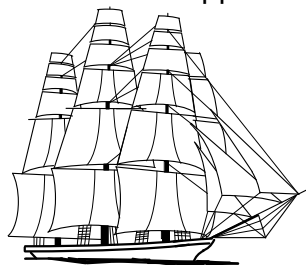


Yankee Clipper



Contest Club

Scuttlebutt

Issue 117

June 1995

Captain's Cabin

J. P. Kleinhaus, AA2DU

Welcome all to the brand new Yankee Clipper Contest Club. Brand new you say? How can this be? What has changed? Well, for one thing, we have a new look to the Scuttlebutt, thanks to Len, KB2R, who took over from Paul with this issue. I would be remiss in my duties if I neglected to thank Paul for his 10 years of tenure as the editor of the 'Butt. Paul has done a remarkable job for a longer period of time than anyone could be expected to handle that responsibility, and I hope that each and everyone of you takes the time to thank him personally the next time you see him.

In another major change, Rich, K2WR, has stepped down from the presidency after a 3 year run, preceded by 1 year as Vice-President. Rich's capable helmsmanship (gratuitous nautical phrase) has enabled the club to grow into what it has become today. I feel honored that you have the confidence in me to hand me the tiller (yes, again) of the finest group of contesters in the World, and will do everything possible to keep our momentum going.

The time has never been better for the YCCC to break out of the also-ran box, and into the winner's circle. The tremendous effort put forth by many members of the club in the recent ARRL DX contest is just the beginning for us. The final scores have not been published yet, but we are closer than we have been in years to beating the FRC for the club aggregate competition trophy! I can't point to any one person in particular who is responsible for our new found success, but it is due to the combined efforts of all of the membership that we have built up this head of steam, and all in a 3 month period!

One of the reasons for our success is the fledgling awards program started by K1KI and AA1AA for the ARRL DX contest. For the CQWW contests, Charlie, WZ1R, will be heading up the awards program. It is my belief that this program will grow into a motivating force for all of the membership as well as unify the club into an all-conquering dreadnought that will make fodder of the competition. It has been shown time and time again that an incentive program can work wonders for a competitive group, and we're no exception. It is important for the entire membership to realize that every score counts for the team effort, no matter what size, and we want to reward you for your participation in our quest for excellence.

But the awards are not going to print themselves, nor are the trophies and plaques that you are all seeking to win going to automatically appear on your walls without some help from you. I am seeking capable volunteers to manage our awards program, as well as someone to head up the new eligibility manager position within the club. These are positions with a great deal of responsibility, and I would like to see more members get involved within the organization to help us achieve our goals.

It is my belief that the YCCC can be much more pro-active in terms of hunting down new members with the desire to compete as part of the team. There are many many new contesters on the bands within our club territory, and it is to our advantage now, and in the future, to

(see *CABIN*, page 6)

The YSA - What's it all about?

Dick Pechie, KB1H

For quite a few years, the SYSOPs maintaining the nodes which service the YCCC membership have operated as a loose but functioning group. In the beginning there were the driving forces of K1EA, AK1A, KY1H, and others. Much of the equipment in use today was purchased with funds given to the network from CT donations. For the past few years, "the engine has been running" but there has been nobody driving, as individuals became busier and busier in their business and personal lives (yes, contesters have life besides radio). Thus came the need for the YSA, or at least a organization of some sort. If a more formal group could be established there would be a focal point for inquiries, hardware problems, operational decisions, backbone link repairs/upgrades, etc. Sharing and delegating the work would hopefully get the network back on track towards improved and efficient operation. Probably unknown to many users, the network is operating with quite a few bandages applied. The backbone itself is very fragile as one should realize from the interruptions during some of the contests and severe winter weather.

Begun at Boxboro in October 1994, the task of establishing a SYSOP group was given to a few individuals. Warp through 4 major contests to April 1995.... on April 1st (no significance meant by the date) a meeting was held in Connecticut. At this meeting the YSA was formed.

(see *YSA*, page 6)

**Yankee Clipper Contest Club
1995-96 Officers and Staff**

President	J.P. Kleinhaus, AA2DU (914) 739-6318 aa2du@netcom.com
Vice President	John L. Luigi Giasi, AA1AA (508) 856-8649 aa1aa@ummed.edu
Secretary-Treasurer	Charlotte Richardson, KQ1F (508) 562-5819 richardson@wrksys.enet.dec.com
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EMA: Bill Santelmann, N1AU (617) 862-1753 n1au@aol.com	SNY/NJ: Bill Gioia, K2EK (914)221-1672
ME: Peter Archibald, N1AFC (207) 767-2169	WMA: vacant
NLI: Jim Metcalf, NQ2D (516) 744-9422	VT/NH: Glen Whitehouse, K1GW (603) 673-6270
NNY: Fred Lass, K2TR (518) 355-4813 fredlass@globalone.net	

CAC/DXAC Representatives:

CAC New England	Kurt Pauer, W1PH (603) 673-7201 0006743923@mcimail.com
CAC Hudson	J.P. Kleinhaus, AA2DU (914) 555-1212 aa2du@netcom.com
DXAC New England	Jim Dionne, K1MEM
DXAC Hudson	Bill Hellman, NA2M (914) 528-6845

The Yankee Clipper Contest Club (an ARRL affiliated club) holds six official meetings per year, on the first weekend of even months, in Sturbridge, MA. Attendance at an official 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.

