

YANKEE CLIPPER



CONTEST CLUB

# Scuttlebutt

December 1994

Issue 114

## Captain's Cabin

*Rich Gelber, K2WR*

One of the benefits that amateur radio has provided in my life is that it has helped me considerably in overcoming my natural shyness. Some of you may find this hard to believe, but I really am by nature a very shy person. I know this sounds unlikely, coming from a person who walks through ham conventions wearing a cape and a turban, but that is, after all, an act, and even though I do enjoy myself most of the time while standing up in front of a crowd acting foolish, it's a struggle to do, not to mention a struggle writing the material. So I am announcing here, with some regret, that EIMAC The Magnificent will be seen in public much less frequently in the future, and, at this point, not for a while.

Many of you know that my job in the real world involves a lot of travel to sporting and other events. So far this year, I've spent over 85 days on the road working, plus about 3 weeks away on vacation (about half of which was radio-related). Yes, I accumulate a lot of frequent flyer miles, but the catch is that I have to travel even more in order to use any of it. With the above schedule, and other duties connected with holding elective office in the union I belong to, not to mention sorting cards for the W2 QSL bureau, it's no wonder that I have little time for casual operating, and hardly any at all for contest operating, except for certain major events that I plan for far in advance. You might legitimately ask how I possible have time to be President of this Club.

The fact is, I barely do. I have to admit that I haven't been giving YCCC the attention it deserves since this past spring.

A number of Club members have ideas regarding the future direction of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club. I hope some of these ideas will be the subject of frank and open discussion at the December meeting. I've had a great time serving as your President for the past 32 months, but my term is coming to an end, and one of the members with a vision and a plan for the future ought to have a shot at the helm of the ship for a while. I hope one of them steps forward. As for me, I'll be happy to revert to being a contest operator and occasional provider of entertainment at meetings.

Hope to work many of you in the CQWW Contest, CW division, from GJ/K2WR (160, 80 and 40 only).

## December Meeting

*Paul Young, K1XM*

The next meeting of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club will be on Sunday, December 4, at the Sturbridge Host Hotel, beginning at 1 pm.

Len, KB2R, will talk about 4U1ITU. Ed Hare, KA1CV, will give a presentation on station grounding.

The Hosts Hotel is located on Route 20 in Sturbridge, Massachusetts, 1/2 mile West of I-84 (first exit off I-84 when coming South from the Mass. Turnpike).

To get to the Host Hotel, exit I-84 on to Route 20 West. You will pass through two sets of stoplights while noticing several motels on your right. Make a right turn just prior to the Burger King sign. This is the entrance to the Host Hotel. There is plenty of parking in front of the hotel.

The meeting dates for the rest of 1994 and for 1995 are:

| DATE             | DAY      |
|------------------|----------|
| December 4, 1994 | Sunday   |
| Feb 5, 1995      | Sunday   |
| Apr 2, 1995      | Sunday   |
| June 4, 1995     | Sunday   |
| July 29, 1995    | Saturday |
| August 12, 1995  | Saturday |
| October 15, 1995 | Sunday   |
| December 9, 1995 | Saturday |

The July meeting is at the ARRL Convention in Manchester, NH.

The August meeting is the club picnic.

## Secretary's Report, October 1994

The October, 1994, meeting of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club was held on Saturday, October 1, 1994, at the ARRL New England Division Convention in Boxboro, Massachusetts. The meeting was called to order by club President Rich, K2WR, and began with introductions of the 120 members and guests present. The treasury balance stood at \$983.95.

Rich introduced New England Division Director Warren, WB1HBB, who announced that he would soon be operating /PJ7 and /VP2E. Don, KA1T, W1 QSL BUREAU manager, then spoke briefly about the workings of the QSL BUREAU. He said that the current volume is 20,000-25,000 incoming cards per month, tending to slow down as propagation worsens, and can be expected to increase again when sunspots return. He has a full roster of sorters at present but interested volunteers should contact him. Cards are delivered to sorters at 4-6 week intervals.

Fred, K1VR, then introduced the All-Seeing, All-Knowing, Great Sage from the Mysterious East, Eimac the Magnificent!

After the departure of this dignitary, the club welcomed 13 new and returning members. See "New Crew" for their names, callsigns, addresses, and phone numbers.

