



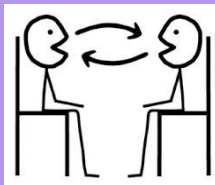
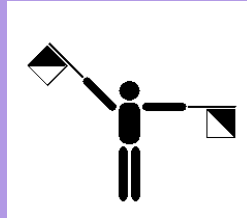
# *YL-Harmonics*

A Bi-monthly Publication of the Young Ladies' Radio League, Inc.

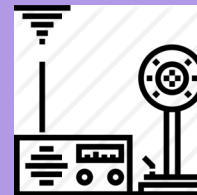
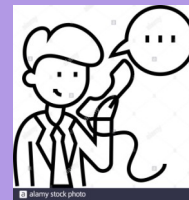


March/April 2021

\$2.75



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RENEW YOUR YLRL MEMBERSHIP BEFORE IT GOES DELINQUENT ON MARCH 31. CONTACT US/VE OR DX RECEIVING TREASURER.

For *YL-Harmonics CONTENT* or Editorial changes or corrections Please contact:  
AE7MB, Margaret Hardwick at editor@yrlr.org

March/April 2021

YL Harmonics is published bi-monthly by and for the members of the Young Ladies' Radio League, Inc. YLRL is a non-profit organization, granted under section (501)(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, comprised of women amateur radio operators, incorporated as such under the laws of the state of California.

Dues are **\$15.00** (US dollars) a year due and payable January 1 and delinquent February 1st. For new and reinstating (lapsed more than 2 years) members joining after June 30th, dues are pro-rated by half the annual dues for that fiscal year.

An additional **\$4.00** is required for Canada and Mexico **airmail**.

Dues for a licensed YL family member (residing at the same address) are **\$3.00**. Subscriptions for non-members are \$15.00 per year and may not be pro-rated for portions of years.

For US and Canada **ADDRESS CHANGES** please contact the Receiving Treasurer, **Vicky Luetzelschwab, AE9YL**, 1227 Pion Road, Ft. Wayne, IN 46845  
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For DX **ADDRESS CHANGES** please contact the **DX Treasurer, Anne Dirkman, KC9YL**, **dxtreas@yrlr.org**

**Please note that as with all subscriptions, it may take one or two issues for corrections to go into effect. Subscriptions start 6-8 weeks after being received by the Receiving Treasurer. Please double check your label information for corrections.**



## President's Message de Barbara Yasson, AC7UH

13208 NE 5th Ave.  
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president@ylrl.org  
(360) 574-1152

With email delivery of YL Harmonics, a new Supplies Chair, the cancellation of the 2020 membership directory publication in the September/October 2020 YL Harmonics, and the development and implementation of the Membership Privacy Policy, you would be entitled to wonder if YLRL is doing anything the way we formerly did. And the answer is YES.

1. YL Harmonics is still published 6 times each year, and in 2020 we actually had 6 issues with news from our members and information about what has been happening. What changed was that we decided to send it to you via email rather than USPS and the other postal services.
  - a. I've heard positive things about email YL Harmonics. The pictures are great and color adds a new dimension to the news. Margaret, AE7MB, works hard to put all of your news together in a first-class publication, and she does a good job of it.
2. The cancelled membership directory from the Sept/Oct 2020 issue is now under discussion by the Directory Committee. They are working through the questions and answers about how much personal information to publish in a directory. The Committee's deliberations will continue for another month or so, but we should have a decision in time to do a membership directory if they decide to do one.
3. We have not changed our membership processes, but we have created a document that identifies what we are doing that lets you know that we are working to keep your personal information safe. The Membership Privacy Policy contains information about our membership procedures—the ones we have used for years.
  - a. What has changed is that we ask you to fill out the membership form and check the box in the middle of the form that indicates you consent to the Privacy Policy
  - b. As of the middle of February we had around 350 new and renewed members for 2021
  - c. Of that total, 81% of US members, 50% of Canadian members, and 48% of DX members had consented to the Privacy Policy. The sooner we get to 100% consent of the policy the better off we all will be, as we will know the membership is aware of our privacy policy and has agreed to it.
4. Again, our membership processes have not changed. That means that the March 31 cut off for those members who have not renewed and whose dues are delinquent will happen as usual. If you have not renewed for 2021, please do. Since this issue will go out just before the end of March, you will have until approximately the first of May to renew in order to receive the May-June issue of YL Harmonics. Timing of the next YL Harmonics is in your favor; if you have not renewed, now is the time. Just do it!
5. Check out the YLRL.org website for the supplies that Barb Bender, KA3VXR, shipped to Leah Ohse, W3LEO. While we have a new Supplies Chair, some of the old faves are still there. Leah is working on ideas for additional supplies, and I'm looking forward to seeing what she comes up with.

(Continued on Page 5)



## **Vice President's Message de Rita McConnell, NE0DB**

131 N. Blythe Dr.  
Pueblo West, CO 81007  
vicepresident@yrlr.org

The YL/OM contest is a wrap for 2021. There was a slight increase in participation from 2020. Three logs consisting of less than the required ten valid contacts were submitted from OMs operating in Spain, Kansas and Minnesota. Five YLs operating in Scotland, Austria and the USA submitted logs for SSB and CW. As of this writing, there are still a few days left for the submittal of logs before winners can be announced; however, I'm placing my bet for win, place and show on the USA ladies this year in both phone and CW.

