



KARC - Kingsport Amateur Radio Club
Website: W4TRC.org
Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: January 09, 2025

Location: (Food City) The Press Room, 300 Clinchfield St., Kingsport TN

Start time: 1900 Adjourned: 2100

Presentation: Rotator Maintenance - Neil Weber (KM4NWH)

Attendance: 34

Next Meeting: February 13, 2025

Location: (Food City) The Press Room, 300 Clinchfield St., Kingsport TN

Time: 1900

Training/Presentation: Fox Hunting - Joshua Carmack (N4JHC)

Attending: Christina Compton, Justin Compton, Michael Lambert, Gus Stensler, Mike Greer, Joshua Carmack, James Young, Liz Young, Rick Curtis, Bill Powers, Rick Brooks, Ron Burns, Ron Grooms, Peter Stuart, Scott Schneider, Gerald Schneider, Charles Collingwood, Neil Weber, Ellen Diep, Emme Diep, Joe Ewing, William Ewing, Scottie Rutherford, Jack Rutherford, Erik McCord, David Rotenberry, Heather Schneider, Greyson Schneider, Kyle Schneider, Michael Gallatin, Jasmine Gallatin, Ronan Gallatin, Samantha Gallatin, Tom Price

Meeting Opened: Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer

President's Report: (Neil Weber, KM4NWH)

- Plans for 2025.
- Discussed ways to improve monthly meetings. Such as: decreasing the overall time of the meeting, and focusing more on the training/presentation.
- Discussed ways to increase weekly 2 meter net participation, such as open discussions, and informal nets with designated topics.
- Reminder that the Simplex net will follow the regularly scheduled Sunday evening 2 meter net on the first Sunday of each month on 146.460
- Discussed upcoming events and requested volunteers for each:
 - Field Day (Summer) - Justin and Christina Compton
 - Fun Fest/Crazy 8's
 - *Woolly Worm - John Williams (?)*
 - Santa Train
 - Fire Prevention Week- Tom Price

Winter Field Day is coming up! **UPDATE: Neil will arrive around 8am on Saturday. Coffee and hot dogs will be provided. Looking for volunteers to help set up antennas—Neil will be going out Friday evening before dark.**

Vice President's Report: (Justin Compton, KO4DCD)

- Discussed upcoming presentations and trainings.
 - Next month will be Fox Hunt program by Joshua Carmack.
 - Upcoming presentations and trainings include:
 - SOTA
 - POTA
 - Digital Modes
 - Antenna Builds
- *show of hands for interest in different antennas

Secretary's Report: (Christina Compton, KQ4CDM)

- Welcoming new hams.
- Reminder to be polite and courteous to new hams using the repeater.
 - *Use your best judgment and when possible, please avoid criticizing/critiquing the etiquette of new hams over the air, as this should be handled privately.*

Treasurer's Report: (Rick Curtis)

- Balances Reported
- Proposed using club funds in the amount of \$2,500.00 to open a CD. Motion was seconded, and a majority vote by attending members ruled in favor.

Please Note: Dues are \$20 per individual, or \$25 for a family, and should be paid to the treasurer.

Repeater Trustee Report: (Dustin McClure, KO4LBE)

- No update/Not in attendance.

Old Business:

Meshtastic Node: Will we still have one on the repeater site? The previous node is non functioning at this time, and the person who donated the node to the club is not responding to inquiries from the club. At this time, there is still strong enough interest in Meshtastic to support the club putting their own node at the repeater site. Joshua Carmack has volunteered to put a node together for the club. More information to come.

UPDATE: Club majority vote in favor of repairing or replacing (if necessary) the node.

**Special thanks to Joshua for giving a brief description of meshtastic for the new hams, as well as others who may not be familiar with it.*

New Business:

- Justin proposes to buy new radios for the club. Current gear is outdated.
- Joshua would like to get a lower powered fox to use for Fox Hunts. Would be about \$130, club majority voted to contribute \$150 to cover any tax or shipping costs as well.

Special News/Announcements:

- The club will be introducing an Elmer Program in which new hams will be paired with an Elmer to assist them with questions or issues they may have. At this time we have 3 new hams and 3 Elmer volunteers. Each will be paired accordingly.

New Hams:

Ellen Diep, Kyle Schneider, Mike Gallatin

Elmers:

Justin Compton, Ron Burns, Charles Collingwood

- The monthly Fox Hunts will occur only on Saturdays for 2025 versus the alternating of Saturday and Sunday which was done in 2024. A calendar for upcoming Fox Hunts can be found on the W4TRC website.
 - Discussed ways to increase participation in Fox Hunts such as including other area clubs, and doing a Fox Hunt demonstration day.