

The **COMMUNICATOR**

August 2025

The YL System since 1963

Issue 342

HONOR



DEDICATION

FRIENDSHIP

YLISSB – President’s Report - Bill – W4WSB

As August always signals the waning days of summer, it can also bring the hottest days of the year along with severe weather. Especially in the costal areas as the peak of the hurricane season approaches. With the sun slowly moving south, bringing shorter days and cooler nights, can cause temperature inversions and other meteorological conditions creating poor propagation on HF. I find it interesting how HAM radio, especially 20 meters, is so dependent on the ever changing conditions of the earth’s eco-sphere (in such, organic). We can always look forward to what awaits us tomorrow...a full log, or the ever deserving few check-in’s. All thanks to the hard dedicated work of the controls who bring them in, either way... it’s all fun, just “working the band”.

I want to thank all of the convention attendees, great to see and talk to you face to face...virtually. Much information was shared and all opinions heard. As we steer the YLSystem into ever changing times, it’s good to know we have a core group of dedicated members to support our growth into 2026 and beyond.

Several staff and administrative positions are immediately open. If you are interested in any of these positions, please refer to the YLSystem Web Site “Policies and Procedures” section for the description and duties of the desired position. Familiarize yourself with the P&P in general before submitting a bio.

Each year many chair and other positions renew. Open chair positions for 2026 are: Nomination Committee Chair, Condolence Chair and TFO Coordinator. Additionally a Second Period Coordinator and an administrative position of Assistant Treasurer (a BOD position, requiring some daily YLSystem Web Site maintenance along with BOD meeting attendance) are also available. For the Assistant Treasurer position, please contact Jack at Contact Us/Contact Leadership/Treasurer – For all other staff nomination requests, send a short bio and the position you are interested in to the Nomination Committee/ link on the Contact Us/Contact Leadership page.

Interested in being a Co-Control, lets us know at the nomination committee/link on the Contact YLSystem Leadership page.

Special Congratulations to the 2025 Awards Recipients

Jim KM4TTT Regal Award
John W5PDW Silent Service Award
Bruce K9ICE Founders Award
Gale KK4DYI Cornerstone Award

August Awards

Special Day, Friday, August 8th, TFO Day

Contact ten (10) members that have TFO numbers, K4ICA counts as one (1) contact.

