



THE SIGNAL



Official Newsletter of the
Tulsa Repeater Organization



Vol. 48 Issue 2 April 2015

“Covering Tulsa through the air”

UP FRONT – A Word from the Editor

The petite brunette walked up to the TRO table at the 2015 Green County Hamfest when I was the only one sitting there. She said, “I don't know anything about ham radio. Why would I want one?”

Ask me a loaded question, and I'll give you a loaded answer. And I sure gave here a load of information!

I started with how hams can talk when the phones go down or get overloaded during emergencies and disasters. Then I said, “Beyond that, ham radio is one of the most varied and fun hobbies or pastimes anyone can participate in,” before going into the different aspects of ham radio. I finished by bringing things full circle by telling how we use public service events to prepare for disasters because we often encounter the same kinds of operating conditions in both types of events.

She left with a handful of brochures, flyers, and a copy of the February issue of The Signal. While her visit was the highlight of Hamfest for the TRO table, it wasn't the only bright spot that weekend. Several members paid their dues, and we picked up a couple of new members. Chase Crum, KG5CLM and I had an interesting discussion with some hams from Memphis TN, including one who, despite having been a ham for over 30 years, had never seen the Special Service Club logo on our banner.

Many thanks to those that helped out or hung around the TRO table: Steve Miller, AA5V, Paul Young, KE5EHM, Jim Erb, KG5EWW, Gary Parham, KC5ZQP, Fred Williams, KD5NBR, Brian Gnad, KB5TSI, and Mike Reynolds, WOKIE. Special thanks to Chase and Ray Young, K5CFY, for relieving me so I could grab some grub and shop a little bit. Several more members stopped by, and if you are not mentioned here by name, your visit is still appreciated.

Two weeks after Hamfest, we were back out representing the club and ham radio at the Wagoner County Emergency Preparedness Expo at the Coweta Intermediate High School. Paul brought out a canopy and tables, I set up the PR kit, Ray brought out the Sub Club's tower, and Ben Joplin, WB5VST, brought out one of the club's APRS trackers in the new waterproof box.

Tom Stroud, KD5OPH, with David Kupiec, KE5RBR, came out in Tom's Big Blue chase truck. Kenneth Baucum, KG5CBM, Brian, Fred, Paul, Ray and Ben also had their spotter/chaser vehicles on display. Rob Giger, KG5AUN hung around and also hooked up his portable dualbander to the tower.

Visitors to the display included Nathan Huffstetler, AE5NK, OK ARES Zone 5, District 1 Emergency Coordinator, Mark Roberts, KD5SMF, Craig Wooten, KD5CUZ, Jack Clark, KE5EHY, Kevin Wade, AE5SW, Brian Duncan, KG5GMW, and Gary McGee, KC5VCN.

(cont'd on next page)



In This Issue

PAGE 1 Up Front

PAGE 2 Up Front
cont'd

The Official Word

PAGE 3 For The Record

New Members

Getting Technical

Repeater Status

PAGE 4 Getting
Technical *cont'd*

Getting Radio Active

PAGE 5 Getting Radio
Active *cont'd*

The Big Picture

PAGE 6

The Big Picture cont'd

Club Meetings

Hamfest Schedule

PAGE 7 Testing... Testing
Making Contact

UP FRONT – A Word from the Editor (cont'd)

A special guest was Mike Scantlin, who brought out The Dominator tornado intercept vehicle, a Chevrolet Tahoe with an armored shell added.

I also met Jim Moore, KB5RMK in the hospitality tent. He was there with a Search and Rescue group. Jim was active In SAR years ago when we were both part of Creek County Emergency Management.

We did have a couple of ladies come by who seemed interested in becoming hams because of hams they knew.

Our next PR events comes up next month on Saturday 16 MAY 15. Camp Bandage will be in a new location this year, the Chisholm Trail Park South, 4000 E New Orleans, Broken Arrow OK, just east of the NSU BA Campus and the Creek Turnpike.

