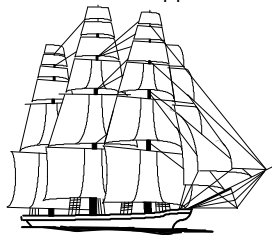


---

Yankee Clipper



Contest Club

# Scuttlebutt

---

April 1999

Issue 141

---

**Zulu Musings** Jeff Briggs, K1ZM The Year in Review.....

This is being written just after the completion of ARRL DX SSB and I must say it is indeed a pleasure looking back upon what we have all accomplished together! Who would have ever thought just one year ago that we might actually be in a position to win the CQWW DX Contest and maybe, just maybe, the ARRL DX Test as well! Man that is heady stuff! Some among us (myself included) probably doubted our resolve at one time or another.....I mean do the members of YCCC actually have the necessary "fire in the belly" that it takes to win a major club competition? Well, I think now we know that the answer - and it is useful to review what we should have learned along the way.....

First, I hope we have all learned that in order to play this game seriously, you first have to get yourself ELIGIBLE. Bench warmers may be good in baseball but they count for "diddly" in a DX Contest. Even if you made 2MEG single op or hosted a 10MEG multi-op entry, if you did not make 2 meetings as a single op OR if you did not employ a crew of operators 67% of whom paid their dues and made their two meetings, then you really weren't on the team - sadly to say - and we would not be able to count your score.

Hopefully, we now understand the rules as to how the game is to be played. First you get eligible and then you get on the air. We need both to win - the second is for nothing if you don't make your meeting requirements and pay your dues when required under our by-laws.

A truly remarkable meeting was held last night in Nashua, NH, hosted by Area Manager K1GW. At this meeting a number of YCCC members went out of their way to get eligible so we might count their scores for ARRL DX - I wish to thank publicly W1OHM, W1MK, AD1C and K1GQ for making the effort on a weeknight to attend this special meeting. This is the kind of Club spirit and dedication that is the hallmark of a winner. So

thanks guys! Your fellow club members appreciate very much that you made the trek.

So too is the "experience" demonstrated by K1AR/K1EA and KV1W and crew when John made the call for help midway through the ARRL CW test at K1EA. They knew they were short of eligible ops and asked KV1W for help. Several ops went over to Ken's to operate so they could make their 67% eligibility requirement at K1EA - otherwise we would not have been able to count what was a huge score. This is also what it takes to win at the super-club level. You need to have your wits about you to ensure your score will count for the Club.

We also learned in CQWW that it actually costs us points at our multis when non-eligible operators or non-YCCC member ops are employed. This is because points are awarded at the operator level in a CQWW multi. Simply put, the points go to the Club of the operator and if that operator belongs to no club or has not yet joined YCCC or hasn't paid his YCCC dues within 24 months, then that pro-rata share will be lost to YCCC. It cannot be assigned by the station owner - contrary to the belief held by some previously around YCCC territory.

So the moral of the story with our multi-operator efforts this year has been - use eligible YCCC member ops exclusively in CQWW if you can. For every non-YCCC member you employ, it costs you a pro-rata share of the points you make in the competition. You can afford a bit of a break with trainees and non-member/non-eligible operators in ARRL DX as long as you follow the ARRL 2/3 or 67% rule - which says that 4 of 6 or 6 of 9 or 8 of 12 operators must be YCCC eligible - eg: made 2 meetings and paid their dues within the past 24 months. Thus ARRL Contests allow for the use of non-member trainees - CQ, sadly, does not under the present rules.

*(See Zulu Musings, p. 6)*

**Yankee Clipper Contest Club  
1998-1999 Officers and Staff**

<b>President</b> Jeff Briggs, K1ZM (914)227-5108 k1zm@aol.com
<b>Vice President</b> Bill Santelmann, N1AU n1au@aol.com
<b>Activities Manager</b> Glen Whitehouse, K1GW (603) 673-6290 glenw@xtdl.com
<b>Secretary</b> Charlotte Richardson, KQ1F (978) 562-5819 KQ1F@underwater.org
<b>Treasurer</b> Ric Plummer, KV1W (978) 838-0368 ricp@ultranet.com
<b>Scuttlebutt Editor</b> Doug Scribner, K1ZO (603)352-5832 k1zo@arrl.net
<b>Scuttlebutt Publisher</b> Art Holmes, W1RZF (508)478-2286 w1rzf@gis.net

**Area Managers**

<b>ME</b> Mike Russo, K1EU (207) 883-9524 k1eu@juno.com
<b>ENH</b> Glen Whitehouse, K1GW (603) 673-6290 glenw@xtdl.com
<b>WNH/SVT</b> Doug Scribner, K1ZO (603) 352-5832 k1zo@arrl.net
<b>NE MA (978)</b> Ric Plummer, KV1W (978)-838-0368 ricp@ultranet.com
<b>SE MA (508)</b> Greg Cronin, W1KM (508)-428-4205 w1km@aol.com
<b>Boston (617/781)</b> Joe Fitzgerald, KM1P (617)-524-6370 jfitzgerald@alum.wpi.edu
<b>WMA (413)</b> Bob Tublitz, WT2Q (413) 298-4222 rtublitz@vgernet.net
<b>CT</b> Jack Schuster, W1WEF (860) 633-2756 w1wef@snet.net
<b>RI</b> Jeff Bouvier, K1AM (401) 658-1122 k1iu@ids.net
<b>NNY</b> George Wilner, K2ONP (518) 279-4025 k2onp@aol.com
<b>NY</b> Rich Gelber, K2WR (212) 580-1075 k2wr@njdx.org
<b>LI</b> Mike Anderson, K2TX (516) 666-0668
<b>SNY/NJ/PA</b> Hank Kiernan, KF2O (914) 235-4940 hankkier@aol.com

The Yankee Clipper Contest Club (an ARRL affiliated club) holds five general meetings per year in Worcester, MA and various special meetings throughout club territory. Attendance at a meeting is required to become a member.

