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# Scuttlebutt

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October 2019

Issue 255

**YCCC General Meeting**  
**Sunday, October 20th, 2019 - 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.**  
**Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conference Center**  
**Sturbridge, Massachusetts**

## CAPTAIN'S CABIN

I got back from HQ9X just a week ago, and I still find myself tired from the trip.

Enthusiastic, elated, many memories of good times, but still tired. Even with the lingering malaise, I still can't wait to do it again!

Less than a week to go. The first of two rounds of CQWW (or the third of four rounds of CQWW) starts this next weekend. Are you ready for some action?

This one, as last year, promises to be a major 40/20m exercise; if 15 or 10 open, it won't be for long. Even 40M will disappear for awhile during the evening, as the MUF drops below 7MHz.

As opposed to several years ago, this one again looks like a slog. Are you prepared for it?

Most importantly, enjoy what you do. Find pleasure in running them at 200/Hr, or at 40/Hr, or at adding those quick dozen mults when 15 does open a bit. We only get to do this in CQWW a couple of times a year, so enjoy it while you can!

Dennis W1UE  
YCCC President

<b>Yankee Clipper Contest Club</b>	
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<b>Media Manager</b>	Tom LeClerc, W1TJL <a href="mailto:W1TJL@arrl.net">W1TJL@arrl.net</a>

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## Directions to Sturbridge Host Hotel

366 Main St, Sturbridge, MA 01566



Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conference Center is located on Route 20.

- From the North, East and West, take the Massachusetts Turnpike (Interstate 90) to Exit 9, Route 20 West.

- From the South, take either Interstate 84 or Route 131 to Route 20 West.

Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conference Center is located on the shore of Cedar Lake, just past the first set of traffic lights.

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## Area Managers

<b>ME</b>	Mike Russo, K1EU	(207) 883-9524	<a href="mailto:k1eu@maine.rr.com">k1eu@maine.rr.com</a>
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<b>WNH/SVT</b>	Craig Clark, K1QX	-----	<a href="mailto:k1qx@arrl.net">k1qx@arrl.net</a>
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<b>Boston (617/781)</b>	Joe Fitzgerald, KM1P	(617) 325-6767	<a href="mailto:jfitzgerald@alum.wpi.edu">jfitzgerald@alum.wpi.edu</a>
<b>WMA (413)</b>	Tom Homewood, W1TO	(413) 743-7342	<a href="mailto:w1to@arrl.net">w1to@arrl.net</a>
<b>CT (860)</b>	Rich Cady, N1IXF	-----	<a href="mailto:n1ixf@arrl.net">n1ixf@arrl.net</a>
<b>CT (203)</b>	Mike Loukides, W1JQ	(203) 458-2545	<a href="mailto:MikeL@oreilly.com">MikeL@oreilly.com</a>
<b>RI (401)</b>	Charlie Morrison, N1RR	(401) 742-7240	<a href="mailto:n1rr@n1rr.com">n1rr@n1rr.com</a>
<b>NNY</b>	John Bradke, W2GB	-----	<a href="mailto:W2GB@N2TY.ORG">W2GB@N2TY.ORG</a>
<b>NYC/LI (718)</b>	Tom Carrubba, KA2D	(631) 422-9594	<a href="mailto:ka2d@arrl.net">ka2d@arrl.net</a>
<b>NY Capital Region (518/838)</b>	John Corini, KE1IH	-----	<a href="mailto:john.corini@gmail.com">john.corini@gmail.com</a>
<b>SNY/NJ/PA (914)</b>	Hank Kiernan, KF2O	(914) 235-4940	<a href="mailto:hankkier@aol.com">hankkier@aol.com</a>
<b>NVT (802)</b>	----- <b>OPEN</b> -----	-----	-----
<b>QUEBEC</b>	Guy Lemieux, VE2BWL	-----	<a href="mailto:guy@guylemieux.com">guy@guylemieux.com</a>

