YLRL Scrapbook 1-1

the YL's Frequency

Monitored by

Louisa B. Sando, W0SCF

Towaoc, Colorado

YLRL's 15th Anniversary

Just fifteen years ago the *Young Ladies' Radio League* came into existence. Small in scope, but ambitious in aims, it was destined to become a major force in amateur radio. It all came about this way:

The May, 1939 issue of *QST* contained an ad for the late W1CBD's book "Two Hundred Meters and Down." One statement was, "Goodness knows—and you won't tell—how many of you YL key-twitchers there are . . ."

W7FWB, Ethel Smith (now *W3MSU*), wrote to the ARRL: "Nobody seems to know, but I think we *would* tell. I should like to have you publish this letter or some kind of a request to have the YLs make themselves known . . . So how about it YLs? Perhaps we should band ourselves together in a YLRL or something to that effect and make these women-ignoring authors sit up and take notice." Ethel's letter was published in *QST* a couple of months later. Not only did it result in starting our organization, but named it as well.

Twelve girls answered that letter. Enid Carter, *W9NBX* (now Enid Aldwell, *W6UXF*), became the spark-plug of the group. From the girls she compiled a list of names and addresses of other YLs and drew up a tentative constitution. The proposed YLRL *Constitution and By-Laws*, dated Sept., 1939 lists these YLs as charter members: *W1GQT, W5HYF, W6RGX, W7FWB* (now *W3MSU*) *W7GXI, W8SBB, W8TAY* (now *W4JCR*), *W9CHD* (now *W6NAZ*), *W9NBX* (now *W6UXF*), *W9NLW, W9UA* (now *WØUA*), *W9WWP* (now *W6WSV*), and *VE2HI*. A succeeding copy of the *Constitution* bears the statement, "Adopted October, 1939."

Enid selected these officers to start the YLs on their way: *W7FWB*, Ethel, became the first president; *W9WWP*, Carol Keating was appointed vice president and activities manager; *W9NBX*, Enid, took on the duties of secretary-treasurer, and soon *W8TAY*, Anita Bien, became publicity chairman. Enid also set dues—25c a year!

Enid then began publishing a monthly bulletin. The first issue, Vol. 1 No. 1, was dated Nov., 1939 and entitled "YL News." A single mimeographed sheet, it contained a plea for members and requested suggestions so that the bulletin might be named.

Response was quick and enthusiastic. Vol. 1, No. 2 (Dec. '39) bore the name *YL Harmonics*, which Enid chose from among twenty suggestions she received, ranging from "Hamettes" and "QTT" (Quick To Tell) to "Spurious Radiations" (suggested by an OM!). Up to three pages, it announced a December "Get Acquainted" QSO Party on 40 and 80 CW, inaugurated "Chatter" (district reports), listed district chairmen, and contained this list of paid-up members: *W7FWB, 9NBX, 9CHD, 9NLW, 9DBD, 1FOF, 9WWP, 2KUG, 9ILH, 6EK, 8TAY, 3TAY, 3FXZ, 6RGX, 1KEP, 1GQT, 2KBG, 2IXY, 9OWQ, 7EIU,, 8SJF, 9UA, 2FKA, 8TPZ, VE2HI.*

In the February, 1940 issue of *YL Harmonics* (Vol. 1 Nr. 4) Enid warns "Beware the OM who passes

The first local chapter of YLRL was founded in Cleveland by W8TAY in June, 1940. At its second meeting W8PWY took this photo of the YLs. L. to r. on couch: W8PZA, Mildred; W8CKH, Gertrude; W8ODI, Ruth, and W8TAY, Nita. On floor: W8SBB, Mary, and W8UCY, Carol. W8TLZ, Ruth, was also a member at this time. Photo courtesy W4JCR (ex-W8TAY).

Left—W6UXF, Enid Aldwell, was W9NBX, Enid Carter, at Bowbells, N.D., when she spark-plugged YLRL and took on duties of secretary and editor. She is wearing an authentic Bavarian costume, an example of her latest hobby.

Con't on Back

QST July 1939

ATTENTION, YL'S

9 S. Emerson, Wenatchee, Wash.

Editor, *QST:*

That lace-bordered ad of "Two Hundred Meters and Down" brought up a point that has had my curiosity aroused for some time: How many "YL key twitchers" are there?

Nobody seems to know, but I think we would tell. I should like to have you publish this letter or some kind of a request to have the YL's make themselves known. I'd like to know how many there are, how old they are, how they got interested, whether they're key twitchers or tonsil busters, how long they've had their tickets, and what they think we should do about these authors.

So how's about it, YL's? Please send all the dope to me. Perhaps we should band ourselves together in a YLRL or something to that effect and make these woman-ignoring authors sit up and take notice.

— Ethel Smith, W7FWB

Con't.

ship as 339, contained many features and anniversary greetings from people prominent in the radio world.

In January, 1950 a new contest was added, the **YL-OM** Contest. Since then also, YLRL has issued many awards for WAS/YL to Hams who have worked a YL in each of the 48 states, **WAC/YL** (for working a YL on each continent), and the newest award, **YLCC**, for working one hundred different YL operators.

In recent years YLRL has become decidedly international and now has members, in addition to the U.S., Alaska, Canal Zone and Hawaii, in Australia, Canada, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Mexico, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Panama, Peru, Puerto Rico, Southern Rhodesia, and Union of South Africa. Total membership has reached over 500 YLs!

Now YLRL starts on its 16th year—a year which promises to be the biggest yet. With enthusiastic officers and big plans (see "YL's Frequency," **CQ**, July and Sept., 1954) we can look forward to increased membership, continued fine contests, refurbished treasury, big issues of **YL Harmonics**, a new edition of the YLRL Callbook, and **the first national YLRL convention** (to be sponsored by the Los Angeles YLRC, place and date to be announced soon).

First Officers

Before we look too far ahead, let's go back to our very first officers, the ones who started us on such a successful course.

At the time our first president, **W7FWB**, wrote her now famous letter, she was very active on the air from Wenatchee, Wash., having received her license in 1936. Ethel was especially interested in AARS and in '41 was district net control in her state. After Pearl Harbor she was called to the Presidio in San Francisco. Thereafter she served at Ft. Douglas, Utah; Quonset Point Naval Air Station, R.I., and the Seattle Naval Air Station. For the last nine years she has been an Electronics Engineering Aide at the Naval Research Laboratories in Washington, D.C.

Ethel is not now very active on the air, but is very much so in club work. She is president of the new radio club at NRL (W3NKF), secretary-treasurer of the **Washington TVI Committee**, and treasurer of the **Society of Women Engineers**. She also is a member of the **Washington Radio Club**. Her apartment QTH makes operating her present station, W3MSU (a **Viking I** and **HQ-129**), almost impossible, but she does get on from W3NKF and mobile with her 10-meter rig.

YLRL's first vice president, **W9WWP**, licensed in 1936, was a sophomore at the Univ. of Illinois when YLRL got under way. After getting her degree at U. of I. (in Home Ec.), Carol went to work as **Asst. Engineering Aide** in BuShips. In 1942 she became the first woman staff member at ARRL with a call, serving first as Asst. Comm. Mgr. and then as Acting Comm. Mgr. Then she spent a year in the WAVES hospital corps.

As **W6WSV**, the QTH is South Pasadena, Calif., where Carol shares with OM, W6WSW, an **HQ-140X** and a rig consisting of a 5763 xtal, 6146 final, running 65 watts, on 20 CW. Carol has been active in the **Los Angeles YL** club, was its first president, has served as P/C, and this year is 6th district chairman for YLRL. Chief occupation: cook and nursemaid to Marcia 6, and Michael 2.

First secretary-treasurer of YLRL, **W9NBX**, Enid Carter, put Bowbells, N.D., on the map with her issues as editor of **YL Harmonics**. For some time she has been permanent librarian of YLRL. Enid was licensed in 1936, and for many years was very active on 80, 40 and 20 CW, keeping up with the fastest ops. She also participated in AARS. Enid met her OM, W6ZD, via the Ham bands. Now Enid Aldwell, W6UXF, she is located in Los Angeles. Enid says she is completely out of the Ham game at present. She and her OM have taken up German and Austrian folk dancing and spend all their spare time with practicing, exhibitions and research into authentic dances, music and costumes.

YLRL's first publicity chairman, **W8TAY**, Nita (now W4JCR), held that post for five years. She has had many jobs in YLRL and is now chairman of its constitution committee. Always an enthusiastic booster of YLRL, it has been from Nita's files and early issues of **YL Harmonics** that much of our data on YLRL's beginnings has been gleaned.

Nita's present work is program director for WISE-TV in Asheville, N.C. Prior to that she was in Radio WISE. For some time she was a recreation director in a V.A. hospital. Wartime service included work in the Intelligence Dept. and she was a training director in Special Services of the Army. Nita says that long ago she was a technical writer and then a lab aid in Brush Development Co. in Cleveland, and before her marriage was a dancer and in the theater. Nita received her Ham license in March, 1939. She and her OM, W4JCS, have a Harvey Wells with Meissner Signal Shifter, and operate all bands.

How Many YLs?

So the YLRL has grown and prospered—but the original question to which an answer was sought remains unanswered. The lace-trimmed ad for "Two Hundred Meters and Down" said ". . . **you** won't tell—how many of you YL key-twitchers there are . . ." Just **how many** licensed YL operators are there? The 500 members in YLRL are only a portion of all those licensed in the U.S. and elsewhere. This sibyl estimates between two and three thousand. Any other guesses?

YLRL welcomes new members. Dues are $2 a year and include a subscription to **YL Harmonics**. For more information about YLRL and a membership-application card, drop your column editor a note at Dulce, N. Mex.

To all of the YLs who assisted in providing data for this account of YLRL's history, our grateful thanks. Till next month, 33, *W5RZJ*.

PRESIDENTS YLRL

1939-W7FWB-ETHEL SMITH
1940- W7FWB-EThel Smith
1941- W9NBX-ENid CARTER
1942- W8TAY-ANITA BIEN
1943 W1FTJ-DOROTHY EVANS
1944 W3CDQ-ELIZABETH "LIZ" ZANDONINI
1945 W9ZTU-Mildred MARQLIN
1946 W5IKC-LOU LACY
1947 W6MUO-Helen Cook
1948 WØDBD-LETA BUSH
1949 W3OLY-Helen Morrison
1950 W1FTJ-DOROTHY EVANS
1951 W9JTX-LOUISE BERINGER
1952 W7HHH-BEA AUSTIN
1953 W1BCU-MARGARET Wells
1954 W6CEE-VEDA LETCHER
1955 W9LOY-ALICE BOWLIN
1956 W9LOY-ALICE BOWLIN after Elections were calender year
1957 W3PVH-BETTY FREDERICK
1958 W7NJS-Beth TAYLOR
1959 W4BLR-Kay Anderson
1960 W6DXI-Gladys EASTMAN
1961 K5RNQ DORIS Anderson
1962 W1ZEN-ONIE Woodward
1963 K6OQD-JEAN Kincheloe
1964 K1IZT-Blanche Randles
1965 W6QYL-MARTHA EDWARDS
1966 WØHJL-Kayla Bloom
1967 K1EKO-Eddie McCracken
1968 WA6AOE-Maxine Hanberry
1969 KØEPE-Marte Wessel
1970 VE3EZ1-Ivy Smythe
1971 WB2JCE-Janice Fontana
1972 K7QGO-Mae R. Hipp
1973-WA4BVD-Carrie C. Lynch
1974 WA8EBS-Eila D. Russell
1975 WB2YBA-Christine Haycock
1976 WA6ISY-Myrtle Cunningham
1977 WA7FFG-Beth Newlin
1978 WA2GLB PHYLLIS SHANKS
1980 K1IZT BLANCHE RANDLES
1981 WA2DMK IONE O-DONNELL

2000 Lady 'Hams' Have World Line

Amateur Radio Women Develop Friendships, Sometimes Marriages

By CARL F. BISSELL

WEST HARTFORD, Ct. (AP)—There are some 2000 gals in the United States and its possessions who must be the envy of their sisters.

They are in on the world's biggest "party line" — one that stretches around the world.

They are amateur radio operators—"hams" in the parlance of their craft—and there are some mighty professional amateurs among them. In times of disaster, they are as capable as men in manning the emergency communications network of the American Radio Relay League.

But they are gals, and given to folksy chatter with others of their kind just as are their sisters whose interest in communications is limited to having a "good long talk with Mabel" over the telephone.

For instance, there's Johnny Harris who lives in this pleasant North Central Connecticut community. Everyone calls her "Johnny," including faraway "hams" she's never seen. More formally, she is Mrs. Garnet Harris who, with her dentist-husband, Dr. N. G. Harris, share the call letters W1ASJ.

Tuesday is "Ladies Day" on the 10 meter band where the amateur radio stations operate and that's the day Johnny and Ruth Mrs. Browne and her husband, whom she helps to edit a newspaper at Electra, Texas, operate station W5IZL.

TOGETHER FOR YEARS

Johnny and Ruth have been getting together on Tuesday for years to chat, as other young matrons will, about family matters, recipes, new books, the theater and local happenings.

"It's just like a country party line," says Johnny, "only those who wish to listen may be scattered all over creation."

Just as those on a real country party telephone line are apt to be good neighbors and go visiting when time permits, so do the lady "hams."

Not long ago the Harris doorbell rang and there stood Lois and Nelson Magner who operate a pair of "ham" stations in the Panama Canal Zone.

Lois and Johnny had gabbed many times over the air, so the Magners were using some of their stateside vacation time to cement a friendship which began one day when Johnny flipped the switches of her set, opened the mike and called "CQ. CQ. W1ASJ, West Hartford, Ct., calling CQ. Come in please."

"CQ" is a general call for contact, and Lois, down in the Canal Zone, had answered.

FLEW TO TEXAS

Dr. and Mrs. Harris have done some of that kind of visiting themselves.

Back in 1949 they flew to Texas to meet the Harold Morrises who operate W5NKV at Borgern. After a pleasant two weeks, they came home by way of Oklahoma City to say "hello" to another dentist "ham"—Dr. John McHenry, who operates W5MQI.

Eunice Loyzim of North Coventry, over in the eastern part of the state, hopes other war wives won't feel too envious because she occasionally gets to talk to her Air Force major husband in Japan.

"It happens only when atmospheric conditions over the Pacific are right, which they aren't most of the time in the fall and winter," she explains.

Steve Loyzim is in charge of communications on several Japanese islands, but that doesn't help a bit once the static begins. Sometimes he does get to say a little more than "Hello, darling," but since September he and Eunice have been able to make contact no more than a half dozen times.

SPRINGFIELD HELP

One of those times, Eunice says, she'd have missed out completely if it hadn't been for a fellow "ham" in Springfield, Mass., who heard Steve calling and tipped her off by telephone because her set was not on. Steve's call letters (JA7SL) were assigned to him by the Army Signal Corps.

Eunice Loyzim became a "ham" in self-defense, she explains, after Steve's interest in amateur radio made her almost a radio widow. Steve, a state representative in the Connecticut legislature, was a member of the Connecticut Air National Guard when he was called to federal service last April. She got her first license and her call letters—W1NJJ—in 1939.

Radio is her one hobby, aside from her two lovely daughters, one a University of Connecticut co-ed who has her own "ham" station (W1SRJ); the other a high school senior who is determined to become a concert pianist.

Like other lady "hams" Eunice has her "Megacycle Pal"—Anna Littlefield (W1MCW) of Cape Elizabeth, Me. with the world at their instrument panels, they have a long established rivalry in "working" distant stations and swapping information.

Both have worked W2ZXM, the mobile marine station of Capt. Henrik Kurt Carlsen, master of the ill-fated Flying Enterprise. Carlsen is well known to amateur radio operators throughout the world.

PARAKEET CALLS

Eunice's isn't the only voice amateurs in other parts of the world heard over her transmitter. Her azure parakeet "CQ" can call "CQ" with as much authority as does its mistress.

At headquarters of the American Radio Relay League here, Asst. Secretary Harry Paston said the girls have their own network known as the Young Ladies Relay League, an ARRL affiliate. Its members range from 10 to 70 years of age.

"But," he adds, "there are many husband - wife combinations."

Most wives, says Paston, become interested in ham radio as Mrs. Loyzim did—in self defense. But "there are some 'lone wolves' whose husbands follow other hobbies."

Not infrequent, he adds, a husband follows his wife into the league.

"A lot of the gals are single," he says, "but many of them don't remain that way long. Not a few friendships begun over ham radio have resulted in happy marriages.

1st YL News and Views

YL NEWS and VIEWS

CONDUCTED BY
ELEANOR WILSON,* W1QON

The introduction of a new department in *QST* cannot fail to arouse interest and comment. And when the new department involves YL amateurs, it's virtually assured that a wide reading audience will be on hand — YLs, XYLs, OMs — just about everybody. With these assumptions in mind, our department is launched.

Numerically, YLs constitute but a small proportion of the whole amateur body. We, then, accept a challenge and a responsibility with the inauguration of our department; it's up to us to continue exemplifying the old adage that "it's the quality, not the quantity" that counts.

YL amateurs have proved and are constantly proving their worth. Their accomplishments are notable. Their numerous and outstanding contributions to the hobby speak for themselves.

A department for YLs can cover a lot of ground, and we hope to present material which heretofore was perhaps not quite in order with any other section of *QST*. What suggestions, pet theme, yes, even complaint, have you? Do write and let us know.

Novices and the YLRL

Article I of the Young Ladies Radio League constitution states: "All licensed amateur radio operators of the female sex shall be eligible for membership." Thus, a YL Novice Class operator is allowed membership for one year — the term of the Novice Class license. At the end of one year, if the Novice has not obtained another class of license, her membership is automatically terminated. Eligibility for YLRL membership applies to *all* classes — your license must be valid!

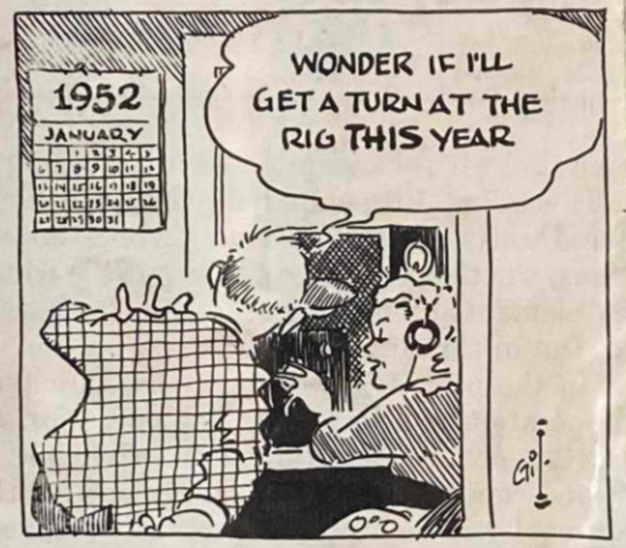
YL Novices are not eligible for office. To hold office it is necessary for a candidate to have been a YLRL member in good standing for at least one year prior to elections.

If your questions are still unanswered, send them along to YLRL Secy.-Treas. Peg Wells, W1BCU, 343 Fisher Street, Walpole, Mass.

*YL Editor, *QST*. Please send all contributions to W1QON's home QTH: 318 Fisher St., Walpole, Mass.

