

November Communicator 2024 Issue 333

The Wrath of Helene



President's Message

I was born with a unique ability to recognize images before I could read. It is called photo eidetic memory. I have struggled with the devastation death and mayhem, in which we all endured during in the month of October, finding myself encountering 1000's of words to describe the events which have unfolded and are still unfolding. I have chosen to attach photos representing 1000's of words of their own.

In closing, God Bless America, the first responders, medical professionals, and the radio operators who stepped up to assist with search and rescue efforts.

Not forgetting the 200 + souls and those still unaccounted for in this devastation.

With sadness I present this report.

Bill W4WSB
President YLSystem

John KB4SGA Fighting with Helene



Contest and TFO Awards

Congratulations to Craig KC7UXM as the newest TFO #626

Silent Keys

It is with deep regret that we report the passing of our YLISSB FAMILY MEMBERS:

#15222 N3AO Craigie Carter (Sept. 24)

#16737 K4ADY Bill Stephens (Oct. 24)

#17046 N0TZQ Bob Bahan. (Oct. 24)

New Members

19316 K3RFG	19326 KC3VVY	19336 KQ4JXF
19317 WW8PR	19327 W0VIK	19337 W5DOC
19318 AG7E	19328 KK7RUV	19338 KF0LJT
19319 KC9ZKY	19329 KQ4STB	
19320 KD2VVJ	330 W6OEM	
19321 KA0HW	19331 K0CFN	
19322 KC1NYC	19332 KF0QEL	
19323 KE4POU	19333 K0OPP	
19324 KJ7JJT	19334 N0KGM	
19325 KS2H	19335 K7BGF	

Birthdays

AA2XY	KE8ZWH	W2JJV
AA7KJ	KG5FZ	W4BAX
AC5EX	KG5URA	W4BDB
AC5RH	KI5NXR	W4CNB
AD5UJ	KI5UAF	W4CUV
K0DLX	KI7HCK	W4DWS
K0LU	KJ0HN	W5KAC
K0PTK	KK7MNX	W5SZK
K2MGL	KM4LEW	W5WOC
K4RCR	KN6STC	W7CAR
K9ICP	KO4OMY	W8SCY
KA4AUT	KO4RHF	W9GTZ
KB4ZZR	KZ5E	W9MGB
KB5LIA	N0GFQ	WA5FMY
KC2OMG	N3BPD	WA5KSC
KC3VEV	N4MKT	WA9SUG
KC5P	N4PPC	WB7OKU
KD0KPM	N5IVY	WB8FCC
KD6IQW	N5OTV	WD9HMC
KD9TII	N5VHX	WO8L
KE0LOT	N6GEB	
KE5ARQ	N8JNS	
KE6SYT	NM5RF	
KE6TV	NR9P	
KE8YGW	W0UXO	
KE8ZQP	W1DAQ	

Anniversaries

AA0GP

AE4AG

K1CPT

K3YZF

K4EDT

K7RRY

KA4PZY

KB4SGA

KC0WTT

KC4YCH

KD2EKP

KE0OGS

KE2DBQ

KE7QWZ

KF0NCB

KI7PTY

KJ5BAC

KL7YK

KL7YK

KM4LEW

KM7AFF

KQ4KFN

KW9Q

N4DLM

4ZRK

N5SRC

N7HIG

NJ0A

W0EO

W0LP

W0QPR

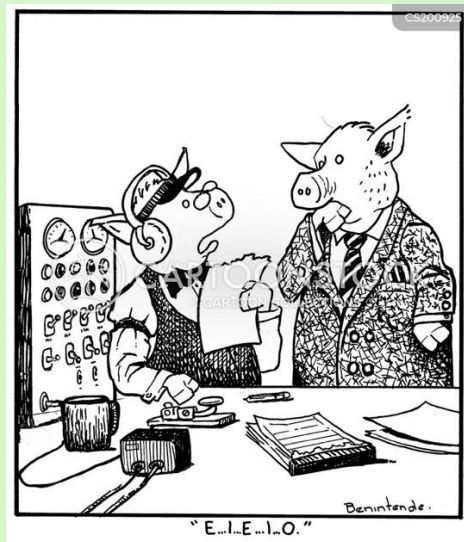
W3UF

W4CNB

W5EH

W9FE

WN0K





YLISSB – Retracing the history

(Summarized by Bruce Tisdale, K9ICP, YL System Historian)

Whether you are new to the System or a veteran who is just curious, you may find this article answers questions like:

- 1) Why are we called the YL System when there are so many OMs?
- 2) Why is it called a System instead of a net?
- 3) Who started the System and what was its purpose?
- 4) Why do we use the call “K4ICA” for special events and how did we decide on that call sign?

So, who started the YL System? Our System foundress is V. Mayree Tallman. V. Mayree was born in Arkansas and worked in the Arkansas state legislature, trained as a nurse, played the organ at church, and eventually went to flight school to become a stewardess. She also had some success writing and selling short stories. She married Dr. Maurice Tallman, a foremost physician and surgeon in 1947.

