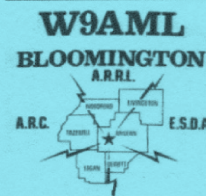


Central Illinois Radio Club June 2016 Newsletter

Next Meeting Wednesday July 27, 2016

CENTRAL ILLINOIS RADIO CLUB

Short CIRCuits



June 2016

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings to all CIRC members:

Many of you are now aware of the June 17th antenna party that we had at the Corn Belt tower and our club hired a climber to help with the removal of the old antenna array and the hardline feeding it. We replaced the old antenna with a new DB-224-E 4 bay array and a new 220 foot run of 7/8" Andrews hardline with new fittings. The antenna was relocated to the Southwest corner tower leg to help reduce the interference with the 94 system up North in Kankakee.

The crew consisted of KE9UA, KJ9P, N9ZKS and KC9FWL. W9WX and KC9GF helped out for the first couple of hours and then had to leave for other commitments. We started at 9:30am and Norm and myself finally left the site at around 5PM that evening. It was a hot and long day for all of us. During the disassembly of the old antenna and lowering of the antenna mounting brackets this became wedged tight into the tower and I was lucky to have brought my climbing gear and made the journey up to about the 150' level to help Al our climber at the very top get this loose and lowered down. What a view from that level!

Rick KD9DPW and Doug KC9ELL came for a visit and Rick took some photos with his phone and I have included a few of them here with this email to Norm. Tom KJ9P and I came back Saturday afternoon to finish up the coax run and install the hardline fitting inside the repeater shack. We also cleaned up the inside of the shack and Mike KC9FWL and Tom cleaned out the weeds and overgrowth that came back even after we cleaned up last fall.

The antenna now shows a real nice swr of 1.2:1. But more needs to be done such as the cavities need to be retuned and checked and the install

of the Yaseu Fusion system. We are now heard in Decatur, Springfield, Champaign and KG9DW can access the system with his HT sitting in his living room down in Heyworth.

I ended up with a serious case of bronchitis for 11 straight days after the tower work and had to miss field day this year and that was a something I really looked forward to being at all night. With this time of the year with 6 meter and vhf band openings I have been having lots of fun working the openings on 6 meters. A very fun band and hearing lots of openings on vhf 2 meters also.

Thoughts and ideas for the 94 repeater are always welcome and I wanted to express my gratitude to those that helped with the new antenna and coax install.

73,

Dennis

**July Meeting,
Wednesday the 27th
7:00 PM at the Red Cross**

Summary of CIRC Minutes - June 22, 2016 By Mike Sallee, Secretary

Summary - After a review of the current report from the Treasurer and approval of the May minutes, we discussed Old Business. We discussed plans for Field Day. The Antenna committee has completed building the Delta Loop antennas and testing them. Various items including poles, stakes, feed line, line for supports, connectors, transceivers, laptops and a patch panel were **assigned to members to bring. Breakfast will be at 7 am this Saturday and we will start setting up** the antennas and 3 stations at 8 pm.

We will be W9EX as our call sign and operate at 3A. We will use the Old Town Township hall again this year.

Jim Baker thanked those who will support the Wheelers ride on Saturday, June 11. Duane reviewed the insurance for the club. We have a liability limit of \$2,000,000 at a cost of \$200. The policy goes into effect July 1 for one year. He asked for help getting the revised list of equipment and valuing each item at its replacement value. A number of people reported that the W9AML repeater is operating much better now.

May, 2016 Meeting Minutes as Approved

The May 2016 regularly scheduled meeting of CIRC was called to order by President Dennis Mills (KE9UA) at 7:00 PM on May 25, 2016. Dennis began the meeting by asking the members and guests to introduce themselves and passing around a sign-in list. Twenty-seven members were present.

Secretary Mike Sallee (KC9FWL) read the minutes from the April 2016 meeting. On motion by Keith Hanson (AC9S) and second by Norm Huber (N9ZKS), the minutes were unanimously approved. Kathy Huber (KC9SKF) gave the financial report. The current cash balance in checking is \$1,904.97. On motion by Gary Huber (AB9M) and second by Tom Planer (KJ9P), the Treasurer's report was unanimously approved.

Old Business

1. Dennis reported that Tom and he picked-up the new antenna, feed line, and miscellaneous connectors for the W9AML repeater. The specialist to climb the tower has been scheduled and with good weather it will get done the next couple of weeks. The antenna will be reoriented so we get better coverage in the county. The new repeater has been tuned and it is ready to install in the station's shack. A ground crew will be needed to assist with removal of the old antenna and hardline and installation of the new antenna and hardline.

2. Norm reminded our members that when a person gets their license they get a one year membership for free. Dennis mentioned that Glenn Hill (WA9GCK) had already received an Emeritus club membership for all his support

of the club in the past. To get email via the Reflector, you need to be a club member. If you have any questions, check with Norm. Thanks again to Glenn Hill for helping us get the antenna, hardline, and connectors at a great price for the W9AML repeater.

3. Jim Baker (WB9EDL) reminded the members that we are providing communication for the McLean County Wheelers bike ride this weekend. Helpers should be at Comlar Park about 6 am to 6:15 am. We will also provide some SAG wagons during the ride and Tom will setup and operate NET control.

