

October 2007 Issue 191

Next Meeting: Sunday, October 7, 2007 Holiday Inn, Marlboro, MA

Captain's Cabin

When one looks back at the past contest season and considers generally how poor the conditions were, and then to think that our club and all the great people we have, rose to the top of the Unlimited Club category, and WON both the CQ WW and the ARRL DX contests – its an awesome thought! Ladies and Gentlemen, we are on a roll and we just can not be stopped. Our membership growth over the past few years has been impressive, the level of activity and the range of skills we collectively bring to ourselves and the hobby is very, very good! Its exciting to be apart of this kind of organization that focuses on the top spot, and in doing so, drives us all to keep improving our skills, our stations and time in the chair. Thanks to all for an outstanding last season – You make the win happen!

And now, on to yet another fun and exciting contest season, 2007/08 which should mark the clear turning point for a sunspot cycle up tick and thus, even more fun for us all! At the October 7 meeting, the YCCC kicks off another great year! You will come away pumped and ready to go in the CQ WW contest. A great line up is in store for us all that includes some discussion on "what I did on my summer vacation", DXpedition experiences by some of the members, a contester's Flea Market, The Contester's Challenge and most important, we kick off the 2008 YCCC Scholarship Program with ticket sales for the Raffle that supports this exceptional scholarship to a deserving person within our territory. The top prize for the raffle will be the Elecraft K3 100 watt radio (touted to have the BEST receiver ever!) and as usual, there will be a number of lesser prizes that are all excellent for our contest-oriented shacks. The list will be published shortly on the prizes offered. If you recall the last one (Boxboro), we did outstanding for generating funds for this scholarship and we pride ourselves in the ability to come up with some really high end equipment for those winners!

And remember, the YCCC continues to advertise its overall success in contesting by letting the world know we are in the midst of our 30th anniversary. Keep signing /30 after your call, enjoy spreading the excitement of the YCCC. See you at the October 7 meeting; bring a couple pieces of gear for the flea market to be held in the back of the room.

73, Good Contesting! Mark, K1RX

YCCC Wins 2007 ARRL DX Phone!

YCCC Scuttlebutt October 2007 Page 1

President (603) 778-1222	Mark Pride, K1RX President@YCCC.org	
Vice President	Art Holmes, W1RZF VicePresident@YCCC.org	
Activities Manage	r Jerrry Muller, K0TV <u>K0TV@arrl.net</u>	
Secretary	George Harlem, W1EBI Secretary@YCCC.org	
Treasurer	Ed Parish, K1EP YCCC- <u>Treasurer@YCCC.org</u>	
Scuttlebutt Editor (413) 593-6554	Steve Rodowicz, N1SR Editor@YCCC.org	
Scuttlebutt Publisher Ken Miller , WB1DX Publisher@YCCC.org		
Webmaster (315) 829-5291	Mike Gilmer. N2MG Webmaster@YCCC.org	
Scorekeeper (978) 443-3603	Dave Hoaglin, K1HT Scores@YCCC.org	

October Meeting Agenda

October 7, 2007 1:00PM to 5:00PM

Sunday, October 7 (Columbus Day Weekend) 1 PM til 5 PM (Room Assignment will be shown on the marquee in the lobby) Holiday Inn, Marlboro, MA near the intersection of Rt. 20 and 495 (Same location as April Meeting)

The Agenda includes:

Round Table Discussion

- for the inexperienced contester and veteran
- Bottom of the Cycle Contest Expectations
- a well experienced panel of experts will be lead this discussion.

Scholarship Kickoff

- Prizes are still being collected Top Prize K3-100!
- drawing is the December 2 meeting.

This is OUR BIG fund raising event supporting a great scholarship program.

Flea Market for Contesters

- This is a great opportunity to pass along some of your goodies
- Tables will be setup to place your equipment, please limit the quantity to 3 items. Thanks!

