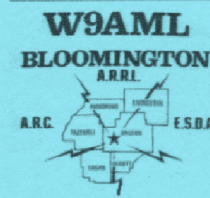


# Central Illinois Radio Club February 2016 Newsletter

**Next Meeting TBD DUE TO STORM!**

# CENTRAL ILLINOIS RADIO CLUB

## Short CIRCuits



February 2016

**February Meeting,  
TBD Due to storm  
at the Red Cross**

### From the President

Well; time sure flies when your chasing DX on HF and it is near the end of February already and I apologize to the CIRC members for not adding words of wit or wisdom to the past newsletters as I just can't think of any right now. My XYL has been keeping me busy with household duties in-between my hamming fun on HF. As many already know we have lost another CIRC member and good friend Dave Roberts KE9BA as he became a SK as of February 18th at 4:10PM.

I have been actively pursuing the local restoration company that removed all of our CIRC radio club equipment at the Red Cross after the building became slightly flooded in the basement and fears of mold and things concerned Red Cross enough to call in a restoration company that not only cleaned out the full basement of Red Cross supplies but also cleared out our CIRC radio room equipment too and shipped it all North to Michigan for processing. In the last few weeks we have received some of the radio equipment back and we are keeping track of our club inventory with the sheets that Tom and Norm developed and this was a great list to have in our passion off site. Without this list we really could not have accounted for a lot of the gear and documentation and this inventory list has made keeping track of what gear we now have back and what is still missing. It is a ongoing process and I will keep everyone posted on the W9AML reflector website.

I'd like to remind everyone that the ARES net and the W9AML Tuesday night nets are still active and mark your calendar to stop by and check in even if you do not have any traffic if still shows your support for these nets. The ARES net is at 8PM on

146.79 WD9HRU repeater and the W9AML net is at 9PM on the 146.94 CIRC club repeater. Also, in-between the two nets there is local gathering of hams on HF on 10 meters at 28.450 and this informal round table of rag chewing starts around 8PM and goes on till everyone runs out of things to

talk about. There is also a Thursday night 10 meter rag chew on 28.450 called Vertical Thursday and it is a fun evening when everyone try's to use a vertical antenna, but anything that you can hook up to and get to load on 10 meters will do and it also starts around 8PM on Thursday.

I wanted to thank Gary Huber AB9M and Tom KJ9P for getting me steered back into using cw again and I have been having great fun finding many island Dx-peditions that use CW more so than SSB and so many hams in smaller out of the way places only use CW and so many operators only use homebrew equipment and their only mode is CW. I have snagged so many really neat DX stations these last few months and when the band is down and out for SSB CW and Digital get though. Gary clued me in to a really neat high speed CW Decoder called CWskimmer and I found out that other CW ops in the area use a program called CWget and both are excellent decoding programs for high speed CW and most DX-peditions stay at 30 to 35 wpm and although I can now hear my call and report and other standard DX exchanges, the decoders really help. My old brain starts a log jam on cw at around 20wpm and the decoders are a must have to copy DX-peditions for me. They run at this speed to maximize contacts worked in the short time periods they active a rare island or country. Give these two programs a try and get your feet wet again in CW.

I just finished a total restoration of a Hallicrafters HT-37 transmitter and after getting the coves bead blasted down to bare metal and then a couple of coats of primer and then 4 coats of color paint wet sanding with a block in-between coats of paint and letting the sun bake each coat and a final hand polish of the paint with auto polishing compound the cabinet came out looking better than new and you could see your face in the paint shine. I made

a ham operator happy in Ohio and just now finishing up doing the same to the matching Hallicrafters HT-41 linear that has all new tubes and will have the same thing done to the cabinet making it look and work like new. Old boat anchor radios are my Achilles Heel next to chasing DX.

On a final note; spring is approaching and so is our next Field Day outing and all ideas and suggestions on this fun event are always welcome. I hope to see you all at the next club meeting and please remember to pay your club dues if you have not done so yet.

73,

Dennis Mills KE9UA

Central Illinois Radio Club  
Jan 2016 Meeting Minutes

The January 2016 regularly scheduled meeting of CIRC was called to order by President Dennis Mills (KE9UA) at 7:00 PM on January 27, 2016. Dennis began the meeting with self introductions of all members and guests present and the passing of a sign-in list. Twenty-four members were present. Secretary Mike Sallee (KC9FWL) read the November meeting minutes. It was noted that the call sign for

Josh Golladay is wrong. {Corrected by secretary}. On motion by Gary Huber (AB9M), and second by Norm Huber (N9ZKS), the minutes were unanimously approved. Kathy Huber (KC9SKF) gave the financial report. The current cash balance was \$2,948.90. On motion by Grant Zehr (AA9LC), and second by Ed Deutsch (KC9GF), 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. The club has 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 do not have the equipment that was purchased. We discussed legal actions to get the equipment. The Secretary was asked to resend a letter to one member by Certified Mail.

2. Keith Hanson (AC9S), chairperson of the new Repeater Committee, reported on their recommendations. We could move the repeater to a new location, but the ERP is limited because of interference with the repeater in Kankakee. Short

Term we will install the equipment to provide a control link for the repeater. Those authorized to use the control will be limited to the club officers. Long Term we should find another location and frequency. We should consider using a Fusion System, which can be analog or digital. We already have a D-Star repeater in town available for anyone's use. Tom Planer (KJ9P) made a motion that Short Term we keep the current repeater as FM analog and consider the other recommendations as possible future changes. After a second by Gary H, the motion was unanimously approved.

New Business

1. Dennis reviewed the recent flooding problems in the basement of the Red Cross building. They hired a restoration company to handle the restoration of supplies and the building. Mold was found. Our radio station was part of the equipment that was removed. It took some research to locate a responsible person at the Red Cross in Peoria. Dennis notified her about our concerns about how they did mold remediation to the equipment. Thanks to Tom and Norm for using the inventory master list to determine what equipment was moved. Many of the pieces of equipment have been returned and inspected. Some of it was damaged when it was moved. Overall, the Red Cross will provide the money for repair or replacement via their insurance.

We do not know if we will be able to have the space in the basement so we can rebuild our station. We are also still working with the Red Cross to find missing equipment. We need to review the MOU between the Red Cross and the ARRL at the national level and also the MOU we have with the local chapter. Dennis will keep the membership updated on the equipment via the Reflector.

2. We discussed the need to complete the purchase of insurance for our equipment via the ARRL. Duane Benjamin (KC9PIM) will be asked to get the insurance when he returns from vacation later in February

Ed made a motion that we get the insurance by March. After a second by Keith, the motion was unanimously approved.

3. Keith routed a sheet for people to record what they would like to have for presentations at future meetings. Dennis read the list and some additional suggestions were added.

Dennis called for a break for food, drink and visiting between members.

Dennis started the meeting again.

4 Jim Baker (WB9GDL) said he would be getting information soon for the Wheelers Bicycle ride and

he will ask for helpers to provide communication during the event.

5 Norm asked the members to make sure they have paid their dues for 2016.

6 Ed showed and discussed a Vibroplex that he restored.

**Here are couple of pictures of Dennis' project Radio.**



On motion by Tom and second by Grant, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Sallee (KC9FWL), Secretary





**Also a couple of pictures of our Christmas Party. If you are not in the picture you missed a fun time. Or were hiding..**



## -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

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	<b>156.7</b> 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 2016. 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 confirmed

5/28 confirmed

7/30 tentative

11/12 tentative

Please confirm test dates at least one week prior to scheduled exam:

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 20 (Superfest), Contact Bob Bush at [tigrbob@gmail.com](mailto:tigrbob@gmail.com) for more info.