Of the 71 ARRL sections, contacts were made with 65 sections plus 22 countries with a few exotic ports of call. Approximately 700 OMs were worked; new friends were made and a good time was had by all. Overheard from the grapevine is that there is a YL needing only one more state of earning one of the prestigious working certificates: WAS – Worked all States. Without indulging any call sign information, if you know of a YL living in the state of Montana, please email me at vicepresident@yrlr.org, and I can relay the information.

Until next time, enjoy all that Springtime has to offer.

33 NE0DB

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(Continued from Page 4)

The year is still young, and our membership drive continues. Please renew if you have not already, remember to update your information on the membership form, and check the box to consent to the Membership Privacy Policy. This is the same YLRL we have always been, but we have begun to update some of our procedures to accommodate 21<sup>st</sup> technologies; let's not let who we are get lost in the technological issues.

33 de

Barbara AC7UH

### **President's Advisory Committee**

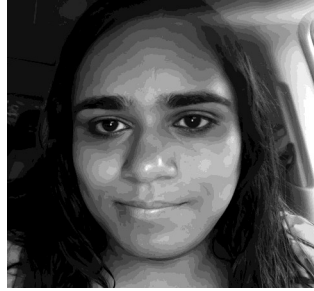
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### **Vice President's Advisory Committee**

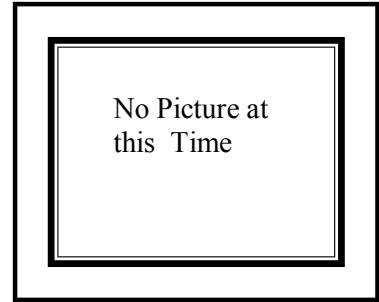
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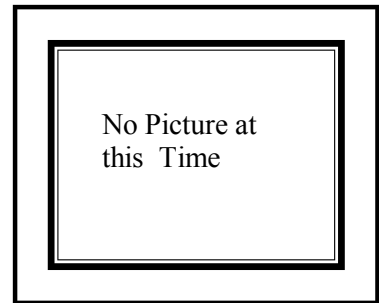
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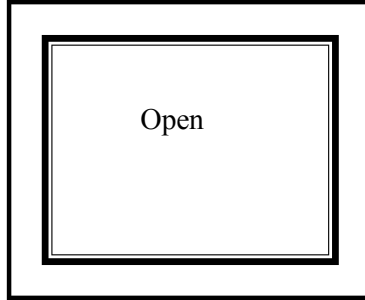
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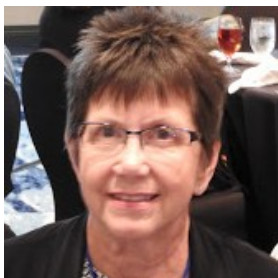
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**Youth Chairwoman  
Audrey McElroy, KM4BUN**



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## **New YLRL Members de Anne Manna, WB1ARU**

614 Webster St.  
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wb1aru@gmail.com  
(781) 878-9235

### **DISTRICT 1**

**Clare O'Lena KB1TMC**  
Waterbury, CT  
Clare holds a General license.

### **DISTRICT 2**

**Judith Exler KD2UZC**  
Astoria, NY  
Judith holds a Technician license.

### **DISTRICT 3**

**Caterina Dell N3YZC**  
Mount Vernon, PA  
Caterina holds a Technician license.

**Rosalee Britton KC3RJY**  
Halethorpe, MD  
Rosalee holds a Technician license.

### **DISTRICT 4**

**Ann M. Carney**  
Pickens, SC  
Ann is a Subscriber, studying for her license.

**Reina Reyes Oquendo WP4RCG**  
Viques, Puerto Rico  
Rena holds a General license.

**Amy Zwirko KZ1AMY**  
**Anna Zwirko K1AEZ**  
Warrenton, VA  
Amy and Anna each hold Technician licenses.

If any information is incorrect in this listing,  
please let Anne, WB1ARU know.

### **DISTRICT 5**

**Peggy Low K5PFL**  
Tyler, TX  
Peggy holds a General license

### **DISTRICT 8**

**Kathy Hogan KE8MAH**  
Lakewood, OH  
Kathy holds a General license.

### **DISTRICT 9**

**Destiny Vargas KD9NZF**  
Monticello, IN  
Destiny holds a Technician license.

**Virginia Flanagan KD9IFV**  
Clintonville, WI  
Virginia holds an Extra license.

**Britain O'Connor KD9PEZ**  
Sturgeon Bay, WI  
Britain holds an Extra license.

Use QRZ to learn more about our new  
members!

Welcome to these new members! We look  
forward to meeting you on the air soon!





**Scholarship Information  
de Linda Hynan, AC5QQ  
Scholarships\_1@yrlr.org**

**Scholarship Information  
Memorial Scholarships  
Ethel Smith, K4LMB  
Mary Lou Brown, NM7N  
Martha (Marte) Wessel, KOEPE**

The following donations were received:

In Memory of:

Claudia Doyle, KL0HI  
Deceased members of WRONE

From:

Robin Resnick, JK7BI, and partner  
Henrietta Horvay, KA1JVN,  
WRONE President

Donations

Hiromi Hishiki, JJ1CAS  
Marsha Fleming, N8FE

Thank you for your generous gifts!

