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# Time Out

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Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

February - 2013

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## ***This Month's Meeting***

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, Feb. 15th at 7:30 P.M. at the American Red Cross, 209 Farmington Ave. (Rte. 4), Farmington, CT. All are welcome. Bring a friend.

The topic of this month's presentation will be: Repeater Etiquette - Operating Legally, Safely and Courteously

What operators need to know and understand about repeaters, and linked repeaters, procedures for using our repeaters Safely, Legally and Courteously. This will be an informative presentation, something for all members of the club.

The presentation on APRS will be done on a future date. Stay tuned!

## ***Last Month's Meeting***

## ICRC Meeting Minutes

<b>Date:</b>	1/18/13
<b>Time Started:</b>	7:30 PM
<b>Time Ended:</b>	9:00 PM

**Minutes taken by:** Dan Wall – W1ZFG

### **Attendees (Callsign):**

N1RMF	W1ZFG	WY1O	N1JGR	KB1KZC
KB1WEZ	K1WMS	KB1RRR	KB1SNL	N1QLN
K1DFS	K1NKS	KB1TBL	KA1NDE	N1JWF
AB1NH	KB1IXQ	KB1RVU		

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## ***Last Month's Meeting – cont'd***

**Special Motion:** A special motion was made by Chuck – K1DFS, seconded by Mike – N1QLN, that the club should make a \$200 donation to the CT Children's Medical Center in memory of Jane Gerke – KB1SNK, wife of Al Gerke – N1JWF, both long-time club members. The motion passed, 15 yes, 1 no.

Following the motion, a moment of silence was held in memory of Jane.

**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:

3 people were tested.

When asked to provide a breakdown of license classes tested, VE Team Liaison Walt Styslo – K1WMS stated that since he was withdrawing his VE team from ICRC support, he was no longer obligated to provide that information.

Following the announcement of the VE team withdrawal, a motion was made by Pete – KB1KZC, seconded by Rick – N1JGR that the President should create a committee to form a new club sponsored VE team. Motion passed – all yea, with 1 abstention. President Perry – WY1O then asked Admin VP George – N1RMF if he would chair the committee. He agreed.

### **Secretary report:**

E-mailed report to committee for perusal.

There was one correction that needed to be made to last month's minutes:

Under New Business, in the section on the club voting to put the club callsign on all the club's repeaters: Several members felt that the sentence following the vote was not part of the meeting and should be removed. The sentence has been removed from the official record.

Motion to Accept:	K1DFS
Seconded by:	N1QLN
Abstain:	

unanimous

### **Treasurer Report:**

The Treasurer's report was read into the record. The signature cards have been signed to allow transfer of ownership of the club's checking account to the new Treasurer.

Motion to Accept:	K1DFS
Seconded by:	N1QLN
Abstain:	

unanimous

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<b><i>Last Month's Meeting – cont'd</i></b>
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**Tech. VP Report:**

All machines are operating correctly. The Tech Committee met recently to discuss technical issues which included: researching replacement batteries for the .15 site, continued work on the solar monitoring system, the 6 meter repeater, the spare .15 repeater, the possibility of wind power at the .15 site, and the status of the wi-fi project.

The callsigns on all the repeaters will be changed within the month.  
The spare .15 controller will be programmed within the year.

A motion was made by Mike – N1QLN, seconded by Chuck – K1DFS, that all club property be inventoried. A motion was taken to table discussion on this until the next Board meeting. Motion to table passed 11 – 5.

Motion to Accept:	KB1SNL
Seconded by:	KB1RRR
Abstain:	

Report accepted : 10 - 4

**Presidents Report:**

President Perry – WY1O spoke on the subject of “A house divided against itself cannot stand”, based on a speech by Abraham Lincoln.

Motion to Accept:	
Seconded by:	
Abstain:	

**Admin. VP Report:**

Nothing to report.

Motion to Accept:	K1DFS
Seconded by:	N1QLN
Abstain:	

**Webmaster Report:**

The website is operational and up to date.

Motion to Accept:	K1DFS
Seconded by:	KA1NDE
Abstain:	

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## ***Last Month's Meeting – cont'd***

### **Committee Reports:**

**Elmer's Net:** The Elmer's Net has completed its third semester. It is expected to resume operation in March.

### **Old Business:**

Further discussion was held on the subject of putting the club callsign on all the repeaters.