Of course, the coming months will see lots of other ham radio activity with the public service events and ARRL Field Day. I will try to make as many events as I can, and I hope to see you there as well.

THE OFFICIAL WORD! - What Our Leaders Have To Say

PREZ SEZ - Chase Crum, KG5CLM



As I write this, we're already four months into 2015. The year is just getting started and it is already flying by. Committee meetings are already in full swing for a few of the functions we have been asked to support. Our SkyWarn spotters have already played an active role in severe weather tracking that put life saving information into the hands of the people we serve, our family and neighbors and fellow Oklahomans. Four months has already given us this much, with so much more in front of us.

I cannot find the words to adequately express the joy and gratitude that I have for each of you and our organization, for placing your confidence in me to take this organization forward. I am humbled by the depth of experience and knowledge that our group possesses, and honored to be given such a responsibility by each of you .

We have already begun to address a number of topics that are of real importance to our organization. I am already receiving reports from our committees on a few of them. Having seen the level of thought and discussion that has been put into them, I know you will be as impressed as I am when they have the opportunity to present them to you.

Looking forward through the year, a lot of what we do will seem like a lot of what we've always done. While I don't see much changing, I am taking a personal responsibility to set aside some time to enjoy a day or two together with our friends and families. I will also be placing a focus on reaching out to the community we serve to find news ways to bring in new and future operators.

As always, if you have any suggestions for ways our organization (or even myself) can grow or improve, please don't hesitate to let me know. You can ALWAYS feel free to call or email me personally.

-Chase
Chase Crum (KG5CLM)
Public.chase@gmail.com
(918) 991-9031

VEEP'S PEEPS – Paul Young, KE5EHM



If you have not paid your TRO member dues please do so asap.

We have 2 events behind us now Green Country Ham fest and the Wagoner County Preparedness and Safety Expo. I want to think every one that helped out.

Coming in May we have 2 TRO events, Camp Bandage on the 16th, and Maple Ridge Run on the 25th. There is one TRAC event, Tour de Tulsa May 2nd.

In June we will have 2 events, Tour de Cure on the 6, and ARRL Field Day, 27th and 28th. TARC has one big event Tulsa Tough 13th and 14th.

Any one wanting to help out on any of these events please check out TRO web site calendar: tulsahamradio.org/Calendar for fuller information.

Hope to see some of our new member helping out on some of these events.



FOR THE RECORD – Minutes, Money, and other organizational stuff

No Minutes received
 No Treasury Report received
 No Testing Results received

NEW MEMBERS

Jason Dawson KE5KFB Kari Dawson KF5KFC

Welcome to the TRO and thank you for joining!

GETTING TECHNICAL – Engineering Report, Tech Articles & Tips, Repeater Status

ENGINEERING REPORT – Joe Gorkos, N5TEX

The biggest change this month was made at Skiatook water tower. The Skiatook link is up and running but will not access the remote receiver at CityPlex. It works fine with a 146.28 PL82.5 signal into it and the UHF has good audio quality and RF coming out of it. The Skiatook UHF repeater is linked into 444.100 repeater. We now need to look at City Plex and find out why it is not seeing the Skiatook signals.

All other systems are functioning , DMR system may have a long term fix for Internet access but not installed yet.

Many thanks to Tom, Bob, Ben, and the wild man from up North of Skiatook, Larry for working on the Skiatook repeater.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON 146.88 from Merlin Griffin, WB5OSM:
 The remote receiver at Skiatook is back in service. It wakes up to an 82.5 PL tone. We will not try to actually vote it with the Keetonville link receiver until we have chance to balance the audio as close as possible at all three receiver sites, and check the calibration of the voter card.

