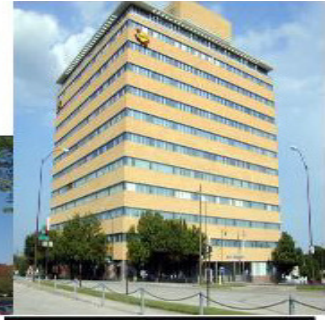




THE SIGNAL



Official Newsletter of the
Tulsa Repeater Organization



Vol. 56 Issue 3

March, 2023

“Covering Tulsa through the air”

PREZ SAYZ:

I don't know about you, but I am ready for Green Country Hamfest. Friday April 7 from 4-9 and Saturday April 8 from 8 – 3. If you can make sure you make it to one or both days. I will be their both days drop by the TRO table and say hi. Not much going on this month as far as the club. The next club meeting is March 28 at Freeway Cafe 5849 S 49th West Ave. Tulsa. Meeting starts at 7:00. Come early if you want to eat with us (6:00). I hope to see you at the meeting. Also your TRO club dues are due this month.

TRO President
Paul Young - KE5EHM

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OFFICERS ELECTED FOR THE 03/2023 THROUGH 02/2024 FISCAL YEAR:

President	- Paul Young	- KE5EHM
Vice-President	- Don Ferry	- N5DGF
Secretary	- Bart Pickens	- N5TWB
Treasurer	- Steve Miller	- AA5V
Trustee	- Merlin Griffin	- WB5OSM

TRO MEMEBRSHIP DUES:

TRO annual membership dues are due in March. Regular - \$25.00 and Family - \$30.00

Mail To: Tulsa Repeater Organization

P. O. Box 1422

TULSA, OK 74101

You can make payment using PayPal. If you have a PayPal account, sign in to your account, select the Send and Request feature, then select Pay for Goods or Services. The system will ask for an email. Use wa5lvt@tulsahamradio.org. Then set the amount to \$25.00 US, add the description, “2023 TRO Membership Dues for < your name & callsign >,” designate the checking account or debit/credit card you wish to use, and submit. Both you and myself will receive confirmation emails when the payment has been processed.

GREEN COUNTRY HAMFEST APRIL 7th & 8th, 2023:

Green Country Hamfest will be April 7-8 back at the Claremore Expo Center again this year. Admission is \$8.00 in advance and \$10.00 at the door. Flea Market tables are \$15.00 in advance and \$20.00 at the door, if any remain. Commercial booths are \$50.00 each and electrical connections are \$25.00. If you want electricity in the flea market area, please talk to us as arrangements have to be made. Top three prizes all from Yaesu, 1st Prize the FTDX10, Second Prize the FT-991 A, Third prize the FT-891. Then we will do this for the first time in a long time, we will hold a special raffle prize drawing also from Yaesu the all new FT-710 AESS 160-6 meters 5-100W SDR radio, with one of the best receivers there is, external speaker included. This will be a special raffle, tickets will be \$20.00 ea, only 100 will be sold. These super prize tickets will only be sold at the Hamfest and will go on sale Friday at 16:00. The deal is a \$20.00 ticket will get you one chance to win a rig that goes for about \$1100 on the open market. The drawing for the special raffle prize will be at 1400 Saturday. You do not have to be present to win. The drawing for the grand prizes will be at 1500 Saturday.



On-line registration is open now until March 31. Go to our website greencountryhamfest.org
73 de WB5OSM

TRO TREASURY REPORT OF 03/19/23:

Total TRO Accounts Beginning Balance	\$5492.91
Checking Beginning Balance	\$1638.88
03/14 3301 Reasor's – U.S. Postage stamps for membership reminder mail out.	-50.40
03/15 Deposit 1 new membership	+25.00
Checking Balance	\$1613.48
PayPal Beginning Balance	\$265.36
PayPal Ending Balance	\$265.36
Cash Beginning Balance	\$95.00
02/28 Membership Renewal	+25.00
Cash Ending Balance	\$120.00
Savings Beginning Balance	\$3493.67
02/28 Interest Earned	+0.54
Ending Savings Account Balance	\$3494.21
Total TRO Account Balance	\$5493.05

Respectfully Submitted by Steve Miller – AA5V 03/19/2023

New Membership – Jack Bryant – N5RBI

MINUTES OF 02/28/2023 TRO MEETING:

Freeway Cafe - General meeting
Tulsa Repeater Organization

Paul Young - Presiding

13 Members were present.

Regular Business:

Treasurer report, as published in The Signal: Moved for approval by Bart, seconded by Don - APPROVED

Minutes/Secretary report, as published in The Signal: Moved for approval by Don, seconded by Steve - APPROVED

Engineering: no outages, search continues for a new location for the .805 & .95 repeaters

Activities: Storm spotting class by NWS @ OSU-Tulsa, 3/11, 9a-1p;

Green Country Hamfest, Claremore Expo Center, 4/7-8;

Copland Classic bike event safety/comm support, 5/20.

Annual Election: The nominated slate of officers was published in the current issue of The Signal, as required by the TRO By-Laws. The nominated slate was moved for approval by Steve, seconded by Joe - APPROVED: President - Paul Young, Vice President - Don Ferry, Treasurer - Steve Miller, Secretary - Bart Pickens, Trustee – Merlin Griffin.

