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# Scuttlebutt

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April 2018

Issue 246

**YCCC General Meeting:  
Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
Noon - 4:00 p.m.  
Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conference Center**

## **Captain's Cabin**

**Dennis Egan, W1UE**

April... and Springtime.

In the Spring, a young ham's fancy turns to antennas! All those antenna projects you've put off all winter can finally be done. Towers can be safely climbed, penetrox will spread easily on the freshly cleaned aluminum, and that new drip loop can finally be screwed in to the line. You also have the support of the YCCC in your endeavor- just ask. You need ideas, just ask. You need a suggestion on a better way of doing something, just ask. There is such a knowledge base in our membership, just about any project you look to do, someone else has already invented that wheel- just ask.

April also features a YCCC Meeting on Saturday April 14, Noon, at the Sturbridge Host. We have a great program scheduled, featuring Tom N1MM making a presentation on using an Airspy SDR with N1MM+ to produce a Spectrum Display, and Chet N8RA presenting "How to Make A Connection". Both talks look to be exhilarating!

April also means elections; the current officers are all running for re-election, but if you want to throw your hat in the ring for an officer position you never know what might happen!

Ah, Spring!

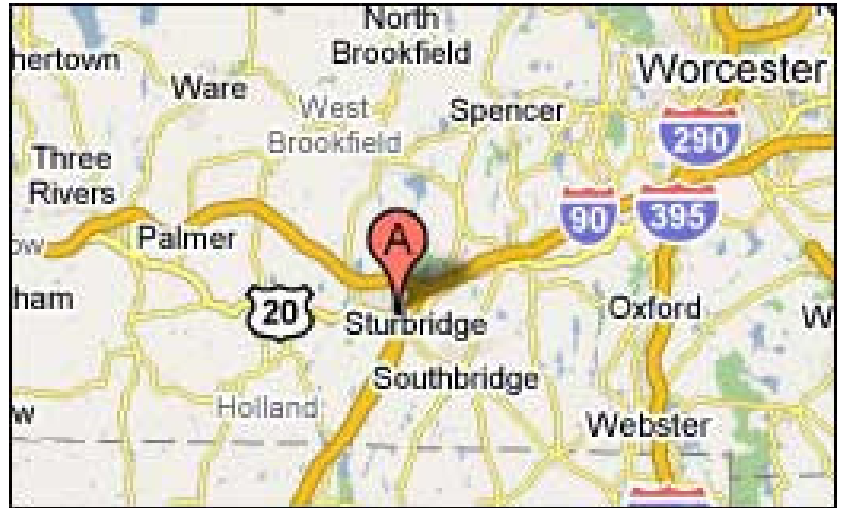
Dennis Egan W1UE

YCCC President

<b>Yankee Clipper Contest Club</b>	
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<b>Co-Managers</b>	Dennis Egan, W1UE <a href="mailto:W1QSL@YCCC.ORG">W1QSL@YCCC.ORG</a>
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<b>New Members</b>	Mark Pride, K1RX (603) 778-1222
<b>Media Manager</b>	Tom LeClerc, W1TJL <a href="mailto:W1TJL@arrl.net">W1TJL@arrl.net</a>

<b>Ship's Log</b>	<b>April, 2018</b>	<b>Issue 246</b>
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## Directions to Sturbridge Host Hotel



Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conference Center is located on Route 20.

- From the North, East and West, take the Massachusetts Turnpike (Interstate 90) to Exit 9, Rte 20 West.
- From the South, take either Interstate 84 or Rte 131 to Rte 20 West.

Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conference Center is located on Cedar Lake, just past the first set of traffic lights.

