

Nomination for SARL Amateur Radio Hall of Fame: Willem Weideman ZS6X

Brief Biography of Nominee

Willem Weideman was licensed as ZS6WWJ in October 2002.

Nominee's Contribution to Amateur Radio

Willem Weideman has been running the SARL QSL bureau for the last 13 years. Willem joined Henk ZS6ENK, Viv ZS6CAA, Ron ZS6BHH and Martin ZS6MSG (SK) after hearing them on air discussing the QSL bureau and the sorting of the QSL cards. Willem joined the QSL team on a Tuesday morning in 2003 and has been involved with the management of the QSL bureau ever since. In December 2004, Willem took over the QSL bureau and has been running it on his own, to date. On average 60 000 QSL cards get processed every year. Willem has handled nearly 800 000 cards while involved with the bureau, an average of 240 QSL cards per day. Willem has put in many hours to satisfy the needs of the local and DX community, who send and receive QSL cards.

Willem collects cards twice a week from the Post Office. The cards then get sorted into the different divisions. These cards are then bundled and are posted to the various divisions. The division one and two cards get posted to Johan ZS2I. The division three and four cards are posted to Dennis ZS4BS. The division six cards get sorted and then are hand posted to the relevant members. When Willem receives QSL cards from local DXers, they in turn have to be sorted into the various countries and their divisions. Once there are sufficient cards for a particular country, the cards are then bundled and are sent off to the corresponding QSL bureau. At times, Willem also hand-delivers QSL cards to members. You will find Willem at every West Rand club flea market handing out QSL cards to members.

By running the QSL bureau, Willem performs an essential service to the Amateur Radio community, making the hobby more rewarding. Without this service many operators would not have been able to achieve their DX awards, or it would have been a lot more difficult and costly. Willem also attends to all queries pertaining to the QSL bureau and QSL problems.

Willem is one of the pillars of the SARL and we should all applaud him for his continued effort, passion and dedication to the South African HAM community.

Nominee's Other Achievements

Willem received the Jack Twine Merit Award in 2012 and the Willy Wilson Gold Badge in 2015

Word Count

390

Details of Proposer

Noel Hammond, ZR6DX.

I am a member of the SARL in good standing since 2009.

Date submitted: 2016-02-14

Seconded by Graham Busse ZS6GL.

Editorial

Edited for style by ZS6EZ.