

YL-Harmonics

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



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May/June 2020







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In This Issue

| 111 1 1115 15500 | | YL Harmonics is published bi-monthly by and for the members of the Young Ladies' Radio | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| President's Message | Page 4 | League, Inc. YLRL is a non-profit organiza- tion, 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. | |
| VP's News Nets &Contests | Page 5 | | |
| Officer Lists | Page 6-7 | | |
| District News | Page 9-15 | Dues are \$15.00 (US dollars) a year due and payable January 1, and delinquent February1st. | |
| VE News | Page 16-16 | 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 is for Canada | |
| DX News | Page 19-21 | | |
| New Members | Page 8 | and Mexico airmail . Dues for a licensed YL family member | |
| Changes & Corrections | Page 5 | (residing at the same address) are \$3.00 . Subscriptions for non-members are \$15.00 per | |
| Rules for YLRL Contests | Page 22 | year and may not be pro-rated for portions of years. | |
| Pictures | Page 21 | | |
| Supplies | Back Cover | For US and Canada ADDRESS CHANGES please contact the Receiving Treasurer, Vicky Luetzelschwab, AE9YL | |
| The May-June <u>YL Harmonics</u> is making history. For the first time in 80 years <u>YL Harmonics</u> has gone digital via email to all of our members, except those without email. While we have been sending email YLH to Ca- nadian and DX members for a while, this is the first time | | For DX ADDRESS CHANGES please contact the DX Treasurer , Anne Dirkman | |
| YLH via email has been offered to all our members from one email list. We understand some members do not have email access and they will receive print ver- sions as usual, but the majority do have email and we are really happy to bring YLH to you via email. | | 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 you label information for corrections. | |
| For YL-Harmonics CONTENT or | | | |
| Editorial changes or corrections | | | |
| Please contact: | | | |
| AE7MB, Margaret Hardwick | | | |
| Cover Photo: Kaayla Jaret, KA6YLA, making a Field Day contact through the SO-50 satellite. | | | |

May/June 2020



President's Message de Barbara Yasson, AC7UH

Greetings from Vancouver, WA, in the lovely Spring-time Pacific Northwest during the time of the COVID-19 pandemic. If we have learned nothing this year we have learned how to log into online meetings, have coffee and tea via email, and conduct on-the-air meetings and nets. Many of us have found quite a bit of time to reduce the todo list and that can be really satisfying. I have, also, found that it was easier to keep the meetings I attend away from the house sorted out with their agendas and hand-outs that I brought home to their place on the dining room table. Now the computer room at the house has all of the agendas, notes, and handouts on the desk in what would be a 2' or 3' pile if I put them all together. Chasing paper has become a full time job. It is a bonus that the dining room table is looking a bit better. The reward is still being able to work with all of the great amateur radio operators and community groups that are part of those meetings, only just not in person. Your personality comes through online, on-the-air, and in your email. We will get through this with a few new skills.

Help me welcome our new YLRL Historian, Michaline Przekop, KC9ARP. She volunteered late last year and, after a slight communications comedy of errors, I got to talk with her and verify that she would accept the position and will be glad to contribute to <u>YL Harmonics</u>. I look forward to hearing more from Michaline.

Sadly, this section of my column will look something like the want ads, as we are missing the District One Chairwoman, District Three Chairwoman, and the Youth Correspondent. Many thanks to Niece, KA1ULN, of District 1, Lois, WB3EFQ, of District 3, and Eva, N5EVA, of the Youth News for doing all you have done. If anyone reading this is willing to volunteer for one of the open positions or knows someone who would be interested, please contact me at the email address or phone number above. Look for an overview of the District Chair's responsibilities in the Constitution, By-Laws, and Procedure Policy on the YLRL.org website. Feel free to contact me with questions. If I do not hear from anyone I'll call around to see who is able to do the job.

Thanks to the YLRL Board for their support of the move to email delivery of <u>YL Harmonics</u>. We had a middle of April special meeting to discuss the issues and get the project moving. By the time you read this the U.S. members will have received a postcard informing you that the May/June issue will be the first issue delivered via email. All current YLRL members should receive an email message introducing you to the email delivery of <u>YL Harmonics</u>. That email will test the delivery software and the email list, so that the next message with the link to your copy of <u>YL Harmonics</u> will go smoothly. The May/June issue is a test of the method chosen to deliver <u>YL Harmonics</u> via email. We hope and expect that it will succeed, but recognize that the unexpected can happen. Please bear with the process as we work to get things set up and put in working order. Contact <u>YLHarmonics@YLRL.org</u> with your questions about YLH via email or if you need to make an email address correction.

None of the email YLH would have been possible without the work of the Digital Harmonics Committee composed of Michelle Carey, W5MQC; Nancy Rabel Hall, KC4IYD; and Ria Jairam, N2RJ who did the research and recommended our current delivery method. Thanks to the Committee for your knowledge, experience, and research into email marketing software and coming to a decision about what to pick. Now that we have a decision, I formed the Transition Team to implement the move to YLH via email.

(Continued on page 8)



Vice President's Message de Rita McConnell, NE0DB

The YL/OM Contest held February 8-10, 2020 is now history. Although history, we look forward to the DX/NA YL Anniversary starting at 1400 UTC October 3 through 0200 UTC October 4. And the YL/OM Contest results are:

Good news – 1st place trophy winner: Heather Holmes, VE3HQH, of Queensville, Ontario, with total contacts of 112, all SSB 80/40/20 meters. Running 400W power, 14+ hours, submitted a total score of 3,808.

 2^{nd} place certificate winner is: Christine Dons, GM4YMM ,of Edinburgh, Scotland, with total contacts of 18, all SSB 40 meters. Running low power, approximately 1/2 hour each day as non-assisted op, submitted a total score of 189.

Worthy of honorable mention is our YLRL Secretary, Anne, WB1ARU, participated in the YL/OM contest from Glenwood Springs, Colorado ... a mere 2,175 miles from her QTH of Hanover, Maine. Using her home station remotely and with poor WIFI was not enough to hold signals. It was her first attempt using 20M SSB at a remote location. Without all the bells and whistles connected, she contacted OMs in Texas, Alabama, Florida and Maine. Indeed, quite worthy given the circumstances.

