

THE COMMUNICATOR

THE YL SYSTEM "INSTANT FRIENDSHIP"
MAKING FRIENDS WORLD WIDE SINCE 1963



ISSUE 166
February 2011

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER
DEVOTED TO THE
INTEREST OF YLISSBers

President's Report... by N1PVT



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Happy Birthday
YL System
Founded
February 9, 1963
By K4 ICA

Last weekend I participated in the SSB portion of the YL System QSO party, and had a great time. I won't say it was easy, as it wasn't. Gone are the days when you could make 50 contacts an hour, but I was sure grateful for every contact I made! Worked two members who I had never contacted before, and one had a number in the 10,000 range. Awesome! I had a great time, and heard even more members than I was able to contact. Sure hope you all participated in some form or another, and if I send in my log and find I win that stupid 'tail end' award again, heads will roll!

Had to attend a fruit meeting today in Boxborough, MA, and was reminded that we still have no bids to host the 2012 YL System Convention. We all know that next year is LA, but where then!??? I fully intend to look into a New England location, but we all know that my intentions may be the best, but perhaps one or two other members should be doing the same thing! They ['previous hosts'] tell me that hosting a convention is great fun and not that much trouble...I certainly hope so, but KNOW that you can contact anyone who has been a convention host in the past 5 years and you will get HELP....

So, if you would like to bring 75-100 people into your neighborhood and show them around, get moving! We need to have somewhere to go, and it may as well be near YOU!

Snow is omnipresent in my location, but haven't noticed an improvement in the HF bands. However, if I don't hear YOU, it may just be because you forgot to check into the System. I know that all the participants in the QSO party were busy giving out the web site address and the location of the 20 meter system because that is what happens, but what happens NEXT is that there has to be someone to talk to when they come along and check in to our system. PLEASE be there to give guests and new members a shout when they check in... didn't someone greet you when you were 'new'?

Enjoy February....the shortest month of winter!!

73, 33 and 88 de Jane N1PVT



SYSTEM INFORMATION

NEW MEMBERS

16556	KCØYHU	CRAIG	IA
16557	KD8HDK	VERNON	MI
16558	W5CJB	JIM	TX
16559	W1GKE	DEBBIE	RI
16560	N1GKE	MYRTON	RI
16561	K4KAY	EARL	NC
16562	KDØHYG	RAJ	MN
16563	KF5CST	MEGIN	MS

SILENT KEYS

3832	G3BWY	WILLIAM	DX
6406	K9BX	RICHARD	WI
6951	K9JPS	LEWIS	WI
7024	WA7IFX	JIM	WY
9547	KØHPE	JOHN	CO
10767	WX4TM	TOM	AL
11251	W6LHY	PAUL	CA
11542	W9DDX	RICHARD	IL
16063	WA9YNE	WAYNE	IN

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2/01 VE9RMD	2/15 VA3AJU
2/01 NØGEB	2/16 GØRHL
2/02 N5PRU	2/16 JOANNE
2/02 AUDREY	XYL OF VE1JIM
XYL OF W1VCU	2/16 KC7KPG
2/03 AA3DX	2/17 WA1S
2/04 KF4OPT	2/20 KFØNU
2/05 WD8BNE	2/20 NØDK
2/06 VE4EEE	2/21 NØTWV
2/11 K1IIF	2/21 W8OPA
2/13 W1TGY	2/21 KØICA
2/14 AB9DR	2/24 K4RRF
2/14 WZ1X	2/25 KE7EZJ
2/15 KD4PY	2/26 VE3UUL

ANNIVERSARIES

2/14 K8ALT AUDREY & W8SWT STEVE
2/28 WAØAVW REX & MARILYN

ALAN KA8AEO, #12770 IS NOW KE8UN.



2-05 & 06 YL SYSTEM CW QSO PARTY

BEGINS AT 0000 UTC WHICH IS FRIDAY EVENING OUR (US) TIME

ENDS AT 2359.59 UTC SUNDAY

Come on now, don't say you are too slow or too rusty. Those of us who love the CW QSO Parties will take all the slow & rusty contacts we can get!!!