Contributions to this fund support three annual YL Scholarships in the pursuit of higher education. The Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR) administers the amateur radio-related scholarships including those sponsored by YLRL. Applications are submitted to FAR in April of each year and the scholarship winners are selected in June/ July and announced in the November/December *YL Harmonics*. Information about FAR can be found at the following web site: <http://www.farweb.org>

To make a donation

Make your check payable to:

**YLRL Scholarship Fund**

Send your donation to:

Linda Hynan, AC5QQ  
1312 Western Ridge Dr.  
Waco, TX 76712-8709  
(254) 666-4873  
[LSHynan@hot.rr.com](mailto:LSHynan@hot.rr.com)

# District News

## District 1

From Anne Manna, WB1ARU:

I took part in the YL-OM Contest on Valentine's weekend. I had a great time and made over 300 contacts with OMs. That included contacts with several countries, mainly in the Caribbean, including Cuba, St. Barts, Venezuela, and others. I made a contact in Portugal as well. I spent my time on 20m and 40m using a wire antenna, because of a bad relay that controls the choice of beam antennas. I neglected to set up a logging program ahead of time - oops - so I hand logged, then duped, and prepared a cover sheet the old-fashioned way! I found a program that would create a Cabrillo entry, but it was unbelievably cumbersome, so I gave it up for my own worksheet.

From Clare O'Lena, KB1TMC:

Not too much news here. Though my OM, N1YLN and I have been playing around with FT8. We call it "Pokémon Go" for hams! ☐

33,

Clare O'Lena KB1TMC

From Linda Robinson, W1MP:

(written January 2021)

I finally got on the radio last night, Jan 19, for our local ARES net check in and then this morning, Jan 20, for Yankee Lassies net. It was so good to hear names and call signs that I hadn't heard for a very long time. The signal report was super and I was able to hear everyone that had checked in. I think it's been years since I was on with such good transmission and receive. A few kinks to work out because the radio is fairly new to the shack and I'm not as comfortable with it yet as I was with our old Kenwood. Anyway, I attribute the good signals to the super antenna repair from last summer. It's more conducive to checking into the net when it's a little less of a struggle to hear everyone.

Take care, Linda, W1MP

From Kathy Savage, KB1LPW:

Greetings,

Not much ham radio wise, but my husband Rick, KB1LYJ, and myself have been helping out at several Covid vaccination clinics in our area, some thru our town, others through the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC). Myself as a vaccinator and Rick doing admin work. So great to be able to help out to control the pandemic.

(see photos)

Kathy,  
KB1LPW  
73's



From Barbara Irby, KC1KGS:

It seems to have been a LONG winter....antennas seem to be holding up, however. And somehow spring is in the air!

Hope everyone is thriving, not just surviving...

Just routine radio activity for me over the last few months.

Online VE sessions every week or so, depending on work schedule

Participating in about 4-5 nets a week, including Yankee Lassies on Wednesday morning-thanks, YLs!

Weekly ham club zoom meetings

I am signing up for LOTW and am learning about RTTY. I participated in the QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo-lots to dive into!

Two hams from our town presented a Zoom talk on amateur radio in February for a local library-they asked for photos from local hams in action. My OM Jim, WB4EJR, and I shared a photo for the talk. (see photo)

Looking forward to meeting up in-person with our radio club and YLs and others-when COVID restrictions are eased.



## District 4

News from Ann, WA1S:

My husband Bob, WA1F, and I just retired and are living in our retirement home in Florida. There is a Citrus County YL net every Tuesday at 10am on 146.955 repeater. Getting to know a few of the Hams in the local area. We are on 2.65 acres and just finished pouring the concrete pad for our 50 foot Auma T-50HN telescoping tower. We are planning to put up a TH3 tribander and 3 element Cushcraft 6 meter beam on the tower. We will also put up several wire antennas. Planting several fruit trees, enjoying being out on the boat and our classic cars. We are planning to volunteer in the community and join the Citrus County Emergency Response Team.

News from Betty, KO4GKT

When I was practicing nursing before retiring in 2019 I had little time to pursue any longed for hobbies. After retirement in December I thought I finally had all the time to play, see friends and enjoy leisure travel time with my husband. It all came to a halt in March of 2020. Like everyone else I was stunned by the confinement it brought and I decided to take it upon myself to obtain an Amateur Radio License which I had wanted to do for years. I bought Gordon West's [Handbook for Technician Class](#) and later his [General Class](#) book. I used these books in conjunction with the many helpful online apps for Amateur radio -HAM RADIO PREP (first Technician and later General), HRE (first Technician, later

General) and HAM TEST ON LINE for \$25 that was recommended by my radio club in Venice FL. YouTube was also a great help as I could better understand subjects that often seemed confusing to me.

I studied for 2-3 hours every morning, my best time but refrained from weekends which I spent with my family.

I would study for 1 hour at a time, take a break, eat something and dive back in. I did find that I was hungry all the time and rationalized that my brain needed extra energy! I tried to eat healthy snacks, cheese, fruit, nuts and pretzels, (ok occasional chocolate).

If I could not totally grasp a concept I simply memorized the answers from the study apps figuring I would internalize it later after I passed my exam.

