



Short CIRCuits

November 2017

SERVING CENTRAL ILLINOIS AMATEUR RADIO SINCE 1921

IN THIS ISSUE

From The President

by Jim Baker WB9EDL

Hello to the club.

To begin this new edition of the President's column I would like to thank the previous officers of the C.I.R.C. Dennis Mills KE9UA, Greg Kellerman KC9WVR, Mike Sallee KC9FWL and Norm Huber N9ZKS for their great service to the club.

At our last meeting we discussed reviving the idea of some shirt/jacket printing with the club logo.

Programs after the general business meeting are very interesting and informative. We do need suggestions for future program topics. This week our club has the privilege to help Chiddix Junior High School participate with contacting the International Space Station ISS thru NASA's amateur radio program ARISS. Grant Zehr,

Hari Rebba and many others have been very active in getting this contact in place. Grant will give a presentation on ARISS after the general meeting next week. Other program ideas that have been discussed are NTS The national traffic system and message handling, the new digital modes that have been getting a lot of interest, Live Line Demo and a live virtual club meeting with Flex Radio. Don't forget that JOTA is this week as well.

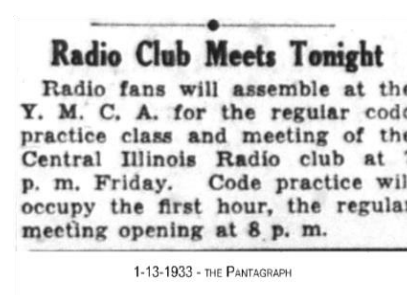
73's for now Hope to see you at our next club meeting.

Jim Baker WB9EDL



Annual CIRC Wiener Roast

Another great time at the Benjamin's



CIRC History in The News

A look back over the years of our club through news articles in the Pantagraph

Activities & Actions

by Jeff Lovell KC9QQM

First we want to again give a big thanks to Duane Benjamin KC9PIM and his wife Susan for hosting the club's annual fall wiener roast. It is always a great time and this year we even had the musical talents of Masa AB9MQ and Becky KA9ROY!



Becky performing on her steel pan



The spread of food was amazing



Duane before his morning coffee!

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

8-2-1933 - THE PANTAGRAPH

A Bit of History

by Jeff Lovell KC9QQM

After some conversation at the last club meeting concerning the club's history, I was intrigued and thought I would do some detective work and see what I could find. So digging into the archives of The Pantagraph and the microfiche at the Bloomington Public Library, I have pulled every article and notice and mentioned our club. These are some from 1920's through the 50's. These are all on the web at

www.qsl.net/wgaml/history.html.

Organize Radio Club.
A few amateur radio operators of Thomas Metcalf school met last evening and organized a radio club. The club looks forward to an interesting future. Amateurs from 12 to 18 years are admitted to the club. The object of the club is to increase the radio line of Normal.

The above article was from March of 1921

Radio Club Meets Tonight
Radio fans will assemble at the Y. M. C. A. for the regular code practice class and meeting of the Central Illinois Radio club at 7 p. m. Friday. Code practice will occupy the first hour, the regular meeting opening at 8 p. m.

1-13-1933 - THE PANTAGRAPH

**Orchestra to Entertain
Radio Club Friday Night**
Entertainment by the Georgia Pryor orchestra will be a feature of the Central Illinois Radio club's regular meeting at the Y. M. C. A. at 8 p. m. Friday, according to James Umstattd, secretary. Discussion of radio matters will follow the music. The code instruction class will meet at 7 p. m. for an hour's practice.

Value of Amateur Radio Explained to Young Men's Club

Values of amateur radio stations and the national amateur radio operators' organization to the public were outlined in a talk by Virgil O. Lehman before the Young Men's club at the Lakeside country club Tuesday noon. Mr. Lehman is president of the Central Illinois Radio club, with a membership of nearly 40.

Though amateur radio is indulged in purely to gratify a natural interest of the participants, and the national radio league had its inception in such interest, amateur radio has proved its practical value to the army and navy and to the nation generally, particularly in times of emergency, the speaker said.

He referred to the recent California earthquake. Telephone and telegraph lines were down for six hours after the catastrophe, he said, and until such lines could be repaired, amateur radio was the only means of communication with Long Beach. Most of the information out of Long Beach during the six hours was by amateur radio Mr. Lehman stated.

Amateur radio service is gratis, the speaker continued, but in tests so far, it has proved itself reliable and a boon in time of need. There are 40,000 amateur stations in the nation, including several in Bloomington.

The government has recognized amateurs. When the United States entered the World war, the army and navy drafted many amateurs into the service for radio operations.

In 1923 Donald B. MacMillan took an amateur operator with him on his northern explorations. Admiral Richard E. Byrd had three with him on his south pole expedition. Amateurs often test new equipment for the government.

This week's program was arranged by Walton B. Isch. Those for the next two weeks will be arranged by Gordon Kazar and a group of other members.

Radio Club Meets Tonight
The Central Illinois Radio club will meet at 8 p. m. Friday at the Y. M. C. A.