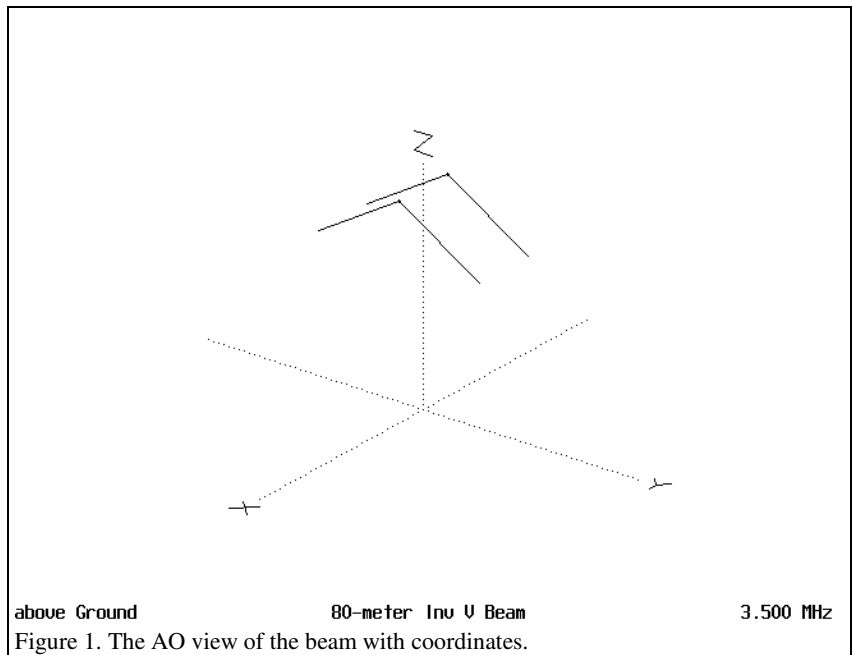
A Wire Beam Design for 80 meters

Dave Robbins, KY1H

Over the years I have had a variety of antennas for 80m. I have tried plain inverted V's, 1/4 wave slopers, full wave loops, a pair of full wave loops, a 4 square vertical array (48' base loaded verticals), and a Bobtail curtain. But none of them were really that much more effective than a plain inverted V at 150'.

I wanted to build something like the pair of loops that KC1XX has such success with, or like the pair described in ON4UN's *Low Band DXing* book. But I hate putting loops on my 150' tower because of all the stuff in the way. Plus I have to be sure to keep room for the long 10m Yagi to rotate on its ring rotor. So I started playing with using inverted V elements instead of loops using K6STI's AO program.

My design goals were to come up with a realizable boom length, a decent gain over my current inverted V, and a useful front-back ratio. After an inventory of the aluminum pile, I determined I had enough to make a decent 44' boom so this became one constraint. I determined I could probably tie off the ends of the V's about 250' from the base of the tower, so that determined the slope of the wires.



Picking a direction switching and tuning system became the next problem. The arrangement for the loop Yagi from the ON4UN book looked like a reasonable arrangement. This loading arrangement makes use of the reactance transforming properties of a 1/4 wave piece of coax. Since I needed to put an inductance at the center of the reflector I could just put a capacitance at the other end of a 1/4 wave feed line. And since this was a parasitic element, the capacitor wouldn't even have to handle full TX power.

For feed point impedance I decided to accept up to about a 5:1 SWR and compensate at the TX end since I was going to feed it with 3/4" CATV hardline which should keep the losses fairly low, even for the 350' distance from the shack.

(continued)

This range may seem a bit wide, but as anyone who has played with short Yagi antennas knows, the feed point impedance can vary wildly with relatively small changes in the design.

Now, I have all the elements I need to model the antenna. So how long to make the wires, and how big does the inductor have to be? Well, to start the AO optimization I picked frequencies of 3500 kHz and 3800 kHz. Unfortunately I had to run each one manually since I was planning to switch the inductance when I changed from CW to SSB and the AO program can't handle that (at least that I can see, but I am still learning some of its capabilities). I was trying to keep the gain and F/B about the same between CW and SSB; the impedance change didn't matter much as long as it was reasonable for both modes. After much playing I came up with the following compromise using a length of 65' for each leg of the inverted V's:

Freq (kHz)	Reflector Inductance	Gain (dBd)	F/B (dB)	Feedpoint Impedance	SWR
3800	0 uH	9	13.7	50+j58	3.0
3500	5.5uH	8.65	15.8	36-j77	5.1

This makes the switching fairly simple. In SSB mode there is no inductance which would be an open circuit or very small capacitance at the other end of the 1/4 wave feed line. For CW there has to be a capacitance added at the end of the 1/4 wave line for the reflector.

To calculate the capacitance needed do the following:

$$X_L = 2\pi fL = 2 \times 3.14 \times 3.5 \times 10^6 \times 5.5 \times 10^{-6} = 121 \Omega \text{ (inductive)}$$

Now transform along 1/4 wave of 50 Ω line using Smith Chart, or the formula:

$$Z_S = Z_0^2 / Z_L = 50^2 / 121 = 21 \Omega \text{ (capacitive)}$$

and then change the reactance back to capacitance at 3500 kHz:

$$C = 1 / (2\pi f X_C) = 1 / (2\pi \times 3.5 \times 10^6 \times 21) = 2.1 \times 10^{-9} = 2100 \text{ pF}$$

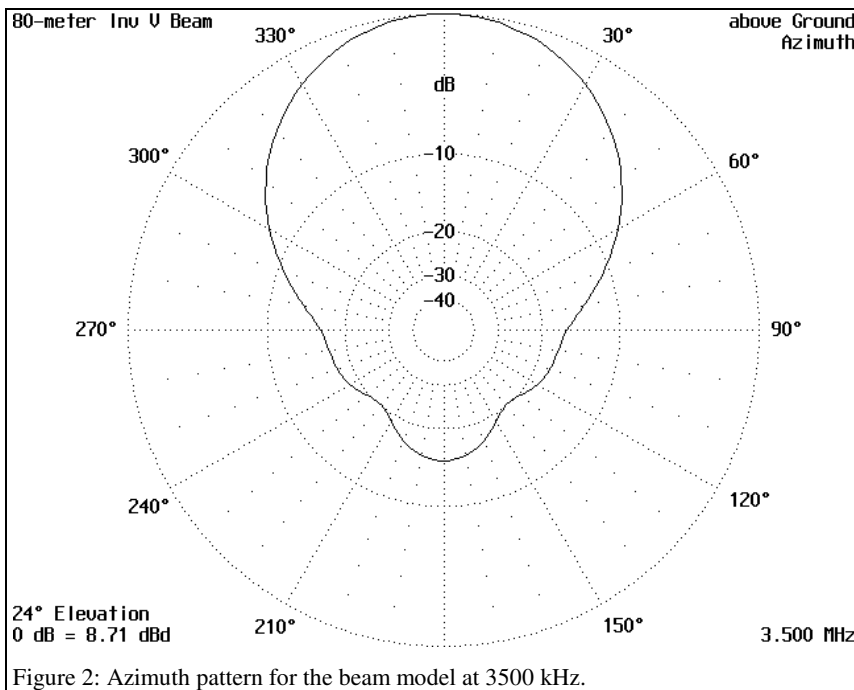


Figure 2: Azimuth pattern for the beam model at 3500 kHz.

The elevation pattern of the loops shows much more at high angles; that

is probably due to the lower parts of the the loops. With inverted V elements the highest current and most of the radiation comes from the highest point.

