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# Time Out

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Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

June - 2013

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## ***This Month's Meeting***

Due to the proximity of the scheduled Field Day activities, there will be NO general membership meeting in June. Many of the Field Day participants will be going up to the site on Friday night to get a jump on setting up. The next general membership meeting will be on July 19<sup>th</sup> at the usual time and place.

## ***President's Message***

ICRC members are getting ready for Field Day 2013 in Naugatuck, CT. The site (Andrews Mountain) should provide the club a spacious area to operate for the weekend. There is enough area to spread out so the radios do not interfere with each other from RF overload as we have experienced in some of the past events. Some members will be on site Friday evening for camping overnight. If you are planning to arrive Saturday as to what time to arrive, look for additional Field Day information in this newsletter or on the website.

The Food committee is busy working on the menu. The food committee has sent out a request for a count of who is attending this event. As in the past a fee will be access to all to cover the cost of the food, plates, etc. If you have not responded to their email this indicates to them, you will not becoming to Field Day.

Looking forward to and about future meetings. More time will be given to a program/presentation than business. This is the plan. Topics such as operating in a net, programming radios, APRS, the ICS 100, 200, 700 and 800 to be discussed during a meeting and then you can take the test online. Why do we or should we know about the ICS (Incident Command System), most of the served agencies are being trained in using the lessons taught in the different courses. You have been exposed to some of the information already. The bike and boat race the frequency plans were developed using the ICS 205. It was simple and yet there is a plan to follow. Each time you have an event your planning will make the event run smoother. Other topics are being planned as well.

Our web site (<http://www.icrcweb.org>) has information about the club you all can share with others. Meetings, past issues of Time Out, membership application, Officer and Board members, membership list, meeting dates and topics, and other information, including the classes that were have done during the Elmer's Net.

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## ***President's Message – cont'd***

There is a VEC session for new licensees or any ham wanting to upgrade to a General or Extra prior to the monthly meeting. The club is looking for General and Extra licensees to become a VE's. Contact me if you are interested. Visit the VEC session prior to the meeting at 6PM the same day of the meeting to learn more. VE's are approved and VE sessions are operated under the authority of the ARRL VEC Section. There will be a session Friday night prior to Field Day at the American Red Cross in Farmington at 6PM.

George Carbonell – N1RMF – President ICRC.

## ***Field Day!***

Once again this year, members of the ICRC will be testing their emergency communications skills and just having a good time at the annual Field Day event to be held on Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> thru Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>. All ICRC members are invited for a weekend of good friends, good food, and lots of radio fun. The event will be held at the Andrew family's property at 880 Andrew Mountain Road, Naugatuck, CT., between Tower lane and Yorktown Lane. (GPS coordinates: Lat 41 deg, 29 min, 0.15 sec Long 73 deg, 05 min. 32.5 sec.) Note: My GPS told me I had arrived before I was at the right location. Continue up the road until you get to a left turn up a dirt road in a large field. There is a small sign for 880 on the tree at the right side of the dirt road.) Continue up the dirt road until you see a small brown house on the right. Turn right just past the brown house and drive straight down to the parking area in the upper field. You should see the roof of the pavilion in the lower field. Talk-in will be available on the 146.88 repeater system. If you have trouble hitting the repeater from downtown Naugatuck, try 146.460 simplex. Both frequencies will be monitored Friday evening and Saturday morning. The official time of the contest/event is from 1800 UTC (2:00 PM) on Saturday until 2059 UTC (4:59 PM) on Sunday. The club will begin setting up at 10:00 AM on Saturday morning. A few hearty souls will be arriving Friday afternoon/early evening to camp out Friday night. Our Food Committee will have food available for a nominal charge to cover Saturday lunch, Saturday dinner, Sunday breakfast and Sunday lunch. (If you plan on coming up on Friday, you are on your own for food for Friday night and Saturday breakfast.) There is no running water or electricity on the property, so bring your own personal requirements. There are two porto-potties on the property. Electricity for the radios and computers (and coffee pot!) will be supplied by generators, so bring your flashlights. Also bring plenty of insect repellent! Hope to see many of you there!

## ***Last Month's Meeting***

# **ICRC General Membership Meeting Minutes**

## Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

<b>Date:</b>	5/17/13
<b>Time Started:</b>	7:30 PM
<b>Time Ended:</b>	9:57 PM

**Minutes taken by:** Dan Wall – W1ZFG

**Attendees (Callsign):**

N1RMF	N1QLN	KB1KNV	KB1SNL	KB1ZKQ
K1NKS	KB1ZIU	KA1NDE	WY1O	AB1NH
KB1RRR	KB1KZC	N1JGR	W1ZFG	KB1ZML
KB1WEZ	K1DFS	KB1TBL	KB1TFU	K1WMS
KB1VPY	KB1IXQ	N1JWF & Linda		

**VE Session:** Every month before the regular meeting, the ICRC sponsors a VE session for people to get their first license, or to upgrade an existing license. The results of last month's VE session were as follows:

There were 2 new Technician class licenses granted at this month's session.

