

The Communicator

The YL System since 1963

August 2018

Issue #258

HONOR



DEDICATION

FRIENDSHIP

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

August 2018

Your YLISSB Board has been working towards updating our Web Page. We hope to have the new page operational before I write to you next month. We will let you know when it is ready for you to check it out.

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CONTROLS

Just a gentle reminder to our wonderful Controls. Please, if there are other controls for your segment of the System, do NOT keep control more than 5 minutes, or more than 5 calls, if you are getting no response. Remember that often there are stations that are not copying you. It gets very frustrating for them when they don't have an opportunity to check in. Our controls are the friendliest and most understanding operators on the airwaves, and sometimes if you happen to be getting a lot of folks checking in, it is hard to break away, but remember there are those that cannot copy you, and pass control around often. This also helps to keep the QRM in check, and with the poor conditions we have been having lately on 20 Meters, it is healthy to pass control often.

SYSTEM

The YL System, which is now celebrating its 55th year of existence, is a SYSTEM. It is not a NET. Our founder called it a System, and for the past 55 years, that is what it has been. So please, do not refer to it as a net.

K4ICA

Memorial Call

YL System

President's Report (Cont.)

SK's

The System lost some outstanding members this past month, as they became Silent Key's. Please remember them in your prayers.

CONVENTION 2019

Elsewhere in this issue of the Communicator, you will find information about Convention 2019. I urge you to start saving your pennies so you can attend this fun-filled event in Fairbanks, Alaska. I hope to see you there.

73's Rose, KL7FQQ

NOTICE

After March 31, 2019, the Communicator will be available for paid-up members only. If your dues are delinquent, it will no longer be sent to you.

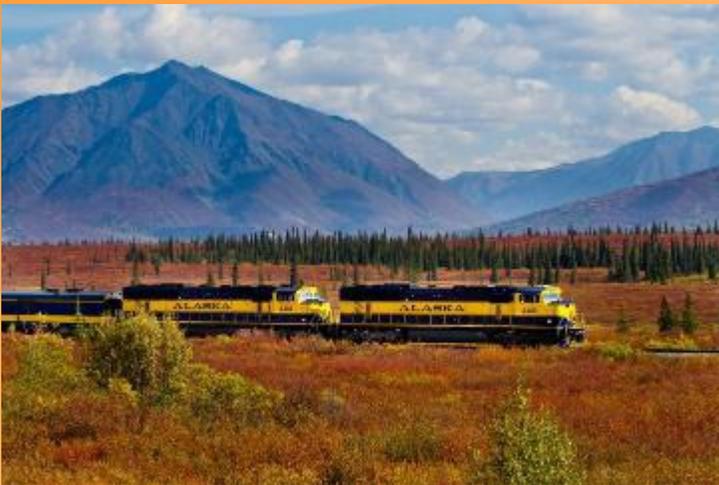
Awards and TFOs

No awards or new TFOs this month. Seems like people are too busy mowing the lawn to radio. And if you're too busy to radio.... *You're too busy!*

Convention 2019

The 2019 Convention will be held in Fairbanks, Alaska from June 5-9. If you are thinking of driving, there is a publication **THE MILEPOST®**: Legendary Alaska trip planner since 1948. This is the premier Alaska travel guide to the highways, roads, ferries, lodgings, recreation, sightseeing attractions and services along the Alaska Highway to and within Alaska, including Alberta, British Columbia, Northwest Territories and the Yukon.

If you are planning on flying, there are some direct flights from Minneapolis, MN to Fairbanks. Most of the flights go through Seattle, and this adds hours to the trip. For after the Convention, there are several options that might be of interest. You could ride the train to Denali, and overnight for one or two nights, taking the bus tour into the Park.



The cost of the train from Fairbanks to Denali is \$75.00 in 2018. After you have spent time in Denali, you can board the train for Anchorage, at a cost of \$171 in 2018. Once you reach Anchorage, you could board a Princess cruise ship in Whittier, and travel to Vancouver, BC. This is a 7-day cruise, with the following stops. The current posted price for this tour is \$1168 per person, double occupancy.

Ports: [Anchorage \(Whittier\)](#), | [Hubbard Glacier, \(Scenic Cruising\)](#) | [Glacier Bay National Park, \(Scenic Cruising\)](#) | [Skagway](#), | [Juneau](#), | [Ketchikan](#), | [Vancouver, British Columbia](#)



If anyone is interested in this option, let me know, and I'll research the hotel accommodations, etc.

I hope to see you in Fairbanks. Next Month we will talk about planned activities.

This Month's Wanted Posters...er...Member Photos



Photos from the Peace Garden Hamfest - Tony K7TNY and his XYL (left) and Joseph N0QAU and his XYL (right) and Craig W0AP (ex WB0GFZ) below left.



