



ARRL 7th Area Incoming QSL Bureau

Within the US, the ARRL DX QSL Bureau System is made up of 15 call-area bureaus that act as central clearing houses for QSL cards arriving from foreign entities. Volunteers staff these "incoming" bureaus. The service is free and ARRL membership is not required. The 7th Area Bureau has been sponsored by the Willamette Valley DX Club and operated by its volunteers since 1965.

- Comments and questions for the 7th Area Bureau can be directed to: ***7thareaqslbureau@gmail.com***.
- Mailing address: **ARRL 7th Area QSL Bureau, P.O. Box 1288, Battle Ground, WA 98604-4687**
- Links to various Bureau pages can be found on the WVDXC web page: ***https://wvdx.org***

What exactly does the Incoming QSL Bureau do?

Volunteers sort all QSL cards arriving at the 7th Area Bureau from international DX bureaus into Letter Sections (by the first letter of callsign suffix). Each Letter Section is managed by a volunteer who then sorts the cards again by individual callsign and distributes them by mail to all those who have an active account with the Bureau.

What do I need to do to get my incoming DX cards from the QSL Bureau?

PLEASE do not send SASE's Self addressed stamped envelopes. We do not accept them. You need to open and fund an account to cover the cost of postage and envelopes with the 7th Area Bureau:

- Go to wvdx.org in your browser
- From the left sidebar in the *7th Area QSL Bureau* section, choose either
 - "Pay online for credits" to provide info and purchase credits . . . or
 - "Print mail-in order form" to open an account by mail with a check.
- Keep your account funded to cover envelopes and postage – the service is free.
- Notify the Bureau of any changes in your personal information (mailing address, your mailing preference, etc.).

Tips for using the Incoming QSL Bureau

- Send **only \$\$** to your bureau account; please do NOT send envelopes or stamps. Your bureau sorter will provide the correct envelopes and postage, as needed, using funds from your account.
- The 7th Area Bureau distributes cards only to those with a "7" callsign, regardless of your actual QTH. If you live in North Carolina and have a 7 callsign, this is your Bureau. If you have a 6 callsign, the 6th Area Bureau is your Bureau, even if you live in Arizona. KH6, KL7, KP4, KP2 and KH2 have their own bureaus.

Tips for using the Incoming QSL Bureau (Continued)

- If you have questions about your account, contact your Letter Section Manager. You'll find a list of all the volunteer section managers and their email addresses on the QSL Bureau website. Remember, your section is the first letter of your callsign suffix (AB7CDE's cards are handled by the "C" section).
- Be sure to let your Section Manager know if any of your personal information or preferences change – like you want to get mailings monthly instead of quarterly, your preferred email address changed, you upgraded and have a new callsign, you no longer want to receive cards, etc.

Additional facts about the Incoming QSL Bureau service

- Portable stations use their regular callsign for bureau activity (AB7CDE/2 still gets cards through the 7th Area Incoming Bureau).
- Incoming DX cards may take a long time to get through the system. It's not unusual for the Bureau to receive cards a year or more after the contact date.
- The sorters' biggest problem is unclaimed cards – thousands are received each year for ops who do not have a funded account with the Bureau. An attempt is made to contact the operator to let them know that cards have arrived and that they need to have funds on file in order to receive the cards. If the operator cannot be contacted or fails to respond, then the cards are tossed. Section managers do not like to toss cards. However, they cannot store cards that are not claimed. It is the operator's responsibility to maintain the funding of his account.
- If you do not want cards coming through the bureau, please contact your Section Manager so that he can dispose of the cards as they arrive. We prefer that you declare that you do not want to use the bureau, rather than the Section manager having to make the call.
- This is the INCOMING QSL Bureau – please do NOT send your Outgoing cards to the 7th Area Bureau. There is an ARRL Outgoing Bureau with a completely different procedure – See Below.

ARRL Outgoing QSL Service

The ARRL supports a service to its members to consolidate and ship outgoing QSL cards to international bureaus. It is all coordinated by ARRL staff in Connecticut and operates quite differently than the Incoming system. Please visit www.arrl.org/outgoing-qsl-service for complete details. Some of the key differences are:

- ARRL membership is required
- There is a cost per ounce plus a service fee for each package of outgoing cards
- There are specific rules for presorting cards by entity
- Not all countries are served by the Outgoing QSL Service

Please feel free to contact the 7th Area Incoming QSL Bureau if you have any questions about using the Bureau or opening an account to begin receiving DX QSL cards that are trying to find their way to you.

73 and Best DX,
Kevin Bier, K7VI
7th Area Incoming QSL Bureau Manager