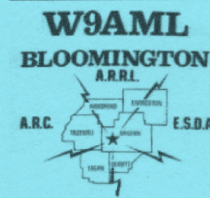


Central Illinois Radio Club April 2016 Newsletter

Next Meeting Wednesday May 25, 2016

CENTRAL ILLINOIS RADIO CLUB

Short CIRCuits



April 2016

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Fellow CIRC Members:

Today Norm (N9ZKS) and myself (KE9UA) met at Hill Radio to finalize our purchase of a new repeater antenna, hardline coax and the correct fittings. We met with Glenn Hill who has graciously offered our club these needed items to repair our VHF repeater at his cost. We owe Glenn a big thank you for helping our club save a considerable amount of money to purchase all of this to bring our 146.940 club repeater back to the performance and coverage of McLean County and I believe along with the new Fusion DR-1X repeater and a fresh antenna and hardline run plus all new hardline fittings we will achieve these goals.

I will be glad to answer any and all questions about this purchase to members that were not at the last meeting if so desired by current paid members.

So, to Glenn Hill I want to thank you sir on behalf of the CIRC membership for your generosity and help in getting our club repeater back up to the performance and coverage for McLean County.

73,

Dennis KE9UA

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

2015 has ended and so you will need to pay your dues for the current year. A check will make record keeping easier as I can check your address against the membership roster as well as keeping track of whose money is whose. You do not need a new form except as follows.

I have included a copy of the new membership form if I have an old form on file.

If you are reading this on the website because you never received your newsletter, PLEASE contact me

via email or snail mail so we can re-verify the address I have.

Next, we are trying something new. I will publish the newsletter right AFTER the meeting each month. You will get the minutes with corrections for the past month. You will also get a summary of the meeting and know any major decisions or planned activities that might affect you during the coming month.

Norm N9ZKS Newsletter Editor

FROM THE SECRETARY

Please review the attached and if you have any changes or additions, please let Norm and me know. If we do not get any changes, Norm will publish the attached as is in the current newsletter he is completing.

Mike – KC9FWL

Summary of CIRC Minutes – April 27th Meeting

By Mike Sallee, Secretary

We will be publishing the full minutes in the Newsletter after they have been approved at the next meeting, with any changes include. This will make sure that all our members have the correct details of what went on during the meeting. We will also be publish a summary of the meeting in the current issue of the Newsletter.

*Summary – After a review and approval of the March minutes and current report from the Treasurer, we discussed Old Business. The group agreed to purchase a new antenna, feed line, and miscellaneous connectors for the W9AML repeater. We also secured a specialist to climb the tower and remove the old equipment and install the new equipment. When this is done, the new repeater will be added and we will have a much improved repeater. A special **“Thank You”** to Glenn Hill for helping us get all the equipment very reduced prices.*

We discussed Field Day and the work being done by various members to make sure we have the radios, laptops for recording contacts, antennas, feed line and so forth. We plan to operate 3 stations. The focus is on having fun and giving members an opportunity to get on the air. We really want to encourage current hams that are not very active to "come on out" and have fun with us. We also plan to support the Wheelers ride on Saturday, June 11. See Jim Baker (WB9GDL) if you can help.

March 23 2016 Meeting Minutes

The March 2016 regularly scheduled meeting of CIRC was called to order by President Dennis Mills (KE9UA) at 7:00 PM on March 23, 2016. Dennis began the meeting with self introductions of all members and guests present and the passing of a sign-in list. Fourteen members were present.

Secretary Mike Sallee (KC9FWL) noted that we did not have a meeting in February because of the bad weather that day and evening. Norm Huber (N9ZKS) for Kathy Huber (KC9SKF) gave the financial report. We have \$3,276.12 in the bank. It was noted that a donation was made to the ham group that host our website. On motion by Duane Benjamin (KC9PIM) and second by Gary Huber (AB9M), the Treasurer's report was unanimously approved.

Old Business

1. Dennis discussed his audit of missing equipment and club money that was given to members to purchase equipment for the club. He reported that the club provided members with \$1,928.50, but Dennis was only able to account for \$903. So we have \$1,025.50 that was spent, but we have not had the equipment that was purchased or the money returned to us. Dennis will try one more time to work with the member to get the missing items. We reviewed possible legal action against the individual with the equipment. Gary H moved that we drop any further actions against the individual. After a second by Jim Baker (WB9GDL), the motion passed.
2. Dennis also provided an update on getting the club equipment back from the restoration company that did the clean-up after the flood in the basement of the Red Cross building. We have about 60% of it now. Dennis is continuing to talk with the Red Cross in

Peoria and the restoration company about what is missing and/or returned in damaged condition. We discussed possible legal action, as the Red Cross is responsible for equipment. At this time Dennis will continue work with both groups and provide updates online to the club members.

3. Duane suggested we have a committee to develop business procedures to handle any future requests for funds from the club to repair, replace, purchase new items and so forth with club money. Jim Baker moved that we form a committee, consisting of Dennis, Mike, Kathy and Duane. After a second by Ed Deutsch (KC9GF), the motion passed. The committee will provide procedures for accounts receivable and accounts payable to the Treasurer.