Here are the detailed results of the AO calculations. First, for comparison, a simple inverted V at 150':

Impedance	55.7 + j17.2
SWR	1.41
Wire Losses	0.10 dB
Efficiency	97.6%
At 28.0° Elevation:	
Forward Gain	5.25 dBd
F/B	0.00 dB
Azimuth Beamwidth	90°

Note: the gain for an inverted V is simply due to the height.

Now, the beam model at 3500 kHz:

Impedance	34.6 - j 78.7
SWR	5.54
Total Losses	0.31 dB
Wire Loss	5.7%
Load Loss	1.3%
Efficiency	93.0%
At 28.0° Elevation:	
Forward Gain	8.71 dBd
F/B	15.68 dB
Azimuth Beamwidth	77°

Now, replace V's with loops and reoptimize the wire lengths and load inductance with the same parameters to see what I am losing to KC1XX:

Impedance	134 + j 49
SWR	3.09
Total Losses	0.18 dB
Wire Loss	3.7%
Load Loss	0.4%
Efficiency	95.9%
At 28.0° Elevation:	
Forward Gain	8.63 dBd
F/B	11.33 dB
Azimuth Beamwidth	74°
Radiation Peak	32° Elev. (8.65dBd gain)

Hmmm..... better than KC1XX????? Must be his QTH that makes him so loud. Looking at the patterns it makes sense. The loop has radiation from wires that are much lower than the inverted V elements.

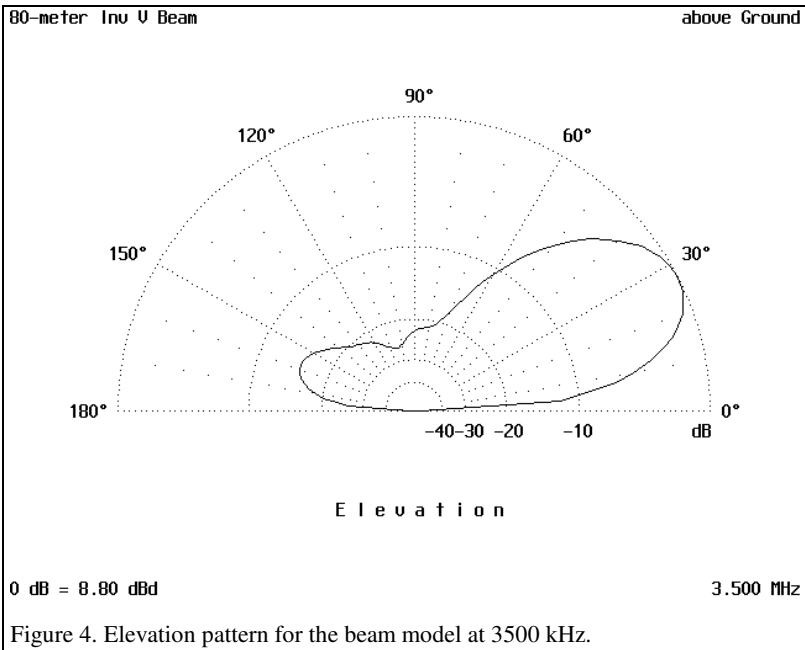
The YCCC Scuttlebutt

OK, so try this.... for high band quads the boom is in the middle of the loops, so the highest point is above the boom. In my test above I put the boom at the top of the loops so they were hanging below it. So, what if we built the loops like a high band quad with the center of the loops at the same height as the boom of the inverted V elements?

Impedance	41 + j 33
SWR	3.00
Total Losses	0.18 dB
Wire Loss	3.7%
Load Loss	0.4%
Efficiency	95.9%
At 28.0° Elevation:	
Forward Gain	9.64 dBd
F/B	15.51 dB
Azimuth Beamwidth	74°
Radiation Peak	24°Elev. (9.77 dBd gain)

Aha! There is that extra dB or so that has normally been claimed for quads over Yagi's... unfortunately, in this case it would require a support about 35' higher to hold the tops of the loops up, not very practical in this situation. Granted, this is not exactly KC1XX's beam, but it shows that adding the extra wire and work to turn inverted V's into loops isn't always worth it.

So how does it work? This is the part of most antenna articles I hate, the "On the air tests". It is loud. Loud enough that the intentional QRMers during ARRL DX SSB gave up as we ran Europe right over them. Loud enough that the W6's were asking what we were running during SS. And WZ1R had a run of 9 JA's in WPX SSB. I haven't tried the 3975 Horse Races yet, it may be too high to be really effective for them. It was so much better than the Bobtail Curtain that I took the curtain down. □



```
80-meter Inv V Beam
above Ground
3.500 MHz
4 copper wires, feet

;basic parameters
Hgt = 150 ;height of boom
Len = 65 ;length of elements
boom = 22 ;half length of boom
slope = 30/58 ;drop per length of wire
slope' = 50/58 ;run per length of wire

;calculated parameters
btm = Hgt-(Len*slope) ;height of bottom of element
end = Len*slope' ;horizontal distance to end of element

;layout of elements
;order of columns:
;nr of pieces, x,y,z, x',y',z', size of wire
1 boom 0 Hgt boom -end btm #10
1 boom 0 Hgt boom end btm #10
1 -boom 0 Hgt -boom -end btm #10
1 -boom 0 Hgt -boom end btm #10

;location of feedpoint
1 source
Wire 1, End1

;definition of load for reflector
1 load
L1 = 5.5 ;size of inductive load
Wire 3, End1 L1 uH Q=200
```

Table 1. The model file used for the beam.

Secretary's Report

Charlotte Richardson, KQ1F

The April, 1995 meeting of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club was held on Sunday, April 2, 1995, in Sturbridge, Massachusetts. The meeting was called to order by club President Rich, K2WR, and began with introductions of the 74 members and guests present. The treasury balance stood at \$1177.36.

N2FF filmed the meeting. The YCCC Sysops Association held its inaugural meeting the previous day.

Ken, K1EA, spoke on CT future plans. Then Ken and Matt, KC1XX, showed slides comparing their stations. Then Matt, who does this for a living, spoke about tower work safety, now that the good-weather season is finally upon us. His main points were:

- 1) Talk the job through.
- 2) Be prepared with tools.
- 3) Take up two of crucial tools.
- 4) Check turnbuckles often.
- 5) Tell other people your plans before undertaking solo tower work.
- 6) Buy a good climbing harness (Matt brought and passed around his own belt).
- 7) Wear a hardhat.
- 8) If you wear glasses, wear an eyeglass retainer.
- 9) Wear good work boots, especially on Rohn 25, Spaulding, or other tower with thin rungs.
- 10) Don't leave ropes outside for long periods of time since they can deteriorate.
- 11) Communicate with your ground crew.
- 12) Check the tower hardware as you climb.
- 13) Don't free-climb; be connected to the tower at all times.
- 14) Make sure your belt is both safe and comfortable.
- 15) Leave a note for other ops at a multi-op station that you are on the tower, so no one transmits or rotates while you are on the tower.
- 16) Make sure construction workers you hire know where guy wires and anchors are and what they are.
- 17) Make sure you know how to use the equipment you are using.
- 18) Don't use damaged tower sections for anything.

