



Scuttlebutt

December 2023

Issue 273

Sunday December 3rd, 2023
YCCC General Meeting, 1:00PM – 4:00PM
Hampton Inn Springfield South Enfield
20 Phoenix Ave (RT190), Enfield, CT 06082

CAPTAIN'S LOG

Hi All,

By the time you read this the CQWW marathons will be behind us. We had a below average showing for CQWW SSB and the hurdle looks to be insurmountable to take the lead over the FRC. The enthusiasm for the CW portion was there, as it always is, with many solid scores contributed by the membership. We will take our first look at these results at the Dec. 3rd meeting.

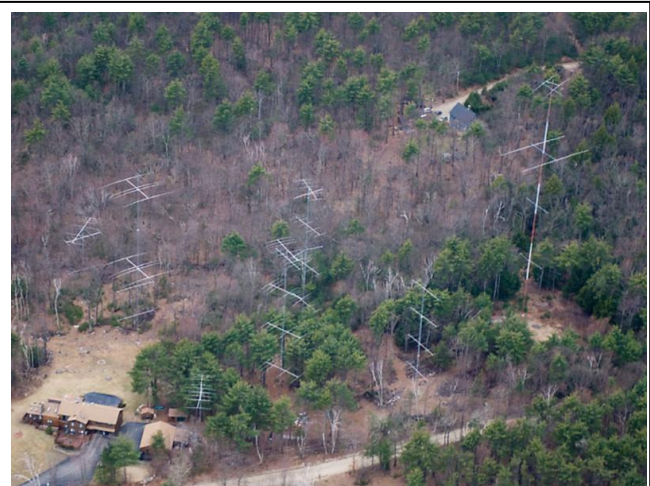
We also saw some good enthusiasm for Sweepstakes. I was so busy in my real life that I was unable to participate.

Brian, NJ1F and I just finished tallying the Constitution and By-Law change votes for the Constitution Article VI (Paper Newsletters), By-Law Section 6 (Paper Newsletters) and By-Law Section 7 (Honorary Life Membership). I am happy to report all of those changes have passed.

Voting is now open on the By-Law Section 1 Club Jurisdiction change announced in the Oct. 22 Special Edition Scuttlebutt. We are about ½-way towards a decision to pass. Further voting will take place at the December 3rd live meeting.

Note that Chet, N8RA Club Treasurer has informed the Directors of his intention to not run for re-election at the next Club election, April 2024. Chet has been the Club Treasurer since 2011 and has guided the Club through many changes including obtaining 501.C.3 status for the Club. I am grateful for his support during my term as President. See the job description later in the newsletter for what this position entails.

I recently had the opportunity to join a multi-op at Matt Strelow's KC1XX Hurricane Hill location. Matt resides part time in the states now, but between him and a core crew of technical support including Bob, WA1Z, John, W1FV, Bill, K1GQ and Dave, KM3T they have kept the station in great shape. Several other YCCC members also spent a few days over the fall lending an assist with some antenna reconfigurations, too.



Ariel view of Hurricane Hill and Hotel X-Ray

(Captain's Log continued on page 3)

Yankee Clipper Contest Club	
President	Ken Caruso, WO1N President@YCCC.org
Vice President	Paul Young, K1XM K1XM@K1XM.org
Activities Manager	OPEN
Secretary	Brian Szewczyk, NJ1F Secretary@YCCC.org
Treasurer	Chet Slabinski, N8RA Treasurer@YCCC.org
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New Members (603) 231-8965	Mark Pride, K1RX Members@yccc.org
Media Manager	Tom LeClerc, W1TJL Content@yccc.org

