

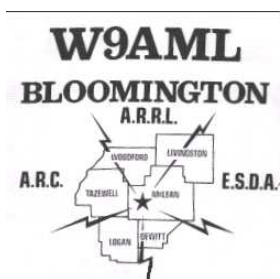
Meeting Wednesday April 23

NOTE

Time Changed to 6:00 PM

For tour of Wind Farm

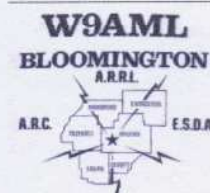
**Central Illinois Radio Club
April 2008 Newsletter**



Central Illinois Radio Club
P. O. Box 993
Bloomington, IL 61702-0993

CENTRAL ILLINOIS RADIO CLUB

Short CIRCuits



April 2008

From the President

DX Spider

I believe the gear is at Ralph's – K9ZO

Plans working to get the needed antenna and co-ax installed

March Meeting

I wasn't there, but I understand there were a couple of great programs on lightning protection. This is one I really wish I hadn't missed, because the lightning season is upon us and I have some personal work to do in this space with my station. Thanks Mike and Gary for the programs.

April Meeting – Wind Farm Tour – April 23, 6:00pm – Rcd Cross

Note – We meet at 6:00pm at the Red Cross to form car pools for a trip to the wind farm east of town.

Horizon Wind Energy has agreed to provide tour of the wind farm for us. We will meet at 6:00pm at the Red Cross in order to car pool to the Operations Center at the complex. For any who wish to drive there directly, the directions are: "RT-9 past the Ellsworth / Cooksville sign to 2900 East. Turn right to the 1st farmhouse on the right, which is the Operations Center." We plan to meet in their parking lot at 6:30 for the tour. Note the tour guide suggested we car pool since the tour will partly be a driving tour and she wanted to minimize the number of vehicles.

Because of the tour there will be no business meeting this month.

May Meeting –

Let us devote this one to Field Day planning. Mike Sallee has agreed to incorporate the lessons learned from last year's debriefing into the CIRCUITS

Field Day manual. One item that will be different – Norm will not be able to lend us his trailer this year, he will have in-laws using it during the birth of his new grandchild. So – we are going to need another tent / shelter at the minimum.

Heartland Class - update

The class was great. We have 4 new hams and one who had a trip scheduled during the test. Our new hams are: Eric J Baxter, Dennis Devine, Johathan D Maurer, and Chris Burkiewicz.

Congratulations!!!

900 Mhz?

Please let Ron Purkey or me know if there is any interest in a 900 Mhz repeater. Ron, W9NUP has everything for a repeater if there enough interest to justify the tower work. This would be the first 900 Mhz repeater in the area and could provide additional infrastructure for us. Ron says 900 Mhz mobiles are available relatively inexpensively. Thanks -- Keith

McLean County Emergency Council

I attended the Emergency Council last year on an informal basis, primarily to enable us to participate in the annual exercise. Since the formal membership fee is only \$30, I went ahead and formally signed us up for 2008. Hopefully we will be able to participate in the annual exercise again and perhaps other events. I did spend some quality time with Bromer people after the last meeting and have the location of their Amateur Radio assets identified.

Emblems

I received a flyer from the R. E. Williams company who specialized in

creating custom, embroidered Emblems. The question for the club is: is there any interest in custom patches of our club emblem? The costs are relatively nominal at around \$2.00 per patch, but it looks like there is a 50 patch minimum. We can discuss at the next meeting.

Dayton

It is that time of year again. The Dayton Hamvention will be held May 16, 17, and 18. This is the granddaddy of all hamfests and is not to be missed if at all possible. We are lucky people, living less than 5 hours from Dayton and this makes it easy for us to attend something that hams from all over the world flock to. Roughly 20,000 people attended last year's convention and we can expect a similar crowd this year. The forum schedule has been published, covering everything from Software Defined Radios to contesting, DXing, and bicycle mobile hamming – which our own Norm Huber, N9ZKS, is presenting. The exhibitors list includes just about every significant organization and company doing business with the ham community and the flea market is gargantuan. Since I am now retired, Nettie and I are going to take in all three days.

Take care everyone. I will see you at 6:00pm at the Red Cross building across from the Route 9 Airport Fire Station.

73's

Keith
AC9S

Don't forget the daily coffee klatch at the Dairy Queen at 1528 E. College, Normal Monday through Friday at 9:00 AM

Central Illinois Radio Club

P.O. Box 993
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The CIRC is a not-for-profit ARRL special service club whose purpose is to advance the service of Amateur Radio. Located in Central Illinois, CIRC and its members welcome all to use the 146.94 repeater and to attend club meetings.

