

The Communicator

The YL System since 1963

May 2020

Issue #279

HONOR



DEDICATION

FRIENDSHIP

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

May 2020

I know that our world has been turned topsy-turvy with COVID-19, but the YLISSB is hanging in there. We have appreciated all our older members that have checked in, plus the many new friends we have made. Stay well.

Contents

Anniversaries	4
Birthdays	5
New Members	6
Silent Keys	3
Pet Ham Care	7
Titanic Xmtr	8
Notes	2,3, & 10
Awards	10
YL History	9
Final Word	11

CONVENTION 2020 on Zoom

The Board of Directors has decided to hold Convention 2020 on June 13-14, on a video program called Zoom. More information will be sent to each active member in the next week or so via our e-mail communications. Registration for the Convention MUST be received by June 1. After you register, you will be sent information regarding Zoom, how to use it, download it, etc. We will also hold a training session on Friday, June 12, and possibly one before then. You will be sent an invitation to at least the four sessions: the training session, the Workshop, the General Meeting, and the Board Meeting. Yes, you may listen to the Board meeting if you so wish. In addition, those that register will be sent a Convention Brochure, with all the reports, Agenda's, and other information. This is your opportunity to be able to attend the Convention from your computer room. Plan to attend, and let your voice be heard. Plus, we have door prizes!

K4ICA

Memorial Call

YL System

The President's Report (Cont.)

CONVENTION 2021

We sincerely hope that the virus ends its days this year, and life can get back to normal. Look for information about the 2021 Convention in Wisconsin in upcoming issues of the Communicator.

MONTHLY AWARDS

May is Old-Timers Award. Contact 20 members with a membership number below 16,500.

USE OF THE TERM YL

Just a reminder. This is the YL System. It is a System, but was named YL in honor of our founder, K4ICA. It is important when referring to our group that we use the term YL SYSTEM. You do not have a YL number, you have a Sideband number, or a System number, or a YLISSB number. It gets confusing to some of our newer members and visitors when the incorrect terminology is used. So, please be careful, and remember, this is the YL SYSTEM...it is not a net, and you don't have a YL number!

73's Rose, KL7FQQ

Quick Note from John Ellis W5PDW

I have had zero luck finding face masks and I'm certainly not going shopping for one. I really enjoyed this video and the part about the face mask too. You could make extras to share.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1r2C1zGUHbU>

Stay smart and keep well,

John

[Ed: Thanks, John!]

Silent Keys

The following YLISSB members have been reported as Silent Keys...

Roy W. (Doc) Overton - K0WNR - YLISSB#:16051

George R. Tomlinson - AA4GT - YLISSB#: 14085

A Note from our Treasurer, Bill Phillips W7AJP

PASSWORDS ON THE WEB SITE? Why? A long time member wrote asking that question. The member said, "I don't remember doing that before!"

As the YLISSB Board moved to set up the new website at a serious cost, regulations from the European Union and soon from the United States indicated that the security of information from members was becoming mandatory. Therefore, your Board of Directors were forward-thinking to provide state of the art security measures. The use of the YLSYSTEM.ORG web site is restricted to paid-up members of the YL SYSTEM.

(1) That shows their current interest in the System.

(2) They MUST sign in with their call and with their secure password.

(3) The PASSWORD required must be strong. It not only protects the member who has formed it (unless they accept the one provided by the website-generated one), but it also protects all of the other members. So, just know there are evil people out there attempting daily to gain access to our web site, trying to get YOUR EMAIL address and see you "who knows what" and send you unsolicited information about their product or web sites.