HELP WANTED:

The System needs an editor/publisher for the VOICE. This 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

YL SYSTEM WEBSITE:

Jim VE1JIM who is the webmaster for our website has asked members to please send him your email address if you would like to have it listed on the site. He also asks that you keep him up to date on your correct email address. If you have changed your email address since becoming a member and have not sent the new address to Jim, please do so. mailto:

webmaster@ylsystem.org

2011 CONVENTION:

Believe it or not, the 2011 YL System Convention is only five months away. At the rate time flies by as we age, it will be here before we know it. Information and registration forms can be seen and downloaded from our System website.



San Pedro, site of the 2011 Convention

2012 CONVENTION:

We have no volunteers to date to host the 2012 convention. Hosting a convention can really be fun. I know! Judy and I hosted the 1997 convention in Annapolis. Yes, it is some work but not really that much. You have a year to make plans and set it up and it is even easier if you draft some of your local hams to assist. We have had a convention every year since 1971 and it would be a shame to miss a year. How about a volunteer! 2010 was East Coast and 2011 will be on the West Coast. For 2012, how about somewhere between New Mexico and Alabama or between Wyoming and Indiana? We have plenty of active members there. What say guys & gals?

YOUR CHANCE TO VOTE:

Be sure to look in the back of the VOICE to tear out and complete the ballot. You are asked to vote for Treasurer, (1) Board member, and approving the By-laws. Your vote must be received by February 15, 2011. Only takes a moment, please vote your choices.

NETLOGGER:

Many Controls are now using Netlogger. Shown below in callbook order is a list of the Controls who we know are now using it:

ACØKV, K3CDQ, K9DIG, KA4NWS, KB7CSX, KCØNVL, KCØSZU, KG4NWS, KI4IRH, KI4KTA, KL7FQQ, KØMSR, KØUB, NØMMR, NØTWV, VE9MSD, W5GGO, W7AJP, WV9B

I am sure I missed some. Let us know who you are.

MEMBERSHIP:

Just for the record. We have had over 16,000 members over the years but we are not 16,000 strong! That statement is a bit misleading.

V. Mayree, K4ICA (SK) 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 and don't forget, please say "back to System, not back to Net." We are the YL System, not the YL Net.

DAYTIME REPORT FOR KB5YQ

No one has submitted a report for Jda this month so just let me remind everyone that Jda puts more hours in on the System as a Control then any of us and always appreciates it when members come aboard and give her a hand. Jim VE1JIM has done a tremendous job recently assisting her during the EMWU from the club station VE1FQ in Halifax. Amy KC8VRT is a regular voice for the System in the afternoons. Many others come aboard but more could be used. I hesitate to mention more calls for fear of missing someone, but all of us know who you are and we along with Jda, thank you for your help. To others, if you plan to check in with her and listen for a period of time, how about asking Jda if you can put out a call for check-ins now and then just to give her a break.

40 METER REPORT BY JAY KI4TXP

Hope all are having a good Winter. Here in Leesburg,VA, we have had very little snow or rain but mucho cold. Our heat bill for January is the third highest since 2001. Oh well.

I would like to thank all that have stepped in and helped out this past month. I have been away for different periods of time and thanks to some the 40 Meter System has moved right along without missing a beat. THANKS !!!!

Many of you now know that 40M has been moving around a lot. We still use 7.262 as our primary frequency but move mostly up the band, as high as 7.268. I wish we could settle on a clear frequency but this is very difficult. We will find a good frequency one day and then try it the next evening and there will be a QSO going strong. PLEASE folks, look around for us as we are out there starting at 0000z. If things are bad we will close as early as 0030z so try and stop by early. When things are good we stay on as long as warranted.

This might be a good time to try 80M. If anyone out there would like to help out and get 80 going send me an email. This part of the System could run at the same time as 40M. I see no problem with that. Give it some thought it might work. That's it from here. Have a good February hope to hear you all on 40M or maybe 80M.
Jay KI4TXP coordinator

MOONBEAM REPORT BY DICK K3CDQ

Not a lot new to report. Conditions have improved over what they were this time last year but not enough to write home about. The days are getting longer though and that will help. I emailed a number of people to get suggestions on something "Special" I/we might do on the air for the System's 48th BD on February 9, but got nothing back from anyone. Any ideas? Look for me around fifty five up from the bottom of the bands during the CW QSO Party. I will very much appreciate any and all contacts and no one is too slow to participate, Let us hear you and send those logs in. Jim wants them all.