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NEXT MEETING

December 3, 1PM to 4PM

**Hampton Inn Springfield South Enfield
20 Phoenix Ave (RT190), Enfield, CT 06082**

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Area Managers

ME	Mike Russo, K1EU	(207) 883-9524	k1eu@maine.rr.com
ENH/NEMA	Ken Caruso, WO1N	-----	wo1n@arrl.net
WNH/SVT	Craig Clark, K1QX	-----	k1qx@arrl.net
SE MA (508) [co-mgr]	Charlie Morrison, N1RR	(401) 742-7240	charles.morrison.n1rr@gmail.com
SE MA (508) [co-mgr]	Dave Neil, W2DAN	-----	-----
Boston (617/781)	Joe Fitzgerald, KM1P	(617) 325-6767	jfitzgerald@alum.wpi.edu
WMA (413)	Jeff Bail, NT1K	-----	nt1k@nt1k.com
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CT (203)	Mike Loukides, W1JQ	(203) 458-2545	MikeL@oreilly.com
RI (401)	Charlie Morrison, N1RR	(401) 742-7240	n1rr@n1rr.com
NNY	John Corini, KE1IH	-----	John.Corini@gmail.com
NYC/LI (718)	Tom Carrubba, KA2D	(631) 422-9594	ka2d@arrl.net
SNY/NJ/PA (914)	Hank Kiernan, KF2O	(914) 235-4940	hankkier@aol.com
NVT (802)	Jason Garneau, K1LOL	-----	-----
QUEBEC	Guy Lemieux, VE2BWL	-----	guy@guylemieux.com
CAPE & ISLANDS	----- OPEN -----	-----	-----

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(Captain's Log continued from page 1)



WO1N and DL4NAC hammering 80M

I was assigned to the 80M team with Maddin, DL4NAC. KC1XX uses Wintest for logging. I had never used Wintest before, but what the hell, how different can it be? After a furious first hour with me looking like a mad orchestra conductor, I finally figured out the magic commands to turn on ESM so my hands didn't have to fly to all corners of the massive IBM keyboard to log Qs.

That whole in-band thing took a little getting used to, but we quickly settled into a rhythm despite never having operated together before.

We finished the first night with 900+Q's and 98 countries. After working some impressive Asia multipliers around our sunrise we were due for a break. After a quick sleep break and because 80M is closed during the day, I headed off to a quiet area to pen a rough draft of this Captain's Log.

I'm sitting in the meal prep area enjoying the quiet, well at least until various ops, all on different band schedules, come down to grab a quick snack and/or breakfast from Matt's well stocked kitchen.

I reflected on my past Multi-op adventures, including those from K1TWF, K1TTT, K1KI, K1IR, K0TV (SK) and recently K1KP's. They were all before the days of "remote access", so you had to pack a bag with a change of clothes and a toothbrush (don't forget the toothbrush!) and drive anywhere from 20 minutes to 3 hours (or more!) to participate.

Those operations provided for many fond memories. Like the time we set a tree on fire with the temporary 160M Long Wire (K1TWF's) or when Mike, N1IW (SK) made the overnight crew stop operating to go outside and marvel at the aurora outside of K1TTT's station. No wonder our rate was in the dump. Oh, and then there were the meatball subs at 3:00 AM at Jerry's (K0TV) QTH. Delicious.

How did I get involved? I was first licensed in 1989. I entered my first contest, the 10M Contest as a Technician and I won a certificate! After a few years of operating from my modest (some call it PW for piss-weak) station and teaching myself CW to a certain level, certainly not up to the "run" level, but good enough for S&P, I got invited to K1TWF's to do a contest.

We were trying to improve our operating skills for an upcoming Field Day. We had a lot of fun. I also realized that operating with several other folks allowed for some sleep time (questionable). Maybe I'd meet some new friends, really hard to do as an adult. I hadn't had a sleep over at a friend's house since I was maybe 10 years old. Fun, Skills, Sleep and Friends, all those goals were fulfilled, and we went on to take 1st place in Class 5A for Field Day too!

I learned quite a bit from the fellow operators, some who had been doing CW since the days of Hiram Percy Maxim. Suddenly, I'm thrust into the run position. Do it or die they said! No, they didn't say that, but it felt like it for a least the first few times.

Hold on a moment while I watch CQ Hall of Fame inductee, Dave, KM3T cleanup after the lunch rush. My XYL would say there is something to be learned there, too.

OK, that flurry of activity has passed. So, what is my point of this long narrative? I'm sure you realize these multi-op station owners go to great lengths and expense to put their



The post contest gathering sharing results with the K1LZ team

stations together. They open their house to relative strangers and I have found them to be completely generous in uncountable ways over the years.

