
Time Out

Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

January - 2013

This Month's Meeting

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, Jan. 18th at 7:30 P.M. at the American Red Cross, 209 Farmington Ave. (Rte. 4), Farmington, CT. All are welcome. Bring a friend.

Also at this month's meeting, there will be a special presentation given by our Tech VP Rick Castrogiovanni about the various aspects of APRS and how it is used for the Klondike Derby. Don't miss it!

NOTE: This presentation was postponed last month because nobody brought in their APRS units. Anyone with an APRS Tracker box needs to bring it to this month's meeting for check-out.

Last Month's Meeting

ICRC Meeting Minutes

Date:	12/21/12
Time Started:	7:30 PM
Time Ended:	9:00 PM

Minutes taken by: Dan Wall – W1ZFG

Attendees (Callsign):

N1RMF	W1ZFG	WY1O	K1WMS	KB1TFU
KA1NDE	AB1NH	KB1IXQ	K1DFS	KB1YDH
KB1SNL	N1JGR	KB1WEZ	N1JWF	N1SBK
N1QLN				

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

Special Motion: A special motion was made by Dan – W1ZFG, seconded by Chuck – K1DFS, that the club should make a \$100 donation to Autism Speaks in memory of Rachel D'Avino, one of the teachers killed in the Newtown shootings in December. Rachel was the daughter of Pete Paradis and sister of Steve Paradis, both long-time club members. The motion passed unanimously.

Following the motion, a moment of silence was held for all the victims of the Newtown tragedy.

VE Session: Every month before the regular meeting, a VE session is held for people to get their first license, or to upgrade an existing license. The results of last month's VE session were as follows:

6 new Technician Class, 2 General Class (1 new, 1 upgrade)

Secretary report:

E-mailed report to committee for perusal.

Motion to Accept:	
Seconded by:	K1WMS
Abstain:	N1JGR

unanimous

Treasurer Report:

A motion was made to table the treasurer's report until next month due to the absence of Pete Paradis, for obvious reasons. The motion passed unanimously.

A letter written by our president, Perry – WY1O, to "hold harmless" the out-going treasurer was entered into the record.

Motion to Accept:	N1QLN
Seconded by:	AB1NH
Abstain:	

unanimous

Tech. VP Report:

Nothing new to report. All machines are up and running.

Motion to Accept:	N1QLN
Seconded by:	KA1NDE
Abstain:	

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

Presidents Report:

None presented.

Motion to Accept:	
Seconded by:	
Abstain:	

Admin. VP Report:

Nothing to report.

Motion to Accept:	
Seconded by:	
Abstain:	

Webmaster Report:

Nothing to report.

Motion to Accept:	
Seconded by:	
Abstain:	

Committee Reports:

Bylaws Revision Committee: A motion was made by Mike – N1QLN, seconded by Dan – W1ZFG, to dissolve the current Bylaws Revision committee, because the primary mission of the committee to create an electronic version of the current bylaws has been completed and there was no desire to spend the time required to make any further changes. The Secretary will continue to search previous Timeout issues to find any changes previously enacted by the Board to be updated into the original 1989 document.

Elmer's Net: The Elmer's Net has completed its third semester. There were 11 to 13 check-ins each week, about half of them were new hams. Several non-hams have been listening in on their scanners. The session on ARES/RACES was of limited scope, due to a lack of support from ARES leadership. The session on Satellite/Moonbounce was also limited due to the lack of an expert to conduct the session. The last week of the semester was an open round-table for the purpose of answering any questions on previously covered material and suggestions for topics for next semester.

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

Old Business:

The Unfinished Project list was discussed, but was tabled to the next Board of Directors meeting.

New Business:

- A donation of a retired 440 MHz repeater system from New Britain General Hospital has been received from Bob – N1SBK. The Tech Committee is currently investigating possible uses for the device. A motion was made by Mike – N1QLN, seconded by Al – N1JWF, to send a thank-you letter to the hospital for the donation. Motion passed. Perry – WY1O will write and send the letter.
- A motion was made by Mike – N1QLN, seconded by George – N1RMF, to change the corporate address of the club from the previous treasurer's address to the current secretary's address. Motion passed.
- A motion was made by Mike – N1QLN, seconded by Al – N1JWF, to have the club participate in the Boateaters Race again this year. Motion passed. Chuck – K1DFS and George – N1RMF will lead the effort for the club.
- A motion was made by Mike – N1QLN, seconded by Kurt – KB1IXQ, to table the vote on restructuring the format of the monthly meetings to next month to allow people to consider the options.
- A motion was made by Mike – N1QLN to have the club callsign be used on all club repeaters. The vote was 9 yes, 4 no, and 1 abstain. Before this can be implemented, research into the legality of having a callsign that is different from the trustee's call on the .15 repeater needs to be conducted.
- A motion was made by Marie – KB1TFU, seconded by Kurt – KB1IXQ to grant Honorary Life Membership to Chuck Motes – K1DFS in recognition of his 38 years of service as club treasurer. Motion passed.

Motion to Adjourn:	Printed Agenda needs no motion to adjourn.
Seconded by:	
Abstain:	

Proposed Changes to the Format of the Monthly Meetings

Now that the club has grown to over 60 members, it has become clear that it is no longer possible to conduct a full business meeting and have a presentation/activity in the same night. Therefore, we are going to split up the Board of Directors meetings from the general membership meetings. We would like your opinion as to how we will do this. There are two options that we are considering: The first option would be to continue to have 12

Proposed Changes to the Format of the Monthly Meetings – cont'd

general membership meetings a year with a presentation/activity each month and to have the Board of Directors meet monthly at another time and place. The second option would be to go back to the way we used to meet: having board meetings and general membership meeting on alternating months at the regular time and place. This means that there would be 6 general membership meetings per year, probably on the even months, with a presentation/activity and 6 board of directors only meetings per year, probably on the odd months, with just a business meeting and no presentation/activity.

