

**SPECIAL EDITION**

This OVARC email newsletter is sponsored by the Oro Valley Amateur Radio Club <http://www.tucsonhamradio.com>

**MONTHLY CLUB MEETING LOCATION****Ascension Lutheran Church****1220 W Magee Rd****Tucson, AZ 85704 (east of LaCanada on Magee)****THANKS TO THE OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS for 2014**

President	Bob Molczan	KA7VPR
Vice-president	Ron Herring	W7HD
Secretary	Howard Chorost	KC7AC
Treasurer	David Beauchesne	AK2L
Board Members	David Branson	KCOLL
	Scott Boone	K7ADX
	Dave Coccio	N7AKC
	Gary Schmitz	KT7AZ

**2015 BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS RESULTS:****Bob Molczan, KA7VPR -- President****Ron Herring, W7HD -- Vice President****Scott Boone, K7ADX -- Treasurer****Howard Chorost, KC7AC -- Secretary****Board Members:****Dave Coccio, N7AKC****Gary Schmitz, KT7AZ****Steve Wood, W1SR****Carl Foster, KB7AZ****Bob Stephens, AF9W****DUES INCREASE FOR 2015**

On January 1, 2015 the membership rates went up to \$25 for regular members and we are adding a discounted rate of \$15 for members who are in the same household as a paid regular member. A household member is defined as someone who resides at the same address as the regular member.

See <http://tucsonhamradio.com> for details and paypal links.

**Sunday Night Net      19:00 MST      OVARC Repeater System**

Join the group every Sunday night at 19:00 MST (7:00PM) on the OVARC repeater system for the Sunday Night Net. On the Sunday after our general membership meeting we have our Radio Tradio where you can list ham radio items for sale. The other nights are a general discussion. Everyone is welcome on the net regardless of club affiliation.

We are always looking for Net Control Stations so if you would like to try your hand at being NCS, contact Lanny, KF7LV our Net Manager.

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**OVARC LINKED REPEATER SYSTEM**

The Oro Valley Amateur Radio Club currently has five wide area repeaters. All of our repeaters are normally linked via VOIP over internet connections, with the exception of the Dstar repeater (the newest of the five).

All of our repeaters are open to ANY licensed ham. We invite you to use these repeaters as often as you like. If you can monitor the repeater system for a few hours each week to respond to calls, it would be very much appreciated.

**2 Meters****146.620(-) PL 156.7 - Callsign WØHF**

Located on Keystone Peak (Map: <http://g.co/maps/5tdjg>)

Antenna Height: 40+ Feet	Elevation: at nearly 7,000 feet
Power Output: 100 Watts	Antenna: Decibel DB-224
Feedline: 7/8" Hard Line	Repeater: Kenwood TKR-720

**147.320(+ ) PL 156.7 - Callsign WØHF**

Located on the Oro Valley Police substation tower on Oracle Rd at Magee Ave, Tucson, Arizona

Antenna Height: 57 Feet	Elevation: 2584 Feet
Power Output: 40 Watts	Antenna: Tram 1491
Feedline: LMR-600	Repeater: Kenwood TKR-720

**70cm****444.100(+ ) PL 156.7 - Callsign WØHF (MOVED to OVPD Main at Tangerine and LaCanada)**

WIDE Northwest coverage and additional Tucson Coverage (including Sahuarita)

Antenna Height: Feet (adi)	Power Output: 50 Watts
Antenna: JetStream JTB3	Feedline: LMR-400
Repeater: Kenwood TKR-820	

**440.400(+ ) PL 156.7 - Callsign WØHF**

Located on the Golder Ranch Fire District tower on Golder Ranch Road in Catalina, Arizona.

