

Portable Ham Radio

Why You Should Do It





Introduction

K1ETA

Mike Kenney

Licensed in 2015

Backstory - Inspirations

W1YRC & K1CYQ National POTA Trip

VE3TWM (Tracy McKim)

KG6HQD Jerry Hildeman, Jr. (SK)

KB1HQS (Stuart Thomas)

VK3YE (Peter Parker)

K4SWL (Thomas Witherspoon)

I Can Do That

No Turning Back

Why Portable

Every Day Is Field Day

Something Different Every Time Out

No Special Skills Required

Gets You Out of the Shack

Think Outside The Box

Learn More About Your Equipment

Tests Your Skills

May Make You a Better Operator

Successes, Failures, Laughs – Guaranteed

Promotes Amateur Radio – Be An Ambassador

It's Fun





Not Just QRP

QRP Misconception

QRP Generally 5 Watts or Less

QRO 100 W to Legal Limit

Sideband

CW

Digital

Satellites

Portable Rig May Not Be Needed

Use Base Rig As Your Portable Rig

Can Be As Simple As You Like

Or Like K1GND's Shack-Mobile!



MacGyver or MacBuyer

MacGyver:

Build And Test Stuff

Build Kits

Minimalist

Make Something From Nothing

Emulate What Others Do

MacBuyer:

Don't Build And Test Stuff

You Like The Easy Button - Grab And Go

Don't Reinvent The Wheel

That's What The Internet Is For

Drive To

Car, Truck, SUV

Pull Up and Park

Set Up Antenna

Plug In Rig

You Are On The Air

You Work Right From The Car



Walk To / Ride To

State Parks

National Parks

Picnic Areas

City Parks

Historic Sites (ie: Marconi)

Recreational Areas

Beaches*

Any Open Public Space

Your Own Deck, Yard Or Patio





Own DXpedition

You Are More Agile

Like to Hike Or Walk

Like A Challenge

Keep It Lightweight

Views, Birds, Nature, Solitude

Can Be More Than Just Radio

Check The Weather

Therapeutic



Equipment

Checklist, Back-up Checklist, Redundancy, A Place For Everything

Rig: Yeasu FT87D, FT891, ICOM 7300, 7100, Elecraft KX2, KX3

Antennas*- Cordage: (Dipole, Speaker Wire, End Fed, PAC 17)

Coax: RG8X - 316, Doublet, Connectors, BNC*, Power-poles*

Battery Types: SLA, LiFePO, Bioenno, Miady, TalentCell

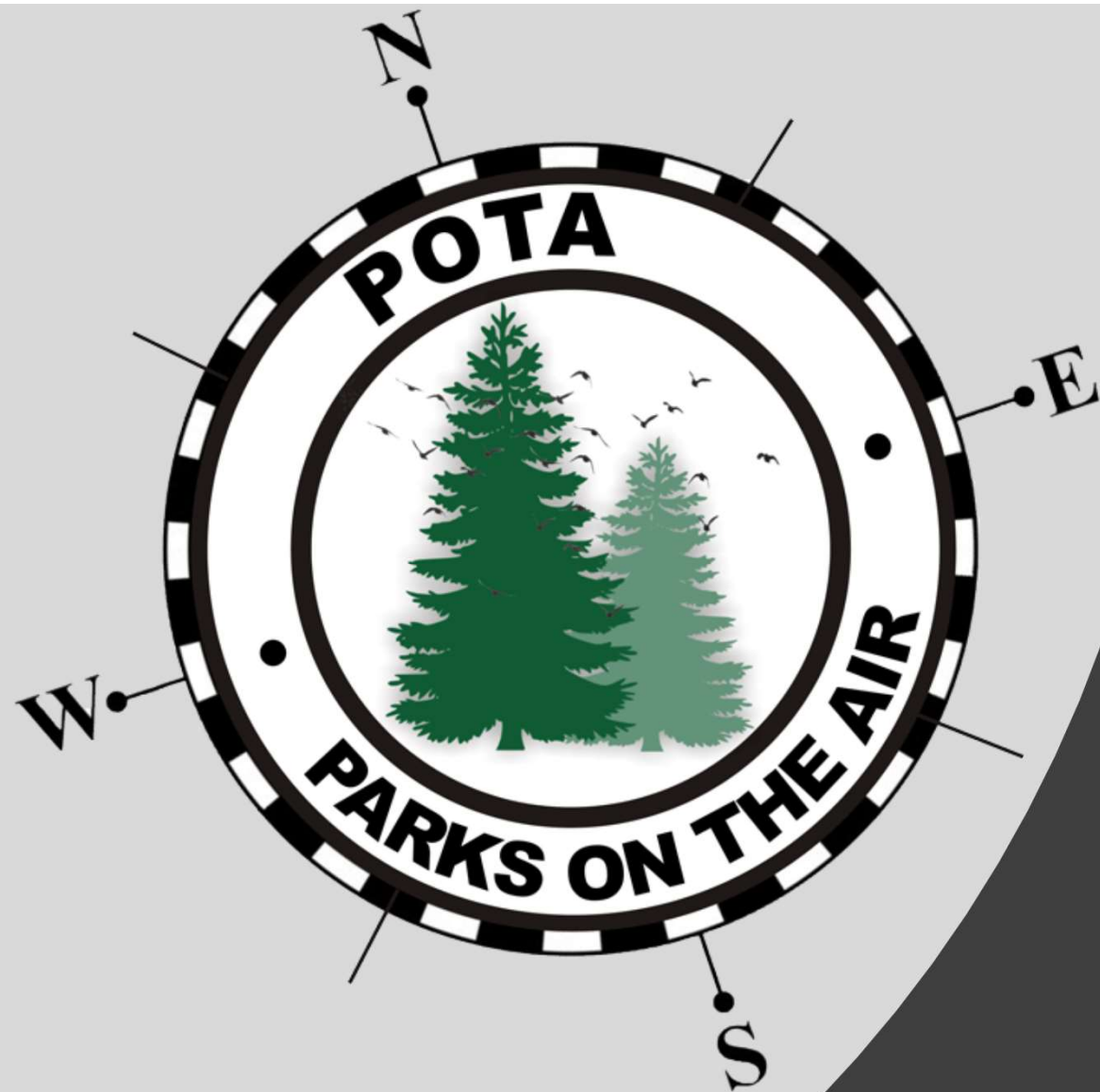
Log: Paper, Laptop, Ipad, or Smart Phone (Technology)

