

**Nixa Amateur
Radio Club,
Inc.**

Open Mic!

Volume 2; Issue 5

May 2009

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April Meeting Wrap-Up

This month, Chris Cochran, KB0WZC; Jeff Morrissey, KB0WVT; and Jeff Kerr, KC0VGC, were all out of town for work. James Adkins, KB0NHX, conducted the meeting.

We had 22 people in attendance this month, and had a good VE testing session with two new licensees and two upgrades.

This month, we brought in all the equipment we have gotten so far for the club's HF station. The Penninger masts, Iota power supply, Tigertronics Signalink USB, coaxial Polyphasers, KU4UB SQ-50 Squalo antennas for 6-meter SSB, Belden RG-213 and Andrew FSJ4-50b heliax were passed around for review. Plans are to add Vibroplex or Bencher straight key and iambic paddle, or a combination of both. We

told the membership of the pending grants with Best Buy for a logging computer and the ARRL for radios. We hope to obtain a Yaesu FT-450 and FT-8900 at the least and possibly another mid to high end HF + 6-meter rig. We hope by the next meeting to have an answer on both grants.

We also talked about the upcoming club events. We had two more people sign up for the Nixa Bike Ride communications event, putting us up to 13. We still need about 7 more people to participate to have the coverage necessary for this event. If you can volunteer for a rest stop or sag vehicle, please e-mail kb0nhx@nixahams.net. This is an excellent opportunity to give back to the community that has given so much to us the last couple of years.

We also garnered two more volunteers for the Sucker Days special event station on May 16. If anyone can come out to set up, tear down or man the booth during the evening hours, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., we need volunteers for those times.

We also talked about Field Day. We will have the MSHP mobile command bus this year for the event. It is supposed to be completely renovated before field day this year. We plan to have two SSB stations and a CW station this year. Dean Gaines, KC0SQD, will speak with J.T. Brown about obtaining the use of Fountain Plaza for the event again this year.

Lastly, we congratulated Jeff Morrissey, KB0WVT, and Jim Sellars, N0UAM, for their great Skywarn PR video on KSPR33.

Clyburn Named New FCC Commissioner

On Wednesday, April 29, President Barack Obama [announced](#) his intention to nominate Mignon L. Clyburn of South Carolina as an FCC Commissioner. If her nomination is approved by Congress, Clyburn will fill the seat of Democrat Jonathan Adelstein. Adelstein is [leaving the FCC](#) to head up the Department of

Agriculture's Rural Utilities Service ([RUS](#)).

Clyburn, the daughter of House Majority Whip Representative James Clyburn (D-SC), has served on the [Public Service Commission of South Carolina](#) since 1998. The Public Service Commission regu-

lates South Carolina's investor owned public utilities, including providers of telecommunications services. Before her election to that body, she spent 14 years as the publisher and general manager of *The Coastal Times*, a weekly newspaper in Charleston, South Carolina.

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

Clyburn Named New FCC Commissioner (Continued)

In 1998, Clyburn was elected by the South Carolina General Assembly as a Commissioner to represent the Sixth Congressional District; she has been re-elected three times, chairing the Commission from 2002-2004. She is a past chair of the Southeastern Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, and is presently the chair of the Washington Action Committee of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC). Clyburn also serves on NARUC's Audit Committee and Utilities Market Access Partnership Board.



Calling Clyburn a "fine public servant," Obama said Clyburn was "a welcome addition to my team as we work to put America on a path towards prosperity and keep our nation safe. I am honored [Clyburn] will be joining my administration and look forward to working with [her] in the months and years ahead."

Acting FCC Chairman Michael Copps congratulated Clyburn, saying, "She is an excellent choice, and the experience she brings from her service

on South Carolina's Public Service Commission will be an invaluable asset as we address the many challenges and opportunities that are before us. I wish her a successful Senate confirmation and look forward to working with her over the coming months and years in serving consumers and the public interest."

Clyburn graduated from the University of South Carolina with a Bachelor of Science degree in Banking, Finance & Economics in 1984.

Sucker Days May 16, 2009 — Showing the community ham radio

The second-annual Nixa ARC "Sucker Days special event station will be Saturday, May 16, 2009. Jim Adkins, KC0IYI, is heading the event this year.

