

THE

COMMUNICATOR

THE YL SYSTEM SINCE 1963

AUGUST 2013

HONOR



DEDICATION FRIENDSHIP

ISSUE 196

PRESIDENTS REPORT

WELCOME NEW EDITOR

IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO INTRODUCE YOU TO THE NEW EDITOR OF THE COMMUNICATOR. WELCOME NANCY, K9DIG! AS YOU KNOW, DICK K3CDQ, OUR PREVIOUS EDITOR, HAS BEEN ASKING FOR A REPLACEMENT FOR WELL OVER A YEAR, AND I AM HAPPY TO REPORT THAT HE FINALLY GOT HIS WISH. DICK, AND HIS LOVELY WIFE JUDY, HAVE BEEN EDITING THE COMMUNICATOR FOR MANY YEARS, AND HAVE DONE A FANTASTIC JOB. IT WAS A NEWSLETTER, BUT AFTER THEY WORKED THEIR MAGIC, IT BECAME A PUBLICATION THAT WE COULD ALL BE PROUD OF, AND LOOK FORWARD TO EACH MONTH. THANKS, DICK AND JUDY, FOR A JOB WELL DONE, AND NOW YOU HAVE A WELL-DESERVED VACATION. LET'S ALL HELP NANCY AS SHE TAKES ON THE AWESOME TASK OF EDITING THE COMMUNICATOR.

AWARDS

OUR BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION CONTINUES, WITH THE FOLLOWING AWARDS ISSUED: CENTURY BIRTHDAY TO: K9DIG; K5BOO; KC7KPG; KL7FQQ; K4KRK; N4ZGH; KK4AED; W4JMJ; VE5ADO AND VE3JPJ. THE CORONA BOREALIS BIRTHDAY WENT TO: KC8VRT AND KOMMR. THE PRESIDENT'S DAY BIRTHDAY WENT TO KC8VRT AND THE OLD TIMER BIRTHDAY WENT TO N0MMR. THE SUMMER AWARD WAS EARNED BY VE5ADO AND K4KRK. CONGRATULATIONS ALL.

CONVENTION 2014

PLANS ARE COMING TOGETHER NICELY FOR THE 2014 CONVENTION. IT IS SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 12-15, 2014 AT THE HILTON GARDENS INN IN SARASOTA, FLORIDA. CHECK THE WEB PAGE FOR ANY FURTHER INFORMATION.



Inside This Issue

Silent Keys	3
New Members	3
Bits and Pieces	4
Birthdays	5
Back in The Day	6
Spotlight	7
Spotlight cont.	8
Historian	9
Veterans Bio	10



PRESIDENTS REPORT CONTINUED

CONVENTION 2015

WE ARE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO HOST THE 2015 CONVENTION, SO IF YOU HAVE ANY INTEREST, PLEASE CONTACT ANY OF THE BOARD MEMBERS. CHECK OUT THE WEB PAGE FOR E-MAIL ADDRESSES.

AWARDS COMMITTEE

AT THE 2013 CONVENTION, A COMMITTEE WAS APPOINTED TO REVAMP THE SPECIAL DAY AWARDS FOR 2013. THIS COMMITTEE CURRENTLY CONSISTS OF: KL7FQQ, WD1Z, K9DIG AND KE5ZI...IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN IN, PLEASE CONTACT ME...KL7FQQ@YAHOO.COM.

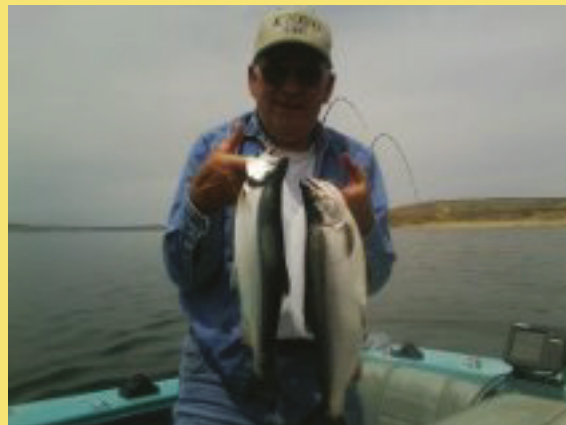
POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

THERE HAVE BEEN A FEW NEW ADDITIONS AND CHANGES MADE TO THE POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL. PLEASE CHECK OUT THE LATEST VERSION ON THE WEB SITE.

