

HONOR



DEDICATION

FRIENDSHIP

**YL International SSB'ers, Inc.
An Amateur Radio System with a Purpose!**

**A Historical Summary by:
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Publication date: May, 2021

Introduction:

This booklet is intended as a brief history of the YL International Single Sidebander's System (YLISSB). It is dedicated to the many members who have made the YLISSB a success for nearly 60 years. Regardless of whether you are new to the YLISSB or a veteran member, it is important to know and understand its history and origins.

So why is it called the YL System? Doesn't the ham radio community use "YL" to refer to "Young Ladies"? Those who aren't familiar with the YL System history may find this confusing as many men have become a part of the organization.

With so many nets already operating on the ham bands, what was the purpose of this new group and how did it get started? During special on-the-air activities the System uses the call sign K4ICA. What is the significance of this call sign?

Why is it that the YL System refers to itself as a "System" rather than a "Net"? This may not seem like a minor point, but it is an important distinction.

These are just a few of the questions you might have asked yourself if you participated in YLISSB operations and/or became a YLISSB member. Regardless of whether you are new to the System or a veteran member, it's important to know and understand its rich history.

A major reference source for information found in this book was the YLISSB SSBer's Voice. This publication has been a regular communication piece for the System since the beginning. Other sources include documentation from annual conferences, the Communicator (monthly newsletter), and individual member records/recollection.

It is my hope that this book will provide some valuable insights for future members and other interested parties within the Amateur Radio community.

The Foundress and early history of the System:

Like many groups, the YLISSB started with an idea/need that served as a spark and was carried forward and shaped by the hard work of a highly motivated person. This person was V. Mayree Tallman. Her full birth name was Vera Mayree Duke. She was born January 20, 1902 in Mt. George Arkansas. She was the daughter of John Duke and Anna Jeanette. She was the eldest of eight children. After a full lifetime commitment dedicated to continuing the System goals, V. Mayree passed at the age of 99 on June 19, 2001 in Columbia, Tennessee.

V. Mayree lived her early years in Arkansas. After graduating from high school, she had the opportunity to work in the Arkansas state legislature as the enrollment clerk and eventually went into nurse's training. She also loved music and learned to play the organ at church. During this period of time, she experienced personal difficulties in life involving multiple marriages from which she had a young daughter who died of typhoid fever and a son.

However, despite her many challenges she continued to focus on her musical talents and a desire to learn how to fly. While she experienced some musical success, she eventually went to flight school where she had a brief career as a stewardess. She also had some success writing and selling short stories which resulted in her traveling and eventually living in Miami, Florida just prior to World War II (1940).

During her time in Miami, she went to work for Dr. Maurice H. Tallman, one of the world's foremost physician's and surgeon's. Dr. Tallman set up a clinic in the Keys where they treated thousands of patients (including families of service men who were never charged). V. Mayree married Dr. Tallman in 1947. As Dr. Tallman and V. Mayree began to travel out west, V. Mayree's sister's husband Wally, a ham, suggested she get her license. She pursued this suggestion and obtained her general ticket. After a bit more time out west, the Tallman's returned to Miami.

During the early 1960s V. Mayree realized that ham radio afforded a much higher potential than just a hobby. It was apparent to her that YLs lacked much of a voice on the ham radio bands. This was not only due to significantly less licensed YL's compared to licensed OM's, but also their inability to be heard due to low operating power. Not only did she feel this way, but other YLs were also feeling this way. There needed to be a better opportunity for YL's to reach out to one another. This led to her and a few other YLs starting a group called the "YL FINS." This group would be sympathetic to low power and for YL's only. It didn't take long for this group to explode, as YL's from all over the world provided their positive response.

December 7, 1961, was set for the first YL FINS meeting. Around the DX world, the news had spread and in their initial two-hour session, 67 DX YL's checked-in. Two hours was an inadequate time to recognize the many calling in. Initially, the group met on the air each Tuesday and Thursday which generated a bottomless pit of world-wide YLs who were finally able to make contacts and find acceptance.

The scheduled sessions soon became filled to capacity. Rules needed to be established, especially for stateside stations, to keep things moving, such as: "If you cannot copy DX stations, you cannot work them"; there shall be no stateside-to-stateside contacts on the YL Fins while the band is open to DX", and (as the membership grew) "it might be necessary to assign stateside call areas certain days by area to participate". Soon, the DX check-ins became so numerous that stateside YLs were restricted to only three call areas from the 10, alternating each meeting.

However spectacular this fun side was (getting to know everyone), it was only a prelude to greater things. Never once during the interlude of fourteen months (establishing the foundation) did the projected world-wide emergency communication system escape the group. There was no real proto type for this type of on-the-air operation. It was to be unique, humanitarian, fair, considerate and combining the serious "humanitarian" side with the "fun" side.

On February 9, 1963 the YL international SSB'er (YL System) was officially born!!!

Its CREDO would be: “We believe in the Dignity of man.”

Its MOTTO to be: “Dedicated to the building of friendship among all the peoples of the earth through amateur radio, and to be of service to our fellowman”.

Other significant milestone:

- Before long, the YLISSB acceded to the pleas from the listening OMs to be allowed to participate, but only after the YLs have made all their contacts first!
- The first designated 20-meter frequency was 14.333 Mhz. While it may vary depending on activities on the band the current 20-meter frequency is still 14.332 Mhz. (See website for other bands and frequencies being used).
- Following V. Mayree’s passing in 2001, her call sign became the Memorial call sign for the System (K4ICA).
- V. Mayree became the first president of the YLISSB. To date there have been 16 YLISSB presidents including the current president, Rose Rybachek, KL7FQQ. (see listing below of all the past YLISSB presidents).
- Newsletter #1 (SSB’ers Voice), with handwritten addresses, was mailed from Miami in May, 1963, with the first mimeographed membership list included.
- On April 5, 1963, V. Mayree announced that she was beginning the task of assigning SSB’er numbers. The award program was underway, and by way of identification, SSB’er numbers were imperative.
- In August 1963 V. Mayree announced in Newsletter #2 the incorporation of SSB’er, approved by the Florida Secretary of State. In this Newsletter appeared the news that now there were 1,500 members. (In the early 2000s the incorporation of the YLISSB was moved to Alaska.)
- SSB’ers Voice #3, the last of the mimeographed editions stated that there were now 1,967 members. The front cover of the Voice prominently featured an empty box with the notation “This space reserved for forthcoming insignia” (tucked in the left-hand corner flickered a tiny candle). “The Torch of Friendship” became the SSB’ers insignia, gracing the

front cover of SSB'ers Voice #4. The Torch embodied the specific ideals and purposes of SSB'ers. (See picture at the end)

- During the period 1963-64 each day a system control would open the System and assume duties for the entire day (normally 10-13 hours without a break).
- Not long after the System began operations it became common knowledge world-wide that "if you have an emergency go to 14.332 – SSB'ers can handle it for you". Many days as the System opened one or two would be waiting on frequency. Remember, at that time there were no cellphones or internet to communicate with the outside world!!!
- Emergencies sprang from everywhere! In January of 1964, one day alone SSB'ers handled seven, all successfully and expeditiously. No day went by without several. In the same month of January 1964, our communication system handled 607 messages classified as emergencies from the Panama Canal Zone. No emergency was too great or too small for these were but the fulfillment of our reason for being.
- These were not your run of the mill type of emergencies. Frequently there were world-wide medical emergencies, ships at sea in distress, messages needing to be passed from or to armed forces members, or emergency support needed for individuals in remote location.
- A special recognition program was developed for members providing exceptional skills and performance in serving the purposes of the System. This was known as the Top Flight Operators (TFO) award. A special number was assigned to each award issued to members of this elite group. Currently, there are nearly 600 members who have received this award.
- Early on there was a recognition that the System's need to come together periodically to review accomplishments, recognize individuals for their hard work during the year, and get to know each other face to face.
- Arizona Senate and Presidential candidate Barry Goldwater (K7UGA) (#1836) was one of the System's many famous members. He was well-known for support for ham radio. In addition, King Hussein of Jordan (JY1) (#8097) and his wife JY2 (#8098) were member of the System.
- The first YLISSB convention was held in Miami, Florida on January 1966. It was held in conjunction with the Southeastern Division of ARRL and the Tri-

County “Hamboree”. Over the years the convention has been continued and held in various location in and outside the continental United States (see listing below of past convention locations).

