

**Nixa Amateur
Radio Club,
Inc.**

Open Mic!

Volume 2; Issue 9

September 2009

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August Meeting Wrap-Up

Chris Cochran, KB0WZC, brought the July meeting to order shortly after 6:00 p.m. We had 15 people present for the meeting .

Jeff Morrissey, KB0WVT, and James Adkins, KB0NHX, were unable to make the meeting. The treasurer's report was read by officers on hand and can be viewed in its entirety later in the newsletter.

C.A.R.S. (Convoy of Hope ARS) is wanting to use the club's linked repeater system for a weekly net. We will have more details on the proposed date and time later. Their meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Convoy of Hope office in Springfield. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

The club sold both of the Arcom RC-210s, one was on the 927.5375 repeater and the other at Cox South Hospital. To replace the Cox South controller, we purchased an S-COM 7330 controller. It should be much more reliable than the Arcom. The club received letters from Verizon acknowledging our presence both at the 145.270 site and the Cox South site. We will not be losing either site with their buyout of Alltel.

We have been asked to provide communications for the 2nd annual Tour de Bass bike ride in and around Springfield. We will need approximately 30 volunteers for this event. If you would like to participate, contact James Adkins at kb0nhx@nixahams.net. More details to follow soon.

The club has several items for

sale. We have 3 Motorola Syntora X9000 100w, 32ch VHF radios for sale with remote control heads and all accessories for \$75.00 each. We also have a Midland 70-0520CWB 6-meter radio, 100-w with 320 channels and built in crossband repeater for \$75. Also have a 40w Midland 70-3400B 2-meter mobile for sale for \$50. These have all accessories (except 2m doesn't have mounting bracket for radio) and have all been ham modified and programmed. E-mail kc0lun@nixahams.net if interested.

Art Trampler, K0RO, would like to get a group together to go to K5GO to work the CQWW contest in October / November. Will have more details on that soon. He also would like to start a slow-speed CW net, not on 2m FM. More info on that soon as well.

See you in September!

Upcoming Club Events & Activities

Fall is shaping up to be a busy time for the Nixa Amateur Radio Club & its members!

The September club meeting is not really a meeting at all, but our annual club picnic. This year, the picnic will be at the Nixa Fire Department General

HQ in the open area behind the fire department. There is plenty of space for kids to roam around and play or for club members to set up portable and work some HF or VHF/UHF SSB. The picnic will be a BBQ event, like usual, with the club providing the hamburgers and hotdogs and

fixins' and the members bringing side dishes, drinks and desserts. During this event, we will also be feeding the firemen on duty as a thank you for their help with HF station install. In addition, everyone attending will be allowed to go inside and operate the club's HF station if they please. Jeff

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

Upcoming Club Events & Activities (continued)

Morrissey, KB0WVT, will also be showing his Field Day 2009 video that everyone MUST see!

In October, we will be providing communications for the 2nd annual Tour de Bass bike ride around Springfield. We need approximately 30 hams to provide communications at the rest stops along the way, act as net control, and operate sweep and sag vehicles. We need 2 people at each of 8 rest stops, 1 sweep and 1 sag for each



of 4 races, 2 net control operators, and a person with the event coordinator and 1 person with each of the two bicycle repair crews. If you are interested, contacted James Adkins, KB0NHX, by e-mail at kb0nhx@nixahams.net.

The October meeting is a very important one as we will be nominating a person for President of the Nixa ARC. The meeting will be back at the normal place, the Nixa Fire Department, at the normal time. November will be our Thanksgiving meeting, which will be at Pizza Hut in Nixa, located at

US 160 and RT CC. This year, we will be voting for the next President of the Nixa ARC from the list of nominees at the October meeting. The office of President serves for four years and you can visit www.nixhams.net and view the club's Constitution to see the responsibilities.

In December, we will be having our annual Christmas meeting. Last year the meeting was held at the house of Dave and Gay Beckler. With any luck, they'll allow us to have it there again so we can all drool over Dave's HF station and maybe even operate it! We hope to see all of you in the coming months as we look to have fun with ham radio!

