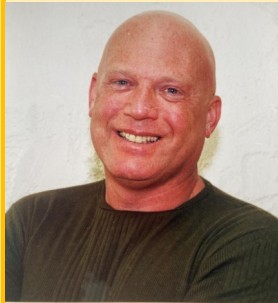


# The **COMMUNICATOR**

Februart 2025

The YL System since 1963

Issue 336



## **YLISSB – President’s Report**

### **Bill – W4WSB**

#### **Greetings,**

Wow, February 2025, as a child such a date seemed futuristic. I was raised around Naval Research, then NASA aware of what the leading technology of the time was. I then watched as we put a man on the moon with calculations using paper, pencils and a slide rule. Since then, technology has exploded with the advent of the digital age and miniaturization of electronic circuitry, allowing us to create amazing devices

Even Ham radios and equipment have benefited from these technologies, the addition of digital RF services then with the internet interface...has expanded the “traditional RF radio” into a multi-media device allowing for internet and digital services to blend with the traditional RF ham radio.

However... unplug the internet and even with all the advancements in technology, we still do the same thing that's been done for over 100 years, that is...modulate voice, tone (CW) or data, amplify it... until it “stands up” and jumps off a metallic aerial at the speed of light, bouncing off our ionic layers to be received around the world.

How simple and delightfully unchanged!

Thank you all, the hundreds of new members and unwavering support across the sessions, (exceeding 10,000 contacts a month). Making the YLSystem one of the most successful system/nets on the air.

Bill  
W4WSB  
President  
YLSystem

We are currently looking of a corporate secretary for the Board of Directors. We have a need for a Moonbeam Coordinator and other administrative positions. We need someone with graphic design skills. If interested in any of these positions, Bill W4WSB.



## Welcome YLSystem New Members

### Alabama

N6MEJ – Jerry – 19407

### Arizona

KR7I – Steven – 19417

### Arkansas

KB0AZU – Buster – 19414

### California

NS6S – John – 19420

### Colorado

WB0AFA - Jeff - 19421

### Florida

N1SSN – Frank - 19408

### Georgia

KI4EGQ – Bill - 19410

W4MDK – Michael – 19418

### Illinois

W5LOL - James - 19422

### Kansas

W0RBO –Marion –19411

### Louisiana

KI5YV - Rodger - 19424

### Michigan

KD0FLF –J Jonathon –19412

### Montana

19416 – Carlos – 19416

### New Jersey

AD2IH - George - 19423

### North Carolina

KQ4NLR – Mike – 19404

K4ETL – Robert (Gunny)– 19413

### Pennsylvania

KG3DVE - Kenny – 19406

### Tennessee

W8VOL – Brad – 19405

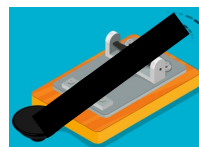
### Texas

KD5KWT - Karl – 19415

### Virginia

KC4WT – John – 19409

KE4CR - Craig – 19419



## Silent Keys

KD7SXH: Robert Zimmerli - Member #17887

N3DLS: Donald Serkleski - Member #16305

WB9UJS: Mark Haskell - Member #19017

K2BXG: Hutch Hutchinson - Member #1614

## February YLSystem Awards February 10 *HAPPY BIRTHDAY*

This one-day award is all about making connections with our club's Officers, Emeritus Council Members, or Committee Chairmen. To earn the Happy Birthday Award, you need to complete 12 contacts with these members. Don't forget: K4ICA counts as three (3) contacts, so be sure to listen for them on the air!

### *Birthday Celebration Award*

This year, we're celebrating the 62nd birthday of the YL System. To honor this incredible milestone, the February Monthly Award challenges you to make 62 contacts with member stations throughout the month of February. These contacts can be made during any YL System session on any band, but remember: each member station counts only once toward the total.

