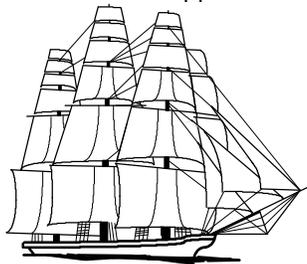


Yankee Clipper



Contest Club



Scuttlebutt

December 1998

Issue 139

Zulu Musings

Jeff Briggs, K1ZM

In the Locker Room.....

This is being written as we head into CQWW CW mode so, at this point, the final outcome of the WW club competition is still very much unknown. What can be said, however, is that YCCC has at long last begun to live up to its potential. It has actually been FUN sitting at my computer working with K1HT and K1ZO watching the YCCC scores roll in - because, this time, we have been looking at a Club that is on the move.

Stepping back from the fray for a moment, I guess the principal difference I have noticed this time out is that YCCC has really taken it to FRC for the first time in many, many years. We have actually risen to the occasion, we have managed to get our members eligible and on the air. Whatever the outcome, FRC is going to know that we did not just "roll over" this time saying, "whip our BUTTS again - we like it!"

It probably should be noted at this juncture that we may not beat these guys down South. Remember, CQWW is their strength - and FRC is a class act. They know how to play this game, they have the "horses" and, in all honesty, they are winners - through and through. But, if nothing else, we have put them on notice in a BIG way this year saying, "we're here - we didn't just give it to you

this year - we gave it our best shot and you are going to have to beat US if you really want to win it this time!"

Every YCCC member from the big guns right on down to the smallest station owner who got on with a dipole or a wire in the attic can be proud of what we accomplished this year. This has been a team effort and it has been quite a ride. Of course, the final results won't be known until next Fall - but we will next head into ARRL Dx on a very high note because ARRL Dx is more a YCCC type of contest. Historically YCCC has fared better in ARRL Dx and you just have to like our chances this time out.

Please remember that ARRL requires attendance at (2) meetings for eligibility in its contests. To date we have been after you with respect to paying your dues - we shall now start trying to get you folks eligible from a meeting attendance perspective. Remember, attendance at ANY two meetings, general or local/regional, is a requirement during the period 1 April 1998 - 31 March 1999 in order to be eligible in ARRL DX 1999. Have YOU made your two meetings yet? If you are unsure, pse check with KQ1F at richardson@wrksys.enet.dec.com Charlotte can let you know in short order what your status is at the moment.

Season's Greetings to all of you and to your families. And, thanks for working with me this Fall season to make this one of YCCC's merriest contest seasons

ever. You all should be very, very proud of what we have accomplished as a Club this year!

The YCCC Reflector

Doug Scribner, K1ZO

webmaster@yccc.org

Fifty percent of your fellow members know a good thing when they see it...The YCCC Email Reflector. What about the rest of you?

A great way to keep up-to-date on Club happenings, post your scores and get answers to those problems that seem to always pop up. And the best part is: It's FREE and EASY! All you need is an Email address.

Send an Email message to: yccc-request@yccc.org with the word subscribe in the text of the message. No subject is necessary.

In a few minutes you will receive a message back from the Mail List Server requiring you to confirm your subscription. Follow the directions in this message EXACTLY...and you are done!

To post a message to the Reflector just send it to yccc@yccc.org and all of the other subscribers will get it.

Drop me note if you have any questions or problems.

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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.

Days Of Future Past

Doug Scribner, K1ZO

Highlights from the pages of past Scuttlebutt Issues.

20 Years Ago - December 1978 #14 - Meeting Announcement - K1AR and K1EA are moving to 5-land. Scores from CQWW Phone and SS CW. For Sale - Cushcraft 4 element 15M Yagi \$60.00. Where to buy 20 second Endless Loop Cassettes.

10 Years Ago - December 1988 #78 - Captains Cabin by K2TR. K1XM, KQ1F, K2WR and KD2HE headed to PJ2X. Computer Programming by K1VUT. Murphys Law of Ham Radio. New Products: ComTek RCB-5 Remote Coax Switch and ACB-4 Phased Array Switch.

5 Years Ago - December 1993 #108 - N6BV Contest U. Report by KC1F. CQWW Phone Scores. Part VI of YCCC: The Early Years by K1ZM. New Crew - K8JLF (Better known now as K1HT)

Our New Publisher

Please welcome Art Holmes, W1RZF as the new Scuttlebutt Publisher.

Art is taking over for Len, K1NU who will now have time to work on his station as well as pursue other Club projects.

This will be Art's first "full issue". He did a great job with the Special CQWW Issue...getting it printed and in the mail less than 24 hours after receiving the master file.

Welcome aboard, Art!

Movers and Shakers

New Email Address for Howard Bromberg, K1VSJ:

K1vsj@aol.com

Regional Meetings

The following is a collection of reports from various regional meetings held throughout the YCCC territory.

