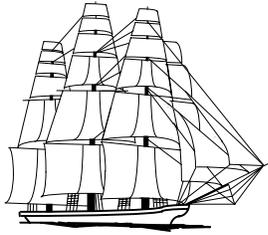


Y ankee C lipper



C ontest C lub

# Scuttlebutt

October 2000

Issue 150

## Captain's Cabin

Don Toman - K2KQ

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Back in June, when the August column was written, we could only guess at the success of the YCCC/FRC picnic, the WRTC-2004 organizing meeting and the general meeting at Boxboro. Now that those are history, let's review what happened...

A WRTC-2004 organizing meeting was held in Merrimack, NH in July, just after WRTC-2000. A good-sized group represented club leadership, a few who were at WRTC-2000 and a broad cross section of skills. We had a good discussion and heard a variety of views. The overall opinion favored going to the next step towards sponsorship of WRTC-2004. One of the items of agreement had to do with limiting YCCC's liabilities in connection with the sponsorship of a large event, and so we agreed that the club really needs to be incorporated.

The group agreed to put the matter of incorporation of the club to a vote at the Boxboro meeting and to similarly authorize funds to establish a WRTC-2004 organization. We collected an attendance list and a tentative skills inventory. Tom Frenaye accepted the challenge of establishing rules for a New England WRTC, using all the creative juices at his command. I made a plea for a leader for the endeavor...someone with international standing, perseverance, organizing skills and time who can make it happen. Without such a leader, we can't proceed beyond the point we are at now.

Is anyone out there?

The first annual YCCC/FRC picnic was held on July 29. Those who attended will tell you that it was a spectacular success. Both clubs look forward to doing it next year with the formal addition of PVRC, so it will be the first annual YCCC/FRC/PVRC picnic. We missed Frank Donovan and a few PVRC people this time, but we expect them to turn out the next time. There were around 100 people there, with about 40 YCCC. The party gave me a chance to discuss things with Alex, W2OX, president of FRC that YCCC and FRC could do together for the

benefit of contesting. Some provocative ideas came out and you will be hearing more about those at regular meetings this year. The food, weather, fellowship and venue couldn't have been better. Put it on your calendar for next year.

The Boxboro meeting saw 173 attendees. 11 new members joined. Under Paul's (K1XM) leadership, the meeting moved successfully through a tight agenda. Look at Charlotte's minutes in this edition of the Scuttlebutt for details.

Thanks to Jay, WX0B for his presentation on Yagi stacking and thanks to Icom for bringing an IC-756 Pro for people to try.

Whitey, K1VV deserves a special note of thanks for running an enjoyable CW sideshow, featuring RUFZ and PED. He passed out numerous YCCC information brochures. Perhaps a few people were attracted to the Club, contesting and CW through his efforts. Thanks, Whitey.

YCCC people were all over the Boxboro convention, including Peter and Jeanne, W1DAD and K1MOM doing a young children's program, Diane, K2DO doing a YL program, Paul and Charlotte doing one of their superb underwater shows and Tom Frenaye holding forth with the ARRL program. Don't forget Mike, K1TWF who had something to do with putting the whole convention together.

Are you ready for a billion points in CQ WW 2000? That's a goal we set a few months ago. It will take about a 30 percent increase in the score we were able to amass last year to do it. With sunspots about at the peak for cycle 23, if we are ever going to break all records and set one that will stand for a decade, this is the time! We have the band conditions, the hardware and the talent. All we need is the determination to do it.

*(See Captain's Cabin - p. 2)*

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## (Captain's Cabin from p. 1)

If you normally do single operator entries and you can't make a 48-hour commitment, think hard about inviting a second operator to keep your station on the air for the full 48 hours in a multi-single. If you normally run a multi-op, make sure you are fully staffed. If you were not planning on participating, think it over and find a way. Your club needs your contribution!

At the October meeting, we'll give team awards for the 1999 CQ WW contests plus a few others. We'll celebrate with pizza and soda and we'll look forward to the CQ WW contests, SSB on October 27-29, 2000, and CW on November 24-26. Make your plans now to be part of a major YCCC accomplishment.

The club is the membership. Please volunteer to do a presentation at one of our meetings and think hard about joining the leadership of the club. In that regard, welcome Tom, W1TO who took on the job of area manager for Way Western Massachusetts.

Meantime, let's get together at the October meeting at Worcester Polytech on October 14<sup>th</sup> and celebrate last year's wins. We'll have some neat awards to give out and I know you will like them.

