
Time Out

Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

April - 2008

This Month's Meeting

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, April 18th 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:	3/21/08
Time Started:	7:45 PM
Time Ended:	8:51 PM

Minutes taken by: Dan Wall, W1ZFG

Attendees (Callsign):

W1ZFG	N1JGR	N1RMF	KA1NDE	K1HEJ
K1DFS	WA1NXC	K1WMS		

Secretary report:

E-mailed report to committee for perusal.

Motion to Accept:	K1DFS
Seconded by:	N1RMF
Abstain:	

unanimous

<i>Last Month's Meeting – cont'd</i>

Treasurer Report:

Previous Balance:	\$1064.81
Checks and Payments	-\$100.00
Deposits and Other Credits	\$0.00
Service Charge	\$0.00
Interest Earned	\$0.00
Ending Balance of Bank Statement	\$964.81
Cleared Balance:	\$964.81
Checks and Payments	-\$79.00
Deposits and Other Credits	\$0.00
Register Balance as of 2/11/2008	\$885.31

Motion to Accept:	N1RMF
Seconded by:	KA1NDE
Abstain:	

unanimous

Tech. VP report...

We received word from WA2SXX in the Hudson Valley that they were setting up a repeater on 147.15. Testing is already in progress and there is no apparent conflict due to the mountains between us. They assured us that they would shut down their operation immediately if there was any interference.

The .15 machine is working well, despite some water damage caused by a leak in the roof. A repair/clean-up party is planned for late spring/early summer. Please come out and support the work crew, we can really use the help. The .88 machine is also working well.

Last month, we were asked by N1URO if we would be willing to host a 220/440 node for the Flexnet network at the Burlington site. After much discussion, the Board of Directors decided to refuse the request. As an alternative to the N1URO proposal, the board proposed to approach the SM with the idea of setting up a 220 digipeater at the Burlington site. No further word on this as of press time.

Motion to Accept:	K1DFS
Seconded by:	N1RMF
Abstain:	

unanimous

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

Old Business:

Still waiting to hear from the folks at Winding Trails. We will have one more meeting before the event is scheduled to take place to complete our planning (but not too much!).

New Business:

There was a discussion about the club producing a flyer to distribute at hamfests, Field Day, etc. to try and generate more membership. Dan – W1ZFG volunteered to make a first draft for the next meeting, but was later informed by KB1KZC that he had already approached someone and work on the flyer was already in progress.

Field Day is the last full weekend of June, (June 28 and 29th), consider coming down!

Dues are \$25/year and will be coming out in April. Also, donations for replacement repeaters will be gratefully accepted!

Motion to Adjourn:	K1DFS
Seconded by:	N1RMF
Abstain:	

Unanimous

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary

Section Leadership: K1EIC SM; ASMs: K1STM, KD1YV, W1FXQ, NK1J; OOC W1GC; PIC KA1TCH; SEC K1BRF; ASEC N1FNE; SGL K1MK; STM K1HEJ; TC N1KHB.

The Eastern CT ARA wishes to thank all those who attended their Hamfest Saturday, March 15--attendance was the best ever! I am sorry I could not be there; congratulations to ECARA!

The February meeting of the Meriden ARC featured a show and tell put on by Chris, WA1VXH and Rich, WA1TRY that was all about the new MARC BBS and Forums: www.w1nrg.com/forum. All the features were demonstrated and questions answered. WA1VXH provided a cellular based wireless Internet link so they could play with the BBS in real time right on the World Wide Web. He also provided a projector so images could be projected in large format for everyone to view. Your SM has been to this site--it's really neat; there are areas for club members only but there are other areas that allow for participation by others. Check it out--this format would be a nice idea for the Section!

The January meeting featured a talk by Marty Sagendorf, K1CVF as our guest speaker and brought along a slide show of his various electric and electronic related old technology collection. He showed some rather unique old time tools used in the emerging electrical world around the late 1800s. They even saw the first "repeater." This was actually a land line telegraph device to boost the telegraph signal over long wire runs.

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary – cont'd

Some of the oldest CRTs and tubes were also shown. In all, it was a very interesting show. Marty has spoken at several clubs and really enjoys it so don't hesitate to contact him for your group.

The Bristol Radio Club had as their speaker Jean Bilodeau, KB1IGA, a master R/C pilot. Jean discussed R/C aircraft and had exhibits of aircraft he has created on hand.

Mark your calendars: March 30--The Southington ARC Hamfest at Southington High school. Contact ka1ilh@arrl.net. Don't miss the CT ARES meeting at the Hamfest, time to be announced. There are several demos planned so you'll not want to miss out on the fun!