So here is how 146.88 works right now -
 If you are South of I-244 you probably want to use a 141.3 PL tone. This wakes up the receiver at City-Plex.
 If you are North of I-244 and West of Sheridan, you are probably going to do best with the 82.5 PL tone. (Skiatook)
 If you are North of I-244 and East of Sheridan, you will probably do best with the 88.5 PL tone (Keetonville)

Outlying areas:
 Owasso, Claremore, Catoosa do best with the 88.5 PL tone.
 Skiatook, Sand Springs, and Collinsville probably do best with the 82.5 PL tone.
 Tulsa, Jenks, Bixby, and Broken Arrow probably work best with the CityPlex receiver on 141.3.

At some point we will try to switch Skiatook to 88.5, but that is again after some more testing and tweaking. CityPlex will probably stay on 141.3 it's completely different equipment and has different audio characteristics and does not lend itself to a voter system. While we have a VHF Maxtrac we could install up there, the present receiver is in a RF-Tight box. When you have it setting in the same cabinet as a 120 Watt transmitter only 600 kHz frequency difference you need all the isolation you can get.

(cont'd on next page)



REPEATER STATUS

146.805 (-) PL 88.5 71st & Yale Working

148.880 (-) PL 82.5 (Skiatook receiver) 88.5 (Keatonville receiver) or 141.3 (CityPlex) 81st & Lewis Working, with audio problems

146.940 (-) PL 88.5 9th & Detroit Working

444.1 (+) PL 88.5 41st & Skelly Drive Working

442.725 (+) PL 88.5 NW of Skiatook Working

444.950 (+) No PL Autumn Oaks, 71st & Yale Working

ATV Repeater

421.250 Output

434.250 Input

Work In Progress

GETTING TECHNICAL – Engineering Report, Tech Articles & Tips, etc. (con'td)

ENGINEERING REPORT (con'td)

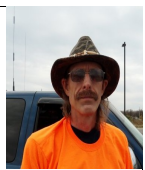
For those of you that don't know where Keetonville is, this is hill about 6 miles northeast of Owasso on Highway 20 between Owasso and Claremore. On this hill is a 200' commercial tower that belongs to Muskogee Communications. They are very graciously hosting us at no cost to us. The site had a DB-224 antenna already installed with a commercial grade feed-line running into the building. They installed the UHF beam for us. Pretty cool huh? Also out there is an APRS packet digipeater, a 222 MHz machine, and a 70 CM DMR repeater. Then they have some commercial customers that pay the bills for the site.

GETTING RADIO ACTIVE - Activities Report, Schedule of TRO Events

<p>TRO EVENTS</p>
<p>PUBLIC SERVICE</p>
<p>Maple Ridge Run</p>
<p>Monday, 25 MAY 15</p>
<p>Memorial Day</p>
<p>25th & Owasso</p>
<p>American Diabetes Association Tour de Cure</p>
<p>Saturday, 06 JUN 15</p>
<p>Hillcrest South Medical Center, 91st & US 169</p>
<p>PUBLIC RELATIONS</p>
<p>Camp Bandage</p>
<p>Saturday, 16 MAY 15</p>
<p>Chisholm Trail Park South</p>
<p>4000 E New Orleans, Broken Arrow OK</p>
<p>(101st & the Creek Turnpike)</p>

<p>OTHER PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS</p>
<p>Tour de Tulsa</p>
<p>Saturday, 02 MAY 15</p>
<p>Spirit Bank 18th & Boston</p>
<p>This is a TARC event.</p>

ACTIVITIES REPORT – Tom Stroud, KD5OPH



A Look at Activities for the 2015 Season:

I would like to start out by saying thank you for a successful 2014 activities season. Our support was within needed numbers and expectations. It goes without saying the 2014 season was a very busy one for our communications team, with key roles in events to include the Tulsa Fleet Feet Maple Ridge Run, American Diabetes Association Tour de Cure Bike Ride, Tulsa Center of the Universe Music Festival, Claremore Lake Triathlon, Oklahoma Bike MS, Tulsa Williams Route 66 Marathon, and Cystic Fibrosis Tulsa Cycle for Life. We also had supporting Roles with other clubs to include the Tulsa Tough Bike Rides, Pryor Dam Jam cross country 100 mile bike ride, and Tulsa Fall Century Bike Ride. Combine that with PR activities to include the Wagoner County Emergency Preparedness Expo, Camp Bandage in Broken Arrow, Second Chance Safe Rooms Storm Chaser Appreciation Day, Broken Arrow Boy Scouts of America Fall Festival, and the Tulsa Health Department Preparedness Fair, along with our Field Day at Chandler Park, and Christmas Party to close out the year.

Our communications Team consisted of about 30 HAM Radio Operators at different times through out the year to include Ben Joplin, Fred Williams KD5NBR, Paul Teel WB5ANX, Don Poquette KE9XB, Brian Gnad KB5TSI, Stan Callahan KE5HPB, Kenneth Baucum KG5CLM, Paul Young, Ray Young K5CFY, Bart Pickens N5TWB, Doug Lee KC5ZQM, John Grace KD5VSB, Pete Visser KF5YIW, Joseph Hodgson KF5ZKT, Mike Halley WB5SQC, Charles Burka KE5AHE, Steven Hammans W5HRA, Mark Adams WA5MA, Rob Giger KG5AUN, Chase Crum KG5CLM, Lynda KE5VYN and Merlin Griffin WB5OSM, Ed Compos K5CRQ, and myself, and I am very appreciative of all them for the time, dedication, and support for these beneficial events.

Most all the events that we support are put together to raise funding for dreaded diseases like Diabetes, Muscular Sclerosis, Cystic Fibrosis, Tulsa United Way (a very large contributor to the Tulsa Red Cross). Hundreds of thousands of dollars have been raised to support these worthy causes and in return tens of thousands of people have been or will be helped in their time of need. Several of our team members have told me of direct ties that they have with these dreaded diseases either by a family member, friend, or personal experiences that's why they are there and why I work to help event organizers and committees work to put these together.

(cont'd on next page)

GETTING RADIO ACTIVE cont'd - Activities Report, Schedule of TRO Events**ACTIVITIES REPORT (cont'd)**

It takes hundreds of hours to plan and assimilate the needed arrangements, logistics, and volunteer support to make an event happen. Our 8 to 16 hour spot on the day of the event is nothing to what these committee members have put in. For the most part they are volunteers doing it because they want to make a difference like those HAM Radio Operators that I have mentioned. For us as HAMS or Amateur Radio Operators we get the chance to exercise our equipment and our communication skills for those times when things are not so good like Earthquakes, Severe Weather, Hazardous Emergencies, or to looking for a lost child or keeping communication lines open for local Hospitals when normal sources are down or not working. Keep in mind when all else fails Armature Radio will still be working and getting the message through.

Looking at the schedule for 2015 we are getting close to that time of year. It breaks down into some different categories: what we know, what we don't know or what is pending for one reason or another. Lets look at that.

Coming up in May, we are planing for the Maple Ridge Run, which is always on Memorial Day. Like always we need around 12 operators and it will last about half a day.

Moving to June we are getting ready for a supporting role at the Tulsa Tough Bike Race this will be a 3 day event, we are looking for 20 operators on day 2 and 15 on day 3. You can volunteer for this event on the Face Book page and we would like for you to sign up on the Tulsa Tough Volunteer page when doing so.

Also in June we will have a key role at this years Tour de Cure. The route will be the same as last year and you can find information on the Face Book page we will need 20 operators for that one.

In July we have a pending 2 day event at The Tulsa Center of the Universe Music Festival. We can use 15 operators on both days. You can sign up on the Face Book page for this pending event.

In July or August we have a pending event at the Claremore Lake Triathlon, this event is usually dropped on me at the last minute so I allowed room for this Fleet Feet event. We will need 10 operators for this 100 mile bike ride.