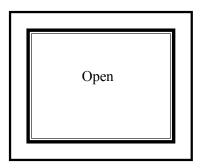
Amateur radio will take on new paths for future years ... as evidenced by the number of those seeking FCC licenses in the last few months. As my local amateur radio club is evolving during these unusual times, I encourage everyone to think outside the box and seek new creative ideas for your club as well as the YLRL. You may enjoy my article in this issue for District 10.

As always, everyone has a story to tell and pictures to share. Get to know your District Chair; they boost a treasure trove of information and they need your support for the <u>Harmonics</u> and comments and/ or suggestions for the YLRL.

Best wishes

Changes and Corrections

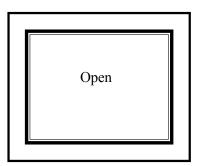
Address Correction: Jeanne Crane, KJ7HCP Address Change: Ann M Finkelsen, WA1S



District One Chairwoman



District Two Chairwoman Ria Jairam, N2RJ



District Three Chairwoman



District Four Chairwoman Dot Timmerman, AC4HH



District Five Chairwoman Michelle Carey, W5MQC



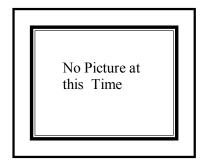
District Six Chairwoman Carol Milazzo, KP4MD



District Seven Chairwoman Robin Resnick, KJ7BI



District Eight Chairwoman Nancy Rabel Hall, KC4IYD



District Nine Chairwoman Linda Metz, KC8PKY



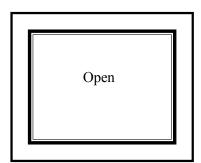
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KL7 District Chairwoman Claudia Doyle



VE Chairwoman Suzanne Snape, VE7IM



Youth Chairwoman



DX News & DX Treasurer Anne Dirkman, KC9YL,



Disbursing Treasurer Henrietta Horvay, KA1JVN



US Districts 1-10, KH6, KL7 & VE Vicky Luetzelschwab, AE9YL



New YLRL Members de Anne Manna, WB1ARU

DISTRICT 4

Leanne Bulger KO4BEQ

Leanne holds a General license and is a Homemaker and mother of 3. She is a member of Cape Fear ARS and is active on 2, 40, and 80 m.

DISTRICT 9

Karen Hicks K9KMH

Email: queencrabmon@yahoo.com Karen holds a General license and is a Retired Federal Employee. Greg, K9TLA, is her OM.

Welcome to these new members! We look forward If any information is incorrect in this listing, to meeting you on the air soon!

please let Anne, WB1ARU know.

(continued from page 4)

The Team is chaired by Vice President Rita, NE0DB. The Team members are: Anne, KC9YL, the DX Receiving Treasurer and the newly-appointed Email Database Manager, who will send out the email YLH; Vicky Luetzelschwab, AE9YL, the US & VE Receiving Treasurer; Cheryl Muhr, N0WBV, the Publicity Chair; Margaret Hardwick, AE7MB, the YLH Editor; and Michelle Carey, W5MQC, the email delivery software expert. These YLs are the ones who will make email delivery of YLH a reality. Help me to thank them for agreeing to help bring <u>YLH</u> into the 21st century. Contact them at <u>YLHarmon-</u> ics@ylrl.org for help with email YL Harmonics.

It has been an interesting and exciting month and I look forward to what next month will bring.

33 de Barbara, AC7UH

President's Advisory Committee

Anne Manna, WB1ARU; Roberta Donohue, W1JX; Nancy Rabel Hall, KC4IYD

Vice President's Advisory Committee

Marilyn Melhorn, AF7MM; Ria Jairam, N2RJ; Carol Laferty, K4SAF

District News

District 1

Anne, WB1ARU, and OM Tony, WA1ENO, spent the month of February in Colorado skiing and enjoying time with hams from Ski Country ARC. They attended the weekly breakfasts and the February club meeting where Tony demonstrated using his and Anne's Flex 6600 remotely. A contact was made with a YL from Pennsylvania who was working POTA from a park in Louisiana. They returned from CO just a week before all the concerns about COVID-19 changed everything. Now they are attending "Zoom" breakfasts with SCARC as well as joining their on air Sunday evening nets.

Bobbie, W1JX; Henrietta, KA1JVN; Anne, WB1ARU; and Jane, N1PVT, are regular net controls for the Wednesday morning Yankee Lassies Net on 3.910 at 8:30 ET. Niece, KA1ULN; Ria, N2RJ; Candy, N2OKA; Joyce, WA1YZV; Anne, N1YL; Nancy, KC1NS; Jeanne, KC1DCQ; Susan, KA1QFT; and Andrea, K2EZ all check in often.

The COVID-19 restrictions have caused the cancellation of Dayton Hamvention and many popular events in District 1 including the New England HamXposition (formerly called "Boxboro") and NEAR-Fest. In the past both of these events have provided opportunities to meet YLs from our six state region. The HamXposition is tentatively rescheduled for November. Another victim of the restrictions is the WRONE Spring luncheon, usually held in May.

Severe weather on the Thursday before Easter knocked down Bobbie, W1JX's quad and wire antennas. After the storm they were able to pull the Carolina Windoms out of the snow. Even though they aren't as high as before, they can get on the air. It's hard enough staying home all the time, but with no antennas, even worse! Best wishes for an early spring so she and OM, Tom, W1QU, can get the quad back up! Anne, WB1ARU, kicks off YL Meet-Up almost every Wednesday evening at 0100 UTC on either 14.288 or 7.197. Recent contacts include Rita, NE0DB; Erika, K0DD; and Leah, W3LEO.

