
Time Out

Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

May - 2008

This Month's Meeting

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, May 16th 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:	4/18/08
Time Started:	7:37 PM
Time Ended:	8:46 PM

Minutes taken by: Rick Johnson, N1WGK

Attendees (Callsign):

N1WGK	N1IKM	N1JGR	K1HEJ	N1JWF
KA1WMS	N1RMF	K1DFS	W1ZFG	KA1NDE

Secretary report:

E-mailed report to committee for perusal.

Motion to Accept:	N1RMF
Seconded by:	K1DFS
Abstain:	N1IKM, N1JGR

unanimous

<i>Last Month's Meeting – cont'd</i>

Treasurer Report:

Previous Balance:	\$964.81
Checks and Payments	-\$79.50
Deposits and Other Credits	\$105.00
Service Charge	\$0.00
Interest Earned	\$0.00
Ending Balance of Bank Statement	\$990.31
Cleared Balance:	\$990.31
Checks and Payments	\$0.00
Deposits and Other Credits	\$0.00
Register Balance as of 2/11/2008	\$990.31

Motion to Accept:	N1W GK
Seconded by:	KA1W MV
Abstain:	

unanimous

Tech. VP report...

88 is working, 15 is running but there's some hum on 440.
Packet's working but we don't care

Motion to Accept:	N1W GK
Seconded by:	N1IKM
Abstain:	

unanimous

Old Business:

Sunday, April 27th, 7AM, be at the Dunkin Donuts on Route 4 for the Flat Tire Classic Bike Race! We can use at least 8 people, bring your GO boxes. We will be transmitting direct.

Field Day is going to be a FUN time! We have some plans to try and get more people to show up...maybe have a VE session and a GOTA. We are discussing it...

Emergency Repeater. The old repeater that we had will cost large amounts of money because the channel elements are at least \$150. Rod suggested that he look for a \$100 programmable radio. Chuck said to go ahead with it. The old repeater is not worth repairing.

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

Nautilus 90 North: August 3rd, 1958, went over the North Pole. There will be a special station, N9N, They will running 2 HF radios. ICRC will be invited to help operate on the 3rd of August, 2008, down at the Sub Base in New London/Groton. Please consider attending and assisting! It should be a great time, since it's the 50th anniversary. Please let Chuck know if you plan on being there because of security and he needs to get you cleared!

Primary operating frequencies: 7.279 SSB, 14.243 SSB, 14.343 SSB

We will set up on Friday and operate Saturday and Sunday. There would be some nominal individual costs involved. Talk to Chuck for more information.

New Business:

Al will be talking with Pete regarding the flyer

May 1st, Skywarn class will be run at Channel 3 in Rocky Hill, 7PM.

Ted, WA1NXC, will be looking for help for the Hebron Fair. He will be looking for ham radio volunteers to help set up and operate the station. They have a decent location.

It looks like the Big E won't be happening for us this year

Motion to Adjourn:	N1WGK
Seconded by:	N1JWF
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.

I am shocked to hear of the passing of L. B. Cebik W4RNL; see

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2008/04/22/10059/>

Congrats to ARRL staff on a wonderful article. Roy's family lived in Stratford. Barb K1EIR and I knew his dad who was also a fantastic mentor and a friend who had a special wisdom. The news today brings a real loss to our community--he was a great scholar and a real gentleman. I echo the words of Dean Straw, N6BV: "I'm in shock at the news of LB's passing. May his soul rest in peace."

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary – cont'd

It sure was fun seeing so many of you at the Southington Hamfest and ARES meeting. About 40 people attended the meeting; many thanks to DECs Dave K1DAV and Wayne, N1CLV and ASEC Rod N1FNE for executing several demos. The 1750 Hz. Tone alerting system was demonstrated and software called Q Forms was shown to the group. Q forms allows one to easily get a message in proper ARRL message format for NTS ops to handle. It also supports ICS forms and other simple message formats. Go ahead and play with it--go to <http://www.activeham.com/mw/index.php?title=Downloads>

Congrats to NARL on their successful open house. Many ops in the service area of the club were invited to come learn about the many activities of NARL. Approximately 60 attended in all including 15 who were not members. That evening, five joined NARL--great!

