
Time Out

Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

July - 2016

This Month's Meeting

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, July 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 two presentations given by our Treasurer, Dan - W1ZFG. The first one will be the annual update of the club's financial status. The second one will be on the results of our extremely successful Field Day operation held in June. Bring the popcorn!

President's Message

Hi All,

The Independence Day Holiday has gone by, I'm sure you have all been busy. The club has just put Field Day 2016 into the Old Business section. It was one of the best Field Days our club has been involved in! We had good attendance, a good location, lots of contacts, many different radio operators, and to date the largest attendance to any of our events by members of the old CRA/BRC.

Food was great as always, and there was plenty of it. A fire, I guess bonfire would be a better description. I heard the pile of wood was a " pile " at one time during the night, as it must have been hot because little evidence of anything was left in the morning.

Thanks to Stephen, KB1RRR, for organizing the weekend, he and his committees did great work, Dave, KB1TBL, for arranging for the club's location, Winding Trails in Farmington, Rick, N1JGR, for making sure we had the radios, and setting up our site from stations to antenna locations. Scott, N1EZY, for the logging network, his video recording, and wrench, Dan, W1ZFG, for the extras that go into Field Day points, and knowing the rules so the rest of us don't get into trouble. Tom, KB1WEZ, for providing announcements, and helping everywhere. Paul, W1PMD, for bringing his QRP station, Alan, N1ITT, for use of his tower, and all those that attended. Participants brought radios, power supplies, tents, pop ups, beverages, almost anything you can think of. Most of all great attitudes. Everyone helped out through the weekend, cooking, brewing coffee, recording contacts, making contacts, taking pictures of everything.

President's Message - cont'd

It won't be official until Dan finishes scoring the weekend, but we are pretty sure KB1TBL was dethroned for the first time in two years as the contact leader. Lisa, KB1RVU, was a natural on the airwaves, making over a hundred contacts! Not only did she bury everyone, she went home for the night. She did this on 80 meters, standing by! We had guests stop in to view our set up and one happened to be a recent new ham. John, K1JMC, came on Saturday observed and helped us set up, then came back on Sunday and made his first contacts with our club.

The club is grateful to Winding Trails. They provided the club the camp spots we wanted, made sure to check and see if we needed anything, treed their resident black bear when he was headed our way. I think it was Steve's and Nick's cooking breakfast, bacon always smells good, and they donated the weekend space and facilities. We could not have done better.

Thanks to all I.C.R.C./B.R.C. members that came and brought their " A " games, we have lots of fun and got to know each other at a fun event.

Thanks to all that attended, you made this a good event. The following members were in attendance: Tom - KB1WEZ, Ron - KC1CWN, Jon - KC1ECT, Colin - KB1YYG, Chris - KA1NDE, Paul - W1PMD, Peter - KB1KZC, Jim - AB1NH, Barb - KB1RRS, Sue - KB1VPY, Lisa - KB1RVU, Al & Linda - N1JWF, Dan - W1ZFG, Steve - KB1RRR, Rick - N1JGR, Nick - KB1SNL, John - K1JMC, Dave - KB1TBL, Scott - N1EZY, Arnie - K1NFE, Rich - WB1J, and Jeff - KC1DRZ & sons.

Thanks to all and come to this Fridays membership meeting to get the clubs final numbers and view pictures of the event! See you on Friday.

Peter/KB1KZC

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

Last Month's Meeting

Date: 6-17-2016
Time Started: 7:30 pm
Time Adjourned: 7:49 pm

Attendance					
KB1KZC	N1URO	N1JGR	W1PMD	KA1NDE	W1ZFG
AB1NH	KB1YYG	KC1ECT	KB1SNL	KB1WEZ	KB1VPY
KC1CWN	N1EZY	KB1RRR	N1CTH	N1JWF	KB1RRS
KB1TBL	KB1RVU	Linda			

Minutes taken by: Tom Chapman - KB1WEZ

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

President's Report:

The Club had a great MS Bike event in early June. The weather was rainy (which cancelled the 100-mile route and 3 rest stops), but we were provided a good tent for net control and the radios stayed dry. For the first time we had 5 SAG wagons and they provided good coverage for the entire event area. Club dues are due, so please pay ASAP.

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 each month is emailed to all members by Dan (W1ZFG). A volunteer sign-up sheets for the ARRL Field Day radio event was on the front table for those interested in volunteering.

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. However, only 13 members have paid their 2016 dues so far. Also, the battery fund would also appreciate donations.

Motion to Accept	N1EZY	
Seconded by:	KC1CWN	
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.

Motion to Accept	KC1CWN	
Seconded by:	N1JWF	
Aye: 0	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

Tech VP Report:

Generally, the machines are working fine. Nothing else to report.

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

VE Report:

There were 2 candidates for licensing: 1 for Technician who passed the test (but did not try for the General), and one who took the Extra test and passed with only 3 wrong answers.

Web Master Report:

The webmaster was not present.

Old Business:

The successful MS Windsor Bike Ride was discussed. We may be having a work party for the .15 site to finish the install of the wind generator and paint the 2 buildings. Replacement blades have been ordered for the generator.

