*How do I?*

*An occasional series*

*This week:* POTA Post Event Activity Part 2
Create a Station Location in LOTW

**Note:  Part 1 and Part 2 go hand-in-hand.**
- **Part 1 is about how to create the ADIF file in your logging app.**
- **Part 2 describes creating a Station Location in your Logbook of the World profile.**

**In hindsight, most readers will want to create the station location before creating their  ADIF file.**

**Uploading the ADIF file to Log Book Of The World (LOTW)  does not simultaneously upload to the Parks On The Air  (POTA) website.**

**Uploading to the Parks On The Air site does not also upload to LOTW.**

**Most hunters will want you to do both.**

See [Parks on the Air | POTA | Parks program for amateur radio.](#)
for more information about POTA.

We have a guest co-author today!  I was following a thread on the N3FJP Software Users groups.io.  I was thinking it was a great idea for a *How Do I*, or maybe a club program, but the LOTW TQSL software is on my PC2 and I was on PC1 and didn't really feel like doing a bunch of sneaker network to get the screen shots I needed.  Whoa!  Is that the sound of trumpets?  No... can't be.  Oh wait!  That's the cavalry, maybe the ghosts of Ben Grierson's 10th coming to the rescue.  Yep.  Here is frequent contributor to the N3FJP groups.io- Mike KD5KC!

Mike also contributes to the winfldigi groups.io.  As someone wrote of Charles S Roberts, the founder of Avalon Hill games and modern board based wargaming and was the founder of Roberts House Publishing, a noted publisher of railroad history books, primarily about the Baltimore & Ohio and the Pennsylvania railroads "my two favorite people are the same person".

I will put Mike's signature here as a way of introduction:

Vy73 – Mike – KD5KC – WRFF851 – El Paso – Texas – DM61rt.
SOTA W5T-Texas Association Manager.
https://summits.sota.org.uk/association/W5T

The canyons are calling, colorful and deep.  But I have promises to keep.
And miles to go still in my Jeep...   And miles to go still in my Jeep...



ADVENTURE:  The respectful pursuit of trouble.
An EXIT is really an ENTRANCE to someplace new.
It isn't an ADVENTURE until something goes wrong!

Mike has done a lot of work on HELP files and FAQs for the N3FJP website.

I have never met Mike, but when I first saw his tag line a few years ago:
*It Isn't an ADENTURE until something goes wrong!* I knew if we ever met, we'd get along.  My dad has said for decades:  *An adventure is an outing gone wrong.*  His goal was not to have adventures.  Wish the exhaust system on our 1971 Ford Torino had known that!  It had a way of coming apart on the dustiest roads on the hottest summer days in the West Virginia and western Maryland state park systems.
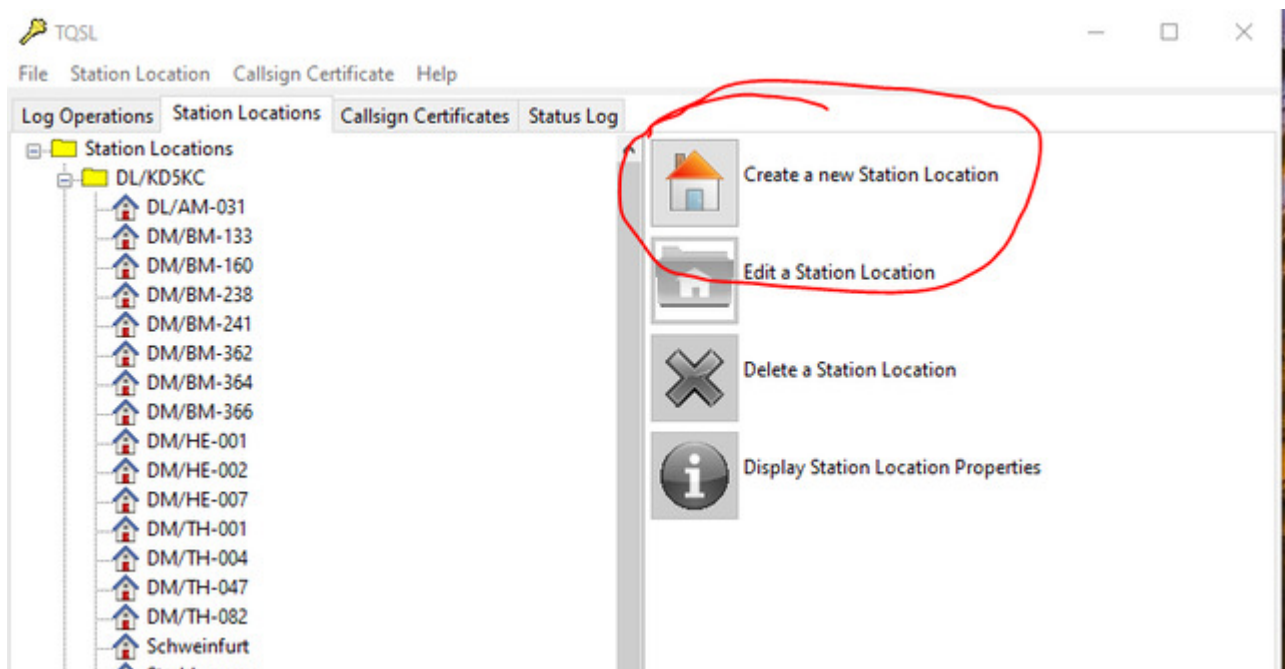
Hopefully you have been following the other articles on the N3FJP logging software, Log Book of the World (LOTW) and the joys of QSLing.  Know-How Resources and Downloads -- Cumberland Amateur Radio Club (radioclub-carc.com)

