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# Time Out

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Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

September - 2010

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## ***This Month's Meeting***

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, Sept. 17th 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**

<b>Date:</b>	8/20/10
<b>Time Started:</b>	7:35 PM
<b>Time Ended:</b>	9:00 PM

**Minutes taken by:** Rick Johnson – N1WGK

### **Attendees (Callsign):**

K1HEJ	W1ZFG	N1WGK	N1JGR	K1DFS
N1RMF	AB1NH	KB1TFU	KB1SNL	K1PCL
KA1NDE	KB1TBL	K1WMS	N1JWF	N1QLN

### **Secretary report:**

E-mailed report to committee for perusal.

<b>Motion to Accept:</b>	N1RMF
<b>Seconded by:</b>	K1DFS
<b>Abstain:</b>	KB1TBL

unanimous

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<b><i>Last Month's Meeting – cont'd</i></b>
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**Treasurer Report:**

Motion to Accept:	N1WGK
Seconded by:	N1RMF
Abstain:	

unanimous

**Tech. VP Report:**

15 working very well, 440 is working very well. 88 is having some atmospheric issues.

Roof work at 15 site will be done sometime in October.

The old batteries have to get out of there to make room. Larry is handling the removal of the old batteries

Discussion of the solar panels that were purchased for our site. We are looking at installing this system in October. The discussion was very interesting and highly technical. The project sounds pretty exciting.

Discussion of the 88 site and the tower situation.

Motion to Accept:	N1WGK
Seconded by:	N1RMF
Abstain:	

**Presidents Report:**

Nothing to report.

**Admin. VP Report:**

Nothing to report.

**Webmaster Report:**

Website looks good, updated until October/November time frame. Further discussion of the website and still looking for pictures (Walt)

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**Old Business:**

Discussion on the Open Tracker + system. See the website for more information.

Field day was fun

Website address: icrcweb.org

**New Business:**

Chuck discussed (and will show us) his radios, wouxun.us is the website. Very interesting!

A Repeater Etiquette discussion was given by our Tech. VP, Rick – N1JGR.

Motion to Adjourn:	N1WGK
Seconded by:	N1RMF
Abstain:	

***Club Building Project: Open Tracker Plus***

Due to popular demand, (ok – a few people missed it in July) a demonstration of the Open Tracker Plus was given again by Dan – W1ZFG. The purpose was to demonstrate how various hams in different locations who were equipped with the OT+ could have all their positions displayed at a central location on a computer running APRS software. The club plans on using this technology at the upcoming Boy Scouts Klondike Derby in February to monitor the positions of the various sleds in the field.

Anyone interested in participating has until the September club meeting to get their money in to Chuck – K1DFS, our club treasurer. At that time, the order will be placed. The actual build-a-thon will be held in October/November, depending on how long it takes to get all the kits ordered and received. Dust off your soldering iron and join us for an afternoon or evening of fun!

***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, [walldan54@att.net](mailto:walldan54@att.net)

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## ***Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary***

### Section Leadership

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

Wow, the summer has been a busy one! I was pleased to attend the Yankee Peddler Hamfest in North Haven, the RASON Hamfest in Norwich and the QCWA lunch in Groton this month. It was great to be able to hand out lots of PR supplies, as many are looking forward to various display events in the Fall including various fairs and scouting activities.

Before I go any further, I need to remind you all of The New England Division Hamfest Boxboro, MA this weekend at the Holiday Inn Boxboro so don't miss it. Go to <http://www.boxboro.org> for program schedule, list of exhibitors and other details. Hope to see you there. This two-day event occurs every two years and is chaired by Division Vice Director Mike K1TWF.

CT ARES members are participating in the MS Ride that starts in Colchester. ADEC George AB1GL and SEC Wayne N1CLV are coordinating the event splitting their time so they can each attend the Hamfest. Email either George or Wayne @arrl.net if you can help.

September promises to be a busy month with the amateur radio exhibits at The Goshen Fair, the Hebron Fair and the annual Western CT Hamfest sponsored by The Candlewood Amateur Radio Association slated for September 12. See <http://www.danbury.org/cara/Hamfest.html> for details.

I had the privilege this year of hosting, at my home, the annual Eastern Area NTS picnic. About 40 guests from Maine to North Carolina and even W6SX from California attended. Many were in town for the weekend; we had the traditional dinner at a local restaurant Friday night followed by the exciting picnic Saturday. The weather could not have been better! CT hams who attended were: Barb, K1EIR, ASM Anne K1STM, ASM Jim KD1YV, STM Larry K1HEJ, NM Ethel KB1NMO, NM Donna KB1RPP, NM Dan WA1GGN, ADEC Harlan W1QH, Stu KA1TKT, our newest ORS Mike N1QLN, Pete W1RM, Dan KY1F, Jon N1BDF VP of the Valley ARA Dan KA1RPM who often uses the NTS, Steve AG1YK and Steve WV1X.

There were two area net managers: Bud W2RU who showed us his unique net control sheets and Marcia KW1U also TCC director who hosted the event with me. The STM of North Carolina W4DNA and his wife were also there as were region net managers John N1UMJ and Bill W1KX. Many of you know that I am a former STM of this Section and former net manager of the Section net and one who has been in traffic for many many years. Barb was formerly "route manager" (now called net manager) of the Section CW net. So without a doubt, this event was one of the most exciting we've had here because so many of our ham radio friends in traffic handling were present! We had leaders on site from every level of NTS: TCC, area, region, Section and local! Pictures will be up on both [ct.arrl.org](http://ct.arrl.org) and the Section Page on the ARRL Web site soon. We all missed the person who I believe started this tradition, Bill, W2MTA, longtime Section Manager of Western New York and former chair of the Eastern Area Staff for many years.

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***Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary – cont'd***

Speaking of NTS, I am encouraging ARES members to check into NTS nets at least once per month, preferably once per week and to write the Public Service Honor Roll report each month and send it to our STM Larry, K1HEJ. See <http://www.arrl.org/public-service-honor-roll>. Think about how many nets you check into; how many events you participate in; how many times per month you are net control. All of these count toward the honor roll. I will list all PSHR totals on the ARRL and Section Web sites; some are listed in QST. We'll have a training session on all of this very soon, perhaps on the Web or on the air. I am also encouraging NTS members to check into ARES nets and become ARES members and become familiar with preparedness procedures and ARES operational plans and protocols. I am aware that many of you ops are both NTS and ARES members but the two programs really need to work together in new ways. Of course, I've discussed all of this with the STM K1HEJ and SEC N1CLV and both are very supportive of this plan. I'm asking you all to please make an effort to either do something new or help train and recruit operators in both programs. There's more to each program than just the basics—and each of us has something we can learn from others. So let's give it a try! Thanks.

To those of you studying or working in the academic area, I wish you a wonderful academic year—Fall is here!

See you at Boxboro, on the air or here next month.

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