

ZERO BEAT



March 2019

Next Meeting, Thursday March 14 1830 hours
Program: Field trip to WJHL-TV to visit its weather team. Details
will be provided by an e-mail from the president of KARC

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Kingsport and Bays Mountain Amateur Radio Club

Meeting Notes: 14 February 2019

Regular Club Meeting held 2/14/19 at the Eastman Employee Center at 7:00 PM

Submitted by: Robert D. Watts: Secretary

This Valentines Day meeting of our club turned out to be a lively discussion. Everyone participated and there was a good exchange of ideas.

Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 7:06 PM by our club president Rick Johnson
- We were a little delayed in starting the formal meeting as we received an update on the health of one of our members.

Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer: 706PM

- Pledge of Allegiance led by George DeVault
- Prayer Led by Larry Dale. Larry asked that we remember our absent members in our prayers

Introduction of Attendees: 707PM

- 8 members were in attendance
- Attendance sheets are on record

Reading and Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: Based on the length of the minutes of the last meeting Rick Johnson asked they the minutes be approved as published without formal reading

- Walt Baldrige made motion that the minutes be accepted. Motion was seconded.

Treasurers Report: Neil Weber

- The amounts in our checking and savings accounts and financial transactions in the past month were reported and are on file.
- Treasurers report moved for approval and seconded

Repeater Update: Ken Klotz

There was extended discussion in this area. Ken advised the club that Yaesu was running a special on upgraded repeaters that will end in June. The club has an opportunity to upgrade our 2 Meter transmitters from the current DX-1 to DX-2.

- We can trade in one of our current DX-1's for a credit of \$350 with the upgraded DX-2 costing an additional \$350. Ken recommended that we consider the trade and retain one DX-1 as a spare (we have two in service).
 - Benefits: Higher output (50 Watts continuous output vice the current 25). No requirement for artificial environmental capacity (air conditioning). New warranty and the ability to connect the unit to the internet. The unit is completely digital. Final benefit is there will be about a 3 dB gain in signal strength.
 - Discussion from the floor was why don't we upgrade both of our repeaters to the DX-2? If we upgrade both then our total cost will be \$1050 (includes a LAN card).
 - Can we get a sponsor to help defray the cost?

- Three present members of the club pledged \$550 to get this moving. A fourth member tentatively agreed to contribute \$100.
 - Ken advised the club that he did not anticipate the support for this suggestion and recommended that we table the project until May so that the proposal could be fleshed out for formal consideration. Subject tabled.
- The repeater is up and running in a stable condition. Participation is good with the 440-repeater receiving a lot of traffic.
- Ken noted that the placement of our repeater antenna on the tower may be shadowing the Bristol area resulting in less than optimal transmission and reception. While there is nothing that can be immediately done about this, it is important information and may help explain our poor signal propagation in the Bristol area.
- Fusion (145.250) is providing great area-wide reception.
- Ken reported that we have a landline in our repeater shack that is funded by Civil Defense. We should explore how to utilize this resource.

Website Update: 725 PM provided by Larry Dale standing in for Carl Hacker

- Winter Field Day pictures are up on the site
 - Pictures courtesy of Carl Hacker
- Club Officer information has been updated
- Tab added for articles and archiving
 - Two articles currently in place: QRP and NVIS by John Williams

Sunday Net Update: 730 PM Content provided by general discussion of club members

- Working well with good participation
- Rick Johnson reiterated our continuing need for Net Controllers. Rick encouraged our club members to step up and participate in this important club function. The script is on our website and there is plenty of support on the air.

ARES Report: Walt Baldree

- On 4 February the hospital system had a communications and operations test. Operations went well but we are being challenged by badging requirements. Walt noted that one former participant has stopped participation due to more stringent enforcement of the rules (immunization requirements)
- An email was received this past Friday indicating that all the radios had been replaced.
- No one knows anything about ARES in general. The operational and structural challenges noted in last months report have not changed.
- WINLINK and SHARES frequency information has been more widely disseminated and the SHARES frequencies reflect the new corporation. It is unknown if the sign-in codes have changed with the change in ownership.
- SHARES manual is now available on-line.
- Financial and resource donations are primarily coming from the Health Department vice the hospitals. It is speculated that the turmoil resulting from the local Trauma Center designations coupled with the resulting impact on financial considerations are the genesis of the problem.
- Walt noted that during an emergency affecting area-wide communications that the Sheriff and Kingsport Police would have to rely on the WINLINK capabilities at the Indian Path and Holston Valley hospitals.

