

ZERO BEAT



March 2020

Next Meeting, Thursday, 9 April 2020 1900 hours

On the W4TRC 2 Meter repeater: 146.970 MHz, (-) PL Tone, 123.0 Hz.

Program: To be announced

KARC / BMRC March 2020 meeting minutes

The March 12th meeting was called to order by the Club President Rick Johnson WB4RLJ - The Pledge to the American flag was recited followed by a word of prayer provided by John Williams.

A motion was made to accept the Secretary's report as printed in the Zero Beat. This was seconded and passed unanimously.

The Treasurers report was read by Neil Weber. A motion was made , seconded and passed unanimously. Detailed in the report was that we currently have 22 paid memberships where at this time last year we had 30. Also the club liability insurance will be due in June and following that we may need donations toward field day and picnic expenses. Field day will be June 27 -28 in shelter house #3 at Warriors Path Park.

Repeater report - machines are up and running and receiving good use. A site inspection visit is still in the works as weather etc. permits.

Web site - site is up and contains excellent content, Larry Dale welcomes new content from anyone wishing to do so.

Sunday weekly net - Great participation every week. Carl Hacker will not be calling the net on the 4th. week due to radio path issues and George W3KPT offered to pick up that 4th. week in the rotation.

Old business - The club communications trailer project did not make the draw for a grant in this latest round, however we will "remain in the race" for the next draw. we will be looking at school and educational opportunities to promote the club and this project.

New business - Discussions will be had to look into future events such as a special event station at the Exchange place and possibly doing things like "Parks on the Air".

With no further business the meeting was adjourned and the attendees were treated to a presentation by Neil Weber on Hex Beam Antennas.

Reports and Essays

Antennas At The Condo

By Larry Dale KD4FTN

I have moved. I have moved to a place where I share my building with two others. I have acquired a monthly HOA expense. And lastly, I am prevented from putting up... antennas.

Oh My Goodness!!!! What Have I Done To Myself!!!! I have always said "I will never move to a condo or acquire HOA fees. What is that phrase we have all been told so often to never, never say? Why it is "I will never"...

The reason we moved to this location is simply that it is perfect for my wife and I at this time in our life. Therefore....

So I hid my antennas. As you can see, my JPole is located in a cluster of trees. It works Great!!! But I plan to purchase a longer PVC and paint the PVC and JPole black, thereby making it harder to see.

I purchased my JPole from <https://www.jpole-antenna.com> and my RG-8U from DX Engineering.

The antenna I use for SOTA has given me magnificent results. Therefore, I chose to use the same 35 foot end-fed antenna and hid it in the trees. I can't even see it!!! As you know, propagation is everything and this hobby, like all electronics, is Magic (mostly theory). I love this little antenna because I get good results from it.

The hf antenna is good for 40-6m at 100w. I have used it on 80m. It was purchased from <https://kx3helper.com> and the RG-8X from DX Engineering.

Blessings,

Larry
KD4FTN



Reprise from February Zero Beat

Perhaps your bout of Cabin Fever needs a project to distract you. Why not use your radio and complete the following exercise?

Nets and repeaters listed in Zero Beat

Several nets and repeaters are listed in the *Zero Beat*. There are two projects for members of the club this month and indeed at any time. The first project will be to check into the net and if appropriate get a signal report. Then report to me the date you checked in, your location when checking in, and the signal report you received and the power you were using. Use the following e-mail address: carl.hacker@outlook.com.

The second project will be to monitor the repeaters used by the nets when it is convenient and, if you can join in a QSO, get a signal report. Then report the same observations to me when convenient. I will compile these observations and report the outcome in future additions of *Zero Beat*.

Thank you for your willingness to begin what I intend will be a larger and more methodically designed study of coverage footprints of several popular (i.e. chatty) repeaters in our area. Where my interest is motivated by the Skywarn program, other amateur radio activities could find value with this information.

Articles and Reports for *Zero Beat* ??

Please submit these to wc5wm@arrl.net

George DeVault is preparing a article to be published soon. Regular readers of the journal are familiar with his work and will appreciate reading more from him. Another member of the club is attending a program on using amateur radio for public service events (not ARES, Skywarn, or bicycle races) and I am nudging him to file a report or article soon.

THE ZERO BEAT NEWSLETTER

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

Kingsport/Bays Mountain Radio Clubs' Officers 2019

President, Rick Johnson

Vice President, George DeVault

Treasurer, Neil Webber

Dave Stevens: WB4DES, KARC Deputy Treasurer

Secretary, Ken Klotz W4IJK

Ken Klotz W4IJK Club Repeater License Trustee

Rick Light: KG4WZG, BMRC Vice President Dave Stevens: WB4DES,

Webmaster Larry Dale KD4FTN

Web Site: www.w4trc.org Larry Dale

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)

(Please report changes you find in the schedules)

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_arl/

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