

Zero Beat



Kingsport Amateur Radio Club
March 2026 Edition

President Notes

The repeater belonging to Kent Harris is back on the air thanks to the work of Joshua Carmack, Chris Early, Greg Johnson and Justin Compton. Joshua discussed in some detail the work needed to repair the repeater and make it reliable at the club meeting Thursday night. Not only was the story interesting but it showed the high caliber of those involved. A huge Thank You from the club to all of you!!!

While the Sunday Night Net is now retired, there is some talk of using the time and frequency for Rag Chewing. We shall see...

What is the range of our repeaters? Joshua has requested for us to make a note of where we were when we made a long distant contact to the repeater and forward the information to him. His desire is to make a map of the coverage. Send your information to N4JHC@W4TRC.org.

Our next club event will be supporting the ARRL Year Of The Club 2026 by becoming a remote station for W1AW. At this time, clubs all over the country are transmitting W1AW as operators work toward their WAS (Worked All States). On June 13, our club will be at Warrior Path, Shelter #3 from 1200 - 1800 as one of these stations. For more information, read the January QST Magazine page 70 which is also online. You may read more about it on our website under [EVENTS](#). You can also sign up to be a club operator in 1 hour blocks of time. We are looking forward to this very special event!!!

Best Regards,

Larry Dale KKD4FNT

President

Club News

The KARC foxhunt will take place on March 21st. 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.

We need Net Control volunteers for our Sunday Evening 2 Meter Net! Starting March 15, our 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

Radio Clubs Encouraged to Plan Now for April Ham Radio Open House. ARRL is inviting radio clubs to participate in the second annual Ham Radio Open House in April. [Continue Reading](#)

2025 ARRL Sweepstakes Icom Dream Station Winner Announced at Orlando HamCation®. ARRL announced the winner of the 2025 ARRL Sweepstakes Icom® Dream Station on Saturday, February 14, at 2026 Orlando HamCation. [Continue Reading](#)

FCC Requires That FRN Contact Information Be Updated Within Ten Days of a Change. ARRL reports that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted changes to its rules to require that every holder of an FCC Registration Number (FRN) update their contact information in the CORES system. [Continue Reading](#)

New Book Release: Digital Networking for Ham Radio. ARRL's new book, Digital Networking for Ham Radio, a practical, hands-on guide to designing and implementing high-speed data networks for amateur radio stations, is now shipping. [Continue Reading](#)

Job Posting: FCC Recruiting 7 Field Agents - Electronics Engineers. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is looking for qualified applicants for Field Agents in seven Enforcement Bureau (EB) offices across the United States. [Continue Reading](#)

ARRL Headquarters Closed on Monday, February 23, 2026. Due to a severe winter storm, ARRL Headquarters and the Maxim Memorial Station, W1AW, will be closed on Monday, February 23, for the safety of our staff. [Continue Reading](#)

Icom America Named Official Sponsor of the ARRL Year of the Club. ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® is pleased to announce that Icom America is the Official Sponsor of the ARRL Year of the Club, supporting the initiatives that spotlight and strengthen ARRL Affiliated Clubs throughout 2026. [Continue Reading](#)

Hams Help Forecasters with Real-Time Data on Northeast Blizzard. A historic blizzard paralyzed much of the Northeast in late February, and amateur radio operators were on the air to help forecasters keep track of the storm's impact. Southeastern New England was one of the hardest-hit areas. [Continue Reading](#)

Dayton Hamvention 2026 Award Winners Announced. Dayton Hamvention® has announced its 2026 Awards. [Continue Reading](#)

Section Manager Nomination Results.The nomination period for the 2026 spring season Section Manager election cycle concluded on Friday, March 6. [Continue Reading](#)

Indiana Hams Living Under HOAs Gain Antenna Protections.The Indiana General Assembly has passed and Governor Mike Braun has signed a bill that adds protection for amateur radio operators who live in homeowner association (HOA) regulated housing developments. [Continue Reading](#)

Start Planning for ARRL Field Day 2026. [Continue Reading](#)

MFJ Documentary.Martin F. Jue: Life and Legacy. A documentary about MFJ Enterprises, ingenuity, legacy, and community. [Continue Reading](#)

Big numbers for POTA.Activity has grown substantially since 2023—roughly 40% overall. [Continue Reading](#)

ARISS beyond the ISS.ARISS is plotting a course to continue our mission in the government and commercial space realm beyond the targeted decommissioning of the ISS in the 2030 timeframe. [Continue Reading](#)

Canada to shut down its VHF weather radio service.Environment and Climate Change Canada cited increased costs and “more viable alternatives.” [Continue Reading](#)

Inovato, N0LSR Design Endorse Open HamClock Backend Public Server.New server will help keep HamClock running beyond June. [Continue Reading](#)

Amateur Radio Newsletter Round-up for March 2026.So many newsletters and magazines to read, so little time. [Continue Reading](#)

Students on the Air Satellite Activity Day StOTA.Event takes place every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month. [Continue Reading](#)

K9 Veterans Day Activation Honors Military Dogs.Calling CQ in tribute to dogs who have supported members of the military. [Continue Reading](#)

DXtra FCC Radio Database and Reverse Beacon Network Explorer.Visualization tools include coverage and VOACAP maps. [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://seviercountyars.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>

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.