My first thought was to just obtain my Technician license but as soon as I had gotten the license I realized that wasn't going to do it for me and went right back to studying since I was already in "study mode".

At this point having my General, I read all the magazines I can, On The Air, Amateur Radio CQ and ARRL QST. I belong to 2 local clubs, have an Elmer and continue to watch YouTube videos. YLRL has been amazing as I really enjoy the wealth of information from YLs world wide! I join as many nets as I can using EchoLink and am in the process of buying a radio. It has radically changed my life for the better and at some point I will continue on for my Extra.

Hope this all helps to inspire anyone looking to continuing their Ham journey, it's been a wonderful progression for me!

73, Betty, KO4GKT

News from Dot, AC4HH:

I registered to watch several presentations as part of the ARRL QSO Today Virtual Ham Radio Expo on March 13 and 14, 2021, but I was disappointed that I was unable to watch due to some technical problems. Therefore, I will list some of our local nets again.

1. TAG YL Net each Monday night at 8:00 pm, Eastern time. This is for YLs only, but OMs are welcome to listen—but not check in. You are invited to join on any of the following: WAGTA 145.350 Repeater – minus offset and 100.0 hz tone required; N4LMC 224.500 Repeater – minus offset and a 246.2 hz tone required; N4LMC 144.920 repeater – no offset and 146.2 hz tone required; EchoLink – Conference Server \*SELINK\*; Allstar – N4LMC Node 46145; and Allstar – N4LMC Node 46530.
2. Multi-Mode Digital Net each Wednesday night at 7:30 pm Eastern time. This is a digital only net. Join using D-Star (X-Reflector and D-Plus), DMR (Brandmeister and TGIR) and C4FM Fusion (Wires-X, YFS, FSC).
3. Chattanooga Sunday Night Net (not associated with any club), Sunday night 8:00 pm – 9:30 pm Eastern time on the K4VCM 146.790 repeater, no tone required. This is a Fusion repeater and does transmit 107.2 TSQL. This net is an open net. All properly licensed hams are welcome and encouraged to join in.

ARRL Nets:

1. ARRL Weekly News Podcast is carried each week on N4LMC 144.920, 442.650 and 224.500 repeater systems on Sunday evenings beginning at 7:30 pm Eastern time
2. Amateur Radio News is carried each week on Thursday at 7:30 pm – 8:00 pm Eastern time on the W4EDP 144.920, 442.650 @224.560 repeater systems. The news is split into 2.5 minute segments with a 20 second break between each segment.

## District 5

What an event filled few months for District 5. I think most of the YLs are still recovering.

We had one of the worst Winters in a long time and one of the worst power outages the state of Texas has seen. Some the YLs were without power for a week, while temperatures dipped to -11 degrees. This caused lots of busted pipes and damage to homes.

Tornado season just started and it started with a bang this year! Texas had 11 yesterday March 14th, 2021) and the season has just begun.

It's Spring break and with having been cooped up for the last year, due to COVID 19, I think everyone is ready to get out!!

The folks from the ARRL North Texas Section want to invite us to MentorFest. Some of our great Texas YLs will be presenting!

When: April 24th, 2021

Time 9:00am-4:00pm CST

Fee: Free

The Garland Hella Hams and the ARRL North Texas Section would like to invite all current and prospective Hams to attend Mentorfest! This event is a great way for Hams, especially those recently licensed, to meet and learn about a variety of subjects. Amateur radio operators have a great tradition of helping each other learn about and gain experience in the many facets of the hobby. Mentorfest is designed to build on this tradition by providing a place for Hams of all ages and experience levels to come together, exchange knowledge and make new friends while having fun and enjoying the great hobby of Amateur Radio

For more information on the presentation schedule check out the website

<https://arrlntx.org/WP/event/mentorfest-2021/>

Michelle W5MQC

MSGT. Susan Meckley, US Army (Ret.) W7KFI . AFZ4SM, 7Q7M reports, that the armed forces retirement home has been in total lockdown for one year. We could not get out to go portable or even to do field day. However March 13th we are open again, so we can do portable operation. And the Hurricane Zeta destroyed our antenna. We now have another antenna at 146 feet up. HURRAY!!  
de W7KFi ( also 7Q7M)

If you don't change direction you WILL arrive exactly where you're headed!!

33 Michelle W5MQC

## Williamson County ARES assists during Winter Storm Uri

Winter Storm Uri, which hit Texans hard this past February, put many in emergency situations that were “unprecedented” throughout the state and nation.

The Williamson County Amateur Radio Emergency Services (WC-ARES) team in the central Texas area was called upon during this time to provide support and communication through amateur radio to the Williamson County Office of Emergency Management and Williamson County Sheriff’s Departments.

A Skywarn net was called by request of our served agencies starting on February 13 and was in operation for 138 continuous hours. WC-ARES net control operators took reports of road and traffic conditions, power and water outages, downed power lines, supported 911 dispatch, assisted radio hams with instruction and information, provided public statement announcements, and supported the Red Cross. There were 35 Net Control Operators, backup net control operators, loggers, and supervisors operating during the event. Many operators and listeners had no power or water, and some no cell or land line service for multiple days. Operators relied on back up battery power, some relying on solar power to recharge, with the net being their primary means of communication and source of information.

