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# Time Out

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Publication of the *NEW* ICRC, Inc.

March - 2014

The Radio Club with More "Radio" & Less "Club"

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

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, March 21st 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 new 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 on Repeater Etiquette. This is primarily aimed at the newer operators, but even the "old-timers" could always benefit from a refresher. This is material that is not taught in the license classes.

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

A club – "a club is an association of two or more people united by a common interest or goal". Reference in Wikipedia.

I thought I was sure that I knew what a club was, but after the events of the last couple of years, it had me wondering. Are we, the I.C.R.C., a club? We are all interested in a common interest. That being radio, amateur radio. Then I took the time to think about our club, I became impressed. Do you realize that as a club, we maintain three repeaters, and a packet radio. We sponsor a successful VE Team, we are in the process of putting together a teaching team and with all this going on we are one of the most active radio clubs in the state of Connecticut! We just finished providing communications and safety for a Boy Scout Klondike Derby, the twenty-third time in its forty-second year, we are working on the annual bike race in Farmington, an event that we have provided communication and marshalling services for more than fifteen years, followed by a boat race, then a MS event in Windsor, another MS event in September in Hartford. This kind of activity affords our club members lots of opportunity to play radio and serve the community. Let's not forget one of our best and I feel best done events, Field Day at the end of June, a time when our members get together to have fun and play radio.! So as clubs go, we have a lot to offer our members, and I feel, more than most clubs.

As far as leadership, we have the strongest and most dedicated Board of Directors the club has had in years. This club is growing and as all growing entities we have had growing pains. The group has met each hurdle head on and managed to solve each problem in ways that has allowed the club to move on and keep growing.

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## ***President's Message – cont'd***

We have a Tech Committee that helps keep the club on the cutting edge of technology, and our repeaters working top notch. Our web site staff has kept our site modern looking and up to date. Our membership meetings have been real fun with hands on building projects, and informative sessions that have included ARRL films, and demonstrations' of packet radio and upcoming presentations on repeater etiquette and The Logbook of The World.

So I guess I answered my own question, the Insurance City Repeater Club is one great club. It has many different things and areas that allow our members to do whatever they feel they want to be involved in. As well as meeting at a time, the third Friday of every month, and the same place we call home, for almost as long as the club has been in existence, the American Red Cross in Farmington Connecticut. A group that the club supports by providing emergency communications with our equipment and their up to date radio room.

Our club is an exciting club to be a member in. It's one that offers everything an amateur radio licensed person can become involved in. Its members have expertise in all areas of the hobby, from simplex operation to DXing all over the world! As a member of this club you can be very proud of that association, as we help local groups with our communications expertise and provide a much needed service to other worthwhile organizations serving many different causes both life threatening and entertaining.

On a different note the Board of Directors has taken action on a disciplinary problem that had arisen with one of our own. The Board was unanimous in its decision and we are sure that it was handled in a way that will insure the incident will not repeat itself in the future.

7-3, KB1KZC

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

# **ICRC General Membership Meeting Minutes**

<b>Date</b>	<b>2-21-2014</b>
<b>Time Started</b>	<b>7:41pm</b>
<b>Time Ended</b>	<b>8:14pm</b>

### Attendance

KB1YNE	W1ZFG	KB1TBL	N1EZY	N3BED	Paul Mason-guest
KB1SNL	KC1AYY	KA1NDE	N1AUD	KB1KZC	Greg Mason-guest
K1NKS	N1JGR	N1PRH	AB1NH	N1JWF	N1GTW-GUEST

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<b><i>Last Month's Meeting – cont'd</i></b>
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President's Report: The club is doing well, met with the American Red Cross to discuss helping them out with the radio room.

Motion to Accept:	KB1RRR	
Seconded by:	KA1NDE	
Aye:15	Nay:0	Abstain:0

Secretary Report: Last month's minutes recorded and passed out via newsletter, had a new member sign up, welcome Ernie, KC1AYY

Motion to Accept:	N1PRH	
Seconded by:	KB1RRR	
Aye:15	Nay:0	Abstain:0

Treasurer Report: Club is financially sound.