During a trip out west in 1957, V. Mayree visited her sister and her husband who was a licensed ham. During that visit it was suggested that V. Mayree get her ham license. She pursued this suggestion and

got her license. Shortly thereafter she upgraded to general class. She was given the call sign K4ICA.

During the early 1960s. V. Mayree realized that ham radio afforded a much higher potential than just a hobby. This led to her organizing a worldwide emergency communication system. There were no cell phones, personal computers or internet at that time, so a communication network was the only way to effectively address worldwide emergency needs. This is why the YLISSB is known as a “System” rather than a net.

The YLISSB was initially established in 1963 for YLs only. At that time, YLs were very much a marginal group in the ham radio community. However, as the System quickly grew and became recognized for its services, OMs were given the opportunity to also join.

V. Mayree Talman, K4ICA died in 2001 and is recognized as YLISSB'er #1. In recognition and as a memorial to her accomplishments, the System uses her call sign in its special operations events. (See more historical information on our website for details).

To be continued next month ...

**From Bill, W7AJP
GET A FUN, HELPFUL AWARD
Yes, you can!**



On a trip, my wife and I visited with fellow YL System friends in three stops. Each are people I met through the System. As soon as I did the e-mail paperwork, a beautiful award arrived in my email.

FIRST STOP: I remember years ago speaking to an “Old Cowboy” in Guernsey, Wyoming. It was **CARL, K7OUO**. And through the years our contacts on 20 meters were special, hearing of the snow, his mule, and living out in the country. Twice, my wife and I drove a few miles East of I-25 and had breakfast with Carl at his favorite local restaurant. In fact, it was the only one in town.

This time, **CARL** had moved hundreds of miles East to Rock Springs and is staying in a Assisted Living Facility. **CARL** described on the phone how to get to his place, “crossing the River and heading up the hill, going by a bunch of businesses on the right then looking for the tallest group of pine trees on the left. I am in that two-story building to the left. I will be looking for you.” And he was! He was the same cheerful friend I met years before, only has a 2 meter radio in his room, but stays in touch. He asked about so many of YOU on the System and told of his fun contacts, and even meeting up with **ROSE** and **Stan (SK) Rybechek, KL7FQQ**, our former President.

Our **SECOND STOP** was to visit with **GRADY, KB5SDU**. I first met GRADY in 1963 when he was a teenager living in Natchitoches in 1963. Nearly 50 years later, after hearing his Southern Accent on the air, I asked a few questions to both of us realizing we had met in 1963. **GRADY** is a Handi-Ham and we renewed our friendship. Joan and I visited GRADY at his home in October of this year (His radio has a microphone issue and he has someone looking into it, so he is off the air right now). I told him **JANE, N1PVT (SK)**, sent him a hug, and he said, “I will just take it from your wife!” Yep, that is my long-time friend **GRADY** that I became re-acquainted with via the YL SYSTEM.

Our **THIRD STOP** involved a trip to Hattiesburg, MS. There we visited **MARIA, N0TWV (SK)**, in an Assisted Living facility. Soon, we were joined by other YL SYSTEM friends: **LARRY, AG5Z, and his XYL, SYLVIA, W5DRI (SK)**. These two regularly visit her and maintain her birdfeeders outdoors. Then, **LEE, K5TLL**, and his wife Barbara, a TECH and may soon become a member. LEE and LARRY had assisted **MARIA** in rebuilding and putting up **MARIA & MACK's (SK)** antenna when they moved from Colorado.

MEMORIES and a fun visit were topped off when **MARIA** took us to the Dining area where nearly every afternoon at 4 PM, she plays the piano, most often with her favorite hymns. A group gathered and we sang. (**MARIA and MACK(SK)** served in a Seminary in Mexico City as missionaries until their retirement). What great visits!

We made 6 YLISSB Hams for "EYE-BALL QSOs". They were fun visits, renewals of old times. I hope to do it again "if and when" I travel outside of Veneta, Oregon.

YOU CAN DO THE SAME. It is accumulative within the year. I await that attractive award coming in my email.



Special Days

For the year 2024, the YLISSB has set aside special days each month to work for a special DAILY AWARD.

There are also special MONTHLY AWARDS that are listed in the Awards Criteria. For the SPECIAL DAYS, the hunting is just for that day, but it can be obtained by working stations on System frequencies on different bands. For instance, if the award says January 22, you can work K4ICA on the 20 M System at any time on January 22, and you can also count K4ICA if you work it on the 40 M System. If you complete all 12 Special Day Awards for 2024, you will receive a Special Award at the next convention.

A special request goes out to those members holding the particular noted awards or honor required for obtaining the Special Day Award.

Please make an effort on those days to be on the System to help our fellow members qualify for the awards.

