

**Nixa Amateur  
Radio Club,  
Inc.**

# Open Mic!

**Volume 2; Issue 2**

**February 2009**

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## January Meeting Wrap-Up

This month, it was back to normal. A large crowd of 25 showed up for this month's meeting. Four people showed up for testing this month. Mark Schiefelbein upgraded to Extra, and we had a whole family, the Lyford's, get their tickets. Congratulations to all!

As an update to the HF station, Chris Cochran, KB0WZC, announced that we were declined the \$5,000 grant from McKesson for the station, but we did receive the full \$1,500 grant request to the Nixa Community Foundation, to be received the evening of February 19th from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the annual banquet. Cost is \$15 for the catered banquet if you are interested in going. It was a great event last year!

In December, James Adkins, KB0NHX, received a donated

Compaq ProLiant server for the club to use for the Echo-Link station. Chris Cochran was able to obtain a donated copy of Microsoft Server 2003 for the machine, and it is currently being used for the Echo-Link node at Chris's house until it can be installed at the site with the wireless Internet.

James Adkins volunteered to assist with the sale of surplus club property. This is something that we've been discussing for over a year, and now the time has come. So far we have sold several Midland radios & accessories, the NoMic and AMI-2 digital mode interfaces, a Yaesu FT-2600M, the old 224.280 Motorola Micor, and the old 444.275 Motorola repeater. The intention is that the funds from the sale go to the Nixa ARC HF station project to supplement funds received from the Nixa Community Foundation grant.

We will be holding the 2009 Sucker Days special event station on Saturday, May 17, 2009. Jim Adkins, KCOIYI, and Dave Beckler, N0SAP, are handling the negotiating of the space and acquiring the PR materials for the general public and putting together an HF / VHF/UHF station for the event. We will be asking you to volunteer to come out and man the booth for 2-hour time slots, so please plan to help out. We will need 2 people at the event at all times. You can come for more than 2 hours if you like.

The February meeting will be held on Saturday, February 28, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. and the special presentation will be "Introduction to Skywarn" by Jeff Morrissey, KB0WVVT. This will be a very special presentation by an experienced spotter. We welcome you to invite any friends that are not hams. 73!

## Laura L. Smith Named to Amateur Radio Enforcement Role

Laura L. Smith of Pennsylvania has been named by the FCC to fill the vacancy created when Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, retired in 2008 as Special Counsel for the Spectrum Enforcement Division of the FCC's Enforcement Bureau. Hollingsworth served in

that position for more than 10 years as the FCC's enforcement watchdog over the Amateur Radio Service.

A 1990 graduate of the Pepperdine University School of Law, Smith began her legal career with the FCC, working in the Mass Media Bureau and Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. She also served as

Deputy Division Chief of the Public Safety and Private Wireless Division. Smith is currently licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

In 1998, Smith left the FCC to become Executive Director of Governmental Affairs for the Industrial Telecommunications Association (ITA), now Enterprise Wireless Alliance.

# 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

## Laura L. Smith Named to Amateur Radio Enforcement Role (Continued from Pg 1)

In that role, she monitored FCC and legislative proceedings and participated in all regulatory proceedings relevant to the private wireless industry. In 2001, Smith became ITA's President and Chief Executive Officer. While in that position, she was instrumental in the formation of the Consensus Group, a group of public safety and private wireless entities responsible for drafting the "Consensus Plan," a proposed resolution for interference in the 800 MHz band; this was adopted by the FCC in 2004.

Smith returns to the FCC after serving Of Counsel with the Maryland law firm of Shulman Rogers. While there, she dealt with telecommunications matters and provided counsel to numerous entities in the private radio and public safety communities. Smith has served as an industry consultant and written columns for a variety of trade publications including *Mobile Radio Technology Magazine* and *The Private Wireless Magazine*.

In an October 2008 letter to then-FCC Chairman Kevin Martin, ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, urged Mar-

tin to name a successor to Hollingsworth: "The appointment of a replacement Special Counsel in this position is of critical importance to the Amateur Radio Service, as the delay in finalizing the appointment stands to undermine in very short order an exceptionally successful and low-cost program of enforcement in the Amateur Service."



Calling the FCC's Amateur Radio enforcement program "spectacularly successful," Harrison reminded Martin of the "long period in the late 1980s and 1990s during which the Commission was essentially uninvolved in enforcement in the Amateur Service. The Amateur Service, consisting of some 680,000 licensees of the Commission, is in essence a self-regulating service; however, due to the shared frequency allocations in the Service and the long distance propagation of amateur communications, a very few rule violators can cause severe disruption in the Service. On the other hand, even a minimal Commission presence has a very strong deterrent value."