BAD BAND

JUST WHEN WE THOUGHT THE WORST MUST BE OVER, THE BAND HAS CONTINUED TO SLIDE. WE REALLY DO APPRECIATE ALL OUR DEDICATED CONTROLS THAT ARE THERE DAY IN AND DAY OUT, DOING THEIR BEST UNDER AWFUL CONDITIONS. THANKS FOR YOUR DEDICATION.

33's, 73's AND 88's ROSE



K7OUO

SILENT KEYS

**16123 K5DI KARL F.LARSEN,
LAS CRUCES, NM**

**2644 W1TN JOHN E. MCKEEN,
SCARBOROUGH, ME**

**12605 KA2CLX ELSIE L. FINKELSTEIN,
LOUISVILLE, KY**

**11682 WF2W THOMAS B. CHRISTOPHER,
NEWBURG, NY**

**14062 W4HLF ARLIE B. HAGER, ORANGE,
VA**

**14505 WB4SPS WILLIAM N. SANDERS,
MEMPHIS, TN**

**9034 W6CS ROBERT C. SMITHWICK,
LOS ALTOS HILL, CA**

**9787 WB5BRD RAY HOOPER,
MENA, AR**

**PLEASE REMEMBER ALL OUR SILENT KEYS
AND THEIR FAMILIES FAMILY IN YOUR
THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS.**

EDITORS NOTE

**JUST A QUICK THANK YOU TO ROSE
KL7FQQ FOR TRUSTING ME WITH
BEING EDITOR OF THE
COMMUNICATOR. I HOPE EVERYONE
WILL ENJOY WHAT WE CAN PUT
TOGETHER. I WILL ACCEPT ARTICLES
FROM ANYONE WHO HAS SOMETHING
TO SHARE.**

NANCY K9DIG

NEW MEMBERS

16827 VE2OCH MICHEL (MIKE)

DESROCHERS, 284 DU PATRIUOTE

STE-MARTHE-SUE-LE-LAC, QC JON 1 PO

IPA849@HOTMAIL.COM

16828 KDOUAG JEFFREY (JEFF)

SINASON 1500 BOONE VALLEY RIDGE

AUGUSTA MO 63332 636-987-2047

JSINASON@CENTURYTEL.NET

PRAYER REQUEST

**GINGER, NØUD, COLORADO SPRINGS
NEEDS OUR PRAYERS AND
ENCOURAGEMENT. SHE GOT PNEUMONIA
IN MAY AND IT INFECTED HER HEART. SHE
SAID THAT SHE WILL HAVE TO HAVE A
PROCEDURE. SHE SHARED THAT SHE HAD
NEVER HAD A HEART PROBLEM AT ALL , SO
YOU CAN IMAGINE THIS WAS A SHOCK.**

THANK YOU

**I WANT TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO
THANK THE YLISSB FOR THE WONDERFUL
PLAQUE (FOUNDER'S AWARD) AWARDED
TO ME AT THE 2013 CONVENTION. I WAS
TRULY SURPRISED TO RECEIVE IT IN THE
MAIL . WHAT AN HONOR, I WILL SURELY
TREASURE IT FOREVER. I HAVE SAID THE
FOLLOWING MANY TIMES AND BELIEVE IT
WITH ALL MY HEART : I AM SO PROUD TO
BE A MEMBER OF THE YLISSB. THE
SYSTEM IS LIKE ONE BIG FAMILY WITH
MANY MEMBERS. IT IS THE MEMBERS WHO
MAKE THE SYSTEM THE SUCCESS THAT IT IS
AND I AM PROUD TO BELONG TO SUCH A
GREAT FAMILY. THANKS AGAIN**

73

JOAN W4JMJ

SPECIAL DAY ON THE SYSTEM
BELT OF ORION-2013

OUR BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION CONTINUES WITH BELT OF ORION - 2013, ON AUGUST 22.

CONTACT NINE (9) OF THE FOLLOWING TWELVE (12) MEMBERS: KC2ATK, KC7KPG, KN4AA, N0TWV, VE3JPJ, VE7AAV, K9DIG, KI4TXP, VE5ADO, KL7FQQ, W9DTR, OR KJ4P. K4ICA, SSB #1, WILL COUNT AS 4 CONTACTS.

