



Short CIRCuits

March 2019

SERVING CENTRAL ILLINOIS AMATEUR RADIO SINCE 1921

IN THIS ISSUE

From The President

by Jim Baker WB9EDL

Welcome Spring!!

Justin KD9JFF, has been working to secure out 2m forwarding node for Illinois AREA state wide communications network. We do need to find a TNC to pair up with the repurposed state police radio. I have not had any response from MetroNet regarding a possible internet connection at the site.

Upcoming programs;

- | | |
|-------|---|
| March | Gary AB9M on FT8 updates |
| April | Fritz Bock, Illinois Section emergency coordinator will talk about ARES, WinLink and the upcoming SET |

This weekend is the CQWPX SSB contest

73, Jim WB9EDL



Static Bleeder

Submitted by Gary Huber AB9M

Static Bleeder

Article by Phil Salas AD5X, submitted by Gary Huber AB9M

Many antennas don't have a means of bleeding off static build-up. This includes the popular Hustler BTV-series of verticals, dipoles without transformer-type baluns, and many other antennas.

While this is typically not much of a problem, I am always concerned about possibly damaging my antenna analyzer when I first connect it to an antenna.

How often have we heard that an analyzer has been blown by static on the antenna? To minimize the possibility of analyzer damage, most analyzer manuals caution you to momentarily ground the antenna feed before connecting the antenna analyzer to eliminate any possible static-related failure of the analyzer.

So because I am always experimenting with antennas and I have expensive AIM4170C and AA-200 analyzers, I wanted to always make sure there would be no static-related problems to worry about when measuring my antennas.

So my solution is to permanently connect a high voltage, high value resistor across the feedpoint of all my antennas.

For the resistor, I use the Ohmite Maxi-Mox™ MOX-1-123004F thick-film resistor which is perfect for this application. This resistor is rated at 10KV and 3-megohms, and costs \$5.30 in unit quantities.

It is readily available from www.mouser.com, Mouser part number 588- MOX-1-123004F. Normally you'll just need a single resistor, but if you run high power to a highly reactive antenna (like a 43-foot vertical on 160 meters), you might want to put 2-3 of these resistors in series.

Photo A shows a single resistor ready for installation on my 20/15/10 meter dipole. Photo B shows three resistors in series, covered with liquid electrical tape, mounted at the base of my 43-

foot vertical. Spend a few dollars and stop worrying about damaging your antenna analyzer.



Photo A: 3MΩ ready for mounting on Photo B: 3x3MΩ in series on perf-board tri-band dipole at base of author's 43-foot vertical



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 NETS

Tuesday 8:30 P.M. 28.450
CIRC Open 10 meter Net

Tuesday 9:00 P.M. 146.940 (103.5PL)
CIRC Open Net

Thursday 8:00 P.M. 28.450
Vertical polarization is encouraged but not required

Sunday 08:15 A.M. 1.915
Open 160 meter AM net

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If you are wondering where all the nets are, it was brought to my attention that many of these are no longer in operation. I have left the ones the CIRC handles directly.

If you want another net listed, please send me an email directly and please verify it is a current net and I will add it to the list.

Jeff KC9QQm

Kc9qqm@gmail.com

AREA EXAM DATES

Following is the schedule for W5YI-VEC Amateur Radio exams for the year 2018. 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.

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.

2019 dates;

May 25 3:30-5:00pm

July 20 TBD

Nov. 9 TBD

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),

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
American Red Cross
1 Westport Dr.
Bloomington, IL 61704

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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WEB PAGE

[HTTP://WWW.QSL.NET/W9AML/](http://www.qsl.net/w9aml/)

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