WC-ARES was key in assisting some individuals by relaying calls for assistance to emergency responders, assisted in finding shelter and potentially saving the lives of those with medical conditions that were threatened by the loss of power and water.

Myself, KI5AHF, and two other YLs Marida, KD5BJ, and GayLynn, KF5PWN, served on the team assisting with the net. I served as Net Control Operator during several shifts, relying on battery power as I was without power for 80+ hours. Marida and GayLynn serve as officers for the WC-ARES team and worked tirelessly throughout the day and night to assist in organizing, logging, performing net control duties, and supporting other hams who stepped up to help.

ARES is a valuable public service to community. For more info on ARES or to find a group in your area, you can visit [arrl.org/ares](http://arrl.org/ares) on how to get involved.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Elam

KI5AHF

## District 7

From Barbara, AC7UH: Greetings from the Pacific Northwest where we did have the winter snow storm in February with about a foot of snow. While I understand that is not much snow compared to other areas, this area is not as prepared as others are to deal with the inconvenience; we got through it and spring is in the air. It has been busy lately because my OM Phil and I have volunteered to help with the Vaccine Clinic at the hospital that is about a mile from our place. I have a 4-hour shift once a week, and sometimes it extends to 8 hours. My OM always does an 8-hour shift. It is particularly fun as everyone there is so positive about receiving the vaccine, and the nurses giving the shots are great to work with. We’ve already signed up for April shifts, and will probably continue through the summer and maybe into Fall.

The Technician class that Margaret, AE7MB, and I teach started last week. Again, we have gone online via Zoom, which has brought in students from the Midwest, Southwest, and California. Thanks to Michelle, W5MQC, for her publicity, several gals from Texas have joined the class. It is always fun to meet the students and to see them start to comprehend the material. The class has 5 sessions over 2 weeks; the 6<sup>th</sup> session was a review and included the license exam prior to the pandemic. Currently the license exam, which is given locally is the last day of the class with little opportunity to review. This time I hope to hear from some of the out of area students as they explore their local exams and online VE sessions. Some of the hams in our area did take advantage of the online VE sessions with positive results.

From Barbara, KI7BR: My grandmother (99-years-young) and I have been nesting into our new home in Independence, Oregon, now mostly unpacked and pictures mostly now hung up. (Reminder to self: *never, ever move again. Just. don't.*) The combination ham shack/home office/crafts station is working out well. It's nice to have a dedicated area for these activities now, and I play on the radio more as a result. As challenging as it has been to stay home and refrain from any group activities, it helps to do so in this new space. To shake things up, my grandmother and I go for day trips: Oregon coast, covered bridges south of Salem, checking out towns we haven't seen for a while, etc. We've also acquired a new housemate: we adopted seven-year-old Mitzy, a Maine Coon cat, from our local shelter! Grandma took a picture of Mitzy and me, hard at work-from-home, which I've attached. I hope everyone is staying safe, sane, and healthy, and that we all get to see our friends and family members safely in person SOON! 33 and 73 from KI7BR



From Robin, KJ7BI: Snow, snow and more snow continues to pile up - people are downhill and cross country skiing, snowshoeing and sledding past our house! By the time this edition of "Harmonics" reaches you, the beautiful, clean, dry snow and ice will be but a memory...; I just checked the bands and at 10:20UTC, on Saturday, February 13th and they're all coming in loud and clear; I couldn't find a single YL, though. :(

## District 8

Ai, AI8AI wrote: CW is going well, but at times, very frustrating. I participated in the ARRL DX CW contest, and with the help of a local ham, I was able to make 11 contacts. The ICR is coming slowly, and the more I spend on the air, the better it gets. In the past month, I logged all my hours, and now see a difference when I go to class. They are getting too sloooooowwww. I have the Begali Blade straight key (which is like driving a Ferrari compared to the cheaper keys), but will purchase a cheap paddle to try learning that.

As your DC8 YL chair, I hope to get back into CW when I finally get a tower and my station back up at my new QTH. However, Ai's comment made me wonder. For those of you who operate CW, do you use a straight key or iambic key and which brand? I personally like using a straight key as I have found I send much faster than I can copy when using an iambic key.

33/76 de kc4iyd/8, Nancy



## District 9

First welcome to our newest District 9 members: Destiny, KD9NFZ and Virginia, KD9IFV . I hope to hear you on the air someday.

I received some news from Donna WB9TFF :

The month of January 2021 ham radio activities have kicked into high power gear here in West Allis WI. My OM Gil WB9TFH, upgraded our ham shack with a lightly used Alpha 99 power amplifier from a fellow Society of Midwest Contesters member. A day trip to Indiana was the exchange site. It has increased our operating power on the ham bands from 200 watts to 1500 watts. We have a Yaesu FT 1000 transceiver hooked up to the Alpha 99 amp. We hope to get more dx on the bands. We are planning to participate in the Wisconsin QSO party March 11-12, 2021. We have lots of fun getting on the air with our Yaesu FT 747. I am a fan of CW and SSB during this event. We will be putting up a friends inverted V antenna in the woods at our friends' cabin in Waushara County, Wisconsin. CQ WIQP! I hope to hear you on the bands. 73 and good dx WB9TFF Donna

Dave and I enjoyed a nice surprise visit from a couple amateur friends from Detroit. They called to be sure we were home and drove 4 hours from Detroit to visit for the day. It was fun to see some old friends.