I urge you to take this into consideration when you see a call for operators posted on the Club reflector. They have more at stake than you do. Join the operation and you will have some fun, become a better operator in the process and gain some new, lasting friendships that you never expected.

To wrap-up, I remind all that Club Officer and Area Manager vacancies need motivated contesters to step up. Please volunteer.

73,
Ken - WO1N

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Yankee Clipper Contest October 25, 2023 Zoom Meeting Minutes

President Ken WO1N called the meeting to order at 7:47pm

President Ken WO1N then asked if there were any attendees that wanted to join the YCCC. We welcomed K1LHO, N1IBM and W1ETI to the club.

President Ken WO1N then introduced Rob Sherwood to give a presentation on transceiver performance.

President Ken WO1N asked for the Secretary's report which Brian NJ1F said that the meeting minutes from the October meeting were published in the Scuttlebutt. W1JQ made a motion to accept, which was seconded by KK1L, the motion carried.

President Ken WO1N then announced the next meeting schedule

November 22nd 7:30 pm via Zoom
December 3rd in person at the Hampton Inn Enfield, CT.
February 3rd 9 am via Zoom
April 7th in person TBD

President Ken WO1N then lead a discussion on proposed by-law and constitution changes.

First item was to completely remove By-law 1 which limits the club area.

1. Club Jurisdiction

The center of the club shall be located at Erving, Massachusetts. The jurisdiction of the club shall encompass an area within a radius of 175 miles of the above location.

President Ken WO1N then presented the following PowerPoint slides

President Ken WOIN spoke about eliminating the paper / printed newsletter references in the club's Constitution and Bylaws.

Constitution Update – Paper NL

Change:

Excise all references to paper newsletters.

Reason for change:

We want to formally discontinue the printed/mailed version of the Club newsletter for cost and resource reasons. For the few members that have paid for this, if any, their membership will be extended appropriately.

Affected:

Article VI of the Constitution and Section 6 of the Bylaws

10/01/2023 - 1

President Ken WO1N then showed slide which showing the current wording of Article VI on the left and the PROPOSED amended wording on the right. After some discussion a vote of the members present was taken which was unanimous in favor of the change.

Constitution Update – Paper NL

Article VI

[as amended 07 February 1999]
[as amended 05 February 2005]
[as amended 06 April 2013]

The Club, by majority vote of those present at a Regular or Special meeting and with a super quorum present and voting, may levy such dues as are deemed necessary for the operation of the Club.

Payment of current dues shall be a pre-condition for e-delivery of the YCCC Scuttlebutt (in either paper or electronic form), participation in the Club's e-mail reflector, and participation in the Club's various awards programs, e.g.: YCCC Challenge, general awards programs (mugs/certificates/top gun pins/etc.).

A lapsed member can reinstate their lost privileges by paying current dues.

Payment of dues shall not be a precondition for submission of member scores to the YCCC Club aggregate in competitions.

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Related Bylaw Update – Paper NL

6. Dues

An annual dues assessment covering the calendar year is hereby levied pursuant to Article VI of the Constitution to meet current Club operating expenses.

The dues assessment schedule may be modified from time to time by a majority vote of the membership, with a super quorum present and voting, resulting in the automatic amendment of the applicable By-Laws.

The dues assessment schedule is as follows:

Full Member (FE)

\$15 (Eligible for YCCC awards programs and electronic "Ebutt" delivery of Club newsletter, [Scuttlebutt, here on referred to as E-butt.](#))

Full Member (FP)

\$30 (Eligible for YCCC awards programs and paper delivery of Club newsletter.)

Family Member (FM)

\$0 ((Grants full membership to all amateurs residing at one domicile on payment of one member's "Full Member" annual dues and entitlement to one electronic delivery of the Club Newsletter. sent to one domicile or email address. All members of said family are eligible for YCCC awards programs.))

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\$10 (Grants full membership to students at a reduced level. Eligible for YCCC awards programs and **paper or** electronic delivery of the Club Newsletter.)

