



QSLing

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UPARC 2023

Agenda

- QSL overview
- Paper or electronic?
- Paper QSL Techniques
- Electronic QSL Techniques
- Questions

QSL

- **“A QSL is the final courtesy of a QSO”**
- Awards
- Fun receiving unique cards
- But how do we get the cards?

Paper QSLs

- Cards on the Wall!
- Some awards require paper QSL (WAC)
- Options to receive cards:
 - Direct Mail
 - Bureau

Paper QSLs via Direct

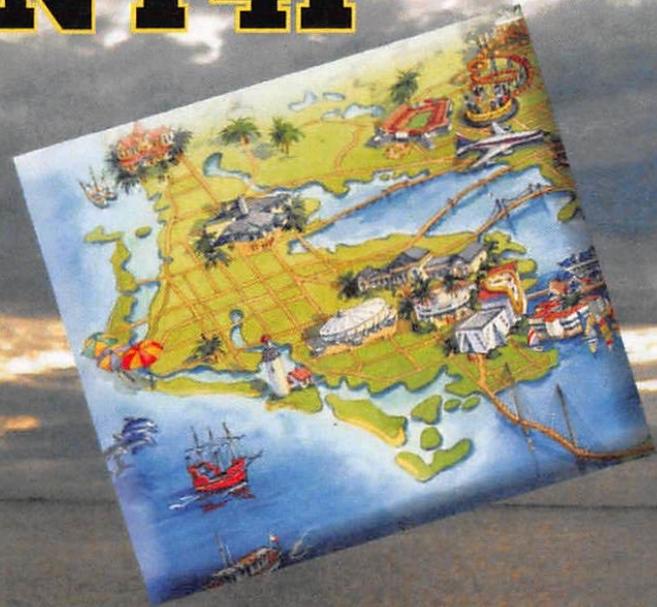
- Direct - It's not cheap!
 - Domestic (\$1.25)
 - SASE (if required)
 - First Class round-trip: \$1.00
 - Card + 2 envelopes
 - International (\$3.50)
 - Global Forever Stamp: \$1.15
 - \$2-\$3 dollars to place in envelope for return postage (more if rare DXPedition is appreciated)
 - Card and envelopes

Direct QSL Hints

- Use QRZ and follow DXs QSL directions **EXACTLY!**
- Look for US QSL Manager (cheaper)
- Decide if you need the paper card
 - Do they use LOTW? Lists available to tell you (logging program/cluster/QRZ)
- Use UTC date
- See if station has an online log



NY41



Continuing QSO with:
P5P5E

QSL via:

United States of America
CQ ZONE 5 • ITU ZONE 8
GRID EL88 • PINELLAS COUNTY



D	DATE		UTC	FREQUENCY MHZ	2-WAY QSO IN	SIGNAL REPORT			QSL
	M	Y				R	S	T	
28	3	2050	0035	14.010	CW	5	9	9	PSE TNX

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TEN TEC ORION II • ICOM 775 • ICOM 9100
ALPHA 9500 • ZERO-FIVE 43' VERTICAL

KB3JFH QSL Cards

Bureau (“Buro”) System

- Incoming and Outgoing
- Clearing house for QSLs
- Cheap but veeeeeeeerrrrrrryyyyyyy slow
- Follow directions
- Not all hams use bureau
- Incoming bureau workers are **VOLUNTEERS** (be kind...)

Incoming Bureau

- Inbound for “4” calls
 - Sterling Park ARC
 - <http://www.qsl.net/sterling/uf1.htm>
 - Normally 6x9 envelope
 - Callsign in upper right and postage

Outgoing QSL Bureau

- ARRL Outgoing Service
 - ARRL Membership is required
 - See if country has an incoming bureau
 - Follow directions on QRZ for DX station.
 - Some hams just do not use their bureau
 - Sort cards, pay by weight and send them to ARRL (or drop them off at some hamfests)
 - Wait, wait, wait, wait, wait...
 - 1-3 years not unusual

Electronic QSLs

- LOTW, eQSL, QRZ
- What you use depends why you QSL.
- ARRL Awards (WAS, DXCC) require LOTW or paper card.
 - Triple-play WAS is ONLY LOTW.
- It's really not that hard to setup.
- Any LOTW setup difficulty is to ensure “you are you”.
 - How else does ARRL know it is you?

LOTW Setup

- Download TQSL
- Create Certificate request (do NOT put a password on the certificate!)
- You will receive post card
- Go to LOTW and complete setup
- If anyone does that, next month (Sat after meeting), we can help you setup.

Upload your Log

- Send ADIF file (signed with TQSL) to LOTW
- Other stations upload must match your QSL (no QSO fishing...)
- Time within 15 minutes of each other.
- TQSL handles multiple station locations.
- Use a logging program
 - DXKeeper excels at LOTW operations

Awards – Paper Cards

- For awards, you have to send some version of QSLs.
- Some use honor system, some need actual card.
- For DXCC, let ARRL keep your records...
 - Once you qualify for basic 100, periodically send your cards (or better, bring them to card checker).

