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# Time Out

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Publication of the *NEW* ICRC, Inc.

November - 2013

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, November 15<sup>th</sup> 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, elections for Board of Directors and Executive Board will be held. Please refer to the section on Elections in the bylaws for how the elections will be conducted. There is no planned activity/presentation for this month due to the elections. If time allows, we will just wing it!

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

No message this month.

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

# ICRC General Membership Meeting Minutes

## Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

<b>Date:</b>	10/18/13
<b>Time Started:</b>	7:32 PM
<b>Time Ended:</b>	8:30 PM

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

**Attendees (Callsign):**

W1ZFG	N1JGR	KB1KZC	N1JWF	K1KNS
KB1TBL	KB1YNE	KB1RRR	KB1SNL	AB1NH
N1PRH	KB1ZYT	N1AUD	KB1WEZ	N1EGY
KA1NDE	KA1KRP	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:

The NEW ICRC sponsored VE Team is now up and running! We had 2 candidates tested. 1 new Technician Class license was issued. 1 upgrade to General Class was issued.

The club purchased T-shirts for the 4 members of the club sponsored VE Team.

**Presidents Report:**

Check out our new website! The club is in good shape. The first floor meeting room is ours for the next year. We are looking to do some work on the radio room upstairs.

Motion to Accept:	Dave	KB1TBL
Seconded by:	Jim	AB1NH
Aye: 16	Nay: 0	Abstain: 1

**Secretary report:**

Meeting minutes were emailed to all members.

Motion to Accept:	Chris	KA1NDE
Seconded by:	Steve	KB1RRR
Aye: 17	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

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

There were no deposits made this month, as there were no dues collected.

The club spent \$46 on the banner to be used at club events.

\$150 was paid for the 3 month rental of the .88 site in Bristol.

\$77 was paid to CL&P for electricity at the .15 site in Burlington.

A very generous donation of \$50 was received from Jack – K1NKS for the Battery Fund.

Motion to Accept:	Jim	AB1NH
Seconded by:	Nick	KB1SNL
Aye: 17	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

**Admin. VP Report:**

Still working on the t-shirts. Waiting for input from Pete.

Motion to Accept:	Jack	K1NKS
Seconded by:	Tom	KB1WEZ
Aye: 17	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

**Tech. VP Report:**

All repeaters are up and running well. A band opening was causing some interference. A G3 station (England) was heard on 10 meters.

The inventory list has been completed. Copies have been sent to the Treasurer and Secretary.

The club generator was picked up today. (For those of you who didn't know that we had a generator, it has been in the repair shop for the last 15 years.) Once it is repaired, it will be stored at the .15 site in Burlington as a back-up for the solar panel/battery system.

Still working on collection for battery fund.

The power supply has been turned on at the .15 site due to the storm. It will be left on for the winter, due to lack of available sunlight.

The wind turbine will be installed at the .15 site for feasibility testing. There will be a work party next month.

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

The 6 meter repeater is being actively pursued. Once a frequency is obtained, a transmitter and beacon will be put on the air to hold the frequency. It is dependant on the status of the .88 site as to whether or not we will need a duplexer.

The PL tone on the 440 repeater in Bristol has been temporarily changed to prevent interference.

There is also a 440 machine at the Red Cross in Farmington that we would like to get back on the air. A discussion with the Red Cross radio guy needs to take place. This will be discussed at the next Tech Committee meeting.

Motion to Accept:	Jack	K1NKS
Seconded by:	Steve	KB1RRR
Aye: 17	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

### **Webmaster Report:**

The website is up and running. Two group email addresses have been created.

Looking into setting up a PayPal link for donations.

Motion to Accept:	Jack	K1NKS
Seconded by:	Steve	KB1RRR
Aye: 17	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

### **Old Business:**

None.

### **New Business:**

On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, the NARL club will be looking for volunteers to help with radio communications for the Veteran's parade in Hartford. Meet at 10:00 AM across from the Bushnel. More information will be emailed to the membership by Chris – KB1YNE.

