

Zero Beat



Kingsport Amateur Radio Club

June 2025 Edition

President Notes

June has arrived, bringing a flurry of activity to the club. The presentation for June was outstanding. I never realized how fascinating pico balloon hobbies could be, and Steve Bible, the presenter, was exceptional. I encourage anyone who missed the meeting to visit, <http://amateur.sondehub.org>, to explore the capabilities of these balloons.

We are finalizing preparations for Field Day. We hope to encourage anyone who hasn't signed up but plans to attend to visit the website and sign the planning roster. The Field Day link is available on the homepage. Many members expressed interest in attending during the meeting but have not yet registered online at <https://w4trc.org/field-day/>

The July meeting is scheduled for July 10th. The presentation will introduce digital modes, accompanied by live demonstrations. It promises to be an engaging program. The main course for the meal will be sliced roast beef. As everyone recalls, we will be implementing a rotating menu from this point forward. The main courses will include roast beef, meatloaf, fried chicken, and glazed apple tenderloin, in that order. Additionally, the club will continue to send out monthly reminders regarding programs and meals. We have received interest in substituting turkey and dressing for the December Christmas meeting. In early July, we will post a sign-up sheet online for the club's annual picnic. Please look for it next month and consider bringing a side dish. It's always a great time!

I hope everyone is having a wonderful summer so far.

Neil Weber KM4NWH

Club President

Club News

We are currently working with the Kingsport Chamber of commerce to get a station setup for funfest. This will occur on July 21st 10- 3 and 22nd 1 - 5 near the douglas high school. This is a family day established to "Promote interest with interactive exhibits that promote educational opportunities, active lifestyles and parent support!" We plan to have an HF and VHF setup for exhibit, Meshtastic, and also plan to have foxhunting equipment setup where families can sign up to go on a fox hunt with club equipment. The event is a Monday and Tuesday so if you are available please let us know.

The KARC foxhunt for June will take place on the 21st 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 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.

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

SteppIR to stop selling antennas to the Radio Amateur market: As of the 31st of August 2025, SteppIR will no longer be selling antennas to the 'consumer market.' [Continue Reading](#)

AMSAT designates SO-125 new FM repeater satellite: The satellite carries an FM and digital repeater payload, built on an improved SDR-based platform capable of transmitting up to 0.25W. [Continue Reading](#)

Double-hop dreams and the mystery of long-distance FM: Learn how broadcast signals can travel more than 4,000 miles via E-Skip. [Continue Reading](#)

NOAA 18 decommissioned: Multiple stations confirm that NOAA-18 is shut down on APT, S-Band, HRPT transmissions. [Continue Reading](#)

Fiberglass push-up mast revisited – portable and home stations: The 25-foot version provides the most versatile size, allowing me to set it up at whatever height suits my needs at home or on the go. [Continue Reading](#)

GrLevel3 radar alternative for Linux: Supercell Wx is a great radar application that runs native on Linux. It is a great alternative to GrLevel3, Radar Scope, and Radar Omega. [Watch Video](#)

Radio operators jumped into quick response after '85 tornado cut communications: We operated as the backbone and assisted where we could with the police, fire, and paramedics (WKBN). [Continue Reading](#)

Hamvention 2025 Sets Attendance Record: Nearly 1,000 more attendees showed up in 2025 compared to the year before. [Continue Reading](#)

Amateur Radio Newsletter Round-up May 2025: A summary of recent ham radio focused newsletters. [Continue Reading](#)

ARRL Amateur Radio News

What is the Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL)? [Continue Reading](#)

ARRL Renews Defense of the 902-928 MHz Amateur Radio Band: ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® in a recent filing encouraged the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to listen to industry stakeholders about the detrimental impacts that changes to the 902-928 MHz band would have for current users. [Continue Reading](#)

Amateur Spectrum Addressed in US House Reconciliation Bill: ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® reports that early this morning, May 22, 2025, the US House of Representatives passed a massive Reconciliation bill with the below spectrum provisions relevant to Amateur Radio. [Continue Reading](#)

Hurricane Watch Net Remembers and Celebrates 60 Years: In September 1965, Hurricane Betsy hit Florida, the Bahamas, and the central US Gulf Coast. The damage was nearly \$1.42 billion, earning the storm the nickname Billion Dollar Betsy. Forecasting for storms like Betsy was still in its infancy. [Continue Reading](#)

Amateur Radio Ready for Above Average Hurricane Season: Hurricane season begins on Sunday, June 1. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) predicts this season to be above-normal in activity, citing above-average Atlantic Ocean temperatures. The scientists say the season will likely produce between 13 and 19 named storms, including 3 - 5 major hurricanes. [Continue Reading](#)

ARRL Field Day: FAQ with the Contest Program Manager: The days are longer, the weather is warmer, and June is upon us! That means we are in the countdown to 2025 ARRL Field Day! There's a lot of excitement building around the theme of "Radio Connects" and hams across North America are preparing for the big weekend of June 28 - 29. [Continue Reading](#)

2025 ARRL Field Day Has Categories for Every Operator: 2025 ARRL Field Day is just three weeks away! The excitement is building. Most clubs have their activations planned. In the last two weeks, 350 more sites have been added to the Field Day Site Locator, with a total of 886 listed as of June 5. ARRL Field Day is a great way to connect with your local amateur radio community, for Technician-class operators to get on lower HF bands, to shake down your portable operating gear, and to have fun and enjoy the camaraderie of your fellow hams. [Continue Reading](#)

13 Colonies Event Founder Passing the Reins After 16 Years: The 13 Colonies 2025, a popular summer operating event, will take place less than a month from now, on July 1, 9:00 AM to July 7, midnight EDT (July 1 - 1300 UTC - July 8 - 0400 UTC). [Continue Reading](#)

ARRL Volunteer Examiners Serve the Community: If you are interested in becoming an ARRL Volunteer Examiner (VE) and serving the Amateur Radio community, it's easy and free! [Continue Reading](#)

Be Radio Active. Join ARRL Today!: Join ARRL today and get access to benefits, services, and programs to help you get (and stay) active and on the air. Your membership supports ARRL's work to promote and protect amateur radio, and to develop the next generation of radio amateurs. [Continue Reading](#)

Everything you need to know about ARRL Field Day: [Continue Reading](#)

ARRL Field Day 1995: In June 1995, News Channel 11's Karen Cole Jenkins' QTH was at Amateur Radio Day (WJHL). [Continue Reading](#)

Bristol Amateur Radio Club hosting free field day event (WJHL). [Continue Reading](#)

Hamfests/Conventions - Let's Go!

06/21/25 - Knoxville Hamfest & TN ARRL Convention - Knoxville, TN
- <http://www.W4BBB.ORG>

07/13/25 - 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://wcars-club.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/>

ARRL FIELD DAY 2025



Be a part of the **most popular on-the-air operating event** in amateur radio. Join your local community and get in on the action!

**PARTICIPATE IN YOUR LOCAL
ARRL FIELD DAY JUNE 28-29, 2025**

**W4TRC
Kingsport Amateur Radio Club
Mount Carmel Park
201 Willow Street
Mount Carmel, TN.
Talk-in: 146.970 PL 123.0
www.w4trc.org**

www.arrl.org/FieldDay

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.