

Zero Beat



Kingsport Amateur Radio Club
July 2026 Edition

President Notes

Although access to the parks was not available this year, America250 W1AW/4 was alive here at KARC. Your fellow club members still made 52 contacts in a few short hours. The bands were terrible and you had to fight for every contact. Overall, our region made 4,054 contacts over the week. We will have another opportunity in September and hopefully the bands will be much better!!!

As you know from your email, Field Day 2026 will be remembered as the Absolute Wettest that any of us can remember. I will remember how well we pulled together to make the dinner successful in the middle of so many hurdles. We have a club filled with Fantastic people!!! To see more about the event, please look at the club [web page](#) where Joshua Carmack has displayed all the numbers and other information beautifully.

The memorial at the VA Cemetery for Tom Price was well attended not only by friends and family but by many club members. I have been in this club 11 years and I believe Tom has supported every event possible in that time. And he was here long before me. Field Day 2026 was the first event where Tom was not present. He will be missed.

Thomas J. Price Jr. August 1953 - June 4 2026

Justin Compton brought our club a presentation all the way from California on ZOOM!!! It was titled "2-Meter Antennas" by Ed Fong (WB6IQN). Ed has several patents and has been featured in QST Magazine. For more information and to see the presentation, go to our website. Thank You Justin!!!

This weekend from the 17th through the 21st (but especially Saturday and Sunday) The Tennessee SOTA Campout will take place. Many SOTA Activators from the surrounding states will be on the summits around their campground at Rock Creek in Erwin. You will have the opportunity to chase them as you access the link <https://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/en/> to see who is on the air. Thank You Ron Burns, NR3E, for this information!!!

The club has been gifted an ASTATIC Model D-104 Microphone by Mark Selby. It was in use by his grandfather, Joseph W. Selby, W4GHL. Thank You Mark!!!

Don't Forget To Join your friends for lunch at noon at John B's Family Kitchen 2608 N John B Dennis Hwy this Wednesday July 15th. See You There!!!

Best Regards,

Larry Dale KD4FTN

President

Club News

The KARC foxhunt will take place on July 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](https://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.

We need Net Control volunteers for our Sunday Evening 2 Meter Net! Sunday Evening Net returns on the W4TRC 146.970 MHz repeater. No monthly commitment – just sign up for the weeks you want. We're looking for both a primary and backup Net Control operator each week.

Not sure what a net is? It's a scheduled on-air gathering where licensed hams check in, share information, and stay connected with the local community. Whether you're newly licensed or a seasoned operator, it's one of the best ways to stay active in the hobby – and running Net Control is a great way to give back!

Sign-up, schedule & net script: <https://w4trc.org/nets>
Questions: netcontrol@w4trc.org

Amateur Radio News

Call for Nominations for ARRL Director and Vice Director. Full ARRL members in the ATLANTIC, DAKOTA, DELTA, GREAT LAKES, and MIDWEST Divisions. You have the opportunity to choose a Director and Vice Director to represent you for 3-year terms beginning January 1, 2027. [Continue Reading](#)

New ARRL Atlantic Division Vice Director. ARRL has announced the appointment of Ray Sokola, K9RS, of Wilmington, Delaware, as Vice Director for the ARRL Atlantic Division. [Continue Reading](#)

Navigating an HOA and Returning to Amateur Radio and Field Day! Fred Johnson, K6FRD, is an amateur radio operator in Riverside, California. Like many hams, he lives in an HOA-controlled neighborhood. For Johnson, finding practical, low-visibility, antenna solutions has become part of the fun over the years. [Continue Reading](#)

16-Year-Old ARRL Member Wins 2026 Student Coding Competition. ARRL is pleased to announce that member Ben Leovy, KC3ZPQ, of Ellicott City, Maryland, has been named the winner of the 2026 ARRL Student Coding Competition. [Continue Reading](#)

Greater Nashville and Middle Tennessee HamQuest 2026. The largest hamfest in Middle Tennessee celebrates its 11th year. [Continue Reading](#)

Eyeball-to-Eyeball Off the Air QSO Party. Zoom based QSO party helps hams build community. [Continue Reading](#)

Rugby Annual Radio Rally 2026. Rally to take place at Princethorpe College. [Continue Reading](#)

Join Hams Over Video Conference 24/7. Group aims to build new connections off-air. [Continue Reading](#)

The 'absolute magic' of Morse code that still connects people globally. Younger people are "coming with sheer curiosity and then falling in love with it." [Continue Reading](#)

Beyond the signal: Students explore the world of Amateur Radio. As one of the student organizers, Conner worked alongside faculty to coordinate equipment, recruit participants and prepare for the event. [Continue Reading](#)

Echoes of CW: A Signal Corps Tribute to Virginia L. Scott and the WAVES of WWII. [Continue Reading](#)

Hamfests/Conventions – Let's Go !

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)

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 Zero Beat, a monthly newsletter.