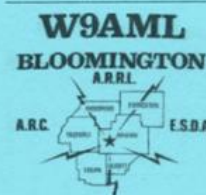


Next Meeting Wednesday Aug 28, 2013

Central Illinois Radio Club August 2013 Newsletter

CENTRAL ILLINOIS RADIO CLUB

Short CIRCuits



August 2013

**Aug Meeting,
Wednesday the 28th
7:00 PM at the Red Cross**

CIRC July Meeting Minutes

July 24, 2013

From the President

Well, this is my last message. Time has gone fast and the job has been a learning experience in working with and for the club. Everyone has always put forth outstanding effort when things have needed to be done. That makes this job much easier. Thanks to Ed, KC9GF for convincing me to take the job even though I had great reservations. Thanks to Mike, KC9FWL, and Norm, N9ZKS for the great work that you both have done. It takes a team effort to make things work. That what makes the club work! There were times we might have thought things take forever to get done, but we meet once a month.

As we have seen lately with the Cornbelt tower situation, it takes everyone to get things done and being in the right place at the right time pays off. I sure whatever happens with that situation that with the knowledge and contacts we have as a club we will come out on top.

Thanks to Grant, AA9LC, Jim, WB9UWA, and Duane, KC9PIM and of course Norm, N9ZKS for taking the jobs to keep us going and bringing more ideas for the future.

73, and I will see you at the meetings, or on 2 meters or 75 meters or wherever we land on the bands.

Gary KD9F

President Gary Dearth (KD9F) opened the meeting at 7:00 pm. Gary D said the minutes had not been published yet, so he deferred review and approval to the August meeting. Norm (N9ZKS) was not present to give the Treasurers Report. Approval was deferred to the August meeting.

Old Business: Tom Planer (KJ9P) gave a report on the ARES/SKYWARN group. It was fired from the McLean County EMA because the communications between the two groups was lacking. The EMA was not able to define what tasks they wanted us to do and how we would do them. We will continue to work with SKYWARN and assist the National Weather Service via the Lincoln, IL office. We need more trained people, so please contact Tom to find out what you need to do to join the group.

Josh Golladay (KC9UJS) found a contact with the Fire Department so we can operate at the McLean County Fair. We will use the special event call sign K9T. We can operate on multiple bands and those wishing to operate from the Fair should contact Josh. Chuck Henderson (WB9UUS) reported that to get ECHO Link/AllStar working we need an RTMC module for about \$275. We should also get a 5.6 gigabyte link. We can have two sites devoted to receiving. Gary D asked if this would be enough money to cover all the expenses. Duane Benjamin (KC9PIM) said it would cost \$2.61 to insure the equipment, with at \$50 deductible. So we would need about \$542 to cover all the expenses. Tom made a motion that we approve \$600. After a second by Gary Huber (AB9M) the motion was approved.

New Business: The Nominating Committee reported that one person is thinking about running. The slate proposed is Grant Zehr (AA9LC) President, Duane Benjamin (KC9PIM) Secretary, and Earl Shaffer (WB9UWA) Vice President. Gary H moved to close the nominations. He also nominated Norm Huber (N9ZKS) to remain as Treasurer. Josh seconded the motion and it was approved. Tom moved that we accepted the slate of officers and elect them. After a second by Keith Hanson (AC9S) the motion was approved. Keith suggested we amend the constitution so that we have term limits on the officers.

Gary H discussed the proposed contract between the N1SF club at State Farm and CIRC. The contract is to allow CIRC to purchase some of the equipment of N1SF so that we can use it and insure it. N1SF plans to amend its constitution to rename the club and continue to provide services like APRS to the community. Gary is completing another draft of the contract so it meets some of the concerns of members of N1SF.

Gary H made a motion to add N9PE-2 to the site listing in the newsletter. After a second by Tom the motion was approved. Rick Kempf (WD9HRU) asked who was handling the QSL cards from Field Day. Tom said he would make them. Tom and Gary D talked about the equipment owned by CIRC. Duane asked for a list so that he can get it insured. Keith suggested that we feature the Ham Shacks of our members on our website.

Gary D reminded the members that we have our Coffee Klatch at 9:00 am, Monday to Friday, at the Dairy Queen on Veteran's Parkway. 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.

Dennis Mills (KE9UA) made a motion that we adjourn. After a second by Dave Roberts (KE9BA) the motion passed.

Submitted by Ed Deutsch (KC9GF), Vice President

CIRC Special Meeting
Wednesday August 7, 2013

Member Tom Planer (KJ9P) opened the meeting at 7:00 pm with 19 members present. The meeting was called to discuss the possible loss of the Corn Belt Energy tower that we use for the W9AML repeater.

Tom, in summary, said that Corn Belt had hired a tower crew to evaluate the structure and remove unused antennas. They mistakenly started to remove our antenna for the W9AML repeater. They cut out about 75 feet of hardline that was connecting the antenna to the repeater before we were able to stop them. They replaced the damaged feedline with some regular cable. If their evaluation indicates the tower is usable and safe, Corn Belt might decide to rent space on it for antennas from various businesses, organizations, and individuals. If it is not safe, they plan to have it torn down.

