

Official newsletter  
devoted to the  
interest of  
YLISSBers



Membership 2  
Information

Control's 3  
Reports

Bits & 4  
Pieces

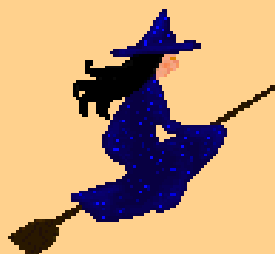
Bellevue News 5  
Democrat

VEIJIM with 6  
Girl Scouts

QSO Party 7  
Information

Editor's 8  
Comments

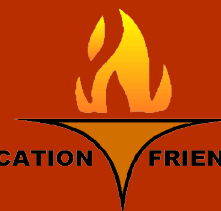
Shack of Ole 8  
WA5IPS



# THE COMMUNICATOR

ISSUE 174

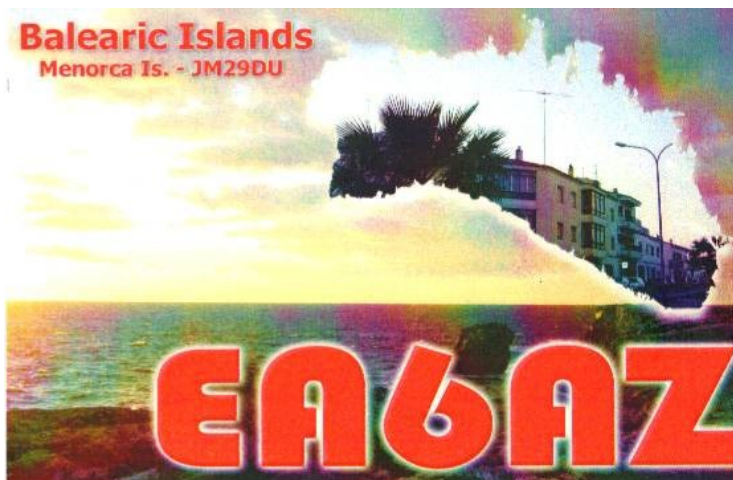
HONOR



DEDICATION

FRIENDSHIP

OCTOBER 2011



**THE HISTORY OF MENORCA** has seen various cultures and nationalities. In the XVIII century, in addition to British and Spanish rule, there was a period –from 1756 to 1763– when the island was French. A witness to and proof of this is the Sant Lluís municipal district, which was founded by the French in that era and which this year commemorates its 250th anniversary. This is a town in which the French legacy can be seen, distinguishing it from the rest of the island's towns.

On 18th April 1756, Easter Sunday, twelve thousand French soldiers under the command of the French marshal, the Duke of Richelieu, landed on the beach at Santandria. The military expedition ended with the siege of the San Felipe Castle and the capitulation of the British, signed on 29th of June in the same year.

The idea of grouping together the numerous country houses spread around the southeast of the island and the frustrated attempt to remove the suburb of the San Felipe Castle, in the port of Mao, led to the birth of a new urban nucleus during the brief French occupation (1756-1763).

Received from Cayetano "TANO" Donato Menorca, Baleares Islands, Spain

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

### NEW MEMBERS

16608	N4MVP	RILEY	AL
16609	KB1VQF	JOE	MA
16610	N4ZQA	CONRAD	VA
16611	K4CNM	CLARENCE	VA
16612	ACØIB	PHIL	MO
16613	KDØGUM	LINDA	MO

### OCTOBER CONTESTS

10/01	EU AUTUMN SPRINT
10/01-02	OCEANIA DX CONTEST
10/01-02	WORKED ALL BRITIAN
10/01-02	CALIFORNIA QSO PARTY
10/07-09	DX/NA YLRL ANNIV PARTY
10/08-09	SCANDINAVIAN ACTIVITY
10/08-09	PENNSYLVANIA QSO PARTY
10/08-09	ARIZONA QSO PARTY
10/15-16	IOWA QSO PARTY
10/15-16	NEW YORK QSO PARTY
10/15-16	WORKED ALL GERMANY
10/16-17	ILLINOIS QSO PARTY
10/17-21	SCHOOL CLUB ROUNDUP
10/22-23	SCANDINAVIAN YLRA
10/22-23	W/VE ISLANDS QSO PARTY
<b>10/29-30</b>	<b>**CQ WW SSB CONTEST**</b>

AS IN THE PAST, WE ONLY LIST THE CONTESTS AND QSO PARTIES THAT MIGHT INTERFERE WITH THE SYSTEM ON 14.332.

### OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10/01	K3UMV	10/17	JULIE (XYL OF K5ONU)
10/02	ZL1AMN		
10/06	KB7ITR	10/18	GRACE (XYL OF KB9OC)
10/09	KQ6LU		
10/11	JUDY (XYL OF W8OPA)	10/19	K1IEB
		10/20	N7HRO
10/12	VE2KRM	10/20	N4ODI
10/14	VP5RW	10/26	DL5MC
10/15	K7HK	10/27	KT4MA
10/15	WA6TGR	10/30	N8CSR
10/17	KD5LWU	10/31	KA7KAI
		10/31	K5HYD

### SILENT KEYS

4127	WB2INK	MARTIN	NY
6034	W8PR	ROY	OH
7404	W9PPH	WILLIAM	IL
8432	W3BZJ	FRANCIS	PA
9757	WØIAV	WILLIAM	TX
9781	W4UW	RICHARD	NC
11681	N2AWI	BARBARA	NY
15856	W5RJ	ROY	MO

Email us the month and date of your birthday or anniversary and we will post it each month. For the anniversary, you may tell us how many years if you wish and we will list that as well.

In days of old when ops were bold  
And sideband not invented  
The words were passed by pounding brass  
And all were quite contented

You can always find and read past issues of the COMMUNICATOR at <http://www.ylssystem.org>

### 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](mailto:kl7fqq@yahoo.com)

## 40 METER REPORT BY JAY KI4TXP \*\*\* MOONBEAM REPORT BY DICK

This has been a fairly quite month that we are finishing. 40 M has been open and most enjoyable. There has been some QRN and of course QRM but it has been bearable.

I would like to THANK all who have helped out lately and who will be helping out as the months go by. THANKS. I will be off to CT in another week or so, which means more help is needed. This would be a good time to give System Control a shot. Folks, as I have said many times, it is really easy and loads of fun. Just send me an email and I will send you the opening statement. Reading that is the hardest part of being Control.

I would like to thank all who have helped out by naming them. The only problem is that this OM would leave someone out, which would leave a sorer taste in my mouth. So I will once again say "THANKS TO ALL FOR YOUR SURPORT AND GREAT HELP!!!! "

For now 73's all  
Be Safe Be Happy  
Jay KI4TXP

Moonbeam hours really seem to be extending now that Cycle 24 is improving. Activity after 2300Z appears possible just about every evening.

Many thanks to all the Controls who show up each evening. Amazing how some of you have been doing this for twenty, twenty-five and even more years. Your dedication and loyalty is very much appreciated.

Anyone else in coming aboard as a Control only need let us know. We will be happy to work out an evening that suits you.

As Cycle 24 progresses and more DX is heard, we encourage members to call and make contact with DX check-ins. If stations check in with us and do not get any calls from us, they are not going to hang around and possibly not even come back to check-in with us again.

Please make them and all check-ins feel welcome.

73, Dick K3CDQ



John KC2ATK



Beth says her OM built this for a dog house. But if it had an antenna on it, then it could be a real OM's dog house when mama is angry.

### 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 and don't forget, please say "back to System, not back to Net."

# BITS & PIECES - FROM OUR MEMBERS

During the weekend of October 8, during the PA QSO Party, Page WA3EOP will be on the air from Fulton County. For you County Hunters, Page tells me that is a somewhat rare county.

From Beth KC5RWW

I heard a lot of hams on 10M but managed only one QSO with a U.S. ham.

\* \* \* \* \*

Here are some trivia questions from Ken N5OTR:

Q: What was the first Heathkit kit?

A: The Parasol. It was an airplane you could build and fly.

<http://www.maam.org/aircraft/lna40>

Q: What was Herman Munster's callsign?

A: W6XRL/4

<http://www.bcpink.com/KB3IFH/herman.html>

\* \* \* \* \*

Doug W6HB tell us he has worked these DX stations since 9/1/2011 on the bands specified:

10	PY7AS	12	KC2AQ
10	A35CT	15	DM3HZM
10	4W6A	15	DD2ML
10	T32C	15	JO3JIS
12	ZD7FT	15	OE3DIA
12	GI3DZE	15	XE1XUS
12	ZL2USB	15	TG9AHM
12	HP3AK	15	4W6A
12	EB2RA	15	GMØYIO
12	TI2CF	15	F6GPT
12	F4BKV	17	S55ØACP
12	HC2AQ	17	UT7UV
12	FO5QB	17	5N7M
12	4W6A	17	ON7VA
12	F1UJS	17	S5ØO

Certainly looks like there is plenty of DX out there to be found. Cycle 24 is finally coming to life.

