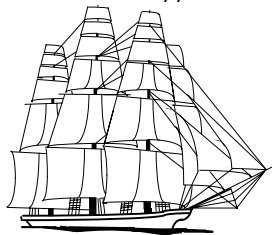


Yankee Clipper



Contest Club

Scuttlebutt

April 1998

Issue 134

Captain's Cabin

Dean Straw, N6BV

As most of you are aware, my wife and I are returning to San Francisco at the end of this summer. I'll be still working for the League as a long-distance telecommuter, so I'll be back from time to time to finish up projects at HQ. We leave New England with regret, mainly because of the many dear friends we have here in the Northeast. I'll admit, however, that we look forward to weather more suited to our tropical natures — I was raised in Hawaii and my wife in Hong Kong.

Since returning to New England ten years ago, I've been proud to be associated with the Yankee Clipper Club. The last two years as an officer of the club have been busy ones, working closely with a fine bunch of officers, Area Managers, 'Butt Editor and other hard-working volunteers. A lot of people have put a lot of sweat and a lot of passion into running YCCC. I've enjoyed visiting many of you on your own home turfs, at Special Meetings held throughout our large territory. Yes, there will always be a fond place in my heart for YCCC, no matter where I go.

However, I've also had a tough time trying to get a handle on this club. We have literally hundreds of fine members, including some of the most outstanding individual operators in the world. It's just a little frustrating, though, that we haven't been able to beat out FRC consistently for the top spot among contest clubs.

We'll come close again in this year's ARRL DX contest, but probably not close enough. (I do sincerely hope I'm wrong.)

Some people tell me that a bunch of New England Yankees will never pull together long or hard enough to be consistent winners, because of our vaunted culture of "Yankee independence." I don't believe that assertion! I'm convinced that when YCCC fields more DXpeditions, that's when we'll be unbeatable. DXpeditions are the main reason why FRC has beaten us so consistently over the years. The numbers don't lie.

At the April 4 meeting in Sturbridge you'll be voting in a crew of officers to lead this club. I urge candidates to come forward, prepared to do their all for YCCC, to lead this club to where it can and should go.

And sometime in the future, if you hear some weak little N6 trying desperately to work a European or two, give the poor guy a break. He'll be YCCCer in spirit, if not in body! □

Amidships

Leonard Kay, K1NU

After 3 enjoyable years, I regret to announce that I am stepping down as editor of the Scuttlebutt. This is my last issue. I'm not going anywhere, my decision is simply due to increased job and family commitments. This fall, I'm getting married to a wonderful gal who is already helping me plan the station and scout out the new QTH on the hill, somewhere north of Boston (yes, I've heard about this house for sale in Windham, but unfortunately, that's a bit *too* north).

I would like to thank everyone who has helped me with material — my regular columnists K1HT and W1WEF, semi-regular authors K1RO, KB1GW, K1DG, K1TTT, and K1KI, and everyone else who has given me anything to print. Getting material is the hardest part of this job! On the positive side, holding this position has allowed me to meet many more of you than I might have as just a member, and I have enjoyed that.

I also can say that I have accomplished all I set out to do. In the last 3 years, the 'Butt has become an electronic document, and we have great looking awards certificates. We've also seen the birth of our club Web page where 'Butt articles are available for download.

Well, almost everything. I have been meaning for several months to get more pictures and graphics into the 'Butt now that I finally bought a scanner. Perhaps my successor can work on that.

And speaking of scanners, while mine (a Christmas present) is still in its new-toy stage, I have been using it in its spare time over the last couple months to capture the entire history of the Scuttlebutt as .JPG files. I have access to CD writers at work, and I hope to have it all available on a CD by next month sometime. This is something I'd been wanting to do for awhile! Watch for a packet or reflector announcement from me.

Moving forward, I'll hopefully be spending the time previously devoted to the 'Butt to raising aluminum and cranking out the points at the new QTH. C U in the pileups, and Beat FRC!! □

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The Yankee Clipper Contest Club (an ARRL affiliated club) holds five 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.

1997 CQWW Awards

Mark Wilson, K1RO and Glenn Swanson, KB1GW

At the April meeting, we'll have certificates and mugs for club members who contributed toward our 1997 CQ WW DX Contest club score. The awards are based on the YCCC claimed scores collected by Dave, K1HT, our YCCC scorekeeper. To be eligible, you had to be a current YCCC member at the time of the contest and you had to submit your score to CQ for YCCC credit before the log due date.

As described in the October 1997 'Butt, YCCC is awarding one certificate per mode for operators who contributed to our CQWW score. Single ops needed at least 300 QSOs per mode to qualify for a certificate for that mode. All operators at multiops that contributed 1 meg or more will receive certificates (if the score is less than 1 meg, 300 QSOs per operator is required). The following YCCC'ers have a certificate coming for one or both modes:

AA1AA AA1CE AA1ON AA1V AD1C AK1N K1AE K1AM K1AR K1BV
K1CA K1CB K1CC K1CN K1DG K1EBY K1EP K1EPJ K1GE K1GW
K1HT K1KI K1KNQ K1KP K1LD K1LOM K1MBO K1MO K1MY K1NG
K1NU K1OA K1OZ K1PI K1RM K1RO K1RU K1RX K1SD K1SM K1TH
K1TI K1TR K1TWF K1VA K1VV K1WD K1XM K1XX K1YT K1ZE
K1ZM K1ZR K1ZZ K2BX K2KQ K2LE K2ONP K2SX K2TE K2TR K2UU
K2WR K2XF K5FUV K5MA K5ZD KA1CI KA1CLX KB1AWE KB1GW
KB1H KB1SO KB1W KC1F KD1KI KD1YN KE1EO KE1FO KE2NL KF1V
KF2O KF2XK KG1D KM1P KM3T KQ1F KS1L KT1M KV1W KZ1M
N1AU N1BB N1CC N1DG N1EZC N1MD N1RL N1RR N1SP N1TM
N2LBR N2TX N4XR N6BV N6RFM NA2NA NB1B NB1U NQ1K NT2X
NZ1Q NZ1W W1AX W1BIH W1CSM W1CU W1EQ W1FJ W1IG W1KM
W1MD W1MK W1NG W1NR W1OD W1RH W1RM W1RY W1RZF W1TE
W1TQ W1UK W1VE W1WEF W1ZS W1ZT W1ZZ W2AX W2GDJ W2LK
W2XX W6PH WA1FCN WA1KKM WA1QGC WA1S WA1ZAM WA2GO
WF1B WF1L WK2H WO1N WT1O WV1M WW1E

To qualify for a mug, single ops needed to make at least 600 QSOs on either mode, or 1000 QSOs combined between the two modes. All operators at multiops that contributed 1 meg or more will receive mugs (if the score is less than 1 meg, 600 QSOs per operator is required). The following YCCC'ers have earned a 1997 CQWW mug:

AA1AA AA1CE AA1ON AA1V AD1C AK1N K1AE K1AM K1AR K1BV
K1CA K1CB K1CC K1CN K1DG K1EBY K1EP K1EPJ K1GW K1HT
K1KI K1KP K1LD K1MBO K1MO K1MY K1NG K1NU K1OA K1OZ
K1PI K1RM K1RO K1RU K1RX K1SD K1SM K1TH K1TI K1TR K1TWF
K1VA K1WD K1XM K1XX K1YT K1ZE K1ZM K1ZR K1ZZ K2BX K2KQ
K2LE K2ONP K2SX K2TE K2TR K2UU K2WR K5MA K5ZD KA1CI
KA1CLX KB1AWE KB1GW KB1H KB1SO KB1W KC1F KD1YN KE1EO
KE1FO KE2NL KF1V KG1D KM1P KM3T KQ1F KS1L KV1W KZ1M
N1BB N1CC N1DG N1MD N1RL N1RR N1SP N1TM N2TX N4XR N6BV
N6RFM NA2NA NB1B NB1U NQ1K NT2X NZ1W W1AX W1BIH W1CSM
W1FJ W1IG W1KM W1MD W1MK W1NG W1OD W1RH W1RM W1RY
W1RZF W1TE W1TQ W1VE W1WEF W1ZT W2AX W2LK W2XX W6PH
WA1FCN WA1QGC WA1S WA1ZAM WA2GO WF1B WF1L WO1N WT1O

So please come to the meeting and pick up your mug or certificate. You earned it! If you have any questions or suggestions, please give us a shout. ☐

CQ 160-CW Claimed Scores

Dave Hoaglin, K1HT

YCCC Scores in BOLD

(Other NE USA scores from the Contest Reflector - thanks to K4ZAM)

CALL	SCORE	QSO'S/SEC/DX		
<u>Single Op QRP</u>				
N1TM	39,208	336	46	6
<u>Single Op Low Power</u>				
WA1LNP	230,112	842	48	48
K1HTV	178,500	815	57	28
K1PX	170,085	788	55	30
W1TE	136,136	473	54	37
K1NK	135,432	634	53	28
WO1N	132,054	613	51	27
K1KY	111,617	661	56	17
KA2CDJ	76,707	314	51	30
AA2GS	74,414	581	52	6
W3CP	27,072	256	44	4
N1RL	24,250	199	42	8
K2YW	22,491	201	43	6
K3CV	12,040	160		35
K3PP	11,051	114	40	3
W3SE	7,920	101	35	1
WV1K	1,921	52		17
<u>Single Op High Power</u>				
KQ2M	355,533	846	56	55
K2AV	227,458	786	55	43
K1VW	174,048	640	56	40
AA1K	171,236	647	54	35
K3SV	150,470	673	54	28
N2ED	124,066	567	53	29
K1TO	84,525	410		75
N4XR	82,916	377	49	27
W1CSM	75,776	327	49	25
N1KWF	65,912	300	52	25
K2ONP	60,588	361	45	21
K2LO (K1IM)	57,955	325	47	20
W2UD	43,659	257	45	18
<u>Multioperator</u>				
W2GD	753,548	1433	59	65
W1FJ	734,668	1227	53	65
K3WW	326,655	913	57	48
W3GH	295,380	1010	57	46
N3OC	208,299	807	52	39
K1KI	201,160	580	51	43 +KE1EO
K2KQ	194,370	675	54	39 + NET
AA3B	101,460	543	54	22
KC1F	69,423	303	48	25 + NET
W1JCC	56,942	242	40	31 + NET
W1BB	35,853	280	40	11+K1TH,K1VV

CQ 160 Phone Claimed Scores

Dave Hoaglin, K1HT

YCCC Scores in BOLD

(Other NE USA scores from the Contest Reflector - thanks to K4ZAM)

CALL	SCORE	QSO'S/SEC/DX		
<u>Single Op Low Power</u>				
K1PX	129,402	693	55	23
K1NK	82,731	479	50	19
AA2GS	23,077	228	43	4
N1EZC	20,070	171	45	0
K1EP	490	23	10	0
<u>Single Op High Power</u>				
K1UO	211,470	738	53	42
N3MKZ	111,675	622	56	19
W1TE	62,196	307	48	23
W2UD	60,378	453	47	11
K3OSX	59,118	420	42	17
W1OJ	58,941	409	45	14
K5ZD	58,756	210	47	27
W1JCC	1,440	30	18	2
<u>Multi-Op</u>				
W3GH	222,938	1123	58	25
K2YR	153,750	751	55	27
NE3F	128,800	623	52	28
K3WW	80,700	437	55	20
N2TX	58,717	294	49	22 +NET
N1KWF	41,992	308	45	13

ARRL DX CW Claimed Scores

Dave Hoaglin, K1HT

YCCC Scores in BOLD

(Other NE USA scores from the Contest Reflector - thanks to K4ZAM)

YCCC raw total:	CW	100.5 million
	SSB	87.7 million

CALL	SCORE	Q	DX
<u>Single Op QRP</u>			
K3PH	469,854	678	231
N1TM	363,780	564	215
W3ZZ	170,016	352	161
KD2TT	162,750	350	155
N1AFC	6,138	66	31
<u>Single Op Low Power</u>			
K1VUT	1,245,600	1384	300
WT1O	898,671	1139	263
K1KY	739,239	849	293
K1NO (K5FUV op)	694,080	964	240
N2ED	646,464	832	259
K1VSJ	563,940	780	241
W1ZZ	524,628	767	228
N1WR	515,430	747	230
K1AO	477,480	692	230
WF1L	413,160	626	220
K1HT	391,238	627	208
N1RJF	307,911	522	197
N1SNB	281,430	530	177
W3CP	245,310	442	185
KT1M	227,970	447	170
K1ZE	223,314	409	182
KD1YN	157,635	339	155
K1KU	124,488	312	133
K3FH	71,400	200	119
WU1F	70,296	202	116
AA1QD	70,200	225	104
K1TW	5,781	47	41
<u>Single Op High Power</u>			
W1KM	3,748,140	3155	396
KQ2M	3,473,712	2992	387
N6BV	3,227,592	2972	362
N2LT	3,030,960	2768	365
K3ZO	2,864,910	2582	370
K1ZR (@KB1SO)	2,218,410	2361	314
WF3T	1,877,748	1883	334
KC1F	1,853,790	2026	305
K2TE	1,658,403	1789	309
K2XA	1,560,996	1572	331
NJ2L	1,456,560	1735	280
W1ZT	994,449	1147	289
W1TE	871,410	937	310
W2EN	836,352	1056	264
K2AV	724,905	908	267
W1AX	566,166	748	254
N3MKZ	541,650	575	314
K2SX	523,422	718	243
N2CU	506,880	704	240
W1FJ	471,000?	730	217
N1DG	421,623	593	237
K1BV	331,344	708	156
KA1IS	309,915	485	213
KA1GJ	306,774	494	207

