
Time Out

Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

October - 2014

This Month's Meeting

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, October 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 a presentation entitled "Introduction to Logbook of The World". LoTW is the ARRL's electronic contact verification system. The presentation will be made by Dan Wall – W1ZFG. Dan is the Awards and Programs Assistant from the Membership and Volunteer Programs Department at the ARRL in Newington.

President's Message

Hi All,

Well we are almost at the end of another club year. The I.C.R.C. had a busy year and accomplished many things. Our monthly meetings at the American Red Cross have been productive with informative radio subjects being covered like antenna building and repeater etiquette. The club will be treated, this month, with A Log book of The World presentation by our own W1ZFG. Dan helps handle the Logbook for the ARRL so if you want to record your QSL's this is the meeting to attend.

Lets not forget our VE Group, they play an important part in our club. Our sponsorship of this group and their dedication to our hobby helps expose us to new members and provides a service to our hobby. Being involved in radio communications for community charities, the MS Society, Boy Scouts, Calhoun Cancer Challenge Ride, has allowed club members to experience the inner workings of the charity events and participate in all aspects of the event, and doing it as community service.

We played a lot of radio, in different locales. The club provided communications for local groups such as the Winding Trails Fat Tire Bike Race which we've done for ten years, we also marshal at this event. The event allows members to use their radios and the club to experiment with different modes including cross-band repeat. Not to mention the great cooking that goes on at the check points.

President's Message

We played radio on the river, check points manned from rocks to motor homes. The Farmington River saw us providing communications and safety for the annual kayak race. The club utilized cross-band repeat again for communications and had great results.

Field Day was another great time as club members assembled radio stations and antennas for different frequencies and then manned the stations and made many contacts. We worked digital this year with good results and we even tried to snag a satellite. We looked pretty organized with good effort from our networking guy to log and show "dupes". A demonstration of a drone and great food throughout the event kept members busy and we even had visits by other hams from the local area.

A busy year with hats off to all members that participated in the different events. As a club we can be very proud of our community service. Our work with local organizations has allowed the club members to gain valuable experience in communications and also cooperation with other radio groups. Our amateur "professionalism" as demonstrated in quality communications set ups and production is an area the club excels in.

I.C.R.C.'s repeaters allow us great flexibility in providing good, dependable contacts in a wide area. As we work in areas like solar to recharge batteries, we will be experimenting in wind power to supplement our solar charging, and we are looking into providing digital capabilities so club members will be able to use cutting edge communications.

To sum it up, we had a good, fun and informative year and the future of the Insurance City Repeater Club should be just as exciting with lots of time for members to hone their radio skills and knowledge.

Thanks to all members and those that helped us though a busy year!

73,

Peter Paradis

President I.C.R.C.

Last Month's Meeting

Date: 9-19-2014

Time Started: 7:30 pm

Time Adjourned: 8:23 pm

Attendance					
NIJGR	KB1SNL	KA1NDE	KB1KZC	N1JWF	W1ZFG
KB1YNE	N1EZY	KB1YYG	AB1NH	KB1WEZ	KC1CLK
Linda	Gregory	Sue			

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

Minutes taken by: Tom Chapman – KB1WEZ

President's Report:

The MS Bike Ride event went well. Although a couple of volunteers could not make it, we were able to man the rest stops, SAG wagons, net control, and an MS shadow. The weather held off long enough to get the event completed. Chris (KB1YNE) suggested for future events that we employ a system where the riders must turn in their bib to get their goodie bag, thus making it easier to log the rider in.

Motion to Accept:	KA1NDE	
Seconded by:	N1EZY	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Secretary Report:

The minutes from the August meeting were emailed to all members as part of the Time Out.

Motion to Accept	N1JWF	
Seconded by:	KA1NDE	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Treasurer's Report:

The club has sufficient funds, and the bills are getting paid. Scott (N1EZY) donated \$2 to the battery fund.

Motion to Accept	KB1VPY	
Seconded by:	AB1NH	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Admin VP Report:

Nothing to report.

Motion to Accept	KA1NDE	
Seconded by:	KB1SNL	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

Tech VP Report:

All repeaters are running normally and are within specs.

Motion to Accept	KA1NDE	
Seconded by:	N1JWF	
Aye: 6	Nay: 0	Abstain: 2

VE Report:

There was one candidate for Technician license and they passed.

Motion to Accept	N1JWF	
Seconded by:	KA1NDE	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Web Master Report:

We have 34 likes on our Facebook page. The website is up to date. Training for CERT teams is coming up at the end of the month and is offered on Friday nights and Saturdays.

