

October 2012 Issue 217

# Next Meeting- October 6<sup>th</sup> – 1pm till 5pm..... Sturbridge Host Hotel, Sturbridge, MA

## It's Time To CELEBRATE!!

#### Tony Brock-Fisher, K1KP

By now it is no secret that YCCC, in addition to winning the 2012 ARRL DX contest, also won the CQWW DX contest for 2011! In spite of Snowtober's Halloween Blackouts, YCCC rolled over all US Competition to win the US Unlimited Club Category with a whopping 21% margin! Our score was also higher than European Powerhaus Bavarian Contest Club! Here's what Bob Cox had to say in the Results writeup in September, 2012 CQ:

"For 2011, the world's top club score was the Yankee Clipper Contest Club with nearly a half billion points".

#### That's **billion** with a '**B**', folks!

Although there is no official World Club Unlimited category, if there was, we would have won it! Can you imagine what our score would have been if it most of YCCC stations had not been taken off the air for a large portion of the SSB contest due to the freak early snowstorm that caused havoc with antennas and commercial power? The *Propagation* column of the same issue of CQ show that the numbers are even higher than last year, so we might get a chance to see even higher scores this year. It's going to be a contest season you won't want to miss! Short of a DeLorean to take you back to 1958, this could be the best conditions of a lifetime!

In other news, the quiet email recruiting drive over the summer netted YCCC 10 new members voted in at the Boxboro meeting. We hope to see these new faces at the upcoming General Meeting in Sturbridge on October 6<sup>th</sup>, as well as their callsigns on logs submitted this fall. If you see a new face at the meeting, please introduce yourself and welcome them aboard! As we approach the first major contest of the season, please use the reflector to find operators if you have empty chairs, or chairs if you need a place to operate!

We are planning a great program for the October meeting, and the theme is celebration of our victories, and recognition of the efforts and accomplishments of you, the members, who made them possible. We will have the new Awards Program in full swing for the first time this fall, and expect to give out trinkets and swag in recognition of all categories of the program, which includes Participation, Improvement, and Achievement. By now you should have seen emails on the reflector, publicizing the list of winners in each category. Please understand that we are semi-automated at this point, being able to glean most of the winners from the electronic data from the contest sponsors. Some of this data is not easy to process, especially the numbers for operators and station owners of multi-op entries. Please bear with us and give us your assistance as we work to sort out these issues manually. We will have all the data available at the meeting and should be able to work out any last minute details. We will also get a propagation update from Chuck, W1HIS.

I'd also like to bring back another friendly activity, the YCCC back-of-the-room swapfest. If like myself, you have ended up with some surplus equipment (of the portable variety), feel free to bring it along and we'll see if any other members have use for it. Items should be marked with an asking price and the seller's callsign. Please don't bring anything you can't carry into the meeting room!

In closing, my call to action is: *Let's get ready to repeat!!* Now is the time to finish up that lingering antenna work, and start planning for the contest season. What, you don't make detailed plans? Remember, failing to plan is planning to fail!

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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, Route 20 West.
- From the South, take either Interstate  $84\ \mathrm{or}\ \mathrm{Route}\ 131\ \mathrm{to}\ \mathrm{Route}\ 20$  West.

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



## YCCC Cluster RF NetworkTrivia

Dick, KB1H recently retired the last RF port which had been active since 1987. Surprising thing was that in this age of the ubiquitous internet, he still had one RF user.

## **Area Managers**

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The editorial deadline for the Scuttlebutt is the 10<sup>th</sup> of every odd month.

## Yankee Clipper Contest Club Meeting Minutes Boxboro, MA August 25, 2012

Vice President Dennis W1UE called the meeting of the YCCC to order at 1:15 pm.

Dennis then asked for a roll call of the members, prospective members and guests which was followed by the Treasurers report by Chet N8RA, a motion was made by K1XM and Seconded by Jerry K0TV to accept the report which carried.

Next Brian NJ1F gave the Secretary's report and a motion was made by K1XM to accept the report and was seconded by KB1W the motion carried.

Next Dennis W1UE asked if there was any old Business There was none.

W1UE then went on to New Business which was adding the YCCC Hall of Fame award to the clubs By-Laws. A motion was made to add the new bylaw as published in the Butt and discussed previously by K1XM and was seconded by K0TV. Dennis then asked if there was a super quorum of members where present. Brian NJ1F confirmed that there was. Dennis proceeded with a vote of those present. The creation of the YCCC Hall of Fame passed unanimously.

