

I have a small QSL card collection and if I may, make you aware of a card that I just received from the collection of W3GIY Pottstown Pa - In reviewing the cards one particular design caught my eye, a remarkably common but unique pen created card. I couldn't help but wonder what became of our subject **Martha Brooks W3RFG** and how she became a ham operator. From her QSL card I can determine a few extra things I'd like to share.

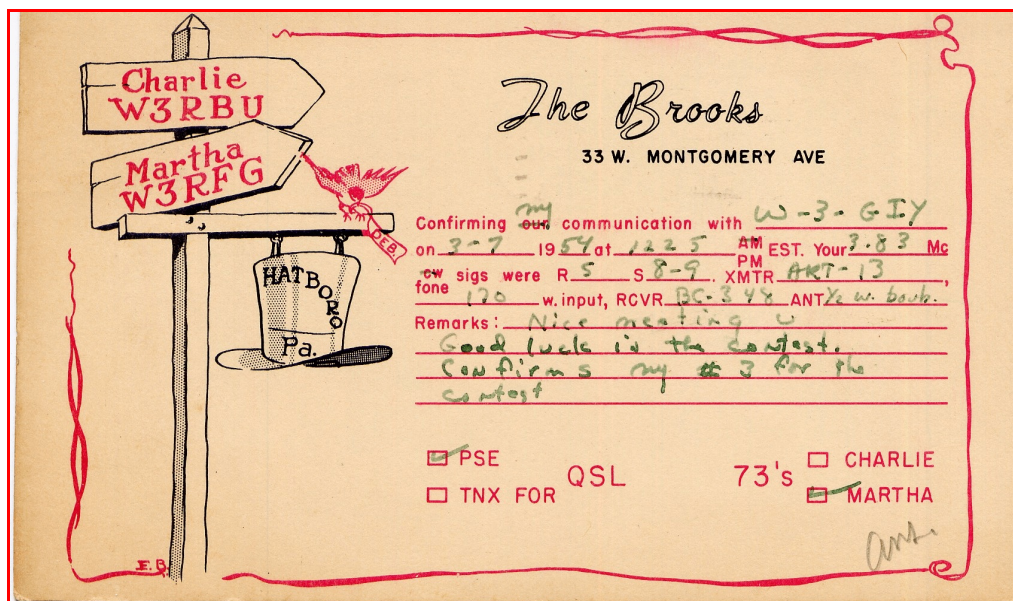
Martha W3RFG and husband Charlie W3RBU of Montgomery Avenue, Hatboro Pa - Their QSL card dated March of 1954 to W3GIY of Pottstown Pa.

Hatboro is on the north end of Philadelphia on the outer rim. Nothing remains in the call books about Charlie or Martha and we can only assume they are no longer with us. Still we have their QSL card to enjoy for years to come.



The Brooks amateur station used military style surplus equipment which was very popular in the 40-s 50s and 60's - and still in demand of today's collectors. The ART-13 Collins 813 final tube auto tune transmitter and the BC348 HF surplus receiver, (ART13 pictured) The station antenna was a half wave doublet. I can envision the doublet stretched between two pines.

There was a U.S. Naval Air Station close by Hatboro and with the surplus stores in and about Philadelphia, the Brooks style of equipment could be easily obtained for very reasonable prices. Notice the bird honoring DEB with ribbon on the perch. Someone named Deb was on their mind.



Martha was into contests and was requesting W3GIY to QSL. Artist initials F.B. are displayed at the left bottom

A salute to the "Brooks" Your unique QSL card is still being enjoyed by others nearly 55 years later.

We invite you to cruise Bob Green's www.w8jyz.com U are sure to find something interesting! Should you have cards to donate, please do so. Bob will be very pleased someone cared to share and keep these precious artifacts out of the land fill. (ART-13 picture copy from F6BIR)