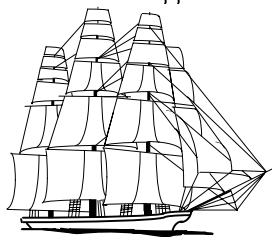


Yankee Clipper



Contest Club

Scuttlebutt

December 1997

Issue 132

Captain's Cabin

Dean Straw, N6BV

The Fall contest season is about half-way through as I write this column. The CQ Worldwide SSB contest was, well, *interesting*. SS CW seemed to enjoy good conditions and lots of YCCCers participated. SS SSB is starting later today and I imagine that there'll be a lot of W1s and W2s giving out the points.

And at the end of the month is the contest we diehard YCCC CW aficionados really love to operate -- the CQ WW CW.

I'd like to relate a few observations about the CQ WW SSB contest. Propagation was pretty much as was predicted beforehand, with a nasty little twist or two -- a solar flare, and a persistent series of thunderstorms thrown in for good measure. The thunderstorms made listening on 75 and 160 meters an ear-splitting exercise in frustration, particularly on Friday night. The S-meter never went below S9 on static crashes the whole first night on 160 meters, and the second night was only marginally better. We could have had it worse. While we suffered from the electrical noise from the thunderstorms, the boys in Georgia were right in the middle of them. W4AN had to physically disconnect his coaxes in fear of his life a number of times during the contest.

The effects of the solar flare made things go downhill in a hurry on Saturday morning. Curiously, propagation seemed to be enhanced for a few hours before the main stream of energetic particles started seriously interacting with the ionosphere. There were some moderately strong southern European stations on 10 meters for a while on Saturday but the opening didn't last too long.

So, after some good action into Europe on 15, it was quickly back again to the same old trough we've been feeding at for the last few years -- fighting it out tooth and nail for a frequency on 20 meters. These conditions test the mettle of us all. Thank goodness conditions got much better on the second day.

Believe me when I tell you that I was discouraged, bored and frustrated many times during the contest. Frankly, I really dreaded slogging it out for endless hours and hours on 20 meter phone. What a zoo!

But I had made a very public commitment to give 4.0 million points to YCCC and only this commitment kept me at it. Even when I had finally passed the 4.0 meg mark late Sunday, I drove even harder to get another 5%. Why beat myself up even more, you ask? Well, the CQ WW committee is very thorough checking logs and I know I'll have some QSOs removed, despite my very best efforts to be 100% accurate. I wanted my final, final score to be above 4.0 meg! For YCCC.

Now, it is my experience that New Englanders are a bit reticent about bleating out their private goals publicly, unlike some gonzo Hawaiian like N6BV or some wonderfully crazy Long Islanders! But the point of this little sermon is that you really should set goals before the contest. Set these goals in any form you like: the number of hours you're going to operate despite propagation conditions; the final score you're gunning for; the number of QSOs you'll make in the weekend; beating K1AR or K5ZD (fat chance -- ask me!); or earning a YCCC Top Gun pin. And then get on the air and go for it -- for YCCC.

Tom Frenaye, K1KI, did a post-contest analysis of the zones worked from his multi-multi operation, and he came up with a figure of 95% accuracy for the forecast I had generated before the contest, despite the solar flare. This is still a weapon in our arsenal that FRC doesn't yet enjoy. Use it during the CW portion.

At this point, I don't have good score estimates for either YCCC or FRC from the CQ WW SSB. (Please don't forget to send your logs in for the contest, and make sure you credit your points to YCCC. Also make sure you send KIHT, our YCCC Scorekeeper, your summary information too.) KIHT's best guess is that we've got a lot more points than last year at this time. My best estimate, however, is that FRC's SSB DXpeditions have given them a decided edge over us, just like last year. However, we've got a lot more club members, and we're mounting some good DXpeditions for the CQ WW CW weekend.

If each and every one of you YCCCers gets on and puts in some serious hours for the club, we have a real chance of catching up to and even beating FRC. Let's do it!

And don't forget the December 7 meeting in Sturbridge. That meeting will be devoted to reviewing the Fall contest results and planning for the ARRL DX Contest coming up in February and March. Let's hope that we can report a huge YCCC effort in the CQ WW CW. □

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The Yankee Clipper Contest Club (an ARRL affiliated club) holds five general meetings per year in Sturbridge, MA and various special meetings throughout club territory. Attendance at a meeting is required to become a member.

Articles in the **Scuttlebutt** (except for those separately copyrighted) may be reprinted, provided proper credit is given. The editorial deadline for the Scuttlebutt is the 10th of every odd month.

For any club-related questions, contact your area manager or any officer.

Flotsam & Jetsam

“Barnacle Jack” Schuster, W1WEF

Please keep those cards and letters coming with your tips to share with fellow YCCers! My current Email address is w1wef@snet.net, and I still monitor packet as well. This month’s tips:

- I just got a new book written by one of our own YCCers, Jeff Briggs, K1ZM. "DXing on the Edge... The Thrill of 160 Meters" is a very interesting book for anyone who has ever operated Top Band or who would like to learn more about that unique band. Jeff provides a history of 160 DXing from 1930 to the present, antenna and operating tips, and lots of photos of top band ops from around the world. Included with the book is an innovative idea, a CD ROM which has actual on the air recordings of 160 signals from around the world. Add this one to your holiday wish list!
- To clean up aluminum antenna elements when rebuilding antennas Bill, K5FUV, uses Naval Jelly, available in hardware or grocery stores. I like fine steel wool. Wear gloves in either case.
- Lou, KS1L uses mothballs to ward off insects in his enclosures that house antenna switches or matching networks at the bottom of his towers. He puts the mothballs in a nylon stocking.
- Don, K2KQ found that the hard to find 7 pin DIN connector used on Kenwood radios is available at Radio Shack after all. It's the same as their 8 pin DIN with the 8th pin removed !
- The meter lamps used in a Kenwood 930S can be replaced with Radio Shack 272-1154 lamps by wiring the two lamps in series with a 82 ohm 1/2 watt resistor (all three in series). It is necessary to carefully cut away the plastic lamp base with a sharp blade.
- A good way to keep your radio looking sharp is to use a light application of Armorall with a rag on your radio's cabinet. Bruce, K2OY suggested this years ago in the Butt, and I think of him every time I do it! For those who remember Bruce, I just worked him and he's loving South Florida.
- When playing with wire antennas, I shoot 2oz sinkers over treetops with a slingshot. To make it easier to find the sinkers I spray them with fluorescent orange paint.
- Make it easier to access the back of your radios and other gear by moving the operating desk out 2 feet from the wall. Rich, K1CC has his console in the middle of the room for the ultimate in ease of access.
- When overhauling or troubleshooting triband beams it can be tedious to remove all trap covers to perform a visual inspection. When Dean, N6BV, had a problem with a TH6 he isolated it using an AEA antenna analyzer with an audible output feature. Dean could put his hand on traps one at a time, and hear the audio frequency change until he came to the trap with the problem. When he put his hand on that one, the frequency didn't change as it did on the good traps. It turned out to be a poor ground on the trap cover. (capacitance from the trap cover to the coil they protect is part of the tuned L-C circuit that makes up the trap)
- I have found that with my Autek RF1A analyzer, I can clip it with short clip leads between the drain hole at the non grounded end of the trap cover (HyGain), and the nearby drainhole in the element, to measure the inductance for comparison with the similar trap on the opposite side. If they differ greatly, you know one or the other has a problem.

