

**Nixa Amateur
Radio Club,
Inc.**

Open Mic!

Volume 1; Issue 3

November 2008

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October Meeting Wrap-Up

This month it was back to normal. With the club's fall family picnic at KY3 and the Greater Ozark's Ham Picnics behind us, the club is charging into fall.

The meeting was attended by 17 club members and lasted approximately 1 hour.

Jeff Kerr, KC0VGC, stood in for Jeff Morrissey, KB0WVT, and gave the treasurer's report, which can be viewed in full on page 3.

Chris Cochran, KB0WZC, advised that the club had submitted a \$1500 grant to the Nixa Community Foundation to purchase antennas, mounting hardware, and raceway for the club HF station. Funding for this will be announced in January with the checks issued in February, just in time for a

spring antenna installation party. Chris also announced that he was told he would be called in for an interview for the McKesson Corporation grant request filed back in March 2008. This request, for \$5000, would purchase a radio and accessories for the station. Plans for another grant are in the works as well now that coax and Polyphasers have been obtained.

This month, club members participated in the Greater Ozark Ham Picnic with members from SMARC and OMAR amongst other groups. This picnic was considered a success with about 45 people attending. The club also participated in the Republic PTO Autumn Harvest Festival in Republic, MO and ran net control for the NARC net from that location. This event helped spread the word about amateur radio to the commu-

nity. We were told we would be invited back next year and given a better location for our station to be set up.

James Adkins, KB0NHX, was nominated for Vice-President by Dean Gaines, KC0SQD, and Fred Bell, N0LU, was also nominated by Dave Beckler, N0SAP. The election will be held at the November club meeting on Saturday, November 22nd, 2008, at 6:00 p.m. at the Nixa Pizza Hut located at US 160 and RT CC on the north side of Nixa. All members are encouraged to attend to cast their votes!

The December club meeting will be on Saturday, December 27th, 2008, at the residence of Dave Beckler, N0SAP, and his wife Gay. All are invited and more details will follow

73's,

Special points of interest:

- October meeting wrapup
- Club VP election in November
- Local Nets of Interest
- Member Spotlight - Dean Gaines, KC0SQD
- Treasurer's Report
- Club Contact Information

Club VP position up for election this month

This month's meeting of the Nixa Amateur Radio Club will be at the Pizza Hut in Nixa, located at US 160 and RT CC. This is the place where the club began holding its meetings almost 7 years ago. The meeting is on Saturday, November 22nd at 6:00 p.m.

At our special Thanksgiving meeting, we will be electing a Vice-President for the club. The two nominees are James Adkins, KB0NHX, and Fred Bell, N0LU. Many people often wonder what the club's leaders do. The Vice-President is responsible for the following items:

- 1) Conduct club meetings when the President is absent.
- 2) Be able to take the president's office in case of resignation, illness or death.

Area Nets of Interest

Daily Nets:

- 146.835 - 7:00 a.m. Little Switzerland ARC Net
- 3.963 LSB 5:45 p.m. Missouri Phone Traffic Net
- 146.625 - 7:00 p.m. Douglas County Check-in Net (110.9 Hz)
- 3.585 CW 7:00 p.m. Missouri Section CW Net
- 9:45 p.m.
- 3.803 LSB 10:00 p.m. Roundtable SSB Net

Mondays:

- 146.970 - 7:30 p.m. Lawrence County ARES Net
- 53.270 - 8:00 p.m. The 6-Meter Net (162.2 Hz - 51.570 input)
- 147.195 + 9:00 p.m. Taney County ARES Net

Tuesdays:

- 145.490 - 7:00 p.m. Sky Warn Check-in Net (136.5 Hz)
- 145.230 - 7:30 p.m. Christian County ARES Net (162.2 Hz)
- 146.805 - 7:30 p.m. Newton County ARES Net (127.3 Hz)
- 145.270 - 8:00 p.m. Bible Belt Christian Fellowship Net (162.2 Hz) *

Wednesdays:

- 146.820 - 7:30 p.m. EARS Club Check-In Net
- 145.210 - 8:00 p.m. Barry County ARES Net (162.2 Hz)
- 147.150 + 9:00 p.m. Combined KARC - TLARC Net

Thursdays:

- 147.225 + 7:00 p.m. Greene County ARES Net
- 145.270 - 7:30 p.m. Nixa ARC Check-in Net (162.2 Hz)*
- 145.350 - 8:00 p.m. Four-State ARC Net (103.5 Hz)
- 52.525 9:00 p.m. Joplin 6-Meter FM Simplex Net

