
Time Out

Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

August - 2012

This Month's Meeting

Special Announcement!

There will be NO general membership meeting in August this year. The Executive Board has decided to give everyone a "summer vacation" this month, due to poor attendance in the summer and the lack of any pressing issues that need to be resolved at this time.

However, instead of a general membership meeting, there will be a meeting for the full Board of Directors at the usual time and place. A special reminder will be sent to the board members in a separate email. The board meeting will follow the VE session.

The next regular general membership meeting will be on Friday, September 21st at the usual time and place.

Last Month's Meeting

ICRC Meeting Minutes

Date:	7/20/12
Time Started:	7:34 PM
Time Ended:	9:28 PM

Minutes taken by: Dan Wall – W1ZFG

Attendees (Callsign):

KB1WEZ	KB1IXQ	KA1NDE	KB1VPY	KB1SNK
K1DFS	N1JWF	N1RMF	K1WMS	W1ZFG
WY1O				

<i>Last Month's Meeting – cont'd</i>

VE Session Report:

There were 3 General Class and 1 Technician Class licenses issued at the VE session last month. Congratulations to all the new hams!

President's Report:

Perry is looking for suggestions from the membership as to what direction the club should take.

Secretary's Report:

E-mailed report to committee for perusal.

Motion to Accept:	K1DFS
Seconded by:	N1RMF
Abstain:	

unanimous

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer report was accepted as presented by the treasurer. Account balances were read. A donation was received from the folks at Winding Trails for the clubs assistance with the Fat Tire Classic.

Motion to Accept:	KA1NDE
Seconded by:	KB1VPY
Abstain:	

unanimous

Tech. VP Report:

No report, due to the absence of the Tech VP.

Motion to Accept:	
Seconded by:	
Abstain:	

Admin. VP Report:

The successes of the Bike Race, Boat Race, and Field Day were reviewed.

The club has decided to decline participation in the Winsted Bike Race this year, due to a lack of planning and communication from the event organizers.

<i>Last Month's Meeting – cont'd</i>

Webmaster's Report:

The website is up and functional.

Motion to Accept:	KB1WEZ
Seconded by:	KB1IXQ
Abstain:	

Committee Reports:

Tabled to individual committees.

Old Business:

- Mike – N1QLN is still recuperating from knee surgery. Get well soon, Mike!
- There was a discussion on possible topics for this semester's Elmer's Net. Also discussed was the possibility of linking our system to other systems to increase participation.

New Business:

- Perry gave a report on his attendance of the New England Division Cabinet Meeting last month.
- Field Day: Pins were distributed to all those who participated. Lessons Learned: We need to clarify with the Winding Trails people the time of the front gate opening and closing. When it comes to generators, bigger is not always better. In addition to the audible noise, there was also some RF noise to deal with. Kurt's small 2kW unit was very quiet and did not use much gas. Chuck's smaller units seemed to perform better than George's large unit. The Site Committee – Walt, K1WMS chairman – will begin deciding on a site for next year starting in November.
- There will be a list of Unfinished Projects created to better track progress and responsibility.
- At the September meeting, Chuck – K1DFS will give a presentation on the Official Observer system.
- After discussion, a motion was made by Kurt, seconded by Sue, to purchase a commercially made battery monitor to speed up the progress of the Solar Panel project at the .15 site, not to exceed \$225. (Actual retail price for the unit, current shunt, and cable was \$221.35) Checkout and installation of the device is being handled by the Tech Committee under the guidance of our Tech VP – Rick, N1JGR.

