
Time Out

Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

July - 2008

This Month's Meeting

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, July 18th at 7:30 P.M. at the American Red Cross, 209 Farmington Ave. (Rte. 4), Farmington, CT. All are welcome. Bring a friend. Our own Alan – W1LOZ will be giving a presentation on the upcoming Nautilus anniversary. All are welcome.

Last Month's Meeting

ICRC Meeting Minutes

Date:	6/20/08
Time Started:	7:52 PM
Time Ended:	9:26 PM

Minutes taken by: Rick Johnson, N1WGK

Attendees (Callsign):

N1WGK	KA1NDE	K1WMS	N1KGY	N1RMF
K1DFS	N1JWF	W1ZFG	K1HEJ	KB1KZC
N1JGR	W1LOZ			

Secretary report:

E-mailed report to committee for perusal.

Motion to Accept:	N1KGY
Seconded by:	K1DFS
Abstain:	

unanimous

<i>Last Month's Meeting – cont'd</i>

Treasurer Report:

Previous Balance:	\$1035.31
Checks and Payments	0.00
Deposits and Other Credits	\$1110.00
Service Charge	\$0.00
Interest Earned	\$0.00
Ending Balance of Bank Statement	\$2145.31
Cleared Balance:	\$2145.31
Checks and Payments	- \$39.00
Deposits and Other Credits	\$0.00
Register Balance as of 6/11/2008	\$2106.31

Motion to Accept:	N1WGK
Seconded by:	N1KGY
Abstain:	

unanimous

Tech. VP report...

15 is basically running fine.

440: When George was in the DC area, he asked around regarding the Amateur Requirement and the radio is on order. With luck, it will be around after the 4th.

There's some discussion regarding linking between 15 and 88 machines through the 440 link.

Tower work will be pushed into September. We need to take out 18 inches off the poles and put a copper plate on top. While up there, Chuck said that he would set up the 802.11b installation as well.

Motion to Accept:	N1WGK
Seconded by:	N1JWF
Abstain:	

unanimous

Old Business:

Races! The race was good at Winding Trails...we had a wonderful time and nobody got hurt (I was stationed with the EMT – N1WGK)

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

Field Day: It's a week from tomorrow! We have the site and we are pretty much ready. We may have to adjust our location to the parking lot of Winding Trails. We will be running 3 radios plus GOTA and VHF/UHF. We will also have a public table. It ought to be a really fun time...the more the merrier! Show up on Saturday at Winding Trails at 10AM.

Brochures: Waiting on stuff to put into the brochures. Website was given out last meeting but nobody sent any information yet.

New Business:

Klondike is happening this coming year...first weekend in February, 2009.

Alan has a presentation for the next meeting, the story of the Nautilus. Invite anyone that you want to this meeting.

Motion to Adjourn:	N1WGK
Seconded by:	K1DFS
Abstain:	

Unanimous

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary

Section Leadership: K1EIC SM; ASMs: K1STM, KD1YV, W1FXQ, NK1J; OOC K1DFS; PIC KA1TCH; SEC K1BRF; ASEC N1FNE; SGL K1MK; STM K1HEJ; TC N1KHB.

Don't forget NARLFEST this coming Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Here's the scoop from President Mary K1MMH. Because of gas prices, admission has been reduced to \$5 and new hams licensed less than a year will be admitted free of charge--just show your FCC license! VE exams start at 10:00. The vendor area is full to overflowing and includes some unique offerings and good friends. Our prizes are top-notch...from a YAESU HT and a year's web hosting to 2 tickets to Boxboro and an embroidered adult jacket and tee shirts. Additional prizes will be awarded on the half-hour starting at 9 am. There will be food and drinks, free hats for kids, a special event station to operate and the seminars are the best ever, including....

*live on site Skywarn weather net, initiated on site directly from the hamfest where DEC Steve Williams, K1SJW will demonstrate how to check into a weather net

*live demo of d-star by Technical Specialist Dana Underhill, KB1AEV and ASEC Rod Lane, N1FNE

*live: noted author, Ken Neubeck, wb2amu, with an all-new lecture on propagation.

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary – cont'd

Attention new hams: Please be sure and stop by the ARRL booth and meet your SM. Let's talk about how you're doing, what you need, and how you can become involved in the Section Field Organization! Come on out and support this event-it will be fun and the weather looks good, too.

The other event on our minds of course is Field Day. If I can find someone willing to drive a bit of the Section, I will as usual, come visit some of you at your sites. Now, here are some good ideas from Allen, W1AGP

Gain FAME! Score 500 points! Impress your Friends and Relatives! Win a FREE trip to.....

Well, maybe not a free trip, but you sure can get three out of the four. How would you like to be a hero and bring in 500 FD points for your group before you ever touch a radio? Instead of heading to a mountain top, how about a WalMart lot? Being in a conspicuous public place is good for 100 points! Instead of just telling your fellow hams and club members, how about telling the newspapers and local radio and TV? Press release samples are available at <http://www.arrl.org/pio>. Having a media release or link is good for 100 points! Instead of manning the radios, how about manning a public information table with brochures, signs and a smile? Having a public information table/center is good for 100 points! Instead of glad-handing the mike, how about shaking hands with your areas elected officials and politicians? Having invited, elected local officials come makes 100 points! Instead of talking TO a served agency, how about inviting one of their leaders come down and visit you, perhaps even getting to talk on your radio? Having an official served agency representative show up is 100 points! Total = 500 points!!