Articles in the **Scuttlebutt** (except for those separately copyrighted) may be reprinted, provided proper credit is given. The editorial deadline for the Scuttlebutt is the 10th of every odd month.

**1999 Massachusetts QSO Party**

The first full weekend in May. From 1800Z on Saturday May 1 to 0400Z Sunday May 2, and from 1100Z to 2100Z Sunday May 2 (20 hours total).

MA stations may work any station. Non-MA stations may work only MA stations. Fixed stations may be worked once per band per mode. Mobile or portable stations may be worked once per Massachusetts county/state.

Operation will be on any frequency authorized for amateur use, except the 30, 17 and 12 meter bands. Permitted modes are Phone and Non Phone. Land based repeater contacts are not permitted.

Categories include Non-MA stations, MA single Op, MA Multi-Op, MA Mobile / Portable, & MA Team (5 single op members).

QSO EXCHANGE: MA stations send signal report and county, Non-MA stations send signal report and US State, Canadian Province or DXCC country.

POINTS: One point per Phone QSO, two points per non-phone QSO.

MULTIPLIERS: MA stations, total number of MA counties, US States (excluding MA), Canadian Provinces and DXCC countries worked on each band. Non-MA Stations, total number of Massachusetts counties worked on each band (maximum 14 per band). Washington, DC contacts shall be counted as a Maryland QSO. SCORE: Total QSO Points multiplied by the sum total of all multipliers worked. Dupe sheet required for logs with 100 QSO or more.

LOGS: Electronic and printed entries are permitted (deadline is 30 days after contest period ends)

Send entries to n1tyh@aol.com or

Massachusetts QSO Party  
c/o Framingham Amateur Radio Association  
PO Box 3005  
Framingham MA 01701

Visit our web page at <http://www.qsl.net/fara>, for a complete set of rules.

## February Meeting Minutes

Charlotte Richardson, KQ1F

The February, 1999, general meeting of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club was held at Worcester State College on Sunday, February 7, 1999. Arriving members enjoyed coffee, donuts, and cookies provided by Team 17, the Buccaneers, winners of the YCCC Challenge in the CQ WW Contests. Throughout the meeting, a 50/50 raffle was conducted by W1RZF and K1XX. The meeting was called to order by Club president Jeff, K1ZM, and began with introductions and the ARRL DX Contest plans of the 97 members present. Jeff publicly thanked Gary, K2AJY, for finding and arranging the new club meeting place. Club members were planning ARRL DXpeditions to J3 and 4U1ITU. The club treasury showed a balance of \$5389.75.

Dave, K1HT, then reported on CQ WW scores. In the SSB contest, there were 161 entries representing a total of 245 members, as compared to 99 entries in 1997, for a total claimed score of 217.2M points, twice last year's score. On CW, there were 132 entries representing 210 members, compared to 92 entries last year, for 313.6M points. The CQ WW Contest YCCC Challenge was won by team 17, the Buccaneers, with 47M points, followed by teams 17, 5, 21, 9, 14, 23, 8, and 20. Dave then discussed YCCC CQ WW score reductions in the 1997 logs, which he computed by comparing the claimed scores with the published scores. He noted that the score reductions averaged 9.3% on SSB and 10.3% on CW. Clearly, there is room for improvement here. He also noted that QSOs removed from a log carry a 3:1 penalty. Dave advises more care in making sure that the other station is working you, has copied your call correctly, and that you have both copied and typed his call correctly. In particular, verify the callsign of packet spots you work. Bill, K5FUV, then discussed ARRL contest log checking. Bill noted that the ARRL will now check all electronic logs and all large paper logs. This checking will be much more rigorous than in the past.

Brad, W1NT, announced that he has taken over club apparel from Len, K1NU. Expect new designs in club T shirts and other items to be available soon. The club then welcomed four new members (see New Crew for details): David Pyle, KW1DX, James M. Heedles, WW1Y, Diane Ortiz, K2DO, and Geroge Tranos, N2GA.

Jeff then briefly discussed coax stub filters and noted that they are good for about 20 dB.

After the break, Jeff described the work Glen, K1GW, is doing on an outline for a new member pamphlet. Jeff noted that Glen could really use some help in writing some of the sections and that interested volunteers should contact him. Don, K2KQ, then talked about the YCCC Executive Committee. The committee has three goals: development of April 1999

a strategic plan for the club, a mentoring plan for new members, and a welcoming booklet and perhaps also a video. Jim, K1IR, then talked about a mentoring program. He is collecting lists of volunteer mentors as well as members looking for mentors, and noted that it is fine to put yourself on BOTH lists.

Jeff then proposed a toast (using bottled hard cider instead of champagne) to the club officers, volunteers, and area managers who made the CQ WW effort possible.

Jack, W1WEF, then read the proposed club constitution and bylaws changes, as published in the previous newsletter. After some explanatory remarks by Jeff and a short discussion, the proposed amendments passed unanimously.

Whitey, K1VV, then proposed the club look into having a Worked YCCC Certificate to increase our visibility overseas. He noted that other contest clubs have such certificates. This proposal was tabled for further study.

The 50/50 raffle was then drawn. Don, K2KQ, won \$79. Tom, K1KI, also donated a spectrum chart. Jeff wrapped up the meeting by showing excerpts from a video of the CQ 160 contest the previous weekend, operated as a multi-op using the famous 160m callsign W1BB. While conditions favored stations further south, Jeff said it was the most fun he had had contesting in the last twenty years. The meeting adjourned around 4:30 PM.

