

Yankee Clipper



Contest Club

Scuttlebutt

No. 46 September, 1983

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CQ World-Wide DX Contest 1982

NCCC 94,834,409

FRC 100,074,060

YCCC 117,228,900

WE DID IT!!

Captain's Cabin

John Yodis, K2VV

We did it! YCCC has assumed its rightful place in the world: at the top of the CQ WW club competition list in October CQ. Finally, the 96 hour beating the ionosphere took at our hands has proven not to be in vain. The club competition was not won solely by the guys who made it into bold faced type. The contribution of members who knew their 250K had no chance for a certificate is what put us over the top. **CONGRATULATIONS!!!**

The confusion surrounding the changing editorship of the **Scuttlebutt** claimed at least one victim; my last column got lost in the shuffle. That's OK; I really didn't have anything profound to offer anyways.

On behalf of YCCC I want to thank Bill, K1GQ, and crew for their work on the **Butt** over the past few years. Incoming presidents have been relieved to find an autonomous organization in place willing to do the same thankless job month after month, regardless of who's running the meetings. Shortly after Bill's resignation, Paul, K1XM stepped forward to offer his services. Paul's experience with the MM letter has prepared him for bigger and better things (we're paying him twice the salary). I'd also like to acknowledge, with thanks, the offer from Gary, W1GG, and the gang in WMass to form a new editorial staff, had it become necessary.

The 1983 YCCC elections saw the end of an era with the retirement of Sec-Treas NITZ. Bob has been that thread of continuity that new officers have relied upon since our formation. Bob can finally come to meetings without a briefcase.

We heard had a lot of antenna plans described at the April meeting. I hope they all come to fruition over the summer. It would be nice to see some new W1/2 calls in the top ten this year.

Try to remember to wear a name badge at the meeting. This is especially helpful to new members who may wander around aimlessly surrounded by on-the-air acquaintances.

The Inkwell

Charlotte Richardson, KQ1F

TA1UA is running people at 21035!

There, now that I have your attention, let me introduce myself. I am NOT NITZ. Dear Bob has retired his pen and his personal computer, after serving us so well all these years. He put in a final mighty effort to help convert his computerized file to my computerized file, and is now, I hope, using his disk space for other things. I am your new secretary and treasurer. That means, among other things, that you should send your dues (\$10) to me if you are not planning on attending the Contest Convention meeting (why not??). If your mailing label says that you last paid dues in 1982 (or earlier), my heartless computer will no longer print your **Butt** label after the next meeting unless you pay up (postal costs, you know). While you're looking at your mailing label, if you have an asterisk in front of your address, that indicates that we think your address is wrong (your **Butts** have been returned to us before). If you see the asterisk, or if you move, tell any club officer the new information, and I will tell the computer. Easiest way to do this is to show up on 3830. The club roster published in the last **Butt** has the same addresses as the mailing labels do (this was not true in the past. K1GQ kept a separate roster.), except for a very small number of people who have already told me newer information. If you see a wrong address or phone number, for yourself or for a friend, please let us know, so we can keep up to date. Also let someone know if you upgrade your license or change callsigns.

We keep a file of log sheets and summary sheets for most popular contests. If you need copies, send me a large s.a.s.e. and I will send you one of each. If you plan to enter an obscure contest, and want other people to submit scores for it (especially if it is a club competition), send me a copy of the log sheet and summary sheet for it, so it can go in the file for other members.

Callsign Changes

KA1VQ is now KR1V
KA1CDC is now KR1R

YCCC HARTFORD "CONVENTION" MEETING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1983

The meeting place will be open at 9 AM Saturday morning for those early arrivers. The first speakers will start promptly at 10 AM. Talks will generally run from 30 to 45 minutes. There are plenty of places for good eating within a few minutes drive, and the lunch break will be from about noon until 1:30 PM. The "official" YCCC meeting part of the day will begin at around 3:30 PM, and should be over by 5 PM. After that, we'll adjourn to a local bistro for the evening discussions.

If you have anything to donate to a raffle, bring it with you, or contact K1AR.

Cost:

\$2.00 (unless your YCCC dues are paid by the time you leave.)

Directions:

From the West, take I84 to Capitol Ave. Follow to the end, which is Main Street. Turn right on Main, go one block, and turn left onto Charter Oak Ave.

From the East, take I91 to the Whitehead Highway, I484. Turn left onto Columbus Blvd, and right onto Charter Oak Ave. (about 2 blocks).

The address is Polish National Home, 60 Charter Oak Avenue, Hartford.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF SPEAKERS

Receiver Testing in the ARRL Lab

Phil Accardi, AJ1N

An Inside Look at Cushcraft

Glen Whitehouse, K1GW

Beginning and Advanced Station Design

Bill Meyers, K1GQ

Yet Another DXpedition

Bill Poellnitz, K1MM

DXing VS Contesting, a Psychological Analysis

Jim Cain, K1TN

ARRL Contest Advisory Committee Happenings

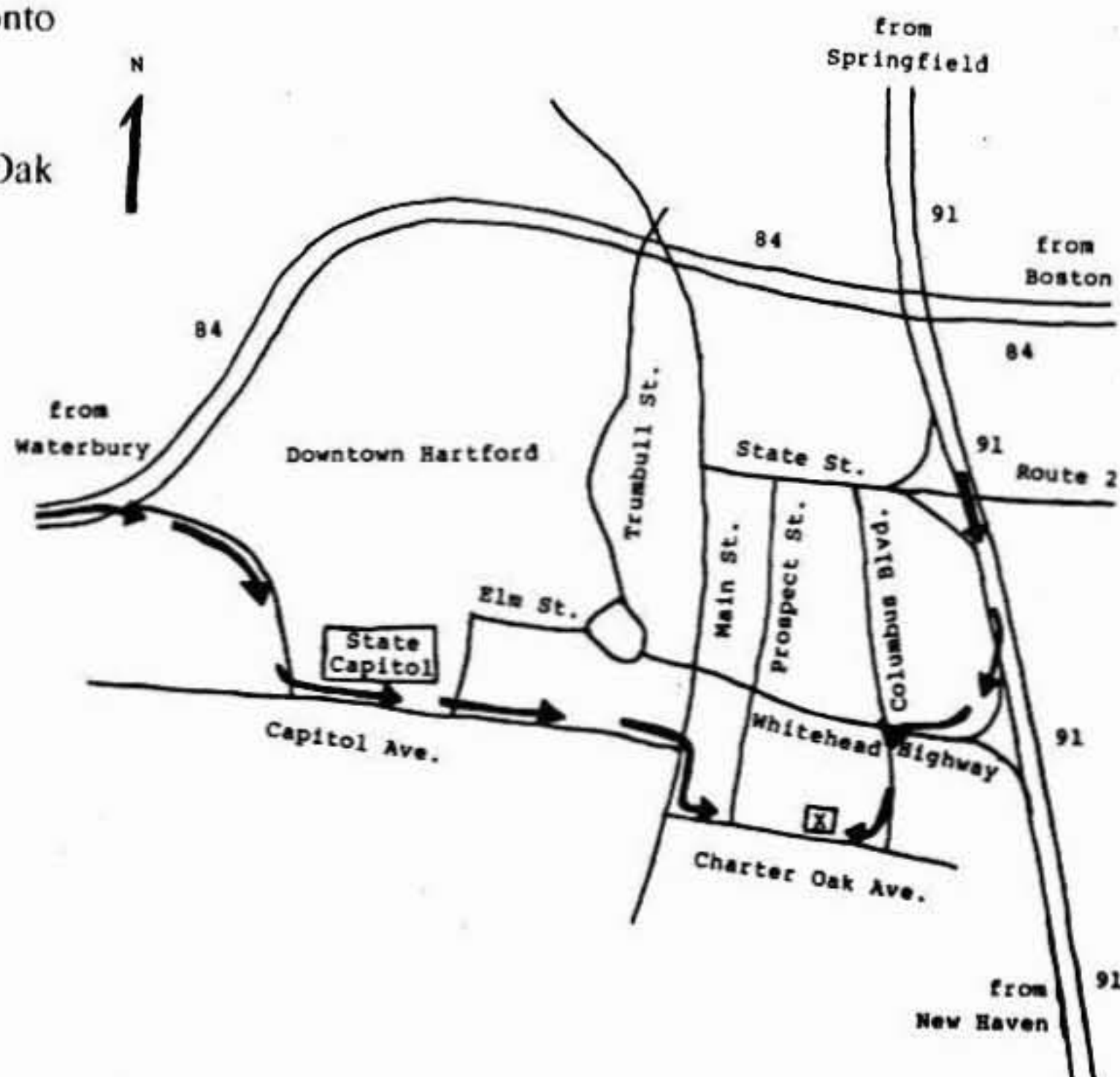
Doug Grant, K1DG

CQWW Contest Logging

John Yodis, K2VV / Bob Cox, K3EST

Contesting and the USFL

Rich Gelber, K2WR



Clipper Calendar

Mark Wilson, AA2Z

OCTOBER

1-2

California QSO Party
Oregon QSO Party
VK/ZL/Oceania Contest, phone
Ohio QSO Party

8-9

ARRL QSO Party, CW
VK/ZL/Oceania Contest, CW
World-Wide SSTV Contest
21/28 MHz Telephony Contest

15-16

Maryland-District of Columbia QSO Party
Worked All Y2 Contest
21 MHz CW Contest
Minnesota QSO Party
RTTY DX Communications Sweepstakes

22-23

ARRL QSO Party, phone
Pennsylvania QSO Party
Fall QRP QSO Party

29-30

ARRL International EME Competition, part 1
CQ World-Wide DX Contest, phone

NOVEMBER

5-6

ARRL November Sweepstakes, CW
Corona 10-Meter RTTY Contest
International Police Association Contest.

12-13

ARRL Midnight Special (160 meters)
European DX Contest, RTTY
CQ WE Contest
OK International DX Contest
Delaware QSO Party
Missouri QSO Party
North Carolina QSO Party
OMISS QSO Party
Rhode Island QSO Party

19-20

ARRL November Sweepstakes, phone
15-Meter States Contest

26-27

ARRL International EME Competition, part 2
CQ World-Wide DX Contest, CW

Top 25 DX Countries

The following is a list of the rarest countries for the world, and for the Eastern United States, according a recent survey by *The DX Bulletin*.

<u>World</u>		<u>Eastern USA</u>	
1.	ZA	1.	XU
2.	VU/L	2.	XZ
3.	XU	3.	VU/L
4.	7O	4.	BY
5.	XZ	5.	VU/A
6.	VU/A	6.	7O
7.	3Y	7.	XV
8.	CE0X	8.	3Y
9.	BY	9.	CE0X
10.	XV	10.	ZA
11.	HK0M	11.	YA
12.	YA	12.	4W
13.	4W	13.	HK0M
14.	XW	14.	XW
15.	A6	15.	ZL/K
16.	5A	16.	S2
17.	ZL/K	17.	IS
18.	S2	18.	5A
19.	S9	19.	A6
20.	IS	20.	S9
21.	SV/A	21.	SV/A
22.	FO/C	22.	FO/C
23.	5U	23.	A5
24.	ZS2M	24.	ZS2M
25.	C9	25.	S. GA

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CQ WW Contest Rules - 1983

Date and Time: Phone: 0000Z Oct. 29 until 2400Z Oct. 30. CW: 0000Z Nov. 26 until 0000Z Nov. 27.

Frequencies: 1.8 through 30 MHz.

Entry classes: Single operator, all band; Single operator, single band; Single operator, QRP (5 watts or less); Multioperator, single transmitter; Multioperator, multiple transmitter.

Multi-single: only one transmitter and one band permitted during a 10-minute period. Exception: one -- and only one -- other band may be used during the same 10-minute period if -- and only if -- the station worked is a new multiplier. Stations found in violation of the 10-minute rule will be reclassified as multi-multi.

Multi-multi: Stations are allowed one signal per band maximum. All transmitters must be located within a 500-meter diameter circle, or the limits of the licensee's address property, whichever is greater. All antennas must be physically connected to the transmitters by wires.

Exchange: Signal report and CQ zone number. A station in a different zone or country than indicated by its call sign must sign portable.

Scoring: QSOs between stations on different continents count 3 points. QSOs between stations on the same continent but in different countries count 1 point. Exception: QSOs between North American stations in different countries count 2 points. QSOs with your own country count for multiplier credit, but not for QSO points. Count one multiplier for each different CQ zone worked per band (max. 40 per band). Count one multiplier for each different country worked per band (DXCC and WAE lists). Multiply QSO points from all bands operated by multipliers (zones plus countries) from all bands operated for final score. Each dupe removed by the CQ Contest Committee also carries a 3 QSO penalty.

Awards: Single-band logs eligible for single-band awards only. Single ops must operate at least 12 hours (multiops, 24 hours) to be eligible for awards.

Entry forms are available from the sponsor for an S.A.S.E., and all entrants are encouraged to send for a set. Dupe sheets required for any band with more than 200 QSOs.

Phone logs must be postmarked by Dec. 1, 1983, and cw logs must be postmarked by Jan. 15, 1984. Mail phone logs to Larry Brockman, N6AR, 7164 Rock Ridge Terrace, Canoga Park, CA 91307. Cw logs go to Bob Cox, K3EST, 6548 Spring Valley Dr., Alexandria, VA 22312. Logs may also go to *CQ Magazine*, 76 North Broadway, Hicksville, NY 11801.

Clipper's Log

Matt Power, KA1R

All-Asia CW

K1AR 281/? All-Band
K1KI 199/54 Mono-20
K1XM 52/30 Mono-40

LZ DX Contest

K1AR 100 QSOs

European Field Day

K1AR 150 QSOs

WAE Phone

KC1F 1894/1800/381
K1AR 570/570/?
K1DG 200/200/?
K2EK 480/470/40 Monoband 15
KQ1F 281/275/197

Floating

Paul Young, K1XM

Autumn is fast approaching. I know because I've worked two VUs on 40 meters this week (short path - I don't like to wake up in the morning), and because 10 meters opened to Europe last night. Along with the improved conditions comes contest season.

I've done some antenna work this summer, but not as much as I should have, and it looks like my new super-duper 80 meter antenna is not much better than my old lousy 80 meter antenna. And I still have not installed my new receiving antenna, and I have not built my "death-ray" 8877 amplifier... Are you ready for contest season? Remember, he who waits for the last minute to install antennas will find the last minute to be on a cold and windy day.

This is the second **Scuttlebutt** I have had the pleasure of editing. I would like to thank those who submitted articles to this and the last issue, particularly K1KI and KA1R, and also AJ1I who spent much time with the paste-ups and printing. Also, the folks from middle Massachusetts who volunteered to help. Although the current procedure seems to be working, I will probably call on you when it falls apart.

I have spent a lot of time recently setting up procedures whereby I can easily produce future issues of the **Scuttlebutt**. The typeset equipment I am using is borrowed, and may go away any time, so future issues may get better, or may get worse.

I recently received a copy of the NCCC newsletter, the *CONTEST JUG*. One thing I noticed is that they have about a page of commercial advertising, some for radios, and some for antennas. I'm sure YCCC blows up as many radios as any other contest club, and of course our New England weather necessitates more antenna replacement than in California. Is there anyone out there who would like to pursue advertising for the **BUTT**? Or do we even want it?

Charlotte and I are planning to host a multi-single or mini-multi for the coming CQ WW contest, probably as K1XM for one mode, and KQ1F for the other. I am looking for any similar stations (one or two towers, tribanders) for some head-to-head competition, both for fun and to boost the club score. Anyone interested?

Hurricane Hits Texas DX Society

80% of the TDXS lost everything, according to K5RC. All the big stations lost everything, and everybody lost something, with constant 100 mile per hour winds for ten hours, and gale force winds for eighteen hours.

In preparation for the storm at NA5R, they took down the big 20 and 40 meter beams, and thought they had everything tied down. Of the five towers, a tornado took out four. On the fifth tower, a turnbuckle on a strut holding up a boom of a sidemounted antenna came undone (it was not safety wired). The boom broke, flailed, and tore a 12 inch piece out of one of the tower legs. This caused the tower to fall on the big 40 meter beam they had taken down.

The eye of the hurricane went right over NA5R, giving them time to survey the damage at midpoint. K5RC, who was at NA5R during the storm describes it as a night he would never want to repeat. The insurance company owns everything now.

K5RC lost five of his six towers. One tower, which fell was 70 feet of AB105 with nothing on it! All that remains is one tower with a 15 meter beam. It is likely that K5RC will not be rebuilt, but will be combined with NA5R.

K5LZO lost much hardware to a tornado three months ago, and now lost the rest.

N5JJ was luckier, losing antennas but not towers.

MORAL:

1. Safety wire turnbuckles!
2. Use turnbuckles with forged eyes. Bent ones will open!

Contest Hit Parade

Bob Clarke, NIRC

It is a little-known fact in the amateur radio fraternity that many hit songs were originally intended for the ham music market but were diverted by record companies angered by RFI complaints directed against hams by audiophiles intent on DC - 30 MHz +/- 0.5 dB frequency response in their systems. As a result of these complaints, the record companies forced the original artists to re-record their unreleased material with altered titles and lyrics; this time the material was directed at the "pop" music market. Recent research in the archives of a major recording studio brought forth records of these shameful proceedings made by a disgruntled ham/recording engineer. These records included a list of the artists and altered titles as well as the new titles under which the re-recorded songs were released. A listing of the more famous of these appears below.

Original Title	New Title	Artist(s)
All Around the Antenna Tower	All Around the Watchtower	Dylan/Hendrix
Down Three	Down on Me	Janis Joplin
Born to Run JAs	Born to Run	Bruce Springsteen
I Don't Want to Move Down	I Don't Want to Go Home	Southside Johnny and the Asbury Jukes
Me and K5RC	Me and My RC	(TV Jingle)
Pig-farmer on the Band	Join Together in the Band	The Who
Old Yankee	Moon River	Andy Williams
It's My Band	It's My Life	Eric Burden and the Animals
We Can Time It Out	We Can Work It Out	The Beatles
Tune! Tune! Tune!	Turn! Turn! Turn!	The Byrds
Does Anybody Know What Band This Is?	Does Anybody Know What Time It Is?	Chicago
Lyin' Logs	Lyin' Eyes	The Eagles
Damn Jammer	Whammer Jammer	J. Geils Band
CW Man	Piano Man	Billy Joel
Nights of Loud Static	Nights in White Satin	The Moody Blues
Smoke from the Amp	Smoke on the Water	Deep Purple

The YCCC Awards Program

Matt Power, KA1R

A few years ago, some YCCC members began considering a club awards program as a means of improving the poor YCCC turnout in the major club competition contests. This program, which was originally outlined by N2NT and later organized by KM1C, is now conducted by the YCCC Awards Committee consisting of AK1A, WB8BTH, and KM1C. This program has, in the past, given out three types of awards: Top-Ten-Single-Op/Top-Multi-Op certificates, High Point Brigade certificates, and a Top-Point-Producing-Operator plaque. It is my opinion, and that of a few other YCCC members whom I have talked to, that this program has not been effective in motivating YCCC operator activity. The program tends to provide a slight additional incentive to those who would plan serious contest efforts anyway, and little incentive to those who irregularly, if ever, plan serious contest efforts.

There are many YCCC members who regularly enter the major contests (in the sense of submitting a log), but only operate one-fifth to three-fifths of the permitted operating time. Some of these operators feel it is not worthwhile for them to put in the extra hours required for a serious effort because they are not going to "win anything" anyway. Others prefer to devote part of each contest weekend to various activities not associated with amateur radio. In each case, the people have some interest in contest operating; they have some interest in competing and possibly "winning something" when possible. The YCCC Awards Program should be able to provide an incentive for some of these members to boost their scores, primarily by increasing operating time. This incentive could take the form of some sort of award, and I believe most would consider a plaque award more desirable than a certificate award. My proposal is to offer a "YCCC Million-Point Award", for which any operator, who has not previously attained a score of one million or more points in any contest, operating from any station, which has not previously attained a score of one million or more points in any contest, would be eligible. This plaque award would be given to the eligible operator (if any) who, during each contest season, had the highest single score of over one million points. Any previous single-operator score, from any station, would render an operator ineligible if the score was

over a million. Also, any score made by any operator or group of operators from the station being used would make that place an ineligible station if the score was over a million points. The actual station used, rather than the callsign used, would be considered.

Obviously, this million-point plaque would be awarded only for DX contest participation, since million point scores do not occur in Sweepstakes. This seems, however, to be in accordance with current YCCC club competition goals. Also, in accordance with current YCCC interest, only CQ WW and ARRL DX scores would be considered. It would be the responsibility of any YCCC member making his first million-point score in one of these contests to report this fact to the Awards Committee. The plaque would be awarded only to the highest scorer, but significant **Scuttlebutt** mention of any other new million-point scores could be made, even to the extent of including station descriptions, band breakdowns, etc. If necessary, the current Top-Point-Producing-Operator plaque could be discontinued in order for YCCC to afford this new plaque.

In addition to providing incentive to the wrong operators, I also feel that the YCCC Awards Program puts too much emphasis on individual scores. Station scores should also be emphasized. I know of several stations within the YCCC in which if a station owner decides to put his station on the air for a particular contest, he and his crew of operators will be active in that contest; if he decides not to get on, neither he or any of his usual multi-op group will operate in that contest. Obviously these station owners have other forms of motivation and other factors influencing their decisions on whether to operate a contest, but it is clear that the YCCC Awards Program is not providing much incentive. The chances of even getting a certificate are not that good. I realize that most of the multi-operator station awards were eliminated when the program was "streamlined and simplified", and I wonder how necessary this was.

Clearly, none of my Awards Program ideas represent official YCCC policy. Any changes in the program will surely have to be made through the existing Awards Committee unless someone else will be taking over their work. As the Awards Program now stands, the rules for each award are easy to understand for anyone interested. But, is anyone interested?

Beverage Preamplifier

Tom Frenaye, K1KI

If you're all thumbs like me and don't want to spend the time accumulating parts for another project that may or may not work, I've found a reasonable alternative.

Advanced Receiver Research makes a broadband, 1 through 30 MHz pre-amp with 19db gain across the entire range. The pre-amp is built on a 1-1/4" by 1-7/16" circuit board. The height of the tallest component is only 1/2" so it will fit into some very small places if needed. The five resistors, four capacitors, toroid and transistor look simple enough but when I figured out how much it would cost in gas mileage and time to collect the parts, make the circuit board and then get it working, it seemed like quite a bargain.

It runs on from 10-16Vdc and draws only about 10 mA. When used with my Beverage or my loop antenna it does have about 20db gain as indicated by the TS-930S S-meter. When using a low noise antenna on the low bands it really does help bring the signals up enough to make it worthwhile.

The pre-amp costs \$22.95 (postpaid) (plus 7.5% sales tax in CT), order pre-amp P1-30/20VDP/NC. If you want one with a nice, rugged aluminum case, with BNC connectors, it costs \$32.95 postpaid, order number P1-30/20VDP. Other connectors (SMA, N, RCA, TNC, F) are available, contact ARR for details. Their address is PO Box 1242, Burlington CT, 06103.

Note that this pre-amp is not advertised by ARR in QST or elsewhere. Must be a specialty item for DXers and contesters....

Excess Cargo

K2XA, Saul, is selling a Henry 2K4. \$850.