**By Chris Codella. W2PA website**

## Aerial View

**Across**

- 1. 10 kilogauss
- 6. UA parliament
- 10. Kludge
- 14. Kind of socket or tube
- 15. Ancient OA-lander
- 16. Competent
- 17. Improbable dream  
VHF/UHF antenna
- 20. Achy, as after an  
antenna project
- 21. Transceiver knob label
- 22. Part connections
- 23. Ckt.between IF and AF
- 24. Suffix with bio- or  
proto-
- 26. Loud speaker
- 30. Eye part
- 31. US hams do it every 10  
years, usually
- 32. "That's great, friend", on  
CW
- 33. Be next to
- 37. What rural hams fancy  
themselves?
- 40. Feedline badness
- 41. Baseball stats
- 42. Symbol in coax specs
- 43. Go out of your cell area
- 44. Unidirectional dipole
- 45. Where all good signals  
go, eventually?
- 48. Late summer contest
- 49. Tribander parts
- 50. Kind of FET
- 51. They have replaced  
tuning dials in modern rigs,  
often.
- 55. Improbable dream HF  
antenna
- 59. K, on phone
- 60. Elser-Mathes Cup target
- 61. Look of disdain
- 62. One meaning of V
- 63. Switch type
- 64. They deliver power

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13	
14						15					16				
17					18					19					
20					21				22						
				23				24	25						
26	27	28	29				30								
31						32					33	34	35	36	
37					38					39					
40					41					42					
				43						44					
	45	46	47						48						
49							50					51	52	53	54
55						56	57				58				
59						60						61			
62						63						64			

**Down**

- 1. Narrowest tower sections,  
often
- 2. EME signal
- 3. Sirius, for one
- 4. Emit coherent light
- 5. Draft pick
- 6. One's self, on CW
- 7. Ampere, for one
- 8. Lots and lots of Hz in the  
old days
- 9. Word to a doctor
- 10. Bugs, Roger, Peter, et.  
al.
- 11. Garfield's middle name
- 12. Copper often does it
- 13. Enables, as a transmitter
- 18. Kind of hunter, in radio
- 19. Word of regret

- 23. "See you \_\_\_\_ the log"
- 24. Univ. teachers
- 25. Kilo follower
- 26. Not written
- 27. W7-land city
- 28. What this puzzle is  
about, for short
- 29. Connectors named for  
their shape
- 30. Italian yagi?
- 32. One C per V
- 33. BBs, e.g.
- 34. E, to a non-ham?
- 35. Encourage
- 36. Bygone UA leader
- 38. It glows amber
- 39. Part
- 43. Sometimes causes  
antenna failure

- 44. Window part, where the  
feedline might come in
- 45. Group of trees
- 46. 5 wpm, 70 mph, etc.
- 47. Eyeball benders
- 48. Least good
- 49. Gait faster than a walk
- 50. QSLs often go via them  
(abbr.)
- 51. Lead-ins to P
- 52. Future ham, sometimes
- 53. Became SK
- 54. Switching  
semiconductors
- 56. RX spec.
- 57. Break, during a long  
contest, say
- 58. Sig. src.



## YLISSB – Retracing the history

(Summarized by Bruce Tisdale,  
K9ICP, YL System Historian)



This month, I will highlight a past member who had a major impact on the System's daily operations and recruitment of many new members. Jda Rogers (KB5YQ) was well known for being the voice of the 20-meter System for nearly 25 years. She had a unique way of operating as a control that was inviting and yet let people know she was in charge.

Jda joined the System in 1979 and operated until health conditions finally took her from us in 2013. The following are some brief paragraphs written by members who personally knew her contribution to the System's past success.

Rose (KL7FQQ): Jda joined the YL System on July 29, 1979. The following year, she and her OM joined as a YL/OM team. She soon started to volunteer as a control, and after she lost her husband, she spent more and more time on the System. Soon, she was on seven days a week and up to nine hours a day calling for check-ins. Many of our members were first welcomed to the System by Jada. She had a phenomenal memory and never forgot a call, sideband number or name.

Jim (VE1JIM): Back in 1990 when I first got my license, I was scanning the bands and came across a lady calling for check-ins to the YL System. I listened for quite some time. She seemed polite and welcoming to everyone in the same manner. I finally got up enough nerve to check-in and was treated the same as all others previously. Jda has been called a "Rock of Gibraltar" for the System since she took over as a controller. It was a pleasure to work beside/with such a dedicated lady. There will definitely be no one like her again.

Jane (N1PVT): For as long as I can remember, the voice of the day time System belonged to Jda, KB5YQ. Since that voice grew quiet in July of 2013, many members have stepped in to substitute for her control position, but none can take her place. She will never be forgotten.

Barbara (KE5ZI): Jda is really inspirational to me; her professionalism and skill at control are to be exemplified and admired.

As you can tell from the above and many other current and past members who knew her, Jda was special and represented what the System truly stand for.