Treasurer's Report (Summary)

September 30, 2007 \$10,964.90 April 1, 2007 \$10,911.07 Net Gain \$53.83

Area Managers

ENH Glen Whitehouse, K1GW (603) 673-6290 glenw@pinnaclewireless.com WNH/SVT Ed Sawyer, N1UR Sawyered@earthlink.com NE MA (978) Scott Andersen, NE1RD ne1rd@arrl.net SE MA (508) Greg Cronin, W1KM (508) 428-4205 w1km@capecod.net 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) Dick Pechie, KB1H blh@arrl.net kblh@arrl.net CT (203) Dave Arruzza, W1CTN Darruzza@adelphia.net & Mike Loukides, W1JQ (203) 458-2545 MikeL@oreilly.com RI (401) OPEN W2gb@arrl.net NYC/LI (718) Rich Cariello, AA2MF (718) 980-1104 aa2mf@arrl.net SNY/NJ/PA (914) Hank Kiernan, KF2O (914) 235-4940 hankkier@aol.com NVT (802) Al Frugoli, KE1FO (802) 893-8388 frugoli@worldlinkisp.com	ME	Mike Russo, K1EU	(207) 883-9524	k1eu@maine.rr.com
NE MA (978) Scott Andersen, NE1RD ne1rd@arrl.net SE MA (508) Greg Cronin, W1KM (508) 428-4205 w1km@capecod.net 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) Dick Pechie, KB1H b1h@arrl.net CT (203) Dave Arruzza, W1CTN Darruzza@adelphia.net & Mike Loukides, W1JQ (203) 458-2545 MikeL@oreilly.com RI (401) OPEN W2gb@arrl.net NYC/LI (718) Rich Cariello, AA2MF (718) 980-1104 aa2mf@arrl.net NYC/LI (718) Hank Kiernan, KF2O (914) 235-4940 hankkier@aol.com	ENH	Glen Whitehouse, K1GW	(603) 673-6290	glenw@pinnaclewireless.com
SE MA (508) Greg Cronin, W1KM (508) 428-4205 w1km@capecod.net 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) Dick Pechie, KB1H	WNH/SVT	Ed Sawyer, N1UR		Sawyered@earthlink.com
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	NVT (802)	Al Frugoli, KE1FO	(802) 893-8388	frugoli@worldlinkisp.com

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Flotsam & Jetsam

Barnacle Jack Schuster, W1WEF w1wef@arrl.net

Ahoy Maties!

Barnacle Jack's boat collected no barnacles this summer, because he went boating most of the time on his son-in-law's bigger boat. It was a great summer fishing with the grandkids, with three Tuna in the boat and a fourth on light tackle that got off right next to the boat. We catch and release anyway, but what excitement watching ten year old grandson PJ reel in a 70 lb Tuna, heavier than his own weight. It's been said that fishing is analogous to S&Ping, but if the radio version was as slow as Tuna searching, we'd be taking up a different hobby. We were out at least ten times, as far as 20 miles off shore, without seeing a fish on many of those days. What kept it interesting however, were the numerous whales that we did see almost every time we went out, some going right under our boat, and as many as 50 at one time!

I would have enjoyed going to all the club picnics this summer, but only managed to make it to K1RX which was worth the drive from the Cape. Good to see Mike Wetzel, W9RE who was in New England for a wedding. Mike was one of the first contesters we visited on an early RV trip through Indiana. At the picnic, he encouraged me to get into the Northern California Contest Club weekly Thursday night CW Sprints, only a half hour long for good practice and skill building. I know a few YCCCers have been participating, W1FJ for one, but I haven't stayed up late enough for it yet! I do believe that some of those who have been active participants have left me in their dust, like Mike and Jim, N3BB who I used to frequently beat.

On the day of the K1TTT picnic, I had a conflict with a N1DG FOC gathering, much closer to the Cape. A surprise guest was James, 9V1YC, who was back for a family visit. He had some very interesting comments on the BS7H expedition, that I won't pass along here.

Speaking of CW Sprint, my favorite of all contests, I went home to CT last weekend to do a contest for the first time with my FT2000. In all fairness to the radio, any negative comments made here should be prefaced by the fact that I have not spent a lot of time getting to know the radio yet, and have not yet found a University course offering on how to use it. (hi) Really, I just haven't gone thru the whole manual, and I'm still learning new features every time I make the effort.

That said, I'll admit that I probably never went through the whole manual for my 1000D's, or my 1000MP's, or my 765's, or my 930's, or my 830's or my 520! (before that I was totally familiar with my homebrew gear) I am not a fan of computer based radios, as compared to a radio that is intuitively obvious as to how to use it with little or no learning curve.

My 1000D has pushbutton selection of a 500hz CW filter which I use most of the time or a 250hz filter which sometimes comes in handy. The FT2000 has a continuously variable DSP filter which works very well, but the radio does not display the bandwidth setting in hz, just a bar graph that shows the relative bandwidth. You can select a narrow preset setting, and determine what you like in advance by playing with it before you store it for each band and mode. During the Sprint, I tried to narrow the filter B/W a couple times using the WIDTH control, but signals became distorted and more difficult to copy. I realized after the contest that I had the SHIFT off center and that was the reason. It's easy to center the SHIFT, as there is a detent at the center position. With it centered, there is no problem narrowing the B/W, until it gets to the point where it rings. I'm still way down on the learning curve for this radio!