W2GDJ	161,550	359	150
N1JP	34,425	153	75
N1KWF	27,840	160	58
<u>Single Op Assisted, High Power</u>			
K1NG (K11G)	4,178,784	3004	464
K3WW	4,068,858	3041	446
W2GD (@N2NT)	3,415,167	2513	453
K2WK	2,402,808	1889	424
AA3B	2,186,310	2030	359
K3NZ	2,110,125	1655	425
AD1C	1,577,394	1498	351
K2ONP	1,553,022	1434	361
W3EEE	1,482,648	1304	379
N4XR	1,480,320	1285	384
N3ZA	885,843	903	327
W1RH (@AA1ON)	854,604	1158	246
W3HVQ	847,215	1005	281
W1CSM	838,860	902	310
W1XT	792,438	916	289
W1CU	752,400	912	275
W1RZF	749,556	886	282
KA1CLX	710,946	933	254
KS1L	657,510	707	310
K2SX	523,422	718	243
AA1V	465,366	641	242
K3CT	463,218	538	287
K1SM	451,575	675	223
K3AR	303,024	428	236
WK2H	233,892	534	146
K2EP	200,640	380	176
N1CC	164,328	328	167
N1MD	137,397	271	169
K2BX	133,668	316	141
WB1S	109,980	260	141
K1TH	109,068	298	122
N1SP	100,128	224	149
K1VV	88,770	269	110
K2XF	30,702	119	86
K1KNQ	21,825	97	75
KF2O	1,260	21	20
<u>Single Op Assisted, Low Power</u>			
W0MHK/1	476,256	656	242
AA2GS	234,630	395	198
W1AO	164,124	291	188
K1KNQ	21,825	97	75
<u>Single Band</u>			
80 METERS			
W1MK	275,670	1021	90
40 METERS			
N2PP	188,964	743	87
20 METERS			
WS1M	277,560	1028	90
K2BA	220,806	846	87
<u>Multi-Single</u>			
PJ9C	5,821,965	5793	335
KC1XX	5,011,830	3485	478
K5ZD	4,135,152	3178	434
K1VR	2,777,472	2411	384
W1OJ	1,709,295	1561	365
NE3F	1,537,053	1382	371
N2LBR	605,952	768	263
N1AU	474,660	586	270

W1SRG (LP)	61,479	207	99
Multi-Two			
N2NU	6,984,450	4572	510
N3RS	6,814,302	4490	506
K1CA	6,669,000	4500	494
K1ZZ	5,703,264	3936	483
KB1H	3,563,703	2769	429
N1RR	2,019,654	1918	351

W3LPL	9,605,289	5627	569
K3LR	9,060,240	5393	560
K1KI	8,917,380	5556	535
K1RX	5,898,240	4096	480
W3PP	4,958,268	3530	469
W1VE (@K1TTT)	3,954,720	3080	428
KV1W	2,008,251	1757	381
K1NU (@K1KP)	1,924,272	1909	336

Multi-Multi

Band Breakdowns

CALL	160	80	40	20	15	10	SCORES
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Single Op QRP

K3PH	2/ 2	42/ 30	130/ 42	264/ 71	198/ 63	42/ 23	469,854
N1TM	13/11	43/ 32	148/ 50	234/ 61	106/ 48	23/ 13	363,780

Single Op High Power

W1KM	124/51	559/ 69	790/ 78	1042/ 89	600/ 80	40/ 29	3,748,140
KQ2M	87/49	513/ 69	799/ 76	825/ 90	725/ 79	43/ 24	3,473,712
N6BV	82/46	291/ 62	789/ 80	1140/ 82	645/ 74	25/ 18	3,227,592
N2LT	77/38	272/ 54	624/ 74	820/ 85	942/ 94	33/ 20	3,030,960
K3ZO	72/40	225/ 57	619/ 69	883/ 87	722/ 84	61/ 33	2,864,910
KC1F	75/38	150/ 44	451/ 60	1132/ 81	182/ 60	36/ 22	1,853,790
NJ2L	21/16	70/ 38	432/ 57	701/ 80	480/ 67	31/ 22	1,456,560

Single Op Low Power

K1VUT	33/23	159/ 56	240/ 61	590/ 79	326/ 61	36/ 20	1,245,600
WT1O	57/33	102/ 40	135/ 47	491/ 62	312/ 61	42/ 20	898,671
K1KY	34/24	90/ 41	164/ 57	249/ 72	250/ 71	64/ 29	743,526
K1NO	0/ 0	119/ 45	121/ 50	593/ 76	108/ 52	23/ 17	694,080
W1ZZ	12/11	74/ 33	237/ 51	248/ 58	174/ 62	22/ 13	524,628
N1WR	0/ 0	75/ 31	138/ 31	219/ 60	275/ 69	40/ 20	515,430
K1AO	0/ 0	98/ 39	226/ 57	229/ 56	124/ 59	26/ 19	477,480
N1RJF	12/12	30/ 24	129/ 48	253/ 61	86/ 41	12/ 11	307,911
KT1M	0/ 0	64/ 33	83/ 32	164/ 50	115/ 41	21/ 14	227,970

Single Op Assisted, High Power

K1NG	108/56	316/ 74	781/ 93	1031/ 99	692/ 93	76/ 49	4,178,784
K3WW	118/58	290/ 79	850/ 92	990/100	764/ 88	29/ 29	4,068,858
W2GD	92/59	284/ 72	657/ 87	837/ 97	583/ 97	60/ 41	3,415,167
AA3B	45/36	312/ 61	504/ 73	632/ 79	485/ 79	52/ 31	2,186,310
AD1C	17/15	238/ 68	523/ 78	485/ 88	213/ 79	35/ 23	1,577,394
K2ONP	46/43	312/ 69	242/ 69	623/ 86	178/ 72	34/ 22	1,553,022
W3EEE	82/52	89/ 60	254/ 68	446/ 83	387/ 84	46/ 32	1,482,648
N3ZA	44/36	99/ 53	112/ 56	309/ 76	305/ 81	34/ 25	885,843
K3AR	7/ 7	32/ 28	74/ 40	156/ 74	116/ 61	43/ 26	303,024
N1CC	0/ 0	0/ 0	39/ 32	174/ 62	88/ 54	27/ 18	164,328

Single Op Assisted, Low Power

AA2GS	6/ 6	47/ 27	120/ 45	95/ 48	93/ 50	34/ 22	234,630
K1KNQ	0/ 0	10/ 9	24/ 19	35/ 24	20/ 17	8/ 6	21,825

Multi-Single

KC1XX	95/56	554/ 80	1012/ 93	1092/106	688/100	54/ 43	5,011,830
K5ZD	135/52	329/ 76	839/ 82	1055/ 99	776/ 93	44/ 32	4,135,152
K1VR	70/46	434/ 69	806/ 86	789/ 82	290/ 77	28/ 24	2,777,472

Multi-Two

N2NU	148/61	690/ 90	973/ 95	1461/107	1206/105	94/ 52	6,984,450
N3RS	135/58	581/ 84	1272/ 98	1341/110	1070/109	91/ 47	6,814,302
K1CA	107/51	824/ 90	869/ 94	1601/110	1019/102	81/ 47	6,669,000
KB1H	79/48	511/ 72	605/ 93	909/ 93	609/ 94	56/ 29	3,563,703

Multi-Multi

W3LPL	274/74	987/ 95	1319/106	1692/122	1219/115	136/ 57	9,605,289
K3LR	221/69	809/ 96	1239/108	1764/119	1232/111	128/ 57	9,060,240
K1KI	229/65	919/ 90	1292/102	1761/118	1269/107	103/ 53	8,917,380
K1RX	197/58	613/ 83	761/ 87	1658/106	778/ 99	93/ 47	5,898,240
W3PP	123/59	428/ 76	1111/ 93	1099/105	677/ 91	92/ 45	4,958,268
W1VE	58/47	210/ 63	640/ 80	1486/107	622/ 95	64/ 36	3,950,000
K1NU	35/23	239/ 53	554/ 74	709/ 83	334/ 80	41/ 23	1,924,272