4. We reviewed plans for Field Day, June 25th and 26th. Plans are to build some Delta Loop antennas. Duane Benjamin (KC9PIM) is building a patch panel to connect radios to antennas. We plan to use three stations, plus a 6 meter station if Earl Shaffer (WB9UWA) is willing to set it up. We will NOT use a generator this time. Duane, Dennis, Gary, Norm, Ed Deutsch (KC9GF) and Keith will coordinate the work to get the antennas, radios, connectors, cables and laptops so all is ready and at the Field Day site. We will be at the Old Town Township Hall again this year. It is located at 22034 E 1000 North Rd near Downs, IL.

Dennis called for a break for food, drink and visiting between members. Dennis started the meeting again.

New Business

1. Keith recognized Dhruv Rebba for his presentation at the Dayton hamfest. Hari Rebba presented the club with two large banners for Field Day and any other events we do.

2. S. Ram Mohan (VU2MYH), son of Suri (VU2MY) who visited us last year, works for the equivalent of the ARRL in India. He talked about ham radio activities in India. We celebrated Ram's birthday with a cake, singing Happy Birthday, and presenting him with a trophy. We had a drawing for some items from the hamfest, including a hat, shirt and laptop bag.

On motion by Ed Deutsch and second by Grant Zehr (AA9LC), the meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Sallee (KC9FWL), Secretary

Supporting The Wheeler's Spring Metric

While it was early, to early for a normal person to be up, I still managed to drive to Comlara Park and the base for the McLean County Wheelers on Saturday, June 11th. They were getting ready for their 35th annual Spring Metric on

Saturday, June Yes, 35 years of riding a bicycle in places like Comlara Park/ Lake Evergreen.

No, I was not there to ride a bike! I was joining the Central Illinois Radio Club's event to provide safety and security for the bikers. Tom Planer (KJ9P) was setting up the base station so he could be net control for our efforts.



With three routes of 22 miles each planned by the McLean County Wheelers, club members were located along each route to provide communications to assist any rider needing help. The club also provided a couple of SAG wagons traveling on each route to assist the riders. We were all in communication via a simplex channel of 146.520. We were ready to use a repeater (146.790) if needed.



Everything went smoothly and there were no major accidents or incidents. But we were ready if one did happen. This was my first time helping the McLean County Wheelers and I enjoyed it very much. I would encourage you to assist in a future event where the club provides communications.

Not being a morning person, I was told by a number of club members that the big yellow ball rising in the eastern sky at 6 am was the sun. I think I will stick with sun down and leave sun up for others.

73

Mike Sallee - KC9FWL

Here Are Some Pictures of The Tower Work



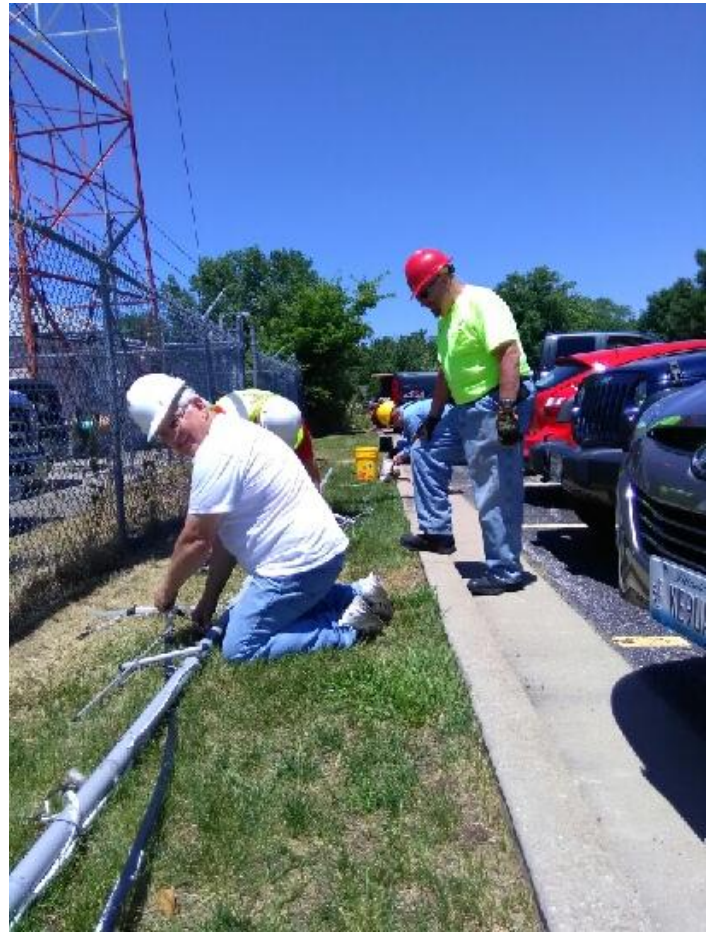
He doesn't look so tall from here



The new antenna. Note the gardening work we did to the site.



The ground crew waiting for the next job.



Disassembling the old antenna.



The spool of hard line and antenna stand-offs.

-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	
146.985	NB9O	Clinton	162.2 CTCSS
			Echolink 61727
			or NB9O-R
147.015	NX9M	Normal ARES Alt.	88.5 (open*)
147.075	W9UVI	Washington	156.7 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: 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

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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 Completed

3/26 Completed

5/28 Completed

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.