
Time Out

Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

July - 2010

This Month's Meeting

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, July 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:	6/18/10
Time Started:	7:38 PM
Time Ended:	8:57 PM

Minutes taken by: Dan Wall – W1ZFG (Again!)

Attendees (Callsign):

K1HEJ	W1ZFG	N1JGR	K1DFS	KB1ULW
KB1UIK	KB1SNM	KB1SNL	N1ITT	N1RMF
N1JWF	K1WMS	KA1NDE	KB1TBL	K1EXE
KB1KZC				

Secretary report:

E-mailed report to committee for perusal.

Motion to Accept:	N1RMF
Seconded by:	K1DFS
Abstain:	N1JGR

unanimous

<i>Last Month's Meeting – cont'd</i>

Treasurer Report:

Dues were due as of April 1st, 2010. Dues are \$50. Although dues are higher than some other groups, you get commercial grade repeaters and commercial grade amplifiers. You also get a wonderful group of people. Consider keeping your membership active and also consider giving a tax deductible donation.

Because of the high cost of the electricity delivery charge relative to the small usage charge, the club is going to try to expedite the solar power project for the Burlington site to get that site completely off of the grid.

Motion to Accept:	N1ITT
Seconded by:	N1RMF
Abstain:	

unanimous

Tech. VP Report:

Both repeaters are working fine. The packet node is back up again.

Motion to Accept:	K1DFS
Seconded by:	KB1TBL
Abstain:	

Webmaster Report:

The website is still up and running. There is nothing new to add, but it is up to date.

Presidents Report:

The NARL will be having their annual hamfest and flea market on Saturday, June 19th from 8:00 AM til 2:00 PM at the same location as last year.

Old Business:

Last month, the Southington CERT group took over our 146.88 repeater for a few hours on a Saturday morning to participate in an emergency preparedness drill in support of Bristol Hospital, along with local police and fire departments. The group conducted themselves very professionally and were a credit to amateur radio.

Final plans were made for the up-coming Field Day activities at KB1KZC's QTH in Bethlehem. Set-up will begin at 11:00 AM. See you all there!

New Business:

Discussion was had about the solar power upgrade to the .15 site in Burlington. Current plans are for the work to begin in the September – October timeframe.

The members also discussed having a club building project later in the fall. The project currently under consideration is an APRS tracker for use during club supported public service events. We are looking at the Open Tracker Plus from Argent Data. Check out their website, www.argentdata.com to see if you are interested in participating in this fun project. More details to follow.

Motion to Adjourn:	N1RMF
Seconded by:	K1DFS
Abstain:	

Calhoun Cancer Ride

On Saturday, June 12th several members of the ICRC volunteered their services to provide radio communication and vehicle transportation for the Jim Calhoun Cancer Ride in Simsbury. This was a charity bicycle ride to raise money for children's cancer research. The amateur radio portion of the ride was organized by Region 3 and Region 5 ARES members. APRS was used to relay the positions of the support vehicles in the field back to the command center, which worked out quite nicely. There was simultaneous riding on 25, 50, and 75 mile courses which overlapped each other, so there was plenty to keep track of. Despite a bit of rain during the late morning and early afternoon, there were no major problems to deal with, except for the usual mechanical breakdowns and a few riders who were too tired to complete the course. Participating from the ICRC were: Rick – N1JGR, Nick – KB1SNL, Chris – KA1NDE, and Dan – W1ZFG.

Field Day 2010

On June 26th & 27th, members of the ICRC once again were fortunate to be able to conduct Field Day operations from the QTH of Pete – KB1KZC in the beautiful Bethlehem hills! We had three transmitting set-ups in continuous operation. Fred was our CW ringer on 20M. Pete, Nick and others ran the voice contacts on 80M, while Rick, Dan, and George got a few digital contacts using PSK31 on 40M and 15M. There was a little rain on Saturday afternoon, but that didn't bother us because we were inside Pete's big barn. We also had an official visit from Betsey Doane – K1EIC, our ARRL Section Manager for Connecticut. She was accompanied by Wayne – N1CLV, our CT Section Emergency Coordinator for ARES. They were very impressed with our set-up. Members from the ICRC who operated or at least stopped by to chat were: Rick – N1JGR, Dan – W1ZFG, Reade – KB1UIK, Fred – W1CKV, Chris – KA1NDE, Nick – KB1SNL, Larry – K1HEJ, Chuck – K1DFS, Steve – KB1RRR, Pete – KB1KZC, George – N1RMF, Kathy – KB1TFS, Al – N1JWF, and Walt – K1WMS. A great time was had by all! Special thanks go out to Alan – N1ITT for the use of the portable tower and beam and to Rick – N1JGR who provided us with over 2000AH of battery power to run the radios and for coking up another great breakfast on Sunday morning. Extra-special thanks go out to Pete – KB1KZC and to Mary for allowing us to invade their home again and for preparing all that wonderful food – especially the desserts! Who says Field Day has to be "Roughing It"? (We ended up with a score of 1324!)

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary

Section Leadership: Section Manager (SM): Betsey, K1EIC, ASMs: Al, W1FXQ; Anne, K1STM; Jim, KD1YV
Official Observer Coordinator in charge of the Amateur Auxiliary Program: Chuck, K1DFS
Public Info Coordinator (PIC): Al, KA1TCH, Assistant PIC: Dana, KA1WPM
Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC): Wayne, N1CLV, Assistant SEC: Brian, K1BRF; Rod, N1FNE,
Ron, K1VSC, State Government Liaison (SGL): Mike, K1MK, Section Traffic Manager (STM): Larry, K1HEJ
Technical Coordinator (TC): Joe, N1KHB

SEC Wayne, N1CLV directs the Marine Safety Lab where the oil samples from this BP disaster are being sent. There have been several articles about the lab in the national news, the latest can be read at <http://www.cnn.com/2010/US/06/10/csi.gulf.oil.spill>. We expect that Wayne's interview with CNN will be shown Saturday, June 12 at 1700 local so tune in if you can.

