

## Obs Tour during MINIs On Top

The top of Mount Washington is home to a weather station founded in 1932. The Mount Washington Observatory's mountaintop weather station has been staffed continuously since then. Two alternating crews of Observers live on the summit for a week at a time, taking hourly weather observations, performing research, and conducting educational programs. The crews and other staff members observe and maintain a record of weather data, perform weather and climate research, and foster public understanding of the mountain and its environment.

On April 12th, 1934, the Observatory recorded the world's fastest surface wind speed ever observed by a human: 231 mph. While MOT participants have not experienced anything like that, gusts of more than 95 mph occurred one year.

Pre-pandemic, the Observatory generously allowed nearly 50 MOT participants to meet with the Observers and tour its facility. Last year an Observer made an outdoor presentation to a small group of MOTers. This year we will be enhancing that experience.

The 2021 MOT "Obs Tour" will also be outdoors, with two groups of 12-13 people who:

- Start at the top of the stairs above the parking lot, where Observers will talk about the 231 MPH "Big Wind" and the Stage Office
- Then head over to "Goofer Point" and enjoy the mountain views and learn about geography's impact on weather
- From there, each group will walk past the Yankee Building and talk about the Obs' precipitation can
- Each group will finish on the observation deck, where the observers will talk in more depth about what goes into a weather observation and general Q&A about the Observatory

The tours will conclude with plenty of time to tag the summit sign and enjoy the views.

The Obs Tour is NOT included with the other MOT activities. The additional cost is \$5 per person over age 12, paid in cash (only) before the tour. The tour groups depart from the Auto Road's base at 6:00 p.m.

Please send an email - NOT a text or a Facebook private message - to me no later than Sunday, June 5th, if you would like to take the tour or have questions.

I will conduct a lottery to select participants from all the submissions entered by the June 5th deadline if more than 25 people would like to participate.

Be well,

Pete Basiliere

2002 MCS R/W

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