ALL LOGS ARE TO BE SENT TO: BARBARA NEIMAN, KE5ZI, 4257 SW 7TH AVE. RD., Ocala, FL 34471-7497, WITH YOUR CHECK FOR \$5.00. REMEMBER THAT ANY MEMBER THAT QUALIFIES FOR ALL 12 OF OUR SPECIAL DAYS WILL RECEIVE A SURPRISE AT THE FOLLOWING CONVENTION.

NET LOGGER HELP

FROM SALLY, KK4YL: HI FOLKS, FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN USING NET LOGGER, PLEASE READ MY PAGE ON HOW TO DO SO, AT [WWW.QLS.NET/KK4YL](http://www.qls.net/kk4yl).

HELP NEEDED

1ST 2ND AND 3RD PERIOD CONTROL

JDA HAS REQUESTED CONTROL HELP FOR THE 3 PERIODS MENTIONED ABOVE.

SHE CAN NO LONGER MAINTAIN THE SAME SCHEDULE WE ARE USED TO HER KEEPING.

WE NEED TO HAVE CONTROL'S TO KEEP THE SYSTEM OPERATING THE WAY WE ARE USED TO.

IF YOU CAN HELP PLEASE LET JUDY KC7KPG KNOW AS SHE DOES THE SCHEDULING FOR JDA.

JUDY'S EMAIL IS

NURENTJ@WILDBLUE.NET

THERE ARE ALSO SEVERAL CONTROL OPENINGS ON THE 3RD HOUR OF THE MOONBEAM.

IT WOULD BE NICE TO HAVE A SOME WESTERN STATIONS STEP UP AS IT IS EARLIER THERE AND PROPAGATION SHOULD BE BETTER FOR THEM.

NANCYYOSHIDA@LIVE.COM

VETERANS BIOS AVAILABLE AT

[HTTP://WWW.QLS.NET/KK4YL/VETERANS.HTML](http://www.qls.net/kk4yl/veterans.html)

HOW TO BE A GOOD CONTROL

MOST IMPORTANT IS TO REMEMBER YOU ARE THE VOICE OF THE SYSTEM

BE FRIENDLY AND WELCOMING

BE EARLY FOR YOUR SCHEDULED SHIFT SO THE OFF GOING CONTROLS KNOW YOU ARE THERE

USE NETLOGGER IF POSSIBLE. IT HELPS EVERYONE

THIS IS OUR HOBBY- HAVE FUN BUT BE RESPECTFUL

FOR A FULL LIST SEE OUR POLICIES & PROCEDURES AVAILABLE AT YLSYSTEM.ORG

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

8/01 AA4GT

8/02 WD4HVA

8/05 KK4PI

8/10 NØEND

8/10 JUDY (CDQ)