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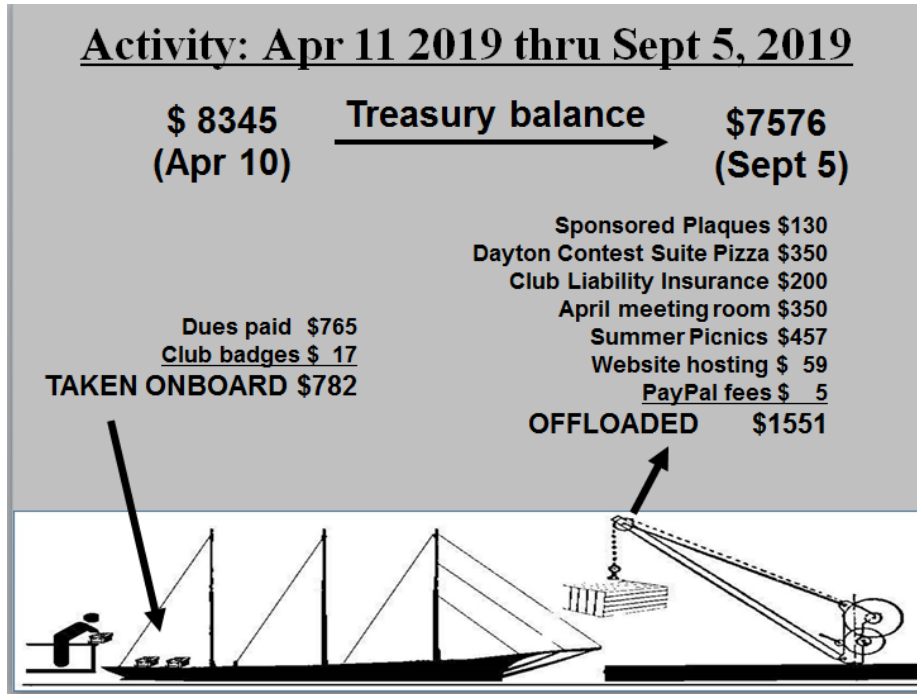
# YCCC General Meeting Minutes September 7, 2019

President Dennis W1UE called the September 7, 2019 general meeting of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club at the ARRL New England Convention held in Boxboro, MA to order at 2:06 pm.

President Dennis W1UE then announced the agenda for the meeting.

President Dennis called for the Secretaries Report which was given by Brian NJ1F. A motion to accept the report was made by Gerry W1GD and Seconded by Ed N2HX. The Motion Carried.

President Dennis W1UE then gave the Treasurers Report.



