

Zero Beat



Kingsport Amateur Radio Club
July 2025 Edition

President's Notes

Summer is passing us by quickly. I hope everyone had a fantastic Fourth of July! It has been a very busy summer for the club.

Just a reminder: the next meeting is the club picnic on August 14th. We will meet at the Eastman Recreation Area Shelter #9. We plan to start fellowship at 6 PM, but the meal will be served a little later to accommodate those arriving after work. Please do not come to the Press Room. There is a signup sheet available on the website, where you can view what others are planning to bring to help avoid having five of one dish and none of another. Signing up will also give us an idea of the number of attendees for planning purposes. The club has a supply box with plenty of items, including plates, cups, utensils, paper towels, and more. The club will be providing burgers and hot dogs. [Sign Up Sheet](#)

Erik will be posting the results for the Summer Field Day held on the last weekend of June. Please see the results below, and thank you to everyone who participated. The information is also available on the website.

Our club meeting took place on July 10th in the press room. The meal was well received, but the cost increased from \$14 to \$17. We are exploring whether the club would like to continue using this venue. If anyone has feedback, please inform a club officer. The presentation on digital communication was particularly informative for newer club members. This was the first time we conducted a radio demonstration using remote desktop access from home stations. I believe this option opens up additional possibilities for future presentations. We are also considering the possibility of conducting a demonstration of VarAC later in the year.

Funfest Club demonstration is scheduled for July 21st at 10 AM and July 22nd at 1 PM. The event will take place at 301 Louis Street in Kingsport, at the V0 Dobbins Complex near the splash pad. We would greatly appreciate assistance from additional volunteers if anyone is available. A special thank you to Mike Gallatin's family, John Williams, and Tom Price for their current volunteer efforts. We plan to set up a station for HF and VHF during the demonstration. Additionally, we will organize a small fox hunt for kids and families, as well as a Meshtastic demonstration.

October is shaping up to be a busy month for us, arriving sooner than many might expect. We have three events scheduled: Netherland Inn, Fire Prevention Week, and Rocky Mount. A special thank you to Kyle Schneider, Tom Price, and Mike Gallatin for volunteering and leading these efforts.

Sincerely,

Neil Weber KM4NWH

President

Club News

Our Field Day results are on the website. [Continue Reading](#)

The KARC foxhunt for July will take place on the 19th 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](#). If you are interested in joining the first trip, please contact Josh Carmack or Neil Weber 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 check-ins. [Download Here](#)

For questions, please email k4uvu71@gmail.com

Amateur Radio News

2025 ARRL Field Day a Success. Across the country, people come together in town squares, public parks, green spaces, and other locations - all to celebrate the joy of amateur radio and to share it with others. [Continue Reading](#)

ARRL® Logbook of The World® Return to Service. ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® will return Logbook of The World® (LoTW®) to service at 10:00 AM EDT on Wednesday, July 2, 2025. [Continue Reading](#)

Toilets on the Air (TO TA). Yes, Toilets on the Air. But before you flush the idea entirely (sorry!). [Continue Reading](#)

Meet Audrey, an amazing Ham. Audrey, KM4BUN, is a young leader in Ham Radio with multiple awards and accomplishments, soon finishing an electrical engineering degree at Georgia Tech. [Continue Reading](#)

The antenna that won Field Day 2025. My quest for the best vertical delta loop antenna. [Continue Reading](#)

Traveling with Meshtastic. My device saw quite a few others along the way. [Continue Reading](#)

Roger Smallwood (N8EKG) of R&L Electronics SK. Mr. Smallwood supported Hamvention and was a life member of the Dayton Amateur Radio Association. [Continue Reading](#)

Titanic's lost radio room found: What's still inside? Imagine hearing Titanic's distress signal after 113 years. [Continue Reading](#)

Amateur Radio Newsline Announces Young Ham of the Year 2025. [Continue Reading](#)

Ham Radio Publication Round-up. [Continue Reading](#)

POTA Activator Dies in Accidental Electrocution. [Continue Reading](#)