Multi Operators

Call Ops

Multi-Single

PJ9C	W1BIH W1WEF
KC1XX	KC1XX K1DG KM3T
K5ZD	K5ZD N1BB
K1VR	W1FJ NB1B K1LZ T93M KA1GJ K1VR
W1OJ	W1OJ W1BR
N2LBR	N2LBR WA1KKM
N1AU	N1AU K1BB
W1SRG	KE4GI N1XYR

Multi-Two

K1CA	K1XM K1TI K1FEW K1ART K1TR K1CA
K1ZZ	K1RO K1ZZ N1RL
KB1H	KB1H AA1CE NB1U K1EBY W3TB K1GX
N1RR	N1RR WM1K KM1P N1XYS AB1BX

Multi-Multi

K1KI	K1KI K1CC W1RM K2KQ W2XX N2TX
K1RX	K1RX KF1V WA1S K1OZ AA1LN K1EPJ
W1VE	NT2X W1VE K1TTT WT2Q WA1ZAM
KV1W	KV1W K1MBO N6RFM AI3E K1EP
K1NU	K1NU K1OA K1KP N1RD K1EP

ARRL DX Phone Claimed Scores

Dave Hoaglin, K1HT

YCCC Scores in BOLD

(Other NE USA scores from the Contest Reflector - thanks to K4ZAM)

(see CW scores for YCCC total)

CALL	SCORE	Q	DX
<u>Single Op QRP</u>			
N1TM	207,234	397	174

Single Op Low Power

WS1A	597,360	760	262
W1EQ	448,758	642	233
WF1L	433,440	645	224
W1ZZ	369,600	550	224
K1HT	333,720	540	206
K1VSJ	313,698	539	194
AA2GS	116,034	233	166
N3GPU	112,518	282	133
WV1K	29,607	139	71

Single Op High Power

K1AR	4,500,000	3329	450
N2NT	3,376,275	2725	413
K5ZD (K9PG)	3,270,000	2728	400
N6BV	3,205,200	2671	400
K3ZO	2,607,081	2294	383
K1MY	1,469,259	1649	297
N3NKZ	1,441,032	1238	388
W1WEF	1,172,997	1299	301
W1TE	953,280	960	331
N3ZA	909,216	861	352
K3OSX	701,760	860	272
KK1L	634,950	850	249
KD1YN	611,520	728	280
K2SX	426,479	551	258
W1RY	396,900	588	225
W2GDJ	391,473	537	243
KE3VV	126,501	283	149
N2RMZ	106,398	257	138
W1OHM	105,840	280	126
K2ZP	105,462	279	126
KD3GC	45,672	192	88

Single Op Assisted, Low Power

WO1N	154,524	316	163
WR1X	120,198	299	134

Single Op Assisted, High Power

N2A (N2TX op)	2,864,544	2252	424
K3WW	2,638,692	1981	444
K3NZ	2,526,030	1905	442
K2WK	2,424,000	2000	404
KS1L	2,184,840	2040	357
AA3B	1,402,674	1274	367
K1TO	1,179,720	1357	290
W1RZF	1,056,561	1111	317
N1DG	936,768	952	328
K3AR	930,654	894	347
W1ZT	741,363	821	301
K1MO	716,571	773	309
KA1CLX	555,696	681	272
K2BX	549,600	800	229
K2SX	426,479?	551	258
K1TR	314,622	462	227
KK1DX	304,128	512	198
AD1C	244,296	377	216
K1TH	175,152	356	164
K2XF	142,485	295	161
N4XR	102,378	226	151
WK2H	56,358	202	93

Single Band

<u>80 METERS</u>			
WB1S	57,159	261	73
<u>20 METERS</u>			
N3HBX	339,066	968	117
WS1M	253,341	853	99
N2CU	56,826	231	82
<u>15 METERS</u>			
K3CV	73,920	280	88
WA1FCN (LP)	71,655	281	85
KB3A	31,806	171	62
W3CP	31,062	167	62

Multi-Single

PJ9JT	4,106,844	4548	301
<u>80 METERS</u>			
W1OJ	2,698,407	2161	417
K1NG	2,180,925	1795	405
NE3F	2,113,920	1835	384
N3PUR	1,252,284	1166	358
W3MF	1,032,255	1016	339
W1BK	583,389	697	279
<u>40 METERS</u>			
N2LBR	540,270	690	261
<u>30 METERS</u>			
N1SP	519,552	704	246
<u>20 METERS</u>			
N2JIX	326,904	514	212
<u>15 METERS</u>			
K1KY	40,356	177	76

Multi-Two

KC1XX	6,809,970	4290	530
W2PV (@K2TR)	6,300,216	4134	508
N3RS	5,574,792	3663	508
KB1H	2,469,768	1928	427
W1N (@K1KP)	2,389,860	2130	374
N1RR	2,176,245	1765	411
K2KV	2,143,125	1909	375

Multi-Multi

K3LR	10,401,765	5731	605
W3LPL	9,151,728	5171	592
N2RM	7,622,628	4853	524
K1KI	7,368,669	4557	539
KB1SO	5,919,108	3994	494
W1VE (@K1TTT)	5,366,322	3621	494
K3ANS	4,571,172	3122	492
KV1W	3,478,140	2565	452

Band Breakdowns

CALL	160	80	40	20	15	10	SCORES
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Single Op QRP

N1TM	2/ 2	19/ 15	54/ 28	154/ 58	114/ 57	54/ 14	207,234
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Single Op High Power

K1AR	28/22	223/ 65	297/ 78	1401/130	1300/123	80/ 32	4,500,000
N6BV	32/25	212/ 62	343/ 76	982/102	1005/105	97/ 30	3,205,200
K5ZD	51/34	227/ 64	241/ 72	1277/108	851/ 98	81/ 24	3,270,000
K1MY	0/ 0	72/ 39	103/ 50	621/ 93	763/ 94	91/ 21	1,469,259
N3NKZ	37/27	71/ 49	115/ 62	516/101	405/109	94/ 40	1,441,032
N3ZA	17/15	65/ 46	107/ 61	265/ 87	302/106	105/ 37	909,216
KK1L	0/ 0	76/ 42	111/ 52	376/ 74	235/ 63	52/ 18	634,950
K2SX	0/ 0	47/ 29	53/ 40	174/ 71	204/ 87	73/ 31	426,479

Single Op Low Power

WS1A	0/ 0	44/ 30	79/ 42	284/ 80	251/ 81	102/ 29	597,360
W1EQ	0/ 0	33/ 27	81/ 43	234/ 74	203/ 68	91/ 21	448,758
WF1L	0/ 0	31/ 23	71/ 39	231/ 70	254/ 75	58/ 17	433,440

Single Op Assisted, High Power

N2A	40/31	157/ 62	203/ 83	981/110	793/107	95/ 31	2,864,544
K3WW	51/39	129/ 63	179/ 78	666/108	848/117	108/ 39	2,638,692
K2WK	31/28	77/ 51	93/ 59	1437/129	267/ 99	95/ 38	2,424,000
AA3B	14/13	138/ 55	153/ 66	378/ 90	449/104	142/ 39	1,402,674
K1TO	6/ 5	34/ 27	75/ 43	266/ 83	864/109	112/ 23	1,179,720
K3AR	13/10	66/ 42	114/ 58	274/ 91	289/105	138/ 41	930,654
AD1C	0/ 0	19/ 17	61/ 44	127/ 65	132/ 67	38/ 23	244,296