KV1W Summer Outing

Ric Plummer, KV1W

The Annual Summer Picnic was held at the QTH of KV1W on Sunday afternoon, September 20, 1998.

It was a great day outdoors setting and the antennas as a backdrop was a neat setting.

Those in attendance included: KV1W, KM1P, N6RFM, KT1M, K1YT, KA1GJ, KA1CLX, W1CSM, W1GDW, K1TWF, WN1V, KD1KI, W3TB, K1WD, WR1X, K1ZM, NB1B, KE1KD and W1OJ

We welcomed KK1DX, Mike, from Royalston, MA into YCCC at this meeting.

As the afternoon progressed, discussions could be heard about antenna plans for the season, new rigs and accessories and every manner of contest pursuit you can imagine. There was definitely an excellent cross section of contesting present.

So the only thing left now is to look forward to a winning season and late next summer the fourth annual KV1W outing.

73 all and thanks for attending, You made it a great afternoon.

SNY/NJ Regional Meeting - 9/28/98

Henry Kieman, KF2O

The SNY/NJ chapter of YCCC held a meeting at Nat's Place in Elmsford, NY, on Sept. 28th. The following were in attendance:

K2SX, W2RE, AA2DY, K1ZM, W1CU, W2II, W2AX, NA2M, N2FF, K2RD, W2LK, W0AD/1, K2WE, W2AA, AA2MF, N2TX, K2KQ, KF2O, AE2F and WR2I

There was a brief discussion of the intra-club competitions and Jeff, K1ZM, displayed the plaque and medal prizes. There was also a brief discussion of the new Club center map. We then voted in AA2DY and W2II as new members.

The discussion then turned to the informal topic of the night; RFI cures. This was a lively topic, and one point clearly emerged through the QRN...everyone present had

the problem, either present or past. 'ZM displayed a wide assortment of filter devices from his bag of tricks. Others chimed in with war stories and some other "cures". Nat's usual good food and spirits complemented the meeting, and all present went forth with renewed determination to slay the dragon from the South.

Albany Area Meeting

Bill Nettleton, K2BX

On October 9, 1998 the Albany Amateur Radio Association and the YCCC had a joint meeting at the Colonie Community Center in Colonie New York. There were 19 members of the YCCC present and one new member was voted into our ranks. The new member was John J. Jeffrey, W2ZU. YCCC President Jeff Briggs, K1ZM spoke about the upcoming CQWW Phone Contest and encouraged all to get on and "KICK SOME BUTT". After a discussion and a few pointers on operating the contest Jeff gave an excellent talk on low band DXing on 160 meters. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.

The following members were in attendance:

K2EP, N2ZX, K2ONP, K1ZO, N1KWF, K1ZM, WA1KKM, N2LBR, K2SIG, W2GDJ, K2BX, K2ZP, K2QNU, NA2NA, K2TR, K2XF, K2XA, N1JP and WK2H

Maine Area Meeting

Mike Russo, K1EU

We had a YCCC area meeting at my home on Saturday October 17th. 15 were in attendance here; 12 YCCC members and 3 non members. Herb, W1DEO (who is now our senior member) joined us as a new member and NY1E paid dues as an old member renewing.

We discussed the Zone 2 operation by K1JB, K1MV and K1EU for the CQWW Phone and watched The "To Win The World" tape of N2AA contest station at K2GL. In attendance were:

K1EU, NY1E, KA1PRD, KB1CHS, N1AO, W1AO, K1JB, K1MV, NW1A, K1SA, K1ACT, W1DEO, K1RQ and NV1G.

Another meeting will be held prior to CQWW CW in November.

(See Area Meetings, p. 9)

Flotsam & Jetsam

“Barnacle Jack” Schuster, W1WEF

Barnacle Jack started using the Super Check Partial feature religiously in CT only about a year ago. With more careful log checking than ever, and almost a guaranty that points will be taken away by the log checkers these days for busted calls, we should take advantage of all the help available. Use that F12 key! If a close call pops up, but not exactly what you copied, be suspicious! Of course it can well be a legitimate unique. To check to see if a contact is a dupe, just type the digit and one letter following it and it will pop up if already worked! K1TO, K5ZD and K1AR always use Super Check Partial.

Vince, K1RM, put me on to bike gloves for extra padding when biking, and also for use when climbing the tower. The gloves with bare fingers let you still get a good feel of tools and hardware, while keeping your hands warm and more comfortable holding onto the tower.

You often learn a new trick when helping someone else with tower work. I used to climb with the gin pole rope, then pull the gin pole up with the rope when I got up the tower. The rope gets heavier and heavier as you go up. Thanks to K5FUV, I now have a small pulley at the top, with a length of polypropylene rope that I leave tied at the bottom of the tower, and use that rope and pulley to pull up the gin pole or tool bucket.