Subscription (SU)

\$**10**** (A "friend of YCCC" not a member but a possible candidate for future membership. Receives Club newsletter **only** in **paper or** electronic form. **Fee basis is \$10 for electronic "Ebutt" delivery, or \$25 for domestic paper delivery.**)

A former member who has moved out of the Club area may continue to participate in the Club's e-mail reflector and receive the electronic newsletter at no cost.

[\[as amended xx October 2022\]](#)

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President Ken WO1N then proposed a change the Section 7 of the Bylaws shown in the following slide

Bylaw Update – Honorary Life Membership

Change:

Add a new category of Honorary Life Memberships

Reason for change:

Improve Club recognition of CQ Hall of Fame recipients.

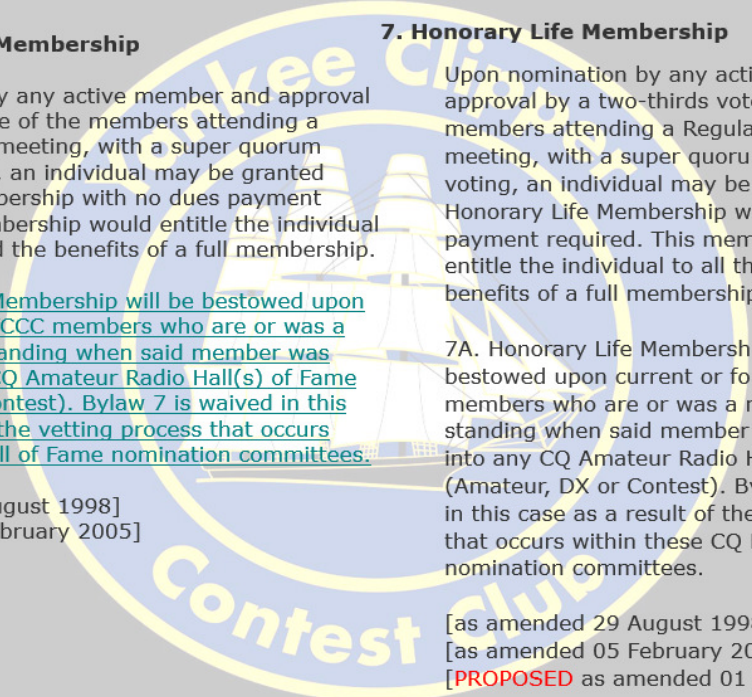
Affected:

Section 7 of the Bylaws



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Bylaw Update – HLM

<p>7. Honorary Life Membership</p> <p>Upon nomination by any active member and approval by a two-thirds vote of the members attending a Regular or Special meeting, with a super quorum present and voting, an individual may be granted Honorary Life Membership with no dues payment required. This membership would entitle the individual to all the rights and the benefits of a full membership.</p> <p><u>7A. Honorary Life Membership will be bestowed upon current or former YCCC members who are or was a member in good standing when said member was inducted into any CQ Amateur Radio Hall(s) of Fame (Amateur, DX or Contest). Bylaw 7 is waived in this case as a result of the vetting process that occurs within these CQ Hall of Fame nomination committees.</u></p> <p>[as amended 29 August 1998] [as amended 05 February 2005]</p>	<p>7. Honorary Life Membership</p> <p>Upon nomination by any active member and approval by a two-thirds vote of the members attending a Regular or Special meeting, with a super quorum present and voting, an individual may be granted Honorary Life Membership with no dues payment required. This membership would entitle the individual to all the rights and the benefits of a full membership.</p> <p>7A. Honorary Life Membership will be bestowed upon current or former YCCC members who are or was a member in good standing when said member was inducted into any CQ Amateur Radio Hall(s) of Fame (Amateur, DX or Contest). Bylaw 7 is waived in this case as a result of the vetting process that occurs within these CQ Hall of Fame nomination committees.</p> <p>[as amended 29 August 1998] [as amended 05 February 2005] [PROPOSED as amended 01 October 2023]</p>
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Martin AA1ON made a motion “to Suspend this meeting until next we assemble” which was seconded by Ron KK1L. The meeting was suspended at 9:30pm

Submitted
Brian Szewczyk NJ1F
YCCC Secretary

Yankee Clipper Contest November 22, 2023

Zoom Meeting Minutes

President Ken WO1N called the meeting to order at 8:00pm with 26 members in attendance.

