

# Central Illinois Radio Club

## February 2015 Newsletter

**Next Meeting Wednesday Feb 25, 2015**  
**This is the annual “Cherry Pie Night”**  
**Program is fellowship and food!**

### **Winter Activity Day – February 28**

Don't forget that Saturday February 28 will be our 'Winter Activity Day' for lack of a better title. We're planning to get together at the Red Cross building starting at 9:00 am and work on projects, trouble shoot broken gear, drink coffee, stay warm and socialize.

If you have a project that you've been working on and you'd like to show it off, this is the perfect time and place. Or if you're having a problem getting a computer application to work someone who's there can probably solve your problem. Or if you're building a new rig and have gotten stuck, bring it along. We'll have test gear and people who can help. I've got a small keyer kit that I'm going to assemble, for example.

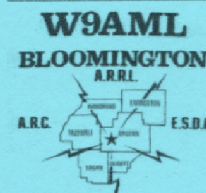
The club station will be open and available for you if you would like to get on the air and make a few contacts.

It should be a great time. I'm looking forward to seeing you there!

Grant Zehr AA9LC

# CENTRAL ILLINOIS RADIO CLUB

## Short CIRCuits



February 2015

**February Meeting,  
Wednesday the 25th  
7:00 PM at the Red Cross**

### From the President

Well, February has been an eventful month for me this year. My wife and I welcomed our first grandchild this week, so the excitement level is peaking around our house. So far, it seems like more fun and less responsibility that having kids of your own, so I'm all for it. The first two weeks of February featured the K1N Dxpedition to Navassa Island in the Caribbean. This is a tiny, desolate, inaccessible island which is administered by the United States as a wildlife refuge. Because of that, permission to visit the island is difficult to obtain and very strictly supervised by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Because it is geographically isolated from the rest of the United States, and because it is under a separate kind of administration, it qualifies as a DXCC 'entity'. Which basically means it counts as a new country if you are chasing countries under the ARRL DXCC program. Almost everybody in DXing needed a contact with K1N

As Dennis KE9UA pointed out, the pile-ups were truly huge, and everybody seemed to be calling from everywhere, all the time, around the clock. The saving grace for those of us in North America was the location of Navassa Is. Since it is located between Haiti and Jamaica that is an easy radio path for us. In addition the operators on the K1N were some of the best in world at picking out call signs and making quick contacts. And, from what I have heard, just about all the local DXers who needed Navassa were able to get at least one QSO with K1N. In addition to the usual HF gear, the K1N team took along satellite gear to allow them to get on the FO-29 amateur radio satellite. And, near the end of the Dxpedition, I was fortunate enough to get a satellite contact in the log at AA9LC along with several HF bands and modes! So, Congratulations all around and thanks to the K1N team for a job truly well done!

Meanwhile, back in McLean County, the "February Fund Drive" was a rousing success with enough funds pledged to allow the club to purchase a new repeater. Thanks to all of you for your support. Don't forget to bring your checkbook to the February meeting (or else mail in your pledge amount).

Our February CIRC meeting will feature our usual business meeting which will be followed by refreshments

and a Social Hour. It's the CIRC annual "Cherry Pie Night" celebrating Washington's Birthday and the chopping down of the legendary cherry tree. If you have a favorite dessert, bring it along to share. Maybe even a Cherry Pie! Join us on Wednesday February 25 at 7:00 pm at the Bloomington Red Cross building for the meeting.

73,

**Grant Zehr AA9LC**

### CIRC meeting – February 25, 2015 Agenda

1. Introductions and new members -AA9LC
2. Minutes of January 2015 mtg. - AA9LC
3. Treasurer's report -KC9SKF
4. Field Day 2015 -AA9LC
5. Nominating Committee -AA9LC
6. Radio Room access -N9ZKS
7. New Repeater Project -AA9LC
8. On-line Swap Meet -WA9GCK
9. FCC – 'paperless' licenses -AA9LC
10. Winter Activity Day – Feb 28 -AA9LC
11. Old Business
12. New business
13. Adjourn
14. Refreshments and Social Hour – "Cherry Pie Night"

AA9LC

### It's a new year!

It was decided to keep the membership dues the same at our January meeting. Please read the minutes which follow for details of the decision.

*If you are paid up for the year you can ignore the following. This also does not apply to complimentary memberships.*

Attached as either a separate attachment for those getting the newsletter by mail or a separate page for snail mail is the new application form. This should be your last for a while. This has places to record future renewal of membership.

