
Time Out

Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

March - 2012

This Month's Meeting

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, March 16th 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:	2/17/12
Time Started:	7:41 PM
Time Ended:	9:00 PM

Minutes taken by: Dan Wall – W1ZFG

Attendees (Callsign):

K1WMS	N1QLN	KB1WBW	KB1VPY	AB1NH
KA1NDE	KB1TFU	WA2PNB	N1RMF	K1DFS
KB1SNL	N1JGR	W1ZFG	KB1IXQ	

<i>Last Month's Meeting – cont'd</i>

Presidents Report:

Nothing to report.

Motion to Accept:	
Seconded by:	
Abstain:	

Secretary report:

E-mailed report to committee for perusal.

Motion to Accept:	N1QLN
Seconded by:	K1DFS
Abstain:	

unanimous

Treasurer Report:

Treasurer report was presented by the treasurer. Account balances were read.

Motion to Accept:	N1QLN
Seconded by:	KB1TFU
Abstain:	

unanimous

Tech. VP Report:

All repeaters are working well. All the links between machines are good and functioning well.

Motion to Accept:	K1DFS
Seconded by:	N1QLN
Abstain:	

Admin. VP Report:

Nothing to report.

Motion to Accept:	
Seconded by:	
Abstain:	

<i>Last Month's Meeting – cont'd</i>

Webmaster Report:

The website is up and running and is currently up to date.

Motion to Accept:	K1DFS
Seconded by:	KA1NDE
Abstain:	

Elmer's net:

There were 23 check-ins for the talk by Roger – K1PAI, on Skywarn. We are averaging 12 to 15 check-ins per week, however there are only 2 new hams among the check-ins.

Old Business:

Klondike Derby wrap-up: We only had 8 hams participating, so FRS radios needed to be used. We were not able to use our APRS trackers due to a total lack of snow, since they are too heavy to put in a backpack. On the scouting side, there were 178 kids and 78 adults participating. There were 15 day patrols and 13 night patrols, each with 4 to 9 kids each.

New Business:

George – N1RMF made a report on the New England Division Cabinet Meeting .

At the April meeting, there will be training provided for those interested in participating in the Fat Tire Classic Mountain Bike Race and the Boaters River Race. The ICRC will be providing radio communications for both of these events again this year. Contact George – N1RMF or Chuck – K1DFS to volunteer.

A motion was made by Mike – N1QLN to have the club support a second bike race in Winsted. The motion was seconded by Chris – KA1NDE. The motion passed. More details to follow – stay tuned.

Next month, annual club dues will be due. The club needs your financial support to keep our three commercial grade repeaters on the air for another year.

There was also a discussion about possible locations for this year's Field Day activities.

Motion to Adjourn:	W1ZFG
Seconded by:	K1DFS
Abstain:	

Feedback on Newsletter Format

Thanks to those of you who responded to my request last month for feedback on the format of the club newsletter. Most of you who responded said that you preferred to read the newsletter on the screen rather than printing it out. So keep an eye out for some future changes, perhaps a slightly different format with some more color. If any of you have any ideas about things you would like to see in the newsletter, drop me a note at walldan54@att.net. Thanks!

Dan Wall – W1ZFG – Newsletter Editor

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary

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

There is a bill pending in the legislature that would exempt Amateur radio operators from the prohibition of using hand-held mobile telephones and mobile electronic devices while driving. It is SB61 and can be found at <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2012/TOB/S/2012SB-00061-R00-SB.htm> The hearing is tomorrow (Tuesday, February 28) at the Legislative Office Building room 2E at 11:00. Speakers must register at the Public Safety at 10:00. We do appreciate Senator Guglielmo for sponsoring this bill. The CT ARRL leadership has been assured by legal staff that the law prohibiting such communication does not involve Amateur radio. We know that some of you will speak at the hearing tomorrow and appreciate your time and understand your concern.

Welcome to Bill W1GTT who was recently appointed assistant SEC. He will represent ARES at the Exercise and Planning Preparedness Initiative Technology Work Group. Thanks Bill for representing us and for rejoining the leadership team.

Bill and Wayne N1CLV gave an excellent presentation on digital communications meeting the needs of served agencies—at the ARES Region 2 training session. There were just under 30 participants! Thanks to Sid N1MVM and Peter W1AMJ for articles about this event in the Guilford Courier and the Hartford Hobby Radio Examiner.