Want to have some fun? The following comes from Dean, N1SXL: "KA1CQR and N1SXL will be holding a two session fox hunt on May 10, 2008. This will be on the same weekend of the CQ Magazine Eleventh Annual Fox Hunt. Starting place will be Lisbon Landing, aka Wal-Mart/Home Depot, in the parking lot of the movie theater. The first session will start at 10:00 am and will be in the town of Lisbon. When you have found the fox from the first session will be a small lunch served at the fox location. Mostly hamburgers and hot dogs with a limited choice of beverages. Lunch will be free for those that find the fox, but donations will be accepted. Then the second session will start around noon with fox being relocated into the town of Griswold. There will be a dessert serving at the second fox location only after everyone has found the fox. Remember no special equipment is needed to find the fox. Most hunters use a HT and/or a mobile radio. A picture of the fox and maps of the area will be available. The fox will be transmitting on 2m simplex frequency which will be revealed at the starting point. CQ Magazine has an annual fox hunt weekend. For more information here is the web link, <http://www.homingin.com/joek0ov/nfw.html> Please remember this is not a club sponsor event so please hunt at your own risk." --N1SXL56@yahoo.com

The Southern Berkshire ARC will have an interesting guest at their meeting on May 5. They will feature a guest speaker, Sid Shore, K1SS, businessman, inventor, educator and ham for over 50 years. Sid will present an overview of his life and experiences in the amateur radio service. The membership is really looking forward to his presentation. I know Sid and I sure wish I could get there to hear it.

GNARC had as their guest John D'Ausilio-W1RT who gave a presentation on the VHF/UHF contest station for the PVRC Delmarva Grid Pirates, K8GP who operate from atop Spruce Knob, WV at 4,863 feet. They run multi-op, all bands and at full legal limit from a series of converted motor homes/buses. Pretty neat! Sorry folks, your SM is just not a QRPer, hi.

Congrats to Steve NA1SV on becoming VP of Greater Norwalk ARC; many thanks to Allan NN1H and Tom KK2C for their service as officers. I'm sure you all know that these jobs are a lot of work so my thanks to all of you who have served and who are now serving as officers of clubs.

Our sincere expression of sympathy to Phil KB1FYL, a member of the Meriden ARC on the sudden loss of his wife Patty. Our prayers are with you and your family.

Last month, I told you about CN running a slow speed session on Wednesday's and Saturday's on 3.533 at 1900 hours. Here's another one: The Meriden ARC is holding a CW slow speed practice session 28.275 Mondays at 7:00 PM. Give it a try--I hear many of you are interested in operating CW so here's your chance to be mentored.

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary – cont'd

Mark your calendars: Sky Warn Class WFSB studios 7:00-9:30 pm 333 Capital Blvd., Rocky Hill May 1 contact K1PAi@arrl.net for info; Near-Fest May 2-3 see <http://near-fest.com/index.php?topic=275.0> for latest update; New England QSO Party May 3-4; Fox Hunt May 10 Lisbon 10:00 a.m. contact N1SXL56@yahoo.com; Fairfield County Basic Sky Warn class May 12 at Shoprite Supermarket Community Room Norwalk. Register online at <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/er/okx/Skywarn/spottertraining-08.htm> and look for Fairfield. Directions to Shoprite on <http://www.gnarc.org>. Natchaug Hamfest May 24 Tolland Agricultural Center 24 Hyde Avenue, (Route 30) Vernon contact Wayne n1gus@arrl.net Berkshire Hamfest June 7 Goshen Fair Grounds contact Lee k1lee@arrl.net; NARL Hamfest June 21 at Newington High School, 605 Willard Ave. Contact Mary Hobart, K1MMH mmhobart2@cox.net

Here are some of the activities of ARES Region 4 during the month of March. DEC Wayne N1CLV reports that members participated in a Millstone Nuclear Power Station Drill (FEMA-evaluated). ARES members staffed the following EOCs for the drill: DEMHS-4, East Lyme, Groton City, Groton Town, Lyme, Old Lyme, Ledyard, Montville, Waterford, and the Coast Guard Academy station W1CGA. Airmail and QForms were used to originate traffic from DEMHS-4 and then passed peer-to-peer to the VHF Tactical Net NCS at East Lyme EOC. ADEC Ron K1VSC, Rick W1JEY, and DEC Wayne N1CLV participated in the Eastern Highland Health District pandemic flu drill held on Saturday, March 29. Ham radio comms were established between DEMHS-4, Windham Hospital, and the Town of Chaplin EOC. Members also participated in The first running of the O'Niantic 5K Run on Saturday, March 15. Great work--I'll highlight other activities within ARES next month.

Congratulations to the following newly licensed ops: Technician: Raymond KB1PTA Glastonbury, Anthony KB1PTB Bolton, Julie KB1PUM Thompson, Clifford KB1PUL Woodstock, Debra KB1PTU Stratford, Anthony KB1PTX Bethlehem, Arthur KB1PSK Bethel, Arthur KB1PSL New Canaan. More next month.

ARRL Connecticut Section
Section Manager: Elizabeth M. Doane, K1EIC
k1eic@arrl.org

A Few Notes from your Club President

Just a few notes from your club president:

Congratulations and thank you to Chuck, K1DFS. He has been appointed the Section OOC by our Section Manager Betsey Doane, K1EIC this month!