Please print addresses and email address CLEARLY so I can get the newsletter to you correctly.

Thanks, the Editor.

## **Minutes of the January 28, 2015**

### **CIRC Meeting**

The The regularly scheduled meeting of CIRC was called to order by President, Grant Zehr (AA9LC) at 7:00 PM, November 19, 2014.

Grant began the meeting with self introductions of all members present. As usual, a sign in list was passed.

It was noted that the minutes of the regular November, 2014 meeting had been sent by email to all members on the CIRC reflector. On motion by Tom Planer (KJ9P) and second by Dennis Mills (KE9UA), the minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer Kathy Huber (KC9SKF) submitted a written report to the members that indicated a balance on hand of \$1,723.61 as of meeting date. The Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved.

Radio room manager, Norm Huber (N9ZKS), indicated he will begin using the club radio room on a regular basis to host the ARES net. This will provide regular equipment use and testing.

Jim Shaffer (WB9UWA) reported on recent repairs to the club repeater. He, along with Mark Snyder (AB9MP) and Chuck Henderson (WB9UUS), swapped out an older repeater while they repaired the driver stage of the repeater. When the primary equipment was switched back in use, the backup was then also tested and reworked to be more reliable.

In a discussion of annual dues, including comparisons to other radio clubs, it was proposed that the dues structure be left as is, but with a provision that anyone that felt the dues were a hardship could privately contact the President or Treasurer for an exception. On motion by Keith Hanson (AC9S) and second by Tom Planer (KJ9P) this change in policy was unanimously approved.

Grant Zehr indicated he would be appointing a nominating committee to propose a slate of officers for election at the May 2015 meeting. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at that meeting. Anyone interested in one of the positions can contact the President or put their name forward at the May meeting.

While we do not currently have a QSL manager, Tom Planer offered to make up a small supply of club QSL cards for future use.

Ed Deutsch reminded everyone that the Family Science Day event would be April 11, 2015 from Noon to 5PM. The club participates each year, but needs additional assistance from members to cover the event properly. Additionally, we need to continue to improve our booth with activities that will encourage participation in amateur radio, especially by younger individuals. There was a suggestion that make older copies of QST or other similar magazines available to attendees. Each could have a label attached to the cover with an email address, using the ARRL site as its base address, so that responses would be fielded by club officers. The use of this e-mail address label could be expanded to other types of outreach programs.

Grant Zehr then passed out a sheet of suggested categories of radio related accomplishments and awards that he suggested members use to report their activities and accomplishments for 2014. He proposes to acknowledge those accomplishments, awards, etc at the February meeting and in the Newsletter.

The members then discussed the offer of the Yeasu company to sell their newest digital/analog repeater transceiver for \$500 to clubs that would put it in service for 1 year. Keith Hanson proposed to lead an informal fundraising drive to see if he could raise pledges to fund the project without using the club's critical resources. There was a consensus that if the drive were successful, the club would accept ownership of the repeater and agree to use the repeater for a minimum of one year.

Michael Brown (KG9DW) then reviewed recent activities of the "State Farm" club with respect to putting a D-Star repeater on top of the State Farm building. He indicated the repeater will be up and running soon and will be available to use by the public.

On motion by Jeff Lovell (KC9QQM) and second by Keith Hanson, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.