- 19) Don't use buried tower sections for guyed towers; use a pier-pin base plate instead.
- 20) Use torque bars and guy brackets.
- 21) Don't use aluminum tower.
- 22) Put a stop through a crankup tower if you must climb it.
- 23) Replace crankup tower cables and pulleys often (also for tiltovers).
- 24) Use guy grips, not cable clamps.
- 25) If you must use cable clamps, space them six times the cable diameter apart.
- 26) For real big antennas, use star guys (six guy wires instead of three at each guy bracket).
- 27) Use two thrust bearings (or a stand-pipe top section) so you can easily swap rotors without the mast drifting off-center in the tower.
- 28) Don't pin the mast to the rotor clamp; in heavy winds something has to give eventually and the mast rotating in the clamp is one of the easiest to fix.

After these talks, Rich, K2WR, passed out ARRL 160m Contest certificates. Jeff, K1ZM, won first-place single op. J77J, operated by Paul, K1XM, and others, took first-place multi-single for Dominica.

The club then welcomed several new and returning members (see Poop Deck).

New Hampshire members were alerted that PRB-1 was about to become NH state law. This legislation means that public safety and health will be the only valid concerns for turning down tower building permits.

Club elections were held, and the following new officers were elected for the 1995-1996 contest season:

JP, AA2DU, Club President

Luigi, AA1AA, Club Vice President and Activities Manager

Charlotte, KQ1F, Club Secretary/Treasurer

After many years of service, newsletter editor Paul, K1XM, will be turning over the Scuttlebutt to Len, KB2R, with the June issue.

After the break, Tom, K1KI, and Charlie, WZ1R, gave an ARRL DX Contest score wrapup. There will be certificates for 1M point contributions, with plaques available for \$10. Plaques will also be available to those working at least 100 DXCC countries in a weekend. Tom noted that last year's ARRL DX Contest score was exceeded this year by the CW weekend

alone. A similar awards program will be in place for the CQ WW CW contests, for 100 Qs on one mode and 200 on the other, with plaques.

Jim, K1MEM, New England Division DX Advisory Committee representative, then spoke about DXAC matters. VE3HO is the new DXAC chairman. N7RO and W0KZV are the newest DXAC members, and K0BJ is the new ARRL liaison. The vote on Pratas Island was 8 to 7 against accepting it. This one may be reconsidered if more information is available from Taiwan. A petition for DXCC country status for the "Kingdom of Mustang", in Northwest Nepal, based on separate administration, is in limbo pending more information. The Scarborough Reef petition is also waiting for more information. In this case the issue is whether the Philippines claims the reef, which it apparently does not. A petition to delete KH6 and KL7 was thrown out. There is also a petition to remove P4. Aruba will become fully independent of both PJ2 and PA in ten years. The need for a minimum country size is still under debate.

Rich, K2WR, appointed a committee to study moving the club center southwest to include more of New Jersey (and less of the Atlantic Ocean) in club territory, to be composed of Paul, K1XM (chairman), Rich, K2WR, and Saul, K2XA. The committee will report back at the August meeting.

Len, KB2R, had club T shirts, polo shirts, and jackets ordered in February. Charlie, WZ1R, took orders for new club badges and handed out badges ordered in February.

Ed, NT2X, then announced the Friendship Contest to be held April 22-23 from 1300Z to 1300Z, sponsored by Shortwave Magazine (Moscow) and the Russian-Speaking Radio Club (New York), between the US and former Soviet Union countries. Logs via NT2X.

Members adjourned to Rom's and other eateries. □

CABIN (from page 1)

mine this great resource of new talent sitting right outside our front door. We just have to show them how much fun it is to belong to a group, dedicated to excellence, like ours. Of course, we are not the only ones with this idea, and the other groups are not standing still waiting for the golden goose to walk in the front door...they're out there and we must be too.

Towards that end, it is important for the YCCC to have a presence in all aspects of contesting. Wherever we can be seen, we need to be. It means sponsoring plaques in any number of contest categories. It means having a presence at all of the major conventions within our area. It may mean running a hospitality suite at the Dayton Hamvention® to introduce those visiting contesters from around the world to the members of the YCCC. If they know you, they are more likely to seek you on the bands during the next competition. Each and every new member should receive a package welcoming them to the YCCC. This package should contain a copy of the most recent contest cookbook, a map of the YCCC packet system, and a genuine WZ1R steekin' badge.

These efforts will come at a cost, but I believe that it will pay off in many different ways, not the least of which will be increased scores in the world arena of club competition. I would like you all to consider a small dues increase in the amount of \$5.00 per year, to \$20.00, to be discussed and possibly voted on at the June meeting, to cover these new programs. It has been many years since we have seen any increase at all, but even our current costs are escalating due to postage hikes and the ever higher cost of publishing the 'Butt. It shouldn't be a hardship to any of us and should be likened to an investment in the future of the YCCC...a worthwhile cause in all of our minds, or you wouldn't be reading this!

BEAT FRC!!!!☐

YSA (from page 1)

Since that meeting, the document which was adopted has been uploaded to the Nodes and also to the *YCCC Internet Reflector*. Please read this "Statement of Purpose" if you have not already.

What is the purpose of the YSA? Cutting out the chaff of the document, let me try to state simply our goals. First and foremost the YSA wants to provide the best and most efficient contesting/DX spotting network in existence. In its early years, the YCCC network was the flagship of networks. We cannot say so now!! Believe me when I say there are other systems doing a better job than us. **This will change.** With the recent commitment by the YCCC members to win the CQWW and ARRL contests we *must* change. Our second goal is to provide to *all* users the vast amount of data that can be accessed via your node. Databases, lists, and files should be available on *every* node. Your SYSOP needs help in this and the YSA will provide that help.

Next, operational decisions: when to go to "Contest" mode, policies for messages, what to do about system abusers. All these decisions should be made as a group. One very important point: the YSA does not intend to tell your SYSOP, nor you as a user, how to run his/her station. We will make suggestions, and, of course, in the case of someone crossing legal lines, the YSA will protect the SYSOP's license as necessary. *The YSA does not intend to be a "SYS-GOD"*. Finally, the task of identifying weak links, improving or providing redundant paths, coordinating repairs, and managing the PacketCluster Fund all will be part of the YSA's responsibilities.

The YSA and its SYSOP members want to give the YCCC the competitive edge a well-managed network can provide in club-competing contests! WOOF!!!!☐

A public service announcement:

**WANTED!
YOUR CORRECT:**

- ADDRESS
- PHONE #
- E-MAIL ADDRESS

As usual, the August Scuttlebutt will contain the updated club roster. **NEW THIS YEAR WILL BE A LIST OF E-MAIL ADDRESSES.**

So, please, take a couple minutes to make sure we've got your address and phone # up-to-date. Check your entry in last years' roster. If everything's still OK, or if your updated data has been published in Movers and Shakers since last August, you're all set.

If your entry is *not* current, or you just want to be sure, please inform Len, KB2R or Charlotte, KQ1F by E-mail, packet, or phone at their addresses on page 2.

Regardless of the above, we need **EVERYONE'S** E-Mail address unless you're a subscriber on the YCCC reflector.

AGAIN, VERIFY YOUR ROSTER INFORMATION AND TELL US YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS!! QSL?

This reminder will also be posted on PacketCluster and the YCCC Internet reflector during June and July.

Poop Deck

edited by Leonard Kay, KB2R

**ARRL Awards Committee
Accepts 3 CAC
Recommendations**

Newington, April 20 – The ARRL Awards Committee voted unanimously to accept Contest Advisory Committee (CAC) recommendations to change the DX window in the ARRL 160-meter contest to 1830 to 1835 kHz and to add a rover category to the ARRL UHF Contest. The CAC is currently studying rover scoring for ARRL contests. Nevertheless, neither committee wanted to delay the implementation of the UHF rover category.

By a 6 to 1 vote the Awards Committee accepted a CAC recommendation to add club competition to the ARRL 10-meter Contest. In a related matter the Awards Committee unanimously passed a motion to designate 28.3 through 28.35 MHz as a noncontest window during the ARRL 10-meter Contest. (This means that stations should not call "CQ Contest" in this window.) □

Movers and Shakers

New work phone number for Jim,
N1CC: (518)869-9517

New address and home phone:
David Foner, WA1TET
4 Western Avenue
North Chelmsford, MA 01863
home phone: (508)251-1314

**NLI Contest University
Minutes**

Twenty-five members and guests attended the Contest University held on February 13, 1995, at the headquarters of CQ Communications, in Hicksville, NY. This meeting was hosted by John, K1AR. □

YCCC Gets Club License

It's official! The YCCC has been issued a club call, KB1BQR. Charlotte, KQ1F is the trustee, and current plans are to exchange it for the ex-callsign of Jim Lawson, W2PV (SK) when the vanity callsign program gets underway.

New Crew

Please welcome the following new and returning members who joined at the April meeting:

Ted Melinosky, K1BV
HCR10 - Box 837A
Spofford, NH 03462
home phone: (603)363-8209
work phone: (603)358-1232

Bert Flower, N1MXO
42 Allen Street
Arlington, MA 02174
home phone: (617)646-8013

Michael G. Graham, NE1V
50 Joppa Road
Merrimack, NH 03054
home phone: (603)424-6987
work phone: (617)270-0099

Linda Churma Sumner, KA1ZD
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Coventry, CT 06238
home phone: (203)742-0858

David Sumner, K1ZZ
684 Cedar Swamp Road
Coventry, CT 06238
home phone: (203)742-0858
work phone: (203)666-1541

Martin Bayes, W1/G4DZC
106 Hayden Rowe Street
Hopkinton, MA 01748
home phone: (508)435-0564
work phone: (508)229-7263

Allen Singer, N2KW
Box 382 Village Station
New York, NY 10014-0382
home phone: (718)428-6459

Bill Hellman, NA2M
3713 Valley View Street
Mohegan Lake, NY 10547-1034
home phone: (914)528-6845

Larry Amodeo, W2AX
78 Eider Hill Ct.
Manhasset, NY 11030
home phone: (516)621-8239
Larry's station in Vermont is remote-controlled from New York!

Richie Dyrack, K2LUQ
27 Manor Court
Staten Island, NY 10306-1229
home phone: (718)351-5764

Andrew B. Bodony, K2LE
59 Cornwells Beach Road
Sands Point, NY 11050
home phone: (516)883-7565
Andrew also has a contest station in Vermont, K2LE/1.

**Dayton Contest
University Minutes**

Twenty-six YCCC members attended the Dayton Contest Dinner, officially designated as a YCCC Contest University meeting, on April 29, 1995, at the Stouffers in Dayton, Ohio. The evening's program was chaired by John, K1AR.

Featured speaker Charlie, K3WW, spoke on the history of amateur radio contest clubs. Following this presentation, John, K1AR, and Bob Cox, K3EST, conducted the induction of four new members into the CQ Contest Hall of Fame: S50A, Tina Rinak(sp?), N6TJ, Jim Nigger, N6AA, Dick Norton, and K1EA, Ken Wolff. S50A (also YU3EY, YT3AA, etc.) is the founder of the Slovenian Contest Club and co-founder of the YU DX Club. N6TJ has been active in opening up many rare QTHs, and is the founder of the Northern California Contest Club. N6AA holds thirteen all-band CQ WW high scores, is trying to activate every zone in the world during CQ WW Contests, and is a member of the CQ Contest Committee. K1EA is the author of CT.

Next, FRC president KY3N conducted a short FRC meeting. The Frankfurters plan to hold a joint FRC/PVRC meeting at W3LPL on June 17th and a meeting on July 22nd at N3MKZ. Sig, N3RS, past president of FRC, presented FRC's President Award to Charlie, K3WW.

Following the FRC meeting, John, K1AR, presented the 1993 CQ WW club competition plaque to FRC for garnering more than 356M points. G3SXW was voted the best speaker at the Dayton Contest Forum. Many door prizes were awarded to round out the evening. □

DG's Dayton Diary, Part 1

Doug Grant, K1DG

I left work at noon on Thursday of Dayton week to catch the 2 PM flight out of Manchester, connecting in Philadelphia. I didn't bother to rent a car, figuring I'd find one of the FRC gang at Philly and grab a ride with one of them. I felt pretty lousy, with a cold coming on.

