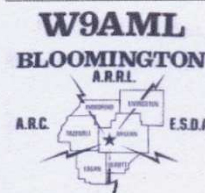


CENTRAL ILLINOIS RADIO CLUB

Short CIRCuits



May 2010

From the President

May Meeting – Wednesday, May 26th at 7:00 pm at the Red Cross office on Westport Ct.

Last months meeting was at Dennis Stott's QTH, N9ZVK in Ellsworth. We ate at Dennis' house and walked across the street to the Ellsworth community center for our meeting. Thanks to Dennis for providing most of the food. And, thanks to Rick, N9CKL for giving his presentation on the 4NEC2 antenna analyzer software. He gave a very interesting presentation.

I was surprised to see we had 24 people attend the meeting, considering the change of meeting place. Good turnout! I don't know if it was Rick or the food that drew the crowd or maybe both.

You won't want to miss this months meeting. We will be talking about and planning several events for June. June is going to be a busy month for our club. The 4th, 5th and 6th is the Pow Wow. Our club has been asked to provide the communications again this year. The Wheelers Bicycle club ride is the 12th of June. We provided the communications and were invited back again this year.

Planning for Field day will take the place of an after meeting presentation. Field day is always the 4th weekend in June. We need everyone to help do the planning, setup and operation on the weekend. If you can help in any of these areas come to the meeting.

Come and be a part of all the fun.

73's and see you at the meeting.

Ed, KC9GF



CONTEST SCHEDULE

There are too many contests to list, so I only listed the ARRL schedule. At the end of the ARRL schedule you will find links to web sights that list contests and dates.

ARRL Contest Schedule

June	12 - 14	ARRL June VHF QSO Party
	19	Kids Day
	26	ARRL Field Day
July	10 - 11	IARU HF World Championships
August	7 - 8	ARRL UHF Contest
	21 - 22	ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest
September	11 - 13	ARRL September VHF QSO Party
	18 - 19	ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest
November	6 - 8	ARRL November Sweepstakes (CW)
	20 - 22	ARRL November Sweepstakes (Phone)
December	3 - 5	ARRL 160 Meter Contest
	11 - 12	ARRL 10 Meter Contest

<http://www.contesting.com/>
<http://www.ng3k.com/Contest/>
<http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/awards.html>

Ham Events:

May 14, 15, 16: Dayton Hamfest
 June 5-6: Princeton Hamfest
 June 5-6: Pow Wow
 June 12: Wheelers bicycle ride
 June 26-27: Field Day
 Tour DeWitt: ?

AREA EXAM DATES

READ CAREFULLY - NOTE LOCATION CHANGE

Following is the schedule for W5YI-VEC Amateur Radio exams for the year 2010 at the Normal Fire Department. 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 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.

We are changing the testing location from the Red Cross to 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.

Remaining dates for the year 2010 (Walk-ins are welcome)
7/17
11/13

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:

June 19
Aug. 21
Sep.(Superfest),
Oct. 16
Dec. 18,

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

CIRC Meeting Minutes

4/28/2010

1. Meeting held in Ellsworth – excellent venue – thanks to Dennis Stott, N9ZVK for hosting our meeting and providing a very nice picnic. We had a small ham radio yard sale. I (Keith) picked up a good looking tube tester.
2. Welcome to Tim Dawson from Bloomington and is new to radio. Welcome to a wonderful hobby; hope to see you at the next meeting.
3. Norm's Treasurer's report: Checking account - \$939.81, Savings account - \$647.24, Total of

\$1587.05. Recent expenditures were: Insurance \$277.00, Hospice donation (for Glenn Mays, N6JNS) \$90.00.

4. It was noted that the club had recognized Les McCalip's passage. Ed will send a letter on club letterhead to his widow.
5. Old Business:
 - a. Ed continued to encourage us to invite people to club meetings.
 - b. No action has been taken on portable plastic storage containers. Apparently Dan Harms, K9OAT, has containers.
 - c. The perennial cry for Newsletter articles was repeated. If you have something the club might find interesting – please write it up and send it to Norm for publication. You too can be an author!!!
6. New Business:
 - a. Upcoming events:
 - i. Princeton – June 6
 - ii. Pow Wow – June 4,5,6 – Keith will route a sign-up sheet next month
 - iii. Field Day – June 26/27
 - iv. Spring Metric – June 12
 - b. Field Day
 - i. Steve Busik, K9SJB, is the antenna coordinator
 - ii. Gary, AB9M, and Linda will do breakfast at the Old Town Township site again.
 - c. ARES – We now have permission to spot for Watterson Towers.
 - d. Library – Discussed donating an ARRL book package to the library and potentially a complimentary QST subscription. Norm will follow up with the ARRL.
 - e. KD9Q reported he is on the air. Has built two of the baluns recently described in QST.
 - f. Jim, WB9UWA, reported on power divider issues with the '94 antenna.
 - g. Norm reported on the upcoming Centennial Camporee sponsored by the WD Boyce Council. It will be held at Comlara on October 1 through 3.
7. Motion to close made by Rick, WD9HRU, and seconded by Tom, KJ9P.
8. Rick, N9CKL, gave an excellent program on antenna modeling. Thanks Rick!!

