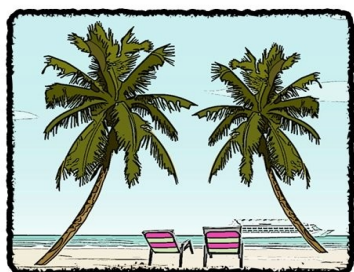


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President's Report... by Jane N1PVT

July 27, 2011

Greetings to all! Where is the time going? Eleven months until our next convention! Sure hope I can make this one. I am currently working 16-hour days on the farm, and that leaves little time for radio, but since my antenna isn't up, I guess it doesn't matter too much!

I sure do miss working with KB5YQ and VE1FQ [aka VE1JIM] on the Early Morning Warm-Up. Hope the propagation has been better than advertised. Why don't you make a point of checking that out?

Thanks to Immediate Past President KL7FQQ, Rose, for carrying the ball for me at the Convention and during this summer with Board business. It is difficult to find time to get on the computer, and I certainly don't do so everyday unless I know something is coming in that requires my immediate attention. But votes are being taken and decisions are being

made, so the System is functioning as it should. Thanks to all the Board members and Emeritus Council members for their input.

Since I am so late in getting this to Dick, I'll sign off now with a wish to all that the rest of the summer is relaxing and not so terribly hot, and that you are all glowing with the proper type of radio-activity!

73, 33, & 88

de Jane, N1PVT



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

NEW MEMBERS

16599	KB8EHJ	CARL	WV
16600	KD2ABX	MARK	NJ
16601	KC2TFX	DAVID	NY
16602	KC2ZRY	NANCY	NY
16603	KJ4YDI	DALE	FL

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

8/01 AA4GT	8/14 W1JUS
8/02 WD4HVA	8/15 WN9MFC
8/03 WBØCVM	8/16 KC5HIW
8/05 KK4PI	8/20 WBØMDP
8/10 NØEND	8/23 W7RMC
8/10 JUDY (CDQ)	8/23 WB5OHN
8/10 KP3B	8/25 ABØEG
8/12 WAØAVW	8/25 NØQAV
8/13 KB9BYE	8/28 KB8NSA

TFOs NOT IN VOICE

499	WV1B	ANDREW	CA
500	JA1CG	HARUO	JAPAN
501	WB5BRD	RAY	AR

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

8/03 KL7FQQ ROSE & KL7FQR STAN 54
8/24 AC4NC NATALIE & KD4AKT BILL

SILENT KEYS

4616	WA9ACO	AUGUSTINE	OH
11346	N2ARE	JOE	FL
119Ø8	KB4BH	RUSSELL	NC
144ØØ	NØFRT	JOE	CO
15448	K4RRF	RAY	FL

AUGUST CONTESTS & QSO PARTIES

08/06-07 LIGHTHOUSE-LIGHTSHIP WEEKEND
08/06 EUROPEAN HF CHAMPIONSHIP
08/07 SOUTH AFRICA DX CONTEST
08/13-14 MARYLAND DC QSO PARTY
08/13-14 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC CONTEST
08/20-21 NORTH AMERICA QSO PARTY
08/27 ALARA CONTEST
08/27-28 HAWAII QSO PARTY
08/27-29 YO DX CONTEST
08/27 KANSAS QSO PARTY
08/27-28 OHIO QSO PARTY

ALSO AN SK - BOB KC1NA. BOB WAS NOT A MEMBER BUT WAS A COUNTY HUNTER AND CLOSE FRIEND OF AA4GT. BOB WAS ALSO AN OTR DRIVER.

Some very interesting information can be found at this site. Check it out:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amateur_radio

HELP WANTED:

The System needs an editor/publisher for the VOICE, the annual publication contains 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

40 METER REPORT BY JAY KI4TXP

MOONBEAM BY K3CDQ

Well another month has come and gone. Where does the time and days go? As said in other reports things are going very smooth on 40M. Even with the restricted hours we are now getting any where between 10 and 20 check ins. There are of course the regulars and many new to 40M check ins some are guests and some are members. Thanks to all who have checked in and we are always looking for new check ins.

