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# Time Out

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Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

January - 2005

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

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, January 21st at **7:00 P.M.** at the Just Java Coffee Shop, 284 Farmington Ave. (Rte. 10), Plainville, about a mile north of the intersection of Routes 10 and 372. All are welcome. Bring a friend. Note the new starting time, one half hour earlier to accommodate the new earlier closing time at the coffee shop.

## ***Last Month's Meeting***

## **ICRC Meeting Minutes**

<b>Date:</b>	17 December 2004
<b>Time Started:</b>	7:17 PM
<b>Time Ended:</b>	8:01 PM

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

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

N1JGR	N1WGK	K1DFS	N1IKM	N1KGY
KB1KZC	KB1JYX	WA1PAT	K1HEJ	KB1KNV
N1JWF				

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**Last Month's Meeting – cont'd****Secretary report:**

E-Mailed report to committee for perusal.

Motion to Accept:	K1DFS
Seconded by:	N1IKM
Abstain:	

unanimous

**Treasurer Report:**

Register Report

10/1/04 Through 12/13/04

12/17/04

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Date	Account	Num	Description	Memo	Category	Clr	Amount
			BALANCE 9...				796.64
11/8/04	ICRC2003		DEPOSIT	new m...	DUES	R	25.00
11/1...	ICRC2003	734	Lentini	6 met...	SUPPREPT	R	-148.35
12/1...	ICRC2003	735	C.W. Wolfe	chann...	SUPPREPT		-98.00
			TOTAL 10/...				-221.35
			BALANCE 1...				575.29
			TOTAL INF...				25.00
			TOTAL OUT...				-246.35
			NET TOTAL				-221.35

Motion to Accept:	N1WGK
Seconded by:	N1KGY
Abstain:	

unanimous

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

Tech. VP report...

Thank you Rick, Chuck, Chuck, Pete and Dan for going up to work on the 88 repeater site. It was a good time for all. Chuck even got to do his first descent in the dark! The pictures came out very dark so Dan didn't put any on the website...yet... ☺

<Packet> trying to get the antenna on Long Island to point our way...there are some higher priorities right now. The Long Island repeater is about 25 degrees off right now. They are exactly opposite Bridgeport...

At our site, we may be linking to Norwich as well. There was a lot of other discussion and I got lost pretty quickly.

Chuck has one can that has been re-configured that can be put on the 2 meter side...I hope you know what that means...

Motion to Accept:	N1WGK
Seconded by:	N1KGY
Abstain:	

unanimous

### **Old Business:**

The newsletter – looked at it on the Web? Looks Great!!!

Fruit basket for the guy that takes care of the property during the summer? YES...Chuck and Rick will pick it up for him.

### **New Business:**

New Web Master update to be added to the group.

Bill, our current Web Master, converted site to plain text for those that are sight impaired because the current site is having trouble with extraneous information. Still waiting on Rick to get the redirect link on [www.qsl.net/icrc](http://www.qsl.net/icrc) Rick left a message for the WebMaster that runs QSL, so far no response.

KLONDIKE!!! We need to have help for this!! Contact Rick, N1JGR, to let him know that you can help. It's going to be the first weekend of February...go up on Friday Night and have a feed! It's going to be at the Girl Scout Camp...lot's of fun!

In April, we will need a full group at the Red Cross, 24x7, for 3 to 5 days. This is the multi-state Top Off. It's a major job and we need people! We don't yet know the days and let Larry, K1HEJ know if you can help!

Motion to Adjourn:	N1WGK
Seconded by:	K1DFS
Abstain:	

unanimous

## ***Red Cross Christmas Party***

Several of our members who regularly man the radio room at the Red Cross in Farmington were invited to their annual Christmas party this year. Here are a couple of pictures from that event.



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## ***CT Section Packet and NTS Newsletter***

Dec CT Section Packet and NTS newsletter 12-20-04

First off folks, thanks for being there all this year. NTS and packet would not work as well as it does unless you are there!

Happy holidays. I hope you each took the time to send one greeting by NTS Message.

Several things to relay to you this month.