## This Period Sponsored Plaques



### 2018 World Wide DX SSB Contest

**SOSB 14 MHz USA (KC1F mem)**

Peter Bizlewicz, KU2M.....876,160

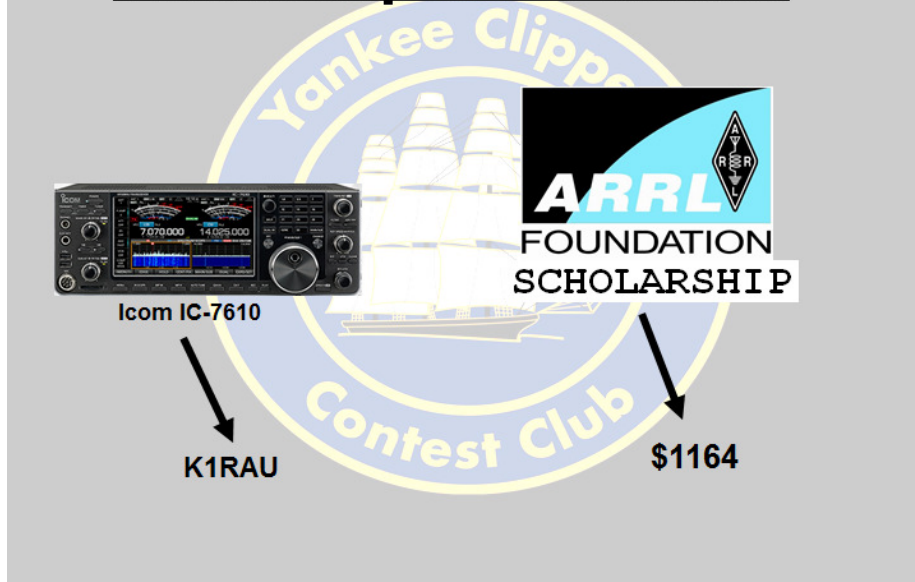


**SOAB South America**

John Fore, P4ØL (W6LD).....4,464,437  
*CLASSIC High Power*



## Scholarship Raffle Results



A motion to accept the report was made by Ed N2HX and Seconded by Tom W1TO. The Motion Carried.

President Dennis W1UE asked if there was anyone wanting to join the club. Steve W1HS, Thomas W1TXT, Dick WO1I, Scott KO4W, and Ron WZ1V told the group about their contesting activities. Jim K1IR made a motion to welcome them aboard. Seconded by Ed N2HX the motion carried.

President Dennis W1UE announced that the next meeting is scheduled for Sunday October 20<sup>th</sup> at the Sturbridge Host Hotel.

President Dennis W1UE introduced Randy K5ZD to give a presentation titled "Having Fun in CQWW 2019". The presentation was full of many great tips on how to maximize one score, fun and operating tips.

President Dennis W1UE introduced Jim K1IR to talk about Amateur Radio Tower Safety. Jim's presentation included an extensive study of recent amateur radio tower accidents. Jim also brought tower climbing safety gear for a hands-on demonstrations.

President Dennis W1UE introduced Doug K1DG. Doug's presentation was titled "Getting Started in Contesting". Doug shared how he and many other YCCC members got into contesting and what keeps them coming back for more.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Tom W1TO and Seconded by Jake W1FM. The Motion Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 4:08 pm

Submitted,

Brian Szewczyk NJ1F  
YCCC Secretary

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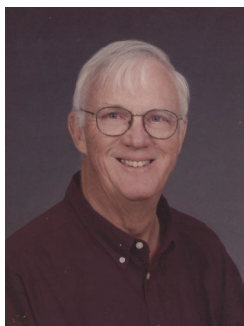
### **New Crew**

Steve W1HS      Thomas W1TXT      Dick WO1I      Scott KO4W      Ron WZ1V

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## Silent Keys

### Glendon "Glen" Robert Whitehouse - K1GW – Fuquay-Varina, NC - September 5, 2019



Glen Whitehouse K1GW on September 5 at age 76, after a long battle with cancer.

Born in Unity, Maine, on Aug. 22, 1943, he was the son of the late Robert and Thelma Whitehouse. Glen lived for many years in Amherst, New Hampshire before retiring to Fuquay-Varina NC (near Raleigh) He earned a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Clarkson University, an MBA from Texas A&M, and was a proud Air Force veteran who served in Thailand during the Vietnam War.

Glen was a Ham for more than 60 years, and is known for his far ranging interests in operating and technology as well as commercial interests. Glen was the former President of The Cushcraft Antenna Company where he initiated a number of technological product programs, including the Skywalker X7, X9 HF line, and the VHF/UHF Yagi line known as Boomers, all helping to support the company's leadership position. He came to Cushcraft from G.R. Whitehouse & Co., which provided component parts for high power amplifiers and tuners.

He was an avid contester being an early member and officer of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club as well as several VHF contest groups. He was a member of the Raleigh Area Radio Society, an ARRL Life Member and also served on several ARRL advisory committees including the early no-code licensing advisory committee. He was an enthusiastic supporter of the hobby always encouraging new Hams and looking for ways to support them. He was a proficient CW operator and DXer, working 347 Countries and achieving Honor Role status. He remained active until almost the end working toward new DX goals.