The required motion to bypass two successive terms of service by the president was approved at the January meeting.

Adjournment - moved, seconded, & approved

Respectfully submitted -

Bart Pickens, N5TWB

TRO Secretary

TRO MARCH 16th VE TEST SESSION:

By Merlin Griffin - WB5OSM

At the **TRO**/Tulsa Red Cross VE Exam session on Thursday March 16:

Mr. Craig Thompson of Broken Arrow, new Technician

Mr. Thomas Ellis KI5TZG of Tulsa upgraded from Tech to General.

Mr. David Webster of Sperry, new Technician

Mr. James Beans KI5YVL of Glenpool, iupgraded from Tech to General

Mr. Daryl Christy KI5ZTD of Broken Arrow, upgraded from Tech to General

So we produced two new licensees and three upgrades to General, but nobody attempted to take the Extra Class exam. Five candidates served in all. With everybody getting what they came for on the first try, 100% pass rate.

The VE Team was Bob Cehlenik KF5EQX, Don Ferry N5DGF, Jerus Barnett AI5Q, David Kennedy N5DMK, and Merlin Griffin WB5OSM. We loaded up just a bit on VE's as I am recovering from Rotator Cuff surgery, on Tuesday the 14th, and wasn't sure how much I would be able to participate.

Surgery went well. I did have a little bit of a reaction to the pain medication, but, am doing very well now.

There will be two exam sessions at the Green Country Hamfest/ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention April 7 @ 1800, April 8 @ 1300. Then we will be back at the Red Cross on May 18 @ 19:00.

BTW the General Class Question pool will change on July 1 this year, so new element 3 tests will be in effect starting then.

TIPS FOR NEW ARES OPERATORS:

Tips for New ARES Operators

Most hams new to public service operating begin their efforts on the air through a local 2-meter FM repeater. Area hams tend to congregate there for sundry activities: traffic and ARES nets, swap nets, weather spotter nets, club meetings, training nets, and informal chats, discussions, and weather report exchanges. You will quickly learn their protocols, courtesies, and nuances of repeater and net operating, which, along with simplex (i.e., direct communication without repeaters) operation, form the bedrock of public service operating. Listen at first, and don't transmit until you feel that you have a basic idea of the above. It could take listening to several nets over the course of many evenings before you feel comfortable transmitting and checking in.

To do it, you'll need a radio, of course! Start with a simple-to-operate 2-meter/70-cm FM handheld with a short, flexible rubber-coated antenna, or better yet, a simple "whip" antenna that will yield more gain. The marketplace has a plethora of choices available from many manufacturers, and most are advertised in *QST*. Browse the ads, and check out *QST*'s Product Review, which regularly features reviews of handhelds. Search for past reviews on ARRL's website – www.arrl.org/product-review -- and ask local hams for their recommendations; try other hams' handheld radios.

You will be taking your radio into the field for public events, emergencies and disasters, so portability is a critical, needed feature. You will have to operate "off the grid," that is, away from commercial mains, so you will need alternative power sources such as batteries, portable generators, and solar panels. The same goes for antennas: you will want to find a balance between getting antenna gain sufficient to initiate and maintain communications from potentially remote locations, and the ability to easily transport and erect them in the field.

Keep power output as low as possible: Just a watt or two should be enough power to talk across your neighborhood or community on simplex and through your local repeater. Higher power output translates to faster battery discharge and depletion. Most handhelds come with a basic rechargeable battery pack and "wall wart" battery charger, but have as options larger capacity battery packs, and higher-power desk "drop-in" chargers that will charge your batteries faster (although faster charging rates tend to reduce the life of the battery). Buy a second battery pack to use when you're charging your first battery. Buy the optional alkaline battery holder as a backup in the event your standard rechargeable battery pack(s) fail(s). The use of batteries for handhelds and other types of radios was addressed in the Public Service column in the March 2015 issue of *QST*. The use of portable generators is discussed in the Public Service column in the October 2015 issue of *QST*.

For enhancing your reception and transmitted signal, forego higher power in favor of a better antenna instead. Consider purchasing a telescoping 5/8 wave whip antenna that replaces the rubber-coated shorty antenna that your radio came bundled with, which will give you higher gain, and hence, wider coverage for your signals and better "copy" on weak or distant stations. (Don't toss out the flexible rubber antenna, however: it's useful for close-in communications).

- Originally written by K1CE for the ARRL Operating Manual.

ENGINEERING REPORT:

No changes to any of the repeaters.

REPEATER STATUS
146.805 (-) PL 88.5 ? ? ? ? – Down
146.880 (-) PL 88.5 (CityPlex), 82.5 (Skiatook) or 141.3 (Keetonville receiver) 81 st & Lewis – Working
146.940 (-) PL 88.5 Sun Building, 9 th & Detroit – Working
927.700 (-25 MHz) (902.7) CityPlex - Working
Metro Link:
444.1 (+) PL 88.5 Skyline East 41 st & Skelly Drive – Working
444.725 (+) PL 88.5 GRDA tower NW of Skiatook – Working
444.950 (+) PL 88.5 ? ? ? ? – Down

TRO Scheduled Activities:

March 28, 2023 Tuesday 1900 TRO Monthly Meeting at Freeway Cafe
5849 South 49th West Avenue. Come early to have supper.