March is upon us and that means Hamfest time! Lots of us will be getting together during the weekend of March 17-18.

The ECARA Ham Flea Market is on March 17 and the Southington Hamfest and ARES annual meeting is March 18.

The ECARA flea market will be on Saturday, March 17 at St. Joseph's Church Hall, 350 Hartford Turnpike, Rt.101, Dayville from 8:00 to noon. GPS: 41-50-82N / 071-53-60W. There will be lots of door prizes including an HT raffle! Admission is \$3.00; table space is \$10.00. A VE session is planned, you must pre-register. For registration and table spaces and any other info, contact Paul KE1LI ke1li@arrl.net or at 860-928-2456.

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary – cont'd

Directions:

North & South: RT 395 to exit 93. Go west on Rt 101 to church, .6 miles.

West: RT 84 East to Rt74 East, To RT 44 East to RT 101 East. 3.5 miles on left side.

East: RT 101 West. .6 miles after Intersection of RT 395.

Talk in on 147.225 MHz PL 156.7

The Southington Amateur Radio Association Flea Market starts Sunday, March 18 at 8:00 a.m. to noon at Southington High School, (GPS Approx. N41° 37.134' W72° 51.614' 720). Pleasant Street. Admission \$5.00; children under 12, free; table spaces (6ft) \$15.00 in advance (checks must be received before March 18), \$20.00 at the door. Take 50% off if you bring your own table! For vendors, doors open at 6:15 a.m.; doors open to the public at 8:00 a.m. Talk-in 147.345, 145.49DV, 224.80, 444.25DV, PI – 77 Hz.

Exams for all classes of license start promptly at 10:00 a.m.; Walk-ins are welcome but pre-registration is preferred. Please send an SASE to SARA P.O. Box 873, Southington, 06489. To reserve table space either at full or half price, the club requests that you go to <http://www.chetbacon.com/sara.htm>, fill out the form and mail it to the above address. For further information, contact Norm W3IZ 860-584-1403 (eve) or 860-594-0230 (day). Email: w1ecv@arrl.net; web: <http://www.chetbacon.com/sara.htm>

ARES members, don't forget the annual meeting at 11:00 a.m. hosted by your SEC Wayne N1CLV. Looking forward to seeing you at the hamfest!

ARRL Award Nominations are Open

Each year the ARRL Board of Directors has the opportunity to select recipients for a number of awards in various categories that honor Amateur Radio operators.

The nomination period is now open for the ARRL awards that are designed to recognize educational and technological pursuits in Amateur Radio. There is also an award to honor a young Amateur Radio operator. Please log onto www.arrl.org/arrl-award-nominations for specific details and information on how to nominate or submit supporting endorsements.

The ARRL Herb S. Brier Instructor of the Year Award will be awarded to an ARRL volunteer Amateur Radio instructor or to an ARRL professional classroom teacher who uses creative instructional approaches and models the highest values of the Amateur Radio community. The award has been focused to reflect quality of instruction and commitment to licensing instruction. Nominations should be received by March 15, 2012, to be considered for this year.

The Hiram Percy Maxim Award is for a licensed radio amateur under age 21 (and an ARRL member) whose accomplishments and contributions are of the most exemplary nature within the framework of Amateur Radio activities. Nominations for this award need to be made through your Section Manager (see page 16) who will then forward the nomination to ARRL Headquarters by March 31, 2012.

The ARRL Microwave Development Award is presented to a licensed radio amateur or to individuals who are licensed radio amateurs contribute to the development of the Amateur Radio microwave bands. The nomination deadline is March 31, 2012.

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary – cont'd

The ARRL Technical Service Award recognizes a licensed radio amateur or individuals who are licensed radio amateurs that provide Amateur Radio technical assistance or training to others. The nomination deadline is March 31, 2012.

The ARRL Technical Innovation Award is granted to a licensed radio amateur or to individuals who are licensed radio amateurs who develop and apply new technical ideas or techniques in Amateur Radio. The nomination deadline is March 31, 2012.