## YCCC Resource Changes

### - Apparel Coordinator -

Brad, W1NT has assumed the position of YCCC Apparel Coordinator. He replaces Len, K1NU. You can contact Brad at bradld@sprynet.com.

### - YCCC QSL Card Price Increase -

The new price for YCCC QSL Cards is \$62.00 for 2000 cards. Contact K1AR at k1ar@contesting.com for info or orders.

## YCCC Challenge - ARRL DX CW Claimed Totals - First Posting

Dave Hoaglin, K1HT

Team 1	5,020,129	Team One
Team 2	4,792,923	The Spice Boys
Team 3	7,328,438	Mainely Lids
Team 4	5,682,934	Freddie & the Whizzers
Team 5	7,905,981	F Troop
Team 6	4,492,782	Team CT
Team 7	3,962,136	Lucky 7
Team 8	7,434,486	Aces & Eights
Team 9	6,798,091	Number 9
Team 10	3,864,396	Clam Diggers
Team 11	7,430,360	The Pi-Squares
Team 12	8,758,800	The Keystone Breakers
Team 13	9,793,822	Lucky 13
Team 14	10,029,528	Rainbow Warriors
Team 15	4,166,568	The Wire Weirdos
Team 16	2,732,796	AR's Aces
Team 17	20,006,688	The Buccaneers
Team 18	2,649,333	Tom's Tigers
Team 19	10,771,182	Yankee Clipper Spinnakers
Team 20	4,242,246	The Roaring 20's
Team 21	9,012,882	The 21 Club
Team 22	2,658,210	The Crushers
Team 23	8,503,886	The 599'ers
Team 24	4,504,021	The X-Ops
Team 25	6,955,773	The Two-Bit Contesters
Team 26	1,627,104	The Megawatts

## New Area Managers

Jeff Briggs, K1ZM

As our Club continues to prosper, we need to recognize our growth areas by adding new area managers as needed.

I am pleased to announce the following changes at this time - more will follow in due course:

1) N2TX - Mike Anderson - has accepted an appointment to be the new YCCC Area Manager for Long Island New York which includes the counties of NASSAU and SUFFOLK.

Mike has been instrumental with our recent growth on Long Island and has been a major factor in our packet system out there plus the recent efforts made at KE2NL (W2A) in CQWW 1998 SSB.

I am delighted to announce his appointment.

K2WR - Rich Gelber - will continue to handle the 5 boroughs of NYC, including Staten Island. Rich, a former President of YCCC and well-known for his "Eimac the Magnificent" routines, has done a fine job over the years - but needs some help at this time covering what is a rapidly growing area out in Nassau/Suffolk counties.

KF2O - Hank Kiernan - will continue to handle downstate NY and New Jersey. Hank has also done a superb job keeping on top of things the past several years. I for one have really enjoyed his local/regional dinner meetings at Nat's Place in Elmsford.

2) K1ZO - Doug Scribner - has agreed to accept an appointment as YCCC Area Manager for Western NH and Southern Vermont. This is in addition to the fine job Doug has been doing as YCCC Scuttlebutt Editor and as our webmaster for the YCCC website. Doug, as you all may know, recently had to resurrect the YCCC site from the "ashes" after a major crash at our server and has become one of the hardest working members of the Club this past year.

I am delighted that he has agreed to help K1GW out in the Western part of NH and in Southern Vermont.

K1GW - Glen Whitehouse - will continue to cover E. NH and has done a fine job keeping YCCC members eligible in the Eastern part of the state of NH this season.

The watchful eyes among us will also note that Glen has played the role of "YCCC Matchmaker" this season for both CQWW and ARRL DX. Here, Glen has been matching up available stations with needy operators in order to put some HUGE YCCC points up on the board - especially in CQWW. These efforts have been an adjunct to his role as YCCC Activities Manager.

Please join me in wishing our two new Area Managers the best of success as they assume their new positions. And also, please join me in thanking our existing Area Managers - all of them - for the very fine work they have done for YCCC this season.

Without these efforts, our CQWW aggregate score and our ARRL 1999 efforts would not have been nearly as successful as they have proven to be.

Well done men!! Thanks for all your hard work - it is much appreciated.

## New Crew

Charlotte Richardson, KQ1F

Please welcome the following new members who joined at various meetings.

### SE MA Area Meeting - January 23

Joe Pardo, N1KRT  
15 Joe Jay  
Forestdale, MA 02644  
home phone: (508)477-8992  
email: N1KRT@aol.com

### NH/VT Area Meeting - January 26

Joel Huntley, WA1ZYX  
151 Joslin Road  
Surry, NH 03431  
home phone: (603)357-8059  
work phone: (603)358-2473  
email: joelth@monad.net or jhuntley@keene.edu  
home page: <http://top.monad.net/~joelth>

### February General Meeting

David Pyle, KW1DX  
PO Box 1224  
Nashua, NH 03061  
home phone: (603)881-5387  
work phone: (978)659-2615  
email: dpyle@csi.com  
home page: <http://www.qsl.net/kw1dx>

James M. Heedles, WW1Y  
6 Birch Drive  
Amherst, NH 03031-1807  
home phone: (603)673-7395  
work phone: (603)885-3497  
email: heedles@ww1y.mv.com

Diane Ortiz, K2DO  
PO Box 296  
Bellport, NY 11713  
home phone: (516)286-7562  
work phone: (516)843-4872  
email: HAMYL@aol.com

