

QSLing: A Ham Tradition



What does QSL mean?

Q-codes	Translation
QRP	Decreased power
QRP?	Should I decrease power?
QTH	My location is <enter location>
QTH?	What is your location?
QRL	The frequency is in use
QRL?	Is the frequency in use?
QSL?	Can you acknowledge receipt?
QSL	I acknowledge receipt of your transmission

A QSL Card is a written confirmation or acknowledgment of a contact

Why would I want to QSL?

- ▶ Proves that a specific QSO was indeed made
- ▶ Eligibility for awards
 - ▶ DXCC
 - ▶ WAS
 - ▶ VUCC
- ▶ Final handshake of a contact
- ▶ Tradition

What types of QSLing are there?

Paper QSLing



Electronic QSLing

	Call sign	Worked	Date/Time	Band	Mode	Freq	QSL
Details	W8UA	KG9Z	2020-07-19 19:01:55	6M	CW	50.09692	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details	N8JLM	W5SJ	2020-07-05 17:53:48	6M	CW	50.09591	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details	N8JLM	K5NA	2020-06-27 22:22:14	6M	CW	50.09393	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details	N8JLM	K8MR	2020-06-15 01:04:56	6M	CW	50.08538	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details	N8JLM	NI0G	2020-06-15 00:56:32	6M	CW	50.08708	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details	N8JLM	KD8TNF	2020-06-14 20:10:08	6M	CW	50.09500	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details	N8JLM	WA1Z	2020-06-14 19:54:16	6M	CW	50.09288	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details	N8JLM	K8MFO	2020-06-13 18:01:45	6M	CW	50.09603	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details	N8JLM	N6AR	2020-04-14 20:54:47	6M	CW	50.09753	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Details	N8JLM	KA8CNI	2020-03-14 14:39:24	6M	CW	50.10000	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Paper QSLing

Pros:


- ▶ A paper QSL card can be shown off
- ▶ Easy way to look back at your QSO's
- ▶ Most people still respond to a paper QSL card

Cons:


- ▶ Expensive
- ▶ Takes a while to fill out
- ▶ Can take an extremely long time to send via a QSL bureau

100

WB8VMW
469 E. Huston St.
Barberton, Ohio 44203



Javan L. Miller, N8JLM
2805 Harpster Rd
Rittman, OH 44270



100

- ▶ Call Sign
 - ▶ Address
 - ▶ County
 - ▶ Power
 - ▶ Transceiver
 - ▶ Antenna
-
- ▶ Call sign of station worked
 - ▶ Time
 - ▶ Frequency
 - ▶ RST
 - ▶ Mode
-
- ▶ Club logos
 - ▶ Awards


N8JLM

Medina County


Power _____ Watts Transceiver _____

Grid: EN91ca

Antenna _____



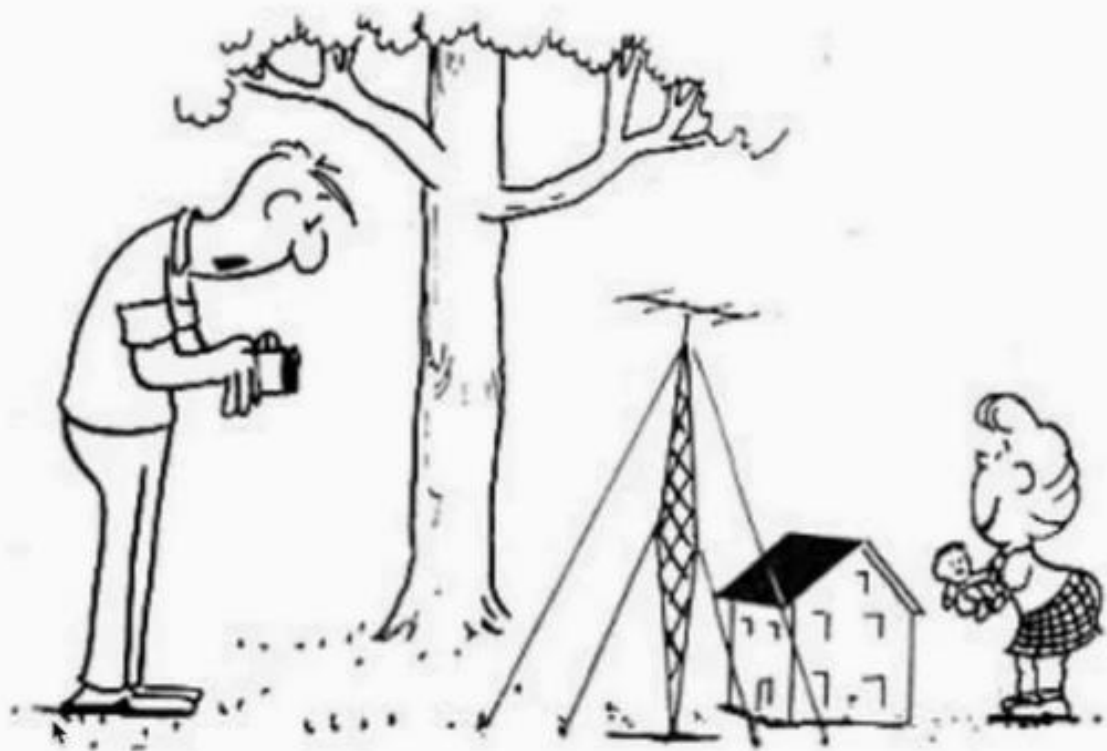
Javan L. Miller
2805 Harpster Road
Rittman, OH 44270