(see FLOTSAM, page 7)

ARRL SS CW Claimed Scores

Dave Hoaglin, K1HT

YCCC Scores in BOLD

(Other East Coast scores from the Contest Reflector... thanks to WA4ZXA)

YCCC Raw total 3,300,000

CALL	OP/QTH/SEC	SCORE	QSO	SEC	HRS
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Single Op QRP (Q)

K1TR (@N6BV/1)	NH	125,856	828	76	24
K3CR (KB3AFT)		94,572	639	74	
W8RU	MI	88,160	580	76	24
AD8J	WPA	87,780	570	77	
W2CS		81,686	517	79	
W1AW (W1VT)	CT	78,736	518	76	
K1RC	EMA	68,704	452	76	21
WZ2T	NNY	61,323	420	73	24
N1TM		48,960	340	72	
KC1F	NH	33,938	239	71	5
K1ZE	RI	29,256	212	69	7
W1GM		25,864	213	61	13
W1NN	CT	24,400	200	61	5
WA2OCG		10,800	108	50	11
W3UR		1,292	34	19	

Single Op Low Power (A)

WA1S	NH	149,468	946	79	22.6
K1VUT	EPA	146,016	936	78	24
WT1O	EMA	144,456	926	78	24
K1HT	EMA	140,146	887	79	24
N1BB (@K1KP)	EMA	134,004	859	78	24
W3MC		129,876	822	79	
W1EQ	CT	114,608	754	76	24
N1RL (@N1YMK)	VT	109,592	721	76	20
W2LK	NLI	125,294	793	79	23.5
KT1M	WMA	123,872	784	79	
WA2GO	CT	97,776	679	72	18
K1EPJ	NH	95,748	606	79	
K3MQH	EPA	83,928	538	78	12
N2NFG		77,104	488	79	
K1XM		76,500	510	75	11
K2JL	WNY	71,136	456	78	13
AB1U	CT	62,700	418	75	
W1TE	EMA	53,878	341	79	15
KK1L	VT	45,012	341	66	20
K1PH (W6PH)	NH	42,000	300	70	8
K1VSJ		39,368	266	74	10
N2LBR	ENY	37,200	300	62	18
N1SNB		30,848	241	64	6
KF1V		23,790	183	65	
K1WD		20,618	169	61	10
W3AB	SCV	14,152	116	61	9
N1KWF	NH	12,402	117	53	4.1
N3YEA	WPA	11,934	117	51	17
N2TO	NLI	9,270	103	45	10
KQ1F		8,400	105	40	4.5

Single Op High Power (B)

N5JA (N1RR)		214,722	1359	79	
K5ZD	WMA	210,772	1334	79	
N2NT (N2NC)	NNJ	207,480	1330	78	
K3MM	MDC	203,820	1290	79	24
K1AM	RI	194,498	1231	79	
W1WEF	CT	193,708	1226	79	24
K3ZO	MDC	184,702	1169	79	24
K2ZJ	WNY	177,176	1122	79	
KQ2M	CT	176,960	1120	79	22
AA3B	EPA	164,736	1056	78	24
NJ2L	WNY	157,092	1007	78	20
WW2Y		155,314	983	79	
WF3T		150,732	954	79	22
K2NNY	NNY	146,150	925	79	24
N2CU	WNY	137,748	883	78	24
K5MA	EMA	132,088	836	79	18.7
K3SV	EPA	126,558	801	79	21
W1KKM	ENY	112,784	742	76	22
W1AO	ME	103,016	652	79	14
N3II		99,540	630	79	
W1VE (40 M)		83,904	552	76	13
W1BIH	CT	69,312	456	76	8.8
K1AR		61,712	406	76	
N2GA	NLI	61,134	443	69	11
KA3JWJ		59,092	374	79	
W1AX	EMA	52,272	363	72	
K1TH		50,718	321	79	
W1ZT	EMA	33,120	240	69	11
N1CC	ENY	27,720	220	63	4
K2ONP	ENY	27,612	234	59	5
N4XR		18,612	141	66	3.3
K1GW	NH	15,360	120	64	3

Multioperator (=M/S or SO Assisted)

W3GH		197,500	1250	79	
NA2N (@KY2J)	ENY	173,800	1100	79	24
K2TW	NNJ	170,640	1080	79	24
K2DS	ENY	148,520	940	79	23
K2NNY	NNY	146,150	925	79	24
W1SA	VT	137,592	882	78	22
K3WW	EPA	120,554	764	79	19
W2CM	WNY	100,776	663	76	21
K1TH (HP+pkt)	EMA	50,718	321	79	
K1NU (LP+pkt)		32,032	208	77	9
AD1C (LP+pkt)	EMA	11,550	105	55	2

CQWW Phone Claimed Scores

Dave Hoaglin, K1HT

YCCC Scores in BOLD

(Other East Coast scores from the Contest Reflector... thanks to WA4ZXA)

**YCCC Raw total so far:
107.3 million !!**

CALL	SCORE	Q	Z	C
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Single Op High Power

K5ZD (W2SC)	5,827,041	3177	135	504
N6BV/1	4,228,084	2610	125	449
K3ZO	3,638,880	2315	122	438
W1WEF	2,662,524	1790	123	411
K3ND	1,820,000			
K5MA	1,618,694	1262	107	350
K3CV	1,266,320	1038	106	334
KE2VB	1,176,168	1032	100	318
W1TE	1,101,230	936	97	333
KD1YN	1,100,891	886	109	342
K2TE	974,268	900	92	296
AK1N	773,707	678	99	308
W1RY	643,264	642	89	279
K1YT	570,652	576	96	262
KG2BN	554,166	666	83	223
K1BV	343,125	544	53	172
K1KNQ	319,304	482	59	180
W2GDJ	250,800	405	64	164

Single Op Low Power

W3HR	1,105,566	881	112	350
WA1S	1,043,118	894	102	321
K1HT	531,897	597	81	240
KA2CDJ	512,454	515	102	281
N1TM	480,732	605	73	218
KT1M	357,173	507	68	183
W1EQ	320,306	443	68	206
WF1L	277,150	422	67	174
W1ZZ	219,240	313	76	185
N2RMZ	214,080	324	59	181
K1TW	129,780	262	50	130
N1SNB	91,482	242	43	115
AA1QD	79,570	200	40	106
KQ1F	52,038	146	38	88
N1IXF	43,935	163	31	70
AB1U	17,499	109	13	44
K1MV	3,870	34	17	26

Single Op Assisted

KS1L	3,300,346	2047	125	441
K3WW	2,906,602	1487	147	559
N3AD	2,896,250	1581	146	516
K3NZ	2,553,216	1403	138	516
AA3B	2,008,864	1265	123	449
K1MY	1,817,000	1238	115	413
W1GD	1,795,709	1175	122	429
N3MKZ	1,752,597	1118	124	443
AA3JU	1,550,619	1153	111	378
W1RZF	1,398,032	1082	100	364
K1MO	1,088,928	862	103	353
K3AR	1,141,856	789	126	418
N3II	1,286,376	882	117	415
AA1V	922,560	715	107	358
NQ1K	904,488	647	116	391

