
Time Out

Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

June - 2016

This Month's Meeting

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, June 17th 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 several topics discussed: There will be a review of the MS Bike Race which was held on June 5th. Also, plans for our upcoming Field Day operation will be discussed. There are several key areas that still need to be finalized. Field Day is only 2 weeks away!

President's Message

Hi All, well we just finished the MS Bike Ride, and boy it was wet! We had the smoothest event yet. The repeater performed flawlessly, thanks Ted, K1YON/145.230, another Ride with great communications, and the I.C.R.C./B.R.C "HAMS", as the MS group referred to us. The weather caused the event to be shortened, no 100 mile ride but they had two 50 mile rides with the first starting off at 7:30am, and a 25 miler, 10 miler, and a shorten 2 miler to 1 mile for the kids. We were able to man 5 SAG Wagons and 4 rest stops, shadow the event chairperson and man(woman) the start/finish line. We had a larger tent, courtesy of the MS, and the venders were great. A Taste of Texas provided a great lunch, and we all got wet.

Thanks to Rick, N1JGR, Dan, W1ZFG, for a great job manning Net Control, and of course to all that manned the SAG Wagons and rest stops. AAA provided two SAG Wagons and their guys were great. We could have used a couple more radios, however we had great conditions and we didn't lose anyone. A special thanks to our club secretary, Tom, KB1WEZ, his maps and information were very useful and helped with quick resolutions with the few stranded riders on the course.

The MS Ride incorporated ideas from the debriefing with our club last year that enabled us to track the riders in an efficient manner and helped the MS Society end their, and our long day earlier.

President's Message – cont'd

Thanks to the following I.C.R.C./B.R.C. members that came out to the MS Bike Ride:

Rick - N1JGR
Dan - W1ZFG
Peter - KB1KZC
Sue- KC1CLK
Ron - KC1CWN
Tom - KB1WEZ
Steve - KB1RRR
Chris - KA1NDE
Colin - KB1YYG
Jim - AB1NH
Nick - KB1SNL

We had fun, ate well, played radio, let's not forget the tee shirts and sun glasses, and had a good time. Again thanks to all who came out and helped.

Peter/KB1KZC
President - I.C.R.C./B.R.C.

Last Month's Meeting

Date: 5-20-2016

Time Started: 7:30 pm

Time Adjourned: 8:35 pm

Attendance

KB1KZC	KB1VFN	N1JGR	W1PMD	KA1NDE	KC1CLK
AB1NH	KB1YYG	KC1ECT	KB1SNL	KB1WEZ	KB1VPY
KC1CWN	K1NFE	KB1RRR	N1LGB	KB1KRI	

Minutes taken by: Tom Chapman - KB1WEZ

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

President's Report:

The Club is working towards completing the BRC merger paperwork. The new Fusion digital repeater is at FedEx and due to delivery problems will be picked up by Pete (KB1KZC) on Saturday 5/21. The Club is in good shape and looking forward to participating in the upcoming MS Windsor Bike Ride and Field Day radio events.

Motion to Accept:	KC1CWN	
Seconded by:	KC1CLK	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Secretary Report:

The minutes from last month's meeting are in the *Time Out*, which each month is emailed to all members by Dan (W1ZFG). Volunteer sign-up sheets for the MS Windsor Bike Ride and ARRL Field Day radio events were on the front table for those interested in volunteering.

Motion to Accept	KA1NDE	
Seconded by:	KB1YYG	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Treasurer's Report:

[The Treasurer's report was provided by Rick (N1JGR) since Dan (W1ZFG) was with the ARRL in Dayton.] Financially the Club is in good shape, and all bills are being paid.

Motion to Accept	KC1CWN	
Seconded by:	KC1CLK	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Admin VP Report:

Jim (AB1NH) is still trying to get members interested in teaching license classes and again asked for those interested in instructing. So far 2 people have expressed interest but at least 5 or 6 will be needed to hold a class.

Motion to Accept	K1NFE	
Seconded by:	KB1RRR	
Aye: 0	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

Tech VP Report:

Generally, the machines are working fine. A high noise level has been present on the 146.685 Kenwood machine and was noticed during the NTS Traffic Net. However, the Monday net did not hear any noise. Rick will replace this Kenwood repeater with the digital Yaesu Fusion repeater and he will also go through all of the equipment at that site. Arnie (K1NFE) reported that the 146.685 site has a backup generator provided by the Bristol Police.

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

VE Report:

There were 2 candidates for the Technician license and both passed the test. Neither of the new Technicians tried for the General license but both took Club membership application forms.

Web Master Report:

The webmaster was not present.

Old Business:

The MS Windsor Bike Ride was discussed and all members were urged to volunteer for this great charity event. We will be manning 8 rest stops, 3 sag wagons, net control, and the start/finish line.

Field Day, to be held at Winding Trails in Farmington, was also discussed. It is an overnight event so camping tents are a good idea for those volunteers staying. We have the pop-up tents, radios, and antennas to run 4 stations, but members can bring tables and chairs and any personal items they may require. For food we anticipate burgers and dogs for Saturday lunch traditional eggs and bacon for Sunday breakfast, and wings for Sunday lunch. Saturday dinner options were discussed (possibly steaks).

New Business:

We have been asked to provide radio communications for the September 25, 2016 Bristol Mum Parade. The parade starts at 1:30 PM, and Club volunteers meet at the parade route at 9:30 AM. We need 8 to 10 hams for this event to shadow the 4 parade division organizers, to walk the route, and to man the reviewing stand.

Motion to Adjourn:	KC1CWN	
Seconded by:	KC1CLK	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Monthly Presentation

Following the meeting, the Boateaters Farmington River race was discussed.

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

Bike MS: Praxair Ride

The ICRC once again provided radio communications for the Bike MS: Praxair Ride held on Sunday, June 5th at the Griffin Center Business Park, 5 Waterside Crossing, Windsor, CT.

For complete details, refer to the President's Message earlier in this newsletter.

Thanks to Ron, KC1CWN for the photo.



Field Day

Plans are still being made for this year's Field Day exercise to be held on Saturday, June 25th and Sunday, June 26th. The location has been determined to be Winding Trails in Farmington. We still need more people to volunteer for the various committees, such as Bonus Points, and most importantly - Food! If you don't have a lot of experience operating HF radio equipment in a contest/emergency drill atmosphere, this is an excellent opportunity to gain some. Plus there will be the usual good people and good food to enjoy. More information will be available at this month's meeting.

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!

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.

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>