



Scuttlebutt

June 2021

Issue 259

CAPTAIN'S LOG

Hi all,

I want to thank you all for your vote of confidence as I begin this voyage. Truthfully, it was taken on reluctantly requiring a lot of arm twisting by K1IR and N1RR. They were relentless. Not to say K2KQ wasn't back in the 2002/2003 time frame. I had more will power back then, still working for a living. I'm recently retired (best job I've ever had) so I took it on.

Before I get started here, and when you get a chance, make sure you drop Dennis, W1UE and Charlie, N1RR a note thanking them for holding the tiller for the past few years. This is a big ship and I'm learning it is not easy to keep on course.

As I dug into the club inner workings I had to be pulled through a few knot holes. The first being the eligibility criteria for club competition scores. It took me a while to understand this, but essentially once a YCCC member, always a member, whether you have paid your dues or not. The roster we submit for the ARRL DX contest competition includes members not current with dues. From Article VI of our Constitution: "Payment of dues shall not be a precondition for submission of member scores to the YCCC Club aggregate in competitions." Who knew? I was still stuck in the days of not only did you have to pay your dues, but you had to attend at least 2 meetings in person. Life was tough back then 😊.

I turned to looking at how other clubs handle this. Most of the larger contesting clubs appear to adhere to a traditional definition of club membership (I.e. pay your dues and you are a member). The FRC has codified the "member in perpetuity" into their club constitution. PVRC has no dues requirements but solicits "donations" and they implement specific fund raising activities for specific purposes. We may want to consider changes like these moving forward.

I also noticed, even with a year grace on dues, we are sitting at about 49% of the roster with members that are up-to-date. From a head count perspective, that is a formidable number, equating to around 213 members. While the treasury is in a good cash position, more than \$9K, we have been deficit spending the past 4 out of 6 years.

Herein lies another knot hole. Chet, N8RA, our club treasurer, informs me there was a stated goal to spend down the treasury. This is a foreign concept to me having run the Billerica Amateur Radio Society club where keeping enough dollars in the kitty was a constant challenge. I'll venture out on a limb here, I'm guessing it wasn't to be achieved by not collecting dues, but rather to make community contributions at a greater pace. Contest plaques (we fund around 11-12 each year), WWROF and WRTC contributions to name a few. Should we sponsor more plaques? Should we be supporting some of the Youth Contesting organizations? How about expanding club activities?

To wrap up this discussion on the budget and dues, there are specific remedies in our By-Laws to address members not current with their dues. Go look them up for yourselves. I do not want to go down that path. Please make sure your dues are current. (Continued on page 4)

Yankee Clipper Contest Club	
President	Ken Caruso, WO1N President@YCCC.org
Vice President 401-742-7240	Charles Morrison, N1RR VicePresident@YCCC.org
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NEW CREW

April; 7, 2021 Zoom Meeting

Howie Naugle, K1TZQ - Portsmouth, RI
Jon Turner, AC1EV - Tewksbury, MA

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Yankee Clipper Contest Club YouTube Channel

Link to Videos

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOZDgRPZQ5lvtry1OjNWBYYQ/videos>

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Area Managers

ME	Mike Russo, K1EU	(207) 883-9524	k1eu@maine.rr.com
ENH/NEMA	Ken Caruso, WO1N	-----	wo1n@arrl.net
WNH/SVT	Craig Clark, K1QX	-----	k1qx@arrl.net
SE MA (508) [co-mgr]	Charlie Morrison, N1RR	-----	kv1j@arrl.net
SE MA (508) [co-mgr]	Dave Neil, W2DAN	-----	-----
Boston (617/781)	Joe Fitzgerald, KM1P	(617) 325-6767	jfitzgerald@alum.wpi.edu
WMA (413)	Tom Homewood, W1TO	(413) 743-7342	w1to@arrl.net
CT (860)	Rich Cady, N1IXF	-----	n1ixf@arrl.net
CT (203)	Mike Loukides, W1JQ	(203) 458-2545	MikeL@oreilly.com
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NYC/LI (718)	Tom Carrubba, KA2D	(631) 422-9594	ka2d@arrl.net
SNY/NJ/PA (914)	Hank Kiernan, KF2O	(914) 235-4940	hankkier@aol.com
NVT (802)	----- OPEN -----	-----	-----
QUEBEC	Guy Lemieux, VE2BWL	-----	guy@guylemieux.com
CAPE & ISLANDS	----- OPEN -----	-----	-----