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### Area Managers

<b>ME</b>	Mike Russo, K1EU	(207) 883-9524	<a href="mailto:k1eu@maine.rr.com">k1eu@maine.rr.com</a>
<b>ENH/NEMA</b>	Ken Caruso, WO1N	-----	<a href="mailto:wo1n@arrl.net">wo1n@arrl.net</a>
<b>WNH/SVT</b>	Craig Clark, K1QX	-----	<a href="mailto:k1qx@arrl.net">k1qx@arrl.net</a>
<b>SE MA (508)</b>	Eric Williams, KV1J	-----	<a href="mailto:kv1j@arrl.net">kv1j@arrl.net</a>
<b>Boston (617/781)</b>	Joe Fitzgerald, KM1P	(617) 325-6767	<a href="mailto:j Fitzgerald@alum.wpi.edu">j Fitzgerald@alum.wpi.edu</a>
<b>WMA (413)</b>	Tom Homewood, W1TO	(413) 743-7342	<a href="mailto:w1to@arrl.net">w1to@arrl.net</a>
<b>CT (860)</b>	Rich Cady, N1IXF	-----	<a href="mailto:n1ixf@arrl.net">n1ixf@arrl.net</a>
<b>CT (203)</b>	Mike Loukides, W1JQ	(203) 458-2545	<a href="mailto:MikeL@oreilly.com">MikeL@oreilly.com</a>
<b>RI (401)</b>	Nat Henrickson, NG1Z	-----	<a href="mailto:ng1z@nsradio.org">ng1z@nsradio.org</a>
<b>NNY</b>	John Bradke, W2GB	-----	<a href="mailto:W2GB@N2TY.ORG">W2GB@N2TY.ORG</a>
<b>NYC/LI (718)</b>	Tom Carrubba, KA2D	(631) 422-9594	<a href="mailto:ka2d@arrl.net">ka2d@arrl.net</a>
<b>NY Capital Region (518/838)</b>	John Corini, KE1IH	-----	<a href="mailto:john.corini@gmail.com">john.corini@gmail.com</a>
<b>SNY/NJ/PA (914)</b>	Hank Kiernan, KF2O	(914) 235-4940	<a href="mailto:hankkier@aol.com">hankkier@aol.com</a>
<b>NVT (802)</b>	Joe Vanat, K1VMT	-----	<a href="mailto:k1vmt@arrl.net">k1vmt@arrl.net</a>
<b>QUEBEC</b>	Guy Lemieux, VE2BWL	-----	<a href="mailto:guy@guylemieux.com">guy@guylemieux.com</a>