Single Op Assisted, Low Power

WR1X	0/ 0	0/ 0	0/ 0	149/ 64	88/ 46	62/ 24	120,198
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Multi-Single

W1OJ	40/30	176/ 63	186/ 72	915/108	730/113	114/ 31	2,698,407
NE3F	26/18	113/ 51	184/ 74	881/110	525/103	106/ 28	2,113,920
N2JIX	0/ 0	30/ 21	26/ 21	213/ 69	171/ 79	74/ 22	326,904

Multi-Two

KB1H	40/29	160/ 63	210/ 79	631/ 98	727/116	169/ 42	2,469,768
W1N	14/10	205/ 59	175/ 66	913/102	777/110	73/ 27	2,389,860

Multi-Multi

K3LR	87/48	453/ 92	706/110	2203/153	1765/146	517/ 56	10,401,765
N2RM	56/40	431/ 73	574/ 95	1685/135	1945/139	162/ 42	7,622,628
K1KI	69/42	370/ 77	421/ 93	2146/142	1371/135	212/ 50	7,368,669
KB1SO	43/33	316/ 70	417/ 88	1830/127	1208/128	181/ 48	5,919,108
W1VE	62/38	287/ 73	309/ 84	1668/124	1112/131	191/ 44	5,366,322
K3ANS	59/38	325/ 74	383/ 88	1117/119	1034/130	204/ 43	4,571,172
KV1W	41/30	322/ 76	272/ 80	1042/108	750/115	145/ 43	3,478,140

Multi Operators

Call Ops

Multi-Single

PJ9JT	W1BIH W1AZ N1TKZ
W1OJ	W1OJ K1KNQ W1BR KZ1O
K1NG	K1NG N1BB K1SD W1MA
W1BK	W1BK W1NR
N2LBR	N2LBR W1KKM
N1SP	N1SP NK1F

Multi-Two

W2PV	K2TR NJ1F K2ONP K2RD K2WR K2XA KE1EO(JF6DEA)
KB1H	KB1H AA1CE K1EBY NB1U N1BU N1LYA KA1CI WA1CBY
W1N	K1NU K1OA KA1GJ K1KP N1RD
N1RR	N1RR WM1K N1XYS N1XYR

Multi-Multi

K1KI	K1KI K1CC K1PI KM1P K2KQ W2XX
KB1SO	KB1SO W1GQ K1ZR N1SNB
W1VE	W1VE K1TTT K1EP WB3FAA WA1ZAM N1GA(OK1DIX) WT2Q KA1CI
KV1W	KV1W K1MBO N6RFM W1CSM KE1FO

Flotsam & Jetsam

“Barnacle Jack” Schuster, W1WEF

Please keep those cards and letters coming with your tips to share with fellow YCCers!. Any input appreciated! This month's tips:

- W1UK uses SLINKY beverages with good results, similar to those described in K1ZM's recent book "DXing on the Edge". Jim uses six slinky's (go to a toy store...make sure you buy the metal ones, not plastic!) each stretched to 18 feet, soldered together and supported by a rope about six feet off the ground through the middle of them. He terminates them with an 1100 ohm resistor which he determined by applying low power and looking at SWR.
- Snap on ferrites are great for clearing up RFI problems, and are sometimes available at reasonable prices at flea markets. One problem is knowing the mix you're buying, but that said, I've bought the ones sold by the same gal in every flea market I attend, housed in white plastic (the ferrite, not the gal) measuring 1.25 inches on a side. By measuring the inductance of a couple turns of wire through the core, and comparing to a core of known mix, I determined that the 50 or so I bought have low permeability and are pretty useless! In any case, if you use snap on ferrites, be sure the surfaces that snap together are clean and that the wire does not interfere with a tight closure. Also, when using ferrites for RFI problems, 5 or 6 turns around a core is far more effective than a single pass through the core. (read the section in the ARRL Handbook on EMI and you'll see that I just proved that Ed Hare was correct... "beware of surplus toroidal cores!")
- One application where these ferrites did work was to cure a TVI problem on the set in the room next to the shack. Two turns of the RG6 coax from the antenna into the VCR eliminated RF on the shield that was wiping out TV when I was on a particular band.
- N1MM suggests using IEC power cords as connectors for rotators. Tom suggests that two three wire extension cables can be cut in half to provide a male and female, and thereby handle the six wires needed for a HyGain rotor if the starting capacitor is mounted at the rotor instead of in the control box. IEC extension cords are found at computer shows.
- K5FUV uses a pulley with a carribeaner attached to support a polypropylene rope for pulling tools, etc up the tower. It's also handy for hoisting the gin pole to the top of the tower. Bill uses a Petzl mountaineering pulley available at places like EMS.
- When overhauling your HyGain rotator, don't overlook the limit switches! I have a rotor on the tower now, waiting for better weather that has limit switch contacts in need of cleaning (or replacement). Motor current goes thru the limit switches, so any voltage drop due to oxidized or burnt switch contacts in addition to the drop through the rotor cable can result in sluggish starts or no starts at all. The good news if this happens is you can temporarily bypass the limit switches in the shack to get the rotor turning. Look at the schematic and jumper the appropriate wires going to the switch.

If you've read this far, I hope you've gotten something of value from this...but I NEED YOUR INPUT! w1wef@snet.net, or packet, or snail mail. ☐

M8M Notes

Doug Grant, K1DG

I found myself in England over the weekend between business commitments. A few phone calls got me a seat at G3TXF's house, with use of the M8M contest call.

Nigel has some TVI problems, and I was pretty beat from a week of flying around Europe. Managed about 14 hours of operation, good for about 1000Qs, 500K points, which should count for YCCC.

An interesting experience...a very different contest from G. Stayed up through the first night, then slept until about 13Z. Guess I missed some of the early opening on 20, but remember - from England, the only guys available to work on 20 or 15 at 12Z are East Coasters (the rest of the U.S. has no propagation or is asleep). And 12Z is really noon...which means there's nothing to do from shortly after sunrise until noon! It's a great time for W1s to CQ into Europe, because Europeans are all awake and have nothing else to work. Lousy time for Europeans to CQ into the U.S., though.

It is clear to me that FRC is much more efficient at using the packet network than YCCC. The packet pileups were a long string of PAs, followed by sporadic MA, NH, CT. I am fairly sure that I had more QSOs with PA than any other state. Sigh.

It is also clear that the YCCC stations really rock on 15 into England. Nice to hear the bottom 25 kHz of 15 (and sometimes 20) loaded with our boys. However, N2RM has everyone beat all day on 15. First signal in, last one out, loudest most of the time in between.

K5ZD rocks on 20, a bit down on 15. K1AR/EA really loud on 40, along with XX and W2PV/K2TR. W1KM very loud on 80, and louder than I expected on 15. VE1ZZ louder than you can imagine on 160, relative to everyone else. N6BV answered my first CQ on 160, and nobody else called for 10 minutes. Pretty much all YCCC regulars had excellent signals on all the bands.

Only thing heard on 10 was Argentina (just like home!).

Some of the YCCC stations that I know to be running modest antennas (60-80-foot high tribanders, etc.) were surprisingly loud. W1N/K1KP - very nice signals on all bands, and occasionally one of the loudest on 15.

I also found a few instances where a "big gun" station was not as loud as I thought they should be, and told them. Almost every one was accidentally using the "wrong" antenna, and came up 20 dB or so when they rectified the problem. Glad to be able to help from "over there".

