
Time Out

Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

June - 2011

This Month's Meeting

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, June 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:	5/20/11
Time Started:	7:40 PM
Time Ended:	9:05 PM

Minutes taken by: Dan Wall – W1ZFG

Attendees (Callsign):

W1ZFG	N1JGR	KB1TBL	KB1KZC	KB1RRR
KB1RGQ	N1QLN	AB1NH	K1WMS	N1RMF
WY1O	KB1TFU	WA2BME	KB1VNT	KB1IXQ
K1HEJ	KB1UTT	N1KGY		

<i>Last Month's Meeting – cont'd</i>

Secretary report:

E-mailed report to committee for perusal.

Motion to Accept:	N1QLN
Seconded by:	KB1TFU
Abstain:	

unanimous

Treasurer Report:

No treasurer report due to lack of a treasurer.

Motion to Accept:	
Seconded by:	
Abstain:	

unanimous

Tech. VP Report:

All repeaters are up and running. The problem with too many ID's from the 220 linked machine has been resolved. The Technical Committee has decided to establish protocols for linking repeaters into the system.

Motion to Accept:	KB1RGC
Seconded by:	N1RMF
Abstain:	KB1TBL

Presidents Report:

Nothing to report.

Motion to Accept:	
Seconded by:	
Abstain:	

<i>Last Month's Meeting – cont'd</i>

Admin. VP Report:

Nothing to report.

Motion to Accept:	
Seconded by:	
Abstain:	

Webmaster Report:

The website is up and running. The webmaster has indicated that he plans on revising the website, but nothing has happened yet. Looking for updates to web page.

Motion to Accept:	KB1TFU
Seconded by:	N1QLN
Abstain:	

Old Business:

- The Fat Tire Classic bike race went well – no glitches. We had the largest number of club participants ever. Thanks to all who came out and assisted. A good time was had by all.
- A second attempt was made to install the solar panels at the .15 site in Burlington, but once again the project was postponed due to heavy rain.

New Business:

- As a result of our participation at the Fat Tire Classic bike race, the club was approached by the sponsors of another mountain bike race to be held in Winsted on May 15th to see if we would be willing to provide radio communications and support to that event. While the club thought that there was not enough time for us to organize an effort for this year, several members went up to the event to evaluate the situation for next year. The course is too narrow to allow vehicles to park along it. Access to the various checkpoints would be provided by golf cart or on foot. There is a great place to park the tower and net control station on the field at the top of the hill. A planned walk of the course was cancelled due to the torrential downpour going on at the time. An expedition to survey the course will be conducted before next years event on a better weather day. Thanks to Rick – N1JGR, Dan – W1ZFG, George – N1RMF, and Perry – WY1O for braving the rain.

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

- In order to provide training for hams, both new and old, the club has decided to start an “Elmer’s Net”. This net will provide training in the areas of traffic handling, emergency communications, and any other areas decided on. A motion was made by Mike – N1QLN and seconded by Bob – KB1RGQ to proceed. The motion passed unanimously. A committee was set up consisting of Mike – N1QLN as chairman and Perry – WY1O and Chuck – N1KGY as members. The committee will report their progress back to the club at a future date.
- A frequency pair has become available in the 6 meter band. It would only cost the club around \$250 to add a 6 meter repeater to our system. A motion was made by Mike - N1QLN and seconded by Steve – KB1RRR to proceed. The motion passed unanimously. More to follow.

Motion to Adjourn:	N1QLN
Seconded by:	KB1KZC
Abstain:	

Field Day!

On Saturday, June 25th thru Sunday, June 26th, the ICRC will be participating in Field Day activities. Once again, Pete – KB1KZC has graciously allowed us to invade his palatial country estate in Bethlehem . We will be setting up stations for HF SSB and CW, VHF SSB and FM, digital modes, and possibly satellite.

We are still looking for people to volunteer to take on some of the tasks involved in getting the extra bonus points. Refer to the official rules on the ARRL website to see what points are available.

