



Scuttlebutt

February 2017

Issue 240

General Meeting: Saturday, February 4th, 2017
1:00 - 4:30 p.m.
Enfield Holiday Inn, Enfield, CT

Captain's Cabin Tony Brock-Fisher, K1KP

Contest Checklist!

11. Choose entry class. *Check.*
12. Reserve the time with the family. *Check.*
13. Test all radios, antennas, computers, software. *Check.*
14. Get in touch with guest ops and set up the schedule. *Check.*
15. Take a look at expected propagation and make a band plan. *Check.*
16. ... *Check.*
17. ... *Check.*
18. ... *Check.*

...

YUP FOLKS, that's right, there's a contest coming up! It's just a couple weeks until ARRL DX CW weekend. As the premiere 'Everybody works the US and Canada' contest, we are the featured entree on the menu, so it should be a weekend of great fun. Starting off with CW and then ending with SSB two weekends later, we get the civilized end of the contest first this time around. The sting of getting out-dueled in CQWW is still fresh in our minds, and FRC thinks they have our number, so we need to put together an all-out, all-hands-on-deck effort to even the score for this contest season.

So just in case you still have a few things left on your contest preparation checklist to do, let this be a reminder to get on deck and get those things finished up. If you think you're ready, then maybe try to get ahead of Murphy a bit on this one. Here's a tip I'm going to try: I have been plagued of late with some local form of intermod station-station interference at my home 2-position multi. Working under the hypothesis that it must be intermodulation occurring in one of the 700 wall-warts in my house, I'm going to make up a bunch of capaci-plugs and try installing them in outlets around the house. This is a tip that originates from Chuck, W1HIS. He has successfully used this as a tool in his arsenal of war against noise. I'm going to build up a bunch and give them a try.

Whatever your current station- or operating-challenges may be, now is the time to put in the time to be totally prepared for the great contest weekends coming up. As this is being written, excellent propagation is being reported on 15 meters to Europe. Hopefully this will repeat for the CW weekend!

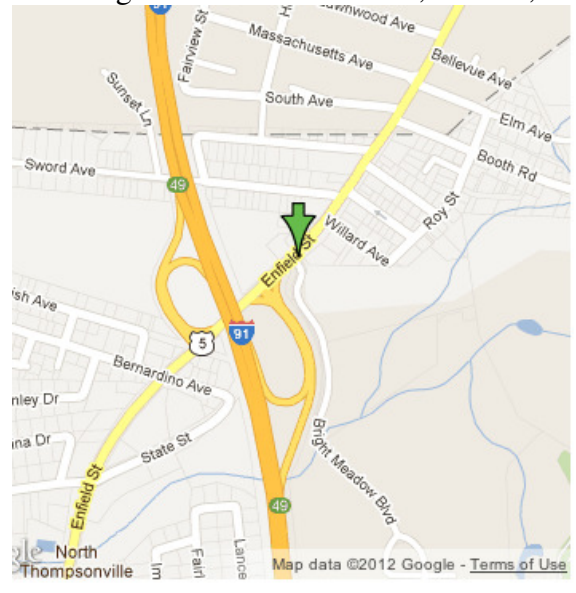
(Continued on page 5)

Yankee Clipper Contest Club	
President	Tony Brock Fisher, K1KP President@YCCC.org
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Directions to Enfield Holiday Inn

One Bright Meadow Boulevard, Enfield, CT



From South (Hartford): Take I-91 North to Exit 49, bear right at the end of the ramp, and take your immediate right onto Bright Meadow Blvd. The Hotel will be on your left.

From North (Vermont): Take I-91 South to Exit 49 (first exit in Connecticut). Take a left at the lights at the end of the ramp. Go through one set of lights. Take a right at the next set of lights onto Bright Meadow Blvd. The hotel will be on your left

From East (Boston): Take Mass Pike (I-90) West to exit 6. After toll booth, take a left onto I-291 to I-91 South. Take exit 49 (the first exit in Connecticut). Take a left at the lights at the end of the ramp. Go through one set of lights. Take a right at the next set of lights onto Bright Meadow Blvd. The hotel will be on your left.

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Area Managers

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(Captain's Cabin: Continued from Page 1)

All Things Come to Pass...

There's no easy way to say it, other than straight out: I will be concluding my 6-year watch as President of YCCC in April. I will be leaving the club in very capable hands, as Dennis, W1UE will be running for president in the April elections. Will, K6ND will fill Dennis' shoes at VP.