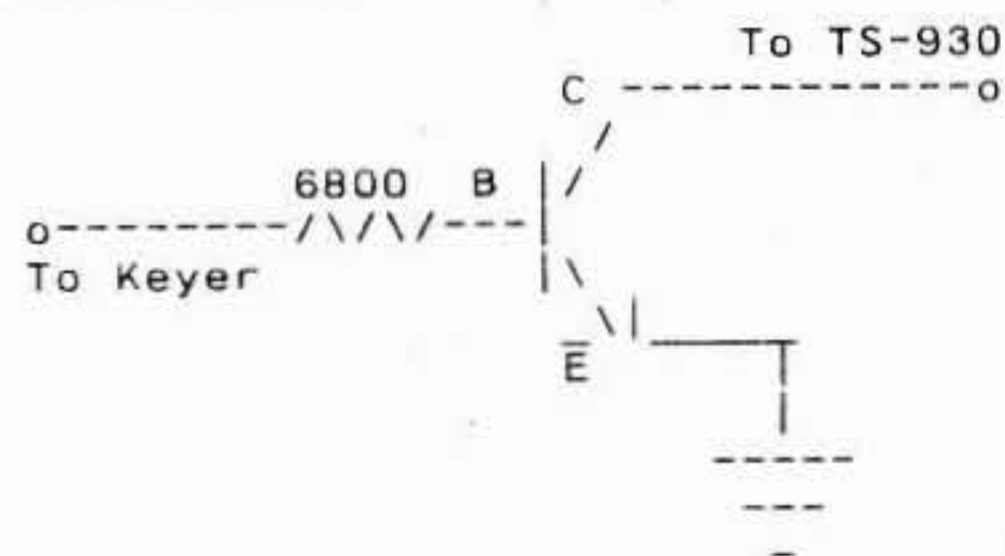
AJ11, Everett, has a Drake R4C for sale, all filters and mods. \$350.

N1MM, Tom, is selling a Drake T4XC. \$300.

A TS-930 Quickie

Paul Young, K1XM

I guess my TS-930 works differently from John's. It has some minor quirks, but I like it. One problem which he had also plagued me - the inability to connect an Accukeyer to it. Rather than open my Accukeyer and add another output jack, I built a simple level converter. It's very non-critical, and only uses two parts. The transistor can be any NPN device. I used a 2N2222 because I had one in my junk box. The resistor is similarly non-critical, and can probably be +/- 50%, whatever is in your junkbox.



This circuit takes advantage of the unusual configuration of the output stage of the Accukeyer. I don't know if it will work on any other keyer.

TS-930 Modification

Tom Frenaye, K1KI

Some users of the TS-930S have reported that a heterodyne is heard when the VBT control is in the CW mode. The tone may be more noticeable with no signal present, or when the AF Tune or CW pitch controls are tuned. (The above from Kenwood Service Bulletin 866.)

My TS-930S had the problem described in the preceding paragraph so I wrote to Kenwood asking for a "parts kit" to fix it, assuming it wouldn't be too hard. The service bulletin is three pages long, and ends by describing how to realign things with an oscilloscope. If you feel you are reasonably good at alignment, write to Kenwood and ask for service bulletin 866 and one "shield kit", Kenwood part number "Z930CARSHIELD". The service bulletin also states, "This modification may be performed in warranty on a case by case basis. Time required for this modification is 1 hour."

I haven't tried it yet...

The **Scuttlebutt** is the newsletter of the **Yankee Clipper Contest Club** and is mailed about nine times per year to all paid up members. Dues are \$10 per year, payable 1 April with a grace period through 30 June. 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 dues.

The **Yankee Clipper Contest Club** (an ARRL Affiliated Club) holds four official meetings per year, on Saturday afternoons in March/April, October (at the New England Division Convention when possible), November/December, and January/February. Also, W2YV hosts a summer social gathering each July, usually on the second weekend after July 4. Attendance at an official meeting is required in order to become a member. Club members congregate on 3830 Khz Monday evenings; many routinely monitor this frequency other evenings as well.

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

Area	Call	Name	Home	Work
CT/RI	K1KI	Tom Frenaye	(203) 673-5429	(203) 549-0107
EMass	W1FJ	Al Rousseau	(617) 598-3744	(617) 599-7500x173
WMass	W1GG	Gary Gaudette	(413) 443-3404	(413) 494-4047
VT/NH	WB8BTH	Jeff DeTray	(603) 525-4998	(603) 924-9471
ME	K1SA	Bernie Cohen	(207) 773-6589	(207) 797-3585
NNY	K2VV	John Yodis	(518) 843-3897	(518) 370-4200x632
SNY/NJ	K2EK	Bill Gioia	(914) 221-1672	(212) 888-2102

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FIRST CLASS

Special Contest Convention Issue