



Scuttlebutt

June 1997

Solar flux hits 80!

Issue 129

Captain's Cabin

Dean Straw, N6BV

What a year of growth YCCC has just seen! 1996 was a time of *Revitalization* for YCCC — literally putting new life into a club seemingly mired in perpetual second place. Tom Frenaye and many, many others worked very hard to attract lots of new members, and to bring many inactive members back into the fold too. In the 1997 ARRL DX contest we had a record 269 eligible members! (The most we've ever had previously was 185.) For the first time in a solar cycle, we have a fighting chance to win the club competition, although it looks like it'll be a squeaker with FRC.

And we're poised to do even better in the 1997-1998 contest year, provided we keep doing things right. If revitalization was the name of the game last year, the theme for this contest year is *Consolidation*. Many members (new and old-timers alike) need hands-on training in practical "how-to" aspects of contesting. Some need help in station and antenna design and construction — things about which we have a lot of knowledge and experience to share in this club. Further, we need the knowledge, experience and help of other YCCers to learn how to do DXpeditions.

Think of it: If every one of the 269 new and reborn members generate an additional 100 kilopoints per mode beyond what they did this year for ARRL DX, we'd have almost 54 million extra points in the club totals (out of the 138 megapoints projected for 1997 ARRL DX).

Think of it: FRC would be looking at our tailpipe forever!

What's Happening in Your Club?

An organization like YCCC reminds me of a flock of ducks. Above water, everything

looks pretty calm and peaceful as they glide along. Below water, however, there's a lot of paddling going on! YCCC is an organization of dedicated volunteers, who spend their own time helping keep the club going and growing. This year we'll have the benefit of two extra officers, K1GW as Activities Manager, and Ric Plummer, KV1W as Treasurer, to spread the workload. We've also created a new position called Awards Manager. K1RO's taken up the reins in this important new slot, with KB1GW as his Assistant Awards Manager. Expect to see some nice incentives for contributing your points to YCCC! In fact, at the June 8 meeting we'll be handing out mugs for those who submitted substantial scores in the 1997 ARRL DX contest.

Last year the team of YCCC Area Managers was called upon to do lots more — and they responded with great gusto and energy. But the amount of work has increased greatly as new members came on board. I'm asking for more volunteers to act as Assistant Area Managers. We need to make those all-important personal telephone calls prior to our major contest efforts. Give your Area Manager a buzz and then give him a hand, please.

K5ZD, AD1C and K1ZO have also been doing a great job with the Web site, but they too could use a volunteer hand or two, not to mention fresh written material from you.

Lately, those on the YCCC Internet reflector have seen much correspondence about an "Electronic Scuttlebutt." (By the way, if you're a YCCC member and not on the YCCC Reflector, you should be! Send your request to yccc-request@yccc.org.) While we plan to continue sending the Scuttlebutt by mail to those who want it that way, we are also going to distribute it electronically in Adobe PDF and Word 6 formats. What are the advantages of the "E-Butt," as it's been nicknamed? The first is that the club

can save money on printing and mailing and put out more awards. The second is that you'll receive your E-Butt faster than by snail mail. Another obvious advantage is that we'll spare a few trees from becoming pulp. Details are still being worked out still — expect an announcement soon. **[And see the article by K1KI in this issue. - Ed.]**

As I write this, the CW WPX contest is coming up at the end of May. For those of you with reasonably large stations but who don't expect to do a serious effort yourself, you should consider running a "mini Contest University." This is where you would bring in operators who need hands-on contest training and let them actually operate. Last year during WAE, I had a bunch of operators over and made a tape recording for each operator. I also put audio from the operator's headphones through my stereo in the next room. The other participants could thus listen in and discuss among themselves, without disturbing the actual operator by hanging all over him. After his turn in the barrel, each operator could sit in with the group to critique and be critiqued. Hands-on operation is key to good training, with careful and constructive feedback and suggestions for improving their operating skills.

