

Zero Beat



Kingsport Amateur Radio Club
April 2026 Edition

President Notes

I had an opportunity to test Microsoft Team while out of town and it works GREAT!!! So if you are going out of town and want to join the Club Meeting from afar, as a member of our club you are welcome to the credentials. Just ask any officer or Matt Babler.

Joshua Carmack recorded the first club program last evening presented to us by John Williams. It was entitled, "Now That You Have Your License, Now What?". The intent is to have Joshua record Club Programs and at his discretion, edit the recording and place it on the Webpage. John's program will be available to any ham for a very long, long time.

In an effort to kickstart our club 2m net, it was decided at the club meeting to change the night from Sunday to Wednesday. Frequency and time will remain the same as listed on our webpage. David Herron (K4UVU) has graciously offered to host the first net next Wednesday the 15th.

Please visit Tom Price (KI4CVU), at the Community Living Center, building 162 at the VA Hospital. He sure would appreciate seeing you!!!

On May 6, 1100-1400, Eastman will be parading the clubs before their employees to allow them to see what clubs are available and what they have to offer. Our club has been asked to participate. If you would like to help with this, send an email to contact@w4trc.org. It sounds like Fun!!!

Speaking of Fun, join your friends for lunch at noon at John B's Family Kitchen 2608 N John B Dennis Hwy this Wednesday April 15. See You There!!!

Best Regards,

Larry Dale KD4FTN

President

Club News

The KARC foxhunt will take place on April 18th. It begins at 3 p.m. And check-ins starting at 2:45 p.m. On the 146.970 repeater. Participants can start from any location in the area, keeping in mind that the foxes will be hidden within the city limits, so having a map on your phone is advisable. All fox frequencies are listed on the [W4TRC.org website](http://W4TRC.org). If you are interested in joining the first trip, please contact Josh Carmack or Justin Compton to arrange a ride. Their phone numbers and email addresses are also available on the website.

HHART & KARC meets at Randall's every 3rd Wednesday of the month from 10:00 AM- 12:00 PM.

Net Schedule Update!

Our Sunday night 2 Meter Net is moving to Wednesdays at 8:00 PM on 146.970 (-) PL 123.0.

We're also taking suggestions for net times – we want what works best for you! Check in or share your feedback at <https://w4trc.org/nets>

Interested in volunteering as Net Control? It's a great way to build confidence on the air and give back to the club – stay tuned for more details!

Amateur Radio News

FCC Warns Licensee on Out-of-Band Transmissions. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has responded to a complaint involving a Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, amateur for operating outside the privileges of his Technician Class license and causing interference to local emergency service communications. [Continue Reading](#)

ARISS Outlines Opportunities for Space Station Contacts in 2027. The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program is seeking formal and informal educational institutions and organizations, individually or working together, to host an amateur radio contact with a crew member on board the ISS. [Continue Reading](#)

ARRL Dakota Division has a New Vice Director. Chris Stallkamp, KIØD, of Selby, South Dakota, has been appointed Vice Director of the ARRL Dakota Division. [Continue Reading](#)

Elecraft Donates Amateur Radio Station to W1AW. ARRL has welcomed a new high-performance Elecraft station to Studio 3 at W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station, at its headquarters in Newington, Connecticut. [Continue Reading](#)

2026 ARRL Field Day Merch Now Shipping—Celebrate America 250 with a Commemorative Design. Field Day is approaching fast...and so is the 4th of July! Stock up on official 2026 ARRL Field Day merchandise and own a piece of history with this year's patriotic red, white, and blue design honoring America's 250th anniversary. [Continue Reading](#)

Register Now for the 2026 ARRL Youth Rally at Dayton Hamvention® Get ready for amateur radio's biggest annual gathering! Dayton Hamvention® 2026 will take place May 15 - 17 at the Greene County Fair and Expo Center in Xenia, Ohio. [Continue Reading](#)

ARRL Announces Change in Central Division Leadership. Joshua Long, W9HT, is the new ARRL Central Division Director. [Continue Reading](#)

The "Every Ham" Radio Contest. You can only submit 5 contacts. [Continue Reading](#)

Did FT8 save Amateur Radio? Do you believe all those FT8 signals would transfer to CW and SSB if we auto-magically and retrospectively eliminate digital? [Continue Reading](#)

WSJT-X 3.0 now available. The latest version introduces a new program called QMAP, new Special Operating Activities Q65 Pileup and SuperFox mode, an option to Update Hamlib at the click of a button, a new program feature Message System, and a number of other enhancements. [Continue Reading](#)

A conversation with Claude. I'm not sure how Claude was able to learn Ham Radio lingo so quickly, but he's a curious little fellow to have in the shack. [Continue Reading](#)

Transceive app for MacOS. Connect to your AllStarLink node from anywhere in the world. Administer linked nodes, monitor traffic and transmit audio. [Continue Reading](#)

IP400 Project marks halfway point. The hardware development is complete, as well as the research phases for proof of concept. [Continue Reading](#)

B.C. Ham tracks Artemis II for NASA. It's like a test of non-NASA systems, to see how well they can keep track. [Continue Reading](#)

Ham Radio history. How RTTY became the first mainstream digital data mode. [Continue Reading](#)

The Antidote. What I found was a community that stretches you rather than numbs you. [Continue Reading](#)

Hamfests/Conventions - Let's Go !

04/18/2026 - Greeneville Hamfest. Location: Greeneville,
Sponsor: Andrew Johnson ARC. Website:
<http://greenevillehamfest.com>

06/13/2026 - Knoxville Hamfest, Location: Knoxville, Sponsor:
Radio Amateur Club of Knoxville. Website: <http://www.w4bbb.org>

08/29/2026 - Northeast Tennessee Radio Community Hamfest,
Location: Erwin, TN. Website: <http://www.netrc423.org>

09/19/2026 - W4DXCC by SEDCO, Location: Pigeon Forge, Sponsor:
SEDCO Website: <http://www.w4dxcc.org>

SKYWARN

If you are interested in being a SKYWARN Storm Spotter, please
visit <https://www.weather.gov/mrx/skywarn>

To join our area SKYWARN organization, which is the Northeast
Tennessee District 7 SKYWARN, please visit their website
<https://www.skywarn7.org/>

The Importance of NOAA Weather Radios and Why You Should Own
One. [Continue Reading](#)

Important Information

President: Larry Dale (KD4FTN)

Vice President: Justin Compton (K04DCD)

Treasurer: Rick Curtis (W4BXL)

Secretary: Christina Compton (KQ4CDM)

Repeater Trustee: Joshua Carmack (N4JHC)

The club meetings will be held on the second Thursday of each month at Eastman's Toy F. Reid Employee Center; Room 219; 400 S. Wilcox Dr; Kingsport, TN 37660 at 7:00 PM. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Club Repeaters, located on Bays Mountain

2 Meter: 146.970 MHz (-) PL Tone 123.0 Hz (Analog or Yaesu System Fusion C4FM Input / Analog Only Output) Echolink: W4TRC-R

70 Centimeters: 443.325 MHz (+) PL Tone 123.0 Hz (Automatic Mode Select (AMS) for Yaesu System Fusion C4FM and Analog FM)

70 Centimeters: 443.175 (+) (Yaesu System Fusion C4FM Only)

Wednesday Night Informational Net on 146.970 MHz at 8:00 PM Eastern Time.

For more information about the KARC and amateur radio, please visit our website at www.w4trc.org or email us at contact@w4trc.org

Erik McCord, WX4ET, is the editor of Zero Beat, a monthly newsletter.