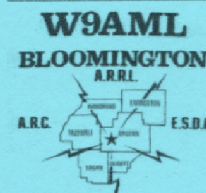


Next Meeting Wednesday Sep 24, 2014

Central Illinois Radio Club September 2014 Newsletter

CENTRAL ILLINOIS RADIO CLUB

Short CIRCuits



September 2014

**September Meeting,
Wednesday the 24th
7:00 PM at the Red Cross**

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| 7. QSL manager | -AA9LC |
| 8. Fall Weiner Roast | -KC9PIM |
| 9. Old Business | |
| 10. New business | |
| 11. Adjourn | |
| 12. Program – Mobile operation | -KJ9P |

From the President

After a cooler than average summer, fall is approaching. The days are getting shorter and overnight temperatures are lower. On a brighter note, HF band conditions tend to improve during the fall and winter months and there are a number of contests and operating activities during the fall months to keep us all occupied.

Here at the home station, I finally finished painting my 35 year old galvanized steel Rohn tower. The tower is still sound, but was showing a little surface rust. The painting project turned out to take longer than I had anticipated; thank goodness that job is over. Hopefully it won't need any further attention for a long time!

The Peoria Superfest is coming up on Saturday, September 20. It's always a great hamfest, and over the years that I have attended the weather is almost always beautiful. CIRC will have a table again, and you are welcome to hang out there for as much of the day Saturday as you like. It's a great chance to visit and catch up on the local news. The vendors appreciate your support, so plan to make some of your purchases at the Superfest instead of on-line this year.

Our meeting Wednesday will feature Tom Planer discussing how to do a mobile installation. Tom has operated HF as well as VHF/UHF from his car and has had good luck making contacts on many bands. If you have tips from your experience operating mobile, feel free to contribute. In order to take advantage of the available daylight, we're having Tom show us his mobile installation in the parking lot at 7:00 pm. After the demo, we'll have our business meeting. Then, after the meeting there will be opportunity for more questions and discussion. I have never operated mobile, so it's all new to me. It should be a good meeting.

See you on Wednesday!

Grant Zehr AA9LC

CIRC meeting – September 24, 2014 Agenda

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Introductions and new members | -AA9LC |
| 2. Minutes of August 2014 meeting | - KC9PIM |
| 3. Treasurer's report | -N9ZKS |
| 4. HR4969 - update | -KJ9P |
| 5. ARRL Affiliated Club Coord. | -AA9LC |
| 6. New Radio Room Manager | -AA9LC |

Minutes of the Aug 27, 2014 regular meeting of the Central Illinois Radio Club (CIRC)

The regularly scheduled meeting of CIRC was called to order by President, Grant Zehr (AA9LC) at 7:00 PM, August 27, 2014.

Grant announced that following the meeting, Mike Brown (KG9DW) would discuss D-Star generally and his personal D-Star repeater located in Heyworth, IL.

Members present at the meeting then introduced themselves by name and call sign. Guest Jim Austin (KE7MVO) of Yuma, AZ was present. Lifetime member Glen Hill (WA9GCK) was also present.

It was noted that the minutes of the regular July 2014 meeting had been sent by email to all members on the CIRC reflector. On motion by Gary Huber (AB9M) and second Dennis Mills (KE9UA), the minutes of the July, 2014 regular meeting were unanimously approved.

Treasurer Norm Huber (N9ZKS) submitted a written report to the members that indicated a balance on hand of \$1,770.16 as of meeting date. On motion by Mike Sallee (KC9FWL), seconded by Keith Hanson (AC9S), the Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved.

Tom Planer (KJ9P) then discussed the effort by ARRL to channel the support of its members for HR 4969 to individual congressional legislators. This US House bill is draft legislation mandating reasonable accommodation of radio tower and antenna for amateur Radio use. Tom passed out sample support letters and envelopes to the members present. Gary Huber (AB9M) also discussed how to cut and paste an e-mail with this data directly to a legislator. This may be even more effective.

Norm Huber reminded us that the "Scout Jamboree On The Air" event will be held on the third weekend of October. Anyone interested in participating can contact him.

