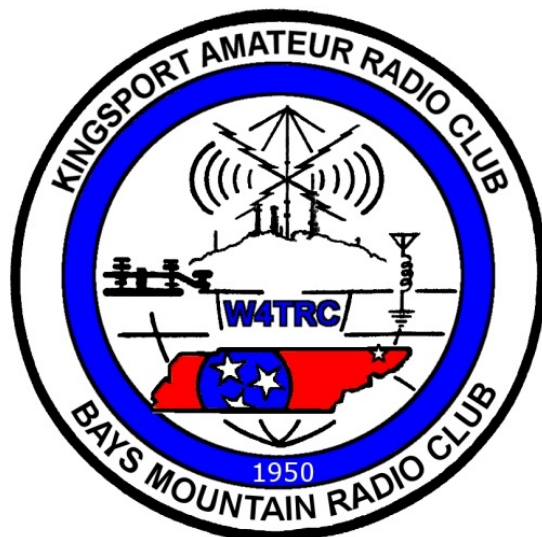


ZERO BEAT



June 2019

Next Meeting, Thursday, 13 June 1900 hours

Program: Logistical Planning for *2019 Field Day* lead by *D. Gulley*
KI4AAU

Kingsport and Bays Mountain Amateur Radio Club

Meeting Notes: 9 May 2019

Call to Order: Club President called meeting to order at 1900 hrs. There were 22 members and guests in attendance.

Prayer: Led by Walt Baldree

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by John Williams

Guest Speaker: Our club was honored to have Officer Tom Patterson of the Kingsport Police Department address our club following an invitation extended by our club president Mr. Rick Johnson. Officer Patterson is the Public Relations officer for the department. Officer Patterson described how his position functioned and how the KPD and the Kingsport Amateur Radio Club could mutually benefit each other. Officer Patterson confessed that he had little knowledge of Ham radio but he invited the club to prepare a power point presentation that could be presented to and shared among the officers and departments of the Kingsport Police.

Officer Patterson shared some of the early communication challenges faced by the department as it developed. The earliest method of sounding an alarm required the raising of a flag over the courthouse (this later became a light). If the flag was up or the light was on on-duty officers responded to the courthouse to be briefed on the emergency. Call boxes, pay telephones, one-way radios later followed by two-way radios later became the method of serving the public and communicating with the officers.

The presentation ended with an invitation extended to the club to visit and tour the Kingsport 911 center.

March Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve minutes as published in the Zero Beat by Bob Watts. Seconded by Carl Hacker. Unanimous approval by club members.

Treasurers Report: Provided by Neil Weber. Neil reported that the new DX-2 repeater had been purchased and was in our possession. Neil thanked the generous club members that donated the money for this project resulting in no cost to the club. The financial information was presented to the attending club members. Walt Baldree made a motion that report be accepted. The motion was seconded by John Williams and unanimously approved by the club members.

Repeater Report: Rick Johnson reported on behalf of Ken Klotz that the new repeater was on-hand and would be tested and installed soon. The new unit will enable us to reduce our equipment footprint in the repeater cabinet.

Website Report: Rick Johnson reported that the website is up to date.

Sunday Net: Participation is increasing, and the previously established net controller schedule is working well.

Old Business: Jason McChord reported that the recent STEM day was a success. Over 180 students and staff attended and participated in the programs and demonstrations provided by Carl Hacker and Jason.

New Business:

1. Extended discussion regarding the upcoming Field Day (22-23 June 2019). David Gulley volunteered to lead the effort again this year, but he cannot do it without help. The club was walked through the components and required support by David. Several members volunteered to support and participate. We confirmed that we have a reserved operating location at Warriors Path Park. We also confirmed that we will be operating three stations. Carl Hacker will lead on food preparation and he reminded the club that each attending member should donate \$5 to help defray costs. This subject will be covered in detail at the June meeting where all aspects of Field Day and specific assignments will be finalized
2. Tom Price reported that Officer Patterson had accepted his invitation to come to his home to see how a HAM station is set up and operated. During this visit Tom will provide Officer Patterson with detailed information on our capabilities as a hobby and club.
3. Makers Fair is coming up 23 July. Watch for details
4. Rick Johnson agreed to take the lead on the Power Point presentation to be developed for the Kingsport Police Department.
5. Tom Price reported that we had two examinees for General Class license prior to todays meeting. Both testers were successful.

Meeting Adjourned: Rick closed the meeting at 1953. We agreed to take a short break before resuming at 8:00 for a presentation by Patrick Quesenberry (K4LPQ) on Summits On The Air (SOTA). As a point of interest our club has the top five SOTA participants in the State of Tennessee.