When Hollingsworth was appointed as Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement, Harrison said that Hollingsworth "established a visible presence in the Service and very quickly, and with very little investment of Commission resources, using little more than the awareness of an enforcement presence, created strong deterrence against rule violations."

Upon learning of Smith's move to the Amateur Radio enforcement role, Harrison remarked that he was "very pleased to see the Commission move forward with the hiring of a new Special Counsel responsible for enforcement of the Amateur Radio Service rules," said Harrison. "Ever since Riley Hollingsworth announced his retirement, we have met with the Enforcement Chief numerous times and corresponded with FCC Chairman Martin to ensure this position remains intact at FCC. The Commission acknowledges the self-regulating environment we maintain, but also understands that we need their assistance occasionally to resolve a few situations. They have continually reassured us that this is an important matter for them, and Ms Smith's hiring confirms that."

## Technical Committee Update

January was a slow month for the technical committee.

We continue to make strives to improve the 900 MHz wireless Internet link at Cox Hospital. Localized interference continues to cause the link to drop off on occasion. As weather arises, Jeremy Tannehill, KC0UJZ, plans a trip to the top of the hospital to reorient the antenna to allow us line of sight to our access point. We hope this allow us to have a rock solid Internet connection at the site.

In addition, Jeremy plans to make an adjustment to the controller that will make the "deep and raspy" sounding audio turn into nice "crisp and clear" audio. Weather did not permit this change to be made in January, but we anticipate it to be complete in Febru-

ary. This will help audio sound better on both the 224.280 and 442.275 repeaters.

The frequency change of the 444.275 to 442.275 continues to work well. We have no complaints from other repeater owners. We are also noticing that the receiver is working much better now that it is not being bom-



*Pic of the 442.275 & 224.280 repeaters mocked up at KB0NHX's house*

barded by the STL transmitter, which was near 449.275. We have 60 more days and if all goes well, we will make the frequency change permanent.

Planning for the club HF station continues to take place as well. When the grant is funded, Jeff Kerr, KC0VGC, will be purchasing the equipment from the grant for the HF station. Look for masts and antennas, coax, and other misc. hardware to start showing up in the coming months.

Chris Cochran, KB0WZC, has also been trialing our 5.7 GHz wireless Internet radio to be used at the 145.270 repeater site for EchoLink. We hope to install this connection at the site later this spring.

## 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

## Member Spotlight . . .

Jeff Kerr, KC0VGC, was originally licensed in October 2005 at the SMARC hamfest.

Jeff finds himself active on many bands. He enjoys ragchewing with local hams on the 442.275, 224.280 and 927.5375 repeaters. He can most often be found on FM on the 53.270, where he co-NCS's the "The 6-meter net" on Monday nights at 8:00 p.m. Jeff also fills in as NCS on the Thursday night NARC Net on the 145.270 repeater.

## January 2009 Treasury Report

**Beginning Balance: \$ 254.69**

### Credits:

\$ 175.00 Sale of RC-210 to SSARC  
 \$ 180.00 ARRL Testing Fees  
 \$ 24.00 New Member dues \$139.29  
 \$ 100.00 Sale of Syntech II cables  
 \$ 200.00 Payment for sale of old  
 224.280 Micor

\$ 679.00 Total Credits

**Ending Balance: \$ 457.90**

### Debits:

\$100.50 Purchase Router & UPS batteries for Cox South site  
 Purchase LAN cable, conn, and arrestors for Internet radios  
 \$180.00 Payment to ARRL for VE testing at OMAR hamfest  
 \$ 56.00 Repeater related parts

\$475.79 Total Debits

Jeff also enjoys HF SSB and digital operations from his home station, which includes his prize rig, a Yaesu FT-920, and a Yaesu FT-450.

Jeff is the Nixa ARC secretary, and is vital to club operations. He is involved in all activities and works with other local ham groups to promote area wide ham activities. Keep it up Jeff, your hard work is appreciated!



*Jeff Kerr, KC0VGC's, Home station*

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](mailto:kc0lun@nixahams.net)  
VE Team Contact: [testing@nixahams.net](mailto:testing@nixahams.net)  
Website contact: [webmaster@nixahams.net](mailto: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](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, KCØSQA, 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](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)