K1VR found that birdies coming from his computer were escaping on the cable to his CW interface! With the help of an RFI expert friend, he found that using the D Connector shell for the ground connection instead of pin 18 on the LPT 25 pin D connector, his birdies were significantly reduced.

Look at KH2D's home page for a bunch of contest tips...although I don't agree with most I just read! For example, he says "REAL Contest stations don't tune around. They just sit on one spot and call CQ for 48 hours....You must establish your importance by planting your feet firmly on a frequency and calling CQ" I guess he's suggesting this stuff tongue in cheek! hi...
<http://www.qsl.net/kh2d/cwtips.html> Tnx Doug, K1ZO.

For lack of any more tips to pass along, let me tell you about my new rotator. On Monday before WW Phone, when I thought I was all set earlier than ever, my top T2X started sticking in both directions badly. I decided it was time to get a new rotor, and since I had seen three Yaesu G1000SDX rotors that I installed for friends, I decided to get one of them. The local store was out of them, so I ordered one from Salem and had it the next day with normal UPS delivery. I had the rotor up by dusk on Tuesday, but not without a hitch. To my dismay, when I got to the top of the

tower with the new rotor, I found that only one hole in the Rohn AS25 shelf lined up!!! (hi) Down I went with the rotor and shelf, and had to elongate the holes in the Rohn shelf to accommodate the Yaesu rotor. Newer AS25G shelves already have slots where my older shelf had round holes!

Here's my evaluation of the new rotor: First, let me say I love it!

1. I hope it will stand up, because it weighs only 7 pounds vs 17 pounds for the Taitwister. I'm turning a CC 40-2cd and a TH6 with it. The three I put up have been there for three years now with no problems.
2. On Thursday, the control box failed! Luckily a friend loaned me his G800SDX box which is identical, and I got thru the contest with no problems using his box. The Yaesu control box has a ton of transistors on three circuit boards, as compared to none in the HyGain box. Salem replaced the box Monday, and I'll chalk it up to infant mortality.
3. The control box is very attractive, and includes a preset feature and speed control. You can turn a knob to where you want it to go and let go and it goes there...faster than any Rotor I ever had too! (Never did get around to building the K1KP design preset as I had intended).
4. The servo driven indicator shows where the antenna is pointing after power is turned off.
5. The control box AND the rotor have connectors...you can disconnect the rotor cable in the shack during thunder storms.
6. The rotor housing and mast clamps are cast aluminum and you are cautioned not to overtighten them. The instructions tell you to tighten the bolts that hold the clamps to the housing first, and then the bolts that hold the two halves of the mast clamp together...doesn't make sense. I did it in reverse order.
7. The rotor requires only 5 conductor cable, which allowed me to easily adapt my two Romex cables. I have one 14 ga Romex and one 12 ga going up the tower. Each end is terminated in heavy duty rotor cable.
8. The Yaesu rotates a total of 450 degrees, with an overlap indicator that tells you you're in the overlap region. This makes it faster to get from Africa to New Zealand, for example.
9. An optional digital interface is available (I don't know if it's in mine or not)

Secretary's Report, - October 1998

Charlotte Richardson, KQ1F

The October, 1998, meeting of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club was held on Sunday, October 11, 1998, at the Host Hotel in Sturbridge, Massachusetts.

Club President Jeff, K1ZM, called the meeting to order at 1320. We dispensed with introductions of the 68 members in attendance and their guests as well as the reading of the Treasurer's Report, which showed a healthy balance of \$4910.80, in the interest of time. Jeff reminded everyone to check their dues status either on the list attached to the sign-in list or the lists posted on the meeting room doors, to ensure that everyone is a member in good standing with respect to CQ eligibility as we enter the start of the contest season. Jeff noted that the club is fielding five CQ WW DXpeditions this year, two on SSB and three on CW. He then showed an edited Tom Peters video on winning.

Following the video, Jeff introduced the panel members for the contesting panel question-and-answer session. They were: Ann, WA1S, Jack, W1WEF, Rich, K1CC, Randy, K5ZD, and Saul, K2XA, with Saul serving as panel moderator.

The first question concerned what to replace a TH7 balun with. Jack recommended either ferrite beads or a coil of coax of enough turns to make enough inductance.

A medium-power station owner then asked if he should Search and Pounce for the first hour of the contests, or should he try to run? Rich advised him to take it easy on Friday night, especially on the low bands where all of Europe is working each other. Rather than letting this discourage him, Rich advises the Search and Pounce strategy unless JA opens on 15, but to keep trying various things. He noted that there are both rate sheets and contest stories you can study on the web on www.contesting.com to see how other stations have fared in past years.