Submissions for the newsletter must be received by the 10th of the month and may be snail or e-mailed to the editor at:

Norm Huber
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Talking Dog

During a recent Saturday afternoon drive around Orange County I happened down a back road down near the Santa Ana River. I saw a sign in front of a broken down aging farmhouse that read, "Talking Dog for Sale."

Well, that made me curious so I stopped to see what the deal was. In the yard there is a nice looking Labrador retriever sitting.

"You talk?" I asked.

"Yep," the Lab replies.

Well after I got over the shock of hearing a dog talk, I asked "So, what's your story?"

"Ah shucks there ain't much to tell. Say, is that a screwdriver antenna on your truck out there?"

"How on earth did you know that," I asked?

The Lab looks up and says, "Well, I'm a ham radio operator. I got my ticket when I was a young pup. In no time at all I had my 5-band DXCC in Phone and CW. The CIA heard about me and asked me to do spy work for them. I would hang around the communications centers, and with my keen hearing I could copy the transmissions. Because no one ever figured a dog would be eavesdropping, I was one of their most valuable spies for eight years. Copying high speed CW all day really tired me and I knew I wasn't getting any younger. So, I decided to settle down.

I retired from the CIA, (8 dog years is 56 CIA years) and joined a ham radio club. In fact I won first place in the Tri-County QSO Party, two years in a row. Then I had a mess of puppies and got away from Ham Radio for a while. I sure miss my radio though. Why don't you buy me and I'll be your CW operator in the next DX contest?"

I said "Let me see what I can do."

I went back in and asked the owner what he wanted for the dog.

"Ten dollars," the old farmer says.

"Ten dollars? This dog is amazing! Why on earth are you selling him so cheap?"

"Because he's a liar. He never did any of that stuff. He's just a No Code Tech."

K9ORP's Co-AX Penetrations

Drilled another hole for my antenna feedlines, ham and TV, to get from the basement shack to the outside

through the kitchen area and started the outside wall penetration. The interior French walls are 70 cm thick and I have a 60 cm hammer drill bit. But, got it done with an 7 foot rod made for manual drilling. I am running the coaxial lines in plastic channel. It looks professional so far.



Before interior hole



After interior hole without cabinet



After interior hole with cabinet back in place



Basement side with no hole



Basement side with new hole, not too bad with no point of reference for the hole, conduit in place.

insulation foam sheet behind the plaster kitchen wall before you get to the outside 70 cm.



Measured so it would line up with the plastic channel along side of the left beam and drilled a little below what I marked as the corner of the beam on the outside wall and angled up a little to allow for the 70 cm distance (with my 62 cm hammer drill bit). I used a long rebar type of metal bar to manually drill through the remaining 8 or 10 cm of the outside wall.



In the picture of the tools, the meter stick is longer than a meter so I positioned the hammer at one meter. You can see the white on the rod is longer than the drill bit is.



Outside kitchen wall before preparation

This is fun!

Famous quote " Honey, you have such a big hole there. Why don't you put that kitchen exhaust fan in that gap between the joists? "



Outside kitchen wall after opening it up.



Looked good so pushed through the conduit that would guide the feedlines - ham and TV.



So, the rest of the day I made a bigger hole (about 4 inch diameter) through the wall and mounted the 8 inch vent grill outside. I will mount the exhaust fan with an automatic shutter that we bought at the brochant yesterday for 30 Euro on the kitchen side tomorrow and add plasterboard to fill the unused gap. The retail price in Great Britain was 300 pounds... they said.

More updates later.

The antenna line crosses the kitchen in the plastic channel and then through a small hole in the 70 cm outside wall. There is a 20 cm air and

KC9LYU Echolink Update

The Frequency Is now set to 146.410 Simplex - NO PL
To Connect To Node By Node Number - Dial (DTMF Commands) its Node number

To Reconnect Last Station Dial *69
To Connect To Random US Repeater Dial 011 - The 011 command takes just a minute to connect.
To Connect To Random Link Or Repeater Dial 01
To Disconnect Dial #

Nets in the Area

Mon thru Sat	9:00 A.M. CT	14.2475 (HF)	Displaced Peorians
Monday	9:00 P.M.	146.730	123.0 PL Open Net
Tuesday	9:00 P.M.	146.255	(103.5 PL) Woodford County
Tuesday	7:15 P.M.	146.910	Tazwell County ESDA Net
Tuesday	8:30 P.M.	28.450	CIRC Open 10 meter Net
Tuesday	9:00 P.M.	146.940	(103.5 PL) CIRC Open Net
Wednesday	9:00 P.M.	147.060	Open Net Has Newslines
Wednesday	9:00 P.M.	442.250	103.5 PL ARES Open Net
Wednesday	Varies	147.100	103.5 PL <i>Sometimes</i> Trader's Net follows ARES Net held on 442.250
Thursday	9:00 P.M.	146.760	(162.2 PL) Open Net with Newslines
Thursday	9:00 P.M.	146.850	(103.5 PL) Open Net Peoria
Thursday	9:00 P.M.	146.895	North central IL Traders Net
Sunday	08:15 A.M.	1.815	Open 160 meter AM net
Sunday	7:00 P.M.	146.985	Clinton ARC net (NEW)
Sunday	8:30 P.M.	147.075	Open Net with Newslines