George Tranos, N2GA  
PO Box 296  
Bellport, NY 11713  
home phone: (516)286-7562  
work phone: (516)872-3932  
email: n2ga@aol.com  
home page: <http://members.aol.com/n2ga>

### Milton VT Hamfest

Ralph Mc Clintock, W1ZK  
607 Brown's Trace  
Jericho, Vt. 05465

Doug Boehm, AB1T  
52 Maple Street  
Bristol, VT 05443

Wayne Thompson, W1BHL  
538 Tanner Rd  
Jeffersonville, Vt. 05464

Paul Gayet, AA1SU  
19 Macrae Road  
Colchester, VT 05446

Grant Kesselring, N0ICI  
85 East Spring St - Apt 4  
Winooski, VT 05404

Ronald Rossi, KK1L  
49 Congress Street #2  
St.Albans, VT 05478

## Days Of Future Past

Doug Scribner, K1ZO

Highlights from the pages of past Scuttlebutt Issues.

**20 Years Ago - April 1979 #17** - Notes from 5-land by K1AR. K1MM returns from Spratley. Test Your Contestmanship. ARRL DX Claimed Scores.

**10 Years Ago - April 1989 #80** - ARRL DX Score Rumors from NK1F. K9ES moves into "FRC" territory. K1VUT has the following for sale: 40-2CD \$240 - 20-4CD \$200 (I doubt if he still has them...Ed.)

**5 Years Ago - April 1994 #110** - Captains Cabin by K2WR. Score Rumors. Part II of "Maximizing Single-Operator Contest Productivity by K1ZM. ON2UN to visit the area in May.

*(Zulu Musings from p. 1)*

When in doubt here, I really like the position articulated by Ric Plummer, KV1W, at his multi-op efforts. According to Ric, "It's really very simple - they don't sit in the chair here if they are not 100% eligible." Well said! Man, I like your style!

Not to belabor this further, we learned HOW to win this year - and how also not to BEAT OURSELVES. For the most part, we have been able to count all the scores made by our members this year - we lost precious little compared to years' past and that put us in a great position to win for a change.

We also learned that it takes something around 60% or greater participation as a total club to win a major contest. We still have some work to do here as our numbers are still lower than I think they should be for a Club like ours. If that 60% were ever to inch closer to 65-70% participation by eligible operators, then YCCC would have a dynasty here in New England for sure!

Another thing we learned this year is the importance of our smaller and medium gun members. Simply put, you cannot win without 'em...they are the lifeblood of the club and our future BIG GUNS. Guys like K1ZR came up this way and others will follow if we give them a hand and help them acquire new skills. If we look back at our CQ scores last Fall, it is clear that our smaller stations made a HUGE difference for YCCC. We should NEVER again look down our collective noses at a small score in this club. Rather, we should go out of our way to make our smaller station members feel they are a welcome and a valued component of YCCC. We need every one of them as they are just as important, in the end, as the glamour scores made by our superstations. Of course, we need the superstations as well - but they alone will not carry the day - it takes a Village as they say..... Our mentoring program led by K1IR will go a long way toward helping develop our newer members into better contesters. Please volunteer today on the website if you have the time and are willing to take a new contender under your wing. You will be helping YCCC grow if you do....

Finally, I think we learned that our friends down South "put THEIR pants on the same way as we do - eg: one leg at a time!" FRC is a great club with a proud heritage - but they can be beaten by a well-oiled YCCC machine if we work together as a team. When we work as a team like we did this year, mountains move - we all saw it happen - and I am so very proud of what we have done together this year. Thanks for making it a great year for YCCC!

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the April meeting. As always, there will be a few surprises. So come on out and support your club - you'll be glad you did.

## TS-930 Upgrade Review

Scott Bullock, KA1CLX

Last summer I heard a rumor of a new TS930 computer controlled logic board being introduced. I had been thinking of replacing my 930 for a long time, but when I heard this, it caught my attention and I decided to wait for a while and see what happened. In the fall, another rumor of the same thing.

I figured it was going to be a reality and I was drooling. I like my 930 and have grown very fond of it over the past few years. Few radios I found that were affordable had the same features and performance as it does!

After the ARRL DX CW contest, there was a write up on the cq contest reflector about the new board, and finally a contact for them! I emailed, and next day spoke with him by telephone, and became the proud owner of board #6 to be produced. What follows here is a short synopsis of what it takes to install the board and to get it running. Breath new life into YOUR 930!

The boards are made by Chris Seig at Piexx Co. in Hillsboro, NH. Their cost is \$259.00 plus \$6.00 shipping. Upon first opening the box, I was immediately struck by the fact that these boards were not a home brew piece-meal project, they were a real professionally done board utilizing the latest in surface mount technology. I was impressed to say the least!

Installation is very straightforward, remove the Kenwood TS930 cover, remove the speaker bracket, and discard the old backup battery attachment. The new board is flash upgrade-able rom, so it doesn't require any battery backup. Remove all the existing connectors into the digital board, being careful to keep the basic arrangement the same, and then unscrew and remove the digital board. Next, unscrew and remove the plate under the digital board. Re drill all six mounting holes slightly larger in the plate. Take the supplied standoffs and mount them onto the plate. Next mount the new control board onto the standoffs, and remount the plate into the radio. Re-connect all the existing wiring connectors to the appropriate connectors on the new board-careful attention has been taken to keep all the connectors on the new board in the same position as the old board. Using the connector and wire supplied, solder 2 wires to the existing s meter-this provides remote s meter capability and automatic saving of memories when powering off.

The external control cable is via a flat telephone style cable with a rj-11 connector on the end. Plug this into the board and run the other end out the back of the radio, or just route it through the top sliding door for a no extra holes install.