Fred, K2TR, then presented a technical program on reducing interstation interference in multi-transmitter stations. His emphasis was on coupling between antennas for different bands on the same tower. The coupling causes two problems: the off-band signal can cause receiver overload, and the harmonic may cause interference. Since Fred had a source of cheap RG59 coax, he constructed coax stub filters. These can handle high power and so may be placed at the output of an amp in case the amp produces harmonics. He also showed a W2PV tuned circuit filter. He recommended low-power filters on receiving antennas, especially beverages, to prevent receiver overload. He also suggested locating towers broad-

side so that the tips of antenna elements face each other (say, when running Europe) to reduce interference to the point where it is possible to listen to your own transmit band on another tower.

Eastern Massachusetts area manager Bill, N1AU, and New Hampshire and Vermont area manager Glen K1GW, then led a discussion on how we can increase participation in Contest University programs. K1GW has organized a Contest University session before CQ WW, and N1AU before ARRL DX for the past few years. The number of new contesters attending these has been going down, and most of those attending now are experienced contesters. Several ideas were proposed: more widespread publicity (currently only on packet), more leadtime, run one at a forum like Boxboro, have publicity available at Rochester next weekend, have a club sprint periodically to increase activity (maybe not related to Contest University), give demos to other clubs, have a hands-on Contest University at a member's station during a contest to let participants learn to run Europe, maybe allow new members to join at a Contest University (likely to be controversial), put announcements in other club newsletters, and put announcements out on the internet.

Frank Fallon, N2FF, then spoke about the Radio Amateur Defense and Information Organization. Frank, who is the ARRL state government liaison for the NLI section, is pushing for a state law to reaffirm PRB-1 and fight restrictive tower ordinances. He was selling T shirts (\$10) and raffle tickets to raise money for the defense fund. The next fund drawing (limited to 250 tickets at \$20 each) was for a TS-50 or TM942 FM tribander (winner's choice).

Jack, W1WEF, announced that he was selling CW interfaces for CT, NA, N6TR software for \$20.

Len, KB2R, club clothing coordinator, had the new club T shirts for sale at the meeting (\$8), and took orders for club golf shirts and jackets.

Paul, K1XM, and Charlotte, KQ1F, then presented a multi-media slide program on operating from Thailand.

Charlie, K1XX, then gave an update on the packet system.

Jim, AD1C, announced that a YCCC internet reflector is in operation. If you are on the internet, you can subscribe by sending mail to:  
yccc-request@eng.pko.dec.com.

Dean, N6BV/1, then gave a program on YCCC scores vs. those of our competition in ARRL DX Contests, and on IONCAP propagation predictions for the CQ WW contests. A few members pledged commitments for CQ WW SSB: N6BV/1 pledged 4M, and AA1AA pledged 200K apart from his contribution at the KY1H multi.

To close the meeting, Rich gave away 20 copies of IONSOUND donated by Jake, W1FM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Charlotte L. Richardson, KQ1F  
Secretary/Treasurer, YCCC  
5 October 1994

## J7 for CQ WW CW

*Paul Young, K1XM*

Charlotte, KQ1F, and I will be operating as part of a mini-multi-multi from Dominica, J7. Our contest call will probably be J77J. Please work us on all bands.

## CQ WW Phone Scores 1994

## Multi-Multi

|        | Pts  | Total          | 160       | 75        | 40        | 20          | 15        | 10        |
|--------|------|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| KY1H   | 4.7M | 3,249 143 530  | 323 13 32 | 657 23 77 | 401 27 90 | 1,214 37156 | 388 27117 | 266 16 58 |
| K1RX   | 1.4M | 1,005 111 414  |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| N2RM   | 9.3M | 4,332 157 655  | 81 18 37  | 717 27105 | 505 29118 | 1,683 37170 | 938 27153 | 408 19 72 |
| K3ANS  | 2.7M | 1,634 136 502  |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| W3LPL  | 9.3M | 4,347 160 668  | 211 17 43 | 770 26105 | 407 30114 | 1,683 39176 | 792 28147 | 484 20 83 |
| K3LR   | 6.4M | 3,286 160 603  | 124 20 41 | 627 25 87 | 509 31116 | 1,275 39165 | 474 27126 | 277 18 68 |
| NQ4I   | 3.5M | 2,142 141 519  |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| W4IY   | 2.5M | 1,626 133 460  |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| W4MYA  | 5.1M | 2,702 152 592  | 129 13 32 | 321 24 84 | 435 29107 | 995 37163   | 618 28139 | 213 21 68 |
| N4ZC   | 3.8M | 2,069 152 542  |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| AA6MC  | 1.0M | 1,198 103 249  |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| W7RM   | 2.7M | 2,307 110 332  |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| W0AIH  | 2.0M | 1,517 134 424  |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| VE7ZZZ | 1.8M | 2,894 107 207  |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| VG9DH  | 5.8M | 4,853 108 366  |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| PJ1B   | 41M  | 16,126 170 708 |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| J6DX   | 30M  | 15,734 154 660 |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| ZF2JI  | 15M  | 10,577 137 507 |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| G0KPW  | 11M  | 7,606 176 771  |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| 3DA0Z  | 10M  | 6,548 133 428  |           |           |           |             |           |           |

