
Time Out

Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

January - 2016

This Month's Meeting

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, January 15th at 7:30 P.M. at the American Red Cross, 209 Farmington Ave. (Rte. 4), Farmington, CT in the First Floor Meeting Room. All are welcome. Bring a friend.

There will also be a VE Test Session held by the ICRC sponsored VE team starting at 6:00 P.M, also in the First Floor Meeting Room.

After a *short* business meeting, there will be a presentation and discussion about the club's involvement in the upcoming Klondike Derby in February.

President's Message

No message this month.

Last Month's Meeting

Date: 12-18-2015

Time Started: 7:45 pm

Time Adjourned: 9:05 pm

Attendance

KB1KZC	KC1CWN	AB1NH	KC1ECT	W1ZFG	KB1WEZ
N1EZY	KB1RRR	N1JGR	KA1NDE	KB1TBL	KC1DRZ
Toby					

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

Minutes taken by: Tom Chapman - KB1WEZ

President's Report:

Congratulations to all new Board members and Officers! The Club is in good shape and we now have many new members due to the combination of ICRC and BRC. All members are listed on the ICRCweb.org website. Steve (KB1RRR) is now the Trustee of the W1DHT call sign, and Nick (KB1SNL) is the Trustee of the K1CRC call sign. We now have access to the 146.685 repeater site and ICRC will be assuming the communication responsibilities for the Bristol Mum Parade.

Motion to Accept:	KA1NDE	
Seconded by:	KC1CWN	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Secretary Report:

The minutes from the November 2015 meeting were emailed by Dan (W1ZFG) to all members as part of the *Time Out*, and additional copies were available for those in attendance. Tonight after the meeting we will be having our Christmas Party and building our Power Pole kits.

Motion to Accept	KC1ECT	
Seconded by:	KA1NDE	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Treasurer's Report:

Financially the Club is in good shape, and all bills are being paid. The cost for the Power Pole kits is \$20 per kit, payable by cash or check to Dan (W1ZFG). (Make checks payable to ICRC. - Ed.)

Motion to Accept	KB1RRR	
Seconded by:	KB1TBL	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

Admin VP/Web Master Report:

Our newly elected Admin VP, Jim (AB1NH), did not have a report other than one of his roles is to fill in for the President when he or she is absent.

Motion to Accept	N1EZY	
Seconded by:	KC1DRZ	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Tech VP Report:

All repeaters are working.

Motion to Accept	KB1RRS	
Seconded by:	KC1CWN	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

VE Report:

There was 1 candidate for Technician Class who passed that test and then tried unsuccessfully for the General license. The newly licensed ham may elect for the free one year membership.

Web Master Report:

The Web Master was not in attendance, but the President reported that the BRC members had been added to our web page.

Old Business:

The February 2016 Klondike Derby has been moved from Norfolk back to the Ashford June Norcross property due to the lack of facilities at Norfolk, and the dates for the Klondike have also been changed to February 13 (Saturday) and February 14 (Sunday). This year we will have our own cabin, however Rick will need someone to stay in the dining hall. Additional details will be discussed during the January meeting.

The Sunday night ICRC net is still being hosted each week by Jon (KC1ECT) at 7:30; however, only the same 4 hams are calling in. We encourage more hams to participate.

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

New Business:

Eric Jones has been in touch with ICRC and wishes us to once again provide communications for the Farmington River Boat Eaters Race. The dates for the race have not been announced. We also plan to do the MS Windsor bike ride.

Motion to Adjourn:	KA1NDE	
Seconded by:	KC1CWN	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

The meeting was followed by the annual Christmas Party and Power Pole kit build. Several members provided delicious baked goods and coffee was also served. Rick set up several long tables so that the Power Pole kit builders could work in close proximity to each other allowing for sharing of equipment and construction techniques. A fun time was had by all!

Monthly Presentation

There was no presentation last month. The meeting was followed by the annual Christmas Party and Power Pole kit build. 12 people purchased kits and were able to complete a large part of the assembly that night. Below are some pictures of the event, provided by Tom - KB1WEZ.





Klondike Derby

On Saturday, February 13th and Sunday, February 14th, the ICRC/BRC will once again provide radio communications for the Boy Scouts annual Klondike Derby. The event will be held at the June Norcross Scout Camp in Ashford, CT.

What Is A Klondike Derby?

Many years ago, men raced across the Alaskan frozen wilderness by means of dogs and sleds. Scouting has taken this idea and came up with the idea of the Klondike Derby as an activity for Boy Scouts.

Each patrol builds a sled, collects materials and equipment, and prepares to embark on the Klondike and participate as a team in the derby.