Motion to Accept:	KB1RRR	
Seconded by:	N1EZY	
Aye:15	Nay:0	Abstain:0

Admin VP Report: Looking to do a Tech class in April, possibly Thursday evenings in Bristol.

Motion to Accept:	N1PRH	
Seconded by:	AB1NH	
Aye:15	Nay:0	Abstain:0

Tech VP Report: All repeaters working according to spec.

Motion to Accept:	KA1NDE	
Seconded by:	N1PRH	
Aye:15	Nay:0	Abstain:0

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<b><i>Last Month's Meeting</i></b>
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VE Report: We had 3 people show up to take their exams tonight, a good showing.

Motion to Accept:	N1EZY	
Seconded by:	KC1AYY	
Aye:15	Nay:0	Abstain:0

Web VP Report: Facebook and the web are out there. We created a new email list for non-members we want to keep informed some items but perhaps all. We can create groups like commitee.name@icrcweb.org if that helps various committees communicate. AB1NH requested we make such a group for the VE team.

Motion to Accept:	KB1RRR	
Seconded by:	KC1AYY	
Aye:15	Nay:0	Abstain:0

Old business: N1JGR: Klondike Derby was a lot of fun. 187 kids and around 100 adults showed up. There were about 10 hams and while an extra 5 would have been good, the event went off really well. The food was great and a good time was had by all.

New Business: KB1TBL mentioned that those in Manchester were thinking about a statewide CERT net and the possibility of linking repeaters only during the time such a net was running. The board will discuss.

Upcoming Events: Fat Tire: April 27, Boateater Challenge - usually in May, MS Bike in June, Field Day in June, MS Bike in Sept.

Motion to Adjourn:	KB1RRR	
Seconded by:	KB1SNL	
Aye: 15	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

<b><i>Monthly Presentation</i></b>
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Last month, members viewed two videos from the ARRL. The first one was a behind-the-scenes look at the old ARRL headquarters on LaSalle Rd in West Hartford in 1935. The second one was "ARRL at 100: A Century of Ham Radio", recently produced and filmed at the ARRL Headquarters in Newington. If you missed it, it is also available for viewing on the ARRL Centennial website.

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## ***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. Since the ICRC 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. 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 and include "ARRL Dues" in the comment line. It's that easy!

## ***ICRC Sponsored VE Team***

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month beginning at 6pm, the Insurance City Repeater 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](mailto:AB1NH@mindspring.com) Good luck!

## ***ARRL Centennial Operating Activities***

In 2014, the ARRL will be celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The ARRL National Centennial Convention will be held at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford on July 17 – 19, 2014. For more information about the convention, check out <http://ARRL2014.org>.

There are also two yearlong on-air operating events that you may be interested in.

The first one is the W1AW Portable Stations Operations. Each week during 2014, certain stations in two different states will be designated as W1AW portable stations. This is a great opportunity to fill in those states you need to get your Worked All States award. There will also be a special Worked All States award for working all W1AW stations. Its not too late to join in the fun. W1AW stations will be on the air for two separate weeks spaced during the year, so if you missed a state the first time, you can always get it the second time around. A schedule of which stations are on the air each week is available on the ARRL website.

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## ***ARRL Centennial Operating Activities – cont'd***

The second one is the Centennial QSO Party. For those of you who have yet to discover the fun of Contesting, a QSO Party is an informal contest where people in a certain group, like a particular state, try to work as many people outside that state, and vice-versa. QSO Parties usually last only a weekend, but this one runs for an entire year! The object of this QSO Party is for ARRL members to work as many other ARRL members as they can during 2014. Points are scored based on your position in the ARRL organization. For example, every ARRL member is worth at least one point. Volunteer Examiners are worth 3 points. W1AW portable stations are worth 5 points. ARRL HQ staff members are worth 50 points. The W100AW HQ station in Newington is worth 100 points. And if you manage to work the ARRL President, she is worth 300 points. There are many other point categories too numerous to mention here. For a complete list of point values for various positions, check out the web site at: <http://www.arrl.org/centennial-qso-party>

## ***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>*