Congratulations and thank you to John, N1IWT for agreeing this month to help our CT Section PIC Al, KA1TCH while Al is recovering from a motorcycle crash.

A belated congratulations to Ann, K1STM on being appointed Net Manager for the CT Section CW Net CN last month. CN meets on 3.533 MHz nightly. Ann has started running 2 nights of CN as slow speed nights. These are Wed and Sat. at 7 PM local. For those of us with HF privileges, lets try and check in say once a week. Remember, CW is the ONLY digital Mode that does not require a computer. It happens to be the most power efficient mode of communications in an emergency – as long as there are hams who are proficient in it!

A Few Notes from your Club President – cont'd

By the way, Ann, K1STM, is also the Net Manager of the TIPS Net that meets on the linked repeater systems in CT at 730 PM Tue Nights. John, N1IWT, is program director of the TIPS Net. In our area the linked system is KB1AEV repeater on 147.345 Mhz.

Thanks to the club members who turned out to provide the health and safty communications for the Winding Trails Fat Tire spring Classic Bicycle race and to N1JGR for being the chairman of the Committee. The following brought equipment and manned positions this year, Rick - N1JGR, Al - N1JWF, Chris - KA1NDE, Bill, KB1KNV, Rick - N1WGK, Pete - KB1KZC, John - N1IWT, Ann - K1STM, Dan - W1ZFG, George – N1RMF, Chuck – K1DFS, and myself. We have done this race now for several years, but I must tell you this was the first time that several racers on the last lap of the last race hollered out a thank you for us being there to me as they rode by!

For those of you who missed doing this fun event, on May 24 and 25 will be the Angel Ride. This is a two day bicycle event starting in Norfolk, going out to Ashford the first day and then going from Ashford to Mystic on the final day. The contact for Hartford and Tolland County is Jonathan - KB1KIX (DEC ARES Region 3). He can be reached by e-mail at KB1KIX @ ARRL.NET or on the weekly Sunday night ARES Net on the 147.345 Repeater. If you have never participated in these health and safety activities, these are fun ways to get experience in organized emergency communications and try out your emergency communications capability. Contact for Litchfield County is Dave - K1DAV (DEC ARES Region 5) and Windham – New London County contact is N1CLV (DEC Region 4).. K1DAV and N1CLV can also be contacted by email using their call at ARRL.NET.

One final note: CT Section Manager Betsey Doane, K1EIC, has announced this month she will run for another term as Section Manager (SM) this fall. For our members who may be newer hams or not have paid attention to Section organization, every 2 years the ARRL paid up dues members elect a leader for the ARRL CT Section by ballots sent by the ARRL. Betsey has been our Section Manager for several years and under her leadership CT has tackled and been at the forefront of EVERY issue affecting our hobby. Even while she was a full time professor (High math and Computer Science) she devoted more time to leading and training our Section leadership then most folks spend at their full time day jobs! Even when our Club members have been on sides of an issue not in the majority, she has afforded us all the time we needed to present our case at Section leadership meetings and ARRL New England Director Regional meetings. I urge all our club members who are ARRL members to support her and vote for her in this upcoming ARRL Election.

That's it for this month!