Doug Grant passed along a tower painting story that I thought was unique. At his new station in Maine, he put up a Rohn 55 tower. In the interest of being a good neighbor, although he had no complaints, he went to the local paint store with a sample of the tree bark from the trees in his yard, and asked them to match it with a paint that will stick to galvanized metal. Doug said it is amazing how invisible his tower is now! Maybe that would be a good option for tower manufactures to offer.

The best wx of the year for antenna work is here, if you haven't finished your planned projects. I don't see how I'll complete mine with a Fall schedule so filled that I'll be missing WW Phone. I'm sure the club can hold down the fort without me (hi) and still beat FRC handily. We're looking forward to a VK/ZL cruise at the time of the phone contest, with no operating possible, as much as I would have liked to check out the 2K on phone. That's where I'm anticipating it will shine over the 1KD. I AM looking forward to WW CW. See you at the next two Club meetings.

73, Barnacle Jack W1WEF

wlwef@arrl.net for your input!

CREW NEWS

SK: Sergiy Sushko, W2WB (UB5LAW, UR5LAW)

New Crew: Dave Olean, K1WHS, Lebanon, ME

John Zornig, N1ZJ, Lincoln, MA

Jose Castillo, N1BAA, formerly N4BAA, Amherst, MA

John Lindley, WA1ZHM, Pittsfield, MA;

Returning Crew: Frandy Johnson, N1FJ, Florence, MA.

Movers & Shakers: Bill Santelmann N1AU

304 Brooksby Village Drive, Apartment 415

Peabody, MA 01960-8585 Email: n1au@comcast.net

Chet Slabinski N8RA

Email: chetsubaccount@snet.net

Walt Legowski, WA1KKM, wins June QST Cover Plaque Award

The winner of the QST Cover Plaque Award for June is Walt Legowski, WA1KKM, for his article "AARA 1, Murphy 0: Our Linux Logging Program at Field Day."

YCCC 30th Year Celebration Certificate!

The Yankee Clipper Contest Club celebrates its 30th year of competing in the unlimited club category from the Northeastern US. Now having a membership count of nearly 400, the club has steadily grown since its inception (1977), the current officers of the YCCC offer the following on-the-air fun event for both the membership as well as our fellow contesters worldwide. For the balance of 2007, commencing immediately, YCCC members may sign their calls /30, indicating our 30-year anniversary, as a way to positively promote the YCCC on the air. A special certificate will be provided after confirming contacts with at least 10 members. This confirmation and request for the special certificate can be done via email at yccc30@gmail.com. Please indicate the date, time, frequency, call sign of member along with your mailing address so we might send you the certificate. QSL cards may be used to confirm these contacts as well and by sending them to Dave, W1CTN who will administer the program. Additionally, the complete list of YCCC members can be found at www.yccc.org then click on "Members Only" in the left-side menu and follow the directions to enter the site (open to all). Look up "roster" in the right-side menu for the complete list of members active within the YCCC.

All eligible QSOs for the award must be completed by December 31, 2007, with the request for the certificate submitted no later than February, 1, 2008.