We have had several members that have stepped forward and helped out when needed. I believe that there was one night where we did not have a System. Thanks to all who have

jumped in and helped out. All parts of the System need help PLEASE consider helping even if for only 1 period a month. It all helps. If anyone would like to become a Coordinator I'm still looking for a 40M replacement. As I have said many times it is really not a bad job. Think about it and send me an email at:

jayson648@yahoo.com.

We all know what a great System we have. As I say nightly it is you the members that make this System the great System it is. Many thanks go to one and all.

Things on the Moonbeam have been pretty much the same for months now except that we are having improvements on short skip. With N1PVTs antenna down, we could really use some help on her Friday evenings. There are other evenings where we only have one Control and could use help then.

Also, some Controls have not been showing up on their volunteered evenings. If you are not going to be able to be on for those evenings, please let me know so your callsign can be removed from the list.

Thanks to ALL! Dick

TO YL SYSTEM MEMBERSHIP - FROM JDA KB5YQ

Dear Radio Friends: This System is going to go down the drain if I don't get some help! I am 83 years old and I work 51 hours a week and I do mean work. It is fun if you have help but you cannot do it alone. On the Early Morning Warm Up Jim VE1JIM is a big help for two hours but that last hour without him is the pits. As I have mentioned before, we need a third control 1st and 2nd Periods. Health, doctors visits and bad weather make assistants scarce so more volunteers are needed.

On 3rd Period there is just Amy and myself unless KØCE comes in the last hour. I also find myself alone on Sunday morning unless KI4IRH comes aboard to help but he often has company or is not able to be on.

Comment from K3CDQ: I too find it difficult to get additional help on the Moonbeam, We have hundreds, perhaps thousands of active members and yet, MOST members refuse to sign on to help as controls even though we tell them only one hour a month will help. We also tell them no one will be angry if they miss that spot. Let me assure you NO CONTROL wants to sit there and control alone for an hour. Having zero help makes it work instead of fun. In addition, on twenty meters, if you do not have help in another part of the country, you are ALWAYS going to miss some check-ins. Come on folks, we need help morning, noon and evenings and Jda especially needs help daily.

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. Let's also respect our founders wishes!

BITS & PIECES - FROM OUR MEMBERS

I just noticed that we missed a couple numbers of a new "Team" last month: Here they are:

16593 N1SUZ Suzanne CT
16594 WQ1I Paul CT

* * * * *

The real art of conversation is not only to say the right thing at the right time, but also to leave un-said the wrong thing at the tempting moment. Good advice for all of us talking on the air where anyone in the world can hear what we say.

* * * * *

The first time we did this section on "Bits & Pieces" a number of members told us in emails and on the air how much they enjoyed it. However, if members do not send us anything, we have nothing to print.

* * * * *

Due to the length of some articles in this issue, we had to use a smaller font . We will try not to reduce the size in the future but could not fit them in otherwise - Judy and Richard



Lee Phillips K4USS - Story on next page.

GEORGE AA4GT HELPED PUT THIS TA-33 UP ON THE RED CROSS BUILDING TO THE LEFT. K3ADR ON ROOF WITH COMPLETED TA-33.

The url below will take you to some ARRL info that may be of interest to you:
<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-soliciting-stations-to-become-emergency-liaison-stations>

Lee Phillips went about his Saturday like any other and left the house by 7:30 a.m. to watch the Upperville Horse Show in mid-June, but found himself suffering from a stroke en route to his destination. Phillips, 66, a resident of Berryville, is a business owner in Purcellville. He is also a radio man, and his friends – who call themselves The Half Timers on air – send out their messages on the airwaves. When Phillips fires up his amateur radio, or ham radio as many call it, he is immediately connected to millions of people across the globe. That Saturday morning, he turned his amateur radio on to listen to his ham friends talk back and forth.