Hello YLs, last weekend 4/3/2020 I was so excited because I finally got DXCC. In the past I was so happy to work 10 meters (28Mhz) I love that band. I never thought about working 100 countries. Work them and get all of them to confirm your qso together. Before COVID-19 I had 70 and was going very slow. Because I had to STAY HOME and the bands were terrible, I figured to give FT8 and FT4 another try. Prior to COVID-19 I poo-poo'ed FT8 and FT4 and JT65, but now I think I am hooked. I got Kenya with 25 watts and an OCF 160m dipole up 150 feet. Then South Africa and then BINGO! SARDINIA. The 100th country confirmed!!! I will never forget the qso.

TIP: when you run digital modes it takes longer to transmit, so the rig gets pretty hot if you use too much power. That is why K1JT meant for FT8 and FT4 and many other modes to use low power. Naturally when you see something like South Africa you want to pump up the power but you have to remember the mode works better with low power. Your rig gets HOT and the fan in the back comes on... be careful.

I am so sorry I am going to miss all the YLs and the test session in Dayton. BUT I am looking forward to 2021. I already got my VE Test session spot reserved.

One other thing I am truly happy and excited about is I was going to Morocco April of 2020, but again CV-19 put a stop to that. So I am going to go in 2021. BUT the HOT thing is I got my Moroccan call sign CN2ULN. Listen for in April 2021. I am going to meet with about 10 YLs and tell how rare they will be and how many would love to chat with them. I am also going give them something to make it easier for them to get on the radio! Any suggestions?

33 my friends

Niece/KA1ULN/CN2ULN

District 1 still needs a Chairwoman! Contact Barbara, AC7UH; Anne, WB1ARU; Bobbie, W1JX; or Niece, KA1ULN for more information.

District 4

- 1. The Dalton (GA) Hamfest was held on February 22. 2020, with a lot of hams and others attending.
- 2. The YLs in the Bledsoe County (TN) Amateur Radio Club started a new YL Net on January 19, 2020. They meet each Sunday at 1:00 CST on Zello. Search for code BCAMR. They would love to have you check in and chat with the them.
- 3. Winter Field Day was on January 25-26. The Chattanooga Amateur Radio Club set up in Dunlap TN, on a farm owned by Jim, KM4MPF. Three stations op- *Ja*



farm owned by Jim, KM4MPF. Three stations op- *Janice, KM4YHK, and Ben, AC4HG, enjoy the Dalton Hamfest.* erated. including one directed at a satellite

- 4. The YLs who check into the TAG area YL net (that's Tennessee Alabama and Georgia) on Monday nights are making plans to set up a YL station at one of the local parks. The goal is for the YLs to do all the set-up of antennas and radios without assistance from the OMs. Plans are currently in a holding pattern because of the Corona Virus.
- 5. On a cold and blustery March morning, the Chattanooga Amateur Radio Club held a workshop on Winlink at one of the community room at a local hospital. About a dozen hams, including two YLs. learned to install and use the Winlink message passing program on their tablets, laptops, etc. Following the inside workshop, attendees gathered in the parking lot for a demonstration of setting up a 20-meter station and erecting a vertical antenna. The 20-meter station and the 2-meter station., which was in the bed of a pickup truck, exchanged several messages using the Winlink program. The shivering hams were very glad to get in their vehicles and get the heaters fired up.
- 6. Recently, the Chattanooga Amateur Radio Club established the "Lone Ranger" net which meets every night. The purpose of this net is to check on hams living alone. If the ham does not check in, net control or another ham will call him or her on the phone. Then if there is no answer, someone will go check on the person or ask the authorities to make a welfare visit.
- 7. I talked with **Karen**, **K4IRS**, one of our YLRL members in Franklin, Tennessee. She has been busy sewing masks and giving them to the emergency personnel in Williamson County. Not necessarily ham related, but very important during this crisis.
- 8. Toby Papas, KL0SS, from Williamsburg, VA, who is president of the Williamsburg Area Amateur Radio Club, sent in her news. Every morning the club has a Coffee and Radio net, with 20 25 hams checking in. Because of sheltering in place, they are having their monthly club meetings using Zoom. They also have a weekly lunch get together. Now they do a virtual luncheon also using Zoom. In May, they normally have a special event to commemorate the Jamestowne Landing. This year they are planning to hold the event with hams using their HF radios from their homes.

Starting in mid-March, most of the events planned in this area have been canceled due to the potential spreading of the Corona Virus. However, while we are staying in our homes, it is the perfect time to enjoy our ham radio hobby. It is also, a great time to learn something new, such as the Morse Code.

The following "Why Participate in a Net" was contributed by **Terri, N9ZEN**, who is the net control from the TAG YL net on Monday evenings. 8:00 pm Eastern. EchoLink Node: 387904 SELINK.

WHY PARTICIPATE IN A NET

We hear about them all the time; they seem to be rampant everywhere (virtually one for any day of the week). But why should we join the nets?

Learn proper technique Check the range of your equipment for prolonged communications Build your network Camaraderie Share knowledge Learn Proper Techique

Many hams participate in the hobby to be able to assist in emergency communications and some are in it for the sheer joy of the science and technical tomfoolery. Regardless of why you are in the hobby, it is important to operate your station correctly. Nets provide operators with an environment to learn a variety of skills: how to operate their radios, speaking effectively for a good transmission, the errors of quick keying, traffic handling, how to break into a QSO, how to report information and the ability to listen and record important information. Just to name a few.

Submitted by Terri, N9ZEN

73 & 33 Dot, AC4HH, District 4 Chair, April 11, 2020

District 5

Spring is here and flowers are blooming. **Kelley, K5KTX**, gets to enjoy a field Crimson Clover right in her own back yard. To say that this year so far has been crazy, is an understatement. Covid-19 has temporarily changed everything for everyone; some more than others. One of the groups that are most affected, are our 2020 graduating Seniors. No prom, no graduation ceremonies, no sports, no competitions, no college tours, classes all moved to online, to finish out their final year in high school.



I would like to highlight a few of our District 5 High School Seniors:

Grace Kelly, KG5APE

Hello, reader! I'm Grace Kelly and I am a YL from District 5. I joined the world of amateur radio at the age of 11 with a technician class license. I credit my father for really getting me into the hobby, as his father did before him. Because of my schoolwork, I am often unable to regularly participate in the hobby. When I do, I usually help with storm spotting details with my dad, chase DX calls on 20 meters with my control operator (you guessed it, my dad), and promote the hobby to other kids and teens during Field Day.