Are you one of those people who dislike working with fractions? Well, then get "metrified" and read TC N1KHB's article Think Metric at <http://www.arrrl.org/think-metric>. Congrats on your article Joe—well done!

Congratulations, too, to PIO Larry KB1QQM on completing the ARRL PR-101 course. Anyone interested in public relations is encouraged to take this course because you'll learn how others in Amateur radio have been successful with their PR efforts. We expect a Governor's proclamation and a citation from the Legislature as Field Day approaches. Stay tuned.

It was great to see so many of you at The Goshen Hamfest sponsored by The Southern Berkshire ARC. I didn't make the Hartford Hamfest sponsored by The Natchaug ARC but understand there was a great turnout. Many thanks to both clubs for hosting these events. Keep up your support folks—we want them to continue! The next one is the NARL FEST June 19.

Here's the info! The Newington Amateur Radio League (NARL) invites you to attend NARL FEST on Saturday, June 19 (8 AM to 2 PM) at Saint Mary School, 625 Willard Avenue, Newington. This is an ARRL-sanctioned event, and there will be an inside and an outside fleamarket, forums, transmitter hunt, and a volunteer examiner test session. Admission is \$5, free admission for ops licensed less than one year so be sure to bring your FCC license. Tailgaters and vendor spaces are \$10. Visit <http://www.narllhamfest.org/> for details. Contact person is President Steve Ewald, WV1X, at 860-594-0265, or wv1x@arrrl.org. Forums are being planned; I'll get that out to you when the schedule is available.

Members of the Greater Norwalk ARC and Region 1 ARES provided communications support for course vehicles and service monitors at the Sound Cyclists "Bloomin' Metric" Bike race. The race included three courses and about 2800 riders. Riders themselves thanked the group for their time and effort communicating to add a level of safety to that event.

Regions 3, 4, and 5 supported AngelRide, a two-day 135 mile charity ride over Memorial Day Weekend. The event raised over \$350,000 for kids with serious illness to attend Paul Newman's Hole in The Wall Gang Camp in Ashford. Region 3 also supported the MS Mini Marathon and the Newington Memorial Day Parade. Region 4 assisted with Jog for Judy, Red Cross Sheltering Exercises, Norwich CROP Walk, CERT Field Day, and the Woodstock 10K Road Race. Region 5 participated in a HazMat drill in Winsted. Regions 3 and 5 are preparing for the (Jim) Calhoun Cancer Challenge Ride tomorrow Saturday, June 11. SKYWARN was active during severe weather outbreaks. Thank you all!

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary – cont'd

I can't tell you how much fun I had at the 50th anniversary celebration of The Shoreline ARC. The videos brought back great memories. Many thanks to president Donnie W1FYG and the whole club for this event—it was really special to me, as it brought back memories of times I had on the shore line with my husband Paul W1HAD. I saw some people I haven't seen in many years!

The Chippens Repeater/Bristol Radio Club viewed a photo review of the Solomon Islands given by Rich, WB1J who is reported to be an excellent photo journalist.

The Valley Amateur Radio Association heard a very fine presentation of LogMeIn given by Jon, N1BDF. It was fun operating his station remotely from the club site! He just bought a TS480 and plans to use his home station when he goes to Florida next winter!

Anna Godrie, longtime NM of The Western CT Traffic Net has been ill. She was hospitalized a few weeks ago and is now convalescing at Cambridge Manor, 2428 Easton Turnpike, Fairfield 06825.

I visited with Anna and at K1EIR's suggestion, brought her a Braille letter. She was absolutely delighted! She misses everyone on the nets; I sent her a plant at the hospital from the traffic handlers. She would be very pleased to hear from any of you who would like to send her a card or visit. She does not have a phone in her room. Anna's real joy in life was to talk with her ham radio friends; sure hope we hear her on the air soon. A huge thank you to Ethel, KB1NMO for all her work on The Western CT Traffic Net training and keeping track of net schedules and records in Anna's absence. Thanks to all of you for your care and concern for Anna.

Speaking of traffic, I am hosting a traffic handlers' picnic on Saturday, August 21. NTSers from Eastern Area Net which includes regions 1 2 3 4 and 8 will be attending. The picnic is held each year; it's been held at W2MTA's and W2RU's homes for several years and now it's time to hold it in New England. Traditionally, those who travel have dinner together Friday night and spend the day Saturday visiting at the picnic. The visit usually lasts into the evening with lots of chatter and wonderful commoraderie. Some have breakfast together at a local diner on Sunday. So start praying for good weather. If you're a traffic handler, come join us. I'll be getting out info soon.

I am planning to attend the Division Cabinet Meeting invited by Director Tom Frenaye, K1KI in Boxboro, MA. Tom runs the meeting twice per year to gather input from Section Managers and club presidents before each Board meeting. Others planning to attend are: ASEC and president Southington ARA Rod N1FNE, Chip N1MIE president of RASON and Ed N2JBA, president of the Southern Berkshire ARC.

Don't forget to check the ARRL Page for alerts. See you next month or sooner whenever there is breaking news!

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