Keeping Up with the Girls

W3LSX and W4UTO are devoting their operating time to forty c.w. . . . It's a new Natick, Mass., QTH for W1SCS. Ruthe is the capable alternate NC for New England's Deep Sea Drag Net . . . . W1FTJ is DXing on twenty and rag-chewing on seventy-five. . . . W2OLB has completed in rough draft a sequel to *Kay Everett Calls CQ*. Amelia's first book is fast making new friends for amateur radio. . . . Handling traffic keeps W9JTX busy. Louise and W9ILH, W9JUJ, and W3CUL exchange traffic regularly and really move volumes of it. W3CUL continues to be our BPL member par excellence. . . . W1BCU met WØCMV, W9JUJ, and ex-W9EFW at French Lick. . . . Newly-licensed W4TDK is standing her ground as St. Petersburg's only YL among that city's some eighty OMs. . . . Editing *Harmonics* doesn't prevent W1RTB from checking into the Deep Sea Drag Net and the Connecticut 'Phone Net regularly. . . . Ever searching for MM contacts, W8DQO has worked 139 to date. Marge holds the No. 1/MM Honorary Associate Certificate. . . . ON4MF prefers c.w. and can regularly be found on twenty, forty, and eighty. . . . An extensive trip across country gave W8ATB the opportunity to meet eighteen YLs. . . . The



Long Island Unit of YLRL currently boasts a membership of sixty-five. W2JZX deserves credit for inaugurating this unit, and W2UXM, WN2KEB, WN2KED, WN2BXT, and Marie Manthe and Ethel Whitty, who are awaiting calls, are particularly appreciative of Vi's efforts in their behalf. . . . W4TAV alternates between eighty and forty c.w. and ten 'phone, fixed and mobile. . . . Continuing to be one of the most active YL Clubs, the San Diego Club has a full calendar ahead. Dinners, outings, and parties augment regular business meetings. The neighboring and also very active YL Club of Los Angeles recently celebrated its fifth anniversary with twenty members in attendance. . . . W2IQP joins her husband and two sons as the fourth licensed member of the family. . . . Busily building modu-

(Continued on page 114)

At the recent ARRL Midwest Division Convention, Charles Miser, W9MDC, chairman of the Indiana Radio Club Council, presented a plaque to Peggy Coulter, W9JUJ, in recognition of her selection as the outstanding amateur in Indiana for 1951.

Peggy's record is an impressive one. A licensed amateur for one and one-half years, she is ORS, OBS, MARS, RM, active on four nets, NC of a two-meter net, secretary of the IRCC, was chairman of the 1951 Indiana Hamfest and chairman of the Indiana Worked All Counties Contest, and has made BPL eight times. Despite this heavy activity, Peggy finds ample time to handle the household chores attendant to the raising of two growing youngsters.

YL News

(*Continued from page 35*)

lators, G3ACC and G3YL anticipate good signal reports soon. . . . W3RXV is one of the first YL Novice operators to get her General Class license. . . . W7JWC has been showing visiting hams the city of Seattle from her lovely hilltop home. Among recent visitors was W3OQF, who is touring the country with OM W3MAX and jr. op. . . . Net activity keeps W7HHH busy, although Bea has also managed to work 167 YLs in between nets. . . . An extended QSO with ZE1JE prompted W5JCY to sponsor the YL from Southern Rhodesia in YLRL. . . . W7LCS trusts her new West Seattle QTH will be a lucrative DX location. . . . Considerable interest has been shown in the Novice training program initiated by W3MSU, president of the Washington Radio Club. WRC YLs W3CDQ, W3LSX, W3AKB, and W3MSU are giving code practice regularly. . . . Reserve February 23rd and 24th for the YL-OM Contest. Full details next month.

There is good reason for the bright smiles exhibited by KZ5AC, KZ5PC, and KZ5GQ. Thirteen-year-old Carol Combs, shown at mike, recently became KZ5GQ and thus established the Combs as the first KZ5 all-ham family. Carol is the youngest operator in the Canal Zone and the third member of her family to merit a "first." In July, 1949, a month after Carol's father, Prentiss, received his ticket, her mother, Angela, became the first licensed KZ5 YL. Thus, KZ5AC and KZ5PC were the first husband-and-wife radio team in the Canal Zone.

Y.L.R.L. NETS

(As of December 1st)

Band	Day	Time	Frequency	NCS
80 c.w.	Wednesday	9:00 P.M. EST	3610 kc	W9JTX
75 'phone	Monday	8:00 P.M. PST	3900 kc.	W7HHH
75 'phone	Wednesday	9:00 A.M. EST	3900 kc.	W8ATB
40 c.w.	Friday	9:00 P.M PST	7040 kc	W7NOB (15 w.p.m. and slower)
40 c.w.	Tuesday	10:00 P.M. EST	7105 kc.	W3CDQ
20 'phone	Thursday	2:00 P.M. EST	14,240 kc.	W6FEA, W3UUG

W7NOB will listen on Wednesday at 2:00 P.M. PST on 7040 kc. for those who prefer a daytime net.

"Activities" YL-OM "1964" 15th

Results of the YL-OM Contest

Many more OM's and YL's turned out for the *YL-OM Contest* this year, and apparently all had an FB time. For the OMs, W1BFT made his fourth straight win, and since this is the third year he has won the gold loving cup, donated by W8UDA, Carl will now retain permanent possession. Among the YL's there was competition for top place, with W8HLF winning the silver cup donated by W1BFT. Last year W4SGD won top place, and the year before W6YYM. This year, for the first time, cups also are being given to the top OM and YL scorers for phone-to-phone and CW-to-CW contacts. So cups will be awarded as follows:

1st — YL — W8HLF
OM — W1BFT

2nd — YL phone — W8HLF YL CW — W1FTJ
OM phone — W1BFT OM CW — W8AJW

3rd — YL phone — W4SGD YL CW — W9JUJ
OM phone — W8AJW OM CW — W1BFT

Here are the scores of those reporting in the contest. Others submitted logs for confirmation only.

Station YL	Aggregate Score	Phone-to Phone Score	CW-to-CW Score
W8HLF	169440	166560	240
W4SGD	157500	156660	30
W4KYI	152650	152650	
WØCXC	102080	102080	
W1YYM	79980		
W1FTJ	68080	10	68080
W4STH	64050	64050	
W9JUJ	63040	2940	47120
W3MAX-OQF	58500	58240	20
W4UNO	45210		
W1QON	33600		
W1ULF	28750		
VE3AJR	26190		26190
W8HWX	25750		
W3QPJ	22680	120	21600
VE1ABT	21000		21000
W2JZX	19760	19760	
W5SPV	18040	18040	
W1TUD	17080	17080	
W1BCU	16320	16320	
W2WCL	14250		
W3RXV	13860	13720	10
W3NHI	12540		12540
VE3DEX	12040	12040	
W9MYC*	10500		10500
W1RLQ		10440	880
W5WUX	7840	7840	
W1OAK	7140		7140
W4TIE	6720		6720
W3SVY	5950		5950
W1SRQ	5600		5600
W8HUX	5460	5460	
W2EEO	5170	5170	
W6EHA-5	4790	4790	
W4UTO	3840	880	1680
W9RXY	3750		3750
W9JTX	3360		3360
W9OMZ	2600	10	2280
W1LYR	2280		2280
W2IQP	2000		
W1VXC	1820	1820	
W9PEX*	1360	1360	
W3LSX	990		990
W5RZJ	770		
W3MSU*	770		770
W3CDQ	250		250

Station -OM-	Aggregate Score	Phone-to-Phone Score	CW-to-CW Score
W1BFT	11440	4250	4080
W8AJW	8880	3150	4140
W2BBK	7560	1870	2850
W8SDD	5000	720	2560
W2OIB	4860		
W4NTT	3840		3520
W4ARR	4560		
W3AS	3520		
W8YGR	3520		
W4OMW	3570		
W2NIY	3360		
W4KL	2800		
W1AW	2660		
W9CMC	2660		
W8AQ	2520		2520
W3SSP	2380		2380
W3LXE		1170	2520
W1BFB	2160	2160	
W4KX	1920		1920

Station YL	Aggregate Score	Phone-to Phone Score	CW-to-CW Score
W8FRD	1920		1920
W3BET	1870	1870	
W3QLW	1800		
W3HJT	1800	1800	
W3FYS	1560		1560
W4HUW	1500	1500	
VE3ATR	1320		1320
W1JYH	1260	1260	
W3CDG	1100		1100
W4KMS	990	990	
W8DAE	810		810
W2UAP	800		800
W8RAB	630	630	
WØIHW	490		
W8FYE	480	480	
W3QDI	480	480	
WØYQR	420	420	
VE1OM	420		420
W4JLK	420		420
W9MBL	360		360
W2NZE	320	320	
W4WRH	300		
WØFEO-Ø	300		300
W4TIZ	160		160
W8CHG	160		160
W9FDX	160		160
W1BVR	120	120	
W4IOW	120		
W2CCA	40	40	
WØHAW	40		40

YL-OM Contest

The annual *YL-OM Contest*, sponsored by the *Young Ladies' Radio League*, is scheduled this year for the first and third weekends in March. The phone section will be March 5-6 and the CW portion will be March 19-20.

This will be the 6th annual *YL-OM Contest*. It is open to *all* YLs and OMs and offers a fine opportunity to build up YL contacts for WAS/YL and YLCC awards. Put the dates on your calendar now. Rules for the contest will be given here next month.

YLRL 15th Anniversary Party Rules

Dates: Phone—Start Sat. Dec. 4, at 1200 EST. End Sun. Dec. 5, 2400 EST. CW—Start Sat. Dec. 11, at 1200 EST. End Sun. Dec. 12, at 2400 EST. Operate no more than 20 hours on phone and 20 hours on CW.

Frequencies: All bands. Cross-band operation, phone to phone and CW to CW, is permitted.

Eligibility: Contest open to any licensed YL or XYL operators throughout the world. Not limited to YLRL members. Contacts with OM's do not count.

Procedure: Call "CQ YLRL."

Exchange: QSO number; RS or RST report; name of State, U.S. Possession, VE District or Country.

Scoring:
a—5 points for each contact.
b—Same YL may be worked on other bands for additional credit.
c—add number of points and then multiply by number of different States, U. S. Possessions, VE Districts and Countries worked. Maryland and District of Columbia count as one state.
d—All phone contestants running 150 or less watts input at all times may then multiply the final score by 1.5.
e—All CW contestants running 150 or less watts input at all times may then multiply the final score by 1.25.

Awards: Highest phone score—Cup
Highest CW score—Cup
(These cups are awarded on a yearly basis. Any operator winning the same cup three times gains permanent possession of it.)
2nd and 3rd place awards to be donated.
Certificate for high score for phone and CW in each U.S. District and Country.

Logs: Copies of phone and CW contestants logs must be postmarked not later than Dec. 31, 1954, to be sent directly to Gilda Shoblo, W6KER, Vice President YLRL, 3715 Liberty Blvd., Southgate, California. When submitting copies of logs, please list phone contacts and CW contacts separately.

YL/CC

YLRL's YL Century Certificate is off to a good start. Award No. 1 has gone to W1BFT, Carl Evans; No. 2 to W2QHH, Howy Bradley.

Emergency Traffic

When Hurricane Hazel struck North Carolina, W4SGD, Katherine, found herself right in the thick of it. Winds up to 100 m.p.h. knocked down 35 big trees on their property, but otherwise they escaped damage. Katherine says the *Tar Heel Emergency Net* was in session from Thursday night before the storm until the following Wednesday. She manned her station for about 50 hours, most of the time listening and being ready to relay traffic.

In the same storm the *Pennsylvania Emergency Phone Net* was in operation on Oct. 15-16 using 3850 kc., which was declared an emergency frequency by FCC. **W3QPQ**, Jeannette, acted as NCS for a portion of the time and was on the air for the full time of the emergency. **W3SVY**, Loreli, assisted by landline contact to **W3QPQ**, and handled some traffic on CW. Loreli and her OM lost their 46-ft. tower with all antennas in the storm, but strung up a long wire to keep operating.

When flood waters hit the Pecos River Valley in southeastern New Mexico in October **W5YAS**, Blanche, **W5BZB**, Pat, and **W5TDB**, Emma, assisted in handling traffic.

1964 YL/OM Contest Results

	Contacts	Section	Score
YL PHONE			
KØEPE, Martha E. Wessel	1101	90	99,090
WA6OET, Jessie W. Billon	613	82	50,266
WA9ENB, Frankye Prigg	531	86	45,666
OM PHONE			
K5MDX, David L. Thompson	95	45	5,343.75*
K4VFY, Mike Kirby	79	38	3,752.50*
K1NWE, Robert Young	52	31	2,015.00*
YL CW			
W3CUL, Mae Burke	425	69	36,656.25*
KH6BTX, Gladys T. Stickle	382	80	30,480
K8ONV, Sally Mary Ryden	367	82	30,194
OM CW			
W4CHK, Frederick Fraley (tied)	72	39	3,510*
W5WZQ, David R. Blaschke (tied)	72	39	3,510*
K6CJF, William M. Marriott	58	38	2,755.00*
W9LNQ, A. R. Truhlar	61	36	2,745.00*

Top District Scores

YL PHONE	
K1LCI*	13,895.50
K2JYZ	3,250
W3VNN	18,119.75
K4RNS	28,060
K5FXX	18,240
WA6OET	50,266
K7SKR*	28,600
K8ONV	32,487
WA9ENB*	45,666
KØEPE	99,090
VE3BII	472.50
OM PHONE	
K1NWE*	2,015
WA2QHQ*	1,121.50
K3TOQ*	1,885
K4VFY*	3,752.50
K5MDX*	5,343.75
K6CJF*	1,235
W7NKK	1,620
W8TN	902
K9AKF*	1,552.50
WØBTD*	1,332.50
VE1AFP*	275
VE3EVK*	66
VE4ZX*	101.25
VE7AKB*	825
KP4RK	264
G3NFV*	80
YV5BPG	154
PAØFAB	90
K3ICK/VO1	204
SM7CIR/MM*	11.25
YL CW	
K1UOR	24,427.50
W2EBW	19,363
W3CUL*	36,656.25
WA4BVF	18,520
K5FXX	21,775
WA6OET	31,450
W7HXE	17,360
K8ONV	30,194
W9KSE*	28,760
KØZSQ	18,880
KH6BTX	30,480
VE3EZI	26,492
VE6ABV*	14,918.75
VE7BBB*	4,250
PY2SO	345
VK3KS*	1,063
DJ9SB*	1,820
OH5RZ	375
G3ORU*	292.50
OM CW	
W1PYM	2,457
K2PXX*	2,053.75
K3NEZ*	1,267.50
W4CHK*	3,510
W5WZQ*	3,510
K6CJF*	2,755
W7ULC*	1,747
K8KFP	2,625
W9LNQ*	2,745
WØGWT*	1,920
W7UXP/KH6*	101.25
XE1FE*	400
JA2CKS	25
TF3AB	20
VE1AE*	641.25
VE2AQO*	1,592.50
VE3DXD*	1,772.50
VE4ZX	1,069
VE6UP	1,518
VE7BDJ	1,271
HK7ZT*	625
G3NFV*	52.50
IT1AGA*	215
KP4RK	1,881
PJ2AE*	300
PY2CQ	1
SP6FZ	143
OH2OD*	1.25

*Denotes low-power multiplier.

"1964" YL Anniversary Party

YL

LOUISA B. SANDO,* W5RZJ

Congratulations to the winners of YLRL's 25th Anniversary Party! The c.w. section (Oct. 21-22) was won by Jeanine, VE3-BII, while Irma, K6KCI, earned the highest score on phone (Nov. 4-5). The Corcoran plaque for highest *combined* score was won by Ellen, WA4FJF. Available for the first time in this contest, to DX YLs for combined c.w.-phone scores, were the W4HLF cups. The one for North/Central America DX YLs was won by Jeanine, VE3BII, with 4441 points.

Here are the top scores:

1st c.w.—VE3BII, Jeanine Burgess	1595
2nd c.w.—WA6OET, Jessie Billon	1540
3rd c.w.—WA4FJF, Ellen Ackerman	1375
1st phone—K6KCI, Irma Weber	7860
2nd phone—K5YIB, Barbara Houston	7500
3rd phone—WA4FJF, Ellen Ackerman	7200

Corcoran Award

WA4FJF, Ellen Ackerman . . . 8575

District High Scores

Phone		C.W.	
K1EKO	3990	K1NST	660
K2JYZ	3850	K2JYZ	712
K3HZY	1993	K3HZY	20
WA4FJF	7200	WA4FJF	1375
K5YIB	7500	K5YIB	1045
K6KCI	7860	WA6OET	1540
K7RAM	6325	K7OFX	1170
W8HWX	4987	W8HWX	617
K9TRP	4663	W9MLE	1030
WØJUV	2379	VE3BII	1595
PY2SO	60	G2YL	162
KZ5TT	3075	OH5RZ	36
VE7ADR	3330	VK3KS	1
VK3KS	1		

CQ 1964

YL

LOUISA B. SANDO*, W5RZJ

LAST call for YLRL's 4th International Convention! Celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Young Ladies Radio League, it will be held at the Nationwide Inn, Columbus, Ohio, June 19-21, 1964.

Briefly, the program is this: Fri. all day—registration and eyelash QSOs. *All YLs please bring one of your QSLs.* As part of registration these will be posted on a large map so all can easily spot who is there. Sat., 9:30 A.M.—YLRL business meeting conducted by YLRL President K1IZT, Blanche. 1:00 P.M.—YL luncheon with recognition of YLs plus prizes. 7:00 P.M.—banquet for YLs and OMs. Speaker will be W6UXF, Enid, 25-year continuous member.

An OM program is planned for Sat. beginning at 9:00 A.M. with a trip to the Center of Science and Industry. This is a new building housing the Columbus Radio Club, one of the most complete radio stations in the area, a planetarium with shows, and many interesting projects.

All who remain on Sunday are invited to be guests of the Buckeye Belles, hostess club for the convention, at Brunch in the hospitality room. In addition, the Lancaster Hamfest is but 35 miles away.

The Belles have received so many embroidered emblems not only a bed cover but a luncheon cloth as well will be made of them. Truly, these will be wonderful prizes! Absentee tickets may be had for $1 for YLs who cannot attend but who want a chance on these prizes, as well as a gift from the Belles.

Complete registration ticket is $10—$2.50 registration (for Sat. coffee, "loot bags," luncheon & banquet favors), $2.50 luncheon, $5 banquet; OM's banquet $5. Note from convention chairman, K8MZT, Shirley: *If you want to receive the personalized favors, get your registration in by June 12.* (However, any YL will be welcomed up to the last minute.) Send your registration to Libby Isham, K8UKM, 474 Darbyhurst Rd., Columbus 14, Ohio. Be seeing you!

*4417 Eleventh St., N.W., Albuquerque, New Mexico 87107.

Mary Schultz, K6OWQ

We regretfully record the death on March 18 of Mary Schultz, K6OWQ, of Temple City. It happened as one of those tragic events wherein an innocent bystander becomes the victim. Following a drugstore robbery, police from three communities pursued the suspect onto the San Bernardino Freeway and in a high-speed chase fired seven shots at his car. Mary, driving a new Comet, was seen to swerve into the freeway's inner lane just after the bandit's car entered it and crashed into her car, killing Mary instantly. An autopsy later revealed a bullet lodged in the top of Mary's head, causing a wound not serious enough to have killed her but undoubtedly the reason she lost control of her car moments before the collision.

The *Los Angeles Times* editorialized thus: "With radio relays at police command, the robber in plain sight, and considering the nature of freeways themselves, [the necessity of] this chase-and-duel action seems wide open to serious doubt as [a] drastic procedure that overly endangers the public."

Our sincere condolences to Mary's OM, Carl ("Bud"), W6CG. Bud is an engineer with KHJ-TV, and writes for RTTY Society of So. Calif. They had no children.

Mary has been written up in these pages earlier.

Mary Schultz, K6OWQ

QST 1964

CONDUCTED BY JEAN PEACOR,* K1IJV

Her letter prompted it all! Ethel Smith, W7FWB (now K4LMB), YLRL's first President, shown 25 years ago when YLRL was just an idea.

Happy Birthday YLRL

MAY I offer my congratulations to the YLRL on the event of its 25th anniversary. The organization today is a far cry from the little handful of YLs who banded together in 1939 and it certainly has surpassed the fondest dreams any of us had at that time.