Walt – K1WMS, the VE Team liaison has decided to step down, due to personal reasons. Mike – N1QLN will be the new VE Team liaison.

After considerable discussion about the sponsorship of the VE Team by the ICRC, a motion was made Steve – KB1RRR and seconded by Pete – KB1KZC to table any further discussion to the upcoming Board of Directors meeting. There were 14 in favor, 3 opposed, no abstain. The motion passed.

**Presidents Report:**

None.

**Secretary report:**

E-mailed report to membership for perusal.

Motion to Accept:		
Seconded by:		
Aye: 23	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

**Treasurer Report:**

Statements will be sent to all Board members. Dues were due as of April 1<sup>st</sup>. Please mail all dues payments to Pete directly, and no one else.

Motion to Accept:	KB1KNV	
Seconded by:	KB1SNL	
Aye: 23	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

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<b><i>Last Month's Meeting – cont'd</i></b>
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**Admin. VP Report:**

The Admin.VP asked that a draft copy of the current ICRC Constitution be mailed to all members. He also asked that the Membership list be updated and a budget created. He also asked about the progress of various club projects. He also asked for the establishment of several new committees to handle such things as: Membership, Auditing & Budget, and Club Historian.

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

**Tech. VP Report:**

- The repeaters are running good.
- There is less kerchunking with the 220 machine de-linked.
- The .15 site in Burlington has been running on solar power since a week before the Bike Race. The batteries are shot and need replacement.
- Many of the projects are on hold until the .88 site is relocated. There are several possible sites being considered.
- The inventory of the equipment at the .15 site has been completed.

Motion to Accept:	WY1O	
Seconded by:	KB1RRR	
Aye: 23	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

**Webmaster Report:**

The website has been updated with the picture from the Boat Race. Our domain name will be expiring soon. It and our registration will be updated soon.

Motion to Accept:	K1DFS	
Seconded by:	N1JWF	
Aye: 23	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

**Old Business:**

None.

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## ***Last Month's Meeting – cont'd***

### **New Business:**

A motion was made by Kurt – KB1IXQ, seconded by Sue – KB1VPY, that the club should form a new license class for New Britain CERT members. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Kurt – KB1IXQ, seconded by Sue – KB1VPY, to give Honorary Life Membership to Dan Wall – W1ZFG. Motion passed.

### **Reports on Fat Tire Classic and Boateaters Race:**

Fat Tire Classic: The Crossband Repeat/Simplex mode of operation worked out fine. One lost child was located and held at the checkpoint until his parents arrived.

Boateaters Race: The Crossband Repeat/Repeater mode of operation also worked fine. An unofficial test of APRS capability was run by Dan – W1ZFG and Rick – N1JGR. One of the APRS tracker boxes we use for the Klondike Derby was placed in the trail boat. With the monitoring station at the finish line, the signal was not observed until the trail boat got to around Checkpoint 10. Since several other stations heard the signal at various places along the course, the monitoring station will be moved to the center of the course next year.

Motion to Adjourn:		
Seconded by:		
Aye: 24	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

## ***Monthly Presentation***

There was no presentation scheduled last month, due to the time it took to go over preparations for Field Day. Regular monthly presentations will resume at a future date.

## ***Boateater Challenge Boat Race***

On Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, members of the ICRC once again provided radio communications and marshalling activities in support of the Boateater Challenge Boat Race held on the Farmington River thru Burlington, Unionville, and Farmington, CT. The day started out overcast with the threat of rain and thunderstorms predicted for later in the afternoon, but the worst we had were a few light rain showers.

Due to a few problems with the repeater last year, our Tech VP Rick – N1JGR came up with a new idea. Instead of bringing the .15 repeater down from the mountain, it was left in place. Both the .15 and .88 repeaters were accessed by setting up three Yaesu FT-8900 radios configured for crossband repeat at the start, middle and finish of the course. All participants reported no trouble in hearing each other from all parts of the course.