Those close to him will remember his dry sense of humor and quick wit. He was always looking for something new and taught himself software programming and built several SDR home brew radios. Glen is survived by his wife, Sharon of 53 years; daughters, Corrie Forsling (Scott) of Park City, Utah and Tracy McGuire (Gary) of Holly Springs; brother, Fred Whitehouse (Grace) of Venice, Florida; and grandchildren, Connor McGuire, Trevor McGuire, Kendall Kirklen, and Kasey Kirklen.

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### Dr. Larry Eugene Price - W4RA, Statesboro, GA - September 10, 2019



ARRL and International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) President Emeritus Larry E. Price, W4RA, of Statesboro, Georgia, died on September 10, 2019 at 85.

Born on August 16, 1934, in Little Rock, Arkansas, to Lewis and Marcia Price A native of Little Rock, Arkansas, Price was first licensed as a Novice (WN5TIA) at age 16, held several other call signs before receiving W4RA. He earned BSEE, MBA, and PhD (in Economics) degrees. Commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant in the US Army he was honorably discharged on February 12, 1969 with the rank of captain.

Moving to Statesboro, GA in 1963, Price started a 28 year teaching career as professor of finance and economics at Georgia Southern University. Upon retirement in 1991 as department head, he was named emeritus professor and emeritus head of the Department of Finance and Law.

Elected as ARRL Southeastern Division Vice Director in 1973, Price became Director later that year and was elected as an ARRL Vice President by Board of Directors in 1980. In 1983 he became First Vice President following the death of ARRL President Vic Clark, W4KFC, and was elected President by the Board the following year.

He served four 2-year terms as ARRL President, serving simultaneously as IARU Secretary from 1989 until 1992, and continuing as IARU Secretary and ARRL International Affairs Vice President until his election as IARU President in 1999, a post he held for 10 years. The IARU Administrative Council named him President Emeritus upon his retirement in 2009. The ARRL Board named him ARRL President Emeritus in 2011. He was the only person to hold titles of president emeritus of both organizations.

In 1973, Price was one of three incorporators of the ARRL Foundation and served for several years as Secretary and Director.

He represented amateur radio at three World Development Conferences and participated in the World Telecommunications Policy Forum.

Dr. Price enjoyed world-wide travel, reading and coin collecting, and was a 60-year member of the American Numismatic Association. He was a member of the Mensa Honor Society. He was also a member of the University of Arkansas Alumni Association and a life senior member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).

IARU Secretary and retired ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, enjoyed a 46-year relationship with Price. "As a young ARRL staffer, I had the good fortune to be asked to serve as Assistant Secretary of the ARRL Foundation in 1973 and worked closely with Larry from that point on," Sumner said. "His accomplishments as President of the ARRL and the IARU are too many to list, but neither organization would be what it is today without his vision, dedication, and hard work. We all owe a great debt to Larry and his family for their many sacrifices on our behalf."

IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH, recalls his many years of association with Price. "The Amateur Radio fraternity has lost a valued colleague today," Ellam said. "Larry Price was the Dean of the IARU, and under his leadership the organization not only achieved great success for the Amateur Radio services but the respect of those we work with in the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). His work and tenacity on a number of issues gave the IARU the admiration of many administrations and senior leadership at the ITU, which we continue to enjoy today."

Ellam said Price was "an excellent mentor to me and many others" over the years, and that during his 10 years as IARU President, he's tried to maintain the ideals that Price instilled in the organization.

In 2014, Dayton Hamvention® honored Price as Amateur of the Year. At the ARRL Centennial Convention that same year, Price was awarded the ARRL Medal of Honor.

Price's wife, Barbara Ann Parke Price, died in 1990. He is survived by their three children and several grandchildren, two great-grandchildren.- (Tnx ARRL & Legacy.com)

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**Brian Machesney K1LI/J75Y  
Wins  
September 2019 QST Cover Plaque Award**

Congratulations to Brian Machesney K1LI/J75Y who won the September 2019 *QST* Cover Plaque award, His article "A Slightly Off-Center-Fed Dipole" was chosen as the most popular article in the September 2019 issue of *QST*.

