
Time Out

Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

April - 2016

This Month's Meeting

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, April 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 an informational and training session for the next two upcoming club events in our schedule. The Fat Tire Classic mountain bike race at Winding Trails in Farmington on Sunday, April 24th and the Boateaters River Race on the Farmington River on Saturday, May 7th. Eric Jones from the boating club will be on hand to give us the latest details on the boat race. This will be the last club meeting before these events, so if you are planning on participating in these great events, you should plan on attending this month's meeting for the latest information. The club has done these events for many years and they are always a good time.

President's Message

No message this month.

Last Month's Meeting

Date: 3-18-2016

Time Started: 7:30 pm

Time Adjourned: 8:23 pm

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

Attendance

KB1KZC	W1ZFG	N1JGR	KB1TBL	KA1NDE	N1EZY
AB1NH	KC1CQO	KC1ECT	KB1SNL	KB1WEZ	KB1VPY
KC1CWN	KB1YNE	KC1FDW	KC1EWG	KB1RRS	KC1CLK
KB1YYG					

Minutes taken by: Tom Chapman - KB1WEZ

President's Report:

The wind generator at the 147.15 site blew down and was damaged. It is in the process of being repaired. Rick (N1JGR) donated a new tower for the wind generator and a work crew painted it. A new concrete base will be poured for the tower. Our last board meeting was held at the Bristol City Hall council chambers. The Club is doing well.

Motion to Accept:	KB1TBL	
Seconded by:	KC1CWN	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Secretary Report:

The minutes from last month's meeting are in the *Time Out*, which were taken by Dan (W1ZFG) since the Secretary was on vacation. The next Club event is the Winding Trails Fat Tire Classic, which will be held Sunday April 24, and a sign-up sheet was passed around.

Motion to Accept	KC1CWN	
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. Donations for the battery fund would be greatly appreciated. We received the treasury from the CRA/BRC and it has been deposited to the club account to be used for the treasury and the battery fund. Dues are due April 1.

Motion to Accept	KB1YNE	
Seconded by:	KC1CLK	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

Admin VP Report:

Jim (AB1NH) would like to do classes and asked for those interested in instructing. You can get certified as an instructor through the ARRL. Pete (KB1KZC) and Jim volunteered to teach and asked for additional volunteers. We would need 4 to 5 instructors and we would probably start with the Technician license.

Motion to Accept	KC1CWN	
Seconded by:	KC1ECT	
Aye: 0	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Tech VP Report:

All repeaters are working. The noise problem on the .88 machine is weather related – as discussed during the February meeting. The committee is also looking into the issue of linking the repeaters, both digital and analog modes.

Motion to Accept	KB1YNE	
Seconded by:	KC1CWN	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

VE Report:

There was 1 candidate for upgrade to Extra Class who passed the test. There was also a candidate who passed his Technician test, but failed the General test. A third ham tried for the upgrade to General class but failed.

Web Master Report:

Facebook has 61 “likes”. All former BRC members have been added to the email list. We are thinking of changing the name of the website – more to come.

Old Business:

Information pertaining to the Klondike Derby is in the *Time Out*, which was discussed during the February meeting. In general it was a great scouting and radio event. Next month there will be presentations on our next two radio events, the April 24th (Sunday) Fat Tire Classic and the May 7th (Saturday) Boat Eaters Race on the Farmington River. If you would like to volunteer for one or both of these fun days of playing radio, please come to the April meeting or send an email to one of the board members.

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

New Business:

There is no information of the MS Bike Ride on June 5th yet. We will be contacting the MS people soon for information. Ed Rose (WA1LEI), our Klondike friend, is asking for volunteer radio operators for the June 12 (Sunday) Tour to Cure bike ride for the American Diabetes Association to be held in Durham, CT. The event will start from the Durham fair grounds and is scheduled to run from 5 am until 4 pm. Field day will be June 25 and 26 (Saturday/Sunday).

Motion to Adjourn:	KA1NDE	
Seconded by:	KB1RRR	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Monthly Presentation

Following the meeting, a presentation on proper Net Control practices was made by Pete (KB1KZC). The presentation covered good radio practices for net control operators, event leader shadow operators, and station operators.

Annual Dues Time

Once again, it is that time of year to begin sending in your dues payment for the coming year – April 1st to March 31st. Dues are necessary to support the operation of our **four** repeaters in Bristol and Burlington. Individual emails with renewal forms attached will be sent out to each member shortly. Mail the form, along with your check made payable to ICRC, to the address shown on the form. Or bring your check to the next meeting, forms will be available there.

Dan Wall – Treasurer, ICRC

The New England QSO Party

The following is the text of an email sent out to all clubs by Tom Frenaye - K1KI, the Director of the New England Division of the ARRL to promote participation in this year's New England QSO Party.

A QSO Party is like a regular contest, but not quite as intense. It's a great opportunity for novice contesters to get their feet wet. Given the large number of amateurs in the New England, we aren't usually in demand during contests, but this is one of the few where people actually want to talk to us!

Tom writes:

The NEQP is a great time to check out antenna systems and offers a moderately paced opportunity to work new states and countries. You'll find a wide variety of participants, from newcomers to experienced contesters, all interested in making contacts with New England stations.

We're working to make sure that all of the New England counties are active again this year and would appreciate your help. Get on for at least an hour or two and join in on the fun. Please let me know if you can put in any time at all so we can work on activity from the rarest counties. Will you be QRV? Let us know which county you'll be on from with a message to info@neqp.org

Oh yes, the NEQP is also lots of fun when mobile. Every time you cross a county line the action starts over again. It's amazing what a 100w radio and mobile whip can do.

The QSO Party is 20 hours long overall, in two sections with a civilized break for sleep Saturday night. It goes from 4pm Saturday until 1am Sunday, then 9am Sunday until 8pm Sunday. Operate on CW, SSB and digital modes on 80-40-20-15-10 meters. For each QSO you'll give your callsign, a signal report and your county/state.

Last year we had logs from 139 New England stations and 275 more from around the country and world.

The full rules are here -> <http://www.neqp.org/rules.html>

The 2015 results have been on-line for a week or so and the results since 2002 are also available -
> <http://www.neqp.org/results.html>

It's just a month until the 2016 NEQP. Please make some QSOs even if you don't want to send in a log.

Thanks!

73 Tom/K1KI

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.

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 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>