Reports and Essays

At the February 14th meeting of the KARC/BMRC club, Neil Weber did a presentation on setting up a Panadapter for use controlling your radio. Unfortunately, the meeting coincided with Valentine's day and the turnout was rather low. He has put together these comments on the program for those who missed the presentation. (ed.)

A Panadapter will change the way you think about amateur radio. In short, if you have computer control of your radio, it can be set up for use with a panadapter. A panadapter will allow you to have spectrum analyzer capability and look across an entire band visually and change frequencies with a mouse click instead of rotating a dial and searching for a signal.

The panadapter that was presented during the presentation was the SDRPlay RSP1A coupled with the SDRUNO Spectrum analyzer software. This is available

readily at Ham Radio Outlet for about 120 dollars. <https://www.hamradio.com/detail.cfm?pid=H0-015965>

There is a little bit of connection necessary, but see the following link to demonstrate the capability of SDRUno software control of the radio. Notice how the whole band is available with a mouse click. There is no more searching for those signals. You can also easily distinguish a strong signal from those weak distant DX stations to allow you to easily control your radio!
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9cxkwF1Dp6k>

Many newer radios have an antenna output off the back of the rig. If your radio has this capability, it makes hookup easy. For instance, My radio is the Kenwood 590SG which has an output that can be setup via the software in the radio. However, this feature is not available on the older Kenwood 590. If the radio does not have an antenna output on the back of the rig, it will be necessary to buy an additional piece of equipment to protect the SDRPlay. I recommend the MFJ 1708 which is readily available on HRO for under \$100. What this piece of equipment does is allow the SDRPlay to see the same signal from the antenna that the radio will see. However, when you transmit, it blocks the signal from going to the SDRplay thereby protecting it. You will only apply 100W of power to the SDRplay once because it will instantly destroy the box so be careful hooking it up and make sure it is protected. See the following youtube video and ham radio outlet link for more info. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mmZ4Ru99fR8>
<https://www.hamradio.com/detail.cfm?pid=H0-016181>

I hope this helps and opens up a new realm of amateur radio to you. The total cost will be somewhere between 120 to 250 dollars depending on your need as described here. It has really made a difference in the way I operate. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Neil Weber
KM4NWH
NWEBER@PCLN.COMCASTBIZ.NET

September 20th and 21st, 2019, Pigeon Forge, TN

Hello Friends and Club Officials

I want to ask that you pass along this announcement about this year's W4DXCC convention onto your club members and friends, thank you in advance.

Hello from **W4DXCC 15 DX and Contest Convention**. The response to this years event has been tremendous.

We are finishing up the presenters for the Main Program but wanted to get it out so it's available online here [W4DXCC Program](#)

Friday is the Ham Radio Bootcamp where we do our best to provide the knowledge to New and Experienced Hams alike. If your new to some of the new digital modes like FT8 you wont want to miss Bootcamp.

Saturday is the main convention where we have 6 presenters giving you the inside scoop on what is going on. Following each presentation we have time for questions if you would like to know more.

We have all of the leading radio and equipment manufacturers setup in the lobby with the latest gear for you to twist the knobs or click the mice. More importantly you can have a one on one to ask questions about the gear with the company representative in a relaxed environment.

We have a fully operational Ham Shack setup where you can come learn hands on with an Elmer to show you the ropes and make QSO's in CW, Phone and different digital modes.

It is time to make your Hotel reservations for this years convention. Go here to the Website Hotel reservation page [Hotel Reservations](#)

Convention Registration is now Open including Online Ticket Purchasing. You can make

Articles and Reports for *Zero Beat* ??

Please submit these to wc5wm@arrl.net

THE ZERO BEAT NEWSLETTER

Is published monthly by the Kingsport Amateur Radio Club and Bay's Mountain Radio Club. For more information on the Zero Beat, please contact: Carl Hacker at WC5WM@arrl.com.

Kingsport/Bays Mountain Radio Clubs' Officers 2019

Rick Johnson: WB4RLJ, KARC President

Chuck Short : KK4JHL, KARC Vice President

Robert Watts: KM4VMZ, KARC Secretary

Neil Weber: KM4NWH, KARC Treasurer

Dave Stevens: WB4DES, KARC Deputy Treasurer

Klotz W4IJK Club Repeater License Trustee

Rick Light: KG4WZG, BMRC Vice President Dave Stevens: WB4DES,
W4TRC Webmaster Web Site: www.w4trc.org

Carl Hacker WC5WM: *Zero Beat* editor

W4TRC 146.970 MHz REPEATER INFORMATION:

Location is on Bays Mountain, Kingsport, TN

2 Meter repeater: 146.970 MHz, (-) PL Tone, 123.0 Hz.

440 Repeater: 443.325 Mhz. (+), PL Tone, 123.0 Hz.

33Cm. Repeater: 927.025 Mhz. (-) PL Tone 123.0 Hz.

