
Time Out

Publication of the ICRC, Inc.

February - 2024

This Month's Meeting

***** NEW MEETING TIME *****

Due to a change in the closing time of City Hall on Friday nights, we must be out of the building by 8:00 sharp. We will have an in-person meeting from **6:30 PM to 7:45 PM** this Friday, Feb. 16th.

The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss changing the night of the meetings or the location of the meetings. It is important that all attend so that we can come up with a decision that works for everyone.

Parking is available in the small lot at the south end of the building at the corner of North Main and Laurel Streets. (If you are standing on North Main St. facing the new entrance to the building, the south end is to your left). Additional parking is available across from the Police Complex at the site of the former Bristol Center Mall.

Enter City Hall thru the door at the south end of the building. This will be the Ground Floor. Take the stairs up to the First Level. Go thru the doors and turn left. The meeting room is on the left, marked "Room 1-2".

President's Message

No message.

Last Month's Meeting

Date: 1/19/2024

Time Started: 7:00 pm

Time Adjourned: 7:53 pm

Attendance

KA1NDE	KB1TBL	KC1CWN	AB1NH	N1JGR	KB1KZC
W1ZFG	KB1VFN	KC1RBY			

Minutes taken by: Ron Lavoie - KC1CWN

President's Report:

It's the start of a new year.

We have the scouts Klondike Derby in February.

.88/ .85 repeater move is still a work in progress.

The fox hunt is also moving along.

Motion to Accept:	KA1NDE	
Seconded by:	KC1RBY	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Secretary Report:

No report.

Motion to Accept		
Seconded by:		
Aye:	Nay:	Abstain:

Last Month's Meeting - cont'd

Treasurer's Report:

The State registration was paid.

The Federal registration was not paid due to the website was down.

Treasury is in good shape.

Motion to Accept	KA1NDE	
Seconded by:	KB1VFN	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Admin VP Report:

No report.

Motion to Accept		
Seconded by:		
Aye:	Nay:	Abstain:

Tech VP Report:

88/ .85 repeater picked up. Antenna equipment is still on the tower.

The locations for the .88/ .85 repeater are still being researched.

Motion to Accept	KA1NDE	
Seconded by:	KB1VFN	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

VE Report:

No VE session was held.

Last Month's Meeting - cont'd

Web Master Report:

No report.

Old Business:

- Fox Hunt box was at the meeting.
- Move .88/ .85 repeater locations are being researched.
- Bristol CERT. Members interested in obtaining their ham license. Class is in planning stage.
- Website updates. More info to follow.
- NEAR-Fest is a great hamfest in New Hampshire that is held twice a year. it is a place you can find used equipment, and many other items for sale. the next date is April 25 and 26.
- .88/ .85 repeater antenna's need to be picked up when the tower is down.
- Scout Klondike Derby is Feb. 10, and 11.
- Bristol Shamrock March 16. More info to follow.

New Business:

New meeting start time is now 6:30pm. In Bristol City Hall.

Motion to Adjourn:	KA1NDE	
Seconded by:	KB1VFN	
Aye: All	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Monthly Presentation/Activity

The meeting was followed by a demonstration of the Fox Hunt box, and a short presentation on fox hunting.

Klondike Derby

On Saturday, February 10th and Sunday, February 11th, members of the ICRC once again provided radio communications for the annual Boy Scouts Klondike Derby. This year's event was held at the June Norcross Webster Scout Reservation in Ashford, CT.

Although the weather was not exactly like the Klondike, there were many scouts who backpacked their way around the three courses set up in the woods. At least nobody got any frostbite!

Participating for the ICRC were: Rick – N1JGR, Dan – W1ZFG, Peter – KB1KZC, Ron – KC1CWN, Jim – AB1NH, Chris – KA1NDE, Nick – KB1SNL, Jay – W1JJD, Greg – N1WLA, Dave – KB1HRW, Jesse – KC1QCD, and Lucas – KA1IBS.

Fox Hunting

This year, the ICRC will be trying a new activity for all members to participate in. We will be organizing one or more radio Fox Hunts to be held later on in the spring and summer.

For those of you not familiar with Fox Hunting, one person with radio equipment (designated as “The Fox”) will position himself at an undisclosed location. “The Fox” will transmit a short message at regular intervals. The objective is to be the first one to locate the position of “The Fox”.

There are several different techniques that can be used to determine the location of the hidden transmitter, ranging from simple to requiring complex equipment. These techniques will be discussed at this month's meeting. There will also be a demonstration of the equipment used by “The Fox” to transmit the radio signals.

Even though it is too cold out to do Fox Hunts now, we are starting the planning early enough to allow members to build any equipment they may wish to before the weather gets warm enough to actually do one.

So if you are interested in trying a new activity this year, come to this month's meeting to learn more about it.

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 City Hall in Bristol, CT. Due to the small size of the meeting room, we are unable to accommodate walk-in examinees at this time. Please email our VE Liaison (Jim, AB1NH) at AB1NH@mindspring.com 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>.

* VE Sessions are on hold until we can come up with a new time/place for the monthly meetings.*

Topics for Meeting Presentations/Activities

We are looking for people to do presentations/activities at our monthly meetings. They can be about almost any topic, as long as they are related to amateur radio. If you have a new piece of equipment that you think is cool, share it with the club. Looking for information about a new operating mode? Do a little research on it and present it to the club. Have a new antenna that you are having success with? Share it with the club. Interested in trying contesting or Parks on the Air? Let us know.

Even if you don't want to do the presentation yourself, just bring your ideas on what you would like to see to the meeting and perhaps someone else who shares your interest will put together a presentation.

A club is only as good as the level of participation by its members. Amateur radio is a hobby that encompasses a wide range of interests. There should be no shortage of ideas to be involved with. Let's make this a better club by stepping up the level of participation by the membership.

A.R.R.L Club Commission Program Changes

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 **\$5** 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. Make checks payable to the ARRL for the full amount of your membership. Mail your check and the renewal form that you received from the ARRL to: Dan Wall – Treasurer, ICRC, 94 Rowe Place, Bristol, CT 06010. Better yet, bring the check and the renewal form to the next club meeting on the third Friday of every month.

Once the proper forms are submitted to the ARRL, they will send us a check for whatever commissions we qualify for.

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>