

THE SCUTTLEBUTT



"The Clipper's Wake"

Journal of the YANKEE CLIPPER CONTEST CLUB

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

Number 8
March 1978

"#1 is more FUN"

Pres: KLZM

Activities Manager: KLXX

Sec'y: WLRR

Treas: WALTAI

ARRL International DX Competition

LOG Sheet 1 of 1

CALL USED... W2PV



C.W.



PHONE



Separate logs and summary sheets
required for each mode.

FREQ.	DATE/TIME GMT	STATION	EXCHANGE		New multipliers/band.						PTS
			SENT	RCVD	1.8	3.5	7	14	21	28	
1.8	3/18 0510	PAGHIP	599 NY	589 010	1						3
	0514	HB9RM	599 NY	559 100	2						3
	0517	F8VJ	599 NY	569 010	3						3
	0525	63MXJ	599 NY	599 010	4						3
	0529	6DSCAA	599 NY	579 010	5						3

---THE PREZ RELEASE---

THAT SNOWY JANUARY MEETING, ETC.

Well gang-mother nature surely did a number on us at our January meeting. With the wx conditions being as terrible as they were, we were fortunate to draw even the 43 hearty souls who came on out and made it to the meeting. In the future, if wx or other unforeseen calamities threaten to cancel a YCCC event, the word will be passed at 9AM the day of the meeting on the net frequency of 3830khz. In this way we can avoid the confusion that many of us faced. Had it been possible economically to get to everyone personally to call the meeting off, we would have. We just didn't have a mechanism in place--now we have one for future use, if needed.

ARRL DX TESTS

Activity from the club seems to have been good thus far, although I personally know of only a few scores firsthand. Please get on the net and let us know your score so we can see it gets into the SCUTTLEBUTT.

DAYTON PREVIEW

Looks like there is going to be a big YCCC contingent heading to Ohio again this year. YCCC will have a suite both nights and there will be a special dinner to be

held on Saturday night. Plans call for a slide, film and tape show by N4ZC of his trips to KURE & KM6. It should be a great weekend!! Check with me at the meeting if you are interested in coming to the dinner.

NEXT MEETING

The next YCCC Official Meeting will be held on Sunday April 2, 1978 at 2PM. It will be held at a new site in Auburn, Mass. about 3 tenths of a mile up the street from our normal spot. The name of the place is the Chester Tuttle Post#279 on the left hand side of route 12. A map of how to get there is included later in this newsletter.

CLUB DUES TIME IS HERE

Annual dues of \$5.00 per man are to be collected at the April meeting. Please remember to bring along a fiver to make things easy for Bob, TAI.

ELECTIONS

April also marks the time to vote in a new slate of officers to carry the club through another year! Please come prepared to nominate the men of your choice & vote so we can move through this process without delay.

LUM'S

After the meeting we'll head off to LUM'S again--seems to be liked by all!!

HPE CU APRIL 2ND-- 73, JHR

--NEXT COLUMN PSE--

THE YCCC EXPEDITION TO KP4EAJ

Somewhere around mid-September of last year, I got a phone call one day from Roger Burt, N4ZC/1, who had an interesting offer to make. It seemed that Chet Moore, KP4EAJ, who was an old friend of Roger's, was looking for a team of operators to help staff KP4EAJ for a run at the existing CQ/WW CW Multi-Multi record for North America. A quick check in CQ Magazine revealed the record was around 5,550,000 points and was held by the very well known contest station, W4BVV. In that Chet, Roger, and Ed, KP4EKI, had set the existing North American record in the Multi-Single class in 1974, and that this would be Chet's last major contest effort before being transferred from Puerto Rico, it seemed like a great idea to be able to help him try to set the Multi-Multi record as well.

In only a matter of several days and after a few phone calls, the team really began to take shape. It looked like the group was to consist of four YCCC members--myself operating 20, Roger on 15, my brother George, K2DM, on 80, and Rich Roth, K1OME, on 40. We were to be joined in San Juan by Chet, his brother Bob, WB8TON, and two of Chet's Coast Guard buddies, Zippo, WB8NTK, and Rick, K5PM. (Another YCCC club member, Fred Hopengarten, K1VR, was a last minute addition to the team arriving in San Juan eight hours after the contest had started Friday night.) From that point forward, the trip was definitely ON, and flights were booked, equipment and antenna needs considered, as well as all the other key factors that would ultimately need to be addressed before we left for San Juan.