W1NG	866,985	666	117	366
N3ZA	858,774	665	110	373
K1SM	801,000	772	93	282
W1IG	738,496	770	87	265
N1DG	655,695	587	99	306
W1ZT	604,632	614	88	278
W1BIH	593,515	553	97	300
N1SP	560,844	607	72	252
K2BX	550,638	643	77	232
KF2O	550,290	466	110	332
WV1M	542,711	537	94	289
N1EZC	517,668	529	91	267
K1GE	491,683	534	90	247
NZ1Q	480,300	576	77	223
K1LOM	467,610	535	79	248
W1NR	391,244	398	85	271
N1AU	357,018	408	78	236
K1TH	322,480	427	70	208
K1VV	289,711	376	68	213
W1ZS	270,959	400	67	180
KD1KI	268,275	409	62	183
WK2H	227,520	411	49	143
KA1CLX	164,640	293	54	156
KF2XK (LP)	155,856	300	56	135
WW1E	155,720	325	40	130
KV1J	154,722	269	58	156
K2EP	107,338	250	39	115
N4XR	104,647	176	64	163
KD1NE	86,420	211	35	114
KL7DN/W1	64,532	180	48	98
KA1ZFK	25,088	106	31	67
WF2B	5,194	46	20	33

Single Op QRP

KD2TT	373,910	498	72	206
N1AFC	40,430	213	12	53

Single Band

<u>160M</u>				
K1VW	9,231	124	13	38
<u>40M</u>				
N2PP	84,240	264	26	91
K2WE	65,636	201	28	94
KR2Q	26,726	128	19	64
<u>15M</u>				
WA2QNW	356,606	775	32	126
WA1FCN	125,580	345	29	101
K3KO	121,472	334	28	100
K1VSJ (LP)	98,010	288	29	92

Multi Single

W2A (@KE2NL)	6,802,864	3148	159	613
N2NU	6,297,798	2823	160	629
K1NG	5,400,212	2499	155	615
W3GNQ	3,336,552	1800	143	541
KB1SO	3,086,178	1901	126	447
NE3F	2,526,758	1491	133	486
N1MD	2,041,182	1350	118	431
W3MF	1,454,620	1026	118	396
AA1ON	1,352,520	1253	99	291
N1KWF	872,090	848	90	280
N2LBR	718,570	726	85	277
KA1DWX	374,850	440	79	236
W01N	252,315	377	71	196
K1EU	183,168	315	62	150
W01N	252,315	377	71	196

Multi Multi

N2RM	16,195,520	6669	168	712
KC1XX	14,954,555	6104	167	728
K3LR	14,945,040	6408	177	703
W3LPL	14,010,330	5943	172	723
K1KI	12,851,499	5363	165	694
W1FJ	7,663,374	3556	154	620
K1NU (@K1TTT)	7,337,204	3696	152	597
N4ZC	7,062,138	3448	158	589
K1RO (@K1ZZ)	6,509,921	3159	149	588
W2AX	5,987,410	3128	152	563
K1RX	5,838,058	2947	146	572

NQ4I	5,799,240	3276	154	570
W3PP	4,351,952	2504	140	492
KV1W	3,935,240	2212	140	515
K1KP	2,515,140	1738	111	423
K8WT	2,700,286	1926	123	407
K2KV	2,209,383	1563	115	404
KB1H	1,635,312	1178	108	388
K1DG (op @ PJ9B)	4,000,000			
K1XX (op @ TK5N)	1,425,372			
W1VE (op @ CI9D)	1,241,260			

Band Breakdowns

CALL	160	80	40	20	15	10
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Single Op High Power

K5ZD	67/11/ 34	333/18/ 76	339/21/ 91	1313/37/136	1023/30/114	102/18/ 53
N6BV/1	30/ 8/ 20	222/16/ 64	201/21/ 75	1151/32/126	818/28/108	188/20/ 56
K3ZO	17/ 5/ 13	139/12/ 52	231/22/ 84	680/33/105	1070/31/123	178/19/ 61
W1WEF	20/ 5/ 14	82/11/ 35	151/20/ 72	634/32/112	735/31/112	168/24/ 66
KG2BN	6/ 3/ 4	54/ 6/ 10	30/11/ 20	266/26/ 86	235/23/ 68	75/14/ 35
K1KNQ	0/ 0/ 0	0/ 0/ 0	0/ 0/ 0	172/20/ 65	187/21/ 71	123/18/ 44

Single Op Low Power

KA2CDJ	27/ 9/ 19	47/14/ 32	40/13/ 32	160/23/ 79	137/25/ 73	104/18/ 46
N1TM	8/ 2/ 3	18/ 6/ 9	65/41/ 15	217/19/ 71	192/19/ 65	105/12/ 29
KT1M	0/ 0/ 0	0/ 0/ 0	20/10/ 15	167/21/ 63	232/24/ 77	88/13/ 28
W1EQ	2/ 1/ 2	24/ 6/ 13	48/12/ 33	160/21/ 73	147/18/ 60	62/10/ 25
W1ZZ	6/ 3/ 4	7/ 4/ 5	28/13/ 22	141/20/ 73	103/23/ 58	28/13/ 23

Single Op Assisted

AA3B	16/ 5/ 11	89/16/ 50	147/23/ 77	368/28/115	374/28/115	271/23/ 81
W1GD	18/ 8/ 12	64/13/ 43	94/19/ 63	363/29/112	413/29/120	223/24/ 79
AA3JU	8/ 4/ 5	55/10/ 34	85/19/ 59	395/26/ 94	384/29/112	226/23/ 74
N3II	8/ 3/ 5	54/13/ 36	93/19/ 60	255/31/109	301/28/118	171/23/ 87
K3AR	23/ 8/ 18	60/12/ 40	112/22/ 66	208/32/118	234/29/106	152/23/ 70
NQ1K	14/ 6/ 9	56/13/ 41	78/20/ 65	166/29/ 96	202/28/107	131/20/ 73
N3ZA	12/ 4/ 8	78/16/ 47	102/20/ 72	205/24/ 93	165/25/ 92	103/21/ 61
WV1M	1/ 1/ 1	17/ 6/ 11	39/14/ 30	163/27/ 85	228/28/110	89/18/ 52
W1NR	0/ 0/ 0	5/ 2/ 3	48/14/ 41	98/26/ 77	169/24/ 91	78/19/ 59
KF2XK	0/ 0/ 0	14/ 4/ 6	3/ 3/ 3	111/20/ 53	141/19/ 56	31/10/ 17

Multi Single

W2A	29/11/ 28	349/21/ 82	322/29/110	1304/39/151	984/34/153	160/25/ 89
N2NU	40/11/ 38	358/22/ 85	223/30/107	1100/38/150	968/35/149	134/24/100
K1NG	35/12/ 31	231/20/ 77	276/29/113	918/37/147	811/34/153	228/23/ 94
W3GNQ	28/ 9/ 20	182/15/ 58	187/28/ 97	625/35/141	526/32/136	252/24/ 89
KB1SO	6/ 3/ 3	132/17/ 66	151/21/ 80	1100/36/130	473/33/130	39/16/ 38
W3MF	17/ 6/ 11	52/10/ 27	135/22/ 72	328/29/109	305/29/109	189/22/ 68
WO1N	12/ 3/ 6	38/ 9/ 16	61/14/ 42	147/19/ 67	94/18/ 48	24/ 8/ 17