A very important thing I noticed was that some of our boys were slugging it out on frequencies that were not at all clear in Europe. I think some of them were a couple of dB louder than the adjacent stations, but not at all easy to copy. Weaker stations on clearer frequencies were much more easy to copy, and appealing to work.

I also was amused at the U.S. stations that could not copy some of the European stations calling them. One or two calls, and the caller would give up and go away. Even Mr. "15-Meter-Band-Edge-All-Day-Saturday" K1AR had guys call him and give up.

And I grew very tired of saying "Mexico" after a while. ☐

Secretary's Report

Charlotte Richardson, KQ1F

The February, 1998, meeting of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club was held on Saturday, February 7, 1998, at the Sturbridge Host Hotel in Sturbridge, Mass. Club president Dean, N6BV, called the meeting to order. The treasury balance stood at \$3222.14. Newsletter editor Len, K1NU, noted that use of the Electronic Scuttlebutt saves the club \$50-\$60 an issue. The meeting continued with introductions of the 93 members present and their ARRL DX contest plans.

Dean, N6BV, then presented an analysis of the CQ WW results, comparing the YCCC club score to FRC. On SSB, FRC collected 205.9M, while YCCC took in 118.8M. On SSB, they had 195.7M while we had 163.7M, for totals of 401.6M for FRC and 282.5M for YCCC. FRC beat us on DXpeditions and domestic M/S operations.

Club scorekeeper Dave, K1HT, then reminded the members of the ARRL club competition requirements for the upcoming ARRL DX Contests. To be eligible to contribute to the club score, a member must have paid dues, attended two meetings unless newly joined or physically handicapped, and live within the club territory, defined as a 175-mile diameter circle. YCCC has an official map showing the ARRL boundary. If a member is a guest op, the station callsign holder must also be eligible to contribute the score to the club, unless this is a DXpedition. In order for a multi-op score to contribute to the club score, 2/3 of the operators must be eligible.

The club welcomed four new and returning members (see "New Crew" for details): Jim Tumelty, W1CWU, Jeffrey Parker, KA1GJ, John Pritt, N1JP, and John Ruggiero, N2YHK.

Glen, K1GW, then talked about training in station setup and operating skills for new contesters. Glen has enlisted Stu, KC1F, to run this training program, and urged members to invite a few hams over to their stations for minor contests to learn operating techniques. Stu will be compiling a list of topics you will want to cover with these new ops, what to discuss and critique, and so on, and will be looking for "teachers" willing to open their stations for this program. He is also looking for people who would like to learn. Glen passed around signup sheets for both teachers and learners. Stu will be in touch with those who signed up.

Several propagation experts then made their

predictions for band conditions during the ARRL DX Contests. Tom, K1KI, covered ten meters. He expects the best rates to be from 15-18Z on cw and from 15-21Z on SSB. The longer opening on SSB is due to the large number of SSB operators in South America. Tom advises that you check from 13-15Z for European openings, possibly skew path.

Vince, K1RM, covered fifteen meters. He advises looking for morning longpath openings around sunrise to the far east beaming southeast, with the best signals the first hour and a half the band is open.

Dean, N6BV, covering twenty meters, noted that at this time in the solar cycle, this band is much more fun. It should be open to most of the world most of the time. Europe should be workable from 10-22Z.

Dave, K1ZZ, covered forty meters. He noted that there is much less congestion on this band in Europe than during the CQ WW contests since they are not all busy working each other. On cw the best time is 19-22Z. Low antennas work early. European sunrise, around 07Z, is a good time to work Europe. The best times for SSB are later, due to broadcast QRM, around 22-23Z after the foreign broadcast stations shut down. Beam west around 05Z.

Greg, W1KM, covered eighty meters. He noted that there are far fewer stations to work to the south than on 40; almost all of the activity is from Europe. The best hour is 22Z, when there are very few Ws and lots of Europeans. The second best time is European sunrise, but more Ws are on then. Get on this band around 05Z.

Jeff, K1ZM, covered one-sixty. He predicts that 160 will out-perform 10 on cw. On SSB, thirty to thirty-five countries are possible from the Caribbean and loud Europeans. Do not bother checking before 03Z. Go to 160 in short increments, scan the band, work Caribbean stations, look for a European opening, then go elsewhere after five minutes. After 0430-0500Z, Europe could open. Work this band for multipliers.

Dick, KB1H, talked about packet. He noted the the GO List that is maintained on his node was being updated monthly. It is currently offline. The new GO List owner wants to limit access to the list to paid subscribers (there are 44 YCCC subscribers). The other option is to stop providing the list.

Bill, N1AU, then talked about "little pistol" operation in the ARRL DX Contests. One third of the club total score comes from small stations. Make the best use of your station

possible. Use computer logging. Make an amp and antenna tuneup chart for fast band switching. Use headphones, and use a boom mike to keep your hands free for typing. Refer to the YCCC Contest Cookbook for operating strategies and advice. In general, operate the highest band that is open and sustaining a good rate. Get rested before the contest. Make your operating position comfortable. Use the packet announcement window in CT 9 if you have a computer-controllable radio. Verify the callsigns of packet spots; there are many errors. Use super-check-partial. Spot every station you hear that is not in your band map, or has moved, using alt-F3. Use the Talk function to talk to your contesting friends to share enthusiasm or get help, using alt-T. When searching and pouncing, use the band map to identify stations by frequency so you don't waste time. Decide if you are a DXer or a contester. If you are a contester, don't waste time DXing. CT will tell you how much time a new multiplier is worth. Remember that big stations are looking for you. Send clearly; use CT or a keyboard. Try various cw calling techniques. Use standard phonetics on SSB to avoid confusion. If your time is limited, use it wisely.

Make a plan. Don't stay up all night and miss the morning European opening. Try this for a running strategy: if you can find a clear spot and can maintain a good rate, go for it. Don't get discouraged if you lose your run frequency. Instead, go back to S&P or find another open frequency. Look high up in the band. Be aggressive but not rude. To improve your cw speed, use a cw trainer. Set CT to send your call and exchange at a high speed. Listen to a station until you have the call, then pounce; you have already copied his exchange. Speeds are slower higher up in the band. Your cw speed will be much improved by the end of the contest, guaranteed. Submit your log promptly. Don't forget! Also send it to the club scorekeeper, K1HT. After the contest, review how you did and what could be done better next time. Above all, have fun!

Bill, K5FUV, then discussed small, low-power contest stations. He noted that it is important to boost the scores of the smaller stations as much as we can. The best operating technique for low-power stations is to know your station. Know what bands are good for you and what time of day your station performs best, and plan around the limitations. Know propagation and likely directions. Remember that 80 and 40 meter propagation exists during daylight, before your sunset. Know when marginal conditions may exist.

(see SECRETARY'S REPORT, p 10)

Poop Deck

New Crew

Please welcome these new and returning members who joined at the indicated meetings!