After the first few frantic days of making flight arrangements, rounding up the team of operators, and making long distance phone calls to San Juan were over, things returned to normal and the many days of waiting began until the "big" day we would leave. Finally the night of Wednesday, November 23rd arrived, and we were on our way at last!

Arriving in San Juan presented us with the first of several memorable experiences and made me certainly appreciate the trials and tribulations that plague every contester or dx-er who travels off into the boonies to activate some rare spot on the other side of the globe!! It was four in the morning when we touched down at the airport, and Roger suggested we hail a cab for the five mile ride out to Chet's place. Rog, who speaks fluent Spanish, walked up to a group of Puerto Rican cab drivers and asked them to take us out to the Coast Guard base. They all promptly turned their backs on us and walked away continuing their discussion. It seemed like we were off to a great start!!

When we finally got a cabdriver to agree to take us out to Chet's, we were confronted with the next round of fun and games. It seemed Rog had only a "rough idea" of exactly where Chet lived. We were going to have to find KP4EAJ by looking skyward for Chet's tower and TH6 in the dark and the pouring rain! As we drove round and round the "vicinity" of the Coast Guard housing area, with all of us hanging out the windows getting drenched looking for Chet's tower, our cab driver was beginning to get super furious with all of us because he wanted to get back to the airport right away to pick up some more fares before dawn. At one point he mumbled, "Eef we don' fine eet een five minut', fuhget eet!!" Can you picture that one, being let off in the middle of nowhere in the pouring rain?? Just what Drake equipment needs in the way of fine lubrication! Well, we finally got lucky--we first found KP4EKI, then KP4CGB, and lastly KP4EAJ. It was good we found it when we did as our cab driver was really bent out of shape by that point!!

Chet was awake by the time we pulled up in front of his house and it was then that we received the next bit of interesting news. Chet explained that it had been raining for three days straight, that it was probably going to rain all that day, and that whenever it rained that hard in San Juan, he usually lost power for about three days until the Puerto Rican version of Con Edison arrived and drained out the wiring substations on the base. That meant that the large amount of antenna work still needing to be done would have to be put off until Friday, the day of the contest. It also meant that the entire operation might not come off at all--for, if we lost power, we would probably be out of the contest--PERMANENTLY!!

The next thing we found out was that the 15 meter rotator had been damaged when it had been first wired up incorrectly a few days before--it rotated, but the indicator didn't work. Roger was going to have to spend the weekend on 15 running outside the building trying to visually gauge his beam headings. Just what was needed to generate big runs during a CQ test!

THE YCCC EXPEDITION TO KP4EAJ (Continued)

Well, by then it was time for Chet to dash off to work, and we began to set up some of the gear we had brought down with us--there was little else we could do, because, by early afternoon, the street in front of Chet's house had turned into a small LAKE eight inches deep!! It was absolutely impossible to even consider doing any outside antenna work!!

Our next surprise came at about 8PM that night. Chet finally arrived home, some three hours late--and was thoroughly soaked to the bone. He had driven his car into a gigantic puddle on the way home from the base, it had stalled and was still buried in the water. (It was our only means of picking up the rest of the gear needed for the operation the next day). Chet had had to walk the rest of the way home in the downpour--thus the delay in returning home. At that point, with the lights flickering and the water continuing to rise outside the front door, we honestly felt to a man that the KP4EAJ operation was never going to come to pass. So at about 10PM we all crashed early, thoroughly downcast, figuring there was absolutely nothing any of us could do about the situation.

Friday morning, the day of the contest, dawned early--and to all of our saddened eyes, a most welcome sight was on the horizon--the SUN was shining!! Chet went to try to retrieve his car, and George, Rich and I rushed outside to hang the inverted vee George was going to use on 80CW.

In no time at all the vee was up at 35 feet, but we couldn't achieve an SWR of better than 4/1 on the stupid thing--in spite of measuring it, re-measuring it and trying to hang it from several different positions on the 15M mast. After about two hours of fooling with it, we gave up--and George used it as it was for the entire weekend. We knew we wouldn't be loud on 80, but George hung in there working 20 zones and 52 countries, including a JA from the Caribbean even--not bad for an inverted vee at 35 feet with an SWR of 4/1!!!