President Ken WO1N then announced the next meeting schedule

December 3rd in person at the Hampton Inn, Enfield, CT.

February 3rd 9 am via Zoom

April 7th in person TBD

President Ken WO1N then played a prerecorded presentation by VK2PW titled Compression and Equalization techniques for Amateur Radio.

President Ken WO1N then asked if there were any attendees that wanted to join the YCCC. We welcomed George KG1V and Jock N1JI to the club.

President Ken WO1N then introduced John KE1IH who gave a presentation on the upgrades to his antennas.

President Ken WO1N then led a discussion and voting on proposed by-law and constitution changes.

First item was to completely remove By-law 1 which limits the club area.

1. Club Jurisdiction

The center of the club shall be located at Erving, Massachusetts. The jurisdiction of the club shall encompass an area within a radius of 175 miles of the above location.

A motion to strike by-law 1 was made by K1DC and seconded by K1RX the motion carried. A vote of the members present was taken which was unanimous.

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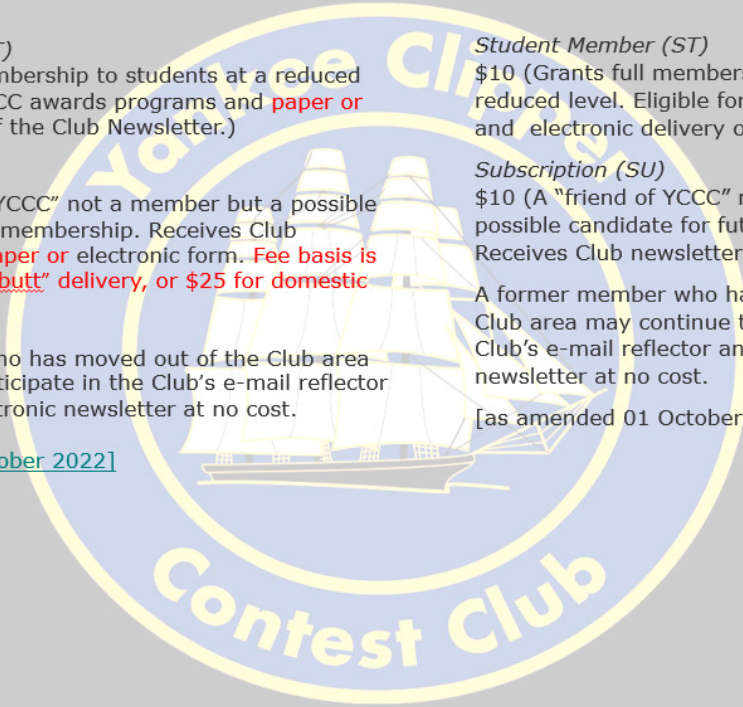
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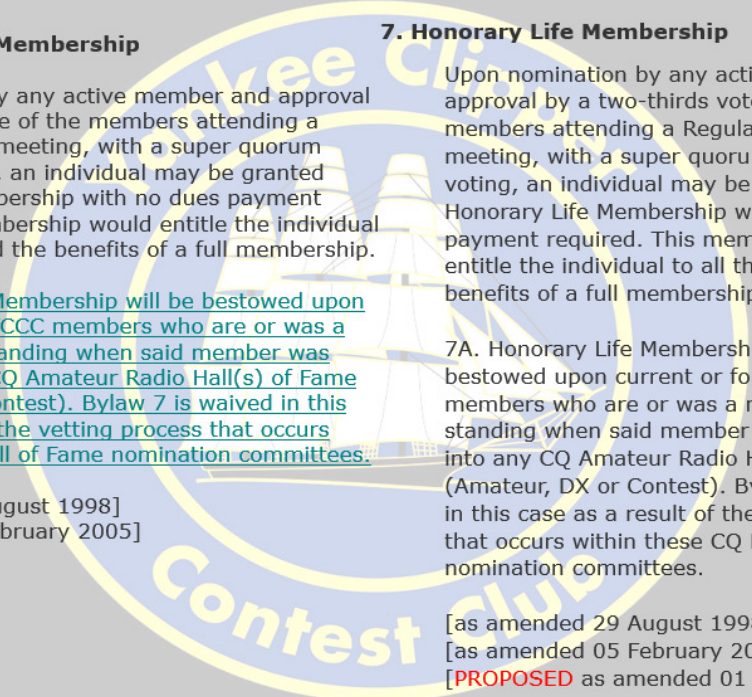
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Submitted
Brian Szewczyk NJ1F
YCCC Secretary