May Anniversaries

KB0JIT Paul & Linda	K5KDT Kelly & Carol
W0UXO Rick & Cindy	NV5D Marty & Rita
KD0SVT Gregory & XYL	W5DTB Daren & Debbie
N0GRZ Grizz & XYL	NJ5G Pat & Nancy
W0IB Paul & K4NOA Sharon	N5GED George & Nellie
N0MAM Bill & Marta	KJ6YFY Tony & Gina
KE0TTR Dr. Bob & XYL	NA6US Dwayne & XYL
KC1BEP John & Beverly	W6GRO Michael & Joann
VE1JIM Jim & Joanne	K6LEM Warner & Linda
K1QQA Bob & Mary	NB6M Wayne & W7SKM Sandra
AI1U Anthony & XYL	KB7MXT Paul & Mariellen
W1FGN Dave & Cindy	N7EG Matt & Fran
WZ1F Lee & XYL	K7IP Douglas & Tami
N2WHV Gary & Brenda	VA7JSF Jim & Joanne
WB2KUT Jack & Denise	K7RRT Mike & Kathy
2M0DDS David & Teresa	NV7LV Dave & Melissa
WA2IUS Steve & Irena	KC8IKW Joe & Marie
K3UUF Eric & Carmen	W8VOX Jon & Pam
K3EDP Bob & Nancy	K8RRC Cort & Louisa
KC3FZM Dan & KC3LGF Ginger	N8GDB Sid & Marlene
KT4LS Lee & Katrina	N9YBK Matt & Barbara
KX4BE Peter & Karen	KC9VFR Chris & Ruth
W4KEF Ken & Cathy	W9JTC Jamie & Kelly
N4TLT Terry & Linda	KX9KX Tom & Natalie
KK4COO Freddi & XYL	KD9LDD Gregory & XYL
N5OKU Michael & Julie	KD9HCY Scott & Hollie
N5YHM Brian & KF5EQH	W9HVW John & Gail
Bonnie	KD9AMP JD & Suzy
	KD9OQK Tom & Kris

May Birthdays

W0GUS	W2FMQ	KK4SRO	KD7ATL
KR0ARK	KD2LMG	KI4PSR	KV7N
KD0VEP	W2CCW	K4ZEE	PJ7BK
AC0YX	KA2R	KJ4GDX	KG7SNE
WA0PFV	VE3MXJ	KT4JR	N7EG
WA0AAM	KB3OYC	KD8KBX	N7DPX
W0TDL	KL3IH	W4HUF	AB7HB
KD0VBK	AB3TY	KD4NKU	VA7LTX
KE0ABP	N3MAV	K4JMG	KF7SIO
KB0OU	WY3T	AE5FK	AE7YH
N0JSP	VE3XMP	WA5JDV	KL7IH
K0ZAR	W3RIP	W5CAP	KB7CSV
K0PIR	N3BPM	W5GQW	AC7KN
N0ARN	K3UMW	K5PCS	WX7MRI
AB0XS	K3EDP	K5PPK	NA7V
K1RAA	W3GFM	W5AJO	K7REK
KB1RVU	W3ZR	N5JED	K7RRT
K1MLG	WB3AMR	KR5LYS	NV7LV
KB1RSE	KC3FZM	KF5DBN	KD8KBX
W1PEF	KI4NSP	K5YNC	KC8TDC
W1ELM	W4YL	KW5EBB	KD8HDK
N1QLL	K4JZQ	N5FYR	KD8EVN
AD1ET	K4DHT	K5TIT	W8SWT
W2JV	KB4RDH	W5HRH	KB8ESY
2M0DDS	KK4EGZ	KK6ABZ	KD8JOX
AC2NG	WA4KSO	N6JUA	W8TRU
KC2ZWP	KD4EAQ	KE6GTR	VE9ZZ
N2RXX	N4UOG	KJ6VVG	K9IGJ
KC2ATK	K4NSX	N6RXV	W9FML
WA2CG	W4ZEE	W6BQZ	AA9BB
VY2DS	KI4P	KB6NOX	WW9H
	WQ4W	AI6B	K9EJI
	KM4WNK	KF7KIN	WW9H
	KC4UBE	K7OUO	AC9TU
	W4DDT	WB7VNL	WB9TQW

New Members

We welcome the following New Members to the YLISSB ranks...

17762 KA2R Marty from New York
17763 KE0TTR Dr. Bob from North Dakota
17764 KX1A David from New Hampshire
17765 KE0RTD Joshua from Minnesota
17766 W9PFD Dave from Illinois
17767 N6GVU Rich from Nevada
17768 KB9CWU Robin from Indiana
17769 WJ0JKW Jeff from Iowa
17770 KD0AYN Del from South Dakota
17771 KI5DLS Ken from Texas
17772 K5AVL Sparky from Texas
17773 KC2OSR Sam from New Jersey
17774 KG6BOJ Steven from California
17775 N5DEB Dr. B from Texas
17776 KE0IGK Eric from North Dakota
17777 KN4DXH Ernie from Florida
17778 KI5HDT Stan from New Mexico
17779 K4CKW Clay from Virginia
17780 VE5MEX Melissa from Saskatchewan
17781 K6AAI Al from California
17782 KM4DCQ David from Virginia
17783 W7MIN Gary from Arizona

Care and Feeding of your Pet Ham

Pet Hams are so intelligent they often seem human, but they can be difficult to raise. Only someone with great patience should attempt it. In case you do, here is a guide to the basics.