Got to Dayton, and did not recognize any of the guys getting off the plane with me. Some of them were obviously hams - goofy-looking guys with big guts, glasses and bald spots. But I didn't recognize any of them and didn't want to find myself hitching a ride with a shack-on-the-belt kind of guy. So I hung around the rental car counters looking for someone I knew, and after about 10 minutes I gave up and took a cab. Dayton was off to a bad start.

Things got better when I got to Stouffer's. The lobby was full of the usual gang - the Central Arizona DX Association guys (KC7V, K5VT, N7BG, etc.), some of the PVRC guys (K3ZO, etc.), and some of the CQWW Contest Committee folks (KR2Q, N2AA, K3EST). I was in friendly territory now. Dropped my stuff in the room, and headed off to dinner at the Chinese place across the street. Service was pretty bad, since they only had one hostess/waitress working the room, and it was filling up quick. DJ6QT and K5ZD joined us, and KR2s J and Q arrived with UA2FJ and UA2FM (of UW2F fame) in tow. We tried to get the waitress to push a couple of tables together, but she said it was against the fire code (meaning "if I do that, I'll get fired"). I decided to load up on the hot and sour soup to try and kill the cold germs. The soup was both hot and sour, but the cold proved stronger. I spent the whole weekend popping Sudafed, blowing my nose, and dreading the flights home. In the usual "What's new with you?" conversations, it was revealed that K5ZD's dog was sick and had to have a CAT scan. Hmmm. A dog gets a CAT scan. What does a cat get?

N2AA told the tale of his Internet message to KA9FOX some weeks ago. Seems AA won the FOX-sponsored Wisconsin QSO Party (first prize for top out-of-state scorer: 1 slab of Wisconsin cheese), but never got his just reward. His message to FOX (in true Internet

shorthand) was, and this is a quote: "WTHMFC?" I leave it to you to figure it out. FOX got it, and apologized profusely.

When they brought out the fortune cookies, mine read "Anyone that dares to be can never be weak". I suspect it has something to do with holding the band edge, even if you're QRP.

After dinner, it was back to Stouffer's for some serious hard-core socializing. The "Sultans of Shwing" (KA9FOX, N0BSH and others) had a suite open, and I drifted up there for a bit. They were playing Beavis & Butthead tapes and had a contest simulator going using N6TR's logging program. The high score (hourly rate based on 10 minutes of operating) was about 288 when I sat down. It was not much fun using TR, since the look and feel is a lot different from CT. Moving around the screen to correct calls was hard for a CT user like me, so I had to try to get the full calls right. Anyway, I did it once, and scored 250-something (I think), which was about 5th. Later in the evening I saw that lots of people had beaten my number, but most of them had 4 or 5 scores, and had moved up the learning curve. I think I was still in the top 15 or so after the whole thing was over.

Spoke to N6AA for a bit - he's still working on operating the WW from all 40 zones. He's now got all the 30s done, and he's working on either 23 or 40 for this year. Besides those two, he needs 2, 4, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28. If you have any connections in the hard ones, let Dick know - especially 18 and 19. Got to bed at about 1:30 AM.

Got up bright and late Friday morning around 9:30. Went up to breakfast at the restaurant on the top floor of Stouffer's. It's called 'Windows', apparently in deference to the growing penetration of computers in ham radio. Ate with K1XM and KQ1F. Went downstairs, AR gave me a ride over to the arena, with three CQ folks in tow. One of them, Rich Moseson, NW2L, showed me a souvenir of his flight to Dayton - apparently USAir served assorted sandwiches for a 'meal', and his was labeled 'Turkey Ham'. He was sure they had labeled it just for him. We passed a truck on the way to the Arena with the license plate 'PE6QY' - WB2AEQ (another CQ guy) figured it must be one of those new vanity calls. One of the CQ women was sporting a tie, which she claimed to have learned to tie in a Thai restaurant. Clear-

ly the humor was in mid-Dayton form, and the Hamvention hadn't even opened yet.

Went to the Forum Speaker check-in area, and got my badge for the Contest Forum. While in the area, I (almost literally) bumped into Cliff Stoll, K7TA, the author of "The Cuckoo's Egg" and more recently "Silicon Snake Oil" (an irresistible title for someone like me in the semiconductor business...). I introduced myself, told him which part of "Snake Oil" I liked, and told him to keep up the good work. He was apparently going to be the speaker at the Grand Banquet.

Took a quick spin thru the exhibit area before it opened up (a Forum badge gets you in before the general public...). Lots of computer stuff as usual, including one or two booths staffed by guys speaking Russian. I remember when we tried unsuccessfully for three years to get UA9BA (ex-UW9AR, etc.) permission from both his government and ours to leave Russia long enough to come to Dayton. Now they're everywhere. Times have changed. And so have prices for this computer stuff - the going price for a 545 Meg hard drive was \$199, and 1 Gig for \$349. Think how many CT files you could store on one of those babies! RAM still seems a bit pricey, though.

One of my first stops was the New Wireless Pioneers booth - they deal in old radio books, and occasionally have QSTs that I need to finish my collection. They didn't have any of the 5 or so issues I need this year, but there were a couple of good-condition 1916 issues worth buying for trade purposes, and a mostly-complete set of 1946 CQ (the second year of publication, and missing from my collection). They also had genuine Collins Radio Company stock certificates for \$25 each. These were the real thing, including stamps indicating who had owned them, and the date they were canceled. I was tempted, but held back...

Ran outside for a quick look in the flea market space of another 'old stuff' dealer. HE didn't have any QSTs this year, but I did find a program from the 1964 Dayton Hamvention, and an outrageous book called "Ham Radio Humor" written by W6MUR of the NCCC. This book is interesting, since it was written in 1977, and much of the humor would now be considered very politically incorrect. I won't include any of that here, but let's take a look at the section called "Ham Radio Horoscope"...

CANCER (June 21 - July 22): You procrastinate a lot, which is why your shack is messy and your VFO drifts...

LEO (July 23-Aug 22): You think you're a born leader. Others think you are pushy. You are arrogant and a bully. That's why you win contests.

It also includes all the DX Hogger and Poetry Depreciation Society poems from the DX columns of the 1950s, 60s and 70s, and a lot of other poems. For example, this one about cheating in contests...

*His contest log he double-spaced,
And from the Callbook pages
In the blanks the calls he placed
To boost his averages.*

*But he lost the test to one more deft
He was the fellow who
For every blank the first had left,
The other guy left two.*

Anyway, it was worth the \$2.

Wandered around the flea market, trying to get thru as much as possible, since I knew Saturday would be a sleep-late morning, followed by a full afternoon at the Contest Forum. The weather was cool, breezy, and partly cloudy. No sunburns, but no rain. Someone (didn't see the call) had a set of beautiful 4-1000A monoband amplifier rack-mount RF decks for sale. Some guy from the Hamvention staff was walking around with a whip antenna on his hard-hat that was so tall it had guy wires to eyelets on the edge of the helmet. Saw a Windows '95 "Reviewer's Guide" dated "October 94/Beta 2". Yup - need one of those.

My vote for Least Successful Sales Pitch in the flea market : "I don't have a clue what it is or what it does, but everybody oughta have one". One guy had a big stack of defunct Motorola walkie-talkies with the letters 'NYCPD' carved into them. If only those radios could talk...

Saw some guy selling "The Best of Shareware - a 6-disk set" - didn't get close enough to see if it was 6 floppies or 6 CD-ROMS.

When I went back inside the Arena, I tried to get into the main area, but was nearly crushed by the masses queuing up for their free Kenwood map at the Kenwood booth. Sometimes I think if Kenwood decided to give away clumps of dirt at the Hamvention, these guys would still line up to get one. After all, if it's free, take three!

Stopped by the ARRL booth to talk to K1ZZ for a minute. Dave told me one of

the big controversies in amateur radio these days is the encroachment of HF digital modes on the 'QRP frequencies'. Maybe someone could tell those QRP guys there's an award for the most stations worked while running both QRP and QRM. Or they could just turn on the amp for a few minutes and blow the digital guys away. Oh, well. Dave also told me that his daughter (N1UCI) missed the 'Kids Contest', because she was outside stacking firewood while Dave was in the shack operating.

Interesting new product from LTA this year - the 'DX Talker'. Actually I guess they had it last year but I missed it. Anyway, like all software, it was New and Improved for this year. It runs on your PC, and converts incoming packet spots to voice announcements such as "DX on two one two nine five point one, Bravo Sierra Seven Hotel", or "WWV Update, Solar Flux one two three A index 18 K index 1". \$40.

Saw a guy in a camouflage jacket with a hat bearing the logo of the 'Buckmasters' - not the CD-ROM guys, but some deer-hunting club.

After the Hamvention closed for the day, I found AR and headed back to Stouffer's. A few minutes to relax, then off to dinner at the Spaghetti Warehouse with N6AA, K7GM, N6ZZ, and NP4Z. When we had finished eating and the nice waitress brought the check, K2MM happened to be walking by. We jokingly handed him the check, and he stunned us by paying it! We let him drink the rest of the wine. The way John saw it, he was having a great time seeing all his old buddies and hadn't been to Dayton for 15 years, so on average, it wasn't such a bad deal. John did not have to pay for another beer all weekend. What a guy.

After dinner, it was back to the festivities at Stouffer's. JEIJKL brought a few bottles of Japanese energy-restoring elixirs; one was called "DX", and the other "Regain 48". Since the labels were in Japanese, nobody was willing to take a chance drinking the stuff. Strange contest stories that I overheard: JEIJKL at 5Z4CS in the 1982 CQ 160 contest had the top score from Africa with 3 QSOs; W9XR submitted a WPX CW log with only Ws in it - 200+ QSOs, 80 or 100 prefixes, and zero points.

Elevator incidents: KA1XN and KC1XX used the freight elevator to avoid the lines for the guest elevators, and ending up in the hotel laundry somehow. At one point, I found myself in the elevator

surrounded by 'Zeds' - NP4Z, K5ZD, N6ZZ, and W3ZZ. Kinda made me sleepy.

WA8YVR (frequent op at W9RE) threatened to apply for the callsign W9REE.

I introduced my partner from last year's VP2E trip, (Bob Wilson, KA1XN) to Bob Wilson, N6TV. Someone took a picture of these guys standing together. It turns out there are 88 Bob Wilsons in the Callbook. TV, who works at IBM in California, told about getting lots of Emails for another Bob Wilson at IBM in England. XN told about checking in to Stouffer's and finding himself in TV's room!

Left those guys swapping Bob Wilson stories and bumped into Harry, RA3AUU. He's trying to figure out how to get into the YCCC Cluster via Internet. I know there's a way to do it - when I figure it out, I'll let them know and we'll get spots from Moscow on the Cluster. Is this technology getting out of hand or what?

About 11 PM, a guy strolled into the Miami room and introduced himself as Jan, ZS6NW. He found himself in the U.S. on business, and managed to finagle his way to Dayton for the weekend. He brought greetings from Chris, ZS6EZ, who I had the good fortune to meet in England last year. I showed him around and couldn't help grinning as he began to get that dazed, first-time-at-Dayton-gee-all-the-famous-contesters-are-here look on his face.

Around 2:30 AM, the crowd had thinned out quite a bit. After AR tried to call for pizza about 1, and found no place open, people had started drifting to bed. K8MN showed up, back from the end of his A22MN stint. He grabbed me in the hall and said "Hey DG! What's going on here? I go away for 4 years, and when I come back, the suite's empty by 2 AM. Did you guys all get old or what?". Yeah, I guess that's it.

Took a long time to get to sleep. I guess Sudafed and beer together does that. ☐

Next Issue: Part 2 (Saturday)

- The Contest Forum and Dinner
- The Continuing Saga of "The Two Guys"

and lots more!

Amidships

Leonard Kay, KB2R

Watch out

You might get what you're after

— Talking Heads

Yes, when the dust settled, there I was, the new Scuttlebutt editor. It wasn't even a lot of dust, actually. Right up front, I'd like to extend my appreciation to Paul, K1XM, for all his work on the 'Butt for the last decade, and helping to make the transition smooth. And yes, I asked for the job.

I think I've just finished putting together my most difficult issue, since I had to create all the document templates, graphic design, etc. from scratch, as I converted the 'Butt to MSWord 6.0. Kinda like the first time I ever sat down in front of an FT-1000, a half hour before CQWW.

By now you've skimmed over most of the issue (I know this column wasn't the first thing you turned to), and I'm sure you've noticed some changes. Good! There'll be more where these came from. Please, tell me what you like and what you don't like (blue paper, anyone?). I have already had multiple requests to put a wider margin on the 'inside' of the page so that you can store the 'Butt in a three-ring binder and not punch out any letters; you'll see that next issue.

