

**Nixa Amateur
Radio Club,
Inc.**

Open Mic!

Volume 2; Issue 11

November 2009

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- October meeting wrap-up
- Presidential election in November
- Tour de Bass—success!
- Local Nets of Interest
- Member Spotlight - John Kreymer—NSLKM
- Treasurer's Report
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October Meeting Wrap-Up

Chris Cochran, KB0WZC, called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. Chris started by thanking everyone that was involved with the Tour de Bass bike ride. It was a great time, and a great test of everyone's ability to test their emergency setups at the rest stops. Event coordinators said "we'll never coordinate another bicycle ride event without including amateur radio. You have no idea how easy you guys make communicating look." Chris then filled in for James Adkins, KB0NHX, who could not attend tonight and gave a few technical updates. He announced that James has completed the new fan control unit for Cox South to control our cooling fans. He also gave a quick update on the Bext T1500 that James and Thad Huff, KCOAQG, are working modifying for the 6-meter ham band. Hopes are in the next month to be able to fire it up

and make RF. James and Jeff Kerr, KCOVGC, participated in a phone conference with City Utilities and Greene County OEM about the use of their East TRS site for a local 6-meter receiver. The proposal was well received. We now have power supplies and cabinets for the Milo and Granby 6-meter receive sites. Lastly, Art Trampler, K0RO, tested the club HF station out in the Region D ARES exercise. It received well, but wouldn't tune up on the Missouri Traffic Net frequency. Some antenna tuning will have to be done.

Jeff Morrissey, KB0WVT, in his Halloween costume and all, then gave the treasurer's report, which can be viewed later in this newsletter.

This year's field day video, produced by Jeff Morrissey, KB0WVT, was then displayed and applauded. It can be viewed on the club website for those who missed it tonight.

John Bonnot, WB0LTE, would like to have some bumper stickers and embroidered shirts produced with the club logo. He has offered to take on this project. Look for more details in the near future.

A proposal brought to the club leaders by John Copelin, KC0QNM, and seconded by James Adkins, KB0NHX, was discussed to move the club meetings to the 2nd Saturday of each month. This would avoid all holidays and Field Day. The proposal was well received and we will be voting on it at the November meeting.

Lastly, nominations were made for the office of President of the Nixa ARC for the term 2010 through 2013. Jim Adkins, KC0YI, nominated Chris Cochran, KB0WZC, and Dean Gaines, KC0SQD, nominated James Adkins, KB0NHX. Election will be held at our November meeting at Pizza Hut in Nixa at RT CC and US 160.

Tour de Bass—a successful exercise in amateur radio communications

On a beautiful Saturday in late fall, members of the Nixa Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and the Greene County ARES joined forces to provide communications for the 2nd annual Tour de Bass bike rides around Springfield. Armed with 21 volunteers, almost 130 man hours were expended on the day of the event. A big hats off to all that participated and made the event

successful. The SAG coordinator said after the race that ". . .this was the first race I've ever used amateur radio communications and I'll never work a bike ride again without it!" Near the end of the race, a rider got off course. Utilizing radio communications, she was able to be found quickly and directed back on course. The event coordinators were impressed with

how quickly we found the rider. We received nothing but praise for our professional demeanor and how well we handled a multitude of tasks at once flawlessly. During setup, the temperature was a cool 37 degrees, but later in the day, as the temperature reached near 65 degrees, the day turned out very enjoyable. The Ott's Pasta and Highland Dairy ice cream hit the

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
 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)
 145.270- 8:00 p.m. Missouri VoIP Net (162.2 Hz)
 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:

145.270- 8:00 p.m. Technology Net (162.2 Hz)
 146.910 - 8:00 p.m. SMARC Friday Night Net (100.0 Hz)

Saturdays:

(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

Tour de Bass—A successful exercise in amateur radio communications (continued)

spot (for those that got to eat it!).

For those working rest stops, it was a chance to set up their temporary base stations and break out their portable radios for the event. Both the 145.270 and 442.275 repeaters worked flawlessly throughout the event. Most rest stops were able to simply rely on portable communications for the event, even though some stations were as far as 25 miles from the repeater site.



Our SAG operators got to meet quite a few different people. They were able to ride in the cars of the SAG drivers and utilize their power ports and a magnet mount antenna to communicate during the event.

Net control was set up inside the old K-Mart building just west of Bass Pro Shop. During setup, we were skeptical that we would be able to communicate to the 145.270 repeater from inside

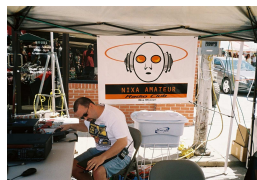
the building with a metal roof. After setting up, we found that 5-Watts and the GP-1 dual band antenna was more than enough to communicate through both repeaters.

As we were tearing down net control, the event coordinators were doing their debriefing. The value and worth of the amateur radio operators providing communications for the event was continually reiterated. The SAG coordinator said "he would never lose our e-mail the rest of his life" and "we were welcome to provide the communications for their bike events anytime we could". Thanks again for everyone that volunteered for the event. You made a great impression on everyone for yourselves and amateur radio.