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# QSL Bureau Update

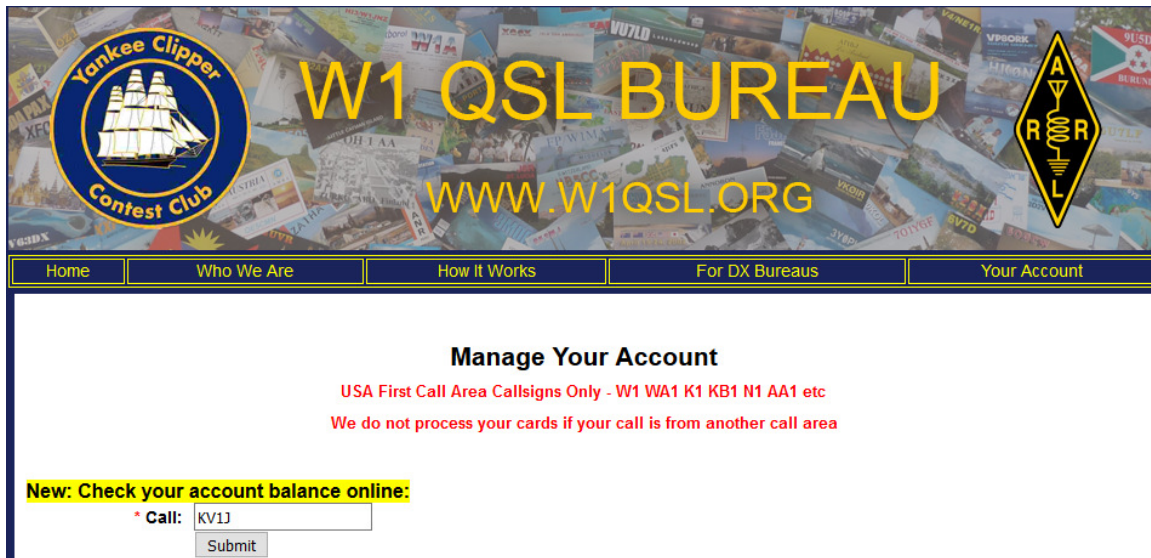
Eric KV1J

Our Yankee Clipper Contest Club sponsors the Incoming QSL Bureau for the First Call Area. Eric KV1J and Dennis W1UE have been co-managing the Bureau since 2012. The Bureau is an all-volunteer entity and is thankful for all the hard work of the Letter Sorters, Pre-sorters, and IT support team. Our team is 40 people strong with most of them YCCC members. Several New England clubs also help out by holding a “Card Sorting Night” to presort the cards, getting them ready for the Letter Sorters.

## New “Account Balance” feature

This year we added a new feature to our web page. For most of the sort letters (first letter of the call suffix) you can now check your account balance and see if we are holding cards for you. There are a few letters not yet available, but you can see the list of available letters on the web. This feature is available thanks to Dave K1TTT, who developed the account management tool used by the Letter Sorters, and Matthew, W1MAT, who wrote the web application.

Here is the entry screen:



And the result:

1 record(s) found for callsign KV1J:

Call: KV1J  
Name: ERIC WILLIAMS  
Cards on File\*: 0  
Last Shipment\*\*: 1/28/2018  
Account Balance: \$20.69  
Data Last Uploaded On: 03/30/2018

\*Preliminary card count data - To be synchronized during 2018.

\*\*Last Shipment may not include special shipments and hand carries.

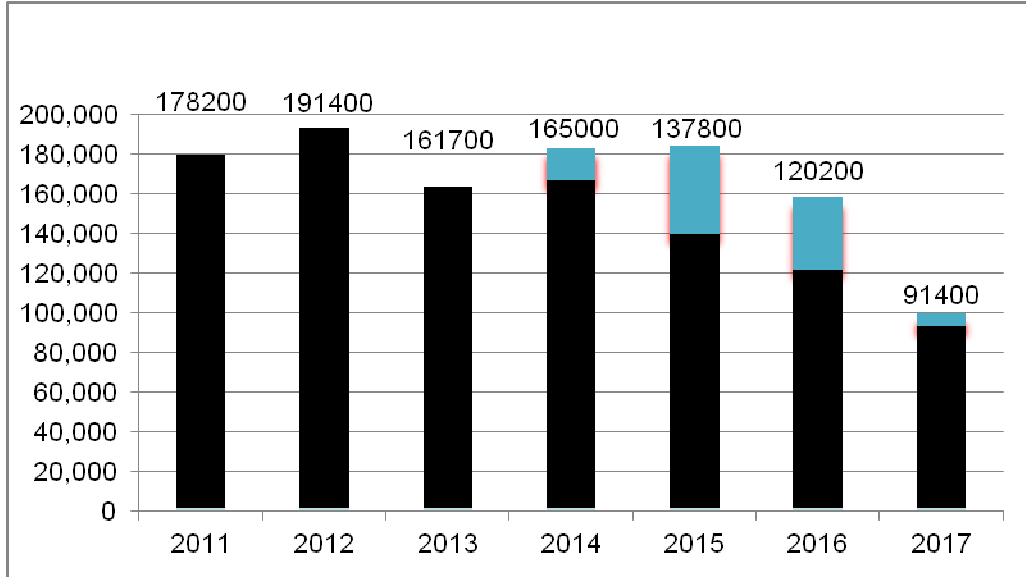
Be aware that if you send in funds for your account it does not instantly show on this tool. The funds are processed at the Bureau HQ and then sent to the Letter Sorters. The data on this tool is only updated when the Letter Sorter does a Cloud backup. See the “Data Last Uploaded On:” date.

If your call was reissued to you, you may see additional data displays with the previous call owner’s data and the previous call owner’s name. We treat these as separate accounts.