Dennis then gave an update on the various YCCC club projects. The SO2R box is still very popular and they are planning another run. The K1XM MOS Antenna Switch is wrapping up development and looking for a software writer to finish it up. The W1FV Circle Array receive antenna project is on hold. The YCCC band pass filter project there has been several asking for another run of this project which may happen in the future.

Next Dennis announced that this year's YCCC Scholarship recipient was the clubs own W1MAT who will be attending Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and a thank you letter that Matt had sent the club was displayed.

Dennis then announced that in the ARRL 2012 DX contest he had been notified that the YCCC had club score of 245 Million and the FRC had 215 Million. The YCCC wins again! Thank you to the members who got on the air and submitted a score.

Dennis then introduced Alec W2JU who gave a report on the scores and some interesting facts and statistics. Alec pointed out that the YCCC average reduction to a members score is 3.21 percent and the FRC's is 4.05 percent. Alec also pointed out that in CQWW the YCCC had 7 members whose logs were "GOLDEN" having no errors. George W1ZT had the highest Golden Log score of 2.6 million points in CQWW CW. 2011. Congrats!

Dennis then announced a 15 minute break.

The meeting was again called to order by Dennis who introduced Doug K1DG who gave a presentation on the WRTC 2014. The presentation included a history of the event, how it has evolved and what WRTC 2014 is looking to accomplish here in New England.

Some highlights from the presentation:

There will be 59 two operator teams from around the world.

8 of the teams are made up as follows, the winners from the last WRTC, A youth team, two wildcard teams, four sponsored teams at \$50,000 a team.

Doug then told the group that many YCCC members helped out with a test run of 13 WRTC stations during this year's IARU contest. Next year they hope to have 25 or more stations setup and active. WRTC 2014 is a large undertaking and can use more volunteers, if you are interested contact Doug at <a href="https://kitches.org/kltcs/k

Dennis then introduced the 9 new and returning members and a vote was taken to welcome them aboard.

Dennis then gave a presentation on his homebrew triplexer project and the results he was able achieve.

Dennis then conducted the door prize raffle for the ARRL Handbook, Bottle of Wine and ARRL Antenna Book.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by K1XM and Seconded by WA1ZAM the motion carried at 3:50pm.

Submitted Brian NJ1F YCCC Secretary

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## A Galvanizing Experience

Steve Rodowicz – N1SR

It all started when a new ham friend of mine acquired a Rohn Fold-Over tower and about 70 ft of additional that had been standing for over 30 years. The surface of the tower sections varied from essentially no rust, to a couple of sections with almost a complete coating of light surface rust, with little of the original galvanizing remaining. After looking more closely we could detect no damage, but without treatment the sections would certainly not get better over the years. The possible choices, Paint, so-called "cold galvanize" (actually Zinc rich paint) or hot-dip galvanized (just like Rohn). Since the Zinc-Rich paint (ZRC and similar) would require extensive cleaning and result in only a 1.5mil protective coat, whereas the hot-dip galvanizing would include surface preparation and result in a 3mil (minimum) metallurgical bonded coating which according to the the American Galvanizer's Association <a href="http://www.galvanizeit.org/">http://www.galvanizeit.org/</a> the could extend the life without additional maintenance (beyond inspections) for another 30 years or more vs use of paint which could require "touchup" in as little as 7 or 8 years, we decided to pool all of our sections and look for additional sections in order to meet a minimum "order size".

So, we found a local galvanizer who had a tank large enough and put out a message on the YCCC reflector for others wishing to join us. Ultimately we collected a mixture of 35 Rohn 25 & 45 sections, 2 Cr-MO Masts plus a dozen or so miscellaneous pieces for a total of almost 2200lbs which easily meet the minimum lot size.



Tower Sections – Before Ready to Go!



Tower Sections – After On the Way Home



## Jack's Jack!

Ahoy maties! (Been a while since I said that!)

Thought this might be of use to someone since one member of our WRTC beam team hadn't seen it before, and there may be others. Having been tipped off in advance that it might be tough to separate the brand new Rohn 25 tower sections, I brought my tower jack that I've used for years...well not the one in the photo but I made a new one in ten minutes.