Last...Support your club and pay your dues.

## Have You Paid Your Dues?

If not, then there is no better time than the present.

Sit down and write a check payable to YCCC.

Send it to:

**Ric Plummer - KV1W**  
**PO Box 1158**  
**Berlin, MA 01503-2158**

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# August Meeting Minutes

Charlotte Richardson – KQ1F

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The August meeting of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club was held on Saturday, August 26, 2000, in conjunction with the ARRL New England Division Convention in Boxboro, Massachusetts. The meeting was called to order by Club Vice President Paul, K1XM, and began with slides from the FRC detailing why we beat them in last year's CQ WW Contests. Paul presented FRC's own analysis of their loss. In a nutshell, their top forty-five stations beat our top forty-five stations, but we have more "little pistols", and that is how we beat them. This underscores the importance of the smaller stations to our club score.

The meeting continued with introductions of the 173 members present and their guests. This was followed by a short wrapup by club Activities Manager Ann, WA1S, on the joint FRC-YCCC picnic. The club then welcomed eleven new and returning members (see the "New Crew" column for details). Diane, K2DO, and Al, W1FJ, then talked about their experiences at WRTC-2000 in Bled, Slovenia. K2DO went as a spectator. Her OM George, N2GA, and W1FJ were referees. Many club members went as participants, referees, or spectators.

This summer, YCCC was asked if we would like to host WRTC-2004. In order to move forward with planning for WRTC-2004, two motions were proposed:

1) That the club authorize the officers to incorporate the Yankee Clipper Contest Club.

After some discussion, this motion passed unanimously.

2) That the club authorize the officers to establish a WRTC-2004 organization and to expend funds [from the general fund not to exceed \$500] at their discretion in the process. Expenditures are to be solely for the purpose of establishing the organization.

After some discussion, the motion was amended to include the wording shown in square brackets. The amended motion then passed.

This was followed by announcements of upcoming local area meetings and of CQ WW SSB contest DXpeditions.

During the break that followed, a new ICOM 756Pro was available for members to try out.

The featured technical program of the afternoon was Jay Terleski, WX0B, talking about stacking Yagis. Jay noted that we stack antennas to increase gain, to control the takeoff angle, and to clean up the pattern. The optimal spacing for identical stacked antennas, in wavelengths, is

the square root of the boom length, in wavelengths. It is possible to stack dissimilar antennas. To get them in phase it is necessary to put in a delay line to the antenna that has its driven element in front of the other antenna's driven element. If the baluns and matching systems are not the same, the easiest way to determine how to achieve phasing is to use a remote oscilloscope to determine the phase separation of the antennas, and then compute the delay needed to get the antennas in phase.

He also discussed horizontal stacking and H frame stacking. It is hard to get horizontally stacked antennas in phase, but you need to worry about this in order to have reasonable horizontal lobes as the antennas are rotated. You might be able to switch in different phasing lines as the antennas rotate.

You can make a high stack act like it is closer to the ground by feeding the antennas out of phase for domestic contests. And you can often reduce weather static from snow, rain, wind, or ionization by taking the highest antenna out of the stack.

## 2000-2001 Calendar

October 14	YCCC meeting/awards - Worcester
October 27-29	CQ Worldwide DX SSB
November 4-5	ARRL Sweepstakes CW
November 18-19	ARRL Sweepstakes SSB
November 24-26	CQ Worldwide DX CW
December 1-3	ARRL 160 CW
December 3	YCCC meeting - Worcester
December 8-10	ARRL 10M
January 26-28	CQ WW 160 CW
February 3	YCCC meeting - Worcester
February 16-18	ARRL DX CW
February 23-25	CQ WW 160 SSB
March 2-4	ARRL DX Phone
April 1	YCCC meeting/elections

## Northern Vermont Area Meeting

Paul Gayet – AA1SU [AA1SU@arrl.net](mailto:AA1SU@arrl.net)

The Northern Vermont Area Meeting of the YCCC, was held in conjunction with the Radio Amateurs of Northern Vermont (RANV) club picnic at Knight's Point State Park in North Hero, VT. The weather cooperated nicely, even if 10 Meters did not. With a wire antenna strung up in the air, a freshly charged battery, and a Kenwood, we searched for a few good QSOs. On 20 Meters, I gave out about a dozen contacts in the NAQP CW with our club call W1NVT. On 40 Meters, we found a few special events and Lighthouses on SSB. Once again no luck on the County Hunters net trying to give out rare Grand Isle County.