The Knight Distinguished Service Award

The ARRL Board of Directors established the Knight Distinguished Service Award to recognize exceptionally notable contributions by a Section Manager to the health and vitality of the League. The first such award was presented to Joe T. Knight, W5PDY, for whom the award was named, in recognition of his exemplary service not only as the ARRL Section New Mexico Section Manager for more than a quarter century but also for his willingness time and time again to share his knowledge and skills leadership by volunteering to help train and orient newly elected Section Managers from throughout the country at the invitation of the Field Services Department (now Membership and Volunteer Programs). In recognition of the commitment to the ARRL Field Organization as exemplified by Joe T. Knight, W5PDY (SK), the Knight Distinguished Service Award may be awarded from time to time to an ARRL Section Manager who has distinguished himself or herself in accordance with the following ideals:

1. Exceptionably notable contributions over an extended period of time within his or her Section and beyond.; and
2. Whose efforts have contributed to the health and vitality of the ARRL and its Field Organization; and
3. Whose actions are in the spirit of the unselfish contributions of Joe T. Knight, W5PDY.

The ARRL Board shall publicize the existence of the Knight Distinguished Service Award and the nomination criteria from time to time in its QST and on the ARRL Web Page. Nominations may be made by any ARRL member and shall be accompanied by a narrative of the accomplishments of the nominee identifying the long term contributions of the nominee to ARRL and its Field Organization. Those awarded the Knight Distinguished Service Award shall be presented with a suitable plaque commemorating the award.

For more information about all of these awards, visit www.arrl.org/arrl-award-nominations. You may also contact Steve Ewald, WV1X, at wv1x@arrl.org or 860-594-0265 at ARRL Headquarters

ICRC is sponsoring a technician class to be held March 3 at the K of C Hall, 2533 Main St., Glastonbury starting at noon. For further information, contact George N1RMF email n1rmf@arrl.net.

Also on March 3, 11:30 a.m., The Candlewood Amateur Radio Association is holding a VE session at the Stony Hill Firehouse Bethel. Contact Frank N1PE email frsileo@att.net. Walk-ins are welcome.

Pete W1RM and Bill W1GY gave a presentation on the DXLab suite at the Bristol Radio Club. If you like to play with sophisticated software suites you may wish to learn about its capabilities!

George, K1EHW assisted by Paul, N1II demonstrated basic electrical measurement techniques from using a multimeter to a Bird reflectometer at a February meeting of the Stamford Amateur Radio Association. Larry AB1JC will describe a project he's working on which involves sending a gyro stabilized color camera to 100,000 feet by balloon using APRS for tracking, amateur TV, and other ham modes for telemetry.

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary – cont'd

This project is being done under the auspices of The Discovery Museum in Bridgeport. The launch will take place in Fairfield County. Larry has spoken at the Valley ARA and the Greater Bridgeport ARC. Fascinating!

The Valley Amateur Radio Association will hear from Leonid KA1D at its February meeting and learn about Amateur radio in Russia.

Members of the ICRC handled communications support for the Mark Twain Klondike Derby in which 178 scouts and 80 leaders participated. They all braved the bitter cold weather at Camp Arbour in Norfolk overnight in the beginning of January. Rick, N1JGR was event coordinator and the liaison between the club and the scouts for the entire weekend. Others participating were: Nick KB1SNL, Chuck K1DFS, Dan W1ZFG, George N1RMF, Mike AB1OD and Charles KB1WBW.

Members of the Greater Norwalk Amateur Radio Club enjoyed a great presentation by Les W2LK about the VK9HR DXpedition to Lord Howe Island where he was located. GNARC minutes state “Lord Howe Island is 600km off the coast of Australia, and has absolutely beautiful scenery, as was evident in the photos shown.” Get more info about this event at <http://www.lordhowe2011.com/>.

Don't forget, the DX SSB contest is weekend of March 3 so why not get a good start on your DXCC this year if you haven't done that and join the fun!

The Meriden ARC is busy moving to a new meeting location. Of course, they're starting to make plans for the next Nutmeg Hamfest in the fall.

Allen W1AGP Media and Public Information Coordinator ARRL spoke at the February meeting of the Newington Amateur Radio League about the DIY PR campaign. Yes, DIY—Do-It-Yourself. Read all about it at <http://www.arrl.org/diy>. In addition to the video, you can order fliers and buttons to enhance your displays!

And talking about DIY, here's something you CW ops will find a bit of fun. Did you ever think of tweeting via CW? Thanks to Douglas WA1TUT--Check this out:

http://www2.electronicproducts.com/How_to_Tweet_using_a_Morse_key-article-fajb_morse_key_tweet_feb2012-html.aspx

Have fun—see you next month.

ARRL Connecticut Section
Section Manager: Betsey M Doane, K1EIC
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For the latest information, visit our website at <http://www.icrcweb.org>