## Multi-Single

|       | Pts  | Total            | 160      | 75        | 40        | 20        | 15        | 10        |
|-------|------|------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| N1AU  | 2.0M | 1,382 110 408    |          |           |           |           |           |           |
| K1GW  | 989K | 823 98 364       |          |           |           |           |           |           |
| KB1H  | 1.5M | 1,021 112 423    |          |           |           |           |           |           |
| K1NG  | 3.2M | 1,624 149 560    | 33 14 26 | 197 24 78 | 208 29100 | 789 37159 | 293 24123 | 108 21 72 |
| KC1XX | 3.9M | 2,058 142 553    | 30 12 24 | 427 24 91 | 217 28 96 | 889 36157 | 404 25126 | 91 17 59  |
| KF2ET | 2.1M | 1,420 129 433    |          |           |           |           |           |           |
| N2NU  | 3.7M | 1,908 148 574    | 38 13 32 | 277 23 81 | 182 30108 | 964 37158 | 377 27126 | 70 18 69  |
| K2TR  | 3.0M | 1,655 149 547    | 33 15 29 | 350 24 84 | 117 29 90 | 714 37148 | 311 26127 | 130 18 69 |
| K3DI  | 878K | 703 106 362      |          |           |           |           |           |           |
| W3GNQ | 1.3M | 920 120 428      |          |           |           |           |           |           |
| N3RS  | 3.1M | 1,648 143 556    | 29 12 23 | 198 23 81 | 282 28100 | 728 36157 | 309 26134 | 102 18 61 |
| KF3T  | 2.1M | 1,420 129 433    |          |           |           |           |           |           |
| K4ISV | 3.7M | 2,103 150 538    |          |           |           |           |           |           |
| AA4NC | 2.1M | 1,359 117 441    |          |           |           |           |           |           |
| W5XI  | 3.1M | 1,808 149 502    | 30 10 20 | 100 22 55 | 256 29 85 | 676 36145 | 626 32130 | 120 20 67 |
| K8AZ  | 2.3M | 1,430 135 475    |          |           |           |           |           |           |
| AA8U  | 1.4M | 1,212 129 413    |          |           |           |           |           |           |
| KS9K  | 2.6M | 1,598 141 486    | 30 11 22 | 130 21 65 | 217 31 99 | 777 36145 | 322 28111 | 122 14 44 |
| K9UWA | 1.6M | 1,101 129 437    |          |           |           |           |           |           |
| VG3EJ | 6.2M | 4,215 139 523    |          |           |           |           |           |           |
| VP2E  | 12M  | 8,534 130 456    |          |           |           |           |           |           |
| 6D2X  | 9.5M | 6,546 151 511    |          |           |           |           |           |           |
| V31DX | 8M   | 7,600            |          |           |           |           |           |           |
| PJ8Z  | 7.4M | 6,023 113 414    |          |           |           |           |           |           |
| OT4T  | 7.5M | 3,931 168718 168 |          |           |           |           |           |           |
| TK5EL | 7.1M | 5,610 145 599    |          |           |           |           |           |           |
| EI7M  | 2.7M | 2,833 114 488    |          |           |           |           |           |           |

