## HRU2021

Overview of Ham Radio Logging programs
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## INTRODUCTION

- The reasons for logging your amateur activity fall into three categories: legal, operational and personal. Legally, a log of your transmissions would be invaluable in providing details in an interference complaint. Operationally, having a log of past contacts is a resource when filling out that DX QSL card that may have taken months to arrive. Personally, a log is like a personal radio history reminding you of the people and places you've talked to, the nets you participated in and contests you worked.

## WHAT's IN A LOG

Information needed for your log.

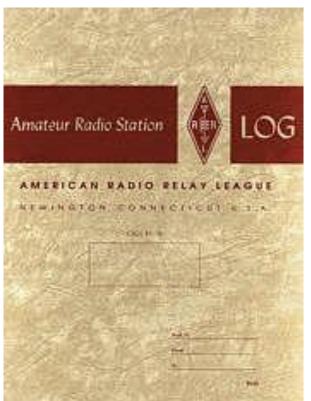
DATE, TIME in UTC, CALLSIGN, Frequency/BAND, MODE, Signal report. Optional notes: Power output, name of contact, QTH and rigs, antenna etc....

For DX contacts; QSL route, direct, Buro, QSL Manager or online QSL service.

This is also good for Stateside (WAS), (VUCC) awards

## PAPER or COMPUTER

The hardcopy paper logbook is the traditional keeper of the contacts.
Searching contacts thought paper logs is very time consuming especially if you have many logbooks..



STATION CALLSIGN:						HF Log Sheet	PAGEOF			
DATE	UTC ON OFF	FREQ	MODE	POWER	CALLSIGN	QTH	RST SENT I	RCVD	COMMENTS	
										٦,
										2
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## PAPER or COMPUTER

Computer logging programs are widely available. There are many choices freeware or commercial in PC or MAC format. Also for your cellfone..

Computer logging programs are configurable and can keep track of a wide range of your logged information. Many include tools to control modern software controllable radios, antenna rotors and other station functions and devices.

Computer logging programs will automatically log the date, time and when used with rig control track frequency/band, mode. No need to keep calendars and clocks..

When linked online you can connect to the worldwide spotting networks. Your logging program will alert when a new DX is needed. It will also alert you to new band/mode.. With a click it will insert the needed call into your program.. And provide detailed information for that call, like beam heading, distance, sunrise/sunset.

## ADVANTAGE of COMPUTER LOGGING

Computer logging programs will log the date, time and when used with rig control track frequency/band, mode. No need to keep calendars and clocks

Ease of tracking QSLs sent and received; easy lookup

Callsign lookup from CD or online like QRZ, HAMCALL, HAMQTH and other available services.

Easy Tracking of awards; WAS, VUCC, DXCC, WAZ, IOTA, Parks on the Air, US Counties and host of other awards available.

**Export/Import to LoTW, Clublog, eQSL. and QRZ** 

## POPULAR LOGGING PROGRAMS

- Amateur Radio Contact Log by N3FJP Easy to use, well written contact logging program.
- DXLab by AA6YQ Integrated suite of programs for logging and station management
- Log4OM by IW3HMH Complete Logging program
- Logger32 by K4CY- a 32bit logging program
- DX4Win Comprehensive logging software for Windows
- Ham Radio Deluxe Integrated suite of programs for logging and station management
- Listing of the many programs along with details, links and reviews; https://www.eham.net/reviews/ see Ham Logging Software

#### LOGGER SETUP

- Every Logger Program needs to be setup with your personal information.
- NAME along with City and State
- CALLSIGN
- LOCATORS: \*TIME ZONE, LAT/LONG, GRID SQUARE, CQ AND ITU ZONE.
   This info can be found on sites like QRZ or HAMCALL...
  - \* FOR RIG CONTROL: RADIO ID, RADIO BAUD RATE, COMPUTER COMPORT.
  - \*Radio info will be in the manual.
  - ComPort info will be displayed in your computer's device manager.
- Each program will also have a list of preferences..
  Bands, modes to name a few..