And John Ellis W5PDW says this is the first fawn he's seen this year. Awwww...

A Love Affair on the Air

On May 13, 1984, I was on 20 meters when I heard a voice that got my attention. It was a woman named Mary asking for check-ins for the emergency net. I stopped to listen, and it was one of the best things I've ever done. After I talked with her, Mary said that a convention was going to be in Las Vegas the next month and that they needed control operators. I said I would try to help, and that started a friendship that has lasted for over 30 years.

I had a lot of friends on the system, but Mary and I became very close. I started to act as control operator 2 days a week. Mary stayed with me and mentored me until I could run the system the way that she wanted. We were both married then -- my first wife, Mary Lou, was well known on the system, too.

In 1986, Mary Lou and I went to a YL System Convention in Seattle. That is when we got to see Mary face to face. My wife and Mary got along very well. Through the years, we all stayed in touch.

In April 1998, my wife and I bought a place in Naples, Florida, but a little more than a year later, she passed away. My friend Mary was living in Memphis but was there for me over the radio, guiding me through the rough time. In July 2000, I went to Memphis and brought Mary to Naples. Sixteen years after we found each other, we got married on September 2.

Mary had been working all the counties and she again mentored me into the County Hunters. We have gone out on the road through 20 states and put over 1,100 counties on the air. We are the best of friends, and have a great time together. Things like this are what make ham radio worthwhile.

George, AA4GT, and Mary, NV4A, Tomlinson
Naples, Florida

[Editor's Note: On July 10, 2018, Mary Tomlinson, NV4A entered hospice. On July 21 she passed into Silent Key status. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family. Mary's obituary may be seen at <https://www.fullernaples.com/sff/printnotice/Mary-Tomlinson/1o/0c/0q/0d>]



When a ham becomes a "Silent Key"

It makes us stop and ponder.

Their shack is closed, their key is stilled,

We'll hear their voice no longer.

But in this time, their YL friends

Recall, with sad eyes glistening,

That though we cannot hear their call,

They are, of course, still listening...

Silent Keys

The following YL ISSB members have recently been noted as Silent Keys...

W5CN YLISSB: 2806 Eugene M. Barnes III
WD5EDR YLISSB: 13085 William E. Heberling
K5MAT YLISSB: 12390 William E. Wageman
WF5T YLISSB: 13072 Previous: KD7J Paul I. Rubinfeld
K7CDN YLISSB: 15751 Gene A. Huskinson
KF8EV YLISSB: 15758 Previous: N8GMJ Edwin W. Heyboer
WB8JPD YLISSB: 16125 Richard L. Peterson
K0IIK YLISSB: 6755 Orville D. Taylor
KB0NVT YLISSB: 16035 Betty L Kittelson
NV4Z YLISSB: 12657 Mary L. Tomlinson
KC0CRS YLISSB: 14417 Previous: N5JOV Mack P. Jones

New Members

We welcome the following new YLISSB System members...

17447	AC2BX	Dave from New York
17448	N6WAS	Ron from California
17449	N6JWB	John from California
17450	KC9VUQ	Ben from Wisconsin
17451	N6YJ	Kim from California
17452	N7IHB	Joe from Utah
17453	KI4PPI	Rick from Georgia
17454	K9UDS	Tony from Wisconsin
17455	K0BAJ	Gary from Kansas
17456	WA0BJY	John from Tennessee
17457	KD0PDW	David from Colorado
17458	KG5ZMU	Bruce from Texas

August Birthdays

8/01 AA4GT	8/10 KJ4DCK	8/23 WB5OHN
8/01 KC1FIZ	8/11 AG6WN	8/24 NJ5G
8/02 W1EKZ	8/11 KX9KX	8/24 WD8PAJ
8/02 KB1VQF	8/12 WA0AVW	8/24 KB1ZIQ
8/02 WB6HPF	8/12 KB9VJC	8/24 K7EII
8/02 K5BOO	8/14 KC1MR	8/24 AF5CK
8/02 WD4HVA	8/14 N8KCJ	8/24 NJ5G
8/02 KD7MMU	8/15 WN9MFC	8/25 N0QAV
8/03 WV7V	8/15 KG0YL	8/25 AB0EG
8/03 W5EHE	8/15 NC4RP	8/25 NB3Y
8/04 AE7P	8/16 KC5HIW	8/27 KJ4WNW
8/05 KK4PI	8/16 K5ZMX	8/27 K3MG
8/05 N8DBC	8/16 WB7SOJ	8/27 N4UP
8/05 N2EKO	8/16 W5MLM	8/28 KB8NSA
8/06 N9GWP	8/20 WB0MDP	8/29 W3GFM
8/06 K9JMB	8/20 AE0J	8/28 K2HZO
8/08 W4OKT	8/20 W8LMG	8/30 KD2ARU
8/10 JUDY (XYL of K3CDQ)	8/20 WW0LF	8/30 KA7LAQ
8/10 KP3B	8/21 WB9OKC	8/30 AK4GE
8/10 K5LLR	8/21 N7GBX	8/31 WA9BXB
8/10 N0END	8/21 K9LDO	8/31 WB8CCK
8/10 KD5NOE	8/22 W9DTR	