## Bureau Volume dropping

Over the past few years we have seen a significant drop in our volume. There are many factors for this drop including the increased use of electronic QSLs, for example LoTW, the drop in propagation, and the increased costs for international shipping by the DX Bureaus.

Here is the volume for each of the past seven years:



In 2012 we processed over 190,000 cards and this past year we were down to just over 90,000 cards. The blue tops of the charts from 2014 through 2017 represent the W1AW Centennial cards we processed so they boosted our recent numbers.

As a volunteer group, we will adjust to whatever volume we have. For many, receiving and collecting the cards is a fun part of the hobby.

For more information on the W1QSL Bureau see – [www.w1qsl.org](http://www.w1qsl.org)

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## Local Area Meeting Minutes - New York Capital Region Wednesday February 28<sup>th</sup>

A NY Capital Region local area meeting was held at Shorty's South Side tavern in Amsterdam NY.

The attendees were:

KE1IH, John Corini (Local area director)	K2XA. Saul Abrams	NJ1F, Brian Szewczyk (YCCC Secretary)
NM2O, Ray Conrad	N2MG, Mike Gilmer	N2ZX, Curtis Rose
N8CL, Chuck Lind	WC2I, Wil Liporace (YCCC Butt Publisher)	

One new member, N8CL was inducted.

This was mostly a social meeting, plans for this weekend's ARRL DX phone contest and the possibility of joint meetings with another contest club were discussed. Brian, NJ1F talked about his new MOSFET amplifier kit and he showed a fascinating YouTube video showing how indestructible the amplifier's MOSFET is. Brain also showed us some fascinating pictures of the radio tower on the top of the Freedom Tower in NYC.

John, KE1IH talked about his upcoming tower project and the prospects of upgrading his TH-11 for a X-7 beam.

The next Capital Area local meeting will be in April or May and will held at Shorty's.

Thanks and 73

John - KE1IH

## February 4, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Dennis W1UE called the February 4, 2018 general meeting of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club to order at 12:15 pm.

Dennis W1UE called for a roll call of the members present asking that everyone include what their plans are for the upcoming ARRL DX CW and SSB contests.

Dennis W1UE then announced the agenda for the meeting.

Dennis called for the Secretaries Report which was given by Brian NJ1F. A motion to accept the report was made by Tom W1TJL and Seconded by Fred K1VR. The Motion Carried.

Dennis W1UE then asked for the Treasurers Report which was given by Chet N8RA. A motion to accept the report was made by Charlie N1RR and Seconded by Mike N2MG. The Motion Carried.

Dennis W1UE announced an update on some old business. The Generators that the YCCC donated to the WWROF's Hurricane relief fund were delivered are currently in use in Puerto Rico.

Dennis W1UE then introduced Tom K1KI the ARRL New England Director. Tom started by giving an update on the most recent ARRL Board of Directors meeting. He reported that the Board did make changes to the Code of Conduct and that results of all votes by the board will be recorded in the minutes. Tom also talked about the CEO Job opening and the K7GM is heading up the search. Tom then spent the majority of the hour plus taking questions from members present and in one via Skype.

Dennis W1UE then asked if anyone present would like to join the club. By unanimous voice vote, K1MD, WY1G and W1LPD were welcomed aboard.

Dennis W1UE then announced a 10 minute break.

Dennis W1UE called the meeting back to order and introduced Gerry W1VE. Gerry's presentation "How a CW Operator can do a Phone contest and survive". During his talk Gerry demonstrated the W1VE SYNTH-DVK program. This program allows for operation during a Phone contest without ever saying anything into a microphone. This program uses Amazon's online application "Polly" to generate voice files in any of 47 voices in 24 languages.

Dennis W1UE then introduced Marty KC1CWF who gave a presentation on his project to address the issues of interfacing computer audio recording and playback in a multi radio station environment.

Dennis W1UE introduced Rich K1CC who gave a presentation on his recent DXpedition to TO2SP, Saint Barthélemy Island. Rich talked about the operation, antennas, location and things that happen during a DXpedition with multiple goals.

