
Time Out

Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

September - 2006

This Month's Meeting

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, September 15th 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:	August 18, 2006
Time Started:	7:37 PM
Time Ended:	7:58 PM

Minutes taken by: Dan Wall, W1ZFG

Attendees (Callsign):

K1DFS	K1HEJ	N1JWF	K1WMS	N1IKM
W1ZFG	W1LOZ	N1JGR		

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

Secretary report:

E-mailed report to committee for perusal.

Motion to Accept:	K1DFS
Seconded by:	W1LOZ
Abstain:	

unanimous

Treasurer Report:

No activity. Bank account balance: \$829.15

Motion to Accept:	W1LOZ
Seconded by:	N1IKM
Abstain:	

unanimous

Tech. VP report...

Both the .88 and .15 repeaters are working ok. George is almost done with the new 440 repeater. The roof on the building at the Burlington site is leaking. There will possibly be a work party scheduled for some time in October. The pre-amp for .88 has been purchased and will be installed shortly.

Motion to Accept:	K1DFS
Seconded by:	N1IKM
Abstain:	

unanimous

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

Bike race coming up on September 24th at Winding Trails in Farmington. At least 10 operators will be needed. If interested in helping, Contact Al Gerke – N1JWF or Rick – N1JGR. It's a great time.

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

K1STM w1e@allbraille.com is the e-mail contact for the Big E scheduling.

Motion to Adjourn:	K1DFS
Seconded by:	W1LOZ
Abstain:	N1IKM

Unanimous

Connecticut Yankee Digital Net

The Connecticut Yankee Digital Net has been meeting on Sunday nights at 8:30 PM on the .88 machine. for several months now. Though participation has been sparse, the few die-hards that show up each week have had an enjoyable time conversing on AMTOR FEC mode. The purpose of this net is to experiment with the latest digital modes using sound card based software. At this point, the net is more of an informal training net where people can get practice setting up and using the software and have any questions they might have answered by our "resident experts". Eventually the net will transition to more of a traditional traffic net, with the intent of practicing the passing of emergency traffic using digital modes.

If you are at all interested, come and join us! You need not have any elaborate interface equipment to participate. Simply download the software you like (readily available on the Internet), connect the audio output of your radio, HT, or scanner to the audio input of your sound card and you will be able to "read the mail". In order to transmit, you will need a sound card to radio interface. There are many simple home brew circuits available on the Internet, or commercially made units are available from Buxcomm and West Mountain Radio. Hope to "see" you next Sunday.

Nominations for Officers/Board Members

Once again it is time to think about elections for next year. I will be accepting nominations for officers and board members at the September meeting and up until the October meeting, where the slate will be presented.

Anyone who would like to nominate someone (or themselves) for any office or board membership may do so either at the September meeting or by e-mailing me the information.

Dan Wall – W1ZFG
Chairman – Nominating Committee
walldan@att.net

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary

Section Leadership: ASMs: N1FNE, K1STM, KY1F, NK1J, W1FXQ; Bulletin Manager KD1YV; Official Observer Coordinator W1GC; Public Information Coordinator K1SFA; Section Emergency Coordinator K1BRF; State Government Liaison K1MK; Section Traffic Manager K1HEJ; Technical Coordinator N1KHB. NEWS FLASH from SEC K1BRF! Highly Recommended - with Allen Pitts, W1AGP and Wayne Gronlund N1CLV: A CPTV Connecting Our Communities documentary produced in partnership with the Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security--Premiere Broadcast was Tuesday, Aug. 15 at 8 p.m.; REPEAT Broadcasts: Friday, Aug. 18 at 9:30 p.m.; Wednesday, Aug. 23 at 8 p.m.; Sunday, Sept. 3 at 1:30 p.m.; Wednesday, Sept. 6 at 11 p.m.

It's been nearly 70 years since Connecticut was struck by a major hurricane -- the legendary Hurricane of '38. Learn more about the Hurricane of '38 and out why meteorologists say the state is overdue for another tempest of that scale in the new documentary, Hurricane: Direct Hit, a one-hour documentary that shares the science and history of hurricanes in Connecticut. Hosted by meteorologist Art Horn, Hurricane: Direct Hit tells the history of how hurricanes have affected Connecticut in the past. The documentary also examines the steps that are being taken to prepare for future occurrences of those potentially devastating acts of nature.

Summers are usually quiet but this one seems especially busy. In fact, I've started a calendar on the ARRL Section Page so let me know about additions or corrections and do check it often. Your leaders are very busy planning for the Fall activities like the annual Simulated Emergency Test (date to be announced real soon) and the ARES "go kit" display at the Nutmeg Ham Fest Sunday, October 8--don't miss it! Tables are selling fast so sign up early—go to <http://www.nutmeghamfest.com> for details.