- In late 1964 a special SSB’ers ZL-VK System (New Zealand – Australia) began operations. The new System session was to begin operations at 00:30 GMT (UTC) each Friday night. This session also served many other areas of the Pacific area such as Tasmania and the Campbell Islands.
- The System’s QSO party beginning in 1963 became a world-wide event. The novelty of the DX/WK team category in 1966 caught fire with 52 teams submitting logs. The 1968 QSO Party offered, for the first time, a separate CW section. The QSO Party was highly successful for many years until it was discontinued after 2016 due to lack of participant activity.
- The YLISSB also had their own QSL bureau. Several QSL managers were established to handle QSL requests from different call areas and DX. The QSL Bureau was discontinued in 2009 due to lack of activity. However, the System still has a dedicated QSL manager for its club station, K4ICA.
- Around 2001 the YL System acquired its own homepage and searchable database thanks to the work of Jim Flowers (VE1JIM). This has subsequently been revised and updated since that time.
- A special recognition award called the “Founders Award” was approved by the board in 2003 to honor the System Foundress, V. Mayree Tallman. This award was in recognition of “outstanding dedication and service to the YL System”.
- The YL System decided in 2017 that it needed a stronger and more secure website. Thanks to the direct and effort of John Royo (AE7YH) a new website was competed.

A legacy of YLISSB people and place:

The YLISSB bylaws has always required the president to be a YL. The following is a listing of the System’s presidents beginning with our foundress V. Mayree Tallman.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Call Sign</u>	<u>Sideband #</u>
• V. Mayree Tallman	K4ICA	1
• Jessie Billon	K6GJ (AKA: WA6OET)	46
• Elizabeth Kuegeman	K7UXN	44
• Marcia Guest	WA4SBK	4
• Phyllis Shanks	W2GLB	150
• Ellie Hornor	K4RHL	3
• Andrea Parker	K1WLX	5196
• Janice Weaver	N7YL	12553
• Barbara Neiman	KE5ZI	5021
• Margaret Weber	WB9USL	8970
• Eleonore Odom	N5BYF	14372
• Florence Reitzel	KU7F	12257
• Elsie White	WA6TGR	14912
• Rose Rybachek	KL7FQQ	6098
• Jane Oliver	N1PVT	15616
• Bobbie Livingston	K4ZGH	16735

As mentioned earlier the YL System had its first convention in 1966. Since then, this annual event has rotated to many different locations in order to accommodate the membership's geography. These conventions have served as an opportunity to not only conduct System business needs as well as to recognize special member achievements/awards and just get to eyeball those many friends made while on the air.

<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Host</u>
• Miami	Florida	1966	K4RHL
• New Orleans	Louisiana	1968	K4ICA

- Chicago Illinois 1971 K9MAS
- Treasurer Island Florida 1972 W4CZS
- Minneapolis Minnesota 1973 W0UUE
- Oklahoma City Oklahoma 1974 K5LIL
- Orca Island Washington 1975 K7UXN
- Long Island New York 1976 W2GLB/K2AMN
- Salt Lake City Utah 1977 WA7COQ
- Los Angeles California 1978 W6CBA
- Hot Springs Arkansas 1979 WD5FQX
- Ft. Lauderdale Florida 1980 K4RHL/WA4UYZ
- Denver Colorado 1981 K4ICA
- Milwaukee Wisconsin 1982 KB9OC
- Dallas Texas 1983 KC5UO/W5UJO
- Las Vegas Nevada 1984 N7YL
- Sugar Loaf Mtn. Maine 1985 KA1JC
- Seattle Washington 1986 KU7F
- Des Moines Iowa 1987 WA0AVW
- Orlando Florida 1988 KP4AOD
- Honolulu Hawaii 1989 KU7F/K1ILF
- Racine Wisconsin 1990 WA0PFV/9
- Colorado Springs Colorado 1991 KBOQI
- Richmond Virginia 1992 WA4CUU
- Des Moines Iowa 1993 WA0AVW
- Strasburg Pennsylvania 1994 KC3XL/WA3JBJ
- Portland Oregon 1995 W7GUR/KU7F
- Lafayette Indiana 1996 WB9USL/VP5RW
- Annapolis Maryland 1997 KA3CDQ
- Barbados West Indies 1998 8P6OP
- Halifax Canada 1999 VE1JIM
- El Paso Texas 2000 WA5IPS
- Fort Dodge Iowa 2001 KF0NU
- Fairbanks Alaska 2002 KL7FQQ/KL7FQR
- Caribbean Cruise Caribbean 2003 KU7F

- Nashville Tennessee 2004 WB4ILS
- Bismarck N. Dakota 2005 WB7ITR
- Branson Missouri 2006 AD0BC
- Durango Colorado 2007 NOTWV/KC0CRS
- Halifax Canada 2008 VE1JIM
- Spokane Valley Washington 2009 KL7FQQ/KL7FQR
- Columbia South Carolina 2010 KA4WNS/KG4WNS
- San Pedro California 2011 K6ZNL/KJ6JPZ
- South Padre Isl. Texas 2012 KB0TFK/AB0EG
- Colorado Springs Colorado 2013 AE0AR
- Sarasota Florida 2014 W4JMJ
- Erwin Tennessee 2015 KC2UZT/KB1TUY
- Grand Fork No. Dakota 2016 KG0YL
- Edinburgh Indiana 2017 K9ICP
- Lancaster Pennsylvania 2018 AB3TY
- Fairbanks Alaska 2019 KL7FQQ
- Cancelled Via Zoom 2020
- Cancelled Via Zoom 2021

In addition, there were mini-conventions in Boston, MA., Fairbanks, AK., Jamaica, and Kansas City, MO. in 1970. Conventions planned for Missouri (2020) and Wisconsin (2021) were cancelled due to the COVID-19 virus.

System – Not a Net:

Why is it important to call the YLISSB a system? Isn't this just semantics? While it may not be obvious to those not acquainted with the YLISSB, there is an important difference. To quote V. Mayree from the September 1964 SSB'ers:

“The SSB'ers communication system is NEVER to be referred to as a “net”! There is a vast difference between a “net” and a communication system. We have gone to great lengths to, set up a communication system whereby emergency traffic to or from any country in the world may be handled all the while strictly adhering to the FCC regulations.

“Where third party traffic is involved, to or from countries with whom we have no reciprocal agreement, we may pass the traffic to a reciprocal country who has reciprocal agreement. For example: Canada or Mexico or any number of the Central & South American countries – who, in turn, may follow through.”