## WHAT YOU SEE

Logger Window

Stations Needed >

DX Spots >



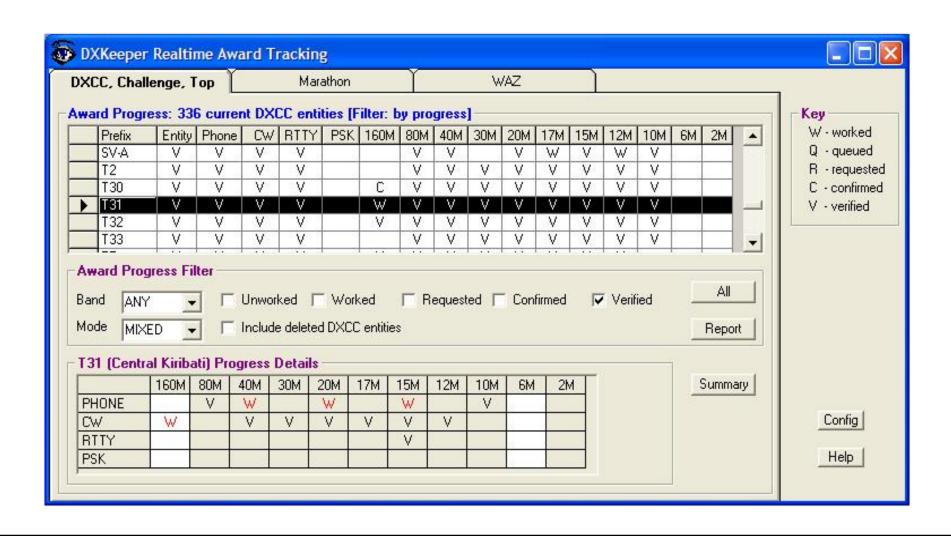
All Windows are configured by user

Station Worked Before Talk Messages CW Keyer Digital Keyer – various modes

country

< Grayline Map

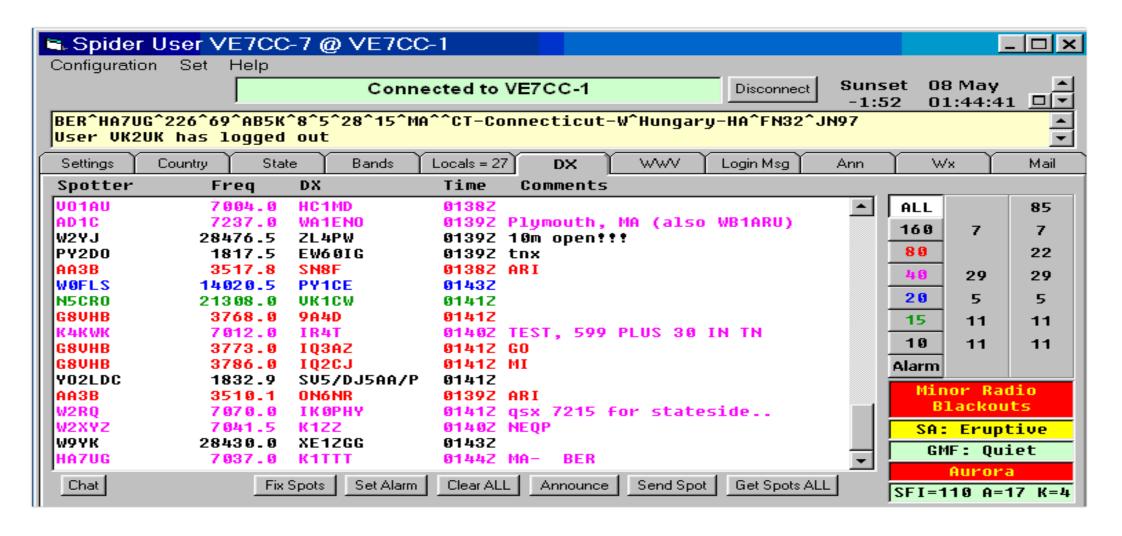
## IMAGE of AWARDS TRACKING



## TYPICAL LOGGER WINDOW

call ?	P5DX		DXCC	?	P5		¥
RST sent/rovd	599	500	mode	?	cw		¥
name			tx freq	?	14.005		
QTH			rx freq		14.006		
prisub 7		~	sec sub	?			¥
QSL requested [	via 📗		cont		AS ▼		
use bureau 🛭 🧵	grid 1		CQ ITU		25	44	
LotW member	IOTA		az path			S	¥
eQSLAG ┌	pwr 1	500	myQTH ID				¥