Old Business

- None

New Business

- **Testing:** No one tested tonight. New General License test will be issued in June.
- **Rick Johnson met with the Kingsport Mayor**
 - Meeting lasted for an hour. Very cordial and informative. Mayor revealed that he was leaving the office in June (term expired)
 - Suggested that our club establish contact with the professional city staff (non-elected officials). Mr. Jeff Fleming is the City Manager and the Mayor recommended we start there.
 - Additional suggestions for opening doors for expanded community support and participation from the Mayor included:
 - Becoming a member of the Chamber of Commerce
 - Participating in the United Way
- **Rick Johnson reminded the club members that the active participation of the club members is an essential part of sustaining and redirecting our activities and energies to support the hobby and our community.**

Adjourn: 8:00 PM

- There being no additional business it was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned

Reports and Essays

TRI-CITIES, TN/VA, BROADCASTING PRIOR TO 1950

By George DeVault W3KPT

Broadcasting in the Tri-City area of northeast Tennessee and southwest Virginia began with the inaugural broadcast of WOPI in Bristol on June 15, 1929, at 6:30 PM. The initial broadcast from the Hotel Bristol featured a lavish banquet, live music supplied by the Kingsport Concert Band, remarks by civic and community leaders, and entertainment by various artists from around the region. The licensee, "Radiophone Company WOPI," was founded by its president, W.A. Wilson, a commercial telegrapher and radio enthusiast. The station's call letters stood for "Watch Our Popularity Increase." WOPI was the first station between

Knoxville, TN, and Roanoke, VA, and it was known for many years as “The Pioneer Voice of the Appalachians.” Wilson owned the station until 1959 when a succession of subsequent owners began culminating in the station’s acquisition by Holston Valley Broadcasting Corporation of Kingsport in 1996.

Originally operated on 1500 kilocycles per second (today called kilohertz), the station moved to 1490 on the dial following the Havana Radio Conference of 1940. Indeed hundreds of stations around the U.S. were directed to new frequencies in 1941 as a result of that conference. The station is now an affiliate of ESPN Radio, ABC Radio, and the U.T. “Vol” Network, and for many decades has broadcast local Tennessee High School football and basketball games. WOPI like most radio stations prior to World War II did not have a “format” in the sense that radio stations have formats today. Instead stations were usually “block programmed” with a certain kind of music forming one block and other genres of music, drama, or talk filling other hours. Non-network newscasts were largely obtained from a wire service.

During the 1930’s WOPI broadcast a live music program on both Saturday afternoons and Saturday nights featuring “hillbilly” talent from the region. For example, two prominent groups of area performers were the Carter Sisters and “Lula Belle and Scotty.” WOPI is perhaps best known as the original radio home of Bristol’s Tennessee Ernie Ford of “Sixteen Tons” fame. In keeping with Bristol’s fame as “The Birthplace of Country Music” WOPI returns to its old time country, bluegrass, and gospel roots with block programming for a few hours every Saturday and Sunday morning.

A little known fact is that the Tri-City area’s second broadcast station signed on later in 1929. It was WEHC, owned and operated by Emory & Henry College in Emory, VA, just a few miles up Lee Highway from Bristol. The original WEHC was short-lived, however, as the college sold it to raise funds shortly after the Great Depression began. WEHC operated on 1200 kHz. The buyer moved the station to Charlottesville, VA, and the new non-commercial Emory & Henry station, WEHC(FM), did not emerge until 1994.