Single Operator (no packet)

|              | Pts   | Total         | 160       | 75        | 40        | 20          | 15        | 10        |
|--------------|-------|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| WS1A         | 436K  | 571 71 219    | low power |           |           |             |           |           |
| K1AR         | 3.5M  | 2,034 136 469 | 24 10 15  | 258 24 73 | 98 25 81  | 1,017 37146 | 450 24113 | 87 16 41  |
| KA1CZF       | 68K   | 189 47 105    | QRP       |           |           |             |           |           |
| AA1EY        | 182K  |               | lowpower  |           |           |             |           |           |
| KB1GW        | 260K  | 404           |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| K1KI         | 1.1M  | 961 110 332   |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| W1WEF        | 828K  | 814 93 293    |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| N2BA         | 1.8M  | 1,279 117 394 |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| K2SG         | 1.0M  | 860 107 342   | low power |           |           |             |           |           |
| N2IC/O       | 1.9M  | 1,466 135 353 |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| K3ZO         | 2.4M  | 1,647 122 414 |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| N4RJ         | 2.7M  | 1,757 129 439 | 32 11 21  | 115 16 55 | 206 27 76 | 604 28117   | 675 27120 | 125 20 50 |
| K5MR         | 1.8M  | 1,464 129 358 |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| K5ZD         | 3.3M  | 2,044 127 446 | 39 13 26  | 249 21 71 | 205 21 70 | 1,083 33132 | 359 24102 | 109 15 44 |
| N6BV         | 2.2M  | 1,668 107 398 | 18 4 11   | 299 22 79 | 165 21 75 | 797 25113   | 312 21 87 | 77 14 33  |
| N6WLX/B      | 436K  | 529 86 243    | lowpower  |           |           |             |           |           |
| N8II         | 1.8M  | 1,381 118 377 |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| W9RE         | 1.8M  | 1,300 121 397 |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| VE2TJA       | 1.3M  | 1,918 91 229  | zone 2    |           |           |             |           |           |
| WJ2O/VE2     | 436K  | 1,265 58 117  | zone 2    |           |           |             |           |           |
| NP4Z         | 5.1M  | 4316 111 393  | low power |           |           |             |           |           |
| P40E         | 15M   | 8,200 138 505 |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| P40W         | 11M   | 6,452 132 471 |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| WR6R/KH63.9M | 3,567 | 123 258       |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| S59A         | 4.1M  | 3,014         |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| S53EA        | 3.5M  | 3,100         |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| H20A         | 7.8M  | 4,614         |           |           |           |             |           |           |
| VK6GN        | 2.0M  | 2,067 110 237 |           |           |           |             |           |           |

Single Operator Assisted

|       |      |               |
|-------|------|---------------|
| K1FWF | 258K | 335 76 211    |
| K1KP  | 949K | 877 315 97    |
| AA2DU | 1.0M | 828 108 380   |
| K2WK  | 1.6M | 1,123 120 422 |
| N3AD  | 2.0M | 1,277 133 473 |
| K3WW  | 1.8M | 1,145 130 479 |
| WX4G  | 1.6M | 1,096 135 417 |
| K5NA  | 1.9M | 1,130 140 499 |
| K0RF  | 1.5M | 1,162 139 394 |
| VS6BG | 428K | 752 107 197   |

Single Operator Single Band

|       |     |      |       |       |                   |
|-------|-----|------|-------|-------|-------------------|
| K4JPD | 21  | 368K | 809   | 29    | 143               |
| KM1H  | 14  | 864K | 1,675 | 39    | 153 (KQ2M opr.)   |
| N1IST | 20  | 5.5K | 56    | 16    | 33 Low Power      |
| K2ZJ  | 14  | 388K | 968   | 33    | 125 (WA2LCC opr.) |
| NI2C  | 7   | 39K  | 141   | 25    | 79                |
| AA6TT | 160 | 4.4K | 118   | 12    | 24                |
| KP2A  | 20  | 2.2M | 4824  | 38156 | 38 (KW8N Op)      |

Movers and Shakers

New work phone number for Greg,  
W1KM: (508)540-1909.

New work phone number for Mike,  
N2MG, is (315)797-4492.