33, Linda, KC9PKY

Spring's a-coming. That's good news here in northeast Wisconsin. Honestly we've had a rather mild winter with no extreme storms, and fairly mild temps except for that nasty cold snap in February. A high of 50° is expected this weekend - I can't complain about that. I've been quite radioactive lately, after a bout with some unexpected surgery in January that took me out of commission for several weeks. I got the all-clear from the Doc yesterday so I can amp up my exercise program and get back to my kettlebells - which had been one of my 2021 New Year's resolutions! Oh well, life happens. I have added a resolution to participate regularly in the Wednesday CWTs - <https://cwops.org/cwops-tests/>. Fast pace, short exchange, only one hour - it's good practice to make my ears HEAR faster! CWOps members have to exchange their name and member number, non-members just exchange their first name/state. Easy peasy. I really enjoyed the recent ARRL DX CW contest, except for the few times that I busted my OWN call (um, sometimes twice!) but I kept with my 2020 NY resolution of sending all CW by hand (not using the presets on my radio). RTTY contests are also nice to give the voice a break, and I had a good showing in the NAQP event.

Have you wanted to increase your time on the air, but need the motivation? Have a friendly competition between friends. Join a club. Honestly, peer pressure is the best motivator for me. I joined the Long Island CW Club - <https://longislandcwclub.org/> - in June of last year, which really amped up my enthusiasm for CW, and also helped to take my mind off of the stress of the pandemic. I shopped around for a bit, but eventually settled on 3 classes: One head copy, and 2 intermediate classes. I had taken Levels I and II of the CWOps CW Academy a few years ago (classes are free), which gave me a good base, but LICW also offers beginner classes. I was member #680 in June, they now have over 1400 and offer 75 classes throughout the week.

CW Academy is very structured with scheduled class sessions and expectations to complete daily *homework*. LICW is more informal, but classes meet regularly and it's expected that you practice on your own. Practice isn't monitored, and you can add/drop sessions at will, with no attendance requirement. Weekends are full of special presentations and forums that are recorded and saved to the group's Drop-box. Groups.io keeps members informed throughout the week and we get to share each other's progress in our CW journey.

The two groups are complementary to each other. There are many LICW teacher and students who are currently active in **both** groups. LICW does have an advantage with NO waiting list, with classes running year round. There



is a membership fee, but once you join, all classes/seminars/forums are free. Howard, WB2UZE, one of the founders, has reported a 97% renewal rate. They are certainly doing SOMETHING right! And then there's my Society of Midwest Contesters club. There are some world-class operators in this group and my lowly station (and scores) will never compare to theirs, but weekly postings on the reflector of member's accomplishments gives me incentive to increase my BIC (butt in chair!) time, and at the very least, surpass my own personal best from previous contests. What's my next goal? Well, I'd like to get set up to send CW from my keyboard using N1MM+ but since I use a Signalink, it sounds like that's not going to happen. My current set-up works fine with N3FJP for RTTY and FT8, and I'm not one to experiment when I've got a good thing going. There are no major CW contests until May, so I've got time to think about it. I'll keep you posted!  
COVID Vaccine #2 in the arm yesterday - with no side effects. Here's hoping the tide is turning!  
Anne, KC9YL

## District 10

Greetings from District 10!

I am in Colorado, the very south west corner of the District, up against the Rocky Mountains. Spring-time for us, means the probability of heavy, wet snows (compared with the champagne power of winter which usually is measured in a few inches.) As I write this, we are dealing with a significant snow and wind storm, deep snow in the nearby mountain towns, and possibly two feet locally. We have spent the last week watching the forecast, planning, and preparing. The regional communication nets are active in support of emergency communications. The winds are blowing on the plains, making a spring blizzard. We know the states east of us will be getting some of this storm, too, mostly in the form of potential floods and severe weather. Take care, my friends.

This weekend, my OM and I are “attending” the QSO virtual Ham Expo. While I have been at a myriad of Zoom and Teams and Skype, it is my first conference. As anyone who has ever put together knows, there are always opportunities for technical difficulties. There are more with this, but the content quite good, and content will be available afterwards, which means that one can go to more than one presentation given at the same time. I am rather a “hands on” person (I remember my mother telling me when we were in a store, “Look with your eyes, not with your hands”). I still haven't figured out how to put my hands on virtual merchandise. Oh, well.

This is an especially difficult column to write, because I want to tell you that I believe it is time for me to step down from this post. I was sorting through some old notebooks, and found a draft of the first column I wrote. I was introducing myself in 2003 or 2004, taking over from Cheryl Muhr, N0WBV, while she became our president. Over the years she has done many things for our organization, not the least of which was *Harmonics* editor and publisher for many years, and taking back this position while I was president in 2012-13.

