

We will have a special guest at Septembers ETS of NJ meeting.

Mr. Peter Dougherty W2IRT is the vice president of the North Jersey DX Association and an ARRL appointed Card Checker for the region.

He will be on hand at the Sept 28th, 2012 meeting to check QSL cards for those pursuing DXCC, WAS, WAC or VUCC awards.

He will also have a short power point presentation on the incoming QSL bureau system as administered by the North Jersey DX Association.

Members are encouraged to attend, especially if you have cards that need to be checked or have questions.

I asked W2IRT about the idea of having cards check for future awards-

"As for checking cards for future awards, that's tricky. If someone already has the basic award (Worked All States, DXCC, VUCC, etc) and they want to work on *another* award, that's OK...many folks including yours truly have done exactly that. For example, if you have your DXCC on Mixed or SSB but you want to count a handful of QSLs for a 20m award or a CW award, etc, that's OK. On the other hand, if someone only has 50 countries in total, that can't be checked; he/she must have at least 100 for a first-ever application. Likewise, if someone has their basic Worked All States, but wants to build a CW-only WAS, that's OK. But if they only have 49 states confirmed I can't check those 49; they'd have to wait until all 50 confirmations are received.

If anybody *does* have cards to check, I'd greatly appreciate if they could have the paperwork done and cards sorted ahead of time. The ARRL is very specific about record order and will reject an application that's not filled out to their own satisfaction (it's not all that important to me, but it is to the ARRL). Award fees are also payable at the time of checking (payable to the ARRL, not to me); cash, cheque or credit card authorization."

If you have a specific question for Peter you would like to ask prior to the meeting, he can be reached at email address peter@w2irt.net