CW SS Score Rumors

Single op QRP

|            |     |                    |
|------------|-----|--------------------|
| W2GD       | 792 | 77121,968          |
| KB4GID     | 614 | 7592,100           |
| WA4PGM     | 688 | 76104,576          |
| W7CFL      | 647 | 7394,462           |
| WG9U       | 537 | 7277,328           |
| K0KX       | 567 | 7281,648(AA0OD op) |
| KP4/KA9FOX | 906 | 76137,712          |

Single op low power

|        |       |           |
|--------|-------|-----------|
| K1LL   | 1,035 | 77159,390 |
| K1TR   | 994   | 75149,100 |
| K3SA   | 296   | 7544,400  |
| N4OGW  | 996   | 74147,408 |
| N4YE   | 1,558 | 77239,932 |
| K5HUQ  | 388   | 7054,320  |
| K6XO   | 1,035 | 77159,390 |
| K6ZH   | 875   | 77134,750 |
| K7GM   | 1,061 | 76161,272 |
| WY7U   | 296   | 6940,848  |
| W7ZRC  | 1,031 | 76156,712 |
| K8CX   | 1,004 | 77154,616 |
| KZ8E   | 727   | 76110,504 |
| WD9CIR | 196   | 6023,520  |
| WD9HTC | 715   | 74105,820 |
| N9JF   | 795   | 75119,250 |
| WA9TPQ | 873   | 73127,458 |
| WX9U   | 921   | 74136,308 |
| WE9V   | 555   | 7583,250  |
| W9WI   | 699   | 72100,656 |
| N9XX   | 760   | 75114,000 |
| KO9Y   | 1,039 | 77160,006 |
| K9ZO   | 500   | 7575,000  |
| K0EJ   | 1,009 | 75151,350 |

|      |       |                    |
|------|-------|--------------------|
| K0KE | 969   | 77149,226          |
| WD0T | 1,052 | 76159,904          |
| NP2M | 1,050 | 77161,700(WX9E op) |

## Single op high power

|                |                           |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| W1FEA/61,183   | 77182,182                 |
| K1IU           | 1,042 77160,468           |
| N2IC           | 1,394 77214,676           |
| K2MM           | 1,011 76153,672           |
| NA2N           | 969 77149,226             |
| KZ2S           | 1,285 77197,890           |
| K2TR           | 1,145 77176,330           |
| K2ZJ           | 1,198 76182,096           |
| K3LR           | 1,378 77212,212 (K3UA op) |
| WU3M           | 749 77115,346             |
| KF3P           | 1,176 77181,104           |
| KE3Q           | 1,260 76191,520           |
| KI3V/7         | 1,308 77210,432           |
| KT3Y           | 1,187 77182,798           |
| K3ZO           | 1,219 76185,288           |
| W4MYA          | 1,156 77178,024           |
| AC4NJ          | 1,284 77197,736(WC4E op)  |
| K4VX           | 1,449 77223,146(WX3N op)  |
| WM5G           | 1,580 77243,320 (KR0Y op) |
| K5GN           | 1,446 77222,684           |
| W5KFT          | 1,114 76169,328           |
| K5MR           | 1,363 77256,102           |
| N5RZ           | 1,546 76234,992           |
| W5VSZ          | 1,050 77161,700           |
| W5WMU          | 1,513 77233,002 (K5GA op) |
| K5XI           | 1,401 77215,754(NM5M op)  |
| KB5YVT         | 500 7373,000              |
| K5ZD           | 1,252 75187,800           |
| WC6H           | 1,170 77180,180           |
| K6KM           | 1,139 77175,406           |
| K6LL           | 1,368 77210,672           |
| AA6MC          | 1,150 77177,100           |
| W6MVW          | 590 7689,680              |
| W6QHS          | 1,276 77196,504(W6CF op)  |
| N6RO           | 1,202 77185,108           |
| N6TV           | 1,136 77174,944           |
| K6XT           | 1,304 77200,816           |
| K7UP           | 1,349 77207,746           |
| KC7V           | 1,176 77181,104           |
| W8FN           | 1,104 75165,600           |
| WA8ZDT         | 1,300 75195,000           |
| WG9L           | 761 75114,150             |
| W9RE           | 1,254 77193,116           |
| NC0P           | 1,406 77216,524 (AG9A op) |
| K0RF           | 1,333 77205,282           |
| W0UA           | 1,248 77192,192           |
| N0XA           | 1,052 77162,008           |
| AB6FO/KP21,147 | 76174,344                 |
| NP4Z           | 1,332 75199,800           |