Thus, it is possible to expeditiously via this method, while never deviating one iota from FCC regulations, pass international emergency traffic.

“This elevates SSB’ers to the category of a communication system. We adjure not only the system controls but also each member to proudly identify your communication system as such and never refer to it as a ‘net’.”

While today it is recognized that we have many more ways of communicating world-wide (i.e., cell phones, satellite, email, and other mass communications) these modes can often have unique limitations. This is particularly the case during weather, solar, or other nature disasters. The System is still an essential emergency communication mode.

The Purpose of the YL System:

The purpose of the YLISSB as delineated in the early By-Laws (outlined below) supports calling it a System as well as providing the principles that have helped keep the System alive for almost 60 years. The By-Laws of the YL International SSB’ers, Inc. sets forth a world-wide service program through creation of amateur radio communications facilities, seven days a week, and for the purpose of:

- A) Handling national and international emergency traffic.
- B) Effecting delivery of urgently needed life-saving medication to individuals world-wide.
- C) Actively promoting international goodwill through mass person-to-person contacts both on-the-air and subsequent correspondence and exchanges.
- D) Effectively promoting incentive for a higher degree of operating proficiency and associated technical competence.

- E) Promoting effective world-wide public relations through additional media of awards programs and mutual meeting grounds by annual QSO parties.
- F) Cooperation with, and support of, other organizations with similar purposes.
- G) Bringing to the attention of the general public the tremendous contributions through which amateur radio serves the public interest, the national interest and goodwill amongst all the peoples of the earth.
(Note: Some of these stated purposes have been modified over the year)

Open Door Policy

Everyone, whether member of SSB'ers or not, is welcome to participate on the systems. We ask only that rules be observed in order that systems run smoothly.

All modes are welcome.

Many of SSB'ers awards are issued to non-members, although all contacts must be made with SSB'er members. The entire awards program is based upon contacts with members. (Note: This was later changed to only allow awards to paid up members)

SSB'ers QSO Parties are open to the world, any licensed operator may participate. Some of SSB'ers awards (certificates) are available to SWL's each available to them is clearly indicated in Awards Program listings.

Recollections from tenured members:

At the time of this writing, we are fortunate to still have a few members who have been with the system since the early days. Many of them experienced the evolution of the System as it developed the international reputation mentioned earlier in this summary.

Several of these members have been kind enough to share some of their experience from those earlier days. The following are excerpts from these members for which we thank them for this gift.

Harua Takahashi, JA1CG, #4174: ... Many, many years ago, the YLISSB's frequency was 14.332 MHz. Many JA DX got YLISSB number and would check-in... Some year I was entry in the YLISSB contest, I partner some lady with call sign K9TLZ named Flora, she and I got winner that year and received a contest award paper.

Sr. Lauren Weinandt, WA0RRJ, #6968: I came to Saint Mary's Hospital in August, 1956 as the Executive Secretary to the Administrator. During the days of Civil Defense, a note was posted asking if there was a Sister willing to learn amateur radio for Civil Defense in case our power would be out. No one signed, so I put my initials at the bottom of the request. I had no idea what ham radio was but I soon found out. I got my General License in 1968.

One of my most interesting and rewarding contacts was with "Fairbanks Rose" KL7FQQ. She came on the frequency 13.332, asking for someone in Rochester, MN. I answered her call and she asked me if I would be willing to keep in touch with her daily because an Eskimo baby needed open heart surgery in Rochester. The parents were poor and could not afford to be there. They sent the baby with the hostess on the plane. Each night we would meet on a designated frequency and I gave her the report. The baby recovered and returned home safely.

Another interesting contact of service was that I heard a "Mayday" call and I copied them well. There was a boat in the Atlantic near New York in distress. They asked me to call the Coast Guard in New York City. They rescued the men and was contacted afterward and they were very grateful.

My thanks to all of the wonderful group of members of the SSBers. God Bless to you all from Rail Road Junction. (Pictures below were from past conventions)

(1)



(2)



(Picture 1-L to R) Ellie Hornes (K4RHL), Sr. Lauren Weinandt (WA0RRJ), & Barbara Neiman (KE5ZI)

(Picture 2-L to R) Sr. Lauren Weinandt (WA0RRJ) & Nellie Lazard (XE1CI)

*Sr. Lauren (#6968) may currently be the oldest living YL member at age 100.

Charles Roswell, K2MGL (Ex-PJ4CR), #9607: I have had an amateur radio license since the mid-1950s. After three years active duty with the Army, my wife and I accepted the call to be missionaries with Trans World Radio (TWR) on the island of Bonaire. After a couple years working with other radio engineers that were hams, I decided to get my license. I took the residence's license exam and was issued the call PJ4CR.

It was not long before I tuned across the YLISSB on 14.332MHz. on the 20-meter band. The YL International Single Side Banders were established by some YLs who thought it would be good to have a presence on 20 meters where someone could get help. They encouraged stations to make contacts and offered an award program for contacting various categories of stations when there were no emergencies.

In 1987 I had several contacts (QSOs) on 15 meters. Propagation was changing and I cleared with a station. I was called by a ham in Ecuador who sounded frantic. He heard the tail end of my call sign "4CR" and was hoping I was in the southern USA. I asked what was the urgency and offered help.

A young boy had been bitten by a rabid dog and was suffering. The local Ecuadoran health authorities had no rabies vaccine and neither did any of the surrounding countries (Columbia, Venezuela, & Peru).

... following collection of more details they agreed to move to 20-meter (14.332).

I punched the memory selection for 14.332 MHz. and called "break-break this is PJ4CR with an emergency". The system controller was Veronica "Roni" Hicks with the call sign of N4ODI. She immediately turned the System over to me. I called the Ecuadorian and he was right on frequency. I explained the situation and asked if there was any station on that could call Atlanta Center for Disease Control (CDC). There was an immediate response from a ham in Atlanta who was not only a doctor but worked at the CDC.

... the System control kept her cool and the YL System worked. The rabies vaccine was delivered and the boy's life was saved.

Hollis "Hutch" Hutchinson, Jr, K2BXG, #1614: While in the military, I was stationed in what was then called West Germany. A small city called Bad Kreuznach. I was a newly appointed Warrant Officer in 1961 and had the occasion to meet a few fellow hams, one of which was Earl McSwain and his wife Betty. Betty would meet on the air regularly with other women from around the world with the goal of having an emergency network, where anyone needing help could receive it. At the time it was strictly women. Earl served as the maintenance man for Betty's work on the air. In the spring of 1962, I was ordered to Fort Hood, Texas where I stayed until the end of my military service in late 1964.

While in Texas I had the opportunity to participate in several activities on the air and enjoyed contests of which the YL System was one of them. One of those contests was a YL contest in early 1964 where I placed 2nd. As a result, I received a personal invitation from V. Mayree to join the YLISSB and as a result received the membership number #1614. Although I was first licensed in 1953 as KN2BXG, my call in Texas was WB2AEL, and later changed back to my present call of K2BXG.

Max Noel, WA0TKY, #7668: ... I was first licensed as a Novice in 1968. Soon after I got my General in 1969, I joined the YLISSB, my number 7668. My Elmer, a Catholic Priest W0LGC, Father Ralph, was very active on the System and I remember the many hours we spent on the air and working on radio fondly.

Looking through my stuff I found a Welcome note from Jessie, WA6OET.

