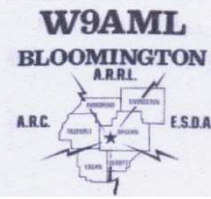


CENTRAL ILLINOIS RADIO CLUB

Short CIRCuits



December 2010

From the President

**December Meeting,
Wednesday the 22th
7:00 PM at the Red Cross
on Eastport Ct.**

Well, another year is about over. I hope you accomplished everything you planned for the year. If you are like me, you were able to accomplish most of the year's plans or resolutions. I feel this year was better than last and I expect next year to be better. It doesn't matter if you don't accomplish everything planned just that you make life better.

Enough philosophy. On to radio/club things. Thanks to all who made being president so much fun and rewarding. Our club is better because of what everyone does. One person or small groups couldn't accomplish what all of us can accomplish. It isn't just the experienced who make our club what is but also the new hams and new to the club hams. Next year Gary, KD9F, will be leading our club as president. I have known Gary for nearly 30 years and know he will do an excellent job. As a group, we can help him do even better. Again, thanks to everyone for all your help and participation!

At this month's meeting we will be talking about and making plans for our one day on-the-air special event to be held at the Red Cross. The date for the event will be Saturday, January 15th. We will be using the club's radio, which is at the Red Cross.

We will also discuss plans to link the 94 repeater to Echo Link and All-Star. These are VoIP protocol that link people and repeaters throughout the world (Hams only). One of the main topics for discussion is; how much do we want to spend. Chuck, WB9UUS, is the technical lead for this project. Once completed our repeater will be more useful, more and interesting.

Rick, WD9HRU, will give a report on the on-the-air event at the Lincoln weather office. SRD, (Skywarn Recognition Day) was the name of the event.

Andy, K9EMA, will talk about Skywarn and how all of us can participate in weather watch.

I hope everyone can make it to the meeting. I know it is close to Christmas and many of us have family obligation. So, if you can get away for a few hours come to the meeting.

The after meeting program is on Echo Link and All-Star presented by Chuck, WB9UUS. Since the plan is to link our repeater to the internet it is only logical for us to know more about the technology.

73's
Ed, KC9GF

Minutes from November 24, 2010 meeting

Ed(KC9GF) called the meeting to order at 7pm. Ed asked if there were any additions or corrections to the October minutes. Moved by Jim (WB9EDL) to accept the October minutes and seconded by Gary (AB9M). Treasurers report from Norm (N9ZKS) was \$493.46 in the checking account and \$647.72 in the savings account for a total of \$1141.18. Move to accept treasurer's report by Gary(AB9M) and seconded by Rick (WD9HRU). Ed reported that the coats and shirts that everyone provided were at Leroy graphics supplier to the club logo and name and call sign silk screened and embroidered. Plan to have a meeting on December 22 for discussion of special operating event.

Testing on November 13 resulted in two people testing with one pass and one fail. W9EX was issued to the Central Illinois Radio Club on November 9, 2010 in addition to W9AML. Norm said we need to get copies of the license for the Red Cross station and to have for Field Day display.

Christmas party at Swinger's Grill at 6pm on December 1st. This is the same location as last year. Ed passed around a list for ordering ARRL books. These are for our own use and for the libraries. With an order of 10 or more books we get a good discount. Jim (WB9UWA) recommended a repeater committee that should consist of the trustee, technical, climbing and echolink members. Ed said that subject had been discussed at coffee and committees for various aspects of Field Day.

Discussion was heard from Tom (KJ9P) about putting the constitution for the club on Microsoft Word. He said the current revision of the club constitution is 1987! It was suggested that Gary (AB9M) count post it to the club website.

Ed proceeded to call for nominations in addition to the proposed slate of officers for 2011. The call was made three times. With no further nominations Gary (AB9M) moved for the nominations to be closed and approved by

acclamation. Tom (KJ9P) seconded the motion. The following officers were elected for 2011:

Gary Dearth KD9F President
Ed Deutsch KC9GF Vice President
Mike Sallee KC9FWL Secretary
Norm Huber N9ZKS Treasurer

Ed held a short discussion of moving Field Day to Miller Park since the Mayor of Bloomington had visited the site last year and offer the use of Miller Park. The Old Town Township Hall was a favorite site for the antenna locations and building availability and also that it was the original Field Day site for the club.

Rick (WD9HRU) reminded everyone of SKYWARN recognition day operations by National Weather Service at Lincoln operating under the call WX9ILX. Primary operation will be on 40 meters and 20 meters to contact as many weather offices as possible.

President called for motion to adjourn. So moved by Gary (AB9M) and seconded by Rick (WD9HRU).

Meeting adjourned for high speed photography demonstration by KC9GF.

Peoria Area Radio Club Testing

In addition on the alternate months VEC exams are held in Morton Public Library. The remaining dates for this year will be:

Dec. 18,

Contact Bob Bush W9WTF at tigrbob@gmail.com for more information on the Peoria Radio Club testing.