The Klondike Derby will be held on February 1st and 2nd, 2014. Set-up of the course will take place on January 25<sup>th</sup>. Contact Rick – N1JGR for more information.

Motion to Adjourn:	Jack	K1NKS
Seconded by:	Nick	KB1SNL
Aye: 127	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

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## **Monthly Presentation**

A presentation was made by Rick – N1JGR about various aspects of the Klondike Derby. We are looking for around 15 hams to support this worthy event.

## **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!

## **Elections for Board of Directors/Officers**

The Nominating Committee has finalized the slate of proposed Board Members and Officers. The elections will be held at the November meeting, where the proposed slate will be voted on. Any member may challenge any of the positions by nominating another person and the selection between the two candidates shall be determined by secret ballot.

### Board of Directors:

Pete – KB1KZC      Jim – AB1NH  
Jack – K1NKS      Bill – KB1KNV  
Dan – W1ZFG      Tom – KB1WEZ  
Rick – N1JGR      Chris – KB1YNE  
Nick – KB1SNL      Steve – KB1RRR

### Executive Board:

President:      Pete – KB1KZC  
Admin. V.P.      Jack – K1NKS  
Tech. V.P.      Rick – N1JGR  
Secretary      Chris – KB1YNE  
Treasurer      Dan – W1ZFG

Dan Wall – W1ZFG  
Chairman – Nominating Committee  
[walldan54@att.net](mailto:walldan54@att.net)

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## ***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 W1SMS.

At the beginning of this month, we lost a very active and creative operator. Roger Strong, KB1NYY, president of CARA became a silent key suddenly. Of course, many club members wrote comments remembering his activities fondly. You and I know that hams continue to be creative and Roger was one such individual. He was an editor at the New York Times for many years and as you will read from one of his colleagues, David Frank, you'll understand my regard for his resourceful work. Here is Mr. Frank's email which I am quoting with permission.

“Here's a note I just sent out to mostly current and past photo desk folks: Like so many of you, I was saddened to hear the news that Roger had died. I came to the Times in 1985 and clearly remember being struck by Roger's big handlebar mustache that he proudly wore! I also recall being the first person to see him after he shaved it off some years later. I was meeting him in the lobby of our hotel for a conference or super bowl and I couldn't figure out what was so different about him. He wouldn't tell me - he just stood there until I figured it out. One thing that I know Roger took with him was a great pride in being a major player, part of Times' history actually, in the introduction and development of digital imaging on the photo desk. And rightfully so! It was a huge leap from what we had been doing and forever changed how we do our jobs. Roger worked closely with Gary Cosimini in the Art department in those early days (late 1980s and early 1990s) and the two of them basically launched the NYT into the digital era. Roger was truly into all of this. He embraced it from early on and started learning everything he could about it - which was mostly trial and error - mostly error! Roger and I became partners in this effort starting in the early 1990s and continued to work closely together for the next 12-13 years. Technology was advancing at such a torrent pace in those early days, it was next to impossible to keep up with everything and how it fit in (or not) with our own needs on the photo desk. For instance, the age of desktop computers (i.e. Apple) had already begun, but there was very little useful software available. I still remember the gigantic Imagitech scanner (I believe that was what it was called) sitting across from the assignment desk. The thing was about the size of two desks put end to end. Roger was among the few people being trained on how to scan images on it. I don't think it was ever actually used, though, because the first version of Photoshop had just come out along with some very clumsy and slow film scanners, but they were still light years better, cheaper, faster and smaller than the Imagitech. By the way, one of Roger's favorite stories about Photoshop is how the cropping tool icon came about - it was a direct result of Gary Cosimini showing them the scale-o-graphs we used to crop paper prints. So the New York Times played a role in the development of that software as well. One issue early on was rotating scanned images (i.e. looking at verticals). I remember being at a trade show in a tiny room in Arizona with Roger where one vendor's solution was to literally pick up the monitor and turn it on its side! During the demo Roger and I laughed so hard we were crying and the funniest part of all was the vendor was dead serious. It was comic, but serves as a perfect illustration to how difficult things were (and still are on some levels). Roger played a huge roll in all of our transitions - paper prints to digital; creating an assignment data base and getting photographers to enter their captions into it; digital cameras; transmission systems; browsing systems, etc. etc. Of course, these systems were not perfect (and still aren't) and continually tested the patience of everyone that used them - i.e. everyone on the photo desk. If Roger had a fault, it was that his patience would sometimes run thin and he could become a bit gruff, but so did mine. He was also a big Yankee fan and die-hard republican - and we often got into some lively (if not heated) debates on politics! I could never get him to budge though. He had a big heart. He had no problem giving up a weekend day to help someone if needed - for instance, he came over to my house one Saturday and spent an entire day helping me put together a trampoline for my daughter.