QSLs may be sent to: David Arruzza, W1CTN

32 Benz Street

Ansonia, CT, USA 06401

Upcoming Contests

October, 2007 ______ 1400z, Oct 2 to 0200z, Oct 4 0700z-0959z, Oct 3 YLRL Anniversary Party, CW German Telegraphy Contest SARI 80m OSO Party SARL 80m QSO Party 1700Z-2000Z, Oct 4 NCCC Sprint, CW 0230Z-0300Z, Oct 5 NCCC Sprint, CW 0230Z-0300Z, Oct 6 California QSO Party 1600Z, Oct 6 to 2159Z, Oct 7 PRO CW Contest 1600Z-1800Z, Oct 6 0600Z-0800Z, Oct 7 1400Z, Oct 9 to 0200Z, Oct 11 YLRL Anniversary Party, SSB NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint 0030Z-0230Z, Oct 10 0230Z-0300Z, Oct 12 NCCC Sprint, CW Oceania DX Contest, CW 0800Z, Oct 13 to 0800Z, Oct 14 1600Z, Oct 13 to 0500Z, Oct 14 Pennsylvania QSO Party 1300Z-2200Z, Oct 14 EU Autumn Sprint, CW 1600Z-1959Z, Oct 13 1700Z-2100Z, Oct 13 FISTS Fall Sprint 0000Z-0400Z, Oct 14 North American Sprint, RTTY UBA ON Contest, SSB 0600Z-1000Z, Oct 14 ARRL School Club Roundup 1300Z, Oct 15 to 2400Z, Oct 19 NCCC Sprint, CW 0230Z-0300Z, Oct 19 0000Z, Oct 20 to 2400Z, Oct 21 JARTS WW RTTY Contest ARCI Fall QSO Party 1200Z, Oct 20 to 2400Z, Oct 21 Worked All Germany Contest 1500Z, Oct 20 to 1459Z, Oct 21 W/VE Islands QSO Party 1600Z, Oct 20 to 2359Z, Oct 21 2300Z, Oct 20 to 0300Z, Oct 21 50 MHz Fall Sprint Asia-Pacific Fall Sprint, CW 0000Z-0200Z, Oct 21 Illinois QSO Party 1700Z, Oct 21 to 0100Z, Oct 22 0230Z-0300Z, Oct 26 NCCC Sprint, CW CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB 0000Z, Oct 27 to 2400Z, Oct 28 10-10 Int. Fall Contest 0001z, Oct 27 to 2359z, Oct 28 November, 2007 ______ 0600Z-1000Z, Nov 3 IPARC Contest, CW 1400Z-1800Z, Nov 3 | 1400Z-1800Z, Nov 3 | 1400Z-1800Z, Nov 3 | 1200Z, Nov 3 | 1200Z, Nov 4 | 1200Z, Nov 3 | 1200Z, Nov 4 | 1200Z, Nov 3 | 1200Z, Nov 5 | 1200Z, Nov 4 | 120Z-1800Z, Nov 5 | 120Z-1800Z, Nov 6 | 120Z-1800Z, Nov 7 | 120Z-1800Z, Nov 7 | 120Z-1800Z, Nov 7 | 120Z-1800Z, Nov 7 | 120Z-1800Z, Nov 8 | 120Z-18 1500Z-1700Z, Nov 4 15002-17002, Nov 4 11002-17002, Nov 4 00002, Nov 10 to 23592, Nov 11 DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest WAE DX Contest, RTTY JIDX Phone Contest 1200Z, Nov 10 to 1200Z, Nov 11 OK/OM DX Contest, CW Kentucky QSO Party 1400Z, Nov 10 to 0600Z, Nov 11 1900Z, Nov 10 to 0500Z, Nov 12 CO-WE Contest SARL Field Day Contest 1000Z, Nov 17 to 1000Z, Nov 18 12002, Nov 17 to 03002, Nov 19 21002, Nov 17 to 01002, Nov 18 21002, Nov 24 to 24002, Nov 25 00002-06002, Nov 29 22002, Nov 30 to 16002, Dec 2 LZ DX Contest ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB RSGB 2nd 1.8 MHz Contest, CW CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW ARCI Topband Sprint ARRL 160-Meter Contest

Tnx to WA7BNM's Contest Calendar Web page - http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal

California QSO Party -- CW/SSB

1600Z Oct 6 - 2159Z Oct 7.

Sponsored by the Northern California Contest Club,

160-2 meters / SOAB (HP > 200 W, LP, QRP), MS, MM, CA County Expedition, Mobile, Club, School / SO work 24 hrs only Exchange: serial number and state/province (DX send DX) or CA county.

> For more information see www.cqp.org or email to info@cqp.org. Logs due by Nov 15 via form on logs.cqp.org (preferred), email to logs@cqp.org, or paper to NCCC c/o Kevin Rowett K6TD, 21906 Monte Ct, Cupertino, CA 95014-1144

YCCC Summer Picnics and Area Meetings

Eastern MA/New Hampshire/Maine @ K1RX

YCCC president Mark Pride, K1RX, hosted a barbecue at his QTH in Kensington, NH, on Sunday, July 1, 2007. A hungry and thirsty crowd of 27 made it to Mark's place for some summer camaraderie and chow. Mark introduced a guest attendee from mid-America, familiar contester Mike Wetzel, W9RE. A brief business meeting allowed two new members to be voted into YCCC:

Dave Olean, K1WHS, Lebanon, ME John Zornig, N1ZJ, Lincoln, MA

Mark read a letter to the club from Brenton Salmi, KB1LQD, of Chelmsford, MA, the 2006 recipient of the YCCC-sponsored scholarship awarded through the ARRL Foundation. Brent is now attending Rochester (NY) Institute of Technology.

