

The **COMMUNICATOR**

October 2025

The YL System since 1963

Issue 344

HONOR



DEDICATION

FRIENDSHIP



HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Octobers Presidents Message

Greetings All,

Fall is arriving quickly across the country; cooler temperatures are sinking south with the sun. The equinox periods happen to offer great ionic conditions for 20-meter propagation, during this period the ionosphere is more active, reflecting radio waves more efficiently.

Especially in the F layer the layer of the ionosphere we use on 20 meters. Spring and fall also offer a balanced ionosphere ...not too much ionization and not too little the "Goldilocks" of conditions offering great single bounce skip and an increased gray line allowing longer and reliable contacts.

Regardless of the conditions, one enjoyable aspect to the hobby is to strive to always improve your station.... 1/2 dB here a 1/2 there, makes a big difference by the time your signal stands off the metal.

See you on the logs,

Bill

W4WSB

President

Important Message from the Treasurer

Preparing for Dues Renewal Season

As we approach the upcoming dues renewal season, I kindly ask all members to ensure that your personal information is current on the YL System website. This includes your call sign, mailing address, telephone number, and email address.

If you have any changes or updates to report, please send them directly to treasurer@ylsystem.org. Keeping your information accurate helps us maintain effective communication and ensures you receive all important updates.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

73,
Jack, K9XXT
Treasurer





Award Day

October 6

JACK-O-LANTERN

Contact ten (10) members whose YLISSB number ends in a one (1) or three (3). K4ICA

OCTOBER

HALLOWEEN

AWARD

October 1 thru 31

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



Welcome YLSystem New Members

In the September issue there a wrong membership number. KE9CXU John Hayes was listed as 19541. His member number is 19549.

Arkansas

Ray Phillips N0RCP – 19551

Lonnie Seery KC0ZKA – 19552

Charles Rakes KI5AZ – 19564

California

Roy Scellato KB6GHF – 19554

James Wilson K6WRJ – 19565

John Hills KO6KFH – 19567

Florida

James Ford KQ4KME – 19555

Illinois

John Duncan N9SPG – 19559

Ohio

Paul Flower N8IG – 19561

Maryland

Mark Walker AC3EW – 19563

North Carolina

Radio Ray Rising K4LWJ – 19558

South Dakota

Jim Didier K0JLD – 19557

Bill Forbush N8EMS – 19562

Texas

Bryan Zawikowske K5BJZ – 19553

Kevin Alcorn KC4UNA – 19566

Virginia

Mike King AC6JW – 19556

Wisconsin

Greg Landretti N9HCY – 19560

Vanity Call Signs

It I am Jim Ligman, member #19321. I was first licensed as WA9PEG (General) along with my Dad WA9OHW in 1966. When I finally retired and achieved Amateur Extra status in TN I successfully applied for my dad's call sign WA9OHW, Jim - Old Hot Water.

If you would like to share the story behind your vanity call sign, please send this information to communicator@ylsystem.org.



From The Desk Of Awards Manager - Fran AF7YL



The following award certificates were awarded in September 2025:

One member earned the September Special Day Award: **Autumn Day**

- This award is granted for contacting nine members whose Sideband number ends in a nine or a zero.

Robert Showell, Callsign, KJ5PBZ - **Autumn Day Award**

One member earned the September Monthly Award: Autumn Eagle Award

- This award is granted for contacting 25 members with a membership number ending with a number 6 or 8.

Robert Showell, Callsign, KJ5PBZ - **Autumn Eagle Award**

UPCOMING AWARDS FOR November

November Special Day - November 12

NOVEMBER LIBERTY AWARD

To complete this award, contact 10 members on November 12 who are designated a Veteran on Netlogger

November Monthly Award

VETERAN'S AWARD

To complete this award, contact 25 veterans of their country's military service.



ONGOING AWARDS

Autumn Award - This award is earned by working any 50 members during the Second and Third daily periods and ONLY during the months of September, October, and November.

Century - The initial award is issued for contacting 100 members with membership numbers ending with 00 through 99. For example: 17,000, 17,011, 17,099.

WAS-Worked All States - Issued for contacting one member station in all 50 states of the United States.

How to Participate in the Awards Program

Get on the air and start making contacts! These awards are open to all club members, and we encourage everyone to participate, from seasoned operators to those just getting started.

Keep a spreadsheet of your contacts to verify you've met the requirements. Be sure to include date, time, frequency, station callsigns, and YL System Member ID# for each contact.

Submit your log via email to awards@ylsystem.org.





Back in 1990, just after I became a Ham operator, I started tuning the bands and came across the YLISSB System, on 14.332. That was my first initial knowing of the System. Jda, KB5YQ was the controller. I was not brave enough to key up for about 2 years. Then one day I decided to check in. That was the beginning of my tenure with the YL System.