More history to come next month ...



# Get To Know Your Members



You'll know me as "Mac" on the air, not "Henry". I've been a ham since July 1996 and received my Extra call, AF4PS (formally KF4KSM) on Sept. 21,1999. I work CW 75% of the time on the air, almost always QRP, and enjoy building my own rigs. I also like experimenting with various antennas.

My primary rig both portable and at home is an Elecraft K2 (#643) that I keep at 5watts both CW and SSB. (See the pic above.) My backup rig is a IC-7300, which I SOMETIMES run at 100w, but not usually. (For those interested, I use the ICOM at 100w when on the YL System.) Home antennas include a G5RV Jr. up about 60 ft, a Mosley TA-33 Jr. up about 65 feet, 2m/70cm jpole up about 70ft, and a Hustler 6BTV vertical.



I'll also pull out various qrp kit rigs that I've accumulated over the years, trying to keep them working and honing my listening skills. Amateur Radio is a great, relaxing hobby for me and I've met some of the greatest people in the world doing it. I pitch in as a control-op on 17m, 20m and 40m. I use the ICOM at 100w for that so folks don't have to strain to hear me.

I am very humbled to be voted TFO of the year. Thank you and see you on the system!

## Members Special Places



Northern Lights photo taken by Rose Rybachek's granddaughter, Stephanie Daniels near Wasilla, Alaska. Rose lives in Fairbanks, Alaska.



February 2025

YL System Since 1963

Issue 336



## Compiled by YLSystem Awards Manager Fran AF7YL

2024 was a fantastic year for on-air activity within the YL System, with members earning numerous certificates for their dedication, skill, and enthusiasm. From monthly awards recognizing operators who made specified contacts during the month, to special day awards for contacts made on specific days, our airwaves were buzzing with excitement all year.

For Information on all of our awards go to our website, [yssystem.org/members](http://yssystem.org/members)

### How to Participate

1. Get on the air and start making contacts! These awards are open to all club members, and we encourage everyone to participate, from seasoned operators to those just getting started.
2. Keep a spreadsheet of your contacts to verify you've met the requirements. Be sure to include date, time, frequency, station call signs, and YL System Member ID# for each contact.

Submit your log via email to [awards@yssystem.org](mailto:awards@yssystem.org).

Once verified, you'll receive a certificate PDF to commemorate your achievement! A photo of the certificate is included here to give you a sneak peek of the award you'll earn. Display it proudly as a reminder of your on-air activity and dedication to the hobby.

## Congratulations – Awards For January 2025

### Top Flight Operator (TFO)

This award is intended for the member that displays high standards as a Radio Amateur, by exhibiting above average operating practices.

**Jay Crosson, W3ZOR, TFO 628**

### Snowflake Special Day Award

This award is granted for contacting nine (9) members whose call signs contain one (1) letter S, N, O, W, F, L, A, K, and E. One contact for each letter.

**Craig Lyles, KC7UXM**

### Snowy January Monthly Award

This award is granted for contacting 30 members from any State, Province, or Country that has snow on the ground at the time of the contact in the month of January

**Craig Lyles, KC7UXM**

### New Members Award

This award is granted for working 52 new members from the previous calendar year.

**Craig Lyles, KC7UXM**

### Service Awards

Issued to any YL System Scheduled Control Stations and their assistants for every 100 hours as a Control Station. Members earning 1000 hours, with time beginning as of August 1, 2009, will be awarded 2 years of free dues.

**Craig Lyles, KC7UXM, 200 HR.**

**Jim Gamble, KM4TTT, 1000 HR.**



# Congratulations - YLISSB – Awards For 2024

Compiled by YLSystem Awards Manager Fran AF7YL

## FEBRUARY

**Happy Birthday Award.** This award is granted for making 12 contacts with our Officers, Emeritus Council Members, or Committee Chairmen.

**Steven Bamber, VE3JPJ**

**Top Flight Operator (TFO).** This award is intended for the member that displays high standards as a Radio Amateur, by exhibiting above average operating practices.

**Ernie Day, K4DAY, TFO 621**

**Cody Nelson, KD9ISC, TFO 622**

## JUNE

**Special Day Cuatro Award.** For contacting five (5) members whose number ends with a four (4) on June 6. K4ICA counts as one (1) contact.

