

OFFICIAL
NEWSLETTER
DEVOTED TO THE
INTEREST OF
YLISSBers



Happy Mother's Day

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2013
YL SYSTEM
CONVENTION

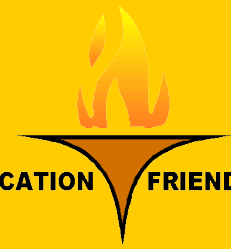
JUNE 13 - 16

Colorado Springs
Colorado

THE COMMUNICATOR

ISSUE 193
MAY 2013

HONOR



DEDICATION FRIENDSHIP

President's Report... by Rose KL7FQQ

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

APRIL, 2013

Greetings from the State of Washington

AWARDS

President's Day, 2013 went to KC7KPG, KK4AED, K5BOO, N3ADF, K9DIG, KA1EPT, WA9BXB, KL7FQQ, KF9GS, K3CDQ AND N0MMR. The 100 Hour Control Service Award was issued to KK4AED. The Apollo 2013 Award went to N0MMR, the Belt of Orion to K9TXJ, and the Springtime Award to K9DIG. Congratulations to all.

NEW TFO'S

Four of our members have joined the ranks of the Top Flight Operators of the YLISSB. They are Barry, WA6EBB #511; Keith, K5BOO #512, Bill, W2EO #513 and JoDee, KB7CSX #514. Congratulations to you all.

CONVENTION 2013

Don't forget that reservations must be made at the Marriott in Colorado Springs before May 12 in order to receive the YLISSB room rate. We are working on the agenda for the Membership meeting on Saturday, as well as the Schedule of Events. They'll soon be on the Web Page. If there is a chance you will be able to come, get your reservations in soon. Don't miss this, our 50th year Anniversary!

SPECIAL DAYS ON THE SYSTEM - MAY

Our Birthday Celebration continues with Old Timer's Day, 2013 on May 14th, 2013. Contact 15 members whose SSB numbers are below 14,500 or the Club Call, K4ICA (which will be worth 5 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 next years convention.

33's, 73's and 88's Rose

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

NEW MEMBERS

16804	WD4RBX	RICH	SC
16805	KK4CII	BO	FL
16806	K5NAA	NAN	TX
16807	KIØJG	BRUCE	ND
16808	KE5GBC	MIKE	TX
16809	K4TJO	JOE	FL
16810	KD8ASE	BRIAN	OH
16811	KD8GBP	BELINDA	OH
16812	KA2MQX	BERNARD	NY

MAY BIRTHDAYS

5/01	KC8TDC	5/19	K3UMW
5/05	N6JUA	5/23	N2RXX
5/06	W5GQW	5/24	KB8ESY
5/10	KAØHPK	5/26	KI4P
5/11	WAØPFV	5/26	KC2ATK
5/12	W8SWT	5/26	AA9BB
5/12	WA5JDV	5/26	PJ7BK
5/12	KB4RDH	5/28	KL1V
5/13	K7OUO	5/28	KC4UBE
5/15	N4UOG	5/31	AB7HB
5/17	WAØAAM		

ANNIVERSARIES

5/11	VE1JIM	JIM & JOANNE	45
5/13	N5OKU	MICHAEL & JULIE	27

SILENT KEYS

38	K5TXQ	EVALYN	TX
5489	WØIXD	JEFF	MO
12892	W1ABM	HAROLD	MA
13175	WØYMB	ROLAND	SD
14330	K5HYD	EDWARD	TX



To the right:
 Left - Joe Perry KB1VFQ
 And right - Howard KK4AED



TRY TO REMEMBER!

V. Mayree, Sidebander #1 who founded the System asked that out of respect for our OM members, we call our membership number a Sideband Number, 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 number as a Sideband Number.

From Judy & Richard:

If you sent us items recently for the Communicator and we have not used them. It is probably because we lost them when our hard drive was reformatted. Please send them again and send photos. We need photos which is what our members most enjoy seeing.

* * * * *

Received from Karen KB8NSA:

I have two new TFO's, TFO 511 WA6EBB and TFO 512 K5BOO I also have three that only need 1 or two votes.

People have been a lot better voting this year, thank goodness. The TFO program is what I call a feel good program, it shows everybody what a good operator that you are. There are many really good operators in our group that become lifetime friends, that is something that money cannot buy.

* * * * *

TFOs Responsibilities:

All TFOs, especially our newer ones, should always remember that none of us would have this prestigious award if our peers had not voted for us. We can all show our respect and appreciation by making sure that we too submit votes from time to time.