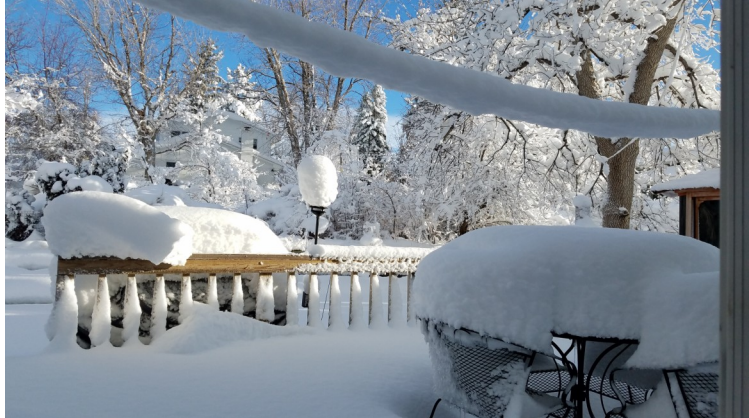
However, there comes a time when a new voice is needed. District 10 is huge, as are some of the other districts. That makes some of the things we would like to do—like visit other hamfest and conferences—very difficult. Contacts I used to have in other states are no longer there. I am out of the loop for what is happening. I would like someone to step up to this task. It might even be a team, to enable the coverage of all the areas.

I am happy, however, to be fully vaccinated, and to have hugged my 99 year old mother, my daughters and my no longer baby granddaughters. A year between 18 months and nearly 2 and 2 ½ and nearly 3 is a long, long time. I wish for you all the same.

33,

Doshia, KB0NAS

19 inches of snow this morning (March 15), a total of two and a half inches of water. I'm so glad it fell as mostly snow instead of rain, we have burn scars from last Summer which would have flooded badly. Now to dig out. Doshia, KB0NAS



## VE News

Ann, VE3HAI, writes that she, like everyone else in Toronto, is finding the lack of physical contact annoying. Covid fatigue has got us all firmly in it's grip. A week ago she woke up with a Eureka moment and set up an outdoor living room in her two car garage. Carpet on the floor and chairs 8 feet apart and draped with sheets that could be sprayed with Lysol and then washed after a visitor. She set up a coffee table with a flameless candle and flowers to make it more like home.

She has heavy duty wiring in the garage so is able to handle a small space heater and electric blankets for up to three (herself and two guests.)

This really is the answer. Her visitors bring their own coffee and take the cups back when they leave. Talk about being a lazy, cheap hostess.

Two sets of relatives have visited to test it out. Just to be sure they don't leave "anything" behind, she sprays with Lysol after they leave and waits 6 to 8 hours before putting the sheets in the laundry.

Ann would send a photo, but YLRL current paperwork for photos makes that more work than it is worth so she invites you to close your eyes and imagine it. It does work! Best of all, it makes her life more normal and that, as they say, is a good thing.

Ann closes with the hope that others will share their Covid survival tricks. This is not going away any time soon. 33 Ann VE3HAI

Merle, VE1VCI, phoned: It was so nice to hear her voice on the other end of the line... She reports all is well in Antigonish, Nova Scotia with her and her large family... She is almost 98 years old now and the proud Great-Grandmother to 28 Great-Grandchildren. 14 girls and 14 boys !!! She has made comforters for each and every one of them. There are 66 members in her family, now, counting all the in-laws and out-laws. Thankfully, each and everyone of them is keeping safe. Merle is being very careful, too, but does manage to get to town for essentials and to have her hair done. Expecting to get her first Covid vaccination sometime in the month of March... No longer on the air as her antennas have come down and she is not planning to have them erected again. If you are watching both the women's and men's Curling Tournament on TV you will find Merle in the audience. Covid 19 will not allow an audience of real people but her son submitted her photo. There she is sitting, enjoying the game in the audience and in the 2<sup>nd</sup> row !! Merle wants to pass on her very best wishes to everyone and hopes you are all keeping well and staying safe... 33 Merle, VE1VCI

## DX News

Marietjie, ZS6CEZ (South Africa)

Good Day

Abra and I are well and lucky I can say the rest of my family recover from the virus. I lost a niece on the 2<sup>nd</sup> January this year via the virus.

Our winter is crawling slowly in and think it will be a very cold one. We had plenty of rain and the Bushveld is looking beautiful and green.

I am sure you will enjoy spring.

73, 33 Marietjie and Abra Coetzee ZS6CEZ

Christine, GM4YMM (Scotland)

Hello, not much to report from the last 2 months.

Worked 79 OM's in the contest today

It's hard when the PACC contest is on the same time and you could hear the linears doing overtime.

Enclosed is my scrappy squares in the blue quilt, just finished, with our StepIR in the background melting snow.

Take care and stay safe.



Nori, 7K3EOP (Japan)

We had "Hina Contest " on March 3rd 2021. Hinamatsuri (Doll's Festival) is a special day to pray girls growth and happiness in Japan. It is celebrated each year on March 3. Most families with girls display dolls for the Doll's Festival called Hina-ningyo.

The dollies depict the imperial court. I participated in the 18th Hina Contest this year.

The condition was good, but I couldn't connect to overseas. I hope to connect with YLRL's members some other day.

7K3EOP/Noriko Tokura

Jasmine, G4KFP (England)

My husband and myself are both suffering Long Covid so life is interesting in so many silly ways. Appalling memory in my case although we both have aching muscles etc., and in my case my spelling is atrocious and I can even spell backwards or even put words together so I have to be really careful and make sure I spell check, hi. Our doctor assures me I do not have dementia it is all due to Long Covid. They have arranged for Billy to have a blood test and assistance from the Long Covid Team at the hospital so all is fun at this location. We are trying to get into the garden and go for short walks. We have had one jab so far. And I am busy with my genealogy (Ancestry.co.uk) when my brain feels up to it. So, interesting with locations in Australia, New Zealand and America.

