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# Short CIRCuits

# May 2018

SERVING CENTRAL ILLINOIS AMATEUR RADIO SINCE 1921

IN THIS ISSUE

# From The President

by Jim Baker WB9EDL

Old Man Winter stuck around for some extra innings this year. It's nice to see warm typical spring weather for outside antenna projects and a spin on the bike.

The equipment committee has been preparing a list of suggested equipment that the club may offer for sale. Other items that are stored at Duane Benjamin's will be identified for possible sale as well.

We will have a slate of nominations for club officer positions and elections will follow at the May meeting. Field Day plans and a sign-up for help at the Wheelers Spring Metric. Grant Zehr AA9LC will demonstrate working with SMD surface mount devices.

Upcoming events

May 18-20 Dayton Hamvention

June 16 Wheelers Spring Metric Comlara Park June 23-24 Field Day Old Town Township Meeting Hall

July 25 "Live Line Demo" at Corn Belt Energy Building Rt. 150 and Towanda Barnes Rd.

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Jim Baker WB9EDL

\*\*\* Due to remodeling at the Red Cross Facility that is starting in February, 2018 and lasting till September 2018, we will be holding our monthly meeting at Bloomington-Normal Area Home Builders Association

1713 Tullamore Ave. Suite B, Bloomington, IL 61704



Guglielmo Marconi Submitted by Mike Sallee KC9FWL



Elmer's Inn Written by Tom Planer KJ9P

### Guglielmo Marconi

Submitted by Mike Sallee KC9FWL

Physicist, Inventor, Entrepreneur (1874–1937)

Through his experiments in wireless telegraphy, Nobel Prize-winning physicist/inventor Guglielmo Marconi developed the first effective system of radio communication.

Born on April 25, 1874, in Bologna, Italy, into a wealthy family, and educated largely at home, Guglielmo Marconi possessed a strong interest in science and electricity. In 1894, he began experimenting with radio waves as a student at the Livorno Technical Institute. Incorporating the earlier scientific work of Henry R. Hertz and Oliver Lodge in electromagnetic radiation, he was able to develop a basic system of wireless telegraphy. Though not a scientist, Marconi recognized the value of wireless technology and was adept in putting the right people together to invest in it. In 1897 he received his first patent in England.



Marconi founded the London-based Marconi Telegraph Company in 1899. Though his original transmission traveled a mere mile and a half, on December 12, 1901, Marconi sent and received the first wireless message across the Atlantic Ocean, from Cornwall, England, to a military base in Newfoundland. His experiment was significant, as it disproved the dominant belief of the Earth's curvature affecting transmission.

Beginning in 1902, Marconi worked on experiments that stretched the distance that wireless communication could travel, until he was finally able to establish transatlantic service from Glace Bay in Nova Scotia, Canada, to Clifden, Ireland. For his work with wireless communication, Marconi shared the Nobel Prize in Physics with Karl Braun in 1909. Not long after, Marconi's wireless system was used by the crew of the *RMS Titanic* to call for assistance.



Marconi held several positions in the Italian Army and Navy during World War I, starting the war as a lieutenant in 1914 and finishing as a naval commander. He was sent on diplomatic missions to the United States and France. After the war, Marconi began experimenting with basic short wave radio technology. On his beloved yacht, *Elettra*, he conducted experiments in the 1920s proving the efficacy of the "beam system" for long-distance communication. (The next step would lead to microwave transmission.) By 1926, Marconi's "beam system" had been adopted by the British government as a design for international communication.

In addition to his groundbreaking research in wireless communication, Marconi was instrumental in establishing the British Broadcasting Company, formed in 1922. He was also involved in the development of radar. Marconi continued to experiment with radio technology in his native Italy until his death, on July 20, 1937, in Rome, from heart failure.

In 1943, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that some of his patents' source of discovery was questionable and as a result restored some prior patents to other scientists, including Oliver Lodge and Nikola Tesla, predated some of his findings. The Court's decision had no effect on Marconi's claim that he was the first to produce radio transmission, he just couldn't claim credit for their work.

Marconi married for the first time in 1905, to Beatrice O'Brien, the daughter of Edward Donough O'Brien, 14th Baron Inchiquin. He and Beatrice had three children—a son, Giulio, and two daughters, Degna and Gioia—before their union was annulled in 1927. That same year, Marconi wed Countess Bezzi-Scali of Rome, with whom he had one daughter, Elettra, named after his yacht.

In his spare time, Marconi reportedly enjoyed cycling, motoring and hunting.