*(See TS-930, p. 7)*

*(TS-930 from p. 6)*

Power the unit up, and you will immediately find some of the new features! The display has a standard upgrade to provide 2 digit resolution to the right of the decimal point. Pressing the dial lock key will put the RIT on the main tuning dial knob. The radio now has 99 memory channels accessed by the rit knob. The rit can now be cleared in transmit mode. The new 930 now has auto rapid qsy-the faster you turn the main dial, the faster it changes frequency (this is one of the best features-qsy in 1 second from top to bottom of the band). And the biggest feature is the computer control!

External control was a little tricky to set up at first, not knowing the baud rate at which the radio worked at. But then again, I had not had the benefit of the full documentation, as it wasn't ready yet, and I didn't want to wait! Once I found out the radio was at 4800 baud, it was a breeze. The new control board emulates TS570 control which is popular with most programs. CT doesn't show this as an option, but it does use TS850, which is close enough to use properly with the Piexx board. The interface cable is standard flat telephone cord, which plugs into a db-9 adaptor supplied for the back of your computer. RFI may be a problem with this, but nothing that I'm sure a few turns on a ferrite core wouldn't cure. No rfi problems were noted here at all at my station even without any filtering and 500 watts next to the computer.

I guess I should take the time to tell you that I installed this board the night before the contest! Approximate time was only about 2 hours from start to finish. I don't like to make station modifications this close to a contest, but I was excited, and wanted to finally get computer control!

The decision was well worth it! Operation is a breeze, it points and shoots just like it was supposed to, and enabled me to run multipliers very quickly with a limited amount of time that I had in the last contest. The one feature that I think could be added is to re-use the t-f split key to monitor the transmit frequency when operating split with CT, as it's nice sometimes to listen for a good qrg in a pileup. Operation of the t-f set key is still the same when using both vfo's in conventional mode.

After speaking with the developer Chris Seig again after the installation, he casually mentioned that he was not interested in installing the boards. Bingo! Nice little niche for me as I specialize in custom work in the two way radio field right now. I decided then and there that we would offer complete professional installation of the boards for \$59.00 including shipping for those that weren't comfortable with doing these modifications themselves.

Here's the address to buy the boards:

Chris Sieg  
c/o PIEXX Co.  
13 Main Street  
PO Box 123  
Hillsboro, NH 03244  
Voice (603) 464-5625  
FAX (603) 464-5411

Or visit them online at:

<http://www.conknet.com/piexx/>

And here's our address if you would like your board professionally installed:

Advantage Communications  
8 Howard Rd.  
Hudson, MA 01749  
1-800-294-RADIO

## Area Meeting Notes

### Wethersfield, CT - 1/12/99

K1ZM

A total of 9 YCCC members attended this dinner meeting held at the Piccadilly Pub in Wethersfield hosted by K5FUV and K1ZM. (W1WEF is vacationing in sunny Florida this month.)

Attendees were K5FUV N1RL K1ZM K1RM K1CC W1QA NC1I KE1IH W3TB

Discussion topics included YCCC's results in CQWW 1998 and plans for ARRL DX 1999. No new members joined the club at this meeting.

K5FUV advised the group that under his stewardship of the contest desk at ARRL HQ, contest log checking was going to ratcheted up considerably and advised the group to be especially careful in logging during ARRL Contests in 1999.

Accuracy especially in logging packet spot callouts was suggested - do not take for granted what may be spotted on 2M - make sure YOU hear the call **\*\*correctly\*\*** before you put it in your log.....a word to the wise is sufficient.

This largely social get-together of YCCC Central Conn/nearby Mass members was a fun, relaxing evening lasting until nearly 10PM for the "hard-core".

*(See Area Meetings, p. 8)*

(Area Meetings from p. 7)

**Middleboro, MA - 1/23/99**  
**W1KM**

23 YCCC'ers invaded Persy's Place in Middleboro on Saturday morning.

Some of those present consolidated plans for the ARRL DX contest; the most optimistic was N1RR who boldly predicted he would make "MEGS" but doesn't know what continent he'll be on. We had one new member join: N1KRT, Joe Pardo from Forestdale. Joe is primarily a low-power SSB operator but he plans to make 100 Q's in the CW DX contest.

Roll call: AA1V, KU4BP, KZ1A, WB1S, K1DC, K1WCC, K1TEX, W1AY, N1TB, W1KM, K1RV, K1TH, W1CC, W1FJ, WT1O, NY1L, NB1B, K1VV, N1RR, N1XS, N1IUN, N1BSO, N1KRT,

Everybody left feeling well-fortified and ready for the ARRL DX contest .

**Keene, NH - 1/26/99**  
**K1ZO**

A NH/VT Area meeting was held Tuesday evening January 26th in Keene, NH.

The gathering had a very "familiar feel" to it as all in attendance are also members of our local club - Cheshire County DX ARC.

Members present were: Ted - K1BV, Randy - N1KWF and myself.

We welcomed new member Joel Huntley, WA1ZYX.

Joel owns the local SWNH packet node which includes the NHDX link to K1XX. He also maintains NHGate - the Internet gateway to the YCCC network. He is a very welcome addition to our ranks.

Good friends with a common interest and good pizza made for a very enjoyable evening...and we didn't have to drive two hours!

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

**Slingerlands, NY - 1/30/99**  
**K2BX**

The meeting was called to order by Saul, K2XA at 7:00 PM. Saul asked all present to introduce themselves. The following YCCC members were present: W2GDJ, K2ZP, K2BX, N1JP, K2EP, WK2H, K2SIG, K2ONP, W2ZU, NA2NA, K2XA, N2MG, and N2ZX.