If we are able to continue to use the tower, we would need to pay for things like the electricity to run the FAA lights, electricity to run the repeater, and so forth. It was estimated to replace the hardline and connectors would cost about \$5,000.

Gary Huber (AB9M) asked if we could salvage the 75 feet of hardline and with some connectors use it with the remaining hardline on the tower. Duane Benjamin (KC9PIM) suggested we bill the tower crew for the damaged hardline. We would like to have the hardline on the Corn Belt tower but not the antenna. It was damaged by lightning and the tower crew would charge us \$200 to remove it.

Rick Suhadolc (N9CKL) said he would see if we could get space on the city water tower near State Farm South.

We might be able to use the tower that Rick Kempf (WD9HRU) uses.

Keith Hanson (AC9S) noted that we use the repeater a lot and we really should find a way to keep it.

We also talked about using Watterson Tower, the EMA tower, and the tower at the Law and Justice Center. Tom reported that ISU is actively removing antennas from Watterson Tower and they did not want any on it. We are not in the good graces of EMA, so it is very unlikely that we could use either the EMA tower or the Law and Justice tower.

We also talked about using the tower at the Red Cross, but some questioned if it was tall enough to be effective all over the county.

Keith Hanson said we could check with STL, who has a tower at their office on Towanda Barnes road.

Gary Dearth (KD9F) said we have approval from the Red Cross to add a second tower, so maybe we could use it. We would have to coordinate the new repeater location.

Rick N9CKL, will check on placing an antenna on a city water tower.

Keith AC9S, will check with STL.

Gary KD9F, will review the FAA paperwork to see about using the new tower at the Red Cross.

Submitted by Mike Sallee (KC9FWL), Secretary

Those attending were: KC9FWL Mike, KC9WVR Greg, KJ9P Tom, KB9FPY Ron, N9OSU Doreen, AC9S Keith, WD9HRU Rick, KC9GF Ed, KD9F Gary, KE9UA Dennis, and KE9BA Dave

Submitted by Mike Sallee, Secretary (KC9FWL)

Vertical Thursday

CQ CQ looking for any vertical 10 meter stations. We have been meeting every Thursday night at 8PM on 28.450 Mhz using vertical polarization. Please join us. We encourage you to try vertical, but if you are horizontally polarized, you are welcome too, but signals may be difficult. Several of us regularly use vertical and we are finding that with simple verticals mounted only 20 feet off the ground our signals are over S9 to each other and often well over S9. This is a vast improvement compared to using horizontal yagis that are often pointed the wrong direction resulting in weak signals. We welcome you to experiment here on this net and as with the other, it is totally casual. To set the net apart from the other 10 meter net, we are calling it Vertical Thursday. Please join the fun.

73, Jim Shaffer, WB9UWA.

FOR SALE

Icom 71A Communications Receiver \$325.00 (cosmetic 9 out of 10) w/filters
Cushcraft A3S Beam in good shape, \$100.00
Reasonable offers welcome.
Contact: Larry Mays, KB9NPH@gmail.com

-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/Skywarn Net
Tuesday	8:30 P.M.	28.450 CIRC Open 10 meter Net
Tuesday	9:00 P.M.	146.940 (103.5PL) 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 Sometimes Trader's Net follows ARES Net held on 442.250
Thursday	7:00 P.M.	50.135 Open 6 meter Net
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
Sunday	08:15 A.M.	1.915 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)

Regular Calendar of Events

Daily Coffee Klatch Monday thru Friday

.....9:00 a.m. at Dairy Queen Veterans at Cub's

.....**XYL's Join the OM's Monday and Friday**

Weekly ARIS/SKYWARN Net

Every Tuesday evening on the 146.790 repeater at 8:00 p.m.

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 Thursday evening at 50.135 mHz at 7:00 P.M.

Weekly 160 Meter AM Net **NOTE FREQUENCY**

Every Sunday morning at **1.915** mHz at 8:15 A.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)

AREA EXAM DATES

Following is the schedule for W5YI-VEC Amateur Radio exams for the year 2013. 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.

Remaining Test dates for 2013 will be the following Saturdays:

November 9

Central Illinois Area Repeaters

Freq	Callsign	Location	PL
144.390	N9PE-2	Bloomington APRS	Digipeater
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	CIRC Club - ARES Back Up	103.5 CTCSS
146.985	KA9YPK	Clinton	
147.015	NX9M	Normal ARES Alt.	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: Grant Zehr (AA9LC)

Vice-President: Earl Shaffer (WB9UWA)

Secretary: Duane Benjamin (KC9PIM)

Treasurer: Norm Huber (N9ZKS)

Newsletter Editor: Norman Huber

n9zks@frontier.com

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 should be received by the 15th of the month and may be snail or e-mailed to the editor at:

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