Josh Galladay (KC9UJS) also noted that a Scout JOTA is also proposed for the third Saturday of October. If the event is held at the Red Cross building station, we would need chaperones as station manager Tom Planer is not available on that date.

There was discussion of the status of the current repeater location. Tom Planer, with assistance of Dennis Miles, will get an update and report back at a future meeting.

Chuck Henderson (WB9UUS) described the results of a recent direct lightning strike to his antenna.

On motion by Gary Huber, seconded by Dennis Mills, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Duane Benjamin (KC9PIM), Secretary

Important Current Event

ARRL Illinois Section
Section Manager: Thomas T Ciciora, KA9QPN
ka9qpn@arrl.org

Thomas repeated his request at the Peoria Hamfest. He asked everyone to follow up with your Representatives if you have already contacted them. The ARRL section leaders have been walking the halls in DC trying to make the point directly to the House.

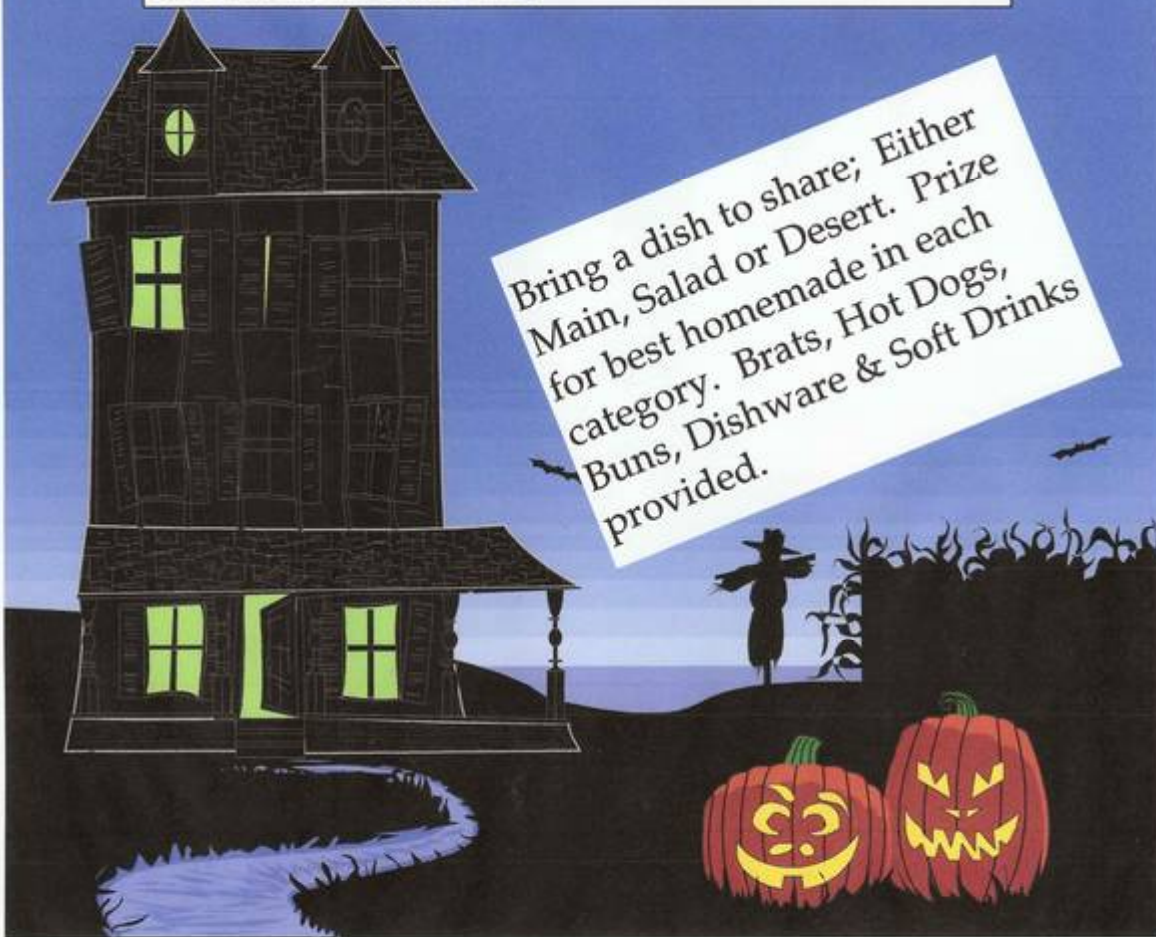
CIRC 2nd Annual Wiener Roast

WHEN: OCTOBER 11, 2014; 6:30 PM

**WHERE: Duane & Susan Benjamin Farm;
24251 E 1900 North Rd, Towanda, IL**

[Take Towanda-Barnes Road to Towanda. Road turns East at Towanda and becomes 1900 East Rd. Go exactly 5 Miles (just past power substation). Blue Tri-Level on South side of road. Event in heated machine shed with tables & chairs. Extra chairs welcome. Wiener sticks and marshmallows available for those that want to test out the bonfire]

Bring a dish to share; Either Main, Salad or Desert. Prize for best homemade in each category. Brats, Hot Dogs, Buns, Dishware & Soft Drinks provided.



-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	8:30 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 Newslane
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	7:00 P.M.	50.135 Open 6 meter Net
Thursday	9:00 P.M.	146.760 (162.2 PL) Open Net with Newslane
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 Newslane
Sunday	8:30 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. **Recent changes** 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 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)

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	103.5 CTCSS
146.985	KA9YPK	Clinton	Back Up
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

Web Page

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

President: Grant Zehr (AA9LC)

Vice-President: Earl Shaffer (WB9UWA)

Secretary: Duane Benjamin (KC9PIM)

Treasurer: Kathy Huber (KC9SKF)

Newsletter Editor: Norman Huber (N9ZKS)

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:

Norm Huber

19266 US Highway 150