A 100W station owner with small antennas next asked for recommendations for low-band antennas. Ann suggested trying inverted Vs, verticals, or slopers fixed on Europe. Rich also suggested quarter-wave slopers.

A member currently using an R7 vertical for 40 and 80m with a 100W signal and a lot 130' wide was looking for advice on the Carolina Windom. Randy recommended any full-sized antenna, even a dipole, over any trapped antenna. Scott, KA1CLX, noted that on his 120' x 75' lot he uses an 80m inverted V and a delta loop for 40m. Scott, N1DS, recommended a vertically polarized delta loop.

Another member asked for advice purchasing a new TNC that will work with CT. The panel members agreed that they all work with CT. Saul recommended showing

the band plan on the CT screen, not just the tiny packet spot window.

Jim, K1OZ, next asked the panel members how they prepare themselves to stay up for 48 hours. Rich simply said that he doesn't do all 48 hours. He sleeps during times of poor propagation and gets up for the sunrise runs. Randy advised sleeping well during the week before the contest. He says that taking a nap before the contest starts gets him through the first night. Tom, K1KI, recalled that an invited speaker during one of his previous terms as club president about ten years ago was a sleep therapist, who recommended sleeping for multiples of ninety minutes to match your natural sleep rhythm.

Bob, W1RH, who has a 2-element 40m beam at 115', asked how you can tell if you are calling CQ on SSB on a frequency that is clear in Europe. Saul advised him to ask a loud caller. Rich believed that with this antenna system, Bob should be loud into Europe on 40m an hour before W3 and W8 have propagation into Europe, and one to two hours before the rest of the US does.

The next questioner wondered if internet packet spots of us appear in Europe. Several members noted that the OH cluster has them. We usually do not see the OH cluster spots on our cluster during contests, but we usually do see the internet spots from the rest of the US. It's up to K1XX, whose packet node runs the internet link. The European link is usually taken down during contests.

The next question was how to effectively work split on phone. Ann said that the key is to know which VFO you are on. She runs an FT1000D and always uses it in a consistent way. She never bothers trying to run split, but just Searches and Pounces, using the rig's two VFOs in a consistent way so that she never ends up calling on the wrong VFO. Saul noted that if you have a good signal on 75m, you can transmit above 3800 and listen below 3700, like around 3640-3650, and run with decent rates. Of course, you do this when 20m is not open. Randy suggests that you not transmit above about 3850. He advises being on 40m from 2230 to 2330, especially on the second day.

Dan, W1QK, who is in the process of automating his station, asked how to interface a TopTen Devices to his TS930. He needs an IF10B chip for the rig, plus a level converter. He can use the LPT port on his computer to run the switches. The TopTen Devices can also switch amplifiers.

(See Secretary, p. 6)

(Secretary from p. 5)

The next questioner wanted to know when to look for stations on 80m. Saul suggests checking 80m after the JAs are no longer on 20m, after sunset. Randy said to run Europe on 40m, then Asia on 20m, then Europe on 80m, from about 0030 on. He suggests CQing on 80m from 0300 to 0400, as sunrise crosses Europe. Rick likes CQing on 80m around 0500. Bill, N1BB, noted that it is sometimes possible to run the Far East on 40m at 0500.

The next questioner wondered if an inverted V had to be all in one plane, or would it work if the legs were not straight? Saul said to just get it up as high as possible. He does not believe that the ends of the wire affect the directivity very much.

The next question was, how much caffeine? Rich said that you should do whatever you normally do. If you drink coffee, drink it, but don't if you normally don't. Several members recommended various caffeinated soft drinks instead, though the suggestion was to let them go flat to avoid too much carbonation.

Jeff, K1ZM, asked Ann her game plan for winning low power. She starts on the band with the best propagation, either 20m or 15m.

Following the panel discussion, KD1YN had no trouble giving away his free telephone RFI filters.

Randy, K5ZD, next continued his series on two-radio contesting that he began at the Boxboro meeting. He played a tape of himself running 10m SSB from VE3EJ. He noted that even when the rate is good, there is lots of dead time between QSOs, even at a 60-70 rate. Using two radios lets you make profitable use of that down time by letting you do two things at once. If there is a lot of QRM or noise, you have no time to try this. Also, if your rate is 60 or above, concentrate on your run radio. If your rate is lower, the second radio pays off as you can look for people to call. It is much easier to tune the high bands than the low bands, so you probably cannot productively use two radios for the entire weekend, but perhaps for twenty hours out of the 48. You can find stations to work on the second radio by following packet pileups, or hearing your neighbors work them. As a single-op, you have no QSY rules, but you cannot transmit in two places at one time. Using a second radio will wear you out, especially the first time you try this, so use it selectively, and quit trying to do it if you are very tired. The second radio gives you an awareness of another band, so you can quickly move guys there if you need the multiplier. Randy suggests feeding the audio from one radio to each ear.