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

He seemed to know something about everything and frequently gave me advice on home improvement techniques - he had no problems hauling in power tools to the office for me to take home. He was a very active person and really got into bike riding in a big way. I remember being so saddened when his disease forced him to give up his annual fund raising ride on Cape Cod and his bike riding trips to Arizona. It was one of the things that we had looked forward to doing in his retirement. So in this time of sadness, it's good to reflect on how important Roger Strong was to the photo department, to many of our lives and to the history of the NYT. He was a great partner and friend to me. He will be remembered and missed. David"

May he rest in peace.

This is a big week for our SEC Wayne N1CLV—he is retiring from The Marine Safety Lab and from the Coast Guard after 48 years of service. He made his decision to join the coast Guard in 1957 when he was in fourth grade. His dad was a coast guard chief electronics technician, and Officer-in-Charge of LORAN A Station, Point Arguello, California. The family lived in family housing on the station in a remote location (complete with rattlesnakes) along the rocky shores of the Pacific Ocean. "Some of the ETs would let me stand "timer watch" on the weekends -- which meant "if the big purple light comes on [i.e., sync lost with the master station], run and get me!" It was an exciting and future shaping environment for a 10 year old!"

Wayne was a cadet in the class of 1969 at the Coast Guard Academy. During his career of over 45 years, Wayne was Commanding Officer of CGC CAPE GULL (WPB-95304) homeported in Atlantic City and as Commander, Coast Guard Group Atlantic City. Wayne was on the faculty of the Coast Guard Academy for 20 years and served as chemistry department chair. "I retired from active duty in 2000 to take the opportunity to serve for 4 years as President of the Coast Guard Academy Alumni Association, supporting the Academy I love so dearly. For the past 9+ years, I have been a Coast Guard civilian employee serving as Manager of the Coast Guard Marine Safety Lab, actually applying some of the oil spill fingerprinting research I did at CGA and the R&D Center in the mid-70s."

Wayne, you've had a wonderful career—hearty congratulations and the best of luck in your new career as you join the ranks of the retired population. You can write Wayne by email, [n1clv@ar1.net](mailto:n1clv@ar1.net).

Were you among the many ops at the Nutmeg Hamfest? To the members of the Meriden ARC and the committee members, wow, you did it again—it was a great show! All of the forums were well attended. For me, I was delighted to meet many of you for the first time and see so many of my old friends! Keep up your enthusiasm! Don't forget to thank the members of the Meriden club when you see them.

November 9 is the date of this year's Simulated Emergency Test. Wayne will be distributing the SET Players' Handbook to DECs for further distribution to all ARES members before the end of this week. K1DJW has stepped up to be acting DEC for this exercise for Region 5. Many thanks Dave.

November 9 is also the date of the QCWA Luncheon at The Westbrook Lobster House, 300 Church St., Wallingford at 11:30. Contact [k1mq@ar1.net](mailto:k1mq@ar1.net) for further info.

Traffic handlers are having a brunch this coming Saturday 10:00 a.m. at Maples Family Restaurant, 725 Straits Tpke, Middlebury; contact NM Ethel KB1NMO or Bill KB1UAU if you plan to attend.

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

DEC Douglas WA1SFH and I plan to attend the ARISS contact with students at The STEM Academy in Wallingford on Thursday. The local coordinator is Paul K1SEZ. Contact k1sez@arrl.net if you need more info because plans change sometimes unexpectedly.