8/10 KP3B

8/12 WAØAVW

8/14 KC1MR

8/15 WN9MFC

8/15 K9DIG

8/16 KC5HIW

8/20 WBØMDP

8/23 W7RMC

8/23 WB5OHN

8/25 ABØEG

8/25 NØQAV

8/28 KB8NSA



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

8/03 KL7FQQ ROSE & KL7FQR STAN 56

8/24 AC4NC NATALIE & KD4AKT BILL

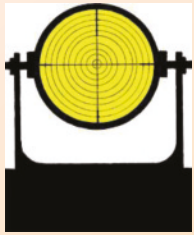


Uncle Bill K0UB @ Peace Garden Hamfest, ND

BACK IN THE DAY BY K5BOO

I MISS THE DAY WHEN ONE COULD GO TO A HAMFEST AND TELL WHAT RIGS WERE IN FRONT OF YOU WITHOUT HAVING TO LEAN OVER AND TRY TO READ THE MAKE AND MODEL NUMBER. YES YOU COULD WALK INTO A SHACK AND KNOW WHAT KIND OF RIG THE HAM WAS USING BEFORE YOU SAT DOWN. I AM TALKING ABOUT THE DAY OF COLOR AND LARGE PRINT, A NICE BLUE AND SILVER DRAKE, A BROWN ALLIED 2617A, A GREEN HEATHKIT OR MAYBE A CREAM AND WOOD TEN-TEC, ALL WITH BIG CHROME KNOBS. I EVEN REMEMBER SEEING A YL DECORATE HER SHACK IN BLUE AND SILVER TO MATCH HER NEW DRAKE TWINS. THOSE WERE THE DAYS. NOW YOU CAN PAY A LOT OF MONEY AND GET A LITTLE BLACK BOX WITH A FEW BUTTONS AND SWITCHES AND WITH TINY LITTLE ABBREVIATED LETTERS AND NUMBERS ON THEM OR YOU CAN PAY MORE MONEY AND GET A BIGGER BLACK BOX WITH A FEW MORE BUTTONS AND SWITCHES WITH TINY LITTLE ABBREVIATED LETTERS AND NUMBERS THEM OR YOU CAN SPEND YOUR ENTIRE RETIREMENT SAVINGS AND PAY A FORTUNE FOR A BIG BLACK BOX WITH WITH A MULTITUDE OF BUTTONS AND SWITCHES ON IT, YES ALL WITH TINY LITTLE ABBREVIATED LETTERS AND NUMBERS ON THEM. I SURE HATED IT WHEN TEN-TEC CAVED AND PUT THEIR ARGONAUT IN A LITTLE BLACK BOX WITH TINY LITTLE ABBREVIATED LETTERS AND NUMBERS ON THEM.

I ALSO ADMIT THIS IS PROBABLY MY AGE BUT I DO MISS THE COLORS THAT THE RADIO'S CAME IN BACK IN THE DAY. NOW I AM GOING TO STOP AND TURN ON MY BLACK BOX WITH TINY LITTLE LETTERS AND NUMBERS ON IT AND CATCH SOME DX, THAT IS IF THE BAND IS UP TO IT.



PAGE 7

SPOTLIGHT

W5CAP C A PHILLIPS

MY FIRST KNOWLEDGE OF AMATEUR RADIO BEGAN AS A VERY YOUNG BOY. I READ A NOVEL ABOUT TWO YOUNG BOYS THAT MOVED AWAY TO COLLEGE. THE DETAILS ARE VAGUE THIS MANY YEARS LATER BUT THE SCHOOL HAD REGULATIONS AGAINST HAVING A RADIO ON CAMPUS. SO THEY HID A CW RIG IN THE ATTIC, RAN A THIN WIRE OUT TO A TREE AND PROCEEDED TO CONTACT A HAM BACK HOME. THE STORY WAS SO REALISTIC THAT I COULD SEE THE FILAMENTS ON THE TUBES AND HEAR THE CW AS THEY SENT IT!

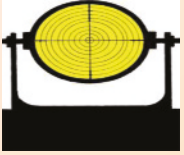
FOR THE LIFE OF ME, I CAN NOT RECALL THE NAME OF THE BOOK BUT HAVE OFTEN WISHED I COULD FIND A COPY AND REREAD THE STORY ALL OVER AGAIN. FROM THAT DAY FORWARD, I MADE UP MY MIND THAT SOMEDAY I'D BE A HAM OPERATOR.

THIS DREAM CAME TRUE FOR ME AS I BECAME NOVICE KN5EJS IN MARCH 1956, I WAS 18 YEARS OLD AT THE TIME. I PASSED MY GENERAL CLASS EXAM BEFORE A FCC EXAMINER IN MEMPHIS, TN IN 1957 AND BECAME K5EJS. IN THOSE DAYS, A 13 WORD PER MINUTE CODE TEST WAS MANDATORY AND ALL GENERAL AND ABOVE EXAMS WERE ADMINISTERED BY A FCC EXAMINER. THOSE WERE PRE-SSB DAYS, WITH LOTS OF AM SIGNALS AND HETERODYNES! BUT IT WAS STILL A FUN, MAGICAL AND EXCITING HOBBY WITH MY LOWLY 50 WATTS. MY RIG CONSISTED OF A WRL GLOBE SCOUT 65A THAT RAN 50 WATTS AM AND 65 WATTS PHONE THAT I BUILT FROM A KIT, HAMMARLUND HQ 140XA RECEIVER, ASTATIC JT30 MIKE, AND WINDOM ANTENNA CUT FOR 80M. THE GLOBE SCOUT HAD A PI-NET FINAL SO I WAS ALSO ABLE TO WORK 160 METERS WITH THE WINDOM. THE WINDOM WAS ONLY APPROXIMATELY 25 FEET ABOVE GROUND AND STRUNG FROM 2X4 MOUNTED ON BACK OF OUR HOUSE OUT TO THE TOP OF TIN ROOF BARN. I CONTINUE TO LOVE WINDOM ANTENNAS TODAY.

