

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"

No. 2
June 1977

Pres: K1ZM Vice Pres: W4SYL Activities Manager: K1XX Secy: W1RR Treas: W1TAI

-----CAPTAIN'S CORNER-----

By the time you read these words, the Dayton Hamvention will have been about two months into the past, but, I hope, certainly not forgotten. Those who were lucky enough to have been able to make the trip out already know what a fantastic weekend it was. For those who didn't or couldn't I'll try to relate some of the highlights for you.

To begin with, it was a resounding success for our new club YCCC. Jeff, K1LPA, and I started making the rounds on Friday afternoon at the Hara Arena and collected \$5.00 from as many members as we could track down so that we could buy some "cheer" for our hospitality room for Friday and Saturday nights. Megathanks to each and every one of you who kicked in the five bucks---your contributions were really appreciated and went for a good cause as you later saw I'm sure!

Our hospitality room was set up in 'LPA's suite and even though it was NOT formally announced, we were mobbed by people by 11:00PM on Friday night. At one point there was a line of people extending a good ten to fifteen feet into the hallway who wanted to get in but could not.

To give you an idea of what I mean by successful, picture this: At about 10:45 PM on Friday night, I glanced around the suite and found that our guests included guys like W7RM, W4BVV, W3WJD, WA3LRO, K3YUA etc. Over in another corner of the room were a few others such as W2PV, K6BCE/N6DX, W3BQV, W4WSF, W3AZD, W6KG, W6QL, CT4AT, WAOCVS, K9UIY, K8RMK, W1YL, W1CW, W6RTT, W5MYA, W5NOP, WA0VKP, WB0ANT, WA3BGE, W6HX, WA2U00 plus about fifty other well known calls.

For those lucky enough to have squeezed into the room, we put on a slide show that although thrown together at the very last minute, came off extremely well. In spite of the heckling from some turkey WA2 whose call will remain anonymous. The slides consisted of shots of W1ZM, shifted to K1VBL, to W2PV, to W7RM, and finally to K6BCE/N6DX at Rainbow Ridge in Southern California. Friday night finally broke up at about 4:30 AM

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---UPCOMING EVENTS---

July 9-10	IARU RADIOSPORT CHAMPIONSHIP
July 16-17	HK CONTEST/10-10 NET QSO PARTY
Aug 27-28	ALL ASIAN DX TEST (CW)
Sept 11	NCJ NORTH AMERICAN SPRINT CONTEST
Oct 29-30	CQ/WW PHONE DX TEST
Nov 5-6	ARRL SS (CW)
Nov 19-20	ARRL SS (PHONE)
Nov 26-27	CQ/WW CW DX TEST

FLASH - MASSACHUSETTS TO NEW YORK BRIDGED BY AMATEUR RADIO

Amateur operators have, at long last, covered the approximately 125 miles between the Albany, NY area and the greater Boston region. This feat has eluded several operators for the past two years.

What may sound like the beginning of a newspaper article from the early 1900's is in fact from 1977. Those former MM members may know of the several proposals that were forwarded to link the greater Albany region with Hartford via the 220MHZ repeater. Unfortunately, due to a lack of time and other circumstances, practical implementation was never attempted. With the forming of the YCCC, the problem still remained and was even worsened by the longer distances involved. Again several ideas were drawn up and evaluated. The most feasible suggestion involved close cooperation between clubs that represented two extremely diverse groups. Somehow the thought of a contest and repeater organization joining forces did not seem very likely.

At this point, a letter was written to the Berkshire Amateur Radio Club (Mt. Greylock) that forwarded our proposal for the shared use of their forthcoming 220MHZ repeater. During one of their recent meetings, the letter was read to the membership and they resoundingly accepted our proposal.

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after our suite and the NCJ suite on the eighth floor called it quits. (We had to pack it in actually, with the Contest Forum kicking off at 9:00AM the next morning--Oh my head, whoever stuck the contest forum at 9:00 AM should have been hung out to dry from the top of K1VBL's stationmaster at 165 feet!!!!) Can you imagine trying to copy down as many calls as you can from a simulated contest pileup tape at 9:15AM--after having stayed up until 4:45AM the night before drinking beer and talking contests??? Sheer madness--hams must be nuts!! Nevertheless, our own Fred Hopengarten, W1NJL, managed to pick out 56 correct calls from the tape and copped the award--more good pr for the YCCC. Congratulations Fred, super job!

Saturday moved ahead with the Dx and other forums and of course, the giant flea market. Spread out over an area at least the size of three football fields, maybe four, were unbelievable buys for the discriminating contester. For example, John Kenny, W1RR and I spent a good part of the afternoon searching for some new 4-400's for John's final. When we were done, John wound up with three good ones (we hope) for \$38.00. Gear, power supplies, antennas --you name it, it was all there for a good price if you had the bucks and the necessary transportation to get it back home.

