

# Zero Beat



## Kingsport Amateur Radio Club January 2026 Edition

# President Notes

Welcome to New Year 2026! Building on the success of last year, we are looking forward to an even better year.

This year our focus will be on building camaraderie, increasing our skills and becoming more of an asset to the community.

We plan to expand our already successful programs of SOTA, POTA and Fox Hunting. More worthwhile Special Events will be scheduled. Plans to strengthen our Repeater Presence are being discussed. And with input from club members, our programs should be interesting, useful and informative.

Wishing you a Happy And Prosperous New Year,

Larry Dale KD4FTN

President

# Club News

The KARC foxhunt for January will take place on the 17th of the month. 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.

NETS: David Herron K4UVU just volunteered and was voted in as the clubs new Net administrator. He currently needs 1-2 new controllers due to commitments causing problems for 2 of the old controllers. We are also considering additional nets on other bands. Let us know what you have interest in.

## **Holston River Valley HF Net 7.295 MHz**

Beginnings: In mid 2025 the Holston River Valley HF Net was started as a platform to bring people and clubs the East TN, SW VA area together each Wednesday night at 8:00 PM local time.

Growth: This net is open to anyone that holds a General class or higher license.

Technology: We will be utilizing Netlogger for this net. We will take check-ins from Netlogger and will request RF checkins.

[Download Here](#)

# Amateur Radio News

ARRL America250 Worked All States. A Year-Long Worked-All-States Operating Event Celebrating the 250th Anniversary (Semiquincentennial) of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. [Continue Reading](#)

New ARRL Section Managers Take Office in January. Four new Section Managers taking on the top volunteer leadership role in the ARRL Field Organization on January 1, 2026. [Continue Reading](#)

2026 is ARRL's Year of the Club – A Celebration of Amateur Radio Clubs. ARRL is launching a year-long celebration that puts the spotlight squarely where it belongs – on radio clubs. [Continue Reading](#)

ARRL Awards Colvin Grant to Bouvet DXpedition. ARRL has awarded a \$5,000 Colvin Award grant to the Delta-Xray Group, organizers of the upcoming 3YØK DXpedition to Bouvet Island, scheduled for February and March, 2026. [Continue Reading](#)

Richard Dean Straw, N6BV, ARRL "Antenna Expert," Silent Key. Richard Dean Straw ("Dean"), N6BV, died on July 9, 2025. Amateur radio was one of his passions. Dean retired from the ARRL staff in 2008 following 15 years of service as the Senior Assistant Technical Editor. [Continue Reading](#)

QRZ Announces USA 250 Award. January 2, 2026 QRZ.com has announced the USA 250 Award to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States of America. Participants are encouraged to make 250 confirmed QSOs with US based amateurs throughout 2026. The award is open to all ham radio operators across the globe. Additional details are available on the QRZ forums. [Continue Reading](#)

HamSCI Speaker Series Explores WSPR Spectral Width. HamSCI's first Speaker Series of 2026 will be presented by Dr. Barry Johnson (W4WB) and focus on WSPR spectral width. [Continue Reading](#)

The 52 Week Ham Challenge is back for 2026. This year's challenge consists of weekly exercises ranging from making a QSO on Echolink to eliminating a source of interference. [Continue Reading](#)

Australian Ham Clubs Build Enterprise-Grade Yaesu IMRS Repeater System. Australian amateur radio operators have partnered with commercial networking experts, KernWi-Fi to build an «enterprise-grade» network of linked repeaters. [Continue Reading](#)

# Hamfests/Conventions - Let's Go !

03/13/2026- 03/14/2026. MTARS Hamfest- Tullahoma, Location: Tullahoma, TN. Sponsor: Middle Tennessee Amateur Radio Society (MTARS). Website: <http://www.qsl.net/mtars>

03/21/2026 - 2026 Sevier County TN Sevierville, TN Sponsor: Retevis & Sevier County Amateur Radio Society Website: <http://sevierycountyarcs.com>

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>

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

To search for all other ham fests go to: <https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/search>

## 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](#)

# Amateur Radio

## Winter Field Day

January 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> 2026

CQ, CQ, CQ...

We invite the public to join us as we participate in Winter Field Day. Come experience amateur radio!

Learn more about this amazing hobby

See operators make world wide contacts

Ask questions and see how what it takes to set up a radio and external antenna.

Listen to operators use Morse code, digital signals, and voice to exchange information.

Pick up the microphone and make contacts yourself.

Learn why ham radio is still considered the last means of communication "when all else fails"

### Local Information:

W4TRC

Kingsport Amateur Radio Club

Warrior's Path State Park Shelter 3

11:00 AM Saturday - 5:00 PM Sunday

146.970 PL 123.0



# 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

70 Centimeters: 443.325 MHz (+) PL Tone 123.0 Hz

Sunday Night Informational Net on 146.970 MHz at 8:30 PM Eastern Time.

For more information about the KARC and amateur radio, please visit our website at [www.w4trc.org](http://www.w4trc.org) or email us at [contact@w4trc.org](mailto:contact@w4trc.org)

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