Meanwhile, whilst the grills were warming up, Mitch W1SJ set up a 4 transmitter fox hunt to keep us entertained. Ranging in power from 1 to 150 milliwatts, some of us spent our time honing our foxhunting skills. Unlike the fox hunts that our local club does during the year where a car is required, this one was done entirely on foot within the confines of the State Park. This gave us a chance to eat between finds. Considering that Mitch won the fox hunt at the Dayton Hamvention this year, we knew that this would be a most challenging hunt. For winning that hunt, Mitch was awarded with a special controller kit that is specially made to go with an HT in a transmitter hunt. It sends out a goofy little tune and identifies in CW at specified intervals. This was in turn, used in our hunt. The cagy fox even had us DF his minivan's ECM!

While some of were raising eyebrows around the park with that activity, most of the group just hung around and ragchewed. Everyone was having a good time, shooting the breeze, eating, and wondering if Paul was ever going to start the YCCC meeting. I finally did start the meeting and gave a little overview of the club to the guests attending. For the main part of the discussion, we talked about Ron KK1L's recent tower raising and zoning adventures. I encouraged everyone to stay current with their dues and even collected some while I was there. Here is who attended.

AA1SU	Paul N. Gayet
WZ2T	Rick Sherman
W1EAT	Tom Cooper
K1KD	Grant Kesselring
KK1L	Ron Rossi
W1SJ	Mitch Stern
Guests:	
K1HD	Ted Donnell
N1WTT	Jay Salo

## Boxboro RUFZ/PED Competition

Whitey Doherty – K1VV

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The winners for the RUFZ and PED CQWW CW tests at Boxboro were:

### RUFZ

Call	Score	
K1DG	22,103	Doug did this on his first try!
W1WEF	17,501	Jack did not disappoint us.
K2RD	16,551	Ira, there with the leaders

### PED CQ WW CW

(up to 8 stations calling with QRM and QSB)

K1VUT	1177	Highest QSO rate 218/hour
K2RD	1079	Highest QSO rate 236/hour
K1HT	1056	Highest QSO rate was 233.

There were prizes for 1st and 2nd place; 6 months free subscription to DX newsletter. They were donated by Ken, WO1N. Thanks!!

The PED database is from the 1999 CT MASTER.DTA file ... almost 30,00 real DX calls. The MASTER.DTA file is not in the PED download from the PED web site. We converted it from MASTER.DTA on the CT download page. PED is a great CW contest training aid.

"This is not easy " - Doug K1DG on trying PED at Boxboro.

For those who did not get to the Boxboro meeting and receive a 3.5 disk with RUFZ and PED with the CQWW 1999 test ... we will have free copies to hand out at the October Meeting in Worcester.

## New Crew

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New address for Rick, N1RL:  
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New email for Tom, W1TJL, w1tjl@arrl.net.

## Funny Bent Verticals Revisited

Don Toman – K2KQ [toman@ibm.net](mailto:toman@ibm.net)

A couple of years ago, I posted an idea for a simple 80 and 160 meter dual-band single-feed vertical that could be tried out quickly and easily. (see the web site for a replay of the K2KQ double-L). Either of the two paralleled antennas could be explained as a bent half-wave vertical or as a transmission-line loaded short vertical antenna. Either description is accurate. Two antennas with complementary impedances are paralleled and fed with a single coaxial line.

I thought I would follow up on the original concept and introduce some variations that might be useful.

The primary virtues of this antenna are:

1. Since it's balanced, one doesn't need to worry about return current flowing through lossy ground. Without a counterpoise, there are near-field efficiency losses, but for average ground they are reasonable.
2. Since the radiation resistance is as high as you can get it for the vertical length, efficiency is as high as you can get with a given ground condition. Return current and near-field ground losses are not as great a factor as they would be for an antenna with lower radiation resistance.
3. Most of the radiation from the antenna is vertically polarized. There is a horizontal component, but it's not as large as that from a quarter-wave vertical with one radial.
4. It can be center fed directly with coaxial cable.

A few frequently-asked questions have been:

What happens if the vertical part isn't 70 feet long?  
What happens if the top horizontal wire slopes down?  
Is there interaction between the two antennas?

As the height decreases, the radiation resistance decreases and near-field ground losses become more important. Radiation resistance varies very nearly as the square of the length. Therefore, shortening it by 10% will result in a reduction in radiation resistance of (about) 20%. Halving the length will result in the radiation resistance dropping to a quarter of its original value.