**Steven Bamber, VE3JPJ**

**Top Flight Operator (TFO).**

**Jose Carrion, KP4E, TFO# 623**

**Jim Nelson, KD9VAN, TFO# 624**

## JULY

**Palindrome Award** under his two callsigns. For contacting 10 member stations whose callsign or YLISSB Number reads the same forward as backward. For instance, AB3BA or 16761. Contacts on any band, but only one contact per member.

**Steven Bamber, VE2JKJ, Palindrome Award**

**Steven Bamber, VE3JPJ, Palindrome Award**

## Plaques presented at the YL System Conference in July

**RIGEL AWARD: Gene Giddings, AA1XD.** This award is intended as recognition for exceptional service by a member serving as a System Control on any or all of the System's controlled sessions.

**SILENT SERVICE AWARD: Gale Moody, KK4DYI.** This award is for a member that "SILENTLY" performs a duty or service to the System that most members generally are not aware of. The intent is to render recognition to those that have quietly and without recognition performed for an extended period of time, but never less than 3 years.

**CORNERSTONE AWARD, Bruce Tisdale, K9ICP.** This represents EXCEPTIONAL recognition to a member for service rendered over an extended period of time that would have otherwise left the System's membership less informed –without a valuable service having been provided. Without this member doing what they have done for an extended period of time – the System would not have evolved into the organization it is today. This is not intended for doing something for a short period. It is meant to cover a minimum of 3 years. This exceptional member would be in the 1% group.

**FOUNDERS AWARD: Becky Barberousse, KI5KKV.** The YLISSB Board bestows this award on those who most closely exhibit the qualities of our founder, K4ICA.



# Congratulations - YLISSB – Awards For 2024

## Compiled by YLSystem Awards Manager Fran AF7YL

**AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINAIRE: Terry Clay, K5SSL.** The recipient demonstrates the use of diplomacy in representing the YLISSB System, welcoming guests and returning members with equal enthusiasm and respect, promoting the System in the way that has kept it going since its inception in 1963, and most of all, kept and maintained a level head when dealing with any type of adversity, no matter where or when it arose on the system.

### Lifetime Achievement Award:

Jim Fischer, K5FEL  
Gale Moody, KK4DYI  
Mac Steinmeyer, AF4PS

### AUGUST

**TFO Day Award:** For contacting ten (10) stations that have TFO numbers. K4ICA counts as one (1) contact.

Steven Bamber, VE2JKJ  
Craig Lyles, KC7UXM

**OLD TIMERS AWARD:** Working a total of 25 members in each of the following numbered categories:

- 5 members with membership numbers under 13,200
- 5 members with membership numbers under 15,100
- 5 members with membership numbers under 16,600
- 5 members with membership numbers under 17,100

Craig Lyles, KC7UXM

**WORKED ALL STATES on 20M (20M WAS):** For contacting a member station in each of the 50 States on the System's 20 meter frequency of 14.332 MHz.

Craig Lyles, KC7UXM

**NITE OWL AWARD:** For contacting 50 system member stations, within a 12 month period, during the YL system 40M EC or WC system portion of the YL System.

Craig Lyles, KC7UXM

### SEPTEMBER

**AUTUMN DAY AWARD:** For contacting nine (9) members whose Sideband number ends in a nine (9) or a zero (0) on September 21.

Steven Bamber, VE3JPJ

### OCTOBER

**Top Flight Operator (TFO)**

Craig Lyles, KC7UXM

**Halloween Award:** For contacting 31 members with a membership number ending with a 3 or a 1.

Craig Lyles, KC7UXM

**Jack-O-Lantern Award:** Contact ten (10) members whose YLISSB number ends in a one (1) or three (3) on October 6

Steven Bamber, VE2JKJ  
Craig Lyles, KC7UX



# Congratulations - YLISSB – Awards For 2024

Compiled by YLSystem Awards Manager Fran AF7YL

**Weekend Warrior Award:** For contacting 52 system member stations during the weekend portion of the Moonbeam Session of the YL System within a 12 month period.

**Craig Lyles, KC7UXM**

**Service Award:** YL System Scheduled Control Stations & their assistants for 700 hours as a Control Station.

**Mario Karcich, K2ZD, Service Award - 700 hr**

## NOVEMBER

**Veteran’s Award:** For contacting 25 veterans of their country’s military .

**Steven Bamber, VE3JP**

**Special Day Liberty Award**

**Steven Bamber, VE3JPJ**

**Craig Lyles, KC7UXM**

**Autumn Award:** For working any 50 members during the Second and Third daily periods and ONLY during the months of September, October, and November.

