

# February 2024

# **YCCC General Club Zoom Meeting** Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 – 9:00am to 12:00pm

# **CAPTAIN'S LOG**

#### Hi All,

The Club ended 2023 with 256 dues current members + 170, 1 year in arrears. This represents a small growth yearover-year. We onboarded 19 new members in 2023, a noticeable drop from the 2022 numbers. We met 7 times over the course of the year in addition to numerous Area meetings.

Additionally:

- #2COWW 2022 Club Competition. Our 7<sup>th</sup> consecutive #2 slot -
- #2 ARRL DX 2023 Club Competition. Our 6th consecutive #2 slot
- -#4 CQWPX 2023 Club Competition. A 3-position fall from 2022.
- #3 ARRL November SS 2022 Club Competition.
- #2 ARRL10M 2022 Club Competition
- #3 ARRL 160M 2022 Club Competition -
- \_ #2 WAEDCOverall 2022 DX Club Competition
- \_ #1 Oceania DX Contest 2022 Club Competition

We became a 501(c)(3) entity and sorted out the scholarship funding to be in a position to offer a \$2000 scholarship for 2024. We moved 3 Constitution updates. The budget saw a decline of \$1400 over the year.

I've included a short article this month that is a pitch to support the State QSO Party Challenge(s). This program is designed to improve participation for 47 different State QSO parties. There is both an individual rewards track as well as a Club competition. While this is a new Challenge, they applied their scoring algorithm against the 2023 SQPs and the YCCC came in 6<sup>th</sup> place. Note the NEQP is part of this event.

As we are not currently running an intra-Club competition this program could fill that role. The SQPC is mostly selfassembling, participants need only submit their scores to 3830Scores and they will do the rest. The Club will sweeten the pot and kick in a Gift Certificate for the top High and Low Power scores as reported by the challenge organizers. We'll keep it low key until someone notices they are the Club scoring leader and others set their sights on them. I will put one reminder the day before each qualifying event in the Club calendar.

We have been keeping an eye on ARRL Contest log submittals and trying to understand why some members' scores are not counting for Club competition purposes. Vastly better than last year but some cleanup continues to be needed. The League has been contacted.

Voting continues on the By-Law Section 1 Club Jurisdiction change announced in the Oct. 22 Special Edition Scuttlebutt. We are about half-way towards a decision to pass. Further voting will take place at the February 3<sup>rd</sup> Zoom meeting.

We continue to recruit for the open Club positions. Please volunteer. Progress has been made filling some openings, watch here for future announcements.

73, Ken - WO1N

Yankee Clipper Contest Club			
President	Ken Caruso, WO1N		
	President@YCCC.org		
Vice President	Paul Young, K1XM		
	K1XM@K1XM.org		
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Ship's Log February, 2024 Is	ssue 274	
Captain's Log Ken Caruso, WO1N	1	
Upcoming February ZOOM Meeting Schedule		
State of the Treasury		
YCCC Dec 3, 2023 Meeting Minutes		
NeMa/BOS/SEMa Area Meeting, 12/07/2023		
Andy Bodony, K2LE Joins YCCC HoF		
Directors Meeting		
NEMa/BOS/SEMa/Ri Area Meeting, 1/4/2024		
State QSO Party Challenge		
YCCC Open Positions – Volunteers Needed	10	
YCCC Club Resource Information	11	

# NEXT MEETING YCCC General Club Zoom Meeting Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 – 9:00am to 12:00pm EST

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### **Area Managers**

Mike Russo, K1EU	(207) 883-9524	k1eu@maine.rr.com
Ken Caruso, WO1N		woln@arrl.net
Craig Clark, K1QX		k1qx@arrl.net
Charlie Morrison, N1RR	(401) 742-7240	charles.morrison.n1rr@gmail.com
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Joe Fitzgerald, KM1P	(617) 325-6767	jfitzgerald@alum.wpi.edu
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Hank Kiernan, KF2O	(914) 235-4940	hankkier@aol.com
Jason Garneau, K1LOL		
Guy Lemieux, VE2BWL	,	guy@guylemieux.com
OPEN		
	Ken Caruso, WO1N Craig Clark, K1QX Charlie Morrison, N1RR Dave Neil, W2DAN Joe Fitzgerald, KM1P Jeff Bail, NT1K  Mike Loukides, W1JQ Charlie Morrison, N1RR John Corini, KE1IH Tom Carrubba, KA2D Hank Kiernan, KF2O Jason Garneau, K1LOL Guy Lemieux, VE2BWL	Ken Caruso, WO1N     Craig Clark, K1QX     Charlie Morrison, N1RR (401) 742-7240    Dave Neil, W2DAN     Joe Fitzgerald, KM1P  (617) 325-6767    Jeff Bail, NT1K     Mike Loukides, W1JQ  (203) 458-2545    Charlie Morrison, N1RR  (401) 742-7240    John Corini, KE1IH     Tom Carrubba, KA2D  (631) 422-9594    Hank Kiernan, KF2O  (914) 235-4940    Jason Garneau, K1LOL     Guy Lemieux, VE2BWL