Fridays:

- 146.910 - 8:00 p.m. SMARC Friday Night Net (100.0 Hz)

Saturdays:


(none at this time)

Sundays:

- 147.345 + 9:00 p.m. Stone County ARES Net (162.2 Hz)

* Nets also on 53.270, 224.280, 444.275 and 927.5375 machines

Club VP election at November meeting (Continued from Page 1)

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| <p>3) Works with other club leaders to obtain grants and funding for club projects.</p> | <p>President and reports progress and updates to the club's Board of Directors.</p> | <p>7) Creates and publishes the Club's newsletter "Open Mic" with "Microsoft Publisher."</p> |
| <p>4) Develops, plans and participates in club fundraisers and events.</p> |  | <p>Please, come out and join us at the next meeting and enjoy some great pizza, but also help choose the direction of your ham radio club. At this meeting, we'll also have more details about our annual Christmas family get-together, to be held this year at the home of Dave Beckler, N0SAP, and his wife Gay.</p> |
| <p>5) Works with the Technical Committee and other committees as appointed by the</p> | <p>6) Works to obtain speakers & presentations for club meetings and gathers information from other club leaders to provide an outline of information presented at club meetings.</p> | |

Club Members to Participate in Local Events

September was a busy month for the Nixa ARC. Many of the members attended the Greater Ozark's Ham Picnic held at the Springfield Nature Center. The event was attended by approximately 45 people and was considered a success. Everyone enjoyed the nice weather and great food.

We were also invited to and attended

the Republic PTO Autumn Harvest Festival held at the Republic Middle School football field. At the event, we showcased amateur radio for students and parents alike by running the Nixa Amateur Radio Club's NARC Net on site. Thanks to Jeff Kerr, KC0VGC, for taking net control and providing the portable station for the event. We'd also



A passerby that stopped in at the Nixa Sucker Days station for a photo

like to thank everyone that came out and helped promote amateur radio to the community. Event coordinators were pleased with our interaction and will welcome us again for next year's event.

Technical Committee Update

The Technical Committee was once again busy in September. First, the 927.5375 repeater was moved from its temporary home in Nixa to its permanent home in Republic. From high atop a 400' tower, the repeater has HT coverage into Ash Grove, and was worked as far north as Humansville with a 12-W mobile. HT coverage was good all the way into Lockwood on US 160, too.

After that project was complete, the group went to Cox South and completed a major overhaul of the 444.275 and 224.280 machines. Both repeaters now utilize Motorola CDM mobiles, just like the 53.270. The receive sensitivity on both repeaters was improved. The 220 now lets 1/2-Watt portables work it from south Nixa! The repeaters utilize the brand new Duracomm 40a power supplies that were recently

donated to the club. Right now, the 224.280 repeater has 9-Watts output and the 444.275 has 20-W output, both in preparation for the install of new amplifiers that will allow the repeaters to cover the area much better. Both repeaters can now also be used without a PL tone if necessary. The new CDMs on the 444.275 have decreased the interference we were receiving as well with their higher quality receiver. In addition, the linking repeater is now programmed so that most ID's will not be re-transmitted out onto the other



927.5375 repeater turned on for the first time at the W. Republic 400' Alltel tower

repeaters when they are linked together, thus reducing the amount of redundant IDs.

New duplexers were also donated to the club in October for the 444.275. When they arrive, we will then be able to use the higher power amplifier. They will be installed before the amplifier is ordered.

In the coming months, the 927.5375 will regain linking capability and a 2-cavity bandpass filter and pre-amp will be added to further extend the repeater's coverage. 73's

Nixa ARC Repeaters

6-Meters: (Republic)

53.270 / 51.570 PL 162.2 Hz

2-Meters: (Nixa)

145.270 / 144.670 PL 162.2 Hz

1.25-Meters: (Springfield)

224.280 / 222.680 PL 162.2 Hz

70-Centimeters (Springfield)

444.275 / 449.275 PL 162.2 Hz

33-Centimeters (Republic)

927.5375 / 902.5375 PL 162.2 Hz

September 2008 Treasury Report

Beginning Balance: \$360.14

Credits:

\$ 1.96 Dividend

Debits:

\$265.46 Repeater related parts

\$ 25.92 Picnic Supplies

\$ 1.96 Total Credits

\$291.38 Total Debits

Ending Balance: \$ 70.72

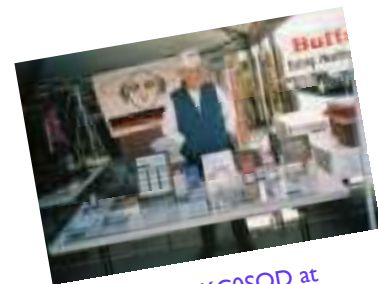
Member Spotlight

Dean Gaines, KC0SQD, known to many as the "Dean of Ham Radio", obtained his license in June of 2004. Though his interest in ham radio was sparked early in life, his interest was not piqued again until he moved into his house in Nixa and saw several ham radio towers pop up in his neighborhood.