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**Next YCCC General Meeting  
Sunday October 20, 2019 - Sturbridge, MA - 1pm to 4pm.**

Accent for the meeting will be on operating.

Some topics that have been requested:

1. SO2R Operation
2. Use of Telnet filters



**10th Annual Holiday Party, Meeting and Yankee Swap**  
**December 8, 2019**  
**Auburn Elks Club**  
**754 Southbridge St, Auburn MA 01501**

Members & guests: \$20/person

**American Special Menu**

*Hot Roast Beef*

*Hot Oven Roasted Chicken*

*Hot Rigatoni and Sauce*

*Garden Salad*

*Oven Roasted Potato*

*Rolls*

*Coffee*

*Dessert*

Paypal to [nlrr@nlrr.com](mailto:nlrr@nlrr.com)

Note: Use the "NO FEE" option - or you pay fees.

Personal check okay up to 1 week before party via QRZ address N1RR.

Any cash payments must be honored even if you do not attend.

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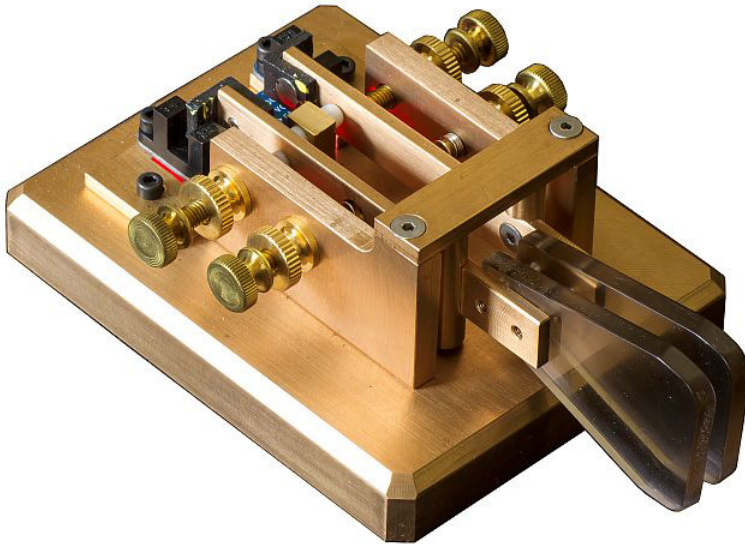
**YCCC 2019 CQWW DxPedition Participation List**

	<b>DX CALL</b>	<b>YCCC Operator(s)</b>
<b>October (PHONE)</b>	PJ7PL	Ed, N2HX
	VP9i	Les, N1SV & Craig, K1QX
	ZF1A	Marty, NN1C
<b>November (CW)</b>	5H3UA	Alex, K2BB

# Opto-Keyer - Shedding New Light On An Old Tool

Juergen Malner, NV1Q

(Winner of the 2019 QST Key Competition in the “Paddle” category. See October 2019 QST)



**NV1Q Opto-Keyer**  
(Photo: Stefan Malner)

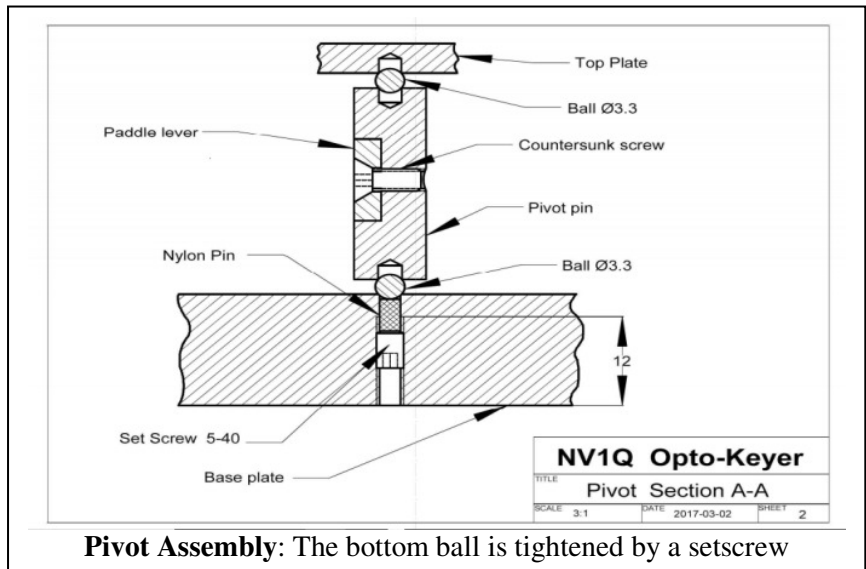
It has always been fun building my own keyers. In the 70s it was the single paddle keyer. In the 80s it was the iambic keyer. An attempt to make one from stainless steel was dropped when I started drilling and ran out of drill bits. Building a keyer that does not use mechanical contacts has always intrigued me. A search on the Internet revealed that the only one out there was the touchkeyer. I have one, but it does not give me the nice key-press feeling like my Schurr paddle does.

