
Time Out

Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

November - 2004

This Month's Meeting

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, November 19th 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

Date:	15 October 2004
Time Started:	7:15PM
Time Ended:	8:00PM

Minutes taken by: Rick Johnson, N1WGK

Attendees (Callsign):

KB1JYX	N1JGR	N1WGK	N1IKM	KB1KNV
KB1KZC	WA1PAT	K1HEJ	K1DFS	N1JWF
N1KGY				

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

Secretary report:

E-mailed report to committee for perusal.

Motion to Accept:	
Seconded by:	
Abstain:	

unanimous

Treasurer Report:

Same amount as last month...

Motion to Accept:	N1WGK
Seconded by:	KB1JYX
Abstain:	

unanimous

Tech. VP report...

KB1JYX and N1JGR are going to be doing some work at the site...next Saturday...going up there and trying to see what can be done.

88 is running fairly well...

Burlington has not had the tower climb yet...Larry will be looking for someone else to make the climb.

FCC approved use of BPL. According to Larry's paperwork, the equipment has to be tested by the FCC, as well as lots of other information...if you were interested, you would have been here listening.

Motion to Accept:	N1WGK
Seconded by:	K1DFS
Abstain:	

unanimous

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

Old Business:

ARRL NTS trio that came up with the WinLink idea has suddenly decided to take a digital census of the national packet structure. There are 1108 gateway packet stations, according to Larry.

Web site needs some help. It was suggested to work on it. It's possible to move it to another site and simply do a redirect from qsl.net.

N1KGY-1 is up on Packet on 144.99

New Business:

Slate for the nominations for the Executive Board and Board members will be sent around via e-mail

If we want to get ICRC.org, we may be able to get it for the range of \$30 per year...Chuck will look up how to do it. Bill agreed to be the new web master.

Motion to Adjourn:	N1WGK
Seconded by:	
Abstain:	
unanimous	

Election of Officers/Board Members

The slate for the Officers and Board Members was presented at the October meeting. The slate was also 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 (except Rick). The finalized slate will be voted on at the November meeting.

Dan Wall – WA1PAT
Chairman – Nominating Committee
walldan@att.net

State Government Liaison Report

This is your State Government Liaison with an update on the progress towards getting a state version of PRB-1 in Connecticut. This message is being sent out to my list of radio club presidents, please excuse the duplication if you see this information multiple times. Also, if your club has designated a point of contact regarding this matter other than yourself, please let me know at k1mk@arrl.net

A meeting to present the plans for securing passage of a state version of PRB-1 was held on 19 Sept 2004. Thanks to all the clubs who sent a representative to this meeting and a very special thanks to the club presidents or their representative in attendance who were able to find the time to attend this meeting on a very pleasant Sunday afternoon.

The actions from that meeting are:

1. - Local radio clubs are asked to assist the SGL & SM in identifying hams in their area who might have some connection with a state legislator; this might be a family, business, social, etc. connection.
2. - Local radio clubs are asked to help with the recruitment of volunteers in their area who would be willing to meet with their legislator for the purpose of discussing an antenna bill and asking for their legislator's support and co-sponsorship of that bill.
3. - For the moment, the requests are only for information and for volunteers who would work in coordination with the SGL. At this time, we're asking that individual amateurs not take it upon themselves to contact their legislator without first consulting with a local coordinator or the SGL.

To summarize progress made since the Sept 19th meeting:

The first sponsors for our bill are now on board and very supportive of the initiative, making it virtually certain that an antenna bill will be introduced in January.

Our highest priority task continues to be promoting the idea of an antenna bill with our legislators and securing as many additional co-sponsors for the bill as possible before the legislative session convenes in January.

A private e-mail group for discussion and coordination of the work towards a CT version of PRB-1 has been established. Representatives of local clubs are invited to join this mailing list. For information about the list please contact me at k1mk@arrl.net

Finally, our first big push commences immediately after the November election, which is now less than a month away. We need to be actively preparing for that effort right now. This means organizing locally and coordinating those efforts with the SGL & SM.

Tnx & 73,
Mike K1MK

Michael Keane K1MK
State Government Liaison, CT Section ARRL
k1mk@arrl.net

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary

October is proving to be a busy month and it's only half over! SEC AB1CR reports that over one hundred ops participated in the annual Simulated Emergency Test with many more EOC's on the air. More stations than ever before used emergency power on HF. The packet nodes currently in place functioned well, although some areas of the Section experienced difficulty with connectivity. Work is continuing on improving this network under the leadership of Chuck AB1CR. We need to strengthen the liaison among ARES nets and within the NTS, which translates to the need for ops to operate regularly on several modes and on HF as well as VHF. Thank you to everyone who participated-special thanks to the DECs and ECs and of course to our SEC and the CT ARES Leadership Council.

Just prior to the SET, the tower which holds the antennas for the 147.18 repeater came down and it is only through the Herculean efforts of Bruce N1XG, and many others which included Dana KB1AEV, Rod N1FNE, Dean KB1Fua, Howard and W1HSR that communication was restored in less than 48 hours! To all these volunteers and to those whose calls I do not have, a big THANK YOU! The work that Bruce and his fine team did is unbelievable.

And while I'm on the subject of thanking volunteers, I know that you all join me in thanking The Meriden Amateur Radio Club under the leadership of president Bill, W1KKF on putting together the 12th annual State Convention, which we affectionately call Nutfest! The Nutmeg Ham Fest in Wallingford was a lot of fun-the ARRL Forum was well attended, as were the talks given by Andy Poniros Dave Johnson and Dave Sumner, K1ZZ. Many thanks to the speakers, to our Director and Vice Director K1KI and K1TWF and to all of you who made this year's ham fest a real success!

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM OUR SGL Mike, K1MK: A bill to incorporate the Federal limitations on local regulation of amateur antenna structures into the general statutes will be introduced when the General Assembly convenes in January. This bill does need to gather additional co-sponsors if it's going to get over the first hurdle it will face in the legislature: making the transition from a proposed bill into a committee bill. Some of our colleagues have already been meeting with their legislators, seeking their support as co-sponsors for the bill. This process enters a new phase on November 3rd, the day after Election Day, when it becomes clear who should be contacted in each district. Now, there are just nine weeks between election day and the opening of the General Assembly's new session. Those weeks will be busy weeks for most of us as we head first towards Thanksgiving, then the Holidays and finally into the New Year. This same period of time can only be expected to be even busier for our legislators who will also be getting ready for the new session. The message here for us is that we need to begin preparations to be ready to approach our legislators immediately after the election. I want to ask you now for your help in getting the word out. Let's not put this off to the last minute. In-person meetings of constituents with their legislators are a tremendously effective way of delivering our message. Until the General Assembly starts up in January, our representatives and senators will still have some limited amount of time available to meet with constituents, especially with small groups of constituents. This is where we will be trying to keep our efforts focused for the immediate future and this is where we have the greatest need for volunteers to assist us. E-mails, phone calls and letters are all useful and if that is how some amateurs would prefer to help, no offer of assistance in this effort will be refused. If you are willing to meet with a legislator, it is urgent that you contact Mike K1MK k1mk@arrl.net immediately for coordination and support. Mike will provide you with material you can use for your discussion and other handouts. Do it today, please!

September traffic reports: (STM K1HEJ): Public Service Honor Roll: KA1GWE 90; KA1RMV 90. Congrats! Station activity: KA1GWE 86; KA1RMV 61.

ARRL Connecticut Section
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For the latest information, visit our website at <http://www.qsl.net/icrc>