

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Club Meeting wrap-up	1
How not to sell gear	1 & 2
Boy Scouts Class	3
This month <50MHz	4
Technical updates	6
Nixa Bike Ride	6
Club Information	7

Special points of interest:

- April meeting wrap-up
- How NOT to sell ham gear
- Boy Scouts Class
- Local Nets of Interest
- Below 50 Mhz . . .
- Technical Committee Report
- Nixa Bike Ride—Coming up!
- Treasurer's Report
- Club Contact Information

April Meeting Wrap-Up

Kent Doucey, N0IRM, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. with 10 people present. This was a busy weekend for amateur radio with the Mt. Vernon hamfest, the Titanic special event station, and OzarkCon going on in Branson! We appreciate those that chose to attend the meeting this month. Jeff Kerr, KC0VGC, then read the treasurer's report which can be seen later in the newsletter. Terry Zembsch, KC0SQE, reported we had 3 people take exams before the meeting and all passed. We licensed two new Technicians with one upgrade to Extra! Terry then reported on the Boy Scouts Merit Badge class he is organizing. We have 9 club members that have signed up to help. Thanks to everyone! There are 23 boys signed up for the event plus their parents. There is reportedly interest in pursuing licenses after the merit badge, so we may be calling on several of you to

help teach a Technician class for them. Jeff Kerr, KC0VGC, reported that EchoLink has been running in his basement for the last month with no issues and will be re-installed



Fun at the fall Nixa ARC picnic

as soon as possible. Arlen Evins, N6DDD, donated a high-power VHF amplifier to the club (commercial amp) in order to raise funds for the 53.270 remote receiver project. Thanks to Arlen and his wife! Kent also announced that the City of Nixa has

amended our agreement for water tower space to allow the 10-meter transmit and receive sites to be installed. We now will begin working with Verizon for space in their buildings. The controllers for the 927.5375 and 29.680 repeaters were purchased with grant monies as well. Currently, we have \$1700 of \$2825 needed set aside for the install of the 53.270 local receiver. Arlen & Marcia Evins and Gary Doucey were named to a committee to look at different fund raising ideas for the club.

The new Field Day location for 2011 was also discussed, as was the need for a club PIO to send out press releases on all the club's activities.

Look for some exciting ideas on the fundraising front coming soon, you won't want to miss out on this!

73,

How NOT to Sell Ham Radio Equipment

**By: Peter Sils,
KD0AA**

I came across a couple of pictures that truly illustrated how NOT to market your ham

equipment. I have seen so many of these type of photo's that I thought it would be prudent to outline a few basic steps in order to market your used

equipment effectively.

First, remove the equipment you are intending to market and clean it up if dusty or dirty. Ear buds and

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 6:30 p.m. Missouri Section CW Net
- 3.585 CW 9:45 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
- 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:

- 3.963 LSB 7:00 p.m. Region D ARES HF Net (SW MO area)
- 145.270 - 7:30 p.m. Nixa ARC Check-in Net (162.2 Hz)*
- 147.225 + 8:00 p.m. Greene County ARES Net
- 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)

Sundays:

- 146.775 - 8:00 p.m. SWMO D-Star Net (w/ wide area links)
- 147.345 + 9:00 p.m. Stone County ARES Net (162.2 Hz)

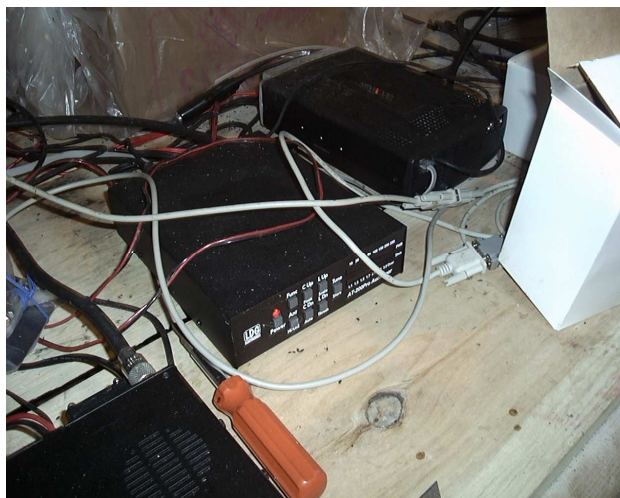
How NOT to Sell Ham Radio Equipment (continued)

compressed air work wonders for cleaning up dust and accumulated dirt. Armor All also works well in cleaning up painted surfaces.

