

**Nixa Amateur
Radio Club,
Inc.**

Open Mic!

Volume 2; Issue 8

August 2009

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

July Mtg wrap-up	1
Field Day 2009	2
HF Station Install	1 & 2
Technical Update	3
Treasurer Report	3
Member Spotlight	3
Club Information	4

Special points of interest:

- July meeting wrap-up
- Club HF station installed
- Field Day 2009 Stats
- Local Nets of Interest
- Member Spotlight - Chris Cochran, KB0WZC
- Treasurer's Report
- Club Contact Information

July Meeting Wrap-Up

Chris Cochran, KB0WZC, brought the July meeting to order shortly after 6:00 p.m. We had 25 people present for the meeting and 3 people at the VE testing session. Two new technicians were licensed and one person upgraded to general.

Jeff Morrissey, KB0WVT, gave the treasurer's report for the months of June and July. Following the report, Chris Cochran, KB0WZC, brought to the membership the possibility of having the club's annual September picnic at the Nixa Fire Department. There is a nice, shaded grassy area behind the building for kids and others to play, and we would be allowed to use the club's new HF station. The club will provide the meat and drinks for the event with the members bringing the sides and deserts. To help thank the firemen, we would also cook supper for

them that evening. The announcement was well received and we will move forward with planning for the event.

James Adkins, KB0NHX, updated the members on the 442.275, 224.280 and IRLP node at Cox South Hospital. We have had numerous problems with the controller there. It has been sent to Arcom for repairs, believe lingering from last summer's lightning strike. James also announced that the MSR-2000's that had been donated by Bob Du Brul, WB0RJR, had been modified and tuned up and are ready to be installed as backups for the 145.270 repeater.

James Adkins, KB0NHX, then announced that Art Trampler, K0RO, had procured a donation for the club's HF station, a Begali Contour CW paddle. The unit, serial #9, sells for

\$379 dollars. The Italian company did not even hesitate when asked to donate the unit. James asked that everyone remember the companies that supported the project when we consider buying equipment: Yaesu, Iota Engineering, WB0VW, Comet, Tigertronics, Alltel, Handyman Rentals, Belden, Heil Sound and Begali. Without them and donations from the ARRL and the Nixa Community Foundation alliance of businesses, this project would not have been completed.

Jeff Kerr, KC0VGC, then gave everyone on site a tour of the HF station and antennas and did a short demonstration of how to power on the radios and discussed possible future additions to the station.

Next month will be Jeff Morrissey's, KB0WVT, field day video that you WON'T WANT TO MISS!!!

Nixa ARC Club HF Station Installed!

Fresh off of Field Day, James Adkins, KB0NHX, Jim Adkins, KC0IYI, Chris Cochran, KB0WZC, Kent Doucey, N0IRM, Richard Doucey, KD0HGY, Jeff Kerr, KC0VGC, and Jeremy Tannehill, KC0UJZ spent 3 days installing the club's new HF radio station. The station, which consists of an Alpha Delta DX-LB+, Comet GP-15 and KU4AB SQ-50 6-meter squalos

were prepared along with the Penninger masts. Each antenna utilizes 200' of Andrew FSJ4-50B 1/2" superflex and 75' of Belden 9913. The coax was run outside and Polyphasers and ground kits were installed. After about 10 hours, the crew called it quits for the day. On Day 2, the center support which supports all 3 antennas was installed and the flexi-

ble Belden 9913 jumpers were installed and weatherproofed at the antenna and at the heliax connection. Chris Cochran, KB0WZC, can be seen in the picture on the next page strapped off of the fire department's ladder truck "threading the mast" into the pole brackets from 50' up in the air! It was an amazing thing to see. Day 2 also consisted of running 3

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

Nixa ARC HF Station Installed! (Continued)

more 100' pieces of 1/2" superflex cable through the attic and fished into the concrete backup dispatch center where the radios are housed. The Iota power supply was attached to the bottom of the desk and the Yaesu FT-950, Yaesu FT-8900 and Tigertroncs Signalink USB were unboxed and hooked up. We also installed the Wiremold that houses the coax along the ceiling



from the coax entry point over to the station. Day 3 started inside with the programming of the Yaesu FT-8900 and running the flexible Belden 9913 and ground wire for the power supply through the Wiremold. Afterwards, the snap-in covers were cut and installed for a nice, completed look. Once completed, the crew moved outside and installed the north end

of the Alpha Delta DX-LB+ to a 30' telephone pole. Once tied off, we moved to the south leg of the dipole and installed the pulley 30' of the Rohn HDBX-48 tower used by the Fire Department for their VHF antennas. Counting the time of all that volunteered, We have approximately 100 man hours in this project, not counting the Nixa Firemen that made the department's ladder truck available and manned for the last two days of the install. They were very helpful all three days and gave us free reign of the fire department for the install. We'd also like to thank Handyman Rentals of Nixa for renting us the Skyjack for 1/2 price for the install on day 3. We will be working out a schedule on when the station can be used in the near future. Visit www.nixahams.net for more pictures.