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Mix Matters - Jack Schuster W1WEF

When we move back and forth to and from our summer QTH on Cape Cod we cancel one cable service and join the other. We have been doing this for about 40 years but this year for the first time we had a lot of “cable box” failures in CT. I had to replace the box 6 times because of hard failures. Actually a couple of the replacements were because the “new” box I was given didn't work right off the bat.

After six boxes, my wife happened to be watching TV when I got on 160M and I immediately wiped out any cable reception. This time I quit right away and a “reset” brought the box back after 15 minutes. Later, I decided to try 160 again and all it took was one “dit” to wipe it out. I cant say for certain if the hard failures were caused by my operating on 160, but that band was the only one that caused a problem.

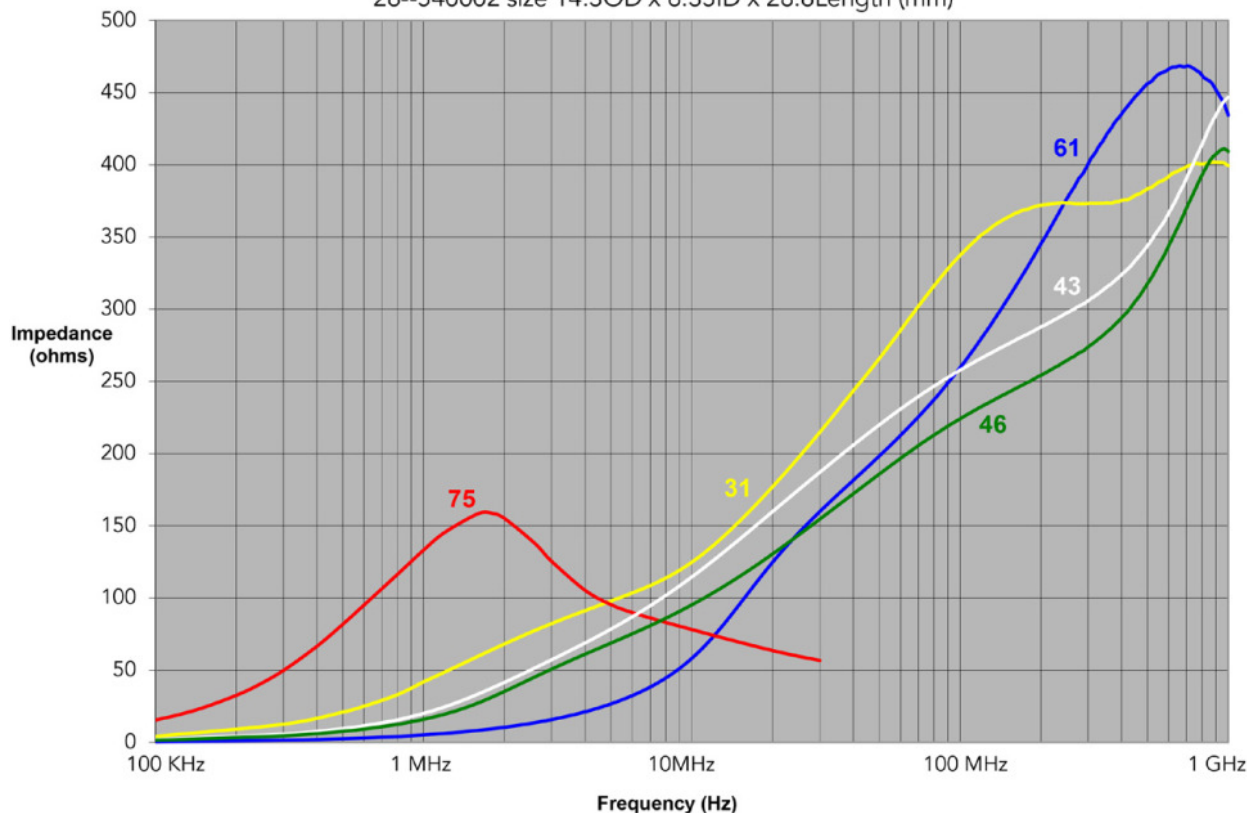
I had a couple large ferrite cores in my collection and tried winding as many turns as I could with the RG6 feeding the cable box, around both cores of unknown mix. Neither core made any difference...one “dit” was all it took to knock out the TV.