Sloping the horizontal wire downwards is not fatal. It reduces the radiation resistance somewhat because some of the vertical field is opposed by the current in the sloped wire. As a practical matter, a slope of as much as 45 degrees can be tolerated.

The two antennas as shown don't interact very much. To the 160 antenna, the 80 meter antenna is insignificant. To the 80 meter antenna, the 160 wire looks like a high impedance and absorbs negligible current. If you have a dipole mounted near the antenna, it will couple into the horizontal legs. The interaction generally won't be much,

but you may want to make sure the unused antenna is terminated in an open circuit. Sometimes a tower will couple into the 80 meter antenna, and you will have to check for spurious resonances. You can break those up by attaching wires to the tower to move any resonance points out of band.

If you are only interested in single-band operation, I've cooked up a couple of compact variants that will get you going with less space required than that of the original double-L or C. Either of these can be fed in the center with coaxial cable or fed at the end of the bottom horizontal section through a matching network of one kind or another. I've attached a drawing of the 160-meter version. Total wire length is 296 feet for the configuration shown.

The 80 meter variant of this configuration is 30 feet high and extends 35 feet horizontally. The total wire length is 146 feet. It's essentially a scaled version of the 160 meter antenna. It will outperform any other 30-ft antenna.

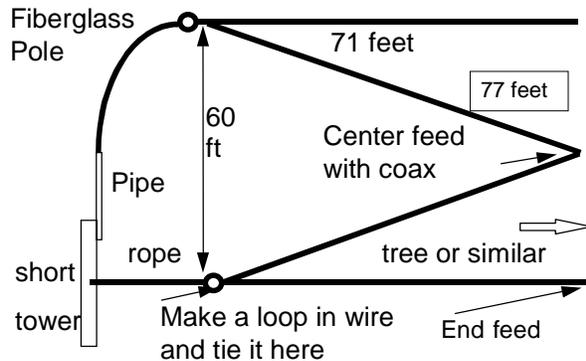
Both of these antennas have very low horizontally-polarized radiation. They each have a feed impedance of about 20 ohms, so you may not find a completely flat VSWR. Near-field ground losses will raise the feed impedance above 20 ohms.

In my lecture on verticals back in the June meeting, I made some comments on near-field losses and debunked the need for radials. An easier way to reduce near-field losses (assuming you minimize return loss with a balanced antenna) is to put a counterpoise under the antenna. A counterpoise is an electrostatic shield that assures that most of the near-field induced current flows in the screen and not in the lossy ground. An effective screen can be made with a grid of wires on the ground under the antenna. The grid is made of two sets of parallel wires that are perpendicular to each other. Don't bury the wires more than an inch or so. The grid does not have to connect to anything and the wires of the grid do not have to connect to one another. Wire spacing of 8 ft for 160 or 4 ft for 80 will isolate the near field effectively from lossy ground and wring the most efficiency out of the antenna. The counterpoise should be as big as you can make it, but something is better than nothing. The wires making it up can be #22 or #26, mainly for some degree of mechanical integrity. It's a good idea for the wires to be insulated, just to minimize corrosion. Enameled magnet wire will work just fine. Note that this feature is solely to gain maximum efficiency for your vertical. It will not do anything to improve low-angle coverage. The only way you can assure good low-angle coverage is to have miles of salt water between you and your target. *(See Verticals*

*– p. 7)*

(Verticals from p. 6)

Try a balanced, end-loaded vertical. They are easy to build and to try. A couple of tall trees make good supports. Lacking that, you can use the combination of a short tower, a pipe and a fiberglass pole shown in the illustration below.



## Flotsam And Jetsam

“Barnacle Jack” Schuster – W1WEF

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Contest Season is upon us! I enjoyed the CW Sprint last weekend, and I'm glad I did it because I discovered a problem in my station that I had noticed before but forgot about, and it possibly cost me points in last season's contests. I resolved it before the Sprint started.

I noticed that keying my FT1000D with my AL1500on, if I watched the Daiwa power meter there seemed to be a delay before the meter would indicate full output. At first I thought it was just meter response, but I then tried sending one dot, either from the computer or the paddle, and the Daiwa would hardly go upscale. If I used "MOX" instead of "VOX", so the amp relay was held in, I got a normal full power indication on the Daiwa. This is a long recognized problem with some amplifiers which have slower amp relays, but I haven't had the AL1500 all that long and my old MLA2500's never seemed to have the problem.