We should have a better location this year, directly across from the PD, Fire and Emergency Management booths. We will be on the East side of Main St, and just the 3rd booth north of Hwy 14. We will have stations on 6-meters, 2-meters and UHF and hope to

try out the club's new HF station antennas.

We volunteers from 7:30 to 11:00 and 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. If you can work the station and greet



Dean Gaines, KC0SQD, at the helm at the First Annual Sucker Days Special Event station in May 2008

the public, we need two people there at all times. Setup will begin around 6:30 to 7:00 a.m. on Saturday and tear down at the end of the event, about 8:30 p.m. that same day. This was a fun event last year, despite the lack of contacts due to our poor location.

To volunteer for the event, send a quick e-mail to sucker-days@nixahams.net

Technical Committee Update

April was a quiet month for the Nixa ARC technical committee. No work was done at any of the repeater sites this month.

We spent time observing the changes and continuing problems at the Cox South Hospital site's Arcom RC-210 repeater controller used on the 442.275 and 224.280 repeaters and the IRLP node.



Compaq ProLiant DL-380, Gen 2 Echolink Server

We've noticed that when you are talking on one repeater, and the other repeater ID's, the audio from one repeater goes out on the other repeater. We've also noticed that it is only linking and unlinking properly intermittently on Thursday nights for the nets. Recently, the repeater has begun ID'ing on the IRLP node, which is not gener-

ally acceptable on IRLP. We are looking into the possibility of replacing this controller with a more reliable, stable CAT controller. Calls and e-mails to the company and e-mails to the RC-210 reflector still leave us with unresolved questions and people scratching their heads.

James Adkins, KB0NHX, and Thad Huff, KC0AQG, are working on a special project for the 53.270 6-meter repeater. With requests pending for our Northwest receiver site near Nevada and our Southwest receiver site near Joplin, we have been looking at commercially built amplifiers to up the 53.270 repeater. None are produced that meet our specifications, so we are designing a single Eimac 8877 tube amplifier that will be capable of 2kw continuous duty on FM. This amplifier will be well engineered and should provide us with many great years of operation. It will have protection devices built in so that it will protect itself during icing or bad antenna conditions. Several parts have already been obtained for the project, including the tube, which costs about \$1200 new.

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

April 2009 Treasury Report

Beginning Balance: \$2,528.62

Credits:

\$ 3.16	Dividend	\$ 22.00	Misc. Donations	\$ 250.00	McKesson Donation	\$ 108.00	Membership dues	\$ 60.00	Reimbursement from
							Comm Fnd dinner		
\$ 200.00	Payment for 220 Micor	\$ 537.49	Sale of club surplus property						

Debits:

\$ 95.03	Monitor & keyboard for EchoLink PC @ 145.270	\$ 538.43	Penninger mast & hardware for HF station	\$ 627.56	Purchase crystals for backup 145.270, new exciter radios for 224.280, voter hardware for 6m and shipping, paypal and e-bay fees for surplus sale	\$ 22.94	Linksys Router for Cox Hospital site	\$ 157.40	KU4UB 6m SSB antennas for club HF station	\$ 325.00	Wireless Internet radio for 145.270 site	\$ 49.98	Serial Port card for 2m site and router for 6m
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\$1,180.65 Total Credits

\$1,816.34 Total Debits

Ending Balance: \$1,892.33

Member Spotlight

Kevin Hunter, KA0I, is a charter member of the Nixa Amateur Radio Club. Kevin went in with James Adkins and Chris Cochran to purchase the heliack for the 145.270 repeater. Even though Kevin now resides in Holt's Summit, MO, he retains his membership yearly. Kevin is now an electronics technician for the Missouri Highway Patrol bomb squad and special services. He enjoys homebrewing a plethora of HF antennas for his station. He works both SSB and CW from his home station.

Kevin just obtained 3 acres behind his house and is clearing off some of the brush and trees for his newest antenna farm.

Kevin is helping the club out now by transporting the 220 MHz Motorola Micor repeater we sold to Dayton to meet the new owner for us.

Kevin has been and remains an avid supporter of the club and all our projects. Thanks Kevin!



Kevin Hunter, KA0I

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

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