Sunday Night Informational Net on 146.970 at 8:30 P.M. EST

For More Information on the KARC/BMRC and Amateur Radio, Visit our Club Website at www.w4trc.org

For More Amateur Radio News, Visit the American Radio Relay League Website at www.arrl.org

Net Schedules (as of 10/23/2018)

Kingsport Amateur Radio Club/Bays Mountain Radio Club weekly two-meter net, Sunday night at 8:30 p.m., on the W4TRC repeater at 146.970 Mhz. The net includes ARES® check-ins and an opportunity to sell, buy and/or swap equipment.

The Boone Trail ARES®/RACES Net is held each Monday night at 8:30 pm on the 146.820 MHz KF4VTM repeater. A C4FM digital Fusion net is held on Thursday evenings at 8:30 pm on 146.820 except for the 3rd Thursday.

The Carter County Amateur Radio Association (CCARA) repeater is WR4CC on 145.290 MHz, with a tone of 103.5. The club holds a net every Monday evening on their repeater at 8:00 pm.

The Johnson County Net is Monday at 9:00 PM on 145.290 MHz with a 103.5 tone or direct on 146.610 MHz with the same tone (103.5). 6-meter Net every Thursday at 8:30 p.m. The Net is at 53.330 MHz, and the repeater has a tone of 103.5.

Johnson City Amateur Radio Association's Net is held on Tuesdays at 8:00 p.m. on the 146.790 MHz Repeater. Tone is 131.8 with a negative offset. This net is not held on the 3rd Tuesday, the night of the JCARA's monthly meeting.

Bristol Amateur Radio Club's 2 Meter net meets every Tuesday night at 9:00 PM on the 146.070/670 Bristol Repeater.

Mountain Empire Amateur Radio Society's 440-net, Wednesday at 9:00 p.m., on the 443.00 Repeater. Everyone is invited to check in.

Unicoi County Amateur Radio Association's Net, Thursday at 8 pm on 147.270 MHz. Except for the first Thursday of the month which is the Club Meeting.

Area Amateur Radio Clubs/Organizations Meetings

Bristol Amateur Radio Club meets the first Thursday of each month at 7 pm in the Conference Center at the Bristol Memorial Medical Center. Take exit 74 off Interstate 81 in Tennessee. For more information, email w4ud@qsl.net

Carter County Amateur Radio Association meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7 pm at 805 Highway 91, Elizabethton, TN (0.5 miles past the 2nd traffic light on Hwy 91 or 3.5 miles from Hwy 19E on the left side of the highway).

For more information go to the Club's web page at <http://www.wr4cc.org>

Johnson City Amateur Radio Association meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 pm at the Washington Co/Johnson City EMS Training Building 296 Wesley Street Johnson City, TN 37601. Contact JCARA, 240 Hartman Road, Jonesborough, TN, 37659.

Kingsport Amateur Radio Club/Bays Mountain Radio Club meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 pm at the Toy Reid Eastman Employee Center, South Wilcox Drive, Kingsport, TN, unless meeting changes are made due to Eastman related activities. For more information email w4ijk1@gmail.com .

The Mountain Empire Amateur Radio Society (MEARS) meets the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m., at Washington County Public Library in Abingdon, VA, with possible exceptions in November and December. For more information, visit their website at http://www.home.earthlink.net/~mears_arri/

Scott County (VA) Amateur Radio Society meets the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m., at the EOC Building behind and under the Lonesome Pine Regional Library, Gate City, VA. For more information, email Jeff K4LMP at k4Imp@k4Imp.org

Unicoi County Amateur Radio Association will be moving the meetings to Maple Grove Restaurant in Unicoi. This change will take place Feb. 5, 2015. The weekly ARES nets will change to Thursday evenings at 8pm as of Thursday December 11, 2014. For more information contact Ken Johnson at w3gfmkj@gmail.com

Johnson County Amateur Radio/Ares club meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m., at the Johnson County Hospital Conference Room. For more information contact Danny Herman at K4DHT@dannyherman.com