Final plans will be made at the June meeting, so if you are interested in helping out in any way, come to the meeting. All are welcome to come up and operate any time during the contest period, and to help set up and take down the equipment. Because this activity is being hosted at a private residence, we must limit participation to ICRC club members only. In order to defray the cost of the food, we are asking for \$20 per person for both days. This includes lunch and dinner on Saturday and breakfast and lunch on Sunday, BYOB. Anyone who has been there before can tell you that its well worth it! If you can only make it for one day, then it would be just \$10. The address for the location is 48 Deerwood Dr., Bethlehem, CT 06751. Come on up and see what a real Field Day operation is like!

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary

First, a bit of history.

I want to tell you about Frank Moore, WA1URA formerly station manager at WELI in New Haven because he was a phenomenal Amateur radio operator. He became a silent key in Indiana last month. I want to thank Brian K1SOX of The Shorepoint Amateur Radio Club for posting the link to his obit on their Web site <http://www.sparc.us>.

Now I know many of you don't know Frank so let me acquaint you with just some of his accomplishments. Frank became licensed in New Haven in the 80's and was active in SCARA. He was an avid traffic handler, trained by Barb K1EIR then NM of CN on CW and Betsey K1EIC who was then NM of CPN and then STM. He used all modes and was active in The CT Phone Net, in CN the Section CW net, RTTY, and 2 meter nets. I will never forget one simulated emergency test in which Frank single-handedly and concurrently operated multiple modes in one evening: phone, CW, VHF and RTTY. At that time, SET ran all weekend from Saturday morning until midnight Sunday. Traffic handlers handled hundreds of messages, many to ARRL Headquarters; there was no internet and no email. We used multiple frequencies typically handling 80-100 messages on a net. Frank really knew the meaning of friendship through Amateur Radio. He authored and produced the well-known videotape Last Voice Out of Kuwait which documented some of the Amateur radio operating many of us did handling messages between servicemen and their families using the National Traffic System. Frank ran an amtor MBO at that time. The communications officer of the USS John F. Kennedy learned NTS procedures from Luck Hurder KY1T and posted much traffic from the servicemen on the Kennedy on Frank's MBO. I had the privilege of working with Frank and others to handle some of this traffic. It was a memorable experience. Many of us would come home after work, stop everything in life to download traffic and get it to the other nets. Frank managed to get permission from the State Department to handle the traffic. I remember the sense of one such message—it went something like this: "Our marriage means more to me now than ever". Imagine delivering that message!

But there's more to the story. Frank was in contact with a Kuwaiti ham now known as 9K2DZ. Abdul was a key point of information out of Kuwait, information that you heard typically on the evening news. I remember Frank's telephone call one day excitedly telling me to be sure and watch the CBS evening news for information that came from "the ham in Kuwait" as we knew him then. I will personally never forget the experience. Frank went to Kuwait to document the story. You can read his obit on the SPARC page or at <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/fortwayne/obituary-print.aspx?n=frank-moore&pid=150488442> and an incredible account of Abdul 9K2DZ documented in The Arab Times, February 26, 1997 at <http://www.qsl.net/vu2msy/lastvoice.htm> Don't miss this account. As well as I knew Frank, there are details in this story I'd never known. Many thanks to John W3ML SM of Indiana for providing these links.

Frank helped Barb get her first job in New Haven. Apparently, Frank continued to work with the blind in Indiana. Of course, that is real special to Barb and me. Thank you for letting me share this with you.

And now for today's news.

The first big item of news everyone has on their minds this weekend is Dayton and the second is Field day. If you're going to Dayton, don't miss Bill Pasternak's "town hall meeting" where Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts will give PIO's lots of good ideas and don't miss Allen's forum Friday 2:30-3:45 in room 2.

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary – cont'd

Locally, here's a challenge from our PIC Dana KA1WPM. There are many opportunities to give your FD some PR. This year, you can order a pack of 20 posters to put in strategic places around the community to tell everyone about your event. And at the event itself, you know that you can create a PR table and have someone at that table to explain the operation.