Place it in suitable spot to be photographed so that the background is not distracting. Sometimes replacing the equipment to where it was originally positioned works.

It is also helpful to turn on the equipment to show that the display works if it is a transceiver.

The bottom line is to remember you are “marketing” your equipment and want to show



it in the best possible way. Take the time to do it well and you will be more successful in obtaining your asking

price.

The best sites I have found (and used) are:

<http://forums.qrz.com/forumdisplay.php?7-Ham-Radio-Gear-For-Sale>

<http://swap.qth.com/index.php>

<http://www.eham.net/classifieds/>

Boy Scouts Merit Badge Class—A Day of Fun!

By: Terry Zombsch, KC0SQE

Back in January, Kent Doucey, N0IRM, and James Adkins, KB0NHX, told me about Boy Scout Troop 200 in Nixa that needed some help teaching a radio merit badge class. Me being an old boy scout I jumped in with both feet. James put me in contact with Scott, one of the scout leaders from Troop 200. Scott told me about their troop and that they are the largest Boy Scout troop in the Ozarks Trails Counsel, which is a 31 county area in south central and south west Missouri. Scott invited me to talk to their group and to talk about ham radio.



Jim Young, WA6NFY, drawing out the radio spectrum for the boy scouts class

The next week I attended one of the weekly meetings. I spoke to about 35 boys about radio and all the cool things I have got to do with ham radio and about the Nixa Amateur Radio Club. The boys were very interested and eager to take the Radio Merit badge class, there were about 12 boys that wanted to take the class. The scout leader gave me the only 2 days they had available for us to teach the class. They are a very busy troop and they have something going every weekend all year long.

At the February club meeting, I told everyone about the class and that I thought it would be good for the club to help out Troop 200. I also brought up that this could get some younger people involved in the club. Everyone agreed and we picked April 23 for the class.

I then started asking for people to help teach the class. That was the easy part! We ended up getting Jim Young, WA6NFY; Jim Nicoll, WA0MBE; Jeff Morrissey, KB0WVT; Kent Doucey, N0IRM; Sean Baker KA0RZE, James Adkins,

them the basics on how it works. We had set requirements that we had to follow that were set up by the Boy Scout of America so that all boys, no matter where they take the class, get the same information out of the class. Everyone was well prepared and eager to teach their parts. I think they all did a wonderful job teaching and the boys went home knowing much more about radio.

The big hits were Warren's Highway Patrol van and talking on the radio. Kent got each boy on the club HF station. They were talking to a blind ham in Revo, Va. I was able to take most of the boys out to my truck so they could talk to Gary Doucey, N0IRN, in his camper at Stockton Lake. Jeff Morrissey, KB0WVT, taking about getting storm damage reports in Eastern Christian County during the severe weather the day before and Alan Du Brul, K0AWD, talking about being in his cruiser doing his job in Springfield were also big hits.

KB0NHX; Warren Reynolds, KD0ELT; Art Trampler, K0RO and myself, KC0SQE to teach the class. It worked out so everyone had a part and no one was overloaded.

On April 23, 2011, we had the class. It was a larger turnout than



we expected with 22 boys from Troop 200 in Nixa and 5 boys from the Battlefield Troop 216. The Radio Merit Badge class is a very basic radio class just to let the boys know what radio is and it teaches

Overall, the class was a big hit and I felt the club is better for teaching this radio Merit Badge class. There are several boys that are interested in getting their ham radio license.

Thank you, to everyone for all your hard work and help making this a big hit with the boys.