Please send me an email to let me know which option you would prefer. Also please include any suggestions that would make it more likely for you to attend the monthly meetings, or reasons why you haven't been attending. Thank you.

Dan Wall – W1ZFG
Secretary – ICRC
walldan54@att.net

Stop the Presses! Club Members Make the Local Newspaper!

We would like to congratulate two of our members, George – N1RMF and Walt – K1WMS, for being featured in an article in the Hartford Courant. The article described how the town of Wethersfield will host an Emergency Radio Operation Class, taught by George and Walt. The article appeared in this Thursday's CT Now section. Congratulations guys!

APRS Trackers for Klondike

Time is growing short. By now everyone should have their APRS Trackers completed, with battery, radio, GPS, and antennas all installed in a sturdy metal enclosure. If you need to test the operation of your Tracker Box, bring it to this month's meeting where we will have equipment available to test your box.

The Klondike Derby will be held on Sat/Sun, February 9-10, 2013. It will be held at the June Norcross Webster Boy Scout Camp in Ashford, CT. The ICRC will once again be supporting this fine activity. We are looking for at least 15 amateurs to cover both days. The course will be set up on the Saturday before the event. We will try to use our APRS trackers again, if Mother Nature provides us with enough snow! Contact Rick at n1jgr@snet.net

Jane Gerke, KB1SNK - SK

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of one of our members, Jane Gerke, wife of Al Gerke – NIJWF. We will miss her smile and laughter at our meetings and Field Day, which she was a regular participant in. Family and friends may gather on this Monday evening, January 14th, from 5 – 7 pm at Bailey Funeral Home, 48 Broad St., Plainville, CT.

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary

There was no Monthly CT Section News Summary available at the time of publication. It is available on the ARRL website. www.arrl.org

New England Division Cabinet Meeting

On Saturday, January 5th, 2013, our president Perry Green – WY1O represented the ICRC at the annual New England Division Cabinet meeting, which was held at the Sheraton Springfield in Springfield, MA. The following is the minutes for the meeting:

New England Division Cabinet Meeting Springfield MA - January 5, 2013

- 1) Introductions (approx 30 people present)
- 2) FCC news
 - Broadband access - FCC and Congress are still looking for lots of spectrum, especially in the 225 MHz to 4 Ghz range.
 - 472-479 KHz - ARRL requested a new allocation action from FCC
 - League has filed a request for additional digital audio modes (to match Motorola equipment recently available on the used market)
 - Various VE exam administrative changes are being discussed by FCC
 - o Reduction in number of required VE's
 - o Changes in grace periods
 - o Should we have lifetime licenses
 - o See www.hamdata.com for good ham statistics
 - Enforcement
 - o More on the commercial side lately - pirate stations, non-approved equipment, etc.
 - Antenna restrictions
 - o FCC report to Congress did not analyze the input received
 - o League to push back

New England Division Cabinet Meeting – cont'd

At the League

- 100th Anniversary national convention
 - o Hartford - 3rd weekend of July, 2014
 - o Committee has been formed and is at work
 - o No Boxboro that year
 - o Looking for a way to present the history
 - Donna Helfer a good expert on radio history
 - Do a half-hour documentary on ham radio??
 - WGBH quality hour of documentary is in the range of \$250,000 to produce
 - o Also need something focusing on future
 - can't focus just on the past
 - something with Joe Taylor ?
 - educators
 - discussion on how much should be aimed at non-hams
- Digital QST
 - o In general, folks like it
 - o Web browser interface not great
 - o Apps are not useful for vision-impaired use
 - o Possible Android app later this year
- Band plans

- o Space for digital modes not keeping up with usage
- o Time to revisit?
- Logbook of the World
 - o Hardware upgrades are underway
 - o Usage differs a bit from what was initially anticipated - people are uploading logs multiple times
 - o Addition of awards also slowing things down a bit
 - o The user interface needs a lot of work
- Clubs
 - o Clubs are not growing, but seem to be holding their own
 - o Remove inactive clubs from the club list
 - o Notification and communications with clubs a bit weak ?
 - o Why is division, rather than section, approval required for affiliated club acceptance ?
 - o Improve club search page
- ARRL is planning 4 teachers institutes this year

Hurricane Sandy

- CT
 - o Deployment in Red Cross shelters and EOC's
 - o A bit short of people
- RI
 - o State has little interaction with hams
 - o Several towns did get ham support
- EMA
 - o Good response
 - o Boston EMA actively sought hams

WRC 2015

- Proposed non-channeled allocation at 5MHz to be discussed
- Several possible proposals in UHF/microwave spectrum

New England Division Cabinet Meeting – cont'd

WRTC 2014

- Will be doing more test runs this July
- Antenna raising fixtures developed and in test
- KM3T and K1DG available for club talks

Misc

- VT convention 4th Saturday in Feb in S. Burlington
- Boxboro
 - o To be skipped in 2014
 - o 2012 a success - \$8000 to the ARRL Foundation scholarship fund
- Makers groups
 - o Good place to promote ham radio
 - o DIY theme to continue
- Finances
 - o The publications auction raised \$114.25 for the ARRL Education Fund

For the latest information, visit our website at <http://www.icrcweb.org>