

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER
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INTEREST OF YLISSBers

THE COMMUNICATOR



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YLISSB CONVENTION
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Editor's Comments

Beginning with this issue, January 2010, we will be posting the Communicator on or close to the first day of each month.

Posting issues near the end of the month caused confusion many times last year and often led to items being posted in what appeared to be the wrong month. For instance, the December issue was posted in late November and contained Thanksgiving items and clip art.

That made us call the next issue the "Christmas" issue rather than January, mainly because it reflected the Christmas Season.

As for those of you who contribute items, this does not mean any more work for you. It simply means you must get your information to us by the middle of the last week of the month, *and sooner if possible*. Information received after that will be published in the next issue or not at all if it is no longer relevant.

If anyone has information that you would like posted in the February 2010 issue, please get it to us before the end of January.



NEW MEMBERS

16470 KJ4LKU SHAWN FL

SILENT KEYS

9213 ZL3DY REX, NEW ZEALAND
 10809 WB1APD JACK, MAINE
 13989 WWØG GERALD, MISSOURI
 14611 KR5R ACIE, NEW MEXICO

JANUARY QSO PARTIES

1/03 KID'S DAY
 10/9 - 1/10 HUNTING LIONS IN THE AIR
 10/9 - 1/10 MIDWINTER CONTEST
 1/16 - 1/17 HA DX CONTEST
 1/16 - 1/17 NORTH AMERICAN QSO
 1/23 - 1/24 UBA CONTEST
 1/30 - 1/31 WINTER FIELD DAY
1/23 - 1/24 YL SYSTEM QSO PARTY

Just to remind you that we only post the QSO parties that have the potential of interfering with our operation on 14.332.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1/02	KI4TXP	1/13	NØEFV
1/02	KCØCRS	1/18	KL7FQQ
1/02	K8NQC	1/20	AK1X
1/02	NC4MI	1/20	N1DL
1/02	VE9RMD	1/22	ZL1ALE
1/03	KM5OA	1/26	WAØJH
1/03	KV5S	1/28	ND5G
1/09	N2LR	1/29	KCØECK
1/11	VE4DS	1/30	N3RF
1/12	NØUOD		

CHANGES

14851 WA9TVH ORLEN IS NOW WWØLF
 16267 KI4ZHF ROBERT IS NOW KY1RK

This morning, 12/29, I heard Ray, WB5BRD for the first time in a long time and the thought came to me "Hey, Ray is not on my Communicator email list." He is now. We just looked up his email address on qrz.com and added him.. Where your help is needed is when you hear a member say that they DO NOT get the Communicator by email and would like to, have them email us their email address or perhaps you could get it for us. We know there are probably hundreds of not so active members who are not in our email address list and we would love to add them.

Getting the Communicator to some of those "not so active" members might just be that "little push" that encourages them to get back on the air. Please be alert and help us add more of them to the email monthly mailing.

HELP WANTED: The System needs an editor/publisher for the VOICE, the annual publication containing award information, membership list, policies, procedures, photos and much more. This can be a fun and rewarding experience and the System will supply the printer, collator, binder, and other supplies.

If interested, contact Rose KL7FQQ - kl7fqq@yahoo.com

TRY TO REMEMBER!

V. Mayree, Sidebander #1 who founded the YL System asked that out of respect for our many OM members, that we call our membership number a Sideband Number and not a YL Number. If you call it a YL number, you are not wrong and no one is going to chastise you. However, it is suggested that we all "honor her request" and refer to our membership number as a Sideband Number.

Daytime Report by Jda KB5YQ

In the Christmas issue we asked if the fifty+ members who check in just about every day would give some thought to giving Jda a hand with controlling. As of this moment (Dec. 29) I have not heard Jda state anyone has come aboard. Please give some thought to picking out

an hour during the Early Morning Warm up or one of the following three - day time periods and offer to control with her for that one hour. Many of you check in and are there every day and do help when asked, but picking out a particular hour will let her know when she can have a

break.. Just give some thought to the amount of time Jda puts in on the System and you will realize, asking one hour from you is certainly not much. Jda deserves the help and the break it would give her. Think about it.

K3CDQ for KB5YQ

40 Meter Report by Jay KI4TXP

Well, the New Year is upon us. With it I do hope all have a fabulous and healthy New Year.

With the sunspot activity we are now getting some DX almost on a daily basis. We have had Gary CU2JT from the Azores check in on a regular basis with very good strength and audio. This

past week we have had several additional DX stations checking in. I assume that it is going to be more like this as we proceed into the new Sunspot Cycle. So please come by and say HI and maybe you will get to contact a DXer.