We are starting with a premise that you have successfully registered your station for LOTW and have been using the TQSL software with the N3FJP software for some time.  Today we are simply going to add a new station location to TQSL.

Mike:  I'll take it from here.

You need to go into TQSL and build a new LOCATION that has the same GRID as what is in your ADIF you are trying to upload.  It sounds way more confusing that it is.

Open the TQSL application on your PC.  Click on the STATION LOCATIONS TAB in the top menu bar.  Click on CREATE A NEW STATION LOCATION.

Click on the DROP-DOWN boxes for CALL SIGN and DXCC ENTITY. Select the proper ones. FILL-IN the proper GRID SQUARE for the location from which you operated. Click NEXT. (You will find the NEXT button in the bottom-right corner of your screen.)



Give this new Station Location a meaningful name – I like using SOTA SUMMIT designators or POTA PARK designators. For large parks I sometimes have two or three locations so I try to differentiate between them with additional data.

Click FINISH. (You will find the FINISH button in the bottom-right corner of your screen.)

When you upload the log from N3FJP's AC-LOG, be sure to select the proper location file by name in the drop-down box.

Frank at the keyboard: Thanks Mike! When it comes time upload, you have a couple options: If you kept the POTA log file separate, you can open that file in N3FJP. Then go to elogs LOTW.

and in the drop down box pick the station location.



You can then upload to LOTW.

If you prefer, as I do, to incorporate the log into your main N3FJP Amateur Contact Log File, you can go to FILES: export ADIF (remember reading How Do I…Part 1?) and export the ADIF file. Then open the main log and IMPORT the ADIF file. If you got in a hurry and did that before you uploaded to LOTW, simply select the contacts you need from the main form in N3FJP, and select the station location for the park you activated. Upload just those QSOs.

In the early days of amateur radio, "wall paper" was primarily Worked All Continents (WAC) and Worked All States (WAS). Then DXCC (worked 100 DX entities). Then came County Hunting. It was dying off by the time I entered the hobby, but it is something I pursue. I will never do what Jim, K4CGY has done: worked every county twice! That was about a 50 year endeavor.

Starting about 40 years ago, originally in VHF with satellite and microwave operators, collecting Maidenhead Grid Squares has become a passion for many. This spread into HF about 20 years ago as the FLDIGI and WSJT, later WSJT-X suites made sending and tracking grid squares easy. The primary grid square identifier is 4 characters. You may be familiar with these from the last block of a WSJT-X mode CQ, such as an FT8 "CQ KB3PQT FN10".

The actual grid square I upload to LOTW is FN10mg. The final two characters reduce the 2x1 degree grid to smaller units called subsquares. None of the grid locator apps with which I am familiar will produce an eight character identifier, such as FN10mg01. I have heard of, but never seen them used in amateur radio, 10 and more character squares.

(continued)

from :

Character pairs encode longitude first, and then latitude.

- The first pair (a field) encodes with base 18 and the letters "A" to "R".
- The second pair (square) encodes with base 10 and the digits "0" to "9".
- The third pair (subsquare) encodes with base 24 and the letters "a" to "x".
- The fourth pair (extended square) encodes with base 10 and the digits "0" to "9".
- The fifth and subsequent pairs are not formally defined, but recycling the third and fourth pair algorithms is one possible definition: BL11bh16oo66

On shortwave frequencies, positions are reported at square precision, and on VHF and UHF, subsquare precision is used.  More precise position reports are very rarely used.

Mike said about using different data for parts of larger parks.  For example the Buchanan State Forest in Pennsylvania has 5 tracts.  It sprawls over parts of 3 counties, perhaps 4.  So even though POTA calls the whole thing K5463, depending on where I was, I would create a station location for the portion in FN00, another for the part in FM09, and so on.  Even though I am in the same forest, I might be 40 miles between operating locations.  So my station name might be K5463  Sidling Hill with the park as NONE and the county as Fulton.  Then another for K5463  Sweet Root with the park as none and the county as Bedford.  Then a third for K5463 if I was down closer Cove Gap.

How do I know the grid square?  There are smart phone apps that use your phone's GPS location to calculate and display the grid square.  See *There is an App for that* elsewhere in the How Do I series of articles.

   https://www.radioclub-carc.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/app-for-that.pdf


Mike, thanks again for stopping by.  You have been a huge help!

Catch 'ya on the air!