August Anniversaries

8/01 K3VRU Harold & Pat	8/19 N1PVT Jane & Chris
8/08 W4JMJ Joan & Peter	8/23 N7YG Jeff & N7YAK Pat
8/12 K5YNC Susan & Dennis	8/24 KD0NEZ Barbara & KC0YHU Craig
8/14 WD5HCI Jon & Jean	8/24 AC4NC Natalie & KD4AKT Bill
8/17 KK4DYI Gale & KK4GVM Ken	8/25 W4VTH Skip & Celia
8/17 WB9LJZ Mark & Gina	8/26 KE8RGP Ron & Jane
8/16 WA0PMO John & Gloria	8/26 KK6KK Bill & Kathy
8/16 K8DFA Dave & Ellen	8/28 KC1ANA Anne & Jim

SAVING THE DAY

Note: The YL System does not accept any responsibility for this story. However, it has been almost dependably reported to us that the following conversation was heard on 14.332 one Sunday afternoon.

“This is Alpha Bravo 3 Tango Yankee. My name is Larry, and this is the YL System. I am now taking check ins. Please give your call phonetically and state your name.”

“JOKE”

“Did you say, JOKE, like in joke?”

“Well, yes, but this is no joke. I’m dead serious. I have a problem.”

“What is the nature of your problem?”

“You may not believe this, but I’m on the 15th floor of my apartment building, and there is this ape looking right at me through the window. He’s hanging on for dear life, and I don’t know what to do!”

“Can you give me your name, please? And, your location?”

“My name is Jake, and I’m located in Bowling Green, Kentucky, in the Bowling Green Towers. Please help, this ape is making me nervous! He keeps using sign language, and I’m afraid he’s going to fall when he turns loose with one of his hands. Besides, I don’t know what he’s trying to say.”

“Well, Jake, if this isn’t a joke, I think I know just the person that can help you. Do you know Randy, K4KRK? He just checked in on Net Logger, and I’m sure he can help. K4KRK, are you there?”

“Yes, Larry, I’m here, what can I help you with?”

“I have Jake, JOKE on, and he says he’s in Bowling Green Towers, there’s an ape peering through the window of his apartment, and he’s on the 15th floor. Any suggestions?”

“I’ll get my climbing belt on, and rescue Jake. I know that ape, there’s a city-wide manhunt, or apehunt, out for him. He escaped from the city zoo several hours ago. I’ll ride to the rescue, tell Jake to hang on.”

“Jake, never fear. Rescue is on the way. 73’s and please check in again.”

There you have a daring rescue provided by members of the YL System. Of course, we have no update as to the effectiveness of the rescue, or the condition of Jake, the ape, or Randy. But, the YL System stands ready to offer assistance to one and all.

Keeping in Touch with Our Members

From Karl VE7ZDL YLISSB# 6300 TFO 440...

Just an update from an old member #6300. Started with the YL System in 1964, when I was DL2AA, then moved around Europe and checked in from San Marino, Monaco, France, Belgium, Netherlands, Italy, and the UK before moving to US where I first operated as DL2AA/W1 and then N1DL. Two weeks ago I passed the Canadian ham exam and got my new call VE7ZDL. Am on the air now from Vernon, BC and working on improving my antenna. In winter I will still operate from my Naples, FL QTH.

73, Karl Geng

From Dennis Cornell N7HRO YLISSB# 13837 TFO: 531...

My wife, Ferne, and I just returned from Niagra Falls where we had these pictures taken. We are in the process of moving to Salcha, AK, with the final move coming next year. We are looking forward to the convention next year. This move will be tough. Too many towers and antennas, too many radios, just too much stuff! See you on the air!

73, Dennis Cornell



And finally...

Update on “Asteroid” 2018 LA which landed in South Africa...

According to EarthSky, *“when it struck Earth’s atmosphere, Asteroid 2018 LA produced an explosion with an intensity of about 1 kiloton, which suggests an estimated size for the space rock of 10 to 16 feet in diameter. [Hmm... about the size of a school bus. Interesting! Ed.] The space rock will be investigated further by a research consortium of scientists.”*



[Editor’s note: Sure looks like the gearshift knob from a school bus to me...Not sayin’, I’m just sayin’...]



If you have stuff you’d like to see published in The Communicator, please send it to me at jim@pandzik.com and I’ll see it gets in. Thanks!