**Craig Lyles, KC7UXM**

**Service Award For 100 hours of service:** Issued to any YL System Scheduled Control Stations, and their assistants for 100 hours as a Control Station.

**Craig Lyles, KC7UXM**

## DECEMBER

**Santa Claus Award:** For contacting ten (10) members to spell “Santa Claus” using any letters from the call sign suffix and first name as it is shown on Netlogger. One contact for each letter. Contacts must be made on December 6.

**Capt Eddie Edmonds, K1CPT**

**Top Flight Operator (TFO)**

**Clarence Schultz, WS0C, TFO #627**

## System Schedule

**Sunrise Portion – 8am EST**

– ( Mon-Fri ) 14.332

**( Sat-Sun ) - 9am EST - 14.332**

**1st Period - 10am EST – ( Mon-Fri ) 14.332**

**2nd Period - 12pm – ( Mon-Fri ) 14.332**

**3rd Period – 2pm – ( Mon-Fri ) 14.332**

**Moonbeam 1st Hr. – 4pm EST - ( Mon-Fri ) 14.332**

**Moonbeam 2nd Hr. – 5pm EST - ( Mon-Fri ) 14.332**

**Weekend Warriors – 4pm EST – ( Sat-Sun ) 14.332**

**40 Meter East – 7 pm EST – ( Mon-Fri ) 7.244**

**40 Meter West –10 pm EST – ( Mon-Fri ) 7.254**

**17 Meter Session - 2 pm EST – ( Sun ) 18.138**

**Digital DMR Portion - 9pm EST – (Wed) on**

TGIF Network TG 319



# Members Rememberances

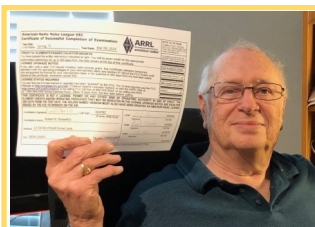


I am Rose Rybachek KL7FQQ, member #6098. I received my ham radio license in 1965 and found the YL System soon after. V. Mayree, the foundress, was active as a control and became one of my good ham radio friends. One morning, when I checked in, she was talking about a convention the group had just had and asked me if I intended to go to the following year's Convention in Treasure Island, Florida. I hadn't thought about it, but it sounded like a good idea, so I asked my husband Stan (KI7FQR) what he thought about it. He laughed and told me he'd be happy if I went, but I'd have to earn money for my expenses.

I was a stay-at-home Mom, taking care of our three young children. So, I really had very little chance of making enough money to attend the convention. I did leatherwork and sold some of it, but it would take a lot of leather to pay for the trip. However, that summer, I was called for jury duty for the state, federal, and grand juries, and I made enough money to pay for the airline ticket and the fees. So, I was off. It was wonderful seeing the members that I talked to on the air in person at the convention. We had a wonderful time. However, we hadn't been there but a couple of days when Hurricane Agnes made a visit to Treasure Island. It was exciting watching as it blew the palm trees nearly flat, and several of us didn't get any sleep that night since we were peering out the windows watching the storm. It was fun to visit with V. Mayree, Sister Mary, and others. However, after the hurricane passed, the hotel was without electricity, so they got busses and hauled us off to the airport.

I must admit that I had serious doubts when it was time to go to the following year's convention. Did I go? I can't remember. But the one on Treasure Island was forever embedded in my memory.

Rose Rybachek KL7FQQ



## From your Editor

As the editor of *The Communicator* I want to highlight the various awards The YL System offers to its members.

We have 12 monthly awards and 24 other awards. Consult the website [ylsystem.org](http://ylsystem.org) for details.

We have a Facebook page and are developing a DMR presence. More on those later.

If you have funny jokes, stories or cartoons please send them in so I can put them in the newsletter.

If you have information or ideas for topics you would like to see published in *The Communicator* please send to the New Editor. **Robert Showell KJ5PBZ**, [rshowell94@gmail.com](mailto:rshowell94@gmail.com). Thanks!

P.S. If you send photos, we will assume we have permission to publish from BOTH the subject and the photographer.

P.P.S. Please send captions for photos with names and callsigns! I might know your voice from the system, but not your face!

We would love to have pictures of your towers and ham stations at various times of the year.