

**DX**

**The Ultimate Contact Sport**



Hey, how far can you talk  
on that radio?

**Do You Enjoy A  
Challenge?**

# DXCC



- The DX Century Club is the premier operating award in all of Amateur Radio.
- The basic certificate is awarded for working and confirming at least 100 entities on the ARRL DXCC List.

# The First 100

- Working your first 100 DXCC entities is challenging but not difficult.
- Contest weekends will offer lots of DX
- Even a casual operator can “stumble” onto DX

# 101 to 200

- Working the next 100 countries presents more challenge.
- Develop good listening skills
- Pay attention to operating styles
- QSL routes are important

# Over 200 and the Rare Ones

- As you collect more countries finding new ones becomes more challenging
- Stay informed of DXpeditions and events
- Pay attention to spotting networks
- Call CQ DX often

**Big Gun  
or  
Little Pistol?**

# **The Station**

**Operators with modest stations  
can work a lot of DX**

Patience

Persistence

Luck

# The Station

## Transceivers

Dynamic Range

Passband Filters

**“Good Ears Hear Weak Stations”**

# Antennas

## Modest

- Small Tri-band Yagi or
- Vertical or
- Wire antennas
- Small tower or mast
- Wire antennas on 40m & 80m

# Antennas

## Big Gun

- Big beams
  - Large Tri-band or
  - Mono band antennas
- Tall towers
- Gain antennas on low bands
- Receive antennas

# The Operator

Good DXers develop good  
**Listening Skills**

# The Operator

- Listen
- Understand propagation
- Time your calls
- Listen
- Learn to recognize patterns
- Call CQ DX
- Listen

# Dxing Tools

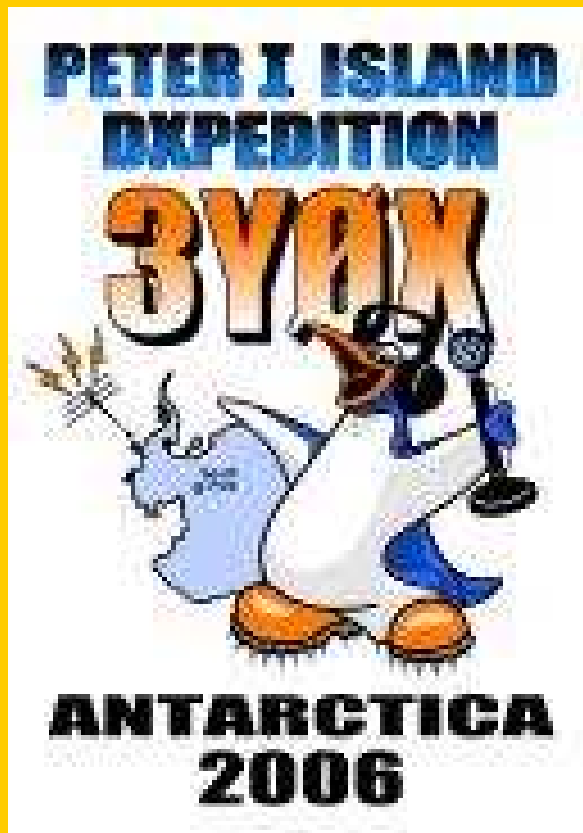
- Spotting nets
  - Packet Cluster
  - Telnet
  - Local 2m nets
- DX bulletins
- Computer logging to track awards
- Experienced DXers
  - DX club

# Spirit of Competition

Contests are a great way to work new DX countries

- Compete for ranking
- Compete against yourself
- Challenge your station

# DXpeditions



Let's pack up all of our radio gear and go to a deserted rock covered with bird guano, crabs and mosquitoes and talk to all of the people we just left at home.