(Please help me keep this list correct. I know it may not be up to date at this time. Norm N9ZKS)

Central Illinois Area Repeaters

Freq	Callsign	Location	PL
145.390	N9EZJ	Lincoln	103.5
146.730	K9HGX	Decatur	123.0
146.790	WD9HRU	Bloomington	
146.850	W9UVI	Peoria	
146.940	W9AML	Bloomington	103.5 CTCSS
146.985	KA9YPK	Clinton	
147.015	NX9M	Normal	88.5 (open*)
147.075	W9UVI	Washington	103.5 CTCSS
147.100	WA9RTI	Decatur	103.5
147.150	WD9FTV	Bloomington	
147.345	K9ZM	Lincoln	103.5
147.390	WB9DUC	Pontiac	127.3
442.250	WA9RTI	Decatur	103.5
442.700	WB9UUS	Normal	107.2 (open**)
444.350	W9EX	Normal	107.2

* Repeater is currently in open mode with pl for those with QRM

** Repeater RX with tight carrier squelch and loose tone squelch (107.2)

=== Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

Daily Coffeeklatch Monday thru Friday

.....9:00 a.m. at Dairy Queen College Hills

Weekly 10 Meter Net

Every Tuesday evening at 28.450 mHz- at 8:30 p.m.

Weekly 2 Meter Net

Every Tuesday evening on the 146.940-repeater at 9:00 p.m.

10/10 Breakfast

First Saturday of every month at 8 a.m. in the Baker's Square at Vernon Ave. and Veterans (Just south of College Hills Mall).

CIRC Meeting

Fourth Wednesdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Red Cross building in Bloomington (Just north of the airport).

ARRL Affiliation Milestones for March 2008

50 Years

W4RYZ

NFL---Panama City Amateur Radio Club

K6IS

SV---North Hills Radio Club-

60 Years

W2RDX

WNY---Rochester DX Association-

WB6ZTY

LAX---Crescenta Valley Radio Club

W0EBE

MO---Southwest Missouri Amateur Radio Club

75 Years

W8MRM

MI---Motor City Radio Club, Inc.-

W9AML

IL---Central Illinois Radio Club of Bloomington, Inc.

From

ARRL Club Newsletter

March 31, 2008

Riding For the Cure for MS

NormHuber N9ZKS

Some of the members of the Wings on the Internet group had so much fun last week at the Mississippi Annual Crayfish Hunt (MACH) dodging tornadoes, power outages, and stormy weather, that since the Weather Channel said there was a

chance of tornadoes, thunderstorms and high winds Thursday the 10th of April, I took off through the expected path on my way to Texas.

I left Bloomington in light rain in the morning and rode through light to heavy rain until I got out of Missouri. The rain stopped and I even saw a bit of sun but to my west I could see a big wall cloud and some scud. When I turned off of I-55 onto I-40 the rain started again and lasted till I rode into Little Rock. I did catch a couple of sprinkles for a while more but the worst was over. I stopped at Arkadelphia for the night after a fun 631.7 miles according to my GPS.

It really wasn't too bad, there were only a couple of lightning strokes that I saw, just plenty of rain and great 20 mile per hour cross winds. Yes, on the way down I-55 the wind was out of the east and when I turned on to I-40 it was out of the south.

Even a ride in the rain makes it a great day!

After the fun of riding from Bloomington to Little Rock Thursday in the rain, The rest of the weekend was fantastic. Friday was clear and sunny as I completed the ride into Houston for the MS150. I even found a restaurant in Nacogdoches TX named De LaCroix's where I had Crayfish Etufee (sp) for lunch.

If you are not familiar with the MS150 effort, there were 13,500 bicyclists riding a bit over 150 miles in two days, raising money to help with the eradication of the insidious disease Multiple Sclerosis. A total of approximately \$14,000,000.00 (That's MILLION) is expected to be raised.

It is one heck of a site to see all those cyclists stretched along the road from start point to daily finish. I do not believe I am exaggerating that the cyclists are stretched along the whole 75 miles each day because the fast cyclists are at the lunch stop and beyond before the last cyclists make it out on the road at the start!

