
Time Out

Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

August - 2011

This Month's Meeting

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, August 19th 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:	7/15/11
Time Started:	7:40 PM
Time Ended:	8:44 PM

Minutes taken by: Dan Wall – W1ZFG

Attendees (Callsign):

W1ZFG	AB1NH	KA1NDE	N1JWF	KB1VNT
N1RMF	K1WMS	KB1RRR	KB1UTT	KB1KZC
K1DFS	N1KGY	KB1VPY	WY1O	N1QLN
N1SBK	WA2PNB			

<i>Last Month's Meeting – cont'd</i>

Secretary report:

E-mailed report to committee for perusal.

Motion to Accept:	N1RMF
Seconded by:	N1QLN
Abstain:	

unanimous

Treasurer Report:

Report read to attendees.

Motion to Accept:	N1QLN
Seconded by:	KB1VPY
Abstain:	

unanimous

Tech. VP Report:

All repeaters are up and running. The Solar Panel Project has yet to be completed, due mostly to bad weather and tight schedules. We decided to try again on Saturday, July 17th.

The subject of the 6 meter repeater was discussed. There is currently a need for a receiver for the 6 meter repeater. The transmitter will be located in Bristol, with the receiver in Burlington. This will alleviate the need for very large and expensive 6 meter duplexers. The control link will be thru the current 440 MHz link. The Micor controller will be moved to the .15 site and the Kenwood controller will be used with the portable repeater system.

Motion to Accept:	N1JWF
Seconded by:	N1QLN
Abstain:	

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 has been updated with pictures from the Field Day operation. And as always, we are looking for more content to be posted to web page.

Motion to Accept:	K1DFS
Seconded by:	N1JWF
Abstain:	

Old Business:

- Elmer's Net: The first two lessons have been posted to the web. There was a discussion as to better ways of sending information to new hams. Walt – K1WMS will be looking into having voice announcements on the 220 repeater.
- There was a recap of the Field Day operation in June. A good time was had by all who attended.

New Business:

- The ICRC has been requested to provide radio communications for the second annual Quartette Club Charity Motorcycle ride to be held on Sunday, August 21st. The route has been tested for repeater coverage by Mike – N1QLN, Walt – K1WMS, George – N1RMF and was found to have adequate coverage for the event. This is the same event that was covered in the group e-mail that was sent out last week. There are still several teams that need to be filled. If interested, contact Quentin at kb1ewm@arrl.net, Mike at n1qln@arrl.net, or Dan at walldan54@att.net.

Motion to Adjourn:	N1QLN
Seconded by:	N1JWF
Abstain:	

Space Station Sightings

Based on a suggestion by Perry – WY10, if you are interested in seeing the International Space Station, here is how to do it. Enter the following url into your web browser:

http://spaceflight1.nasa.gov/realdata/sightings/cities/region.cgi?country=United_States®ion=Connecticut

You will see a list of most of the cities in Connecticut. Select the city that you live in or are closest to and you will see a list of dates and time that the space station will be visible at your location. Pick a time that has the highest elevation. The closer the number is to 90 degrees, the closer to overhead the pass will go. Unless you have visibility of the whole sky, passes less than 30 or 40 degrees will be down in the trees and difficult to see. The space station is slightly brighter than the brightest star or planet and is easily spotted because of how fast it moves across the sky. Give it a try – its worth seeing at least once!

Solar Panel Project

On Sunday, July 17th, a work party was held at the .15 site in Burlington to install the three solar panels on the roof of the repeater building. Despite the extreme heat and humidity, the three panels were successfully hoisted up to the roof and anchored down. The next phase of the project will be to run the wiring from the panels into the building and wire up the charge controller to the batteries. No date has been set yet for this phase.

Participating in the effort were: George – N1RMF, Walt – K1WMS, Al – N1JWF, Chuck – N1KGY, Chuck – K1DFS, Dave – K1DAC, Mike – N1QLN, Dan – KB1VNT, and Dan – W1ZFG.



It's Official – K1CRC Is On The Air!

Thanks to extra effort on the part of Perry – W1YO and Chuck – K1DFS, our new club call arrived on July 26th. This is the call that will be used when we participate in special events such as boat races, bike races, and of course, Field Day.

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary

Section Leadership

SM K1EIC ASMs W1FXQ, KD1YV, K1HEJ
OOC K1DFS SGL K1MK
PIC KA1WPM APIC KA1TCH
SEC N1CLV ASEC K1BRF, N1FNE, K1VSC, AF1HS
STM K1STM TC N1KHB

Are you having fun this summer? Barb K1EIR and I just recently attended the convention of The American Council of the Blind in Reno, Nevada and yes, we did play some black jack! It sure was lots of fun. As usual, we had our meeting of The American Council of The Blind Radio Amateurs where we heard one of the members talk about his work professionally in an EOC. Shirley Roberts, N8LXK, the Dayton HamVention ham of the year also spoke to us about her experience! It was an exciting meeting!

