

Meet KXCJ’s man behind the music

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The Illinois Valley has recently become host to a new all-volunteer community radio station called KXCJ-LP 105.7 FM. Behind the scenes, Joel “Twisty” Nye, KXCJ’s information technology volunteer, has been hard at work setting up the technical details as well as ironing out all the bugs to make it happen.

Nye jumped at the chance to use some of his extensive computer skills when he heard about the station’s formation in March. It seemed to be a perfect match for him being in an environment that wouldn’t tax him past his abilities. So far, he said that the team is comprised of wonderful people and that he’s very happy to be able to contribute to the endeavor. “It turned out to be a surprisingly good fit,” Nye said, “I’ve enjoyed the humorous and light hearted personalities around here.”

Nye moved to Cave Junction about three years ago and resides with his wife, who in her free time is an avid community musician, and her daughter. Previously, he lived in Cincinnati, Ohio where the rest of his family and six siblings still live. Although his father is an Ohio native, his mother was originally from Kentucky. Back in Ohio, he spent about a decade working professionally as a systems administrator for the Salvation Army. His duties included servicing four locations and nearly 400 personal computers. After being forced into disability, he made the

move to the Illinois Valley. His duties at the station, aside from dealing with the technical details, for now also include commuting to the station to manually air syndicated shows. Sometime in the near future, the shows will be patched into the radio station automatically but there are still some technical issues and bugs that he has to work out before that happens. “There’s



(Photo by Jason McMillen, *Illinois Valley News*)

Joel “Twisty” Nye KXCJ’s tech guru at his desk Friday, Aug. 4.

always puzzle pieces to be solved,” Nye explained, “When I got here in March we were having some difficulties with the station to tower link.” Since then, Nye’s skilled handiwork promptly ironed that issue out.

Nye’s also recently completed the stations automated playlist. When not broadcasting live, his system essentially operates the station during off hours, hands-free. In the near future, Nye will also be involved with installing a final but necessary touch to the station; “on air” signs which will light up automatically when the disc jockey’s (DJ’s) microphones go hot. The parts necessary for that addition will reportedly arrive in the mail soon.

“I can’t take all the credit because all the heavy lifting gets done by all the other volunteers,” Nye said humbly, “We’ve even had help from other stations in the area.”

KXCJ-LP transmits at 100 watts, about as much energy as a light bulb, and its signal range reaches out over Cave Junction, Takilma, Kerby, O’Brien and even parts of Selma.

The station has been bankrolled primarily though fundraisers but has also received donations from patrons around the area who are anxiously awaiting the final product. The station aims to bring exciting, informative and eclectic news, entertainment and education to the Valley.

The station needs more DJ’s in the future so as to round out its presence on the airwaves. Those who have an idea for a show can contact them at <http://www.kxcj.org>.

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Turning Moon Festival met expectations



(Photo by Sarah Bohmker, for the *Illinois Valley News*)

Portland’s Polyrythmics entertained the crowd during the Turning Moon Festival at Out ‘n’ About Treesort Friday, Aug. 4.

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