Navy Officer Will Explain Radar Setup

**Lt. W. E. Miles
Speaks at Meeting
Here Tonight**

1-28-1942 - THE PANTAGRAPH

Opportunities in Radar, new secret branch of the navy, will be explained by Lt. W. E. Miles at 8:15 p. m. Wednesday at the courthouse in a meeting open to any interested persons.

The meeting will be in the circuit courtroom.

Lieutenant Miles, brought here through the Central Illinois Radio club and Bloomington-Normal navy committee, is a Radar procurement officer. He will outline duties, opportunities in pay and learning, and requirements for entering Radar training.

Chief Petty Officer G. M. Olive of the navy's Peoria recruiting office, will also be present at the meeting. He will talk with any persons interested in joining other branches of the navy.

The Bloomington-Normal navy committee, which is staffing the local recruiting office of the navy, has lost one of its members, Cecil Popejoy, who got a job in the Norfolk navy yards. Mr. Popejoy has promised to keep the committee informed of navy opportunities in specialty lines.

HOW TIME FLIES

20 YEARS AGO.—Members of the Central Illinois Radio club met at the home of George Postels, 823 West Mill street, Bloomington, and conducted an experiment in wireless such as has been carried on by the club for some weeks. It was reported that the group heard a graphophone concert which was played 50 miles away. The results were obtained by use of a special transmitter attached to the musical instrument and the reception was through a transmitter on the wireless set. A new receiving set is now being built, whereby it is hoped to record sounds from an even greater distance. . . . Members of the Order of Railway Conductors met and made plans preliminary for the annual ball which has been set for March 30. Invitations are to be issued to members of the order at Clinton and Dwight.

3-26-1941 - THE PANTAGRAPH

Radio Amateurs Plan to Take U. S. Exams

The federal examination for the first class of radio operators who have been receiving instructions in the Central Illinois Radio club's meetings held here bi-weekly in the Y. M. C. A. will be held at 8:30 a. m. Saturday in the postoffice at Springfield.

Members of the club who have held temporary licenses and who plan to take the examination include Herman Ling, S. H. Byquist, Howard Henkel, Mylis Myers, Arne Hanson, John Smith, Everett Dillingham, William Moulic, W. M. Marton, Donald Brickley, Earl Heidelberg, Edwin Schaeffer, Orville Cox, Earl McLonglin, Kenneth Johnson, Clarence VanOrdstrand and R. M. Dagley.

5-20-1933 - THE PANTAGRAPH

Bloomington Amateurs Meet Radio Friends at Chicago Luncheon

Three Bloomington amateur radio station operators, V. O. Lehman, A. E. French and J. A. Umstadd, officers of the Central Illinois Radio club, attended the American Radio Relay league's national convention and A Century of Progress exposition in Chicago over the weekend, meeting many of the amateurs from other cities while there.

Many of the distant operators with whom the local men have developed a radio friendship were present at the Relay league's luncheon Saturday night in the Medina Athletic club.

The amateur radio operator's registration table in the transportation building, where station W9USA is operated continuously on short wave lengths, is the meeting place for members of the radio fraternity attending the fair, Mr. Umstadd said. Quite often amateur operators of widely separated stations have developed close friendships in their regular radio communications but have never met face to face. It is for that purpose that registration at the fair is provided, and there is usually a group of operators there.

8-28-1932 - THE PANTAGRAPH

Nine Are Admitted by Wireless Club

Eleven radio fans were admitted to membership Friday night in the Central Illinois Radio club at its first regular meeting in the Y. M. C. A. Nine of them are operators of amateur wireless sending and receiving stations.

It was decided to affiliate with the American Radio league. A code practice class will be organized with George S. Carruthers 1503 North Roosevelt avenue, as instructor. The last Friday in each month was selected as the regular meeting night.

V. O. Lehman of Bloomington, operator of station W9AYO, is president of the club; A. E. French of Downs, W9CEO, is vice president; J. A. Umstadd, Bloomington, W9CFV, is secretary, and D. D. Rowe, W9BPU, is treasurer.

Other members who have amateur radio stations are Herman Reece of Normal, W9HSG; Howard Menkle of Bloomington, W9FSO; C. A. Lanan of Bloomington, W9ILK; Wilbur Craig of McLean, W9RLD, and Fred Leach of McLean, W9FZG. Others who have no stations but are interested in learning the radio code and possibly in constructing stations have enrolled as members.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 1931.

THREE

40 Radio Amateurs Plan Disaster Test

Will Operate 24 Hours Under Field Conditions

Forty local radio amateurs will start at 4 p. m. Saturday to demonstrate for 24 hours their ability to handle communications under actual emergency field conditions cut off from commercial power mains. Interest is centered in this year's field day because of the growing civilian defense demands being made of radio men by CD organizations, including the unit in Bloomington.

The members of the Central Illinois Radio Club will start Saturday morning to set up equipment and antennas at their new club house site four miles north of Bloomington and a quarter mile east of the old airport hangar.

Lease Site
Albert E. Wolff, 1407 W. Grove St., president of the club, said his organization has leased the present site and it will serve as a base of operations for all its activities in the future.

