

**Nixa Amateur  
Radio Club,  
Inc.**

# Open Mic!

**Volume 1, Issue 1**

**September 2008**

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## August Meeting Wrap-Up

Well, another monthly meeting is in the books. This month, we had 16 people in attendance. Due to the Labor Day holiday weekend, the meeting was moved up to the 3rd Saturday this month.

Next month, the club will hold it's yearly fall picnic at the KY3 tower site in Fordland. The picnic begins at 4:00 p.m. and will last until 6:00 p.m., or until everyone leaves. The club will be providing the main dish and beverages. We ask that each family or individual attending brings a side dish or desert. The picnic will include a tour of the KY3 transmitter facility and will showcase the brand new KSPR 33 digital transmitter. Last year the site was nice and shady and the weather was great! For directions, visit [www.nixahams.net](http://www.nixahams.net) or watch the Yahoo! group for further details.

Business was slim during this month's meeting, as it usually is in August. Everyone is getting their final vacations in for the summer before school starts and starting to settle down for the fall.

The meeting was conducted by James Adkins, KBØNHX, and Jeff Kerr, KCØVGC. Chris Cochran, KBØWZC was at a diabetes event for his youngest child and Jeff Morrissey, KBØWVT was out celebrating his 40th birthday with his family in Joplin, MO.

James gave the treasurer's report, posted elsewhere in this letter, and updated the membership on continuing and upcoming projects.

Jeff updated everyone on the IRLP node and the HF station project.

Meeting concluded with Dave Bowman, WBØQIR showing some of the equipment damaged earlier this year from a lightning strike at his QTH.



**Nixa ARC Meeting - 301 S. Nicholas Rd at the Nixa Fire Department General HQ**

## Canada Adopts New HF Bandplan

Canada will soon have a new plan for the High Frequency bands that gives recognition and spectrum to every current and legacy mode while making sure future technologies are accommodated.

According to a news release

from Radio Amateurs of Canada, the High Frequency band plan presently in use in Canada was adopted in 1996. Since then, many changes have happened in the Amateur radio world and other nations band plans have been revised and modified.

Recognizing the need for change, just under two years ago, Radio Amateurs of Canada had asked Bob Nash, VE3KZ, to re-activate the national societies HF Band Planning Committee. This, with a goal to review and modernize the Canadian HF Band Plan.

# 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

## Canada Adopts New HF Bandplan (Continued from Page 1)

The committee headed by Nash worked very hard in studying and consulting all across Canada to eventually come up with a band plan that was proposed to the Board of Directors of Radio Amateurs of

Canada. Unlike the Regulation by Bandwidth approach being considered in the United States, the new Canadian plan retains a structure

“... The new Canadian plan retains a structure based on separation by mode and interest.”

based on separation by mode and interest.

The R-A-C Board has now adopted this plan and had it posted to the organizations website. You can see the way in which Canada has divvied up the H-F spectrum for its hams.

For more information, please visit:

[www.rac.ca/service/bandplans/hfband\\_e.php](http://www.rac.ca/service/bandplans/hfband_e.php)

## Club Members to Participate in Local Events

Several club members have signed up to participate in this year's MS-150 bike ride that starts in Clever and ends in Joplin. The event requires 30+ hams each day. Members are joining forces with the OMAR (Ozark Mountain Amateur Radio) group, Greene County ARES, and other groups to provide necessary communications during the event. Some of the communications include sag vehicles, rest stops, and roving communicators.

Earlier, we were going to assist Republic with communications for their triathlon event. Unfortunately, the event coordinator changed hands and Ham radio was left out of the event. Next year they do plan on involving amateur radio, however.

Also, club members are

working with SMARC (Southwest Missouri Amateur Radio Club) and other groups in preparation for landfall of Hurricane Gustav to provide any communications needed into the New Orleans and surrounding area. Kudos to all who are working to ensure communications into and out of the area continue



Nixa ARC Emblem—  
designed by Rod Kittleman, KØADI

## Technical Committee Update

The Technical Committee has been hard at work. This month, the Motorola CDM link radios at all the sites, except the 53.270 site, have been updated to include new programming. In addition, the firmware has been updated to ensure the radios do not fail due to the infamous "CS ROM ERROR".

The hum from the EchoLink node was fixed this month as well. The solution was to change the PL tone on the link radio frequency so that the subaudible tone truly became subaudible.

James Adkins, KBØNHX, and Jeff Kerr, KCØVGC, met before the August meeting to determine what parts and how much coax would be needed for the HF station install at the Nixa Fire Department General HQ. The list has

been made and the club will be opening an account with Grainger in order to purchase needed raceway, etc., to make for a clean install. We have one grant pending for this project and will be turning in another grant in October.



Jeremy Tannehill, KCØUJZ, James Adkins, KBØNHX and Chris Cochran, KBØWZC

The group will also be working on updating the Arcom RC-210 controller on the 927.5375 repeater this month. It is an older PCB version and has problems handling audio when link radios are enabled. While the controller is out of

service, the repeater will operate with its internal controller. We will not be able to link to this repeater until the Arcom is put back in line.

Jeff Kerr, KCØVGC, continues to work on the IRLP node. When complete, this node will be permanently tied to the 224.280 repeater at Cox South. The node will have the capability to be linked to any of the 5 Nixa ARC repeaters, however, thanks to the controller at that site. The node will be activated for the NARC Net on Thursday nights when completed.

## 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 (Nixa)

927.5375 / 902.5375 PL 162.2 Hz

## August 2008 Treasury Report

**Beginning Balance: \$259.39**

### Credits:

\$1020.00 Donations  
 \$ 12.00 Member dues  
\$ 126.00 ARRL VE Testing fees  
 \$1158.00 Total Credits

### Debits:

\$295.90 Repeater related parts  
 \$106.56 ARRL VE Testing payout  
\$ 2.57 Postage  
 \$405.03 Total Debits

**Ending Balance: \$1,012.36**

## Member Spotlight . . . . .

John Copelin, KCØQNM, was originally licensed back in the 90's as NØWHX. John is a Master Electrician for the City of Springfield. John and his wife, Kim, have a daughter, Lauren, and live in suburban Springfield.

John serves on the Nixa ARC "Technical Committee" and helps maintain the club

repeaters and equipment. John also served the club in 2008 by picking up the DPS command bus for field day and driving it to Nixa.

John routinely monitors the 145.270 and 444.275 Nixa repeaters. Thank you, John, for all you do for the club and ham radio in the Ozarks!



John Copelin, KCØQNM

**We're on Yahoo!**

**Nixahams@yahoogroups.com**

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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](http://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](http://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 Support. 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:kc0vgc@nixahams.net)