Antenna Height: 67 Feet	Elevation: 3081 Feet
Power Output: 50 Watts	Antenna: Diamond X-30
Feedline: Andrews 1/2" Hard Line	Repeater: Kenwood TKR-820

**445.800(-) DSTAR WØHF**

Located at Magee and Oracle with the 147.32 repeater

Antenna Height: 50 feet	Elevation: 2584 feet
Power Output: 20 watts	Repeater: Icom V4000

Controller: Icom RP-2

Computer: Dell Dimension running CentOS 5.10 Linux and Icom RP-2 Gateway software

Another DSTAR repeater will be coming online very shortly. You saw it live at the January club meeting. Watch for it on the air!

**KG7PJV DStar repeater. Howard KC7AC will have the new repeater at his QTH on 445.1375 MHz**

Speaking of which:

The prize for the current special raffle is an ICOM ID-880H D-STAR mobile radio.

Click [here](#) to see radio features and specs.

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### Public Service Opportunities

There are many opportunities to provide public service in Southern Arizona. Specific requests for help will be communicated via email. If you would like to volunteer for any of these events contact [public\\_service@tucsonhamradio.com](mailto:public_service@tucsonhamradio.com)

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## ARRL ACTIVITIES (excerpted from ARRL Newsletter Jan 2015)

### ARRL Arizona Section

Section Manager: Rev Robert J Spencer, KE8DM  
[ke8dm@arrl.org](mailto:ke8dm@arrl.org)

Full color copy of the newsletter with pictures and hamfest flyers can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/Groups/view/arizona>

HAMCON 2015--also the 2015 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention is September 11-13, 2015, at the Torrance Marriott South Bay Hotel , 3635 Fashion Way, Torrance, CA 90503

#### NETS:

-Arizona Traffic And Emergency Net (ATEN) meets in the winter from October 15 to April 15 at 5:30 PM and in the summer from April 15 to October 15 at 7:00PM on 3986 kHz daily. Tommy Ivan KF7GC Net Manager, Arizona Section Traffic Manager [kf7gc@arrl.net](mailto:kf7gc@arrl.net) [www.atenaz.net](http://www.atenaz.net) -

Arizona Emergency Net – Maricopa (AEN-MAR) meets every Monday at 9:00 PM local time, for training and exercise in the public service communication arts on the Mt. Ord 146.92(-), Shaw Butte 147.24(+) or Scottsdale Airpark 146.760(-) repeaters. The repeaters require a 162.2 Hz tone. The repeaters are linked and cover most of Maricopa County and portions of Pinal, Gila, Coconino and Yavapai Counties in central Arizona. <http://www.aen-mar.org> -

Saguaro National Traffic System (NTS) Net ([www.saguaronts.net](http://www.saguaronts.net) ), meets daily at 6:30 PM MST (0130Z) on the Eastern Arizona Amateur Radio Society (E.A.A.R.S.) (<http://www.eaars.org/> ) repeaters. We are always looking for people to take messages and deliver them via telephone to hams and non-hams. The net is open to all ham operators regardless of license level and there's no membership requirement associated with this net. Traffic is not required to check into the net. Training is conducted as needed or when someone asks. This is GREAT way to get involved with Emergency Communications (EMCOM) and learn how it's done prior to an actual emergency. The repeaters are; 146.86 and (440.700 Hub) Heliograph Peak; 147.28 Guthrie Peak -

Greenlee County; 145.21 Jacks Peak, New Mexico. Between Lordsburg & Silver City; 145.41 Pinal Peak Near Globe, AZ; 147.16 Mt Lemmon Near Tucson; 146.70 Greens Peak Near Springerville – Showlow; 145.27 South Mtn. Near Alpine, AZ; 147.08 Mule Mtn. Near Bisbee in Cochise County. All E.A.A.R.S. network repeaters operate with PL tone 141.3. For more information about this net, contact Greg Peters (kc5zgg@arrl.net), Net Co-Manager. - There are many more nets in Arizona. Contact Tommy Ivan KF7GC for the full list.

