

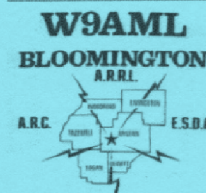
Central Illinois Radio Club

January 2015 Newsletter

Next Meeting Wednesday Jan 28, 2015

CENTRAL ILLINOIS RADIO CLUB

Short CIRCuits



January 2015

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

CIRC meeting – January 28, 2015 Agenda

CIRC meeting – January 28, 2014
Agenda

From the President

It's a quiet January evening here as I put together thoughts for the newsletter. It's a little TOO quiet actually. It's especially quiet on the frequencies which are supposed to be carrying DX signals from EP6T, the currently active DXpedition in Iran, to Central Illinois. The propagation is lousy and my mood is tending in the same direction. I guess it's time to fire up the satellite station. No propagation needed there!

The Christmas and New Year's holidays are behind us now, so it's time to get going on your 2015 projects. This weekend is the big SLSRC hamfest in Collinsville. Maybe you're planning to attend. There's also a VE license testing session this weekend. Ready for a license upgrade? We have scheduled our next "Saturday at the Red Cross" for February 28. Plan to bring something to work on or show off. If you have a piece of gear which is broken, this is a great time to bring it in and get some help troubleshooting it. Nothing broken? There's still plenty of time to break something!!

How did you do in the 2014 ARRL Centennial QSO party? Were you able to make contacts with W1AW from all 50 states? Check your logs. If you did work all 50 states you're eligible for a nice award from ARRL.

Speaking of operating activities, be sure and watch for the big DXpedition to Navassa Island. That is scheduled to start in early February and run for about 2 weeks. The call sign will be K1N and since it's close to the United States it's a great chance to work a really, really 'rare one' even with a modest station. Their primary goal is to work as many stations as possible for an all-time-new-one, so this is your chance to get in the log!

Wednesday, January 28th is our next CIRC meeting. We have several important items on the business meeting agenda, including a re-consideration of our dues structure. I've been preparing a presentation on the W1AW/9 satellite operation and am planning to present it following the business meeting. It should be a good meeting. See you there!

Grant Zehr AA9LC

1. Introductions and new members -AA9LC
2. Minutes of November 2014 mtg. - KC9PIM
3. Treasurer's report -KC9SKF
4. Radio Room report -N9ZKS
5. Repeater repairs and update -WB9UWA
6. Local DSTAR activity -KG9DW
7. CIRC Dues structure -KC9PIM
8. ARES update -N9ZKS
9. Winter Activity Day – Feb 28 -AA9LC
10. Old Business
11. New business
12. Adjourn
13. Program – Satellite Operations for W1AW/9 - IL

AA9LC

Minutes of the November 19, 2014 CIRC Meeting

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

Guests present included Jerry Comer (KB9ZDY) of Parrish, FL.

It was noted that the minutes of the regular October 2014 meeting had been sent by email to all members on the CIRC reflector. On motion by Tom Planer (KJ9P) and second by Gary Huber (AB9M), the minutes were unanimously approved.

On behalf of Treasurer Kathy Huber, Norm Huber (N9ZKS) submitted a written report to the members that indicated a balance on hand of \$1,601.74 as of meeting date. Norm also prepared a report of expenditures by category of expense for the year to date. On motion by Mike Sallee (KC9FWL) and

seconded by Keith Hanson (AC9S), the Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved.

Ed Deutsch indicated the slate of primary and backup net control operators for the Tuesday night 2 meters net had been completed and the program was ready to go forward..

Radio room manager, Norm Huber, indicated that if the weather was OK on Saturday, he would like help putting up the feed line to the off center dipole.

Keith Hanson reminded everyone that the December meeting, which is a Christmas dinner for members and spouses, will be 6:00 PM December 3, 2014 at the Ozark House.

Grant Zehr indicated that the club pages for W9EX and W9AML had no manager assigned to them and were blank. Grant agreed to be manager and activated the pages. He is soliciting photos and other information to populate the pages.

Norm Huber reminded everyone of the ARES meeting to be held on December 4th at 7 PM. The clubs future participation with that organization will be discussed.

Keith Hanson brought up a concern that current dues may be set at a level that discourages future growth in membership. After some discussion, there was a consensus that the officers would discuss this and bring one or more proposals to the next meeting.

Grant Zehr commented that the use of the MFJ (and possibly other) antenna analyzers in a rich RF field may cause inaccurate readings.

On motion by Tom Planer and second by Ed Deutsch, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

WX9WX D-STAR REPEATER

The WX9WX D-Star repeater has been working quite nicely since the Raspberry PI power supply was replaced. Coverage, with a handheld, is very good also.

A few of us are already making new friends in the Decatur, Illinois area as we have been connecting the WX9WX system to the Decatur D-Star system.

A real thrill has been chatting with a Ham from Scotland on D-Star! You just don't know who may show up on frequency.

The current repeater system is Kenwood based equipment and a challenge to align and modify for amateur use.

Under the guidance and mentoring of Michael, KG9DW, I have finished a Motorola based system which is software programmable and adjustable which makes the Motorola system better suited for what we are experimenting with.

If you would like to see how simple the wiring and component structure is for a Home Brew D-Star Repeater is, take a look at the KG9DW Web site and the wiring diagram.

Click on this link:

<http://www.thefarmonline.com/2014/12/cabling-dvrptr-board-to-cdm1550-for.html>

I have also attached a few pictures.



Here is the log from our Sunday morning 160 meter AM net. Congratulations Ray, KA9KEY!

[illegible]

-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 Newslines |
| 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 Newslines |
| 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 Newslines |
| 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 |
| | | 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 |
| 147.345 | 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 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

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.