Thanks to W1HIS for a suggestion using three 77 mix cores and to W1VLF at ARRL for the attached chart, it was obvious that I had to use a 77 mix. I ordered ONE core on line (postage cost more than the core) and also purchased a more flexible RG6 which allowed me to wrap the turns more tightly on the core. I managed to get ten turns on the core with the flexible RG6, and did the “dit test”. The 77 core made all the difference in the world and I can now send as many dits as I like. Hi! No more TVI.

Note that the impedance of the choke goes up as the square of the number of turns, so ten turns is 100 times better than one.

Material Comparison for Cable Cores

26--540002 size 14.3OD x 6.35ID x 28.6Length (mm)



Captain's Log (Continued from page 1)

Club Competitions. FRC has really been handing it to us lately. And by lately, I mean it has been 5 years since we have pulled off a CQWW DX win and 5 years for the ARRL DX (the results for 2021 haven't been published as of yet, but our own analysis shows it was not pretty). We have had some strong showings in CQWPX taking top spot last year, but I can tell you PVRC is smelling blood. I'm guessing by the time the newsletter is published we will learn they have bested us this year.

Award Programs? What are they? Do we even care anymore? Why do I have a pickup truck bed full of boxes of hats and coffee mugs that haven't been handed out? I'm not sure. So, working with K1IR and W1GD we are preparing a membership survey to assess the clubs desire for these type of award programs (amongst many other subjects). I encourage all of you to weigh in when the survey hits your inbox. And, we will figure out what to do with the current inventory in short order (I really need them to be gone).

Area Managers. Charlie, N1RR worked this aggressively during his tenure as President. To summarize, we have defined a Cape and Islands Area manager slot (open), Charlie has volunteered for the SE Mass area manager position, replacing Eric, FP/KV1J (Thank you, OM for your service) and Charlie has recruited Dave, W2DAN to operate as a co-manager for the Rhode Island area. Thank you all. I note we still show Northern Vermont Area Manager slot open. Any volunteers out there?

Club Member Accomplishments. A lot of us have been at this for a long time and we might be a bit jaded in the recognition phases. I mean, how many coffee mugs can you own? Apparently, many, see above. Alas, peer recognition has a place in all of this. Here's one example. Bill, K1GQ, a YCCC member in good standing was elected into the CQ Contesting Hall of Fame, 2020. While the nomination and acceptance was viewed by over a 1000 hams via the 2020 online CTU, I feel it may have been missed by the local community. Bill, I want to pass on a belated congratulations from the YCCC. Please take a moment to watch the nomination, by Bob, WA1Z and acceptance by Bill on YouTube during the 2020 CTU. This can be found in at approximately the 9:39 minute mark of: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fEEUpsWUtAA>



Figure 1 K1GQ

HamXposition. At this point the Northeast HamXposition (<https://hamxposition.org/>) will be a live, in-person convention. It will be held at the Best Western Hotel in Marlborough, Mass, September 10th – 12th. The YCCC will have a prominent roll in supplying content for the event and will be our first face to face meeting in well over a year. We have submitted our request for a 4-hour block of time on Saturday of the event. We will conduct club business as necessary but really the focus should be on good content to attract potential contesters. Content and a program for the DX Dinner for Friday evening need to be defined. Finally, the YCCC has traditionally set up and managed the W1A special event station. We are looking for volunteers to handle this.

Scholarship. There are so many issues here. At this point we put off any fund raising raffles as state rules and regulations have become more clear. We have yet to define a program to replace this activity.