Summer Heat Award: August 1st Thru 31st
Contact 30 Members with a TFO number

Hope to see you on the log,
Bill
W4WSB
President



Welcome YLSystem New Members

Arizona

Gene - KC7KGH – 19520

Brian - KI7QVR - 19526

California

Larry - KD6VXP – 19522

Joe - KO6KCA - 19531

Florida

Mike - N9MC– 19523

Texas

John - K5JHE – 19525

Tim - KD5ITM - 19527

JJ - KI5VQS - 19529

David - KT5DC - 19530

Steve - KJ5HEV - 19532

Vermont

Gary - W1CZX - 19533

West Virginia

John - KF8EFT - 19524

Wisconsin

Mark - KE9ALY - 19521

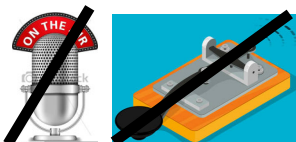
Ontario, Canada

Brent - VA3XWZ - 19528

Happy Anniversary

Members

- | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. David Mizikar K3ILA
Jim Jackson K3VRU | 11. Carol Young W9PIO
Bob Cummings WA4MBG
JoAnn Donaldson AB8YZ
B0b Baumann KK7KQP | 19. Jane Oliver N1PVT |
| 2. Greg Rogers W7GSR | 12. Carol Young W9PIO
Bob Cummings WA4MBG | 20. Mike Papke N0OWP |
| 3. Donnie Morrison K0OTP
Jim Jackson K3VRU
George Moore W5GWM | 14. Ben Smith KB4LS
Ernie Quaglieri KN4DXH | 21. Hutch Hutchinson K2BXG
Dr. Karl Arriola KD9ODH
Glenn Hanson KN6MJQ
Chuck Marzahn KQ4MHD |
| 4. Larry Hull KF8BPM | 15. Robert Chance K4RCR
Cliff Warrick W6OEM
Cliff Fairbanks KN4HGE | 22. Steven Coffee KO4NOR
Tim Michael NL7D |
| 6. Jim Ligman K4OHW
Steve Jones KG5RMY
Cliff Sirman Jr KN4RGR | 17. Nathan Gill W4PQD
Rob Giebel, Jr KJ3C | 24. Mike Corbett N9MC |
| 7. Max Amstuts KF8XE | 18. Alan Ronk K0AGR
Rob Giebel, Jr KJ3C
Richard Vuillequez
W2FBS | 25. Wayne Albrecht N5ZHB
Jim Cornell KF2LN
Matthew Ross N3BPD
Tim Williams K8TLW |
| 8. Joan A. Jones W4JMJ
John Ford AB00 | | 28. Richard Lionberger
KB0WCY |
| 9. Scott Hollenbeck WB9LLF | | 31. John Laycock KM4DPW |
| 10. Kevin Evjen KA0KAE
Jeff West N1AWT | | |

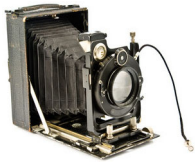


Silent Keys

Larry Morgan AG5Z # 16990 TFO 547

If you know of a member who is now a Silent Key, please let us know at:

condolencechairman@ylsystem.org



Snapshot of History

2001 Fort Dodge, Iowa KF0NO



The Spotlight On History contains pictures from our previous conventions. Starting with the first one in 1997 continuing with one each month spotlighting the next year's convention.

By Chris Codella, W2PA

website W2PA.com

Across

- 1. Swiped
- 6. GM OM
- 10. Tuvalu IOTA
- 14. KH6 IOTA
- 15. If's partner (to a programmer)
- 16. Get one's ducks in ____
- 17. __nito
- 18. Stage part
- 19. Poor QTH, say
- 20. Foot covered?
- 22. Means justifiers
- 23. Amplifier knob
- 24. Softrocks, e.g.
- 26. Murphy, e.g.?
- 30. OA denizens, once
- 33. Mother ____
- 34. W4 Beach
- 36. Xmtr pwr plus all following dBs
- 37. 3B6 IOTA
- 39. 6Y IOTA

- 41. Where you might get a 5-down - or maybe five, 5-down's down
- 42. November honorees
- 44. Multiple Elvises?
- 45. F capital bisector
- 47. Carefully did 23-across, with the big knob probably.
- 49. CW
- 51. Hero
- 52. They're turned on by a positive base
- 54. Two cartons of ice cream?
- 60. Kind of IC
- 61. Word often found in IOTA names
- 62. Possible Northern UK prefix

- 63. IRE descendent, in 1963
- 64. Zig or zag
- 65. Where the HV goes
- 66. Western DL river
- 67. Blunders
- 68. Church assembly

Down

- 1. Narrow opening
- 2. Trig function
- 3. How many times a grid can be grossly overdriven
- 4. XW land
- 5. Brewski, to a ham?
- 6. Pacific
- 7. Zoomed in
- 8. LA city
- 9. The 18 and 21 MHz bands?

- 10. See 41-across
- 11. What a K2 can do
- 12. Harry Chapin's callsign?
- 13. Is in the red
- 21. Power problem
- 25. Result of key down amplifier, possibly
- 26. Smooth transition
- 27. Borders both VU and A4
- 28. RTTY char
- 29. G rule in VU
- 31. (The amp.) made an untoward noise
- 32. Hot Springs and others
- 33. Manipulates a key
- 35. Small pet
- 38. Opposite of amp.