It's common knowledge that the Scuttlebutt is one of the more widely reprinted club journals – and I want it to stay that way. One of my goals is to round out the content a little – technical, humor, and general interest articles are all welcome, as long as they're contest-related. You'll be seeing more regular columns, too, starting in August.

I'll also be coordinating what I can to bring YCCC up-to-date electronically and online. Beginning with this issue, the Scuttlebutt will be posted, and archived, on the YCCC Internet reflector (so, all subscribers get to see the 'Butt a couple days early). Luigi, AA1AA will be devoting time, energy and silicon to host the YCCC Home Page on the World Wide Web – stay tuned for the details, or contact me or Luigi if you have something to contribute. The Web is where packet was about 8-10 years ago, and will probably experience similar growth. Using it is a great opportunity to show Joe Net-Surfer what we – and amateur radio – are all about. If you

think cyberspace addicts are a different animal, think again; the 'Internet cult' has a lot more in common with the early days of radio than you may think (read the great article in May *Wired* magazine).

The 'Beat FRC' push for ARRL DX was one successful example of what can be done to give YCCC a badly-needed shot in the arm. The Scuttlebutt is another part of that equation, just as much as the Internet reflector and the Cluster. It's our meeting place off the air. Help me make it a good one. Give me ideas for articles you'd like to see, or better yet, write one yourself – it's easier than you think, and I'd be glad to help. I'm reachable by E-mail, cluster, phone, and snail mail in that order of preference. Look on the inside cover to see how to reach me.

Keeping the 'Butt lively and interesting is almost as important as turning out the Q's during CQWW. Let's beat FRC in print, too. ☐

June/July Meeting Agendae

Luigi Giasi, AA1AA

The June meeting of the YCCC will be on Sunday, June 4 in Sturbridge, MA. See the back page for directions. The meeting program is still in flux, but here's what's tentatively scheduled at the moment:

- Rich, K1CC, on station design and setup
- ARRL DX awards and certificates will be presented by the Awards Committee
- Tony, K1KP, will speak on some ideas for recruiting new members and boosting morale
- Bill, N1AU, on some new ideas for the Area Manager role

A definitive schedule will be posted on Packet and the YCCC reflector before the meeting date.

July update: The July meeting will take place at the ARRL N.E. Division Convention in Manchester, NH on July 29. I'm still working with the Convention program committee, but it looks like we will have a large room from 1-5 PM, with the following program items tentatively planned:

- Dean, N6BV, on antenna terrain analysis
- Paul, K1XM, and Charlotte, KQ1F, on their CQWW trip to J77J
- An official club meeting

There is still plenty of open space in the meeting program. Call or E-mail me if you'd like to do a presentation! This meeting is a great opportunity to recruit new members and tell people about contesting, so presentations can be real basic and still very useful.

The complete meeting program will be published in the August issue, which will be mailed early to reach you before Manchester. ☐

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 rejoin the club, a lapsed member must attend a meeting, like any new member, and be welcomed back into membership, or may simply 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 MEMBERS 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 free.

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

SCUTTLEBUTT SUBSCRIPTIONS 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, Leonard Kay, KB2R, preferably by E-mail at lkay@pria.com or lkay@lynx.dac.neu.edu, or on 3½" disk (in MSWord format or text file) by snail mail to 6R Johnson St., Woburn, MA 01801. The deadline for each issue is the 10th of the preceding month.

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 APPAREL Len, KB2R, coordinates group purchases of club jackets and polo shirts. Contact Len for price info or see the order form which is periodically printed here on the Resources Page. T-shirts are available at meetings.

CLUB QSL CARDS are ordered through John Dorr, K1AR, 8 Anchor Lane, Mt. Sinai, NY 11766. To order, send John packet mail, or E-mail at p00259@psilink.com, detailing exactly what you want the card to say. There are 2 lines of text available for awards, etc. You will receive a proof by return mail. Approve the proof, making any corrections, and return to John *with payment* (make checks out to John, not YCCC). Current price is \$54 for 2000 cards. Normal turnaround is 30 days after approving proof.

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

CONTEST SCORES for domestic contests are sent to Charlie Morrison, WZ1R. DX scores (ARRL, CQ WW) are sent to Kurt Pau-er, W1PH.

INTERNET REFLECTOR There is an Internet mailing list for YCCC members. To subscribe, send mail to yccc-request@eng.pko.dec.com. Include the single word SUBSCRIBE in the body of the mail message.

CLUB ROSTER appears in the August issue of the Scuttlebutt every year. Updates are published in 'Movers and Shakers' 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.

CT CONTEST 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. There is an Internet mailing list for CT users. To subscribe, send mail to ct-user-request@eng.pko.dec.com, and include the single word SUBSCRIBE in the body. The CT reflector is also the best way to get CT country file updates. These updates may also be obtained from the CT BBS, or send a blank formatted disk and \$1.00 for postage to Jim Reisert, AD1C, 181 Littleton Road #324, Chelmsford, MA 01824.

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. Address: 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.

(NOTE: From this issue on, the Resource Page will alternate issues with other YCCC form/handout type stuff)

Upcoming Meetings

Date	Place
June 4 (Sun)	Sturbridge, MA
July 29 (Sat)	Manchester, NH (ARRL Con)
August 12 (Sat)	Sturbridge, MA (Picnic)
October 15 (Sat)	Sturbridge, MA
December 9 (Sat)	Sturbridge, MA

Ship's Log June, 1995 Issue 117		
Captain's Cabin	J. P. Kleinhaus, AA2DU.....	1
The YSA - What's it all About?	Dick Pechie, KB1H.....	1
A Wire Beam Design for 80 meters	Dave Robbins, KY1H.....	2
Secretary's Report	Charlotte Richardson, KQ1F....	5
Poop Deck	Leonard Kay, KB2R.....	7
DG's Dayton Diary, Part I	Doug Grant, K1DG.....	8
Amidships	Leonard Kay, KB2R.....	10
June/July Meeting Agendaæ	Luigi Giasi, AA1AA.....	10
Resource Page		11

The next regular meeting of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club will be held on Sunday, June 4 at 1:00 PM at the Host Hotel in Sturbridge, MA, near the intersection of I-84 and I-90. To get to the Host Hotel, exit I-84 onto Route 20 West. Go through two sets of stoplights and turn right just before the Burger into the hotel parking lot. See you there!

June Meeting Program: see page 10

The YCCC Scuttlebutt
6R Johnson St.
Woburn, MA 01801

FIRST CLASS MAIL