Doug Grant, K1DG, handed out pins created to mark the 30th anniversary of our club, and Mark urged all members to get on the air signing "/30" to celebrate the three-decade milestone.

The weather was great, lots of conversation ensued, and some ops managed to make some QSOs in the RAC contest.

Respectfully submitted, George Harlem, W1EBI Secretary

Western MA Meeting @ K1TTT

A regional meeting/picnic for the Yankee Clipper Contest Club was held on Saturday, August 25, 2007, at the home and station of Dave Robbins, K1TTT, in Peru, Massachusetts. Attendees began arriving around 11:00 a.m.

Mark Pride, K1RX, YCCC President was on had to preside over the business meeting. The meeting was called to order at approximately 1:30 p.m. Mark reported that YCCC was again the winner in the CQWW Unlimited Team Competition, congratulations to all. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, reported that the results from ARRL SSB show YCCC was again the winner. K1TTT finished third in the US Multi-Multi Category. Eric Williams, KV1J, reported on the 6 band, band pass filter project.

Applications were received from two new members and a returning member.

The new members are N1BAA, formerly N4BAA, Jose Castillo, Amherst, MA; WA1ZHM, John Lindley, Pittsfield, MA; and the returning member is N1FJ, Frandy Johnson, Florence, MA.

There were several door prizes awarded by a drawing from a YCCC hat.

The prizes were provided by K1SFA and K1TTT.

The K1TTT station and antenna tour was highlighted by the new 80 meter 4-square antenna system.

The attendees were: N1MM, KG1D, WA1ZHM, N1YCW, K1RX, NJ1F, WC2L, N1BAA, K1SFA, N1SR, W1VE, W1AUV, W1EQO, W1HIS, K1MK, N1LZH, W1BS, KJ1K, W1TO, K1TTT, KA1ZUP, KV1J, W1MAT, N1FJ and Sevi Castillo (soon to be a ham).

Dues were collected from the new members. Dues were also received from KJ1K, W1BS (N1LZH) and N1MM. Dues will be forwarded to the treasurer.

All in all it was a great day. Thanks to Dave for hosting this fine picnic.

Tom Homewood, W1TO Western Mass. Area Manager

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 (\$35/2 yr) (Eligible for YCCC awards programs and paper delivery of Club newsletter)

Full Member - \$15 (\$25/2 yr) (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 or 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, Ed Parish, K1EP, 9 Spoon Way, N. Reading, MA 01864

SCUTTLEBUTT ARTICLES should be sent to the Scuttlebutt editor, Steve Rodowicz N1SR, preferably by E-mail at **n1sr@arrl.net** or on 3½" disk (in MS-Word format or text file) by snail mail to Steve Rodowicz, 809 Pendleton Avenue, Chicopee, MA 01020. 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, Dave Hoaglin, K1HT, 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 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 Bob Rogers KB1LN@vahoo.com

YCCC LOGO ITEMS http://www.cafepress.com/n1ik

QSL CARDS are ordered through Burt Eldridge, W1ZS. To order, send Burt an email at **eldr@adelphia.net**, detailing card information per "QSL Request" form available at http://www.yccc.org/members/yccc_qsl.htm. You will receive a proof by email. Approve the proof, making any corrections, and return to Burt with payment (make checks out to Burt, not YCCC). Current price is \$35 (delivered) for 1,000 cards.

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, 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 Mike Gilmer, N2MG.

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 20 cents each. Address: W1 QSL Bureau, PO Box 7388, Milford, MA 01757-7388. Email address: w1qsl@yccc.org.

ARRL COMMITTEE REPS are:

CAC: New England Dick Green, WC1M Hudson George Wilner, K2ONP Atlantic Michael Gilmer, N2MG DXAC: New England OPEN Hudson John Sawina, NA2R Atlantic Chris Shalvoy, K2CS

ARRL LIAISON: Tom Frenaye, K1KI.

Upcoming Meetings

Date	Type	Place
Oct 7	General	Marlboro, MA
Dec 2	General	Sturbridge, MA

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Next Meeting: Sunday, October 7, 1PM-5PM Holiday Inn, Sturbridge, MA (near Rte 495 & Rte 20 intersection)

The YCCC Scuttlebutt 18 Bancroft Tower Road Worcester, MA 01609

FIRST CLASS MAIL