#### VE TESTING TIMES AND LOCATIONS:

Tucson Area. Lighthouse YMCA/ARRL: First Thursday Contact Matt, AC7IL, [veregistration@ac7il.org](mailto:veregistration@ac7il.org)

Oro Valley/ARRL: First Saturday Contact David, AK2L, [ak2l@arrl.net](mailto:ak2l@arrl.net)

RST/ Laurel (No Fee): Second Monday Contact Diane, AA3OF, [dzimmerman2002@gmail.com](mailto:dzimmerman2002@gmail.com)

Jacobs Park YMCA/ARRL: Third Saturday Contact Fred, K7OFA, [k7ofa@arrl.net](mailto:k7ofa@arrl.net)

Graham / Greenlee County Area For VE testing on request, please contact Dave, N7AM, and he will arrange it.

Technician License Class - Tucson Every Tuesday, 6:30 - 9:00pm at TMC. Contact Dan, KC7VDA for info. [kc7vda@gmail.com](mailto:kc7vda@gmail.com)

Jan 10th - Thunderbird ARC -- 10:00 AM Northwest Community Church, 16615 N 43rd Ave, Phoenix Contact - James Skinnell 602.826.1949

Jan 17th - Coconino ARC -- 9:00 AM Northern Arizona University, S Knowles & Runke Dr Bilby Research Ctr (Bldg #52), Flagstaff Contact - Roderick Martin 928.527.1139

Jan 20th - Boy Scout Troop 127 -- 8:00 PM St Francis Xavier School, 4715 N Central Ave, Phoenix Contact - John Kelly 602.264.6854

Jan 24th - Arizona ARC -- 7:00 PM American Red Cross, 6135 N Black Canyon Hwy, Phoenix Contact - Gary Hamman 602.996.8148 No Walk-Ins - Pre-Registration Required by Friday Night

#### HAM RADIO EVENTS -

January 10 2015 Thunderbird Hamfest, Northwest Community Church 16615 N. 43rd Avenue, Phoenix AZ 8:00 AM to 11:30 AM, VE Testing contact [hamfest@w7tbc.org](mailto:hamfest@w7tbc.org) -

January 10th, 2015. Central Arizona DX Association Annual Awards Banquet, Contact CADXA web site <http://www.cadxa.org/Home/tabid/38/Default.aspx> -

January 19-26, 2015 -- Quartz fest/ARRL Operating Specialty Convention [www.quartzfest.org](http://www.quartzfest.org) - February 2 2015 -- : WVARC Annual Auction Contact Ted Walker KB5OF 13722 W. Gable Hill Dr. Sun City West, AZ 85375623 Phone 623-910-9275 [http://www.westvalleyarc.org/m\\_index\\_5.htm](http://www.westvalleyarc.org/m_index_5.htm) -

February 20 - 21 Friday and Saturday, 2015 -- Yuma Hamfest, Yuma County Fair Grounds, 2520 E. 32nd Street, Yuma, AZ. Talk in 146.840 PL 88.5 [www.yumahamfest.org](http://www.yumahamfest.org) -

March 21, 2015 -- Spring Fest Scottsdale Amateur Radio Club and ARCA hamfest Mountain Valley Church, 17800 North Perimeter Crive, Scottsdale, AZ, Talk-In Frequency: 147.18 PL 162.2, visit [www.scottsdalearc.org](http://www.scottsdalearc.org) contact Edwin Nickerson, WU7S -

March 28 2015 -- Radio Society of Tucson Spring Hamfest Golden Corral Buffet & Grill, 4380 East 22nd St, Tucson A. 7:00 AM to Noon Talk in 146.800 PL156.7 Contact [dzimmerman2002@gmail.com](mailto:dzimmerman2002@gmail.com) or [www.k7rst.org](http://www.k7rst.org)  
April 2015 -- AARC DeVry Hamfest Phoenix. The exact date cannot be made until after January 2015. -