Remember, TFO has nothing to do with being a convention host, helping to control or being a volunteer. There are other awards for that. TFO is for continuously displaying excellent operating habits. You are allowed to submit twelve votes per year and more than one may be sent in at a time. All votes go to Karen at

kb8nsa@suddenlink.net

As mentioned above by Karen, she has three members who only need one or two more votes. If you send her a vote or two NOW, you might just be the person who helps one of our members get a TFO Award. Vote for someone today, as others did for you!

From KC5RWW 2012

The first weekend in February I made 16 contacts on 4 bands in about 2 hours in various contests and special events. The second weekend I made 18 contacts on 3 bands. I joined 6M nets on two Tuesday evenings this month so far. On the 9th I managed to participate in the Tangle Net. February 12 I had a QSO with YL2GUV in Latvia on 15M. I could hear 2M0YIO in Scotland but he couldn't hear me. I tried the school round up for 2 days and managed to make only 2 contacts. We just got back from visiting family in Amarillo, TX. My dad, brother and family, and daughter live there. Dad is 88 years old and he is feeling fine. We hope to get rid of our landline within a week. Bought a second tracfone. Each phone costs us less than \$300 a year.

Beth

• * * * *

Received from George AA4GT:

Results from his participation in the Florida QP

Well we did much better than last year. Mults were the key... 213 total.

Here is a breakdown

10m - 31 CW (11 Mults) 36 PH (8 Mults)
 15m - 90 CW (33 Mults) 53 PH (26 Mults)
 20m - 361 CW (64 Mults) 82 PH (26 Mults)
 40m - 168 CW (39 Mults) 61 PH (6 Mults)

Total Score:

213 Mults x 1532 Points x 2 (Low Power Bonus less than 150 watts) => 652,632

That explains why Phone contacts were 2 points and CW contacts were 4 points.

Last year's score was 244,416... we will lose points for dupes and busted calls and exchanges, however, we still might hold the Club Plaque.

Great job everyone!

73

Ken-W9KB=

YLSYSTEM 80, 40 15 AND 10 METER REPORT
APRIL 2013

Our 10 Meter System has been discontinued for the time being. Conditions are not good, with Amy, KC8VRT getting no check-ins most of the time. She is willing to try again if conditions warrant it.

80 Meters on the other hand, has been very successful. Duncan, KC8UPU has really done a great job getting us off the board. Check-ins are in the range of 6 to 15. Lots of the check-ins have been people who check in on 40 Meters which is fine but we sure would like to be outnumbered by new check-ins. Don't forget it is on Wednesday evenings at 0030z running for about 30 minutes. This of course depends on the check-ins and conditions. We can be found on 3.833.

15 Meters is plugging along. Some days are good while other days have no check ins. Ron, W9VSA and Gary, W9VS are doing a great job keeping the System going. Here again we sure would like to have more check-ins. If you are able, please give it a try. Tuesday and Thursday at 1400z on 21.373.

40 Meters is still going strong. We can be found any were between 7.265 and 7.273. Of late, we have been around 7.268 and 7.265. We start at 2300z and run for about 45 minutes. Lately we have gone somewhat longer. We will be glad to operate for longer periods if we get the check-ins. You are the great people that make the YL SYSTEM that it is. Thanks to all for their help and encouragement.

73 all
BE SAFE, BE HAPPY!!

From the Historian

Hi Folks...only a little more than a month away from our YL System Convention in Colorado Springs, and we are really getting excited. Those of you who haven't quite made up your minds as to whether to attend or not, let me assure you that it will be the highlight of the year for you, and you will always remember with fondness, the friends you have met, and have turned into family!

I've often said that History is made each minute, and the minutes you spend with your fellow YL System members at Convention are truly historical. So give it a bit more thought, and please try to join us. The days remaining to make your reservations are waning, so get on the bandwagon.

See you all at Colorado Springs!
73,
Kevin KN4AA
YL System Historian

We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone.

Ronald Reagan

By: Bill W7AJP

Listening on 14.332 several years ago, Bill Grady said he was a Handi-ham (visually impaired) (W7AJP, 16190) who lives in Oregon, heard a "5" call. Originally from Louisiana. He heard KB5SDU, Grady, check in on the System. Someone asked Grady, a frequent check-in, where he was located. "Natchitoches, Louisiana" was his reply.

It did not take long for Bill to call for a re-check and speak to Grady. Traffic was light that afternoon and Bill told Grady he went to college at Northwestern State University, located there. Grady said he lived on the North end of the city, and Bill asked if he knew where a Calvary church was located. Grady said, "yes, that's my Church!"

Bill asked permission to call Grady by phone and a new door opened. Bill related that as a college junior, he directed the music program at Calvary church. As they talked by phone, This was all brought together by amateur radio and the YLISSB.

Grady's Mom, Lorraine Ebert completed the scenario with "Bill, I remember you. You were tall and skinny." (At least she was right that back then Bill was tall...)