### **New Business:**

- A motion was made by Chuck – K1DFS, seconded by Mike – N1QLN, to grant Honorary Life Membership to George Carbonell - N1RMF. Motion passed.
- A motion was made by Chuck – K1DFS, seconded by Mike – N1QLN, to grant Honorary Life Membership to Larry Buck – K1HEJ. Motion passed. Mike – N1QLN also volunteered to look into making certificates for all our Honorary Life Members.
- A motion was made by Jim – AB1NH, seconded by Kurt – KB1IXQ, to take a vote of members present as to what should be the format of the monthly meetings. The vote was 8 in favor of the 12 membership/6 separate board meetings format and 3 in favor of the 6 membership/6 board meetings format.

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

## ***Changes to the Format of the Monthly Meetings***

Due to the fact that only 2 people out of our 60+ members bothered to respond to the request in last month's newsletter to give their opinion as to what the format of the monthly meetings should be, it was decided to take a vote of the few members present at the last meeting to decide the issue. It was decided in an 8 to 3 vote to go with the 12 monthly membership meetings with 6 separate Board of Directors meetings at a different date and time format. Since this is what the membership has voted for, we will be expecting people to step forward and make arrangements to provide a speaker, demonstration, or activity related to amateur each and every month at the membership meetings. The agenda of the business meeting will be shortened to allow ample time for these activities to take place.

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## ***K1CRC/R AR***

As you have probably noticed by now, the identification on all of our repeaters has been changed. The 2 meter and 440 MHz machines in Bristol and the 2 meter voice and packet machines in Burlington now identify with our club call – K1CRC. For those of you not fluent in CW, the entire id string consists of the callsign - K1CRC, followed by a /R, which signifies that the station is a repeater, and ending with the letters AR, which is CW shorthand for “end of message”. Thanks go out to Rick – N1JGR and his Tech Committee for implementing the change.

## ***President’s Message***

The February meeting is going to be an exciting one. Why you ask?

First, your Board of Directors will have an election to fill from within the board - the Admin Vice President. Perry Green WY1O made the decision to step down as President for personal reasons. Perry will be missed as President, however, we are fortunate to have his talents and service as he continues to serve on the board. The By-Laws of the club states, the Admin-VP will fill the remainder of the President’s term. The vote will be taken prior to the start of the General Meeting to fill the Admin VP position.

Planning for upcoming events: For future up-coming events, a board member will be in charge of the committee. A board member will report to the President and the membership on status of a particular event or project through completion.

The Bike Race: No chairperson has been appointed yet and the club is still waiting for the information from Winding Trails. The Boateater Challenge Race May 11<sup>th</sup> at noon. The April General Meeting Topic will be a Safety meeting and final prep for the Boateater Challenge race. Steve Paradis KB1RRR has graciously volunteered as the Chairperson for this event. Any and all questions will go to him.

The Field Day Chairperson has not been selected and I am planning that will be at the February General Meeting. Site selection is the first task of that committee.

Question for the ICRC Membership: We miss many of you at the meeting. What would you like to heard or see? General Meetings starting this month formal business will be expedited. There will be committee updates and passing of the previous minutes. It is our intention that most new business will be limited to what is it, and then most but not all will be tabled for the board meeting for intense discussion. Please email [N1RMF@comcast.net](mailto:N1RMF@comcast.net) with your comments.

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## ***Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary***

Section Leadership: K1EIC SM: ASMs Emeritus W1FXQ, KD1YV, K1HEJ; OOC K1DFS; PIC KA1WPM; SEC N1CLV: ASECs N1FNE, K1BRF, AF1HS, K1VSC, W1GTT; SGL K1MK; STM K1STM; TC N1KHB.

A very Happy and healthy New Year to you all! And happy 95th birthday to Al Cohen W1FXQ. Al, I sure hope I am as active as you are at 95—he still plans programs, recruits volunteers, calls me to keep up with the cabinet, is active in QCWA and has a wonderful sense of humor!