Dave Thompson, K4JRB (ex-K5MDX), #1551: I attended the 1972 convention at Treasure Island, Florida. ... I also remember when K4ICA (V. Mayree) and K4RHL (Ellie) were the Floridians and I was there when V. Mayree announced the formation of the YL International Sideband System. I was invited to join but I was a college student in 1963, so did not join until July of 1963. In those days the System had a large DX check-in. The best DX was 5X5IU, #1111. ... We would have

15 or 20 DX check-ins at a times on the system and system controls did check-ins by call district.

Rose Rybachek, KL7FQQ, #6098: Eight Years after my OM Stan and I moved to Alaska (courtesy of the USAF), a neighbor introduced us to amateur radio. I received my General ham license in the Fall of 1966, Stan got his in June 1967. ... I was a very new ham, and suffered from a severe case of mic-fright, but she (V. Mayree) sounded so friendly that I worked up enough courage to throw out my call. She came right back to me and was so warm and welcoming that I found myself going to 14.332 when I had an opportunity from then on. I joined the YL System that spring.

In August 1967, Fairbanks experienced a horrible flood. All communications with the lower 48 was destroyed. The only way for anyone in the contiguous states or in-state to contact Fairbanks was via ham radio. ... The YL System was my main go-to to handle traffic. I became a firm believer in the System.

In 1971, I went to a Convention held on Treasure Island, Florida. There I got to meet the lady with the melodious voice. It was V. Mayree Tallman, K4ICA. I was tongue-tied meeting this regal lady. I thought if America had queens, V. Mayree would be a perfect one.

I believe that V. Mayree ruled the System with an iron hand. I was not involved in the governance during those formative years, except for the Starlight Council, but I got impression that it was V. Mayree and only V. Mayree that made all decisions.

Barbara Neiman, KE5ZI, #5021: Following the passing of V. Mayree Barbara wrote the following Memories of her: Even though I joined the System in 1965, I first met K4ICA at the Treasurer Island, Florida convention in 1972. Pablo and I had just moved stateside again after being in KP4 land a few years, so this was our first convention and I didn't realize what a force V. Mayree was. I became more active on the System from New York as WA2RDV in the next few years and talked to her quite frequently. By 1976, Pablo was transferred to Miami and we lived in Hollywood, Florida about 20 miles away. At the 1978 Los Angeles convention she mentioned she could use some help collating, binding and mailing the Voice.

Living close by, it only seemed natural for me to volunteer and that's how our friendship began. Over the years we got to know each other better and I remember her telling me many things ... in her career as a journalist she interviewed an Indian Princess in New Mexico and wrote articles about them. She also told me of an artist she hired to paint a picture she wanted to use on awards. The night sky with many stars. She had to send it back to him 3 or 4 times to get just the effect she wanted. He finally got it the way she liked it and he thanked her for teaching him a new way to look at the sky (at night). Sometimes during a break from collating, she would sit at the piano and play a few melodies for me. That was enjoyable. (At one time she led an all-girl orchestra, so was very musical). She also said that CW was very easy for her and she thought that being helped musical establish a rhythm for CW. She was also a good cook, many times she made us a meal as we took a break from work. In no time at all, she'd serve a delicious, healthy meal. Once in a while we would go to a cafeteria she liked in Coral Gables and without fail, we would both end up with macaroni and cheese along with other choices. We laughed because we both liked it so much.

Of course, during the many hours of working together, we talked about so many things and at times we'd take some time off and spend it on the System, her "baby", that she had nurtured through the years and loved each and every member. She was so devoted to SSB'ers that she hated having to give up writing the Voice when her eyesight got so bad. And of course, that included the awards program too. After she moved to Tennessee, next door to her son Gene, Pablo and I would stop by to visit them whenever we went to our place in Arkansas. She enjoyed it up there on "Ole Rocky Top", but deep down, I think, still had her heart in Miami. She will always have a warm place in our hearts.

How the past shapes the future:

The YL International Single Sidebander, Inc. (YLISSB) has continued to be a steady voice on the amateur bands for nearly 60 years. Its foundress V. Mayree Tallman passed in 2001. However, system controls are still there on 20 meters (14.332) seven days a week for about 8+ hours (except Sunday) and other bands as propagation permits. At the beginning of 2021, the System exceeded having more than 18,000 members since its formation.

While other forms of communications such as cell phones, internet, and satellites have made emergency less difficult, Amateur radio still has a place when these systems are not available or down due to weather or unusual conditions. The YLISSB remains a ready and available source for emergency response as needed.

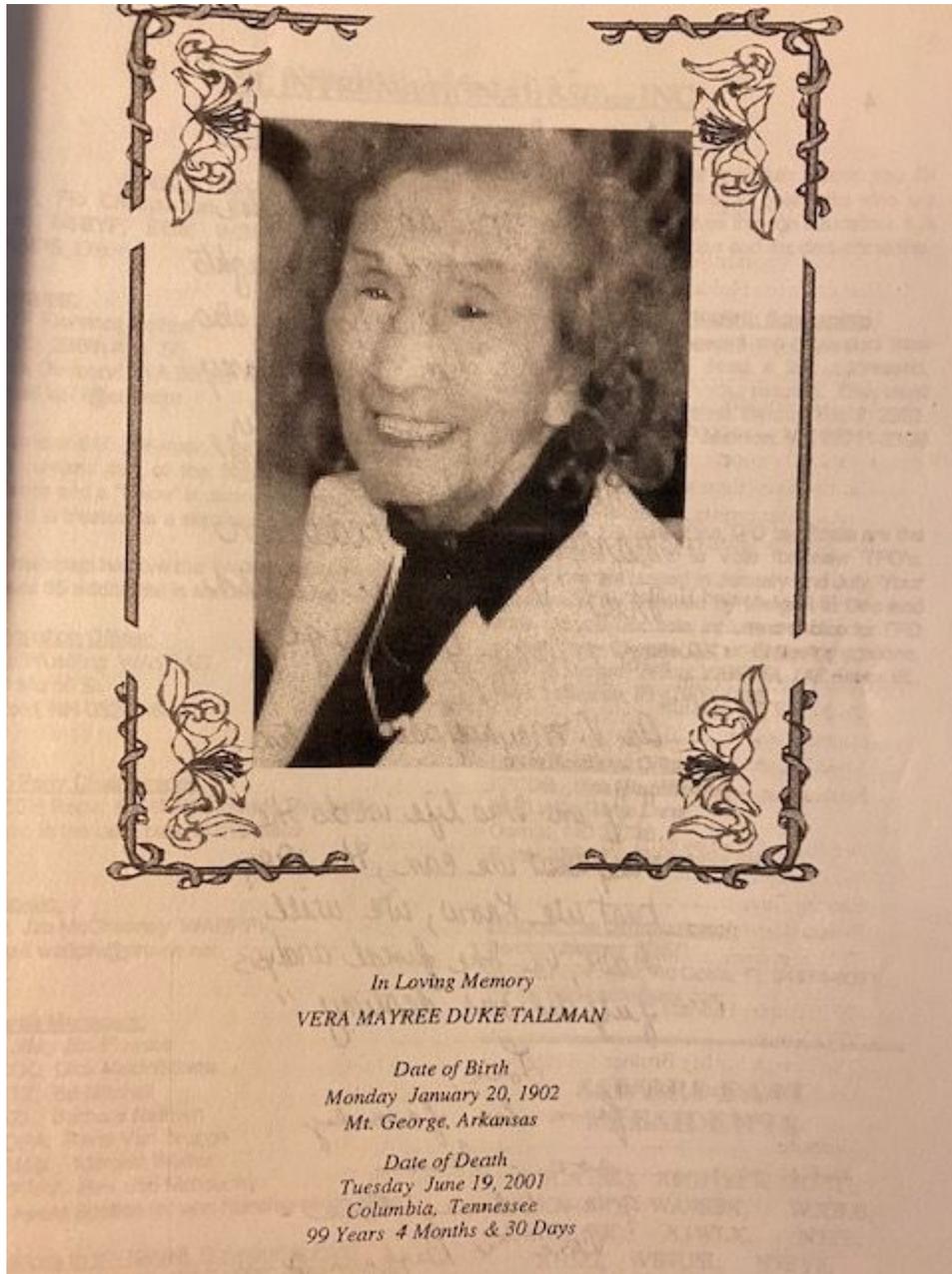
The next several pages include various pictures related to the history and people involving with the YLISSB.