This information came from: Article Title: Guglielmo Marconi Biography Author: \_\_\_\_ Website Name: The Biography.com website URL: <u>http://www.biography.com/people/guglielmomarconi-9398611</u> Publisher: A&E Television Networks

### The Amateur's Code

The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE....never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL....offers loyalty, encouragement, and support to other amateurs, local clubs, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE...with knowledge abreast of science, a well-built and efficient station and operation above reproach.

FRIENDLY...slow and patient operating when requested; friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interest of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur service.

BALANCED...radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC...station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

The original Amateur's Code was written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928.

#### ARTICLES AND EVENTS

We need your input, please send any articles, links, interests or upcoming events you want the club to know about to Jeff Lovell KC9QQM@gmail.com

### Elmer's Inn

Written by Tom Planer KJ9P

Elmer's latest successful project has been an End Fed Zepp antenna installation for one of our newer General Class Licensee, Bill Campbell, KD9JXJ.

I'm sure you noticed that I prefaced this article with the word "successful" as not all are.

KD9JXJ came to my attention when he suggested that he may just have a very challenging antenna project. New license in hand, no radio, no trees and a beautifully landscaped yard, which might preclude the installation of an antenna of any sort, did not deter Bill from pursuing his dream of becoming a Ham.

Having looked, from Google Earth, at Bill's yard I could see that the antenna installation would have to pass approval by Robin, Bill's wife.

The first thing is to go on site and just review some possibilities. After a tour and some suggestions from all parties it was agreed upon to "use what there is to work with". As previously noted, the property had no trees. However, right next door was a huge tree with high branches overhanging the beautiful landscaping. Bill said "Elmer", "that tree is my neighbor's tree". Being a bit of an Elfin devil at heart I suggested that we "somehow get a wire up through those branches". Besides, I did tell Bill that I personally know a couple of Lawyers that, should the neighbor start any questioning of the project, I could refer Bill to.

We managed to install 135' of #14 THHN solid wire up through the tree branches down to an aluminum pole attached to Bill's Chain Link fence. The wire was attached to a 300 Ohm Window line, in through a window sill to the shack on the second floor. Thus, an End Fed Zepp. 135' was chosen as a reasonable length to see if we could get the "system" to work on 80 meters on up to 10. Now, between the first involvement in this unique project and the conclusion of the installation, Bill had been able to scrape together some "Box Tops" and "Green Stamps" to obtain a radio, power supply and a tuner. With the help of my antenna analyzer we started looking at what we had in hand. What we have is an antenna that with the analyzer connected to the tuner said we could "load" that antenna on 80 and 40. Being the Elfin devil that I am, we even looked at 160. The analyzer said "O.K. with me".

Starting there, we disconnected the analyzer, connected the radio to the tuner and proceeded to "load up on 160". It loaded so easily I just had to call KE9UA and see if we could work some across town DX. We could! Next came some across state lines DX. Monday evenings is a schedule I keep with Gary, WA8MCD. I asked Bill to come up the following Monday evening and see if he could be heard in Kalamazoo, Michigan with a 100 watts on 160. Well by golly he could.

New to the hobby? The three best words to start with are "I don't know". Stop in at "Elmer's Inn". Let's see "what there is to work with".



JEFF – KC9QQM SHACK

#### FAST FACTS

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Currently published DXCC entities

Number of members reading this who will tell me they saw it!

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Have an upcoming event that the club might be interested in attending or supporting?

CONTACT JIM BAKER WB9EDL Or bring it up at the next club meeting

### AREA EXAM DATES

Following is the schedule for W5YI-VEC Amateur Radio exams for the year 2017. At the Community Room of the Bloomington Public Library located at the intersection 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. 2018 dates; 5/26 1-3pm 7/11 tba 11/10 tba

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),

## AREA NETS

Mon thru Sat 9:00 A.M. CT 14.2475 (HF) **Displaced Peorians** Tuesday 9:00 P.M. 147.255 (023 DCS) 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 Newsline 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 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 Newsline 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 147.075 156.7 PL Sunday 8:30 P.M. 146.730 123.0 PL Open Net



Some shots from the 2017 Hamvention



### 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 146.940repeater 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 Bloomington-Normal Area Home Builders Association 1713 Tullamore Ave. Suite B, Bloomington, IL 61704

CENTRAL ILLINOIS RADIO CLUB P.O. BOX 993 BLOOMINGTON, IL 61702-0993

#### WEB PAGE <u>HTTP://WWW.QSL.NET/W9AML/</u>

President: Jim Baker (WB9EDL) Vice-President: Rick Suhadolc (N9CKL) Secretary: Tom Ledgerwood (K9XAQ) Treasurer: Tom Planner (KJ9P) Newsletter Editor: Jeff Lovell (KC9QQM) 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, the 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 emailed to: Jeff Lovell e-mail kc9qqm@gmail.com

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