

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"

Number 4
October 1977

PRES K1ZM VICE PRES N4ZC SECY W1RR

TREAS WAITAI ACTIVITIES MGR K1XX

CQ/WW SWEEPSTAKES

PRESIDENTIAL RAMBLINGS

Well gang, the Hartford Convention is history and so is the September OFFICIAL MEETING of YCCC. Ninety-six of us made the trip down to the Sheraton to attend the meeting--a really fine turnout indeed! If you didn't or couldn't make it, you missed a good one because the convention turned out to have a fairly good program of events, (especially Don "that's a hell of a place for a wall" Reibhoff, CT4AT), who was later followed by the YCCC meeting and hospitality suite. If you caught some of Don's pictures (ie: candid stills) of his "tower helper" later on up in the suite, you know what I mean. Especially appealing was the one entitled "Keeping up the rate-- Hi!" Boy, I wish I had someone who looks like that doing my logging for me -- right Doug, right Lanny? Those who stuck it out to the end on Saturday night got little sleep indeed, because the suite did not close up shop until 3:30AM, early Sunday morning -- FAR OUT!

As most of you know, we picked up thirty-five new club members at the meeting. Let me again personally welcome all of the new YCCC members to our group. I hope you all will become active participants in the contest events coming up and continue to come on out to OFFICIAL MEETINGS, thereby supporting the club.

About CQ/WW and ARRL SS

At the meeting Charlie, K1XX, who is our Activities Manager and I attempted to get everybody fired up for the upcoming slugfests. And, for a very good reason, for, with the addition of our new crop of members, we now have 119 in the club, a potential for generating 238 entries in the CQ/WW and ARRL/SS TESTS!!!

If you stop and think about it for a minute, we really do have the potential to win

(PSE QSY TO PAGE 2)



---UPCOMING CONTESTS---

- OCT 29/30 CQ/WW DXTEST(SS)
- NOV 5/6 ARRL SS TEST (CW)
- NOV 19/20 ARRL SS TEST(SS)
- NOV 26/27 CQ/WW DXTEST(CW)

LAST CALL FROM K1XX/W1G60

This issue of the Scuttlebutt has been timed to reach you before the CQ WW Contest. At this point you should know where you'll be operating. If not, time's very short. If anyone still needs a place to operate, or needs operators, let me know immediately. We've made a big effort to match people and stations together. I'd hope that no one could complain that they didn't have a place to operate. The same offer goes for SS. At present there's an opening in EMass during SS CW. Any takers? (ALSO ONE SPOT FOR SS/CW IN CT.)

Equipment--The latest information I have is that there are two people looking for amplifiers; one during CQ, the other SS phone. Any spares around, let me know ASAP.

QSL CARDS

Well, the new date for ordering QSL cards is DECEMBER 15. Many people have received their new calls and are asking for cards. A bit reluctantly, I'll handle the order again. Joe Krone has offered to have his art department do some additional work on the card. As soon as a copy is available, we'll publish it.

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these two contests and cop a couple of gavels for YCCC in our very FIRST YEAR, IF, IF, IF, everybody will get on and make points for the club! We have all the necessary ingredients to pull this thing off:

- 1) Enough members
- 2) Some of the finest contest operators & dx'ers in the U.S.- Bar NONE!!
- 3) Plenty of huge hardware up in the air
- 4) Several fine multi-multi's, each capable of generating mucho megapoints in CQ/WW
- 5) and finally, a large crop of new and younger members with modest stations just itching to join the contest wars for the first or second time!!

I'd like to direct a few comments to that last group mentioned above-our club members having only a small station with dipoles, a vertical or a tribander. The secret of any successful contest club be it YCCC, NCCC, PVRC, or whatever, lies not only with its superops and big stations alone, but equally with the ability that club has to get its modest stations on the air and making points for the club aggregate score. For the past two years, the Northern California Contest Club has walked off with the ARRL SS gavel largely on the strength of a Balanced Effort- an equal split of big stations as well as modest ones all pulling together to enable the overall team to win. Somehow they manage to get all the troopers fired up and they simply overwhelm the competition.

In order for us to give them a taste of their own medicine, so to speak, we're all going to have to pull together in order to have any real chance. It's going to take a true team effort.

"OK, that all makes sense, but how does a guy with 100 watts and dipoles do it??"

Well, it's alot easier than you think. Let's take SS for example. Follow these simple guidelines and you'll be surprised at how easily 400-500 contacts can be made (the kind of score that really means alot to our club):

- 1) Don't call CQ's, ANSWER CQ's from the big guns.
- 2) Pick your spots and bands carefully.
- 3) Start on 80 meters when the contest begins and answer CQ's--a forty per hour rate is a snap for two hours or so, until the band goes long.
- 4) Stay on 80 until 7-8PM and then switch to 40, alternating between 40 & 80 until say 2AM local. Again answer cq's, staying high in the band out of the high power congestion you'll find down at the low end.