- 40. Worked ____ Continents
- 43. Drinker
- 46. More meddlesome
- 48. Types of gears
- 50. North Cook IOTA prefix
- 52. Cloud burner sig.
- 53. "Guilty," e.g.
- 55. ____-friendly
- 56. Easter flower
- 57. Possibly needed to purchase an IC-7800
- 58. Not taken in by
- 59. The last one for DXCC #1, say

Alphas and IOTAs

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						65			
66					67						68			

Member Spotlight

Jon Dallons KB6TAZ

Never in a thousand years did I know what Larry AB3TY was getting me into.

Because of my father W6YDZ, who passed some years back and is now a silent key, I have been around this hobby all my life. I received my novice license, WN6KNP, in the early 1970's and quickly let it lapse. I received my current license in the mid 1980's. I also held a Fijian license 3D2ZA in the mid '90's operating for a week from Turtle Island in the Yasawa group of islands some 50 miles NW of Nadi.

The HF station equipment is comprised of a Yeasu FT-2000D Transceiver, 8K Ultra, 5K Classic and 2KD-5 Henry amplifiers, home made 4 element mono yagi beams on 10 and 20 meters up 50' on a Tri-ex tiltable tower. Inverted V's on 40 and 80 meters.

I have been active in the past with BARRA, the Baja Amateur Radio Racing Association; providing health and welfare communications for the SCORE offroad races, ie Baja 1000, 500, Mexacali 250 and Mint 400.

I also participated in the CQ World Wide CW Multi-Multi back in 1987 at KP2A John Ackley's station on St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. We held the world record for over ten years from a 2 point QTH. Don't want to mislead any of you. No, I'm not a CW buff. I climbed towers and installed antennas. I also brought a computer network for logging and retrieving calls which proved to be very useful to the operators when attempting to obtain multipliers. I can still remember when we sent in our numbers. The silence was deafening.

As of late, I have been serving as co-control for the YL System Moonbeam weekdays.



Jim Fischer K5FELs

My name is Jim Fischer, K5FEL. I have been fortunate to speak with a great number of folks, whether they are first time check-ins or System Members ranging from the newest to the earliest.

A little about me... I worked for many years in a paper mill in central Wisconsin and have a background in Civil Engineering as well. My wife and I relocated to Oklahoma in 2015 and have welcomed several fur kids to our family.

I was first licensed in 2019 and started out with an HT. From there I got into HF with an ICOM IC-7300 and now a Yaesu FTDX-10. My current antennas consist of 3 inverted vees, one each for 17, 20 and 40 meters. My main antenna for 20 meters is a half size, 2 element Yagi that I built. If you want to know more, here is the link for information and plans. www.nonstopsystems.com/radio/frank_radio_antenna_yagi.htm

While tuning the dial one day in 2020, I found the YL System and checked in. What a great decision! I hadn't been on HF very long at that point...what a welcoming place for a newer General Class to get their feet wet! I was a regular check in from that point on and became a member in September. It wasn't very long until I was approached to be a System Control. In late December of 2020, I started on the 3rd Period and have thoroughly enjoyed interacting with members and guests alike. As life goes, I have bounced around a bit and landed on the 1st Period in early August 2022.

It is a privilege to be a Period Control carrying on the traditions of the YL System. I look forward to catching each of you down the log. 73

Jim K5FEL

#17868 TFO 610

1st Period Coordinator



From The Desk Of Awards Manager - Fran AF7YL - awards@ylsystem.org

SPECIAL AWARDS

Several members earned 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.

- Jeff Payton, KE4OLE, 500 hr
- Tack Anderson, KN6RSX, 500 hr
- Doug Paquette, K7DCE, 100 hr

August Special Day: August 8

TFO Special Day Award

To complete this award, contact ten (10) stations that have TFO numbers. K4ICA counts as one (1) contact.

August Monthly Award

Summer Heat Award

To complete this award, contact ten (10) stations that have TFO numbers. K4ICA counts as one (1) contact.

Summer Award

It's not too late to work toward the Summer Award. This award is earned by working any 50 members during the System's First and Second daily periods and ONLY during the months of June, July, and August.