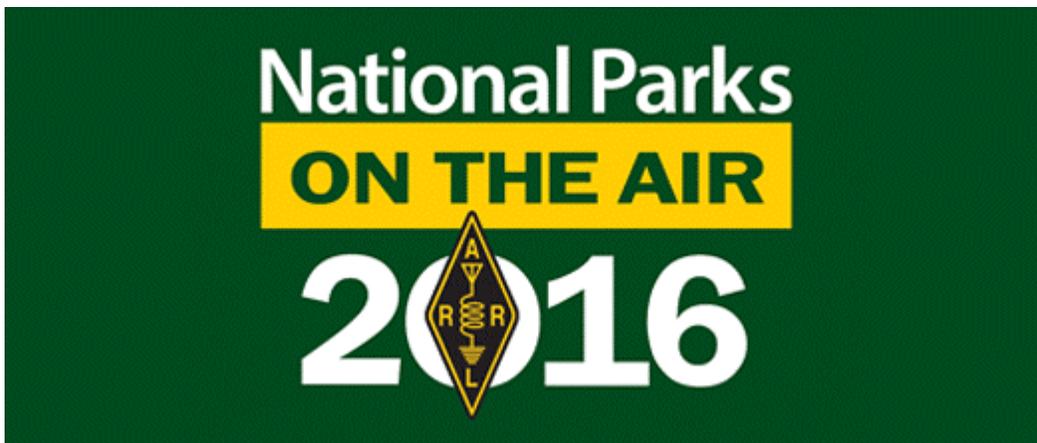
Each team will act as a separate expedition, following a course to various Alaskan Cities. Each patrol leader will be handed a sealed envelope with a map and instructions on reaching the various "cities". Teams line up at the starting line, and at the roar of the cannon are away down the trail. A certain distance down the trail, the patrol leader opens the orders and leads his patrol onto their first city, where they will encounter a situation in which they must use various Scouting skills and sometimes ingenuity to solve the situation. Each city is ran by its Mayor, a leader from different troops, who run the city and assist the patrol in solving their problem. After the patrol completes the event, their tally card is marked by the mayor. A number of "gold nuggets" are given to the patrol, depending on how successful they were in solving their problem.

You might be wondering where amateur radio and the ICRC/BRC fit into all this. An ICRC/BRC member equipped with 2M FM radio equipment is stationed at each of the "cities" for the duration of the event. They provide information back to the Command Post about the activity going on at each of the cities. They relay information about the location of each of the patrols that arrive at their city and the score each patrol received for the completion of their situation.

Several members have assembled GPS based tracker boxes that are put on some of the sleds. These boxes use the APRS system to relay real-time position information to the Command Post. At last year's event, one of these tracker boxes was used to locate a patrol who had gotten off the trail. With darkness falling and the temperature dropping, a potentially dangerous situation was averted.

If you would like to become involved in this activity, our Klondike Derby expert Rick - N1JGR will be giving a presentation at this month's meeting. Here you will learn everything you need to know about how to support this worthwhile activity.

National Parks on the Air



Following 2014's extremely successful Centennial QSO Party and W1AW Portable operations, the ARRL has announced its latest operating event. During 2016, the National Park Service will be celebrating its 100th anniversary. To commemorate this event, the ARRL is sponsoring a year-long operating event. All amateurs are encouraged to contact various stations who will be operating from nation parks, national historic sites and monuments. Not only can you work these stations from your home station, anyone can go out and "activate" any of these sites themselves and become the station that everyone wants to contact. A complete list of sites is available on the website. There are several hundred locations listed, even some in the New England area. The event began on 1/1/2016 and will end on 12/31/2016. Already there have been numerous stations activating various sites around the country. The pile-ups have been sometimes quite large, showing how many people are interested in this latest operating event.

There are even several locations in the state of Connecticut. The Board of Directors will be looking into the possibility of having the club activate some of those sites a little later in the year (after it warms up). If you are interested in participating, let us know at an upcoming meeting.

For complete details, check out: www.arrl.org/NPOTA.

ICRC/BRC Net

On 8/23, a new net was started by John - KC1ECT on the 147.15 Burlington machine. The net meets on Sunday nights at 7:30 PM. The purpose of this net is to provide information about ICRC/BRC activities, Elmer advice and information, amateur equipment swap-meet, and general rag chewing. If you have any questions about ICRC/BRC activities, equipment you want to buy or sell, or anything about amateur radio in general, check in to the weekly net.

ICRC/BRC Sponsored VE Team

On the 3rd Friday of each month beginning at 6pm, the Insurance City Repeater Club/Bristol Radio Club sponsors amateur radio exam sessions at the American Red Cross in Farmington, CT. Walk-in examinees are welcomed. There is no need to pre-register. Examination fee is \$15 cash or check made payable to **ARRL VEC**. Please visit this link for information on what you need to bring to the exam session: <http://www.arrl.org/what-to-bring-to-an-exam-session>. More information is available by emailing our VE Liaison (Jim, AB1NH) at AB1NH@mindspring.com Good luck!

A.R.R.L Club Commission Program

Are you an ARRL member whose membership is about to expire? Are you a former ARRL member whose membership has lapsed for more than two years? Are you interested in joining the ARRL for the first time? If you can answer yes to any of those three questions, then you are in a position to help the ICRC/BRC. Since the ICRC/BRC is an ARRL Affiliated Club, the ARRL will pay us a commission for every member who joins or renews their ARRL membership thru the ICRC/BRC. Here is how it works: If you are a brand new member or your membership has lapsed for 2 years or more, the club will get to keep \$15 of your ARRL dues. If are renewing a current membership or if your membership has lapsed for less than 2 years, the club will get to keep \$2 of your ARRL dues. It will not cost you a penny more to participate in this program. It's a great way to get the club some extra money for doing something that you were probably going to do anyway. Just see Dan or Pete for a membership application or download one from the ARRL website, club section. Make checks payable to the ICRC/BRC and include "ARRL Dues" in the comment line. It's that easy!

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary

For the latest Connecticut Section News, please go to the CT Section Web Page at: <http://ct.arrl.org/>

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