April 7 & 8, 2023 Friday & Saturday Green Country Hamfest
Claremore Expo 4 to 9 PM Friday and 8 AM to 3 PM Saturday

April 25, 2023 Tuesday 1900 TRO Monthly Meeting at Freeway Cafe
5849 South 49th West Avenue. Come early to have supper.

May 20, 2023 Saturday 0800 Copland Classic Bike Ride
6066 East 66th Street North. Communications & SAG support

May 23, 2023 Tuesday 1900 TRO Monthly Meeting at Freeway Cafe
5849 South 49th West Avenue. Come early to have supper.



ARES Net

Thursday evenings at 8:00 PM
1st, 2nd and 3rd Thursdays on the 147.39 MHz repeater
4th and if there is a 5th Thursday use the
TARC Super Link System 443.850 MHz PL 88.5 Hz

CLUB MEETINGS

Tulsa Repeater Organization

Fourth Tuesday of the month at 1900 (7PM) except June (Field Day) and December (Christmas). Meetings are held at Freeway Cafe at 5849 South 49th West Avenue in Tulsa. If you plan on eating be there 30 minutes to an hour early.

Tulsa Amateur Radio Club

Third Tuesday of the month 1900 (7PM)
Meetings are held at Tulsa University Keplinger Hall Room 3140 (west of Harvard & 5th Street)

Broken Arrow Amateur Radio Club

First Monday of the month (except for holidays) 1900 (7 PM)
Community Recreation Center, 1500 South Main, Broken Arrow

Rogers County Wireless Association

Second Saturday of every month at 0800 (8 AM)
Check the RCWA website at www.rcwa.org for meeting information. I couldn't find it.

VE TEST SESSIONS *WALK-INS ARE WELCOME AT ALL SESSIONS!*

Check with the contact for each testing session for their plans.

Tulsa Repeater Organization

Third Thursday of odd-numbered months, 1900 (7 PM)
American Red Cross 10151 E 11th (11th & US 169) Tulsa, Oklahoma 74128
Contact: Merlin Griffin WB5OSM at WB5OSM@hotmail.com or (918)520-7668 - leave message

Broken Arrow Emergency Management

First Saturday of odd-numbered months - 0900 to 1100 (9:00 to 11 AM)
Broken Arrow Public Service Complex 1001 N 6th Street Broken Arrow OK 74012
Contact: Loyd Beeson, AE5MM at ae5mm@arrl.net or (918)638-2393 (text msg or voice)

Broken Arrow Amateur Radio Club

Second Saturday of even-numbered months at 0930 (9:30 AM)
Broken Arrow Public Service Complex 1001 N 6th Street Broken Arrow OK 74012
Contact: Don Doyle AC5II at AC5II@arrl.net or (918)379-0962

Rogers County Wireless Association (New session in Owasso)

First Saturday of each quarter at 0900 (9:00 AM)
Trinity House, 9210 N Garnett, Owasso OK 74055
Contact: Dustin Dye, AB5C at contact@rcwa.org or (918)734-0869

ARRL VEC SESSION

Last Saturday of even-numbered months, 1000 to 1130 AM
Broken Arrow Public Service Complex 1001 N 6th Street Broken Arrow OK 74012
Walkins welcome until 1030
Contact: Skipper Smith, NQ2J at: nq2j@cox.net or (918)853-8118

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

Our Website: www.tulsahamradio.org

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

Our Twitter: <https://twitter.com/TulsaRepeaters>

TRO OFFICER CONTACT INFORMATION

President	Paul Young	KE5EHM	918.637.8414	ke5ehm@tulsahamradio.org
Vice-President	Don Ferry	N5DGF	918.607.3292	n5dgm@tulsahamradio.org
Secretary	Bart Pickens	N5TWB		n5twb@tulsahamradio.org
Treasurer	Steve Miller	AA5V	918.381.8574	aa5v@tulsahamradio.org
Trustee	Merlin Griffin	WB5OSM	918.520.7668	wb5osm@tulsahamradio.org
Activities	Paul Young	KE5EHM	918.637.8414	ke5ehm@tulsahamradio.org
Engineering	OPEN			
Public Relations	OPEN			
Membership	Tom Stroud	KD5OPH	918..695.3735	kd5oph@tulsahamradio.org
Operating Standards	Ed Compos	K5CRQ	918.231.7730	k5crq@cox.net
By-Laws	Gary Parham	KC5ZQP	918.369.1065	kc5zqp@aol.com
Past President	Mark Conklin	N7XYO	918.232.8436	n7xyo@tulsahamradio.org
Newsletter Editor	Steve Miller	AA5V		aa5v@tulsahamradio.org

Want more information about the Tulsa Repeater Organization or have questions about articles in the newsletter? Contact us at email address wa5lvt@tulsahamradio.org or write to:

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

Mail to: