

THE SCUTTLEBUTT



"The Clipper's Wake"

Journal of the YANKEE CLIPPER CONTEST CLUB

A Club of Dx & Contest
Oriented Amateurs in the
Northeastern USA

"#1 is more FUN"

JUNE, 1979

#18

HEAD SHED

Boss Man: Doug, K1DG

Note Taker: Bill, K1GQ

Next Boss Man: Fred, K2TR

Penny Pincher: Bob, N1TZ

Jack of All Trades: Mark, K1RX

PRESIDENTIAL PALAVER

As your newly elected President, I will follow the tradition of writing a stirring, rousing editorial to fire everybody up for the fall contest season. Let's first look back at where YCCC has been, is now, and is going.

What we now know as YCCC started many years ago when a club called Murphy's Marauders was formed in Connecticut. After a few years, the club grew to be a national power, and in fact, won the SS gavel one year. As the club continued to grow, factions arose (don't they always?) within the club. One group wanted to continue to grow and compete with the Mega-clubs. The other group decided to become a more localized Hartford area club. When Jeff Briggs, K1ZM, was elected President, the split occurred. The club center was moved to a geographically more advantageous location and a new constitution was drafted. The name Murphy's Marauders was left to the group that opted for the small club approach in deference to the original members of MM who stayed with the Hartford area group. MM has since emerged as the premier medium sized club in the ARRL three-tier system. We wish them well -- MM is a class act.

The new club became known as the Yankee Clipper Contest Club. Through the efforts of K1ZM, K1OME, K1RX, K1XX, K1IU, and several others, the club developed quickly into a contender.

Jeff Briggs, K1ZM, was the President for the first two years. Uniting the testers of New England and New York was no easy task, but Jeff pulled it off in grand style. In addition to organizing the club, he edited, typed, hand addressed, and mailed the Scuttlebutt for over a year. In his spare time, he drove over to W1ZM once in a while and won a DX contest. We all owe a great deal of gratitude to Jeff for getting YCCC on its feet and setting something of an example in contesting as well.

Jeff's dream was to build a contest club. Mine is to turn that club into a winner.

I see us as a club with as much raw operating skill as any. We stand second to none in quality of stations. Our roster is a bit short, but quite impressive for a club only two years old. We may have the force, but we haven't won a contest yet. Our SS average score is lower than NCCC and their enormous volume of entries widens the gap even further. Until we can amass the total number of members they have, I feel we can't compete with them yet.

The DX contests are another story. We've always been near the top of the CQ WW listings (until the CW weekend). The ARRL contest results aren't out

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yet, but we're well down in the pack owing to a poor CW turnout. It is clear to me that we should turn our attentions toward the DX contests and in particular the 1979 CQ WW. We CAN win this contest. We'll need organization, strategy, and above all -- participation. The club officers can do all except the last of these. We are presently developing a computerized data base to organize the club records. There'll be a questionnaire in the next month or so sent out to all members which will allow us to better assess our strengths and weaknesses. No amount of strategy and planning can compensate for a lack of participation. To paraphrase Smoky the Bear -- "Only you can prevent us from getting burned this fall."

I'm looking forward to a good year, beginning next month at the party at the \$1.98 contest station. See everybody there. AR

New England Division Convention

One of our four official meetings per year is held at the Division Convention - this year in Hartford at the Sheraton. Some of you may recall last year's convention at Boxboro, where we barely escaped meeting in a 10 x 10 room with no chairs. Well, the pendulum swings... this year YCCC is responsible for the entire Contest and DX Forum, running 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM Saturday and 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM Sunday. Good publicity for the club, if we put on a good show. Make some noise if you have any resource to contribute, from ideas to audio-visual shows. Deadline on or about the bash at YV's...K1GQ

Learn the Code

The upper righthand corner of your mailing label carries a single letter code indicating your connection with YCCC:

C = complimentary copy of the Scuttlebutt	R = potential member
I = member inside 50-mile radius	O = member outside 175 miles
M = member between 50 and 175 miles	

If you feel your relationship is misunderstood, contact one of your officers. Note that membership status is different from eligibility status - more on that next 'Butt...K1GQ

My Turn

As most people know by this time, the 'Butt is under new management. With my change in employment and finishing up school, I've plenty of time to help the club, plus being able to truly enjoy radio/contesting again. For these reasons, I've taken Doug off the hook and will do the Scuttlebutt for a while. I hope to be able to get the 'Butt out about once a month, material permitting. During the contest season, I want to include as many scores as possible and want everyone to let their score be known to either one of the officers or myself. For the time being, my phone number at work is (603) 885-4236. I've been playing musical desks and phones, so keep trying until someone finds me.

In the next issue I want to start a new type of column for the 'Butt. It will be patterned somewhat in the same manner as H and K. However, it will be written by you the members of YCCC. The range of topics is endless, how you mount your antenna, a source for good antenna wire, a different technique for mounting

elements on a boom, modifications to equipment, whatever. They're essentially your way of solving some problem, and hopefully will aid someone else in the club. I'm sure that everyone has a few ideas along this line. So, sit down and send them to me. Else, everyone is going to get awfully tired of hearing how I do things.