Awards - LOTW

- Select QSLs you want to use
- Create application in LOTW
- Pay for credits
- Submit
- Credit within 1-2 days
- [Demo](#)

Online DXCC

- <https://p1k.arrl.org/onlinedxcc/>
- Submit cards manually or via ADIF file
- Saves processing time for awards
- Great for card checkers
 - Lists card in the sorted order

Online DXCC Application



DXCC Record Sheet

Call Sign: NY4I

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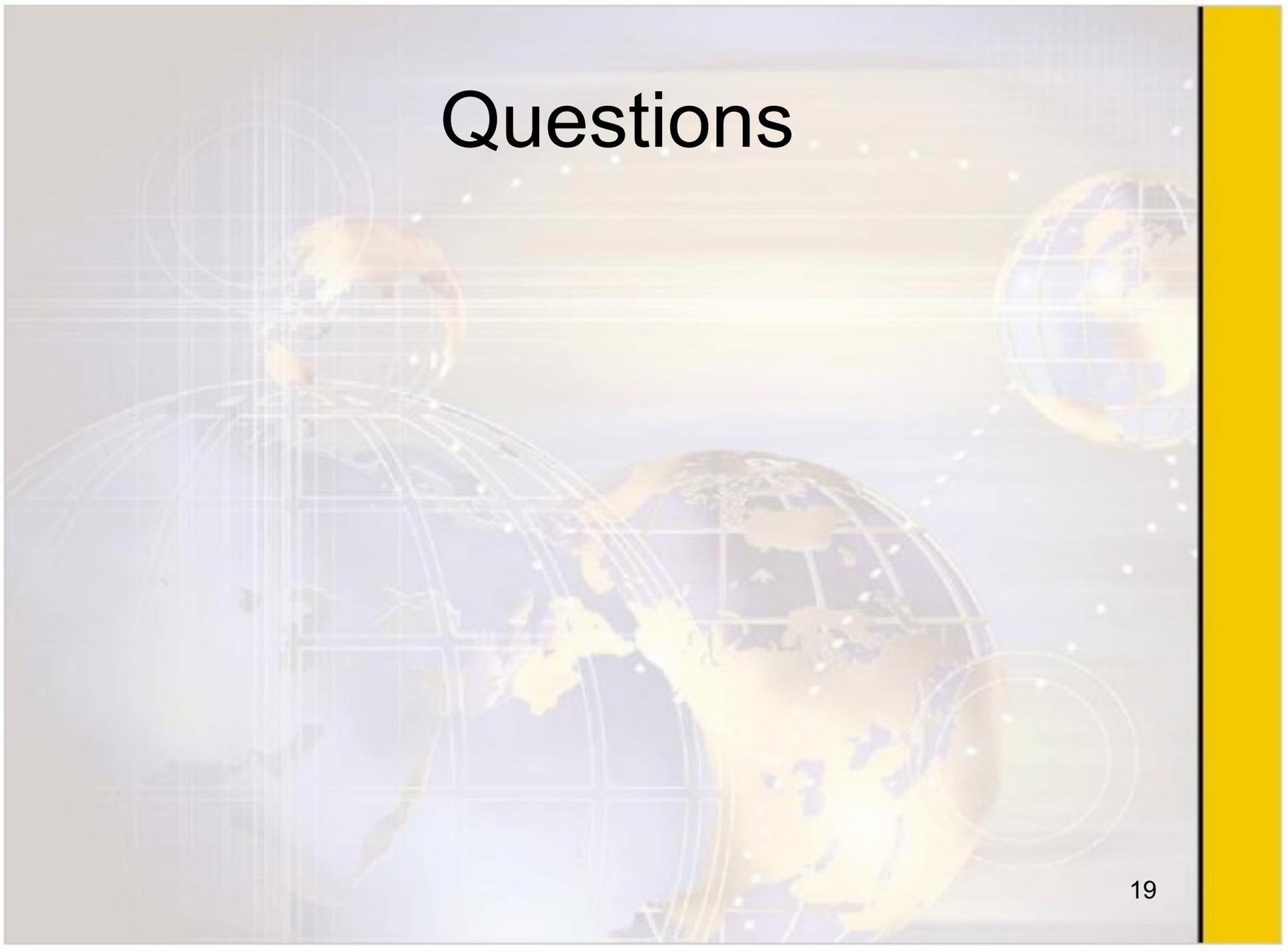
Cards may be submitted directly to ARRL or checked by a DXCC Card Checker. Cards must be placed in the box below.

Call Sign	QSO Date	Band	Mode	Entity
BV3FG	1999-06-13	20	CW	TAIWAN
UP2L	2012-10-27	20	PHONE	KAZAKHSTAN
YW5YL	2012-06-02	17	PHONE	VENEZUELA
FG/TU5KG	2012-10-24	15	PHONE	GUADELOUPE
S512IAPMC	2013-01-10	12	PHONE	SLOVENIA
EA9RY	2012-10-27	10	PHONE	CEUTA & MELILLA

Card Checkers or ARRL

- You can mail cards to ARRL DXCC Desk but mail can be lost
- You can visit cards checkers
 - Tampa Bay Hamfest
 - Orlando
 - Cards never leave you sight!
 - My preferred way

Questions

The background of the slide is a light blue and white gradient. It features a large, semi-transparent globe with a grid of latitude and longitude lines. A bright, glowing light source is positioned in the upper right, casting a horizontal beam of light across the globe. Several smaller, semi-transparent globe icons are scattered around the main globe, some appearing to be in motion or orbiting. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern, suggesting a global or technological theme.