The rest of the day passed quickly--Chet got his car going, the additional gear arrived, and things began to take a turn for the better. About 7:45PM local, with 15 minutes to go I programmed my Accukeyer at the 20M position and started searching for a clear spot on which to stake out a claim for the start of the contest.

When the clock ticked to 0001Z, all HELL broke loose on six bands--it was a contesters' dream, particularly if you're used to run of the mill 80-90 hours on CW from the Northeastern USA. The first hour on 20M logged 171 Q's, with the pile-up evaporating several times right in the middle of the hour. Pity, it would have really been interesting to see what the rate might have been had the volume of callers been able to sustain itself the entire hour. Even so, the rate hovered above 150 per hour for the first four hours of the contest, complete with numerous JA's, UL7's, UK9's and many Europeans, ZL's and VK's. What incredible propagation exists from the Caribbean!! It seemed at times as if a station running 1 watt into a piece of wet string for an antenna could run pile-ups at 50 per hour or better from down there.

Over on 15M the action did not really start out so well, but on Sunday Roger and Fred were knocking 'em off at better than 140-150 for a couple of hours. That seemed a bit strange with the biggest rates on that band coming on Sunday morning instead of on Saturday, but it didn't really matter--it was super FB while it lasted!!

When it was all over Sunday night, a new North American Multi-Multi CW record (Claimed) was ready for the books--we had achieved what we all had worked so hard for. And, we had also made the #1 CW Multi-Multi score in the 1977 contest, not only for North America, but for the world as well. The final tally was: 7017 Q's, 129 Zones and 312 Countries for a score of 7,177,275 points. Our breakdown came out as follows:

Band	Q's	Zones	Countries	Operators
160	128	7	14	WB8NTK+(K1VR)
80	663	20	52	K2DM+(K5PM)
40	1621	26	66	K10ME+(WB8NTK)
20	2028	32	78	K1ZM+(K5PM, WB8NTK, K1VR)
15	1654	24	64	N4ZC/1+(K1VR, WB8TON)
10	923	20	38	KP4EAJ+(WB8TON, K10ME, K2DM, K1ZM)

THE YCCC EXPEDITION TO KP4EAJ (Continued)

Our antennas used during the operation were these:

- 160 500' long wire at 30', fed through an L network
- 80 Inverted vee at 35' with 4/1 SWR
- 40 400' long wire at 30', fed through an L network/Sloper from 55'
- 20 TH6DXX at 60'
- 15 TH3 at 35'
- 10 6 el monobander at 50'

By the way, the 40M sloper mentioned above later proved to become quite a conversation piece!! You see, it was tied off at the ground level to a garbage can outside Chet's front door, which was the only support we could find for the direction we wanted it to fire (USA). We wound up taking several photographs of that antenna--and in one of them Rich, K1OME, is seen lifting up the garbage can preparing to move it accross Chet's front yard. We entitled that one "K1OME rotating the 40M array".

Well gang, so much for the story of the YCCC expedition to KP4EAJ. It should be said, though, that Chet and his wife Claire really went out of their way to insure the trip was a success--including a multi-course Thanksgiving turkey dinner on Thursday night served up by Claire which vanished faster than you would ever believe!!! We were most appreciative of their hospitality--and glad of the fact that we had achieved what we all had come down for. In spite of all the frustrations we had encountered upon arrival, everything had come out all right. Would we all do it once more if the same gamble against the unpredictable again presented itself?? YOU BETCHA!!!

73, Jeff, K1ZM

YCCC ARRL DX SCORES

Although a few club scores for ARRL DX are known at this time, we'll probably have to wait until the April meeting to get a complete picture as to what our club aggregate is. This biggest news received thus far, though, is an almost unbelievable fone score made by Multi-Multi W2PV. The boys made 7395 QSO's and 602 Multipliers for a duped score of 12,500,000 points. All you guys who participated in this effort should stand up and take a bow. I expected you fellas to do well because of the great conditions, but this score almost boggles the mind!!!

Over on single op Rich Roth, K1OME, operating W1CF and yours truly operating W1ZM both broke the existing single-op all band record set last year by W3WJD which was 3,500,000. Both scores came in over 4,000,000 points with Rich's score appearing to be just above that of W1ZM, although both logs will have to be duped before the final outcome is known.