The next town in the Tri-Cities to boast a local radio station was Johnson City where Hanes Lancaster, Sr., and W.J. “Jay” Birdwell put WJHL on the air in 1938 on the same frequency that had been WEHC’s, 1200. The call letters stood for Birdwell’s name “W.J.” and Lancaster’s name “Hanes Lancaster;” however after Birdwell’s departure for Knoxville most people assumed WJHL stood for “Johnson City, Hanes Lancaster.” In Knoxville in 1941 Birdwell started “WBIR” radio. The call letters are still alive on NBC TV affiliate WBIR-TV. With a power increase

WJHL moved to 880 on the dial with a nighttime directional pattern, and then after the Havana Conference it was reassigned to its current frequency, 910. Lancaster and his son, Hanes, Jr. started the Tri-Cities first television station, WJHL-TV, in 1953. WJHL Radio was an affiliate of the NBC Blue Network, which eventually became ABC, until 1957 when it became an affiliate of the CBS Radio Network. In the early 1960's WJHL radio was sold to the son of WOPI founder W.A. Wilson. James C. "Jim" Wilson operated the station for many years before selling it in what became a succession of new owners. Jim changed the call to WJCW (J.C. Wilson). WJCW is now owned by Cumulus.

The Tri-Cities next new station was WKPT in Kingsport, which began broadcasting on 1370 kHz in July of 1940. WKPT's copyrighted slogan was "The Nation's Model Station." With WKPT came the first national network affiliation in the Tri-Cities. Its principal owner, C.P. Edwards, working with WOPI's W.A. Wilson brought NBC affiliations to both WKPT and WOPI. In those days these stations were affiliates of the NBC Red Network. WOPI and WKPT formed "The Sister City Network," an occasional linkup between the stations to broadcast local programs of general interest to listeners in both Kingsport and Bristol. WKPT remained an NBC affiliate until well into the 1970's when NBC was dropped in favor of ABC, a move motivated by the popularity of ABC's Paul Harvey and the fact that WKPT-TV was an ABC affiliate.

One of the station's regular features was the Saturday Night Barn Dance on which local musicians performed live from Kingsport's civic auditorium. One featured performer was hillbilly musician, "Little Willy," whose real name was Doug Mays. Mays later moved to Charlotte, NC, where he became WBTV television's "Esso Reporter" and after retiring from WBTV did commentary for rival WSOC-TV ("We're Sold on Charlotte"). One of WKPT's most popular personalities was Martin Karant, who joined the station in the early 1940's. At various times he was program director, news director, and also announced play by play sports on games played by Kingsport's Dobyys-Bennet High School Indians. Karant and the station gained notoriety as a training ground for high school students interested in radio. Among the alumni of WKPT's student announcer program were NBC's John Palmer and well-known TV anchorman George Sells. (Among the "lesser lights" was yours truly.) After leaving the station for a few years to become a public relations executive in his native Chicago area, Karant returned to WKPT as a morning radio personality, a position from which he finally retired at age 80. After World War II a flurry of new AM stations began broadcasting in the Tri-Cities area --- most of them day timers. WCYB (the call sign stood for "City of Bristol")

debuted in 1946 as did WBEJ in Elizabethton. WCYB's principals included two alumni of WOPI, Bob Smith, who had been WOPI's chief engineer, and former WOPI program director, Fey Rogers. One of WCYB's most popular programs was the daily Farm & Fun Time. Many popular blue grass and country and western artists appeared on the show including regulars Lester Flatt & Earl Scruggs. One of WCYB's most colorful personalities was Eddie Cowell, an alumnus of WJHL and WBEJ. Eddie was famous for some of the hoaxes he perpetrated. For example, he caused a near riot when he announced that a Nazi submarine had been spotted in South Holston Lake.

In 1956 WCYB licensee, Appalachian Broadcasting Corporation, put WCYB-TV on the air after a series of expensive FCC hearings in which another firm, Tri-Cities Television Corporation, fought for the same channel. Interestingly Tri-Cities Television was controlled by the Edwards family, which also owned WKPT radio and the daily Kingsport News and Kingsport Times publications and by the Wilson interests, owners of WOPI. Rogers and Smith were principal executives at the TV station for decades as general manager and general sales manager respectively. Appalachian divested itself of WCYB radio around 1970 when WCYB-TV was sold. The call letters under its new owner became WZAP.