*Contest University at KVIW
on February 11, 1998:*

Bradford Denison, W1NT
WPI Box 1056 100 Institute Road
Worcester, MA 01609
home phone: (413)568-6307
work phone: (508)831-6416
email address: braddl@wpi.edu

Kurt Ludwig, N1PFC
Box 665 100 Institute Road
Worcester, MA 01609
home phone: (413)525-6884
work phone: (508)831-6863
email: n1pfc@wpi.edu
home page: <http://www.wpi.edu/~n1pfc>

Gergory R. Snow, KA1WIG
15 Friendship Lane
Smithfield, RI 02917
home phone: (401)231-6035
work phone: (508)831-5042
email: grsnow@wpi.edu
home page: <http://www.wpi.edu/~grsnow>

Matthew R. Teto, KA1YTR
PO Box 118
Templeton, MA 01468
home phone: (978)939-4079
work phone: (508)831-6539
email: mattteto@wpi.edu

*Contest University at KVIW
on February 1, 1998:*

Whitney Carter, K1EO
57 Bridge Street
Beverly, MA 01915
home phone: (978)921-1946

Brian Arsenaull, N1FIY
900 Whittemore Street
Leicester, MA 01524
home phone: (508)892-0462
work phone: (508)435-1000 x 4139
email: arsenaul@emc.com

*General meeting in Sturbridge, MA,
on February 7th:*

Jim Tumelty, W1CWU
2 Hickory Lane
Danvers, MA 01923
phone (978)777-5378

Jeffrey Parker, KA1GJ
7 William Street
Bedford, MA 01730
home phone: (781)275-9609
work phone: (781)981-3856
email: parker@ll.mit.edu

John Pritt, N1JP
P. O. Box 31
Schaghticoke, NY 12154
home phone: (518)753-6231
email: N1JP@wsg.net

John Ruggiero, N2YHK
permanent address:
M7 Stonehedge Drive
South Burlington, VT 05403
phone: (802)660-8392
school address:
WPI Box 2592
100 Institute Road
Worcester, MA 01609
phone: (508)831-6918
email: n2yhk@wpi.edu
home page: <http://www.wpi.edu/~n2yhk>

*SE Mass. breakfast
on January 31, 1998:*

David Edwards, WB1S
72 Pleasant Street
Norwell, MA 02061-2525
home phone: (781)659-0217
email: wbis@dreamcom.net

NY meeting at Nat's Place:

Eugene Skopal, AA9LA
47 Stormytown Road
Ossining, NY 10562
home phone: (914)762-7162
work phone: (201)890-4826
email: aa9la@qsl.net

Paul Staube, W0AD
c/o Comdisco
383 Main Avenue 5th floor
Norwalk, CT 06851
work phone: (203)750-8124
email: staube@comdisconet.com

Movers & Shakers

New address for **Don, KA1T**:
Don Haney, KA1T
711 North 10th Street
Wausau, WI 54403-5002
phone: (715)842-2386

John, AB2EC is now N2QW.
My zip code is 11766, Not 11767

Ed, K1CB is now W1MA

New Email address for **Mike, W1NR**:
Error! Bookmark not defined.

New Email address for **Glen, K1GW**:
Error! Bookmark not defined.

(from SECRETARY'S REPORT, page 9)

Plan your operating schedule so that you are on during prime run times and sleeping during poor times. Know how many QSOs per hour makes it more worthwhile to rest than to operate. Block out operating time in advance. Don't be a DXer. Call CQ on clear frequencies. Don't fight anyone for a frequency. If a frequency quits being productive, someone probably moved in that you can't hear, so move. Always do something: if you can't run, S&P; if the band closes, change bands. Be where the big guys are not. Go to marginal bands, such as 80 and 40 in the late afternoon. Don't waste lots of time in pileups. Bill then showed several examples of his own low-power logs.

Tom, K1KI, then presented the 1995 CQ WPX world club competition plaque from CQ. The plaque will go to JP, W2XX (ex-AA2DU), who was club president at the time it was won.

Jack, W1WFEF, then urged everyone to operate his favorite contest, the NA Sprint CW, that evening.

The meeting adjourned around 4:30 pm. □

Poop Deck continued – special meeting minutes

SE Mass Meeting

Greg Cronin W1KM

18 old YCCC members plus 1 new member woke up in time to make the breakfast meeting in Mansfield.

Those attending: WT1O, AA1V, K1RV, K1VV, N1PGA, K1MO, K1TH, W1NA, K1SM, WA1QGC, N6BV, W1KM, K1AM, NB1U, N1RR, K1VSJ, W1MA (ex-K1CB), WS1M and new member WB1S.

Welcome to new member Dave Edwards, WB1S. Dave has some high-performance verticals for the low bands and hopes to put up an 80' tower for the high bands.

Most members were reluctant to pledge to any score for ARRL but our fearless leader, N6BV, boldly promised a total of 6.5M in the two weekends.

We have a few operators who need stations from which to operate, especially for CW so if you are in need of CW operators please e-mail me. ☐

Feb. 1 CU Minutes

Ric Plummer, KV1W

The first of two Contest Universities was held at KV1W from 4 to 6 PM on Sunday, February .

There was an excellent attendance, consisting of: KV1W, N1FIY (new), NZ1Q, W1US, KE1CT, K1KNQ, W1BR, W1TE, K1MBO, K1HT, KA1CLX, AA1PK, K1TWF, W1OHM, W1TQ, W1MA, W1OJ, AI3E, K1SD, N6RFM, W1ZZ, K1WD, K1EO (new), and W1ZT.

Doc, W1US, won the award for furthest (and certainly most determined to come), with James K1SD coming in second. We welcomed new members N1FIY and K1EO!! (N1FIY is SEMA Greg !!)

The tutorials by K1MBO and K1TWF on station building and newcomer attraction / retention (a slight variation from the announced plan) were very well received and great group discussions ensued.

The station tour and food weren't bad either! ☐

Nat's Place

Hank Kiernan, KF2O.

The SNY/NJ area held a local meeting at Nat's Place in Elmsford, NY on Tuesday, January 27, attended by 19 members and 5 nonmembers. Two new members were voted into the Club, AA9LA, Gene Skopal and W0AD, Paul Staube. Other members present were KV1W, N1RL, N6BV, K2WE, W2UD, K2WR, K2LUQ, AA2MF, K1LOM, K2KQ, W2XX, WR2I, N2TX, K2SX, N2UN, N2QW and KF2O.

The program included a "product review" of the Kachina computerized rig by proud new owner Steve Weinstein, K2WE (aka WE2DX). Steve is extremely happy with the rig and believes it will be the wave of the future. There was extensive discussion about various facets of this new genre by the attendees, and Steve answered many questions. He also handed out brochures from Kachina.

Don Toman, K2KQ, then presented a slide show of the J39A dxpedition to Grenada in 1997 CQ WW CW by several YCCers, led by K1XM/KQ1F. This group put up big numbers toward the Club score and had a fun time as well.

Dean, N6BV, gave out a handout of likely propagation conditions by band by hour by CQ zone for the ARRL CW contest.

Steve, K2WE also announced he would be in 8P9 land for the ARRL contest, and in 3W land later this spring. John Krzymuski, N2QW (aka G4???) was present and discussed the plans for the upcoming Spraty expedition of which he is a member. If the group decides to operate the contest John, be sure they give your share of the points to YCCC! That would undoubtedly be the first YCCC points from that part of the world. ☐

Feb. 11 CU Minutes

Ric Plummer, KV1W

The second of two Contest Universities were held at KV1W's on Wed Feb 11th.

Those attending were: KV1W, KA1WIG, KA1YTR, W1OJ, K1EO, W1NT, N1PFC, K1SD, KO0U, N6BV, KE1FO, K1NU, K1BB, K1MBO, W1ZT, W1TE, N1DD, WM1K, N1PGA, N6RFM, N1RR, N1FIY, KM1P, KA1GJ, KA1CLX, W1ES, N1BB, N1DS, K1OA, W1TQ.

