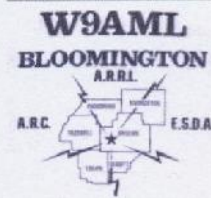


CENTRAL ILLINOIS RADIO CLUB

Short CIRCuits



March 2011

From the President

**March Meeting,
Wednesday the 23th
7:00 PM at the Red Cross
on Eastport Ct.**

The February Cherry Pie and Ice Cream night is history. Thanks to those who brought the goodies. Thanks to the person who brought the Red Cake cupcakes. I took the leftovers home and boy were they good. My wife makes a red cake for my birthday, sometimes, but we both are watching what we eat. Well, may she is!!

Let us all take note of the situation in Japan at the present time. The Japanese people are handling a very bad situation with their usual polite and calm demeanor. I saw a news clip from NHK the Japanese network of a rescue worker who had left his family in what he thought was a safe haven after the now 9.0 earthquake, later find out they were all swept away by the tsunami. He was doing his duty to others and thought his family was in a safe area. Our thoughts and prayers to him and many like him in Japan. Those workers who are probably giving their lives to save the reactors with cooling problems are sure their actions will save others.

JARL, which is like our ARRL, would like all amateurs to keep 7.030Mhz clear for the duration as they are using it for disaster communications from 2100 UTC to 1100 UTC the following day every day for the time being.

Mike Sallee, KC9FWL, is updating the Field Day manual that he has compiled and along with the ARRL Field Day packet it is time to get things rolling for the last weekend in June. That date is June 25-26, 2011. For those not on the net Tuesday March 15, the Mclean County Wheelers annual Spring Metric will be held on June 11. Jim Baker, WB9EDL, advises that there probably will be a fourth route added for a family ride of 8-10 miles along with the three previous routes they have used. We will be passing around a sign up sheet for those that can help with communications on Saturday June 11.

Keith, AC9S, is going to check on the need for people for the Kickapoo Pow Wow held in Leroy each year. It has been on the first weekend of June in years past. Our actions there in past years have been greatly appreciated.

This makes a busy month for the Central Illinois Radio Club. If anyone can invite a friend or someone they know

is a ham, please do. There is good times to be had in service to the community.

73,
Gary KD9f

CIRC February Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2011

President Gary Dearth (KD9F) called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Twenty-four members were present. Gary commented that the minutes from the January meeting were in the newsletter. Gary Huber (AB9M) made a motion that we accept the minutes as published. After a second by Ed Deutsch (KC9GF), the motion passed. Treasurer Norm Huber (N9ZKS) reviewed the financial status of the club. He reported that the checking account had \$909.05 and the savings account had \$642.96 for a total of \$1,552.01. Vern Veal (NV1V) made a motion that we accept the report. After a second by Gary Wightman (WA8MCD), the motion passed.

Gary opened the discussion to items of Old Business. Andy Stubblefie (W9EMA) reported that many ARES members attended a Weather Spotters class that was held at Heartland Community College last night. The ARES group will be providing coverage for the west and southwest part of McLean County, which is missing spotters. The McLean County EMS will also have a class on April 4th and anyone interested is encouraged to take one of the class. Anyone can join SKYWARN (official weather watchers for the Weather Service) and watch from their home. You don't have to be part of our ARES group to help via SKYWARN.

Ed reported on his trip to Costa Rica and how nice it was to use ECHO Link to talk to people back in central Illinois. Gary reminded everyone to make a donation to our ECHO Link project by sending a check to Norm. Tom Planer (KJ9P) offered to match \$500 of donations so we can install an ECHO Link on the W9AML repeater. Ed mentioned that he is working with Tom to get some ARRL publications at both the Bloomington and Normal public libraries.

Gary opened the discussion to items of New Business. The next testing date will be March 12th. We discussed use of QSL.NET and the fact that we should make a contribution to help them maintain the site. They do not charge people to use the site, but it has lots of useful

information for our members. Gary H made a motion that we contribute \$50 each year. After a second by Norm, the motion passed.