Having used slotted optical switches (opto-switch) in some of my robotic projects, I took a closer look to see whether they might work in a keyer application. I had to find out how much an object has to move to reliably change the state from 1 to 0 at the output of the opto-switch. After doing some testing, I was satisfied that 0.3mm would change the state of the opto-

switch. Adding 0.2mm as a safety factor, I came up with a design goal of 0.5mm for travel in the adjustment slot. A layout on my CAD system provided me with the required length of the lever and the location of the pivot point which determined the size of the base plate. That’s when I started on the layout and design of the keyer, creating detailed drawings of all parts and the final assembly drawing.

The pivot point is the most critical design area of any iambic keyer. I decided on a ball-pivot mechanism. Two steel balls rest in holes that are slightly smaller than the diameter of the balls and held captive between the pivot pin and the base plate and the top cross plate. The bottom ball can be tightened by a setscrew to allow for adjustments to compensate for machining tolerances.

This pivot assembly aligns the lever while it moves. Left and right lever force is supplied by a compression spring and can be adjusted by a knurled screw and locked in place by a knurled nut to keep its adjustment. The same type of screws and nuts are used for setting contact spacing. One feature that is not used by any other mechanical keyer is Teflon stops on both sides of the lever movement. This gives you a smooth non-clicking sound and feeling when operating the keyer.



All parts are machined from a piece of bronze that was given to me by a friend. The knurled screws and nuts are commercially available.

The two optical switches are mounted on separate sliding plates that have a slotted hole for the initial alignment. The optical switches require a 5V power supply. When the paddle is at rest, the output of the optical switch is at 5V