Dennis W1UE then announced that the next meeting will be in early April. The exact date will be announced soon on the Clubs Website and Reflector.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:40 pm was made by Paul K1XM and Seconded by Mike N2MG. The Motion Carried.

Submitted

Brian Szewczyk NJ1F  
YCCC Secretary

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### **Program: Next YCCC Meeting Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Noon - 4:00 pm Sturbridge Host Hotel, Sturbridge, MA**

#### **Program includes:**

- **Elections**
- **"\$200 Panadaptor" - Tom Wagner, N1MM.**  
Tom will demonstrate live use of a Panadaptor using SDR Console as the radio, connecting remotely to his Airspy at home. He'll show us what can now be done with a simple SDR and the right software!
- **"The Secret Life of Contacts" (Electrical, not QSO!) - Chet Slabinski, N8RA**

# YCCC CLUB RESOURCE INFORMATION

**DUES AND MEMBERSHIP STUFF** Dues for the year are payable as of January 1<sup>st</sup>. The YCCC has adopted a multi-tiered membership format as follows: Please note that payment of dues IS NOT a prerequisite for contributing scores to the Club aggregate, but IS for the various YCCC Awards Programs

**Full Member** - \$15/yr (Eligible for YCCC member benefits and electronic "Ebutt" delivery of Club newsletter)

**Full Member** - \$30/yr (Eligible for YCCC member benefits and paper delivery of Club newsletter)

**Family Member** - \$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 Club Newsletter sent to one domicile or email address. All members of said family are eligible for YCCC member benefits.)

**Student Member** - \$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** - \$\*\* (A "supportive friend of YCCC" - not a member but a possible candidate for future membership. Only receives club newsletter in paper or electronic form. \$10 for electronic "Ebutt" delivery domestically or overseas or \$25 for domestic paper delivery.)

**Club members** who move out of club territory and so are not eligible to contribute to club aggregate scores can continue to participate in the Club's e-mail reflector and receive the electronic "Ebutt" delivery of newsletter at no cost.

You can tell if you owe dues by checking your 'Butt mailing label or the Club roster in the Members Only section of the website. **Mail your dues to the club treasurer, Chet Slabinski, N8RA, 200 Mount Parnassus Rd, East Haddam, CT 06423.**

**SCUTTLEBUTT ARTICLES** should be sent to the Scuttlebutt editor, Steve Rodowicz N1SR, by E-mail at [n1sr@arri.net](mailto:n1sr@arri.net) The deadline for each issue is the 10th of the preceding month..

**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](mailto: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.

**APPAREL** Contact Richie, W1STT. Email: [richd1313@aol.com](mailto:richd1313@aol.com)

**YCCC LOGO ITEMS** <http://www.cafepress.com/n1ik>

**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 13<sup>th</sup> Street NE, Minot, ND, 58703. eMail: [kd4poj@srt.com](mailto:kd4poj@srt.com)

**MEMBERSHIP ROSTER** is posed on the YCCC website. 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, 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 Lyn Glagowski, WB1CCL.

**QSL BUREAU – The WI QSL BUREAU** is sponsored by the YCCC. For more information at: [www.w1qsl.org](http://www.w1qsl.org) Address: W1 QSL Bureau, PO Box 73, Marlborough, MA 01752-0073. Email address: [w1qsl@w1qsl.org](mailto:w1qsl@w1qsl.org)

**ARRL COMMITTEE REPS** are:

**CAC:** New England Dennis Egan, W1UE    **Hudson** George Tranos, N2GA    **Atlantic** Charles D Fulp Jr, K3WW

**DXAC:** New England Bob Beaudet, W1YRC    **Hudson** OPEN    **Atlantic** Chris Shalvoy, K2CS

**ARRL LIAISON:** Bart J. Jahnke, W9JJ    **Hudson** Frederick Lass, K2TR    **Atlantic** Joe Taylor, K1JT

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