Phillips started to feel weird and got on his radio to ask his friend, J.B. Anderson, what he thought was wrong. “I started to feel a little funny and the left side of my face went a little bit numb and I got on my ham radio and I asked J.B. what the symptoms of stroke were,” Phillips explained. “He told me to park my car and call 9-1-1. I didn’t ... I drove myself to the hospital, which I shouldn’t have done [and] I slowly got worse.” Then more people were on the airwaves with him, telling him to pull over. But Phillips turned his car back around and headed to Winchester, since Upperville was too far to drive in his condition.

“I started to go downhill,” Phillips continued. “My face became numb and started to feel real weird. They could tell on the radio that I was talking funny, so I just asked because I knew J.B. was a fire chief and there were some EMT’s on the radio so I asked them. They helped me.” One person in particular, Adam Forman, heard Phillips talking about his condition. One benefit of the truck Phillips was driving that day was the tracking device installed in his ham radio—an automatic position reporting system, similar to OnStar in some cars.

“I was tooling my way to work and I heard on the radio what the symptoms of a stroke were and people describing it. Lee is a friend of mine and I was just listening,” Forman said. “I called my wife, who lives in Winchester, and told her to bring up a website that could track Lee’s truck while he was driving,” Forman explained. “Lee has it in his vehicle, it’s called APRS or automatic position reporting system. It’s something that was developed by the Navy. It’s a radio that takes GPS from the radio waves and sends it to a website.”

Forman said the APRS device in Phillip’s truck is used in search-and-rescue operations or for tracking fellow ham radio operators. His wife made sure that the dot, symbolizing Phillips’ truck on the map, didn’t stop – because that would mean Phillips would no longer be conscious and driving. “I said, look, if the vehicle stops before it gets to Winchester Hospital, then call 9-1-1 and send them there where the dot [on the map] is,” Forman said.

Phillips was travelling on U.S. 50 and was becoming disoriented about his exact location, but the APRS device knew where he was at every moment. “It was quite a help,” Phillips said. “By the time I got to the hospital, I was all confused – they kept me going.” “I probably wouldn’t have made it without those guys talking me through it. It was a mistake; I should have pulled over and called 9-1-1. But, being as hard-headed as I am, I didn’t do it. They helped me through it.” Anderson had called ahead to the hospital to make sure they knew that Phillips would be arriving soon, and in critical condition.

With just one call into his ham radio friends, Phillips’ life was saved. Phillips suffered a mini-stroke and spent 36 hours in the hospital. “It’s not just that. Even after it happened, I have health issues that I’ve had for the last three years, they’ve come over and helped me,” Phillips said. “It’s not just radio, it’s a big kinship we have on this stuff, we all help each other out and we’re all good friends.” According to Anderson, amateur radio is a “fantastic hobby” and has a huge impact in situations involving natural disasters or rescue missions.

“The cool thing about amateur radio is that it’s a community of a bunch of geeks. It seems stupid to most people,” Forman said. “But, in this case, here you had an older gentleman who was actually having an event and you had three EMTs on the air talking to this guy in real time and talking him through it. “Now, was it stupid that he drove himself to the hospital? Yes, probably, but it was important that my wife was tracking him to the hospital ... Without that, he could have died in that car and no one would have known.” Phillips recovered and continues to own and operate The Doggie Wash at Purcellville Pets in Purcellville with his wife Irina.

“It’s a very positive and prominent impact on the community,” Anderson said. “We are a funny group of people and it’s going to be fun when we get together.”

FROM STEVE KDØETC

I want to express my appreciation to members of the YL System for their support as I have pursued my City Park Challenge. I am a new ham, just 3 years now so as I began the challenge I was very uncertain about most everything. Everyday that I was out at a park operating I could count on the YL System being there to get me started on the contacts from the park.



I would like to be able to tell you how many contacts I logged through the YL System, but that is not easy. Since the only log I keep is a series of spiral notebooks the task of going through them all is too daunting. I can estimate that the number is close to 200 since I have now worked from 130 Duluth city parks, and I begin most of my parks by contacting YL. It is a rare day when I cannot here the strong signal from KB5YQ with Jda's clear audio assuring me my rig is set up properly and getting the signal out. Plus there are the many times I set up at one of the 11 lighthouses on this western end of Lake Superior. The YL System is there for me at each of them.