Bloomington, IL 61705-5855

e-mail **n9zks@frontier.com**

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AREA EXAM DATES

Following is the schedule for W5YI-VEC Amateur Radio exams for the year 2014. at the Community Room of the Bloomington Public Library located at the intersection of of E. Olive St. and S. East ST. Entrance off of S. East St.

This is a CHANGE of LOCATION.

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@hotmail.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.

The first test dates for 2014 are the following Saturdays:

1/18 - Done

3/15 - Done (9 participants - All got Tech 2 also got General)

5/03 - Done

7/19 - Done

11/08 - Unknown - the library if I can get it."

Exams' in Morton are held at the Morton Public Library, 315 West Pershing at 12:00 Noon the third Saturday of even numbered months or as noted. Feb 15, Apr 19, Jun 21, Aug 16, Sep 20(Superfest), Oct 18, and Dec20

Contact Bob Bush at **tigrbob@gmail.com** for more info.

Antenna Quiz – answers

Antenna # 1



This is a biconical dipole antenna, designed to cover the VHF range. This particular example was once part of a large array of identical dipoles mounted over a ground screen covering an acre or so of land. The large array was used to track satellites.

You can look up “Mini-track” and get an idea of the arrangement. Basically, the phase of the radio signal received at each antenna was compared and based on that information the orbital parameters of the spacecraft could be determined.

A single element dipole could be used in the same way, but the biconical dipole is a much more broadband antenna, providing good coverage on an entire band of frequencies. When these antennas were in use, there were many satellites operating in the 108- 136 MHz range, and I think this antenna was designed for that range.

Antenna # 2



This is a Lindenblad antenna, sometimes referred to as a ‘Lindenblad Array’. The tilted pairs of elements furthest from the center form a dipole array. The effect is to create a pattern which is omnidirectional and circularly polarized in the horizontal plane. This antenna was retired from VHF airport use and covers 118-135 MHz.

According to the ARRL Satellite Handbook the pattern from this antenna design provides “ a near-perfect match for null-free reception from the linearly polarized, randomly oriented signals arriving from incoming and departing aircraft”. It works well for satellite reception on the 137 MHz band and to some extent on the 145 Mhz bands. Sadly, it is not a very good match at 2 meters and would not work very well as an OSCAR uplink antenna, since it is not designed to cover that frequency range.

Grant Zehr AA9LC