Now here's the challenge. Take a picture of your table, get it to KA1WPM ka1wpm@arrl.net. He will create a survey so you all can vote on the best picture. Then we'll give recognition to your group or club and come up with some kind of nice certificate. Are you in? Go for it!

Want more ideas? Don't miss the current issue of Contact, the excellent newsletter authored by Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP. Check it out: <http://www.arrl.org/current-contact-issue> There are loads of tools available to you at <http://www.arrl.org/media-and-public-relations>. Don't miss out!—Dana KA1WPM PIC

Sky Warn spotters spent time this month getting prepared for the hurricane season and other possible convective weather eventualities. There were training sessions in several areas of the Section. Many thanks to all the Sky Warn ECs and to Steve, K1SJW DEC Sky Warn for arranging and publicizing these events. SEC Wayne N1CLV attended refresher training last week.

DEC Toy, K1WYQ is looking for help with the Bloomin' Metric bike ride coming up on Sunday, May 27. If you can help, write k1wyq@arrl.net.

In club news, we have a brand new ARRL affiliated club in Eastern CT called The 807's Group. Their call sign is K1EOS: Eight O Seven! Director Frenaye, K1KI recommended their affiliation and it was approved by the Executive Committee. Kevin KB1QDC is president. Welcome aboard!

Congrats to Barb, K1EIR on becoming president of The Valley Amateur Radio Association.

The Candlewood Amateur Radio Association is celebrating their 80th year as a club this year. Dan W1QK and president Harlan W1QH ran a special event station during the weekend of the New England QSO Party as part of the celebration. Other members operated W1AW on that Sunday. Frank, N8WXQ coordinated that effort.

Members of the Insurance City Repeater Club had a wonderful turnout of volunteers who provided radio communications and marshalling duties at the Fat Tire Classic Mountain Bike Race in April. The club is looking forward to the Calhoun Cancer ride in June and of course to Field Day.

The Greater Bridgeport Amateur Radio Club completed its first general class in 2011 and graduated six new general ops and one extra class! Warm congrats to Laurie KB1THD, Donna KB1TGW, Eileen KB1UZS, Don KB1UZQ, Betty KB1UKJ and Sandra KB1TGZ. Connie, KB1UJX studied for Extra Class on her own and passed! This is good news!

The Bloomfield ARC plans to provide communications for the MS Bike tour June 4.

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary – cont'd

BARC/BARENS also sponsors VE sessions and is announcing the following dates for VE sessions which start at 9:00 a.m.: May 21, June 18, July 30, August 27, Sept. 24, Oct. 29, Nov. 19 and Dec. 17 so mark your calendars if you plan to upgrade. Walk-ins are allowed but if you wish to take an exam, it is best to call Don K1IN at 860-869-1059 or email k1in@arrl.net.

From the Meriden Club, congrats to Al N1API on his retirement. Al is real active in the 10-10 club and in DX. Years ago, he had the first packet BBS on the air and volunteered as my bulletin manager. Enjoy retirement Al and good DX!

Congrats to EC WA1VXH on his new home. Let's hear more about it Chris. On the emcomm front, MARC participated in the MS Walk-a-thon in Cheshire in April; all went well.

MARC is sponsoring the Hamfest in North Haven this summer as well as the Nutmeg Hamfest. They're planning a fox hunt in July and continue to use their club station to work the various contests. They plan to work CQ-WPX-CW in May. MARC plans a tech class in the Fall.

Congrats to the following ops who are on the Public Service Honor Roll for April: KB1RGQ 188, N1QLN 180, KB1NMO 115, NM1K 100, and K1STM 84.

Mark your calendars: May 28 the Hartford Hamfest sponsored by the Natchaug ARC at the Tolland County Agricultural Center Vernon.

June 4 Southern Berkshire ARC annual Hamfest Goshen Fair Grounds.

June 18 NARL Fest with ARES annual meeting St. Mary's High School Newington.

July 23: Yankee Peddler Hamfest Holiday Inn North Haven CT

ARRL Connecticut Section
Section Manager: Betsey M Doane, K1EIC
k1eic@arrl.org

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