Motion to Accept	KA1NDE	
Seconded by:	KB1SNL	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Old Business:

A discussion was held concerning organizing a work party for late October or early November for the .15 site to cut tree limbs and brush to allow more sunlight to reach the solar panels.

We tried to use FRS radios at the MS Bike Ride start/finish line but the reception was poor, so we went back to HTs. When a bunch of rides go past the start/finish line it is difficult to record the bib numbers. A better idea is to funnel the riders down to single file. We can't move the start/finish line to the entry road because it must remain open for boat traffic. The MS volunteers were not proficient record keepers – several riders had to be called by phone to be sure they finished. We need to have a conversation with the Cardio people about the importance of riders checking out. We again discussed Chris' idea about the bib turn in (See President's Report)

Motion to Accept	KA1NDE	
Seconded by:	KB1SNL	
Aye: All	Nay: N/A	Abstain: N/A

Last Month's Meeting – cont'd

New Business:

Club elections are during the November meeting, and a nominating slate will be presented in October. Any member who wants to run should make it known.

The Board has discussed, and is proposing that Alan Lisitano (N1ITT) be voted a Life Member of the ICRC. During their September meeting, the Board members present unanimously agreed that Alan should be a Life Member due to his long-time support of the ICRC, especially his generous loaning of his portable tower for several of our events. A vote of the members present was taken, and Alan was voted a life member unanimously.

The Board review of nominated life members is a new procedure. A member gets nominated during a regular meeting, followed by a review by the Board. If the Board feels it is a positive thing for the club, they recommend the life membership at the following regular meeting. Dan proposed Bill Reyor (KB1KNV) for life membership, which will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

The 2015 Klondike Derby was discussed, which will be held at June Norcross on Route 44 in Ashford, CT on February 7 and 8. We discussed the setup, the Scout's one-day and overnight races, skill sets and stations, and the use of radios and APRS on the sleds.

Motion to Accept	N1JWF	
Seconded by:	KA1NDE	
Aye: 10	Nay: 0	Abstain: N1EZY
Motion to Adjourn:		
	KA1NDE	
Seconded by:	KB1SNL	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Monthly Presentation

A short presentation was made by Pete – KB1KZC about the upcoming Calhoun Cancer Challenge Ride at Winding Trails in Farmington on October 5th.

ICRC Sponsored VE Team

On the 3rd 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
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. 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 come up with the slate of proposed Board Members and Officers, which will be presented at the October meeting. 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
Dave – KB1TBL	Bill – KB1KNV
Dan – W1ZFG	Tom – KB1WEZ
Rick – N1JGR	Chris – KB1YNE
Nick – KB1SNL	Steve – KB1RRR

Executive Board:

President:	Pete – KB1KZC
Admin. V.P.	Chris – KB1YNE
Tech. V.P.	Rick – N1JGR
Secretary	Tom – KB1WEZ
Treasurer	Dan – W1ZFG

Dan Wall – W1ZFG
Chairman – Nominating Committee
walldan54@att.net

Bike MS – Cardio Express Ride – Hartford 2014

On Saturday, September 13th, members of the ICRC provided radio communications for the second year in a row for the Bike MS – Cardio Express Ride. The race started and finished at Riverside Park in East Hartford and went thru Hartford, Glastonbury, Portland, Middletown, Cromwell, Rocky Hill, Wethersfield, and Manchester. There were 25, 50, and 75 mile courses. Once again, the race organizers were very pleased with the support provided by the club.

Participating from the ICRC were: Rick – N1JGR, Dan – W1ZFG, Chris P. – KB1YNE, Jim – AB1NH, Steve – KB1RRR, Tom – KB1WEZ, Dave – KB1TBL, Nick – KB1SNL, Chris A. – KA1NDE, and Peter – KB1KZC. Also assisting was Chris B. – KC1AFT.

2014 Calhoun Cancer Challenge Ride and Walk

On Sunday, October 5th, members of the ICRC assisted with radio communications for the Calhoun Cancer Challenge Ride and Walk that was held at Winding Trails in Farmington. This was the first year for us at this event as a club. We were asked by the ARES folks to cover the 10 mile mountain bike course, due to our familiarity with the area we have from covering the annual Fat Tire Mountain Bike Race for many years.

Participating from the ICRC were: Rick – N1JGR, Nick – KB1SNL, Jim - AB1NH, Chris A. – KA1NDE, Dan – W1ZFG, Tom – KB1WEZ, Steve – KB1RRR, Sue – KC1CLK, and Colin – KB1YYG. Also assisting were Chris B. – KC1AFT and Ron – KB1ZFE.

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>