Moonbeam Weekend Warrior Award

No time like the present to get going on this one. Within a 12 month period, contact 52 system member stations during the weekend portion of the Moonbeam Session of the YL System. Contacts must be made on Saturday or Sunday. No station may be used more than one time for this award.

How to Participate in the Awards Program

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 callsigns, & YL System Member ID# for each contact.
3. Submit your log via email to awards@ylsystem.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.



It's Your Birthday – Ham It Up

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. George Golden KM7Y
David Lattan W9PFD | Steven Capper K9FMC
Jim Steward WL7HZ | Kevin Evjen KA0KAE
David Mira N9YUH |
| 2. Raymond Boffa W1EKZ
Chuck Marzahn KQ4MHD | 11. Tom Vergonet KX9KX
12. Jim Davis AG5UZ
Steve Jones KG5RMY
Gene Reamer KC7KGH | 19. Tony Dreasler AA0TD
20. Orlen Wolf WW0LF
Roman Downer N4SC
Edd Painter KC5ABJ
Bill Thompson W3WCT |
| 3. Chuck Tellbuescher, Jr W7TOC
Mark Payne KD0BRE | 13. Tim Tyron KC1NYC | 21. Thelma Gray N7GBX
Phil Forrest AG5EY |
| 4. Clarence Schultz W5OC
Michael Knight W4MDK
Jerry Beare KI5JBE | 14. Gunny Masters K4ETL | 22. Del Long KD0AYN |
| 5. Pete Frye N5AND | 15. Joe Marco KO4PZX
Bob Percefull NC4RP
John Garcia AI5LM
Kirk Kridner KV5Q
Chuck Shawan KI7ZKD | 23. John Oren AA0GD
Kevin Green VK2HTG
Steve Maerithew KF4EUD
Dave Vickers K7SWK |
| 6. Tommy Herman KO4NWU
Tom Hone AA0GP
Sam Stevens W7GNM
Rick Kilmer KQ4JXF | 16. Mark Mayfield W5MLM
Joe Rice KQ4OTE | 24. Patrick Mahon WD4GPS |
| 8. Henry Garbade, Jr. W3OKT | 17. Jerry Leatherwood KO4BTC | 25. David Bynum KB9GOG
Mark Wolf KE9ALY |
| 9. Dan Stockwell KD8YVA
Ronald Shaw KF0ATZ | 18. Raymond Higgins KC1MR | |

Aphas & IOTAs

S	T	O	L	E		S	C	O	T		T	T	W	O
L	A	N	A	I		E	L	S	E		A	R	O	W
I	N	C	O	G		R	O	L	E		V	A	L	E
T	H	E	S	H	O	E	S	O	N		E	N	D	S
					T	U	N	E		S	D	R	S	
	S	A	B	O	T	E	U	R		I	N	C	A	S
T	E	R	E	S	A		P	A	L	M		E	R	P
A	G	A	L	E	G	A		J	A	M	A	I	C	A
P	U	B		V	E	T	S		P	E	L	V	E	S
S	E	I	N	E		T	W	I	D	D	L	E	D	
	A	O	N	E		I	D	O	L					
N	P	N	S		F	U	L	L	G	A	L	L	O	N
V	L	S	I		I	S	L	E		M	I	O	N	E
I	E	E	E		V	E	E	R		P	L	A	T	E
S	A	A	R		E	R	R	S		S	Y	N	O	D

From Your Editor - Robert - KJ5PBZ

Articles for the next issue can be emailed to communicator@ylsystem.org. The **25th of the month** is the deadline for articles to appear in the next issue.

The Member Spotlight features members each month. Send in your bio (maximum of 300 words), with 2 or 3 pictures of your ham shack, antenna or something unusual about your QTH.

The Spotlight On History contains pictures from our previous conventions. Starting with the first one in 1997 continuing with one each month spotlighting the next year's convention.