IN THOSE DAYS, SHORTWAVE AND HAM RADIO WERE MAGICAL TO ME. I NEVER TIRED OF THE EXCITEMENT OF CALLING CQ AND ANXIOUSLY WAITING TO SEE WHO WOULD COME BACK TO ME OR.....OF CALLING A DX STATION AND HEARING HIM COME BACK TO ME. ALTHOUGH TODAY'S TECHNOLOGY OF CELL PHONES, COMPUTERS, AND SATELLITES HAVE TAKEN AWAY SOME OF THE MAGIC, I CONTINUE TO ENJOY THE CAMARADERIE AVAILABLE ON THE HAM BANDS.

AS TIME MARCHED ON SSB BECAME MORE AND MORE POPULAR WITH AM FALLING BY THE WAY SIDE. I LATER BUILT A HEATH MARAUDER SSB TRANSMITTER AND HEATH WARRIOR 1 KW LINEAR AMPLIFIER AND PURCHASED A DRAKE 2B RECEIVER. THIS RIG SERVED ME WELL FOR MANY YEARS TO COME. DURING THIS TIME, I ALSO HAD A 50' CRANK UP, FOLD OVER TOWER WITH A CUSHCRAFT A4 FOUR ELEMENT BEAM THAT I LITERALLY USED TO WORK ALL OVER THE WORLD. HOWEVER, DUE TO JOB TRANSFERS, I LATER HAD TO TRIM DOWN MY STATION TO A MORE COMPACT SET UP.

MY PRESENT STATION CONSISTS OF A KENWOOD TS 530SP, KENWOOD TS 430S, AMP SUPPLY LK 450 1.5 KW LINEAR AMPLIFIER, MC60A MIKE AND WINDOM ANTENNA CUT FOR 14.332 KHZ AT 40 FEET ABOVE GROUND.



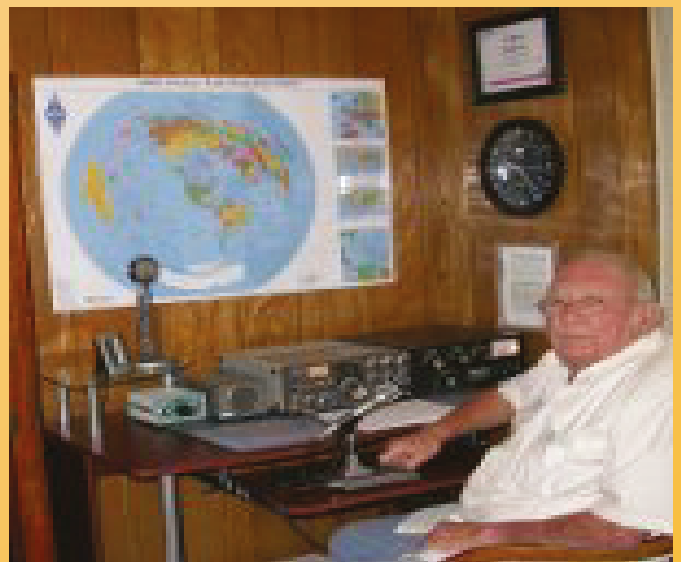
I TRADED IN K5EJS FOR W5CAP APPROXIMATELY TWO YEARS AGO BUT STILL SLIP AT TIMES USING THE OLD CALL SIGN. AFTER ALL, OLD HABITS ARE HARD TO BREAK!

MOST OF MY OPERATING TIME IS PRESENTLY SPENT ON THE YL SYSTEM. HOWEVER I HAVE ALSO HAVE BEGUN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PACSEA NET IN THE EVENINGS ON 14.300 KHZ.

I HAVE BEEN VERY FORTUNATE IN THAT THE "REDHEAD" (LEIGH, MY XYL) HAS BEEN VERY UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORTIVE OF MY LOVE FOR HAM RADIO DOWN THROUGH THE YEARS. WITHOUT HER SUPPORT, IT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN NEARLY AS ENJOYABLE.