Please send either by email or by regular mail copies of your PR successes to your SM Betsey k1eic@arrl.org and to your PIC Al ka1tch@arrl.net by July 15. Did you have a served agency rep come? Did you receive an elected official? Make sure we hear about it. I'll get the results out in a forthcoming newsletter and will reward at least the top 5 groups with some ARRL publication. If I can, I'll extend this offer to more of you! The PIC and I will look at them together and be the judges.

The Meriden ARC will have boy scouts helping to build antennas and get ready for FD, an effort coordinated by Skip, W1SKP.

Hearty congrats to Walt K1WMS on his recognition of outstanding service to The Insurance City Repeater Club. Walt has been made a life member!

And that's not all. SEC Brian, K1BRF and I want you to know that Walt has done a brilliant job working with ARES and Red Cross on both the New Britain and Farmington stations, sometimes using his own equipment. A big thank you! We all look forward to continuing this work--it's fun working with Walt!

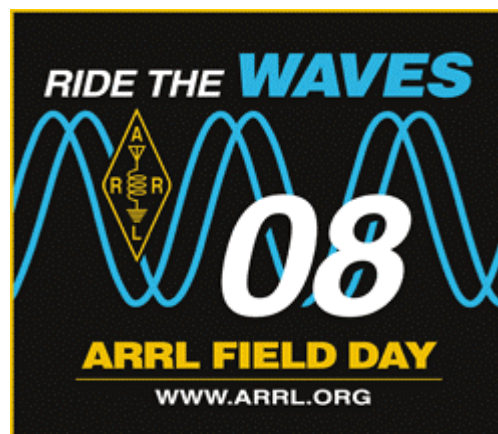
The Greater Norwalk ARC had as their speaker longtime and very active member Tim, W1GIG who spoke on the tower permit process from his point of view as a registered Professional Engineer (P.E.). The talk included zoning issues, tower construction and strength requirements, tower location, wind load calculations and other considerations.

Reminder: Because of interference problems, The Eastern CT Traffic Net has temporarily moved to the 147.06 repeater--time 9:00 p.m. nightly. A note of thanks to all the repeater owners who carry the many public service nets we have in CT. Your dedication to maintaining these systems is appreciated.

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

FIELD DAY - 2008

On June 28th and 29th, members of the ICRC participated in the annual Field Day exercise. For the second year in a row, the group set up operations at a nice site overlooking the lake at the Winding Trails Recreation Area in Farmington, CT. (The folks at Winding trails allow us to use the location because we have provided our services to them at their twice a year mountain bike races for many years.) Despite a less than promising weather forecast for the weekend, we were able to get all the gear and antennas set up on Saturday morning without any rain or thunderstorms. However, the heat and humidity were quite oppressive. We ran three regular stations, plus one GOTA ((Get On The Air) station. Antennas used were a three element beam on a 50 foot crank-up tower, a G5RV Senior dipole, a G5RV Junior dipole, and a 500 foot end-fed dipole fed with a 9:1 balun. All transmitters were run on 12V deep-cycle marine batteries charged by three sets of solar panels. Chuck – K1DFS manned the 20M SSB station. George – N1RMF manned the 40M SSB station. Rick – N1JGR manned the 80M SSB station late into the early morning hours on Sunday and piled up a large number of contacts. Walt – K1WMS ran our GOTA station on 15M and 10M and interfaced with various members of the public who happened to stroll by wondering what we were doing there. Dan – W1ZFG made a few contacts on 15M when the GOTA station was not on the air. Chuck – N1KGY manned the late night shift on 160M, but did not have much luck due to poor band conditions. On Sunday morning, Chuck teamed up with the other Chuck to bang out a string of CW contacts on 20M, giving us some great points. (CW contacts count for 2 points each, where SSB contacts count only 1 point each.) Also assisting with the set-up were Rick – N1WGK and Larry – K1HEJ. Al – N1JWF escorted a surprise visitor to our site. It was our CT Section Manager Betsey Doane – K1EIC, who was very impressed with our operation. We also had a visit from a press photographer (also a ham) who was invited by one of the members. He snapped photos of various parts of our operation. Check out the following Monday's Bristol Press for the results. Several members were featured. On Sunday afternoon, it was a race against the weather to get the antennas down before a large thunderstorm rolled thru the area. We just got the whole operation packed up before the dark clouds and high winds came over us. Special thanks go out to Alan – W1LOZ for the use of the tower and to our own master chief, Rick – N1JGR for keeping all of us so well fed all weekend. Again, a GREAT time was had by all. Come out next year and see what you have been missing!



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

FIELD DAY PHOTOS



SOME ASSEMBLY REQUIRED



IS THAT TAB A INTO SLOT B?



READY TO GO!



GOTTA START THEM YOUNG!