

South Western Oregon Repeater Association
Serving amateur radio on the
Southern Oregon Coast since 1983

IT'S PIZZA TIME !!

**South Western Oregon
Repeater Association
Annual Members Meeting
June 4, 2025**

Dave's Pizza

Pizza 6 PM Meeting 7 PM

Please sign up for our groups.io

**So the board is able to communicate with all members
The Link to join is on our web site on the home page
at SWORA.net**

**South Western Oregon Repeater Association
807 Delaware Ave. North Bend, OR. 97459
JUNE 4, 2025**

Meeting agenda:

Welcome and introductions	Questions and answers
Minutes of last meeting	Open discussion
Treasures Repot	Discussion on secretary/treasurer position
Report of activities	Election of officers
	Adjourn meeting

2024– 2025 officers:

President	Steve Humphrey	KA7A
Vice president	Terry Flury	AA7TF
Secretary / treasure	Jason Randolph	K7ETB
Director	Joe Burkleo	WA7JAW
Director	Kelley Andrews	W7FCM
Director	Scott Wood	N7NPA

DUES . Dues of \$5 per member (person) are due June 1st 2025 and are good through May 31, 2026
You may pay for more than one year.

Dues can now be paid and donations accepted thru **PayPal**
Log on YOUR PayPal, Click on send money, type in w7oc@frontier.com
up will pop a box about 3 1/2 inches square and it will say Southwestern
(SWORA) with \$ 0.00, enter the amount of money you wish to send
SWORA (this includes dues and or donations. **Below there will be a
small box with LEAVE A NOTE, Please leave one with your CALL,
NAME, and let us know if the money goes to, dues or donation so
we will know who and what to credit the money too.**

**PLEASE KEEP YOUR ADDRESS CURRENT WITH
THE FCC ——— IT'S THE LAW !**

A word from Jason!

I would like to extend a warm thank you to all who helped both Sandra and myself as I was battling cancer. Although the fight may not be entirely over, all is looking much better at this time compared to when I was first diagnosed in October. A full recovery will take time and some further medical involvement, but we want to let you all know that your efforts and prayers on our behalf were incredibly encouraging and dearly appreciated. We celebrate our cancer free future! I hope to serve with SWORA on behalf of all of our supporters for as long as it is possible. Let me assure you that the elected members of SWORA all proved to be of great comfort and help during this time and you can be proud of their willingness to step in and cover for me while I was so ill.

A big and resounding thank you to all of our friends and our Lord!

Winchester Hill story of US FOREST SERVICE

In February Terry AA7TF and I were replacing the chain and all the Padlocks that strangely disappeared from the gate. We replaced the chain with a harder steel chain (harder to cut) and our padlocks. We had been at it for a while getting close to getting done when a pickup arrived and our cars were in the way. The gentleman got out of the Pickup and said he had 2 repeaters up the hill that he need to fix and get back on the air. I asked the man if he had a key for the gate, he said yes, and I said but there aren't any padlocks for the key to go into. We are replacing the chain and the padlocks that we have, he says here is 1 more to add and please can I go up the hill, Terry and I moved our vehicle and let him go. We finished our work with the chain and locks then Terry went up the hill to the radio site and met the forest service man working in the Coast Guard Building, he found that some one had turned the power switches off. Terry and the man now Robert took a tour of SWORA building and then down to the new building for a tour. Now comes the end of February and Terry gets a call from US Forest Service asking if we had room for their radios. They had just found out the power to the CG building would be turned off April 1st. SWORA had approximately 5 weeks to get things done for them to move in by the 1 st. Thanks to Terry and Joe and a wee bit from me, we managed to be done by mid March, Robert came and installed their radios and SWORA ends up with a 10 year lease

A LONG LONG TIME AGO!!

Back in the 1980's Joe WA7JAW, Fred WA7OBB and Gary Rouch, Gary owned a radio site on Blossom Hill in the south end of Coos Bay.

Joe, Fred and Gary built a repeater and put it on the air, the first repeater in this area. As I remember it was on 147.120 getting Interference from Mt.Hood on the same frequency, eventually the frequency was changed to 147.280 and has remained there. Gary sold the radio site and removed the repeater. Joe and Fred called a meeting of all local hams in 1988 to decide what should happen. Discussion, followed about where to put it ,who would take care of it collect dues etc. As it wasn't an official group there was no money to help pay expenses. After all the discussion took place a vote on officer was held, Steve K7GWK(later KA7A) walked out of the meeting as president and carrying an old Motorola mobile radio wondering what was I to do with it. It was the radio and requires a lot more equipment to make it work such as filters controller and no money to purchase the things to make it go, I had no idea what all we needed to make it work or how to make work . Well I heard that the radio needed a controller to turn it on and off OK I found a kit in QST with an ID'er for not to much, bought a cake pan with metal lid and built the controller, ID'er in side. sort of checked it out seemed to be working..