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YCCC Scuttlebutt

## YCCC General Club Zoom Meeting Schedule

- When:Saturday, February 3, 20249:00am to 12:00pm EST
- Where: Zoom
- Organizer: YCCC president@yccc.org 508-572-3347
- **Descripton:** Zoom channel will be open at 8:30 AM for those early risers that want to chat.

#### Agenda:

- 0900 0910 Greeting and Introduction
- 0910 0930 Club Business
  - Secretary /Treasurer Report
  - Meeting Schedule
  - Member Update
  - Competion Update
  - Area Manager Reports
- 0930 0935 Continuing Constitution Voting • By-Law Secton 1
- 0935 1030 Taking the Leap from Single Op to Mult-Op • N2WQ - Rudy Bakalov
- 1030 1035 Break
- 1035 1045 New Member Voting
- 1045 1145 HamSCI Solar Eclipse Programs and Operating Opportunities • AF8R – Gary Mikitin
- 1145 1200 Open Mike and Wrap Up

### **State of the Treasury**

No, this is not going to be a plea for raising the dues amount. Our Club has emerged from the fog of the pandemic lockdowns and struggles, Early in 2021 club dues were suspended for a year. Everyone had 1 year added to their paid-to-date. We are still on course with what we do in addition to contest operating:

Over the last few years, many new members have been voted in.

The e-mail forum continues to be a lively source of encouragement, technical Q&A, and comradery, thanks to all who freely contribute their wisdom and experience.

In addition to member contest recognition awards, YCCC currently sponsors 13 contest plaques that spread our name worldwide. These include ARRL, CQWW, CQWPX, and NEQP with a mix of CW, SSB, and Digi.

We fund part of the Xenia evening contest suite and support HamX with prizes and speakers.

Major contributions are made to the WRTC competition, and we support members that are participants. This is a big expense, so in off years we need to build up our reserves for the next WRTC.

There are also the less glamorous ordinary expenses: e.g. website, liability insurance, and meeting room rental again as we get back to in-person meetings.

What's not to be proud of who we are?

This all is supported by our membership dues, and as stated earlier this note is not about raising dues. But it is about keeping your dues current so we can stay the course. There are currently 123 members in the "grace period": that's the state of having been paid up in full for 2023, but not yet for this year, while still retaining full member privileges. Another 96 members are 2-3 years behind. The world today barrages us with tons of requests and cumbersome changes and updates to deal with, so it is easy to forget YCCC. Please go to the website yccc.org, find the roster, and enter your callsign there to see where you stand. If you're not in there you may be 5 years behind or are new but have not yet submitted your first dues.

Late last year we attained 501(c)(3) status to avoid the pending IRS rules of having to report all transactions, no matter how small. Many other amateur radio clubs and organizations did the same. Congress eventually put the onerous rule on hold, but now that YCCC has 501(c)(3) status, your dues and other donations to the Club can be deducted on your tax return.

For anyone behind, remember that the minimum necessary to regain full-member status is to pay the current year's dues. Ways to pay are listed elsewhere in this newsletter. PayPal is preferred if possible, and please be sure to include your callsign and which years you are paying.

Tnx, 73, and KB, Chet, N8RA, YCCC treasurer

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## Yankee Clipper Contest Club December 3, 2023 Meeting Minutes

President Ken WO1N called the meeting back to order at 1:05pm.

President Ken WO1N than asked for a roll call of the members present.

President Ken WO1N then announced the next meetings schedule

- February 3<sup>rd</sup> 9 am via Zoom
- April 7<sup>th</sup> in person TBD

President Ken WO1N then introduced Mike Walker VA3MW who gave a zoom presentation on the FlexRadio line of products.

President Ken WO1N then asked for the Treasurer's report which Chet N8RA gave. K1XM made a motion to accept the report which was seconded by K1ZZ. The motion carried.