(see *CABIN*, page 7)

**Yankee Clipper Contest Club
1997-98 Officers and Staff**

President R. Dean Straw, N6BV (603) 425-2427 n6bv@arrl.org
Vice President Tony Brock-Fisher, K1KP (508) 689-4126 fisher@hp-and.an.hp.com
Activities Manager Glen Whitehouse, K1GW (603) 673-6290 glenw@cushcraft.com
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Treasurer Ric Plummer, KV1W (508) ricp@ultranet.com
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SNY/NJ/PA Hank Kiernan, KF2O (914) 235-4940 hankkier@aol.com
WMA Bob Tublitz, WT2Q (413) 298-4222 rtublitz@vgernet.net
VT/NH Glen Whitehouse, K1GW (603) 673-6290 glenw@cushcraft.com
NLI Rich Gelber, K2WR (212) 580-1075 k2wr@njdxa.org
NNY George Wilner, K2ONP (518) 279-4025 k2onp@aol.com

CAC/DXAC Representatives:

CAC New England Kurt Pauer, W6PH (603) 673-7201 0006743923@mcimail.com
CAC Hudson Rich Gelber, K2WR (212) 580-1075 k2wr@njdxa.org
DXAC New England Jim Dionne, K1MEM k1mem@aol.com
DXAC Hudson Bill Hellman, W2UD (914) 528-6845

The Yankee Clipper Contest Club (an ARRL affiliated club) holds six general meetings per year in Sturbridge, MA and various special meetings throughout club territory. Attendance at a meeting is required to become a member.

Articles in the **Scuttlebutt** (except for those separately copyrighted) may be reprinted, provided proper credit is given. The editorial deadline for the Scuttlebutt is the 10th of every odd month.

For any club-related questions, contact your area manager or any officer.

Flotsam & Jetsam

“Barnacle Jack” Schuster, W1WEF

Please continue to send your experiences and ideas to share with fellow YCCer's!
Drop me a note or use packet! This issues's tips:

W3LPL gets about ten years from black polypropylene braided rope he finds at industrial supply houses. Frank uses A LOT of rope! A few other tips gathered from Frank during a tour of his superstation recently :

- Elevate the concrete pad above ground level when you pour a tower base; if you allow dirt to collect around the bottom of the tower legs, it will accelerate corrosion because of the moisture held by the dirt.
- Frank had quarter inch guy wire fail where he had it fed directly through the hole in the end of a utility pole type of guy anchor like you see power companies using on telephone poles. After years of slight movement by the tower in the wind, the guy abraded against the fixed end of the guy anchor and broke. You could not see the hidden wear until it broke. Frank's solution is to use a rigid thimble arrangement such that the thimble moves against the guy anchor, and not the cable strands. (If this isn't clear, visit Frank!)
- Norm's Rotor Service will give you an exchange rotor, get it to you promptly so you dont have to wait for yours to be repaired, and then bill you for the amount it cost to repair yours.

Other tips:

- To stop your mast from slipping in the rotor mast clamp, Jim, N3RS passes along this tip. Wrap the mast with a piece of material from an old flat belt like a serpentine belt used in your car, and tighten the rotor clamp clamp on it.
- Rich K5NA was faced with the problem of a second operating position knowing which direction the antenna was pointed, when the first operating position had control of the rotor. He learned that he could place a second rotor control box(Ham series) at the second location, and just run a single wire between boxes connected to pin 3. The ground return is through the AC power third wire ground.
- If you ever need a replacement transformer for a Ham Series control box, I've (WEF) found that the Radio Shack 25.2V , 2 amp 273-1512 does fine.
- Randy, K5ZD uses a stainless steel #8 machine screw on his antennas everywhere two pieces of aluminum fit together to help ensure that they dont come apart. (WEF uses a SS sheet metal screw)
- When Randy buys a used antenna from someone he takes it completely apart and cleans it up with soap and water to remove any wrong dimension marks. Randy uses orce 12 BN1 baluns on all of his antennas that don't have gamma matches.He says they are well made, encased in PVC pipe, with an SO239 on one end and six inch pigtails on the other.
- W6PH passes along an idea that worked for him as an inexpensive mast. He used a length of 2" dia chain link fence post pipe, and inserting a wooden dowel in it. Kurt made the dowel by cutting the corners off a 2x4. He had a 15-4CD and a 10-4CD on it for four years, with four feet of a fourteen foot mast in the tower and ten feet above.
- I recently resolved an intermittent flaky problem that had plagued me in the last CW Sprint . It turned out to be a noisy IF shift pot on the 765, and had been causing the IF shift to jump around at will with undescrivable consequences. Unlike a noisy audio volume control, when a pot that is varying voltage to a varistor in a non-audio circuit gets noisy, you don't recognize it as literal noise in the audio sense. To clean a sealed or inaccessible pot like this, you can just remove the knob, turn the rig on end so the pot is pointing up, and drip some contact cleaner arond the shaft bushing as you turn it back and forth.Contact cleaner without CFC's is available from Radio Shack in a spray can. ☐

Towards the "Electronic Scuttlebutt"

Tom Frenaye, K1KI

[This is a reprint of a letter Tom posted to the YCCC reflector back in April. If you haven't done so, please send Tom your comments. The suggestions Tom makes have not been implemented yet, so now is the time to speak! - Ed.]