After six years, I have accomplished a lot for the club. It has been first and foremost an honor to serve this esteemed group of elite contesters. By elite, I mean ALL of YOU! Not just the 10 million point club, but all of you who have chosen to identify yourselves as members of the foremost contesting club in the Northeast, and I believe, the country. I have not looked upon this job as a measure of prestige. I have thought of myself more as a custodian of the club and its values than as the reigning potentate. But after six years, I believe I have done all I can to support the club and encourage it's growth. It is now time for new blood and new goals. I am sure Dennis will not disappoint.

Leaving behind the duties and responsibilities of the office of President will give me more time to work on other ham radio related projects. And if you are wondering what they are, be sure to attend this upcoming meeting for an update on the project Brian, K1LI and I introduced a year ago, 'The Polar Explorer'. Soon to appear in QEX, we will be bringing you up to date on the significant progress we have made in the past year. Speaking of the meeting, we will also have presentations by K1CC on his European trip last summer, including stops at SP7GIQ and PI4DX. Dennis, W1UE will talk about his recent Asian trip with stops at VU, HS0, and 4X. And of course, tickets will be sold for the YCCC Youth Scholarship! \$25 for a chance to win a K3S!

For those that have more than a fleeting thought of serving the club in some way, let me say that serving as President of YCCC has been extremely rewarding and a lot of fun! I have gotten to know many club members on a much more personal level than I ever would have if I had sat on the bench for six years. The excitement of meetings, get-togethers, common goals, competition, victories, and yes, even a few defeats, has been a tremendous and valued experience for me. You, the membership, have made the job fun and rewarding.

We will be holding elections at the April meeting, and unlike many recent years, it will not be an all-incumbent slate getting a quick rubber-stamp vote. We will have new faces running, and this is a good time for all of you to do some self-examination: Are you in a position to serve YCCC? I know that many would-be club volunteers are busy with 'real life', starting businesses, raising children, or even building their own contest mega-stations. But there are also other members who suddenly find themselves with time available to serve the club. Maybe the kids have moved out on their way to college (I know, plenty of time, no money, tuition-poor)! Maybe recently retired. Are you in such a position to help the club? If so, please consider looking for an opportunity to serve. Dennis is looking to fill some positions in his new administration, so if you have the time and interest to serve YCCC, please get in touch with him.

In closing, I want to start to express my appreciation to all who have made my job as president fun, enjoyable, and in fact, sometimes easy! To start with, I have been extremely fortunate to have a great bunch of officers helping me out, including Dennis Egan as vice president, Brian Szweczyk as Secretary, and Chet Slabinski as Treasurer. My Advisory Council of Mark Pride and Jack Schuster have been there to guide me when I had questions. All the Officers have worked tirelessly and without much in the way of recognition to help keep the club moving along.

Also deserving of my sincere thanks is the corps of club 'Manager' positions, which is a long list and includes the Activities Manager, Area Managers, the Media Manager, New Members Manager, Webmaster, Scorekeeper, Scuttlebutt Editor, Scuttlebutt Publisher, Reflector Manager, Google List Administrator, and Awards Manager. All the positions in the club are filled by volunteers, and it is this volunteering spirit that makes the club great. All of you have worked hard and put in the extra effort to make YCCC a world-recognized, world-class organization. We could not have succeeded without you!

Last but in my mind first, is the rank-and-file membership who have supported me all along the way. You have tolerated my blunders in meetings, supported the motions we made and the changes we requested, and most of all, you have Sat Down, Strapped In, and Kicked Butt in many contests! Thank you all for the points!

I will have more to say retrospectively about my experience as president and prospectively about the club's future in my final column for the April edition, as well as a few comments in person at the meetings.

For now, we have another contest to win. Let's concentrate on that!

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Silent Key

James Edward Dunn – N1BCL: May 1, 1942 – December 4, 2016

Worldwide Radio Operators Foundation, Inc
P O Box 10424
Midland, TX 79702
Tax ID: 27-1435449

Donor: Yankee Clipper Contest Club, Inc.

Date of Receipt: December 19, 2016

Type of Contribution: Cash

Amount of Contribution: \$500.00 U.S.

Dear Yankee Clipper Contest Club, Inc.:

On behalf of Worldwide Radio Operators Foundation, Inc., thank you for your generous donation as noted above.

WWROF is dedicated to improving the skills of amateur radio operators around the world, utilizing education, competition, advancement of technology and scientific research, promoting international friendship and goodwill, and preparing them to better serve society in times of communication need.