KA1GJ then gave a presentation about two-wire Beverage antennas. The two-wire listening antenna, at a height of about 8', gives two directions. He advises keeping the wires

at the same height above ground even if the ground is uneven. It is OK if one wire is above the other. Keep them as straight as you can. If you must bend them make it a gentle bend. He switches directions using a relay. He needed to modify his TS850 to take a receive antenna relay, and will give a presentation on how to do this at the next general club meeting. You can feed the two-wire Beverage at any convenient point, but you need different toroid windings, which he can help you compute. The wires should be spaced about twelve inches apart, and this distance should be relatively constant to avoid impedance bumps. Directionality is off the ends, not broadside like a dipole. He brought a stack of copies of his talk, and will make it available on the club web page.

Following the technical talks, the club voted unanimously to accept the proposed amendment to Bylaw 1 of the Club Constitution, moving the official club center point to Erving, Massachusetts.

Following this, the club voted in two new members: KB1DFB and W1AO.

Following the break, K1XM and KQ1F presented their multi-projector program on the 1997 J39A contest expedition, "To Bring You a Multiplier". Paul noted that Don, K2KQ, team leader for this year's J3 contest expedition team, was present at the meeting and still looking for a couple more ops.

The meeting adjourned around 5 PM.

An Effective No-Ground Vertical for 80 and 160

Don Toman, K2KQ

A popular misconception about vertical antennas for the low bands is that they must have elaborate ground systems. Here's a vertical antenna for 80 and 160, fed with a single feed line that is simple, effective, and requires no ground system. You won't beat the 4-squares, but you will hold your own against a grounded quarter wave with ridiculous amounts of copper in the ground.

Rather than get into the theory of why this antenna works, I will simply describe it here and let results speak for themselves. If there's a demand, I'll do a follow-up article on the relevant theory.

(See K2KQ Antenna, p. 7)

(K2KQ Antenna from p. 6)

The antenna is a center-fed half-wave vertical with about 70 feet of vertical length with the remainder of the top and bottom of the antenna bent horizontal and parallel to each other. The antenna looks like a squared-off letter "C" fed in the middle of the vertical part.

Thus, the 160-meter antenna is a 270-foot dipole fed in the center with the bottom antenna wire bent parallel to the ground about 10 feet off the ground and the top at 80 feet off the ground. The horizontal parts are 100 feet long and parallel to each other.

The 80-meter antenna is a 130-foot dipole, fed in the center with 70 feet vertical and 30 feet horizontal 10 feet off the ground and 80 feet off the ground.

Think of it as an inverted L fed against an L. The two Ls are balanced with respect to each other and because the currents in the horizontal sections are out of phase, the antenna has a minimum of horizontal radiation.

The 80 meter and 160 meter antennas are separate, fed from a common coaxial feed line. In my case, the 80-meter and 160-meter horizontal sections are about 30 degrees apart. The 160 horizontal wires run east while the 80 wires run east-northeast.

On both bands, the bulk of the current flows symmetrically in the center of the antenna, with the current peak about 45 feet off the ground at the feed point. On 80, the current loop peak is about 0.16 wavelengths above ground and on 160, the current loop is about 0.08 wavelength above ground.

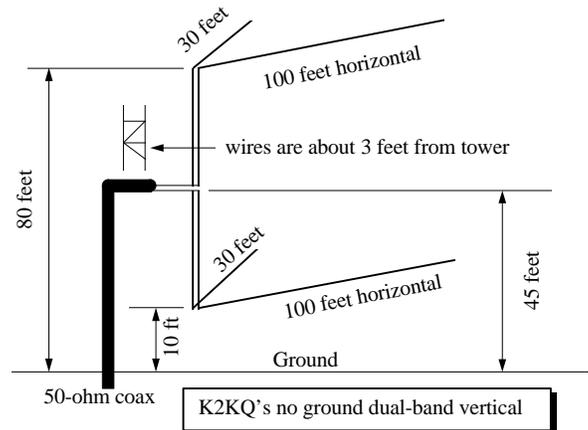
The accompanying figure illustrates the antenna.

You can adjust the resonance of the antenna by adjusting the lengths of lower horizontal sections. The small asymmetry doesn't bother anything. The center impedance of mine at resonance is very close to 50 ohms on 160 and close to 70 ohms on 80. The 160 antenna presents high impedance at 80 meters and the 80-meter antenna looks like a parallel capacitor across the 50-ohm 160 antenna. The 160 antenna covers 1800-1860 with under 2:1 SWR. I needed to take about 2 feet off the horizontal section to get mine resonant at 1830. If 80-meter current flows in the 160 antenna, it tends to flatten the current loop in the vertical section.