The Berkshire ARC will be participating in the Tri-State Trade Fair on that day as well. They plan to set up a booth and demonstrate Amateur Radio with an HF station.

April 18-20 are the dates for the 34th annual Eastern VHF/UHF Conference and dinner banquet at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Enfield. Reservations may be made at (860) 741-2211 ask for local hotel reservations. A Block of rooms is available, mention NEWS Group for discount rate (\$95). Our web site

<http://www.newsvhf.com/vhfconf.html>

has been updated and now offers both Secure On-line PayPal as well as traditional mail-in Registration. You save \$5 on the full Conference admission by pre-Registering. They will hold an indoor Auction to help defray costs of future conferences. Please bring items suitable for donating and auctioning off to support the club. Contact conference chair Bruce n2liv@optonline.net.

NEAR-Fest Deerfield, MA will be held on May 2.

The Berkshire ARC Hamfest is scheduled for June 7 at the Goshen Fair Grounds.

The NARL Hamfest is June 21 at Newington High School.

Your SM was thrilled to attend the last class and graduation of a CERT course given to Greater Danbury area ARES members. The course included CPR / AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) training, Basic First Aid, given by the local chapter of the American Red Cross plus the regular CERT training curriculum. The CERT team is a "mission team" for emergency communications--they will be working out of the EOCs as before but with increased personal skills. John Will, KB1LYP, a certified CERT instructor taught the program supported by Red Cross CPR / First Aid instructors. Paul Estefan, Danbury Director of Emergency Management and Betsey Doane, ARRL CT Section Manager passed out graduation certificates. At the completion of the course, each participant walked away with their CERT training certification plus, Red Cross certification in CPR / AED and Basic First Aid. Congrats to the following graduates: EC Oscar, KO1F who coordinated this effort, ADEC Harlan KB1ILY, George N1GS, Tom, WA8UNS, EC John W1JMA, EC Joe AB1DO, Huntley N1XLY, Rosty N2FEX, Anthony KB1OFQ, Ken, KD1DD, Bill KW1B Dick W1RNA EC and ASM Jim KD1YV, Walt KB1NCN, Paul KB1OQE and Bill, N1TIW. For full details and pictures, check out the Section Web page: www.ct.arrl.org.

The following comes from Scott W1SSN: The USS Nautilus(SSN571) will participate in the 2008 Museum Ships event which is scheduled for Fri. thru Sun., June 6 thru 8, 2008. A 16 hour period of amateur activity is planned but no on-boat operation will be permitted.

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary – cont'd

K1SSN (Sub Base ARC/MARS station) will be active for this event. Also, on Sat. & Sun., August 2 & 3, 2008, the 50th anniversary of the USS Nautilus's historic North Pole under-ice transit across the Arctic will be observed. A "Special Event" call sign of N9N (Nautilus 90 North) has been assigned. More details on both events will be forth coming as planning moves forward. Members of ICRC are thinking of participating.

NARL is looking for volunteers to help out at the CPTV Science Fair held at the Exhibit Center in Hartford April 24-26. I have participated and thoroughly enjoyed it so if you can help, contact Ethel KB1NMO kb1nmo@arrl.net or Bob KB1EYZ kb1eyz@arrl.net.

Paul N1II gave a presentation to the Norwalk ARC on Codes, Computers and their Design. He illustrated the working of the Central Processing Unit (CPU) and main memory in execution of simple programs. He also talked about the application, Visicalc, that launched the acceptance of the PC and presented some of the algorithms used in computing to simplify complex math operations.

On the digital front, Chuck AB1CR has stepped down as DEC Digital Communications. He is happy to participate in discussions about digital systems and related activities but does not feel he has the time to take the lead at this point. SEC Brian, K1BRF and I heartily thank Chuck for his hard work and continuing interest.

You should know that the Winlink architecture has changed in ways that are of concern to many ARES leaders. As an example, the new Winlink architecture has every user connecting directly to one of the three Central Mail Servers around the world. All user traffic goes directly to the CMS. The PMBO such as W1HDN no longer stores and forwards, it just serves as a real time gateway--the mail simply passes through. There is renewed interest in the Flexnet packet network, IP gateways and Outpost software.

Attention ALL ARES MEMBERS! A database is only as good as its information. So if you have not updated your information this year, please go to the database https://secure.ema.arrl.org:8443/ares/CT_ARES_member_login, check your info and click on update even if nothing has changed. This will show the date on which the info was last updated so we'll know that your info is current. It's real important folks. Many thanks to those of you who have already updated.

In closing, I wish all who celebrate Easter a very Happy holiday.

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