Sunday afternoon, April 7, 2013, Bill drove up to Grady's home for a visit. They had first met 50 years ago. It was a fun time reminiscing, visiting his shack and answering questions about people he had met on the System.

This was all brought together by amateur radio and the YLISSB.



Grady KB5SDU with Bill's XYL Joan above, in his shack below and with Bill W7AJP on the right.



DX Check-in!

From Feb 20, 2013 to March 14, my YL and I operated from Montserrat Island (NA-103) on a "Holiday style DX-pedition". Here is our story.

For several years Crissie and I wondered what it would be like to operate from the other end of a DX pileup. Using the Internet, QST, CQ and a book put out by the RGSB listing "Ham friendly resorts" we settled on the island of Montserrat in the Caribbean 250 miles SE of Puerto Rico. Licensing was easy using forms posted on the Internet. Within 3 weeks of sending in the required info we were very excited to become VP2MRS (KB8RJ Jack) and VP2MUR (WD8KUR Crissie). While there are many rare islands to operate from in the Pacific, the cost and difficulty getting there made a Caribbean of Montserrat a good choice.

Late February saw us heading to Montserrat. You must fly to Antigua first from the USA or Europe. Once in Antigua you transfer to a small 8 passenger plane for the 20 minute trip to Montserrat. The new airport can only support small airplanes. Why is it so difficult to get there? In 1989 Hurricane Hugo passed directly over the island damaging 95% of the buildings. During the rebuilding of the capitol city Plymouth, the Soufriere Hills volcano erupted multiple times burying the city under 40 feet of pyroclastic flows and mud. The airport was destroyed. The harbor facilities were destroyed. The hospital was destroyed. The tourism industry was destroyed. The town of Plymouth has been abandoned. FOREVER!

Between 1995 and 2010 the volcano has had multiple eruptions sending pyroclastic flows down the slopes along with tons of ash covering Montserrat and other close in islands. As of today (March 2013), the volcano spews out between 250 and 500 tons of hydrogen sulfide gas per day. The southern 2/3rds of the island is an exclusion zone requiring permission to enter, but only between 8am and 4pm. Homes and resorts inside the exclusion have been abandoned. Outside the exclusion zone many resorts have also closed due to the lack of tourists. If you can only fly in 8 people at a time you will never have enough tourists to fill your rooms. Nine thousand people left the island to start new lives in the UK and USA. Just under 5,000 remain living in the rugged north end of the island.

We stayed at Gingerbread Hill Villa near the north end of the island. Owners David and Clover Lea have a beautiful rental advertized as "Ham Friendly". The Heavenly suite (upper floor) has all the radio equipment needed to operate HF. Check them out at: www.volcano-island.com Watch the opening video showing the various rentals then on the left side of their homepage click on Ham Radio to watch visitors operating. We brought NO ham radio gear with us. A 55 foot tower, Mosley beam, all coax, a Kenwood TS570 transceiver, linears, mics, keyers, dipoles and tuners are supplied. Spend a few hours setting up all these items and you are at the DX end of the pileup. We operated (Holiday style) for 3 weeks and contacted over 700 stations worldwide.

Would we do it again? In a heartbeat! We had great fun with the pileups and checking into the moonbeam portion of the YL System. There are so many "Ham friendly" resorts around the world we are thinking about picking a different island for 2014. Hope we can work you next time from whatever island we choose. Does NA-101 sound interesting?

73 and 88, From Jack (KB8RJ #10784 VP2MRS) and Crissie (WD8KUR #12577 VP2MRS)



Upper left - Jack VP2MRS (KB8RJ) operating with Jade, the owners parrot, on his shoulder. He seemed fascinated by SSB.

Right -Crissie VP2MUR (WD8KUR) operating.

Left - Gingerbread Hill Villa The "Heavenly Suite" is above the blue trim.

www.volcano-island.com

Lower left - Belham River Golf Course (top floor) Lower two floors of the building buried under 30 feet of ash

Lower right - Abandoned condos inside the Exclusion zone





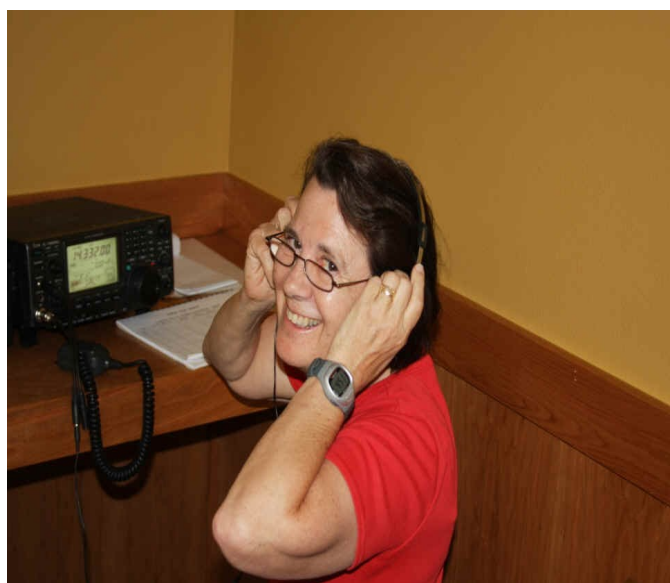
Robert VE9RMD and Mona VE9MSD
With Bobby and Cindy
Bob AA7YD and Sara AB7PS