I do this 'portable in the park' activity due to the fact that before I got my ham license I moved into a condo. Resistance from the neighbors to my putting up any antennas plus the high RFI level in that location has made it difficult to do any radio from the home QTH. The variables involved in portable work are many and changing. Having the solid reference of the YL System available in each new location helps me develop reasonable expectations as I start. If I cannot hear Jda it is not going to be a good day.

Ham radio has been challenging and fun these last three years and much more fun since I started doing the parks. It is always a thrill to hear someone call my callsign and want to have a qso with me. Even as a new ham I now have some experience and expertise to offer others and I can appreciate the difficulties others have in getting their rigs on the air, whether base, mobile or portable.

Many thanks to the many other operators whose distinct voices cheer me on during the good days and the difficult days. NF2J "Joan in Alabama"; K3CDQ "Dick, not Jim"; N0TWV, "My friends call me Maria"; KC7KPG, Judy "Always good to hear you"; K7PVZ "Bob in Washington state, come now"; KI4IRH, "Tom in Virginia Beach Virginia"; W2EO, "Bill in New York".

Operating portable: The rig I use is shown below in the zipper laptop case I now use, along with the antenna rods, radials, coax and the solar collector. I don't usually take the solar panel along since I charge the batteries in the evening and do not need the extra working time the panel gives. However, when I go to the Apostle Islands or other remote sites without power I must rely on solar power.

The radio is an FT-857D that I usually have set at 100 watts. The batteries are nickel metal hydrides, 44 total cells, 11 in series, four sets in parallel. You will also see a junction box for battery packs to plug into that contains fuses and switches. I am more careful now after a short fried a good portion of the wiring when I was first putting it together.

The vertical antenna is a 54 inch aluminum tube mast, a center loading coil and a 9.5 foot SS whip. The base is a sharpened steel rod with a mirror mount clamped to it. The radials, 24 total in 6 packs of four are 10 and 15 feet long. They clip onto the base.

Duluth provides a wide variety of parks offering opportunities to the portable operator. From the sand or stony beaches along the shore of Lake Superior, to crowded Canal Park, the manicured Rose Garden, inner city playgrounds and many city wilderness areas of forest and rock ledges one can always find a place to set up and operated.

When I arrive at a park I pick the bag and antenna rods out of the car trunk and head out to find a good place to set up. Recently with the heat finding a place to sit in the shade is a plus. 50 feet of coax gets the antenna a comfortable distance away. I try to find a place that is out of the public's way, back in a corner, so no one is tempted to touch the vertical rod or trip on the radials. I also need some earth to push the spike into so a rocky outcrop can present difficulties. I always find a place. A majority of the set ups are in wilderness like areas where I will not see anyone at all. Then I throw out the radial bundles, clip them on at the base and distribute the wires in as much of a circular spoke pattern as I can. On mowed grass this is easy. In the woods, with brush, trees, weeds and dead branches it can look pretty ragged. I don't think it matters. The coax gets attached and led back to the rig, taking about 10 minutes.

The antenna is resonant on 20 meters using the coil, and on 17 meters when I put a jumper wire across it making it unnecessary to carry a tuner. I have tried 40 meter with a bigger coil but with little success.

I sit down at the rig, tune to 14.332 and listen to the activity. I will check in, make or receive calls if I can then cruise the band for someone calling CQ. I usually go up to 14.342.5 to see if I can contact any HF Pack operators, then try to find an open frequency for my own CQ. Out of 129 Duluth city parks I can recall only one park where I was unable to make any contacts in an hour of trying. I usually pack up and leave after a couple of hours at the site, with from 5 to 25 contacts in the log.

Doing this in all seasons in Duluth is quite a challenge. I have never been limited by battery power, but rain, bugs, freezing feet and hunger will lead me to pull the plug and head on home.

Now that I am about to give myself the "Worked All Duluth Parks" award I am planning what to do next. The city parks supervisor is developing a list of significant locations on the city trails and streams that should keep me busy for a couple more years. And I would like to set up more often in certain parks around town where maybe a few more non-hams will come and visit and perhaps develop an interest in Amateur Radio. And if I ever get my code speed up I might do the parks all over again with CW.