## Multi-op

|       |                 |
|-------|-----------------|
| KY1H  | 1,198 77184,492 |
| K1RU  | 1,073 77165,242 |
| AA8U  | 1,077 77165,858 |
| KR9U  | 1,149 77176,946 |
| WX0B  | 1,437 77221,298 |
| K0WA  | 1,229 77189,266 |
| K0RWL | 1,119 77172,326 |

## Beverage Walkin' Time

Fred Hopengarten, K1VR

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*"If you go out to the woods today, you'd better not be surprised ..."* Source: *"The Teddy Bears' Picnic"* (children's song)

As the contest season approaches, it is time once again to walk your Beverage antennas. Has a branch leaned on one? Is it still up, out there in your mosquito infested woods? Have you avoided going out there because you've failed to apply Ammate to the poison ivy?

To avoid surprises, think of the fall as "Beverage Walking Time." With that in mind, I queried the YCCC PacketCluster (the finest PacketCluster on the planet) for ideas on how to repair a downed Beverage, as, on occasion, I've had problems soldering wires together. My butane powered soldering iron sometimes doesn't have enough "oomph" to heat the wire hot enough to melt the solder on a cold winter's day, and I've had problems using a butane torch, which seems to be too hot — and just burns things. Here's what the boys said.

Carl, KM1H:

If you used insulated wire, it shouldn't be oxidated! Flux works on mild oxidation; for severe cases, use plumbers' tinning fluid. But!! Be careful, it is a mild hydrochloric acid. Too much on your body and you'll look like Michael Jackson. A propane torch on a low setting works fine.

Also, check terminating resistors with a meter, I've had from 5 to 10 ohm changes to as much as 15K changes from weather exposure.

John, K1FWF:

How about walking your dipoles too? Try lots of flux or scrape all (or most of) the strands before soldering.

Jim, K1MEM:

I've been fixing breaks I can see (around the feedpoint). I have yet to walk the full 1000'. I use a Bernz-a-matic torch and cut the wire back to fresh clean wire, or

add an additional length if needed. My 16 gauge stretches enough each year that there is usually the extra 4-6" needed to cut back to non-oxidized wire on each side of a break.

Joe, W1JR:

If you carefully strip the wire with a very light scraping, the flux in the rosin core flux will do the rest. In extreme cases, use a non-corrosive paste type flux in generous proportion. The trouble with a flame is that it's constantly contaminating the surface, while you're trying to clean the surface so the solder will adhere! Furthermore, you need the flux to decontaminate the surface and the torch flame is burning it off. It's analogous to the guy who applies the solder to the tip of the iron instead of the wire and wonders why he gets a cold solder joint or why the solder won't adhere to wire! Better yet, if you can, cut back 6-10 inches on each wire end and put in a new clean section to fill the gap. It takes two solder jobs, but may help, as the wire further back is usually clean.

Craig, NX1G:

I have found that if you take a piece of rouge cloth or emery paper, you can usually get enough "clean" metal for solder to take. I cannot recommend highly enough a liquid fuel portable soldering iron. If you don't have one, get one. They are worth their weight in gold!

You might also try copper polish to remove the crud before you try to solder. My electric iron doesn't have the oomph to solder in winter, but the butane unit does. Am surprised by your comments re not enuff heat.

Dean, N6BV:

I use one of the butane torch soldering irons that are filled up with cigarette lighter butane cartridges. I got one for (I think) \$29.95 and find that it will do a nice job where I cannot get 115 VAC for a regular iron. In fact, it does a nice job in the house too. I take a piece of fine sandpaper out with me and sand the heck out of the wire to take the corrosion off, and then use the little butane iron and regular rosin-core solder.

Dave, N4DW:

Suggestions for soldering. Use sandpaper to clean oxidation from wire. Clean wire surface back 3 inches from break. Wind rosin core solder around clean wire starting about 1/4" from break. Begin heating wire at break point with torch or iron. Allow rosin to flow first before beginning to heat solder to melting point. Rosin will flow on wire surface, then will be followed by solder. As solder melts, begin to move heat source along wire to melt remaining solder. Be careful of fingers getting too close to the hot wire. Practice in shack before heading out in the snow. I use solder with a diameter about that of 16 gauge wire/rosin core. Once you get both ends tinned, then make the splice and solder again. After the splice is made, you can also wrap the joint with solder

and apply heat. This method has worked for me on more than one occasion, although not with torch.