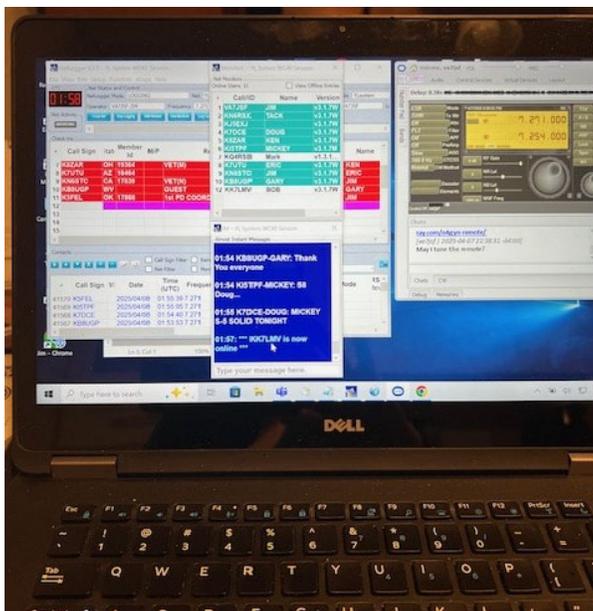
After a few years of checking in, I began to help Jda with the Sunrise Portion of the System and I even got to do it from the club station in Halifax, VE1FQ. During the time of helping out, there were many people that were “recruited” into the System by Jda and myself to help out.

When Jda passed away, I took over the Sunrise Portion of the YLISSB System until I moved out west to British Columbia. Since then I became involved with what is known as the WC40 Session that was started by KX9KX-Tom, KX7KX-Alan, KR0ARK-Roark and myself. I was using Tom’s remote to do my calling. Tom has since moved, and I have had to find another shack to use.

All my transmitting from home is being done by remote through Buford Georgia, N4GYN-Ray’s station, which he has allowed me to do. If I am controlling, and any other that will allow me to do so. I am remote all the time. If you hear me calling any other time, I am mobile.

My reason for moving was the birth of my only grandchild. She is now 10 and quite grown up. I enjoy the weather her in West Vancouver. Much better than Halifax.

I am the WC40 meter Coordinator along with being the New Member Certificate Manager. Earlier in my System career, I started the System’s Webpage in 1997 and that ended when all the security stuff started. I didn’t have the knowledge to keep it going and turned it over. When we had QSO Parties, I was also the coordinator who took over from Roger and Rhonda.



Left: My remote station



Right: Recent picture of me



Awards

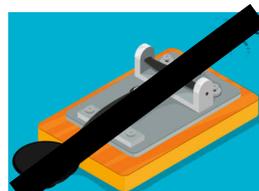


Ham It Up

1. Terry Clay **K5SSL**
2. Shelby Cooper **AG5GP**
Wayne Bell **N4LKL**
3. Micha **W4MRA**
Del Sawyer **K3ILA**
4. John Hash **KQ4VIR**
Jim Nelson **KD9VAN**
Tim Williams **K8TLW**
Dave Lewis **K9VFS**
5. David Putman **KF5UV**
James Walker **KE8QYM**
JoAnn Donaldson **AB8YZ**
Dan Livak **K2DJL**
6. Ed Higginbotham **KD5B**
8. Stan Paget **AI5SS**
Scott Cummings **KE0MND**
10. Carl Marchese **K4BTS**
Mickey Whitley **KN5C**
11. Larry Palmer **KJ7JIT**
Gerald Haas **W8PDS**
Rose Scott **W6IDC**
Bob Bauman **KK7KQP**
13. Thomas Karabees **WD4ESX**
Donald Van Hulle **AD8II**
Benjamin Goings **KM4RTO**
14. Joseph Veca **KK6FYE**
David Mizikar **K3ILA**
15. Charlie Post **WB1ATT**
Scott Miller **NQ2F**
16. Jerry Leather **K4BTS**
17. Mac Steinmeyer **AF4PS**
18. Manny Shulman **NF2Q**
Roderick Baker **K0ROD**
Neal Koch **KE8TCW**
19. Mel Toye **K5KEY**
Bob Ryan **AD9RR**
21. Dave Elmquist **KA4LRQ**
Martin Pittman **W7QHZ**
22. Larry Owens **KD6VXP**
24. Terry Pierson **KF0MWU**
Ray Phillips **N0RCP**
25. Robert Butler **K9YP**
26. Tack Anderson **KN6RSX**
27. David J Green **W2DJG**
Alex Lertora **IW2KUY**
Robert Showell **KJ5PBZ**
28. Richard Felix **AK5C**
29. Tony Van Der Wal **K9UDS**
30. Clifford Fairbanks **KN4HGE**
31. Gonzo Smith **W5PKD**



Silent Keys



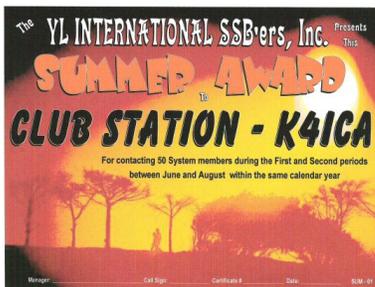
For more information on our awards go to our website ylsystem.org/awards