Submitted by Keith, AC9S

McLean County A.R.E.S. Meeting Minutes
May 19th, 2010
Normal Fire Department, Headquarters
Station
1300 East College Ave. Normal IL 61761

Eleven members were in attendance.

Jesse Magenheimer, the McLean County Deputy Chief of Operations, was on hand to take new A.R.E.S. member pictures for I.D. cards. Mr. Magenheimer also explained a few of the upcoming events that the EMA will be participating in this summer.

The EMNET test messages are being received via the Internet, and is working well. The real time alert messages are also received during hazardous weather conditions. Those A.R.E.S. members who do not wish to be included in the alerts and tests may contact Andy Stubblefield to be removed from the broadcast list.

Andy also pointed out that the information in the alert messages is confidential, and should be treated as such.

Among the hand-outs at this meeting, was an update from Brad Pioveson, W9FX on state wide A.R.E.S., EmComm and RACES.

The Illinois State H.F. frequency designate is **3.905.00** Mhz. The Illinois State A.R.E.S. Call Sign is **NC9IL**.

I.S.U. Watterson Tower has been approved for use as a WX Spotter Location. Persons using the facility shall contact the I.S.U. Campus Police Dispatcher at 438-8631 and ask for either Lt. Sweeney or Lt. Woodruff, if someone should question the validity of their use of the facility. It is recommended that WX spotting be done from the lounge area and not the roof.

Make sure you have your badge and appropriate I.D. It was suggested that a camera would be useful to document abnormal WX.

Keith Hanson, **AC9S**, is the coordinator for Broomen and St. Joseph Hospital radio room amateur equipment. A tour will be made of these facilities so that A.R.E.S. members can get acquainted with the equipment.

Rick Kempf, **WD9HRU**, gave a report of an ARRL seminar on A.R.E.S. held at Dayton. One of the items was to have A.R.E.S. members all be identified by a common dress "uniform".

In our case it shall be the bright yellow shirt we have all been asked to get on order. All members are asked to have their shirt on order by May 26th, the regular **W9AML CLUB MEETING**.

The ARRL had a comment on how A.R.E.S. groups should have an information officer to interface with local media. It was pointed out that that is not appropriate with the F.E.M.A. Incidence Command Structure. **We shall continue to follow the F.E.M.A. guidelines.**

The amateur radio UHF/VHF antenna has been approved for the new CIRA control tower EmComm site. Coaxial cable is being made available by Norm, **N9ZKS** and the antenna will be ordered by Keith, **AC9S**. The installation will be by on-site construction personnel.

A portable UHF repeater is being made available for A.R.E.S. use by Ron, **W9NUP**. Andy, **K9EMA** and Rick, **WD9HRU** will coordinate.

The Tri-County monthly A.R.E.S. meeting will be Thursday, May 27th seven P.M. at the Germantown Hills Fire Station. Those wishing to car-pool shall be at the Wal-Mart parking lot 5:00 P.M. A stop will be made for supper.

Keith, **AC9S** gave an update on the Red Cross participation on the up-coming CIRA disaster drill.

There was a general discussion on having a drill just for our members.

Members are encouraged to complete F.E.M.A. on-line courses IC100A, 200A, 700A and 800A.

The next meeting will be **June 16th, 7:30** same place.

Respectfully submitted:
Tom Planer
KJ9P

My Trip to Dayton

Dayton weekend was eventful for me. I took my wife with me to let her know what kind of folks I hung around with. Apparently the members of CIRC have made a good impression because she didn't protest. In fact, despite expressing little interest in the hobby, she surprised me by telling me the week before that she had signed up for the one day course and was going to try to get her ticket.

We pulled the "Field Day Trailer" over to Wright Patterson Air Force Base Family Camp Thursday and enjoyed the four nights for an outstanding price of \$91.00.