Coming Event

Some of you may be in Hamfest withdrawal so here's one to think of while we wait for spring.

The 2011 WCRA Mid-Winter Hamfest will be held at the Kane County Fairgrounds Exposition Center in St. Charles, Illinois on Sunday, January 23, 2011. This is the same location as last year! We're planning a great hamfest that will include the usual flea market and commercial vendors but also several interesting and informative breakout sessions, on-site VE Testing, hourly prizes and more! Hamfest hours are 8am to 1pm and there will be plenty of ***FREE*** parking.

We're proud to announce that Mr. Joel Hallas, W1ZR, Technical Editor of QST and author of "The Doctor Is In" column in QST will be presenting two forums at the hamfest. The first will be a Question & Answer session similar to his QST column. The "Doctor is In" column in each issue of QST is very popular with readers. It accepts Amateur Radio questions from readers and provides short and, hopefully, helpful answers. A live "Doctor is In" session works the same way. Bring your questions - technical ones are best - and the "Doctor" will do his best to answer them on the spot. Got a question for the 'Doc'? You can submit questions for Mr. Hallas by sending e-mail to: mailto:askthedoc@w9ccu.org

In addition, Mr. Hallas will also present a program on A Comparative Look at Multiband Antennas. For some years following WW2, US amateurs had four HF bands - 80/75, 40, 20 and 10 meters. A common antenna configuration in those days was a separate half wave dipole for each band. Today we have nine HF bands, plus a more usable MF band, with the departure of LORAN A from 160 meters. While having a dipole for each band can work as well as it ever did, most amateurs don't have enough trees, nor enough extra cash for all the coax required for nine runs back to the station. There have been many multi-band antenna designs proposed over the years as a solution to this problem. Each offers benefits and limitations that may be important to users. This presentation will focus on the most popular multi-band wire antenna designs and discuss the performance tradeoffs of each in comparison to a half wave dipole.

Mr. Hallas' presentations will start at 9:30am and run until 11:15.

Flea market tables may be reserved in advance and are \$25, \$35 with electricity. Day-Of tables, if available, will be \$30, \$40 with electricity. Everyone at your table must have a hamfest admission ticket. Advance admission tickets are a bargain at \$7 each and include four prize stubs! Day-Of tickets will be \$9 and have only one prize stub. Children under 12-years of age are admitted free. Advance tickets can be purchased by mail.

Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope along with your name, address, call and phone number...plus your check or money order made out to WCRA Hamfest to:

WCRA Hamfest
PO Box QSL
Wheaton, IL 60187-1055

Your order must reach us no later than January 13, 2011 to ensure timely delivery.

Hamfest talk-in will be on the club's 2-meter repeater: 145.310, 107.2 pl OR 146.52 simplex.

Questions? Call us at (630) 604-0157 or via e-mail at <mailto:info@w9ccu.org> or check our website at www.wheatonhamfest.org

Thanks and we hope to see you at the hamfest!