Those present made the following pledges for the ARRL CW and SSB contest:

NAME	CALL	CW POINTS	SSB POINTS
Dave	W2GDJ	500,000	500,000
Jim	K2ZP	200,000	200,000
Bill	K2BX	250,000	250,000
John	N1JP	250,000	250,000
Ernie	K2EP	500,000	500,000
Guy	WK2H	250,000	0
John	K2SIG	undecided	undecided
George	K2ONP	2.2 MILLION	1 MILLION
John	W2ZU	750,000	750,000
Will	NA2NA	multi @ N2ZX	
Saul	K2XA	2.5 MILLION	2.0 MILLION
Mike	N2MG	0	@ K2TR
Curtus	N2ZX	undecided	undecided

\*

Note: Seymour, K2XF was not present however he pledged 500,000 points on both modes.

George, K2ONP then made a short presentation about suggestions for the contest. Here are a few of the items discussed:

- Download a list of the rules from the ARRL WEB site and become familiar with them.
- Get a copy of the rate sheets from [www.contesting.com](http://www.contesting.com) and review the operating plan.
- There was a discussion on how to spend the 48 hours and how you are competing against yourself from previous years.
- Work within your own strengths.
- Run as much power as possible.
- Get on Saturday for Europe. They can only work stateside on this contest and are more active on the first day of the contest.
- Go to the highest band that is open.
- RUN as much as possible!!!

After discussions on various techniques the meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

(See Area Meetings, p. 9)



*(Area Meetings from p. 8)***Hope, RI - 1/30/99**  
**KI1G**

The RI area meeting was held at the QTH of KI1G in Hope, RI on Saturday January 30. In attendance were K1AM, KI1G, K1SD, WF1B, K1MO and W1WFZ. No new membership applications were submitted, and all members present claimed to be current with their dues.

A discussion was had about what people had planned for the upcoming ARRL contests. James (K1SD) is in the middle of erecting his first tower at his new QTH in East Greenwich, Ray (WF1B) has plans for a new tower in his back yard. Jeff (K1AM) commented on the woes of his High 20 Meter beam, sounds like the boom to mast clamp ripped apart, and the antenna is temporarily secured to the top of the tower. I hope to get over there in the near future to fix this problem for him. Dave (K1MO) commented on the return of the high bands and to keep in mind that when the high bands are open, antennas can be TOO HIGH, and suggested that around 40' is a good height for 10 Meters once it has opened, but that a higher antenna is better when opening the band.

Ted (W1WFZ) brought along a neat toy, it was a color camcorder with a large view screen, it took exceptional video with great zooming in. Rick(KI1G) showed his amplifier switching system, and how quick and easily you can swap between amp's for band changes.

We then had a discussion about the future of NE1R's packet node which is the main connect to the PacketCluster from here in RI, Bob has expressed that he would like to be done operating the node, and is willing to sell the entire setup. Plans are that the node will be purchased and moved to KI1G's QTH in the near future.

We then moved our meeting outside into the Sub-Zero wind chills to do what every ham needs to do, put antennas up ! We gracefully raised a 40-2 up to top of my 85' tower, and then went back indoors for another round of coffee. The meeting broke up around noon.

**Brookfield, CT - 2/2/99**  
**K1ZM**

The joint YCCC/WCDXA Meeting was held on 2/2/99 in Brookfield, CT and was attended by ten (10) local area YCCC members.

YCCC members attending were:

K1ZM, President  
N1NY (Pres WCDXA & YCCC member)

W1NG  
W1QK  
K1GE  
W1QJ  
AA1MY  
W2RE  
KE2DX  
N2IX

No new members joined the club at this meeting and no dues were collected as those attending were current with respect to 1998-99 annual dues.

Bob Dugan, N1NY, hosted the meeting and discussed the recent ZL9CI activity, the planned VK9 lowband dx-peditions and the status of the local YCCC node W1QI which operates on 145.73.

After a quick break for coffee and doughnuts, the group watched a video of last weekend's CQ160M CW contest multiop effort made at K1ZM/1 on Cape Cod under the callsign W1BB. Actual footage of the operation as well as a tour of the antenna farm and station were presented.

K1ZM also reviewed YCCC's recent performance in CQWW 1998 where it looks as if YCCC went in with a claimed score of 530Meg and FRC claimed 487Meg. If these numbers hold up, then YCCC will win its first CQWW ever... The group was asked to get on the air for ARRL DX this month and next.

**Berlin, MA - 2/10/99**  
**KV1W**

The annual Chowda 'fest was held on Wed evening, Feb 10 at the KV1W QTH. Bruce, W1CSM guided a tips and techniques session focused at getting ready for the upcoming ARRL DX Contest. Tips for preparation and planning, the day before ( rest & relax), and during the contest were discussed and with 27 top notch, that is KICK BUTT, contesters present, there were plenty of added tips.

We then went on to food and casual conversation. There were conversation groups in every corner on some topic of the upcoming ARRL DX Contest. And of course, the Chowda was excellent !! Thanks to Linda ( KV1W's XYL ) for such a feed.

Those present were: KV1W, W1CSM, KE1FO, W1OJ, W1BR, K1MBO, W1ZZ, K1VR, N1RWM, K1AE, N1XS, K1IR, N6RFM, N1PGA, N1TPY, N1FIY, KM3T, W1ES, W1VE, K1EP, NB1B, KE1KD, W1NR, AI3E, WM1K, W1TQ, K1ST.

*(See Area Meetings, p. 10)*

(Area Meetings from p. 9)

Milton, VT - 2/27/99

K1ZM

A YCCC regional meeting was held 2/27/99 at the Milton VT Hamfest which is an ARRL State Hamfest.