6 June 2015 -- Kachina / White Mountain Hamfest -

July 24 -25 2014 -- Arizona State Convention, Williams Hamfest, Williams AZ. Williams Rodeo Grounds,

contact [www.arca-az.org](http://www.arca-az.org) or call 602-881-2722 -

17 October 2015 CopaFest Maricopa Amateur Radio Association, Harrah's Complex, located on Ak-Chin land, Ultra Star Multi Tainment Center 16000 Maricopa Road, Maricopa AZ 85139

HAMCON 2015--also the 2015 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention is September 11-13, 2015, at the Torrance Marriott South Bay Hotel , 3635 Fashion Way, Torrance, CA 90503 ON-LINE AMATEUR RADIO COURSE

Several new hams wrote to me about an online Amateur Radio Course put together by Andy KE4GKP. They have the Technician, General and even Morse Code courses. Check them out at <http://www.hamwhisperer.com/p/ham-courses.html> it is even available on YouTube.

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## WHAT A RECEIVER!

By Ron Herring W7HD

I have been running my Elecraft KX3 on 10M Propnet on 28.1188 MHz PSK31. It is using the same antenna as I used on the FT-990 it replaced (my son AF7LP has that one now). The KX3 has a much better receiver! Reviewers say it has one of the top-rated receivers regardless of price (it is a \$1000 radio). It doesn't seem to be too much bothered by a 30M station on a nearby antenna, so it will be interesting to see how it does on Field Day.

I am seeing more than twice as many stations. It transmits an ID string every 10 minutes as an FCC authorized Automatically Controlled Digital Station on 28.1188 MHz.

You can see real-time propagation for it at <http://www.propnet.org> or specifically at (may need to join lines)

[http://propnet.org/catch3.php?](http://propnet.org/catch3.php?band=&center=US&last=1&call=W7HD&label=Y&maptype=G3&geo=&zoom=1&refresh=120)

[band=&center=US&last=1&call=W7HD&label=Y&maptype=G3&geo=&zoom=1&refresh=120](http://propnet.org/catch3.php?band=&center=US&last=1&call=W7HD&label=Y&maptype=G3&geo=&zoom=1&refresh=120)

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## **HOT NEW ITEM:** RF Explorer

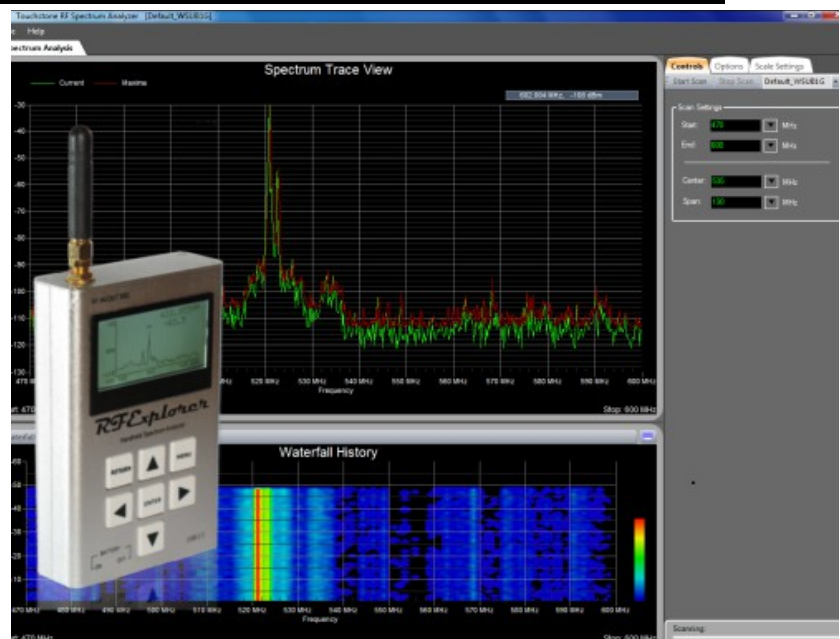
Need an inexpensive handheld RF spectrum analyzer?