Among them were four new members, all from the WPI Wireless Society. They were: KA1WIG, KA1YTR, W1NT & N1PFC. congrates to all and a thanks to Joe, KM1P, for the recruiting effort on "The Hill".

Dave, K1MBO, presented a session on antennas for the medium station, including verticals and ground systems. Good Info for all. Len, K1NU, (that's his NU call, was KB2R) presented a session on propagation, it's implications on the contest and a variety of other useful contest tips. Great session and thanks to them both !!

Of course, with 30 attending, there was adequate time for socializing and of course the food.

As we were closing, it seemed that the station had been put in operation. It was Charlie, N1RR, banging off a few Q's on 80 testing the four square. Think he liked it. By the way, "come cut wood".

So, now gang, it's off to the contest(s). See you all on the air. ☐

April Meeting Agenda

Glen Whitehouse, K1GW

1. Awards for 1997-98 Contest Season
2. Election of Officers
3. How to Read a Contest Log by N6BV.
4. Dayton for First Timers
5. The J3 18 Minute Slide Show by Charlotte and Paul ☐

ICOM Automatic Band Select and Serial Interface

Bob Wolbert, K6XX

[Reprinted with permission from the Northern California Contest Club JUG]

This project is an interface box for Icom rigs that includes a band output port and a CI-V-to-computer serial interface. The band output port drives things like relay-switched DuneStar band filters (Model 600, for example), remote coax switches, etc., and does not require a computer. The CI-V interface allows rig control via computer, and makes logging programs like TR-Log and CT really shine.

Figure 1 is the band select driver portion schematic. When I designed it, I thought I was being really clever--using an IC designed as a consumer-audio output meter as an analog-to-digital converter with an external reference and controlled-current output drivers. Then came the April NCCC meeting: N6TV brought in his OH-made solid state DXpedition kW amplifier, and there in the diagrams was an Icom interface virtually identical to my "clever" circuit. So much for unique ideas--at least this means this design should be easy to duplicate and get running for other builders! One major difference from the commercial design is that Figure 1 properly decodes 30m. Unfortunately, other WARC bands are not separated (12m decodes as 10m; 17m decodes as 15m) because Icom's voltage level scheme uses the same voltage for these band pairs.

Figure 1. The Icom Band-Select Decoder

The band decoder takes three inputs from the Icom rig: power, a reference voltage of +8V, and the "BAND" voltage. This band voltage varies from 0V for 30m to over 7V for 160m (see the Table, below, for values measured on my particular rig). The LM3914 is designed as an LED bar graph meter for low-cost consumer audio electronics. It is used in its "moving dot" mode instead of the bar graph mode, so only one output is active at a time. Note that no base current limiting resistors are needed for the output transistors: the LED driver functions as a current source which provides the needed base current limiting. Base current drive is set by R1. Q1 and D1 act as a level-shifter, raising the zero-volt 30m level about a volt so that the first "dot" is active.

R2 and D2 compensate for a LM3914 "funny"--the first output draws several hundred microamperes of current even when the other outputs are selected. This is enough to turn on Q2 slightly. R2 compensates by providing another path for this current. Its value might need tweaking for individual LM3914s and different supply voltages. D2 prevents reverse current flow from the relay into the rig.

Figure 2. CI-V to Serial Converter

The CI-V-to-computer serial interface schematic appears as Figure 2. It uses a low-cost dual op-amp and a zener diode for level conversion. A 555 timer is used as an oscillator and charge pump to produce the negative voltage. Since power is already available from the band decoder port, no attempt at self-powering through the RS-232 port is made. You could probably derive the negative supply from the serial port and eliminate the 555 charge pump. Icom uses a unique system with bidirectional control (with multi-radio capability) through a single wire (plus ground). A standard miniature (1/8") mono phone plug connects to the radio's CI-V port. A normal 9-pin or 25-pin DB connector attaches to the computer's serial port.

Like most of these interfaces, getting the hardware built and connected is only part of the task; convincing the software in the computer and the radio to speak is usually much more frustrating, especially if you have not done it before with a given program or rig. You are on your own here!

I tried to minimize the number of different resistor and capacitor values; only R1 and R2 are critical; the others may vary quite a bit without affecting circuit operation. The component cost of the full interface is relatively low: well under \$20 at Digi-Key mail order prices. You can probably build this box for under \$10 by visiting the flea market and the local "junk stores".

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, PO Box 1158, Berlin, MA 01503-2158. **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, K1NU, 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, PO Box 1158, Berlin, MA 01503-2158. **APPAREL** Len, K1NU, has stepped down after four years as Apparel Coordinator. We need someone to take over this important position. Contact K1NU 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, K1NU.

COMPUTER STUFF **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>. Our Webmaster is Doug Scribner, K1ZO. **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 Reisert, AD1C, 181 Littleton Road #324, Chelmsford, MA 01824.

ADMINISTRATIVE STUFF **The 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. **PACKET NETWORK** information is available from Charlie Carroll, K1XX, Candlelight Rd., Ringe NH 03461. **ARRL COMMITTEE REPS** are **CAC New England** Kurt Pauer, W6PH; **CAC Hudson** Rich Gelber, K2WR; **DXAC New England** Jim Dionne, K1MEM; **DXAC Hudson** Bill Hellman, W2UD. **ARRL LIAISON** is Tom, K1KI.

1998 Massachusetts QSO Party Rules

Steve Olivieri, N1TYH

The 1998 Mass QSO Party is organized by the Framingham Amateur Radio Association.

Times: 1800 Z Sat May 2 to 0400Z Sun May 3 and 1100Z to 2100Z Sun May 3.

Classes: Outside MA, MA single op, MA multi op, MA portable, MA team (5 MA single ops), MA Nov/Tech, MA Club

Exchange: RS(T) and QTH (State/Province/DXCC Country/MA County)

Scoring: Count 1 point for Phone and 2 for CW/Digital/Video. Multipliers are MA counties (max 14 per band), (plus States & Provinces & DXCC Countries per band for Massachusetts stations).

Scoring: Final score is total QSO points times total multipliers

Frequencies: Any authorized amateur bands except 30, 17 and 12 MHz.

CW - 1810, 3550, 7050, 14050, 21050, 28050, 144.070, and 432.090 MHz.

SSB - 1850, 3890, 7290, 14270, 21390, 28390, 144.220 (SSB), 146.550 (FM), 432.150 (SSB), and 446.000 (FM) MHz.

Novices - 3705, 7130, 21130, 28130.

Awards: Certificates awarded for highest scores in each contest class, State, Canadian Province and DXCC Country and to entrants working all 14 MA counties.

Postmark entries by June 6th. Send logs to FARA POB 3005 Framingham MA 01701, or electronically (ASCII or CT bin format) to n1tyh@aol.com. For full copy of QSO Party rules send an SASE to above address, e-mail n1tyh@aol.com, or visit our website at <http://www.fara.org/~fara/>.

Upcoming Meetings

Date	Type	Place
April 4 (Sat)	General	Sturbridge, MA
June 7 (Sun)	General	Sturbridge, MA
October	General	Boxboro, MA

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

The next general meeting of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club will be held on Saturday, April 4

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!

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The YCCC Scuttlebutt
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