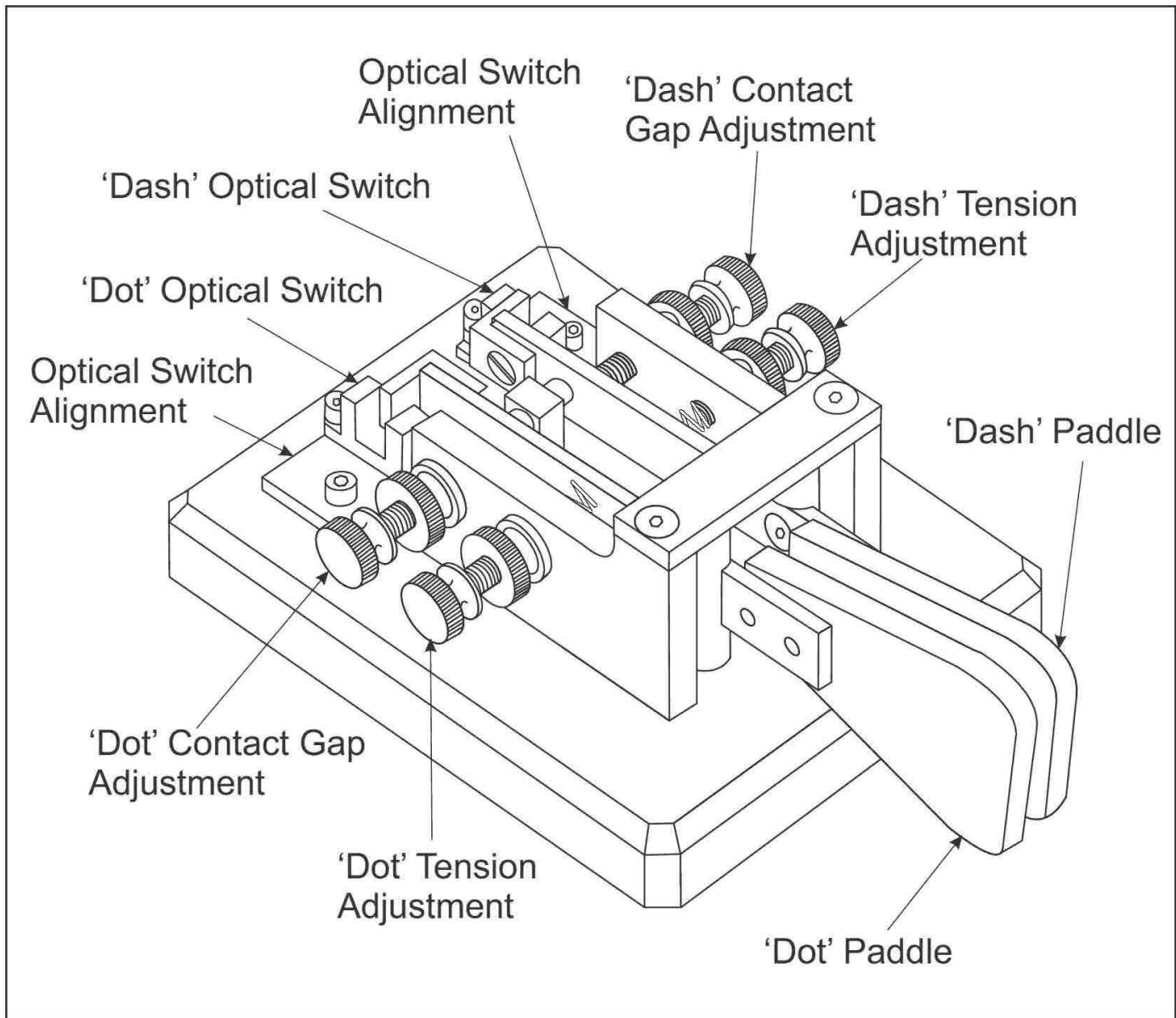
(logic 1). Hence, it cannot be used directly to control the switching transistor for keying the transmitter. The signal has to be inverted, which is done by a 7404 Hex Inverter.

The LED will turn red when pressing the left paddle and green when pressing the right paddle.

Cleaning contacts after a certain time of operation has become something out of the past.

Detail description, schematic, part drawings and assembly instructions can be downloaded from::

<http://www.hcra.org/opto-keyer>



## NV1Q Opto-Keyer

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# YCCC CLUB RESOURCE INFORMATION

**DUES AND MEMBERSHIP STUFF** Dues for the year are payable as of January 1<sup>st</sup>. 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@arri.net](mailto:n1sr@arri.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](mailto: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](mailto: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 13<sup>th</sup> Street NE, Minot, ND, 58703. eMail: [kd4poj@srt.com](mailto: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 Lyn Glagowski, WB1CCL.

**QSL BUREAU – The W1 QSL BUREAU** is sponsored by the YCCC. For more information at: [www.w1qsl.org](http://www.w1qsl.org) Address: W1 QSL Bureau, PO Box 73, Marlborough, MA 01752-0073. Email address: [w1qsl@w1qsl.org](mailto: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 Beaudet, W1YRC    **Hudson** OPEN    **Atlantic** Chris Shalvoy, K2CS

**ARRL LIAISON:** Bart J. Jahnke, W9JJ    **Hudson** Frederick Lass, K2TR    **Atlantic** Joe Taylor, K1JT

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