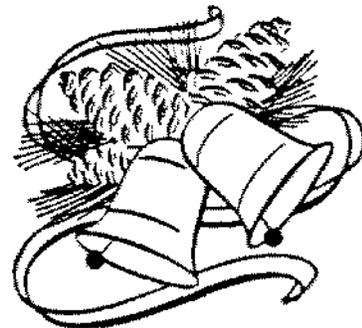
The 80 meter antenna is resonant at 3750 with the 130-foot length shown. The VSWR is under 2:1 over the DX part of the 'phone band. It needs to have some length added to cover the CW portion. I haven't tried to bring it to resonance in the CW band, but have chosen to feed it through a tuner.

I originally had this antenna hung from trees. This year I put up an 80-foot Rohn-25G with three sets of guys. I hung the wires from ropes attached to the tower so they are separated from it by about 3 feet. The coaxial feed line comes off perpendicular to the antenna and is then taped to the tower. The center conductor goes to the top and the shield goes to the lower part. Before the coax turns on to the tower, I've wrapped some 30 feet of it into a coil. I expected to see a lot of interaction, but the tower and guys seem well off resonance at the operating frequencies and I didn't see any to worry about.

The first QSO on 80 was VK6LK, long path on SSB at sunset on September 12. I've worked a few ZSs, HF0POL, LU, and the usual Europeans. On 160, the first QSO was KP4SN on September 15. In the couple of weeks since hanging it from the tower, I've worked ZS6UT, TU2MA, TL5A, VK6VZ, VK6LK, VK3ZL and NL7Z and the usual horde of Europeans on 160 with no fuss. I run about 800 watts out from a Ten-Tec Centurion.



Last January, I had about 200,000 points with 750 QSOs in the CQ WW CW 160 contest using the predecessor hung from trees.



New Crew

Charlotte Richardson, KQ1F

Please welcome new and returning members who joined at various General and Special Meetings

Summer picnic at KV1W

Michael Lajoie, KK1DX
101 Athol Road
Royalston, MA 01331
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New York Meeting - 9/28

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Bob von Rekowsky, W2II
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home phone (516)345-6629
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Albany Amateur Radio Club/YCCC Meeting - 10/9

John Jeffrey, W2ZU
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Sturbridge Meeting - 10/11

Kim Provencher, KB1DFB
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Maine Area Meeting

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New York/Long Island: Area Meeting

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work phone: (718)476-7560
email: K2LS@ATT.NET

John Bagno, KD2RD
102 Dogwood Road
Port Jefferson, NY 11777
home phone: (516)473-1375
work phone: (516)236-8400
email: KD2RD@AOL.COM

A. Rabinovich, KI6EZ
6 Wild Run
Smithtown, NY 11787
home phone: (516)382-7814
email: FISHMASTER64@YAHOO.COM

Connecticut Area Meeting

Chet Slabinski, N8RA
462 West Hill Rd.
New Hartford, CT 06057

Oleg Ashmarov, KOTF
60 Springside Ave.
East Hartford, CT 06108
home phone: (860)289-3379
work phone: (860)289-6876
Northern New York Area Meeting - 10/17

Carl LEster, K2YR
8 Vandenburg Lane
Clifton park, NY 12065
home phone: (518)371-5940
work phone: (518)387-7811
email: k2yr@aol.com

Connecticut Area Meeting - 10/21

Dan Henderson, N1ND
33 Windermere Ave. #15
Vernon, CT 06066
home phone: (860)871-6648
work phone: (860)594-0232
email: n1nd@arrl.org

Dan is the new Contest Branch Manager at the ARRL



*(Area Meetings from p. 3)***ENY Area Meeting**

Saul Abrams, K2XA

A special YCCC meeting was held in Eastern New York at the QTH of Saul, K2XA, on Saturday evening October 17, 1998. Fifteen members attended including new member Carl Lester, K2YR. Others included NA2NA, K2BX, K2XF, N1JP, K2ZP, WA1KKM, N2LBR, K2EP, N2ZX, NJ1F, K2TR, W2GDJ, WK2H, and K2XA.

Discussions included descriptions of stations and preparations for the CQWW test as well as operating strategies for different levels of stations and operators. The operators in attendance were ready to KICK BUTT by "pledging" over 11 million points for SSB and 6.5 million for CW.

After the meeting pizza was ordered and the members settled in to watch the Yankees kick butt in the World Series.

Long Island Meeting

Mike Anderson, N2TX

We had our local breakfast meeting Saturday October 17th. Current members in attendance were N2TX, KC6ETY, N1RR, NT2X and KE2NL. New members were K2LS, KI6EZ and KD2RD. All the guys there will be active for CQWW.