I drilled four mounting holes in an old scissors jack and mounted it on a 12 inch long piece of 2x8. There is about 7 inches clearance between "rungs" on Rohn 25, so as long as your jack collapses sufficiently, it works. If you don't have a spare scissors jack laying around, use the one in your car . It can do double duty. The rope between the two pieces of 2x8 is a good idea if you use it while up on a tower.



#### 73 Barnacle JACK W1WEF

PS I was very happy that I volunteered for the Beam Team. We had great camaraderie and it was a good experience. I hope everyone volunteers to help out in some way in the future.



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## **Another tip:**

Remember back when rebuilding an automobile brake wheel cylinder was just part of doing the brake job on your car?



Well that same tool has another use; Deburring the inside diameter of new, or used Rohn Tower Sections prior to assembly. A smooth ID makes for an easy fit and using the Brake Hone. Chuck it into a variable speed drill, run it for 10 to 15 Seconds and you have a fully deburred (Available from auto parts stores and Harbor Freight for about \$10).

## The YCCC 2012 Fall Contest University

Date: October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Time 6:30-10:30 pm

Location: Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conference Center

Sturbridge Mass (see web for directions)

This will be the ONLY Contest University held this fall. We will have top contesters on hand as 'Professors' to share their tips, secrets, and words of wisdom on Contesting! Learn the winning strategies from the winners! This will also be a Local Meeting; New Members may apply for membership and join YCCC at this time. Newbie or Barnacle-encrusted, come one, come all and join us for a great evening of contest discussion!

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## **YCCC Awards Program Preliminary Results**

Working with electronic data supplied by the contest sponsors, the YCCC Awards Manager Al, KE1FO has generated the following lists of winners for the three categories of awards. Awards are given for scores in the four major contests, CQWW DX SSB & CW; and ARRL DX SSB & CW.

BEFORE you jump down to look for your callsign, please understand that at this time the process is only partially automated. Operator and station owners from multi-operator entries have to be manually tracked and evaluated. If you were an operator or station owner at a multioperator entry and you do not see your call listed where you believe it should be, please contact Al KE1FO at (ke1fo@arrl.net) to check your eligibility.

To receive an award, members must have their dues paid up to date. Awards will be given out at the upcoming October meeting. YCCC will not mail awards to winners; we prefer that you attend the meeting to receive your award, but we will give your awards to others at the meeting to bring to you.

#### **Participation Awards**

A member will be eligible for a Participation Award upon submitting club score entries for any 4 of the major contests. If a member enters a score for all 4 majors in the same year, this award can be achieved in the first year. Entries are lifetime cumulative, and once a member has entered 4 scores they are eligible for the award no matter how many years it took them to achieve. This is to provide for operators who choose to only operate a single mode. The member will receive only one award for the first achievement of the award.

#### **Improvement Awards**

Eligibility for Improvement Recognition will be determined on a year over year basis. To determine improvement, a member's combined SSB and CW score for the current year for either CQWW or ARRL DX, will be compared to the same score for the previous year. To be eligible for an "improvement" award, you must have contributed an official score of at least 50K for the same contest the previous year. Improvement awards would be based on official published results using the following scale:

Previous	Improvement
Year's Score	Eligibility
50k-100k	100%
100-250k	50%
250k-1 meg	25%
1meg-2meg	15%
2meg +	5%

#### **Achievement Awards**

Each member's total contribution to the club score for the year will be totaled. There will be awards for 250K, 500K, 1 Meg, and 2 Meg or over total points contributed to the club in the contesting year. The awards for Achievement will be color-coded YCCC pins. The color coding will be as follows:

250K	Green	2Meg	Yellow
500K	Red	5Meg	Silver
1Meg	Blue	10Meg	g Gold

## **Achievement Award (141 recipients)**

Note: This List shows Multi-op entries only as the total score by callsign used.

