Zero Beat



Kingsport Amateur Radio Club

October 2026 Edition

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President Notes

We had a Great turnout for the Fire Prevention Week, hosted by Heather Schneider, KR4ABM. Several contacts were made and Heather had a QSO with an operator in Spain!!! She and Kyle always have a very nice setup for this event!!!

The Club Luncheon was held at Eggs Up Grill in Kingsport and 12 of us enjoyed a tasty meal of breakfast or lunch items. As usual, the discussions were interesting and I think we solved all the world’s problems!!! Plan to join us next month!!!

Joshua is going to employ a Licensed Electrician to repair the issues at the repeater site and bring it up to code. Afterward, Todd Malone is scheduled to critique the RF side of the site. Thank you, Joshua for staying with this issue through some very complicated times!!!

Netherland Inn will be an exciting place to be Saturday at 0900 - 1700. There will be two stations and new for this year there will be Fox Hunting throughout the day!!! Please bring some good food to the event, Heather is bringing her World Class Chilli!!! Thank you Kyle Schneider, KR4ABN, for hosting this event!!!

Would you like to leave a positive influence on our club as an officer? Nominations for 2027 officers are in play now. Think about it...

See you Saturday, if only for a couple of hours!!!!

Larry Dale KD4FTN

President

Club News

The KARC foxhunt will take place on October 17th. 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 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! 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

2026 Collegiate QSO Party is October 3 – 4.Get ready to contact college and university radio clubs during this weekend’s Collegiate QSO Party, 0000 UTC October 3 through 2359 UTC ImageOctober 4 (Friday evening through Sunday in the US). Continue Reading

Watching the Gulf.The Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) is closely monitoring Invest 92L, which is expected to become Tropical Storm Isaias in the next 24 hours. Continue Reading

Radio Amateurs Prepare for Hurricane Isaias.The Hurricane Watch Net is up and running on both 14.325 and 7.268 MHz due to propagation conditions. Hurricane Isaias has increased in strength to Category 3 with maximum sustained winds of 120 miles per hour, making it a major hurricane. Continue Reading

ARRL Headquarters Closing Early on Friday, October 9, 2026.ARRL Headquarters Closing Early on Friday, October 9, 2026. Continue Reading

The 2026 ARRL Online Auction Is Now Open.The 21st annual ARRL Online Auction is open now through October 22. Browse more than 200 items and place your bids! Continue Reading

Florida Hams Provide Communications Support During Hurricane Isaias.Amateur radio operators from Florida’s Santa Rosa, Nassau, Lake, Pinellas, and Leon Counties played an important role in supporting emergency communications efforts during and following Hurricane Isaias. Continue Reading

eBay Restricts Listings of Radio Equipment, but Exempts Ham-Band-Only Gear.ImageOnline marketplace eBay has imposed new restrictions on listings of radio transmitting equipment in response to new FCC rules. Continue Reading

Call sign grace period: A hard lesson learned.Don’t forget to pay the renewal fee! Continue Reading

APRS Connect is Now on iPhone.Messaging-first APRS client available for iOS devices. Continue Reading

TX Factor Visits National Hamfest.Hamfest is the UK’s premier amateur radio rally. Continue Reading

The Radio Club of America Announces 2026 Award Recipients and Fellows.Since 1935, RCA has recognized through its awards program major contributors to wireless communications. Continue Reading

XCL.IS: Amateur Radio Cellular.XCL.IS is amateur cellular — real Ham Radio LTE on Ham bands. A project building practical Ham Radio cellular (amateur LTE) and IMS on the amateur spectrum. Continue Reading

The solar cycle is changing. Don’t panic.We’re not watching the end of Amateur Radio. We’re simply entering a different part of the cycle. Continue Reading

A simple JTTY app.It could be as simple to use as one of the phone instant messenger apps. Continue Reading

Good Ideas That Look Obvious in Retrospect.I’m convinced that one of those Good Ideas That Look Obvious in Retrospect is the LinHT (Linux Handheld Transceiver) as a user-changeable Software Defined Transceiver. Continue Reading

A hobby evolves to meet Gen Zers on their terms.Advances in technology, easier licensing procedures, and affordability are among the factors that make Amateur Radio attractive to youngsters. Continue Reading

SDR—Wire a receiver to a channel, the channel to a speaker, a map or a recorder. On your desk, or on a server at the antenna. Continue Reading

New game: BitWise.Close the loop and the lamp lights. Build the relay, the gate, the adder, the latch, the counter, and a machine that reads Morse. Every circuit runs on a real simulator, and the parts you build become parts you build with. 238 levels about electricity and the machines people made from it. Continue Reading

A media guide to Amateur Radio.Reporting on technical topics can be difficult, and as journalists, you want to get things right. Continue Reading

Anderson Powerpoles: There’s more. A lot more.Come on, Big Three! Read the room! Continue Reading

Spectrum allocation.Modern spectrum allocation chart. Continue Reading

Hamfests/Conventions – Let’s Go !

10/16/2026 - 10/17/2026 Hamfest Chattanooga 2026 Location: Ringgold, GA, ARRL HamfestSponsor: Chattanooga Amateur Radio Club Website: https://hamfestchattanooga.net

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 (KO4DCD)

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.