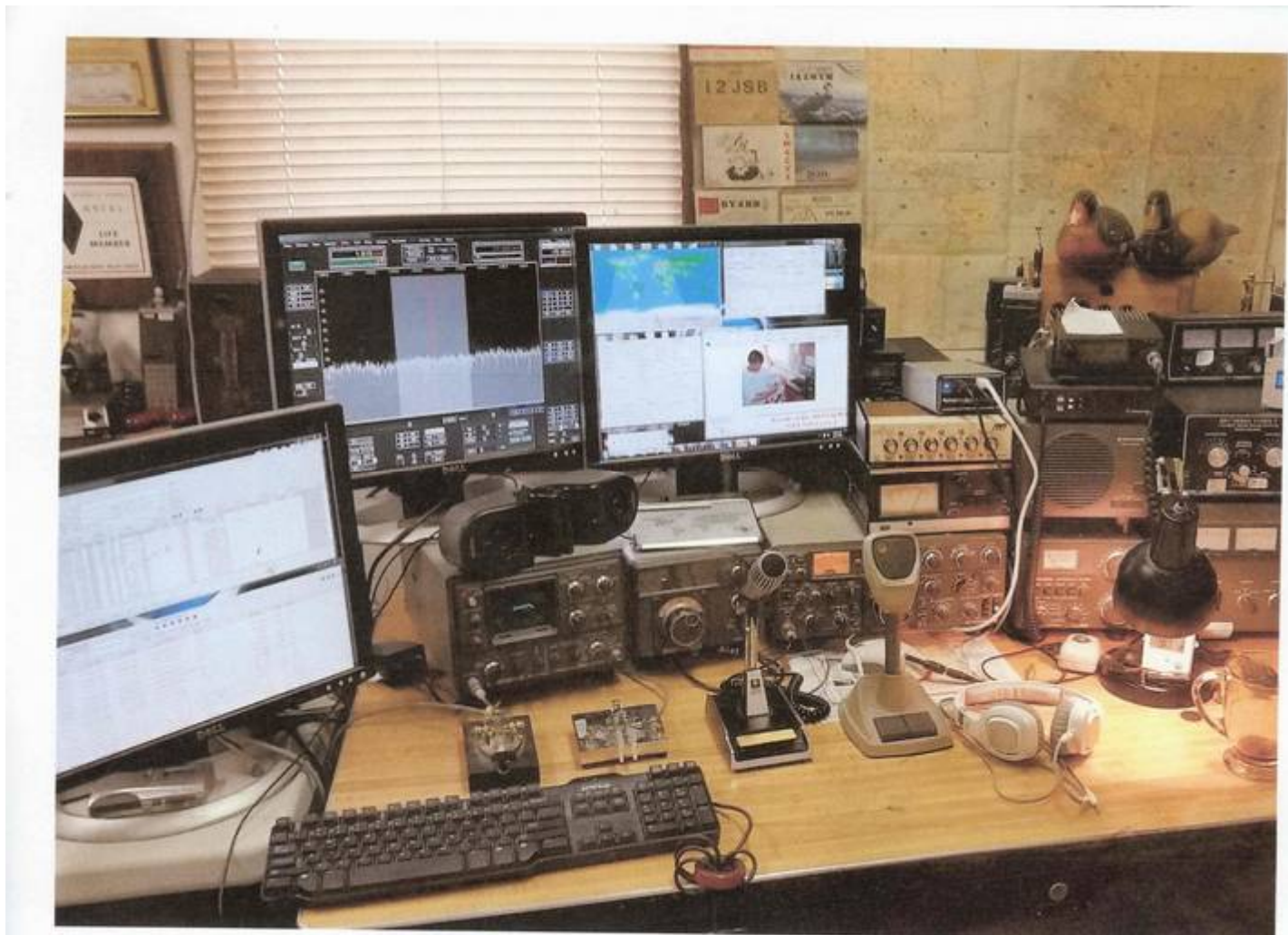
Respectfully submitted,  
Duane Benjamin (KC9PIM), Secretary

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I was at the DX chasers meeting last night and Gary Huber brought up where are all the Ham Station Pictures.

Well it's about time we all cleaned up our act . K1N is in the Bag . Time to get the 20 cups of coffee off the desk. And Girl Scout cookies put away.