The last item -- I'm looking for a couple people for a multi-multi during CQ CW. Will also need equipment. Any takers? . . . SK de K1XX

YORK vs HAMPSHIRE: WHICH MAKES FOR BETTER HAMS?*

Farmers have been arguing for decades over the relative merits of Yorks vs Hampshires. On the weekend of June 23 and 24, radio amateurs in Grafton, New York and Derry, New Hampshire will battle it out in a radio contest to determine once and for all which swine are superior. The contest is an armchair version of Field Day using fixed locations (K2TR/WA2SPL in NY and K1RX in NH) and operating three 200-watt rigs on commercial power into fixed station antennas. Even without the outdoor aspects, this is no boaring contest. Scoring is by ARRL rules: 1 point phone, 2 points CW, 15 minute band/mode change rule in effect. Bonus points will be used as the tiebreaker. Winning crew gets free pizza at the July party. Fred seems to have recruited some ops who can hog a frequency pretty well, but prior performance by Pride's porcines put them in a preferred position. Late reports show a possible stampede of Texas porkers joining the fray from K1EA/5. Good luck to all YCCC FD'ers Mesdames et Messieurs, faites vos cochons.

*For you city dwellers, York and Hampshire are two popular breeds of pigs.

Anyone wanting a new updated club roster can pick one up at the July gathering, or send an SASE to K1GQ.

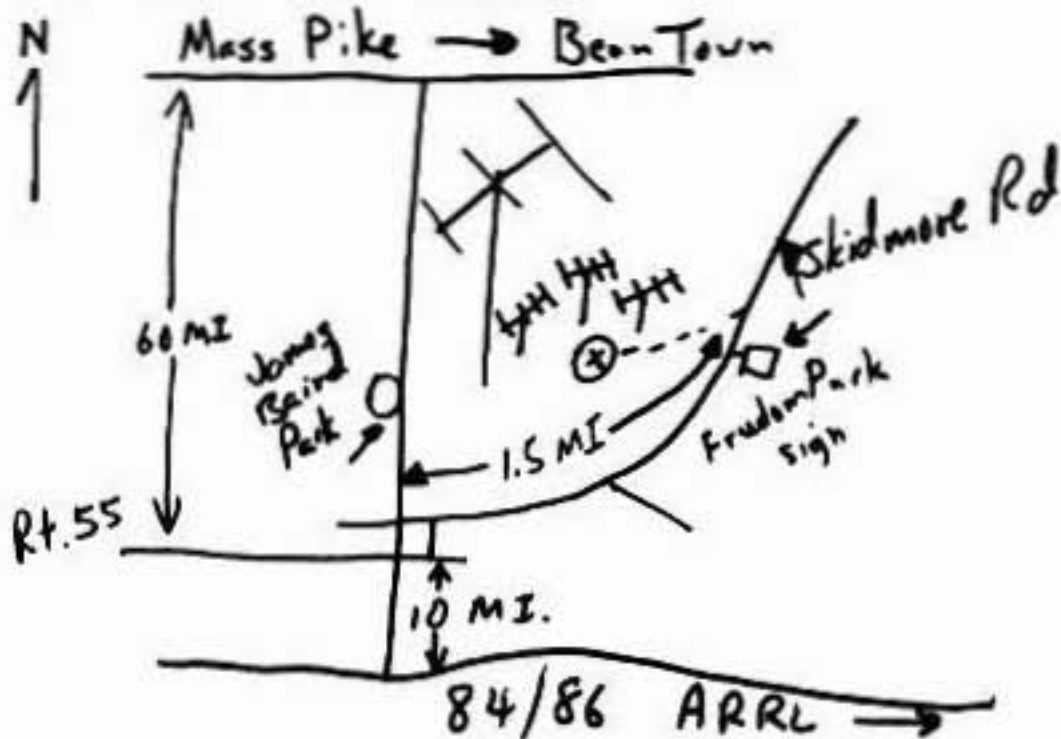
\$1.98 BASH

Announcing the first annual summer gathering at the \$1.98 contest station.

From either the Mass Pike or Interstate 84/86, get on the Taconic State Parkway. Taconic is Exit 16N on Interstate 84. Heading North on the Taconic, Skidmore Rd. is about 10.5 miles from 84, and immediately past the second Route 55 exit. Heading South on the Taconic, Skidmore Rd. is about 1 mile past James Briar Park.

Go down (East) on Skidmore 1.5 miles. Driveway is on left, just past the "Freedom Park" sign. There will probably be a red/white Chevy Blazer parked at the bottom of the driveway.

NOTE: If you are East of Route 84/86 (Sturbridge) exit on Mass Pike, it is shorter (and cheaper) to take Route 84/86 rather than following the Mass Pike West to Taconic State Parkway.



DATE: JULY 28
TIME: 3 PM till ??
PHONE: 914 471-4765

Limited sleeping arrangements.
A big floor, so bring your sleeping bag if you want to spend the nite.

Wanted: Junked (i.e. cheap) R4A or R4B, especially want Passband
Tuning Unit. K1XX

My apologies to all for the rather poor quality and lateness of
this issue of the 'Butt. I had hoped to have this issue to
everyone before Field Day, however my typewriter broke and I was
forced to finish this issue at work. K1XX

Next issue will include wrap ups of Field Day and Dayton.

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