This Month Below 50 MHz

By: Kent Doucey, NOIRM

Well, it's been another great month for DXing, solar cycle 24 still seems to be alive and well. The first week of April conditions did fall slightly with the average sunspot numbers down around 34 points, it's easy to say this is down after some of the numbers recorded in recent weeks. The second week rebounded nicely though with numbers reaching a new high for cycle 24 on April 13 with the sunspot numbers reaching 153! I read where the last time this number was recorded to be higher was July 7th 2005! The last week of the month shows a slight decline but conditions are still very good. Be sure to take time to enjoy these great conditions!

It seemed our NARC reflector spots have been a little slower this month, they still reflect some higher frequency openings to support the reported conditions. Thanks to CW KC0VNT, Charlie K0LAF, Mark K0ABC, and Gary NOIRM for their spots. I hope I didn't miss anyone. Be sure to post your good DX you find to help our other members watch for their new ones and also watch for band openings.

Here are some DX stations to watch for in the upcoming month. P29ZL will be active

from Papua New Guinea using 40,20,15, and 10 meters SSB and PSK31. ST2AR will be working from Sudan on 160 through 6 meters. Watch for TT8PK, he will be active on 40 through 10 meters using CW, SSB, and RTTY from Chad until June 15th.



DX Station Robert Kasca, ST2AR

Just like any other sport, contesting has slowed down a bit on the off season. There are still a few active contests to watch for, though. May 7th and May 8th is the ARI International DX contest. May 14th and 15th is the Alessandro Volta RTTY DX contest and also the CQ M International DX contest. May 21st and 22nd host the EU PSK DX contest. And of course one of the biggies, May 28th and 29th is the CQ WW WPX CW contest. Any time is a good time to look up the rules for one of these contests and take part. They are a lot of fun and are great opportunities to pick up "new ones" for you. They will also help brush up on your op-

erating skills for Field Day coming up in June.

Well in closing this month I want to mention a couple of things, first off DX clusters. DX clusters are a great tool used to monitor DX spots. If you have never tried one, there are many versions that work stand alone. In addition, most logging software has their own cluster monitors available, too. One of the biggest stand alones is DX Summit, it can be found at dxsummit.fi/. If you never have, take a look, these can be helpful in finding certain countries, zones, or new ones for you. One reason I bring these up is remember, they are for monitoring DX spots. Stick to their protocol, no messages or one like I noticed a few days ago posting he had received his QSL from a certain station in the mail that day. Lastly I have mentioned this before but I want to touch it again because I just believe it is very well worthwhile. Take a minute and check the DX Code of Conduct if you have not, it can be found at dx-code.org. Good operating procedures are contagious. I think every DX'er should read this and live by this. Let others know by pointing it out on your QRZ page or your QSL card that you support and follow it. That's all until next month, enjoy the great conditions, get on the air, have fun and good DXing!

Schedule of Events

- **May 14 2011:** VE Testing session—4:30 p.m.—Nixa Fire Department—301 S. Nicholas Rd, Nixa, MO
- **May 14, 2011:** Nixa ARC Club Meeting—6:00 p.m.—Nixa Fire Department—301 S. Nicholas Rd, Nixa, MO—Field Day 2011 planning!
- **May 20-22:** Dayton Hamvention, Dayton, OH

May 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Amateur Radio: A Family Friendly Hobby

**By: Gary Doucey,
NOIRN**

Families with multiple Amateur Radio operators got my interest one day while I was reviewing our club roster (Nixa Missouri Amateur Radio Club, nixahams.net) Within our club alone we have 8 families with a total of 21 licensed operators.

My family has four active operators and two silent keys. My son, Kent NOIRM, and I, NOIRN, got our license in 1986. My son was 12 at the time and became an avid

DXer and still is. My Mother, Mary, NOJMF (SK), and her brother Homer, NOLGB (SK), became interested and got their license soon after my son and I were licensed. In March of 2009 my Grandson, Richard, KDOHGY, got his license and upgraded to General Class in May 2009. In June 2009 my Wife, Patty, KOILG, got her Technician license. My life long friend Tom, NOSS, was the person who got me interested in this wonderful hobby some 50 plus years ago. His wife, Jeri, is KORPH.

