



Short CIRCuits

October 2019

SERVING CENTRAL ILLINOIS AMATEUR RADIO SINCE 1921

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From The President

by Rick Suhadolc NgCKL

The Central Illinois Radio Club has again helped to remove a tower at Jim Isom's house the week of October 1st. Dismantling the Rohm 45 tower and hazer mount lifting system. Great work and thanks to Dennis Mills KEgUA, Keith Hanson AC9S, and Tom Planer KJgP. The Club has a record of helping those in need.

Also would like to thank Duane KC9PIM and Susan Benjamin for their hosting of the fall CIRC party at their farm out east of Towanda. They transform the tractor workshop-machine shed into a perfect banquet hall for the early fall get together of the club.

Duane and Susan supplied the brats, italian sausage, chicken, and beverages for the event.

Sharon Suhadolc helped in the decorations and give away mums on each table.

And John and Lou Payne was in charge of the food prizes and Duane and Susan did the Jeopardy Trivia with \$1 gift cards to the winners.

Tom Planer KJgP provided the entertainment singing and playing his electric acoustic guitar.

A great time was had by all.

I reflect back on what Central Illinois Radio Club's original purpose, to provide a social gathering of members who have a common interest in radio communication. Our gatherings are both in-person or as a net of operators on an electronic media, all practicing the art of communication.

As a young lad in the mid 1960's, I would listen on my Allied Radio A-2515A communications receiver, in awe of the ham radio operators, determined one day to join their ranks. In 1982 Central Illinois Radio Club sponsored a Novice Class at the Mclean County Law and Justice Center. With multiple trips up to the Federal Building in Chicago I was able to further my radio license. This was the chance I needed to become one of a small number of an elite group of radio operators.

Rick
NgCKL

A small adjustment!

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A Small Adjustment

Article by Dennis Mills KE9UA

Took a Sunday afternoon drive down to Steve's W9SNS QTH around noon and the driven element of his tri-band beam was tilted off level and he had a surprise for me. A brand new pair of steel shanked climbing boots! WOW. What a great gift and they were a perfect fit and comfortable on those narrow z-bar reinforcement bars on the Rohn #25 tower. Can't even feel the bar on the arch due to the steel in the bottom of the boots.



Anyhow, suited up in my shiny new boots and climbing gear and went up and found the driven element U-bolt and saddle had moved somehow and was tilted off level and Steve sent up a small bubble level and I was able to move the driven element back to level and retightened the u-bolt saddle clamp back down snug. Carried my Iphone up there and took some different view photos for Steve to show him what all those birds see when they are gathered on his antenna farm up high.



Moved up to the very top of the tower and stood on the thrust bearing flat top plate and moved the 6 meter beam back into alignment with the 2 meter beam and Steve eyeballed the alignment from across the street this time and then tightened the beam clamp bolts back down.



Nice gentle breeze up there Sunday and what a great view also. Steve reported that all is good on swr on all three antenna's and they are all in alignment now.

New 2M Beam

Article by Dennis Mills KE9UA

Keith AC9S had an antenna party this morning at his QTH to raise a 9 element 2 meter beam and mount it on the very top of his antenna mast and up the tower I and Keith went.



I went up first and got on the very top plate of his 100' tower and belted off around his mast pipe and it was a perfect height for me as I could just look across the top of the mast pipe and it was a piece of cake to mount his beam after he hoisted it up and handed it up to me.



73, Dennis KE9UA



After the ground crew gave the thumbs up on alignment with the SteppIR beam I locked it down in place and Keith and I dressed the coax run coming off the 2 meter beam to the mast pipe and the loop on his other beam.



Keith has a DX-Engineering coax switch box at the top of his tower to switch in different antenna's and he happened to have

an extra jumper all taped off and sealed coming from a spare port on this antenna switch and this worked out perfect.



It was a perfect morning for a tower climb and good weather and a great ground crew to help us too. Nettie had a snack table all setup with coffee and donuts for all. After getting down and looking at Keith's new amp in his radio shack he put his RigExpert on the 2 meter antenna and looking great on the SWR curve. By the way, that last photo of me is called a "high standing wave" from the top of the tower. Hi Hi



That's about it at Keith's and followed Ed KC9GF over to his QTH and I helped him mount his Comet GP-6 VHF/UHF antenna and played the ground crew there.

CIRC Fall Potluck

Article by Jeff Lovell KC9QQM

Another CIRC fall get together has come and gone and again we have the wonderful hospitality of Duane and Susan Benjamin to thank...THANKS!! As always it is a great time to see each other and to play some games of which I think Duane has way too much fun emceeing!! Dinner music was provided by Tom Planer KJgP, thanks Tom. Maybe next year we can bring back Becky and Masa!