President Ken WO1N asked for the Secretary's report which Brian NJ1F gave and K1XM made a motion to accept the report which was seconded by KE1IH. The motion carried.

President Ken WO1N then asked if there was anyone wanting to join the YCCC. Mark NM2A told the group about himself and his station. K1VR made a motion to welcome Mark to the club, which was seconded by K1ZZ. The motion carried.

President Ken WO1N then introduced Mike NG1M the clubs score keeper, who gave a presentation on the recent CQWW contests. He led a very active discussion on how do we get our members to spend just a few more hours in the chair. This one of the reasons the FRC is beating the YCCC,

President Ken then announced a 15 minute break 2:30

President Ken called the meeting back to order at 2:50

President Ken WO1N then introduced Dave K1ZZ who gave a presentation on the YT5A contest station.

President Ken WO1N then continued the vote on the bylaw change to the club's jurisdiction, and Secretary Brian NJ1F recorded the tally.

President Ken WO1N then asked if there was any new business. Dave K1ZZ asked if the YCCC should add the WPX contests to our focus. There was an active discuss with many in favor, after all they are major contests and lots of fun to operate.

President Ken WO1N then asked if anyone present had ideas for lower cost or free places the club could hold future meetings without the high cost of a hotel meeting room. Several ideas were shared including a room a WPI, and public librarys.

President Ken WO1N then gave a presentation on his recent experience operating at the KC1XX multi multi.

Fred K1VR made a motion "to suspend this meeting until next we assemble" which was seconded by Fred K2TR.The meeting was suspended at 3:42pm

Submitted Brian Szewczyk NJ1F YCCC Secretary

YCCC Scuttlebutt

### Combined NeMa/BOS/SEMa Area Meeting December 7, 2023 Ken – WO1N

A post CQWW contest gathering was organized by Joe, KM1P for Thursday December 07, 2023 at Ted Montana's Grill, Southboro, Ma.



Prior to festivities commencing a combined Area meeting was declared by Club President WO1N.

WO1N welcomed everyone and congratulated all present for their CQWW CW efforts.

A candidate for membership, Vlad, NC1VR was present. Introduced by Charlie, N1RR Vlad has support Charlie at his station. Vlad introduced himself and explained CW was his favorite mode. He need not say anything else. A motion from the floor to vote Vlad into the Club was made, seconded and Vlad was voted in unanimously. Hearing no other business, Ken declared the meeting over.

War stories commenced. All agreed CQWW CW conditions were outstanding despite warnings of suppressed conditions from CMEs etc. Doug, K1DG shared cookies provided by a DX friend with all to top off the evening.

In attendance were W1GD, K1DG, K5ZD, WK1O, KD1MF, NC1VR, K1VR, K1MT, K1EP, AA1ON, N1RR, KA1ZD, K1ZZ, W1UE, K1VR-XYL, KW1X, W01N, KM1P.

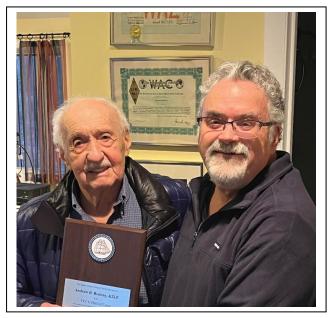
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### Andy Bodony, K2LE New YCCC Hall of Fame Member

YCCC Member Andy Bodony, K2LE, turns 90 on December 7th. Andy got his ham license in Hungary when he was 16. Upon becoming an American citizen on May  $1^{st}$ , 1962 he passed the General Class Amateur Radio exam on May  $2^{nd}$ . Andy upgraded to Extra class shortly thereafter and in 1975 qualified for the vanity call K2LE.

Contesting was already in his blood. In 1955, Operating as a Multi-Single HA5KBA, under Soviet rule, they won CQWW CW M/S World -- for the first time that category existed. Who did they beat? None other than W6AM!

Andy has been a member of many DXpeditions around the world. I had the opportunity to operate with him as a two man Multi-Single from Aruba in ARRL DX CW. We won the world!



Andy has been an active participant in submitting scores for YCCC pretty much since the formation of the club.

In the early years, he hosted M/M CW ops, while his best friend, W2AX (SK) hosted SSB ops. Later, Andy worked both CW and SSB contests from his Vermont station location. More importantly, he has hosted many YCCC ops over the years in the big 4 DX contests.

Andy proudly hosted NU1AW in the IARU HF World Championship in 2000, 2004, and 2007 in VT, and represented W1AW/1 Vermont in the 2014 ARRL Centennial.

