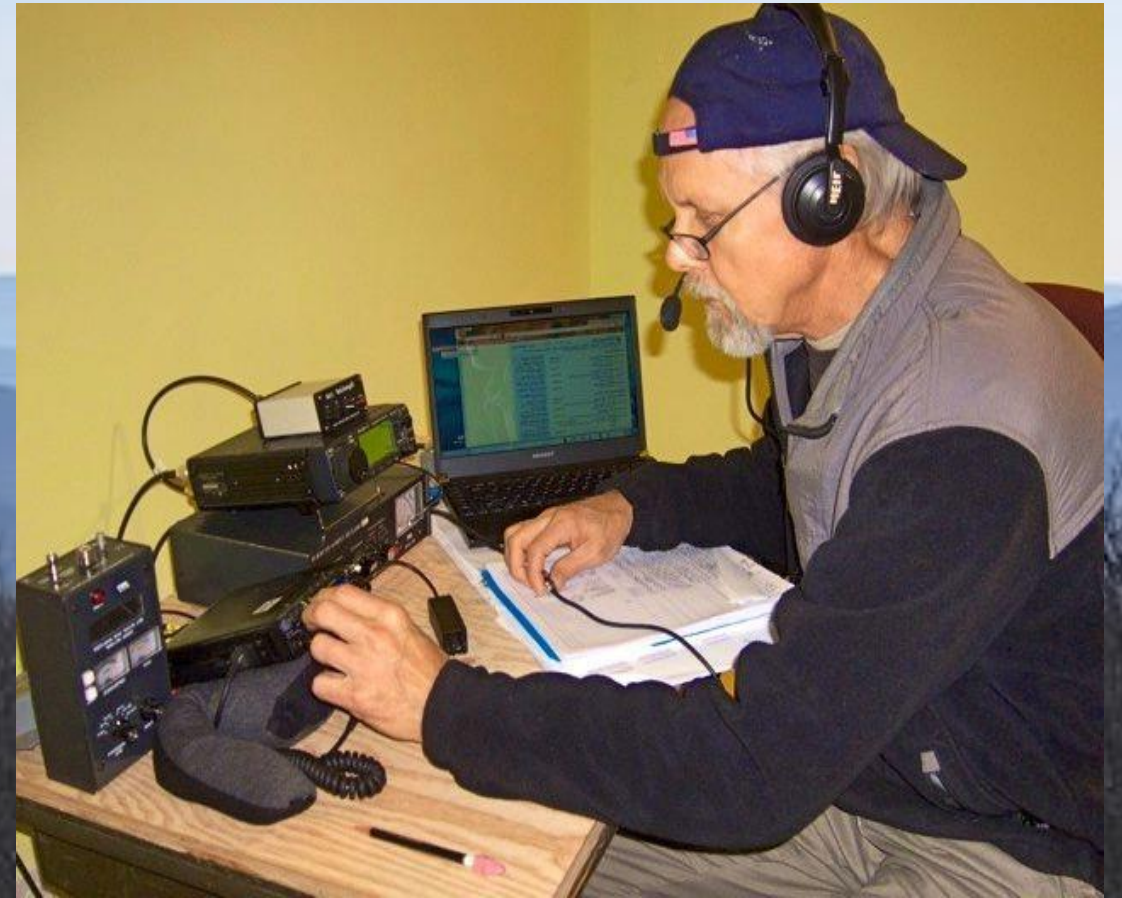
Three ways to participate

- Activator
- Chaser
- SWL



Chaser

- Easiest way to start participating
- Review Chaser rules at www.sota.org.uk
- Spotting apps like SOTA GOAT
- Search for activator and call
- Short exchange – call sign, RST, 73
- Log your QSO on SOTA database www.sotawatch.org



Chaser Awards – certificates and trophies



Activator

- Hams who operate portable from summits



Why Activate?

- Good EmComm practice
- Lower noise
- Great exercise
- Fun!!
- Awards and Certificates



How to become an Activator

- Plan and research



What to take?



What to take – start with 10 essentials

- Navigation (map, compass, GPS)
- Sun protection (sunscreen, lip balm, hat)
- Insulation (appropriate for season and location)
- Illumination (headlamp, batteries)
- First-aid Kit
- Fire (matches, lighter or fire starter)
- Repair kit/tools (multi-tool, duct tape)
- Food
- Hydration (water bottles, filter)
- Emergency shelter (Bothy bag, tarp/fly, or reflective blanket)

Packtenna



QRP Guys Tri-band Vertical

7.2m fishing rod

40m – 30m – 20m

Also 80m – 60m version



My "SOTA" shelter

2 person Bothy bag for
emergency shelter



Black Diamond Beta Light

Less than a pound

Uses hiking poles

No floor



- Planning
- Leave a route plan with family
- Activation
- Afterwards
- Resources





Braden Glett
January 27 · 🌐

ROTA ACTIVATION ALERT! I am about to go live with ROTA activation #2 (Recliners On The Air) from Ohio. I hiked here on foot and will operate on portable power, per the Rules. And it's all about the Rules, my friends!

👍 🗨️ ❤️ 58

10 Comments



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