Pictured above is V. Mayree, the YL System foundress, on her wedding day to Dr. Tallman on January 18, 1947.



V. Mayree Tallman (K4ICA) and Ellie Hornor (K4RHL). V. Mayree was the YLISSB foundress and first President. Ellie was one of the early Presidents of the System.



A final picture from the SSB'er Voice dedicated to the foundress and her lifelong leadership to the YLISSB.

Birthplace of Y1 Int'l SSB'ers, Inc.
428 S.W. 28th Road,
Miami, Fl. 33129.
QTH of V. Mayree Tallman, K4ICA, Foundress.



FOR HISTORICAL PURPOSES.

In my ham shack, indicated by arrow, the idea for SSB'ers was conceived. The encouragement and financial assistance of my husband, Dr. Tallman, altho not a Ham himself, afforded me the privilege to offer to the amateur radio world the developed idea, the results of which you know.

You, the members, received kindly the offer, culminating in an organization of friendship world-wide, affectionately referred to as "SSB'ERS WORLD-WIDE FAMILY" - otherwise the idea might well have perished aborning.

Each life needs direction - an opportunity to justify existence in this beautiful world. We cannot do everything, but we can do something. And motivation is a powerful force.

My greatest inspiration was derived from these lines by Longfellow who said:

"I have only just one life, with only seconds in it. I didn't choose it, won't refuse it nor abuse it, but it's up to me to use it. Just this one tiny little life, but eternity may be in it."

Pictured above is the Miami home of V. Mayree Tallman and the birthplace of the YLISSB. The text above and below are written by V. Mayree describes her appreciation and support of her husband (Maurice H. Tallman, M.D.) and Anthony

Michael Scavo of Anthony Press who helped with the printing of the Voice and certificates.



Maurice H. Tallman, M. D.

For the first few years of SSB'ers, when dues were only \$1.00 annually, with three issues of SSB'ERS VOICE each year, it was impossible to keep solvent. But when deficits belaboured SSB'ers, the checkbook of Dr. Tallman (Dr. T.) was at our disposal. Therefore, much of the credit for SSB'ers survival goes to him.



Mr. Anthony Michael Scavo
owner operator of Anthony Press printers.

Mr. Anthony is another gentleman to whom we are indebted for his generosity, invariably contributing 100 free copies of SSB'ERS VOICE, for he, too, subscribes to our CREDO and our MOTTO. He says: "It pleases me greatly to print SSB'ERS VOICE and certificates. Over the years I have noted tremendous increase in membership and volume of publication. I extend my best wishes to all members. And to V. Mayree Tallman, Editor, congratulations on a job well done."



Pictured above are just a few of the beautiful certificates awarded to members who achieved operational awards with the System.



The “Torch of Friendship” was adopted early on as a symbol of the YLISSB. It embodied the specific ideals and purposes of the System. The torch pictured above was painted in the late 1980’s for members of the YLISSB.

YL FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL SIDEBANDERS

33,
Ellie

OPERATING PROCEDURE

- * ~~Tuesday~~ ^{Thursday} *
- #1 YL FINS will meet every ~~Tuesday~~ ^{Thursday} at 1800 GMT on 14333 kc. All stations participating will zero beat net control.
 - #2 Any stateside YL who is not a member of YL FINS will not be recognized on FINS roll call.
 - #3 ~~There will be two check-in times for stateside YLs. The first one will be at 1800 GMT and the second one at 1930 GMT. No stateside check-ins will be recognized at any other time and particularly not for the sole purpose of working a new country or rare DX.~~
 - #4 When there are stations on frequency that net control cannot copy, she shall appoint an assistant net control to contact these stations.
 - #5 After stateside roll call has been completed, net control will call DX YLs. If there are no DX YLs on frequency DX OMs will be recognized at this time. However, DX YLs will always be given preference over DX OMs and will be immediately recognized when calling YL FINS. Any stateside YL copying a DX YL who has not been recognized by net control should notify net control at once.
 - #6 Stateside YLs will be contacted by net control to work DX stations. Net control will give call sign of station to transmit. It should not be necessary to repeat call signs of DX stations. If you cannot copy them you cannot work them!
 - #7 Stateside YL called to transmit should only call DX stations she is copying. If she is not copying any of the DX stations she should so inform net control. If conditions improve and she is able to copy DX, she may so inform net control. She will exchange name and signal report and work all DX stations she is copying. If she wishes to ragchew with a DX station, she should arrange to QSY after DX station has worked all other stations on YL FINS.
 - #8 There shall be no stateside to stateside contacts on YL FINS while band is open to DX. Do not call any DX station worked after February 9, 1963 except to arrange to QSY.

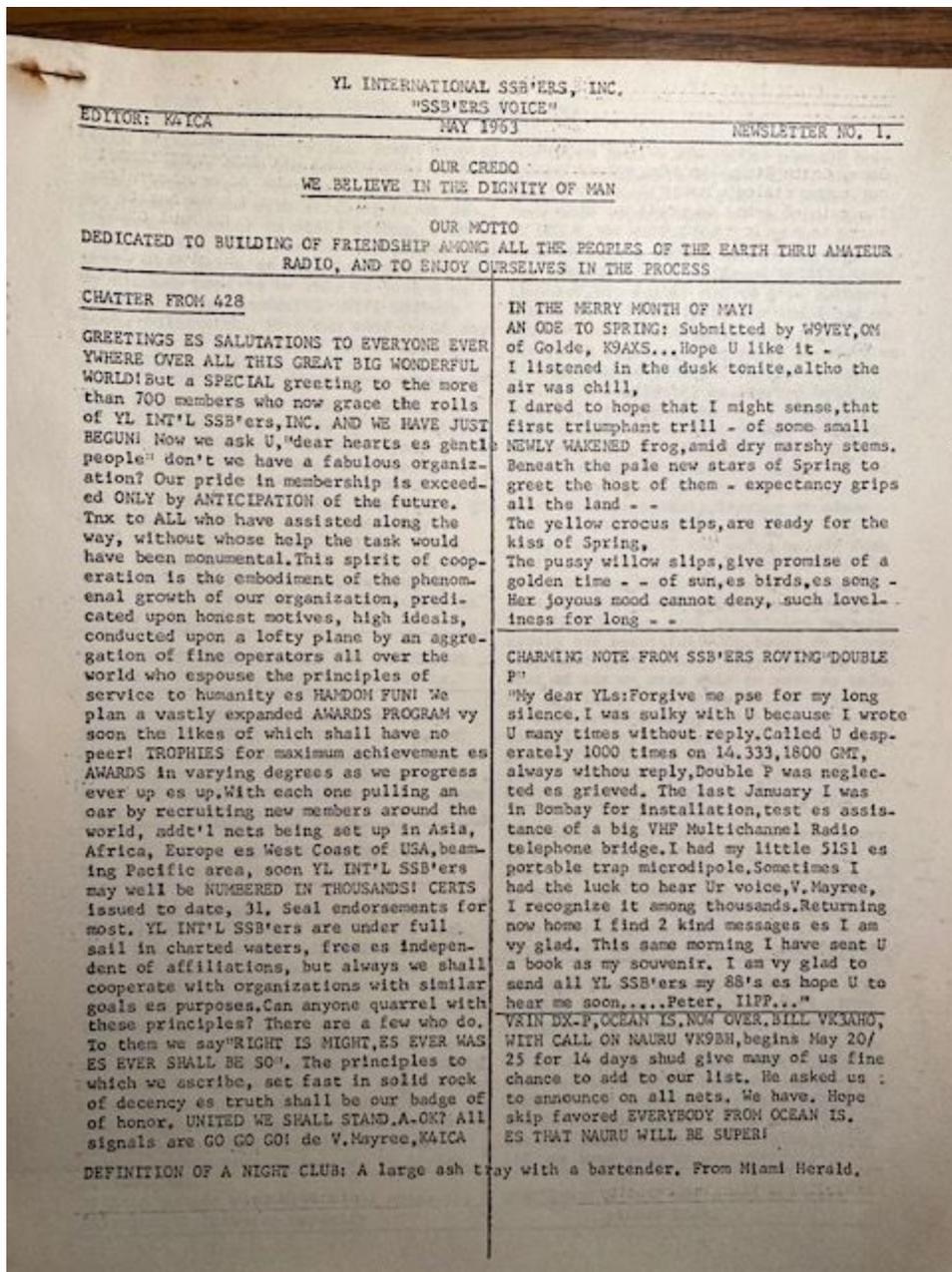
In the event the membership becomes too large it may be necessary to assign stateside call areas certain Thursdays in the month to participate.