Donations are tax deductible under IRS 501 (c) (3) provisions. No goods or services were provided to you for this donation.

Sincerely,

Worldwide Radio Operators Foundation, Inc.

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YCCC 2017 Matching Gift Program for WRTC2018

There's still time to DOUBLE your contribution to WRTC2018 through the Yankee Clipper Contest Club (YCCC) 2017 Matching Gift Program for donations made to WRTC2018.

YCCC has allocated up to \$500 to match donations made by other individuals to WRTC2018 through WWROF from now through February 28, 2017.

In other words, YCCC will match every dollar you give to WRTC2018 through WWROF on or before February 28, 2017, up to an accumulated total of \$500. The matching gift will automatically be applied when individuals donate through WWROF.

The match applies to all donations – YCCC membership not required.

Donations can be made via PayPal to: WRTC2018@wwrof.org <mailto:WRTC2018@wwrof.org>

Or via check (including a note in the memo area that it is a designated donation for WRTC2018).

Mailing address is: WWROF Inc.
P O Box 10424
Midland, TX 79702-7424

This is a great opportunity to double your impact and support WRTC2018 in the early stages of their fundraising.

See Tony Brock-Fisher, K1KP, Yankee Clipper Contest Club President if you have any questions.

December 4, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Tony K1KP called the December 4th General Meeting, Holiday Luncheon, and Yankee Swap of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club to order at 12:30.

Tony announced that Chet N8RA was collecting money for the Luncheon and Dues.

Tony then asked for a moment of silence for W0UN, K1HI, K8PO, NC1L and K1RQ who became silent keys during the year, before announcing that the Buffet lunch was ready.

Tony K1KP reconvened the meeting at 1:10 and announced the meeting agenda and asked for a roll call of members and guests present.

Brian NJ1F gave the secretary's report and Chet N8RA gave the treasurers report. N1RR made a motion to accept the reports, which was seconded by NF1O.

Chet N8RA gave a brief presentation on his quest to build a new QTH in Connecticut. It turned out that the state of Connecticut also likes the location of his new QTH and has built a communications tower on the adjacent lot.

Tony then announced that again this year the YCCC Scholarship Raffle's grand prize is a K3s-100kit and tickets will be for sale during the break.

Tony K1KP asked if there was any unfinished business, there was no unfinished business.

Tony K1KP made an announcement that the officers of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club would entertain two motions; one for a \$500 donation to the World Wide Radio Operators Foundation WWROF and the second \$500 matching donation to WRTC2018 from the floor.

Paul K1XM made the motion that the YCCC make a \$500 donation to the WWROF which was seconded by Dave K1NYK. Tony opened the floor for discussion. Chet N8RA said that our current treasury balance shows that the club can afford to fund both donations. Tony K1KP explained that the WWROF is an organization that pays for the computer costs of processing logs and maintaining the results databases for the CQ contests, puts on Webinars on contest operating, advancing the technology of Amateur radio and encourages amateurs worldwide to get on the air. At the conclusion of the discussion a vote of the members present was taken and the motion carried with unanimous support.

Paul K1XM made a motion that the YCCC to set aside \$500 as matching gift to WRTC2018, with the matching to be coordinated with WWROF (all US donations go through WWROF anyway) YCCC funds to match donations 1:1 made by individuals via WWROF through February 28, 2017 unless extended at the February General Meeting. The motion was seconded by Ed K1EP. Tony opened the floor up for discussion which included if there should be a time limit on the match or if the YCCC simply match donations until the \$500 allocated it depleted. At the conclusion of the discussion a vote of the members present was taken and the motion carried.

Alex W2JU gave a presentation on the scores for the just completed CQWW contests. Things are not looking good for the YCCC in this year's CQWW as the FRC is about 5 percent ahead. Alec pointed out a trend that the FRC has closed the gap by getting more members on.

Tony K1KP then gave a presentation on his analysis of the YCCC club score trend during the past several years. Tony noted that this year the club had 18 fewer logs than the year before which accounted for the difference.

Tony K1KP then introduced Ed K1EP who gave a very interesting presentation on operating CQWW SSB from Cuba as a part of the Multi Single T48K. Ed said that his week's hotel stay was \$240 U.S. and included three meals a day plus open bar!

Tony then introduced last year's YCCC scholarship winner Julie KB1YTT who spoke to the group via Skype. Julie is currently a sophomore at the University of Ohio majoring in mechanical engineering and physics.