We figured there were probably 1000 licensed YLs in the world in 1939. I imagine there will be that many at the convention in Columbus, Ohio this year. Today the YL is an accepted part of amateur radio and the girls are active in every phase. I'm proud that I had a chance to play a part in its beginning and take pleasure in extending my congratulations to those YLs who have carried the torch high throughout the past 25 years. May the next 25 years bring as much more accomplishment. 33, Ethel, K4LMB"

These words received from Ethel Smith, the first President of YLRL, make a fine introduction to this anniversary greeting. May 1964 marks the 25th anniversary of the Young Ladies' Radio League, this country's major women's radio organization.

The original officers of YLRL—President, Ethel Smith, W7FWB (now K4LMB); Vice Pres. and Activities Manager, Carol Keating, W9WWP (now Carol Witte, W6WSV); Secretary, Enid Carter, W9NBX (now Enid Aldwell, W6UXF); and Publicity Chairman, Anita Bien, W5TAY (now W4JCR)—could hardly have realized the scope or the extent to which their ideas would grow. Their work so ably begun has been well carried forward by subsequent officers. The full extent can best be appreciated by considering next month's celebration at the 5th YLRL International Convention.

The Convention Committee has announced the following detailed program for YLRL's 25th anniversary celebration which will be held June 19-21 at the Nationwide Inn, Columbus, Ohio:

Friday—all day—meet the YLs. All girls: please bring a QSL card and put it on the bulletin board at the registration desk when you pick up your ID card. Please cooperate 100% with this effort—it will make for so much more fun. All meals Dutch Treat this day.

Saturday—9:30 A.M.—YLRL business meeting conducted by President Blanche Randles, K1IZT.

Coffee break.

1:00 P.M.—YL luncheon, with recognitions and surprises.

7 P.M.—YL and OM's banquet. Guest speaker will be Enid Aldwell, W6UXF, whose topic will be "CQ Happiness." Co-author, with Dr. William R. Parker, of the book *Man: Animal and Divine*, Enid now works with the Parker Foundation of Human Relations. Her forthcoming book *Dear Anne* deals with personality problems and how to overcome them. A co-founder and first secretary of YLRL when she was W9NBX, Enid is one of few charter members who will be a 25-year-continuous member of the organization.

For OMs on Saturday—9 A.M.—An all-day trip to the Center of Science and Industry. This is a new building which houses the Columbus Radio Club, as well as a planetarium with scheduled shows, and many interesting projects. Universal Service, commonly known as Gibby's, is easily accessible to the Center for OMs who like radio stores.

Sunday—All guests remaining on Sunday are

Ruth, W8LGY, adding the finishing touches to the Buckeye State you will see at the YLRL convention in June.

*YL Editor, QST. Please send all news notes to K1IJV's home address: 139 Cooley St., Springfield, Mass.

"1964"

YL NETS

Day	Time (EST)	Freq. (mc)	Name	NCS or Mgr.
Daily	1300	14.230 a.m. 14.340 ssb	CHC/FHC World-wide Service Net	CHC YL Chap. 4
Mon.	0830	3.900	Buckeye Belles Phone	K8MZT
	0900	3.920	U.P. Mich. YL	Rotates
	0900	7.225	Floridora	K4JZX
	1100	7.235	Loaded Clothes Line	WØESD
	1300	50.4	IMPS	K9YIC
	1400	3.870	LARK	Rotates
	1400	14.331	YL Int. SSBers	K4ICA
	1430	3.737	Buckeye Belles c.w.	K8TFG
	1800	3.890	Oregon YLs	W7HHH
	2300	3.900	Midnight YL Roundup	W4HLF
	2300	3.900	YL Round-up	W4HLF
1st & 3rd T. Tues.	0800	50.25	Puget Sound YL	Rotates
	0830	3.900	Blue Ridge	K4CZP
	0830	3.940	Jayhawker	KØHEU
	0900	51.3	Buckeye Belles	Rotates
	0900	3.933	Floridora YL SSB	Rotates
	0930	Tune Band, 2-Meter Net		K8NOK & K8TVX
	1000	50.33	Floridora YL Southern	K4ACF
	1300	7.179	Buckeye Belles c.w.	WN8DZL
	1300	50.4	IMPS	K9YIC
	1300	14.331	YL Int SSBers	K4RHL
	2130	50.5	Colorado YLs	WAØBBR KØWZN
	2130	3.825	GAYLARK	Rotates
	.....	3.915	LARK (after North Central phone net)	Rotates
Wed.	0830	3.900	Yankee Lassie, WRONE	K1LCI
	0930	50.25	Hawk Roost	K9MZV
	0900	3.900	YL Welcome	K8LHF Alt. W8ATB
	1100	7.100	Loaded Clothes-line c.w.	KØEVG
	1300	50.0	IMPS	K9YIC
	1300	50.65	WRONE	W1HOY
	1400	14.288	YL Open House	K6KCI & WA4FJF
	2100	50.7	Chix on Six Akron	Rotates
	2100	50.3	Suncoast YL	K4EAC
	2100	50.7	Chix on Six Cleveland	Rotates
	2200	146.1	L.A. YLRC	K6BUS
Thurs.	0900	7.270	Friendly Forty	W3UUG
	0900	3.860	Georgia Peach	K4MXL, Alt. K4ZNK
	0900	3.880	TYLRUN	K5IOJ
	1130	7.235	TYLRUN	K5IOJ
	1300	14.240	Tangle Net	KØEPE
	1300	14.277	Floridora Int'l Upper SB DX	KP4CL
	1300	50.4	IMPS	K9YIC
	1300	14.331	YL Int. SSBers	K4ICA
	1430	7.185	Floridora Novice	WA4FJF
	1900	50.64	Buckeye Belles Columbus	W8LGY-K8CEN
	2300	28.8	10-Mtr. Chirps-W6	Rotates
Fri.	0830	3.600	WRONE c.w.	K1IJV
	1200	3.880	Northwest YL (Minow)	K7RAM
	1230	7.250	40 Mtr. Round-table-W6	Rotates
	1300	50.4	IMPS	K9YIC
	Late eve.	14.331	YL Int. SSBers	ZL2ZO & ZL2WS
Sat.	0930	3.910	Hawks Roost	K9ILK
	1300	3.845	BAYLARC Mermaid	WA6LIZ
	1300	14.331	YL Int. SSBers	K4ICA
Sun.	0900	7.225	Floridora Business Girls	K4UIZ
	1700	3.940	Jayhawker	W9JUV

"Activities"

"1954" Powder Puff Derby "1964"

the Powder Puff Derby

LOUISA B. SANDO. WØSCF/5

Dulce, New Mexico

On July 3, some 50 light planes—*Pipers, Stinson Voyagers, Bellanca Cruisaires, Stinson 108-3's, Navions, Temco Swifts, Luscombe 8F's, Ercoupes, Taylorcrafts, Beechcrafts,* and *Cessnas*—took off from Long Beach, California. All piloted by women, and all bearing identifying numbers, they were on the first leg of the 2000-mile *All-Woman Transcontinental Air Race* sponsored by *The Ninety-Nines, Inc.,* international organization of women pilots founded by Amelia Earhart. Perhaps better known as the "Powder Puff Derby," the race ended four days later at Knoxville, Tenn.

Long before the planes took off, during every minute of their flight sun-up to sundown, and even after they had reached their destination, 75 and 20 meters hummed with AWTAR traffic. This was the 8th annual *Powder Puff Derby;* the third in which amateurs assisted with a transcontinental radio net.

Many months earlier **W2JZX,** Vi, started setting up this net, organizing chairmen in each of the stopover cities, as she had done the two previous years. When **W6NZP,** Evelyn, returned from her African tour in late March, she took over many details since the race was to start at her home city. **K6CDB,** Eileen, did much preliminary work in lining up and briefing the Hams along the course of the race. **W4YYJ,** Lois Anne, organized Hams for the relay net in Chattanooga and Knoxville, Tenn.

Chairmen for the stopover cities were:

These YLs gave invaluable help in the "Derby." L to r.: W6LMQ, Elleanor Souter, who relayed traffic (from W6MWO) from daylight to dark continuously for the four days of the race, and K6CDB, Eileen O'Connell, who spent many hours prior to the race lining up and briefing operators from Long Beach to Knoxville. Elleanor has had her license since early 1951 and she and her OM use an 800-watt home-built rig. Elleanor is secretary of the Assoc. Radio Amateurs of Long Beach. Photo by W6GAU.

YL news and views

CONDUCTED BY JEAN PEACOR,* K1IJV

Whistle While You Work

Are you happy in your work? If you were to devote an entire holiday weekend to work, would you be inclined to be so pleased in having done it that you would write a note of thanks to your boss for having allowed you to give of your time? It does happen and Carolyn Currens, W3GTC, has provided the perfect example.

Carolyn has just witnessed the successful completion of another Powder Puff Derby during Fourth of July weekend. As manager of amateur radio activities, which provide complete national coverage for the event, for the seventh straight year, Carolyn can vouch for this being the typical ham's reaction. Close to 100 amateur radio operators throughout the country willingly give of their time to assist in this race each year and many write such notes of thanks to Carolyn thanking her for the privilege and pleasure. It's doubtful that the word *work,* as such, ever crosses the minds of any radio operators who assist.

Amateurs at the start of the Powder Puff Derby from the Fresno Amateur Radio Club.

Officially designated the All-Woman Transcontinental Air Race (AWTAR), the Powder Puff Derby is the longest and largest speed race in the world for light airplanes. Its annual transcontinental U. S. course, changed each year, has been held in July since 1947 and measures over 2500 miles. The race provides the major annual flight activity of the Ninety-Nines, international organization of licensed women pilots and founded by Amelia Earhart in 1929.

The Derby has covered 3,377,573 race miles with 1567 contestants, been welcomed by 38 states and 70 different cities. It provides an incentive to women to learn to fly and to upgrade their abilities along with providing a similar incentive to all who assist in the race's success at the many stop-over points. Such an occasion provides the incentive for the searching out of all advanced techniques and newest equipment not only from the aviation standpoint, but for the radio amateurs too.

Operating a vital 2-meter linking station at the hotel near the finishing point of the race is Barbara Anders, W3WM.

Amateur radio is but an integral part in the overall picture for the success of the Derby. Hams coordinate with the National Aeronautic Association, Federal Aviation Agency, Flight Safety Inspectors, U. S. Weather Bureau, Ninety-Nines Chapters, Coast and Geodetic Survey, Chambers of Commerce, Flight Service Stations, State Aviation Officials, Air Traffic Control, Tower Operators, Air Explorers, Wing Scouts, Civil Air Patrol, State Governors, and the hundreds of other groups completing the operation.

For thirteen years radio amateurs have participated in Powder Puff Derby activities. As manager of these radio activities, Carolyn's job is to provide efficient communications in the form of a radio net which will cover the air race from start to finish and include all stop-over points. Through the net all pertinent information is relayed to points in all directions. In order to accomplish this, her work begins in January and continues right up until race time in July. Not only Carolyn, but all who assist, seem to "*whistle* while they work" and spread much good will

*YL Editor, *QST*. Please send all news notes to K1IJV'S home address: 139 Cooley St., Springfield, Mass.

WLRG-W4AA
WAYNE M. NELSON

W4ABC-W4AB

WLMC-W4NG
EDWARD J. DAY

ARMY AMATEUR RADIO SYSTEM

RADIOGRAM

RECEIVED AT:.....P.O. BOX 567, HIGH POINT, N.C.

7 WLMC ED JANY 27

W 9 NBX

SATURDAY NIGHT 8 FEB MIDNIGHT UNTIL HOUR AM CST DEDICATED TO YL LEAGUE QSO PARTY ON 7220 KCS X PLEASE LOOK FOR US 9PM CST FRIDAY 31 JANUARY ON 7220 KCS FOR TEST QSO X 73

KC4USB

EASTBASE PALMERLAND

ARMY AMATEUR RADIO SYSTEM
RADIOGRAM

Received at RADIO( ) w4AA ( )w4ABC } ~~Owned by Wayne M. Nelson, High Point, N. C.~~ P. O. BOX 1499 GREENVILLE, S. C.

9 WLMY ED FEB 11

W 9 NBX

CONFIRMING CONTACT FOLLOWING YLRL STATIONS W1FTJ, W3FXZ, W8NAL, W8UDA, W9FRR, W9OWQ, W9NBX, W9ZWL NO OTHERS HEARD X THANKS FOR ARRANGING EVERYTHING X CLOSING STATION HERE AND WILL MISS ENJOYABLE YL CHATTER UNTIL I SET UP MY OWN STATION W1LWD AGAIN X 73 AND BEST LUCK

ELMER KC4USB

Notice This radiogram is mailed with the compliments of these stations. A strictly non-commercial service for which no charges are made. There is no guarantee of delivery and the forwarding station disclaims all liability in connection with text or transmission. Stamps will be accepted to cover cost of future messages. REPLY ACCEPTED FOR FREE TRANSMISSION.

U. S. ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION DAILY 2-4 a. m. DIRECT P. O. BOX 1499 GREENVILLE, S. C.

Address reply: ~~w4AA, Wayne M. Nelson, P. O. Box 567, High Point, N. C.~~

(*The FIRST licensed amateur station in the Fourth Radio District, w4AA was issued to Wayne M. Nelson Nov.* 24, 1919.)

Operator: ( ) Wayne M. Nelson, w4AA, w4ABC, WLRX
(✓) Edward J. Day, Jr., w4NG, WLMC.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

The American Radio Relay League, Inc.

HEADQUARTERS, WEST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT, U. S. A.

Charter of Affiliation

Whereas it is the desire of the American Radio Relay League to establish bonds of affiliation with local non-commercial amateur radio societies of kindred aims and purposes to make possible unity of action in matters affecting the welfare of Amateur Radio and lend mutual strength; and **Whereas**

Young Ladies' Radio League Bowbells, No. Dakota

has declared its sympathy with and allegiance to the aims and policies of the League in its efforts to strengthen and advance Amateur Radio Communication and Experimentation, and has expressed its willingness and desire to co-operate therein:

Now Therefore, under the policies of its Board of Directors, the American Radio Relay League as of this date hereby declares the said society to be an affiliated body, and issues this charter in token thereof.

June 1, 1940
Charter Issued

Secretary

President

11/1/52

Will Organize Local Amateur Radio Operators

Mr. George A. Wilson, Jr., W1OLP, 318 Fisher street, Walpole has been selected to set up an organization of local amateur radio operators prepared to furnish organized emergency communication in time of disaster, it was announced today by Communications Manager F. E. Handy of the American Radio Relay League, national association of radio amateurs.

Wilson's assignment, which carries the title of Emergency Coordinator, is to band together members of the amateur radio service in his community to perfect arrangements for emergency radio communication by hams in the event of natural disasters or other emergencies. In addition to use of normal station equipment working from commercial power, amateur stations using self powered radio transmitting and receiving equipment are needed. Mr. Wilson, as ARRL Emergency Coordinator, will call local meetings of amateurs, establish common operating procedures, and arrange regular drill periods when the hams' personal stations may be mobilized under simulated emergency conditions. His duties also include liaison planning with the local chapter of the American Red Cross and other relief agencies, as suggested in the working understanding the ARRL Emergency Corps has with the national headquarters of the American Red Cross and other agencies. Liaison will be established also with local protective services, such as fire and police departments.

In announcing the appointment, Handy pointed out that radio amateurs have traditionally had the responsibility of being in constant readiness to offer assistance in time of need with ham-acquired skill, emergency-powered transmitters and a wealth of community spirit. "When sleet storms disrupt telephone and telegraph service, or floods isolate entire communities," the League's Communications Manager said, "it is amateur radio that comes to the rescue with operators and self-powered equipment, often as the sole agency able to transmit messages calling on the outside world for aid for the stricken community.

"To be prepared for this function requires not only a highly organized program of preparedness locally," Handy continued, "but hams outside the disaster area must be prepared to act as outlets and relay points for emergency traffic. Planning and organization are necessary in either eventuality, and that is the job Mr. Wilson is doing for this area.

Mayor Joseph J. Grillo and the municipal council of Gloucester have commended Eleanor and George Wilson, 318 Fisher street, Walpole, operators of amateur radio stations W1OLP and W1QON for outstanding service as members of the "Deep Sea Dragnet."

The Deep Sea Dragnet includes some 50 radio ham operators who sign in daily to the network headquarters in Gloucester. All contact with one another is made by radio.

Veteran ham Sylvester Ahola is the network's father and key man. "Two years ago I decided to start a ham network to be of service to New England," he says. "We have relayed many messages from G. I.'s in Korea to their folks back home; we have helped local people in emergencies. We stand ready to do a vital civil defense job when other communication fails, as it almost surely will if war comes."

Increasing the organization's defense value are the 20 mobile units installed in the hams' cars. These outfits generate their own power. Their mobility can greatly speed up traffic routing and fire-fighting.

The late Larry Toole, noted Gloucester marine artist, designed for the net a certificate awarded to loyal hams for six months. These awards are highly prized for their beautiful illustrated map of the New England coast.

As net control, Mr. Ahola calls the net together and directs the relay of messages from one station to another. A licensed radio ham since 1919, Mr. Ahola fell in love with radio while he listened on his cigar-box receiver as he tended his father's cows in the Lanesville pasture. After a brilliant career as trumpeter that saw him play with Bing Crosby, Morton Downey and Ruby Newman, retired to his home on the edge of his 25-acre wild life sanctuary.

FIRST EDITOR - JANUARY - 1952

YL NEWS AND VIEWS

CONDUCTED BY ELEANOR WILSON, W1QON

Walpole Couple Are Commended

W1OLP-George W1QON-Eleanor

Holbrook Woman Enjoys Worldwide Chats On Air Waves Before Getting Breakfast

By Blanche Bennett

HOLBROOK, May 28 — It isn't every housewife that can talk with a woman in South Wales or a businessman in Brazil or a salesman in Siam before getting her husband's breakfast!

From Faraway Places

That's one of the reasons that Mrs. Eleanor Wilson of South Franklin street in this town has turned with fascination to the hobby of "shooting the short wave beams" for worldwide "gab-fests" from an upstairs radio "shack."

It's a hobby which Mrs. Wilson acquired from her husband, George — an amateur radio operator of experience.

Mrs. Wilson learned code and the technique of radio listening-sending in three months, secured a license and is now a regular "ham."

She arises early every morning for long distance "CQ chats." Among amateur radio operators, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson are known as "QON" and "OLP," respectively.

Mrs. Wilson has talked frequently with "ham" operators in France, England, Germany or Denmark. She reports that many of the foreign senders speak good English.

Her first DX or long distance "ham fest" was with an amateur in Czechoslavkia. Since her air wave conversations have brought postal card replies from all over the world.

Her time limit on such short wave talks is the hour Mrs. Wilson must shut down the transmitter to leave for work in a Quincy office.

"SHOOTING THE AIR WAVES" is the favorite indoor sport of Mr. and Mrs. George Wilson (above) of South Franklin street, Holbrook, two of the South Shore's more enthusiastic "hams," or amateur radio operators. The photo was snapped in the Wilson shortwave "shack."

Television Problem

Mr. Wilson points out that television offers a big problem for amateur radio operators. Difficulties between "hams" and the general public can be cleared in nine tenths of the cases, he xplains.

Mr. Wilson points out that radio frequencies are assigned by the Federal Radio Commission and licenses to operate are issued by the Federal government. The main interferchce for radio or television is code, he explained; but ham operators do not send messages by code. Mr. Wilson emphasizes that the "ham" radio field is a training ground for technicians and operators and those who could handle microphone and key were valuable to technical laboratories during the war. These amateurs were trained, and in their spare time had developed becoming proficient in radio and electronic circles.

He states, the value of ham radio in disaster has been illustrated many times and during the time of the Maine fire not many years ago, messages for help got out by ham radio when all other communication lines and facilities were out.

A "ham" will handle personal messages to any part of the world, in time of disaster.