In addition to the 135 City parks on the list, the Duluth Parks Department says this:

"Duluth has over 11,000 acres of public open space and parkland within the city limits. The trail inventory includes over 160 miles of trails which include 40 miles of the national North Country/Superior Hiking Trail, a hiking trail spanning the backbone of the 26 mile long city, 45 miles of snow-mobile trails and 49 miles of other linear trails and parks. We have five groomed cross country ski trails totaling 70 kilometers. In addition to the cross country ski trails we have a golf course which is designated for ski-joring. We also have 13 recreation trails with a total of 55 miles of hiking trails, 40 miles of bike trails, and 3 miles of inline skating. The Munger State Trail is located in the western section of Duluth along with the Western Waterfront Trail. Nestled along Lake Superior is the popular 7.3 mile Lakewalk starting at the Aerial Lift Bridge in Canal Park extending to 60th Avenue East."
I would also add there are 43 streams coming down our hillside into Lake Superior.

I look forward to working more YL members in the future from the many fine parks and trails in Duluth. Thanks for being there.

HOT SPRINGS – A Hot Springs man was killed and another seriously injured Saturday when a communications tower they were helping dismantle was blown over by a gust of wind, according to Fall River County emergency manager Frank Maynard. Tim Anderson, 54, died of his injuries at Rapid City Regional Hospital shortly after arriving by Life Flight helicopter. He was first taken to Fall River Hospital by Hot Springs Ambulance.

The second man, Tom Embree of Hot Springs, also was flown to Rapid City Regional Hospital where surgery was performed Sunday. He remains in serious condition. Embree is a recent retiree who moved here from California. Anderson was a 33-year employee of Golden West in Hot Springs where he worked as a special equipment technician.

The men were helping the Amateur Radio Club take down a 110-foot tower on the top of Gull Hill, also known as Marty Hill, along old U.S. Highway 18 between Minnekahta Junction and Edgemont. The tower was no longer in use, so the owner had offered it to the radio club, which was going to move it. Several radio club members were on the ground at the time of the accident. The members of the group had taken down all but the final 30-foot section of the tower and were just beginning to release some guide wires when a gust of wind blew the tower over with the two men still on it and then collapsed on them, according to Maynard.

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From the Historian

Looking back into the history of our beloved YL System, and also from experiencing it myself, I am satisfied that the main modes of communication back then were Single Side Band and Morse Code (CW). Times have really changed though, and as in other areas of the System, we are slowly progressing with technology to keep up with society in general, and amateur radio, specifically.

Last weekend, Sally and I attended a four hour seminar near Pittsburgh, outlining a new computer program that allows for communications using data and digital transfer of information via amateur radio. It is intended mainly for Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) operators to enhance their response time to served agencies such as Red Cross, 911 operators, and other on-scene Commanders during times of either national or local emergencies.

After the seminar concluded, all we could say was Wow! We sure have moved far over the years! For example, an entire spreadsheet containing four pages of patient information, or casualty data can be sent via HF/VHF/UHF at lightning speeds, with virtually zero errors! Amazing! And it is about twice as fast as current "chat" technology us computer types are used to. A few of the mode names may sound Greek to many of you, but they include MT-63, PSK-31, MT-252, RTTY, and others. Band conditions can be horrible, and these messages still go through to their intended recipients' accurately and reliably.

There is still plenty of room for us on the YL System to enjoy our hobby and the delights of the System on SSB, and we will probably never get involved in many of these newer modes, but just wanted to share one of the new ways of communicating via amateur radio with you.

We did try entering digital modes into our annual QSO Party a few years ago, but the numbers of members using those modes just weren't there, and those modes have since been dropped from the Parties. I'm betting that sooner or later, they will once again be a viable option for us.

For any of you who might be involved in emergency communications or might be interested, the technology that was shared with us at the seminar is called Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System (NBEMS).

For me, the San Pedro Convention will be remembered in essence with two statements: we're little but we're loud and what if you gave a party but nobody came? To those who chose not to come, for whatever reason, you missed out on a super get together. Scotty and Tom were gracious hosts taking the time to pick us up at the airports, giving us rides to the various events and having us over to their home for a lovely lunch which included home grown plums.