I RETIRED FROM DEERE AND COMPANY IN 2000 AFTER 30 YEARS WITH THE COMPANY. WE HAVE A SON AND HIS FAMILY THAT LIVE LOCALLY AND ALSO A COUPLE OF GRANDSONS HERE IN SEARCY. OUR DAUGHTER AND HER FAMILY INCLUDING OUR THREE GRANDDAUGHTERS AND A GRANDSON LIVE IN THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA. WE FLY OUT FOR A VISIT 2-4 TIMES A YEAR.

IN ADDITION TO HAM RADIO, OTHER HOBBIES INCLUDE YARD WORK (OVER AN ACRE), PHOTOGRAPHY, BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY GOING TO THE GUN RANGE AND WASTING SOME POWDER, LEAD AND PAPER! I LOVE BOTH RIFLE AND HANDGUNS. I'M VERY FORTUNATE IN THAT OUR SON INHERITED MY LOVE OF GUNS AND WE HAVE SPENT COUNTLESS HOURS OF VERY ENJOYABLE FRIENDLY COMPETITION AT THE RANGE. BY THE WAY I AM A LIFE MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.



FROM THE HISTORIAN

HI EVERYONE. HEY! HAVE ANY OF YOU WONDERED WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE THOSE YL SYSTEM AWARDS ALL ABOUT? ESPECIALLY SINCE WE ARE CURRENTLY EXPERIENCING A GROWTH IN THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS WHO ARE VYING FOR THE VERY NICE CERTIFICATES THAT ACCOMPANY THE AWARDS? WELL, WE HAVE TO LOOK WAY BACK INTO THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE YL SYSTEM FOR THE ANSWERS. IT WAS RECOGNIZED BY OUR FOUNDERS THAT TO BE CATEGORIZED AS JUST AN EMERGENCY HANDLING GROUP WAS ONLY A SMALL FRACTION OF WHAT TOOK PLACE ON THE SYSTEM. WE NEEDED TO FOSTER CAMARADERIE, CREATE INTEREST FOR OUR MEMBERS, AND AT THE SAME TIME, DO SOMETHING THAT WOULD ENCOURAGE THOSE HAMS LOOKING AT US FROM THE OUTSIDE, TO BECOME MEMBERS OF OUR SUPER ORGANIZATION.

THUS, THE AWARDS PROGRAM WAS BORN, AND EXCEPT FOR A VERY FEW AWARDS THAT NO LONGER APPLY, WE MAINTAIN, EXERCISE, AND REWARD OUR MEMBERS WHO WORK HARD TO GARNER THOSE CERTIFICATES FOR THEIR WALLS AND SHACKS. THIS MONTH, AUGUST, WE WILL ONCE AGAIN ENCOURAGE OUR MEMBERS TO WORK FOR THE BELT OF ORION AWARD ON THE 22ND. HOPE TO SEE EVERYONE ON THE YL SYSTEM ON THAT DAY. AWARDS INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE YL SYSTEM WEBSITE, IN THE COMMUNICATOR, AND ALSO IN OUR WONDERFUL ANNUAL PUBLICATION, "THE VOICE".



73 FOR NOW,
KEVIN
KN4AA, YL SYSTEM HISTORIAN

VETERANS BIOS

NOAAH, STEPHEN (STEVE) R SHOBE, MO #16767 U. S. NAVY - RETIRED RMC - USN FROM 1963 TO 1983

NØDK, EMIL F WIEGLEND, ND #15744 U. S. MARINE CORPS FOR TWO YEARS ACTIVE DUTY. I WENT THROUGH BOOT CAMP AT MCRD SAN DIEGO THEN TO CAMP PENDLETON AFTER THAT WITH FORWARD ECHELON TO SET UP MARINE TRAINING CENTER AT TWENTY NINE PALMS, CA. FROM THERE I WAS RELEASED FROM ACTIVE DUTY.