In late March I asked for some help to check out how we might publish the Scuttlebutt electronically (and to verify that it was being received in a readable format). Many more people than I expected replied with offers to help and good suggestions. Here are the 44 people I heard from (at least those I kept track of): N1SR N1RD KO0U K2KQ K1WD K1AJ K1ZO K1LD N1TM KM1P AD1C K1EP WR1X K1TH K5ZD KF2O N1XYR WA1S N6BV N1DG K5FUV K1MBO KVIW K1EPJ KA1T KB1GW K1RO K1KP K1HT W2XX AA1ON NB1B W1UK N1CC KM3T WW1E N1SP NY1L K1SD W1JCC N2LBR K1GQ W6PH and, of course, KB2R.

The primary reason for looking at an electronic version of the Scuttlebutt is how much the club spends on printing and postage to send it out six times a year. In the 1995 it was 70% of the club budget. Last year it was around 60%, but we didn't update the Contest Cookbook last year. Overall it costs around \$3000.

The Scuttlebutt is currently prepared using MS Word (Win95 version) by KB2R. To do the test of the electronic versions, he sent me files from the February and April 1997 issues. My usual PC at home is still Windows 3.1 and MS Word for Windows. I did have a couple of minor problems when loading his file but they were easily handled. The biggest issue was that there are two fonts used in the Butt for headlines, called Zanders and Graupel. They look great but aren't part of the default fonts that come with Windows 3.1 so people without them have to find and install them (not too difficult). The file was converted into postscript by printing to file using the Windows postscript driver and then imported into Adobe Acrobat Distiller (on a Windows95 PC) and converted to Acrobat format.

I originally provided files in MS Word, postscript and Acrobat formats, and could also put them into PKZIP format to minimize file size. It turned out that no one cared about postscript and using PKZIP didn't really gain all that much in file size savings so those two options won't be followed in the future.

The final version of the MS Word and Acrobat files turned out well, everyone who asked for them said they came across just fine. There were people who couldn't deal with one or the other format so it appears that having them both is the best choice for now. A few people said they couldn't use either one (or had an e-mail provider that didn't allow attachments to come through) and asked for some kind of plain text format, and several others thought it was obvious that an HTML-format Scuttlebutt should be added to the YCCC web pages. An HTML version does sound like a good idea, but I don't have the software yet that would let me build HTML-format tables from the usual score listings. Two people offered to help on this in the future.

Some additional notes:

Two people liked the blue paper used for the printed Scuttlebutt that they may have to buy some blue paper to use at home.

There was interest in color photos, but not as much in audio files (though these could just be added to the web pages for selective downloads). The idea of a 'private' area on the YCCC web site for members was mentioned. This might be a place for special things like a new Contest Cookbook, propagation predictions, or other things the club might want to keep some control over so we can use it to advantage to win some contests.

Summary

1) Put an HTML version of the Scuttlebutt on the YCCC web site for on-the-spot reading, and have downloadable versions in MS Word and Adobe Acrobat formats.

2) Don't reduce YCCC dues as a result of having an electronic Scuttlebutt, use any extra money generated by efficiencies to sponsor more contest plaques, buy more mugs or do other things for club members.

3) Add a flag in the YCCC database so mailing labels are not generated and a Scuttlebutt is not mailed to those who only want to receive the Butt electronically. (This hasn't been done yet, QRX for a notice about it)

4) Keep mailing lists for those wanting the Butt in Word and/or Acrobat formats. When a new Scuttlebutt is ready, send it out to those on the two lists. Also, send a message to the YCCC reflector and to YCCC on packet when the new issue is available for downloading.

5) Continue to publish and mail a paper version of the Scuttlebutt for those who prefer it that way or can not receive it electronically. Encourage people who can receive it electronically to discontinue getting a paper copy if possible.

