

ZERO BEAT

Official Newsletter
Kingsport Amateur Radio Club/Bays Mountain Radio Club

February 2009

Club Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Pierce, WD4NMQ, at 8:02 PM. The prayer was led by Phil Alley, KE4FFO, followed by self introduction of everyone present. David Gulley, KI4AAU, made a motion to accept the minutes as printed in the Zero Beat. Earl Oaks, N4ZFA, seconded the motion.

The Treasurer Report was given by David Stevens, WB2SIN. A copy was given to the president and secretary.

The Repeater Report was given by Jeff Pierce. He stated that there was nothing new to report. He stated that there will be work details coming this summer to work on the 440 machine and antennas.

Earl Oaks gave the Website Report. He would like for everyone to continue with any comments or suggestions for the website.

Phyllis Maness, KG4DTX, informed the club that everything was going well with the newsletter. She encouraged everyone to fill out the survey located on the website. She will be placing a column in the newsletter called "Member Showcase". Let her know your interests in ham radio, when you got your license, if you had an Elmer, etc. She also asked if anyone found anything interesting; send it to her so she can place in the newsletter.

Don Mullins, AE4IA, told the club that we should continue to use the club shack. He asked that if we were using an open flame to make sure that we had a fire extinguisher available.

Jennifer Taylor, KI4TNT, gave the report from the committee researching vests. She stated that the vests from Wal-Mart or Sears were compliant with legal laws. Jeff Pierce made the motion that the committee purchases 5 vests to be used by the club. Dave Stevens seconded the motion. The motion passed.

David Gulley, chairperson of the committee for researching a local swapfest, stated that he was not finding an interest or having any luck finding a location for a swapfest.

Dave Stevens is the temporary Sunday night Net Coordinator. We have five net operators but could use volunteers. The website has a Google sign up sheet for those individuals interested in calling the net.

There was a question about the liability of club members while doing events. Earl Oaks will look into details pertaining to this matter.

ARES will not be having monthly meetings. If at any time, a meeting is needed, it will be posted on the w4trc website.

The club was reminded that club dues should be paid as soon as possible. Dues are \$10 for an individual or \$15 for a family.

Earl Oaks made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike McGlynn, N5ZXP, seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:54 PM.

Following the meeting, a program about Foxhunting was presented by Jeff Pierce and Earl Oaks.

Important Dates

Every Sunday
2 Meter Net on 146.970 at 8:30 PM
(Backup Repeater is Gate City 146.820)

March 12
KARC/BMRC Club Meeting at the Toy F. Reid Employee Center
7:00 PM, Room 219

March 14
Breakfast Get-Together at Golden Corral, Eastman Road
8:30 AM

The club will have a special election at the March 12 meeting. This is to elect a Club Trustee. Please try to attend this very important meeting.

Club Dues

Dues are \$10.00 for a single member or \$15.00 for a family and can be paid at the club meeting or send a check made out to KARC with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Treasurer David Stevens. His address is 2621 Wildwood Drive, Kingsport, TN 37660. Eastman employees can join the Bays Mountain Amateur Radio Club for \$3.00. Retirees are free.

Meeting Refreshment List

March – Scott Bigliardi
April- David Stevens
May - Denni Feagins
June – Mike Greer
July – Jennifer Taylor
August – Club Picnic
September – Phil Alley
October – Lynn Anderson
November – Phyllis Maness
December – Christmas Party



March 26 Rick Light (KG4WZG)

Net Manager Needed

The club needs a new Net Manager for 2009. If you are interested in volunteering your time as a manager or just calling the net, visit w4trc.org and click on the Net Control Ops Sign-Up link on the left of the page. You can choose any net date available. If you have any questions, contact any net volunteer or utilize the Google Group Users link, also found on the website.

Club Website

w4trc.org

KARC/BMRC CLUB OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES FOR 2009

President

Jeff Pierce, WD4NMQ

BMRC Vice President

Rick Light, KG4WZG

KARC Vice President

Denni Feagins, KI4YYV

BMRC Secretary Treasurer

Phil Alley, KE4FFO

KARC Secretary

Phyllis Maness, KG4DTX

KARC Treasurer

David Stevens, WB2SIN

Club License Trustee

Position Open

Chaplain

Tom Jayne, KF4RLG

Field Day Captain

Denni Feagins, KI4YYV

Activities Manager

David Gulley, KI4AAU

Zero Beat Editor

Phyllis Maness, KG4DTX

Station Manager

Don Mullins, AE4IA

Net Manager

Position Open

Acting Net Manager

David Stevens, WB2SIN

Club Photographer

Jennifer Taylor, KI4TNT

W4TRC Webmaster

Earl Oaks, N4ZFA

Member Showcase

WA4LBN

Carroll Cross

Carroll has been an Amateur for 25 to 35 years. He operates a TS530S with remote VFO on 20 meter CW mostly using a Hornet tri-band beam or vertical antenna. He also runs two meter equipment. His Elmer was Fred Dillinger who is now a Silent Key. He was an editor of the Zero Beat newsletter years ago.