CT Area Meeting

Jack Schuster, W1WEF

We had 16 in attendance today as follows: W1WEF, WV1M, KG1D, N1IXF, K1RM, K8CH, K5FUV, K1CC, W1UK, K1NYK, KB1H, N1RL, K1VW plus non-member N1ND.

There was a lot of enthusiasm and general eyeballing about the contests and our best effort ever to KB. We welcomed Oleg, K0TF and Chet, N8RA to the club. Oleg was formerly an avid contester in YL, and listed about 8 calls he held or operated from, none of which I wrote down but all familiar!

Submitting CQWW Scores/Logs

Dave Hoaglin, K1HT

Reprinted from the October 1998 Scuttlebutt

This fall, in addition to the usual lists of claimed scores, we'll be tracking the progress of the YCCC Challenge. Some details have changed from last year, and I'd like to review the procedures.

Claimed Scores. As soon as possible after the end of the

contest, send me your claimed score (preferably the whole summary sheet) --- by e-mail, packet, or U.S. mail (see the Club Resource Page in any 'Butt). Please include your team number for the Challenge; I'll have a list of team scores.

Send Logs by E-mail. The easiest way to send in your log is by electronic mail. You send an e-mail message to ssb@cqww.com (SSB logs) or to cw@cqww.com (CW logs). Your message should include two plain-text ASCII files: your summary sheet and your log file. Acceptable formats for the log file include the .ALL file from CT, the .DAT file from TR Log, and the .PRN file from NA. The name of the log file should be your callsign, followed by the appropriate extension; for example, K5ZD.ALL or K1HT.DAT. You may name your summary file in a similar way, using SUM as the extension (e.g., K1HT.SUM).

If you have to send the summary sheet and log in separate messages, the subject line of the message should contain your callsign and the mode (SSB or CW).

In return you'll receive an automatic message, acknowledging receipt of your log.

IMPORTANT. Please send me a copy of your e-mail message --- for example, by putting dave_hoaglin@abtassoc.com in the "cc:" field. Then I can help to make sure that all our logs are submitted on time and credited to YCCC. (If you want to send me a preliminary claimed score earlier for the list that I post on the YCCC Reflector and on packet, that's fine.)

Diskette and Paper Log. As in the past, you may send in (via U.S. mail to CQ Magazine, 25 Newbridge Road, Hicksville, NY 11801) hard-copy versions of your summary sheet, your log, and your dupe sheets (by band). Instead of a paper log you may submit an MS-DOS-compatible diskette containing your log file; the acceptable formats are the same as for logs submitted by e-mail. (A paper summary sheet must accompany the diskette.) The CQWW Committee would like to have all log files in electronic form, and it requires them for entries that are potentially high-scoring.

If you're submitting a diskette or a paper log, please send me a copy of whatever you send in (including the diskette):
73 Hickory Road, Sudbury, MA 01776.

(See Scores, p. 10)

(Scores from p. 9)

The Club Score. We need your cooperation in making sure that your score counts toward the YCCC club score. The Secretary sends in a list of Club members who are eligible to have their scores counted, and you must indicate on your summary sheet that you want your score credited to YCCC. If you don't assign your score to YCCC (either on the summary sheet or in a subsequent e-mail message or letter), the Club doesn't get your points.

If you're a single-op entry, that's all it takes. For multi-op entries the CQWW Committee requires more information. The summary sheet must (as usual) list all the operators. It should also indicate which operators are members of YCCC (and are assigning their share of the score to the Club). Importantly, the summary sheet is supposed to allocate the score (by fractions or percentages) among the clubs to which the participating operators belong. This last step is essential if most of the operators belong to some other club - if the summary sheet doesn't show the allocation, YCCC won't get credit for your share of that big expedition score! (If you're in doubt about this, it's all right to let the CQWW Committee know that your share of the score goes to YCCC. You may send an e-mail message to Bob Cox, K3EST: k3est@cqww.com.)

Deadlines. SSB entries must be postmarked no later than December 1, 1998; and CW entries, by January 15, 1999. Please get your log in early!

Rules. Before the contest and again before you send in your log, you should review the rules in the September issue of CQ Magazine (pages 92 and 93).

Single-band Entries. If you're competing as a single-band single-operator entry in CQWW, you may still operate on other bands and contribute your all-band score to the Club. (You may not do anything on the other bands, however --- such as moving multipliers --- that would help your score on your entry band.) Show both your single-band score and your all-band score on your summary sheet, and request that your log on the other bands be considered as a check log. This way you can maximize your contribution to the Club score.

CT Area Meeting - 11/11/98

Jeff Briggs, K1ZM

A YCCC regional meeting was held this date at 12 Noon in Wethersfield, CT and was attended by:

K1ZM, KE1IH, NQ1K, K5FUV, W1UK, K1RM and K1YR

K1DC (ex W1WLZ) was welcomed into the Club as a new member. Don lives in W. Bridgewater, MA and was recruited into the Club by K1RV and K1VV. Thanks PI and Whitey!