K1KP Open House / EMA Area Meeting

Ken – WO1N

Past YCCC President, Tony, K1KP maintains a special interest mailing list of ~20+ operators who have on occasion supported Multi-ops from his QTH. He recently sent out an invite to his list for an Open House. This took place on Saturday Nov. 18th, 2023.

I'm emerging from a major home remod project so it looked like I could spare a few hours to catch up with the guys.

I arrived around noon and a good crowd had already gathered. In attendance was K1KP and me along with YCCC members W1MJ, K1TC, K1OA, K1MT, AJ1AJ, N1QD and K1PAD (not a member).

We enjoyed a quick cup of coffee and some contesting food before Tony took us on a tour of his station. Looking around at all the YCCC members present I decided to declare it an EMA Area meeting.

Starting with the outside tour Tony described his antenna complement and he highlighted the 2nd station high band antenna. Formerly a 2-element Quad, it has been replaced with the WRTC tri-bander. Tony is really pleased with the performance of the new antenna.

We, well, me, threw out a couple of ideas for an alternative antenna for 160M to replace the compromised/space available solution currently employed. Us Low Band ops can be very picky.

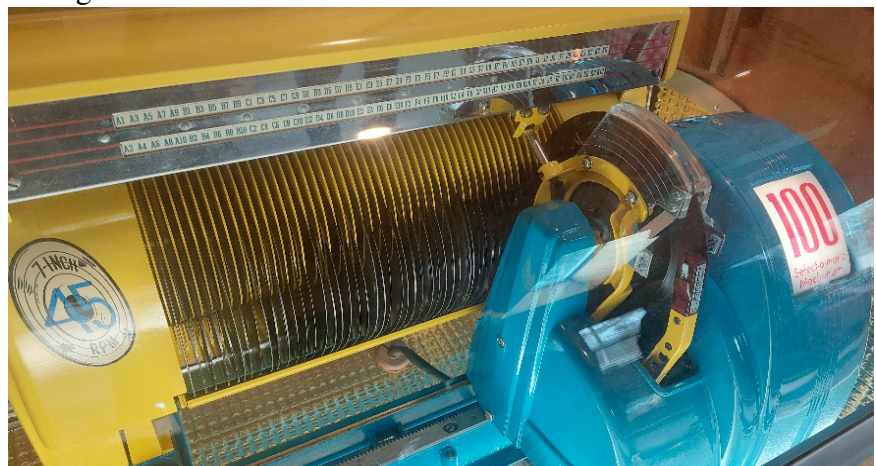
I pointed out to the members present that switching the phased 80M Delta loops from NE to SW while calling CQ is inadvisable. Everyone agreed.



The Ultimate Contesting food....



We moved back to the indoors but were stopped in our tracks by the sounds emanating from an amazingly restored Jukebox. Tony and his XYL Michelle, N1XJA gave us a quick history of what we were looking at.



Vintage early 50's and after a very difficult life, Tony undertook a complete restoration. Mechanicals and electronics were restored by Tony. The case and woodwork were restored by a local artisan. Truly a work of art!

We proceeded down to the station to review the operating position(s) and Flex Radio intricacies. Tony has recently recovered a lot of space in the shack area and we discussed the possibility of restoring the second operating position. We have had some fun Multi-Two operations in years past and it would be great to set it up again. Tony challenged us to commit to showing up and he will make the investment into a full on second station. Challenge on!