On Saturday night, the YCCC crew got together a group of fourteen people and headed off for dinner with Rush Drake, W7RM. The dinner session lasted about 2½ hours and well enjoyed by those fortunate enough to have slipped into the group as we headed out of the Biltmore. Just listening to Rush describe future antenna plans at W7RM and also his experiences with guys like Chip, K7VPF and Danny, K7JCA made the dinner session even more fantastic.

When we finally got back to the Biltmore, it was nearly 11:00PM. We opened up the hospitality room again and like the night before, were quickly deluged with visitors. The Saturday night crew was treated to a series of interesting tapes: The pileup tape first heard at 9AM at the Contest Forum was rerun by Tod Olsen, K0TO, for our group. This time Doug Grant, K1DG caught 64 calls, Ken, K1EA got 59, yours truly 60, and an unknown VE3IXE, named Vlad picked out 70 correct calls with no mistakes -- (Who is that guy?????) That was a new record shattering Fred Laun's old record of 65 correct calls picked out at Fresno earlier in the year. Hmm, I wonder if Vlad is inside club territory? Maybe somebody ought to check.

The group also was treated to the NCCC

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hilarious SS tape featuring W1ARR/6, WA6DIL, and WB6CEP imitating W6PAA, K6CQF, VE3DXV/W6, WB5WBW/WB5(!!!) and others. Pete Grillo, W6RTT/N6CJ, also played his NCCC/SCCC mini contest tape for us which managed to wake up the group at about 3:00AM. The high point on Saturday night though just HAD to be when John Kenny, W1RR, came wandering out of his room next to the suite at 2:00AM. John had gone to bed about 1AM and couldn't sleep hearing all the tapes being played nextdoor and re-appeared wearing his light green pajamas and in bare feet. Some drunk WB6 commented to John at that point "Hey OM, that's a nice leisure suit you've got on there" which really broke up the group.

Sunday passed quickly with another tour of the flea market with K1VBL, an hour chit chat with Sig, W3WJD and WA3LR0 about multi-multi contesting from the Northeast and goodbyes to W6RTT, K0TO/W0IYP, WA0CVS, K9UIY and others.

On the plane back with K1CO and W1EBC, we were joined by Darrell K6BCE/N6DX from Rainbow Ridge who was flying to New York for a ten day vacation with his wife. It was a good way to pass the flight back home, since Chuck had wrangled a deal with the airline so we wound up sitting in first class seats instead of tourist.

All in all Dayton was a super weekend. Our club was given lots of good PR by our suite (in spite of the turkey WB0IWL who came up and asked me if YCCC stood for the Yippie Chippie Contest Club--Yes Al, K1MBQ, you were right to tell the fella he had a lousy attitude for someone who was drinking our beer!!!)

On a final note, it was most interesting to see how closely Rush Drake, W7RM, clung to our YCCC group. Almost the entire weekend after he arrived at the Hara Arena, Rush spent his time with our guys. He must have really felt at home as he went to dinner both nights with YCCC and spent both evenings almost exclusively in our suite, Friday night showing his slides and Saturday night discussing antenna theory with John, W1RR. It should be said that Rush has an enormously magnetic personality and we thoroughly enjoyed every minute talking with him-- even the conversation about Dawson Ransom, K3MBF, the terror of 14.200.3. Rush is a super guy and I hope he comes back again next year as Dayton and our suite was much the better by his presence. His friendship and comradeship was much appreciated by all our guys I'm sure.

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We especailly enjoyed hearing the tape Rush brought along with him that was recorded by G3UBR. This tape was of the 1977 ARRL DX PHONE CONTEST and how the signals from the USA sounded at G3UBR on 160 PHONE. Just listening how loud W7RM sounded at G3UBR on 160 SSB was a real trip. Hearing guys like K1PBW, W3LPL, W4BVV and our own W1RR(K1VBL) was terribly exciting. Some guys were really Q5 and S9+++ over there at G3UBR, on 160 SSB no less.

Well so much for Dayton. I hope some of you fellas who couldn't make it, made it up to Roger's on the fourth of June to hear more about it than these pages will allow.

New Activities Manager & Secretary

Just last week, Dana, K1RQF called me and let me know he was resigning as club Activities Manager for personal reasons. Fortunately, Dana has agreed to stay on as Area Manager of the Western Mass district. Gee Dana, I'm sorry to see you give up that key spot, but thanks for the FB job you've done to date, especially with the club area manager's roster you made up and the club tower orders you've honcho'ed over the past several months.