Multi Multi

N2RM	110/15/ 43	921/24/ 96	849/29/125	2060/39/172	2182/36/169	547/25/107
KC1XX	225/17/ 56	788/25/ 97	747/29/120	2061/39/173	1730/35/170	553/22/112
K3LR	202/17/ 45	1054/27/ 92	731/33/122	2228/39/179	1586/36/158	607/25/107
W3LPL	272/18/ 47	695/25/ 97	551/32/119	1968/38/173	1703/33/167	754/26/120
K1KI	152/14/ 46	653/25/ 99	494/31/117	2461/39/173	1139/32/155	464/24/104
W1FJ	71/12/ 40	513/21/ 91	312/25/108	1483/38/151	820/34/137	357/24/ 93
K1NU	141/12/ 40	331/20/ 74	270/27/101	1419/37/144	1159/33/147	376/23/ 91
K1RO	57/11/ 35	304/16/ 72	239/26/ 98	1295/37/148	992/35/146	272/24/ 89
W2AX	132/13/ 40	239/20/ 65	222/25/ 97	1631/39/147	649/32/136	255/23/ 78
K1RX	70/11/ 37	463/22/ 85	176/22/ 85	1098/36/144	864/33/140	276/22/ 81
KV1W	19/ 5/ 8	227/19/ 79	195/24/ 90	789/36/130	720/33/130	262/23/ 78
K2KV	9/ 5/ 7	70/11/ 37	146/23/ 80	829/31/121	376/26/106	133/19/ 53
KB1H	0/ 0/ 0	103/16/ 59	165/21/ 84	453/29/ 95	427/33/129	30/ 9/ 21

Operators

Multi Single

W2A	W2XX N2TX
	KE2NL
K1NG	K1NG KI1GWF1B
	AA1AA K1SD
KB1SO	KB1SO K1ZR
N1MD	KZ1M N1MD
	N1TLN KB1VM
	K1ZE KA1ZNZ
AA1ON	W1RH AA1ON
N1KWF	K1ZO WA1ZYX
	WK1P N1KWF
N2LBR	N2LBR WA1KKM
KA1DWX	KA1DWX W1OHM
WO1N	K1WD WO1N

Multi Multi

KC1XX	KC1XX KB1AWE
	AD1C N1RR K1EA
	K1LZ KC1F K1ZM
	T93M KM3T K5ZD
K1KI	K1CC K1KI K1PI
	K1RM KM1P K2KQ
	WA2GO
W1FJ	W1FJ N1BB K1XM
	K1CB W1KM NB1B
	WT1O WA1QQC
K1NU	K1NU K1TTT
	KB1W NT2X NO2T
	AB2EC KE1FO
	WA1ZAM WR2I
K1RO	K1RO K1ZZ
	KB1GW
K1RX	K1RX AA1LN
	WA1T K1OZ
	KF1V K1EPJ
KV1W	KV1W N6RFM
	W1CSM K1MBO
KB1H	KB1H NB1U N1BU
	K1EBY AA1CE
K1GW	K1ART K1GW

Poop Deck

New Crew

Please welcome the following new and returning members!

September 28th meeting in Sturbridge, Massachusetts:

George Woods, K1DX
3 Harriet Lane
Shrewsbury, MA 01545
phone: (508)842-2202

Rich Reed, KA1CI
34 Turnstone Drive
Safety Harbor, FL 34695
home phone: (813)791-6596
work phone: (813)286-4984 or (860)726-8935
email: rereed@pop.gate.net or richreed@cigna.e-mail.com
Rich notes that he is now working on a contract back in Connecticut and is living in Bloomfield, but his mailing address remains in Florida for now.

Jeff Chipokas, N1EZC
89 Field St.
Naugatuck, CT 06770
phone: (203)729-9830
email: jeffc49@juno.com

Jack Rosiello, K1KNQ
32 Deerfield Rd.
Shrewsbury, MA 01545
home phone: (508)842-3301
work phone: (603)893-7600
email: K1KNQ@aol.com

Lorraine Toth-Schwartz, N1ZRO
152 Carlisle St.
Lowell, MA 01852
phone: (508)459-4730
email: N1ZRO@amsat.org

(continued)

Come to Sturbridge and get your '97 Cookbook!!

Be sure to plan on attending the December meeting, if for no other reason (I hope you have other reasons) than to get your copy of the brand new (well, partially recycled) 1997 Contest Cookbook!

The Cookbook is also available by Email, in both MS Word and PDF formats. Contact K1NU by Email for your copy.

October 12th special meeting at the NE DXCC dinner:

Wally Teto, KT1M
PO Box 118 Templeton, MA 01468-0118
home phone: (978)939-4079
Email: monadnoc@wgserv.crystal-mtn.com

October 14th special meeting in Elmsford, NY:

Gary Woodhouse, K2UU
PO Box 222
Levittown, NY 11756
work phone: (516)520-8330 x 658

Steven L. Weinstein, K2WE
45 Estherwood Ave.
Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522
home phone: (914)693-3669
work phone: (914)693-6606
email: K2WE@juno.com

Movers & Shakers

New phone number for **Joe, W1EK:**
(617)965-1750.

New email address for **Seth, K1LOM:**
K1LOM@juno.com.

New phone for **David, WA1QGC:**
(781)447-3099.

New work phone for **Mark, KF1V:**
(781)238-7545.

New work phone and email for **John, K1AE:** (617)969-4050
jallen@adaptivenetworks.com

New address for **Marc, WR2I:**
505 Central Ave. #512
White Plains, NY 10600
phone: (914)682-5277

New home Email for **Glenn, KB1GW:**
kb1gw@snet.net

New info for **Frank, N2FF:**
home/work phone: (516)746-7652
Email: n2ff@juno.com

New Email for **John, NQ1K:**
jl Larson01@snet.net

Now available:

Dx'ing On the Edge... The Thrill of 160M!

Our own Jeff Briggs, K1ZM, has written a new book on the History of Dx'ing on 160M which is now available. YCCC members may purchase it from a variety of sources, two of which are the Radio Bookstore in NH (1 800 457-7373 or nx1g@top.monad.net) and, of course, the ARRL Webpage.

The price is \$29.95 and includes a 65 minute audio CD in addition to the book itself. It is an official ARRL publication and covers the following areas:

1. The History of Dx'ing on 160m from 1930 - Present.
2. Best-Ever Dx'ing Stories from today's active 160M Dx'ers.
3. 160M WAC, WAS, WAZ and DXCC achievements then and now.
4. Chapters describing (in simple terms) how to erect XMIT and RX antennas for Topband that REALLY work.
5. Tips for working a pileup on 160M from today's top Dx'ers.
6. Over 175 pictures of 160M operators and stations, from the "Olde Guard" in the 50's right up to the present in the 1990's.
7. A 65 minute audio CD of "Memorable Moments on 160M" on which W1BB can be heard (Mr. 160M himself), and 17 of the first 30 holders of the single-band 160M DXCC award.

Snippets on the CD include, among others, K1PBW, W8LRL, KV4FZ, W1HGT, PY1RO, PA0HIP, G3SZA, 4X4NJ etc as heard from OVERSEAS. The CD also includes the first-ever JA to Caribbean signal ever to result in a QSO on 160M - it was made between JA2GQO and NP4A in 1981. K1ZM's own qso with XZ1N made via the LongPath on 11/20/96 is also included on the CD. The CD and the book are sold as an integrated package, eg: the CD is not available separately.