Please note it is not necessary to identify in every transmission once contact has been made. See FCC Regulations 12.82 (a) (1) (11).

Ellie Hama - K4RHL
President of YL FINS

YL FINS OF YL International Sidebanders

In the beginning, the YL FINS established operating procedure. These procedure established what would be a foundation for the YL System.



YL INTERNATIONAL SSB'ERS, INC.
"SSB'ERS VOICE"

EDITOR: KAICA

MAY 1963

NEWSLETTER NO. 1.

OUR CREDO
WE BELIEVE IN THE DIGNITY OF MAN

OUR MOTTO
DEDICATED TO BUILDING OF FRIENDSHIP AMONG ALL THE PEOPLES OF THE EARTH THRU AMATEUR
RADIO, AND TO ENJOY OURSELVES IN THE PROCESS

CHATTER FROM 428

GREETINGS ES SALUTATIONS TO EVERYONE EVER
YWHERE OVER ALL THIS GREAT BIG WONDERFUL
WORLD! But a SPECIAL greeting to the more
than 700 members who now grace the rolls
of YL INT'L SSB'ers, INC. AND WE HAVE JUST
BEGUN! Now we ask U, "dear hearts es gentl
people" don't we have a fabulous organiz-
ation? Our pride in membership is exceed-
ed ONLY by ANTICIPATION of the future.
Tnx to ALL who have assisted along the
way, without whose help the task would
have been monumental. This spirit of coop-
eration is the embodiment of the phenom-
enal growth of our organization, predi-
cated upon honest motives, high ideals,
conducted upon a lofty plane by an aggre-
gation of fine operators all over the
world who espouse the principles of
service to humanity es HANDON FUN! We
plan a vastly expanded AWARDS PROGRAM vy
soon the likes of which shall have no
peer! TROPHIES for maximum achievement es
AWARDS in varying degrees as we progress
ever up es up. With each one pulling an
oar by recruiting new members around the
world, addt'l nets being set up in Asia,
Africa, Europe es West Coast of USA, beam-
ing Pacific area, soon YL INT'L SSB'ers
may well be NUMBERED IN THOUSANDS! CERTS
issued to date, 31. Seal endorsements for
most. YL INT'L SSB'ers are under full
sail in charted waters, free es independ-
ent of affiliations, but always we shall
cooperate with organizations with similar
goals es purposes. Can anyone quarrel with
these principles? There are a few who do.
To them we say "RIGHT IS MIGHT, ES EVER WAS
ES EVER SHALL BE SO". The principles to
which we ascribe, set fast in solid rock
of decency es truth shall be our badge of
of honor. UNITED WE SHALL STAND. A-OK? All
signals are GO GO GO! de V. Mayree, KAICA

DEFINITION OF A NIGHT CLUB: A large ash tray with a bartender. From Miami Herald.

IN THE MERRY MONTH OF MAY!

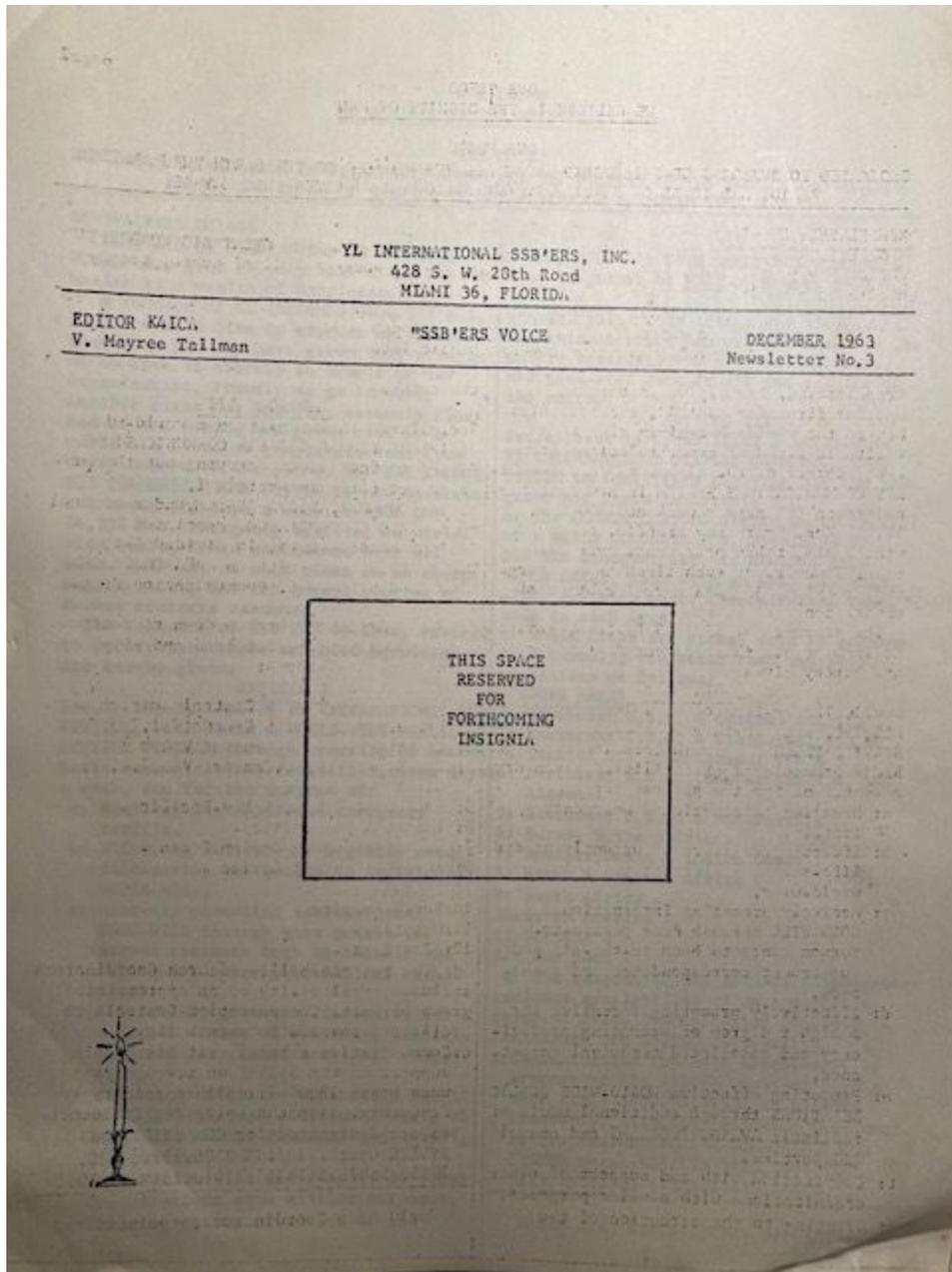
AN ODE TO SPRING: Submitted by W9VEY, OM
of Golde, K9AXS... Hope U like it -
I listened in the dusk tonite, altho the
air was chill,
I dared to hope that I might sense, that
first triumphant trill - of some small
NEWLY WAKENED frog, amid dry marshy stems.
Beneath the pale new stars of Spring to
greet the host of them - expectancy grips
all the land - -
The yellow crocus tips, are ready for the
kiss of Spring,
The pussy willow slips, give promise of a
golden time - - of sun, es birds, es song -
Her joyous mood cannot deny, such lovel-
iness for long - -