In fact it is so widespread, that a few years ago CT, NA and TRLog all added a PTT control feature (which I normally use), to delay the sending of code from the computer until the PTT is enabled long enough for the amp relay to fully actuate. The reason the problem cropped up for me now, was that I had decided to use paper logging in the Sprint, as do some of the top guns. Although PTT control prevents the problem when sending code from the computer, if you use an outboard memory keyer in parallel with the the computer CW interface, the PTT delay cant help you when sending

manually. If you use the paddle feature offered by some of the logging software instead of an outboard keyer, you're all set.

The solution to the problem was to build a very simple, very clever circuit designed by Tony Brock, K1KP several years ago I never needed it before, but saved his circuit in my station notes. The circuit momentarily increases the amp relay voltage when it is first pulled in, actuating it faster than normal. KIIG mentioned that he built up the same circuit, available in the YCCC Web site, and it worked for him after correcting a misprint that left out the 1K resistor from the base of the transistor to ground. Rick had an AL1200 when he had the same problem.

After a year of trying all kinds of bonding between panels, trunk lid, hood, exhaust system, car computer etc to no avail, I finally resolved a problem that cropped up in my 96 Dodge Intrepid. I've been operating CW mobile for years, and didn't have this problem for the first year with this car...and don't yet know why it started occurring all of a sudden. At least I isolated it and fixed it. What would happen was that while sending code on 20 CW, depending seemingly on humidity, code speed, length of transmission, car speed, ...my car would start bucking as I sent code. It even stalled a couple of times when I was sitting at a traffic light idling. The rig was always just 100 watts with an IC706, and a Hustler antenna. The problem only happened on 20, but once in a while seemed like it was about to act up on 15 as well. I figured that RF was getting into the car computer. I did replace coax, and rework radio and antenna grounds.

When it got bad enough (read I didn't QRT), the "check engine" light would come on, and stay on for up to 3 days before resetting itself if I didn't operate any more. At the suggestion of a Chrysler RFI guy at the Dayton Hamvention, I went to a Dodge dealer and had them tell me what their diagnostic analyzer said was the reason the "check engine" light came on. (The Service manager turned out to be the son of a ham I knew, WITTY, so he was sympathetic!) The diagnostic said "high voltage on the MAP sensor". I had the service tech show me where that sensor was. I might have just replaced the sensor, but it cost about \$100 and I knew that it might have just been a case of RF getting on the sensor input to the computer. I decided to just try putting bypasses on it. The MAP sensor has 3 leads, and I determined that one went to chassis ground. I stripped the three, and carefully installed two .02 uf disk ceramics rated at 500VDC from the two leads to the ground lead. Taped it all up and the problem is gone! Possibly replacing the sensor would have fixed it...there may be built in bypasses that failed but the car ran normally as long as no 20 meter RF was present.

(See Flotsam – p. 8)

*(Flotsam from p. 7)*

One other recent problem at W1WEF is worth passing along. First let me say I'm very happy with my Yaesu rotors. I have a G1000SDX at the top of the tower, and another on an IIX sidearm. I noticed recently that the rotor on top was turning faster in one direction than the other... in fact exactly twice as fast. After making all kinds of checks I determined it was definitely something in the rotor, and not in the cable or control box. I swapped the sidearm rotor with the one on top, and temporarily clamped the sidearm mast in place. I sent the defective rotor to Yaesu and ordered the special mating connectors for the rotor and control box at the same time so that in the future I could work on them in the shack (I didn't ask first...the two connectors cost me about \$75!).

After speaking to Yaesu on the phone several times, and waiting a month I got the rotor back, with the parts that were replaced. They replaced the pot, a circuit board with a motor hash filter, and all the ball bearings. Ohmeter checks of the pot and the hash filter circuit board do not show any obvious faults, and I have not yet cleaned up the ball bearings which are covered with grease to see what they look like, but I cannot understand Yaesu's claim that I had lightning damage! On the other hand I guess I should be happy that the rotor now works fine in both directions again.