Note: I am sending out a test message to those on both the Word and Acrobat lists so you know if you're on it or not. Let me know if you want to be added to either list. ☐

In closing, here's something KM1P sent along:

Top ten reasons to receive Scuttlebutt by e-mail

- 10) Family members won't use 'Butt for scratch pad
- 9) Spell and Grammar check make easy to keep tabs on KB2R [**KB2R doesn't use a spell checker.** - Ed.]
- 8) Hey, it's digital!
- 7) No more painful paper cuts
- 6) Encrypted file transfers will prevent theft of club secrets
- 5) You paid for your Internet bandwidth - USE IT
- 4) Make Bill Gates proud
- 3) YCCC to use avoided costs to paint "SINK FRC" on W3EA's roof
- 2) Avoid nasty comments from those pesky environmentalist punks ... tell them you are saving the rainforest

And the number one reason:

- 1) Lighter load on your mailman makes it a lot less likely he will "go postal"

CQ WPX Phone Claimed Scores

Dave Hoaglin, K1HT

YCCC Scores in BOLD

(Other NE USA scores from the Contest Reflector - thanks to WA4ZXA)

CALL	SCORE	Q'S	PXS
<u>Single Op QRP</u>			
N1TM	172,520	320	227
K4HQ	148,953	409	173
KA4RRU	20,000		

Single Op High Power

KQ2M (@N2RM)	4,860,000	2246	774
K3ZO	3,008,000	1560	640
NB1B	2,890,760	1478	632
K4AB	2,123,910	1960	679
W4AN (KQ4HC)	2,023,560	1528	616
K4VUD	1,400,000	1214	553
NQ4I	1,310,060	1249	557
KC1XX	777,000	751	419
K1SD	761,264	685	392
W1CU	725,835	659	415
K1AR	605,000		
KG2BN	594,660	638	374
NX5M	560,956	1005	418
N1CC	502,456	560	362
KD1YN	499,772	529	364
NQ1K	405,600	512	325
KF2O	263,872	355	248
KA1DWX	168,920	241	164
K2LE	141,705	295	235
W8PT	72,712	202	149
KV1W	43,440	137	120
W1EL	22,477	102	91
W1OHM	13,452	95	76

Single Op Low Power

WA4ZXA	1,022,320	980	497
WS1A	500,038	605	382
WO4O	448,749	642	357
NY3Y	443,751	544	339
K3PP	125,976	222	174

K1HT	119,295	233	165
W2ML	98,000		

Single Op Unlimited

AA3JU	935,656	802	436
AA1ON	133,045	278	205
NZ1Q	108,678	227	177
K2BX	101,935	226	185
KD1NE	100,648	216	184
AE1M	65,826	180	159
K1EU (20M)	58,344	181	156
AD4G	39,216	226	152

Single Band

<u>80M</u>			
KELY	1,074,000	921	439
N3OC	114,680	228	188
K2ONP (HP)	20,412	89	81

<u>20M</u>			
N3HBX	787,572	956	501
N4MO	353,472	464	336
WF1L (LP)	303,696	562	342

<u>15M</u>			
WT4K	63,578	247	166
WS1M (HP)	32,334	150	102
N1AFC (QRP)	12,505	80	61
AD1T (K1ZO) (LP)	12,095	83	59

Multi-Single

9M6TCR	33,048	137	81
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K5ZD	5,289,630	2303	773
NY4A (@AA4NC)	2,143,870	1545	644
WR4K	2,100,000		
N8NR	1,778,620	1301	611
KB1BQZ	868,230	982	495
WT1L	785,760	927	480

Multi-Multi

N1RR (@K1TTT)	4,733,000	2338	810
KU4V (@N4ZC)	4,325,220	2675	808
N1SNB	113,420	330	212

Band Breakdowns

CALL	160	80	40	20	15	10	SCORES
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Single Op QRP

N1TM	7/ 5	43/ 35	28/ 15	192/150	48/ 21	2/ 1	172,520
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Single Op High Power

K3ZO	0/ 0	191/ 86	266/ 91	1041/447	52/ 15	10/ 1	3,008,000
K4AB	1/ 1	179/ 67	199/ 64	1465/508	74/ 19	42/20	2,123,912
NQ4I	2/ 0	207/106	67/ 41	817/356	105/ 39	51/15	1,310,064
K1SD	4/ 2	114/ 57	92/ 60	421/251	54/ 22	0/ 0	761,264
N1CC	0/ 0	70/ 50	61/ 32	379/263	50/ 17	0/ 0	502,456

Single Op Low Power

WS1A	16/ 13	73/ 46	52/ 24	383/268	81/ 31	0/ 0	500,038
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Multi-Single

K5ZD	28/ 11	324/168	218/ 68	1650/498	65/ 24	18/ 4	5,289,639
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Multi-Multi

N1RR	52/	561/	279/	1178/	210/	58/	4,733,000
KU4V	54/ 6	352/140	675/178	1153/363	294/ 90	147/31	4,310,680

Multi Operators

Call Ops

Multi-Single

9M6TCR	KQ1F K1XM
K5ZD	K5ZD K5GA W5ASP

Multi-Multi

N1RR	N1RR K1TTT WM1K
	NJ1F WA1ZAM
	KC4FWS
N1SNB	N1SNB N1SMB
	N1UJB

Poop Deck

New Crew

Please welcome the following new members, who joined at the April general meeting:

Kent A. Hager, KD1KI
51 Goddard St.
Athol, MA 01331
home phone: (508)249-5876
work phone: (508)249-3233

Chris Terkla, N1XY5
30 Canal St. #1
Blackstone, MA 01504-2259
home phone: (508)883-6182
work phone: (617)575-6800 x 66346
email: cterkla@tiac.net
home page:
<http://www.tiac.net/users/cterkla/index.html>

Gary Carey, N1XYU
40 Perkins St.
Worcester, MA 01605-3723
home phone: (508)797-9704
work phone: (508)898-7346
email: gcarey@clariion.com

Guy Hoose, WK2H
64 Esopus Dr.
Clifton Park, NY 12065
home phone: (518)371-3008
email: guy.hoose@corporate.ge.com

George Politzi, K2ZZ
47 Bittersweet Lane
South Salem, NY 10590
home phone: (914)533-6653
email: kc2qf@aol.com

Movers and Shakers

New home phone number for **Bill, K1CLN**, is (802)457-4549.

New phone number and E-mail for **Tom, KA2CIW**:
Tel# (516) 884-8649
E-mail: ttiniski@suffolk.lib.ny.us

New address for **Mark, K1RO**:
16 Silo Way
Bloomfield, CT 06002

New Email and phone for **Mike, N2MG**:
mfg@compuserve.com
home phone: (315) 829-5291.

More New Callsigns

[more updates from Gate 2.. send corrections/additions to KB2R for next issue]

N1OCS is now W1EK

Dues Reminder!!

As we enter the new contest year, dues are once again due. Please bring to the June meeting or mail to:

Ric Plummer, YCCC Treasurer
195 Highland St.
Berlin, MA 01503

It's that time of year again....

WANTED!

**YOUR CORRECT:
ADDRESS - PHONE # -E-MAIL**

As usual, the August Scuttlebutt will contain the 1997 club roster and PacketCluster map.

Please take a couple minutes to make sure we've got your address and phone # up-to-date. If last years' roster entry is still OK, or if your updated data has been published in Movers and Shakers since last August, you're all set.

If your entry is *not* current, or you just want to be sure, please inform Len, KB2R or Charlotte, KQ1F by E-mail, packet, or phone at their addresses on page 2 **BY JULY 10**.

This reminder will also be posted on PacketCluster and the YCCC Internet reflector during June and July.

Apparel News

Len, KB2R

As I recently announced on the YCCC reflector, after the recent jacket order, I am stepping down after almost 4 years as the director of YCCC *haute coiture*. I've enjoyed the opportunity to help promote YCCC - but the 'Butt keeps me busy enough!

So, first of all, we need a new apparel person. No new orders until someone steps forward! Contact me or N6BV if interested.

Second, I still have 6 jackets in my possession - **K1HT, WM1K, KF2XK, N2FF, KA1ZFK, and W1EQ**. Please claim your jacket at the June meeting, or drop me a line and I will ship it to you for \$4.00. I want to clean out my closet! ☐

June Meeting Agenda

Glen Whitehouse, K1GW

1. A short business session conducted by Dean Straw, N6BV.
2. "How To Plan And Execute a Successful DXpedition That Will Add To The Club Scores This Fall" -- Presented by a cast of experienced YCCC DXpeditioners.
3. Coffee Mug Presentations for ARRL International DX Competition 1997-- Rewards come quickly at YCCC! by Mark Wilson, K1RO.
4. A Few Summer Activities That Will Pay Off In The Fall Contest Season by Jim Spear, K1OZ
5. Contest University - A Key To A Successful Future For The YCCC
6. "Loss Producers in Antenna Systems and How To Find Them" by Frank Witt, A1IH.

Abstract: Our antenna systems are more critical to system performance than any other part of our stations. Often overlooked are the losses which can affect performance. Among the loss producers discussed will be feed lines, antenna tuners, baluns, antenna wire and the earth. Also, some simple methods for measuring loss will be described.

Some references as suggested reading prior to the meeting:

Frank Witt, "How to Evaluate Your Antenna Tuner - Parts 1 and 2," QST, April and May 1995, pp 30-34 and pp 33-37, respectively.

Frank Witt, "Baluns in the Real (and Complex) World," ARRL Antenna Compendium, Vol 5 (Newington, ARRL: 1996), pp 171-181.

"QST Compares: Four High-Power Antenna Tuners," QST, March 1997, pp 73-77.