I received my first envelope from the arrl bureau. There were six cards, mostly 6M and 15M. Some were two years old. I began the process of getting LotW; waiting for the postcard now. I recommend studying the instructions ahead of time if you don't have an experienced LotW member to coach you through it.

Every Friday a group of mostly hams meet for lunch near here. It's not a club or anything like that. We have several new people show up so I made a list of first names and callsigns to help the new folks. At first I printed it and handed out copies. Now it's listed in Google documents and I can share it with anyone. We eat at a different restaurant every week so now I've put a list of restaurants on Google documents. People can make recommendations or write reviews. If everyone came there would be at least 30 people.

I give old copies of CQ magazine to the scout master. For homebrewers - podcasts from [soldersmoke.com](http://soldersmoke.com) are very interesting. Finally got some rain and cool weather in Oklahoma. We'll probably have to mow the grass soon. 73, Beth

\* \* \* \* \*

Here is a tid bit.

2 weeks ago I began my 2nd full year with my middle school ARC. We began in the spring of '10 and have seen 1 Tech passed and several almost ready to test. We meet every Wed. afternoon at a local middle school and work on theory then play on the radio. I have several helpers from our local club. The kids call is N0GFK. If you ever hear us calling CQ please answer. The kids are so thrilled every time we make a contact, it makes all the work very worthwhile.

Nancy K9DIG

Q. With all the new technology and lack of interest, I believe amateur radio is slipping by the wayside. I saw an amateur radio operator license plate the other day and it made me think of this question. Other than seeing this plate, I can't remember seeing one in quite some time. And, while I'm thinking about it, why is an amateur radio operator called a "ham"? A.H., of Fairview Heights

A. In a world of Twitter, Facebook and iPhones, it would seem a foregone conclusion that amateur radio soon will join 8-tracks and VCR players on the scrapheap of obsolete technology. Well, don't bet the family farm on that notion. Right now, you'd lose - badly.

Those unfamiliar with the hobby may think the equipment is old-fashioned, but the number of people who have amateur radio licenses has grown by 60 percent since 1981. According to the Federal Communications Commission, about 678,000 people had licenses in 1997. As of Sept. 3, that number is now nearly 698,000, with about 20,000 of those in Illinois. As National Public Radio found last March, amateur radio is an experience that can't be duplicated surfing the Internet. That's why when NPR attended a ham radio convention in St. Louis, a reporter found teens carrying on the hobby. As one 15-year-old said, Facebook and texting are fun, but it can't match making friends with a \$200 radio for which you don't have to pay a monthly fee. "With ham radio you can talk to new people, all kinds of ages, races, and it's just amazing what a little radio can do," Jonathan Dunn said. "Because no matter where you're at, if you have the right stuff and the right power, you can talk to anyone."

Like Frank Beafore, WS8B, of Springfield, Ohio, young Jonathan likely realized that ham radio technology has progressed by leaps and bounds, too. "Hams led the way for SSB, cell phones, digital communications and satellite communications," Beafore told me. "In fact, we have a number of dedicated ham satellites completely financed by hams (AMSAT).

"We are the first on site during all major disasters. Why? All other infrastructure is down or overloaded." If you didn't realize it, amateur radio operators were widely credited for helping with communications in the wake of the 9/11 attacks and Hurricane Katrina. It's a tradition that continues. When an earthquake and tsunamis devastated Japan earlier this year, hams and their "outdated" technology helped reconnect families and guided emergency aid where it was most needed. "In the fairly early stages after the earthquake, several radio amateurs were able to activate their stations with car batteries or small-engine generators," Ken Yamamoto of the Japan Amateur Radio League told the Stars and Stripes. "They transmitted rescue requests and information on the disaster situation."

And, last August, amateurs fired up their radios to help victims of Hurricane Irene in the northeast U.S., according to the American Radio Relay League, the largest group of radio amateurs in the U.S. with 156,000 members ([www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)). In Boston, for example, the city's Emergency Operations Center requested help from amateurs for the first time ever. So amateur radio continues to thrive, especially now that the FCC has thrown out the need to know Morse code for a license.