## DX Spotting Network



## DX Spotting Network Window

/ Aut	to Connect DX	de N5CR:		N5E		TNX FM WA		1735Z	(275	5/275)
	0.0-11.0:		Clu	uster	Spots					ve7cc.net
	Q Call Sign	1							Conn	ected
	UTC ~	Call	Frequency	Band	Mode	Name	DX de	Country		Tune
	Fri 17:35:09	TN5E	18.06980	17M	CW	Kenneth	N5CR	Republic of th	Auto Lookup  Commands  Spot	
	Fri 17:35:07	7S9AT	28.46690	10M	USB	Kristoffer	SQ8N	Sweden		
	Fri 17:35:00	MOWHC	50.12500	6M	USB	Bill	SV9IOQ	England	✓ 160M	✓ 15M
÷.	Fri 17:34:55	PD1BHZ	28.07600	10M	RTTY	Richard	OH3EQY	Netherlands	✓ 80M	✓ 12M
4	Fri 17:34:54	WOPHX	14.34200	20M	USB	George A	W6RLV	United States	✓ 60M	✓ 10M
-	Fri 17:34:43	YU180SB	50.17200	6M	USB		IZ3KVD	Serbia	<ul><li>✓ 40M</li><li>✓ 30M</li></ul>	<ul><li>✓ 6M</li><li>✓ 4M</li></ul>
	Fri 17:34:41	S59SV	28.53000	10M	USB	Vinko	IZ7DJS	Slovenia	✓ 20M	✓ 2M
	Fri 17:34:26	9H1XT	50.09000	6M	CW	John	OF8UV	Malta	✓ 17M	70cm
2.00	Fri 17:34:24	R112MS	21.22200	15M	USB	Special Callsign	UA6NT	European Ru	<ul><li>Phone</li><li>Data</li></ul>	✓ CW Local
*	Fri 17:34:24	9H2017EU	14.08000	20M	RTTY	Maltese Presidency	9H1LC	Malta	Data	Local

## QUICK LIST OF COMMON FEATURES

- EASE OF RECORD KEEPING
   QSL SENT/RECEIVED
   SEARCH BY CALL, DATE, BAND, MODE
   \*Great tool when you receive that envelope from the QSL buro...
- AWARD TRACKING DXCC, WAS, VUCC, WAC, IOTA, PARKS AND MANY MORE
- IMPORT/EXPORT TO LoTW, QRZ, Eqsl, CLUBLOG, etc.
- Import contacts from WSJT, FT8, FT4, JT65 etc
- PRINTING QSL LABELS AND OR CARDS

## CONCLUSION

There are "daily " logging programs and "contest" loggers.
They are somewhat interchangeable. Meaning you could use the daily logger in a contest and the contest logger for daily logging...

#### **BUT**

During a contest the daily logger will not keep score, show dupes and create the proper reports for submission to contest sponsor.

The contest logger will not track QSLs and Awards.

My advice is to use them as intended. After a contest I import the contest log into my daily logger.. All of the computer loggers can import or export using the ADIF file format. (Amateur Data Interchange Format)

#### **ALWAYS REMENBER to BACKUP YOUR LOG**

## Q&A de Tom KA2D

Hope you enjoyed this presentation.

It was intended to give an overview of computer logging and its advantages. Like many of the windows type programs there are features that are basic.

So... check out the program which fits your needs.

Confused... ask a club member for a demo...

QUESTIONS??

# 73

# Tom KA2D

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