I will be studying at the University of Dallas in Irving, TX to obtain a Bachelor's of Science in Biochemistry. I hope to either attend veterinary school, study the Catholic faith, or enter as a novitiate in a convent.

I hope that you are all doing well at this time, and I wish all the best to all students and to the "Class of 2020."

Attached is a photo of me with my acceptance letter. Thank you so much! Grace Kelly



Eva Knapple, N5EVA

Hello, my name is Eva Knapple. As some of you may know, I'll be part of the graduating class of 2020. I have given a lot of thought of what I want to do with my life after graduation and with the skills that I have picked up along the way with Amateur Radio, I have found my passion in life. What my passion in life is to help people as much as I can, whether that be medical related or law enforcement. When this pandemic ends, I plan to start up an EMT course that is offered in my area and a few years later I plan to finish getting my CLEET certification to help me in law enforcement. I wouldn't be the person I am today if it wasn't for Amateur Radio and with the people I have met.

Aria Cunningham, KI5BDF

Hi, my name is Aria Cunningham. I'm 17 years old and graduating a year early from Boswell High School with Honors. I participated in both Varsity Jazz Band and Marching Band, playing the piano, and marimba. I was also in Varsity Cross County and Track. (All of our final meets were cancelled, due to the virus). My interests are health, wellness and physical fitness. I like to run and work out in my free time. I haven't decided yet what I want to do as a career. I have already started classes at Tarrant County College.

Madison Boutwell, KG5ZAO,

Madison is 19 and an Extra. She loves to play Animal Crossing in her free time, she says it's a very calming game and plays it strategically. Dungeons and Dragons (D&D) is another game that she enjoys with her friends. On certain weekends you will find her planning her next campaign to run with her D&D players as she is a DM (Dungeon Master). At A&M she plans on pursuing a degree in accounting. One of her favorite past times is volunteering at her radio club, DCARA, to teach others and assist them with getting their amateur radio license. She also enjoys volunteering for the Bike Rides and Medal of Honor runs every year that DCARA assists with.

Virginia, NV5F

Virginia is starting classes for her EE degree at American Public University. It's an all online college with a very comprehensive program in EE with emphasis in RF communication systems.

Since most of the country is on lock down, club meetings are cancelled, Ham Fests are cancelled, what have the rest of the District 5 YL's been up to?

Leah, W3LEO, is teaching a Technician class via YouTube. Our club meets in our cars at the restaurant we meet at to help them. We are planning a social distancing testing session and have a good group already, all Technicians. I have one YL going for her Extra class!

Susan, K5YNC, Has had to close her restaurant, but you can find her on the air, storm spotting for Montague County, as tornado season begins.





Virginia, **NV5F**, Is having online Board meetings with her club, Arlington ARC. She is also keeping up with her bagpipe students, via teaching.

Lyla Beth, KC5RWW, Has been working in her garden. If you catch her on the air, ask her about her asparagus! They look quite Yummy!

Vonnie, KE5RKC, Has put her 1937 "Suzie" Featherweight Singer (Old faithful) to work, making facemasks for healthcare workers and police officers.

Judith, KC7KPG, Is in Pahrump, NV, at an RV park. The only park here that had a spot for us. We are staying in the RV except for short walks. We ventured out to the grocery stores, lines were long, and most shelves were empty. Police were all around and inside Walmart and Smith's. We decided to order what we need on the internet. We are enjoying our isolation texting and phone calls with friends and family.

Susan, K5DU, Susan and her hubby are staying home and burning up the airwaves on CW.

Katie, KF5IAU, Got my base setup mostly functional. ,I have a mag mount on my chest freezer!!! Yay, I cannot wait to make contact with her on the air!

If you are looking for YL nets and not sure where to start, here is a link with a list of all of the YL nets, in many different modes that amateur radio has to offer. https://ylharmonics.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/YL-Nets2.pdf

33 Ladies Michelle W5MQC

District 7

From Barbara, KI7BR: We are living through a transformative time in our country's - and world's history. Each of us is experiencing this in our own way. My 98-year-old grandmother, who is unable to return from Arizona to Oregon for the Spring and Summer as she usually does due to the pandemic, is used to being home and having a quieter pace than me. But even she is chafing at her solitude, wanting to get together with friends. Some of her friends insist on going to in-person worship services, putting not only themselves at risk, but people around them as well, including my 98-year-old grandmother. Nothing like a pandemic to understand how interconnected we all are, and how our individual choices affect so many other people. All I can do is be there for her, allow her to make her own choices, send her love and hope everything goes well. I think of my Dad. He is a homebody, doesn't go out much and is being extremely careful around other people. He and I video chat regularly, send each other love and wish each other well. I am thinking of my nieces: one's a nurse, another works in an adult care home and another works at a liquor store (which I guess is an essential service these days). I'm hoping they and their families stay safe, send them love and hope everything goes well. I've been working from home, not missing my 100-mile round-trip work commutes and getting used to Zoom meetings. But it was getting to be a little bit too quiet. So I'm now fostering two kitties - a six-month old and his mama (probably not older than three-years-old herself), both orange tabbies. I'm trying to use my down time to declutter, stretch and work out, meditate, play radio, play with the kitties and learn CW. Like many of us, I have my moments of anxiety and uncertainty about how all this will unfold. In those moments, I usually manage to find inner calm, give myself grace and kindness and carry on. This is my wish to you all: that you stay safe, find the joys and love you can around you, carry on and be

This is my wish to you all: that you stay safe, find the joys and love you can around you, carry on and be well. 33