John, W1RR:

I use "butt end" crimps for that sort of thing. They come in various sizes to accommodate a range of wire sizes. If you do use flux to help soldering, I'd suggest thorough cleaning to remove flux after the job is done, to prevent corrosion.

Jim, K1MEM:

A few comments.

In re W1RR: I would feel crimps/butt connectors worse than a bad solder joint by intuition, but have to be checked with a micro-Ohm meter. Agree that extra flux, if used, should be removed. Flux and spray cans of flux-remover are in the Kornfeld (sp?) catalog.

In re NX1G: the Port-a-sol type cigarette butane lighter fuel irons are real handy but on a COLD day and with a good heatsink (lots of wire) they take forever. They have optional torch tips (same source as above) but don't approach ease of use of my previously mentioned torch.

Also, if the question is what kind of wire to use for Beverage antennas, go to a feed store, buy a 1/4 mile spool of electric fence wire on a self dispensing wooden spool for \$15. Put it up. Same thing W0ZV uses for his 8 Beverage antennas. Strong, cheap, and doesn't stretch.

The K1VR Summary

Here's the way I plan to do it next time. I'll employ the NX1G suggestion of using emery paper to "sand" the strands clean. I'll use the N4DW suggestion of wrapping the new, clean wires with solder.

## YCCC Apparel Order Form

Len Kay, KB2R

Prices current as of November 14

Directions: Circle the desired items on the menu below. Bring this order form to a meeting with payment (cash or check payable to KB2R) or mail to:

Leonard Kay, KB2R  
6R Johnson St.  
Woburn, MA 01801

Name (As you wish it embroidered) \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: 1 Sizes run true. Order your correct size.

2 Don't forget to include extra charges for XXL and shipping, if appropriate.

### JACKET (Price includes name/call)

All jackets have white embroidery

Type: Satin/quilted \$60.00

Satin/flannel \$55.00

Nylon/flannel \$52.00

Color: Royal Blue Navy Blue

Black Maroon

Size: S M L XL XXL

34-36 38-40 42-44 46-48 50-52

Add \$2.00

### POLO SHIRT (100% Cotton)

Price: \$26.00

Color: Royal Blue (white logo)

White (royal logo)

Pocket: YES NO

Name/Call: YES(Add \$6.00) NO

Size: S M L XL XXL

34-36 38-40 42-44 46-48 50-52

Add \$2.00

T-shirts are available for \$8.00 at most meetings.

Orders are available for pickup at the meeting after I place the whole order. I post message to YCCC on packet to keep people abreast of order status. If you would like your order shipped to your house instead, please check here  Add \$4.00 and put your address below.

## THE CLUB RESOURCES PAGE

### The Place to Find Club Information

**DUES** are due at the April election meeting, which begins our club "contest year", with a grace period until the end of June. Membership in the club will lapse at the end of the grace period if dues are not paid up. In order to re-join the club, a lapsed member must attend a meeting, like any new member, and be welcomed back into membership, or may become a subscriber to the *Scuttlebutt* by paying up (see below). 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 last meeting of the club's contest year (February) are credited with dues for the following year (that is, the contest year beginning that April). You can tell if you owe dues by checking your 'Butt mailing label. Only paid-up members are eligible to contribute to the club score in contests.

**FAMILY MEMBER** Members of the same family living at the same address may elect to receive only one copy of the *Scuttlebutt*. One member of the family must pay full dues, enabling the rest of the family to join as family members. Being a family member is currently free.

**STUDENT MEMBERS** Full-time students are eligible for dues at half the regular rate.

**SCUTTLEBUTT SUBSCRIBERS** Anyone may subscribe to the club newsletter, the *Scuttlebutt*. A subscription currently costs \$10 per year. At the present time, overseas subscriptions cost the same as domestic (we have very few overseas subscribers). The subscription period begins at the beginning of the club year, in April. New subscribers who begin their subscriptions after the December issue are considered to have paid for the following year (that is, they receive as many issues as new members joining at that time do). You can tell if your subscription is current by checking your 'Butt mailing label. The grace period for late subscriptions is the same as for late memberships

**SCUTTLEBUTT ARTICLES** should be sent to the *Scuttlebutt* editor, Paul Young, K1XM, 11 Michigan Drive, Hudson, MA 01749, home phone (508)562-5819. The deadline for each issue is usually three weeks before the next meeting.