PSE QSL ☐ TNX QSL ☐

CONFIRMING QSO WITH	DAY	MONTH	YEAR	UTC	MHz	RST	MODE

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"Move, Cathy. I'm taking a picture for my QSL card."

Take a
station
picture for
your QSL
card

Electronic QSLing - LoTW

Pros:

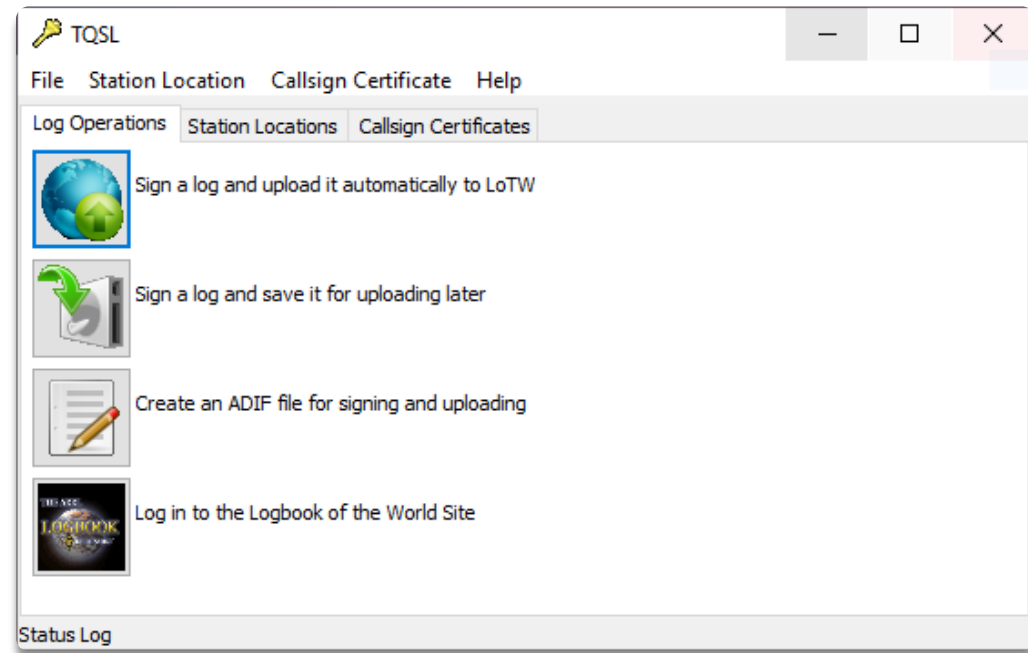
- ▶ Cheap (free) to use
- ▶ Fast upload
 - ▶ Upload feature built into some logging programs
- ▶ Easily apply for awards from the LoTW website

Cons:

- ▶ No QSL card to display
- ▶ Only confirms QSO's with other LoTW users

How confirm QSO's with LoTW

- ▶ Apply for a two-factor authentication postcard
- ▶ Wait
- ▶ Apply for various certificates
- ▶ Wait
- ▶ Upload the certificates to TQSL
- ▶ Upload log files to TQSL



SARA QSL Bureau

SARA operates a “QSL Bureau” service for outgoing QSL cards for DX contacts. SARA's QSL Bureau (SQB) will collect cards from SARA Members, sort them into the correct ordering, and ship them to the ARRL Outgoing Bureau on a quarterly basis.

<https://w8wky.org/sqb/>