Field Day 2009—The Statistics

Every year our goal is the do better than last year. We met our goal! Armed with 2 SSB stations, a CW station, a 6m station and a GOTA station, we logged 712 CW contacts for 1424 points and 1027 SSB contacts for 1027 points. Our total QSO points was 2451. When you use the 150w or less and all emergency power multiplier of 2, we totaled 4,902 QSO points. We accumulated 970 total bonus points for

having an information table (100), 100% emergency power (300), media publicity for KOLR 10 coming by (100), set up in public place at fountain plaza (100), Natural power QSO's by Al Gallo (100), Site visited by served



Dave Beckler, N0SAP, carrying items in for the 2009 Field Day CW Station

agency official from Nixa Fire Dept (100), Youth participation (80), GOTA Bonus (40), and score submitted via web (50). This year's total score was 5872 points in the 3A category. Thank you EVER YONE that came out and set up, tore down and operated. We couldn't have done so well as a club without all your help.

Technical Committee Update

As mentioned earlier in the issue, the Technical Committee and other members of the club worked diligently to install the club's HF station at the Nixa Fire Department General HQ where we hold our club meetings and VE sessions.

Also during July, the Technical Committee went out to Cox South to look at the ailing Arcom RC-210 repeater controller. After doing much troubleshooting, the controller was removed and taken by James Adkins, KB0NHX, back to the office for troubleshooting and the RC-210 from the 927.5375 site, which also has problems, was installed. We did determine the audio whine is site specific as both controllers have the same problem at Cox and the removed controller did not exhibit the same problem on the workbench. We



Motorola MSR-2000 Backup 145.270 Repeaters

plan on removing the Duracomm switching supplies and installing an Astron RM-50M linear supply to determine if the problem is noise from the power supplies or not. The Arcom RC-210 that was removed from the site was shipped back to Ken Arck, AH6LE, for repairs as the COR and CTCSS logic is working intermittently. With

the current Arcom RC-210 in use, port 2 doesn't work and the 224.280 repeater is off the air temporarily. In the meantime, IRLP is connected to the 442.275 and those connections are working fine.

The MSR-2000 backup repeaters were completed, too. It is wired up to use either an RC-210 or any CAT controller. Or, if no external controller is available, the bottom MSR-2000 (bottom of pic to left) utilizes the internal MSR-2000 control equipment as a stand alone repeater. These will serve as rock-solid backups for the 145.270 repeater during any failure of the current Motorola Micor repeater. The CAT-250 controller was also programmed and used to test this repeater in preparation for replacing the oft troublesome Arcom RC-210 controllers.

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)

442.275 / 447.275 PL 162.2 Hz

33-Centimeters (Republic)

927.5375 / 902.5375 PL 162.2 Hz

June / July 2009 Treasury Report

June 2009—Start Balance \$2372.67

Debits:

Repeaters: \$1143.83

HF Station: \$1342.55

Field Day: \$ 126.60

Postage: \$ 13.19

Total Debits: \$2626.17

Deposits:

Dues: \$ 144.00

Donations: \$1008.00

Unknown: \$ 142.00

Total Credits: \$1294.00

End Balance: \$1040.50

July 2009—Start Balance \$1040.50

Debits:

Repeaters: \$ 172.61

HF Station: \$ 639.07

Field Day: \$ 234.61

Incorporation fee \$ 10.00

Total Debits: \$1056.29

Deposits:

Donations: \$ 500.00

Dividend: \$ 4.56

Total Credits: \$ 504.56

Ending Balance: \$ 488.77

Member Spotlight

Chris Cochran, KB0WZC, has served as the club President since the club's inception. Without Chris, the club HF station would not be installed today. He spent hours atop the Fire Department Ladder Truck 75' in the air. Chris has spent uncounted hours keeping our IRS, State of Missouri, and other avenues up to date so the club can receive monetary and equipment donations. Chris made it possible for himself and other members of the club that work at McKesson to obtain \$1,000 yearly

when they participate in club events and serve as club officers. He assists all officers in their jobs and is always behind the scenes doing the boring "paperwork" that keeps the club going. Chris works annually on the Nixa Bike Ride, Field Day, Sucker Days, and the Tour de Cure. He also assists the club's Technical Committee by climbing towers to do the work "high in the sky". Thanks, Chris, for all you do and for being a great club leader!



Chris Cochran, KB0WZC, 50' in air installing HF antennas

We're on Yahoo!

Nixahams@yahoogroups.com

Nixa Amateur Radio Club, Inc. (KC0LUN)
P.O. Box 467
Nixa, MO 65714-0467

Website: <http://www.nixahams.net>
E-mail: kc0lun@nixahams.net
VE Team Contact: testing@nixahams.net
Website contact: webmaster@nixahams.net

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, KCØSQB, have two daughters, Jordan, KCØSQC, 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 has 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