**Brilliant!**



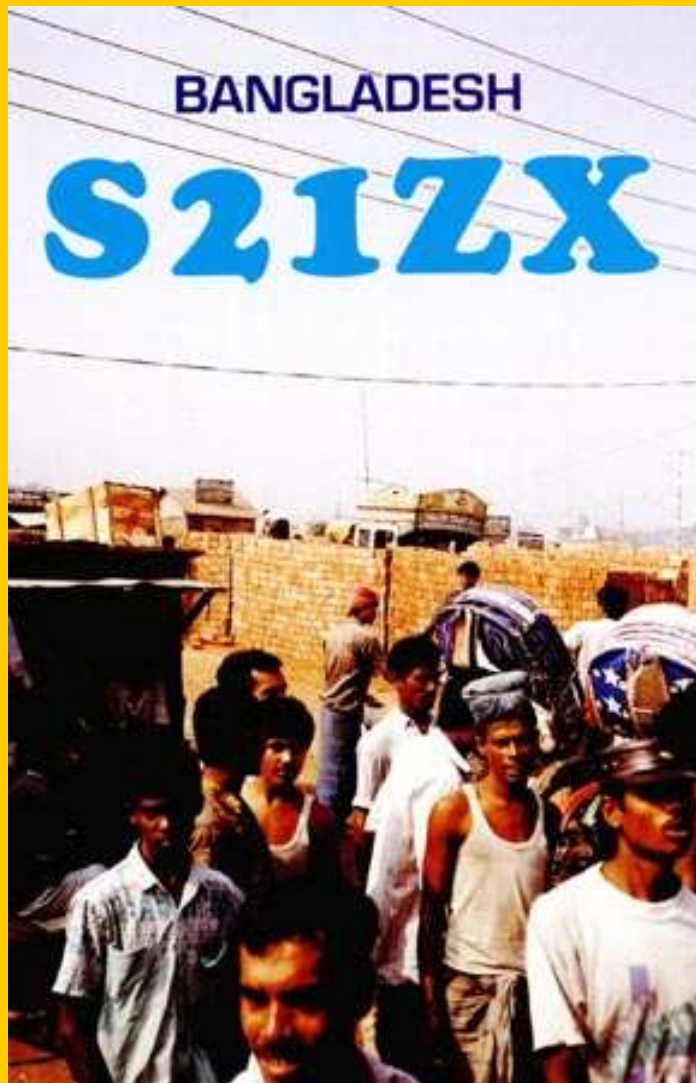
**WP2Z**  
**US Virgin Islands**

# Wallpaper and Awards



- Hams love to collect things
- QSL cards
  - DXCC countries
  - Awards

# QSL Cards



Working them is  
easy...

Getting the card  
is the challenge.

# QSL Bureau

“VIA BURO”

## Advantages

- Least expensive
- Good return rate
- Can send to QSL managers

## Disadvantages

- Not time sensitive

# QSL Managers (Stateside)

- Many DX have stateside QSL managers
- Not very expensive
- Pay postage both ways (SASE)
- Excellent return rates
- Fairly good turn around time

# QSL Managers (Overseas)

- Excellent return rates
- Can get expensive
- Faster return than QSL Buro
- Pay postage both ways
  - IRC
  - Foreign postage
  - Green Stamps \$\$

# QSL Direct

- 99% return rates
- Most expensive way to QSL
- Pay postage both ways
  - IRC
  - Foreign postage
  - Green Stamps \$\$
- Use foreign postage on SASE for best return rate.

# Electronic QSL



# Electronic QSL

## Advantages

- Fast upload
- Secure
- Apply for awards on line

## Disadvantages

- Only matches QSO with other users
- Multiple steps to use

# DXCC



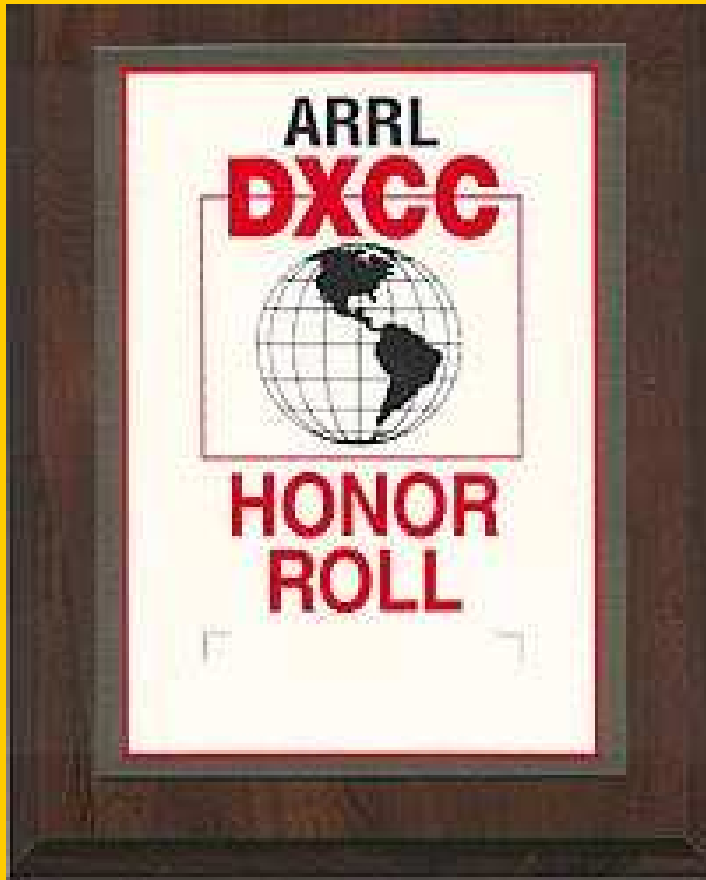
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# 5 Band DXCC