Dan Harms (K9OAT) suggested we all carry our handhelds during March and generate more traffic on W9AML. Norm discussed a project in Pittsburg, PA that promotes youth getting in the hobby. The created ten tasks and when a person gets 6 tasks done they get a loaner handheld to complete the other 4 tasks. He will be working with the Boy Scouts this summer at the Ingersoll Camp in London Mills. This is sponsored by the W D Boyce Council and anyone that would like to help demonstrate ham radio should contact him.

Tom Zerebny (KC9LYP) talked about the 6 meter net. It is getting more hams to join the net as time goes along. Mark Snyder (AB9MP) discussed the new bill in congress to remove some of the frequencies we now use. More details are in the Illinois Section news and he encourage everyone to support the efforts to kill the bill. We all agreed that it was time to start planning for Field Day. This will be a topic at the March meeting. Bring your ideas and plans on how you can help. Mark and Jim Baker (WB9EDL) talked about a couple of antennas that they would like to build and use for Field Day.

Gary reminded the members that we have our Coffee Clutch at 9:00 AM, Monday to Friday, at the Dairy Queen on College Avenue and the 10-10 breakfast at IHOP the 1st Saturday of each month at 8 AM. All are welcomed to attend. Bring a friend. And don't forget to check in on Tuesday's to the ARES Net at 8:00 PM, the 10 meter Net at 8:30 PM and the 2 Meter Net at 9 PM. Anyone with an item for the Newsletter should send it to Norm or Ed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Keith Hanson (AC9S) and seconded by Ed. The motion passed.

For the evening program we all enjoyed Cherry Pie night with cherry pie, cherry ice cream, and coffee.

Submitted by Mike Sallee (KC9FWL)

AREA EXAM DATES

Following is the schedule for W5YI-VEC Amateur Radio exams for the year 2011 at the **Normal Fire station at 1300 E College Avenue. It is at the intersection of College and Blair Street, with parking behind the Fire Station, entry off Blair.**

Setup is from Noon to 1:00 normally. Exams begin at 1:00 P.M.. Questions may be directed to Keith Hanson via email preferably ac9s@mchsi.com or (309) 378-4416

Please bring two forms of identification. You must have a Social Security Number. We cannot administer a test without your SSN. You will need a copy of your Current license plus any CSCE you want to apply.

Test dates for 2011 will be the following Saturdays:

January 8 Done

March 12 Done

May 14

July 16

November 12

The club thanks Keith for his hard work in heading this testing.

Peoria Area Radio Club Testing

In addition on the alternate months VEC exams are held in Morton Public Library.

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

ECHO Link Project

Many of you are user of ECHO Link and others are planning to become users of this additional form of communications available to hams. ECHO Link has many uses, including allowing our members who travel to distant locations or spend some time in a distant city to easily communicate with other members of our club.

Thanks to the generous offer of one of our members, if the club raises **\$500 or more in pledges and donations he will match \$500.** This should provide enough funding to install ECHO Link on the W9AML repeater on 146.940.

This is a unique opportunity to expand the services that the club provides to our members and other hams. Please make a plan to pledge or donate to the ECHO Link Project. If each of us make a donation we will soon have ECHO Link available! To make a pledge or donation contact Gary Dearth (Gary Dearth, Ed Deutsch or Norm Huber today!

Please read the minutes from the January club meeting for more details. If you would like to know more about this great opportunity or how you can benefit from an ECHO Link on our repeater, contact Gary Dearth (KD9F), Ed Deutsch (KC9GF), Norm Huber (N9ZKS), or Tom Planer (KJ9P).

Please make your pledge or donation TODAY. We don't want to let this unique opportunity get away from the club.

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.

Weekly 6 Meter Net

Every Wednesday evening at 50.135 mHz at 7:00 P.M.

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/w9aml/>

President: Gary Derth KD9F

Vice-President: Ed Deutsch KC9GF
(309) 828-2227

Secretary: Mike Sallee, KC9FWL

Treasurer: Norm Huber N9ZKS
(309) 378-4674

Newsletter Editor: Norman Huber, n9zks@verizon.net
(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
19266 US Highway 150
Bloomington, IL 61705-5855

e-mail n9zks@frontier.com

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