

**Nixa Amateur  
Radio Club,  
Inc.**

# Open Mic!

**Volume 2; Issue 1**

**January 2009**

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## December Meeting Wrap-Up

This month, we met at the house of Dave Beckler, NOSAP, and his wife Gay, for the club's annual Christmas get together. We would call it a meeting, but no real business took place.

We had a good turnout of 31 people and spent two hours eating some great food, talking about ham radio, and operating Dave's great station. James French, KC0TQD, was one person who took advantage of Dave's wonderful antenna array when he brought in his newly acquired Kenwood TS-520. In addition, Jeff Kerr, KC0VGC, could be found working local 6-meter enthusiast Kevin Cox, WB0OSP, on 50.125 SSB.

The "meal" consisted of some of Dave's famous Gumbo along with ham and some nice yeast rolls. Of course, the desert

was the main course (hi hi!). Deserts abounded as people enjoyed a nice leisurely evening with friends. James French, KC0TQD, also brought his Icom T91-AD with D-Star chip for everyone to see and hear, and James Adkins, KB0NHX, brought in his 900 MHz Motorola GTX portable so the 927.5375 repeater could be demonstrated.

While the adults mingled, the kids enjoyed a viewing of Shrek 2 on the big screen TV in the basement, across the hall from what we'll call "The Shack."

Club President, Chris Cochran, KB0WZC, announced that we have been approved to receive a grant from the Nixa Community Foundation in the amount of \$1,500.00 for the purchase of antennas, feedline, masts and other accessories for the Club's HF station. With this

grant, the club should be able to get the HF station completed to the point that all we need is radios. At least now we will be able to bring a radio in and operate if needed and when we want to. Future plans are to operate the up and coming Winter Field Day from the EOC and possibly make the station available to club members for use before the club meetings for a couple of hours.

Once the equipment is purchased, we plan on having several days of work scheduled to install the station. A special thanks to the HF committee last year for laying the ground work and showing everyone in the City of Nixa that we are serious about providing this service in the Nixa EOC. Without that awareness, this grant may not have been a success.

73's!

## What's coming in 2009???

2009 will hopefully prove to be a year of change for the Nixa ARC. This year the focus will be on HF. Many of the club's members have upgraded and are starting to dabble in HF. So, we will start having some 20 to 30 minute sessions during the meeting focusing on things of a more technical na-

ture. In January, we're going to do an "Introduction to digital modes". This presentation will provide you with some of the equipment needed and talk about some of the different digital HF modes. In February, we will have a weather symposium by Jeff Morrissey, KB0WVT, getting us ready for

severe weather season. In March, we'll cover digital HF a little more in depth with "HF Digital Modes in Operation". In April, we'll cover "Constructing a small footprint HF antenna". In May, we'll look at one of the newer HF rigs and our topic will be "HF Operating: What are all those

# 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

## What's coming in 2009??? (Continued from Page 1)

buttons and menus for?" In addition, we'll introduce Field Day 2009 with a bang and review last years event and begin discussions about this years event. In June, we'll finalize our Field Day 2009 setup and also discuss "Field Day Operations, Contesters, Setup and PR". The first half of the year will cap off with Field Day 2009 on Saturday and Sunday, June 27 & 28. And, we can't



forget that June is the annual "Tour de Cure" bicycle ride fundraiser for the American Diabetes Association. The past 2 years, we have participated in this event and provided communications for the event.

If you are already a General or Extra class license holder, and haven't gotten your feet wet in HF, this series will be a great primer to get

you ready to go on the air. Or, if you haven't upgraded yet, you can always upgrade at one of the VE testing sessions held just before the monthly meetings at 4:30 p.m. Testing is held at the same place as the meetings, so it is really convenient to come test, then stick around for the meeting. With the club HF station coming up in 09, as well, you'll want to be prepared to operate on HF and start learning now before the solar cycle upswing goes into full force.

## Did you know . . . .

Chris Cochran, KB0WZC, is the primary webmaster of the Nixa ARC website, [www.nixahams.net](http://www.nixahams.net). The site, is also administered by Jeff Kerr, KC0VGC, Jeff Morrissey, KB0WVT, and James Adkins, KB0NHX. Recently, several changes have been made, and more are coming. We have updated the website with the 2009 meeting dates, net control operator schedule for the Thursday Night NARC net, and

changed the information on the IRLP page and donor recognition page. Information about the club's repeaters and projects will be made in the near future and the Links page is in the process of being completely rebuilt. If you have any favorite ham related links you'd like included on the website, send an e-mail to web-

master@nixahams.net and we'll be sure and add them to the list.



Banner for the Nixa ARC website

Thank you to Chris and everyone that helps keep the website up to date with current information.

## Technical Committee Update

As is customary, December always proves to be a busy month for the Nixa ARC Technical Committee.

This month, the bulk of the work was done at Cox Hospital. The project was three-fold. First, we wanted to see if we could "lose" the interference by changing frequencies. After looking at the spectrum and talking to state frequency coordinator Bryon Jeffers, K0BSJ, we found that 442.275 / 447.275 was a clear pair. Since the interference was nearly un-noticeable that low in the band, we decided to re-program the Motorola CDM-750 UHF radios to operate on that frequency. With that complete, we then installed the new TX RX 28-66-02A that were donated to the club. The new duplexers will allow us to add an external amplifier in the future. The current duplexers would not allow for an output of more

than 50-Watts. In addition, the new duplexers give us 96 dB of isolation between the transmit & receive frequencies, up from about 75 dB with the old duplexers. This will also help our receiver hear weak signals better.

Lastly, we installed the IRLP computer at the tower site. Jeff Kerr, KC0VGC, had already installed the Linux operating system and IRLP board in the computer. The UHF link yagi and radios



900 MHz Motorola Canopy wireless Internet radio

were removed and will be used for a 6-meter remote receive site. In its place, a 900 MHz yagi and Motorola Canopy wireless Internet radio were installed. If this trial goes well, we will also try the wireless Internet for EchoLink at the 145.270 site. James Adkins, KB0NHX, made the IRLP to Arcom RC-210 interface cable. The club had to purchase a Linksys router for the site. In addition, Randy Jordan, KC0UKB, donated an APC Back-UPS PRO-1000 UPS to power the UHF repeater, computer, router and internet radio to hold us over until the generator kicks on. Fresh batteries were purchased and installed and should provide us with 3 to 6 years of service.

Thanks to everyone that made these projects a success!

## 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

## December 2008 Treasury Report

**Beginning Balance: \$1,056.68**

### Credits:

\$ 12.00 Dues  
\$ 1.24 Dividend

### Debits:

\$ 815.23 Repeater items

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\$ 13.24 Total Credits

\$815.23 Total Debits

**Ending Balance: \$ 245.69**

## Member Spotlight . . . . .

Dave Beckler, N0SAP, was originally licensed as WN5SAP at 12 yoa and let his license expire for nearly 32 years before re-obtaining it in December 2004 as KC0TLF. He then became WA0SAP, which led to N0SAP.

Today, Dave enjoys assisting with the club's monthly VE testing sessions, and is active with the club's upcoming HF station. Dave can normally be found on HF CW, his

favorite mode, where him and Fred Bell, N0LU, enjoy kicking the SSB guys rear ends every year at Field Day!

His favorite rig is his Kenwood TS-830 and his antenna farm consists of Mosely Pro 67 HF beam, a 160-meter dipole, a 6-meter beam. He plans to install a homebrew 30-meter beam and 80-meter delta loop in 2009.

Thanks for all you do, Dave!



Dave Beckler's N0SAP, radio console

**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 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)