In Dean's earlier days, he was a U.S. Air-

Force MP, and then spent his post military days as a design draftsman. He also worked for Cuttler-Hammer designing circuit diagrams for electrical control circuits and worked in the HVAC field as a draftsman.

Dean does SO much for the club. He participates in every event and is always there to help his fellow club members. Dean, keep it up!



Dean Gaines, KC0SQD at Nixa Sucker Days 2008

We're on Yahoo!

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NIXA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

*Those saying it can't be done should
stay out of the way of those doing it.*

We're on the Web!
www.nixahams.net

The Nixa Amateur Radio Club, Inc., call KC0LUN, was founded in April 2002.

The club assists in providing communications for many different public service events. We work with Greene and Christian County ARES and the National Weather Service by providing communications for Sky Warn spotting. We also work with Greene County ARES and other organizations in providing communications for the MS-150, and American Diabetes Association fundraiser bike rides. We hold special event stations for local hams to participate in, such as the annual Sucker Days celebration and the annual ARRL Field Day drill for emergency preparedness. We encourage our members to not only participate in our club events, but to also be members of their local ARES and RACE's groups, and the Christian County CERT team.

The club provides 5 repeaters that are open for all hams to use. These repeaters are part of a sophisticated linked system which allows all repeaters and VoIP nodes to be linked together simultaneously for nets or emergency events and announcements. We also provide VoIP modes, such as EchoLink and IRLP for our members to explore. Currently, we are working on a club HF station to be installed at the Nixa Fire Department General HQ Emergency Operations Center.

The club holds "The 6-meter Net" on the 53.270 repeater weekly on Mondays at 8:00 p.m., which covers all radio bands 6-meters and below. We also have a weekly check-in net on the 145.270 repeater on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. The net is simulcast on all 5 Nixa ARC repeaters, IRLP and EchoLink. Feel free to check in on any band! The 145.270 repeater also hosts the "Bible Belt Christian Fellowship Net" held on Tuesdays at 8:00 p.m.

Visit www.nixahams.net for more exciting information!

Nixa Amateur Radio Club Elected Officers

President: Chris Cochran, KBØWZC

- Chris has been club president since the club's beginning in 2002. Chris and his wife, Shannon, KCØSQC, have two daughters, Jordan, KCØSQA, and Olivia, and a son, Jacob. Chris currently works in PC Networking. In the past, Chris has managed a Pizza Hut store, where he first became interested in amateur radio. Chris' primary interest in amateur radio is promoting ham radio and continually improving club equipment.
- E-mail: kb0wzc@nixahams.net

Vice-President: James Adkins, KBØNHX

- James started serving the club as Secretary when the club was founded, and then moved into the Vice-President position. James and his wife, Kim, KCØGKP, have two children, Sierra and Kolton. James works as a technical field engineer and repairs two-way radio and repeater equipment daily. In the past, James delivered pizza while attending college. James' primary interests in ham radio include maintaining the club repeaters and promoting amateur radio. He enjoys operating HF through 1200 MHz from his home station.
- E-mail: kb0nhx@nixahams.net

Treasurer: Jeff Morrissey, KBØWVT

- Jeff is a charter member of the Nixa Amateur Radio Club and took over the treasury job almost 2 years ago. Jeff and his wife, Lori, KCØVNR have a daughter, Brooke, KCØYVF, and son, Garrett. Jeff works in management and has a background in computer networking. Before ham radio, Jeff was an Internet guru and ran a BBS from his house. Jeff's primary interests are SkyWarn spotting, being active with Christian County CERT, and other emergency communications support.
- E-mail: kb0wvt@nixahams.net

Secretary: Jeff Kerr, KCØVGC

- Jeff obtained his license in 2005 and began to immediately make an impact with the club and was elected as secretary shortly thereafter. Jeff and his wife Dee have two daughters, Emily, KCØYOO, Stephanie, and a son Brandon. Jeff works in PC Networking and considered computers his hobby before amateur radio. Jeff's primary interests include 6-meters and HF SSB as well as 900 MHz FM.
- E-mail: kc0vgc@nixahams.net