WFHG in Bristol hit the air on January 1, 1947, as a Mutual Broadcasting System affiliate at 860 on the dial as did WETB in Johnson City at 790, which was co-owned with the Johnson City Press Chronicle. Originally licensed to Blanfox Radio Company, Inc., WFHG left the air for months not long after its initial sign-on in order to reorganize. With two other Bristol stations already on the air, the competition for advertising dollars was getting tough in "The Twin City." It later emerged with broadcast entrepreneur Pete Nininger at the helm. Late in 1949 WFHG moved to 980 on the dial and added nighttime service. As the flagship station of Nininger's Bristol Broadcasting, Inc., the station was often number one in the Tri-Cities market in the rock and roll 1960's.

As one might imagine, WETB debuted with much promotion in the Press Chronicle. It was initially affiliated with the Texas-based Liberty Network, which featured music, news, and recreated play-by-play of major league baseball games. When the Liberty Network ceased operations, WETB became affiliated with the Mutual Broadcasting System. WETB quickly hired WJHL program director, Bernie Burleson, and former WJHL engineer, "Jeep" Jones. Well-known WETB personalities included newsmen Ray Moore and Meryl Moore (not related), who later became the principal anchorman at WCYB-TV. Ray Moore later became news director at WSB ("Welcome South Brother") in Atlanta.

Before Mutual affiliated with WETB, it was the network of Elizabethton's WBEJ ("Bristol-Elizabethton-Johnson City"), which was first licensed to Robert W. Rounsaville, who also owned a number of other stations in the southeast. In those days Mutual featured many dramas and adventure programs including westerns and mysteries as well as noted news commentator, Gabriel Heater. Another popular Mutual show was Pool's Paradise featuring WKPT veteran, Bob Pool, as disc jockey host. WBEJ's early on air staff included program director Bill Lowery, who became known in music and programming circles in Atlanta, Terry Sams, who later spent a few years at WJHL, and finally served as general manager of WJBF-TV ("J. B. Fuqua"), the ABC-TV affiliate in Augusta, Georgia, and Berlin Benfield. Benfield later served as a news anchor at WJHL-TV where as "Pecos Ben" he also hosted the popular kids' show The Foremost Round-up Club. He spent much of his later career at WSB in Atlanta.

FM COMES TO THE TRI-CITIES

It should come as no surprise that the first three pioneering broadcasters to build lasting AM stations in the Tri-City market were also the first three to build FM stations.

FM came to the Tri-Cities on Christmas Day, 1946, when broadcast pioneer W.A. Wilson, founder of the market's oldest AM station, put WOPI-FM on the air from atop White Top Mountain in Virginia. The story of WOPI-FM's early days operating from the mountain-top is enough to fill several articles. The staff at the WOPI studios in Bristol constantly monitored WOPI-FM while the staff on White Top Mountain monitored WOPI(AM). When the engineer and announcer were snowbound at the FM site during blizzard-like conditions, there needed to be communication between White Top and Bristol. As the story goes, the FM crew called the Bristol studio *over the air on WOPI-FM* and the Bristol crew responded *over the air via WOPI(AM)*. In a telephone-like conversation information was exchanged regarding weather conditions, the welfare of the FM staff, and what supplies were needed on the mountain. Those supplies were parachuted in from a small airplane!

Eventually the FM transmitter site was moved to a much lower altitude, the WOPI(AM) transmitter site on the Abingdon highway near Bristol. Then in 1954 both the AM & FM transmitters were moved to a site in Wilson Heights where the AM and its FM translator remain today. WOPI-FM was sold to the owners of daytime-only station WKYE in the 1970's. The call was changed to WKYE-FM. Only a few years later WKYE-FM was sold to Bristol Broadcasting Company, which changed the call to WFHG-FM. Later under the current call, WXBQ, the

transmitter was moved to lofty Holston Mountain. With its country format WXBQ has been the number one rated station in the Tri-Cities market for many years. The second FM station in the Tri-Cities was WKPT-FM in Kingsport. Its sign-on, originally planned to occur in 1946, was delayed until February of 1948 due to a fire which destroyed the WKPT studios and offices in downtown Kingsport. Some equipment already purchased for the new FM station was also destroyed in the fire. When the FM station finally signed on in 1948 it did so from brand new grandiose studios, which served both WKPT AM and FM and were designed to also house a future WKPT-TV. Capable of seating over 100 people, Studio A was large enough for the Kingsport Symphony to practice in and it did so for many years. WKPT-FM was the first Tri-Cities FM station to run more than 10,000 watts effective radiated power. The station signed on with 13,000 watts and increased power to 44,000 watts only a few months later.