At the hamfest, YCCC conducted a three hour Dx and Contest Forum which included a short YCCC official meeting as a component part of the program.

Presentations on low-band dx'ing, antenna design and contest videos were given to a group of 20 total attendees - 6 of which joined YCCC as new members.

Eight other YCCC members were in attendance; there were 6 guests who did not join YCCC.

New members joining YCCC were:

- 1) W1ZK - Ralph McClintok
- 2) AB1T - Doug Boehm
- 3) W1BHL - Wayne Thompson
- 4) AA1SU - Paul Gayet
- 5) N0ICI - Grant Kesselring
- 6) KK1L - Ronald Rossi

Other attendees at the meeting were:

- 1) K1KI - YCCC
- 2) K1ZM - YCCC
- 3) W1ZNM - Guest
- 4) KA1JCU - Guest
- 5) NA2NA - YCCC
- 6) Luay Bakir - Guest
- 7) K1KU (ex KL7DN) - Darrel Dailey - YCCC
- 8) W1ZS - Burt Eldridge - YCCC
- 9) KM1Z - Fran Flynn - Guest
- 10) N1ZUK - Fred Allstadt - Guest
- 11) W1ZCJ - Bob VBoyer - Guest
- 12) W1US - Doc Kellemen - YCCC
- 13) W1SJ - Mitch Stern - YCCC
- 14) W1JCC - Craig Clark - YCCC

Many thanks to YCCC member Mitch Stern, W1SJ, for inviting YCCC to hold a meeting in Milton. Mitch was one of the principal hamfest organizers and also was responsible for recruiting those new members who joined our Club.

Well done Mitch!

## YCCC Challenge - 1998 CQWW Claimed Totals - Final Posting

Dave Hoaglin, K1HT

Team	Score	Team Name	Rank
1	15,443,408	Team One	20
2	14,962,672	The Spice Boys	21
3	21,016,232	Mainely Lids	10
4	21,341,532	Freddie & the Whizzers	9
5	28,511,108	F Troop	2
6	12,339,823	Team CT	24
7	14,853,748	Lucky 7	22
8	24,367,262	Aces & Eights	7
9	25,650,538	Number Nine	4
10	17,655,400	Clam Diggers	16
11	20,045,307	The Pi-Squares	13
12	17,797,145	The Keystone Breakers	15
13	16,701,708	Lucky 13	18
14	17,316,640	Rainbow Warriors	17
15	10,632,197	The Wire Weirdos	25
16	20,102,365	AR's Aces	12
17	47,178,682	The Buccaneers	1
18	18,127,166	Tom's Tigers	14
19	25,388,519	Yankee Clipper Spinnakers	5
20	24,159,361	The Roaring 20's	8
21	27,609,791	The 21 Club	3
22	3,802,515	The Crushers	26
23	24,641,475	The 599'ers	6
24	20,126,384	The X-Ops	11
25	14,320,569	The Two-Bit Contesters	23
26	15,933,929	The Megawatts	19

## YCCC CLUB RESOURCE INFORMATION

**DUES AND MEMBERSHIP STUFF** Dues (currently \$20 ) are payable as of the April electiof meeting, which begins our club "contest year", with a grace period until the end of June, at which time your membership lapses if dues are not paid up. In order to rejoin, a lapsed member must attend a meeting, like any new member, or may simply become a subscriber to the Scuttlebutt by paying up (see below). Club members who move out of club territory and so are not eligible to contribute to club aggregate scores automatically become subscribers. New members who join at the February meeting are credited with dues for the year beginning the following April. You can tell if you owe dues by checking your 'Butt mailing label. Only paid-up members are eligible to contribute to the club score in contests. **Mail your dues** to the club treasurer, Ric Plummer, KV1W, PO Box 1158, Berlin, MA 01503-2158. **FAMILY MEMBERS** Members of the same family living at the same address may elect to receive only one copy of the Scuttlebutt. One member of the family must pay full dues, enabling the rest of the family to join as family members, which is free. **STUDENT MEMBERS** Full-time students are eligible for dues at half the regular rate. **SCUTTLEBUTT SUBSCRIPTIONS** Anyone may subscribe to the club newsletter, the *Scuttlebutt*. The subscription year begins in April. Subscribers who sign up between December and April are considered paid-up for the upcoming year. You can tell if your subscription is current by checking your 'Butt mailing label. The grace period for late subscriptions is the same as for late memberships.

**SCUTTLEBUTT ARTICLES** should be sent to the Scuttlebutt editor, Doug Scribner K1ZO, preferably by E-mail at [k1zo@arrl.net](mailto:k1zo@arrl.net) or on 3½" disk (in MSWord format or text file) by snail mail to Doug Scribner, 52 Manchester Street, Keene, NH 03431. The deadline for each issue is the 10th of the preceding month. **CONTEST SCORES** should be sent to the club scorekeeper, Dave Hoaglin, K1HT, preferably by packet or by E-mail at [dave\\_hoaglin@abtassoc.com](mailto:dave_hoaglin@abtassoc.com) . 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 Ric, KV1W. Send \$2, name and call desired on the badge, and your mailing address to: Ric Plummer - YCCC Badge, PO Box 1158, Berlin, MA 01503-2158. **APPAREL** Contact Brad, W1NT [bradld@sprynet.com](mailto:bradld@sprynet.com)  
**QSL CARDS** are ordered through John Dorr, K1AR. To order, send John packet mail, or E-mail at [k1ar@contesting.com](mailto:k1ar@contesting.com), detailing exactly what you want the card to say. There are 2 lines of text available for awards, etc. You will receive a proof by return mail. Approve the proof, making any corrections, and return to John *with payment* (make checks out to John, not YCCC). Current price is \$62 for 2000 cards. Normal turnaround is 30 days after approving proof.  
**MEMBERSHIP ROSTER** is mailed annually with the August issue of the Scuttlebutt, and to new members when they join. Updates are published in 'Movers and Shakers' when members move or change call signs.