The vocabulary of the "ham" include: "CQ" the general call anyone listening; "DX" for foreign countries, "QS" meaning that the reception is "perfectly understandable" and each foreign country is identified by the first letter, "ZL" for New Zealand, "F" for France, "D" for Germany, "W1" for United States, etc. A "rag-chew" is another way of saying, "chew the rag" and "shack" is the room where the equipment is set up.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, former residents of Quincy, have lived in Holbrook two years. He is an electrical engineer employed in Foxboro. He builds his own radio sets. During the last war he was employed by Massachusetts Institute of Technology of which he is a graduate.

Some Women Have a License to Talk

Female Radio Operators Enjoy "Hamfests"—Take Part in Civil Defense

BY ELEANOR ROBERTS

"You know what happens when two women get together on the telephone. It's yackedty-yak-yak," laughed Dr. Paul Patterson, president of the Eastern Massachusetts Amateur Radio Association.

"But if you think that's bad you should listen to a couple of YLs (lady hams) chew the rag over the airwaves. It's nothing for a housewife in Boston to contact a housewife in San Francisco and spend 10 minutes on the air discussing the relative merits of chocolate cake baked with cream of tartar or baking soda.

"That's YLs for you," sighed the doctor. "They're wonderful gals, though, and once they've been bitten by the amateur radio bug it's a lot easier to understand why they have to call their ONs (husbands) four times for supper."

YLs, to the uninitiated, stands for Young Ladies and they're the duly licensed women amateur radio operators who not only discuss chocolate cake and Easter bonnets but relay messages from servicemen in Korea and other distant lands to wives, mothers and sweethearts in the States.

Weird Vocabulary

Out of the 125,000 hams who operate from all parts of the world, 2500 are women, Mrs. Eleanor Wilson of the Young Ladies Radio League (YLRL) estimates.

While no official count has been taken, New England claims a goodly share of YLs all brimming over with enthusiasm. Nine self-sacrificial YLRL members even unglue their eyes at 6 on Thursday mornings so they can meet on the net by 6:30 for an over-the-fence chat on whose children have measles and whose OM is away on a trip.

YLs have a weird vocabulary. Their children are called junior ops or harmonics. They refer to themselves as key-twitchers or tonsil-busters, depending on whether they operate on continuous wave (cw) or 'phone. Their coveted Federal Communications Commission license is their "ticket" and their set is called a rig. They operate from a "shack," which is usually off the kitchen or down cellar.

Their OMs are their ham husbands and an XYL is the wife of an OM who doesn't operate. Lady hams know each other better by their call numbers than they do by their names.

"Where's W1BCU?" Ruthie Ferguson of Natick, an ardent YL, will ask Ellie Wilson of Walpole. "Down to the hairdresser's," Ellie will reply, concerning the whereabouts of her across-the-street neighbor, Peg Wells.

Hamfests

That's ham radio!

The girls get together regularly at hamfests. Licensed YLs met only yesterday for luncheon at the Lafayette House in Foxboro and the main course was—you guessed it— [illegible] thing surpasses either the [illegible] informality or the warm [illegible]lity of the ham fraternity. [illegible]ON, otherwise known as El[illegible] [illegible]ithely invited all XYLs trav[illegible] from a distance with their [illegible] to deposit them at 318 Fisher [illegible]alpole, where W1OLP would [illegible]e them.

[illegible]nslated, this means that all [illegible]ls attending the hamfest who from distant parts could leave [illegible] husbands at Ellie's house [illegible] her husband would entertain [illegible]

[illegible] make friends quickly and easily. There's a "let's throw another potato in the stew" spirit. A YL in the Hub will plan a trip to Chicago and there will be no stranger-in-the-big-city stuff. She has friends a-plenty there and the best silver is dragged out for nothing is too good for a visiting ham.

"When George and I took a trip to New York we stayed with a YL, Madelaine Greenburg, and her OM in the Bronx," Ellie revealed. "Never saw either of them before but we built a wonderful friendship over the air."

Most YLs got interested in ham radio through their husbands. "I wasn't going to sit by and twiddle my thumbs" is the stock answer. Now, YLs instead of bellowing for their OMs to come to bed sit up till 3 a. m. talking with South Africa themselves.

First Contact

The OMs return the compliment by putting the coffee on to percolate and diapering the junior up while their wives tune in on that early morning Thursday net.

Peg Wells, secretary of YLRL and the mother of four harmonics, Joan, 14; Chan, Jr., 9; Sherry, 8, and Dolly, 6, does her washing and ironing while operating on the 6:30 a. m. net.

"I'm lucky," she grinned. "I've got automatic equipment and when one load comes out of the washer and goes into the dryer and out again, I'm ready to iron while I'm listening."

It was Peg's OM who first got her interested in ham radio. They were living in San Diego at the time and she got so fed up being a mere bystander that she buckled down to learning the code and theory and finally got her ticket.

"I'll never forget the thrill of my first contact," she reminisced. "Chan had been trying to get Japan for the longest time with no success. I tuned in and presto! I located a GI in Japan immediately." Peg holds a Class A license and operates on 75 and 10 meters mobile.

Ellie Wilson, whose husband is an electronics engineer, didn't stand a chance of not getting her ticket. "With an OM who had been operating since he was a boy of 9 and the best man at our wedding (W1KBM), James Eng, pressuring me, I succumbed," she laughed.

The Wilson's shack is a swank affair with all the knobbiest gadgets, even to a "Quiet, Please" sign which flashes on when either operates.

Rag Chewers

Two certificates on the shack wall testify to all interested that the Wilsons belong to the Rag Chewers Club whose chief requirement is that their members talk steadily over the air for a half-hour, Ellie revealed.

"And that's not hard for us," she smiled.

Even 2-year-old George II is a junior ham. He knows his mother's call number and often chirps "Roger, Roger!" over the mike.

Although Eunice Randall Thompson's husband is a well-known ham she held a ticket long before she was married. A pioneer in radio, Eunice was the first woman to broadcast in this part of the country. She worked for the American Radio and Research Corp., Medford Hillside, giving police reports in code, reading them by voice and telling bedtime stories.

"I got my ticket in 1921," Eunice revealed, "and I've seen a lot of changes since. You can't imagine how much fun it is. We make so many good friends and have such wonderful times together." Since Mrs. Thompson is supervisor of maps and diagrams at the New England Power Co. in Boston, she's off the air except over certain week ends when she goes home to Lovell, Maine.

"My first rig cost only $50," she declared, "and that was a lot in those days." Eunice dubbed her transmitter "Little Susie," had a name plate made for it and talked about it so tenderly that once another ham called to inquire if "Little Susie" was a junior op.

For Blind Hams

The Thompsons have twin stations on all bands and a mobile rig in their car. This means that her OM often calls when he's on the way home and says, "O.K., Eunice, you can start the pork chops now. I'll be there in half an hour."

Before she leaves for Lovell, Eunice contacts her husband to inquire about weather and road conditions. "If we have so much mud that we can't take the car out, I postpone my visit," she explained. "It's a long, long hike to the house."

Once Martha Ridley of Winthrop earned her ticket she became so fascinated with ham radio that she spent four years studying Braille so that she could translate for blind hams.

"I did several chapters of the handbook for one blind ham in North Carolina," Mrs. Ridley, a grandmother, confided. "He wanted to get his Class A license and we worked together until he made it. I was just as happy as he was!"

Mrs. Ridley has talked with hams in the 48 States, Canada, South America and England. Like all amateurs she keeps a log book, an FCC regulation, wherein she lists every contact from the time she begins till she finishes.

Hams who inquire of the Ridley's, "What's your handle?" are always enchanted with the intriguing reply, "Arthur and Martha." It was W1DJ, Martha's OM, who spurred her into getting a ticket, but she first learned radio while she was in the Massachusetts Women's Defense Corps in 1941.

"I had been a Morse operator for Western Union before my marriage," she explained, "but I had to learn an entirely different code to get my ticket."

Martha has a regular schedule which starts about 8 in the morning. She contacts W1NWL, a man, talks about the weather and swaps Tello-Test answers with him. They discuss hamfests and other meetings and end up talking about tray painting, a hobby of W1NWL's sister. When he signs off there's a string of others, all OMs. "There are no YLs or XYLs on the 6-metre band," she pointed out.

Louise Bruya of Waltham started out to learn the code and theory in self-defense. "It was either 'get interested' or never have a chance to talk with your OM," she laughed.

Louise, who is a grandmother, too, learned the code via a tape machine. Her first contact was a retired policeman in Sacramento who talked with her for an hour giving advice and encouragement.

Louise isn't on during the day since she works at Raytheon, but she comes in any time after 3:30 p. m. with "This is W1MDV, Waltham, Mass. My handle is Lou." She likes to operate on what she calls the Fishnet where all the hams have fish names. She's "chiro" which means a lady fish and she'll rag-chew endlessly with the Kingfish and the Sardine, both in Concord, N. H., and the Oyster who lives in Wiscasset, Me. "There are over 100 fish on our net," she declared.

Shut-ins

Many of the YLs are members of the Dragnet, Deep Sea net and the Transcontinental phone network, to mention just a few of the hundreds of nets active all over the country.

YLs, like all hams, often contact shut-ins. They even play chess over the airwaves. And they're wonderful in emergencies since they are at home during the day. Many a housewife rushed from the kitchen to the shack to help out during the last New England flood and most of the YLs are already an integral part of the civilian defense setup.

"There are no barriers among YLs," one ham explained. "Neither age nor position, race nor creed. We're good, loyal group of girls and I'll wager you'll find less backbiting among the Young Ladies Radio League than in any other group of women."

W1BCU-Peg W1QON-Eleanor

Mrs. Margaret Wells, secretary of the YLRL, looks over a log-book with publicity chairman Mrs. Eleanor Wilson. Across-the-street neighbors in Walpole, neither ever phones. They always contact each other by radio.

Winthrop's only YL, Martha Ridley, became so interested in hamming that she studied Braille so she could translate the handbook for blind hams. She and her husband, Arthur, use the same rig, talk mostly by phone.

BOSTON SUNDAY POST, APRIL 20, 1952

BOSTON SUNDAY HERALD, APRIL 8, 1951

Women 'Ham' Radio Operators Meet Face-to-Face at Long Last

After meeting for years without seeing each other and without a meeting place, a group of New England women got together yesterday at the Hotel Beaconsfield, Brookline.

Even though it was the first face-to-face meeting of the New England district of the Young Ladies' Radio League, there was no strained silence because the women knew all about each other from frequent conversations over "ham" sets.

The women, licensed amateur radio operators, had a busy time connecting faces to friends made over the air. And, to use their own idiom, they had "one big rag-chew," so animated that their national president, Mrs. Dorothy Evans of Dow, N. H., didn't even give a thought to presiding.

TALK ABOUT ANYTHING

There was Mrs. Eleanor Wilson, a pretty blonde from Walpole, and her neighbor, Mrs. Margaret Wells, who often chat back and forth across Fisher street by radio rather than slipping on coats and dropping in in-person.

"I've been spending too much time on it lately," she says. "But it's so fascinating. You get such a broad view right at home; you can just go into the shack (radio room) and talk to anyone the world over."

She points out that of the approximately 1000 women "hams" in the United States, 125 are from New England and that of these, 35 are members of the Radio League. Each week they "meet" on certain set frequencies at certain times and have round table talks, each taking her turn.

"We talk about anything you can imagine," she says. "The girls are closely knit through these contacts and through contests we run off." In the most recent of these, the ladies had to contact as many "male" stations as possible.

GOT FEVER FROM HUSBAND

Like Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Wells caught the fever from her husband. When she lived in San Diego, she did a lot of relay work, sending messages from boys in the Pacific to their home towns for their families. "The farthest I ever talked out there was to South Africa and the farthest here, New Zealand," she says.

Then there was Mrs. Veronica Lavery of 6 Taft avenue, Lexington, who got her license in 1935 and recalls how she and her boy friend, now her husband, "carried on their courtship over the air." He built her transmitter while she was in high school and when they weren't together, they sent messages back and forth between her home in Medford and his in Somerville at a fast clip.

Another League member, Mrs. Tisha Young of 24 Gibbons street, Melrose, says she "married an amateur radio." Her husband, Norman, is not only a ham but also a broadcast engineer. The farthest contact she ever made was Southwest Africa.

Both Mrs. Young and Mrs. Wilson are among five members of the Deep Sea Dragnet, an emergency message center that meets daily each noon Monday through Friday and passes along information such as sickness, death, news from people behind the Iron Curtain, to New England amateur operators. They deliver messages to anyone concerned living near them. Sylvester Ahola of Gloucester is in charge of the net.

During the last hurricane, Mrs. Young got a message from an island off Dark Harbor, Me., from a doctor who, at the request of a girl marooned there on a visit, wanted someone from the Boston area to call the Navy Yard and explain why the girl wouldn't be able to report to work. She delivered the message.

In addition to the mobile set, Wilsons found anotther use for their talents when Mrs. Wilson went to the hospital to have their first child last May. They set up a communication system from her bed to their home and there wasn't much chance for her to be lonesome.

The women, who in ham parlance are YLs when they're single and XYLs when married (for ex-single girls), agree with the male operators that "hams aren't just a bunch of kids playing around but a group of capable people already trained in communications."

Other league members attending the get-together included Mrs. Ruthe Ferguson of Jamaica Plain, editor of the YLRL publication; Mrs. Marguerite Bourell of Braintree, wife of a Federal Communications investigator; Mrs. Mary Hanscome of Melrose, Mrs. Esther Routhier of Amesbury. Mrs. Beatrice Wertheimer of Cambridge, Mrs. Edith Clifford of Weymouth, Mrs. Nell Waterman of Bridgeport, Ct., Mrs. Lou Bruya of Waltham and Mrs. Lou Littlefield of Cape Elizabeth, Me.

(Herald Staff Photos by Calvin Campbell)

FACES BEHIND THE VOICES—Women radio hams matched faces with voices at the first "in-person" meeting of the New England district of the Young Ladies' Radio League in Brookline yesterday. At top, left to right, Mrs. Nell Waterman of Bridgeport, Ct., Mrs. Dorothy Evans of Bow, N. H., Mrs. Ruthe Ferguson of Jamaica Plain, and Mrs. Eleanor Wilson of Walpole. Below, Mrs. Beatrice Wertheimer of Cambridge, Mrs. Lou Littlefield of Cape Elizabeth, Me., Mrs. Margaret Wells of Walpole, and Mrs. Ruth Estey of Brattleboro, Vt. All are licensed radio operators.

1951- Hotel Beaconsfield. Brookline

WOMEN "HAMS" AT TALKATHON

League Members Meet in Brookline to Swap Yarns---Group Is Limited to 400

4/8/51

FEMALE "HAM" OPERATORS MEET

Members of the New England division of the Young Ladies' Radio League, all licensed radio operators, at the Hotel Beaconsfield yesterday included, left to right: Mrs. Dorothy Evans of Bow, N. H., president; Mrs. Edith G. Clifford of North Weymouth; Mrs. Esther Routhier of Amesbury; Mrs. Marguerite Bourell of South Braintree, and Mrs. Tisha Young of Melrose.

Known more commonly by call letters than by their own names, members of the Young Ladies' Radio League, whose "ham" chats over their own airy backyard fence takes in the whole world, met at the Hotel Beaconsfield yesterday. Many of them who had swapped recipes and family advice over the ether met for the first time.

EXCLUSIVE GROUP

Members of this organization, more exclusive than the Social Register, since it includes only 400 "girls" the world over, told stories of romance and courtship by short wave, and of tragedy and humor and disaster and rescue as though they were the most commonplace things in the world.

Their "OM's" or husbands, were Hams first of all and they had to follow suit for self-protection. Most male Hams are in front of their sets most of their waking hours, including Sundays, and if they hadn't been Hams, they wouldn't have known their wives in the first place.

Take the inspiring story of Mrs. Ruth Ferguson, better known as "W1SCS." She met her husband "W1IIM," while he was teaching radio for the National Youth Administration at the Hull School in Roxbury, where she, then Ruth Kennedy, was a pupil.

They "DX'd" (dated) and finally wed. Mrs. Ferguson contracted tuberculosis and was forced to enter a sanitarium in New Hampshire. Being a true Ham by that time, she took her set with her. Every night at 7:30 she tuned onto a certain prearranged frequency and talked to her "OM." Since the airways for Hams are free, there were no big toll bills to be paid at the end of the month.

"Those chats gave me peace of mind," she said. "And they certainly aided in my recovery. You know what peace of mind means to a person suffering from this disease." Now, perfectly well, she is the mother of a 4½-year-old girl, Dale, and the editor of the bimonthly radio publication, YL Harmonics.

Relayed Messages

Tisha Young (W1NOA) of 24 Gibbons st., Melrose, also met her "OM" (W1HX), a ham of 27 years experience, as she describes him, while auditioning in a radio station where he is employed as an engineer.

"One of the proudest boasts of "HX," as she calls her husband, "is that he talked to the Archduke of Austria, one of the world's most enthusiastic Hams, only three days before the hobnailed boots of Hitler's troops echoed through the streets of Vienna."

Then there is Mrs. Lou Bruya (W1MDV) of 22 Beale rd., Waltham, who stood close to her set during the great Maine forest fire of 1948 and relayed messages of people trapped in fire-encircled towns to rescue parties and to anxious relatives.

Mrs. Mary Hanscom (W1SYL) of 21 Clarendon st., Melrose, says that the boys on the air call her "sweet young lady," although she insists her initials mean "sour yellow lemon." Her husband's call letters are W1ISK, which she says mean "innocent sweet kid."

At least five of the members are regular listeners every noon on the Deep Sea Dragnet, so named because most of its members live along the coast of Maine.

The "OM's" and the "XYL's," or

April 8, 1951
Brookline
Hotel Beaconsfield

24 Lady Hams Attend Foxboro Get-Together

By ELIZABETH SULLIVAN
(Globe Radio Editor)

Two dozen New England YLs (young lady radio amateurs) set aside their household chores, baby-tending and office duties yesterday to participate in their second annual luncheon and informal get-together at the Lafayette House, Foxboro.

All are active radio hams doing a job equal to the men on the various amateur and military radio networks. They came from Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, western Massachusetts and New York. Alice Picard of Staten Island flew her own plane to join the group. Miss Picard landed at Norwood Airport, slightly delayed because of severe crosswinds.

Helen Wright of Brookline, another veteran pilot, and a member of the famous "99 Club" formed by the late Amelia Earhart, also attended. She is resuming her ham activities under the call WN1UPZ. Miss Wright is the only ham member of the "99 Club," which incidentally, meets in convention in Boston next July 11, 12 and 13. The club was so named because Miss Earhart received 98 replied when she set out to form the club, and she was the 99th member.

Yesterday's meeting was arranged by Eleanor Wilson, who has a 2-year-old son, George 2d. The OM (ham parlance for old man, as the masculine hams are called) is George Jr., also a radio operator. Eleanor operates W1QON. In between household duties, she goes on the air two hours daily handling traffic on the "Deep Sea" network at noon time, as well as working the 80, 75, 10 and two-meter bands when she has a minute to spare. In addition to this she conducts a column for the YLs in QST magazine, official organ of the hams.

Others who attended the ham meeting included W1FTJ, Dorothy Evans, Bow, N. H.; W1RYJ, Esther Routhier, Amesbury; W1MCW, Lou Littlefield, Cape Elizabeth, Me.; W1BCU, Peg Wells, Walpole; W1SAJ, Marguerite Bourell, Braintree; W1UQA, Ruth Porter, Westboro; W1QJX, Charlotte Spaulding, Manchester, N. H.; W1HIH, Veronica Lavery, Lincoln; W1OME, Florine Belliveau, Fitchburg; W1VBT, Cecile Malo, Leominster; W1SVN, Mildred Doremus, Lynnfield Center; XYL of W1ONV, Lil Bates of North Weymouth; W1TRE, Barbara Harrington, Saugus; WN1UPK, Margaret Rodenhiser, West Newton; W1MUW, Norma Moskey, West Hartford; W1FOF, Eloise Cook, Needham; W1UKR, Eunice Gordon, Springfield; W1TUD, Alice Kinnear, Millis; and W2EWO, Dolores Ricketson, Catskill, N. Y.