Snacks, Drinks, Sunscreen, Zip-Lock Bags (Lots)

Identification, ARRL Info, FCC License

Authorities (Rules, Be Respectful, Live To Fight Another Day)

Porta-Johns, Woods, Camera-Less Areas



POTA

Parks On The Air

Spinoff – Nat. Parks on the Air
Domestic and World-Wide
Be An Activator
Be A Chaser (No POTA Without)
Be Neither
Check Spots – Spot Yourself
Go To A Registered State Park
Make 10 Contacts (Or Not)
Registration Optional
No Repeater QSO's Allowed
Free



SOTA

Summits On The Air

Began In the UK

World-Wide

Summits > 1K Feet +/- Points

Be An Activator

Be A Chaser (No SOTA Without)

Be Neither

Go To A Registered Summit

Spot Yourself - Check Spots

Make 4 Contacts

Registration Optional - Free

2M - 50 Miles Simplex

No Repeater QSO's Allowed



CW blah, blah, blah

It's Not Easy

But It's Not As Hard As You Think

It's Scary (At First) (Don't Go Slow)

But It's Very Rewarding (Lots DX)

It's Not Dashes & Dots (Not Visual)

But It Is Phonetics Dits & Dahs

Think Of Letter A (Grade School)

40 Characters - 20 Minutes A Day

Go Where People Don't Rag-Chew

QSB – SRI 73 (Ref. Card On Desk)

Use POTA/SOTA For Practice

UR Call & 5NN RI (OR MA)



Q&A

(See Examples At Front Table)

Inspirational YouTubers:

KG6HQD Jerry: (SK) (SOTA Expert Ex- Military Guy)

Outdoors On The Air: (POTA Expert)

KB1HQS: (Author Portable Operating – ARRL Site)

K8MRD Radio Stuff: (POTA and MacGyver)

QRP School: (QRP Expert – Teacher)

Thomas (K4SWL): (QRPer.com) (CW POTA)

K6ARK Portable Radio: (Ultimate MacGyver SOTA)

Seven Forty One: (All Around Portable Ham Stuff)

KB9VBR Antennas: (POTA Expert)

Amateur Radio VK3YE: (Author Several Port. Ops)

My Contact Info: K1ETA@ARRL.Net

Table 1 Swiss Army Bag

7100

KG6HQD Speaker Wire Antenna

20 Ah Battery

Table 2 Cammo Bag

KX2

6 Ah Bioenno

Crappie Poles Samples

Spider Beam Mast

SOTA Beams Wire

Table 3 Small Bag

QCX Mini

EFHW With UNUN

3 Ah Talentcell

Tenekye