From Robin, KJ7BI: As most, if not all of you know, I am an ARO (Amateur Radio Operator) with the City of Portland's NET (Neighbourhood Emergency Teams) Teams. We have been having weekly NET -wide ZOOM (an audio/video group meetings platform) meetings as well as monthly ZOOM meetings for my particular team. In addition, the MINOWs are planning on having their initial ZOOM Board Meeting later this week. I imagine that most of us YLs who are at least close to my age have attended ZOOM meetings for one reason or other. (My cousin, who lives in NYC, used ZOOM to include my Aunt and Uncle, who live in Baltimore, in his nuclear family's Passover Seder!) When I stop and think about our new means of communicating, the whole ZOOM thing throws my thoughts back to one of my favourite childhood cartoons, *The Jetsons*. I am 60 y.o. and watched *The Jetsons* until I was nine y.o., when my family immigrated to Israel. Really, being on a ZOOM meeting made me feel "Jetsonish" much like making my initial radio contact! 33& 73, KJ7BI

District 8

Lee, KB8RT, wrote the following: Right now, I go 3 places. Hardware store has bird seed and other things. I call in the order and when I get there they bring it out and load it into the minivan. I e-mail in grocery order and pick that up at the designated time. I go to Walgreens for prescriptions and other small items and pick them up in drive-thru. I have been known to also stop at McDonald's, Wendy's, KFC. Need to remember to go by Panera and help them out.

Am so glad I live in the country and have some space to be out and about without going anywhere. I've been cleaning out my Purple Martin houses and getting them ready for the summer. First scout was here on April 10th. I have a set-up with 2 levels of 6 'gourds' for a total of 12 houses. I've got 3 more 'gourds' to clean and I'll be all set.

I'm waiting any day for the Barn Swallows to come back to the front porch. I've had Barn Swallows nesting on the front porch every year I've been here, including the year I bought the place - 2011. They were actually living here before I was! It's getting time to start mowing the grass, if it ever stops raining and the grass can dry out. I'm having trouble seeing Mourning Doves on the ground because of tall grass so I guess it time to mow! Wild flowers are blooming, trees are leafing out. Crabapple and Serviceberry are getting ready to bloom.

Life does go on. Hope everyone is doing well. We will get through this.

Nancy, KC4IYD, wrote: I know the new 'stay at home" order is not easy for everyone but hopefully everyone have found ways to adapt and communicate with friends and loved ones, as we adjust to this "new normal" we find ourselves in. Dawn, KC8QSN; Annette; KC8SQM, and I have been getting on Zoom (a videoconferencing program) to play Yahtzee as well as trivia games. I also watched Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday service via facebook live that my church streamed

Finally, your DC 8 chair would like to say a special thank you to all our the essential folks (doctors, nurses, police, fire, grocery stores workers, etc) who are out there helping those in need or providing us with resources. Be well and stay safe everyone!

District 10

Greetings from the snowy/sunny homebound District 10.

Rita, NE0DB, down in southern Colorado, writes:

It has been said that March winds and April showers bring May flowers. That's no exception in Colorado. The front range of the Rocky Mountains is notorious for high winds and measurable snowfall in April. As of this writing, it's snowing; but the daffodils are blooming, trees are budding and many shrubs are in full glory. I participated in the CLARA Chatter Party for my second year in March and awaiting my certificate. The Party provides a wonderful way to chat with our YLs north of the border and develop new YL friendships.

The "stay at home" order has prompted our local amateur radio club to think outside the box and become more creative. In early March, we conducted an impromptu net for members who wish to keep in touch and also to determine how members' radios are receiving and transmitting and the effectiveness of the club's repeater for daily chats. Surprisingly, many members are checking in on a daily basis. It has also prompted those who would not usually speak in regular meetings to become involved. A nice way to get to know one another better as members tend to share more on the radio than they would otherwise. The net is called "Morning Connection", but some like to call it "Biscuits & Gravy". The nickname "Biscuits & Gravy" came about because it was a popular entrée when our club had ragchews at our local restaurant and the fact that three of couples had biscuits and gravy the opening day of the net. Another good thing about the daily net is that I stepped forward to run a few of the nets, and I found that being a net control is great fun. My OM says "my net control skills are great", but, in my opinion, there's always room for improvement. We also incorporated a "radio trivia" question which everyone loves and provides good conversation for the daily trivia that's not limited to radio, but also other trivia such as gardening. Radio brings out the best of all of us.

Thank you, Rita. What a wonderful morning net!

Doshia, KB0NAS, writes:

Since as part of my ARES duties I am liaison with the health care community/hospitals, having been a physical therapist for forty years and once upon a time having been director of physical therapy in one of the hospitals. (It is nice to be bilingual in Medical and Radio.) For years, we (the local ARES) have participated in the pandemic related drills, mostly using our video and packet capabilities to support their activities, providing documentation and training materials for them while honing our own communication and problem-solving skills. Now it has happened, and as we knew would be the case, there is not a role for us in the hospital or shelter settings. In fact, like most people, we are staying at home. Even if we had PPE's (personal protective equipment) to wear, most of us do not know how to put it on,

or how to take it off safely. We have no business on the front lines. In this disaster, our mission is to stay ready for the ordinary disasters we get called up for: fire, flood, and weather. As we have seen in Louisiana, Arkansas, and other states, tornados don't care if there is a huge other event going on. Our thoughts are with all those who are hit hard by any disaster, big or small.

Like Rita, our local clubs are running welfare nets and/or have at least one person monitoring for anyone who might need assistance, or want someone to talk to. The HF bands busier than they have been in some time. It is a good time to check out the various contests or work on a certificate. Rita, as our vice president, is in charge of the various contests and certificates that they YLRL awards.

As my daughter put it, it's all about physical distancing and social solidarity. Amateur radio is great for it.

33, Doshia, KB0NAS



Promise of Spring

VE News

Charla, VE7VSL, writes: Hello Everyone. We set sail for our world sailing trip as planned 1 March 2020. Several stops before we left. Juan de Fuca Strait and sailed into international waters. Weather treated us well. At about 100 km off the Washington State coast we gave some serious thought to continue our trip. We had over packed and our 54 ft ketch was not performing as well as she should. Also one of our two cats, Charlotte, was not doing well with the motion and most important was how the Corona Virus would impact our trip.