Point your browser to:

<http://nutsaboutnets.com/models/>

For about \$269 you can get a 15 MHz to 2700 MHz spectrum analyzer.

You can also get some free tools, such as NetSurveyor, which uses your WiFi adapter to show which channels are in use by whom.



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Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) The RADIOGRAM January 2015

You can see their newsletter here:

<http://www.portcars.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2009/05/PCARS-Jan-2015.pdf>

## CW Teacher 1.0 is Now Available!

Whether you want to learn Morse code from scratch, never having heard a dit in your life, or you just want to speed up your copy for CW contesting, CW Teacher will help!

I like CW, but I've never been particularly fast, so for most of my Amateur Radio life, I've gravitated towards SSB for contesting. More recently, I've come to realize that copying the short contest exchanges at 25 words per minute (WPM) and higher can actually be easier than a longer rag chew at 18 WPM. I've been spending more time with CW contests and I've really come to enjoy them!

I had been thinking about creating a tool to help folks learn CW or increase their speed. Then, my son Brad, KB3MNE, mentioned an interest in learning CW. That was all the catalyst I needed to create this CW Teacher software!

This program will teach you Morse Code at your own pace. Set the sending rate at 18 WPM or higher so that you learn the characters at a functional speed, but don't worry, the software will send you each character, one at a time and wait for you to respond. There is zero rush. The entire emphasis of the software is teaching you to associate a sound with a letter. With just a bit of practice, that's really easy to do! Whether young or seasoned, this program should easily help most anyone learn CW!

Since copying CW with a keyboard is exactly what you will be doing when you are CW contesting, this software helps you become comfortable transferring what you hear to your keyboard directly as well.

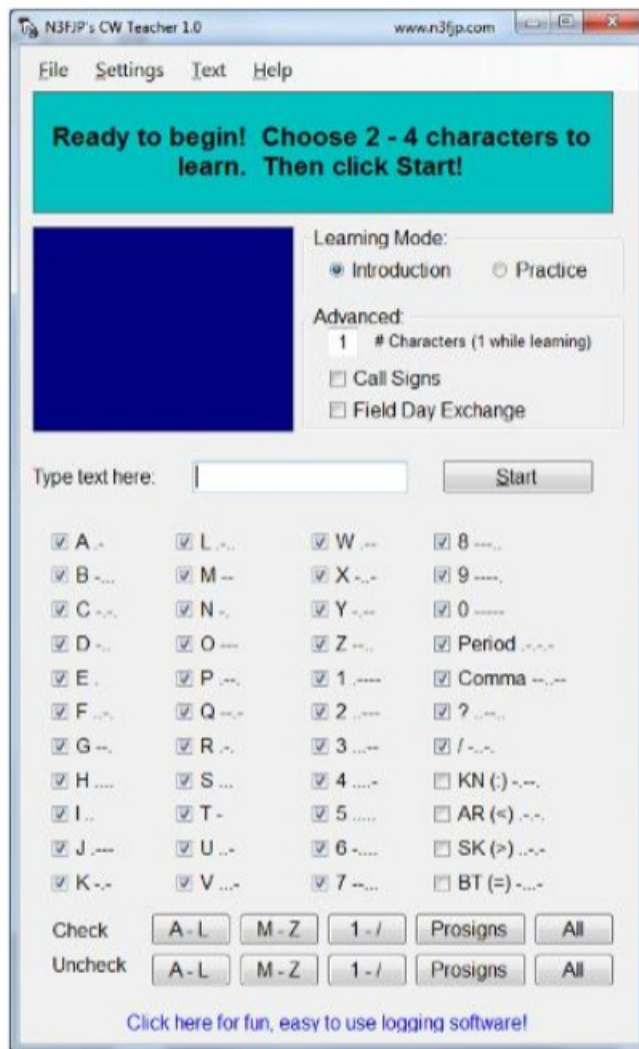
The emphasis of this software is teaching Morse code from the absolute beginning, but I've also included options for more advanced practice, such as copying random call signs and Field Day style exchanges.

