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# Time Out

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Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

October - 2005

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

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, October 21st 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>	September 16, 2005
<b>Time Started:</b>	8:00PM
<b>Time Ended:</b>	8:45PM

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

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

N1WGK	K1DFS	WA1PAT	KB1JYX	KB1JYY
K1HEJ	KB1KNV			

KB1JYY, Alan, is a guest for tonight...welcome to the meeting!

### **Secretary report:**

E-Mailed report to committee for perusal.

<b>Motion to Accept:</b>	K1DFS
<b>Seconded by:</b>	KB1KNV
<b>Abstain:</b>	
unanimous	

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## ***Last Month's Meeting – cont'd***

### **Treasurer Report:**

ICRC2003

Page 1

9/16/2005

#### Reconciliation Summary

#### BANK STATEMENT -- CLEARED TRANSACTIONS:

Previous Balance:		676.65
Checks and Payments	0 Items	0.00
Deposits and Other Credits	1 Item	150.00
Service Charge	0 Items	0.00
Interest Earned	0 Items	0.00
Ending Balance of Bank Statement:		826.65

Motion to Accept:	NIWGK
Seconded by:	KB1JYX
Abstain:	

unanimous

### **Tech. VP report...**

N1KGY went up the tower and Bill (KB1KNV) went up to 60', got the wireless access point set up and hooked up a vertical and a 23dB dish. Before they could finish, it started getting dark. The old antenna was brought down and set aside. The old antenna looks in pretty good shape but it is old.

88 hasn't really been touched.

6M packet is currently turned off to cut down on the power drain on the batteries.

Several other items were discussed but it came too fast and furious for me to jot it all down...next time, show up for the meeting and you too will be in the know.

Motion to Accept:	KB1JYX
Seconded by:	KB1KNV
Abstain:	

unanimous

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## ***Last Month's Meeting – cont'd***

### **Old Business:**

Bike race coming up on the 25<sup>th</sup> of September...we need hams to cover it. If interested, contact Al Gerke, N1JWF.

### **New Business:**

Eastern States all set up. Al bought the new Alinco with the TNC built in...unfortunately, there is no mailbox built into the unit.

K1HEJ got an e-mail regarding using WiMAX with voice. This is still breaking news and the Red Cross is involved with using it, even though it's not yet certified by IEEE. This can be some very interesting news indeed.

We have a NEW MEMBER! Alan, welcome aboard!

Nominations are being brought together by WA1PAT

Motion to Adjourn:	N1WGK
Seconded by:	K1DFS
Abstain:	

unanimous

Rick Johnson, N1WGK

Dr. Seuss Tech Support-

"If a packet hits a pocket on a socket on a port,  
And the bus is interrupted as a very last resort,  
And the address of the memory makes your floppy disk abort,  
Then the socket packet pocket has an error to report."

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## ***Nominations for Officers/Board Members***

The slate for the Officers and Board Members was created at the September meeting and will be presented at the October meeting. The slate will also be e-mailed to all nominees. Anyone not wishing to be on the slate will have until the November meeting to notify me to be removed. The finalized slate will be voted on at the November meeting.

Dan Wall – WA1PAT

Chairman – Nominating Committee

[walldan@att.net](mailto:walldan@att.net)

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

Section Leadership: ASMs: K1STM, KY1F, NK1J, K1BRF; Bulletin Manager KD1YV; Official Observer Coordinator W1GC; Public Information Coordinator W1FXQ; Section Emergency Coordinator N1FNE; Section Traffic Manager K1HEJ; Technical Coordinator N1KHB.

I hardly know how to describe the events of late. Hurricane Katrina is a disaster like no other. But once again, amateur radio operators have stepped up to the plate to help those in need. Hams from all over the country have agreed to take assignments and have traveled to Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi. Indeed, some of our own operators have been involved.

Your SM and Section leadership have also been involved with PR efforts and actual emergency communications from their own stations. Articles have appeared in many newspapers about CT ops including The New York Times, The Hartford Courant, The CT Post, The New Haven Register and The Wall Street Journal. Your Section Manager, some DECs and other operators have been featured. TV coverage on the Channel 3 News and Fox 61 News featured your SM explaining a communications emergency I was involved with. Headquarters staff Allen W1AGP and Harold WJ1B were featured on CPTV.

Know well that behind the scenes, there is a lot of coordinating work being done by the leadership team, particularly your SEC Rod, N1FNE, ASM Brian, K1BRF, all of the DECS KB1ILY, K1WMQ, W1FYM, K1DAV and N1CLV. So it's a busy time.

From the Desk of DEC Wayne, N1CLV: W1CGA Special Event Station Aboard CGC EAGLE

ATTENTION -- Amateur Radio Operators for America's Tall Ship EAGLE!!

The U. S. Coast Guard Academy Cadet Amateur Radio Club is hosting a Special Event Station aboard Coast Guard Barque EAGLE during the "Boats, Books, and Brushes with Taste" (BBBT) Literary, Art, Maritime, and Food Festival in New London this Friday, Saturday, and Sunday (16-17-18 Sept 2005).

Barque EAGLE is moored at City Pier, which is right near the railroad station and ferry terminals in downtown New London. Parking is available in the City Parking Garage on Water Street about a block away.

We will be operating using the Academy's callsign -- W1CGA -- on SSB (14.315), PSK (21.070 & 24.920), and FM (146.535 and local repeaters)! Mike K1DM is providing the HF stations (Kenwood TS-50 and Kenwood TS-2000) and I am bringing the APRS/packet/VHF station (Kenwood TM-D700A).