Larry - K1HEJ ICRC President

ICRC BPL Team Update Info

COURT FINDS FCC VIOLATED ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT IN BPL DECISION The US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit today released its decision [http://pacer.cadc.uscourts.gov/common/opinions/200804/06-1343-1112979.p df](http://pacer.cadc.uscourts.gov/common/opinions/200804/06-1343-1112979.pdf) on the ARRL's Petition for Review of the FCC's Orders adopting rules governing broadband over power line (BPL) systems. The Court agreed with the ARRL on two major points and remanded the rules to the Commission. Writing for the three-judge panel of Circuit Judges Rogers, Tatel and Kavanaugh, Judge Rogers summarized: "The Commission failed to satisfy the notice and comment requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act ('APA') by redacting studies on which it relied in promulgating the rule and failed to provide a reasoned explanation for its choice of the extrapolation factor for measuring Access BPL emissions." The Court agreed with the ARRL that the FCC had failed to comply with the APA by not fully disclosing for public comment the staff studies on which it relied. The Court also agreed with the ARRL that the Commission erred in not providing a reasoned justification for its choice of an extrapolation factor of 40 dB per decade for Access BPL systems and in offering "no reasoned explanation for its dismissal of empirical data that was submitted at its invitation." The Court was not persuaded by the ARRL's arguments on two other points, on which it found that the Commission had acted within its discretion. The conclusion that the FCC violated the APA hinges on case law. "It would appear to be a fairly obvious proposition that studies upon which an agency relies in promulgating a rule must be made available during the rulemaking in order to afford interested persons meaningful notice and an opportunity for comment," the Court said, adding that "there is no APA precedent allowing an agency to cherry-pick a study on which it has chosen to rely in part." The Court continued, "The League has met its burden to demonstrate prejudice by showing that it 'ha[s] something useful to say' regarding the unredacted studies [citation omitted] that may allow it to 'mount a credible challenge' if given the opportunity to comment." Information withheld by the Commission included material under the headings "New Information Arguing for Caution on HF BPL" and "BPL Spectrum Tradeoffs." The Court concluded that "no precedent sanctions such a 'hide and seek' application of the APA's notice and comment requirements." With regard to the extrapolation factor, the Court ordered: "On remand, the Commission shall either provide a reasoned justification for retaining an extrapolation factor of 40 dB per decade for Access BPL systems sufficient to indicate that it has grappled with the 2005 studies, or adopt another factor and provide a reasoned explanation for it." The studies in question were conducted by the Office of Communications, the FCC's counterpart in the United Kingdom, and were submitted by the ARRL, along with the League's own analysis showing that an extrapolation factor closer to 20 dB per decade was more appropriate, as part of the record in its petition for reconsideration of the FCC's BPL Order. The Court said that the FCC "summarily dismissed" this data in a manner that "cannot substitute for a reasoned explanation." The Court also noted that the record in the FCC proceeding included a study by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration that "itself casts doubt on the Commission's decision." The briefs for the ARRL were prepared by a team of attorneys at WilmerHale, a firm with extensive appellate experience, with assistance from ARRL General Counsel Christopher D. Imlay, W3KD. Oral argument for the ARRL was conducted by Jonathan J. Frankel of WilmerHale. Oral argument was heard on October 23, 2007; the Court's decision was released more than six months later. After reading the decision, General Counsel Imlay observed, "The decision of the Court of Appeals, though long in coming, was well worth the wait. It is obvious that the FCC was overzealous in its advocacy of BPL, and that resulted in a rather blatant cover-up of the technical facts surrounding its interference potential. Both BPL and Amateur Radio would be better off had the FCC dealt with the interference potential in an honest and forthright manner at the outset. Now there is an opportunity to finally establish some rules that will allow BPL to proceed, if it can in configurations that don't expose licensed radio services to preclusive interference in the HF bands." ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, added: "We are gratified that the Court decided to hold the

ICRC BPL Team Update Info – cont'd

FCC's feet to the fire on such a technical issue as the 40 dB per decade extrapolation factor. It is also gratifying to read the Court's strong support for the principles underlying the Administrative Procedure Act. Now that the Commission has been ordered to do what it should have done in the first place, we look forward to participating in the proceedings on remand, and to helping to craft rules that will provide licensed radio services with the interference protection they are entitled to under law." ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, concluded: "I am very pleased that the Court saw through the FCC's smoke screen and its withholding of valid engineering data that may contradict their position that the interference potential of BPL to Amateur Radio and public safety communications is minimal. The remand back to the FCC regarding their use of an inappropriate extrapolation factor validates the technical competence of Amateur Radio operators and especially of the ARRL Lab under the direction of Ed Hare, W1RFI. We are grateful for the work of our legal team and especially for the unflagging support of the ARRL membership as we fought the odds in pursuing this appeal."

ICRC Field Day Flyer

A sample of the flyer created by Pete – KB1KZC for our Field Day outing this year appears on the next page. Nice job, Pete!

Driving directions, provided by Larry – K1HEJ, appear after the flyer.

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

Public is welcomed! Dad, mom, all the kids, any age, see the tower, antennas, radios.

KIDS

JUNE 28 & 29
24 HOURS



OPERATE

A HAM

RADIO!

The Insurance City Repeater Club

Invites you to join us for an exciting 24 hours of amateur radio.

Beginning about noon time on Saturday June 28

To about 4 pm. On Sunday June 29

Lots To See! Home made, portable tower
50 FEET !

WINDING TRAILS OF FARMINGTON
RT. 4
FARMINGTON, CT.

BATTERY

POWER

SOLAR

OPERATING

POWER



CHARGING

Hams - come down and check us out
make a few contacts, tech's
operate HF, talk all over the
country and Canada!

Everyone and Anyone get information
On becoming a licensed amateur radio
Operator!

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

Winding Trails is easily accessible from Interstate 84, exit 39 (Route 4, Farmington). Head straight off the exit and travel west on Route 4 for 2.2 miles. Turn right onto Devonwood Drive and then turn left onto Winding Trails Drive.

driving directions map