Over 300 copies of Dx'ing On the Edge were sold in the first 10 days following its release and initial reaction among LowBand Dx'ers has been very positive. This is somewhat remarkable for a very specialized "niche" offering.

Order yours today in order to learn how to be more successful on Topband - or just to enjoy reading about the history of 160M and the story of W1BB's progress over 46 years as he made his way to 160M DXCC #1! ☐

Boxboro '98 Needs You!

Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF

I have taken on the task (again) of putting together the program for next year's ARRL New England convention in (where else!) Boxboro, MA. Though I have a number of good speakers to tap from two years ago, many of whom will surely find places on the '98 program, I don't want to just do the same old thing. So, this is a call for:

1. People or organizations who might like to prepare a program
2. People or organizations who might like to manage a piece of the program, perhaps in conjunction with a meeting of their organization.

The latter formula worked quite well in '96, with YCCC taking on about half a day of programming in one session. I hope that YCCC can do it again.

I know there are a number of special interest ham groups out there about which I know little or nothing. If you are involved with any of these, or know a contact person, please let me know. Here are some of the possible interest areas, but I'm sure there are others:

- ATV
- Satellite
- VHF/UHF
- QRP
- Digital modes
- Education
- Emergency/ARES/skywarn
- League stuff
- RFI/TVI
- Foxhunting/DF'ing
- VLF
- Top Band
- Men/women/kids/martians or other affinity groups in ham radio contesting

So, please read this over, consider carefully, and send me any info you have, even if it's just a contact name or a suggested speaker. I'm hoping to have the basic program put together by the 1st of the year, so please don't delay! ☐

SNY/NJ Meeting Minutes

Hank Kiernan, KF2O

The Southern NY/New Jersey area held a local meeting at Nat's Place in Elmsford, NY on Tuesday, October 14. The meeting was attended by 22 people, including 4 non-members, 2 of whom joined YCCC at this meeting. As is customary, they did not reach the door before completion of the acceptance vote! The members attending were KF2O, N2UN, W2UD, W2AX, N2FF, K2SX, K2KQ, WR2I, NT2X, AA2MF, W1CU, W2LK, W2XX, KE2NL, N2TX, N6BV, K8CH, and K2WR. Newly elected were K2WE, Steve Weinstein, and K2UU, Woody Woodhouse.

The informal topic for the evening was Force 12 antennas, which generated great interest and a lively discussion. W1CU had obtained from Force 12 their just published new catalogs, which he distributed to all, plus a book on antennas by Tom Schiller (N6BT), which he sold for \$10 apiece to be contributed to the club treasury. He also announced Force 12 has a new "shorty" model C-3 product with a small turning radius. K2WE brought in the boom to mast plate to show how it was designed for easy installation to the mast, with just 1 bolt used as a "hook" to support the whole antenna, freeing the installer's hands to set the U-bolts for the permanent installation. KE2NL spoke about the need to secure the heavy duty hardware on any installations of the larger antennas, such as the 40 meter model, but had nothing but praise for the performance. Several people had pictures of their installations. The consensus was "The Force is with us".

Nat's food and beverages continued up to their past standards, following a change in ownership since we were last there, and the meeting broke up about 10PM. Go YCCC! ☐

December meeting agenda

Glen Whitehouse, K1GW

1. 'Getting new hams into Contesting' by Tom Frenaye, K1KI and/or Don Haney, KA1T. There are many new hams that have an interest in contesting but do not have an opportunity to begin in this exciting niche of the hobby. Learn how you can help.
2. The 1997 CQ WW is now history. Our performance is now in the record books. How did we do? A review of the WW by Dean Straw, N6BV and others.
3. Tuning up for the ARRL DX Contests. Opportunities for training and opportunities for local meetings.
4. The YCCC Awards Program - Glenn Swanson, KB1GW

As usual there will be plenty of time for Rag Chewing!

(from FLOTSAM, page 2)

- I recently put up an antenna out in the woods far from the tower, to use with my second radio. I call it my "Three in a tree". It's a TH3 suspended by ropes. The first rope goes over a branch up about 40 feet, and about ten ft from the trunk. It has a pulley on the end, just below the branch. A second rope through the pulley attaches to the top end of a five foot mast on the TH3. A rope from the bottom of the mast goes straight down and is tied taut to a ground anchor after the antenna is hoisted up to the pulley. By going straight down to a ground anchor, it keeps the mast vertical, and the boom horizontal. A string from the end of the boom is tied off in the desired direction. For WW it was pointing at Europe, for SS it pointed West.
- I recently discovered that all was not band noise on 160 at WIWEEF; the switching supply in my computer was generating noise that not only affected 160, but wiped out every AM radio in the house. Adding an outboard power line filter to the computer completely cleaned it up! I used a 4 amp RFI line filter from an old piece of DEC equipment. Some of the low priced clones sold today save a few bucks by excluding a power line filter, chancing that nobody will check to see that emission regulations are met! ☐

Final 1996-97 YCCC DX Contest totals

Tom Frenaye, K1KI

The listing below shows YCCC scores during last year's contest season (from the 1996 CQWW and 1997 ARRL DX Contests).

They're in order by total score contributed to the club. That means some scores have been deleted because the entry did not count towards the YCCC club score because the log didn't say YCCC or there were not enough eligible operators there during the contest.

Congrats again to N6BV for leading the way. Someone better beat this guy!

Call	CQWW		ARRL DX		Total
	SSB	CW	CW	SSB	
N6BV/1	3,113,496	4,045,252	2,491,299	1,994,628	11,644,675
K5ZD/1	3,878,064	5,461,830	1,444,871		10,784,765
W1KM	487,739	5,307,693	3,159,189	465,516	9,420,137
W1WEF	1,581,426	3,673,972	2,801,448	512,652	8,569,498
W1BIH	524,107	1,111,443	2,801,448	2,678,580	7,115,578
W2XX	880,260	4,026,978	79,788	697,827	5,684,853
K2SX/1	470,332	3,129,698	1,907,490		5,507,520
AA1ON	1,913,588	1,468,641	1,052,526	1,064,864	5,499,619
K1AM		3,275,935	1,225,088	746,334	5,247,357
KS1L	2,645,277	629,880	1,139,562	809,160	5,223,879
K1RO		2,951,771	1,461,988	489,192	4,902,951
K1ZZ		2,951,771	1,461,988	489,192	4,902,951
KM1P	770,796	2,504,750	754,089	721,826	4,751,461
K2ONP	1,139,386	1,534,624	1,112,859	521,380	4,308,249
K1EA	1,077,326	1,737,668	1,444,871		4,259,865
K1VR	833,873	2,716,208		588,138	4,138,219
WA1S	792,816	2,504,750	473,746	266,178	4,037,490
K5MA/1	741,572	2,512,846	532,140	241,605	4,028,163
K1XM	487,739	2,504,750	504,788	465,516	3,962,793
K1RX	1,259,694	988,949	1,073,984	277,020	3,599,647
KF1V	1,259,694	988,949	1,073,984	277,020	3,599,647
K1KP	2,191,080	633,259	473,746	266,178	3,564,263
K1KI	770,796	1,269,396	754,089	721,826	3,516,107
K1PI	770,796	1,269,396	754,089	721,826	3,516,107
W1FJ	487,738	2,504,750		465,516	3,458,004
W6PH/1	1,147,269	1,477,840	480,194	205,965	3,311,268
K1AR	51,404	1,737,668	1,444,871		3,233,943
K1GQ		1,737,668	1,444,871		3,182,539
K2TE/1	834,360	529,550	1,267,728	517,032	3,148,670
K1TI	770,796	1,510,225	842,918		3,123,939
K2WR		2,504,750	614,673		3,119,423
W1RZF	1,067,733	710,700	704,925	628,224	3,111,582
KQ1F	61,275	2,504,750	504,788		3,070,813
K1CC	770,796	776,307	754,089	721,826	3,023,018
W1NG	725,022	2,236,260			2,961,282
N2TX	880,260	1,325,660		697,827	2,903,747
K1ZR	715,185	439,698	1,071,036	658,800	2,884,719
WA2GO	770,796	1,269,396	754,089		2,794,281
W2SC/1/0	2,793,190				2,793,190
K1ZM	292,100	593,850	56,280	1,837,260	2,779,490
K1TR	266,270	1,554,121	842,918		2,663,309
N1RR	1,077,326	790,083	284,773	489,192	2,641,374
K1ART	659,530	1,477,840	480,194		2,617,564
K1DW	352,092	558,217	1,208,400	496,470	2,615,179
NB1B	487,739	1,187,120	473,746	465,516	2,614,121
N1RD	1,486,621	633,259	473,746		2,593,626
K1MBO	490,590	1,156,237	780,678		2,427,505
K1BG	31,610	1,510,225	842,918		2,384,753
K1CA		1,510,225	842,918		2,353,143
K1EPJ		988,949	1,073,984	277,020	2,339,953
AD1C	1,077,326	1,229,503			2,306,829
K1DG	1,077,326	1,229,503			2,306,829