**COMPUTER STUFF** **INTERNET REFLECTOR** There is an Internet mailing list for YCCC members. To subscribe, send mail to [yccc-request@yccc.org](mailto:yccc-request@yccc.org). Include the words "subscribe yccc" in the body of the mail message. **WWW HOME PAGE** Come visit us at <http://www.yccc.org>. Our Webmaster is Doug Scribner, K1ZO. **CT CONTEST LOGGING SOFTWARE** is available from Matt, KC1XX. Orders: 603-878-4600. Support: 603-878-4200 CT-BBS: 603-878-1900 (28.8k, 8,N,1). As of this writing there is no E-mail address, but Matt says something is coming. There is an Internet mailing list for CT users. To subscribe, send email to [CT-USER-REQUEST@contesting.com](mailto:CT-USER-REQUEST@contesting.com) , and put only the word SUBSCRIBE in the message body. The CT reflector is also the best way to get CT country file updates. These updates may also be obtained from the CT BBS, or send a blank formatted disk and \$1.00 for postage to Jim Reisert, AD1C, 7 Charlemont Court, North Chelmsford, MA 01863-2306.

**ADMINISTRATIVE STUFF** **The W1 QSL BUREAU** is sponsored by the YCCC. Keep your account up to date with SASEs, or send a check. Stamps are sold at face value, envelopes are 10 cents each. Address: W1 QSL Bureau, YCCC, PO Box 80216, Springfield, MA 01138. Email address: [w1qsl@yccc.org](mailto:w1qsl@yccc.org). **PACKET NETWORK** information is available from Charlie Carroll, K1XX, Candlelight Rd., Rindge NH 03461. **ARRL COMMITTEE REPS** are CAC New England Dave Hoaglin, K1HT; CAC Hudson Rich Gelber, K2WR; DXAC New England Jim Dionne, K1MEM; DXAC Hudson Bill Hellman, W2UD. **ARRL LIAISON** is Tom, K1KI.

---

## Upcoming Meetings

Date	Type	Place
April 3 (Sat)	General	Worcester, MA
June 6 (Sun)	General	Worcester, MA

Ship's Log	April, 1999	Issue 141
Zulu Musings	Jeff Briggs, K1ZM	1
1999 MA QSO Party		2
February Meeting Minutes	Charlotte Richardson,	3
KQ1F		
YCCC Resource Changes		3
YCCC Challenge - ARRL DX CW	Dave Hoaglin, K1HT	4
New Area Managers	Jeff Briggs, K1ZM	4
New Crew	Charlotte Richardson,	5
KQ1F		
Days Of Future Past	Doug Scribner, K1ZO	5
TS-930 Upgrade Review	Scott Bullock, KA1CLX	6
Area Meeting Notes		7
YCCC Challenge - CQWW '98	Dave Hoaglin, K1HT	10

---

The next general meeting of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club will be held Saturday April 3rd, at 1:00 PM at the Student Union on the campus of Worcester State College in Worcester, MA

1 April 1999

Dear Fellow YCCC Member:

As you know, the 1998-99 contest season has been a lively one for YCCC. After many years of languishing in the doldrums (read that eating FRC's dust), the members of YCCC have really bonded together this year and built a truly first-class contest club. It looks, at this point anyway, as if all of us will be celebrating our first win ever in CQWW this coming October. Who would have predicted that one just one year ago?

More importantly, the club now boasts nearly 400 paid-up members, and we are expanding at a healthy rate throughout YCCC territory, including places as far away as Eastern LI and Northern Vermont. Our YCCC Challenge program has probably contributed to our success this year, but, at the end of the day, the simple reality is that YCCC members have been having FUN this year. It is fun to operate in contests, and it is even more fun to be a winner. Everyone wants to win a Super Bowl ring at least once in their lives, and this has been our year and our time. There has never been a better time to call yourself a member of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club!

At our February 7 meeting, the Club adopted a new approach to dues collection. We are now invoicing all active (and recently inactive) YCCC members on an annual basis in April for their dues - thus this letter. We are taking this approach in order to eliminate the need to chase people on an ongoing basis each year and at meetings.

Kindly complete and return the bottom portion of this letter along with your check made payable to "YCCC" for your annual dues, which will run from 1 April 1999 to 31 March 2000. Please note the dues options when making out your check. A pre-addressed mailing envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

Many thanks for your prompt attention to this important matter.

73 Jeff Briggs, K1ZM  
YCCC President

-----Cut Here -----  
-----

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Membership/Dues Options (Please Check One)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$15 - Full Member-Electronic (we send your 'Butt to your email address indicated above)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$20 - Full Member- Paper (we mail your 'Butt via US Mail to your address above)

\_\_\_\_\_ Check here if claiming Family Member status. List calls of other family members \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$10 - Student Member (\_\_\_\_\_ Ebutt delivery \_\_\_\_\_ US Mail Butt delivery)

\_\_\_\_\_ XX - Subscription Only (\_\_\_ \$10 Ebutt delivery \_\_\_ \$15 US Mail \_\_\_ \$20 Overseas Mail)

For E'Butt Delivery Choose Version: Microsoft Word \_\_\_\_\_ Adobe Acrobat \_\_\_\_\_