Now go back two months. I had just come home from Cape Cod in one of the worst thunderstorms I ever saw, and shortly after I arrived at home, we started getting unrelenting lightning for about an hour. I had my antennas and power and computer telephone line disconnected, as well as the Jones plugs to the rotor control boxes. Although I did not discover the rotor speed problem in that top rotor for another month, I wasn't home much and probably did little operating when I was. While the failed rotor was being repaired, and the sidearm rotor was replacing it at the top of the tower, I was back on the Cape when my son told me we had another severe thunderstorm with continuous lightning. When I got home a few days later...the rotor on top of the tower was doing the exact same thing! In the same directions...half speed CCW and normal speed CW!!

I asked one of our club gurus, Dave K1TTT who I knew had Yaesu rotors if he had ever seen a problem like this, and he hadn't. However Dave looked closer at the circuit than I had, and determined that 2200 ohms to ground from either side of the rotor would make it go half speed. I haven't been home long enough to investigate further, but I can't believe it's a coincidence and suspect something to do with my cable which now goes underground in conduit that might get filled with water.

## Maine Area Meeting – 9/1/2000

Mike Russo – K1EU

[K1eu@juno.com](mailto:K1eu@juno.com)

A local meeting of the Y.C.C.C. was held at the Village Cafe in Portland, Maine on Friday Sept. 1, 2000 with 18 members 2 new members who joined us and one ham who was here to observe.

A discussion was held on the upcoming trips for cqww to VE2CSI zone 2 at Sept Isle Quebec by K1MV, KT1O, & K1MV and to The Isle of Man by K1JB & K1EU where the callsign will be GD6IA.

The following members and new members were at the meeting.

KA1PRD - Lew Waye  
K1EU - Mike Russo  
NT1R - Bill Legge  
KA1KIX - Al Perkins - new member  
W1GF - Greg Finch  
K1MA - George Rickley  
N1AO - Don Lockhart  
NY1E - Dick Mc Duffie  
K1RQ - Dana Cobb  
NJ1F - Brian Szewczyk  
W1DEO - Herb Strout  
K1MY - Bruce Makas  
W1EL - Eric Lowell  
K1MV - Steve Freeman  
KB1FEE - Wanye Keith - non member  
N1WEZ - Lee LaBrecque - new member  
K1JB - Joe Blinick  
N1RY - Ray Sirois  
W1AO - Joe Kozak  
KT1O - Tom O'Brien  
W1BLT - Bill Johnson

### Callsign changes

N1GF	now	W1GF	Greg Finch
N1RLI	now	N1RY	Ray Sirois
NR1F	now	W1BLT	Bill Johnson
KA1GTR	now	W1EL	Eric Lowell

# 1999 CQWW SSB

Art Holmes – W1RZF

[w1rzf@qnci.net](mailto:w1rzf@qnci.net)

I recently compiled the YCCC scores for 1999 CQWW SSB from the September CQ magazine. There are a half a dozen teams that are in the running for 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> place in the team challenge. We had 263 members who had claimed scores and all but 3 were sent to CQ. Bravo!!

I created the following chart from the 260 scores. I sorted the scores in descending order, then broke them up into 10% groups (26 stations). The first column is the percentile grouping. The second column is the total score contributed by that group. The third column is the range of scores in that group. The 4<sup>th</sup> column is the UBN shrinkage for that group. And the 5<sup>th</sup> column is the percentage of the club score contributed by that group.

The Claimed score for the club was 396 mil, while the published score total was 361 mil. The UBN shrinkage was 8.8%. A couple of other points to remember, our membership participation in CQWW SSB was 58% and I expect our margin of victory over FRC was the scores contributed by new members and those that had been inactive the year before.

Our continued success depends upon Members climbing up the ladder depicted in the chart. It would be quite easy to move up from the 30<sup>th</sup> percentile to the 40<sup>th</sup> percentile as an example, Members recruiting new members, and members mentoring those with less skills and experience.

Percent	Total Score	Range	Shrinkage	% Score
90 - 100	103,810,321	2.4mil -7.9 mil	6.39%	28.77%
80 - 90	58,127,950	2.1 m - 2.4 m	9.94%	16.11%
70 - 80	49,531,254	1.8 m -2.1 m	11.42%	13.72%
60 - 70	43,381,403	1.6m -1.8m	8.49%	12.02%
50 -60	34,765,403	1.1 m 1.6 m	6.59%	9.63%
40 -50	27,301,379	.9 m -1.1 m	9.01%	7.57%
30 - 40	21,834,810	.7 m - .9 m	8.50%	6.05%
20 - 30	13,717,962	.4 m - .7 m	8.89%	3.80%
10 - 20	6,763,459	.2 m - .4 m	10.00%	1.87%
0 - 10	1,656,443	200 - 200k	15.29%	0.46%
	360,890,384			

## We Aren't There Yet!

Jeff Briggs – K1ZM

[K1zm@aol.com](mailto:K1zm@aol.com)

Hi Gang

Don has asked me to track the current dues situation of our members with an eye toward getting as MANY YCCC members ELIGIBLE for CQWW as we can which starts next month.