**CLUB BADGES** are available from WZ1R. Send two dollars, Your callsign, name, and mailing address to WZ1R-YCCC Badge, P.O. Box 9106, Pawtucket R.I. 02862

**CLUB JACKETS** Len, KB2R coordinates group purchases of club jackets.

**CLUB QSL CARDS** are ordered through John Dorr, K1AR, 8 Anchor Lane, Mt. Sinai, NY 11766.

**PACKET NET** information is available from Charlie Carroll, K1XX, Candlelight Rd, Ringe NH 03461.

**CONTEST SCORES** are sent to the club scorekeeper, Kurt Pauer, W1PH.

**CLUB ROSTER** appears in the summer issue of the *Scuttlebutt* every year. Updates are published when members move or change callsigns. If you want a new copy of the club roster, contact the club secretary/treasurer, Charlotte Richardson, KQ1F, 11 Michigan Drive, Hudson MA 01749, home phone (508)562-5819.

**CONTRIBUTIONS** The YCCC welcomes your contributions, be it money to help offset the cost of the *Scuttlebutt* and club operations, scores for the club aggregate score, time spent helping other members, articles for the *Scuttlebutt*, or presentations at club meetings.

**CTCONTEST LOGGING SOFTWARE** is available from K1EA Software, 5 Mount Royal Avenue, Marlborough MA 01752 for \$69.95 plus sales tax. Telephone (508)460-8873, FAX (508)460-6211, BBS (508)460-8877.

**W1 QSL BUREAU** is sponsored by the YCCC. Keep your account up to date with SASEs, or send a check. Stamps are sold at face value, envelopes are 10 cents each. W1 QSL Bureau - YCCC, PO Box 216, Forest Park Station, Springfield, MA 01108.

**ARRL LIAISON** For ARRL matters, contact Tom Frenaye, K1KI, PO Box 386, West Suffield CT 06093, home phone (203)668-5444.

Dues are \$15 per year, payable 1 April. Non-members may subscribe to the **Scuttlebutt** by sending \$10 to the treasurer: Charlotte Richardson, KQ1F, 11 Michigan Drive, Hudson MA 01749. Subscribers who subsequently become members will be credited as having paid \$10 towards dues.

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The Yankee Clipper Contest Club (an ARRL affiliated club) holds six official meetings per year, on the Saturday or Sunday afternoon of the first full weekend of every even month, usually in the Sturbridge, Massachusetts area. The deadline for article submission to the **Scuttlebutt** is usually three weeks before the next meeting date. The next meeting will be on Sunday, December 4, 1994. Attendance at an official meeting is required in order to become a member. Club members congregate on 3830 after contests. The packet frequencies for DX spotting are 144.95, 145.69, 144.93, 144.97, 144.99 and 145.57 MHz.

Rosters are mailed to all paid members each summer. For more information and/or assistance, contact the area manager nearest you.

**Officers:**

|                       |                      |       |              |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-------|--------------|
| President             | Rich Gelber          | K2WR  | 212-580-1072 |
| VP-Activities Manager | JP Kleinhaus         | AA2DU | 914-739-6318 |
| Secretary-treasurer   | Charlotte Richardson | KQ1F  | 508-562-5819 |
| Editor                | Paul Young           | K1XM  | 508-562-5819 |

**Area Managers:**

| Area   | Call  | Name            | Home         | Work         |
|--------|-------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| CT/RI  | K1RU  | Gene Frohman    | 203-393-1772 | 203-386-6137 |
| EMass  | N1AU  | Bill Santelmann | 617-862-1753 | 508-692-6000 |
| WMass  | W1GG  | Gary Gaudette   | 413-443-3404 |              |
| VT/NH  | K1GW  | Glen Whitehouse | 603-673-6290 | 603-627-7877 |
| ME     | N1AFC | Peter Archibald | 207-767-2169 | 207-797-8931 |
| NLI    | NQ2D  | Jim Metcalf     | 516-744-9422 | 516-467-4800 |
| NNY    | K2TR  | Fred Lass       | 518-355-4813 | 518-346-6666 |
| SNY/NJ | K2EK  | Bill Gioia      | 914-221-1672 | 914-697-3250 |

**YCCC**  
11 Michigan Drive  
Hudson, MA 01749

**First Class**