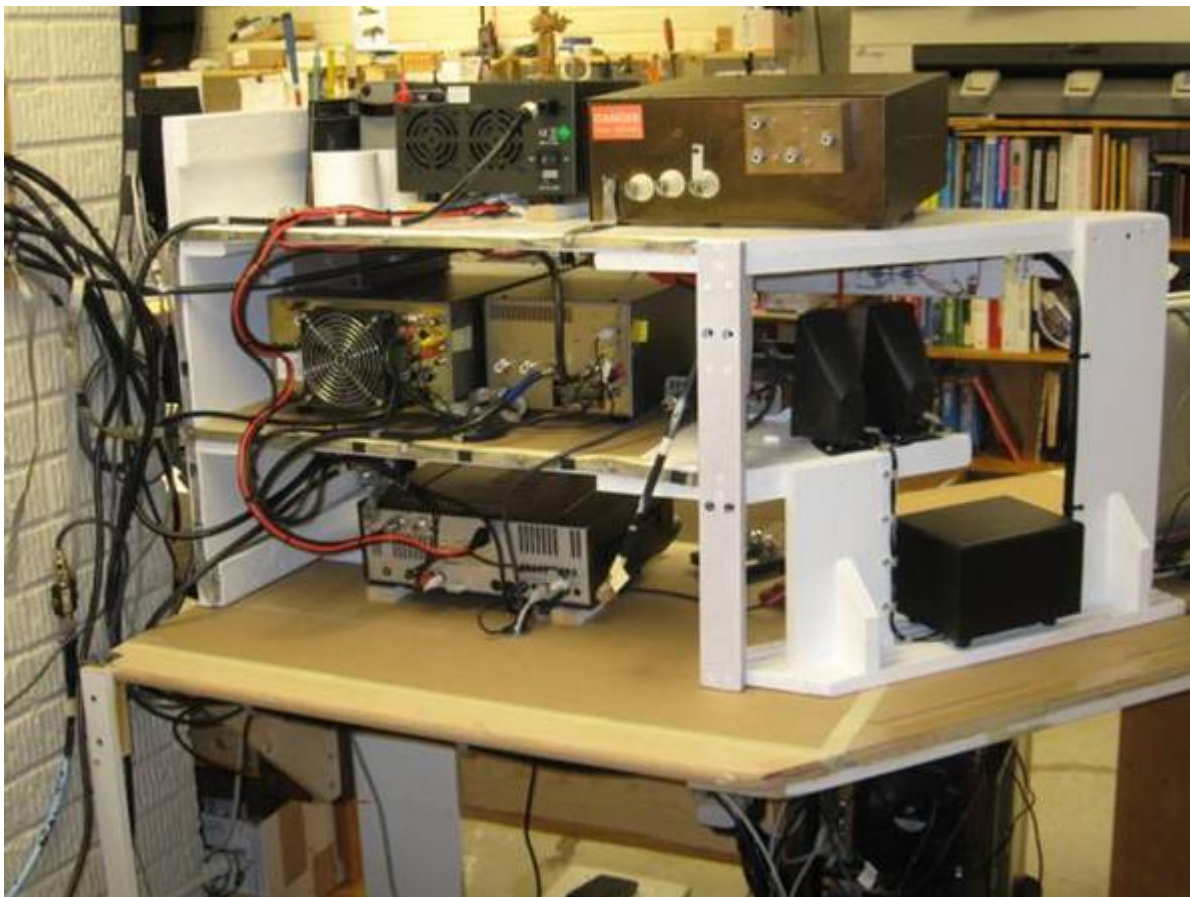
We want to see YOUR HAM OPERATORS POSITION. YOU don't have to be in the picture.



N9CKL Rick Suhadock



This is AC9S, Keith's former station – the new station is under construction.



These are front and back pictures from Tom, KJ9P's current station

## -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	8:00 P.M.	28.450 Vertical polarization is encouraged but not required
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
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8:30 P.M.</b>	<b>146.730 123.0 PL Open Net</b>

(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 <b>APRS</b>	Digipeater
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
		Back Up	
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
147.390	WB9DUC	Pontiac FARA	127.3
442.250	WA9RTI	Decatur (ARES)	103.5
442.700	WB9UUS	Normal	107.2
442.825	KG9DW	Hayworth	141.3pl
443.800	K9HGX	CENOIS ARC	123.0
444.175	K9MCA	Decatur	100.0
444.2375	WX9WX	Normal - DStar	
444.700	KD9AKF	Hayworth - DStar	

\* 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](mailto:n9zks@frontier.com)

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## AREA EXAM DATES

Following is the schedule for W5YI-VEC Amateur Radio exams for the year 2015, 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.

Setup is from Noon to 1:00 normally. Exams begin at 1:00 P.M.. 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.

1/24 Done  
3/21 confirmed  
5/23 confirmed  
7/25 tentative  
11/07 tentative

All tests are at the Bloomington Public Library - Community Room.

Tests begin at 1:00pm.

Please refer any questions to:

Keith Hanson, AC9S  
(309) 378-4416  
[AC9S@hotmail.com](mailto:AC9S@hotmail.com)

**Exams' in Morton** are held at the Morton Public Library, 315 West Pershing at 12:00 Noon the third Saturday of even numbered months and. Sep 21 (Superfest),  
Contact Bob Bush at [tigrbob@gmail.com](mailto:tigrbob@gmail.com) for more info.