Thursday afternoon after stopping for my credentials as a speaker for the Bicycle Mobile Hams, we joined Gary, AB9M and Ed, KC9GF for what Kathy called the best steak she has had at the Pine Club. It may not be cheap food but it is worth the price.

Friday morning I was there early to help with the Scout Radio Booth on the red carpet in the ARRL area. Spent the day for the most part talking to Scouter Hams and Non-Scouter Hams about the opportunity of reaching out to youth through the Scouting program and the Radio Merit Badge. It was interesting to hear from a number of hams that their interest in ham radio had been sparked by their experiences as a scout years ago.



Speaking of "Sparks" since this is the BSA's 100th anniversary; we asked if the Antique Wireless Association Museum might make a replica of a transmitter and receiver using the plans in the 1911 Boy Scout Handbook. Not only did Museum Deputy Director Bob Hobday, N2EVG, make a working spark gap transmitter and crystal receiver that drew throngs to the booth, he refused payment for the parts! So please join me in mailing a donation to the AWA Museum, 187 Lighthouse Rd., Hilton, NY 14468 to thank these fine folks for their help to Scouting. "Sparkey" is packed and ready for it's trip to the National Jamboree at Fort A.P. Hill in Virginia this summer where I will be working as a volunteer at K2BSA the ham radio demonstration station during the Jamboree. I hope to show slides of the last Jamboree operation at a future CIRC meeting.



Meanwhile Friday, Kathy studied in preparation for Saturday's class and attended the YL Forum. We finished the day with attendance at the DX Dinner.

Saturday Kathy disappeared behind the curtain in the East Hall for the class and test while I spent more time at the Scout Radio Booth and picking up a few items from the vendors. At closing time I joined her and we waited together for the results of her exam. The instructors continued there excellent work and she passed! I guess that means I now have a family membership and CIRC has a new member, Kathy KC9SKF.

We joined the Bicycle Mobile Hams along the bike trail as they finished their ride afterwards and had dinner at Rob's Restaurant just south of the Brookville exit of I-70. Delightful buffet type restaurant. Heard a number of locals saying they had forgotten it was Hamvention weekend as we waited.

Sunday morning it was time to attend the Bicycle Mobile Ham's Forum. We heard from our primary speaker, Barry Bogart, VE7VIE/WV2J, and Barry always has some great experiences to share. Barry is on tour in the east coast and brought his folding bike to the forum and demonstrated how he has APRS mounted on it along with a special mount for an antenna that uses the bike as a base mount. See the pictures section for this picture. He talked about some of his many experiences touring both on the west coast of Canada and other expeditions he has made in various parts of the world. He had some great pictures. We wish him the best on his current tour. We also had a chance to hear from Bob Curry, KC3VO, who brought his special hybrid bicycle with him to the forum and we were able to let him speak and demonstrate his special bike. It is a combination electric/pedal bike and has some very special ways of running. You can pedal or use the batteries inside the wheels to drive it. Braking can assist in recharging the batteries similar to a hybrid car. Bob also has a 300 watt radio using a backpack amplifier he can use while he rides.



After another non productive drawing for the prizes Kathy and I headed back to WPAFB and prepared for the trip home. Due to the fact that the wonderful residents of Illinois and areas west of Dayton were releasing the rain they had kept from ruining the weekend of Hamvention we dropped our plans for a Monday of sightseeing and packed for a somewhat wet trip home in the comfort of the tow vehicle. All in all another great adventure. We will see you all there again next year!
Norm, N9ZKS

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 (NEW)
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	103.5
146.730	K9HGX	Decatur(Echolink)	123.0
146.790	WD9HRU	Bloomington (ARES)	
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
147.105	WA9RTI	Decatur	103.5
147.150	WD9FTV	Bloomington	
147.345	K9ZM	Lincoln	103.5
147.390	WB9DUC	Pontiac	127.3
442.250	WA9RTI	Decatur (Normal ARES)	103.5
442.700	WB9UUS	Normal	107.2 (open**)
443.800	K9HGX	Decatur r	123.0
444.175	K9MCA	Decatur	100.0

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

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

Central Illinois Radio Club

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

<http://www.qsl.net/w9aml/>

President: Ed Deutsch KC9GF
 (309) 828-2227

Vice President: *Jim Shaffer*

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@verizon.net

Permission is granted to Amateur Radio-related organizations to reproduce contents of Short CIRCuits provided full credit is given.