W1ZA operated multi-single by W1ZA, K1UA, K1IR, K1EA came in with another FB effort, something around 4,200,000 points. Great going guys.

Participation seemed to be good by our guys--but I really do not have any idea how the club did as a whole. Therefore, please bring your scores to the meeting and during the break we'll total them up and try to see what it looks like.

YCCC NET- OR QRZ YCCC DE W2YV ET AL.....

Let's remember to try to make the net on Monday's at 7:30PM local time. It meets at 3830Khz and runs until 9PM or so depending on who shows up. I can't transmit myself from home, but enjoy listening to the boys each week because alot of interesting info is passed each week etc. Anyway, try to get on if you can to support YOUR club. You'll like it, I'm sure.

YCCC REPEATER NEWS

The following was received from Bob, WA1TAI, who has asked me to let everyone know about the revised plans for a club repeater. Basically, as he outlines, we might yet be able to have contest repeater coverage for the club by October, 1978, in time for the CQ/WW tests. As Bob points out, the 220MHZ Greylock machine will definitely be needed to get into the ENY area, but with the good summer WX coming up soon, this too should be able to be completed in time. So, if you've got 37/97 capability, please run the range tests Bob requests. We'll go over this topic in more detail at the April 2 meeting.

I would like to get some idea by the time of the April Club meeting from some of the members of the club as to some range tests on two meters. As I discussed with you, we are planning to put a 220 repeater on the air in the Worcester area. We have already been assigned a frequency and are in the process of building up the control logic with a completion date before the fall contest season. Provisions are also included for linking with one or two other repeaters for contest use.

The repeater will be located at a hight about 1100 feet above sea level and we are planning a coverage that will duplicate the coverage of the presant 2 meter repeater in the Worcester area now on 146.37/97. This coverage basicly covers from the Springfield, Mass. area north into southern New Hampshire, east covering into the Eastern Mass Boston area, swinging down into Rhode Island, and covering the northern Conn. area about down to Hartford. The repeater will not be designed for extended mobile use but is really something that any contest station should be able to get into with little effort within this range, or even beyond.

What I would like to find out from those who have two meter use now is if they can hit the 146.37/97 repeater now and just how good they can get into it and let us know at the April meeting. The only thing I ask is that ~~no one mention why they~~ **NOT** are range testing. The owners of the 146.37/97 are ~~very friendly~~ towards contesters or DXers and they might throw you off the machine so it's best not to start trouble.

I'll go into the repeater run down more at the next meeting, but the prime purpose is to provide a central New England 220 repeater that is DX and Contest oriented year round. It will be a split site operation linked by 450. This allows us the option to link other repeaters so that if the Graylock repeater gets on the air we can link in the eastern New York area and possibly others as well. With the split site arrangement a possible two meter output might be arranged during contests only. This is another reason for the range tests.

Hopefully by this fall we can have repeater coverage to pass info back and forth.

Bob, WA1TAI

MORE ON DAYTON

Jeff, K1IU, has asked that payment be made at this time for flights and/or rooms for this year's Dayton Hamvention. If you still have not paid by the April 2 meeting, please bring your checkbook to the meeting and make a point of seeing Jeff. He'd like to wrap this up as quickly as possible so he can avoid having to make a lot of long distance phone calls tracking down late payers. Thanks for your consideration.

CONGRATULATIONS GEORGE!!!!