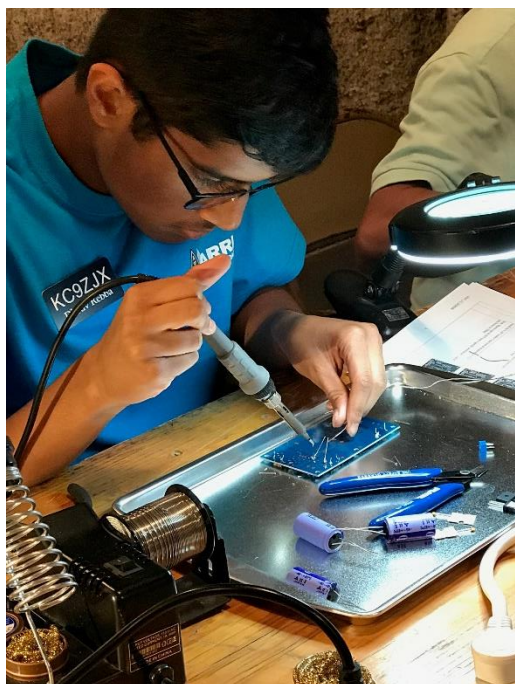


Peoria Superfest

Article by Jeff Lovell KC9QQM Pic by Jeff Lovell and Hari Rebba VU2SPZ

Most all of look forward to the annual Peoria Superfest at Expo Gardens in Peoria and I was one. Had a lot of items to move as well as wanted to pick up a few items. As Dennis will tell you, I moved a bunch (after I wen to lunch). Of note was Dhruv Rebba KC9ZJX was a featured speaker at the Youth Forum as he was the 2019 Youth of the year award (forgive me if I didn't quote that right!) We all noticed that again the numbers were down in attendance, flea market sellers and vendors...Here are some photos!

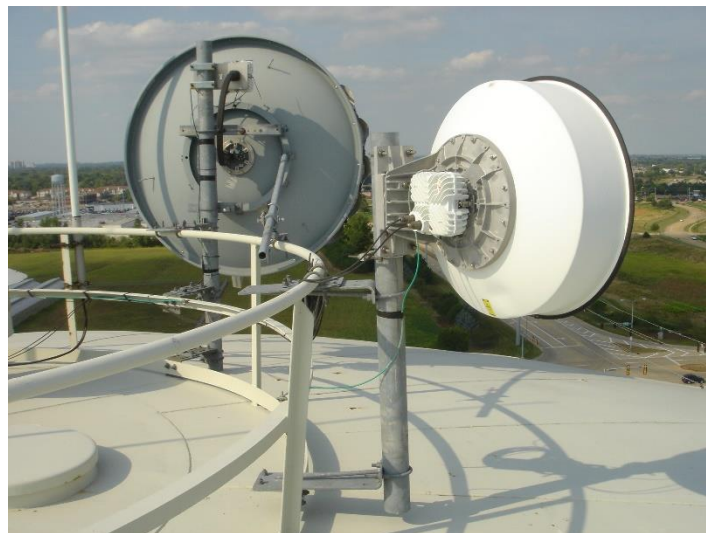




New Repeater Site?

Article by Rick Suhadolc N9CKL

We are so lucky to be able to use the CornBelt Tower. However we may need to think about what may happen in the future.



Is there still any interest in pursuing the Bloomington Water Dept Director for a possible CIRC receive antenna site?



One location is the Bloomington Water Plant up at Lake Bloomington. A second could be the Short Water Tower at the North end of Normal on I-55.



A third backup location for our Repeater is the Hamilton Road Water Tower near State Farms Corporate South. The Hamilton Tower is only 140 feet. Compared to the Cornbelt Tower at near 300 feet.



The attractiveness of the Hamilton Water Tower is that it has a 100kw Generator that serves both the Fire Station on Hamilton Road and the power to the Tower. The rack in the base (next to the coil of Hardline) is an old Bloomington Police Repeater (wideband) No longer in use.

Rick Suhadolc
N9CKL

Swapmeet

Newsletter and Web Manager

It was suggested by our president to put space in the newsletter for items the members want to sell. As the newsletter created and web site guru (I will make a place on there too) I am in favor of this with some guide lines as follows;

1. Items submitted to me need to have a title, description, cost and how they can contact the seller. While I can put it out there, I cannot be the broker.
2. I will try and keep the web site and news letter in sync but since the newsletter only comes out once a month it might have items in it that are sold. If you sell something let me know and I will remove it.
3. I do not want to say what can and cannot be listed but please make it worth the while, meaning some substantial items, not a box of coax for \$1.
4. Items will stay listed for 3 month and then be removed regardless if I get a notice or not. If you want to list it again, send me a new email.

So with that said and I certainly open to items and other things I have not thought up I will put the first item up for sale.

1961 Hammarlund HQ-145x - \$150 O.B.O. This is a broadcast to 30mhz receiver with a bandsread dial just for the ham bands. All bands work from my testing and it is cosmetically in pretty good shape. Bought it at Dayton this year and realized I just don't have room for it. Call or email Jeff at 309-310-1702 or kc9qqm@gmail.com

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 an FCC issued FCC Registration Number (FRN) or Social Security Number. We cannot administer a test without your FRN or SSN. You will need a copy of your Current license plus any CSCE you want to apply.

2019 dates;

Nov. 2 1-3pm

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),

CIRC Meeting

Fourth Wednesdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the American Red Cross
1 Westport Dr.
Bloomington, IL 61704

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.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS RADIO CLUB
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WEB PAGE

[HTTP://WWW.QSL.NET/W9AML/](http://WWW.QSL.NET/W9AML/)

*President: Rick Suhadolc
(N9CKL)*

*Vice-President: John Payne (AC9TN)
Secretary: Keith Hanson
(AC9S)*

*Treasurer: Greg Kellermen
(KC9WVR)*

*Member at large: Grant Zehr
(AA9LC)*

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.

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Short CIRCuits

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