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## ***Boateater Challenge Boat Race***

Another experiment was conducted to test the feasibility of using APRS to track the location of boats in real time during the race. An APRS tracker box, the same kind used to track sled locations in the Klondike Derby, was placed in the trail boat with a monitoring station located at the Finish Line at Checkpoint 12. Unfortunately, the APRS signal was not picked up until the trail boat had almost reached Checkpoint 10. Other monitoring stations along the course reported picking up the APRS signal, so next year, the APRS monitoring station will be moved to the middle of the course.

Thanks to all who participated. We had several first time participants. Special thanks go out to Steve – KB1RRR for organizing the event for the club. Great job, Steve!

Participating from the ICRC this year were:

Checkpoint #1: Rick – N1JGR

Checkpoint #2: Rick – N1JGR

Checkpoint #3: Mike – N1QLN and Bill – AB1LZ

Checkpoint #4: Steve – KB1RRR

Checkpoint #5: Pete – KB1KZC

Checkpoint #6: Nick - KB1SNL

Checkpoint #7: Jim – AB1NH

Checkpoint #8: Al – N1JWF

Checkpoint #9: Chris P. – KB1YNE and Beth - KB1VFK.

Checkpoint #10: Perry – WY1O and Tom – KB1WEZ

Checkpoint #11: Kurt – KB1IXQ and Chris C. – KB1YDH

Checkpoint #12: Dan – W1ZFG and Lori – KB1ZML



Photo by Chris – KB1YNE

## ***Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary***

Section Leadership: K1EIC SM: ASMs W1FXQ Emeritus, KD1YV, K1HEJ;  
OOC K1DFS; PIC KA1WPM; SEC N1CLV: ASECs N1FNE, K1BRF, AF1HS, K1VSC, W1GTT;  
SGL K1MK; STM K1STM; TC N1KHB.

This weekend, Saturday and Sunday, ARES ops from all over the Section will be participating in this year's Angel Ride which benefits The Paul Newman's Hole In The Wall Gang Camp in Ashford. SEC N1CLV is coordinating this event. He has distributed a detailed comm. Plan and maps to all participants. I want to publicly thank all volunteers for participating and supporting this event and commend Wayne for his outstanding leadership and coordination. This is a huge project, one that Amateur radio has participated in for six years!

June 1-2 is the weekend for a number of amateur radio events.

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## **Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary – cont'd**

The Tri-City ARC and SCRAMS along with other clubs across the country are participating in museum ships weekend. Tri-City club ops will be at The Nautilus Museum in Groton June 1-2 from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 PM where visitors will tour one of the world's famous submarines, The USS Nautilus. In addition to Nautilus, other retired naval vessels around the world will be participating. An award certificate will be available for stations who work at least 15 ship stations. Details regarding participating ships and event frequencies are posted on the event coordinator's website, [www.nj2bb.org](http://www.nj2bb.org).

Here's some more info from K5HM: The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club, KK5W is participating in this year's Museum Ships Weekend. June 1-2, 2013. Our call sign, KK5W will be credited as a contact with both WW II Submarine USS Cavalla and Destroyer Escort USS Stewart. Representing the USS Cavalla and USS Stewart. Visit our web page for more information, [www.bvarcmswe.org](http://www.bvarcmswe.org). We will be operating from, Seawolf Park in Galveston, Texas, NA-143.

Frequencies as follows:

SSB

7.260 MHz

14.260 MHz

21.360 MHz

28.360 MHz

CW

7.039 Mhz

14,039 MHz

21.039 KHz

28,039 KHz

Amateur radio operators in the Galveston - Houston area are cordially invited to participate. You can sign up on the web page if you would like to operate KK5W during the event at Seawolf Park.

KK5W will also host two VHF Nets for Houston-Galveston amateurs to contact the local museum ships using the WA5CYI repeater 146.94 (-) PL 167.9 on Saturday and Sunday from 11AM - 1 PM Local time. We are anticipating the USS Texas (NA5DV), Elissa (N5E), and the Grandcamp/High Flyer Memorial (AC0TX) will be on the net.

Operation on OSCAR satellites is planned for daytime passes on Saturday, June 1. A balloon launch is scheduled for Saturday morning,

For the second year, KK5W is sponsoring the Texas Navy Award. This year's Texas Navy Fleet is expanded to include:

USS Cavalla and USS Stewart – KK5W

USS Texas – NA5DV

Tall Ship Elissa – N5E

USS Lexington – W5LEX

SS High Flyer and SS Grandcamp Memorial – AC0TX

National Museum of the Pacific War – N5P

For KK5W and AC0TX, one contact counts for both ships.