Many of these girls met for the first time yesterday, yet they have talked to one another constantly over the air. That is the purpose of hamfests and informal meetings. It isn't unusual for foreign hams to visit the amateurs in this country they have worked over the years.

Lou Littlefield is expecting a Netherlands ham to visit her husband within a few weeks. Her husband operates W1CRU, at Cape Elizabeth, Me.

After an afternoon of talking about transmitters, the coming Springfield hamfest, the possibilities of forming YL clubs in districts, these busy women disbanded in time to return home to get their OM's supper prepared, or relieve baby sitters who took over for the afternoon.

April 19. 1952
Lafayette House. Foxboro

Hams Call Judy "Very Tiny Amatuer"

When the FCC issued the amateur radio call letters WN1VTA to Judy Volpe, age 9, nothing could have been more appropriate for right away fellow hams tagged Judy the "Very Tiny Amateur." And she is just that. . . one of the youngest to get a ticket in this

Judy, formerly of Malden, now lives in Greenwood and attends the Greenwood School. She took the amateur radio examination at the Custom House recently and after a year's experience on the air, she will be able to drop the "N" in her call letters, a symbol that stands for "novice."

"Novice" amateurs are hams who pass a code test of five words a minute, instead of the usual 13 required for a ticket, or license. This enables the new ham to gain experience through actual operation on the air for a year's time, after which he may take the advanced code test and discard the "N."

This is a rather new experiment on the part of the FCC in order to give amateurs a chance to get worthwhile training right on the air for a year. It is working out extremely well and in all probability will remain in force to encourage others to take up amateur radio as a hobby.

The Volpe home is typical of a "Hobby House." Mr. Volpe is an amateur, a hobby he selected 15 years ago. His call is W1LEL. His radio shack caught the eye of Judy only last Winter and one day she asked him how to tap out "A" on the key . . . and then "B" and all the rest. Judy practiced faithfully and one day she announced to Daddy that she was ready to take her amateur test. You'll find Judy working the 80-meter band almost anytime. She has her own transmitter and receiver.

Brother Henry, age 15, is interested in photography and airplanes. Mrs. Volpe is an avid puzzle fan and Marjory, 16, is busy with her school studies.

"VERY TINY AMATEUR" is the handle for Judy Volpe, age 9, who passed her amateur examination and operates WN1VTA in Greenwood. Her daddy is a ham, with call W1LEL. A relative, S. J. Abbadessa, of Medford, who took this picture, is also a ham, W1.

4/11/53

Young Lady Hams of N. E. Meet in Cambridge

YL's from all over New England, and two from Washington, D. C., held their annual get-together at the Smith House in Cambridge yesterday.

These are "Young Lady" radio Hams, who are fully as active as the OM's (Old Men, as the masculine operators are called) on the air, working traffic for G.I.'s overseas and participating in civilian defense work.

The girls speak to each other over the air, and it is at their Hamfests that they become acquainted. They'd rather buy a new transformer for the rig than buy a new dress or a hat. Most of them build their own transmitters and do their own repairing.

A number of YL's are married to Hams, and in between meals and housework, operate on many of the networks engaged in traffic, such as the Transcontinental net, the Fishnet and Dragnet. Very little time is given to rag-chewing these days. Hams are engaged in serious business. They are often the only source of contact with the outside world in time of disaster.

Among those attending yesterday's meeting were Esther Smith W3MSU, founder of the YL League of Washington; also Barbara Huston, W30QF, of Forest Hills, Md.; Ellen White, W1YYM, of Headquarters, Hartford, Conn.; Alice Kinnear, W1TUD, of Millis, Mass.; Peg Rodenhinder, W1UPK, of Newton.

Others were:

MAINE

Lou Littlefield, W-MCW, Cape Elizabeth; Ida Mansur, W1NAD, Gardiner; Rita Slater, W1UZR, Waterville.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Dorothy Evans, W1FTJ, Concord; Charlotte Spauding, W1QJX, Manchester.

VERMONT

Anne Chandler, W1OAK, Barre;

RHODE ISLAND

June Burkett, W1VKC, Rumford;

CONNECTICUT

Marjorie Snow, W1VOS, Plainville.

MASSACHUSETTS

Eleanor Wilson, W1QON, Walpole; Barbara Harrington, W1TRE, Topsfield; Betty Wood, W1VYH, Topsfield; Veronica Lavery, W1HIH, Sout Lincoln; Syliva Winton, W1SLQ, Newton; Esther Routhier, W1RYJ, Amesbury; Margaret Wells, W1BCU, Foxboro; Eloise Cook, W1FOF, Needham; Chata Swenson, W1RLQ, Worcester; Gertrude Hines, W1ULF, Worcester; Ruthe Ferguson, W1SCS, Natick; Ruth Porter, W1UQA, Marlboro, Eleanor Blake, W1MWI, South Sudbury; Margaret Flanders, Lexington, and Jean Goulding, Marlboro, who have not receive their call letters yet.

4/16/53 - Globe

YL's MEET—New England Young Lady Hams held their Spring meeting at the Smith House, Cambridge, recently. They are among the most active on the air helping in Civilian Defenses as well as handling GI messages overseas. L to R: Mildred Doremus, W1SVN; Margaret Wells, W1BCU, Sec.-Treas. of YL Radio League; Helen Wright, chairman of luncheon, W1UPZ; Eunice Gordon, W1UKR and Esther Routhier, W1RYJ. Mildred, Eunice and Helen served on the Spring luncheon committee.

"1953"

(Herald Staff Photo by Julian Carpenter)

4/11/53

WOMEN "HAMS"—Included among members of the Young Ladies Radio League attending a meeting of fair amateur radio operators at Smith House, Cambridge, yesterday were, left to right—Mildred Doremus of Lynnfield Center, Eleanor Wilson of Walpole, Helen M Wright of Brookline, luncheon chairman, and Peg Wells of Foxboro, secretary-treasurer.

W1SVN W1QON W1UPZ W1BCU

Woman Radio 'Ham' Discusses Cake With a North Carolinian

Mrs. Robert Burkett, Whose Husband Also Holds License, Describes Fun She Has With Set

A young East Providence mother was baking a cake last week in her home and a gentleman from the South told her it wasn't his favorite kind.

The North Carolina amateur radio operator informed W1-VXC, whose neighbors know her as Mrs. June R. Burkett of 24 Roger Williams Avenue, he preferred chocolate cake.

Quick as a flash from her own set, which she has set up in the kitchen, W1-VXC replied that her 3½-year-old son, Wayne, and her radio operator husband, Robert, preferred a white cake.

Mrs. Burkett smiled as she recalled the incident. "The southerner just wasn't interested any more in talk about the cake when he learned it wasn't the kind he liked," she said.

Almost a Rarity

She went into detail on the conversation to illustrate just how much fun being "a ham" can be for a woman. She and her husband are almost a rarity in Rhode Island, she thinks. Both are licensed "hams."

Even young Wayne is enthused with amateur radio work. "He knows enough to leave my set alone" and can identify parts of his mother's commercial set.

The alphabet ought to come easy for Wayne when he gets to school. Certain letter combinations right now are a good part of his vocabulary.

Both his daddy, who is W1-OGT to other hams, and his mother get QSL cards "confirming contacts" made with other operators. They belong to the PRA, the Providence Radio Association, and mention ARRL, American Radio Relay League, quite frequently in their conversations over the dinner table.

13 Words a Minute

His mother, who is the first XYL member of the PRA, also does a little CW—code—now and then. In fact, to get her general-class ham license, she had to pass a code exam in Boston last year. That meant sending and receiving 13 words a minute.

The letters XYL simply mean the member is a married woman. Single women members are designated as YL's.

Wayne's daddy owns two sets. One he keeps in the house—stored in a room adjacent to the kitchen—and the other he has in his car. The senior Burkett is a broadcast engineer with a Providence radio station.

He holds an advanced class license. A World War II veteran he has been interested in amateur radio work since he was in high school, his wife said. He has had his license since 1946.

Friday, the 13th

Mrs. Burkett obtained her license last June 13. That day fell on a Friday. She became really interested in ham work while attending a local Civil Defense radio school in the winter of 1952.

The classes were held at the Central Junior High School in East Providence and were conducted by Henry W. Raymond, radio technician for the town police department.

Mrs. Burkett's transmitter functions on several bands. Since becoming a ham she has talked with persons in 26 states and in Chile, Uruguay and the Canal Zone.

From the American Radio Relay League, she has been awarded a "Rag Chewers Club" certificate. That is given to hams who have held prolonged conversations.

Can't Answer Back

Occasionally, she receives a transmission from a person who knows an East Providence resident. When she does, she tries to contact the local person on a phone she keeps nearby her set.

If the town resident is home, he can hear the transmission over the phone, but he can't answer back.

Almost every day, Mrs. Burkett is on the set trying to reach someone. She has high hopes of making contacts with hams in all 48 states.

Just as she was baking a cake last week, "the band opened up" and the North Carolina ham came through. He switched the conversation to other subjects after learning that Mrs. Burkett's cake wasn't chocolate.

Gives a Nucleus

If more women knew what a pleasure they would get out of amateur radio work, this hobby would become a big favorite with the fair sex, in Mrs. Burkett's opinion.

It enables one to meet more people in this world, leads to correspondence with them, and gives this county a nucleus of trained technicians for Civil Defense.

There would be fewer Pearl Harbors, Mrs. Burkett believes, at least as far as amateur radio activity is concerned, if more women held licenses.

She bases her opinion on grounds that, if and when an enemy strikes, he will do so when the men are away from their sets. The women will be at home and in a position to take immediate action.

Standard Kitchen Equipment in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Burkett—an amateur radio operator's set—occupies Mrs. Burkett and three-year-old son, Wayne. —State Staff Photo

WIYXC-JUNE 1953 SON-WAYNE

JUNE 25, "1955"

West Dennis Woman Can Chat With 700 Friends

The Standard-Times Cape Cod Bureau

WEST DENNIS, June 25—Mrs. Waldo Guy, a real estate agent in West Dennis, enjoys "rag chewing" on the "ham" bands with approximately 700 other women throughout the world. She is an amateur radio operator who is eagerly turning her hobby into public service as well as fun. Known on the air waves as "Louise" and by the call letters WIYPT, Mrs. Guy and her husband Waldo, who is also a "ham" and licensed as WIYXJ, operate a "rig" in their home as well as a mobile unit from their car.

It was from this mobile transmitter that the Guys stood by the Dennis Police Station during the hurricanes of last Fall to work the Civilian Defense net.

"We contacted other amateurs from the Cape to North Carolina to relay messages and also made trips to the beach areas to deliver messages given to us," she said.

Interest Kindled

Mrs. Guy's interest in amateur radio first was kindled in 1952 when her husband decided they'd take a course in Worcester given by the Central Massachusetts Amateur Radio Association to become licensed amateur operators.

I felt I wouldn't be able to pass the examination," said Mrs. Guy, "and thought I was just going along for the ride, but I found myself getting more and more interested as the class continued".

Mrs. Guy, who for many years worked in Hartford and New York City operating teletype wires in the stock brokerage business, found a similarity between that and amateur radio.

"In the examination given by the Federal Communications Commission's engineers, we were required to pass a multiple-choice written exam on theory and a written exam on Morse code. In order to pass, we had to copy 13 words a minute for 5 minutes, having at least one minute's perfect copy".

"This may sound easy," said Mrs. Guy," but when I took the examination I found myself so frozen with nerves I could hardly move the pencil across the paper."

Mrs. Guy passed the theory but made only five words a minute on code, which gave her novice and technician privileges.

At that time, however, the FCC was so busy with other duties the amateur licenses were not mailed out for some time. In the meantime, I had passed the 13-word-a-minute requirement and in June 1953 I was assigned the call letters WIYPT and was ready and licensed to operate all the bands assigned to holders of general class licenses," Mrs. Guy said.

—Cape Cod Standard-Times Staff Photo

MRS. WALDO GUY OF WEST DENNIS, a confirmed radio "ham," sits at the microphone of her radio installation.

Convention Set

Mrs. Guy is a member of the Young Ladies Radio League "YL's", a world-wide group of women "hams" who further cooperation among radio amateurs.

The group is holding a convention this weekend at Miramar, Cal., in observance of its 15th anniversary. Mrs. Guy won't attend but she has sent bayberry candles from Cape Cod to be used as prizes.

Throughout "ham" radio there's a great feeling of fraternalism", said Mrs. Guy. "Perhaps it's best expressed by the use of '33,' which means 'Love sealed with Friendship', when signing off."

"Hams" also use "73" which means "Best Regards" and "88" which means "Love and Kisses".

Mrs. Guy is secretary-treasurer of the Cape Cod and Islands net which operates on the 75-meter amateur band six mornings a week. The name of the net does not necessarily mean that all members are residents of this area, as 75-meter band operation cannot be localized.

There are many members on Cape Cod and the Islands, but there are also others in Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, New York, and Pennsylvania. "This would be advantageous," said Mrs. Guy, "In case of emergency when we would be forced to operate mobile for lack of power and when we have no other means of communication here for lack of telephones.

"I believe the thing I like best about amateur radio is the complete absense of cliques," she said. " All 'hams' are on equal basis. The young boy who can't afford expensive equipment has the same privileges as the millionaire with a KW (the term for a killowatt of power, the limit allowed by FCC in the amateur bands for the fellow with the KW will strain his ears to make contact with a low-powered station.

Makes Friends

"Whoever you talk to invites you to come to see them," said Mrs. Guy, "particularly if you are operating mobile. Interest in radio makes many friendships and it's open house 365 days a year at any amateur's Qth (His home)."

Mr. and Mrs. Guy spent most of their lives in Worcester but for many years Summered on the Cape. Approximately a year and a half ago they came to West Dennis and established a real estate business.

"Probably one of the reasons we enjoy our business so much is that we naturally like people and this brings us in contact with them as much as our hobby of amateur radio."

WIYPT- Louise

Studying radio operation with real equipment at the Navy Training Center are, seated left to right, Mrs. Marion Lauzon, Mrs. Marlene Preston and Mrs. Helen Dean. Standing, left, is Mrs. Mig Terrien.

'Young Ladies' Take Up Husbands' Ham Radio Hobby

By BILL DAME

Learning their dots and dashes is serious business to four Burlington and Essex Junction women.

Mrs. Helen Dean and Mrs. Marion Lauzon of Burlington and Mrs. Mig Terrien and Mrs. Marlene Preston of Essex Junction picked up the "ham bug" from their husbands who are all licensed amateur radio operators.

The ladies or "young ladies" as they are known to ham parlance have already earned their call letters from the Federal Communications Commission by passing prescribed tests which they describe as "tough."

On the airways, Mrs. Lauzon is known as WN1CMY; her husband Paul, a coordinator for local ham operators in emergencies, is W1-RPR.

Mrs. Dean, WN1CKO, is the wife of Burtis Dean, W1NLO, who is secretary of the Burlington Amateur Radio Club.

Call WN1DAP on the amateur band and Mrs. Preston will answer. Her husband, Harry, uses the call letters W1VSA.

Mrs. Terrien answers calls for WN1CML. Fred, her husband, is W1TLI in Essex Junction.

There is definite meaning in the call letters; at least, in the first part of them. The W is the United States first letter, the N means they are still in the novice class and the 1 represents the first district. The rest is personal and assigned by the FCC.

The examinations for graduation from the novice group faces the women on April 15. To pass the exam and pass along to less restricted operation they study two hours each week under experienced operators.

Only With a Key Now

Classroom and Morse code training might sound easy to some but it isn't when knowing the material can mean so much.

Mrs. Dean said, "We have a lot of fun and work pretty hard at this training. I'm looking forward to getting my general class license so I can operate by radio phone instead of just using Morse code."

The "students" meet at the U.S. Navy and Marine Training Center for their lessons. Dick Lavigne, W1VEB, of Winooski; Edwin Colton, W1YBM and Leo Paul Beauregard, W1DBF, both of Burlington, are the teachers. All are members of the Burlington Amateur Radio Club.

Last night, the instructor drew a number of symbols on the blackboard and asked the ladies to identify them. The drawings looked like henscratching but the ladies, in turn, called out:

"That's an iron core choke coil."

"That's a variable resistor."

"That represents two condensers in parallel."

If the ladies can work their Morse code speed up to 13 words a minute, that FCC exam should be a cinch.

L-R WN1CMY WN1DAP WN1CKO WN1CML-STANDING

QST YLs

On June 17, 18 and 19, the Women Radio Operators of New England are sponsoring an international convention of the Young Ladies' Radio League to be held at the Hotel Commander.

Co-chairman of the convention are Ome Woodward (W1ZEN) of Marlboro, and Millie Doremus (W1SVN) of Lynnfield Center. Tickets may be purchased from Eunice Gordan (W1UKR) of Springfield, who is reservations chairman.

Saturday evening will feature a dinner and ball to which the "OM's" (husbands) are invited. Entertainment and lunch for Sunday are in charge of Helen Harris (W1HOY) of Medfield, and will take place at her home.

* * *

FAMILY OF RADIO OPERATORS
Mrs. Edward Corbett oversees sons, John, 14, (foreground) and Robert, 18.

Shrewsbury Mother Of Four Joins Sons At the Radio Dials

By DICK LINDI

SHREWSBURY, June 11 — Mrs. Edward Corbett of 38 Phillips avenue got her amateur radio operator license because her serviceman son wasn't writing home often enough to suit her.

So she made use of the "ham" equipment left behind by her absent offspring to talk to him over the air.

Now the entire Corbett family is in the act. The first licensee was Edward, 22, call letters W1TBU, now in the Air Force, who has been a ham since he was 17.

Mrs. Corbett got her W1BFC call last year. In rapid order came son Robert, 18, who is WN1ACX on the air, and John, 14, WN1BFR.

Daughter Nancy, who is 11, knows her codes, but is a little hazy yet on radio theory. Otherwise, she'd be a licensed operator by now.

Keeps Set In Order

The only member of the family who has no ambitions in that direction is Mr. Corbett, but he uses his hobby knowledge (he repairs radio and TV sets in his spare time) to keep the equipment in working order.

Mrs. Corbett claims she's discovered a fascinating hobby, growing out of her original purpose. Her son has since spent a year in Korea as a member of the Military Amateur Radio Service, and is now stationed in Dallas, Tex.

The radio is no longer necessary for family communications since Edward became a married man and a father. His wife makes him write home regularly.

The set, however, is still being put to good use. Mrs. Corbett, known as "Red" on the air, is a member of the local Civil Defense net, as well as secretary of the county amateur radio league and a member of the Young Ladies Radio League. She checks in regularly with the organized nets, and has contacted other hams in such far places as South America, Italy and Norway.

Busy After Tornado

During the tornado two years ago this week, Edward, then stationed as chief operator at Sampson Air Force Base in Geneva, N. Y., hurried home on a week's leave to man the equipment.

Four sets were set up at the Patton School under his supervision, and almost 1000 messages went to all parts of the country and to servicemen overseas.

With telephone lines jammed most of the week, the radio was the only way that outsiders could learn of the fate of relatives and friends in the Worcester area.

This type of work, and the multitude of new friends, mostly unseen, that she's met has convinced Mrs. Corbett that it isn't a strang hobby at all, even for a mother of four who's just celebrated her 25th wedding anniversary.

And when Edward is finally released from the Air Force, he'll resume work on his super project of building a 1000-watt transmitter that will extend the limits of the Corbett family's acquaintance by thousands of miles.

W1BFC-GERTRUDE

Topsfield Radio "Ham" Is Chairman Of Publicity for International League

MRS. BARBARA HARRINGTON

By Phyliss Means

7/55

Mrs. Edmund C. Harrington of Haverhill road, Topsfield, known on the airwaves by her given name, Barbara, and her call letters, W1TRE, has been elected to serve as publicity chairman of the International Young Ladies' Radio league, a worldwide organization of women amateur operators. Her term of office, which started July 1, will continue for 18 months. The organization is 17 years old and has approximately 700 members.