K4ICA may count for more than one contact. Check the web page for final details.

January 19 – SNOWFLAKE AWARD Contact nine (9) members whose call signs contain one (1) letter S, N, O, W, F, L, A, K, and E. One contact for each letter. K4ICA will count as one (1) contact.

February 9 – HAPPY BIRTHDAY This is our Birthday. To complete this award 12 contacts will be made from our Officers, Emeritus Council Members, or Committee Chairmen. K4ICA will count for three (3) contacts.

March 15 – IRISH AWARD Contact ten (10) members whose sideband number ends with a “1” or a “7” or any Irish stations. Irish stations count for two (2) contacts. K4ICA counts as two (2) contacts and can be used (1) time.

April 05 – AMBASSADOR AWARD Contact Ten (10) Ambassadors or Ambassadors Extraordinaire of the YLISSB. K4ICA will count as two (2) contacts. Because many of our Ambassadors also hold the honor

Ambassador Extraordinaire, those members can only be used once. No duplicates will be allowed. List will be provided after January 1.

May 3 – MAY DAY AWARD Contact ten (10) members whose YLISSB numbers are below 17,000. K4ICA will count for two (2) contacts.

June 6 – JUNE CUATRO AWARD Contact five (5) members whose number ends with a four (4). K4ICA counts as one (1) contact.

July 5 – FIRST RESPONDERS AWARD Contact six (6) members as designated on Netlogger. K4ICA will count as one (1) contact.

August 2 – TFO DAY AWARD Contact ten (10) stations that have TFO numbers. K4ICA counts as one (1) contact.

September 20 – AUTUMN DAY AWARD Contact nine (9) members whose Sideband number ends in a nine (9) or a zero (0). K4ICA will count as 2 contacts. Only 1 contact per individual member will qualify for the award— example: if the contact is made on 20 meters, that station cannot be used on 40 meters. K4ICA will count as one (1) contact on both 20 and 40 meters.

October 4 – JACK-O-LANTERN AWARD Contact ten (10) members whose YLISSB number ends in a one (1) or three (3). K4ICA counts as one (1) contact.

November 8 – NOVEMBER LIBERTY AWARD Contact ten (10) members who are designated a Veteran on Netlogger. K4ICA will count as one (1) contact.

December 6 – SANTA AWARD Contact ten (10) members to spell Santa Claus using any letters from the call sign suffix and first name as it is shown on Netlogger. One contact for each letter. The contacts used for the Santa Award cannot be used on that day for the SANTA MONTHLY AWARD. K4ICA will count as one (1) contact.



Monthly Awards

SNOWY JANUARY AWARD: January 1 thru 31

Contact 30 members from any State, Province, or Country that has snow on the ground

at the time of the contact.

FEBRUARY: YLSYSTEM BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION: February 1 thru 29, 2024

To celebrate the birthday of the YL System, during the month of February, contact one member for each year of the YL System. 2024 marks our 61st year, so contact 61 member stations during the month. Contacts may be made on any YL System session, on any band. Contacts will count only one time.

MARCH MADNESS: March 1 thru 31

Contact 20 members whose first name sounds Irish, or whose station is located in Ireland

APRIL PRESIDENT'S AWARD: April 1 thru 30

Contact 25 members who have the same name either the first or last as one of the US Presidents.

MAY OLD TIMER'S AWARD: May 1 thru 31

Contact 30 members with a membership number below 17,000.

SUMMER SOLSTICE AWARD: June 1 thru 30

Contact 21 members whose System number ends in a two (2) or one (1)

JULY INDEPENDENCE AWARD: July 1 thru 31

Contact 25 member stations located in the 13 original colonies of the United States. Then original 13 colonies were Delaware, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Georgia, Connecticut, Maryland, South Carolina, New Hampshire, Virginia, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island.

AUGUST SUMMER HEAT AWARD: August 1 thru 31

Contact 30 members who have a TFO number, or the Rigel Award. Each member contacted counts as only one contact.

SEPTEMBER AUTUMN EAGLE AWARD: September 1 thru 30

Contact 25 members with a membership number ending with a number 6, or 8.

OCTOBER HALLOWEEN AWARD: October 1 thru 31

Contact 31 members with a membership number ending with a 3 or a 1

NOVEMBER VETERAN'S AWARD: November 1 thru 30

Contact 25 veterans of their country's military service.

DECEMBER SANTA AWARD: December 1 thru 31

Contact 25 members with a membership number ending with a 2 or a 5.

Email your qualifying QSO's to: awards@ylsystem.org



If you have information or ideas for topics you would like to see published in The Communicator, please send to:

communicator@ylsystem.org

We will see that it gets in. Thanks!

P.S. If you send photos, we will assume we have permission to publish from BOTH the subject and the photographer.

P.P.S. Please send captions for photos with names and callsigns! We might know your voice from the system, but not your face!