(NEXT COLUMN PSE)

- 5) Sleep from 2-7AM .
- 6) Hit 80 after sunrise, from 7:30-8:30AM.
- 7) Be sure to be on 40 Sunday mid-morning, from say 10AM-2:30PM, when the skip is short and W1,2,3 & 4 are easy pickings at a pretty high rate.
- 8) Give 20 & 15 a try in the middle afternoon in order to get your section multiplier up. For the low power guy, 15 should be the better bet--you'll get out better, the condx are reasonably good that day
- 9) Try 80 again around 4:30PM and alternate between 40 & 80 until 10PM when the contest ends.
- 10) That gives you four fifteen minute offtime for meals during the contest, or a quick shower to wake you up or whatever.

Try it--and then check out your final totals. 400-500 qso's and between 60-65 sections will be DUCK SOUP if you put in a full 24 hours of operating time. And, you'll have helped out the club score enormously by your efforts. For a station having a tribander on 20/15/10, these numbers could be much higher, indeed. It all depends on your stick-to-itiveness and your operating abilities ~~AS TO~~ just how well you'll score. Even 1000 fone qso's are possible. So, you see, the smaller stations are really important--it all adds up! It takes a team effort to be successful.

"OK, you've told me how to do it--but why should I go to all that effort??"

Well, that's a slightly tougher question. But in the final analysis, it really comes down to pride in maybe being a part of a winning team and making the difference collectively between losing by a whisker to some other club--(sometimes that happened to Murphy's in 1974 SS--one more average score by any one or a combination of members cost us a gavel that year).

Let's just say that a chain is only as strong as its weakest link. If 90 of our guys are in there fighting tooth and nail for every Q, and 29 of us decide to sit it out, somebody else other than YCCC is going to bring home the bacon. It's a forgone conclusion. It will take a 100% effort from you guys to pull it off; but **IT CAN BE DONE!!**

Also ~~too~~ consider this: Collectively as a group or team we have a real chance to be #1. We have the opportunity to be the BEST THERE IS in this country in our chosen hobby--amateur radio contesting. If you think about it, very seldom does any one of us ever get the chance to even approach being the best there is in his chosen field.

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CQ & ARRL SS TESTS
(cont'd from page 2)

Yet, as a team, YCCC and each member of the team can be the best, if we really want it badly enough.

The Northeast has some of the finest operators in the world, guys, and we've got quite a large bunch right here in this club, thanks to a lot of work by fellas like Roger, Dana, Jeff ('LPA), and the rest of the guys who just eleven months ago drove up to TAI's house to lay the groundwork to put the NORTHEAST back on the contest map where it rightfully belongs. We have the potential, and we can be successful. Let's go out in CQ/WW & SS and push NCCC right into San Francisco Bay this season. It'll be a natural high if we pull this off--believe me, I've been there.

73 gang, CU in CQ & SS --Go YCCC!!!

Jim, K1ZM

WHO'S WHO REVISITED DEPT.

Updating the list printed in SCUTTLEBUTT 2 are the following members with new calls. Several of these are brand new EXTRA class licenses including Roger, W4SYL now N4ZC and George, W1DKU now W1ZT. Congratulations all! May you put your hard earned priveleges to good use in the upcoming weeks!

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| W4SYL is N4ZC | WB2WOI is K2WR |
| W1DKU is W1ZT | K1JHX is K1RM |
| K1RQF is K1RQ | K1GMW is K1AO |
| K1VBL is K1OX | W1UUK is W1GG |
| W1MDO is N1XX | W1HKH is K1SB |
| W1GYE is W1PM | WA1MRJ is N1CW |
| W1HFB is N1GL | WB2MZE is N2RX |
| W1GPK is K1WB | WA1NZT is K1RU |
| W1NJL is K1VR | W2HHC is W2YV |
| WB2CKO is K2XA | K1IIK is K1IK |
| K1KRY is W1XK | W1YZL is W1RQ |
| K1GUD is K1BV | WA1USW is K1YL |
| WA1IQJ is K1DH | (EXTRA CLASS XYL OF |
| W2EVV/1 is W1HYY | W1UQ--FB INDEED!!!) |
| K1LPA is K1IU | |

FOR SALE: Fantasatron amplifier using two Umac monode tubes, difurbium oxide cooling with pentametric fan. Marzelveane tuning capacitor. 1 KW, 9-volt batteries not included. Contact UBØZO.

(3)

ABOUT THOSE CQ/WW & SS LOGS DEPT.

The following letter was received from Duke Brown, W1ZA, and makes a great deal of sense as we gear up for CQ/WW & SS. At Duke's request I'm reprinting the letter in its entirety:

Dear Jeff:

"Hopefully, this message will appear in the SCUTTLEBUTT prior to the start of the Fall Contest Season because it seems unreasonable for any more of us to have to learn things the hard way.

When the disqualifying letters came in, my first reaction was--they must have made a mistake or, Murphy guys at the League are working us over-- or, to hell with this, no more contests. Someone suggested that I go charging down to HQ and give-em-hell. Then, after the initial shock wore off, Ken and I decided to re-do the check sheets to see if we could really have been that far off. Yes, new check sheets ammounting to about 2600 qso's per mode were done. Mind you, had rewritten them for fone after the first weekend and theoretically had perfect log and check sheets half-way through the contest.