Club Repeater Upgrades

So many things going on right now, it's hard to keep straight! The first changes you will notice are occurring at Cox Hospital. Verizon and Cox Hospital are making some major renovation changes in the equipment room. The remodel project should be done by the end of September. For now, we do not have the IRLP node or 224.280 repeater on the air. We will lose the 442.275 repeater for some time during

the next month, too, while upgrades and changes are being made in the room and to Verizon's equipment. When it's all said and done, we will gain a little more rack space and have a nice, neat install. We will be installing the new S-



Cox Hospital site in January 2009

COM 7330 controller with these upgrades as well, and are leaving room for 150-Watt amplifiers to be installed on the 442.275 and 224.280 repeaters. Currently, they machines hear much better than they get out. Goal is to have 100-W out of the duplexer, just like the 145.270, after duplexer and filter losses.

Technical Committee Update

In August, James Adkins, KB0NHX, and Jeremy Tannehill, KC0UJZ, spent most of their time working at the Cox South repeater site. The site is the home of the 442.275 and 224.280 repeaters, along with the IRLP node. The site has been a host of many problems due to the Arcom RC-210 controller. From unreliable operation to un-locatable and annoying whines, the Arcoms were finally removed from service. After being bench tested in James's office, the whining could not be duplicated. The club is using a CAT-250 controller on loan from James Adkins on the 442.275 repeater currently. This controller does not exhibit the problems or whine that the Arcoms did. The Technical Committee has decided that the whine was caused by the high RF environment on top of the hospital. Arcoms have been known to not operate correctly in high RF environments elsewhere. After



S-COM 7330 Controller for Cox South Site

much research, the club decided to purchase an S-COM 7330, 3-port repeater controller for the Cox site. This controller does all the Arcom RC-210 did and much more for just about \$15.00 more! Anyone interested in reading about this controller can visit www.scomcontrollers.com and click on the 7330 links.

Also in August, some more progress was made on the club's HF station. Chris Cochran, KB0WZC, has acquired the Keyspan USB to serial converter, serial cable, and a Tripp Light surge arrester to power the station's power supply. In addition, Art Trampler, K0RO, took it upon himself to acquire an amplifier for the HF station. The amplifier, donated by Ron Purkey, W9NUP, is a Trans World Communications TW500A Linear Amplifier. It runs off 120vac and has a black case to match the rest of the station. The amplifier needs the final's replaced on it, but Ron also donated new finals for the amplifier! Those at the August club meeting were able to look at the amplifier first hand and operate the club's HF station.

Watch for more updates on exciting club projects in coming months!

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

August 2009 Treasury Report

August 2009—Starting Balance \$488.77

Debits:

Shipping for HF Station TW-500A Amplifier	\$31.42
Envelopes & postage for club business	\$ 2.70
TOTAL DEBITS:	\$34.12

Credits:

Donation from Dean Gaines, KC0SQD	\$ 20.00
Refund from Dell	\$ 6.46
Sell of Arcom RC-210 on 927.5735 Repeater	\$268.86
K0RO Dues (less paypal fees)	\$ 11.44
TOTAL CREDITS:	\$306.55
Ending Balance:	\$761.20

Member Spotlight

Jeremy Tannehill, KC0UJZ, has been instrumental in all of the club's technical projects. Jeremy has been with Alltel / Verizon for nearly 15 years as a Field Technician. Jeremy and his wife, Penny, and 4 kids reside in Ozark. Jeremy is responsible for us getting our repeaters up at the 145.270, Cox South, and the 927.5375 repeater site in Republic. He helps set up and tear down each year at Field Day and helps not only keep the repeaters on the air but also make upgrades to the club's equipment.

Jeremy was instrumental in helping get the club's HF station installed back in July as well. Jeremy earned his ticket in May 2005 and is also active with the OMAR D-Star group in the area by helping them maintain their D-Star repeater, 146.775 MHz.

Thank you, Jeremy, for all you do for the club and all the countless hours spent working on the club's repeaters and communications projects!



Jeremy Tannehill, KC0UJZ, on right in tan shirt at Field Day 09



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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