

LoTW Report—July 2018

Ad Hoc Logbook Study Committee

Logbook availability exceeds our 99% uptime goal. We switched to a different, off-site monitoring service, and it continues to show the same high availability to users. The reporting is from the free service UptimeRobot. You can find the realtime report at: <https://status.lotw.arrl.org/>

LoTW Support for WAZ

After extended beta testing, LoTW support for CQ ϕ Worked All Zones went live on April 2, 2018. We achieved 275 applications in the first week of launch. There were 248 applications in March, and this has now settled down to 30-50 new applications each week. Due to the extended beta, very few problems were experienced during launch. The most difficult continue to be quirky differences between rules of DXCC and WAZ, but they are infrequent.

TQSL

The next release of TQSL will be a point release: 2.4.1. The main update will be to add additional local translations. Much work has been done to give users good hints on their grid squares, as needed for the International Grid Chase. We continue to improve the certificate request process so that users are coached to avoid mistakes which would de-rail their requests.

LoTW & Awards vision

As already mentioned, LoTW now supports the use of LoTW credits to obtain WAZ awards. WAZ was the first of our target awards to be added in 2018. Another capability we will add is the ability to apply for the 5B DXCC award from within Logbook. Currently, though Logbook credits may be used, the application is not available within Logbook. We continue to try to define award support configurations that return some per-confirmation fee on Logbook, at the same time that it is easy for other award sponsors to use to confirm an award.

“Logbook 2.0”

The project to update the DXCC database is coming closer to being finished. At that point, some programming resources will switch over to creating a new, more friendly design for the LoTW web site, which we refer to as %Logbook 2.0+

Move to groups.io

Recently, our Yahoo! group ARRL-LOTW has been unusually quiet. Following the lead of other amateur groups, we have switched this group to groups.io. The announcement of this on Facebook and Twitter produced a surge in membership, confirming that the move from Yahoo! will help us support more users.

Besides the above, the team has been working to %close the loop+on user activities, so users are informed about the success of their operations (such as requesting a

new certificate). Not only does this improve user satisfaction, but it will result in fewer calls to the LoTW Help line.

Submitted by,
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for the Logbook Study Committee

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