Well, it should not come as a big surprise to anyone to find that the League was correct. They called it right on the nose for duplicates, 2.6% fone and 2.8%cw. They claim a certain number of "bad callsigns" most of which are probably due to 2 per minute handwriting quality. The total reduction was 3.75% fone and 4.29%CW. A real blow to Ken, Fred and I after we busted our chops before and during.

So, the message is this--if you go to the trouble to turn in a good effort, then take the additional time and effort to turn in a clean log and check sheet.

73, Duke, W1ZA"

Well said Duke, as I couldn't agree with you more. We can't afford to lose any scores, when with only a few hours effort going back through the logs to remove dupes, this sad scenario can be prevented. Let's all be sure to heed the message above this season.

I'LL BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW THAT DEPARTMENT

.....that the FCC now gives all cw receiving exams on a multiple choice basis. You now listen to the standard five minutes of code, and then, answer ten questions relating to the text that was sent. Eight correct answers out of ten, and you pass. If it's been that 20WPM code requirement that's been keeping you from climbing the ladder to that EXTRA, this change might help you make the grade!! Go to it!

SCORES

For those people who took the pre-addressed cards at the meeting, ^{AFTER THE TESTS} send it to me as soon as possible. This way I can start getting the information together that the club secretary has to submit. Anyone that did not get a card, let me know your score as soon as possible. Unfortunately, I won't be on the Monday night net after the 24th of October. I start a class on the 31st, every Monday night. At least get on and make people aware of your score and participation. I'll get the results on Tuesday, somehow.

Also, another very important item. MAKE SURE THAT YOU INCLUDE THE CLUB AFFILIATION ON YOUR SCORE SHEET. If you didn't get any pre-stamped sheets at Hartford, don't over-look this detail.

You can send your scores to me at: Candlelight Road, Rindge, NH 03461, or call (W) 603-878-1441, (H) 899-5621.

REPEATER

For those people who did not attend the Hartford meeting, the club has voted to support a "repeater" that will link ENY with the 220 repeater in Chester, NH. At the meeting, the "hat" was passed for donations to support the acquisition of equipment. This produced \$83; in addition, a motion was made and carried for the club to provide an additional \$150 to help cover the expenses. As I stated at the meeting, the total cost can be reduced by people donating materials or their time/facilities. Presently one person has donated hardline to feed the antenna. I'm still looking for the following items: --a 12 volt, 3 amp supply, antenna, someone to do a pc board for the control circuitry (wirewrap would probably suffice).

The time table for linking is dependent upon the installation of the new 220 repeater on Mount Greylock. When that is completed, our end, hopefully, will be complete in 1-3 weeks.

HERE IS THE INFO ALL YOU HOTSHOT MULTI OP STATIONS NEED TO KILL THE OPOSITION IN MULTIPLIERS. YOU CAN PASS DX MULTIPLIER INFO ON THE FOLLOWING FREQS.
 WR1AFE 147.66/147.06 WRENTHAM MA
 WR1AGP 223.06/224.66 MEDWAY MA
 WR1AIL 222.86/224.46 CHESTER NH
 THESE THREE REPEATERS WILL BE LINKED TOGETHER FOR THE DX CONTESTS. DUE TO THE LARGE NUMBER OF STATIONS ON THIS NET PLEASE KEEP YOUR DX INFO TIPS SHORT AND IF YOU WANT TO RAG CHEW WITH ANOTHER STATION GO OFF TO A DIRECT FREQ OR ANOTHER REPEATER.

NORMAL ACTIVITY ON THE MT GREYLOCK 146.31/146.91 REPEATER SHOULD DROP TO NEAR ZERO AFTER MIDNIGHT SO WE HOPE TO BE ABLE TO USE IT DURING THE WEE HOURS BETWEEN THE BOYS IN EASTERN NY (W2PV) AND THE BOYS IN MASS & CONN. WE WILL HAVE A VHF OPERATOR AT K10X WHO WILL PASS ANY INFO BETWEEN THE LINKED NET AND THE MT GREYLOCK REPEATER.

PLANS ARE IN THE MILL TO SEND A GROUP OF YCCC MEMBERS TO SAN JUAN DURING THE CW CQ/WW TO PUT KP4EAJ ON THE AIR AS A MULTI-MULTI CLUB EFFORT.

DONT FORGET TO GET ON THE YCCC NET (3837) MONDAY NIGHT AFTER EACH CONTEST TO PASS ON YOUR SCORES SO WE WILL KNOW HOW WE ARE DOING. REMEMBER GUYS THE ONLY SCORE OF NO USE IS THE ONE YOU DONT SEND IN. EVERY POINT YOU MAKE AND SEND IN IS ONE MORE POINT UP THE LADDER TO FIRST PLACE. YOUR SCORE WILL MAKE US

#1

N4 ZEPPELIN COMMANDER