NOEHQ, ED PALMER, IA #16418 U. S. AIR FORCE FROM JULY 1978 THRU JULY 1982. STATIONED AT SHEPPARD AFB, WICHITA FALLS, TX ATC FROM SEPTEMBER 1978 THRU NOVEMBER 1979. THEN REASSIGNED TO OFFUTT AFB, OMAHA, NE. SAC IN DECEMBER 1979 THROUGH DISCHARGE IN JULY 1982. WORKED IN BASE SUPPLY AS A MATERIAL FACILITIES SPECIALIST.

N5FYR, MIKE BELFORD, OK #16674 U. S. NAVY

N7COA, DAVID L GREGORY, (RECENT SILENT KEY) WY #14113 U. S. ARMY FLYING HELICOPTERS. YES, I AM ONE OF THE MANY VETERANS OUT THERE. AFTER BASIC TRAINING, I SERVED FROM 1963 TO 1965 IN GERMANY, FROM 1965 TO 1966 IN VIET NAM, FROM 1966 TO 1968 AT FORT CARSON, CO, FROM JAN 1968 TO JAN 1969 IN KOREA, FROM FEB 1969 TO APR 1970 AT HUNTER ARMY AIRFIELD IN SAVANNAH, GA, FROM THERE TO VIET NAM UNTIL MAY 1971 AND FORT RUCKER, AL. I GOT OUT IN SEPTEMBER OF 1971 AND WENT BACK TO SCHOOL FOR MY DEGREE. MOST OF THE TIME WAS SPENT IN HELICOPTERS. WHILE IN SCHOOL AND FROM 2/72 UNTIL 7/77 I WAS IN THE USAF FOR THE EXTRA PAY.

N7FSR NORMAN L. GRAY, SR., AZ #14247 U.S. AIR FORCE 1953-1973 TSGT, MEDICAL CORPSMAN

N8COQ, KENNETH R BARNES, IN #16164 I SERVED AT THE END OF THE VIETNAM ERA (1975-1979) IN THE U. S. AIR FORCE STATIONED PRIMARILY IN COCOA BEACH, FL.

HAD THE PLEASURE OF WORKING ON COLLINS GEAR (KWM-2A, 30L1, TSC60 A 10KW UNIT INTO A LOG PERIODIC ANTENNA, AND MRC 107 JEEPS SPORTING A 618T TRANSCEIVER) AS A GROUND RADIO EQUIPMENT REPAIRMAN. WORKED CW FROM THE RADIO JEEPS (OFTEN FROM CAPE KENNEDY) AS MY BOSS DID NOT APPROVE OF HAMMING FROM THE SHOP. WHILE ON DEPLOYMENTS I WOULD TAKE A FEW MILES OF FIELD PHONE WIRE AND SEVERAL KNOCK DOWN 50 FOOT TOWERS AND BUILD THE ANTENNAS I HAD READ ABOUT IN THE HANDBOOKS. COMMANDER WAS IMPRESSED AS OFTEN OUR 100 WATT JEEP SIGNAL INTO THE RIGHT HOME BREW ANTENNA (RHOMBIC, BEAM, ETC.) WAS AS STRONG AS THE 10 KW STATIONS AT THE RECEIVING END. BUILT A BEVERAGE WITH ANOTHER HAM (EUGENE KELLY FORGET HIS CALL) AND WERE ABLE TO HEAR THE SOUTH AMERICANS WELL FROM THE SURVIVAL AREA IN FLORIDA - HAD THE OSI DROP IN AND START RUNNING TAPE RECORDERS. COMMANDER LOVED IT.

N9QA, CHARLES (CHARLIE) L WILLIAMS, IN #16283 U.S. ARMY, 1960-1993 I WAS ON ACTIVE DUTY FROM 1960-1965. I STARTED OUT AS A TRUCK DRIVER AND THEN SWITCHED TO AIR DEFENSE OPERATOR. WHEN I MOVED TO INDIANA, I JOINED THE RESERVES AS A TRUCK DRIVER AND SWITCHED TO MECHANIC. WE WENT TO DESERT STORM I 1991. GOT OUT OF THE RESERVES IN 1993. STATIONED IN EL PASO TX FOR 23 MONTHS—WAS IN GERMANY FOR 28 MONTHS AS A SFC E7.

NA4ME, CHARLES (CHUCK) E SMITH, GA #16493 U.S. NAVY - I SERVED IN THE NAVY ON ACTIVE DUTY 1973-1977 AND ACTIVE RESERVE 1977-1979.