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## **Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary – cont'd**

Provide evidence of two way communication (log extract) with at least four of the call signs during MSWE 2013 to earn the 2013 Texas Navy Certificate. Work all six to earn the coveted “Clean Sweep” endorsement. Visit our web page, [www.bvarcmsgwe.org](http://www.bvarcmsgwe.org) for information on how to claim the certificate.

73,  
Ron, K5HM  
Event Coordinator  
[k5hm.ron@gmail.com](mailto:k5hm.ron@gmail.com)  
[www.qrz.com/db/k5hm](http://www.qrz.com/db/k5hm)  
[www.OpenMtg.com/ronlitt](http://www.OpenMtg.com/ronlitt)

Some members of CT VHF NTS nets will gather for brunch on June 1 and then go to The Radio And Communications Museum of CT in Windsor. For further info contact Bill KB1UAU or Ethel KB1NMO on the nets.

The Southern Berkshire Amateur Radio Club is holding their Hamfest on June 1 at the Goshen Fair Grounds, 116 Old Middle St Goshen. Talk-in 147.285/4 +600 PL 77 Hz. For further info go to <http://www.w1baa.org>; questions contact Doc K1CTT email [k1ctt@arrl.net](mailto:k1ctt@arrl.net). Hope to see you there!

Here's another event taking place on June 1 that may be of interest from Steve KD1OM from the Maine Section: Their Radio Club is having their annual hamfest at the Hermon High School, Hermon, ME 1JUN2013 at 08:00 EDT. We will be launching a high altitude balloon from the event. At about 1300Z. There will be APRS beacons so the flight can be easily tracked on [aprs.fi](http://aprs.fi) We will have the crossband repeater on the flight also. The uplink is 147.570 with no tone and the downlink is 446.100. Last year, we made contacts as far away as 362 miles from Long Island, New York. We hope to beat this distance record this year!! The theoretical coverage area of the repeater is over 400 miles. This includes NYC, Long Island, eastern New York state, all of New England, parts of Quebec, all of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Hope to hear you on the air!

73 Steve, KD1OM

Now wouldn't you think that our PIC Dana KA1WPM would know all the news? Well, he got some surprise when his brother Tom sent him an email with his new call KB1ZXE! Tom is the deputy fire chief from Ashford! Congrats Tom and congrats Dana for apparently being a motivator!

This in from NEAR-FEST: NEAR-Fest Donates over \$3500 for Bombing Victims at Deerfield Ham Radio Gathering NEAR-Fest, the New England Amateur Radio Festival celebrating its 13<sup>th</sup> bi-annual meeting, raised thousands for the One Fund Boston charity for the Victims. For decades Ham Radio operators have provided communications for the Boston Marathon. With their LONG tradition of volunteer public service in mind, New England's largest gathering of Amateur Radio Operators collected and matched donations at our May 3d-4th Event at the Deerfield Fairgrounds. In all over \$3500.00 was raised with \$2500.00 donated directly by NEAR-Fest. (photo omitted) Contact: Warren Elly W1GUD 813-924-6096.

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## **Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary – cont'd**

Allen W1AGP tells me he has retired but he's still working hard. Here's some news from Allen: As you know, the ARRL will be celebrating our Centennial in 2014. One part of it will be gathering as many short pairs of video clips as we can get showing radio amateurs in their "normal/work" settings saying "I am \_\_\_name\_\_\_. I like \_\_\_activity\_\_\_ and I am the ARRL" and then another clip of the same person using or working with radio gear. For example, a shot of a car mechanic in coveralls working over an engine looks at camera and says "I am Henry Smith, N0XCC. I like to talk to strange countries and I am the ARRL" and a paired shot of him at home talking on the radio. Or a lab technician in a white coat, a doctor with a stethoscope, a teacher in a classroom, a cook in a kitchen – you get the idea. We are "that guy down the street" and we are the ARRL.

These clips will be gathered and assembled into one video that we expect will be shown at the national convention. We will be holding a drawing from the names of submitters for many prizes, including a top winner of a mini-library of major ARRL publications such as the ARRL Handbook, Antenna Book and more! (One "ticket in the hat" for each usable paired clip submitted.) With Field Day coming up, that's an ideal place for getting both Part A and Part B clips as long as those being video recorded bring with them their "work costume" and the shooter knows how to be a little creative with creating Part A. Part B clips are just a matter of grabbing a shot of the person at one of the Field Day stations -- shooting each from a different angle, etc.

If at all possible, the clips should be shot in 9:16 format (widescreen) and 720 or higher definition. MP4 or .mov files preferred. No VHS tapes as we cannot use them. Best bet is to put them onto a CD or DVD and send them to:

"I am the ARRL Contest"  
ARRL - Media & PR  
225 Main St  
Newington, CT 06111

As usual, ARRL must have the full rights for use of the video clips submitted. Releases for the participants shown can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/adult-picture-release-form>. Submissions are due in by Dec 31, 2013.