The Crowne Plaza hotel was very comfortable and the staff was always ready to help. The most fun we had was in the oversize chairs in the lobby. One had to practically jump into them only to have our feet sticking straight out making us look like little kids. We had a lot of laughs over that. We did find alternate eating places and most days got our exercise going there. Meals were a group affair so we celebrated anniversaries (Bill and Joan's 44th) and birthdays (Rose's) together.

The "harbor crawl" was fun and informative. The Queen Mary and Lane Victory were awesome. The highlight of my visit to the Lane Victory was the opportunity to watch a container ship come into the harbor and be guided into place by the tugs. The tour of the museum, radio room and engine room aboard ship were also points of interest. The last place we visited was the Maritime Museum. The radio rooms at these three places were very well equipped.

Some of us took a tour of the city of Los Angeles. Our tour guide was very informative and funny. After I got home I was saddened to learn that Peter Falk passed away especially since we drove past his home and the tour guide said that he normally comes out and waves but he didn't that day.

In all I'm glad we went. We were there a week and I don't think it could have been more enjoyable. It went too fast and I was sorry to see it end. Thank You once more to Scotty and Tom for all the work you put into hosting this convention. It was fun to see everyone that did come. Truly, memories are made of this.

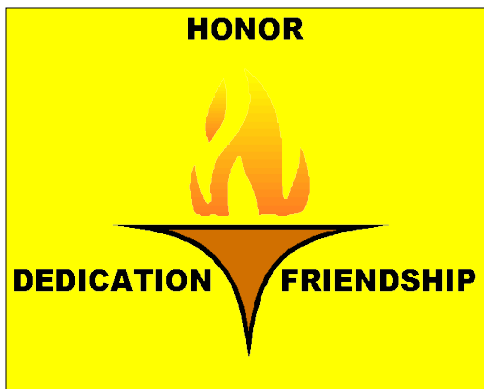
Memories: The YL International Sideband System's early years. By Karl N1DL

I just found my old station logbook from the 1960s when I was DL2AA in Munich Germany. After 24 moves I am surprised I still had it.

How time passes. On Sept. 9, 1964 I found entries for QSOs with K2AGJ Eileen Sidebander #2, K4RHL Ellie, KP4BJD, OH2TJ Irmely, and in later entries in 1965/66 KOMAS Libby, KP4CKX Gene, K1BPJ Dave, W2COB George, W2IHH Moe, my ISSB sponsor WA1FSV, K2UXW Trudy, 5A4TR Daphy, K3LXN Steve, WB2RGQ Abe, FG7XL Monique, K4ICA V.Mayree Sidebander #1, 3C3EZI Ivy and her OM 3C3EZC Cliff, WA6OET Jessie another early ISSB member #46, WA2CUI Al, and WB2CGW Jack. It was a treat to meet many at the 1976 YL convention in Long Island, NY. I am sure I missed some and I am still looking for my log books from San Marino and Monaco where I worked lots of members as well for their first country contact with these places. Sadly many of them are now Silent Keys but my memories of their friendship and helpfulness will last forever.

I made it a point that from every one of the over 45 countries I operated from I tuned to one of the Sideband frequencies (yes there were 5 of these those days when the bands were in good conditions), and worked as many members as I could. The discipline of the system helped considerably in giving even weak stations a rare new country.

If you miss a QSL card from any of my former DX locations - take a look at my web site and my previous calls and let me know and I will check the logs and rush one to you. (www.n1dl.com)



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Editor's Comments: We do not have the "Spotlight On" feature this month since no one has sent us a complete bio to use. We very much hope some of you will send us your personal info so we can do a feature item on you. Many members have told us how much they enjoy that section, so please, some of you forward the info and a photo to us for future issues.

The photos below are of Steve Balliette KDØETC shown in one of the many Minnesota parks he operates from.

Dick



POPSEY (AA4GT)



MIKE VE7AAV AND DAUGHTER JENNY WITH YL SYSTEM SCHOLARSHIP CHECK