We returned to Barkley Sound (West Coast of Vancouver Island); Charlotte was much better and heard that the virus issue was increasing. After about 2 weeks returned to Victoria and heard many Countries were closing their Borders all over the world, travel bans and much more ...

Our plan is preparing for a BC trip and stay in Canadian waters when things settle down. We have postponed our world trip for March 2021. March is a good time to leave so that we miss typhoons and hurricanes and not have to skip a season because of dangerous weather.

Now in April we know we made the right decision to return; the Corona Virus(now called COVID-19) has turned into a pandemic and no cure in sight. So we are working on-board and will do more sea trials as we wait for a good time to start our BC sailing trip; if time permits hope to venture up the Butte Inlet and maybe visit Graham and Moresby Islands before winter sets in. We wish everyone to keep well in this difficult time.

33 Charla Mason, VE7VSL, VE0VSL, SV Sea Love

<u>**An Extra Note from Charla, VE7VSL</u>: Right now it is hard to give you times and frequencies I will be on. Our Station Call Sign is VG6640 Maritime. For Ham we will use the ICOM 7100 or M802, VE7VSL or VE0VSL; 14,300. We will be checking in once we can get out of the pandemic shutdown for ports of call. Charla, VE7VSL



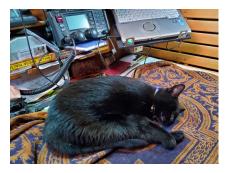
Ship's cat watching the approaching squall

Charla, VE7SVL

Sea Love ready to sail.



Sea Love Radio Room



Shadow keeping us on course.

Ann, VE3HAI, writes: "Hi to Everyone I certainly hope that you are safe and enduring physical distance in relative comfort. My sympathies to those who are ill, or worrying about a loved one. Also, my thoughts and prayers are with those of you living in hot spots throughout your country. These really are strange times and we need to do what's right, while making the most of our isolation. I bought a year of online, interactive French lessons. I am really enjoying them too. Maybe, in the future, I will be able to greet YLRL members, who speak French, in their preferred language. Be safe and stay well. We will get through this" 33 Ann VE3HAI

Suzanne, VE7IM, writes: Covid-19 has certainly changed the way we are living our lives, these days, and it is bound to change the way we live our lives, in the future. In these sad and confusing times we owe a great debt of gratitude to all the medical people working so hard to help those in need. We also owe our thanks to all the medical aid and support workers, as well. Last but not least, my thanks to friends for keeping in touch. Cheerful chats with friends and family on the telephone or Skype or Echolink and E-mail notes and jokes are keeping us all connected. I am learning to do things on the computer and even managed to renew my car insurance, successfully !! Something I would never have attempted, in the past. Besides looking somewhat like a sheepdog, for not being able to see my hairdresser, staying isolated is not as bad as it sounds. Keep well. Remain at home as much as possible. Avoid crowds and gatherings and keep your distance, at all times. Stay safe. 33 Suzanne VE7IM

Heather, VE3HQH, writes: Hope everyone is staying well and safe during this hard time. It is a good time to be active on the air, only problem is conditions. I took part in the YL-OM contest and came in first. My score wasn't that high so where was everyone else? Come on girls lets get more active for next years contest. I'm working on the Favorite Bird challenge but need more YL's with birds, hope I can get enough before the end of the year.

Spring is suppose to be here but we've had snow the last couple of mornings but it melted by noon, then it warms up to 40F or 50F by afternoon. The flowers are coming up and we've been doing yard clean-up on nice days

It's a strange year with all the cancellations for radio events but we have to stay positive. The sun still comes up and we're able to eat and get some activity even if it's only in our own house or back yard. Let's stay positive that all will be back to normal before too long. 33, Heather VE3HQH

Val, VE5AQ, writes: News from Moose Jaw,

Well, what can I say, it's still chilly to mildly warm today (Easter Saturday), the sun is shining, and I am going to go outside and rake some leaves off the lawn. Don't really know what May and June is going to be like.

Here in Saskatchewan, we are still in basic lockdown due to this virus. Mind you, I don't go downtown that much anyways, but guess it's the "DO NOT GO OUT" that gets to me.

I am hoping that the weather really does improve so that I can go and get my geraniums for the gardens and some packages of wildflowers. Only going to put potatoes in the garden this year.

Harv and I have been keeping well over this long "stay at home" business, Harv is going to change the antenna again this summer, He has to do it as the only net we can get on is the Tangle Net on 14.297. It doesn't matter that our noise level is and S5-8 or more. Really don't know what is going on with the propagation these days, but whatever it is, I really wish it would go away.

Any of you girls remember the 70's and 80's. I know I do, and I have a box full of QSL cards to prove it. I did not do contesting, or anything back then, just put out a CQ, got answered and we chatted. It was lovely. Sure wish for the Good Ole Days again.

Ok, girls, really can't think of much more to say, so IF you are still in areas with this horrible virus, please stay safe, and if you must: Stay home. Go for a walk in your garden, and if you live in an apartment, go for a walk around the block but remember to stay 6 feet away from everyone.

Maybe the bands will improve over the summer.

One can only hope.33, 73, 88 as the case may be. Val, VE5AQ

Helen, VA1YL

We got our 40 M antenna put back up in February.

We were lucky we got back from Ecuador before the Corona virus hit America. All our meetings are cancelled so we have to stay home. Our daughter, Margaret, is stuck in Ecuador. She can't get to Alaska to work for Alaska Fish & Game. Our daughter Anne is in the UK and she is supposed to teach university students. She has to do her lecture on the internet.

One thing I have been doing is sewing masks for people. I have made about 2 dozen.

It is nice that our property is cleared of snow. Lots of nice spring flowers are out. I planted them after we bought the house in 2003.