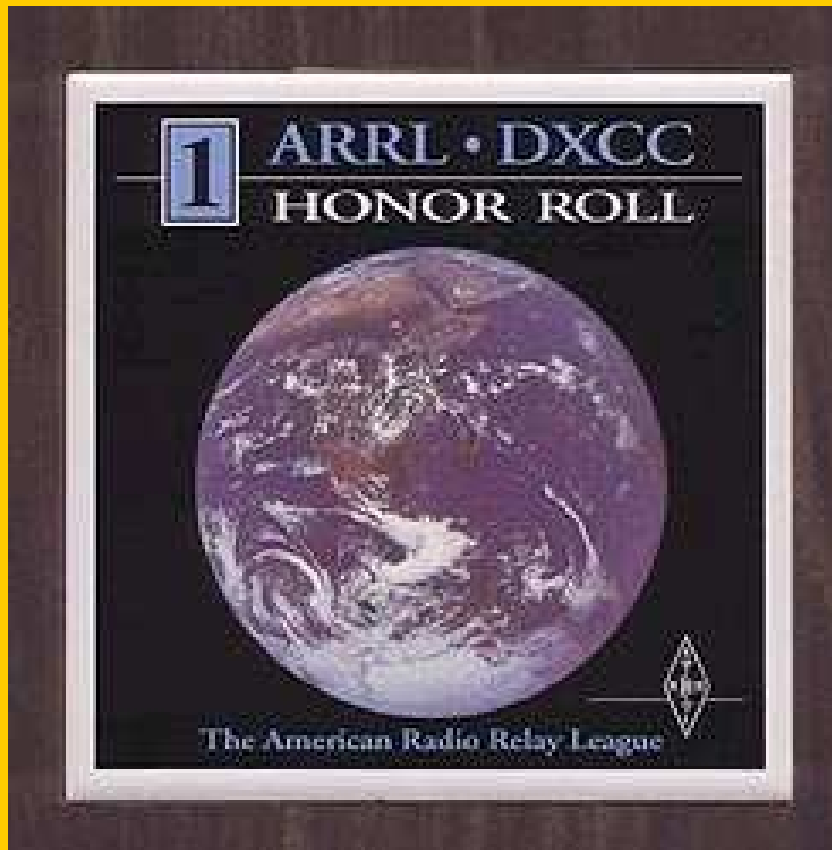
- Award for working and confirming 100 countries on each of the following five bands
  - 80, 40, 20, 15 & 10m

# DXCC Honor Roll



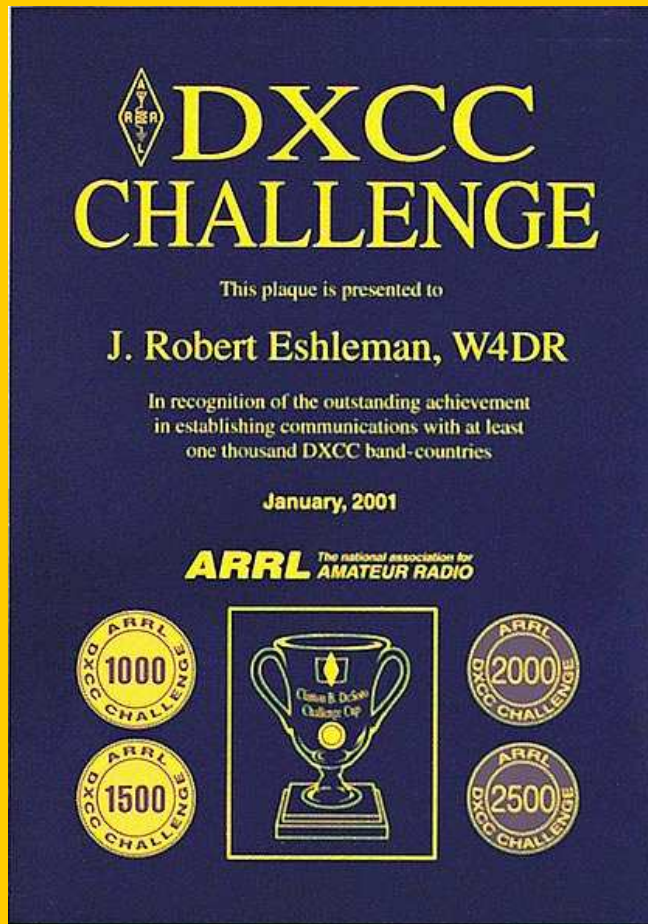
- There are **335** current entities on the DXCC list,
- **326** current required for the DXCC Honor Roll.

# DXCC Honor Roll



- Honor Roll is the most coveted award.
- Top of the honor roll is pinnacle.

# DX Challenge



- Cumulative award for working and confirming at least 1,000 DXCC band-Entities on any Amateur bands, 1.8 through 54 MHz.

# **DXing Can Be A Lifelong Pursuit**

- Propagation Cycles and
- Band Conditions
- DXCC Activity
- Non-Ham Radio Commitments (Huh?)

**DX**

**Fun And Challenging**