Motion to Adjourn:	
Seconded by:	
Abstain:	

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary

You have probably all heard that there is an impending storm or storms headed our way today July 26. The SEC Wayne N1CLV has issued the following statement: “Greetings! The Storm Prediction Center has parts of Connecticut in a moderate risk category for a significant severe weather outbreak this afternoon and evening. In anticipation of potential wind damage and power outages that may require our assistance, I am raising the CT ARES activation level to a Level 1 (prepare) Alert effective 0800 EDT, Thursday, 26 July 2012. Please ensure that you and your equipment are prepared to assist our Served Agencies (e.g., Red Cross) should the need arise. Ensure arrangements are in place to keep your families safe should you be asked to deploy. Please monitor SKYWARN advisory emails and your regular news/weather media to keep informed of weather developments and the potential for consequences for our state. 73 & Thanx,
Wayne Gronlund, N1CLV Connecticut Section Emergency Coordinator Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) Home: 860-739-6384 Work: 860-271-2777 Cell: 860-917-6472.

Here’s a note from EC Roger K1PAI Sky Warn Hartford/Tolland Counties: July 26: “For all weather spotters in Hartford and Tolland Counties, keep an ear open to our Skywarn repeater, 146.79, minus offset, and PL of 82.5, located in Vernon. There may be a need to activate Skywarn nets for our county area from mid afternoon on. If any severe weather does move through our area, Skywarn nets could be running through this evening, thus no weekly weather net. Please keep an eye to the sky, and be prepared to report severe weather if necessary.”

Now I don’t want to confuse you but this weekend, actually Saturday through Tuesday, we are conducting our annual Simulated Emergency Test. You will find all the details in the well-written SET Players’ Handbook on <http://www.ctares.org> but here is a synopsis of this event.

The Connecticut Amateur Radio Emergency Service (CT ARES) will conduct its 2012 Simulated Emergency Test (SET) in conjunction with the statewide Emergency Planning and Preparedness Initiative (EPPI) exercise scheduled for 28-31 July 2012. The scenario will be based on events from the 1938 Hurricane. This historic Category 3 monster storm resulted in significant loss of life and property across New England. Each municipality has the option to participate in the statewide exercise on either Saturday and Sunday or Monday and Tuesday according to the following schedule: Saturday, Monday: 0700-0800 prepare; 0800-1200 radio operation Sunday, Tuesday: 0700-0800 prepare; 0800-1400 radio operation.

To the extent possible and within the limits of available resources, CT ARES will provide Amateur Radio support to the Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) of those municipalities that request it. Where possible, we will also simulate support for the other non-requesting EOCs by deploying mobile assets in their vicinity. CT ARES, SKYWARN, and NTS operators will be active.

The SEC has established the following objectives:

- (1) Establish emergency communications (both voice and data) within and between the five CT ARES® Regions – to include fixed, mobile, and field-deployed stations.
- (2) Encourage the use of emergency power (battery, generator, and/or mobile) by all stations during the exercise.

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary – cont'd

- (3) Maximize the number of amateur radio participants – the five Regional District Emergency Coordinators will establish Resource Nets and Tactical Nets as needed and will coordinate exercise play within their respective areas.
- (4) Utilize National Traffic System (NTS) format for all record message traffic.
- (5) Coordinate and integrate interplay between ARES®, NTS, and SKYWARN™ components.
- (6) Incorporate appropriate elements of NIMS/ICS to the degree possible. Concept of Play.

NTS will run their regularly scheduled nets Saturday through Tuesday (schedule on <http://ct.arrl.org>) with additional nets on Sunday as follows: I will monitor 3.965 beginning at 0900 and activate CPN as needed. The regular session on Sunday at 1000 will commence. Eastern CT Traffic Net will begin Sunday at noon 146.73/R PL 156.7; Nutmeg VHF Traffic net at 1230 146.685/R PL 141.3 and Western Ct Traffic Net at 1300 147.18/145.41/R PL 141.3.

All stations are encouraged to participate in this exercise. In addition to your ARES activity, you are encouraged to send test record traffic on the NTS nets either in their special sessions as indicated above or on their regular nets Saturday through Tuesday. Please see full details in the SET Players' Handbook <http://www.ctares.org>. Contact your District Emergency Coordinators (DECs) with questions—see map and list of DECs shown on the ARES web site. Watch for further alerts on the ARRL Page or on <http://www.ctares.org> or on the ARES reflector.

Thank you all for your continuing work for public service and Amateur radio in 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>