Joyce K3UMW and Bill K3UMV
Craig WBØGFZ and Jda KB5YQ



Perry NØMMR with Granddaughter



Scotty K6ZNL (Alias K6AA)

When I moved to Wyoming I became the Deputy Commander to the lady in the Picture. Her name is Lt. Col. Susan McDonald. In November the National Commander mandated that any Squadron Commander who had been in the position for 4 or more years must step down. We had discussed this earlier before his decision so I was ready. In November I became the Squadron Commander of the Captain Michael S. Walker Memorial Composite Squadron in Wheatland, Wyoming. Susan had been wearing a missing in action bracelet since high school after the Captain's plane went down in Viet Nam. Only a boot and I think an ejection seat was found within the last year or so ago. They declared both the pilot and co-pilot as deceased.

After Susan stepped down she put her hat in the ring for Wyoming Wing Commander with 5 other folks. When she was not selected the new Wing Commander assigned her as his Chief of Staff. On the way to her house I got a phone call from the new Wing Commander but I didn't answer it right away. I asked her what he could be wanting. Well I guess he got word that the former Win Director of Communications was not doing his job and for two years Susan and I had to do his inventory of the communications locker. I refused to do it anymore for him and I found myself with the job. So now I have to play catch up.

We stay very busy here with CAP and our cadets. I spent a day with the kids and taught a new communications course to the entire squadron that was available. This was a first in the Wing. Now I have to get it all entered on the national site which is a long process. We recently were selected to receive a flight simulator minus the computer and monitor to teach the squadron with. We will also use it at the wing conferences letting the cadets who attend try to fly while wearing the drunk goggles. Later we will take it to the schools when we do the Drug presentations and the recruiting programs.

I thought I would have all kinds of time when I retired. Go figure. Oh well, it will keep me active.
73,
Dennis N7HRO



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FROM THE EDITORS: If you are reading this issue of the Communicator on the YL System webpage because you did not receive your usual edition by email, then we apologize to you. The reason you did not get your usual monthly email was because in March we were hit with a serious virus and when we had the hard drive reformatted, the person doing the work did NOT save our email list for us before reformatting. We had to recover each and every email and re-enter them, one by one, in a Group Email Address and obviously, we do not have your email address. If you would like to receive the Communicator each month by email, please send us your email address and full name. We did have 197 addresses and have only recovered 141. Send your info to: k3cdq@comcast.net.

SPOTLIGHT ON: HOWARD KK4AED #16623 The Villages of Florida

I lived in Fairfax, VA in the 60's. Moved around the US until 1986 when I moved to Stafford VA, (45 miles south of DC) for 17 years from 1986-2003. Served in the USAF from 1958-1964 as a Ground Radio Operator. Spent my business career in various marketing positions beginning with Eastern Airlines in 1965 (DC), ending in 2003 when I retired and moved to Florida.

Married my current XYL, Cindy, in 2003, after losing my 1st wife of 31 years in 1996. Have two adult children 1 boy, 1 girl. Both still living in VA. 5 Grandchildren.

Received my novice license (WL7DCW, Alaska) in '59, but didn't get my Tech or General Licenses (KK4AED) until 2011 (52 years later) while living in The Villages FL (about 1 hour north of Orlando) I joined the YLSystem in November 2011. #16623. I try to be on the system, 4-5 days weekly, when I am co-controller of the Sunrise Portion.

My current system is an ICOM 725 operating at 100 watts. Being in a deed restricted community, my antenna selection is very limited. I am using a G5RV Maple Leaf at a height of about 20 feet. When not on the air, I am very active with the Canine Therapy Teams. I am a Regional Coordinator for Therapy Dogs Inc. and a licensed instructor for R.E.A.D., a canine/children reading group. on from 1400 utc to 1500 utc, 20m.

Received:

ARRL A-1 Operator Club certification in 2012.

Various Ham awards include:

WAS 2012; DX50 stations 2012.

YLSystem awards :

YLSystem TFO #509 in 2013.

50th Anniversary Award 2013

Spring Award 2013

Service Award 2013

Military Veterans Award 2013

Apollo Award 2013

Belt of Orion Award 2013

President's Day Award 2013.