As for the term "ham," it turns out its original meaning was not unlike a ham actor you see on stage. Even before radio, incompetent telegraph operators were called "hams" by G.M. Dodge in his book "The Telegraph Instructor." According to the ARRL, the earliest radio operators were old telegraphers, so they kept using their slang. When amateurs interfered with the radio signals of more important communications, the commercial operators would complain, "Those (expletive) hams are jamming you!!!"

Perhaps unaware they were being ridiculed, amateurs began calling themselves hams as a badge of honor. As time went on, the original negative meaning disappeared. There is no evidence to suggest that ham came from the term "ham-fisted"; that there was a magazine called Home Amateur Mechanic; that it is an acronym for Heinrich Hertz, Edwin Armstrong and Guglielmo Marconi, three radio pioneers; or that it honors the well-known Hammarlund shortwave radio company.

This article reprinted with permission from Roger Schlueter, Belleville News Democrat, Belleville, IL



Back in August, Jim VE1JIM disappeared from the System for about ten days and he is to be commended for the fine public service activity he was involved in.



Jim says:

“It was all because of going to Girl Guide (scout) Camp neat Halifax. It was the Guides 100th anniversary of guiding in Nova Scotia and the Halifax Amateur Radio Club was asked if we would join them in putting on a demonstration for the girls and let them get on the air. The Special Event callsign was CG100NS (Canadian Guides 100 Nova Scotia). Very appropriate for this event, don’t you think?

As it turned out we had about 235 guides from places as far away as New Zealand, Australia and England. Of course we had several Canadian provinces represented also. From the 12th to the 19th of August we had a great turn out in the Operations Room (basement) of the headquarters. The camp is located about an hour from Halifax just behind the airport area.

Some of the girls didn’t want to get on the radio and talk but would put on the extra headsets and listen...that is until they heard a girl their own age chatting with some of the other girls. Well they liked it so much we had to pry the mic out of their hands to let someone else get a chance.

These are a few pictures of the operation. We made around 750 contacts on HF, 400 using PSK31, 60 using 2 meters and several emails via paclink. We also had a CW table set up and if the girls could send their name and receive a short sentence from one of the guys, we gave them a certificate of participation as a souvenir.

All in all it was a great week for us to be able to take part in such a historic event and also for the girls as they really enjoyed that part of the camp, so we are told by their leaders.

That is it from Halifax and VE1JIM.”



# YL SYSTEM QSO PARTIES

## SSB



**Saturday - January 21, 2012 0000 UTC**  
**continuing until**  
**Sunday - January 22, 2012 2359 UTC**

## CW



**Saturday - February 4, 2012 0000 UTC**  
**continuing until**  
**Sunday - February 5, 2012 2359 UTC**

## Greg's Dipole Calculator

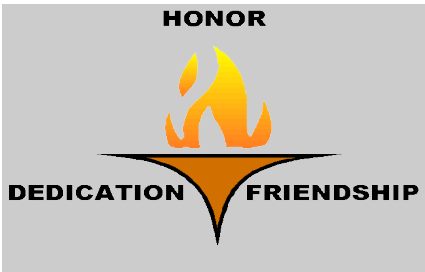
<http://www.cdagro.com/dip/dpo.html?clid=CPHf4deJhKICFRFGnQodxCmT8g>



Left to right. Michael KC8JHK, Stephen, Karen KB8NSA and Neil. These are her sons.



Bill K3UMV on the left and Curtis KI4P on the right



*From the Editor... K3CDQ : Ever wonder how long someone has been a System member? This chart might help you determine that. In earlier years, records were not kept as accurately as they are now and numbers were issued by more than one person which means a high number could have been issued before a lower number. So, please understand all dates below are approximate and they are centered on the first of each year. We do not have dates for numbers below 7,000.*

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YEAR	ISSB#	YEAR	ISSB#
1970	7764	2003	15837
1975	9335	2004	15921
1980	12288	2005	15959
1985	14176	2006	16073
1990	14751	2007	16153
1995	15355	2008	16278
2000	15652	2009	16387
2001	15737	2010	16471
2002	15794	2011	16556



Ole WA5IPS, in NM has just finished rebuilding his station. Shown is a picture of his Heathkit station on the left which he uses often. On the right is what he calls his modern station. These two stations are on opposite sides of the room. Ole now has 346 entities confirmed mixed mode. He has 343 on phone and 314 on CW. Ole has 8 band DXCC and 1,948 entities for the challenge award. Over the years Ole has had callsigns of: WA5IPS, KN6TLP, WA6TLP, KX6AF, KG6JDZ, DL5JN AND V73OJ.