Secretary's Report

Charlotte Richardson, KQ1F

The September 28, 1997, general meeting of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club was held in Sturbridge, Massachusetts. The meeting was called to order by club president Dean, N6BV, and began with introductions of the 80 members present, their current contest antenna situations, and how many new antenna elements each attendee had put up over the summer. W2AX was the big winner with 34 new elements, with K1RX the runner-up with 28 new elements. The treasurer's report showed a balance of \$3154.63. Dean reminded people to send email to KQ1F if they no longer wish to receive a printed copy of the Scuttlebutt. Anyone wanting to receive an electronic mailing of the Scuttlebutt must indicate whether they want Word format or Acrobat format.

Next came the highlights of the expanded club awards program for the 1997-1998 contest season. Members must be eligible to contribute to the club aggregate score (dues current and attended two or more meetings for ARRL eligibility unless exempted due to physical handicap), must submit logs with a copy to club scorekeeper KIHT on or before the log due date, must contribute the score to YCCC, and, if part of a multiop, the multi must meet the contest sponsor's eligibility requirements. There are three levels of awards. Certificates, one per per mode, will be given for three hundred or more QSOs in the CQ WW, ARRL DX, and CQ WPX contests, or for multiop operators of a multi making 1M or more points. One club mug per operator per contest will be given to those making 600 or more QSOs in each mode or 1000 combined QSOs in both modes, and to multiop operators of stations making 1M points or more and at least 600 QSOs per operator, for the ARRL DX and CQ WW contests. YCCC top gun pins, new for this year, will go to those operators operating all four weekends of the ARRL DX and CQ WW contests at least 16 hours each weekend, or .5M score each weekend for single operators or at least .5M per operator of multiops. Direct questions on the awards program to KIHT or KIRO.

Watch for more information at the December meeting from K1KI and KA1T on the "GOTAP" program to get new hams on the air.

Dean then presented an analysis of 1996 CQ WW score reductions. He noted that FRC claimed 318M in preliminary scores and were eventually credited with 328M from 275 operators, or about 1.19M per operator. YCCC originally claimed 291M, which was reduced to 276M, from 318 operators, or about 0.868M per operator for both modes of the contest.

(continued next page)

Final 1996-97 YCCC DX Contest totals continued

Call	CQWW		ARRL DX		Total
	SSB	CW	CW	SSB	
K1LZ	1,077,326	1,229,503			2,306,829
KM3T/1	1,077,326	1,229,503			2,306,829
K2XA	1,139,386		1,152,744		2,292,130
K1MY	1,468,896	55,800	50,616	700,416	2,275,728
W1MD	739,713	1,510,225			2,249,938
N4XR/1	115,005	754,527	1,320,900		2,190,432
NQ1K	5,764	677,586	754,089	721,826	2,159,265
AA1V	635,145	681,516	476,766	353,439	2,146,866
N1BB	487,739	1,187,120		465,516	2,140,375
W1RM	111,024	1,269,396	754,089		2,134,509
WT1O	520,083	963,600	569,535		2,053,218
KA1TAF	770,796	1,269,396			2,040,192
W1OD	770,796	1,269,396			2,040,192
K2KQ		1,269,396	754,089		2,023,485
K2TR	1,139,386	221,067	130,032	521,380	2,011,865
K1XX	709,881	1,229,503			1,939,384
N2UN	470,332	1,187,120	210,195	61,311	1,928,958
AA1AA	1,225,824			588,138	1,813,962
WR2I	880,260	885,332			1,765,592
N1CC/2	460,410	512,400	329,157	444,108	1,746,075
K1MM		1,737,668			1,737,668
N6RFM/1	615,489	414,508	230,202	450,360	1,710,559
N1RL	58,487	23,876	1,461,988	137,915	1,682,266
K1CB	487,739	1,187,120			1,674,859
K1RM		1,269,396	404,586		1,673,982
KF2O	77	939,679	566,892	159,705	1,666,353
K2LE	470,332	1,187,120			1,657,452
W2AX	470,332	1,187,120			1,657,452
KG1D	505,600	564,420	558,420	15,120	1,643,560
KE2NL	880,260			698,827	1,579,087
WS1E		799,890	774,090		1,573,980
KA1DWX	602,360	186,990	517,608	230,985	1,537,943
AA1CE	352,092	558,217	284,773	325,289	1,520,371
K1EBY	352,092	558,217	284,773	325,289	1,520,371
KB1H	352,092	558,217	284,773	325,289	1,520,371
W1QK	516,956	710,370	115,838	166,808	1,509,972
K1OA		633,259	566,311	297,238	1,496,808
K1SD	879,331			603,641	1,482,972
K1MO	634,105	360,920	141,636	330,084	1,466,745
K1NG	833,873			588,138	1,422,011
KB1SO	715,185			658,800	1,373,985
K1SM	504,600	521,520	338,928		1,365,048
K1GW	659,530		480,194	205,965	1,345,689
K1ZE	586,030	255,604	203,175	255,930	1,300,739
K1TO		1,269,396			1,269,396
K1OZ		988,949		277,020	1,265,969
KD1YN	850,230	52,060	108,927	243,408	1,254,625
KA1R	22,841	1,217,415			1,240,256
W1TE	434,463	378,114	311,688	115,352	1,239,617
NW1U		1,229,503			1,229,503
NB1U	352,092	558,217	284,773		1,195,082
NJ1F	1,139,386	4,368	5,040		1,148,794
K1HI		1,106,854			1,106,854
KB1AWE	1,077,326				1,077,326
KV1W	615,490			450,360	1,065,850
W1CSM	615,489			450,360	1,065,849
N1DG	487,739		253,989	306,234	1,047,962
NZ1Q	388,266	313,632	93,534	247,530	1,042,962
W2SF			344,421	697,827	1,042,248
W1WFZ	205,590	602,330	180,642	7,560	996,122
K1HT	176,001	515,596	153,900	142,749	988,246
K2SS/1	955,260				955,260

(Sec'y report contd.)