In September we have a supporting role at the Pryor Dam Jam. 15 operators are needed and there will be sign up information on the Face Book page.

To close out September if we can get the event voted in we will have a key role at this years Bike MS 150. The route is completely different from last year. We are trying to gain help from the Oklahoma City Clubs. All this is pending and we have a lot to arrange to make this happen.

This will move us to our next pending events the Cystic Fibrosis Cycle For life in October and Williams Route 66 Marathon in November. Once the pending issues have been worked out you will see a Face Book page developed for them. Additional information can be found on our TRO web page and Face Book page along with weekly updates in our signal bulletin.

Remember that you are not required to be a member to attend any of our 2015 line up and walk ins are welcome. We will see you out in the field or on the road. Keep it live and on the air. ... 73's ... Tommy KD5OPH

THE BIG PICTURE – News from ARRL, Green Country Hamfest, ARES, Skywarn...

**Tulsa County
Amateur Radio Emergency Service**
www.ARESOK.org

ARES-OK 2M FM Simplex Contest

When: Saturday, August 15, 2015 @ 7 to 10 PM (local time)

www.Tulsa2MeterContest.org

THE BIG PICTURE – News from ARRL, Green Country Hamfest, ARES... (cont'd)

CLUB MEETINGS

TRO Fourth Tuesday of the month, except June (Field Day) and December (Christmas)
 1900 (7PM) Tally's Cafe, 11th & Yale
 Schedule for 2015: 28 APR 26 MAY 27-28 JUN
 (ARRL Field Day) 28 JUL 25 AUG 22 SEP 27 OCT
 24 NOV 15 DEC
tulsahamradio.org

Tulsa Amateur Radio Club Third Tuesday of the month
 1900 (7PM) Keplinger Hall, TU Campus, 5th & Harvard
 Schedule for 2015: 21 APR 19 MAY 16 JUN 27-28 JUN (ARRL Field Day) 21 JUL 18 AUG 15 SEP 20 OCT 17 NOV 15 DEC
w5ias.com

Broken Arrow Amateur Radio Club First Monday of the month (exceptions for holidays)
 1900 Central Park Recreational Center, 1500 S Main, Broken Arrow
 Schedule for 2015: 04 MAY 01 JUN 06 JUL 03 AUG 08 SEP (Tuesday due to holiday) 05 OCT 02 NOV 07 DEC (tentative due to holiday)
w5drz.org

American Airlines Amateur Radio Club Last Saturday of every EVEN numbered month
 0900 (AM) Martin East Regional Library
 26th & Garnett
 Schedule for 2015: 25 APR 27 JUN 29 AUG 31 OCT 26 DEC

Rogers County Wireless Association
 Second Saturday of the month 0900 (9 AM)
 Golden Corral Restaurant
 1405 West Will Rogers Boulevard
 Claremore OK
rcwa.org

HAMFEST SCHEDULE

GREEN COUNTRY HAMFEST 08 - 09 APR 16

Claremore Expo 400 Veterans Parkway, Claremore OK 74017

Regular planning meetings are the 2nd Thursday of every month, except summer, at the Rib Crib, 81st & Yale. Next meeting will be 14 MAY 15 at the Claremore Expo Center.

www.greencountryhamfest.org

Dayton Hamvention, 15 - 17 MAY 15

Hara Arena
 Dayton OH

hamvention.org/

Ham-Com, 12 - 13 JUN 15

Irving Convention Center
 500 West Las Colinas Blvd., Irving, TX 75039

hamcom.org

Ham Holiday, 24 - 25 JUL 15

Oklahoma City Bricktown Hotel/Conference Center, 2001 East Reno Avenue (I-40 & Martin Luther King Ave.)

hamholiday.org

2015 Central States VHF Society Conference
 Thursday - Sunday 23 - 26 JUL 15

Denver Marriott Westminster
 7000 Church Ranch Boulevard
 Westminster, CO

2015.csvhfs.org/

ON TAP: Joplin MO in AUG, Mena AR & Ada OK in SEP

TESTING... TESTING.... - VEC Test Session Schedule

WALK-INS ARE WELCOME AT ALL SESSIONS!