The annual field day is sponsored by the American Radio Relay League, the national association of radio amateurs. It is a test of self-powered equipment and hundreds of clubs and thousands of operators participate in it each year.

The stations here will attempt to contact as many other stations as they can in the allotted 24-hour period while operating under conditions paralleling an actual communications emergency.

Prepare Transmitters
Mr. Wolff said the local operators have finished or have in various stages of construction 20 low-powered transmitters and receivers capable of being carried quickly to any assigned or needed spot and put into operation in a few minutes, all of them independently powered.

The project of forming a local network has been a little slow in getting started because a "spot frequency net," which is what the network is, has all stations operating on the same frequency and it has only been quite recently that members have been able to obtain the specially ground frequency controls from manufacturers in Northern Illinois who were rushed with the heavy demand for civilian defense work. The organization of the "net" has been under the guidance of the local

ARRL Emergency Co-ordinator for McLean County, J. A. Umstadd, 1318 N. Linden St.

Amateurs Pay Cost

Mr. Wolff explained that all the equipment needed for each CD station is bought and paid for by the amateur from his own funds. Its use and the services of the operator-owner are free to the community in time of need. (No amateur operator licensed by the Federal Communications Commission is allowed to accept a fee for his services.)

When the local outfits are completed the Bloomington-Normal Defense Communications Network will be given a tryout under simulated attack conditions. At the present time about 16 stations are partially or completely built and operating on the net frequency each Sunday at 1815 K. C. at 8:30 CST.

"It is hoped in the near future the club will have another class of free instruction in radio transmitting and receiving," Mr. Wolff said. "Requirements have been eased in the newer class of licenses."

The radio club president said the field day operation is open to the public. Radio men will be on hand to answer questions regarding licenses, training or the actual field day operations.

Central Illinois Radio Club Elects James Umstadd Head

Officers elected by the Central Illinois Radio club meeting Friday evening in Illinois Hotel are: President, James Umstadd; vice president, John H. Smith; treasurer, Delmar Rowe; secretary, Norman C. Baird, all of Bloomington.

Twenty five of the club members and operators of amateur radio stations attended the Friday evening session. They hold weekly meetings at 7:30 p. m. Friday in the Y. M. C. A.

12-30-1935 - THE PANTAGRAPH

'Ham' Radio Officials Named

Earl C. McLaughlin, 1211 East Jefferson street, president of the Central Illinois Radio club, was named secretary and treasurer of the Illinois Council of Amateur Radio Clubs in an organization meeting at Decatur Sunday. Mr. McLaughlin operates amateur station W9MRT here.

Other officers named at the "ham" operators session are H. M. Matthews, Springfield, chairman, and Edward Harney, Clinton, vice chairman.

8-3-1948 - THE PANTAGRAPH

Thoughts on Solar Power

by Rick Suhadolc NgCKL

The State of Illinois Has just passed a new Solar energy Bill** October 6, 2017 good thru December 31st 2018***. They will offer be offering starting today \$80** per SREC credit .

A 10 Kw install would take 30 solar panels approximately 330 watt, 54 inch x 42 inch .

In our local the average gain is 13000kwh* from a 10kw system.

The system can be configured to sell back to the Utility at about 5.2cents
(not the full distribution rate of 13cents Ameren or 16 cents Corn Belt)

If you could avoid paying for Ameren 13000 KWH per year that would be
 $\$.013/\text{kwh} \times 13000\text{kwh} = \$1,690$ or three year pay back.

My average bill ranges from 724-1572 kwh average 1210kwh/month total 14530kwh/year.

The system would take care of 80% of my normal Ameren Electric bill.

<http://www.srectrade.com/blog/srec/srec-markets/illinois>

Example:

10 KW DC input system = the most common size limit for co-ops

Cost \$30,000 installed – must be installed by an Illinois licensed installer

30% income tax credit \$9,000

Sale of 15 years SREC at the proposed 2018 rates Each KW DC is about 1.3 SREC.
Each SREC is proposed to be bought by the State at the end of first year of operation
with payment for all 15 years up front at \$80 per SREC/Year.

SREC Sale = 13 SREC x \$80.00 x 15 Years = \$15,600

Total investment = \$30,000 - \$9,000 - \$15,600 = \$5400

BUT – the \$80 is only proposed and it is stepped down as SRECs are purchased

*assumes 16.5% efficient cells, at 30 degrees incline, facing south, with no shadows

** only for Ameren or Common Wealth Edison Customers.

Starts at \$80per SREC but could go down as Illinois fund depletes

*** Tax Credit only Good thru December 2018.



FIELD DAY ANTENNA



Hope On For Hope

Members provided communications support for this bike ride in Le Roy, Illinois.



FAST FACTS

1921

The year the Central Illinois Radio Club of Bloomington was started.

745,039

Current number of ham operators in the US

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.

11/11 – Upcoming

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. 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 Newline
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 Newline
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

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 RADIO CLUB
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61702-0993

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

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Vice-President: Rick Suhadolc
(N9CKL)
Secretary: Duane Benjamin
(KC9PIM)
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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Short CIRCuits

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