K1KP highlighting main station capabilities with NIQD, K1OA and W1MJ looking on

I updated the members present on upcoming YCCC meetings. Note, it is pretty much required that members be signed up on the groups.io reflector to be kept aware of upcoming meetings. I then asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. So moved, seconded and unanimously declared complete at 2:00 PM.

We thanked Tony for his hospitality and went on our ways with thoughts of Multi-2 operations dancing in our heads.

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Upcoming December Meeting Topics

Ken – WO1N

In addition to the normal business agenda and presentations by our Scorekeeper, Mike - NG1M and Dave – K1ZZ, Mike Walker – VA3MW will join us via Zoom and give us an overview of the Flex Radio Systems radio line-up.

Mike, a seasoned technophile, obtained his amateur radio license in 1974 and has been enamored with technology ever since. His journey into the world of technology began with his first "real" job at IBM, where he worked on an impressive Tube computer. This extraordinary machine, with a staggering 64,000 tubes, was situated 600ft underground in NORAD during the height of the Cold War.

Throughout his career, Mike has explored various facets of amateur radio, including Repeaters, HF, HF Contesting, and Satellites, and currently, he is deeply engrossed in experimenting with EME digital modes and 10GHz microwave technology. Additionally, he is an avid General Aviation Pilot, combining his passion for aviation with his love for HF station integration and remote HF operation.



Mike Walker, VA3MW

Currently, Mike serves as a valuable member of the Marketing and Education team at FlexRadio Systems, representing the company renowned for its cutting-edge FlexRadio technology. With his extensive knowledge and expertise in FlexRadio technology, he plays a vital role in promoting and educating others about the advanced capabilities of FlexRadio products.

For Mike, technology is not just a profession but also a deeply ingrained hobby that continually fascinates and drives him forward. His commitment to exploring the frontiers of technology remains unwavering, as he continues to push the boundaries of what is possible in the world of amateur radio.

I hope to see you in Enfield on Sunday December 3rd.

Open Positions in the YCCC

Ken – WO1N

Treasurer

The Treasurer's roles and responsibilities include accounting for all monies paid to and on behalf of the Club. At each regular meeting the Treasurer shall submit a statement of receipts and expenditures. The Treasurer shall assist the President in the preparation of an Annual Operating Budget. The Treasurer shall maintain and reconcile bank accounts and invest all funds guided by the Prudent Man Rule. The President and Treasurer are authorized to sign account checks individually. The Treasurer will be responsible for filing or confirming all government forms are filed as appropriate. The Treasurer will perform all other customary duties pertaining to the Treasurer position.

The fiscal year for the Club is July 1 through June 30. Spending will be guided by a detailed budget. Unbudgeted expenditures over \$500.00 must be approved by a majority of the Club officers. Budgeted expenditures up to \$500.00 must be approved by the President or Treasurer and over \$500.00 by the President and the Treasurer.

Chet will be available for guidance at the hand-off of the Club records. Knowledge of spreadsheets, accounting software and non-profit operation is a plus.

Activities Manager

The Activities Manager roles and responsibilities, as outlined in the Club constitution "shall plan and manage meeting programs and similar activities and perform other duties as agreed upon with the President". This is a core position and candidates would be expected to support every Club meeting and the roughly twice per month Board meetings.

Area Manager Openings (2)

Eastern CT Area (860) Manager
Cape and Islands Area Manager

The Area Manager role is described in Section 5 of the Club bylaws. "Area Managers shall be appointed for such areas deemed appropriate by the President. These Managers shall be responsible for serving the interests of members in their area, which may include assisting in antenna projects, helping procure transportation to Club meetings, and recruiting new members." In practical terms, Area managers are called upon to organize local area meetings, either live or Zoom, define resources within the area that can be called upon should Club members put out a call for assistance with antenna projects. Additionally, Area Managers do some recruiting at area get-togethers (hamfests, flea markets etc.). Finally they are asked to report back on a regular basis to the Club as to activities within the area.

We are encouraging Area Managers to be a bit more active. We think it is a good approach to engage new members in developing a sense of belonging to the Club other than the few live meetings we have each year.