Call	Score (	Category	Call So	core Cate	egory	Call	Score Ca	ategory
K1WHS	255698		W1NG	1262598	-	N2GC	6308720	-
N1MGO	275720		N1API	1279086	1meg+	K1EO	6371244	5meg+
K1BV	278250	250k+	W1MAW	1292786	1meg+	W1JQ	6570580	5meg+
KS2G	309048	250k+	W1ZS	1309210	1meg+	W1EBI	6881244	5meg+
N1SNB	316930	250k+	N1DC	1475136	1meg+	W1ZT	6912030	5meg+
KG1D	350980	250k+	AA10N		1meg+	N4BAA	7104458	5meg+
N1ITT	383488	250k+	W1TO	1575924	_	AA1V	7259016	5meg+
W1MSW	389988	250k+	N1TM		1meg+	N1IW	7375356	5meg+
N2MUN	399330		K1VSJ		1meg+	W1RM	7408368	5meg+
K1KI	413100	250k+	K1NU	1663320	1meg+	W1CSM	7496126	5meg+
W1AIR	416640	250k+	K1LU	1674522	1meg+	KB1W	7532802	5meg+
N1JW	417708	250k+	W1AO	1748032	1meg+	K1RU	7834762	5meg+
W1TR	428786	250k+	K1VTR	1778532	1meg+	6V7V	8456766	5meg+
K1KXN	431476	250k+	NA2M	1859410	1meg+	W2JU	8573740	5meg+
W1UK	436492	250k+	K2RS	1943602	1meg+	K1BX	8813680	5meg+
WA1DRQ	439040	250k+	K1TH	2012880	2meg+	KG1E	9060576	5meg+
W1ZK	447332	250k+	K1GQ	2023770	2meg+	K1FWE	9411174	5meg+
WA1N	485286	250k+	WB1DX	2143232	2meg+	W1WEF	10817224	10meg+
NC2N	507174	500k+	K1JB	2223984	2meg+	W6PH	11249158	10meg+
K1QX	539910	500k+	KB1T	2256384	2meg+	K1ZZ	11317888	10meg+
NB1N	584430	500k+	W1FJ	2273860	2meg+	K1LI	12276724	10meg+
KV1J	607240	500k+	W1MA	2324040	2meg+	K1ZR	12842868	10meg+
W1KQ	618816	500k+	W1RZF	2377828	2meg+	WC1M	13207376	10meg+
NE1F	654704	500k+	NF10	2382066	2meg+	N1DG	13846032	10meg+
AE1T	664110	500k+	W1NR	2521200	2meg+	K1AR	14620230	10meg+
N2YBB	684690	500k+	K1HT	2524132	2meg+	W3UA	14672150	10meg+
N2UN	701384	500k+	K1LD	2615124	2meg+	W1KM	15549416	10meg+
NI1L	704704	500k+	W2BC	2797312	2meg+	K2QMF	15779460	10meg+
NE1RD	705940	500k+	W1MAT	2879236	2meg+	N1UR	16469548	10meg+
N1YX	707444	500k+	KT1B	2890294	2meg+	N1EU	17118760	10meg+
K2MFY	725604	500k+	NE1B	2940612	2meg+	NN1N	18255152	10meg+
W1JR	736476	500k+	K2TE	3135814	2meg+	6Y9X	19566590	10meg+
N2FF	796118	500k+	FP/KV1	J 3164630	2meg+	K8PO	19680046	10meg+
W1MK	805464	500k+	K1RV	3266898	2meg+	K1RX	22099692	10meg+
N1DD	901132	500k+	N1IX	3268186	2meg+	K1KP	22247420	10meg+
W1FM	918944	500k+	W1CTN	3429324	2meg+	K0TV	24329884	10meg+
K1RM	927960	500k+	KA1IOR	3561096	2meg+	K2LE	28165258	10meg+
AJ1E	941368	500k+	W1TM	3703722	2meg+	K5ZD	30348804	10meg+
AA1CA	972498	500k+	NT2A	3944240	2meg+	K1DG	39191082	10meg+
PJ7X	973566	500k+	KA2KON	3956942	2meg+	KB1H	40447280	10meg+
KD2RD	973830	500k+	N8RA	4086340	2meg+	VY2ZM	46857582	10meg+
W3SM	1046448	1meg+	W1HIS	4662702	2meg+	PJ4A	60345098	10meg+
	1067610		KF2O	4859656	_	K1LZ	67562274	10meg+
	1082048		KA2D	4886780		W2PV	74913372	10meg+
WK1J	1125800	1meg+	W1QK	5015010	5meg+	KC1XX	123976508	10meg+
NU3C	1169688	1meg+	N1MM	5226750	5meg+			
	1215500	_	W1EQ	5397300	-			
K1TR	1245320	1meg+	VP9I	5616918	5meg+			

### ARRL-DX Improvement (45 recipients) CQ-WW Improvement (48 recipients)

KS2G 103016 200.00% 50k-100k NI1L 274538 352.81% 50k-100k NU3C 504850 631.11% 50k-100k