I started cruising the internet looking for Amateur Radio Families. My first search was my old favorite, QRZ.com. I found that so many DX calls have multiple family members that I could not begin to list them. I found another local Amateur Radio club has 5 families with two or more licensed operators. So with all of this said, it would be interesting to hear from people that have multiple family members who are licensed. You can reach me at n0irn@aol.com .

73, Gary

Technical Committee Update

In April, James Adkins, KB0NHX, and Jeff Kerr, KC0VGC, responded back out to the 145.270 site to re-install the EchoLink server. All was going well until we discovered we no longer had Internet! While the PC was off line, the company had changed IP schemas on us, so we will have to go back to the site and re-program the router to get EchoLink back into service. We hope to get out and get that fixed soon.

Meanwhile, James has continued gathering parts and putting together the shelves for the 53.270 project. As seen in the picture, he has the 6 link radio receivers on 3 rack mount shelves to be put at the 53.270 site to receive signals from

6 remote receive sites. At the bottom, he has 3 remote receive shelves built—one for the local receiver to be installed in East Springfield, one for our Northwest



receiver in Milo, and one for the Southwest receiver in Granby. We

have enough radios to complete 5 shelves, one will be slated for the Branson area and another for an unknown location north of Buffalo.

He is also working on rack mounting the Motorola CDM's for the 29.680 / 29.580 repeater sites as well as the UHF link radios for the 927.5375 and 29.680 repeaters so they will be able to link into the NARC network for the Thursday nets. Watch for more on this horizon as we prepare to install our first remote receiver for the 53.270 repeater at the East County TRS site in the near future.

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 (Springfield)

927.5375 / 902.5375 PL 162.2 Hz

April 2011 Treasury Report

Beginning Balance: \$2,494.84

Debits

\$ 150.00 SSH-114 Coax Hangers

\$ 325.00 UA-3 Angle Adapters

\$ 225.00 SSH-78 Coax Hangers

\$ 30.00 Nixa Community Foundation Banquet

\$ 948.00 SCOM-7330 Controllers for 927.5375 & 29.680 repeaters

\$1,678.00 Total Debits

Credits

\$1,850.00 Nixa CF Grant

\$ 24.00 Dues

\$ 5.00 Donation from James Dye

\$ 8.00 Donation from C.W. Stiver

\$ 25.00 MinuteMen Repeaters for programming

\$ 1.73 Dividend

\$1,913.73 Total Credits

Ending Balance: \$2,730.57

Nixa Bike Ride—We Need Volunteers!

On Saturday, June 4, 2011, we will be providing communications for the third year in a row for the Nixa Bike Ride.

Thus far, we have 10 volunteers, and need 8 more for the event. We need another person to work the rest stop at Boaz, two to work the rest stop at Republic, 3 people to serve as SAG riders that will ride with the people that pick

up injured or tired riders, and 2 people to ride with the Mechanical Sags that go around and fix bikes for broken-down cyclists.

Every year this turns out to be a very fun event for everyone, and St. Johns is nothing but appreciative of our efforts for them.

We will operate on 145.270 as our primary repeater with the 442.275 being our talk-around. If the 145.270 should fail, we will move to the 147.225 repeater. For more details on the bike ride, visit <http://www.stjohns.com/nixabikeride/>

To volunteer, e-mail James Adkins, KB0NHX, at adkins.james@gmail.com



Nixa Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 467
Nixa, MO 65714-0467

Website: <http://www.nixahams.net>
E-mail: kc0lun@nixahams.net
VE Team Contact: testing@nixahams.net
Website contact: webmaster@nixahams.net

NIXA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

*Those saying it can't be done
should get out of our way!*

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: James Adkins, KB0NHX

- 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

Vice-President: Kent Doucey, NØIRM

- Kent was appointed to Vice-President by the board after the resignation of Chris Cochran, KB0WZC, as President in October 2010. Kent and his wife Wendy have 3 children: Richard, KDØHGY, Britney, and Katie. Kent has been a law enforcement dispatcher and deputy sheriff in the past and currently serves on the Stone County 911 board. Kent enjoys HF SSB and digital operations and building HF antennas. He writes the "Below 50 MHz" article for the newsletter and volunteers on the club's technical committee.
- E-mail: n0irm@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