The difference is due mainly to DXpeditions. FRC garnered 103M from DXpeditions, while YCCC received only 17.5M (most of it from the J3 DXpedition on CW). We need either more DXpeditions, or, easier, to make up the difference by sheer numbers.

If each of our operators made an additional 150K per mode, we would easily win without fielding any more DXpeditions. In 1993, FRC received 21% of their CQ WW score from DXpeditions while YCCC received 6.9%. In 1994, FRC got 24% and YCCC got 19%, in 1995, 25% versus 3.5%, and in 1996 34% versus 6%. Dean noted that the margin of victory for FRC over YCCC has been decreasing for the past few years and shows a good trend. In 1990, they beat us by a margin of 30%, in 1991 by 15%, in 1992 by 28%, in 1993 by 45%, and in 1994 by (ouch) 80%, but in 1995 by only 27% and last year by 18%.

Len, K1NU, editor of the Contest Cookbook as well as the Scuttlebutt, then introduced the authors of the various Contest Cookbook articles to discuss band strategies for the upcoming contest season.

First, Randy, K5ZD, talked about 40m. For SSB, he recommends a computer-controlled radio. Make sure that the other guy knows it's him you are calling - send his callsign first. You can call CQ on 40m SSB split if you have a big antenna and no other band is open, and most of the callers will be multipliers. Listen above 7040; many Europeans try to follow their band plan and will not call you on SSB below that frequency. In the CW contest, 40m is just another band. The best time for 40m CW is an hour and half before local sunset. W1 can work Europe before anyone else can. Pay attention to sunrise and sunset times elsewhere, too. Right after European sunrise is a good time to check 40m. You do not need to be at the very bottom of the band. JA openings occur at their sunset and at our sunrise. Also, there is a longpath opening at 21Z due east over Africa to VK6 and southeast Asia.

Tom, K1KI, then talked about 10m. Contrary to his very pessimistic prediction in the Contest Cookbook, in the last month there has been flux over 100 a few times, so 10m may open more than expected. There should be more activity on SSB than on CW, because many Europeans get on 10m SSB low-power - if we get an opening. Try 28500 to work these guys. If there is an opening, you want to be there. Check between 9AM and local noon. If the band does open, stay there while it is open. Go elsewhere if it doesn't open. Africa is a better chance on 15m than on 10m. Late in the day a VK/ZL opening is possible. The Caribbean and South America are best in the mid to late afternoon.

(continued next page)

Final 1996-97 YCCC DX Contest totals continued

Call	CQWW		ARRL DX		Total
	SSB	CW	CW	SSB	
WA1QGC	487,739			465,516	953,255
K1NU	4,416	633,259	22,248	266,178	926,101
K5FUV/1	24,653	461,692	268,068	170,316	924,729
K1AE	67,716	346,672	504,788		919,176
W2UD	470,332	274,432	157,191		901,955
WF1B	898,483				898,483
K1HQ	639,371	27,707	226,832		893,910
KB1W		885,332			885,332
KA1ZNZ	397,320	279,660		205,414	882,394
KZ1M	397,320	279,660		205,414	882,394
WS1M	389,610	239,219	230,175		859,004
N2LBR	237,880	298,536	211,560	108,872	856,848
WA1KKM	237,880	298,536	211,560	108,872	856,848
N2FF	470,332	288,143	71,309		829,784
KF2XK/1	770,796			54,054	824,850
NY1L	5,600	633,259		173,637	812,496
N1AFC	328,068	171,402	156,492	112,014	767,976
AA1HB		553,880	209,592		763,472
N1AU	123,358	223,475	226,832	173,637	747,302
K1YT		733,858			733,858
KB1GW	595,161			137,915	733,076
K1EFI	172,916	153,408	205,452	180,600	712,376
W1RH	105,780	408,676	184,824		699,280
W1EQ	26,622	366,080	246,743	42,390	681,835
N1TM	158,148	259,831	182,880	76,935	677,794
WT2Q/1	561,878	100,746			662,624
K1VW		130,520	530,565		661,085
WA1RLV	352,092		284,773		636,865
W1MK	2,016	329,278	275,670	15,660	622,624
K1AJ	282,650	281,664	56,430		620,744
WG2E	602,154				602,154
WO1N		395,015	181,076	16,632	592,723
K1WD		395,015	191,564		586,579
W1RY	351,810			230,184	581,994
K1TWF		395,015	181,076		576,091
W1ES		395,015	181,076		576,091
W1TQ		395,015	181,076		576,091
W1AX		572,234			572,234
WS1Y	562,830				562,830
WV1M	562,830				562,830
W1SU		562,810			562,810
N1RWM			504,788		504,788
K2AJY/1	487,739	12,695			500,434
W1BK	2,223	305,360	108,092	81,654	497,329
W1NR	2,223	305,360	108,092	81,654	497,329
AA2MF	490,590	6,000			496,590
WA1ZAM	490,590				490,590
WM1K	490,590				490,590
KA1ZD				489,192	489,192
K1BV	178,038	57,354	189,891	63,360	488,643
N1MD		279,660		205,414	485,074
KM1D			473,746		473,746
W1ZZ			345,462	116,946	462,408
W1JCC	175,560	104,992		141,588	422,140
W1XK	55,170	192,672	160,200		408,042
KD1NE	272,492			125,730	398,222
AG7T		395,015			395,015
N1IWV		395,015			395,015
N1SP			187,935	201,453	389,388
N1NQD	152,490	1,484		230,280	384,254
K1TH	100,308	182,130	39,216	58,656	380,310
K1GE	324,045	52,836			376,881

(Sec'y report contd.)

The LU novice band is from 28300 to 28350, and you can work many LW callsigns there. Similarly, low power South American 10m novice bands exist in many countries, so try calling CQ in Spanish. On CW there is not as much casual activity, but marginal signals are easier to work. Single op stations can expect about 30 countries on 10m if there is a decent opening. Tom noted that he had spent the morning before coming to the meeting putting up a new low 10m beam for the contest season.

Tony, K1KP, then talked about the "single op distracted" category for the little to medium pistol station. If you have limited time to operate, keep an eye on the packet window. If you have lots of time, though, don't get distracted by all the packet spots. If you should be running, run, and ignore the packet multipliers. Set a limit of how many times you are going to call a multiplier. If you don't work it, try again in half an hour. Use a DVK. You will find you run longer with one, even if you think your voice doesn't get tired.

Dean, N6BV, then talked about 20m. He is hoping for better conditions than those of the last three years. Last November, the solar flux spiked right before the CQ WW CW, so conditions last year were much better than expected. This year, he predicts a smooth sunspot number of 35-40 and so a medium activity level as cycle 23 ramps up. For 20m, this means the band will be open to some area 24 hours a day. If you have limited hours, operate 20m when Europe is strong (but go to 15m when it opens). 20m should open at 0930Z and be hopping by 10Z, so get yourself a frequency before then, especially on SSB. We have 15-20 minutes advantage of an earlier opening before W3-land opens. Avoid frequency fights with fellow YCCC members!