Nixa ARC Presidential Election slated for November club meeting

November is the club's annual "Thanksgiving" meeting. This year, it is Saturday, November 28, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at the Nixa Pizza Hut, the place where it all began. The club used to meet at Pizza Hut until we outgrew the party room. This year, we will be voting on two issues. First, we will be voting for the next President of the Nixa ARC. The two nominees are Chris Cochran, KB0WZC, our current

President seeking re-election, and James Adkins, KB0NHX, the club's current Vice-President. Jim Adkins, KC0IYI, said "With all the projects going on, and as well as the club officers work together, I feel like



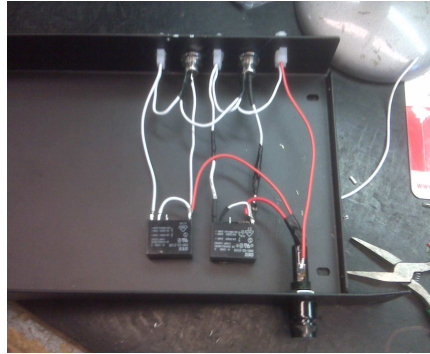
Chris Cochran, KB0WZC, has served as club President since the club's inception in December 2001

we don't need to change anything." In addition to the club President vote, we will also be voting to change our club's meetings in 2010 to the **second Saturday of each month** instead of our current date, the last Saturday of each month. If you cannot attend the meeting and would like to vote by

proxy, email officials@nixahams.net

Technical Committee Update

This month, James Adkins, KB0NHX, built the new Fan Control Unit for the Cox South repeater site for use with the new SCOM 7330 controller slated to be installed later this year. The unit uses a couple of relays and diodes to provide power for the fans for the 442.275 and 224.280 repeaters. When a logic high is fed to the Fan Control assembly from the controller, the relay energizes and passes 12vdc to activate the fans. After repeater activity ceases, the fans quit running.



Fan Control unit for Cox South site

James Adkins, KB0NHX and Jeff Kerr, KC0VGC, participated in a teleconference with members of the Springfield / Greene County TRS technical committee and Greene County Emergency Management to gain permission to install a remote receiver on their tower near Hwy 125 and Division Street and

to make upgrades on the cabling at Republic allowing us to run the club's Bext T-1500, 1500w broadcast amplifier that James and Thad Huff, KC0AQG, are modifying for the 6-meter ham band. With permission to

install receivers near Nevada, MO and Joplin, MO, we could have permission to move forward as early as December once we have funds for a structural analysis to be completed. Radios, feedline, antennas, and grounding equipment have been procured for this installation.

Chris Cochran, KB0WZC, went to the HF station and hung up the club 100 plaque, along with some other details about operating the station.

Art Trampler, K0RO, tested out the HF station by participating in the Region D ARES drill. Though the antenna could not transmit on the upper portion of 80m, we now know there is more work to be done. He was able to hear stations in Lebanon, Joplin and Springfield even though the antenna hasn't been tuned. Art was impressed with the very low noise floor at our HF station site. Thanks Art!

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

October 2009 Treasury Report

October 2009—Starting Balance \$548.66

Debits:

Wal-mart—food for September club picnic	\$ 74.94
Wal-mart — Ice for September club picnic	\$ 5.92
QuikPrint—Club business cards / membership cards	\$ 55.00
Performance Audio—IU rack enclosure for Cox South site	\$ 43.92
Walmart—Items for club HF station	\$ 28.25
TOTAL DEBITS:	\$207.83

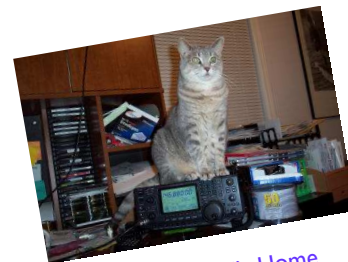
Credits:

Sale of club's Midland 70-3400B 2-meter mobile	\$ 95.00
Dividend	\$ 1.56
TOTAL CREDITS:	\$ 96.56
Ending Balance:	\$437.39

Member Spotlight

John Kreymer, N5LKM, was first licensed in 1987. Due to work and school, he was inactive until 2002 when he upgraded to General and Extra. John is a Doctoral-Level Clinical Neuro-Psychologist and is working toward his Advanced degree in Psychopharmacology. John likes operating HF digital modes on 40, 20, 17 and 10m, mainly PSK-31 and RTTY, and operates packet on 2m. He enjoys emergency and communications drills and is W5YI and ARRL VE certified and helps the club hold

their monthly VE testing sessions. John has an Icom 746 for HF, and uses his DX-70 for 6m, a Yaesu FT-5100 for 2m and 70cm, a Yaesu FT-1500 for packet, and a Motorola Spectra for 900 MHz FM. John became interested in ham radio as a teen when a friend's father introduced him to HF radio and phone patches. John also operates mobile HF and 2m/70cm and has a portable laptop PC dedicated to "portable" HF data operations.



2002 Pic of N5LKM's Home station, an Icom-746



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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