Galapagos Trip January 2020

The Archibald trip to the Galapagos was awesome. Eight days on a cruise ship with 47 passengers. Every day we went to a different island and we got off the boat and hiked, snorkeled, and saw lots of animals and birds and lots of geology. The Guides were awesome and we saw lots of animals, plants and rocks. The local birds and animals are different on each island. The birds do not fly away when people arrive, they just ignore you! The animals don't move either, you have to move around them! We went with Lindblad/National Geographic tour. It was awesome! Our Margaret, VE2ZOO, got us to take the trip. It was fun to meet up with her and the tour was amazing. We have over 5000 pictures on seven cameras! We went to ten islands. The first day we were on San Cristobal. We went to the National Park Interpretation Center and a guided walk to Frigate Hill.

All the people on the cruise were lovely. Margaret and I did the long hikes and saw amazing things. Fred did the short hikes and took amazing pictures. Margaret and Fred were able to snorkel but I just floated on the top of the ocean with my snorkel. The cruise gave us wet suits and masks and snorkels. Margaret and I took a kayak trip.

The species are different on every island because the islands are far apart. The boat went from island to island while we were asleep so we could go to the islands in daytime. Every hike was with naturalists and you could not step off the trails. There were lovely birds – albatross, boobies, hawks and they didn't fly away. There were iguanas, marine and land. Also lizards and tortoises and marine turtles. All the people on the cruise were nice. We have a 30 minute movie from the Cruise and a nice Internet program.

We went to a Charles Darwin Research Station and a wonderful place where they are growing up tortoises – Fausto Llerena Giant Tortoise Rearing Centre of the Galapagos National Park Service. We saw the coffee farm "El Manzanillo" and a lava tunnel.

After the cruise we went north in Ecuador to get to Margaret's boat "The Drummer". We had several nice days there. We crossed the Equator several times. We went to a wonderful Nature Park with lots of birds. Then we went to a nice beach. Then we headed home. It took us 53 hours to get home because there was an ice storm here in Nova Scotia.



Fred VE1FA, Helen VA1YL, Margaret VE2ZOO



Sea Turtles, Galapagos National Park Service

DX News

Teresa, LU3DHD, (Argentina)

I'm in La Plata, Argentina, and we are in the same situation, but we can't go out of our home. We do all at home, gym, yoga, cooking, all at home. We can go out and buy food only and back to home. The quarantine is more strict. On these days I'm back to the radio, repair my antennas and rebuild the connectors of my Yaesu to my laptop.

We try to enjoy between girls' chores. I'm do my own yoga [routine], cleaning the house more deep and cook some cakes!! And work.. I'm working always at home because I'm a web programmer and I can do the work at office and at home!!!

Thanks for all and take care!!

Lizette, ZS6LZT, (South Africa)

We're on day 5 of a national lockdown in South Africa, started Friday the 27th [March]. I've been working from home mostly two weeks prior to the lockdown, only went to the office when it was necessary. Now doing everything I can from home. Schools have been closed for a while now as well. My husband still needs to go to work as he is a fire fighter in the Air Force. Their shifts have been reduced to skeleton staff to reduce the amount of people at work at the same time. Since flying has ceased mostly, they basically sit there for their 24-hour shift with little to do.

In between work we try to keep Wikus [5-year-old son] occupied. Some days are way more challenging than others. On the better days I can get some crochet or reading done, it keeps my mind occupied. Exercise has to be on a stationary bike indoors or on our patio, we're not allowed to go for walks or cycling outside our own gardens.

We are allowed supply runs into town, only one person per family may go and social distancing must be kept while in the store. The grocers are still open, but since lockdown I haven't been out, trying to limit our consumption and thus limit our trips needed to go to the shop. I might go over the weekend if the list of items we need become serious, but so far we can manage fine without the few items than we've ran out of.

It's quite eerie, roads are quiet, people are quiet, you don't even hear them listening to music in their houses – some of our neighbours can be quite noisy under normal circumstances. Sale of alcohol and tobacco products have been stopped, maybe another reason for less partying. It's quite peaceful to sit on the patio, listening to the birdsongs, not being able to hear the noise of cars and trucks on the roads. So far none of us have showed signs of infection, we were quite worried as we live in a town where tourism is its lifeblood. With the many international and national visitors coming to town, our risk was quite high. So far, I haven't heard of any confirmed cases in town. It's a blessing.

I hope you will be okay and not affected by the outbreak, stay safe!

Groete en lekker dag / Kind regards and enjoy your day

Dot, VK2DB, (Australia)

The fires affected my asthma and made my voice so croaky and breathless; I just haven't been on radio. As you know, we had 'The Bushfires' that devastated a lot of our bushland where the native animals live. That was heartbreaking. A lot of animals that were saved originally, couldn't be saved long term as the shock and burns took a terrible toll. Another thing was that koalas need to lap water like cats with their head down and many of them tilted their heads back to drink from water bottles so got water in their lungs and developed pneumonia or lung infections. Such a simple thing that we don't think of. Our weekend cottage is down near Mogo Zoo (a really delightful place) and when the fires got too close to the zoo, the manager put as many animals as he could in his house. He said every room was full. The staff patrolled the zoo perimeter and kept the fire out and happily it didn't get burnt. The big animals could not be moved and were terrified, but they all survived.

We then had constant falling rain - not storms or wind just rain that put most of the fires out. Of course,

that caused trouble too. It wouldn't sink in to the burnt hardened soil and washed the ash into the rivers. My lily pond, which I was filling by bucket each day in the drought, was filled and overflowing. The frogs started croaking a merry song day and night and the lizards came into the house to eat the cat food. Then we had some dry sunny weather so the weeds could grow!

A few weeks later we had storms. Storms last year brought aerials down but we still had one - a Windom, for 40 and 80m. This time the storm twisted a 10m branch from a gum tree. It swiped the corner of the house breaking tiles and taking off the guttering. But even more terrible than that... it broke the Windom. My OM, John, VK2ZOI, chats on his radio nets every day so this was depressing, but only for a few minutes. It was repaired very quickly in time for the next net. How I wish the house could be repaired as quickly as that.

I haven't done any radio for a while as the bushfire but while we are all staying at home I hope to. At present I'm cleaning out the ham shack/computer room and getting the 'paperwork' all up to date. I have a long list of jobs to do, six months isolating should finish it.