New Business

1. Dennis reviewed the status of the W9AML repeater system. The antenna, feed line and repeater need to be replaced. Connectors and lighten arrestors will also be needed. He presented some examples of antennas and feed line and their cost. He has located a tower climber who is will to climb the tower and replace the antenna and feed line for \$35/hour and \$.35 per mile. He lives south of Springfield, but could do the job when he is in Clinton doing some tower work. They group supporting the repeater in Clinton have used him and he did a very good job for them. We have the new repeater ready to use, once the antenna, feed line and other items are replaced. After discussions about what needs to be done and the costs, Gary H moved that we table this until Dennis can get some final prices. After a second by Norm, the motion passed.
2. Dennis called for a break for food, drink and visiting between members. Dennis started the meeting again.
3. Duane was asked to finalize the insurance needs and work with the ARRL insurance provider to get all the club equipment insured.
4. Gary H discussed some recent DXpeditions that have take place or are active. He mentioned online sources that provide this information.

5. Jim reminded everyone that the Wheelers Bicycle ride will be on Saturday, June 11. He will be getting information soon and he will ask for helpers to provide communication during the event.
6. We discussed Field Day. We agreed to make it a fun family event. We will operate 3 stations. An Antenna Committee was selected consisting of Dennis, Gary H and Jim.

On motion by Gary H and second by Duane, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Sallee (KC9FWL), Secretary

Petition to Eliminate 15 dB Gain Limit on Amateur Amplifiers

From: ARRL Web site
[\[mailto:memberlist@www.arrl.org\]](mailto:memberlist@www.arrl.org)
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2016 11:34 AM
To: tsgsystems.sallee@gmail.com
Subject: ARLB015 FCC Invites Comments on Petition to Eliminate 15 dB Gain Limit on Amateur Amplifiers

ZCZC AG15
QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 15 ARLB015
From ARRL Headquarters Newington CT April 28, 2016
To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB015
ARLB015 FCC Invites Comments on Petition to Eliminate 15 dB Gain Limit on Amateur Amplifiers

The FCC has put on public notice and invited comments on a Petition for Rule Making (RM-11767), filed on behalf of an amateur amplifier distributor, which seeks to revise the Amateur Service rules regarding maximum permissible amplifier gain. Expert Linears America LLC of Magnolia, Texas, which distributes linears manufactured by SPE in Italy, wants the FCC to eliminate the 15 dB gain limitation on amateur amplifiers, spelled out in Part

97.317(a)(2). Expert asserts that there should be no gain limitation at all on amplifiers sold or used in the Amateur Service.

RM-11767 can be found on the web at, <http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/comment/view?id=60001536394>.

"There is no technical or regulatory reason [that] an amplifier capable of being driven to full legal output by even a fraction of a watt should not be available to Amateur Radio operators in the United States," Expert said in its Petition.

Expert maintains that the 15 dB gain limitation is an unneeded holdover from the days when amplifiers were less efficient and the FCC was attempting to rein in the use of Amateur Service amplifiers by Citizens Band operators. While the FCC proposed in its 2004 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Order in WT Docket 04-140 to delete the requirement that amplifiers be designed to use a minimum of 50 W of drive power and subsequently did so, it did not further discuss the 15 dB amplification limit in the subsequent Report and Order in the docket.

The R&O is in PDF format at, https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-06-149A1.pdf

"Although no party advocated retention of the 15 dB limit, it remains in place today," Expert pointed out in its filing. "In the intervening years, advancements in Amateur Radio transmitter technology have led to the availability of highly compact, sophisticated low-power transmitters that require more than 15 dB of amplification to achieve maximum legal power output. Therefore, Expert seeks to remove the 15 dB limit from Part 97.317 so that Amateur Radio manufacturers and distributors will not be forced to needlessly cripple their amplifiers for sale in the United States."

Expert pointed to its Model 1.3K FA amplifier as an example of a linear "inherently capable of considerably more than 15 dB of amplification," which would make it a suitable match for low-power transceivers now on the market having output power on the order of 10 W.

NNNN
/EX

-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
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

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
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	
		Clinton	
146.985	KA9YPK	Normal ARES Alt.	88.5 (open*)
147.015	NX9M	Washington	156.7 CTCSS
147.075	W9UVI	Decatur	103.5
147.105	WA9RTI	Bloomington	103.5
147.150	WD9FTV	Pontiac FARA	127.3
147.390	WB9DUC	Decatur (ARES)	103.5
442.250	WA9RTI	Normal	107.2
442.700	WB9UUS	Hayworth	141.3pl
442.825	KG9DW	CENOIS ARC	123.0
443.800	K9HGX	Decatur	100.0
444.175	K9MCA	Normal - DStar	
444.2375	WX9WX	Hayworth - DStar	
444.700	KD9AKF		

* 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: Dennis Mills (KE9UA)

Vice-President: Greg Kellerman (KC9WVR)

Secretary: Mike Sallee (K9UA)

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

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

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 Completed

3/26 Completed

5/28 confirmed

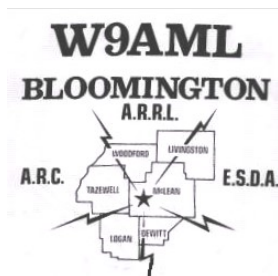
7/30 tentative

11/12 tentative

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 for more info.

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