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# Time Out

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Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

October - 2012

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

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, October 19th at 7:30 P.M. at the American Red Cross, 209 Farmington Ave. (Rte. 4), Farmington, CT. All are welcome. Bring a friend.

### **SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

**After the business meeting, we will have a guest speaker this month:**

What would you do if suddenly the lights went out. What if the electricity we all depend upon for the simplest of things suddenly stopped. What would you do if you found out it might be years before it comes back on again. Sound crazy? Its not as far-fetched as you might think. Friday, October 19th, we will visit "Electronic Armageddon". The presentation will be led by Steven Dube, KA1RLA, who has presented several programs around Connecticut on the possibilities of an EMP attack, and the ways that amateur radio may guard against our country losing its ability to communicate with one another.

In what has been called an "Electronic Armageddon," an EMP strike delivered from a single bomb in the atmosphere of the US, would result in our country losing two-thirds to 90 percent of its population within six months of the event. The Northeast Blackout of August 2003 and last years' Halloween 2011 black-outs were just a stroll in the park, compared to an almost permanent black-out of everything electronically controlled. No cars, no refrigeration of food and drugs ..... Who would you call for help?

Amateur operators may be able to defend against such odds. Steve will have a "Q and A" time set aside from the presentation. Feel free to invite friends.

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<b><i>Last Month's Meeting</i></b>
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## ICRC Meeting Minutes

<b>Date:</b>	9/21/12
<b>Time Started:</b>	7:33 PM
<b>Time Ended:</b>	8:18 PM

**Minutes taken by:** Dan Wall – W1ZFG

**Attendees (Callsign):**

W1ZFG	K1DFS	K1WMS	N1RMF	WY1O
N1QLN	KB1TFU	KA1NDE	KB1WEZ	N1JWF
AB1NH	KB1UYE	KB1QZH	KB1IXQ	KB1YDH
KB1YRA				

**Presidents Report:**

All is going well – refer to President's Report in the newsletter.

Motion to Accept:	
Seconded by:	
Abstain:	

**Secretary report:**

E-mailed report to committee for perusal.

Motion to Accept:	KB1TFU
Seconded by:	N1RMF
Abstain:	

unanimous

**Treasurer Report:**

Treasurer report was accepted as presented by the treasurer. Account balances were read.

Motion to Accept:	N1RMF
Seconded by:	KB1IXQ
Abstain:	

unanimous

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

No report.

Motion to Accept:	
Seconded by:	
Abstain:	

**Admin. VP Report:**

No report.

Motion to Accept:	
Seconded by:	
Abstain:	

**Webmaster Report:**

Website is up to date. Elmer's Net information updated. Membership List updated.

Motion to Accept:	W1ZFG
Seconded by:	K1DFS
Abstain:	

**Constitution Rev. Committee:**

No action taken at this time.

**Nominating Committee:**

Refer to section later in newsletter.

**Elmer's net:**

- The subject of an antenna building party for simple antennas for new hams was discussed.
- Also discussed was the establishment of an email address so that people who can hear the net, but not reach it, can send in their questions and comments.

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

### **Old Business:**

- The highlights of the Board of Directors meeting held in August were presented.
- The subject of having membership cards for each member was discussed.
- Revisions to current by-laws were discussed.
- The new Battery Monitor at the .15 site was put online. Performance is being evaluated by the Tech Committee at this time.
- The possibility of seeking a grant for money to replace the batteries at .15 was discussed.

### **New Business:**

The Unfinished Projects list was updated and discussed.

Motion to Adjourn:	
Seconded by:	
Abstain:	

## ***Special Presentation***

Following the business portion of the meeting, a special presentation on “Official Observers” was given by Chuck Motes – K1DFS. Chuck is the OOC for our division. The interesting presentation consisted of what the duties of the Official Observers were and what they were not. It also described how not to receive a little note from the FCC! Good job, Chuck!

## ***Volunteer Examiner Session***

As some of you may not be aware, every month before the regular membership meeting, the ICRC holds an VE Session for people wishing to get their first amateur radio license or to upgrade their existing one. Our group of VE's consists of George – N1RMF, Chuck – K1DFS, Walt – K1WMS, and Mike – N1QLN. Last month, there was one person who passed both the Technician and General Class tests. Another person passed his Technician Class test. Another person tried the General Class test, but failed.

Here is a shot of some of our VE's in action.



### ***Special Recognition***

Special congratulations go out to our president, Perry Green – WY1O. Perry and several other ARRL employees were recently recognized for their 10 years of service to the ARRL at a dinner held at a local restaurant. Here is Perry being presented his award by Dave Sumner – K1ZZ, ARRL CEO.



### ***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. Anyone wishing to challenge any of the positions will have the opportunity to do so at the November meeting.

Dan Wall – W1ZFG, Chairman – Nominating Committee, [walldan54@att.net](mailto:walldan54@att.net)

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

Section Leadership: K1EIC SM: ASMs Emeritus W1FXQ, KD1YV, K1HEJ;  
OOO: K1DFS; PIC KA1WPM; SEC N1CLV: ASECs N1FNE, K1BRF, AF1HS, K1VSC, W1GTT;  
SGL K1MK; STM K1STM; TC N1KHB.