Hamshack Hotline to End Service. Hamshack Hotline has announced its decision to end voice over internet protocol (VoIP) service effective August 29th, 2025. Established in 2018, the VoIP provider has enabled thousands of hams to connect across the globe. The workload required to maintain the service was cited as a reason for shutting down. [Continue Reading](#)

DXLook – Where Your Signal Is Heard. We've all been there. You call CQ on 15 meters, the radio's alive, conditions seem okay... but you're not getting answers. So, you do what most of us do – check propagation. Maybe you fire up PSK Reporter, or flip to WSPRnet, or check the DX Cluster. But you end up hopping between tabs, trying to piece together the story of what's actually going on out there. That's exactly what led me to build this tool. [Continue Reading](#)

Amateur Radio Volunteers Serving During Texas Floods. Volunteer amateur radio operators serving in the ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® (ARRL®) Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) are embedded with local served agencies in the areas of central Texas affected by devastating floods. [Continue Reading](#)

Texas floods – former county I.T / radio amateur monitor interviewed. [Continue Reading](#)

S50CLX Telnet DXCluster focuses on POTA, BOTA, SOTA, WWFF. POTA (Parks On The Air), SOTA (Summits On The Air), WWFF (World Wide Flora and Fauna), WBOTA (World Wide Bunkers on The Air) are internationally renowned programmes. They encourage licensed radio amateurs to operate outdoors within nature parks, mountain peaks or protected areas. Operators making contacts from bunkers, parks, from summits or from protected flora and fauna areas are called activators and operators who are contacted are called hunters. [Continue Reading](#)

Local Hams respond to Texas floods. A description and pictures of local Ham Radio operators in action and how you can assist. [Continue Reading](#)

SSTV from the ISS in July. An ARISS SSTV event from the International Space Station will begin no earlier than July 14. [Continue Reading](#)

Hams.at and SatMatch – great tools for sat schedules. If you would like to publish your satellite activations and calculate satellite overlap passes I can highly recommend Hams.At and SatMatch. [Continue Reading](#)

An Outside the Box version of the Delta Loop antenna. I bent the rules but the end result is worthy of making the trip to the field this summer. [Continue Reading](#)

A POTA procedural proposal. A way to do a joint CW activation like many phone operators do. [Continue Reading](#)

The fatigue you can hear. A guide to listener burnout. [Continue Reading](#)

Amateur Radio club sends transmitter into the sky. Using the WSPR protocol, the beacon transmits location, altitude, wind speed, temperature and solar panel voltage data every 10 minutes. [Continue Reading](#)

Amateur band Sudoku puzzle. Fill each row, column, and 3x3 box with all 9 amateur bands. [Continue Reading](#)

2025 Ham Radio Field Day operations above Mount Saint Helens. This flight was conducted for the purpose of the Ham Radio annual field day event. [Continue Reading](#)

Hamfests/Conventions- Let's Go!

07/12/25 - Carter Co. Amateur Radio Association Hamfest - Kiwanis Park/Elizabethton, TN- <http://www.wr4cc.org>

07/19/25 - Greater Nashville & Middle Tennessee HamQuest - Lebanon, TN - <http://midtnhamquest.com>

07/19/25 - MCARC Hamfest- Athens, TN - <https://mcminnarc.com/>

07/26/2025 - WCARS Hamfest - Waynesville, NC - <http://wcarsclub.org>

08/23/25 - Cedars of Lebanon Hamfest - Lebanon, TN - <http://smrclub.com>

08/23/25 - NETRC Hamfest - Unicoi, TN - <https://netnrc.org/netnrc-hamfest-2025/>

08/29/2025-08/30/2025 - Shelby Hamfest, ARRL North Carolina Section Convention- Shelby, NC- <http://shelbyhamfest.com>

09/13/2025 - East Tennessee Hamfest - Dandridge, TN - <http://www.lakewayarc.org/hamfest/>

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](#)

Important Information

President: Neil Weber (KM4NWH)

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 The Press Room in Food City (300 Clinchfield, Kingsport, TN 37660). Dinner will be served at 6:00 PM, and the meeting will commence 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 or email us at contact@w4trc.org

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