We will be operating in two hour shifts from 0900-2100 local time on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Very important -- if it is RAINING on Friday morning -- which it very likely may be -- we will NOT setup/operate at all that day!!! The actual BBBT visiting hours don't start until 1600 on Friday -- so we don't miss much on the PR side if Friday doesn't happen.

If it is still raining on Saturday morning, we will coordinate our activities on the 146.97 (Waterford) repeater. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions!! My contact information is listed below.

W1CGA Special Event website (with links): <http://members.aol.com/n1clv/>

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

73 & Thanx, Wayne, N1CLV District Emergency Coordinator -- Area 4 -- Eastern Connecticut  
ARES® -- the Amateur Radio Emergency Service®  
email: N1CLV@aol.com -- or -- Wayne.R.Gronlund@uscg.mil  
When all else fails ... Amateur Radio!

Don't forget the CARA Ham Fest this weekend--Sunday, September 18 Edmond Town Hall Newtown.  
Doors open at 8 a.m. Vendors arrive at 7 a.m. See you there!

We have had a change of DEC in Area 1; Harlan, KB1ILY has enthusiastically  
agreed to take this position. Many thanks and congratulations Harlan!

I had the privilege of presenting to The Northville Amateur Radio Association its Charter of Affiliation with  
The ARRL. James, WJ1D is president; they meet at The VFW in New Milford. Thanks to Ray, N1TAI for  
doing the driving through hills and real country!

Speaking of clubs, I would like to see each club appoint a PR contact. It would be good if that person would  
be interested in being a Section Public Information Officer. Appointees are ARRL members approved by  
the leader of the program in this case Al, W1FXQ and the Section Manager. What do you think?

I hear through the grape vine that The Yale University ARC is trying to reorganize itself and become active--  
go for it!

TC Joe, N1KHB has been busy helping out some hams from Italy gathering hardware to fulfill their request.  
Read this:

“This is Marco (AA8XH and most of the time IZ3AOZ). I greatly enjoy Live-Wire!! I'm a pastor missionary  
serving in Italy (been here 20 years). I'm trying to build Phil Salas's (A5DX) ultimate portable HF vertical  
Antenna, from the July, 2005 QST. Here in Italy, we don't have the well stocked hardware stores that those  
of you who live in the USA have. . . . I have a friend coming to visit us from the USA in 4 weeks. He's not a  
handyman, or I'd ask him. Would anyone be willing, and have time, to gather some of the parts for that  
antenna, (list in July QST, page 29) and send them to my friend (in SC).”

Well, Joe answered the call and has been very busy with this project--congrats Joe and thanks!

See you next month--don't forget to write me with news or ideas.

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ARRL Connecticut Section  
Section Manager: Elizabeth M. Doane, K1EIC  
k1eic@arrl.org  
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## ***ICRC Members Provide Radio Communications for Bike Race***

On Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, members of the ICRC provided radio communications for the Smashing Pumpkins Mountain Bike Race held at the Winding Trails Recreation Area in Farmington, CT. Net Control was handled by Al - N1JWF. Rick – N1JGR, Bill – KB1KNV, Dan – WA1PAT, Larry – K1HEJ, and Pete – KB1KZC were set up in mobile stations at various key locations around the course. Chuck – N1KGY was teamed with the paramedic unit. Our Tech VP, Rick – N1JGR, brought the .88 machine down from the Burlington site and set it up at the Net Control station. This was a big improvement over using the .15 machine from the Bristol location. It really filled in the dead spots. There were no major medical emergencies this time and a great time was had by all.





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## ***Tactical Callsigns***

Sun, 25 Sep 2005 20:31:58 -0700

"W6YN Don Milbury" <w6yn@juno.com>

The term "Tactical Callsign" is misleading. A far better term is Tactical Identifier."

Only the FCC may assign call signs to amateur stations. So along with your tactical identifier you are required to follow the amateur rule regarding station identification as Jim states.

I am aware that ARRL is guilty of publishing this confusing nomenclature.

For what it's worth..... 73, Don

On Sun, 25 Sep 2005 23:06:20 -0400 JimR <kd1yv@ARRL.NET> writes:

Due to the upcoming S.E.T., please be aware of callsign use. Many stations will use tactical callsigns during the S.E.T. This is certainly a good idea to aid recognition during drills and test nets.

However, you are still under legal obligation to use your FCC assigned callsign in accordance with Part 97 Regulations (97.119(a)) This means that you must transmit the callsign of the station every 10 minutes, and at the end of a transmission or series of transmissions. This is in addition to any tactical callsign that you use. Please remember to keep your station legal - it is your license that is on the line!

## ***Antenna Party – Part 4***

Once again, on Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, our intrepid band of volunteers assembled at 9:00AM at the .15 repeater site to do some more work on the repeater's antenna system. Chuck – N1KGY ascended to the top of the tower to remove the old antenna. With the help of the ground crew, it was lowered to the ground without incident. Next, the new antenna was hoisted up and fastened in place. While this was going on, our new climber, Bill – KB1KNV ascended to the 60 foot level to remove the defective 802.11 access point previously installed and to install the repaired access point. By the time all this got done, it was already starting to get dark. After cleaning up, the crew did not get out of there until 8:00 PM! The good news is that the new antenna seems to work just a little bit better than the old one. Several people have commented that they are able to hit the machine from a greater distance away.

Thanks go to the members of the ground crew: Rick – N1JGR, Chuck – K1DFS, Dan – WA1PAT, Larry – K1HEJ, and Bill – KB1KNV for giving up another day out of their weekend and of course, to Chuck – N1KGY for spending another 9 hours up on the top of the tower.

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