This is our last formal meeting before summer. We hope you will all be able to be there. Traditionally, August is a month of local outings and picnics for YCCCs. Be on the lookout for information on those. ☐

Secretary's Report

Don Haney, KA1T

Acting Secretary

The April, 1997 meeting of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club was held on Sunday, April 6 at the Sturbridge Host Hotel in Sturbridge, Mass. Club president Tom Frenaye, K1KI, called the meeting to order at 1308 local and proceeded into introductions of the members and guests present.

The Treasurer's Report, showing February-March income of \$638.68 and expenses of \$135.00, leaving a balance of \$3029.20, was read by acting Secretary/Treasurer KA1T. The report was accepted by a unanimous vote on a motion by K1TWF.

It was then unanimously voted, on motion of K2XA and second by W1WFZ, to change Sections 1 and 2 of Article II of the YCCC Constitution and ByLaw 4 so as to separate the positions of Vice President and Activities Manager. The change was approved as it had been proposed in the April, 1997 issue of The YCCC Scuttlebutt. The sections and bylaw as amended read:

ARTICLE II

Sec. 1 - The officers of this club shall be: President, Vice President, Activities Manager, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Sec. 2 - The Vice President shall assume all the duties of the President in the absence of the latter, and the Activities Manager shall plan meeting programs and similar activities.

ByLaw 4

ELECTIONS. Elections shall be scheduled pursuant to Article II of the Constitution. Nominations, properly seconded, shall be received by the President from the floor. Upon close of nominations, a secret ballot shall be conducted by the Secretary; this ballot shall be repeated, the nominee receiving the least votes being dropped from the ballot, until a nominee has received a majority of votes cast. This process shall be repeated until the offices of President, Vice President, Activities Manager, Secretary, and Treasurer are filled.

Elections of new officers were held. KB1GW nominated N6BV for President, N6BV nominated K1KP for Vice President, KB1GW nominated K1GW for Activities Manager, KA1T nominated KQ1F for Secretary, and N6BV nominated KV1W for Treasurer. In each office except Secretary, after nominations were closed, W1JCC moved that the Secretary be directed to cast one ballot for the nominee; in the case of Secretary, W1JCC moved that the President be directed to cast one ballot for the nominee. Each of the directive motions were seconded and passed unanimously. Those nominated were declared duly elected to their respective offices.

The Club welcomed and voted into membership WK2H, KD1KI, K2ZZ, N1XYS, and N1XYU. As is almost always the case, they failed to make it out of the room before the "secret" unanimous vote was taken.

KB1GW discussed the Guidelines for use of Club Callsigns which had been proposed in the April, 1997 Scuttlebutt. Suggested modifications and extensions to the proposal included (1) we should determine if the Club shall pay for QSL cards for uses of the club callsign, (2) if no one else signs up to use a callsign in a particular event, the previous-year's user can request it in the last few days before the event, (3) policy should be to answer all QSLs received but not to QSL 100% of all contacts, and (4) the Guidelines should be documented as a letter to the callsign trustees from the Club President instead of becoming part of the ByLaws. After discussion, it was decided to defer formal consideration of the proposal, pending further refinements thereof.

K1HT reviewed YCCC results in the ARRL DX contest. A review of the club competition rules was followed by a summary of our scores. On CW, the claimed score was approximately 89.4 million points from 99 entries; on SSB it was approximately 55.4 million points from 79 entries. This gives an estimated total of 144.7 million points from 178 entries. As compared with early information from Frankford Radio Club, the margin is deemed too close to call. Comparing against prior years' YCCC results, it is apparent that our results are definitely related to the number of participants.

Returning to the Guidelines for use of Club Callsigns, KB1GW requested a straw vote as to whether the Club should pay for QSL cards. The objective was to get a sense of the Club to guide future refinements of the Guidelines. The results of the vote were divided very evenly between the ayes and nays, resulting in no clear guidance on the issue.

An informal break period was held during which the successes of the past contest year were celebrated with cake and refreshments.

K1ZM next presented "YCCC: 20 Years Young and Getting Better Every Day", a very informative and enjoyable retrospective on some of the people, stations, and activities of the Club. Before beginning his presentation, he commended K1KI's term as President and Tom's success in notably increasing enthusiasm and activity. The entire group applauded Tom. Jeff then reviewed the start of YCCC, some of the early members and objectives, etc. The first Eimac the Magnificent appearance was reprinted. Among the slides shown were YCCC's first Dayton suite, the first YCCC expedition to KP4EAJ (which convinced EAJ's wife that he wasn't the only person who was like that), and the top YCCC Multi-Multi stations in 1977. An audio tape of 1978 YCCC members, as recorded by K1VR at 9K2DR, was played.

