
Time Out

Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

February - 2006

This Month's Meeting

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, February 17th at 7:30 P.M. at the American Red Cross, 209 Farmington Ave. (Rte. 4), Farmington, CT. All are welcome. Bring a friend.

Last Month's Meeting

ICRC Meeting Minutes

Date:	January 20, 2006
Time Started:	7:35PM
Time Ended:	8:45PM

Minutes taken by: Rick Johnson, N1WGK

Attendees (Callsign):

N1WGK	N1JGR	K1DFS	WA1PAT	KB1KZC
N1JWF	K1HEJ	KB1JYY		

Secretary report:

E-Mailed report to committee for perusal. There is a correction in the previous meeting's notes The Saturday for the SETUP will be 1/28/06 and it will be at 8AM at the Dunkin Donuts in Avon. The Saturday of the Klondike 2/4/06, they should be at Timber Trails (the location of the Klondike), on East Otis Road, Tolland, MA, at 7AM! We can easily use 15 hams for Saturday!!! On Sunday, the fifth, we can use 7 hams at 8AM, same location.

Motion to Accept:	K1DFS
Seconded by:	KB1JYY
Abstain:	

unanimous

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

Treasurer Report:

No activity this month. Current balance is \$892.65

The electrical bill will be going up from \$30/month to \$35/month. We will probably have to increase the dues at some point in the future.

Motion to Accept:	NIWGK
Seconded by:	NIJWF
Abstain:	

unanimous

Tech. VP report...

88 seems to be functioning well. A part of the node stack was down but everything else seems to be working well. George is still working on the 450 repeater but Chuck needs to get him the other amplifier to match them up.

The only other thing is to get the proper pinout to go over to the other controller. George also has a couple of Mitrex receivers. He is looking into turning those into repeaters to replace 15, 88 and a spare unit. We will have to pay for the Crystal elements at around \$90/each. He also needs a PL board for the Yaesu.

Larry was up to Burlington this morning and the problem was the computer. Apparently there was a problem with the reboot. Larry is working with Brian to fix the problem on it. There was also a lot of other discussion on packet, which I couldn't type fast enough. Once again, you should be here for the meetings! We would love to have you!

Chuck and Rick have a letter sent to the houses. There is an interest in using the repeaters for Skywarn. They both agreed if interested in Skywarn, we would love to have you participate. We reminded them of Nutmeg.

On packet, there is now a direct route from walarc to kaloxq back to wecl-2. Red Cross regional HQ has a seat at the EC. This is on the .07.

We have to start thinking about a tower climb in the Spring, a saw job in Bristol and a ton of work in Burlington. Tower 2 has to be cleared out. Other tower work has to be done, too.

Motion to Accept:	NIWGK
Seconded by:	K1DFS
Abstain:	

unanimous

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

Old Business:

KLONDIKE: Time is fast approaching for us to don our parkas and boots to go out and freeze our butts off! On January 28th, we need as many volunteers as possible to go up and put the courses in. The more people there, the faster everyone gets out. This includes exactly where the signs go up. Meet at 8AM, Dunkin Donuts in Avon, CT. Right across from McDonalds. Bring food, radio and warm clothing in layers, boots and extra socks, extra gloves, hat, etc. You won't go hungry, you may get wet and you will get cold, but it's a LOT of fun! Great fun, great food and great people!

On Feb. 3rd, Friday Night, feel free to come up but let Rick know. This is Venison Stew night, contact N1JGR. Last year, 15 people showed up and it was really good! They leave for the site around 12 noon and probably get up there around 2PM. Set up takes a few hours. Show up by 2:30PM.

On Feb 4th, need to be at the site at 7AM to help out. We need at least 15 people for the day. If you want to stay for Sunday, we should have room on the floor. Bring a sleeping bag or small cot.

On Sunday, Feb 5th, show up for 8AM to stay until around 12 noon, they need around 5 people.

Contact nljgr@snet.net for any questions and to let Rick know that you are going to be there!!! 860 276-7101 is his cell phone number.

New Business:

BIG E: Meeting 3rd Tuesday of February to discuss the Big E. Not sure where the meeting will be yet. If interested, contact nljwf@arrl.net and let Al know if you are going to be there.

Motion to Adjourn:	N1WGK
Seconded by:	N1JGR
Abstain:	

Unanimous

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary

Section Leadership: ASMs: K1STM, KY1F, NK1J, K1BRF; Bulletin Manager KD1YV; Official Observer Coordinator W1GC; Public Information Coordinator W1FXQ; Section Emergency Coordinator N1FNE; State Government Liaison K1MK; Section Traffic Manager K1HEJ; Technical Coordinator N1KHB. A very Happy and Healthy New Year to you all! The Insurance City Repeater Club will be helping out with the annual Klondike Derby in early February at The Girl Scout camp in Tolland, Mass. This is a two-day event; Rick, N1JGR is coordinator. Following the ICRC business meeting, a demonstration of digital communications over 2 meters was presented by Chuck, K1DFS. Two stations, consisting of soundcard equipped laptops and 2 meter HTs were set up on opposite sides of the room. Various digital modes, such as PSK31 and MT63 were successfully demonstrated.

Speaking of digital modes, DEC Bill, W1WJB often runs nets on various digital modes to give ops the chance to test their skills and integrate it into their ARES operating plans. Let's make this year one in which more of CT ARES becomes familiar with and integrates some digital mode in their ecomm capabilities and operational planning. Let's make this year one in which we concentrate on mentoring one another in some new aspect of the hobby. As a community, we need to be more aware of our responsibility to elmer a newcomer and help the old timer learn something you know all about! Sometimes it seems as if we barely have time to do what is needed for ourselves; work situations are busier than ever these days but we just have to keep reminding ourselves what it was like when we were new ops! I always feel like a novice again when I try some new mode and it's fun!

Generally, club activities have been concentrated on reflections of the past year and holiday parties! It was a privilege for me to attend the GNARC and NARL events; my thanks to others of you who were kind to invite me--can't make them all, hi. Congrats to Jonathan, KB1KIX who was NARL's ham of the year! Plaques were also given to Al, N1JWF who continually works behind the scenes to make things happen both at NARL, at ham fests and at the Big E. A special service award was given to Public Information Coordinator Al W1FXQ whose special service to NARL continues to be valued and appreciated.

Your Section Manager gave a certificate of merit to Al, N1JWF for his outstanding work for many years chairing the Big E exhibit. Al has spent a huge amount of time and some personal resources to ensure a successful effort. A big thank you Al for all you do! The neat thing was that his birthday was the next day! Over the holiday, Barb K1EIR and I had the pleasure of visiting with Rick and Joanne Palm, K1CE and W1GUN! Rick is a brand new RN and is presently working in the ICU at a large hospital in Daytona Beach. It sure was fun to visit--he says hello to all! You will remember that Rick was Manager of The Field and Educational Services Dept. ARRL for many years. It's been longer than we've planned, but we are in fact finishing the TOPOFF After Action Report, primary author Chuck, AB1CR, editor Wayne, N1CLV and the ARES leadership team along with the SM as authors/ reviewers. A few of us are putting the finishing touches on it. Documenting such a large effort is a lot of work but a very worthwhile and beneficial effort. More to follow very soon. See you here next month and on the air.

ARRL Connecticut Section
Section Manager: Elizabeth M. Doane, K1EIC
kleic@arrl.org

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