Remember, if you are not CURRENT with dues, then we CAN'T COUNT UR SCORE!!

Besides, if you don't pay your dues, you aren't supporting the club financially - which is unfair to those members who are.

Here are a few statistics - while we aren't doing too badly, we are not where we need to be if we want a THREEPEAT in CQWW:

Paid up members - 273 as of the last notification I received from KV1W.

(This compares with about 350 paid in October 1998 as we went into CQWW PHONE.)

(This compares with about 375 paid in November 1998 as we went into CQWW CW.)

Get the picture?? We aren't there yet.....

*(See Getting There – p. 10)*

*(Getting There from – p. 9)*

Now, we did enact a bylaw change on my watch in early 1999 - which allowed a GRACE PERIOD for guys who were LATE in paying dues - but we did NOT adopt a policy of "pay every other year".....all members are **\*\*expected\*\*** to pay dues EVERY YEAR. And quite a few of us have NOT done so yet.

If you have not paid dues AFTER 1 April 2000, please do so immediately:

Make check payable to: YCCC

Mail to:

Ric Plummer, KV1W  
PO Box 1158  
Berlin, MA 01503-2158

Dues run with our contest year (April 1, 2000 - March 31, 2001) - unless you joined YCCC as a new member in Fall 1999 or Winter 2000 - which covers you until March 31, 2001.

Dues for EBUTT delivery are \$15 per annum  
Dues for US MAIL (paper) delivery of the Butt are \$20 per annum.

## Am I Eligible?

Dave Hoaglin – K1HT  
[K1ht@arrl.net](mailto:K1ht@arrl.net)

I've gotten some questions about what members of YCCC need to do to be eligible for CQWW (i.e., to make their scores eligible to count toward the YCCC score in the club competition, and hence toward the score of their team in the YCCC Challenge).

The answer is simple, and you've heard it often: PAY DUES! That's all.

The rules for the club competition in CQWW actually contain two requirements for a member's score to count toward the club score:

1. The member must reside in the club's territory. (Everyone who has been placed on a team for the YCCC Challenge meets this requirement.)
2. The member must be a member in good standing. Under the current YCCC by-laws, this means that (for 2000 CQWW) your dues must be paid through 4/1/2000 or later -- we have a one-year grace period.

Eligibility for CQWW does NOT involve any requirement for attendance at club meetings. The eligibility October 2000

requirements for ARRL contests do require that you attend two meetings (one meeting if you're a new member) during the club year containing the contest. Thus, to be eligible for ARRL DX CW and Phone in February and March of 2001, you need to attend two meetings between April 1, 2000 and March 31, 2001.

Of course, I hope you attend meetings often. Come to the October and December meetings and make sure you're eligible for ARRL DX!

## West MA Area Meeting

Tom Homewood – W1TO  
[w1to@ibm.net](mailto:w1to@ibm.net)

A regional meeting of the YCCC was held September 24, 2000, at the QTH of Dave Robbins, K1TTT in Peru, Massachusetts. The meeting began at noon with a pizza and barbecue chicken lunch. All attendees were then introduced. Next came a tour of Dave's vast antenna farm. It is very impressive, with the latest addition a 180 footer. The group then moved to the operating area where a group lead by KE1FO, the defending North American multi-single champ, were operating in the CQ-RJ RTTY Contest. A demonstration of the RTTY operation, other station features and contest logging followed.

There were over twenty YCCC members and visitors attending. A good time was had by all.

Attendance list:

YCCC: K1TTT, K1MK, KK1DX, WM1K, KE1FO, KT1M, N1XS, W1TO

GUESTS: KA1MUI, KB2SAE, N1ISB, KE3HT, N1MGA, KB1FEZ, N1PUA, N1QOV, N1LZH, W1BS, KB1DMR, KJ1K, John Anderson, George and Sharon (Dave's neighbors).