K1ART described "What's New and Exciting at Cushcraft", where Art is Product Manager for HF Products. He described and showed some of the interesting UHF antenna designs which Cushcraft has developed and is marketing, several of them being styled so as to be visually unobtrusive and even to serve other secondary functions (such as being a street sign). He has been working on a "Big Tribander" [Model X8 - 28' boom, 8 el. - Ed.] and discussed many of the design attributes. They plan to have a beta version of the antenna at the Dayton Hamvention, with general availability anticipated for Summer, 1997. They are also working on a smaller, 18-foot boom version of the same basic design.

The door prize of a D-40 antenna, contributed by Cushcraft, was won by N2LBR and the meeting was subsequently adjourned. □

YCCC CLUB RESOURCE INFORMATION

DUES AND MEMBERSHIP STUFF Dues (currently \$20) are payable as of the April election meeting, which begins our club "contest year", with a grace period until the end of June, at which time your membership lapses if dues are not paid up. In order to rejoin, a lapsed member must attend a meeting, like any new member, or may simply become a subscriber to the Scuttlebutt by paying up (see below). Club members who move out of club territory and so are not eligible to contribute to club aggregate scores automatically become subscribers. New members who join at the February meeting are credited with dues for the year beginning the following April. You can tell if you owe dues by checking your 'Butt mailing label. Only paid-up members are eligible to contribute to the club score in contests. **Mail your dues** to the club treasurer, Ric Plummer, KV1W, 195 Highland Street, Berlin, MA 01503. **FAMILY MEMBERS** Members of the same family living at the same address may elect to receive only one copy of the Scuttlebutt. One member of the family must pay full dues, enabling the rest of the family to join as family members, which is free. **STUDENT MEMBERS** Full-time students are eligible for dues at half the regular rate. **SCUTTLEBUTT SUBSCRIPTIONS** Anyone may subscribe to the club newsletter, the *Scuttlebutt*. The subscription year begins in April. Subscribers who sign up between December and April are considered paid-up for the upcoming year. You can tell if your subscription is current by checking your 'Butt mailing label. The grace period for late subscriptions is the same as for late memberships.

SCUTTLEBUTT ARTICLES should be sent to the Scuttlebutt editor, Leonard Kay, KB2R, preferably by E-mail at lkay@tiac.net, or on 3½" disk (in MSWord format or text file) by snail mail to YCCC Scuttlebutt, Box 1297, Burlington, MA 01803. The deadline for each issue is the 10th of the preceding month. **CONTEST SCORES** should be sent to the club scorekeeper, Dave Hoaglin, K1HT, preferably by packet or by E-mail at dave_hoaglin@abtassoc.com. Please include details such as numbers of QSOs, QSO points (if appropriate), and multipliers (all types); entry category; and power.

CLUB GOODIES **BADGES** YCCC badges are available from Ric, KV1W. Send \$2, name and call desired on the badge, and your mailing address to: Ric Plummer - YCCC Badge, 195 Highland Street, Berlin, MA 01503. **APPAREL** Len, KB2R, has stepped down after four years as Apparel Coordinator. We need someone to take over this important position. Contact KB2R or any officer if interested. **QSL CARDS** are ordered through John Dorr, K1AR. To order, send John packet mail, or E-mail at k1ar@contesting.com, detailing exactly what you want the card to say. There are 2 lines of text available for awards, etc. You will receive a proof by return mail. Approve the proof, making any corrections, and return to John with payment (make checks out to John, not YCCC). Current price is \$54 for 2000 cards. Normal turnaround is 30 days after approving proof. **MEMBERSHIP ROSTER** is mailed annually with the August issue of the Scuttlebutt, and to new members when they join. Updates are published in 'Movers and Shakers' when members move or change callsigns. If you want a new copy of the club roster, contact the Scuttlebutt editor, Len, KB2R. **INTERNET REFLECTOR** There is an Internet mailing list for YCCC members. To subscribe, send mail to yccc-request@yccc.org. Include the words "subscribe yccc" in the body of the mail message. **WWW HOME PAGE** Come visit us at <http://www.yccc.org>.