Want to learn about the ARRL field organization? I created some training material which can be accessed on the CT Section page on the ARRL Web site right near the top. It's a Power Point presentation with audio embedded in which each slide is shown as a link. You'll need Apple Quick Time to play it. But even if you can't access the audio with your computer configuration, you'll be able to view the slides so try it out and give me some feedback please. I used a very inexpensive piece of software called Lecshare to do the accessible HTML conversion.

Here's a message from our SEC Wayne, N1CLV: "As most of you know, we have been without a District Emergency Coordinator (DEC) in CT ARES Region 2 for quite some time. Betsey K1EIC, our Section Manager, and I have been looking for the right candidate and talking to those who have indicated interest. I am pleased to announce that Betsey and I have found a qualified and eager candidate. We have both interviewed him and reviewed his credentials. Based on my positive recommendation, Betsey has appointed him! The new DEC for Region 2 is Douglas Sharafanowich WA1SFH from Milford. Douglas is a General Class amateur who is actively working on his Extra Class ticket. He has a broad range of experience in both ham radio and other volunteer organizations (e.g., Boy Scouts and American Red Cross). Since Region 2 has been without a DEC for a long time, Douglas has taken on a significant challenge! Betsey and I feel that, with the help and support of the current ARES membership in Region 2 as well as assistance from ARES leaders from the other Regions, he will be able to develop a strong and active cadre of ARES operators to serve Region 2. Please give Douglas your full support and encouragement!"
Congrats Douglas and welcome aboard!

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary – cont'd

Very recently, Wayne, K1WDR, ADEC Chip N1MIE and SEC Wayne N1CLV met with the director of safety, security and emergency management and his telecommunications manager at Backus Hospital in Norwich to discuss adding an Amateur radio component to their emergency plans. The outcome was very positive so we look forward to those plans moving toward completion.

We are going to miss Bill Barrett KW1B and his wife Kathy, KB1KHB. On August 15, they will be moving to Pinehurst, NC. Members of Region 5 celebrated Bill's outstanding work in this Section and wished Bill and Kathy all the best. Bill was presented with a handsome public service commendation plaque signed by SEC Wayne and me in recognition of his many hours of superlative service to Amateur radio in CT and his local community. Bill promises to check into The CT Phone Net from NC so we'll be looking for him on the air! Thanks Bill—we'll miss you!

It is with regret that I tell you of the passing of Gerry Scarano, W1ZM who was, for many years, the trustee and operating manager of the station at the Groton Submarine Base K1SSN. I used to hear him daily on the Navy MARS nets. He was very active and really dedicated to his MARS work, to Amateur radio and to the MARS and Amateur stations at the sub base. Gerry was also a member of the Nutmeg chapter of QCWA. Even though he couldn't attend meetings because he lived in Florida, he always kept in touch with QCWA officers to keep up with the business and news of the chapter. He will be missed.

QCWA will hold their summer luncheon on Saturday, August 13 at Serafino's Restaurant in Wallingford starting at 11:30 a.m. Guest speaker Cliff Cayer K1IFF of Northeast Utilities will show fascinating short videos and storm slides that will both entertain and at the same time hopefully educate us on what to do and what not to do in storm situations. He will speak about the dangers posed by the electric distribution system as a result of storms, emergency power dangers, what to do if a power line falls on your car, antennas, common sense responses and general safety that should be of interest to all. Cliff, a ham since 1968, has been with NU in various roles since 1983. Currently he is a manager in the Utility Services organization. His department provides common strategic and operational support for NU such as system wide safety, skills training, fleet management, emergency preparedness, operational planning, performance and analysis, and distribution engineering, which includes vegetation management (tree trimming). For further information, contact treasurer Gary K1MQ garyislander@cox.net.

The Middlesex Amateur Radio Society plans to do communications again this year for the Mud Volleyball tournament at which about close to 170 teams typically participate.

The Bloomfield Amateur Radio Club has been promoting Amateur radio at various farmer's markets through the Hartford area. They have been at the Hartford market at Billings Forge and will be at one which I plan to attend in Higanum Village. Their demos will include satellite, Dstar, HF RX, IRLP, and CW, etc. Good work!

Assistant PIC Al KA1TCH has been using satellite communication. He participated in the 13 colonies special event providing satellite operation representing Connecticut. Here it is from the Web site <http://www.13colonies.info/>: "The 2011 13 Colonies ran from 12:01 AM Eastern start on July 1st, (That's one minute after midnight, early Friday morning, July 1st) to 11:59 PM Eastern ending on July 5th (One minute to midnight, late Tuesday night, July 5th). There were at least two S.E. stations per colony state. Also included were Super contest stations, multi-operator Club stations & OM & XYL teams."

If you look at the web site, you'll be able to click on a State flag and see the details of the Amateur radio operation in that State!

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary – cont'd

Enjoy August—it's still summer!

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>