CHARMING NOTE FROM SSB'ERS ROVING "DOUBLE
P"

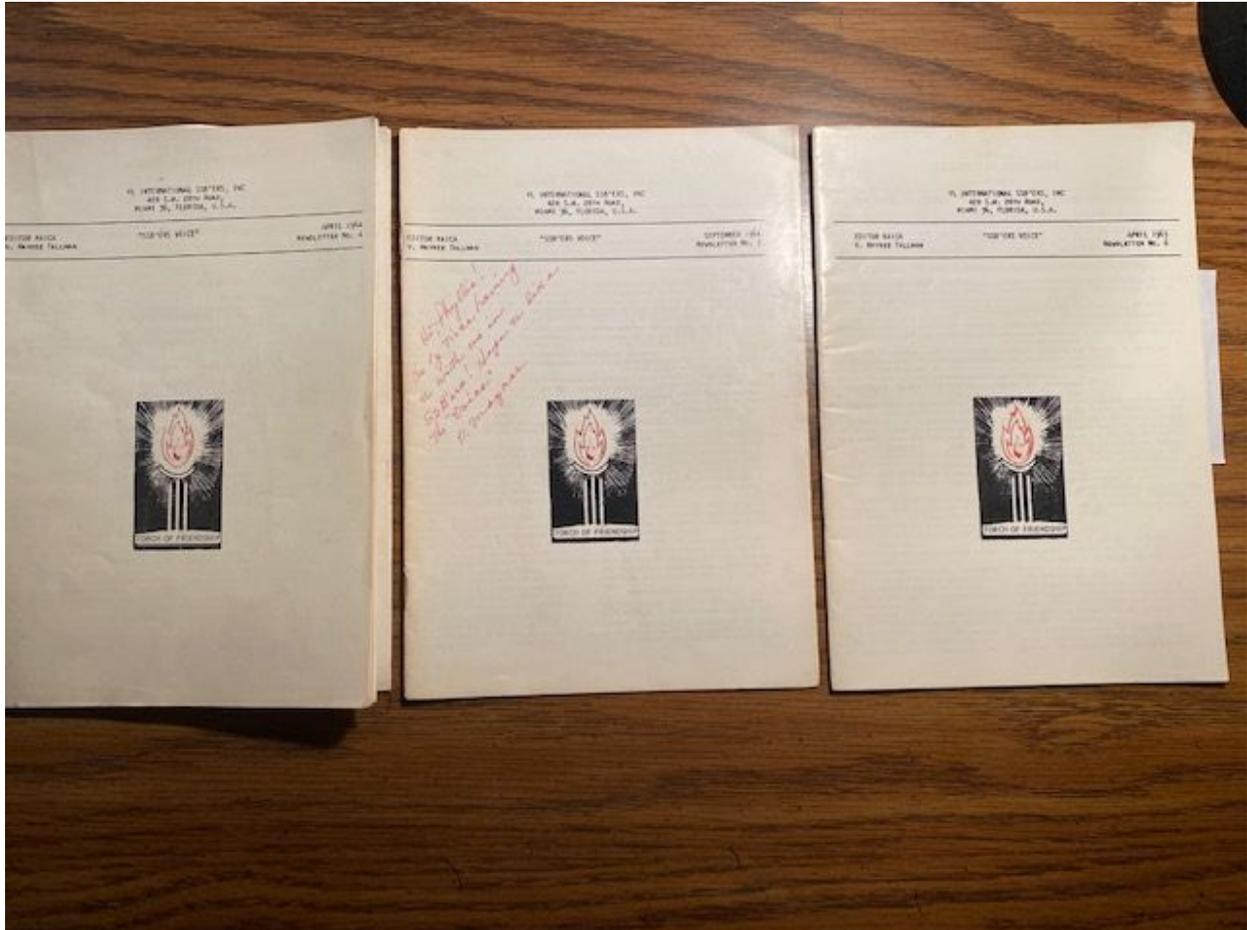
"My dear YLs: Forgive me pse for my long
silence, I was sulky with U because I wrote
U many times without reply. Called U des-
perately 1000 times on 14.333, 1800 GMT,
always withou reply, Double P was neglec-
ted es grieved. The last January I was
in Bombay for installation, test es assis-
tance of a big VHF Multichannel Radio
telephone bridge. I had my little 51S1 es
portable trap microdipole. Sometimes I
had the luck to hear Ur voice, V. Mayree,
I recognize it among thousands. Returning
now home I find 2 kind messages es I am
vy glad. This same morning I have sent U
a book as my souvenir. I am vy glad to
send all YL SSB'ers my 88's es hope U to
hear me soon,.... Peter, IIP..."

VXIN DX-F, OCEAN IS, NOW OVER, BILL VK3AHG,
WITH CALL ON NAURU VK9BH, begins May 20/
25 for 14 days shud give many of us fine
chance to add to our list. He asked us
to announce on all nets. We have. Hope
skip favored EVERYBODY FROM OCEAN IS.
ES THAT NAURU WILL BE SUPER!

There first copy of the YLISSB Voice was mimeographed and mailed to each of the members.



The third copy of the YLISSB hinted of a new symbol for the group to be coming so. However, a hint of this new symbol is in the lower left-hand side. The “Torch of Friendship” was on its way.



The YLISSB Voices #4, #5, and #6 contained the new “Torch of Friendship” on the cover. The Voice was now being printed, rather than mimeographed for mailing.



V. Mayree K4ICA

Jessie WA6OET



Patricia K3YBR

Ellie K4RHL

The early YLISSB leadership. V. Mayree, first president, Jessie Billon, second president, and Ellie Horner, sixth president.