Andy has been a big supporter of the New England QSO Party and has put in many great scores over the years.

Andy has helped to advance the contesting state-of-the-art over the years. His friend W2AX remotely controlled his Vermont station in the 90s; however, it was not very practical over phone lines.

He decided early on to set the station up for remote access. With a lot of growing pains, he now has a full M/2 contest station that can be operated remotely with ease.

For his dedication to the art of Amateur Radio, his dedication to contesting, his incredible generosity, and for 7 decades of incredible operating, I nominate Andrew Bodony, K2LE, to the YCCC Hall of Fame.

Gerry Hull, W1VE

# Directors Meeting

Ken – WO1N

A meeting of the YCCC directors, WO1N, NJ1F, N8RA, K1XM and NG1M took place Saturday, January 13, 2024, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

WO1N reported on agenda progress for the February 3rd meeting.

A discussion of the Club overall health including membership level, new members growth, and budget took place. Membership was about even with 2022 and growth was less. The operating expenses were up and the budget declined approximately \$1400 year-over-year. 19 new members were added over the course of the year.

Continued budget pressure implies the Club should search for free or lower cost meeting venues.

A discussion of how to recognize past CQ Contest Hall of Fame members, per the recently passed bylaw, took place.

A discussion of the current Zoom account took place. It was noted that this is being paid by a Club member, currently.

WO1N noted no further work has been done on determining a new Club center. Assuming the bylaw change is approved at the upcoming meeting it could be advantageous to have this decided before the ARRL DX Contests.

A discussion of website issues took place.

WO1N polled the members for additional business and hearing none adjourned the meeting.

Director meeting minutes are provided for informational purposes only.

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### Combined NEMa/BOS/SEMa/Ri Area Meeting January 4, 2024 Charlie – N1RR

On Thursday Jan 4, 2024 there was a regional meeting at N1RR. Topics included old or silly stories, appreciation for station help provided by this group to one another. At one point we recognized four YCCC Area managers were in attendance, so WO1N was encouraged to declare an Area meeting.

A short YCCC meeting was chaired by WO1N. No business was transacted but WO1N wished everyone a productive contesting New Year. Hearing no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

#### Attendees were:

W2DAN, N2RDF, NC1VR K1JI, KM1P, WO1N, N1RR

Those who could not attend have requested another gathering be held soon.



YCCC Scuttlebutt



Dave, WN4AFP and a few others direct the State QSO Party Challenge (stateqsoparty.com).

The SQP Challenge Group just launched a brand-new State QSO Party **Club** Challenge (SQPCC) competition.

Briefly, the SQPCC is a club competition that is based upon the participation and performance of your members/affiliates of your club in 47 state QSO party contests that occur from February through October 2024. This is a season-long competition. The club score will be the product of the number of member/affiliates QP contest entries into 3830scores multiplied by the number of total QSOs by all qualified club members/affiliates. An affiliate of your club is someone who enters Yankee Clipper Contest Club as their club choice on their contest entry form. This is a great opportunity to get prospective members involved with a YCCC Club competition.

There are only two requirements for participation by a club member/affiliate:

1. The member/affiliates only requirement to participate in the SQPCC is to make TWO contacts in TWO different SQP Challenge Approved state QSO party contests.

2. Report his/her contest score data into the <u>3830scores.com</u> online database and select YCCC in the "Club" field on the contest submission form.

The rules are posted at and the SQPCC will regularly post scores on the <u>stateqsoparty.com</u> website. They will also recognize the top clubs at the end of the year.

They also have an excellent video presentation about the SQP Challenge by one of the team members, Anthony, K8ZT. You can view this video at: <u>https://youtu.be/Wxt488zhMr8</u>

Please contact them if you have any questions about this exciting competition.

73 Dave WN4AFP State QSO Party Director stateqsoparty.com daveedmo@gmail.com

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## **Open Positions in the YCCC**

Ken-WO1N

### Treasurer

The Treasurer's roles and responsibilities include accounting for all monies paid to and on behalf of the Club. At each regular meeting the Treasurer shall submit a statement of receipts and expenditures. The Treasurer shall assist the President in the preparation of an Annual Operating Budget. The Treasurer shall maintain and reconcile bank accounts and invest all funds guided by the Prudent Man Rule. The President and Treasurer are authorized to sign account checks individually. The Treasurer will be responsible for filing or confirming all government forms are filed as appropriate. The Treasurer will perform all other customary duties pertaining to the Treasurer position.