I am still looking for people to help out every evening so that we can extend the operating

time. It really is lots of fun. Send me an email and we will discuss it. We are also looking for someone to do 80M, which could be weekly to start.

Thanks to all those that have helped out on 40M without you I could not have done this. Thanks so much.

Jay KI4TXP

Moonbeam Report by Dick K3CDQ

For the most part, not much has changed on the Moonbeam since the last report. Looking over the Net Reports some of you send to me, it appears we still have great activity one evening and nearly none the next.

Not to fear though. We are moving into a new year, the days are now getting longer

and the experts are telling us sunspots are really on the increase. I noticed this morning (Monday) that Jda had European DX on the Early Morning Warm Up and stations all across the USA are working them. I spend quite a bit of time during the morning on the CW portion of the bands and I am not only hearing and contacting stations in Europe

but have recently had good signals from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Monaco, Antarctica, Madagascar, Namibia and others. Things are perking up folks, things are getting better and I am looking forward to those evenings like Rhonda and I used to have with three columns of check-ins on our log sheets and many of them DX. Happy New Year, Dick



Page WA3EOP ISSB #14767 at the Beavertail, RI Lighthouse where during a Special Event he operated NIL (Number One Lighthouse).



This guy gets around. Here Page is operating W1AW at ARRL Headquarters.

Speaking of “getting around” over the years, Page has made many trips to West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Delaware to help System members with needed states. Page, System members appreciate your help. Thanks

From the Historian

Wow! Can you believe that it's time to turn over that old 2009 calendar and start all over again with a brand new year?? Where did time go?

Most of us should have our new Voice publication by now, and the first thing that struck me about it is that it's just about time again for our annual YL SYSTEM QSO PARTY!

Sally and I are really involved with many QSO parties throughout the year but the YL QSO Party has always given us a chance to talk to our friends from both the YL System and other contacts as well who are curious about the System. This is our chance to inform them of who we are, what we are about, and most importantly, how they can go about joining our wonderful System! Over the years, we have been quite successful in this endeavor, but we need YOU, the majority of our current YL System members to get involved in these two great weekends.

As I sit here typing, I have the Voice from October, 1966 in front of me. It's hard for us to imagine the sheer numbers of YL System Members who took part in the YL System QSO Party that year. I am sure we will never have those kinds of statistics again, but hey, we do what we can do with what we have in the here and now, right?

To give you an idea of just how excited and spirited the QSO Party was that year, one member station overseas had his beam fall down just as the contest was starting. He simply dashed up to his roof, propped his beam against a broom stick, and continued the contest. Another YL System member in Venezuela had his radio break down. Not to be deterred, he drove 90 miles into Caracas, picked up another rig, and won world-wide high score with over a million points!

Obviously, those days of operating frenzy in the YL System QSO Party are long gone, but for those of us currently active, we like to think that we are just as enthusiastic, and we are so looking forward to this year's event! So, mark your calendars for January 23/24 for the SSB portion, and February 6/7 for the CW portion. See you all there!

Until next time, 73, Kevin (KA4NWS)

My interest in Amateur Radio began in the mid 1950's and I've been fascinated with it ever since. When I sat for my exam I had decided to take both the General and the Advanced.

I sat outside the Federal Building with 18 wpm code tapes for 1/2 hour and when the FCC examiner, who I knew because he did periodic checks at the broadcast station where I worked part-time, started the CW tape I shook like a leaf, but passed. When I turned in the General answer sheet he looked at me funny and asked if I was sure that I wanted to take the Advanced as I had passed the General by just 1 question. I said, "Yes," and sat with it and finished and turned it in and again the examiner looked at me strangely when he corrected it, saying, "I don't know about you, Roger. You missed only 1 question here- Congratulations!"



Roger WIRME Sidebander # 16417
Brunswick, Maine

I also like photography, the outdoors and computers. With my wife, I have hiked Mt. Washington a few times, "the home of the world's worst weather." with a measured wind gust of over 230 mph. That is a good deal of my story. I am retired from my position as Audio Visual Director at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine where I have lived since 1985, a long trip from growing up in Upper Montclair, New Jersey.