Mrs. Harrington, who received her "ham" license in June, 1951, is also a member of the newly-formed North Shore Radio club, which consists of women radio operators who resides north of Boston. In addition to her interest in the YLRL and the NSRC, she is participating in the forming of an organized club for more than 300 licensed YL's in New England.

Mrs. Harrington has been named chairman for a tea to be held at the Hotel Kenmore, Boston, Sept. 24, to organize a New England club. Although previously unorganized, these women radio amateurs from New England and neighboring states have been meeting every spring to see in person the YL's they have been talking to over the air waves, to renew old acquaintances and to meet newly-licensed hams. The YL's (term radio hams give female operators which means "young lady," regardless of age) met at the Sheraton Plaza, Boston, this year.

Mrs. Harrington, a graduate of Cambridge City Hospital School of Nursing, is the wife of Edmund C. Harrington, design and project engineer for the National Co. in Malden. He has just completed the design for a new type of "ham" receiver for his company, and it will be released to the public soon. He is an enthusiastic DX (meaning distance) hound, and has talked to 145 countries. His call letters are W1JEL. The Harringtons have two daughters, Janice Anne, seven, and Christine Barbara, five and one-half, who can already copy code at five words per minute.

"In spite of her busy schedule, which includes substituting as community nurse in the towns of Boxford and Topsfield this month, and caring for her home and family, Mrs. Harrington finds time each day to talk to someone, somewhere, on the air. She particularly enjoys talking to distant places, and is trying to obtain a (DXCC) certificate for talking to 100 countries. This, she explains, is not so easy as it seems for each country contacted has to be represented by a QSL card, to confirm the fact. A QSL is a postcard and each amateur has his own. Sometimes the cards are very elaborate, and often comical or simple in design, but each one must include the station call and amateur's name and address, and usually specifies the type of equipment used. W1TRE talks regularly t oher cousin, stationed with the army in Germany, and to a former classmate, whose husband is stationed in England. Their families also talk to them over Mrs. Harrington's mobile station in the family car.

"W1TRE-BARBARA 1955"

8 The Evening Gazette Worcester, Fri., Mar. 11, 1966

HAS TECHNICIAN'S LICENSE
Gayle M. Christie, 16, of 18 Home St.

"KIKGZ"-GAYLE 1960

Teen Topics

Like Dad, Girl Is a Radio Ham

By NANCY LOWE GRAY

A 16-year-old girl shares a hobby with her father. She is Gayle M. Christie of 18 Home St., a junior at High School of Commerce. She is a dario ham.

"Dad got me interested," she said. "He's been a radio ham for a long time."

Gayle holds a technician's license and will apply for her general license this month. To obtain the latter, one must qualify by a written test and be able to send code at 13 words a minute.

"I'm not worried," she said, "I can send code at 15 words a minute."

Gayle's call letters are KIKGZ. She has a transmitter and a converter, but the teener uses her father's receiver.

At present, she has 18 regular contacts. Some of her QSL cards are from as far away as Arkansas and Iowa.

"Dad has contacts in faraway places like Africa and England," she said. "I hope to make foreign contacts, too."

Gayle is an honor student and has a lively interest in her school's extra-curricular activities. Dancing is one of her favorite pastimes. She also enjoys writing short stories.

"I've never tried to have them published," she said. "I just do it for a hobby."

Most of the teener's spare time is spent at her rig.

"We have a radio shack room right in the house," she said.

The teener is a member of the Massachusetts Radio Emergency Corps, Central Massachusetts Amateur Radio Station Members, and the Young Ladies Radio League.

After high school, Gayle hopes to go to business school and take up accounting.

He's Had Women From 50 States On Airwaves

Coast Guard Chief Musician Carl S. Walther likes to talk to women.

In fact, he likes it so much that he's made a special effort to talk to women in every state of the Union, via amateur radio, from his home at 92 Hawthorne Dr.

Walther, a member of the Coast Guard Band, is an amateur radio operator. His station call letters are W1OPZ.

He has achieved the unique honor of being the 46th radio amateur to contact at least one woman "ham" in every one of the 50 states. There are, incidentally, some 312,000 amateurs throughout the world—including an uncounted but small number of "YL's" (young ladies, in "ham" jargon).

A veteran of 26 years in the Coast Guard, Walther has been a licensed amateur for 21 years. Among his other awards he includes "YLCC" (Young Ladies Century Club). This certificate was awarded when he submitted proof to the American Radio Relay League, a nation-wide "ham" organization in West Hartford, that he had contacted 100 women amateurs. He has since doubled this figure.

Walther now is working on another accomplishment—contacting women amateurs on all seven continents. He lacks Asia.

No comment was received from Mrs. Walther.

"W1OPZ" CARL 1960

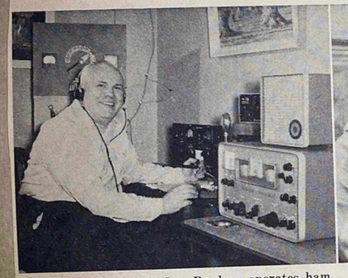
YL news and views

CONDUCTED BY JEAN PEACOR,* K1IJV

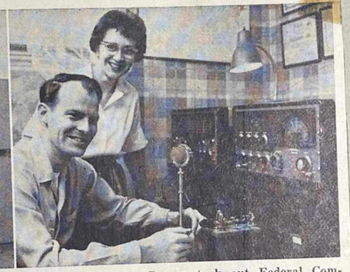
"How pleasant it is, at the end of the day,
No follies to have to repent;
But reflect on the past, and be able to say,
That my time has been properly spent."
— *June Taylor*

EDITOR - July - 1963

APRIL 22, 1960 MASSACHUSETTS MUTUAL



Planning Department's Leo Brodeur operates ham radio station from art studio annex which he had built several years ago. He also teaches painting classes in same studio.



Norm and Jean Peacor took out Federal Communications Commission licenses for ham radio station operations in 1958. They operate their stations from their home in Sixteen Acres.

It's Fun To Run Your Own Radio Station, Leo Brodeur and the Norm Peacors Say

Ever hear of radio stations W1VNE and K1IJU?

They are located in Ludlow and Sixteen Acres, licensed by the Federal Communications Commission — and owned and operated by two of our home office staff members.

Methods Analyst **Leo J. Brodeur** and Associate Group Actuary **C. Norman Peacor** are radio "hams" and members of the Hampden County Amateur Radio Club of which Mr. Brodeur has been treasurer and a member of the board of directors. In addition, Mrs. Peacor is also licensed and operates under the station call of K1IJV.

Mr. Brodeur was first among the group to set up his own radio station. His station has a 300-watt transmitter and was licensed by the FCC in 1952. Jean and Norm Peacor put their "rig" on the air in 1958 and Mr. Brodeur, as is customary among hams, gave them a hand in getting started.

They all transmit mainly in code, or C.W. as it is known, occasionally switching to normal voice communication. Using their equipment they have held conversations with fellow hams from all over the world, including those in Iron Curtain countries, New Zealand, Africa and South America, making many friends in the process.

Their stations are also active in message handling. Messages or greetings between friends or relatives, including servicemen overseas, are sent along, averaging several hundred a year. This function is performed as a public service and is available to anyone.

The Peacors and Leo Brodeur know each other, of course, and often exchange experiences and information. "Our stations have given us many hours of enjoyment and are a hobby we can heartily recommend," they say.

"K1IJV - Jean 1960

Fire-Alarm Lady Counts Cheeps

And Plenty of Birds Cause Her Trouble With False Alarms

Whenever anyone pulls a fire box in New York there's an instantaneous tick of red dashes on a white ribbon in Mrs. Dorothy Hall's key register in the Fire Department Radio Bureau on Transverse Rd., in the middle of Central Park. Hour after hour during yesterday's bright sunshine, the fire alarm calls were received and reported at the rate of one every two minutes. That made an all-time record.

"The full moon has a lot to do with it, far more than the bright spring sunshine," Mrs. Hall remarked as she laid down her noon sandwich for the sixth time and stepped over to read the noisy ticker's news. "Haven't you noticed that we're all a little crazier at full-moon time? And because the day is so nice everybody who has a yard is out raking and setting fire to the rubbish. The fire scares the neighbors and they rush to a box to report it. This morning I had 15 calls about one fire from the same box in Brooklyn. This one's from Brooklyn, too. . . .

Counting Cheeps.

"Brooklyn, 3085, Ave. M and 35th St.," she recited to the air waves, then repeated the message in clear tones so that the chief in his office or car and all the captains in their houses could learn where the blaze was. Already the ticker was sputtering another message and Mrs. Hall read it, pulled a big card from a file that's sunk deep in her unit table, stepped over to the mike and reported it: "8391, 157th Ave. and 100th St." Next came, "Richmond. 1576, Ocean Terrace and Park Hill Rd." The sandwich reclined on its plate and the coffee was getting cold. "Queens, 6704, Springfield Blvd. and Grand Central Pkwy." After repeating the message she said: "That's getting close to my house. That's the second fire I've had today near my corner."

Famous Ham.

She took a sip of coffee and picked up her sandwich. "Counting signals gets to be such a habit," she said, "that when I'm away from here I automatically count any noises. On Sunday a sparrow was singing on a tree outside my window, and I found myself counting the cheeps."

World-Telegram Photo by De Matarozzo

Mrs. Dorothy Hall at the Fire Department microphone.

Mrs. Hall has seniority among the fire women who work eight hour spells around the clock at that key register unit, and they all take turns at night duty. Three o'clock in the morning, she revealed, is usually a busy time.

"When drunks are turned out of bars they make a beeline for fire boxes," she said. "They cause plenty of work for the department."

Mrs. Hall, a widow, lives in her own house in Springfield, L. I., and in the garden are two steel antenna shafts 66 feet high, for during her free hours she is one of the world's leading short-wave radio hams. A few years ago she made amateur history by reporting to the British consul that descendants of survivors of the mutiny on the Bounty on Pitcairn Island were threatened with starvation and were pleading for British ships to take them supplies.

"To amateurs all over the world," she said, "I am just Dorothy 2 IYX. When I was abroad last summer, friends I had made in the airways entertained me in their homes in five countries. I didn't see the inside of a hotel all the time I was there."

2 IYX - Dorothy 1948

RADIO SHACK AT FRED B. LAWS' HOME HAS TWO SEPARATE SETS

Equipment includes speaker, receiver, five-band switching VEO, frequency standard, five-band transmitter, antenna tuner.

Write up in Following Article

Three Women Radio Hams Join Their Husbands in Hobby

—Binghamton Press Photos.

MRS. GILBERT, LEFT, MRS. THOMPSON SHARE HUSBAND'S HOBBY

MRS. THOMPSON TALKS TO WESTERN CONTACT

K2IYP-Dorothy

Few Women Take to Amateur Radio Operating

By MARY P. PACKWOOD
Binghamton Press Writer

"MY HUSBAND wouldn't learn to knit—so I became a ham."

And that's how Mrs. George M. Gilbert became one of the three women amateur radio operators in this area.

While the number of hams has increased rapidly in the last 10 years, most of them have been masculine. Because of the highly technical aspect of the hobby, women seem to have shied away from it.

★ ★ ★

In the Triple Cities area there are only three feminine operators — Mrs. Gilbert who lives at 3 Grant Street, Port Dickinson; Mrs. Thomas R. Thompson of Chenango Bridge and Mrs. Fred B. Law of 267 Riverside Drive.

★ ★ ★

All three became interested in radio through their husbands. It was a mutual interest — something to tie them together as children grew older and family responsibilities lessened.

(These wives are the exception, rather than the rule, for traditionally the ham husband operates alone, guiltily stealing time for his radio from his family life.)

"He finally wore me down," laughs Dorothy Gilbert, a pleasant-faced, good-humored woman, who recalls that her husband adamantly insisted he was NOT going to knit. "So rather than fight him, I joined him."

Now she's been operating for over a year.

★ ★ ★

Probably the nicest thing about a ham radio is that it's such a friendly hobby. It brings the operator into contact with all types of interesting people he'd otherwise never know.

★ ★ ★

The three local women didn't know each other until they heard their voices on the air waves.

Several years ago Mrs. Thompson was seriously ill for some time and she had to cancel more strenuous activities. So she and her husband looked around for a hobby they both could participate in. He'd always been interested in experimenting with radio, so they studied together, got their licenses together and set up their own set.

Mrs. Law, an operator for the last five years, taught the radio bug from her husband who's been a ham since high school days.

The hobby's fascination, for her, lies in its never-ending education.

"You never acquire enough information about radio to satisfy yourself," she says. "One thing leads to another, so you're learning something new and different all the time. There's never any end."

The ham radio is a pretty involved operation. The ham must study and acquire a basic technical knowledge of the physics behind broadcasting. He must pass a general exam given by the Federal Communications Commission before he can receive his license (operating without a license is illegal). With his license he receives his own call number. And then he has to set up his own radio outfit.

★ ★ ★

What about these wave lengths, these broadcasting bands, electrical impulses and so forth? Isn't it very difficult to learn?

The women hams say no. It's just a case of being persistent and plugging away at it until you get it. If you put your mind on it and want to be a ham badly enough, you can do it. And they all modestly say that if they can become hams, anyone can.

They make it sound easy when they talk about transmitters, receivers, modulators and frequencies. And it sounds like fun — interesting fun — for they've talked with other hams all across the country.

(Mrs. Law has established contact in Australia, New Zealand, Japan, England, Ireland, Germany and Austria.)

A boon to housewives or shut-ins, young people or old people, the radio gives you no chance to become lonely or discouraged. There are too many other hams to talk to.

Contact is made either by microphone or code. And after each conversation, hams exchange cards bearing each other's call letters—as a memento of the event.

When contact is established, the ham gives her call letter, first name and her location. And once the conversation starts (on anything from the weather and babies to a new rig — transmitter), it's usually broken with code language. Like "QRM" for interference, "QSO" for contact and "73" for best regards.

★ ★ ★

The amateur radio operator often is a friend in time of need. He can establish contacts with hams in another part of the country to assist in a search for a missing person, for instance. Or he can deliver messages from one family to another. (Mrs. Gilbert often sends news along to her contact in Pittsfield, Mass., to pass along to her daughter in the same city.)

All three hams are members of the Young Ladies' Radio League, a world-wide group of women hams that has grown from 12 to 700 members. "YL" or young lady, is ham slang for any licensed female and "OM" (old man) is the term for male operators.

With two hams in each family, who gets to the radio first? The YL's say time usually is divided equally. During the day, when they're at home, they break up household chores by operating as often as they can.

At nighttime, they turn the radio over to their husbands.

With the Radio Amateurs

BY CARL A. ERBACHER
(W2EKU)

A Rahway couple, Shirley H. and Kenneth G. Cortright, are licensed amateur radio operators and together keep their joint station active on both the two-meter phone and 80-meter CW bands at their home, 616 Maple avenue.

The husband assembles and maintains the station gear and usually operates on phone, when time permits. His wife prefers using code transmissions and is on the air during the day, frequently talking with other YL (Young Lady) operators she has become acquainted with in half a dozen nearby states.

Cortright was licensed in 1941 with the call W2OGU assigned him. He assisted his wife in qualifying for a novice ticket, which she obtained last November, along with the station call WN2IAM. Last month Mrs. Cortright passed the general class examination and is waiting for the license to be processed so she can take advantage of the additional frequencies available to that class of license holder.

Recently, Mrs. Cortright made contact with W1FTJ at Bow, N. H., and discovered its operator, a licensed ham for 30 years, was Mrs. Dot Evans, an active member of the YLRL, a national league for YL operators. As a result of this QSO the Rahway housewife has applied for membership in the YLRL. Other YL operators met on the ham bands include two 13-year-old girls. One is Pauline Elster, WN2ADC, in nearby Avenel, whose father signs W2FSL on the ham bands. The other is Nancy Lillpott, WN2WDX, Dalton, Mass.

Relayed Message

Though not a traffic handler, Mrs. Cortright has accepted messages for relaying. One of these was addressed to a Long Branch ham and was taken from a ham in Pennsylvania and relayed to a Red Bank ham. Mrs. Cortright is a graduate of Trenton High School, 1943, and became interested in radio through her husband. His interest dates back to his school days; by the time he was graduated from Rahway High School in 1942 he not only held a license, but had built much electronic gear.

Among his construction projects is a recently completed walkie-talkie for use in the Woodbridge Emergency Net, of which he is a participating member. For operation on two meters, it makes use of an 72 mcs. oscillator driving the 144 mcs. power tube and produces a signal stable enough to be received on double-conversion receivers.

Gear at the jointly operated station includes a pair of 6L6s in the power stage of the 80-meter transmitter. Receiver for this band is an S-20R. For two-meters a 522 transmitter is used, complete with its four-channel push button arrangement to immediately shift frequency.

The received is a reworked 522, using double detection by means of the addition of a 456 kcs. IF stage. The antenna for two meters is an eight-element twin array. For mobile operation on this band an Eldico transmitter and Gonset converter have been installed in the couple's car.

The couple have a daughter, 5-year-old Patricia. They hope that in due time she, too, will become a licensed ham with a set of call letters assigned her. Cortright is an electronic technician employed by the Glenco Corp.-Gulton Manufacturing Corp., Metuchen.

Patricia Cortright, 5, "operates" the key of the jointly operated amateur station of her parents, Kenneth G., W2OGU, and Shirley H. Cortright, WN2IAM, of Rahway, while they look on with interest.

"W2IAM"-Shirley

LONG ISLAND SUNDAY PRESS, SEPTEMBER 9, 1951

Woman 'Hams' Volunteer for Civil Defense

'Join Us, Gals, It's Fun—and Easy,' Say Nassau Women Radio Fans

By RHODA A. MANN

If an air raid strikes Long Island, some 20 women radio "hams" will rush to their stations—ready to deliver live-saving messages—within a few seconds after the first alarm.

The Nassau and Suffolk housewives are members of the recently-formed Long Island unit of the National Women's Radio Operators League.

Some are veteran hams while others recently received novice licenses under a new ruling by the Federal Communications Commission—"but we are all on call for civilian defense duty," Mrs. Viola Grossman of East Rockaway, organizer of the new group, said yesterday.

"There is always a chance that an emergency may occur when the men are away at work," Mrs. Grossman said. "That is when we women radio hams can really be of service."

The gals plan to show the county how skillful they are on the airways when they help man a radio station at the Mineola County Fair in Garden City Tuesday, according to Mrs. Grossman.

"A woman who is really interested in radio can learn as fast as a man," she said.

The Fair radio station will be sponsored by four radio clubs, including the Nassau County club.

When the FCC began issuing novice licenses in July, [illegible] radio operat[illegible] received a real boost, Mrs. Grossman said. She expects the Nassau [illegible] Suffolk ranks to double before long.

To get a full-fledged license previously, an operator had to copy code at 13 words a minute and have an extensive knowledge of radio theory. The novice license requires only five words a minute and a lesser knowledge of theory.

One of the first to receive her novice license was 14-year-old Lynne Lyra of 27 Maine avenue, Rockville Centre, a freshman at South Side High School, and the youngest member of the Long Island unit.

Lynne says she inherits her radio hobby from her step-father, William Kargoll, a veteran ham.

"The FCC test was a cinch," she said yesterday. "I don't think I'd get nervous if I was called upon for civilian defense—if they can use someone as young as I am."

Mrs. Grossman has been operating Station W2JVX since 1935.

THAT'S MRS. Marie Manthe of 282 Redmont road, West Hempstead, talking into the mike of her set. She's another member of the Long Island unit of the National Women's Radio Operator's League.

MRS. SAMUEL Grossman of 18 Phipps avenue, East Rockaway, expertly works the z-key on her 85-meter band. The organizer of the Long Island unit, she's ready to do a man-sized job if the situation arises.

W2JVX-"Vi"

1951

Civil Defense - "1951"

MRS. SALLIE Lobentinal of 186 Moore avenue, Freeport, adjusts the frequency-meter of her set as she prepares to send a message.