- 1) The band condition on 440 have kicked in and the 9600 link between Shelton and Burlington is working very nicely. My daily work on the four CT NTS Boards took less than a half hour this morning where it had been taking over an hour before the high speed kicked in.
  - 2) Several options for a relay station between Shelton and Burlington have been mapped and found not to be able to cure the void. We are continuing to explore sites that will correct the warm weather path weakness. Thanks to K1EIC and N1URO for their patience in this and thanks to W1HSR and KB1JYX for the mapping help.
  - 3) For those of you who found the old packet routing too W1HAD to slow, not only has the high speed path kicked in but three weeks ago the SYSOP at K2PUT over in Putnam County .NY established a 220 1200 baud link with Burlington N1URO-8! It appears to be rock solid whether N1URO-8 is running 5 watts or 25 watts. The path has held when the 440 path has dropped out over the last three weeks. For those who use W1EDH on 145.09 and N1URO-7 on 145.07, you will now see connect times of 11 or so milliseconds to W1HAD-4 with the 9600 baud active and 230 milliseconds when the 220 RF path has to kick in. The paths are ALL RF now with the N1URO gateway being used when the two RF paths fail.
  - 4) The Insurance City Repeater Club has received several requests for code practice sessions. The Executive Board has decided that depending on the location of those interested, either the 147.15 repeater or the 146.88 repeater will be used. Stations are encouraged to get an audio code practice oscillator and a key set up so they can send over the air using the repeater. Already K1DFS has set his station up to provide this and I will let everyone know the schedule through this newsletter. While it's a long way from learning CW to being on NTS CW Nets, that first step is the hardest – learning the code. Anyone who is interested listen in and join in if you wish.
  - 5) A Six-meter node has been activated at Burlington. Initially it was intended to establish a back up backbone at 1200 baud to NY2LI-8 on Long Island. At the moment the link does not connect. If some one is interested in testing 1200-baud packet on six let me or N1URO know.
  - 6) We still need two or three nightly Nutmeg VHF Traffic Net NCS stations. IF either the third district ARES or the 5th District ARES groups have people who would like to train as NCS's, Please get names, calls and e-mail addresses to me. Rick, N1WGK, The Nutmeg Net Manager has written an excellent Net Operations manual for the Net and it provides the Bulk of the information any NCS needs to run a Net. I can e-mail it to those who are interested in helping out as NCS on the Nutmeg Net.
- That's all I have time for this News Letter. Have a merry Christmas, a Happy New Year and see you on the Nets.

Larry K1HEJ CT STM / DEC NTS

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

Section Leadership: ASMs: K1STM, KY1F, NK1J, W1AGP, N1FNE, K1BRF, N1YAE; Bulletin Manager KD1YV; Official Observer Coordinator W1GC; Public Information Coordinator W1FXQ; Section Emergency Coordinator AB1CR; Section Traffic Manager K1HEJ; Technical Coordinator N1KHB.

The entire Section cabinet and I wish you a peaceful and happy holiday season and a safe, happy New Year. Thank you for your support and all you do for Amateur Radio in CT.

As I reflect on the activities of this year, I am heartened by the willingness of so many to take up the challenge and become leaders. Because of your encouragement and your insistence on moving forward technologically and in areas of service, I have had to add to the leadership staff. Happily, I was able to recruit some super leaders. Now we have the CT ARES Leadership Council (which I affectionately call the CALC) consisting of ASMs/ASECs W1AGP, N1FNE, K1BRF and N1YAE with SEC AB1CR its chairperson and leader.

Our Technical Coordinator Joe, N1KHB reports that there are approximately 15 people registered for the "How to do stuff" course. There may still be slots available so contact Joe asap if you are interested. Email: n1knb@aol.com.

Several of you are writing letters to your legislators encouraging them to support our effort at a PRB-1 bill in CT. SGL Mike, K1MK and I have been heartened by your enthusiasm, interest, quality letters and thoughtful suggestions and questions for us. This is all good because when you interact with the Section, we become a better team.

During December, my cabinet members collectively visited the Candlewood Amateur Radio Assn., The Meriden Amateur Radio Club, The Valley Amateur Radio Association, the Chippens Repeater Club/Bristol Amateur Radio Club, and the Greater Norwalk Amateur Radio Club along with a talk by the SEC at the Newington Amateur Radio League in November. I can't help but publicly thank The Meriden Amateur Radio Club for presenting me with a wonderfully-worded framed certificate complimenting my leadership and service to this Section for almost 15 years. I am deeply touched by their thoughtfulness and mean to celebrate it with the leadership because it is their work and all of your encouragement, support and volunteer time that make this Section as successful as it is. Thank you all.

Our State Nutmeg Ham Fest had an excellent turnout this year--I know that many of you look forward to coming out to Wallingford. It has become quite well known and an effort I encouraged a few years after I took office.

The Newington Amateur Radio League expanded its ham fest to two days—that effort, too, was quite successful and a lot of fun. I know that the plan is to add to the ham fest next year so we can all look forward to that. All of the ham fests in the Section were well attended which is good news.

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

Our Simulated Emergency Test drew a large participation: approximately half of all registered ARES members participated in the test; the national average is about 25 percent. Many more EOC's were on the air as well as the American Red Cross station in Farmington. This successful effort is due to the excellent work done by the Ecs DECs and the net managers. Happily, we have a full complement of DECs and net managers.

On behalf of the Section, I extend our sympathy to DEC Sky Warn Phil, WX1CT on the death of his mother and just three weeks later, the death of his father Sol, KA1ZBL. You can email Phil with your comments of concern and support at wx1ct@arrl.net. Pete KZ1Z told me that Sol was his mentor when he did his student teaching in Greenwich!

See you next month--peace to you all. Vy 73, Betsey, K1EIC SM CT