Now onto the cavities (filters) I found a set of 4 cavities tuned up to our frequency. Now what do we need, remember I had no clue what I was doing, Lew Holt W7AAI was my back yard neighbor, he said we could put the antenna up on top his 70 pole, OK that would be good so we went scrounging for an antenna I'm not sure where we got it but we did find one so up to top of Lew's pole he went and got it mounted. Next we got out some RG 8 coax and hooked it all up, darned, it all worked CLOSE by not even out town. Back to the drawing board. I called up my out of town buddy, told him what we were doing and why did we not have any range . He said what did you use for coax? I said RG 8 . He said you need to use HARDLINE COAX. Humm what's that. So went looking for some hard line coax. Trust me I had no idea what that was, but eventually we found some, low and behold it worked much better.

We had meetings and drew up a set of by-law, more meetings and set a dues fee of \$5 a year, now we were getting a few dollars to work with. At that time I worked for GTE knowing that Winchester Hill was no longer needed I started making phone calls to see if we could get it. Gotta slow down a little here, I helped put the equipment in the Winchester building and then maintained the equipment. The fellow that I had talked to about a donation, said, no problem you send me a 501-c-3 non-profit paper and it is yours. As luck would have it, the closing down was delayed for a little over a year. Now to get the 501-c-3 paper together it was page after page after page, filed page after page, it took a year to get the paper work completed, sent off to the IRS, a man was assigned to our application and then was sent to jury duty for 6 months. Finally I got the paper work back sent a copy to the man I was taking with said you have email a copy of our 501-c-3 papers, he looked said yep and you have a key in your pocket, have a good time. So that is how SWORA ended up with Winchester Hill radio site. From there I was contacted by Edge Wireless about leasing an area to install a building and antennas on the tower (this was 1992) After that a 2nd cell came to me wanting on Winchester hill so we sign a lease, later it sold to AT&T who are still there. Edge Wireless sold to US Cellular which as you read this is finishing up selling to T Mobile. Then NOAA weather leased a space and just renewed for another 10 years. Douglas county traded space in our building for space in their building on Roman Nose out of Mapleton. Roman nose holds the controller for all of our linked repeaters. Also 4J school district has an FM station in our building, we donate tower and room space to them. Silke communication lease space from us and now US Forest Service. So there is a lot that goes on with Winchester Hill and many thanks to Terry Flury AA7TF who lives a short ways from the site for keeping a close eye on the site. 36 years later we our building our nice new block building as we are located in a forest area we have to follow Homeland security rules fire proof, no windows, metal roof underground power which we have followed. And I'm still president, thank you Steve KA7A

FROM THIS



TO THIS



SWORA'S NEW WINCHESTER HILL BUILDING
STILL MORE TO DO



First of this month Brent Case our tower climber saw that I had asked for weed eaters to cut some grass down. Brent responded from Winston and came over and cut the grass for the cable locators could mark where not to dig. This is our next project, we need to get the fence back up after taking down for the new building. I have been contact by one of the leaser that it needs to be put back, so that has been moved to top priority. Thanks Brent for helping I have contacted Jeremy Bourell the contractor we use a bout grading around the building adding a retaining wall along side a drive way planting conduit for the power going to the building. Currently waiting for his bid, but heard the sound of \$30,000. following Jermey will be the fence builders andt after that will be the electricians with a \$45,000 bid.

ONE DAY AT A TIME WE WILL GET IT DONE

From Linda Prefontaine:

“This year’s PREFONTAINE MEMORIAL RUN will be different. 2025 will mark 50 years of Steve’s passing. This year’s run will not be a celebration of his death, it will be a run commemorating his life, spirit and his legacy. That can only be done where it all started, in Coos Bay, Oregon. Come to Coos Bay on September 20th to run or walk in “THE SPIRIT OF PRE.”

September 20th, 2025 is the date for this years Prefontaine Run Please **remember to mark your calendar** and plan to take part. To make our coverage successful we need 16 operators. We **will meet at 8 AM for our no-host breakfast at DISHNERS, backroom** where we get our field assignments. We have to be at our locations by 9:30 as that is when the streets close. The run is from 10AM till about 11:30AM

Joe WA7JAW will be net control

CONTACT JOE OR STEVE IF YOU CAN HELP

Joe=jburkleo@frontier.com Steve=hamie@frontier.com



AMATEUR RADIO TESTING LOCALLY

**UP COMING TEST DATES FOR 2025
JUNE 19, AUGUST 21,
OCTOBER 16, DECEMBER 18**

**TESTING DATES ARE THE 3RD THURSDAY
OF THE EVEN NUMBERED MONTHS**

TIME 6:15 OR 1815 HOURS CHECK IN

**WHERE: BAY AREA LABOR CENTER AT 3427 ASH ST.
NORTH BEND, OREGON 1 BLOCK WEST OF KFC
ON THE CORNER OF NEWMARK AND ASH STREET**

**COST: \$15.00 FOR TESTING
THEN BILLED \$35.00 VIA EMAIL FROM THE FCC**

**CONTACT; STEVE KA7A HAMIE@FRONTIER.COM
541 404 8273**