Living Area: A pet ham needs a private nest area, an entire room or shack where it will not be disturbed. Your pet ham will spend many happy hours alone there with its treasures –boxes, wires, bits of metal, glass, paper, etc. that it will bring home whenever it ventures out. You will want to encourage your pet ham to confine its activity to this shack to prevent the entire house from being subjected to noise, clutter and the boring of holes in the walls.

Expenses: Keeping a pet ham is expensive, but, unlike most common pets, a pet ham can be trained to work outside the home for a few hours each day. It may even bring in enough money to offset its expenses.

Feeding: A well-behaved pet ham will eat with the family occasionally, but it will feel more comfortable and secure taking its meals in the ham shack. You must be sure your pet ham is well supplied with food and drink during the long periods it spends alone in there, even if it does not beg or whine.

Obedience Training: A pet ham can be trained to perform simple tricks, the easiest and most common being "Sit" and "Speak". Do not be alarmed if it practices them for hours at a time in the ham shack.

Health Problems: The pet ham typically suffers lower back pain and minor throat irritations from too much sitting and speaking, but health maintenance costs tend to be minimal.

Travel: Your pet ham will gladly travel with your family by car or even by air, if allowed to bring along certain familiar items from the ham shack. Most pet hams enjoy trips to places where they can meet pet hams from other families.

Breeding: If you plan to breed your pet ham, you should do so as soon as possible after you get it. As a pet ham matures, it becomes increasingly reluctant to engage in activities not associated with its ham shack collection.

Thank you to ALARA for this. 73, Rose KL7FQQ

Retrieving the Transmitter From the RMS Titanic

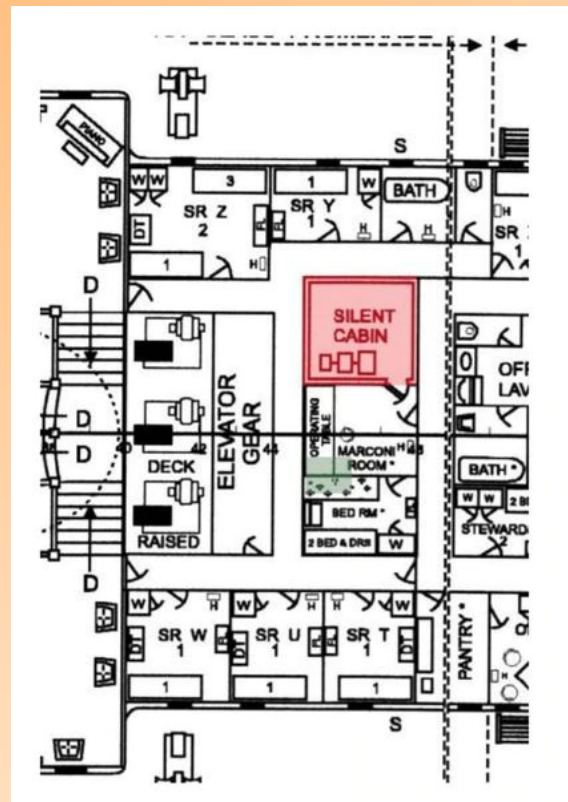
April 15th this year marked the 108th anniversary of the loss of the RMS Titanic. Now a group of folks are planning to enter the Radio Room with a remotely controlled robot and remove the Marconi transmitter that sent their final messages.

I was totally amazed at the photographs (before and after) of what Titanic's Radio Room looked then and now. Here are some of the links I found, and they are really exciting...

<https://www.bostonglobe.com/2020/02/28/metro/photo-gallery-explore-titanics-wireless-rooms-where-desperate-messages-were-sent-ships-final-moments/>

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/history/2020/01/21/titanic-treaty-salvage-expedition/>

We should also remember Jack Phillips, Titanic's radio operator who went down with his ship. RIP.