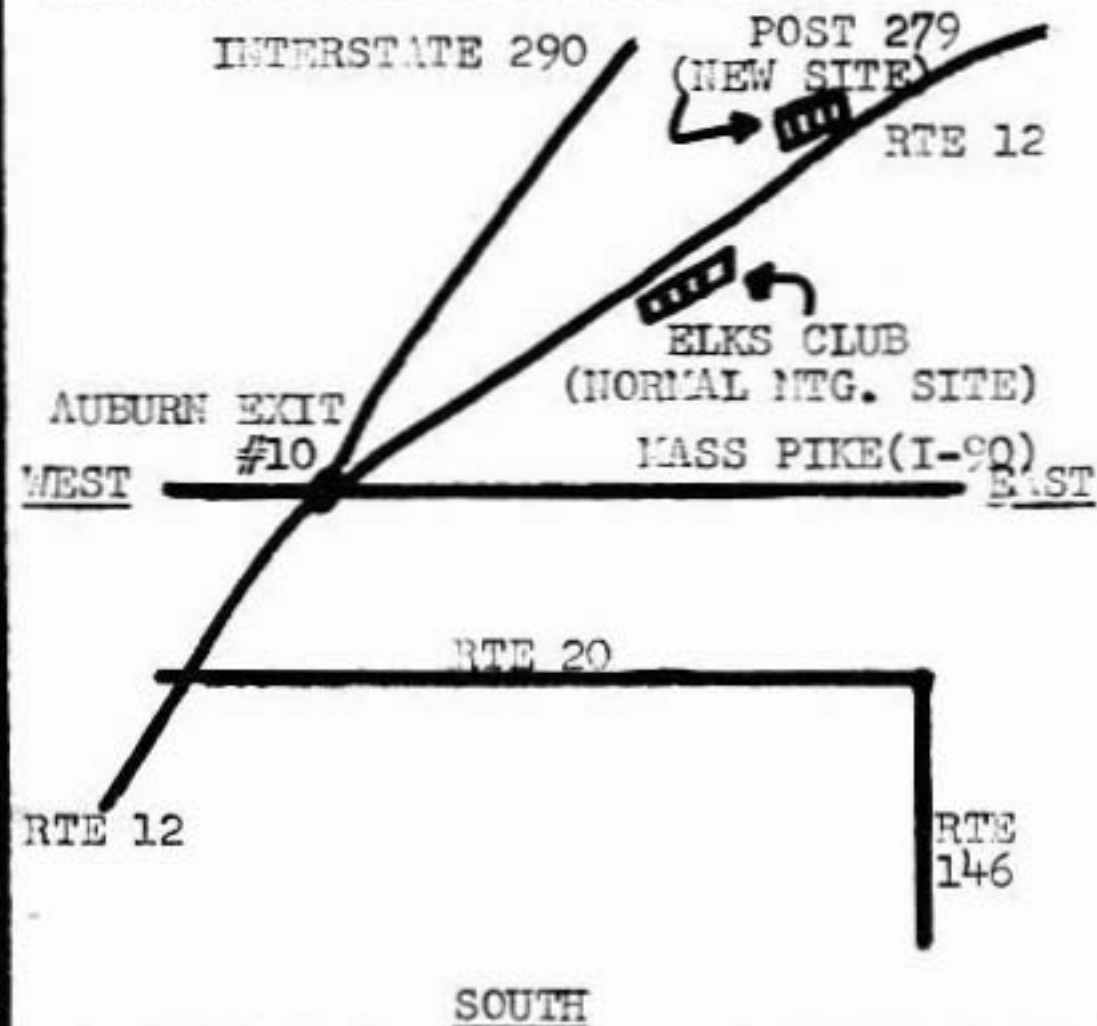
I've recently learned that George, ex:WA1PO, has at last received his 2 letter call from the FCC! After what probably seemed like an eternity, after suffering through a case of mistaken identity with someone of the same name who was wanted by the FBI, etc. etc. the long wait is finally over---his new 1x2 call is N1RI. Congratulations George!! Glad you finally made it! Undoubtedly this has to be the longest wait ever by anyone for a two letter call--between 9 months to a year I think!! Incredible...

NEW DEALS FROM K1RQ

Dana has let me know he has another deal in store for YCCC members--this time on HAM/CDE rotators. He can get you a HAM X for \$225 plus shipping or a HAM III for \$115 plus shipping. For further details, call K1RQ, Dana Cobb.

SWAP SHOP, ETC.

Bill Santelman, N1AU is reported to be looking for either a HAM II or HAM III rotor. Please call Bill if you've got one to sell. (H) 617 862-1753

MAP TO THE APRIL 2, 1978 MEETING 2PMNEW TROOPERS--NEW ARTILLERY

Welcome to the following new members who joined YCCC at the January meeting in Auburn. You've just joined the club that is putting fear into the hearts of PVRG, NCCC & FRC!! KICK BUTT!

N1EE	Scott
W1KM	Greg
WA1RPQ	Joe
W2XL	Bob
W1FC	Fred

Let's not forget to try to bring along some more new fellas at the April meeting. YCCC needs to continue to grow.