ARRL VEC SESSIONS:**Tulsa Repeater Organization**

Third Thursday of odd-numbered months, 1900 (7 PM), except March

American Red Cross

10151 E 11th (11th & US 169)

Tulsa, Oklahoma 74128

Contact: Merlin Griffin WB5OSM at 918-520-7668 - leave message, or email: WB5OSM@hotmail.com

Schedule for 2015: 14 MAR (@ Green Country Hamfest) 21 MAY 16 JUL 17 SEP 19 NOV

First Saturday of odd-numbered months - 0930 to 1100 (9:30 to 11 AM)

Broken Arrow Public Service Complex

1001 N 6th Street

Broken Arrow OK 74013

Contact: Loyd Beeson, AE5MM at ae5mm@arrl.net or 918.638.2393 (text msg or voice)

Schedule for 2015: 07 MAR 02 MAY JUL (TBD due to holiday) 05 SEP 07 NOV

Broken Arrow Amateur Radio Club

Second Saturday of even-numbered months at 0930 (9:30 AM)

Church of Christ

505 East Kenosha Street

Broken Arrow, OK 74012

Contact: Don Doyle AC5II at AC5II@arrl.net or 918-379-0962

Schedule for 2015: 11 APR 13 JUN 08 AUG 10 OCT 12 DEC

W5YI VEC SESSIONS:**American Airlines Amateur Radio Club**

Last Saturday of even-numbered months, 0945 (9:45 AM)

Martin East Regional Library

2601 S Garnett Road

Tulsa, OK

Contact: John Campbell, K5ENA, at k5ena@cox.net, or 918 346-8284

Schedule for 2015: 28 FEB 25 APR 27 JUN 29 AUG 31 OCT 26 DEC

MAKING CONTACT – How To Find Out More About The Tulsa Repeater Organization

Our Website: www.tulsaamradio.org

Our Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/189314365941/>

Our Yahoo Group: <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/WA5LVT/info>

MAKING CONTACT – Club Officer Contact Information

President (outgoing)	Stan Callahan	KE5HPB	918.381.9990	ke5hpb@tulsahamradio.org
President (incoming)	Chase Crum	KG5CLM	918.991.9031	kg5clm@tulsahamradio.org
Vice-President (outgoing)	Ben Joplin	WB5VST	918.396.1651	wb5vst@tulsahamradio.org
Vice-President (incoming)	Paul Young	KE5EHM	918.637.8414	ke5ehm@tulsahamradio.org
Secretary	Ed Compos	K5CRQ	918.231.7730	k5crq@cox.net
Treasurer	Steve Miller	AA5V	918.381.8574	aa5v@tulsahamradio.org
Trustee	Merlin Griffin	WB5OSM	918.520.7668	wb5osm@tulsahamradio.org
Activities	Tom Stroud	KD5OPH	918.695.3735	kd5oph@tulsahamradio.org
By-Laws	Gary Parham	KC5ZQP	918.369.1065	kc5zqp@aol.com
Engineering	Joe Gorkos	N5TEX	918.230.8243	n5tex@tulsahamradio.org
Membership	Charles Burka	KE5AHE	918.812.3843	ke5ahe@tulsahamradio.org
Operating Standards	open			
Past President	Mark Conklin	N7XYO	918.366.2007	n7xyo@arrl.org
Public Relations	Doug Lee	KC5ZQM	918.805.0337	kc5zqm@gmail.com

Want more information about the Tulsa Repeater Organization or have questions about articles in the newsletter, contact us at email address wa5lyt@tulsahamradio.org or write to:



Tulsa Repeater Organization

Tulsa Repeater Organization
P.O. Box 1422
TULSA, OK 74101-1422

Mail to: