

The Communicator

The YL System since 1963

July 2018

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HONOR



DEDICATION

FRIENDSHIP

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

July 2018

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Greetings. As your newly elected President, I wish to thank Bobbie, K4ZGH, for her leadership over the past two years. She has steered the YLISSB with wisdom and compassion. We all owe her a debt of gratitude. Thanks Bobbie! Now for my report to you, the membership.

CONVENTION 2018

Convention 2018 was a blast. If you were unable to attend, I am sorry for you. Host Larry AB3TY and Hostess Anne KC3EYB went out of their way to make sure everyone had a great time. The first event was the Meet and Greet, where we got to visit with attendees and get lots of hugs. Even though dinner was on our own, we all managed to catch a ride to The Texas Roadhouse and had a delicious dinner.

Day 2 saw us leaving the hotel for the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania. What a delightful morning of seeing trains with their headlights shining, getting to play with a model train set, and learning some of the history of trains in Pennsylvania. A delicious pasta and salad lunch was had back at the hotel, followed by the workshop. The workshop was well attended, and lots of interesting issues were discussed. (See the report of the Workshop in this edition of the Communicator).

K4ICA

Memorial Call

YL System

President's Report (Cont.)

The Workshop was followed by the General Meeting, which was also very well attended. Minutes of the meeting will be printed in the Voice. While dinner was on our own, once again we all went together, this time to Ruby Tuesday's for another delicious meal.

Day 3 was a day-long tour to Gettysburg. We had a spacious bus, and once we arrived at Gettysburg, a wonderful tour guide boarded our bus and took us through the battle. It was almost like being there and seeing just how the battle went. We had lunch at the Museum and enjoyed seeing all the artifacts. Once again, we all had dinner at a local restaurant. This one was El Dorado with a Mexican theme, complete with a live Mariachi band. I'm sure I saw some of our members dancing with the Mariachi guys, and I know some were singing along. A good time was had by all.

Day 4 started with a guided tour of an Amish farmhouse and farm. I think we were all happy that we enjoy modern conveniences. Back at the hotel, delicious sandwiches and salads were served. This was followed by the Board of Director's meeting, which was well attended by the members. Some important decisions were made, and the minutes will be printed in the Voice. We went to an Amish restaurant named the Good and Plenty for our banquet. Delicious food! Then, back to the hotel for the Awards Ceremony (Award Recipients printed elsewhere in the Communicator); the Installation of Officers followed by the auction. As usual, the auction was the highlight of the Convention, and \$1324.00 was raised for the Scholarship Fund. Thanks to all who participated by bringing items and bidding.

Day 5 saw most of us gather for a Farewell Breakfast. It's always sad to say goodbye, but the hugs were nice, and we hope to see everyone at the 2019 Convention. All in all, the Convention was one to remember.

President's Report (Cont.)

USE OF THE TERM YL

Just a reminder. This is the YL System. It is a System, but was named YL in honor of our founder, K4ICA. It is important when referring to our group that we use the term YL SYSTEM. You do not have a YL number, you have a Sideband number, or a System number, or a YLISSB number. It gets confusing to some of our newer members and visitors when the incorrect terminology is used. So, please be careful, and remember, this is the YL SYSTEM...it is not a net, and you don't have a YL number!

TFO

The YL System issues a Top-Flight Operator (TFO) award to members for exceptional operating skills. This Award was not designed to award members for helping on the System or for checking in frequently, but for stations that exhibit outstanding operating practices. The YL System is looking for a volunteer to help revamp the requirements for the TFO Award. If you are interested in helping to rewrite the requirements, please contact me at kl7fqq@yahoo.com.

If you have any questions or concerns about the System, send me an e-mail. I hope you have a wonderful July. Catch you later, 73's and 88's, Rose KL7FQQ, YLISSB President.

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS.WHERE DO THEY COME FROM?

This June, at the Convention, we provided five \$1000 scholarships. Where do the funds come from?

During every convention, there is a Boutique where members have donated items to be sold or auctioned off. This year, we netted a total of \$1,247 in the Boutique and Auction, while a DX member donated another \$50.00 to the Scholarship Fund.

Throughout the year, we will accept donations directly to the Scholarship Fund. There have been Memorial Donations as well as "just keep that extra \$10 and put it into the Scholarship Fund" donations. Your donations are needed and appreciated. You may send checks made to YLISSB and send them to the Treasurer, marking in the side (Scholarship).

Convention Awards

Here is a list of the Awards presented at the Convention.

TFO of the Year K0CE Fred YLISSB# 15831 TFO 443
Rigel Award K4KRK Randy YLISSB# 16721 TFO 515
Founders Award KK4YL Sally YLISSB# 15809 TFO 421
Silent Service Award KC3YB Anne YLISSB# 17086
Cornerstone Award KD0VEP Leo YLISSB# 16841 TFO 544
Ambassadore Extraordinaire W7AJP Bill YLISSB# 16190 TFO
506

Ambassador Corps 22. KK4DYI Gale
23. AD0NP Rich
24. VE9GU Ron
25. VE3JPJ Steven
26. KX9KX Tom
27. KE7VSC John

Emeritus Award AA4GT George
NV4Z Mary
N4ZGH Roger
K7OOU Carl

...and 2 SKs KN4AA Kevin
VE1GFG George

Scholarship Awards

Matthew Friedrin Grandchild of Jay Ives KI4TXP
Jayne E. Hulse Daughter of Bill Phillips W7AJP
Devin Kouba Grandson of Leon Kirschmann K0LU
Kavon Mojtabai Grandson of Rose Rybachek KL7FQQ
Michael Shamash VE2MXU

Certificates of Appreciation

Larry Kaplan AB3TY Host of 2018 Convention and much
more

Anne Zuckerman Kaplan KC3EYB Host of 2018 Convention
and worker bee

Convention Awards (Cont.)

Certificates of Appreciation

Judy Nurenborg KC7KPG Retired Daytime Coordinator

Rancy Upchurch K4KRK Retired Awards Coordinator and Manager

Nancy Yoshido KG0YL Retired Editor of The Communicator

Bruce Tisday K9ICP New Asst Awards Coordinator and Historian

Lynn Janes N0PMQ & Elsie Janes N0ESJ New Award Coordinator
& TFO Award Coordinator

Steve Crane WA4WIN New Asst Coordinator for Third Period

Jon Lax K2LAX Coordinator of 40 meters E/W, 10 meters, 15 meters,
75/80 meters, and doing a great job!

Jim Pandzik KE9PK Condolence Chair and new Editor of The Com
municator [Aw, shucks!]

Rich Milligan AD0NP New Second Period Coordinator

Gloria Macomber AC0KV Retired Second Period Coordinator

Al Watts AF5VH New First Period Coordinator

...and...

50 year member plaque awarded to Jay Hyman W2CSS #3640 who
has been a member of the YLISSB System for 54 years

New YLISSB System Officers

The following new officers were installed at the Convention:

President Rose KL7FQQ Secretary Bruce K9ICP

Vice President Gloria K4DXM Board of Directors Larry AB3TY

New Members

We welcome the following new YLISSB System members...

- 17433 AC1EG Keith in Maine
- 17434 KE8IVS Curt in Ohio
- 17435 K6AJY Frank in California
- 17436 KB6DAN Dano in California
- 17437 KX4MO Tara in Tennessee
- 17438 KI4PCD Chuck in Florida
- 17439 W1RWA Bob in Pennsylvania
- 17440 W3MJA Mike in Pennsylvania
- 17441 K5CQA Rob in Texas
- 17442 KO8D Ennes in Ohio
- 17443 K9EJI Sparky in Illinois
- 17444 AD0WW Frank in North Dakota
- 17445 K445 Bud in Tennessee
- 17446 Tom in Virginia

AWARDS

On 06/18, VE3JPJ Steven Bamber YLISSB# 13145 was awarded the Apollo Award and Statehood Award.

And congratulations to our latest TFO, Rodger Dalman NW9A, YLISSB# 16281 from Michigan!

July Birthdays

7/01 W0QPO	7/14 NM5CL	7/26 K0LWT
7/01 W0SPA	7/14 K3VRU	7/28 VK5ZB
7/04 DU9EK	7/15 KC9VVU	7/28 W0HMO
7/04 KY0TE	7/15 KE8BOC	7/28 W4WAV
7/04 WA5PBR	7/16 K0UB	7/29 VE1QT
7/05 AG5Z	7/16 KD0NQM	7/29 W1AES
7/06 W8RQE	7/16 AA3JF	7/29 W0EWB
7/06 K7YAK	7/18 K4TFJ	7/29 AJ0HH
7/07 KJ4APD	7/18 KA5RUZ	7/30 N4EPG
7/07 KJ4YDI	7/18 N9SWM	7/30 K1TXU
7/07 W4DNQ	7/20 KL3QI	7/30 VE3WWR
7/07 NH7AR	7/20 KJ4APD	7/31 KC8UPU
7/08 KB3OMO	7/21 K3CJW	7/31 W5DRI
7/08 KA4WWN	7/21 W0GHM	
7/08 DJ9BK	7/22 WD5FQX	
7/11 KD0RIR	7/22 K8DXJ	
7/11 KC5SAM	7/23 KA0ENU	
7/11 KM4TTT	7/23 WK8Y	
7/12 K0BGS	7/23 KJ5Q	
7/13 W3YZL	7/24 K9WFE	
7/13 KB7CSW	7/25 W2CCW	
7/13 KA7TXR	7/26 W6HB	

July Anniversaries

7/01 KM4TTT Jim & Sara	7/15 K4GFW Gerry & Marilyn
7/04 KI4TXP Jay & Sue	7/18 W1WAB Bill & Mary Beth
7/04 W5MLM Mark & Jill	7/22 AB4DU Larry & XYL
7/04 AD0NP Rich & Annette	7/22 K9LDO Ken & May
7/08 KD9AZW Paul & Sheila	7/23 KA8ULT Greg & XYL
7/10 W9DTR Herb & Mary Lynn	7/23 G3LHJ Derrick & Sylvia
7/10 W8OPA Rene & Jeanie	7/23 VE9GU Ron & Diane
7/11 KI7IIM Paul & Sherri	7/28 KF5GTX Bobbie & Jayme
7/12 K6JDM James & Kimberly	7/31 AB7HB Bernard & Kristi
7/14 VE9MSD Mona & VE9RMD Robert	

Silent Keys

The following YL System members recently became Silent Keys.....

Richard P. Hafer - WB3HYX YLISSB# 11843

Paul A Tift - WA6OSA YLISSB# 4037

Mona S. Singleton - NY7P YLISSB# 17190

Note from George Tomlinson AA4GT

Mary NV4Z went in the Hospital last Sunday and they released her. She had a bad night and on Monday I took her back to the Hospital. They admitted her with shortness of breath. She had a reaction of her pain medicine that caused her condition. They got her off of the Med. It caused her to lose her thought and it will take time to get it back. She was released today and sent to rehab at Lely Palms where we live. She will be there for 15 to 20 days for rehab. Mary is showing some improvement. Please pray for Mary.

73 George AA4GT

Convention Workshop Report

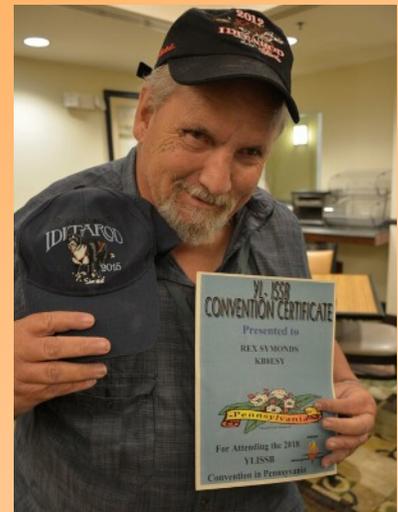
The Workshop was called to order at 1:30 PM by President Bobbie, K4ZGH. There were 30 members present. The following topics were discussed.

1. **SCHOOLS:** Inviting radio clubs in colleges and universities to become involved in the YL System. (younger blood). Discussion centered around: how many schools have active ham radio clubs; can we mentor the members of these clubs into becoming controls on the System; are most of the member techs; what's in it for us and what's in it for them and could the System furnish equipment? It was decided that what we need is a handout that could be given to colleges and university ham clubs, to local ham clubs and at hamfests etc., giving information about the YL System.
2. **CONTROLS:** Controls are needed on each session – have member stations (specifically new members) become involved by asking them to put out calls and possibly peek their interest: After discussion, it was thought that the best way to handle this is through information sent to members through the Communicator.
3. **DIGITAL:** Digital modes such as D-star, wires-x, fusion, and DMR could be implemented to keep members in contact when we have such poor propagation. You can buy a DMR radio for as little as \$60, although they are difficult to program. Digital can help get the young people interested and involved and we can always fall back on HF radios.
4. **TFO:** It was pointed out that you don't have to vote every month. The point of offering a Top-Flight Operator award is that it is an award for above-average operating skills, not for contributions such as being System control or committee work. It was suggested that perhaps the requirements should be rewritten to reflect the above criteria. It was also suggested that the person doing the rewrite check the FCC test requirements to help with the definition of an "exceptional operator."

Convention Workshop Report (Cont.)

5. **CONVENTION FUND:** Should we consider a Convention Fund to cut cost burden on members? Several options were tossed out, such as subsidizing room costs, helping with food, or transportation. A “scholarship” was suggested, where people wanting to attend a convention but not having the funds could apply for financial help. We talked about where our money comes from, and the answer was dues. We have many members on Constant Contact but only about 30% of them are active dues-paying members. It was a good discussion.
6. **SCHOLARSHIPS:** Should we consider raising scholarships to \$1500 or more. It was stated that \$1000 is a drop in the bucket when it comes to the cost of going to college. Maybe a portion of our funds should be put in the scholarship fund?
7. **OUTREACH:** Should we send a letter to our members asking them to consider putting a letter in with their will donating their radio equipment to the System when they become a SK? The discussion about this issue showed almost unanimous agreement that this would be very difficult to manage. There would be storage problems and we could get tangled up in probate battles. It was suggested that we might be able to post a list on the Web site of equipment that was available, and perhaps that would be helpful to new hams. Perhaps the System could set up a fund to help defray shipping costs.

Pictures from the YLISSB Convention - June 2018



And finally...

In the June 3 issue of EarthSky.org's newsletter, we may have gotten a clue as to the ultimate fate of the Chinese school bus noted in my previous reports.



This is an artist's concept of the Chinese space lab in orbit.

It now appears we know what may have happened to the attached bus.

EarthSky reports: "The International Union has now confirmed that a small asteroid - discovered Saturday morning, June 2, 2018 entered Earth's atmosphere later that day...A witness in South Africa described the meteor as very bright, and showing a YELLOW color. [Emphasis added]... The reported observation of the color YELLOW in the sighted meteor is of interest because colors in a meteor provide a hint of its composition." [Lots of emphasis added!]

Y'know, now that I think about it, I wonder if maybe the bus wasn't part of the Chinese spacelab after all. I mean Amazon Prime *could* have just been testing a new school bus delivery method to schools in South Africa... or maybe not...



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!