A fellow MARC (Motorcycling Amateur Radio Club) member, Jerry WA0GLD helps make this all happen with the help of a number of dedicated staff each year. He does this by training replacement staff even doing license classes to prepare them to get their ham radio licenses so they are able to participate. He organizes the motorcycle hams (90 hams on motorcycles) that patrol the route helping bicyclists with flats and repairs and being the eyes of the event management, medical teams and law enforcement.

At the end of the event Sunday evening, the motorcycle communicators and the sag wagons accompany the final rider across the finish line with blaring horns and flashing lights honoring the bicyclists for their efforts. It is a moving experience to see the thanks in the eyes of the victims of the disease who attend this event. It is also heart warming to receive the thanks of bicyclists for our efforts to make their ride a bit more pleasant.

The riders needed all the help they could get this year. There were head winds both days as the front, which blew out the rain, brought stiff winds and cool temperatures.

Another important story from the event is the following episode that occurred. WA0GLD stumbled upon a scene where a bicycle rider had experienced a blown tire followed by a monumental face plant. He was unconscious for about 5 minutes. When WA0GLD arrived there were both a bicycle riding physician and EMT tending to the injured rider. There were also two other non-ham motorcycle marshals on scene. As he approached one of the motorcycle volunteers was waving frantically at him pointing at his cell phone. Of the half dozen people on the scene, not a single cellphone would work in that particular remote area. WA0GLD reported the incident and got medics as well as the Life Flight Helicopter on the way solely by Ham Radio. Score one for Ham Radio. As the local boys started showing up, their cellphones worked because they have service with local carriers. The out-of-town phones wouldn't work in that area.

On Monday a number of the motorcycle team met for breakfast and then took a great ride through the hills west of Austin Texas stopping for lunch at the Salt Lick BBQ, before heading back to Houston. I headed home on Tuesday, planning a stop in Natchitoches LA for an early lunch of their famous meat pies and then on to the Neely's BBQ in Memphis for an early dinner. I didn't make it to Memphis until closing time at the Neeley's so after Ribs and Sausage I found a motel in West Memphis and completed my ride home on Wednesday.

It was a great trip and I'm signed up for next year as are 83 of the motorcycle hams. There' dedication to the cause.

TABLEAU A			ALPHABET MORSE		
LETTRES	SIGNES	MNÉMOTECHNIQUES	LETTRES	SIGNES	MNÉMOTECHNIQUES
a	.-.-	al-lo !	v-	va-len-ti-no
b	---..	bo-ta-nis-te	w	---.-	wa-gon-d'or
c	---..	comp-te-gou-ttes	x	---..-	xo-chi-mil-co
d	---..	do-mai-ne	y	---.-.	yo-tché-ou-fou
e	.---	eh !	z	---..-	zo-o-li-te
f	---..	fan-fa-ro-nne	CHIFFRES		
g	---..	glou-to-nne	1	-----	
h	----.	heu-reu-se-ment	2	-----	
i	..---	i-le	3	-----	
j	---..-	j'ai mon lo-to	4	-----	
k	---..-	ko-i-nor	5	-----	
l	---..-	li-to-gra-phi	6	-----	
m	---..	mou-ton	7	-----	
n	---..	no-te	8	-----	
o	---..	o-no-to	9	-----	
p	---..-	py-ro-pho-re	0 [zéro]	-----	
q	---..-	quo-quo-ri-co	zéro abrégé	-----	
r	---..-	rai-so-nne	barre de fraction [/]	-----	
s	...--	sa-la-de			
t	---..	top			
u	---..	ul-ti-mo			

French Code Quick

Here in France in 1921 they had a unique way of remembering the Morse Code for the letters. They remembered the word for the letter. And if the word had an "o" in a syllable it was a dash and the other syllables were dots. The article in the newsletter talked about "un trait" a dash and "les autres lettres" were dots.

They used an example of B = BO-ta-nis-te dash dot dot dot and S = sa-la-de dot dot dot

Once again this was in 1921. And I had to laugh about the French word that roosters say:

QUO-QUO-ri-CO dash dash dot dash a "Q" is cockle doodle do in French spelled in English a French rooster says Ko Ko Re Ko

Enjoy the history and think of English words with the syllables matching the number of dots and dashes and then something for the dash. Use it during novice class.

And the French Ham Radio news is: I have my Sigma 80 vertical up guyed with 3/16 inch black dacron rope good for 770 pounds. I have the G5RV broadside to the states. That should hold up during the 85 mph winds we have from time to time. The last 85 mph steady wind was four weeks ago when a storm came in from the UK and beached a container ship North of us (about 30 miles North). The house didn't move... but I didn't have the antenna up at that time. I'll have to wait until it storms again to report if my installation is good enough.

73

Larry F/K9ORP