Early FM programming was separate from WKPT(AM)'s programming. Then most of the AM programming was simulcast for several years, but with a break-away from 6 to 9 PM for easy listening and classical music. In June of 1961, WKPT-FM began separate programming most of it coming from an early automation system. On Saturday nights from 8 to midnight, however, the staid FM dial was jolted by WKPT-FM's Saturday night Rockarama, the first rock and roll music heard from a Tri-Cities FM station. In 1963 WKPT-FM became the market's first FM "stereo" station. In the mid-1960's WKPT-FM became "The Country Giant," pioneering country music on FM in the market.

By the early 1970's with management deeply involved in the new WKPT-TV, the FM station went to the then popular and easy to manage automated "beautiful music" format and remained in that format until basically swapping formats with WKPT(AM) in 1986. The AM became beautiful music, but with heavy amounts of news and play by play sports, and WKPT-FM with the relatively new call WTFM ("Tri-Cities FM") became an adult contemporary station. The station's power was increased to 100,000 watts in 1976. In the late 1980's its transmitter site was moved from Bays Mountain overlooking Kingsport to the much taller Holston Mountain. WKPT and WTFM have only had two owners since their inception ---- the Edwards (Kingsport Broadcasting Company) and beginning in 1966 Holston Valley Broadcasting Corporation while WKPT-TV, which signed on in 1969, has only had one owner, Holston Valley.

The third FM station in the Tri-Cities was WJHL-FM. The Lancaster family was not as confident in FM as its two pioneering FM competitors, but did not want to miss out on having an FM license. WJHL-FM took to the air in March of 1948 just

weeks after WKPT-FM's debut. WJHL-FM's power was only 250 watts radiated from an antenna mounted on a platform supported by three telephone poles behind the AM transmitter building on Princeton Road in Johnson City. While most programming was simulcast from its AM sister, the station did limited separate FM programming including the Sunday afternoon New York Philharmonic broadcasts from CBS in the 1950's. There was little fanfare when the station signed on. The main internal notification to staff was when the chief engineer posted notices in the control room and elsewhere reminding the announcers that every time they said "WJHL" on the air from now on, they should follow those call letters with the words "AM and FM." Later after the sign-on of WJHL-TV in 1953, WJHL-FM's transmitter was moved to the TV site on Tannery Knob in eastern Johnson City. When the TV station later moved to Buffalo Mountain WJHL-FM moved there as well. An interesting feature in the very early 1960's was WJHL's experimentation with AM-FM simulcast stereo. This was before an FM Stereo system was approved by the FCC. One stereo channel was broadcast on the AM station and the other on the FM. Since there was much more listening on AM, when songs where the vocal track was only heard on one of the stereo channels were played the channel with the vocal track was always put on the AM station. When Jim Wilson bought WJHL AM & FM in the early 1960's the calls became WJCW AM & FM, but the big splash came in the mid-1960's when Wilson changed the FM call to WQUT and took the station to a progressive rock format. The power was increased to 65,000 watts and later to 100,000 watts on the new frequency of 101.5 MHz Today the three earliest FM stations in the Tri-City market are the top three radio stations ratings-wise in the market: WXBQ, 96.9, with its country format, WTFM, 98.5 with its adult contemporary format, and WQUT, 101.5 with its classic rock format.

The author of this article, George DeVault, is past president of Holston Valley Broadcasting Corporation based in Kingsport, Tennessee, from which he retired in 2017 after over 50 years of combined part-time and fulltime employment at the WKPT stations. He holds advanced amateur radio license W3KPT. Much credit for this article is also due to the late Dr. Herb Howard, formerly dean of the Graduate School of the University of Tennessee College of Communications, whose excellent recollections of the history of radio and TV in the Tri-Cities region were invaluable.

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

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

A.R.E.S.

Walt Baldree, K4YCP, West Sullivan County ARES® Coordinator

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_arrl/

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 k4lmp@k4lmp.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