Just as a reminder, applicants must submit their application in the September time frame and the recipients are notified the following May. See <http://www.arrl.org/scholarship-program>. I can only

encourage members, if you have school age kids, college bound, they should consider applying for this scholarship and other scholarships through the League.

The scholarship awards are controlled by the ARRL Foundation using Terms of Reference set up by the YCCC. Charlie, N1RR worked with the Foundation to ensure that the unfortunate situation that occurred last year was not repeated and to a good result.

That being, the YCCC Scholarship was awarded to a really deserving applicant this year. The one and only Marty, NN1C. Congrats, OM!

In closing, I am still “drinking from the firehose” here. I want to recognize in particular Jim, K1IR for his guidance and the rest of the Club Officers for their significant contributions and support. I ask for your support as we move forward with the club.

73,
Ken – WO1N



Figure 2 NN1C Tearing up the bands

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THANKS FOR 2020 NEQP SINGLE OPERATOR AWARD

Fri, 23 Apr 2021

In the mail today, I found a very attractive plaque, sponsored by the YCCC, for the top score in the 2020 NEQP Single Operator category.

Thank you to the YCCC for sponsoring the plaque! It's already hanging on the wall in my shack.

73,
Bob WA1Z

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WO1N BIO

Ken, WO1N was born in Quincy, Mass and grew up in the adjacent town, Braintree, Mass. One of 5 children in a pretty classic 50's family. Dad was a self-employed plumber and mom a homemaker. They provided a supportive environment to grow up in. Ken got to work with his Dad for many years which has paid untold benefits now that he owns his own house.

Around 10 years of age the electronics / tech bug bit, after all it was the height of the Space Race. Ken was winding coils and playing with crystal radios while watching Gemini and Apollo missions play out on TV. Despite his best coil winding efforts, pretty much only WBZ could be heard on the crystal radio.

Ken built his first Shortwave 3 Tube Regen Radio kit around 13 years old. That radio has hundreds of hours logged and which he still has today. Heathkit SuperHets came next and Dad was OK with the 150' long wire stretching out from Ken's bedroom to the Cherry trees in the backyard.

Along with his friends they tried valiantly to get their Ham radio tickets. Even despite working up the courage to go knock on the door of the Ham down the street with the big Tribander on the roof, they were unable to complete the task. This was before the incentive licensing changes, but a bit of mentoring would have gone a long way here.

Ken was occupied with the usual growing up experiences, school and career. Graduating from the 4 year program at Wentworth Institute of Technology, Ken landed a job with Digital Equipment Corporation in 1976 which began a 46 year uninterrupted run in the Computer and Networking industry. During 1979 Ken married the love of his life, Francine, moved to North Billerica and after 43 years and two children, they are still going strong.

After his daughter Christina was born Ken found time to rekindle his shortwave listening interests. He was just about to drop some big dollars on a high-end shortwave receiver when a few colleagues including the now N1HTS suggested for a few more dollars and a bit of studying he could become a Ham. That sounded like a good idea and Ken earned his Novice license in early 1989. N1HTS helped Ken raise his first dipole, perfectly mis-oriented to be able to work into Europe.

Then, it happened. Ken stumbled into the 1989 running of the ARRL 10M contest. He hand-logged a page full of contacts, submitted the log and lo and behold a certificate arrived in the mail a few months later. Ken had taken First Place, Single Op, Mixed Mode Technician Class, Eastern Mass. Section. Imagine that! Hook, Line and Sinkers!

Contests were the place to be. If you had a crappy station, it didn't matter. Those loud guys really wanted to work you. Ken started improving his station while working on his CW speed. The VHF packet cluster coupled with computer logging was the technical pinnacle of the time and this started Ken on a long love affair with assisted operation.



Figure 3 WO1N at the K1TTT 80M station during the 1997 CQWWCW

While all of this was happening K1TWF was cajoling the Billerica Amateur Radio Society into some really serious Field Day efforts during the early/mid 90's. He took pity on Ken, or maybe, more like spotted a suffering naïve contester and suggested BARS use the WO1N callsign for 1995 Field Day. Some 6800 contacts later we had taken 1st place in the 5A class. Good times!