Tony K1KP announced the Kickoff of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club Youth Scholarship Raffle for a K3 followed by a 15 minute break for purchasing tickets and socializing

After the break Tony asked if there was any one present who wanted to become a member of the YCCC. Sean WA1TE came forward with his application and told the group about himself. Paul K1XM made a motion to accept Sean as a member and George W1XT seconded. A vote of the members present was unanimous.

Tony K1KP reconvened the meeting and introduced Terry W1TR who gave a presentation on contesting and software defined radios

Brian NJ1F then conducted the Yankee Swap.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by K1XM and Seconded by WC2L.

Meeting adjourned at 4:25

Submitted

Brian Szewczyk NJ1F
YCCC Secretary

YCCC CLUB RESOURCE INFORMATION

DUES AND MEMBERSHIP STUFF Dues for the year are payable as of January 1st. 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 - \$15/yr (Eligible for YCCC member benefits and electronic "Ebutt" delivery of Club newsletter)

Full Member - \$30/yr (Eligible for YCCC member benefits and paper 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 member benefits.)

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 "supportive friend of YCCC" - not a member but a possible candidate for future membership. Only receives club newsletter in paper or electronic form. \$10 for electronic "Ebutt" delivery domestically or overseas or \$25 for domestic paper delivery.)

Club members who move out of club territory and so are not eligible to contribute to club aggregate scores can continue to participate in the Club's e-mail reflector and receive the electronic "Ebutt" delivery of newsletter at no cost.

You can tell if you owe dues by checking your 'Butt mailing label or the Club roster in the Members Only section of the website. **Mail your dues to the club treasurer, Chet Slabinski, N8RA, 200 Mount Parnassus Rd, East Haddam, CT 06423.**

SCUTTLEBUTT ARTICLES should be sent to the Scuttlebutt editor, Steve Rodowicz N1SR, by E-mail at n1sr@arrrl.net. The deadline for each issue is the 10th of the preceding month..

Scuttlebutt Advertising: Nominal Business Card sized ad, \$50 per year (6 appearances)

CONTEST SCORES should be sent to the club scorekeeper, Alec Berman, W2JU, preferably by E-mail at scores@yccc.org. 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 Tony, K1KP. Send \$3, name and call desired on the badge, and your mailing address to Tony.

APPAREL Contact Richie, W1STT. Email: richd1313@aol.com

YCCC LOGO ITEMS <http://www.cafepress.com/nlik>

QSL CARDS are ordered through Tom, W1TO. To order, complete the QSL form from the YCCC website, send it to W1TO who will verify all information is included and send to UX5UO after resolving any issues. You will receive a proof copy directly from UX5UO. Approve the proof after resolving any issues with UX5UO. Email acceptance to UX5UO with copy to W1TO. Current price is \$45/thousand (matte) and \$49/thousand heavy matte. Payment to UX5UO representative, KD4POJ at Mr David Lipscomb, KD4POJ, 4201 13th Street NE, Minot, ND, 58703. eMail: kd4poj@srt.com

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER is posed on the YCCC website. Updates are published in 'Movers and Shakers' when members move or change call signs.

COMPUTER STUFF INTERNET REFLECTOR There is an Internet mailing list for YCCC members. To subscribe, send mail to yccc-REQUEST@yccc.org. Insert only the word "subscribe" in the subject of the mail message. (Do not send messages to the reflector that have file attachments, HTML formatting, use boldface or other fancy fonts, etc.)

WWW HOME PAGE Come visit us at <http://www.yccc.org> Our Webmaster is Lyn Glagowski, WB1CCL.

QSL BUREAU – The W1 QSL BUREAU is sponsored by the YCCC. For more information at: www.w1qsl.org Address: W1 QSL Bureau, PO Box 73, Marlborough, MA 01752-0073. Email address: w1qsl@w1qsl.org

ARRL COMMITTEE REPS are:

CAC: **New England** Dennis Egan, W1UE **Hudson** George Tranos, N2GA **Atlantic** Charles D Fulp Jr, K3WW

DXAC: **New England** Bob Beudet, W1YRC **Hudson** Leslie P. Kalmus, W2LK **Atlantic** Chris Shalvoy, K2CS

VUAC: **New England** Ed Parish, K1EP **Hudson** Frederick Lass, K2TR **Atlantic** Joe Taylor, K1JT

ARRL LIAISON: Bart J. Jahnke, W9JJ