'73

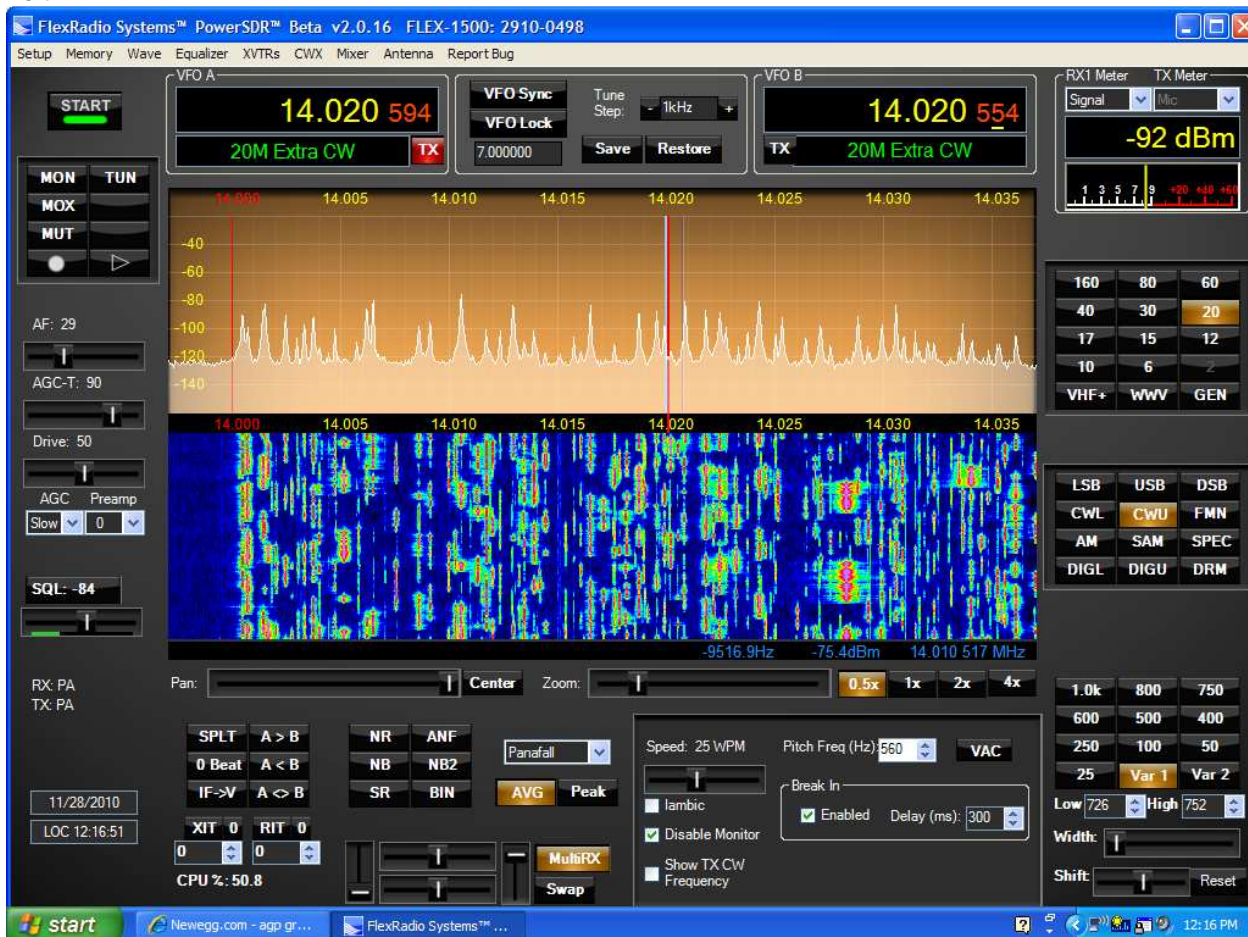
Richard Bauer, N9DKO

Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs

Visual of a Band during a CW Contest

Here is a picture for the newsletter. It is a screen shot of the Flex 1500 during the CQWW CW contest. The band is completely crowded and you can see the drop in activity at the lower band edge. It is probably the best visual of a CW contest that I have ever seen.

Keith



Notes from December 18th, 2010 A.R.E.S. Meeting

The December McLean County A.R.E.S. was held on Wednesday Dec 18th at 6:30 at Ming's have 20 members and 1 quest present for the dinner, the next 3 months net control operator sign up sheet was passed around for members to look at. We are still waiting to have another meeting with the National Weather Service in Lincoln to get our group involved with there Skywarn network, this would be a good program for our group to get involved with as we can go out quicker to do weather watches and be more proactive and when we get notified from EMA we will already be activated and ready to respond to there needs. There will be more information later. I want to thank my asst's EC's Ed KC9GF, Keith AC9S, Paula WX9ZOO and Tom KJ9P for all the help they have given me this past year and hope to continue on getting better next year. And special thanks to Tom KJ9P for taking on the task of doing our training sessions for our group again thank you.

Andy Stubblefield, DEC – Region 7

McLean County A.R.E.S.

Nets in the Area

Mon thru Sat	9:00 A.M. CT	14.2475 (HF)	Displaced Peorians
Tuesday	9:00 P.M.	146.255	(103.5 PL) Woodford County
Tuesday	7:15 P.M.	146.910	Tazwell County ESDA Net
Tuesday	8:00 P.M.	146.790	(103.5 PL) McLean County ARES 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 Newline
Wednesday	9:00 P.M.	442.250	103.5 PL ARES Open Net
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 Newline
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
Sunday	8:30 P.M.	147.075	Open Net with Newline
Sunday	9:00 P.M.	146.730	123.0 PL Open Net

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

Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

Daily Coffee Klatch 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 IHOP in the Lowes lot near the Red Cross on Rt. 9.

CIRC Meeting

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

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 #

Central Illinois Area Repeaters

Freq	Callsign	Location	PL
145.390	N9EZJ	Lincoln WX RACES	103.5
146.730	K9HGX	Decatur(Echolink)	123.0
146.790	WD9HRU	McLEAN CO ARES	103.5 Anti PL on 107.2
146.850	K9PEO	PAARC	103.5
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
147.105	WA9RTI	Decatur	103.5
147.150	WD9FTV	Bloomington	103.5
147.345	K9ZM	Lincoln ESDA	103.5
147.390	WB9DUC	Pontiac FARA	127.3
442.250	WA9RTI	Decatur (ARES)	103.5
442.700	WB9UUS	Normal	107.2
443.800	K9HGX	CENOIS ARC	123.0
444.175	K9MCA	Decatur	100.0

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

Central Illinois Radio Club

P.O. Box 993
Bloomington, IL 61702-0993

<http://www.qsl.net/w9am/>

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Vice-President: Ed Deutsch KC9GF
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Secretary: Mike Sallee, KC9FWL

Treasurer: Norm Huber N9ZKS
(309) 378-4674

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(309)-378-4674

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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e-mail n9zks@frontier.com

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