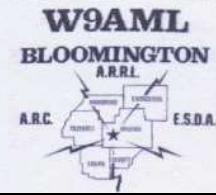


CENTRAL ILLINOIS RADIO CLUB

Short CIRCuits



October 2007

REPEATER

Our new repeater is up and running!! Jim was able to mount the Kenwood repeater box in the duplexer cabinet and we now have the new machine operational at Cornbelt. Jim fine tuned the cavities and reports no discernable desense. Thanks to all who participated in the repeater project with time, supplies, planning. Thanks to the repeater committee and special thanks to Jim, WB9UWA, and to our anonymous donor who made this all possible.

Emergency exercise – Sep. 15.

As I reported at last month's meeting, the disaster exercise went very well from our perspective. It was a simulation of an aircraft incident at the airport and involved many of the first responder organizations in the county. Thanks to N9ZKS, N9DOA, WB9UWA, AB9MP, KG9IW, and K9OAT for volunteering their time during Peoria Hamfest Saturday. In the last meeting of the McLean county Disaster Committee we were specifically mentioned as having done a good job. I was proud to have been part of the group. Good job, well done.

September Meeting –

Gary Huber did an excellent presentation on the DX Spider. This has been a personal mission for Gary and he provides the dx'ers in the area with an outstanding resource. If you want to know where the DX is and almost as important what a rare one's operating habits the Spider is an invaluable resource. I particularly enjoyed Gary's account of his working a rare one by analyzing European spots on the guy, learning a little of his language, and then giving him a call in the wee hours of the morning

when the dx op usually began a conversation with his buddies in Europe. That is the true spirit of dxing. I should mention Gary has worked them all!

Christmas Dinner

OK – At the September meeting we voted to do our dinner at Swingers. I have reserved "The Bays" room at Swingers for Thursday, December 6. I don't yet have the contract, but our name is the room for that time..

October Meeting -

I am going to do a presentation on using Tram Lines to raise antennas. We just finished raising the STEPPIR Last Saturday and the actual raising part went so smoothly I thought it might be good to share the experience. Many thanks to Ray Meyers, K9XL, Mark, AB9MP and his friend, and to my neighbor Jim Finch, (and also my wife and Mike my son-in-law) for being the ground crew. I picked a lousy time with many of my potential help engaged with the JOTA, but time was running short weatherwise. Jim finch took a few pictures of the event and a couple of them show the tramline to perfection. It is an easy, safe way to raise large antennas, but it takes a little more preparation than the usual winding the elements through the guy wires method.

I also have some of the State Farm ARRL tapes, including the one Don Smith tried to show us at the August meeting. I'll either check out the Red Cross VCR ahead of time or bring my personal one.

Officer's Slate

We did not get a nominating committee named – a bad on me. Please let me know what office you

are interested in running for or of someone who is interested so that we can have good election. This is a club of, by and for us the members.

November Meeting

This is the big one! Roger Singley, WQ9E, will host us again at his home in Minier for a tour of his fabulous vintage radio collection. Hallicrafters, National, Collins, Drake, Hammarlund, Johnson – you name it, he has it, most of it looking and operating like new. This was the high point for me last year. Roger does museum quality restoration of vintage radios and has an extensive collection – his basement is better than most museums. If you could make only one meeting in the year, this would be the one.

Take care everyone. See you Wednesday, October 24 at 7:00pm in the Red Cross on Route 9 East, across from the Fire station.

Thanks –

Keith
AC9S

From Sam Dillingham,
WA9BKA,

As of the 18th of August, my call is W9LMJ (Dad's call). It took some work but I wanted to keep the call out there. It may not be for 75 years like Dad but hopefully reach 100 years belonging to a Dillingham."

Thanks to all of you for the friendship Dad had with you. I think of you often as I think about dad. I sure miss him. (and Mom too),

I haven't got on HF yet but keep listening.

73's and please pass this along to the other guys.

Sam
PO Box 1085

**Sept. 2007 CIRC Meeting
Minutes**

Treasury Report

Chk's written:
for repeater matching power supply
134.38
plus \$70 for POB annual fee

Remaining:

182.60 ck
642.61 sv

Motion to approve treasurer report
carried

Discussed returning current loaner
repeater to Rich N9YAY & installing
new unit, we were waiting for new
duplexer, however with Rich
relocating, plan to get swapped out &
return as quickly as possible.

Rumor was floating around about a
repeater in town was changing
frequencies, we determined the
discussion was about the GTE
machine that Jim Isom manages with
the building owner changing. As we
are testing the new repeater on the
same frequency but using a different
CTCSS tone, that could have been it
also.

Floyd W9EX donated a deep cycle
battery & charger for the new setup.
Also thinks Joe KI9D has one that
may be available.

Rick WD9HRU asked if the system
had an auto shutdown so it won't kill
the battery should the power be off
and on battery for an extended
period. Jim WB9UWA thought that
was true, however plans to test it to
be sure. Otherwise, repeater and the
matching power supply are working
just fine.