N4IR

Jim Roller

Jim has been a ham since he was 13 years old. His Elmer was actually named Elmer, W4HFA, who is now a silent key. He enjoys working all the HF bands almost exclusively on CW. His primary interests in ham radio are contesting and DXing. His many awards include DXCC CW & Mixed, DXCC Honor Roll, 6BDXCC, A-1 Op, WAZ, WAC, WAS (CW, 160m) and several others from various contests.



KI4CVU

Tom Price

Tom originally was KA6FPB (Novice) in 1979 while stationed at George Air Force Base in California. He was active in U.S.A.F. M.A.R.S. (AFB6BO) while there. He did not have any radios except the MARS 2 meter hand held. Shortly after 1980, he was reassigned to R.A. F. Lakenheath in England and spent the next 9 years at several bases in Europe. His novice class expired and was not renewed. In August 2003, he went to a Technician Class taught by Gerald Cardwell (N4KTB). He passed to become a Technician Plus. He has now achieved his General Class and studying for Extra Class.

Laura Smith Named to Succeed Hollingsworth at FCC

Laura Smith – an attorney, ex-FCC official, ex-lobbyist and magazine columnist -- has been appointed as the FCC's next Special Counsel for Amateur Radio, according to the ARRL. Smith worked at the FCC from 1990 to 1998, rising to become Deputy Division Chief of the Public Safety and Private Wireless Division of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. She left the FCC to work for the Industrial Telecommunications Association, which she was leading by 2001. More recently, she has been working as a communications lawyer with a Maryland law firm. At press time, her appointment still had not been formally announced by the FCC. See the "Washington Readout" column in the April issue of *CQ* for more details.

CQ Newsroom, Posted February 23, 2009

ARRL Adopts CQ Guidelines on Skimmer

Newsline reports that the ARRL's Program and Services Committee has approved the use of the CW Skimmer and other multi-channel decoders in its contests, but only in the assisted and multi-operator categories.

The CW Skimmer program monitors the full bandwidth of the user's receiver and decodes and types out Morse code characters from multiple stations within the pass band. Last year, the CQ World Wide Contest Committee voted to permit the use of Skimmer-like technology in CQ-sponsored contests, but only in multi-op and assisted categories. The ARRL committee's decision means that the same basic rule now applies to all major contests.

CQ Newsroom, Posted February 23, 2009

DTV Transition Delayed Until June

Faced with the prospect of some six million Americans losing their television signals due to being unprepared for the Congressionally-mandated switch from analog to digital TV transmissions on February 17, Congress acted ahead of the switchover date to delay the deadline until June 12. However, some stations are still planning earlier switchovers. Hams in many areas have been involved in public education efforts,

The Commission has provided a new online tool, using Google Maps, to help people figure out what signals they should be able to receive. If you go to <http://www.fcc.gov/mb/engineering/maps/> and enter your Zip Code, it will show the locations of nearby transmitters as well as their predicted signal strengths.

CQ Newsroom, Posted February 23, 2009

ARRL Says Proposed IEEE Standard on BPL is Weak on Interference Protection

ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, says new standards proposed for Broadband over Power Lines (BPL) by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) "(do) not offer any real protection to amateur radio." Hare, an IEEE member and member of the working group that developed the standards, told the *ARRL Letter* that the group was "heavily dominated by the BPL industry and its ... partners," and noted that the ARRL was the only "radiocommunications stakeholder" to regularly attend its meetings. He said most of the major proposals he made toward creating an electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) standard that would protect licensed radio services were voted down by the group. As a result, he said, the end result essentially restates the FCC's rules on BPL interference.

CQ Newsroom, Posted February 23, 2009

New Japanese Ham Satellite Silent since Launch

Japan's KAGAYAKI satellite has not been heard from since its launch on January 23. It was one of eight satellites launched together, seven of which operate on the ham bands. KAGAYAKI was supposed to begin transmitting Morse code on FM or 9600-baud packet on its downlink frequency of 437.375 MHz, but the AMSAT News Service reports it had not been heard as of February 15th. Controllers think that either an antenna or the solar panels may not have extended properly, resulting in very weak transmissions. Hams are asked to monitor 437.375 for KAGAYAKI and report anything heard to JN1GKZ at m-arai@a.email.ne.jp.

CQ Newsroom, Posted February 23, 2009



Hamfest

March 21, 2009
Middle Tennessee Amateur Radio Society
First Methodist Church
208 West Lauderdale Street
Tullahoma, TN



Interested in placing information in the newsletter?

Contact Phyllis Maness, KG4DTX

kg4dtx@gmail.com

This monthly newsletter is published as a service to members of the Bays Mountain Radio Club and the Kingsport Amateur Radio Club.