In club news, the Valley Amateur Radio Association and members of CT ARES Region 2 participated in comms for the Parent Child Resource Center Petals for Peace bike ride. Oldtimers and newcomers to the Amateur radio alike were present. The Insurance City Repeater Club helped out with communications for the Boateaters race and the Fat Tire Classic Mountain bike race. Members of the Candlewood Amateur Radio Association will participate in communications assistance with the Ridgefield Triathlon coordinated by John W1JMA. The Greater Norwalk ARC enjoyed a talk on PC board design and fabrication by Sam, NV1P. WA1LEI and WA1SFH report 9 new hams including 2 general licenses from their class in Milford. Gary WE1M reports that The Greater Bridgeport ARC taught 6 new ops including 3 generals! Congrats to all and a big thank you to all teachers and other classroom assistants who do an outstanding job of bringing new hams into our service.

The Candlewood ARA enjoyed a discussion of emergency power presented by Mark DeWolfe, Connecticut Telecommunications Manager for the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Mark is a member of the Newtown, CT, Fire Department along with VP John Will, KB1LYP, who arranged for Mark to give his talk this evening.

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## **Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary – cont'd**

Some program highlights to keep in mind when setting up an emergency / backup power system:

- Determine the required system capacity including start up loads for, for instance, the refrigerator and furnace oil burner.
- Select a source of power and, in the case of a generator, the type of fuel.
- Install a Transfer Switch or other device for isolating the load(s) to eliminate the danger of back-feeding the power grid.
- Reliability depends on a good maintenance program. In the case of a generator, use high quality lubricating oil and keep a supply of fresh or “stabilized” fuel.
- **WARNING:** Internal combustion engines produce carbon monoxide (CO). Be sure to vent exhaust outside and keep fumes away from open windows and ventilation air intakes!
- Understand the issues relative to 2-pole (3600 RPM) vs. 4-pole (1800 RPM) generators and the effect on noise and service life; slower is better.

DEC AB1GL wants you to know that the URL for the ARES region 3 web site has changed from ctregion3.net To ctares-region3.org.

DEC Douglas WA1SFH Region 2 ARES is coordinating an NVIS challenge sponsored by Region 2 but open to ALL operators. CT ARES - Region 2 is pleased to sponsor this fun NVIS Antenna communications event. - It is open to all CT ARES TEAM members in ALL 5 Regions. Here's his announcement.

With the change in weather and warming temperatures, AND BEFORE THE NEXT HURRICANE SEASON begins, now is a great time to build your "field portable/deployable" HF NVIS Antenna . Are you up for the challenge? Your 30 Days starts TODAY ! (5/15/13)

NVIS Antenna Competition Date: Saturday, June 15, 2013 Complete

(updated) details at:

<http://ctaresregion2.org/forum/antenna-central/190-build-and-test-your-own-nvis-antenna-6-15-13#217>

Upcoming Exams: Unless otherwise indicated, walk-ins are allowed. The sponsoring club or group is indicated after the time.

June 1 at SBARC Hamfest Goshen Fair Grounds at Hamfest 9:30 a.m.; SBARC.

June 2 Eels Hill Rd. Milford 10:00 a.m. Coastline ARC; must register contact Dick K1yqe@aol.com.

June 8 Stoney Hill Firehouse Bethel; 11:30 a.m.; CARA; contact frsileo@att.net.

June 11 Thomaston Town Hall/Senior Center Level 1; 7:00 PM; Northwest Amateurs; contact lspolowy@snet.net.

June 13 49 Sunrise Ave Trumbull; 7:00 PM; kevin.cellini@gmail.com.

June 18 Portland Senior Center 7 Waverly Ave.; 7:00 PM; Middlesex ARS; k1pl@arrl.net.

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***Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary – cont'd***

June 13 American Red Cross, 209 Farmington Ave. Farmington; 6:00 PM;  
K1WMS VE Team/ICRC; contact n1qln@arrl.net.

June 23 Eels Hill Rd., Milford; 10:00 a.m.; see listing June 3; must  
register.

June 29 Bloomfield Police Dept., 785 Park Ave.; 9:00 a.m.; Bloomfield  
ARC; contact Don k1in@comcast.net.

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ARRL Connecticut Section  
Section Manager: Betsey M Doane, K1EIC  
k1eic@arrl.org  
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*For the latest information, visit our website at <http://www.icrcweb.org>*