W2UXM-"Sallie"

MAKING SURE everything is right with her transmitter is Mrs. Dorothy Guttman of 5 Rebecca lane, Oceanside. She'll be ready in any emergency.

MRS. GEORGE Mezey of 37 Willow avenue, Hempstead, inspects the power supply of her "ham" set [illegible] to be sure it'll be [illegible] if it's needed in a hurry.

"LYNNE"

THIS ROCKVILLE Centre "ham," Lynne Lyra of 27 Maine avenue, works a two-meter band which she'll use for civil defense if it ever becomes necessary.

THE BOSTON SUNDAY GLOBE—FEBRUARY 10, 1952

N. E. Hams Had Warm Greeting for W2ZXM (Carlsen, That Is)

The world's leading radio amateur—Capt Kurt Carlsen, operator of W2ZXM—is now back home with a heap of QSL cards mailed to him in Gloucester as a warm greeting from the New England Hams who worked him on 10 meters during his years at sea.

In addition to the priceless cargo the Flying Enterprise carried, down with the ship went Carlsen's beautiful one kilowatt job—a rig that took him six months to build at a cost of between $11,000 and $12,000 out of his personal funds. It was a beauty—no wonder he hung on!

Carlsen obtained his Ham ticket in 1949. He had a good background behind him, for he served as a radio operator in the merchant marine in his early days at sea. When he became a captain, he turned to amateur radio as a means of occupying his leisure hours at sea. Only one other captain is a Ham. Carlsen wonders why more don't get a license.

Rigged Transmitter

The captain was glad he knew how to assemble radio equipment when the mountainous seas of Europe tossed his ship hither and yonder. He rigged a transmitter from odd pieces of radio equipment in order to operate on the marine bands. Thus he was able to carry on communication, radioing that he would stay with his ship until she was towed to port or sank.

A captain aboard ship is at a disadvantage. He cannot fraternize with his men nor can he become too friendly with his officers. He must keep ship personnel at its proper distance. Not all his time is spent on the bridge and certainly one can get awfully tired of reading. The heroic captain solved his problem in a most worthwhile way, for there is no finer hobby than amateur radio. It comprises a group from all walks of life devoting time to helping others and their countries.

Capt Carlsen is a good example of a radio amateur. They will not accept remuneration of any kind for the volunteer work they do. They won't publicize the help they give others, nor will they tell you about their remarkable performances in emergencies. They simply consider this all part of amateur radio operating.

At his home, Carlsen has letters and telegrams offering him any amounts to appear in person, on the radio, in television or in public speaking halls, or to endorse items. He could make a fortune. He has turned the offers down, as everyone knows.

Presents From Wife

He will accept presents, though, from his wife. She has a flair for picking out just what he wants. Shortly after he got his Ham ticket, and while he was at sea, she prepared the best birthday present imaginable. He came home to find that she had transposed the unfinished attic into a real Ham shack.

While the Captain was undergoing his terrific ordeal at sea last month, the Globe carried pictures of the Carlsen Christmas tree at home. Beneath were two huge packages, unopened. They were intended for the Captain. One contained an electric heater for the Ham shack, a gift from the Mrs. She is not interested in amateur radio but she is interested in this avocation of her husband.

Aboard the Flying Enterprise, the Captain had a well equipped radio shack. He spent his spare time building the one kilowatt job he used. All the tools, wiring, coils, tubes, transformers and condensers necessary for the transmitter went to sea with him. He operated on code with 000 watts and on phone (voice) with 800 watts. He also had another rig which operated on 3.5 to 144 megacycles, using 50 watts. His antenna was a three-element rotary beam, which he used on 10 meters. His power supply was from a 2-kilowatt motor generator.

Capt Carlsen is a member of the American Radio Relay League, which is headquarters of the Hams, located in West Hartford, Conn., and also of the Maritime Mobile Amateur Radio Club. He took over duties as master of the Flying Enterprise in 1948. Two years later he took part in another dramatic sea incident.

This time, a tiny passenger was glad W2ZXM was installed aboard ship. The child was terribly ill and Carlsen put his maritime mobile station on the air. One never knows where contact will be made and an amateur in Minneapolis answered. He secured medical advice from a physician and gave it to the Captain. After administering the proper drugs, the child was out of danger in no time.

Greeted by Auto Horns

The ARRL has already saluted the captain in behalf of all the amateur radio operators throughout the world. And amateurs are tooting their own horns whenever the captain is in their midsts.

Only in case of emergencies do city officials seem to realize amateurs are around. So when the home town turned out for the captain upon his return to New Jersey, a motorcade of cars—25 of them—joined in the parade. As they arrived in front of City Hall, the horns of the 25 machines tooted "73s" in code! It was deafening to civilians ... but music to the ears of Capt Carlsen. This is the master's signal for "Best Regards."

City dignitaries asked the captain to explain this demonstration, which seemed to be pleasing him, and the amateurs got a break with radio interviews and pictures. This is one time they wanted to share honors and let the world know that Capt Carlsen was one of their fraternity, and as far as all of them are concerned, the best radio amateur in the world!

CAPT KURT CARLSEN at his ham transmitter which is now at the bottom of the Atlantic.

"W2ZXM 1952

GLOUCESTER honored Capt. Henrik Kurt Carlsen, hero of the ill-fated Flying Enterprise, with the first golden key to the city in its 329-year history, a vedal, life membership in the Master Mariners' Ass'n and an award from the "Deep Sea Dragnet," an organization of radio hams.

Teen-Age Radio 'Ham'

K2DSL-Merceda

At 14 years of age, Merceda Ann Pilla of 36 Redfern Street, shown above, is one of New Jersey's few girl radio "hams." She got her first license at 12 years and passed her code test at 13. Merceda is among nearly 700 girls and women throughout the world who have turned their radio hobby into a public service in time of emergency. She's known to other operators by her call letters — K2DSL. Merceda's brother, 16-year-old Michael, tutored her. He is a Trenton Boy's Catholic High School junior and Merceda is a freshman at Cathedral High School. Merceda was allowed to talk to her brother's air wave contacts and she became interested in radio for a hobby. She is a member of the Young Ladies Radio League, a world wide group. Their first convention will be held next month in Santa Monica. Two other young girl ham operators in New Jersey are the daughters of Captain Kurt Carlsen of Woodbridge, who gained fame when he stayed with the sinking Flying Enterprise I on her ill fated Atlantic voyage. Sonia, 14, and Karen Carlsen, 10, now flash messages to their seagoing father on his new ship, the Flying Enterprise II.

Queens Section—SUNDAY NEWS, MARCH 14, 1954

Far Apart Places Join In Ham's Hen Session

By DOROTHY BREWSTER

When Mrs. Violet Grossman chimes in on a housewives' hen session, the over-the-fence conversation can stretch anywhere from Queens to Capetown, South Africa or Truk Island in the Pacific.

Mrs. Grossman is a ham, a member of a close-knit group of worldwide proportions.

Licensed as a class A radio operator, the East Rockaway housewife is among the thousands of radio amateurs who monitor the air-waves, and who are always on hand to help out in disaster emergencies or, simply to deliver a message to "mom" from a home-sick serviceman in a foreign country.

Known by Call Letter.

Best-known to her air-wave friends by her call letter, "W2JZK," Mrs. Grossman first began burning her fingers on hot tubes as a "lid," or novice, 19 years ago.

Her husband, Samuel, a sales executive, was always elbow deep in radio equipment, she explained.

"I wondered what was so fascinating and began to ask questions. Before I knew what was happening, I was applying to other FCC for a license."

The Grossmans, often referred to by friends as a "family of hams," can usually be found on the sun-porch of their home at 18 Phipps Ave., surrounded by a huge 250 watt transmitter and receiver and other radio equipment.

Also bitten by the radio bug was the couple's son Kenneth, a theatrical agent, who divides the job of monitoring the set with his mother. Mr. Grossman prefers to do the repairs or build and design new equipment.

"It's not an easy hobby to pick up," Mrs. Grossman explained. "To become a licensed operator, you have to pass rigid tests on radio theory and copying code at the rate of five words a minute."

Holds Club Office.

"But once the fever hits," she laughed, "it hits hard."

Recently elected secretary of the Federation of Long Island Radio Clubs, she is also phone activities manager of the NYC-LI Section of the American Radio Relay League.

Her job, she explained, is to coordinate the activities of the members and appoint official radio stations on the amateur nets to pick up bulletins from the league headquarters in West Hartford, Conn.

The holder of many medals and citations for code speed contests and emergency service, Mrs. Grossman directed communications during the 1938 hurricane that devastated Long Island. When floods or tornadoes have hit along the eastern seaboard she has sat by her set for as long as 16 hours, gathering information for anxious relatives, who flocked to her home.

When Pearl Harbor was attacked, she recalled, she was the only amateur operator who wasn't ordered off the air.

In close contact with Mitchel Field, she was asked to stay on the air long enough to round up the servicemen on furlough and ask them to report back to their bases.

Although their radio activities were interrupted during World War II, the Grossmans were called on by the Army and Air Force for special service.

Mrs. Grossman served as chief radio instructor at Fort Dix, training 2,000 operators in the first three months. She was then transferred to Sioux Falls Field, South Dakota, as code supervisor, and was joined by her husband, assigned to the field as a radio consultant for the Air Force.

Now that their station is back on the airwaves, W2JZK is kept busy relaying messages to and from all parts of the world, even Korea.

Daughter a Medic.

A great deal of her day, she admits, is spent writing letters to persons she has never met, or talking to the grateful parents of servicemen, who have received messages from their sons.

Like other mothers, Mrs. Grossman, too, is anxious to talk to her daughter, Betty Jane, a doctor in Rochester.

With the aid of another ham upstate, she and her husband talk daily with Betty Jane, the only unlicensed member of the family.

"Betty Jane's studies kept her from applying for her license," Mrs. Grossman explained, but she's going to take the test soon. "We can't escape the fact," she added, "that she's as much of a ham at heart as we are."

(NEWS foto by Jack Clarity)

Calling Truk . . . or Capetown, South Africa. Mrs. Violet Grossman holds some long, really long conversations (as far as distance is concerned) with fellow hams.

W2JZK" 1954

W2JZK-"Vi"- 1965 YL-HARMONICS

Bronx 'Ham' Chats... She's Heard Halfway Around World

47 NEW YORK POST, TUESDAY, MAY 31, 1955

By VINCENT D. AUSTIN

When Ruth Siegelman decides to have a long chat with a friend, it's likely to be a real long—about halfway around the world, for instance.

Mrs. Siegelman is one of a region of amateur radio operators in the Bronx known as "hams," who broadcast daily from their homes, covering fantastic distances with transmitters using less electricity than a television set.

Under a Federal Communications Commission license, Mrs. Siegelman is entitled to talk to other hams from her apartment at 1414 Wythe Pl., near 170th St., under the call letters W2OWL.

And how did it start?

"About 15 years ago we bought a new radio with the short-wave bands. I listened to the hams talking back and forth, so being gabby by nature, I wanted to get into the act," Mrs. Siegelman said.

Although the war interrupted Mrs. Siegelman's plans to get on the air, she did learn radio operating through the American Women's Voluntary Services, to be prepared for home emergencies. She won her operator's license in 1942, but with amateur radio banned for the war, she didn't get on the air until 1946.

"After the war," Mrs. Siegelman said, "the field opened up and I've been going great guns ever since."

The most appealing feature of ham broadcasting, Mrs. Siegelman is quick to point out, is the absolute absence of discrimination.

"Once you're a ham, that's it," she said. "Nobody cares who you are or where you come from. They're more interested in your call letters and what kind of equipment you have."

The only place last names are mentioned is on the "QSL" cards, which are cards, postcards bearing technical data sent through the mail to confirm contracts. DX (long distance) fans are particularly addicted to this practice.

"I've worked all of the continents except Asia," Mrs. Siegelman said, thumbing through cards from Nairobi, Africa; French Morocco, Europe, Hawaii and South America.

"Talking to people in all those places is an education in itself," she added.

Mrs. Siegelman is one of an estimated 700 women amateurs throughout the world. In ham language she is a "YL" (young lady) and her husband, Morris, a butcher, is the "OM" (old man.)

She is active in both city and state Civil Defense communications work, and is a member of the Young Ladies Radio League. She hopes to attend the league's international convention next month at Santa Monica, Calif. If she can't be there in person, she'll make contact through her radio.

One major problem among hams today is a monster called "TVI" (television interference), in which every local operator at one time or another gets accused of ruining his neighbor's television reception.

"It's really not our fault," says Ruth, "and if the persons who are bothered will contact the manufacturer of their set, a filter can be supplied free of charge which will clear up the trouble."

Ham radio stretches clean across social and economic horizons, attracting adherents from truck drivers to brain surgeons.

Orchestra leader Tex Beneke is an active amateur, broadcasting with the call letters W2CKD. His wife Marguerite is W2EHR. Other show business personalities who are Hams are Bill Leonard, Ray McKinley and Martin Block. The airborne call-letters W2PVR identify Ed Dros, warden of the Rikers Island penitentiary.

While amateur radio is mainly a hobby, it comes into its own in such disasters as the tornadoes which the past week swept across the Southwest and Midwest. Hams were the first on the air sending news of the disaster and calling for help for the stricken towns.

Post Photo

A real long-distance talker is West Bronx radio "ham broadcaster" Ruth Siegelman.

W2OWL - Ruth.
1955
YLRL "Continous Membership"
Chairman

Copy of article which appeared in the New York World Telegram and Sun on February 9, 1961.

SPACE NO BARRIER.

A WORLD WIDE SEWING CIRCLE.

by Ann Geracimos.

Ham, the chimpanzee made famous in space, has nothing on the women hams who can travel around the world daily without ever leaving home.

These amateur radio operators merely flip a switch to join an international party line reaching into every country that permits short-wave communication beyond its borders.

Breakfast might be delayed and the bridge luncheon forgotten while a YL(standard ham abbreviation for young lady operator) or a XYL (married woman) gives a CQ (general call inviting conversation with other hams on the air) and her 73 (best regards) by voice or in Morse Code.

ANYONE CAN LISTEN.

It's the electronic age's version of the backyard fence - with two exceptions. Neighbors who meet over the air have no privacy; other hams on the same meter and frequency level can eavesdrop.

Also the time and date of each conversation must be registered in a log available anytime for inspection by the Federal Communications Commission. The FCC issues the required license to any American Citizen who can pass the novice test.

Over 200,000 hams are active in the United States. It is estimated that out of more than 10,000 hams working in the New York area, 150 to 200 are women.

GAINS A HOBBY.

"The time comes when your husband disappears into some cold, drafty room with his radio set and the wife wonders if she suddenly has lost her charm," says one of them, Mrs. Irving (Dorothy) Strauber, a housewife in Lynbrook, L. I. with four children to keep her there. (KYMGE)

Rather than lose a husband, she gained a hobby and, in six years time, hundreds of friends, some of whom she knows better than her immediate neighbors. Others collect stamps, Mrs. Strauber says she "collects people."

She "met" one lady in the Congo who learned English by talking with her and, encouraged by their friendship, now is considering moving to the United States.

PLUMBER HELPS OUT.

(W2EEO)

Mrs. Arthur (Madeline) Greenberg, a grandmother at 211 Willis AVe. was talking to her daughter on the radio one day about not being able to get heat into the baby's bedroom. "A plumber listening in asked to join the conversation so that he could suggest how to solve the problem."

-2-

(WA2DLK)

Mrs. Raoul (Henni) Poliakin of New Hyde Park regularly keeps in touch via ham radio with her husband, a conductor, when he is away on concert tours and with her daughter who is a student at Ohio State University.

(W2EUL)

Miss Amy Samuels of Brentwood, L. I., a clerk in the Main Building of the United States Post Office, has been ill at home for several weeks but she keeps up with the world through a friend, Mrs. Oscar (Alma) Skeete, whose husband supervised the building of Miss Samuels' set. the two women "talk" in Morse Code about 20 minutes daily. (W2MVV)

Amateur radio is the only hobby provided for by international treaty and, because of the few qualifications for enthusiasts, is one of the most demonratic. It's the only hobby for many like Mrs. Morris (Ruth) Siegelman, of the Bronx, because "no other compares with it." Once you try it, your goose is cooked, even if dinner isn't. (W2OWL)

Herald Statesman, Yonkers, N. Y., Thurs., July 14, 1960 25

Mrs. Schlitt Radios Husband From Vatican

By MARGUERITE CAMPBELL

A Yonkers woman has the distinction of being the third woman to be given permission to speak on the Vatican amateur radio station HVICN.

Mrs. Seymour Schlitt of 49 Frum Ave. spoke to her husband here on Saturday on his ham station W2BBV in their home.

Friend Of A Friend

And how did this come to pass? Mr. Schlitt, who has operated his amateur station since 1928, has a friend named Max Myers who travels all over the world in his business. And Mr. Myers is a friend of Mr. Dominico who operates the amateur radio station at the Vatican in Rome. When Mrs. Schlitt arrived in Rome, Mr. Dominico called for her at her hotel [illegible] teur operators to communicate with the USSR.

Mrs. Schlitt is on a vacation trip abroad with a party which includes Dr. Harris J. Levine of New York, past president of the Jewish National Fund, and Hyman Fliegel, president of B'nai Zion, the national organization which has also arranged a tour of Israel for the group.

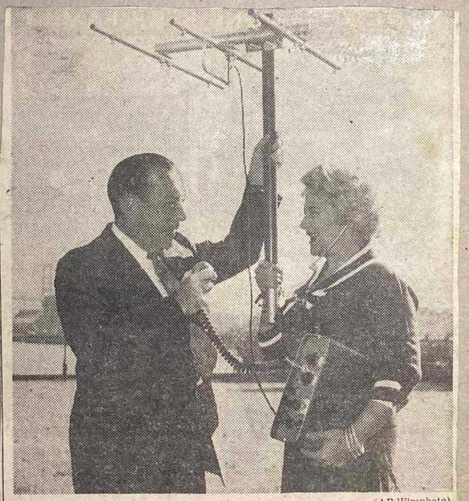
While she is in Israel, Mrs. Schlitt will have luncheon with Abba Eban, former delegate to the UN, visit President Ben Zvi at his home, and have dinner with Prime Minister David Ben Gurion.

She will also visit the Knesset, or parliament, and participate in the Hertzl Centennial celebration. She plans to go to Greece, France and Holland before returning to Yonkers in August.

Active At Lincoln Center

Active members of the Lincoln Park Jewish Center, Mrs. Schlitt is vice president of its PTA and a member of the PTA's at Lincoln High School and School Four and Mr. Schlitt is a former chairman of the board of education at Lincoln Park.

Mrs. Schlitt and her husband, who is in the air conditioning business, have made their home in Yonkers for the past eight years. They have three sons—Sanford who is sixteen, Ira, twelve, and Jeffrey, ten.



(AP Wirephoto)

TESTING, 1-2-3 . . . Mayor Wagner uses amateur radio station owned by Mrs. Racul Poliakin of New Hyde Park to broadcast from Gracie Mansion to "ham" operators' convention at Statler-Hilton Hotel in New York City. Wagner thanked amateur radio operators for their service to the city in emergencies.

Hamming It Up Cinch for FCC-Trained X-YL's of Radio

By Nuala Walsh

Picture a traveling salesman stuck in the dead of night on Bear Mountain, miles from the nearest gas station. Lacking flares, the stranded motorist calmly calls his wife in Oceanside via his mobile radio unit. In a matter of minutes she has a mechanic dispatched through the AAA in Peekskill.

It pays to have a radio ham for a wife.

The heroine of Bear Mountain is Mrs. Maurice Gutman. A whiz with kilocycles, Mrs. Gutman heads the lady hams on Long Island as president of the YLRL, the Young Ladies Radio League. The organization was formed in 1950 and has 19 members, all of whom "dig the bug."