As many of you know, I will be going into the hospital on March 7 for surgery. PLEASE get any and all items for the Communicator to Judy and me no later than 2/20/2011. During the two weeks before surgery, I have a number of doctor's appointments, physical, scans and other medical issues to take care of before the surgery so we will need to work on the March Communicator early. If you don't send them early they might not get in. Sorry but the medical issue must come first. Wish us luck please!

Today, January 28th is the 25th anniversary of the Challenger disaster. Where were you that day? Let us hope we never have another such tragedy.



OUR 18 WHEEL MEMBERS

We have many 18 Wheel Mobile members of the YL System who travel the highways and keep us informed of their locations. Many even meet up with each other at various truck stops when their paths should happen to cross. Sometimes we 4 wheelers even get a chance to meet some of them as they pass through our areas. We know when they are near because we hear that they have checked in with a Control Operator. We can then arrange an eyeball with them at a truck stop on their route. Kevin, KA4NWS and I, KG4NWS, have met Curtis, KI4P and Ken, N5THT. These fellows are great guys and do a great service for the American consumer. Theirs is a tough life, traveling through rain, snow, hail, ice, heat, cold, storms, traffic congestions, you name it! Their home is mostly right there with them in their cab. I can imagine it is a bright spot in their daily grind to listen in on the YL System and to get calls from those of us who can hear them. One day recently we were able to have supper with Ken, N5THT at a local Wendy's at a nearby truck stop. It was a cold night, and though I got a photo of him and Kevin at the table, I was too anxious to get back in our truck and get the heater working and forgot to take a photo of his truck, which I regret. Maybe next time. So if any of you get a chance to have an eyeball with one of our 18 Wheel System members, please do so. It means a lot to them and you will also find it very rewarding. 73, Sally, KG4NWS



Editor's Note:

Sally I have a few photos of Ken's trucks and three are above for you. Sally helps proof read the Communicators before I send them out and she just sent me a nice email thanking me for posting the truck photos above.

Hi Dick, This is a picture of my wife Connie and myself, Rev. Wendell. We have 27 grandchildren and 7 greats. We own a large motor home, and pull a convertible behind it. We also have a Honda Goldwing 1800 motorcycle we have turned into a trike with matching trailer and enjoy traveling when we can find the time. We are trying to be semi-retired. I am associate pastor of Walnut Creek Church in Mansfield, TX. and still live in Waxahachie. I play several musical instruments. As you can see we live a very active life and have been blessed with good health. Have a great 2011 and God Bless.



73, Rev. Wendell P.S. I am N5WC #11336 and she is K5CSC with a tech license.

As we grow older, we do not lose friends, we just learn who the real ones are!
 For example if you were in jail, a friend would visit you. A real friend would be in jail with you, sitting beside you and saying "Wow that was fun, wasn't it?"



SONNY KH6CB #16115 & ANNA

Help us to brighten everyone's day with your photos. Send photos and other information to us at:

k3cdq@comcast.net

Many members have said they enjoy the photos most!



GEORG - VK2FDW SIDEBANDER #6104



KØCE, FRED DUKE, MN #15831



Don't forget CW QSO Party end of the week Starts at 0001 UTC which is Friday evening here in the states!



KI4FUV, Cody Anderson, who is 17, and from Harriman, TN has been credited with saving the life of a runner in a marathon in 2009. This is the 25th anniversary of the Young Ham of the Year Award and it has been awarded to Cody. He is the son of Benny Anderson and Jane Edwards and is an honor graduate of Rockwood High School in Rockwood, Tennessee.

After hearing some ham chatter on a scanner, Cody became interested in ham radio. He was 11 at the time and his stepfather and grandparents encouraged him and in 2004, he went to the Oak Ridge, TN Club and got his Technician ticket. In 2007, he upgraded to General at the Buck Thorns Scout Camp which is run by the Great Smoky Mountain Council.

Cody was nominated for the award by Phillip Newman KE4LSH, president of the Roane County Amateur Radio Club west of Knoxville. Cody is the club's vice president, net manager and webmaster of www.ke4rx.org.



Frank KE7MP #9004 is the dad of Frank KL7FH-SK #9438 and the granddad of Chris KL9A 15556, and father-in-law of Corliss AL1G #15807. KL7FH is now the club call of the station Corliss and Frank helped to establish in Anchorage, Alaska.