I was pleased to attend this year's Section Managers workshop at Headquarters where I met 11 other Section managers, worked with Headquarters staff, did some mentoring and picked up some new ideas and insights. Many thanks to Steve WV1X and the Headquarters staff for inviting me to participate. A special bond is created when leaders work together!

I'm sure by now you all know that the Nutfest is ON! This year, it's October 7. NOTE THE NEW TIME—8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Here's the scoop from Meriden Amateur Radio Club President John N1GNV: "The 20th Annual Nutmeg Hamfest is just a month away, on Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. We have a great new location this year – The Sheraton Four-Points Hotel at 275 Research Parkway, Meriden CT 06450.

Of course, we'll continue to offer all the things you look forward to at Southern New England's biggest and best Hamfest. Indoor exhibits by major dealers, featuring new equipment and a wide range of accessories; club and group displays; ARRL information table. Huge outdoor tailgating space with bargains for everyone. Interesting forums on a variety of Ham Radio topics:

- ARRL Connecticut State Convention
- VE Exams for all license classes
- Displays of EmComm vehicles and setups
- All the information you need is at [www.nutmeghamfest.com](http://www.nutmeghamfest.com)

Thanks and 73."

Folks, you will not want to miss this—great featured speakers: Dan Gravereaux, N1ZZ, founder of West Mountain Radio will give a presentation entitled DC Power For The Shack.

Now I know many of you have questions about antenna zoning so don't miss the talk entitled Antenna Zoning For Amateur Radio by Fred Hopengarten, K1VR who can tell you everything there is to know about tower and zoning issues. Thinking of putting up a tower? Don't miss Fred's presentation.

I'm just thrilled that both Dan and Fred are supporting our State Convention in this way. It's hard to believe that this is the 20<sup>th</sup> Hamfest. I still remember the night when Rick Palm, K1CE and I approached some clubs to start a CT State Convention. Thankfully, our Section continues to be active promoting service to the public and having fun together in a diverse set of Amateur radio activities and operating modes.

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

Fall is here and with this season, many think of engaging in learning activities. Here's a chance for all hams to learn something new. The Insurance City Repeater Club is pleased to announce the start of the 3rd session of the Elmer Net. The ICRC Elmer Net will start on the first Monday of October-- October 1 @ 7pm on the ICRC linked repeater system. You can participate on these repeaters: 146.880, 147.150, 442.850 all with normal offsets and a pl of 77.0 and the K1WMS 224.600 repeater with a pl of 123.0. Further information can be obtained from the ICRC web page at <http://www.icrcweb.org>. The ICRC Elmer net is for all hams young and old. The list of topics to be covered for this semester are:

1. Proper radio procedures to use and follow, net procedures and protocols.
2. Antennas, design and construction, phasing of antennas, take off angles. This may take 2 sessions.
3. What are hams listening to, ham swap.
4. Lightning protection of antennas and equipment.
5. Digital Modes.
6. Discussion of the Bands, what is and where are cw voice, rty and the like also some regs.
7. Transmission of radio waves, ie: satellite, moon bounce, and skip.
8. Nets, RACES,ARES, NTS, and Emergency Communications, what to do, where to go, what procedures to follow, and what equipment do I need
9. Open Mike night round table discussion, answer any questions.—N1QLN Committee Chair; n1qln@arrl.net.

The Newington Amateur Radio League is now on Facebook, it gives us an opportunity to stay connected to our friends, share comments, ideas, stay on top of what is new at NARL, and just have fun. You can look us up at NARL - Newington Amateur Radio League on Facebook or go to our website at [www.narl.net](http://www.narl.net) and click on the Facebook logo. Armando KB1PRP is looking forward to hearing from you as NARL is updating their page and would appreciate your input.

Here's a news note from AI W1FXQ: You are invited! There will be an Open House and Social for the public, also members of radio clubs, unaffiliated hams and NARL members at the Newington Senior Center on Monday, October 1 at 7:00 p.m. presented by the Newington Amateur Radio League (NARL) at 120 Cedar Street (across from the Lucy Welles Library). Admission is free. There will be free refreshments and opportunities for the public to meet local hams, learn about the many aspects of Amateur Radio such as classes and how to acquire a license that allows you to participate in field days, weather warning nets, space and satellite communications and to assist in emergencies. For more Information call 860-667-2864.

Eric, KB1EHE who teaches a course in entrepreneurship at UCONN reports that the students are once again starting an Amateur radio club at UCONN. It seems there has not been one active on the Storrs campus since the '70s so this is truly great news. We'll all be looking forward to hearing more news as the club gets organized.

Congrats to NM1K, KB1NMO and KB1RGQ on earning Public Service Honor Roll for the month of August. Remember, ARES members can also earn PSHR—for more information go to the ARRL page and search for Public Service Honor Roll.

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

Congrats, also, to Dan, W1QK who placed 7th in the ARRL CW and SSB DX Contest for CW in the single operator assisted high power category with his highest score ever: 2,235,846 points! The YCCC CARA team consisting of W1QK, Harlan W1QH and Roger NG1R earned YCCC's 5<sup>th</sup> place for SSB in the multioperator single transmitter high power category with a score of 1,436,157. They beat Dan's mentor Bruce W1CSM, a former CARA member. I bet the teacher is proud!

See you next month and at the State Convention!

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