Dean then talked about his IONCAP propagation predictions. His charts assume 1500W, 3 elements on 20m at 100', 4 elements at 60' on 15m and 10m, and 100' dipoles on 80m and 40m. IONCAP does not model the 160m band well, so he did not model that band. The charts show that 20m sometimes opens at European sunrise around 06Z for an hour or two into eastern Europe, especially during high solar activity, so this is worth a listen.

On the first day of CQ WW, the Europeans will be working each other, even if this opening happens. For SSB, 15 should open around 11Z and be solidly open by 12Z, so check 15m starting then and move there when it opens. 10m could open around 14Z-15Z and may first open skew path, so check then on your second radio for an opening.

(continued next page)

Final 1996-97 YCCC DX Contest totals continued

Call	CQWW		ARRL DX		Total
	SSB	CW	CW	SSB	
K1PTF			362,850		362,850
WW1E	184,464	163,236			347,700
K2BX	187,704	27,072	71,529	56,238	342,543
AA1EY	302,588				302,588
N1PGA	148,852			149,628	298,480
W1RV	123,358			173,637	296,995
K1RV	108,501	3,200	119,472	62,784	293,957
K1VV	127,620	42,108	76,935	45,591	292,254
AA1MY			115,838	166,808	282,646
K2ZZ			115,838	166,808	282,646
W1CU	265,525		15,729		281,254
NA2NA			92,880	179,712	272,592
K1VSJ	1,536	66,430	31,005	167,634	266,605
W2GDJ	12,351		124,581	126,888	263,820
N1DS		12,695	226,832		239,527
WF1L	76,002		102,051	58,275	236,328
K1EP			62,160	173,637	235,797
K1LD	231,732				231,732
K1BB		223,475			223,475
W1FM	60,620	160,820			221,440
K2EP			69,165	149,730	218,895
W1OJ				205,500	205,500
AA1IZ	25,596			173,637	199,233
K1NYK	102,102			88,920	191,022
K1MV	177,233				177,233
KA1O			161,175		161,175
KB1HY	22,253			137,915	160,168
K1EU	91,410	16,740	22,200	19,494	149,844
KE1IH	144,996				144,996
WA1FCN		85,239	26,280	21,450	132,969
N1DD	86,535			44,352	130,887
N1SNB			127,710		127,710
KE1GF	105,780				105,780
N1UVA	105,780				105,780
KE4GI/1		26,970	71,904		98,874
KA1CLX			52,290	40,656	92,946
KE1FO				88,650	88,650
WR1X				88,650	88,650
K1TXH	2,223			81,654	83,877
KD1KI				81,984	81,984
W2LK			71,309		71,309
K1TW	71,188				71,188
WB2VVV			52,155		52,155
KV1J	51,238				51,238
W1OHM		1,650	15,753	32,319	49,722
K1PVT			48,600		48,600
AB1U			45,510	855	46,365
W1XF				45,390	45,390
K1JB		26,964	8,820		35,784
KB1BCF	23,505			11,418	34,923
N1SMB			10,206	19,080	29,286
K8CH/1			7,326	20,313	27,639
N1XYR		26,970			26,970
N1XYS		26,970			26,970
WA1CFS		23,400			23,400
K1IK			16,950		16,950
N1NYD	13,464				13,464
NR1F		11,766	3		11,769
WF2B	4,628				4,628
K2LUQ		3,564			3,564
K1MEM		3,129			3,129
N1IO				3,060	3,060
KA1VY				2,916	2,916

W1JR		1,227	
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(Sec'y report contd.)

If there is a good 160m/80m opening at European sunrise on the first night, all those same Europeans will be on 20m the second day at sunrise, having already worked their low-band W multipliers. Email Dean or send him a formatted disk if you want a copy of propagation prediction details. Note that IONCAP only models short path openings and does not handle long path well. Dean notes that longpath is good for multipliers. KH6 often opens strongly at 13Z longpath, but we are all beaming Europe then on 20m. Similarly, there is often a 15m JA longpath opening over Brazil in the morning. If you have several antennas, keep some of them pointed towards longpath multipliers while you run. Charlie, K1XX, talked about 75 and 80m contesting from Europe. On 75m we have a significant advantage into Europe here in the Northeast. Get familiar with grayline propagation and when rare stuff, such as the Pacific from Europe, can be expected to appear. Spend some time before the contest making sure your audio sounds good. Poor audio can lose you QSOs. On 75, spend your time working split. Don't go below 3800 unless you're a very big gun. If you have horizontal and vertical antennas, try both.

Len handed out Contest Cookbooks, as well as club rosters and copies of the most recent Scuttlebutt. Dean presented him with an Old Timer's Club Certificate.

Dave, K1HT, then talked about club scorekeeping. Send your claimed score to K1HT. Submit your log with a copy to K1HT by email or US mail. Forward the CQ acknowledgement to K1HT. KQ1F sends in the club eligibility lists. The CQ WW Committee lists scores that they will credit to YCCC. We review the list, advise them about possible errors, and follow up on missing logs. Your score and the club score appear in CQ Magazine. Last year, 8 logs, for 4.4M, were missing on SSB. We helped CQ find two of them, totally 2.7M. On CW, 7 logs were lost. We rescued two logs plus shares of two multiops, totaling 2.6M. Note that CQ will count "DXpeditions" to anywhere, not just overseas. So, if you must be away on business over one of the contest weekends, you can operate from any US station and your score will count for the club.

The club then welcomed five new and returning members: KA1CI, K1DX, N1EZC, K1KNQ, and, N1ZRO (see *New Crew*). During the break, the local area managers passed out certificates and mugs and collected contest operating plans.

After the break, Tom, K1KI, passed out goodies to those members who had put up at least five antenna elements over the summer.

The meeting adjourned at 4 pm. □

Upcoming Meetings

Date	Type	Place
Dec. 7 (Sun)	General	Sturbridge, MA
Feb. 7 (Sat)	General	Sturbridge, MA
April 4 (Sat)	General	Sturbridge, MA
June 7 (Sun)	General	Sturbridge, MA
October	General	Boxboro, MA

For more information about a special meeting, contact the Area Manager of the indicated section.

Ship's Log		December, 1997	Issue 132
Captain's Cabin	Dean Straw, N6BV.....	1	
Flotsam and Jetsam	Jack Schuster, W1WEF.....	2	
SS CW Claimed Scores	Dave Hoaglin, K1HT.....	3	
CQWW SSB Claimed Scores	Dave Hoaglin, K1HT....	4-5	
Poop Deck	6-7	
Dec. Meeting Agenda	Glen Whitehouse, K1GW....	7	
1996-97 YCCC Score Totals	Tom Frenaye, K1KI....	8-11	
Secretary's Report	Charlotte Richardson, KQ1F	8	

The next general meeting of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club will be held on Sunday, Dec. 7 at 1:00 PM at the Host Hotel in Sturbridge, MA, near the intersection of I-84 and I-90. To get there, exit I-84 onto Route 20 West. Go through two sets of stoplights and turn right just before the Burger King into the hotel parking lot. C U there!

Inside: CQWW Phone and SS CW Claimed Scores – Official club totals for 1996-97

The YCCC Scuttlebutt
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