The Section extends heartfelt sympathy to Peter Paradis KB1KZC, his son Steve KB1RRR and their family on the death of a close family friend Rachel D'Avino, one of the teachers killed in Newtown. Both Peter and Steve are members of The Insurance City Repeater Club; Peter is their current treasurer. The club is sending a donation to Autism Speaks in Rachel's memory. I know you will all continue to pray for this family and for all the families affected in that terrible and senseless tragedy. Indeed, we have all been affected.

The Section extends our deep sympathy to Al Gerke N1JWF on the loss of his wife Jane KB1SNK. I so enjoyed seeing Jane at the NARL picnic last summer—we will all miss her. Al, just let us know how we can be helpful to you. Thank you for all you do for this Section.

And I must also report the passing of a former DEC Hank Wolcott KA1WTS. Hank was DEC for region 4 for several years and a real leader in TopOff III. Hank was an open person—he loved people and was just delightful to work with. Although he has been living in Massachusetts, he would often get back to CT to visit. He will be missed by those who knew and worked with him.

The new year brings some changes to net schedules. The CT Phone Net is meeting at 1800 local even during the winter on 3.973 nightly except Sunday's and continues to meet at 1000 on Sunday mornings on 3.965. Band conditions were difficult a few years ago so the net was meeting an hour earlier but found that that time was difficult for members to make the net. So far, conditions have been quite good at the later time so all is well!

Now the CW Section net is having a hard time finding participants so the net manager Dan WA1GGN has decided to meet on the weekends: Saturday's and Sunday's 3.533 at 1900. Many thanks for continuing the CW net Dan. Want to learn or practice CW? Go to [www.cwops.org/cwacademy.html](http://www.cwops.org/cwacademy.html). If you haven't tried CW traffic handling and are on HF, give it a try!

The Nutmeg VHF Traffic net is meeting on 146.685/R PL 141.3 nightly except Wednesday; Wednesday's they meet on 147.09/R PL 110.9 at 2130 local. This allows the net manager who recently moved to continue to make the net. Many thanks to both the Bristol Radio Club and to the Middlesex Amateur Radio Society for hosting the net. NTS appreciates the use of both repeaters.

The Candlewood Amateur Radio Association ran a "square dance" as their program! Yes, they had a QSL card-sorting square dance! Each year, they sort thousands of cards for the W1 QSL bureau. One member even offered to bring ham radio songs to go along with the "dance"! Check out their new web site <http://www.cararadioclub.org>.

The Greater Norwalk ARC has also updated their page—check out <http://www.gnarc.org>.

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## **Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary – cont'd**

Phil WX1CT, webmaster of the CT Sky Warn web page has updated that page. Go to <http://www.ctskywarn.com>.

Congrats to Chuck K1DFS on having completed 38 years as treasurer of ICRC. Of course, the club made him an honorary life member! That's real service—bravo!

Many thanks to Sky Warn ops who were on stand by during the storms late December while I was away.

It was great to see CT club presidents at Director Frenaye's Division cabinet meeting earlier this month. Jim K1PX and I attended along with the following club presidents and reps: President Chip N1MIE RASON, Liz N1MLG RASON, President Perry WY1O ICRC, Pres Vinny W1VJA NARL, Paul N1TUP pres BEARS of Manchester, Jonathan K2KKH VP BEARS of Manchester, and Donna KA1MJV pres Bristol Radio Club. This meeting is held twice per year before the ARRL Board meeting to give the division director and vice director input to the Board. Do encourage your club president to attend in July.

Are you going skiing maybe in Vermont? Well, here's some news—maybe you can combine trips. Or just go anyway: SM Paul Gayet AA1SU reports the following. THE VERMONT HAM RADIO CONVENTION SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2013 8 AM to 2 PM

Holiday Inn Convention Center

Williston Road at I-89 Exit 14

South Burlington, Vermont

Here is a link to the Hamfest:

<http://www.ranv.org/hamcon.html#info> .

Use this winter time to study for that license upgrade and take the test! You can find the latest VE exams on the Section page at <http://ct.arrl.org>.

Ed WA1LEI is running a tech class in Milford for 9 weeks at at Foran High School Milford room 338 starting Thursday, February 14 at 6:30 PM. The class will run from 6:30-9. Contact [wallei@arrl.net](mailto:wallei@arrl.net) for more info; tell your friends!

See you next month.

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ARRL Connecticut Section

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