Keith AC9S said the McLean County
Disaster drill went extremely well,
including the feedback from Red
Cross management Sondra, as well
as the communicators for the county
with similar comments. Lessons
learned was have equipment manuals
handy, he figured out how to set
tones on an unfamiliar rig without

much trouble, but having the
instructions would have been faster.

Keith thanked Norm N9ZKS, Eric
N9DOA, Jim WB9UWA, Mark
AB9MP, Kyle KG9IW, Dan K9OAT for
their support.

Keith also took the NIMS courses,
and spent more time to do the studies
& responses than was thought it
would take, but he felt it was worth it.
First module showed Standard FEMA
commands, later ones how & when to
use them. ESDA has been renamed
and is now called EMA.

Besides FEMA requirements,
applicants must take the NIMS
courses for ARES as well. Keith
suggests we hold a class to help
people through this process if they
wish to be available for duty.

The goal of Homeland Security /
FEMA plans to have all volunteers as
card-carrying & pre-trained folks to be
sanctioned to help. Untrained help will
be turned away.

Anyone interested can find courses
from various search engines on the
Internet, "NIMS IS 100" will find links.

Christmas dinner topic, discussed
possible options/locations. Swinger's
is the current choice, plan is to see if
available as we usually schedule for
the first Thursday of December, this
year it's the 6th.

New business
Received \$71.00 from sale of estate
sale tubes.
Loren Raber donated ARRL handbook
to club.

During FD 2007, Illinois State
Representative Dan Brady offered us
to do a tour of the communications in
the Department of Transportation
building in Springfield. After various
calls, it must be scheduled during the
daytime / regular hours. Keith will try
to arrange something for a Monday or
Friday, with Friday preferred.

Roger W9QE, offered to do another
radio presentation at his QTH for
October's meeting program.

Meeting closed 7:42.

Keith mentioned a cool ham related
video found on YouTube, search for
"ham band"

Program:

Gary AB9M put on DX-Spider demo
for the N9PE packet cluster with DX
spot announcements.

Central Illinois Radio Club

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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:

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related organizations to reproduce
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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

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)

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

LOCAL DX PACKET CLUSTER INFORMATION

"DX spotting network" - N9PE (Memorial Station) 144.91 MHz - 1200 baud - Connect to N9PE - Contact AB9M or KB9LNS for more info.

Gasoline Sediment From Pumps

Taken from a post by one of the members of the Motorcycling Amateur Radio Club I belong to.

Hi all. Just read the post about Fuel trucks dropping fuel. This can cause the customer to get a tank of "bad" fuel if they pump before the sediment and water that might be in the bottom of the tank have a chance to settle. You might want to fill using a grade of gas different from what is being unloaded.

You can look at the truck and tell what he is dropping by looking at the open lids. This is standard all across the US.

White lid sometime with a black or blue plus on it Mostly Always white is the 87 octane unleaded regular. Blue lid is the 89 octane Midgrade. A red lid is 92 or 93 octane Premium gas.

#2 Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel is Yellow.

Kerosine1 is Green or Brown.

Now some stations only have 87 octane and 93 octane tanks and they premix at the pump for 89 octane.

There are only 2 grades of gasoline 87 and 93. Any other Octane is a blend. You will find stations out west in higher elevations selling 84 octane with ethanol and will have 86, 87, 88 octane on the pumps.

If you want to be safe, wait until the truck is done and packs up to leave, if you wait 15 min. the tanks will settle and you will get good Gas. There is no underground tank that draws from the very bottom. The pump will usually loose prime in the underground tank about 4 inches from the bottom. After 15 min any moisture of sediment will settle back to the bottom, any thing that may be stirred up is micro fine and the pump filters will catch it. If they are dropping 87 you can pump 93 with no problem and vice versa. However be careful as tankers have 4 to 5 compartments and they can carry multiple products at the same time. When we drop product into

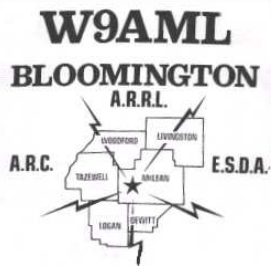
the tank it is routed through a fill tube and there is A baffle plate and box that is suppose to help keep from stirring the tank too much. However most drop a 4 inch supply hose and it flows about 200 to 250 gallons per min. It **will** stir the tank. I deliver fuel in Ohio and I try to do my deliveries at night when there is little pumping going on to avoid customers having problems.

Last Note. You will usually find a smidgen of water in any tank. This is do to condensation that forms on the tank. A tank can have up to 25 to 30 gallons of water in it, about 2 inches and you will not get any water in your gas as the draw is not that deep. However it will Mix up in the churn but will settle after 15 min. My stations (Meijer) have their maintenance guys come in and suck the water out any time the monitor shows 5 or more gallons. Compared to a 12,000 to 15,000 or the larger 20,000 gallon tanks, this is a very small amount. Hope this helps.

Ride safe Randy WD8EJC

Meeting Wednesday October 24

Central Illinois Radio Club October 2007 Newsletter



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