PIC Khrystyne, K1SFA and DEC Dave, K1DAV spoke about Amateur radio and ARES on the local cable television channel heard by many in the lower Naugatuck Valley. Thank you for your time and effort to spread the word about the service of Amateur Radio. Participating in PR activities is fun but it takes a good deal of preparation. About 40 ARES volunteers participated in The Tour of Litchfield Hills under the leadership of DEC Dave Hyatt, K1DAV. Coordinating this event involved many hours of detailed preparation. A big thank you to Dave and all those who assisted. The call for help went out and once again, you came through--we're a team!

And speaking of help, EC George N1YAE needs your help for the Firemen's Parade in Derby on Sunday, September 17. He needs about 10 volunteers so please support this event--the parade marks the end of the State Firemen's Convention. Contact George by email: n1yae@arrl.net. Thanks. The CARA Ham Fest is also on that date at the Edmund Town Hall Newtown so don't miss it!

ASM Anne Marie, K1STM is scheduling operators for the exhibit at The Eastern States Exposition September 15-October 1. It really is fun to participate--The Big E is the largest fair in the East and hosts thousands of visitors. You can help out by contacting Anne at bige-W1E@allbraille.com.

DEC Wayne, N1CLV and AEC Chris, KB1FUO gave a talk about ARES and Chris's experience helping out with the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina at a meeting of The Quarter Century Wireless Association. QCWA is an organization open to Amateur Radio operators who have been licensed for at least 25 years. If you are interested in becoming a member, contact president Al Cohen, W1FXQ, w1fxq@arrl.net.

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary – cont'd

Your Section Manager along with club presidents N1TUP of BEARS of Manchester and N2JBA of Berkshire ARC attended the New England Division cabinet meeting in Portland, Maine. Twice each year, Division Director Tom, K1KI hosts a meeting to which he invites club presidents, assistant directors and Section managers. Tom holds these meetings to get input from the group about upcoming topics expected to come up at the Board meeting.

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the NARL ham fest in June and at the picnic in July. Mark and Doris Spencer, WB8SME and KF6QKL were also on hand so it was fun to say hello and visit. Mark is the director of the ARRL's Education and Technology Project and happened to be in Newington teaching middle and high school teachers about wireless technology and how they can implement this technology into the classroom. For more information on this project, contact Mark WB8SME email wb8sme@arrl.org or visit <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/tbp/>.

The RASON Ham Fest was held on August 12 which I missed unfortunately because I was out of the Section attending a gathering of NTS operators who handle "through traffic" on the Eastern Area Net and visiting family. Will try my best to make it next year.

I sure hope that many of you will be coming to The New England Division Ham Fest in just one week on August 25-27. If you want to take the FEMA Course Intro to the Incident Management System, you can do that on Friday. Attend a workshop Friday afternoon given by Eastern Mass. SEC Rob, KD1CY. Attend the ARES forum on Saturday; the DX dinner on Friday night and have fun--it's a good show folks--see <http://www.boxboro.org>.

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

CT Section Emergency Test

Greetings, Fellow Ham Radio Operators! Amateur Radio is a wonderful hobby and an important service. The variety of activities and interests that one may engage in is almost limitless: contesting, rag chewing, supporting public service events, exploring the digital modes, antenna and gear building, fox hunting, and much, much more! We all have our own favorite facets and pursue those consistent with our own desires and expectations. Let's talk about the service aspect of Amateur Radio. Katrina once again showed that ham radio operators can be relied on to help reestablish disrupted lines of communications when disaster strikes. The efforts of those who helped along the Gulf Coast cast ham radio in a very favorable light -- one of which we can all be proud. The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) in Connecticut is an active group. Hopefully, our state of readiness will result in a coordinated response should a disaster, natural or man-made, impact us or our neighbors. But when the BIG ONE does happen, we will need all the help we can get. Please consider joining ARES so we have your up-to-date contact information and can incorporate you into our planning and preparation. But even if becoming an ARES member is not of particular interest to you, why not participate in the upcoming Connecticut Section Simulated Emergency Test (SET) on Saturday, 28 October? Your skills as an operator will be needed in an actual emergency – why not be ready?! If you would like to join us for the SET, or just want to find out more about ARES, please contact your local Emergency Coordinator or the District Emergency Coordinator for your area:

- * Area 1 - Southwestern CT - Allan Valeo - NN1H@arrl.net
- * Area 2 - South Central CT - Art Fregeau - K1WMQ@arrl.net
- * Area 3 - North Central CT - Jonathan Hardy - KB1KIX@arrl.net
- * Area 4 - Eastern CT - Wayne Gronlund - N1CLV@arrl.net
- * Area 5 - Northwestern CT - Dave Hyatt - K1DAV@arrl.net

Thanks for the support! When All Else Fails . . . Amateur Radio!

For the SET Planning Committee, Brian Fernandez, K1BRF, Section Emergency Coordinator, CT ARES

Wayne Gronlund, N1CLV, District Emergency Coordinator, CT ARES Area 4

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