Don expects to be on in some capacity for CQWW - (he suffers from some RFI problems). He has an FT1000MP and CL33 and A3WS atop a 60 foot tower. His amp is a 3-500z job.

Meeting discussions consisted of YCCC's status in CQWW following SSB mode and planning for CW mode on 11/28 - 11/29.

Lew Cohen, K1YR, is struggling to replace the cable on his crank-up tower and hopes to have it operational in time for WW CW. If not, he hopes to join fellow YCCC member K1RU in some kind of multi operation.

K5FUV expects to be on from home in CQWW CW.

K1RM plans to be on from home in CQWW CW.

All other meeting attendees expect to be active in CQWW CW as well.

- WISHING YOU THE BEST -



- THIS HOLIDAY SEASON -

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, Doug Scribner K1ZO, preferably by E-mail at thecomshop@monad.net or on 3½" disk (in MSWord format or text file) by snail mail to Doug Scribner, 52 Manchester Street, Keene, NH 03431. 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.

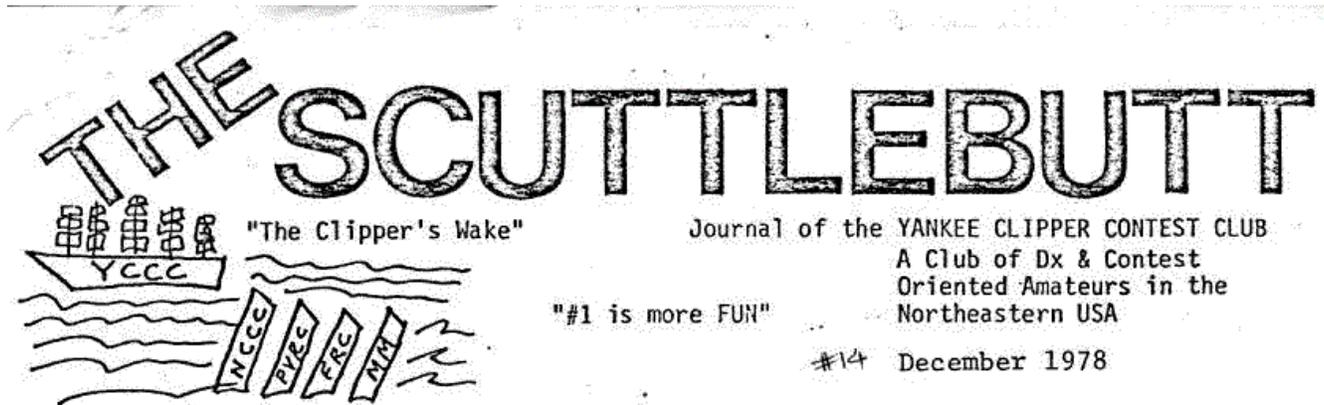
CLUB GOODIES **BADGES** YCCC badges are available from Ric, KV1W. Send \$2, name and call desired on the badge, and your mailing address to: Ric Plummer - YCCC Badge, PO Box 1158, Berlin, MA 01503-2158. **APPAREL** Len, K1NU, has stepped down after four years as Apparel Coordinator. We need someone to 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.

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 email to CT-USER-REQUEST@contesting.com, and put only the word SUBSCRIBE in the message 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, 7 Charlemont Court, North Chelmsford, MA 01863-2306.

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., Rindge 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.

Do You Remember This!



The Scuttlebutt Masthead - 20 Years Ago!

Upcoming Meetings

Date	Type	Place
December 5 (Sat)	General	Sturbridge, MA
February 7 (Sun)	General	Worcester, MA
April 3 (Sat)	General	Worcester, MA
June 6 (Sun)	General	Worcester, MA

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

Ship's Log	December, 1998 Issue 139	
Zulu Musings	Jeff Briggs, K1ZM	1
The YCCC Reflector	Doug Scribner, K1ZO	1
Days of Future Past	Doug Scribner, K1ZO	2
Our New Publisher		2
Movers and Shakers		2
Regional Meetings		3
Flotsam & Jetsam	Jack Schuster, WIWEF	4
Secretary's Report	Charlotte Richardson, KQ1F	5
80/160 Vertical	Don Toman, K2KQ	6
New Crew	Charlotte Richardson, KQ1F	8
Submitting Scores	Dave Hoaglin, K1HT	9
CT Area Meeting	Jeff Briggs, K1ZM	9
Do You Remember This?		10

The next general meeting of the

Yankee Clipper Contest Club will be held on Saturday Dec. 5th,

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.

The YCCC Scuttlebutt
 48 North Avenue
 Mendon, MA 01756

FIRST CLASS MAIL