Mary NV4Z



Guess Who



Marilyn N6LFJ & George

Many of you might be wondering why this issue has photos of so many members and not as much System information as usual. It is because since we have changed the time of month to the "first" to post the Communicator, we are so close on the heels of the previous issue that we just do not have input from members. The next issue will not be out until the 1st of February, so by then, we hope members will have sent us lots to publish. We are still looking for photographs from long, long ago. So far, no one has identified the photo in the Christmas issue and I am betting no one will figure out who the sailor is in this issue. You have two clues. First, you know he was in the Navy and secondly, you know he has moved to a different state then where you knew him... Also, as to why some members seem to have photos published so often, it is because they send them to us. How about YOU? Send us some of you, your family, your radio shack or home or anything you would like to share with us. Also, send us stories, your bio, local club info, or any ham related items you run across.

Stan KL7FQR and Ole WA5IPS on the train to Denali National Park in Alaska. Photo taken during the 2002 YL ISSB Convention at Fairbanks, Alaska hosted by Stan and Rose KL7FQQ. Anyone know who the Sidebander behind them is?



Bob, NØDFP smiling at the world as he surfs the web.

Bob below looking a bit more serious in front of his radio equipment. Some of his antenna array at the left.



GUESS WHO - DO YOU KNOW HIM?

THIS MEMBER MOVED NE TO RELOCATE BUT STILL LIVES IN THE WESTERN PART OF THE COUNTRY.

ANOTHER CLUE? HIS CURRENT PHOTO WAS RECENTLY ADDED TO MY WEBPAGE.

MARIA GUESSED THE PERSON IN LAST MONTH'S ISSUE

* W7RMC *



GENE K9WFE - RECEIPIENT OF THE 2009 YL SYSTEM "TFO OF THE YEAR" AWARD
GENE WITH WIFE RUTH AND GRANDDAUGHTER MACKENZIE.
CONGRATULATIONS GENE - WELL DESERVED!



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SPOTLIGHT ON: GENE DELANEY K9WFE YL System 2009 “TFO OF THE YEAR”

Born in 1942, Gene developed an interest in radio at an early age. His brother Don made a crystal set using a real galena crystal with a cat's whisker and a home-made coil when Gene was about 10 years old. By the time Gene graduated from high school in 1960 he was KN9WFE (Novice) and K9WFE (Technician), working mostly 2-meter AM and 40 meter CW. He started working for the Wisconsin Telephone Company later that year and soon received his General Class ham ticket and his 2nd Class Radiotelephone commercial license.

In 1962 he took leave from the telephone company and enlisted in the USAF. Soon he was assigned to Osan Air Base, Korea where he was one of the operators at the HL9KH base ham radio station. Another operator of the station at the time was Capt. Don Miller, W9WNV – one of the foremost DXers of his time. Leaving Korea for stateside he spent the next couple of years at Ent AFB, Colorado Springs, CO. Although he had a ham station set up in the barracks, little actual operating was done from here; mainly demonstrating ham radio to the local Boy Scouts. The real highlight of his stay in Colorado was the opening of the Cheyenne Mountain complex, where he assisted in setting up the communications with the outside world.

Back from the Air Force in 1966 he returned to the telephone company where he worked for the next 28 years in a variety of jobs, including everything from repairing the old-fashioned switchboards to mobile radio systems (before cell phones were invented), electronic switching systems, microwave radio, television transmission and several DEC minicomputer systems. Along the way he earned associate degrees in electronics engineering and telecommunications, where he learned a thing or two about personal computers. He retired from the telephone company in 1994 and has worked at a variety of computer-oriented jobs ever since.

In January, 1969 he married Ruth and over the next 41 years they raised two children, Kelly and Tom. Kelly is a physical therapist and the mother of Isabella, 7 months old at the time of this writing. Tom became a police officer and was later severely injured on the job and is on permanent disability. He is now Mr. Mom, enjoying raising his 3 year old daughter Mackenzie, his 7-month old daughter, Samantha, (who was born 8 days before Isabella) and his step-daughter, 11 year-old Mikayla,

He became a member of the YLISSB in late 1978 and soon became a regular control station on the weekends. In 1985 he was awarded the Rigel Trophy. In 2005 he became the system's Information Officer, taking over from his dear friend Tom, WA1GAG. Almost immediately he became interested in compiling a comprehensive system database using a variety of sources and enlisting the help of Sandy, KJ5Q and her OM John, N5WQ. Over the next several years, after pouring over close to 20,000 index cards and several older databases he finally came up with something he can use to generate the membership list in the Voice and practically any other list you can think of.. For this he was awarded the Cross-eyed Award in 2006 and the Founders Award in 2009.

On Christmas day, 2009 he was awarded the TFO of the Year, something he truly didn't expect to get and is still somewhat mystified as to how it came about. For once he was speechless.