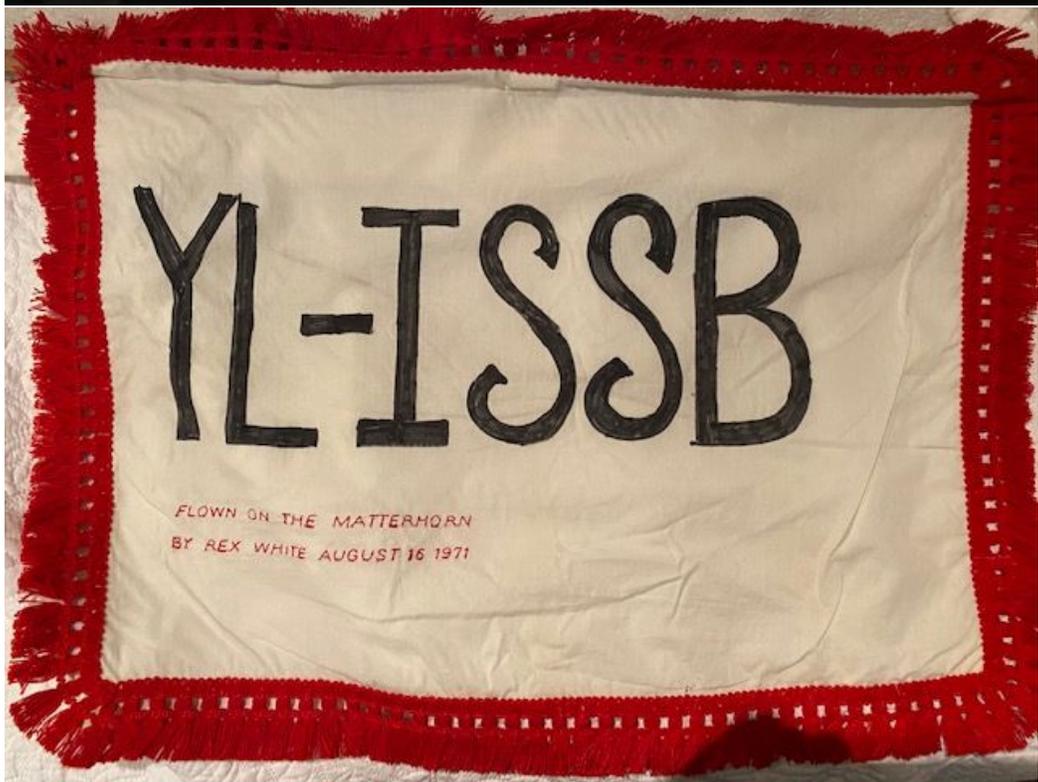
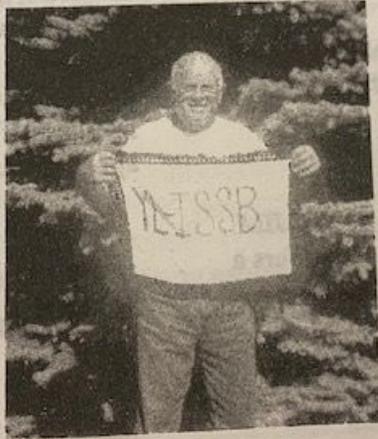


Among the notable members of the YLISSB was Arizona Senator Barry Goldwater, (K7UGA - #1836) who was well known as an advocate of Ham Radio.

see in our hearts.

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥

The flag in this picture, held by WA0AVW, was flown on top of the Matterhorn Mountain near Zermatt, Switzerland on August 16, 1971, when Rex, WA0AVW, climbed to the summit. This publicity stunt for the YL-ISSB pleased V. Mayree immensely.



Another YL System member, Rex White (WA0AVW-#6463), climbed the Matterhorn and planted this banner at the top.

Over the years, the System has had an annual convention hosted by members at various location. While business is conducted, it also is an opportunity to meet and have fun with our many System friends. The following pictures reflect this fellowship at several of the more current conventions.



2017 Convention - Indianapolis, IN - June 14-18, 2017



2018 Convention - Lancaster (Ronks), PA - June 11 - 14, 2018



W7AJP - YL - Joan
KL7FQQ - Rose



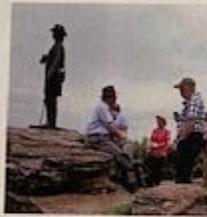
KG0YL - Nancy
AB3TY - Larry



N1PVT - Jane
N1PVT - YL - Skye
KE9PK - YL - Janet
KE9PK - Jim



KI4TXP - Jay



KG0YL - Nancy
Smock



N0ESJ - Elsie
N0PMQ - Lynn
KL7FQQ - Rose



KC2ATK - YL - Peggy
KC2ATK - John



KB8ESY - Rex
KK4YL - Sally



W7AJP - Bill
W7AJP - YL - Joan



In later years many members and guests were first greeted on the 20-meter System each day by Jda Rogers (KB5YQ). Jda always had a booming signal from Texas that reach out to just about everyone listening during the day. The following story was provided by Bill Phillips (W7AJP) related to his initial contacts with Jda.

My first knowledge of the YL System came when Maria, NOTWV, invited me to attend a young ladies international radio convention. What? I asked why would I do at that. She explained the early days of the YL System and that many men were active. Long-time friends, Mack and Maria Jones told me of the fellowship and fun of the System.

I explained that I was a Technician, and she said I would soon get my General. So, I sent in my membership, and paid membership for my Elmer, Ralph, W7WTQ (SK). We were set to attend the Durango, Co. convention in 2007. In weeks before the convention, I monitored 14.332 and tried to become familiar with “what in the world” I had gotten myself into.

I heard voices and they became familiar. I even heard Maria on the air. One voice that became a regular and one I hoped to meet was an older sounding lady. Her name was Jda.

At the convention I heard that “voice” again and thought it might be Jda. I asked and they said “Oh, yes, that is Jda. You must go speak to her.” The following was our exchange.

“Hello, are you Jda?” “Yes, I am, who are you.”

“I am Bill, KE7JFL, sideband number 16190.” Whew, I said it and got it out right. Swiftly came the response, “I’ve never heard you.” I explained, I am a technician, and a friend of Maria. Then those sharp words came. “Good, well get your license.”

It was probably my imagination, but Jda did not speak to me again at that entire convention. I just knew I needed to get my license, my General License.

Five months later I received my General License on a Wednesday night. Early Thursday morning, I took a deep breath and got on the air. I heard Jda asking for check-ins. I said, KE7JFL-AG, Sideband Number 16190.” There! I had checked-in with Jda.

Almost immediately she said, “Welcome, I know who you are, you are Maria’s friend. She is not on the air right now. I will tell her you got your license.”

The next time I checked in, again it was with Jda, and she said, “Would you like to put out some calls?” It scared me spitless. “oh no”, I said. But that was the infamous Jda, getting others involved, making them believe they were important and that they could become involved. She was that familiar and welcoming voice of the YL System, loved by thousands.

I have missed very few days checking in since that Thursday morning. I found friendship, guidance, encouragement and more fun in ham radio than I could have imagined. And that is my Jda story!

In summary:

I hope that you have enjoyed this brief journey through the history of the YLISSB. Unfortunately, this booklet only touches the surface of nearly 60 years of world-wide emergency support and services through ham radio. Thanks for being part of this history through your interest. Further comments or questions regarding the YL System or its history may be directed to the YLISSB Historian.

73, Bruce J. Tisdale, K9ICP, #16099/TFO486
YLISSB Historian