This program is completely free! Please enjoy it and share it with anyone you may know who would like to learn CW! You'll find it here:

<http://www.n3fjp.com/cwteacher.htm>

73, Scott, N3FJP

Editor's Note: Scott, N3FJP is the ham who wrote the easy to use contest software we've used at PCARS over the years - that includes the software we use for logging at Field Day.



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### ***YL 33: The First Female Ham Radio Operators, and their Awesome Legacy***

Love, sealed with friendship. Historically, literacy—in its many forms—has given the marginalized a way to speak and participate in a system that previously prevented them from doing so. And while the printing press revolutionized the way writing was exchanged and shared with the world, the invention of radio as entertainment, emergency, and communication technology had a similar effect on oral storytelling.

From this, ham radio, also known as amateur radio, was born as a subset of commercial radio. The appeal of communicating independently to others across the globe struck a chord with many people in the early 20th century - including women looking for ways to participate in war efforts, and connect with other women around the world.

Although enthusiasm for ham radio as the medium of choice for hobbyists, veterans, and emergency responders hasn't waned much over the last fifty or so years, the hobby is making a strong resurgence as aspiring makers acknowledge radio's contribution to the movement. Many hams consider amateur radio to be the original maker skill, requiring knowledge of electricity, geography and communication. And it's one of many mediums that gave women the chance to have a global voice - and they took it.

#### **Calm the ham**

For those unfamiliar with the subculture of ham radio, the title "ham" was originally used as a negative name associated with amateur operators who, without proper training, would disrupt professionals. Eventually, though, the name lost its negative stigma and is now used interchangeably with "amateur." Regardless of someone's amateur status, all operators must be licensed and complete a training program, through FCC regulations.

Female hams are called "YLS," which is short for "Young Lady," regardless of the operator's age. While that seems simultaneously antiquated, cute, and patronizing, keep in mind that the ham radio subset of men is referred to as "OMs," or "Old Man." The largest organization for YL ham operators in the world is the Young Ladies' Radio League, Inc. (YLRL), founded in 1939, which exists to encourage and assist YLS throughout the world to become licensed amateur radio operators.

Although amateur and commercial radio was heavily male-dominated, the response to the influx of women operators was—and still is—largely positive. In "The Feminine Wireless Amateur," a 1916 article in *The Electrical Experimenter*, the writer says: JUST because a man, Signor Guglielmo Marconi by name, invented commercial wireless telegraphy does not



mean for a moment that the fair sex cannot master its mysteries. [...]

Women seem to progress excellently in the engineering branches. Primarily this is so because her brain is quick of action, and moreover she usually will be found to have extremely well-balanced ideas as to proportions, so essential in designing. A wonderful imagination coupled to a number of other worthy faculties help to make a really fine combination, so that we find a steadily growing number of women architects, mechanical and electrical experts, radio operators, civil engineers, ad lib. What we need is more of them in the higher positions, where the square root and binomial theorem are everyday quantities.

That's quite a positive - and progressive - perspective on women in science and engineering - especially for 1919. A 1931 article in the New York Times also remarked on this trend, saying that.

The list of women obtaining licenses as amateur radio operators is increasing rapidly, the Department of Commerce said today, although there were only eight registered women commercial operators in the country. [...] There are eighty-six women amateurs, compared with about 18,000 men operators. This number has changed drastically since the 1930. And while there are now thousands of women worldwide with call signs, several notable women during the early 20th century set the stage for the new generations of girls finding a voice on the airwaves.

### **Gladys Kathleen Parkin**

At just fifteen years old, Gladys Kathleen Parkin (1901 - 1990) received her professional ham radio license. Basically, this makes her a total badass, considering that she'd had her amateur radio license since age nine. She was featured on the cover of The Electrical Experimenter, and at the time was the "youngest successful female applicant for a radio license ever examined by the Government at that time," according to a 1916 article in the San Francisco Chronicle. Parkin began her hobby at age five with her brother, and was the first woman in California to pass the first-class radio license.