18055 - **KB6TKA** - Jim Williams

12363 - **W5MJM** - Michael McGlynn



Awards



Happy Anniversary

Members

1. Mark Georgen **WT5DX**
Rich Rossi **N4PSX**
2. Henry Garbade **W4OKT**
Dan Livak **K2DJL**
3. Nickolas Takach **KF8CKL**
William Nicholas **KM4WNL**
5. Justin Vorhis **W4JAV**
Wade Daniel, Jr. **KK4UGY**
6. Larry Owens **KD6VXP**
8. Max **AB0XS**
Michael Harris **K4WNM**
9. Robert Grosso **KO4MLX**
10. Carl Marchese **KQ4X**
11. Bob Epp **K0MEZ**
Brad Wagner **N4BEW**
15. Skip Staton **KK4RI**
16. Joe McGee **K0CFN**
Leon Kirschmann **K0LU**
Roman Downer **N4SC**
Gerard Venlet **W8GV**
17. Patrick Shannon **AB8PS**
James Pandzik **KE9PK**
Ron Sharp **W9TII**
20. Eric Vastine **K7UTU**
Ron Wiley **W9EGA**
21. Timmy Cannon **N2AVY**
Gary Whidby **N4FBM**
22. Larry Palmer **KJ7JJT**
Chris Read **W9OQ**
27. Scott Lynam **W8LUE**
28. John Oren **AA0GD**
Robert Butler **K9YP**
Dave Lewis **K9VFS**
29. Patrick Pellor **W9PDP**
30. Steve McDonald **KC9ZKY**

Vanity Call Signs

I am Jim Ligman, member #19321. I was first licensed as WA9PEG (General) along with my Dad WA9OHW in 1966. When I finally retired and achieved Amateur Extra status in TN I successfully applied for my dad's call sign WA9OHW, Jim - Old Hot Water.

If you would like to share the story behind your vanity call sign, please send this information to communicator@ylsystem.org.

Message from Your Editor KJ5PBZ

Your editor and his XLY Shirley Showell take a driving trip to New Jersey every year to see family. This year we made an effort see YLSystem members that he talks with regularly on the YLSystem. Here are pictures of those visits.

If you would like to share pictures of members you visit please send them to communicator@ylsystem.org



Robert KJ5PBZ and Jose KP4E

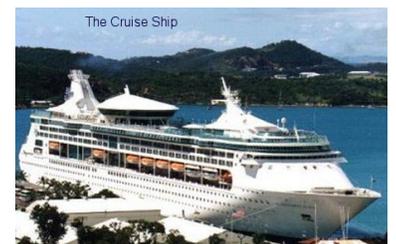
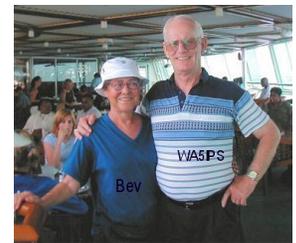


Robert KJ5PBZ & Ron W8BF



Snapshot of History

2003 Caribbean Cruise KU7F



If you have pictures of our conventions that you would like to share with YLSystem members, please send to communicator@ylsystem.org.



Member Spotlight

40 Meter Shrimpboat Crew

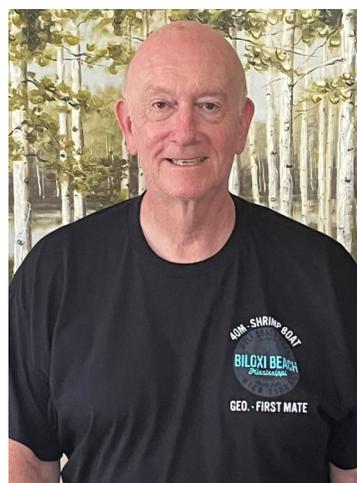
This was submitted by Jim KD9VAN. Many of you have checked in with the 40M East Coast YL System "Shrimpboat" crew, well folks here they are. If you have never checked in with them you can catch them at 7.238Mhz 22:45 UTC Monday thru Friday.



Mac - Captain
Tampa, Florida
First licensed as KS4KSM in
July 1996 Upgraded to Extra
Class in 1999 as AF4PS



JC -Captain (Retired)
Alapaha, Georgia
First licensed as KN4TJG
3/20/2019 Upgraded to
KB4SGA 4/9/2019.



Geo - First Mate
Sheffield Village, Ohio
First licensed in 1986 as
N8LKT. Extra Class in 1989.
Current call sign is NT8F.



Jim - First Mate
East Peoria, Illinois
1963 as novice WN9ICV
1964 to WA9OES.
2022 as KD9VAN



Brad - Deck Hand
Troy, Ohio
First licensed in 2009 as
KD8LWZ upgraded IN
2021 as KD8LWZ



Rick - Deck Hand
Angola, Indiana
Technician in 1993,
upgraded to General
10/5/2015