If you think you can fulfill any of these roles, please drop me a note at President@yccc.org

YCCC CLUB RESOURCE INFORMATION

DUES AND MEMBERSHIP STUFF Dues for the year are payable as of January 1st. Please note that payment of current dues IS NOT a prerequisite for contributing scores to the Club aggregate but IS required for participation in the Club's e-mail reflector and the Club's awards programs. The YCCC has a multi-tiered membership:

Full Member - \$15 (Available to amateurs residing within the Club territory for all YCCC member benefits and e-mail delivery of the Club newsletter.)

Family Member - \$0 (Grants full membership benefits to all family amateurs residing at one domicile upon payment of one member's "Full Member" annual dues. The Club Newsletter will be sent to the full member's email address.)

Student Member - \$10 (Grants full membership to students at a reduced cost.)

Subscription- \$10 (A "friend of YCCC", not a member, but a possible candidate for future membership and receives club newsletter in e-mail form.)

Former Member - \$0 (A former full member who has moved out of the Club territory may continue to participate in the Club's e-mail reflector and receive the e-mailed newsletter at no cost.)

You can tell if you owe dues by checking the Club roster on the website. A lapsed member can reinstate lost privileges by paying current year dues. Mail your dues to the club treasurer, **Chet Slabinski, N8RA, 200 Mount Parnassus Rd, East Haddam, CT 06423, or PayPal them to yccc-paypal@yccc.org**. Please include your callsign, family callsigns, and year(s) being paid. PayPal no longer allows the Club to receive dues from "family or friends" so you will not have that option.

SCUTTLEBUTT ARTICLES should be sent to the Scuttlebutt editor, Steve Rodowicz, N1SR, by e-mail at n1sr@arrrl.net The deadline for each issue is the 10th of the preceding month or as announced on the YCCC e-mail list.

Scuttlebutt Advertising: Nominal Business Card sized ad, \$50 per year (6 appearances)

CONTEST SCORES should be sent to the club scorekeeper, Alec Berman, W2JU, preferably by E-mail at scores@yccc.org. Please include details such as numbers of QSOs, QSO points (if appropriate), and multipliers (all types); entry category; and power.

CLUB GOODIES

BADGES YCCC badges are available from Tony, K1KP. Send \$3, name and call desired on the badge, and your mailing address to Tony.

YCCC APPAREL & LOGO ITEMS:

Contact Gold Medal Ideas - https://stores.goldmedalideas.com/Yankee_clipper_contest_club/shop/home

QSL CARDS are ordered through Tom, W1TO. To order, complete the QSL form from the YCCC website, send it to W1TO who will verify all information is included and send to UX5UO after resolving any issues. You will receive a proof copy directly from UX5UO. Approve the proof after resolving any issues with UX5UO. Email acceptance to UX5UO with copy to W1TO. Current price is \$45/thousand (matte) and \$49/thousand heavy matte. Payment to UX5UO representative, KD4POJ at Mr David Lipscomb, KD4POJ, 4201 13th Street NE, Minot, ND, 58703. eMail: kd4poj@srt.com

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER is posed on the YCCC website. Updates are published in 'Movers and Shakers' when members move or change callsigns.

COMPUTER STUFF INTERNET REFLECTOR There is an Internet mailing list for YCCC members. To subscribe, go to <https://groups.io/g/yccc/join> and enter your email address.

WWW HOME PAGE Come visit us at <http://www.yccc.org> Our Webmaster is Mike Gilmer, N2MG.

QSL BUREAU – The W1 QSL BUREAU is sponsored by the YCCC. For more information at: www.w1qsl.org
Address: W1 QSL Bureau, PO Box 73, Marlborough, MA 01752-0073. Email address: w1qsl@w1qsl.org

ARRL COMMITTEE REPS:

CAC: New England Rudy Bakalov, N2WQ RAC Samuel A Ferris, VE5SF	Hudson Zev Darack, N2WKS	Atlantic Charles D Fulp Jr, K3WW
DXAC: New England Bob Beaudet, W1YRC	Hudson Saul Abrams, K2XA	Atlantic Chris Shalvoy, K2CS
ARRL LIAISON: Bart J. Jahnke, W9JJ	Hudson Frederick Lass, K2TR	Atlantic Joe Taylor, K1JT