The fiscal year for the Club is July 1 through June 30. Spending will be guided by a detailed budget. Unbudgeted expenditures over \$500.00 must be approved by a majority of the Club officers. Budgeted expenditures up to \$500.00 must be approved by the President or Treasurer and over \$500.00 by the President and the Treasurer.

Chet will be available for guidance at the hand-off of the Club records. Knowledge of spreadsheets, accounting software and non-profit operation is a plus.

### **Activities Manager**

The Activities Manager roles and responsibilities, as outlined in the Club constitution "shall plan and manage meeting programs and similar activities and perform other duties as agreed upon with the President". This is a core position and candidates would be expected to support every Club meeting and the roughly twice per month Board meetings.

### **Area Manager Openings (2)**

### Eastern CT Area (860) Manager Cape and Islands Area Manager

The Area Manager role is described in Section 5 of the Club bylaws. "Area Managers shall be appointed for such areas deemed appropriate by the President. These Managers shall be responsible for serving the interests of members in their area, which may include assisting in antenna projects, helping procure transportation to Club meetings, and recruiting new members." In practical terms, Area managers are called upon to organize local area meetings, either live or Zoom, define resources within the area that can be called upon should Club members put out a call for assistance with antenna projects. Additionally, Area Managers do some recruiting at area get-togethers (hamfests, flea markets etc.). Finally they are asked to report back on a regular basis to the Club as to activities within the area.

We are encouraging Area Managers to be a bit more active. We think it is a good approach to engage new members in developing a sense of belonging to the Club other than the few live meetings we have each year.

If you think you can fulfill any of these roles, please drop me a note at President@yccc.org

## YCCC CLUB RESOURCE INFORMATION

**DUES AND MEMBERSHIP STUFF** Dues for the year are payable as of January 1<sup>st</sup>. Please note that payment of current dues IS NOT a prerequisite for contributing scores to the Club aggregate but IS required for participation in the Club's e-mail reflector and the Club's awards programs. The YCCC has a multi-tiered membership:

**Full Member** - \$15 (Available to amateurs residing within the Club territory for all YCCC member benefits and e-mail delivery of the Club newsletter.)

**Family Member** - \$0 (Grants full membership benefits to all family amateurs residing at one domicile upon payment of one member's "Full Member" annual dues. The Club Newsletter will be sent to the full member's email address.)

**<u>Student Member</u>** - \$10 (Grants full membership to students at a reduced cost.)

<u>Subscription</u>- \$10 (A "friend of YCCC", not a member, but a possible candidate for future membership and receives club newsletter in e-mail form.)

**Former Member** - \$0 (A former full member who has moved out of the Club territory may continue to participate in the Club's e-mail reflector and receive the e-mailed newsletter at no cost.)

You can tell if you owe dues by checking the Club roster on the website. A lapsed member can reinstate lost privileges by paying current year dues. Mail your dues to the club treasurer, **Chet Slabinski**, **N8RA**, **200 Mount Parnassus Rd**, **East Haddam**, **CT 06423**, **or PayPal them to yccc-paypal@yccc.org**. Please include your callsign, family callsigns, and year(s) being paid. PayPal no longer allows the Club to receive dues from "family or friends" so you will not have that option.

**SCUTTLEBUTT ARTICLES** should be sent to the Scuttlebutt editor, Steve Rodowicz, N1SR, by e-mail at **n1sr@arrl.net** The deadline for each issue is the 10th of the preceding month or as announced on the YCCC e-mail list.

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@ycc.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.

#### YCCC APPAREL & LOGO ITEMS:

Contact Gold Medal Ideas - https://stores.goldmedalideas.com/Yankee\_clipper\_contest\_club/shop/home

*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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 callsigns.

**COMPUTER STUFF** *INTERNET REFLECTOR* There is an Internet mailing list for YCCC members. To subscribe, go to https://groups.io/g/yccc/join and enter your email address.

WWW HOME PAGE Come visit us at http://www.yccc.org Our Webmaster is Mike Gilmer, N2MG.

**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:

CAC: New England Rudy Bakalov, N2WQ RAC Samuel A Ferris, VE5SF	Hudson Zev Darack, N2WKS	Atlantic Charles D Fulp Jr, K3WW
DXAC: New England Bob Beaudet, W1YRC	Hudson Saul Abrams, K2XA	Atlantic Chris Shalvoy, K2CS
ARRL LIAISON: Bart J. Jahnke, W9JJ	Hudson Frederick Lass, K2TR	Atlantic Joe Taylor, K1JT