Another fine piece of work by Marilyn WN9MFC

From the Historian

I was having a neat conversation the other day with a few of our members. We were discussing the YL System QSO Party, and how we were impressed with the turnout this year. Hopefully, you will all submit your logs, and just as hopefully, most of you will get to participate in the CW portion of the QSO Party on the 5th of February.

Anyway, looking back through the historical record, you would not believe the number of members who put their call signs out there during the early QSO parties! I'm talking hundreds, and when the awards were presented, they were divvied up by country. So even though we are a far cry from those impressive numbers, we are getting better every year. Please do participate. It is a lot of fun. Just my two cents worth on that topic.

I want to thank all of you who have contributed articles, VCR tapes and other memorabilia. Just recently, Rex, WA0AVW sent us a box full of VCR tapes of past conventions. The plan is to purchase one of those technologically advanced machines that will allow me to convert VCR to DVD. That will greatly cut down on my storage problems, and will also make it much easier to forward the contents on to our System members who would like them. That's it for now from here folks.

73

Kevin

KA4NWS

YL System Historian

A question for all of you. We do the Communicator with Publisher 2007. Every now and then, page numbers seem to jumble up for no reason. In this issue page 3 keeps changing to page 7 and 7 changes to 3. We correct them only to find they have changed again. Anyone have an idea what would cause that?
Thanks, Richard & Judy

<http://www.qsl.net/sv1edy/Keyindex.htm>

<http://dx-world.net>

<http://www.northamericantrafficandawards.net>

<http://degood.org/coaxtrap>

<http://www.ac6v.com/antprojects.htm>

<http://www.ac6v.com/nets.htm#YL>

http://blog.makezine.com/archive/2009/12/radio_hams_in_old_cinema.html

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jps0_2adUvo&feature=player_embedded

<http://www.spar-hams.org/contests/winterfd/index.php?pg=17>

<http://www.public.navy.mil/spawar/Pacific/TechTransfer/ProductsServices/Pages/SeaWaterAntennaSystem.aspx>

HONOR



DEDICATION FRIENDSHIP

Official Newsletter Devoted to
the interest
of our YLISSBers.

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Editor's Comments: In three, if not more, of the past Communicators, we have mentioned Netlogger in an attempt to get more members to download the program and come on with us on their computers. You can log on with Control via Netlogger in order to: (1) to let us see you are there and are going to be checking in on the air and (2) see for yourself who is already checked in. You could walk into your shack after the period has been running for an hour and a half, log on to Netlogger and see everyone who has checked in for the entire period. No waiting around to see who is on, no waiting to see who you would like to call. Just look over the log, check in on the air and make your calls.

There is also a window there where you can chat with control or others. In the event you should hear someone trying to check in who has not been heard, you can type their callsign in that window and System Control will understand that it is someone trying to check in. If you are a Control and cannot hear the other Control you are working with, you can stay in touch via the window on Netlogger. It has many advantages and is something you might really enjoy. It is free to download and Sally KG4NWS is excellent and willing to help members get things set up and working. How about giving it a try, you just might enjoy it.

Dick K3CDQ

Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter.

Mark Twain

A diplomat is a man who always remembers a woman's birthday but never remembers her age.

Robert Frost



Spotlight on: Phil Rivera NP3B #16538

Phil was born in Newark, NJ in 1960 and upon graduating looked into becoming an electrician but then moved on to driving tractor trailers. Starting when he was only 20 years old, he drove in the tri-state area. He has a twenty-two year old daughter and an eighteen year old son, both living in New Jersey. After becoming tired of arthritis and cold weather, Phil moved to Puerto Rico only ten minutes from the beach and his parents. Phil is very thankful his parents are still alive and does all he can for them when they need his help.

After spending 26 ½ years and some time on 11 meters in the 18 wheeler, Phil got his ham ticket in 1990 with the help of his daughter. Using the computer, she helped him with studying and practice tests. Phil thanks his daughter for the help and says he has his extra now but back then did not even know how to turn a computer on.

His rig is a Kenwood 2000 and a Mosley MP-33-N. Other equipment consists of a TS-870, a Drake L4-B amp, and a double bazooka.