This just in from DEC Sky Warn Steve K1SJW. NWS Albany NY will hold a fall spotter training session in the LeAnn LeClaire Room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Winsted Town Hall 338 Main St Winsted CT on Monday November 4th, from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. The session will focus on winter weather issues including how to measure snowfall and ice accretion. The session is free but preregistration is required. You can register at the website for the National Weather Service Albany NY <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/aly/>.

The Hartford Marathon is a major event. Here's a report from DEC George AB1GL of Amateur radio's involvement this year. "The ING Hartford Marathon was run on October 12. Along with Marcus Communications as the listed sponsor, the Pioneer Valley Radio Association provided personnel for planning, command staff, SAG and trail vehicle drivers and course observers. As many as 35 hams, many affiliated with ARES Region 3, volunteered. The event drew over 18,000 runners, and included a full marathon, half marathon, relay race, kids' race, and other events. The races start and end in downtown Hartford, with loops extending into West Hartford and over the Connecticut River into East Hartford and South Windsor. The logistics of opening and closing the roads around the capitol region with minimum disruption to the public while maintaining the safety of the runners, volunteers, and onlookers requires close coordination between the race committee, public safety officials, first responders, and checkpoint volunteers. Amateur radio was used extensively because of the many dead spots in cell coverage over the 700 square mile area which includes dense urban skyscrapers, rivers, landfill hills, and suburbs.

The ham's primary role was reporting lead bib numbers in real time to a professional announcer at the finish line. Three separate frequencies were used to report race progress, call for medical assistance, and for general command and control.

Ham operators on bicycles trailed the last runners and alerted stragglers when a road was about to be reopened to traffic. Over 30 runners were transported by SAG vehicles driven by hams, and ham observers alerted waiting medical teams when runners needed assistance, including one instance of an unconscious runner who was transported immediately by ambulance to a hospital and made a full recovery.

Bill, AB1LZ, the ARES Region 3 Northwest EC, led the PVRA's planning for the event, and was assisted at the command post by David, WA1OUH. Skip W1FTE was at a medical checkpoint in West Hartford, Phil N1NKO chaired "the announce net" and Anita W1AMG interfaced with medical personnel. SAGS were driven by Robert KB1TIL, ADEC Richard KB1ONM, and Larry K1IED. Bicyclist Dick K1SW and Chris KA1NDE, acted as the end sweeps for the half and full marathon. Over 23 other hams manned checkpoints along the route."

This is a wonderful report. The group is to be commended. Why not submit public service honor roll reports for your work!



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

Clubs continue to be active. Members of The ARC of the Vintage Radio Communications Museum participated in the JOTA event. Bill AB1LZ coordinated this effort. The club is working on plans to run a tech class including basic electronics and building projects coordinated by Chris N1WKO. And they are well on their way to achieving Worked All States from the club station!

The Valley Amateur Radio Association enjoyed a wonderful presentation by Paul N1II entitled Antenna Myths. Paul had a lot to share to a much larger-than-usual audience. It was a great meeting—thanks Paul.

Members of NARL are planning to help with communications assistance at the Veterans' Parade in Newington in November.

Some members of the Stamford ARC will tour NBC studios in Stamford in place of their November meeting.

ADEC Harlan W1QH showed a CT Light and Power Safety video "Your Safety on the Line" at CARA's September meeting.

Jay, NE2Q presented a comparison of Common & Not so common antennas with some special attention to verticals at a recent meeting of the Greater Norwalk ARC.

If you want to learn more about HF operating, come to the meeting of the CT DX Association first Wednesday of each month (except June, July, August) at 7:30 p.m. at ARRL Headquarters.

Congrats to the following ops who earned Public Service Honor Roll in September: KB1UAU, NM1K, KB1YNE, KB1RGQ, KB1NMO, and K1HEJ. It's wonderful to see this activity and interest.

Happy Halloween!

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ARRL Connecticut Section  
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*For the latest information, visit our website at <http://www.icrcweb.org>*