Parkin's call sign is 6S0, and she spent her life in the radio industry, developing a reputation for building her own equipment.

Here she is, quoted in The Electrical Experimenter: With reference to my ideas about the wireless profession as a vocation or worthwhile hobby for women, I think wireless telegraphy is a most fascinating study, and one which could very easily be taken up by girls, as it is a great deal more interesting than the telephone and telegraph work, in which so many girls are now employed. I am only fifteen. ... But the interest in wireless does not end in the knowledge of the code. You can gradually learn to make all your own instruments, as I have done with my ¼ kilowatt set. There is always more ahead of you, as wireless telegraphy is still in its infancy.



**Graynella Packer**

At twenty-two, Graynella Packer of Florida became the youngest woman to become a wireless operator “on board an ocean-going steamship,” reads a 1914 article in the King Country Chronicle. Her experiences at sea gave her many stories that she later recounted to her friends and family. Although she technically wasn’t an amateur, her passion began as a hobby, and Packer had long been interested in the way electricity and communication worked on the open seas. She served on the steamship Mohawk from 1910 to 1911.

**Olive Carroll**

Canadian-born Olive J. Carroll had a passion for travel and exploration while growing up during the 1930s and 40s – and radio was her gateway to the world. Carroll’s interest in amateur radio began in high school, but she eventually turned it into her career and attended the Sprott Shaw School of Radio, where she earned her second class radio certificate in 1944. She was hired by the Canadian Department of Transport as an interceptor operator, and a few years later, when an opportunity opened on the Norwegian passenger freighter M/S Siranger, she accepted the position—having never before traveled farther than 500 miles from her home. Like Packer, Carroll was driven by a desire to explore the world by operating from the ocean.

In 1994, she authored a book about her experiences called Deep Sea ‘Sparks’: A Canadian Girl in the Norwegian Merchant Navy. The San Francisco Maritime Museum has recreated a ship’s radio room with the same equipment Carroll used during her time on the M/S Siranger.

**Clara Reger**

It’s impossible to talk about notable female hams without acknowledging the work of Clara Reger, who received her call sign in 1933 at age thirty-five. Reger had a long career as an operator, and managed disaster communications after WWII. Known for her exceptional Morse code skills, Reger spent much of her life teaching others how to become operators. She also received the Edison Award for teaching a fourteen-year-old boy without arms to send Morse code with his feet.

But Reger is also known for her signature salutation, which she created especially for women communicating with other women - the salutation ‘33,’ which meant love sealed with friendship. Reger knew that to hear another girl’s voice on the other end was rare and special. What a gift, to find kinship with women, through the radio, across the ocean, across the globe!

YL 33 is considered sacred by female hams, and there’s a poem dedicated to Reger’s

accomplishments and passion for radio communications. You can read it in full on the Young Ladies Radio League's website, ( <http://www.ylrl.org/index.php/the-birth-of-33> ) but here's a passage:

*There's no real definition  
But its meaning is known well.  
It's how a YL says good evening  
To another friend YL.*

Although these are just a few of the many women who used radio as their medium of choice, their stories as operators are fascinating and inspiring. These women are united in their mutual passion for exploration, technology and adventure, and that still holds true today for many female ham operators. If you're interested in becoming a ham radio operator, consider joining YLRL, the Sisterhood of Amateur Radio, or the ARRL.

***Ashley Hennefer***

Ashley Hennefer, M.A., is a writer and researcher based in Reno, Nevada. She's the founder and editor of The New Artemis, and is passionate about technology, travel, and the humanities. From the Mary Sue web site: <http://www.themarysue.com/female-ham-radiooperators/>

===== END NEWSLETTER =====

Enjoy,

Ron Herring W7HD