YLISSB - Tracing the History

By Bruce J. Tisdale K9ICP - YLISSB Historian

Almost every issue of the “SSB’er Voice” going back to the 1960s outlines the “YL International SSB’er system Procedures”. While time has made some of these procedures less applicable today, many are still important for us to following. The following happen to be taken from April 1965.

It is imperative that these procedures be adhered to in all instances if our Systems are to maintain efficiency.

A: Never, but Never, refer to the System as a net! It is a Communication System, not a Net.

B: As members check in, we exhort them to 100% zero beat system control. To be precisely on frequency is a must.

C: To W/K: Check in, when your district is called, and only then, unless you are reporting and emergency, or a low power station, or a DX station trying to check in.

D: DX stations may check in at any time.

E: Do not call a DX station whom you have not heard. If he heard you, he will call you. There will always be another round.

F: Make contact brief, concise, always use Phonetics. Confine comments to signal report, name and SSB number. Once contact has been established, it is unnecessary, and time consuming, to keep repeating calls each exchange!

G: Do not ask the System to handle routine traffic. There are many Traffic nets. SSB’er handles only emergency traffic.

H: Don’t QRM a contact. This wastes time and accomplishes nothing. The contact then must be done all over again and you are just that much further away from your turn for contacts. Never, under any circumstances, repeat a signal report for others. This nullifies the legality of the contact. If the contact is made fine – if not there will always be tomorrow.

YLISSB History (Cont.)

When W/K stations inadvertently QRM our communication system, they must never be ordered off the frequency. Rather, they should be courteously invited to participate with us if they wish, stating briefly that the frequency is in use.

Courtesy, under all conditions, provocative or otherwise, shall continue to be the hallmark of the YL International SSB'ers, Inc.

Finally, low-power stations must be given every consideration and legitimate assistance. Remember, they are members, too, and the System belongs to them on an equal par as the KW stations with a 6-element beam!

Another Note from Bill Phillips W7AJP

WHAT? MY HAM CALL IS IMPORTANT? On the YLSYSTEM.ORG web site, you must use your FCC ISSUED HAM CALL as their "USERNAME" and then use the web site registered PASSWORD to access. Early in our set up of the system, some members made up a different "USERNAME." The Treasurer and other volunteers are working to ensure all USERNAMES are current FCC issued calls. Each change "back" to your ham call takes about 20-30 minutes to print, set-up, re-enter your profile, and then track and attach your prior payments to your account.

Use of your HAM CALL as a USERNAME further eliminates non-members from gaining access to the web site and to our members. We work diligently to keep your information secure.

Awards and TFOs

Sorry, no awards or TFOs this month. Stay tuned!

And finally...

Looking ahead, you can expect to see a lot of information forthcoming about the YLISSB Convention to be held in **2021** at Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin. In the meantime, here are some links you may find interesting. (Note: Don't book reservations yet, we still have to cut the contracts to get our discounts!) And they all will provide to-and-from transportation, too!

Our hotel is Sunset Bay Resort... <https://www.sunsetbayresort.com/>
Boat rides in the Upper Dells... <https://www.dellsboats.com/>
Duck rides in the Lower Dells... <https://www.wisconsinducktours.com/>
Train rides at the Train Museum... <https://www.midcontinent.org/>

– and even–

Ho-Chunk Casino... <https://www.ho-chungaming.com/wisconsinDells/>

We're also planning on several presentations on weather reporting by the National Weather Service, ham radio stuff you've always wanted to try, how to include solar power in your ham shack, and we'll have a live ham shack setup in our own "living room" at the Resort.

And on our public service side, we'll be hosting the local Scouts to help get their Radio Merit Badges. (I'm an old Eagle Scout... 53 years ago!)

(... Holy Moly!... 53 years! ...I think I'll go take a nap...)



If you have stuff you'd like to see published in The Communicator, please send it to me at jim@pandzik.com and I'll see it gets in. Thanks!

P.S. If you send photos, we'll assume we have permission to publish from BOTH the subject and the photographer. (Sorry, it's that kind of world!)

P.P.S. And please send captions to photos with names and/or callsigns! I probably know your voice from the system, but not your face!