Air Waves Send 'em

The bug is ham lingo for the electronics key. To say someone is bitten by the bug means that air waves send him and he is a ham for life.

Here is how the league operates. The X-YL sets up a rig in her home shack and can use it provided the OM does not object. It's 88 all the way if the OM and X-YL are both hams.

Translated, OM is old man and X-YL ex-young lady, or husband and wife; rig is radio equipment and shack is where the equipment is located. Code word for "love and kisses" is 88.

Life is not all sending and receiving for the YL's of radio. The amateur fans have to take out novice and permanent licenses and are required by the Federal Communications Commission to know theory of radio as well as practice. They have to master the Morse Code and must serve one year's probation before a permanent license and call letters are issued.

Marriage Does It

Most of the members of the league became interested in radio through ham husbands. Mrs. Samuel J. Grossman of East Rockaway got her license in 1936, one year after her husband got his. She is the founder of the league and a former president.

Mrs. Grossman said she formed the Long Island league because licensed women out here were fed up commuting to attend meetings of the New York City YLRL. Members of the Long Island group come from Queens, Suffolk and Nassau. They travel from Bayside, Bay Shore, Lawrence and Levittown to attend meetings in members' homes every other month. Quite a few members got acquainted through the Nassau Radio Club. Of the 6,000 hams in the Manhattan-Long Island area, 300 are women.

When working ham bands, members are on their own. If the FCC clamps down for a violation, the member, not the organization, is held to account. The FCC operates monitor stations and hands out stiff fines and license suspensions, if any rules are broken.

FCC rules governing amateur bands prohibit profane language, "facetious" remarks, commercial or business discussions and the playing of any musical instrument.

Every ham must keep a file of messages received and must log, or record, all outgoing conversations.

Mrs. Grossman recently expedited overseas shipment of a dog called Cyril. Some people in Maine wanted to send Cyril to Germany but they did not know what papers or inoculations were needed. Mrs. Grossman intercepted an answering message from Washington, D. C., via Germany, and relayed it to Maine. As far as she knows Cyril is on his way, accompanied by covering documents.

The Gutmans' mobile unit got another workout on a motor trip upstate. Mrs. Gutman asked a league member to check on hotel reservations for her and the message confirming the room came through while they were en route to their destination.

Hams Aid Blind

The league has adopted the Braille Technical Press as a philanthropic project. The press publishes the Radio and Electronics Guide for the blind and most league functions are held to benefit this cause.

Members are now working on a benefit supper to be held May 23, from 5 to 7 PM, in the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall, East Rockaway. The $1 Admission will go to Braille publications.

EARPHONES PLAY ROLE of importance for Mrs. Dorothy Strauber of Lynbrook, one of the newest members of the Young Ladies Radio League of Long Island. Mrs. Strauber is shown as she takes down a message on the ham band, a unit of kilocycles set aside by the Federal Communications Commission for the use of amateurs. Hams are bound by strict rules of operation set up by the FCC.

TRAINING TO BE youngest member of the YLRL is 12-year-old Winnie Jordan of Rosedale, who gets a lesson in the intricate Morse Code from Mrs. Samuel J. Grossman of East Rockaway, one of the founders of the organization and a former president.

Wednesday, May 12, 1954

K2MGE-DOROTHY "1954"

W2JZX-"V"

She 'Goes' All Over World Via Ham Radio

(Newsday Photo by De Bear)

CALLING ANYWHERE. Mrs. Irving Strauber of Lynbrook, mother of four children, visits with people all over world via her own amateur radio station located next to the kitchen stove.

Tuesday, April 19, 1960 K2MGE-DOROTHY.

By Audrey Clinton

Mrs. Irving Strauber of Lynbrook has the world at her fingertips.

The mother of four children is a ham radio operator. She holds daily international coffee klatches over her own amateur station, K2MGE, located right next to her kitchen stove.

"The radio is a magic carpet. I'm never bored or lonesome," said Mrs. Strauber. She interrupted a conversation with a U.S. colonel in Stuttgart, Germany, to talk to Newsday.

She mentioned casually that she had to plan dinner for a guest—a radio ham who was dropping in from South Africa for a visit that night.

These two are a sampling of the hundreds of friends she has made all over the world since she tuned in on amateur radio.

"I received my license four years ago. With young children I don't have a chance to travel much so I do it vicariously.

"Ham radio was my husband's hobby. He had his set down in the cellar. Every night I used to sit alone and watch television while he disappeared down there. I finally went down to see what was so interesting."

Now she is a more avid radio ham than he is.

"I operate the set any spare moment I can get without disturbing the household routine. If I wake up in the night with a toothache or if I have insomnia, I go down to the radio and tune in. Any time of day or night I can talk to someone."

Operating on single sideband radio which permits instant direct conversation, Mrs. Strauber settles down after the children are in school and the baby is taking a nap. With the press of a button she can and has exchanged recipes and family gossip with a Belgian Congo housewife, chatted with an Air Force general on a flying inspection tour, talked to a Navy chaplain in Antarctica, and with television star, Arthur Godfrey.

Many of them come to visit. The four Strauber children are used to seeing visitors from faraway places like Angola and Australia arrive at 12 Elm St. One South African radio ham arrived at the Strauber home from Idlewild airport and 10 minutes later was talking to his wife in South Africa.

The Straubers exchange gifts, letters, even color movies of the family with their radio contacts.

Worldwide friendships are just one aspect of ham radio, Mrs. Strauber said. There is competition to contact remote areas in the world. QSL (contact) cards from contacts made by Mrs. Strauber and Mr. Strauber on his station, K2HEA, paper the walls of their joint "radio shack."

The Straubers have even offered aid and assistance in emergencies. Via radio they were able to help the ailing wife of the Italian consul general in Athens locate needed drugs. They have let overseas servicemen know when babies arrive to stateside wives. They even assisted an ardent swain to propose to his girl via radio.

Though Mrs. Strauber's conversation is liberally sprinkled with radio ham slang, she insists that you don't need a technical background to become one.

She highly recommends it to the home-bound suburban housewife tired of the usual girl talk.

Strauber teaches an adult education class at Lynbrook High School for prospective radio hams. The Straubers are editors of "The Sidebander," official publication of the SSB Amateur Radio Association.

Feb. 19, 1949 Esther W3NFC

Mrs. Esther Rushworth Got Tired of Being Told Not to Touch the Radio

By Margot Patterson

Mrs. Esther Rushworth, of Baltimore, is the only Maryland woman licensed as a short-wave radio "ham" who is known to be actively operating a station at the present time.

As they say in the ham shacks of Usbekistan, Assam, Brazil or Baltimore, W3NFC, an XYL, operates the OM's XMTR.

Need a translation? To amateur radio operators, the alphabetical doubletalk means that Mrs. Esther Rushworth has the privilege of running her husband's short-wave transmitter to talk to her friends around the world. She is Maryland's only known active licensed woman amateur.

Other XYL's, which is international radio code for "former young lady" and is idiomatically interpreted as "wife," may talk on their husbands' stations, but the Federal Communications Commission has a stern admonition for them. Hams, as amateur short-wave operators call themselves, simplify this admonition to:

"Burny, burny! Mama mustn't touch the switch or twist the dial."

Mrs. Rushworth, a calm little woman with two growing children, had heard these warning words from her husband, Ralph, or W3JMA, as he is called in short-wave circles—more than a score of times. Every time she heard them, they challenged her further. Finally she determined to master the requirements for an FCC license.

For most women "would-be" hams, mastering the international Morse code is Stumbling Block Number One. Not so for Esther Rushworth. A pianist and graduate of Peabody Conservatory of Music, she found that the code came easy because of its rhythm.

Her husband, a field engineer for a radio company, coached her on the code. He also taught her the technical requirements for the license—an understanding of radio theory and regulations.

In 1947 she passed all the tests, received her license and soon became a member of the YLRL, or Young Ladies Radio League, an international organization of licensed women operators, and of ARRL, the American Radio Relay League. Since then her QSO's and QSL's have been mounting.

To the initiate, QSL's are cards sent by other hams acknowledging a QSO, or radio conversation. Mrs. Rushworth has talked with such faraway places as Finland, Switzerland, Brazil, Rhodesia, Spain, France and Italy.

Sometimes the messages she picks up from other countries are the lonely conversations of expatriated Americans. Sometimes they are the inquisitive questions of people from other lands who will never see the United States.

Once in a while she picks up a CQ, or general call, that carries an undercurrent of drama.

Once, for instance, she heard F7AA, an airdrome just outside Paris, France, call for any short-wave operator at all in Baltimore. When Mrs. Rushworth answered, she learned that a nervous Baltimore GI, due to become a father, was worriedly standing beside the operator. He had had no mail for some time.

The Rushworths have a telephone right alongside their transmitter. It took only a few seconds to reach the GI's home. Both mother and child proved to be doing well and it was a relieved and grateful GI who went to sleep at his airbase in France that night because W3NFC had been on the beam.

The Rushworths have "handled traffic," as the making of such emergency connections between people is called, for other GI's in Palestine, Germany and many more places. Often they have held the telephone receiver right to the microphone so that a boy could hear the voice of his wife or mother.

A message picked up from a merchant ship in Lisbon harbor helped the Rushworths meet a Baltimore couple on De Soto road who have since become their fast friends. The husband was radio operator on the ship, which had a 10-watt transmitter aboard. This kind of transmitter is called a "flea-power set" because it uses so little power.

Despite the low power, the Rushworths picked up its calls from Lisbon, and when they learned that the man's wife was in Baltimore they invited her to their station to talk with her husband. Through W3JMA, then, the wife kept in constant touch with her husband as he sailed—except for a hectic period when his ship lost its rudder and drifted aimlessly.

Then the Rushworths concealed the danger from her until the vessel was safe again.

Should there be a great disaster or emergency, the FCC may require the ham operators to keep off the air in order to let distress signals get through, or do emergency duty.

Emergency duty networks are set up under the ARRL and often, when other means of communication have broken down, these networks have functioned to save shipwrecked sailors, starving explorers, flooded farm families, and even whole cities from disaster.

Mrs. Rushworth has not yet had to perform any such heroic service, but she has "handled traffic" which originated because a ship at sea answered an S O S. Her contact was a naval commander in Newfoundland whose wife was on the way to the United States for medical care.

The ship the commander's wife was on went 1,500 miles out of her course to save a shipwrecked crew. Since this meant a two-week delay in docking, it threw all of the appointments of the commander's wife out of kilter.

Worse than this, it distressed her mother, a Baltimorean, who was afraid her daughter had met with misfortune at sea.

A complicated situation, certainly. But ten minutes on the shortwave set and a brief phone call to the mother set everyone at ease.

Not all the experiences which the Rushworths have had because of their joint hobby have been so happy. One morning 13-year-old Ralph, Jr., looked out of the front window and saw irate neighbors approaching. He told his mother and older sister, Frances.

When they went out to see what was happening, they found that the women had come to protest. The powerful Rushworth transmitter, it seemed, was interfering with reception of a favorite program over the little radios that many of them had in their kitchens.

Out of consideration for their neighbors, the Rushworths rarely operate their transmitter in the evening when the most popular programs come over commercial radio. They had not expected to arouse opposition in the morning.

They held a family council. Should they give up their hobby to keep peace in this community where they had lived for 25 years? It is a dilemma that many amateur operators face.

The Rushworths solved their problem like this. Mr. Rushworth designed a wave trap—a little gadget to prevent short-wave interference.

Neighbors who were having interference were then presented with these.

Now the neighbors hear their favorite programs without interference and W3JMA operates more freely—with either the OM (yes, old man) or the XYL at the controls.

In order to get the license that made her W3NFC, Mrs. Rushworth had to learn radio theory and FCC regulations.

Ralph Rushworth, Jr., makes an adjustment on the aerial for his father, who is W3NFC's OM—also called W3JMA.

Bethesda Girl, 12, Gets License To Operate 'Ham' Radio Station

June Eleanor Gurke, the youngest person in the Washington area to get Federal permission to operate a radio station, is following in her brother's footsteps.

June is only 12.

But she has a license from the Federal Communications Commission which will allow her to send and receive short-wave messages from all through the world.

She won the "novice" license by being able to receive and transmit

JUNE ELEANOR GURKE
Radio "ham" at 12.
—Star Staff Photo.

the international Morse code at the rate of five words a minute, in addition to passing a written test.

"My brother taught me," she said. "And I studied from some sample questions given in a magazine."

Her brother is John Gurke, 16, who two years ago qualified as an amateur at the age of 14. He got his Class B license then, but since has received his Class A permit. His station is W-3-PQF.

"I guess I've been studying the Morse code about three years," June said. "My brother needed somebody to practice with and I was handy. We sent messages to one another by the code."

June is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Gurke, 7112 Denton road, Bethesda, Md. Her father works for International Business Machines Co. here.

The practice of granting novice licenses was instituted by the FCC on July 1.

When her year as a novice is up, June will be pounding at the FCC door again—this time to take a test for the regular amateur operator's license.

Next year she will be a pupil at Leland Junior High School.

June doesn't spend all her spare time tapping out messages in Morse Code. She's a member of Girl Scout Troop 180, where she's won merit badges in folk dancing, hostess, cooking, sewing and community work.

She likes to read, too, and play with her dolls.

1951 - June
Novice - Age 12

Acme Woman To Attend Convention Of Radio "Hams"

Mrs. Robert Frederick, who with her husband constitute a pair of experienced radio "ham" operators, is going to represent the Mount Pleasant area at the first international convention of the Young Ladies' Radio League, June 22-24 in Santa Monica, Calif.

She will join nearly 700 other women throughout the world who as radio operators are eagerly turning their hobby into public service as well as fun. In amateur radio lingo YL or young lady stands for any licensed female, although many of them are neither young nor single. On the same order, OM or old man implies a male operator.

Mrs. Frederick's OM began tinkering with radios while yet at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Frederick of the Bridgeport road. His wife became interested in operating during their courtship and passed a test for her license in 1949. She is the former Betty Keefer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Keefer of Mount Pleasant, R. D. 2.

The jargon used by amateur operators is designed to save time in identification and conversation but sounds like an unusual language to the average person.

Following their marriage, the couple moved to Acme, R. D. 1, erecting a tower near their home on top of Three-Mile Hill. By adding more powerful equipment through the years, they have built their set up to 250 watts.

Mrs. Frederick has made contact with operators in England, Portugal, French Morocco and all over the United States. The male amateurs talk about band conditions and radio theory while the women discuss homes, families, weather and just plain gossip.

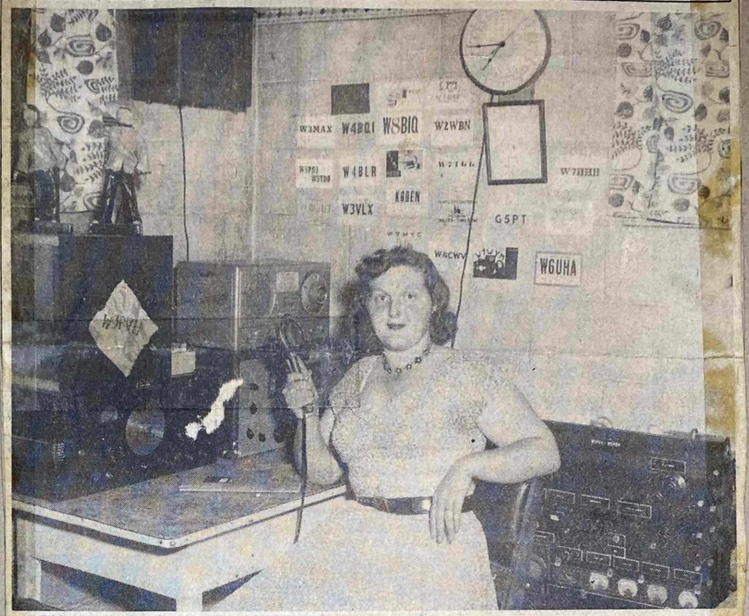
The couple plan further improvements of their present set, including a directional beam on the 50-foot tower and automatic additions to the amplifier.

Mrs. Frederick's call letters are W3PVH, which she repeats over the air, sounding the letters CQ when looking for someone to talk to within 500 miles and uttering CGDX whenever she wants to make a contact overseas.

She has talked to 20 YL's in one morning from Oregon to California, making a record of each contact, a procedure required by the Federal Communication Commission who may send a representative to check on the "ham" operator at any time.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick are the parents of three children, Bobbie, four years; Jonathan, 23 months, and Timmy, eight months.

Young Acme Woman To Attend International Radio Convention



MRS. ROBERT FREDERICK is shown in the above photograph operating an amateur radio set located in her home at Acme, R. D. 1. She and her husband are both licensed "hams," having been interested in short wave radio since before their marriage. The couple live in a concrete block foundation at the present time and intend to build their home above it in the near future. Mrs. Frederick will leave June 22 by air from Pittsburgh to attend the first international Young Ladies Radio League convention to be held June 24-26 in Santa Monica, Calif. A few of the many call cards acquired by the Frederick's since they became licensed operators and improved their set can be seen above Mrs. Frederick's head in this photograph. The receiving equipment sits on the table at left while the transmitter is at right.

7/25/55 W3PVH - "Betty"

Women 'Hams' On Job Here

Local Civil Defense officials will have able assistance in case of emergency from women "hams" like Mrs. Henry Wickenhiser, of Coraopolis, pictured with her daughter, Kathryn, 4. Mrs. Wickenhiser's husband is a well-known "ham" in this district.

The south section of the city is the "ham" responsibility of Mrs. Jeannette Ebur, of Madison Ave., should an emergency occur.

W3QPJ "Clara"

Here is Mrs. Frank Burke, of Maple Ave., Edgewood, ready to send out alarms in the East End sector. She is one of some 4,000 women "hams" in the U. S.

"Miriam" W3UUG

Sun-Telegraph Photo

Four-year-old Jeannette is eager to help her mother, Mrs. Robert Blackburn, operate her shortwave station, W3UUG. Mrs. Blackburn was licensed in 1939. To make the family interest 100 per cent, her husband also is a radio amateur.

"Founder" of YLRL 1939

W3MSU "EThel" 1953

Monitored by LOUISA B. SANDO, W5RZJ

959-C 24th Street, Los Alamos, New Mexico

OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPH, U. S. NAVY.

W3MSU, our cover girl.

Did you notice our cover girl? She's none other than W3MSU, Ethel Smith, and she's trying out a new mobile rig which W3NL, Andy, built especially for her new *Henry 5*. Ethel is well known to many of the gang as founder of the YLRL and as an active operator for many years. We had a write-up about her in these pages in the Oct. '49 issue, but a few notes are in order to bring you up to date.

W3MSU has been operating mobile only a few months, but prior to that she acted as second operator for W3NL at his control station during mobile club exercises. She has helped out during CAP exercises and on the *Muscular Dystrophy Campaign* collections (during which mobiles alone collected $10,000 in one night).

Active with MARS and with the Naval Reserve, and participating in regular drills with the Organized Surface Division W-2, Ethel also drills on the air with Net Able, using her Navy call NØABO.

Last year Ethel was president of the Washington Radio Club where she organized training classes in code and theory. To date at least 12 or 15 licenses have resulted from these classes, and they are still going strong. Ethel says she and W3CDQ, Liz, spend almost every Friday evening helping out with instruction.

Ethel also organized the Washington TVI Committee. She served as chairman for the first year and is now corresponding secretary. The Committee has handled about 300 cases. W3OQF, Barbie, was coordinator the first year, and now W3RXJ, Irene, is carrying on that job. To raise funds Ethel made up an index by street address, of the 2,000 Hams in the Washington area. Sales of these have provided more than half of the finances for operation of the TVI Committee.

At home W3MSU runs a *Viking I* with an *HQ-129X* operating into a center-fed Hertz antenna in the apartment house attic! So far she works only 80 and 40, mostly CW. She has a 30 wpm CPC and a 2nd class commercial radiotelephone license. At work Ethel is an Engineering Aide in the Special Research Branch of Radio Division III of the Naval Research Laboratory.