33

Rosel, CT9/DL3KWR (Germany)

As already for many years we wanted to operate again in March four weeks of CT9 and present Madeira in the RA-DX-Contest. However, Corona Pandemic forced us to the untimely abandonment of the island. Luckily, we could still take part in the contest. Though the hotel had to close on the week-end, however, an evasive accommodation appropriate for radio offered us in a small neighbour-Resort. One also supported us to put up our 7 metres of vertical aerial on the balcony certainly.

Twenty minutes after contest beginning, we were QRV. The QSB has never posed so many problems like this time to us before. Altogether came including RA-DX-Contest from the total of only 2525 QSOs - 1390 to my log, most of it on 17 m and 30 m. At least, we could communicate freely of virus with all world, we are happy.

Thanks to computer and Internet we succeeded in booking a return flight which was not cancelled. On Tuesday we left Madeira virtually at the last minute and after stops in Lisbon and Amsterdam on Thursday were again at home.

Angelika, G0CCI (England)

Things here in the UK are very much the same as they are with you - lots of people working from home, everything non-essential closed. I went out for a grocery shop today (first one in ten days) – [March 31] - which seemed almost a bit like an adventure.

Unfortunately my OM and I are currently stuck some 200 miles from each other, with not much prospect of being reunited any time soon. Nigel is at our other home, on the island of Alderney (population 2000), and Alderney has pretty much shut itself off from the outside world. It's one of very few places not to have had any infections. We're used to being apart, and we're coping reasonably well at the moment, but not knowing when we'll see each other again is a bit worrying. I can't give you any amateur related news since - as I think I've mentioned before - I haven't been on the air in ages. One day I'll get back into it. It would be fun to activate Alderney which hasn't got any amateur radio activity at all at the moment. Our house there is on top of a hill overlooking the sea, so would be a perfect QTH. Stay safe!

Marietjie, ZS6CEZ (South Africa)

We are also in closedown for three weeks. We cannot go out just buying food or medical care. We are not allowed to go for walks and leave our houses just in the gardens. Abra [guide dog] wish to go for walks but to no avail. We are moving into autumn it is cooler and parts of our country got rain. I am busy learning Windows 10. I keep my self-busy because I am on my own in my house. Keep clear of the virus.

73, 88 33 Marietjie and Abra ZS6CEZ

My story from Indian YLs

I would like to inform about Indian YL net started very recently, just one month ago. I used to join in different nets on EchoLink and ham radio but I saw only OMs run the nets; no YLs . I have been a ham for the last 40 years. I worked a variety of programs in ham radio . My wish is that I should activate Indian YLs . They are very shy because of English language. I told everyone - no worries about lan-

Pictures

guage you just join in the YL net. Some Indian YLs are very shy. Some of them are very good. Requested all YLs with repeated requests now 10 YLs or sometimes 15 YLs are joining in the YL net. Now we have India conference in EchoLink at 600 pm IST for Indian YL (1200 GMT to 100 GMT) for DX YLs. I am happy to say we get good support from Carole, VA3WHU; Anne, KC9YL; Caryn, KD2GUT; Ria, N2RJ; and other YLs My Indian YLs—VU2NIS, VU2MYL, VU2MGS, VU2IO, VU3WTE, VU3UFD, VU2UMQ, VU2MYN, and new YLs from India joining in India Conference. Now some of the YLs are joking in HF especially on 14195 kHz . I am so happy YLs are working on HF without any fear. My wish is successful.

My wish is successful. Best regards, **Bharathi, VU2RBI**



Mr. Kazu, JA8ECS; Mr. D. Prasad. VU2DBP; Bharathi Prasad, VU2RBI



Margaret, VE2ZOO, near a sea lion





Vonnie, KE5RKC, sewing masks

Rosel, CT9/DL3KWR (Germany

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.

YLRL SUPPLIES

Note: please make your check or money order payable to **YLRL, Inc**. All items are postpaid except for DX airmail. For DX airmail please add \$10.00 per order. International Postal Money Orders are requested, if possible.

| YLRL Stationery: Diamond Logo Letterhead & Matching Envelopes | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|
| 50 sheets 8 "x 11 ", with 50 #10 envelopes | \$7.50 | | |
| 25 sheets 8 "x 11 ", with 25 #10 envelopes | \$5.00 | | |
| | | | |
| YLRL PATCHES AND DECALS: Girl on the World Logo | | | |
| Patch: 4 " circle, gray with blue logo | \$3.50 | | |
| Decals: 3 " circle, silver and blue (indoor use) | 3 for \$1.00 | | |
| 3 " circle, silver and blue Mylar | 0.75 ea. or 3 for \$2.00 | | |
| (for window or windshield: logo faces out) | | | |
| Girl on the World Stickers Silver with blue girl, 1 " diameter | 10 for \$10.00 | | |
| YLRL JEWELRY: | | | |
| Pins: Silver and Blue enamel or Gold and Blue enamel | \$5.00 | | |
| 60th Anniversary pin | \$3.00 | | |
| 75th Anniversary pin | \$5.00 | | |
| Charms: Silver and Blue enamel or Gold and Blue enamel | \$5.00 | | |
| Necklaces: Silver and Blue enamel or Gold and Blue enamel | \$12.00 | | |
| Pierced Earrings: Silver and Blue enamel or Gold and Blue enamel | \$13.00 | | |
| Water Bottles | | | |
| YLRL Blue Logo on White Bottle | \$5.00 | | |
| YLRL SHIRTS (While supplies last): | | | |
| T-shirts Color: White or Light Blue | \$15.00 | | |
| Staff Shirt Color: White or Light Blue | \$22.00 | | |
| Sweatshirt Color: White | \$23.00 | | |
| Available in sizes Small (S) to Extra-Extra-Large (XXL). Please print first name and call sign to be | | | |
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| 75th Anniversary Grey T-shirts Size Medium only | \$10.00 | | |
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| 75th Anniversary Ceramic Cups | \$6.00 | | |
| Celebrating 75 Years Girl on Wood Wooden Coasters (set of 4) | \$7.50 | | |
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