

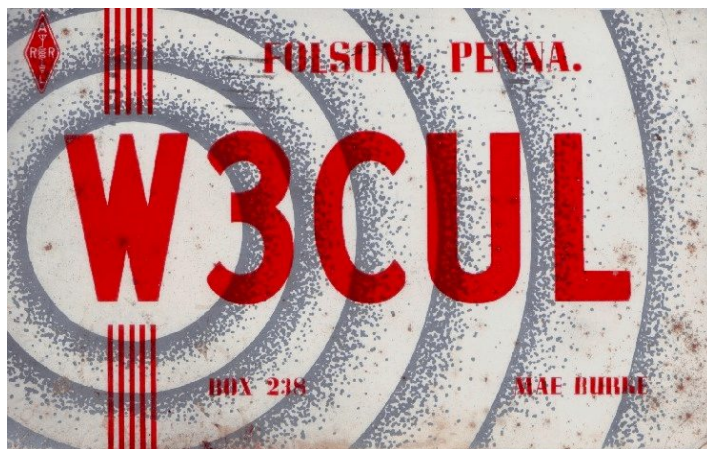
**Mary A. Dougherty “Mae” Burke W3CUL \*1911-1997\*** Wonderful housewife and champion ham operator dedicated to N.T.S Public Service. Mae went on the air in 1932 from Philadelphia, with home brew gear made by her “Beau” Albert Burke W3VR. She enjoyed top band (160) also 20 and 40 Meters - She preferred cw and became Mrs Al Burke before WW2. Following the war at Folsom Pa, Mae went on 10 meter phone, working much DX and phone patching for the boys overseas. Eventually traffic got a hold of both Al and Mae kept many schedules running up to 12 hours daily. At rush times many more hours were spent handling traffic.



Not a single schedule was missed for years and W3CUL earned BPL for 100 consecutive times. Mae figures she handled a quarter of a million messages in that period alone.

Burke's would live in Morton, Pa. A complete station shown for each, twin Collins stations consisting of the 32V2 and 75A3's - Both Mae and Al have awards too many to mention here

however she is especially proud of the Edison Amateur Award, the fifth one issued for public service in 1956. She has handled some 312,000 messages between 1949 and 1957. Mae Burke unique operator and gifted mentor expired in Florida November 1997 at age 86, earned a historic record of traffic handling honors over her lifetime handling overseas traffic for US Service Personnel, MARS, Red Cross and other emergency messages during the Korean, Vietnam and cold war eras.



ARRL International Humanitarian Award of 1997 was awarded to the Burke's for their lifetime of public service of traffic handling and for their unique dedication to this facet of Amateur Radio. The Board also cited both Burkes for serving as traffic handling mentors to many others. In 2000, January 10<sup>th</sup> - The ARRL International Humanitarian Award Laureate Alfred S. Burke W3VR, of Seminole Fla expired. He was age 93, an ARRL member for more than 50 years and their unique dedication to

traffic facet of Amateur Radio came to an end but is not forgotten. [www.w8jyz.com](http://www.w8jyz.com) Cards.

Ms. Mae had been monitored countless times on the air both in Penna., and Seminole Fla passing N.T.S. traffic, always heard, using that well known bug which did not sound perfect but for her heart and savvy, she will always get a 10 in our book every time! Partially scripted arrl.org arlb006.