To temporarily fill this spot, at least until we can confirm new people at the next official meeting in October, I've asked Charlie, K1XX, to fill the void as Activities Mgr. Charlie received second most votes for the spot and will do a good job getting things coordinated for the upcoming Cq/WW and ARRL SS Tests. However, since Charlie was our Secretary, I've asked John Kenny to take over that slot so we could free up Charlie. Both fellas agreed to do so, and we'll confirm them at the next official ^{meeting} as our constitution specifies. In any event, we will have two fine people in these roles to take us into October and the next meeting.

ARRL Assistant Director

John Sullivan, W1HHR has responded to my request to appoint a YCCC member as a New England Division assistant director to keep the club abreast of what is happening at the ARRL. John has appointed Bob Mithcell, W1NH/W1SWX for the spot. Congratulations Bob-- I'm sure the rest of us will be kept in the know through your efforts.

June 4th Gathering Revisited

If you didn't make the gathering at Roger's on the fourth, you missed a good get-together. Pizza, beer plus an excellent slide show put on by Bill, K1MM and Doug, K1DG, were enjoyed by all

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It was obvious that Bill and Doug had put a lot of time into the show and it included tapes of some of the pileups to complement the slides. Many thanks fellas, it was a very professional job.

DX

Roger put on a good contest quiz with a couple of prizes -- an ARRL HANDBOOK and ANTENNA BOOK. At the high point, we had over thirty people in the group which was a fine turnout for an unofficial social get together.

Well fellas, that's it for this issue.....

K1ZM

---THE ROVING REPORTER ROVES----- (Anonymous) author

As everyone should know by now, the first of many get togethers was held at W4SYL's on the fourth of June. In addition to the people, I'm sure the local pizza and beer merchants in Concord felt it was resounding success. Roger provided an excellent meeting spot and entertainment for the evening. I mean, really, how could anyone ask Roger to provide more than he did, a drunk and mosquitos. If one didn't get you, the other one would. Being nice though, an excellent slide program was put on by Doug and Bill (FG/MM). After seeing the slides, you realize how much an exotic call does for your contact total. This fact should be obvious since, the antennas were not the greatest to say nothing of.....

Oh well, on to something else. Hey, Roger, what were those four funny looking plaques on the wall? Anybody who can get 5Band DXCC and 5Band WAS with two different calls should know by this time that the USA and Canada count for multipliers during the CQWW. Two of the easiest answers on the DX QUIZ and the author can't even get them right!!!

Enough slander for this issue.. Just remember, I'll be watching and no one is exempt from my eagle eye. One final question though, if anyone knows how Rich, K1OME, made it home to Falmouth alive, please let everyone know.

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-----QSL CARDS-----

At long last the goal of 30,000 cards has been reached. A basic design has been worked out and is included in this issue. The color of the card will be sky blue and our club name and symbol will be printed in gold. All information will be black. Those people who indicated they wanted cards should now provide Charlie, K1XX, with two things: 1) Exact name, address and zip code to appear on the card. 2) Payment for the cards--check, cash or money ^{order} made out to Charlie Carroll is FB.

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NEW NCJ CONTEST TO PREMIER ON SEPTEMBER 11, 1977

Immediately following Dayton, K1LPA, Jeff, flew out to the west coast stopping briefly to meet with Pete W6RTT and Rusty W6OAT. What follows are the rules to a new contest they devised while Jeff was there, which will be sponsored by the NCJ. It will be a short sprint sort of affair lasting only four hours, with unique and very challenging rules. For example, you may NOT call cq and run guys on one frequency. Rather, you must qsy to a new freq at least five khz up or down and begin a new cq or alternatively, answer someone else's cq. With new rules, this promises to be different from your run of the mill marathon type contest where the big stations can hog one spot and call cq all day, to the detriment of smaller equipped stations. Here in this contest, style, finesse and fast turning of the dial will net you points. It will be extremely interesting to see how some of the moderately equipped stations fare against the guns in this one. The outcome might surprise a few people.

The NCJ is sponsoring this new contest and is asking each of the big contest clubs to consider sponsoring a trophy for one of the various operator/entry classes. This kind of thing might cost us \$25.00 a year to donate a prize such as "THE YCCC SINGLE OPERATOR TROPHY" or whatever. I'd be interested in comments from others on this thing.