Take care, Jasmine, G4KFP

## Critical YLRL Position Openings

YLRL is a volunteer organization. All of the District Chairwomen, Officers, and Committee Chairs and Members serve the Young Ladies Radio League voluntarily. As president, it is a pleasure to be among that group of distinguished YLs, and as president I am responsible for filling vacancies for positions when they come open. Currently there is one opening and an impending opening. Both of the openings must be filled sooner rather than later to keep the organization running smoothly.

While the Database Manager is an opening you may have seen mentioned before, I am ready to fill the opening, and am calling for anyone interested in filling the Database Manager position to contact me via email at: [ac7uh@arrl.net](mailto:ac7uh@arrl.net). In the past this position has helped to maintain the club's membership database. The current need is for the Database Manager to work with the YL Harmonics Editor and the Receiving Treasurers to verify that the YLs who are named in each issue of Harmonics have consented to the use of their name and call sign and any other personal information in each Harmonics issue. While I have a working hypothesis of how the work could flow, it is not set in stone, so there will be room for creativity in fulfilling our need to be sure that only up-to-date members appear in YL Harmonics. The Database Manager will most likely maintain the membership records that indicate that the member has consented to the privacy policy, but I have not worked with the Receiving Treasurers, who also maintain membership records, to work out those details. Sorry that the job description is lacking, but for a YL, who knows her way around her computer and computer files, and is interested in working with other active YLRL members, the Database Manager opening is a great opportunity. This is the ready-to-fill opening.

The other position opening will be ready to fill by the end of May. Val Lemko, VE5AQ, has been the YLRL.org Webmistress and Certificate Custodian for a good long time and has done an amazing job. Actually, there are two openings, the Webmistress and the Certificate Custodian. Val has given me notice of her intent to retire from both positions at the end of May due to health issues. We need to fill both the Webmistress and Certificate Chair positions by Val's retirement date.

- The YLRL.org website uses WordPress for content management and the user interface; it is the software Val uses to create and design the content of the website. Val indicated there are weekly updates to the website that do not take much time. Absent any major changes or additions to the website, the web work usually takes around 5 – 6 hours/week. Val works on the website with Yvonne, ZR6TBL, owner of Silver Wolf Enterprises, the organization that does the infrastructure work on the website. Val and Yvonne welcome working with the incoming webmistress to see she receives the information necessary to who do become the YLRL Webmistress. Contact Barbara via email at: [ac7uh@arrl.net](mailto:ac7uh@arrl.net) if you are interested in the Webmistress position or have questions about it.
- The Certificate Custodian maintains the records and issues the YLRL certificates, such as DX YL, WAZ-YL, WAS-YL, etc. Check out the list of certificates on the YLRL.org website to get an idea of the certificates the Certificate Custodian issues to those who qualify and apply for YLRL Certificates. The work load depends on how many applications there are for the annual Favorite certificate and the others. Val has the templates for the certificates in Photo Shop, and I would encourage anyone who has PhotoShop and enjoys working with it to contact me. If you are familiar with Photo Shop, but do not own it, feel free to contact me. Contact Barbara via email at: [ac7uh@arrl.net](mailto:ac7uh@arrl.net) if you are interested in the Certificate Custodian position.

Thanks for your interest in the YLRL and hope to hear from several interested YLs soon, so we can get these critical openings filled.

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WHEN YOU RENEW MEMBERSHIP  
REMEMBER TO CHECK THE BOX TO  
CONSENT TO THE PRIVACY POLICY

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Notes

## Rules for All YLRL Contests

1. Check to make certain you are sending logs to the CURRENT Vice-President.
  2. Logs must be postmarked no later than 30 days after each contest ends.
  3. Scoring:
  4. Phone and CW contests will be scored separately. Separate logs must be submitted for each contest.
  5. One point is earned for each different station worked on each band. The same station may be worked on different bands. In the YL-OM contest only, YLs count OMs and OMs count YLs.
  6. Multiplier will be the ARRL sections and/or DX countries, whichever is appropriate. Canadian provinces are counted individually. Multipliers are used only once on all bands when figuring the score.
  7. Contestants running 5W or less will be considered QRP and earn a power factor of 3. Contestants running 5W to 100W will be considered low power and earn a power factor of 1.5. Contestants running over 100W will be high power. If no transmitter power is listed on logs, no power factor will be given.
- Total scored claimed is calculated by multiplying the points times the multiplier times the power factor.

### Logs

1. All logs must show the operator's ARRL section, VE province, or country to qualify for awards. Where applicable, logs must state whether or not the operator is a member of YLRL. For each QSO, logs must also state the power output. If you have 200 or more QSOs, submit a separate log for each band and submit a "dupe" sheet.
  2. Please type or print. If you print a log from a logging program or photocopy your log book, be sure they include all the required information.
  3. Logs must be signed and show claimed score. No logs will be returned.
- Entries in log must also show time, band, date and transmitter power.

### Exchange

Station worked, QSO number given and received, RS(T) given and received, and section/province/country.

### Entry categories

Single operator and YL clubs/groups.