## Participation Award Qualifiers(70 recipients) – (May include individuals who got a hat last year)

AA1V 8	K1RX 8	KB1H 8	N1YX 5	W1MAT 6
AE1T 8	K1TH 7	KB1W 7	N2GC 7	W1MAW 7
AJ1E 7	K1TR 6	KC1XX 7	NF10 8	W1MJ 6
KOTV 6	K1VSJ 8	KF2O 8	NI1L 5	W1NG 6
K1BV 6	K1WHS 6	KT1B 7	NN1N 7	W1QK 8
K1FWE 5	K1ZR 5	KV1J 6	W1CSM 7	W1RM 8
K1HT 7	K1ZZ 5	N1DC 5	W1CTN 7	W1RZF 8
K1JB 5	K2MFY 6	N1DG 6	W1EBI 8	W1TM 5
K1KI 5	K2RS 8	N1EU 8	W1EQ 5	W1TR 6
K1KP 8	K2TE 8	N1IMW 5	W1FM 8	W1UK 5
K1LD 7	K5ZD 7	N1IW 6	W1HIS 6	W1WEF 8
K1LZ 7	K8PO 5	N1PGA 5	W1JQ 8	W2JU 8
K1RM 8	KAlior 7	N1TM 8	W1JR 7	W3SM 5
K1RV 8	KA2KON 5	N1UR 8	W1KQ 6	W3UA 6

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	2012-2013				
	YCCC MEETING SCHEDULE				
Day	Date	Location			
Saturday	October 6, 2012	Kickoff for CQWW Tests Sturbridge, MA			
Sunday	December 2, 2012	Holiday Banquet? Auburn, MA			
Saturday	<b>February 2, 2013</b>	Full Meeting Enfield, CT			
Saturday	April 6, 2013	Full Meeting + Elections Sturbridge, MA			

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## YCCC CLUB RESOURCE INFORMATION

**DUES AND MEMBERSHIP STUFF** Dues are payable as of the April election meeting, which begins our club "contest year". 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 - \$20 (\$35/2 yr) (Eligible for YCCC awards programs and paper delivery of Club newsletter)

Full Member - \$15 (\$25/2 yr) (Eligible for YCCC awards programs and electronic "Ebutt" 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 awards programs.)

**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 "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 \$20 for overseas paper delivery, \$15 for domestic paper delivery and \$10 for electronic "Ebutt" delivery domestically or overseas.)

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. Mail your dues to the club treasurer, Chet Slabinski, N8RA, 462 W. Hill Rd, New Hartford, CT 06057.

**SCUTTLEBUTT ARTICLES** should be sent to the Scuttlebutt editor, Steve Rodowicz N1SR, preferably by E-mail at **n1sr@arrl.net** or on 3½" disk (in MS-Word format or text file) by snail mail to Steve Rodowicz, 809 Pendleton Avenue, Chicopee, MA 01020. 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, Dave Hoaglin, K1HT, 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.

APPAREL Contact Richie, W1STT. Email: richd1313@aol.com

YCCC LOGO ITEMS http://www.cafepress.com/n1ik

**QSL CARDS** are ordered through Dennis Egan, W1UE. To order, send Dennis an email at **egan.dennis88@gmail.com**, detailing card information per "QSL Request" form available at <a href="http://www.yccc.org/members/yccc\_qsl.htm">http://www.yccc.org/members/yccc\_qsl.htm</a>. You will receive a proof by email. Approve the proof, making any corrections, and return to Dennis with payment (make checks out to Dennis, not YCCC). Current price is \$50 (delivered) for 1,000 cards. Also available is the glossy version for \$70/1000.

**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, send mail to yccc-REQUEST@yccc.org. Insert only the word "subscribe" in the subject of the mail message. (Do not send messages to the reflector that have file attachments, HTML formatting, use boldface or other fancy fonts, etc.)

WWW HOME PAGE Come visit us at http://www.yccc.org Our Webmaster is Lyn Glagowski, WB1CCL.

**ADMINISTRATIVE STUFF** *The W1 QSL BUREAU* is sponsored by the YCCC. Keep your account up to date by sending a check, or pay via Paypal. Stamps are sold at face value, envelopes are 20 cents each. Address: W1 QSL Bureau, PO Box 7388, Milford, MA 01757-7388. Email address: w1qsl@yccc.org. (See: http://www.yccc.org/Resources/w1qslburo.htm)

#### ARRL COMMITTEE REPS are:

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