The preliminary rules are attached below for your review. Good Luck Contest OM--De K1LPA

NORTH AMERICAN SPRINT CONTEST

sponsored by the NCJ

1. Eligibility: Any licensed radio amateur may enter.
2. Object: To work as many North American stations (and/or other stations if you are in North America) as possible and as many multipliers as possible during the contest period.
3. Conditions of Entry: Participants agree to be bound by the provisions of these rules, by the regulations of their licensing authority and by the decisions of the NCJ Contest Review Committee.
4. Entry Classifications: Single Operator - no helpers, one active transmitter, multiple active receivers, no spotting net assistance; Multi-Single - multiple operators, one active transmitter, multiple active receivers, no spotting net assistance; Multi-Multi - multiple operators, multiple active transmitters, one signal per band.
5. Contest Period: 7 PM to 11 PM Pacific Daylight Time, Sept. 10, Four(4) hours, no rest periods [0200 to 0600 UTC, September 11].
6. Mode: CW only.
7. Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20 Meters. Suggested Frequencies: 1800-1820, 3530-3550, 7030-7050, 14030-14050 KHz. Stations may be worked once on each band. Try 160M during last 1/2 hour.
8. Exchange: You must make the entire exchange as given below, all parts: His call, your call, serial number, your nick-name, (state, VE province, or country).
 EXAMPLE: J1KSO DE K8TO NR 32 TOD MN K
 K8TO DE J1KSO NR 16 NOB JA K
9. Valid Contact: A complete correctly copied and logged two way exchange between a North American Station and another station. Proper logging requires the time of each contact. Logging is to be done on separate sheets for each band. Serial numbers must be sequential by time and begin with serial number one (001). Regardless of the number of licensed call signs issued to a given operator entering, one and only one callsign shall be utilized during the contest period by that operator.

10. North American Station: North American Stations are defined by the rules for the CQ WW Contests. (6)
11. Scoring: (North American Stations) - Multiply total valid contacts by the sum of (states, VE multipliers, World-wide countries) to get final score. (Stations ex-North America) - Multiply total valid contacts by the sum of (States, VE multipliers, North American Countries). KH6 is not counted as a State and is not a North American Country. VE Multipliers are: Maritime (VE1, VO1, VO2, etc.), and each VE call District, VE2 through VE8.
12. Special Rules: (North American Stations only) If a station calling CQ NA is called by another station and makes a valid exchange with him, he cannot call CQ again on that frequency, nor can he solicit contacts by calling QRZ, QRZ?, ?, etc. He must move a minimum of 5 KHz away from the frequency before calling CQ NA again; or, he may answer a CQ NA on the frequency and following a valid exchange call CQ NA on that frequency.
13. Reporting: Entries must be sent to W6OAT, Rusty Epps, 39 Belcher St., San Francisco, Ca., 94114. Entries must be received by October 10 to be eligible for trophies and awards. An entry consists of (1) summary sheet showing valid contacts by band, total multipliers, total score, name and call of operator(s), Station callsign, Station location, and the statement "I declare, on my honor, that I operated in understanding and compliance with the NCJ Contest rules as well as all regulations for amateur radio in my country, and that my summary and log sheets are correct and true to fact," followed by the signature(s) of the operator(s). (2) A complete, legible log of all contacts (including dupes) by band with indication by numbered sequence of each multiplier claimed. (3) A separate check sheet for each band. Logs, summary sheets, and check sheets may be home made or patterned after those shown in the NCJ.
14. Club Competition: Club competition is limited to a maximum of 15 operators as a single club entry unit. Clubs with more than 15 members may submit more than one entry unit. In this case, members of each unit must be drawn by lottery from the pool of members who will compete. Pre-contest requirement: To qualify as a club entry unit the name and call of each operator in the unit must be registered with the Contest Co-ordinator (W6OAT) before 6:30 PM PDT Sept 10. Changes may be made in the unit members up to that deadline. NOTICE: This rule limits Multi-Multi entries to a maximum of 15 operators if they are a club entry. Multi-Multi's, Multi-Single's, and Singles can be combined in a single unit, but the total number of operators cannot exceed 15. There are no distance requirements nor meeting requirements for a club entry unit. The only requirement is pre-registration of the club entry unit.
15. Disqualifications: Any entry may be disqualified on the basis of illegibility, non-correctness, illegal operation, violation of the Conditions of Entry or non-ethical operation. Such disqualification is at the discretion of the NCJ Contest Review Committee.
16. Awards: (DO WE WANT TO CONSIDER SPONSORING ONE???????)
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CONGRATULATIONS are in order to Ted Gamlin, who just passed his EXTRA about a week ago. That is super news Ted. You should have it by CQ WW/ARRL SS time, unless FCC times are horrendous. Of course, with instant update, you've got the privileges in the meantime, but the temporary suffix will be a bother. Speaking of upgrading, have YOU considered moving up to an ADVANCED or EXTRA?? It's easier than you think.

DE K17M