## YCCC CLUB RESOURCE INFORMATION

**DUES AND MEMBERSHIP STUFF** Dues are payable as of the April election meeting, which begins our club "contest year". The YCCC has adopted a multi-tiered membership format as follows: Please note that payment of dues IS NOT a prerequisite for contributing scores to the Club aggregate, but IS for the various YCCC Awards Programs

**Full Member** - \$20 (Eligible for YCCC awards programs and paper delivery of Club newsletter)

**Full Member** - \$15 (Eligible for YCCC awards programs and electronic "Ebutt" delivery of Club newsletter)

**Family Member** - \$0 (Grants full membership to all amateurs residing at one domicile on payment of one member's "Full Member" annual dues and entitlement to one Club Newsletter sent to one domicile or email address. All members of said family are eligible for YCCC awards programs.)

**Student Member** - \$10 (Grants full membership to students at a reduced level. Eligible for YCCC awards programs and paper or electronic delivery of the Club Newsletter.)

**Subscription** - \$\*\* (A "friend of YCCC" - not a member but a possible candidate for future membership. Receives club newsletter only in paper or electronic form. Fee basis is \$20 for overseas paper delivery, \$15 for domestic paper delivery and \$10 for electronic "Ebutt" delivery domestically of overseas.)

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. **Mail your dues to the club treasurer, Ric Plummer, KV1W, PO Box 1158, Berlin, MA 01503-2158**

**SCUTTLEBUTT ARTICLES** should be sent to the Scuttlebutt editor, Doug Scribner K1ZO, preferably by E-mail at [k1zo@arrl.net](mailto:k1zo@arrl.net) or on 3½" disk (in MSWord format or text file) by snail mail to Doug Scribner, 661 Park Avenue #4, 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](mailto: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** Contact Brad, W1NT [bradld@bellatlantic.net](mailto:bradld@bellatlantic.net) **QSL CARDS** are ordered through John Dorr, K1AR. To order, send John packet mail, or E-mail at [k1ar@contesting.com](mailto: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 \$62 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](mailto:yccc-request@yccc.org). Include the word "subscribe" 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 Internet: <http://www.k1ea.com>. There is an Internet mailing list for CT users. To subscribe, send email to [CT-USER-REQUEST@contesting.com](mailto:CT-USER-REQUEST@contesting.com), and put only the word SUBSCRIBE in the message body. The web site is the best way to get CT country file updates, which are regularly announced on the reflector. These updates may also be obtained by sending 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 by sending 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](mailto:w1qsl@yccc.org). **PACKET NETWORK** information is available from Charlie Carroll, K1XX, Candlelight Rd., Rindge NH 03461.

**ARRL COMMITTEE REPS** are **CAC New England** Dave Hoaglin, K1HT; **CAC Hudson** Rich Gelber, K2WR; **DXAC New England** Ken Bolin, W1NG **DXAC Hudson** Rich Wujciak-K2RW. **ARRL LIAISON** is Tom Frenaye, K1KI.

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## Upcoming Meetings

Date	Type	Place
<b>Oct 14 (Sat)</b>	<b>General</b>	<b>Worcester MA</b>
Dec 3 (Sun)	General	Worcester MA
Feb 3 (Sat)	General	Worcester MA
Apr 1 (Sun)	General	Worcester MA

Ship's Log	October 2000	Issue 150
<b>Captain's Cabin</b>	Don Toman - K2KQ	1
<b>August Meeting Minutes</b>	Charlotte Richardson - KQ1F	3
<b>2000-2001 Calendar</b>		3
<b>N. Vermont Meeting</b>	Paul Gayet - AA1SU	4
<b>Boxboro RUFZ/PED 'Test</b>	Bob - K1VV	4
<b>New Crew</b>		5
<b>Movers and Shakers</b>		5
<b>Funny Bent Verticals</b>	Don Toman - K2KQ	6
<b>Flotsam and Jetsam</b>	"Barnacle Jack" - W1WEF	7
<b>Maine Area Meeting</b>	Mike Russo - K1EU	8
<b>1999 CQWW SSB</b>	Art Holmes - W1RZF	9
<b>We Aren't There Yet!</b>	Jeff Briggs - K1ZM	9
<b>Am I Eligible?</b>	Dave Hoaglin - K1HT	10
<b>West MA Meeting</b>	Tom Homewood - W1TO	10

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**The next general meeting of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club will be held Saturday October 14th, at 1:00 PM in the Higgins Labs Building on the campus of Worcester Polytechnic Institute.**

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The YCCC Scuttlebutt  
48 North Avenue  
Mendon, MA 01756

FIRST CLASS MAIL