CT CONTEST LOGGING SOFTWARE is available from Matt, KC1XX. Orders: 603-878-4600. Support: 603-878-4200 CT-BBS: 603-878-1900 (28.8k, 8,N,1). As of this writing there is no E-mail address, but Matt says something is coming. There is an Internet mailing list for CT users. To subscribe, send mail to ct-user-request@ve7tcp.ampr.org, and include the single word SUBSCRIBE in the body. The CT reflector is also the best way to get CT country file updates. These updates may also be obtained from the CT BBS, or send a blank formatted disk and \$1.00 for postage to Jim Reiser, AD1C, 181 Littleton Road #324, Chelmsford, MA 01824.

W1 QSL BUREAU is sponsored by the YCCC. Keep your account up to date with SASEs, or send a check. Stamps are sold at face value, envelopes are 10 cents each. Address: W1 QSL Bureau, YCCC, PO Box 80216, Springfield, MA 01138. Email address: w1qsl@yccc.org. **ARRL LIAISON** is Tom, K1KI. **PACKET NETWORK** information is available from Charlie Carroll, K1XX, Candlelight Rd., Ringe NH 03461.

(from CABIN, page 1)

Many YCCers go out with their local clubs for Field Day in June. This is another excellent opportunity to add a parallel set of headphones and perhaps a tape recorder to show non-contesting people how much fun well-operated contesting can be! It wouldn't hurt to have a placard saying something about YCCC at the operating table either. We also need experienced YCCers who aren't operating with a local club to volunteer to open their home stations for newcomers to operate. The rates from a decent home station on Field Day can be pretty spectacular (you're loud!) and typical Field Day operators can provide lots of training in how to handle unruly pileups too...

So, my fellow YCCers, I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your President this contest year. And I want offer *you* an opportunity too — to volunteer to help your club. How about writing an article for KB2R, who has been doing a yeoman's job as 'Butt Editor? How about volunteering to help your Area Manager make telephone calls? How about forming a group to help put up antennas in your area? If you have some database management skills, how about volunteering to help K1HT (another guy who has been doing a great job as Scorekeeper) to keep track of all our scores? There's lots to be done. Step up and be counted! ☐

The 'Butt: 10 And 20 Years Ago

Leonard Kay, KB2R

June 1977 (Issue 2) - Prez K1ZM has a Dayton report. Lots of YCCers chip in \$5 and we held our first hospitality suite in K1LPA's room on Friday night. It ran until 4:30 AM, and only closed because the Contest Forum was coming up at 9AM ! Fred, WINJL (now K1VR), wins the Pileup Tape award with 56 calls....

The preliminary rules are published for a new contest sponsored by NCJ - the *North American Sprint*. First run: Sept. 11, 1977.

June 1987 (Issue 68) - Prez KM1C goes on at length about the new "AK1A PBBS system" [PacketCluster], and how you can help get our regional system up and running.

Ken, K1EA, has a review of the Yaesu FT-980. It sucks.

YCCC is invited to the joint FRC-PVRC meeting at the *new QTH* of W3LPL.

High claimed scores from 1987 ARRL DX: CW: KQ2M (@KM1H) 1.79M, KC1F 1.74 M. Phone: K1AR, 1.58 M, KC1F 1.49 M. ☐

Upcoming Meetings

Date	Type	Place
June 8 (Sun)	General	Sturbridge, MA
July - Aug	Special	Various BBQs
Sep. 29 (Sun)	General	Sturbridge, MA
Dec. 7 (Sun)	General	Sturbridge, MA

For more information about a special meeting, contact the Area Manager of the indicated section.

Ship's Log	June, 1997	Issue 129
Captain's Cabin	Dean Straw, N6BV.....	1
Flotsam and Jetsam	Jack Schuster, W1WEF.....	2
Electronic Scuttlebutt	Tom Frenaye, K1KI.....	3
WPX Phone Claimed Scores	Dave Hoaglin, K1HT...	4
Poop Deck	5
April Meeting Agenda	Glen Whitehouse, K1GW....	5
Secretary's Report	Don Haney, KA1T.....	6
10 and 20 Years Ago	Leonard Kay, KB2R.....	7

The next general meeting of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club will be held on Sunday, June 8

at 1:00 PM at the Host Hotel in Sturbridge, MA, near the intersection of I-84 and I-90. To get there, exit I-84 onto Route 20 West. Go through two sets of stoplights and turn right just before the Burger King into the hotel parking lot. C U there!

Inside: Do you want an Electronic Scuttlebutt?? CQ WPX SSB scores
Did you win a Mug for ARRL DX? Come and get it at the meeting (see page 5)!

Is your ROSTER INFORMATION up to date?? Write KQ1F or KB2R NOW!!

The YCCC Scuttlebutt
 Box 1297
 Burlington, MA 01803

FIRST CLASS MAIL