That began a long relationship with Team TWF doing Multi-Singles and Multi-Twos from his Chelmsford QTH. K1TWF then dragged his nascent team out to the K1TTT Superstation for the 1997 running of the CQWWCW. This began a run of 16 trips out to Peru for the CW running where Ken garnered various accomplishments such as the Iron Pants Award (most BIC time) and Best-In-Team accuracy.

Additionally, Ken supported the K0TV (SK) Multi-station from the beginning and until the teardown after his passing. Jerry was very generous with his station and kept his operators well fed. Some great times were had from his Hudson QTH.

As time moved on the early multi teams that Ken participated with dissolved. Still passionate about contesting, Ken spends his time trying to make the best out of a 15,000 sq. ft. lot. while doing occasional stints from K1KP. Ken runs a FTdx5000, a C3-SS Tribander at 38' on Tri-Ex crank-up and experiments with various wires for the low bands. Ken's station is decidedly Little Pistol class and he always runs assisted and low power. He sometimes will pop-up with top ten class efforts in various operating events and enjoys the challenge of nestling in as close as he can to KQ2M without being chased off.

Ken retired in October 2020 and now fills his time participating on Northeast HamXposition committee as Flea Market Chair as well as serving on the F.E.M.A.R.A Board of Directors. Finally, just to insure Ken has no spare cycles to get in trouble with, he now serves as the Yankee Clipper Contest Club President.

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April 7, 2021 - YCCC General Meeting Minutes

Zoom Meeting

President Charlie N1RR called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

President Charlie N1RR asked for the Secretary's report which Brian NJ1F gave. A motion to accept the report was made by Ed N2HX and seconded by George W1EBI. The motion carried

President Charlie N1RR asked for the Treasurers report which Chet N8RA gave. A motion to accept the reports was made by Ed N2HX and Seconded by Guy VE2BWL. The motion carried.

President Charlie N1RR asked if there was any Old Business

President Charlie N1RR announced that the Officers have decided to hold off on making a donation to WRTC 2022 until the impact of COVID-19 on the event and travel restrictions are understood.

President Charlie N1RR moved on to new business.

John W1FV announced a new preamp design for the YCCC RX array and that anyone interested to contact John.

President Charlie N1RR then reviewed the CQWW and the ARRL DX club scores.

President Charlie N1RR asked if there was anyone on the zoom meeting that wanted to join the club. Howie K1TZQ and Jon AC1EV were welcomed aboard.

President Charlie N1RR introduced Emily N1DID who gave a presentation on the RSPdxSDR receiver.

President Charlie N1RR announced that it was election time and introduced Brian NJ1F who announced a proposed slate of officers.

President Ken WO1N

Vice President Charlie N1RR

Secretary Brian NJ1F

Treasurer Chet N8RA

Activities Manager Gerry W1GD

Brian NJ1F opened the floor was open for further nominations.

Marty NN1C made a motion to close the nominations which was seconded by Ed N2HX.

A vote of members present was conducted and the slate was elected.

Vice President Charlie N1RR the introduced George K5KG who announced that he had Tee Shirts, Hats, Mug and other WRTC 2022 swag for sale.

Claudio I4VEQ gave an update on the status of WRTC 2022 planning. They are unable to book any hotels at this time because of COVID. They are still in need of securing rotors for the event and that they might be forced to postpone the event.

Vice President Charlie N1RR then introduced Gerry W1GD who presented a tour of his station.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Submitted

Brian Szewczyk NJ1F

YCCC Secretary

YCCC Donation to Support 2021 CQWW PLAQUE



Worldwide Radio Operators Foundation, Inc
P O Box 529
Fredericksburg, TX 78624-0529 USA
Tax ID: 27-1435449

Donor: Yankee Clipper Contest Club
Date of Receipt: May 3, 2021
Type of Contribution: Cash
Amount of Contribution: \$130.00 U.S.
Purpose: CQ WW Contest Plaque Sponsorship

Dear Yankee Clipper Contest Club:

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.

<https://wwrof.org/>

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, 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 are:

CAC: New England Dennis Egan, W1UE **Hudson** Zev Darack, N2KWS **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