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. Vehicles will be allowed up to the camping site. The hitch has been repair on the antenna tower trailer.

New Business:

None.

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

Monthly Presentation

Following the meeting, Field Day was further discussed and a presentation was made by Steve (KB1RRR).

Field Day!

Our annual Field Day operation was held on Saturday, June 25th and Sunday, June 26th at the Winding Trails Recreation Area in Farmington, CT. The weather was nearly perfect - warm and sunny during the day and cool and clear at night. Four operating positions were set up primarily for 80 meters, 40 meters, 20 meters and 15M/10M/6M and digital modes. Antennas in use were the portable tower containing a tri-bander for 20M, 15M, and 10M and a three element beam for 6M. Also put up on site were a G5RV Sr for 160M-10M, a G5RV for 80M-10M, and a G5RV Jr for 40M-10M.

While everyone present contributed to the operation in some manner, special thanks go out to Dave - KB1TBL for securing the Winding Trails location, to Nick - KB1SNL, Pete - KB1KZC, and Steve - KB1RRR for all the hard work in setting up and taking down the tower and antennas, to Tom - KB1WEZ and Steve - KB1RRR for the great job on the food, and to Scott - N1EZY for setting up the computer network used for logging.

Special thanks also go out to the people who made the extra effort to secure Bonus Points: Tom - KB1WEZ for getting 100 points for the Media Publicity bonus, Paul - W1PMD for getting 100 points for the Natural Power QSOs, Sue - KB1VPY for getting 100 points for being our Served Agency Official, Ron - KC1CWN and Colin - KB1YYG for getting 100 points for being our site Safety Officers, and to Dan - W1ZFG for getting 200 points for sending an NTS message to our Section Manager and for copying the W1AW Field Day Bulletin. Also participating were: Jon - KC1ECT, Chris - KA1NDE, Jim - AB1NH, Barb - KB1RRS, Lisa - KB1RVU, Al - N1JWF & Linda, Rick - N1JGR, John - K1JMC, Arnie - K1NFE, Rich - WB1J, and Jeff - KC1DRZ & sons.



Three operating stations



The 15M/10M/6M/CW/Digital Station



Tom at the 40M Station



Jon and John at the 20M Station



Paul at the QRP Station



Lisa, Barb, and Sue at the 80M Station



New Yaesu System Fusion Repeater On The Air!

On Saturday, July 9th, our intrepid Tech VP Rick - N1JGR and his trusty assistant Nick - KB1SNL installed a new Yaesu System Fusion repeater at the .685 repeater site in Burlington. After a successful on-the-air test between Rick and Dan - W1ZFG, they were surprised to receive a call from a station located in South Windsor! He sounded like he was next door, so the new machine appears to be functioning well. The folks that use this machine every night for the Nutmeg VHF Traffic Net have reported that they are pleased with the performance of the new repeater. Some of the farther away folks who usually come in a little weak are now much clearer.

This is the third new repeater that the club has installed in the last year. Now all three of our repeaters can do the new C4FM digital mode. But if you have not yet upgraded to Digital, don't worry. All three repeaters will still accept standard analog signals from your existing radios! The systems are set to automatically switch to whichever mode it receives at the input. So if you hear some strange noises coming over the machines, it's not broken - it's just in C4FM Digital mode.

Thanks again to Rick - N1JGR and the rest of the Tech Committee who put in a lot of time and effort to upgrade and maintain our multi-repeater system. Their efforts are greatly appreciated!

Annual Dues Time

The three month grace period for the payment of club dues has expired on July 1st. Anyone who has not paid their dues will be removed from the membership list.

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.

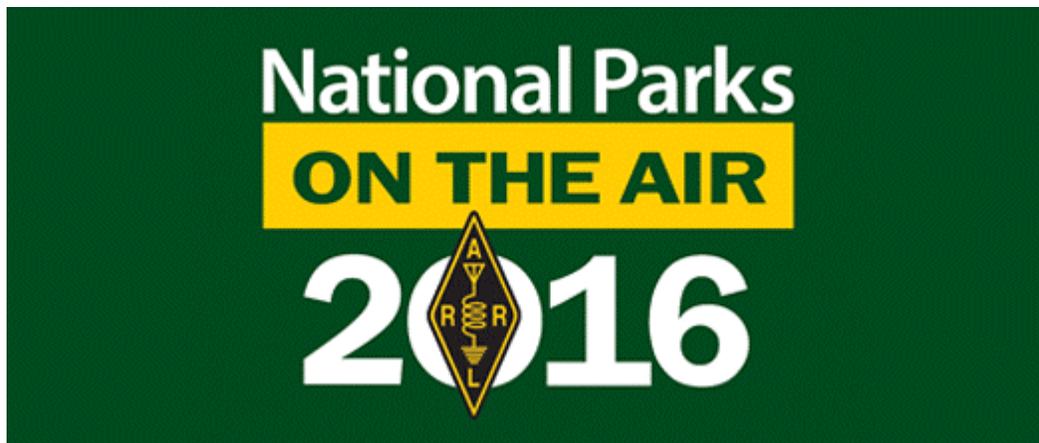
ICRC/BRC Sponsored VE Team

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>