



THE SIGNAL

Tulsa Repeater Organization

TRO's Official Monthly Newsletter

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August 2013

PRES SAYS BY STAN CALLAHAN—KE5HPB



July—I hope that everyone had an enjoyable and safe July 4th celebration. I enjoyed a 4 day weekend as did most people this year.

We all survived Field Day again this year. The temps were decent. The winds were our biggest challenge this year. It seemed like we spent as much time repairing wind damage as we were on the radios. The wind did a number on Ben's awning on his RV. We did gain a new member at Field Day, Lewis Montes, KF5VSC. He made his first HF contact at Field Day, when he wasn't working on Ben's awning, trying to repair it. Joe Gorkos N5TEX worked hard on it as well. As did a few others to took turns hammering away at the awing. Thanks to all who helped repair it so Ben could get it home.

It looked like our attendance was down this year at Field Day, I don't know what the reason was. Our overnigheters were only about 5 of us between both clubs. I want to say thank you and good job to Joe Gorkos for putting together the menu for our meals this year.

We have 2 new events th is month. First up is the Fleet Feet Duathalon on July 14. this will take about 6 operators to work. The 2nd one is the 'Center of the Universe' Festival. This is a 2 day (evening) event. We are in need of 10 people each night for communications at gate entrances to the festival. ops can be handled with HT's. This event is from the same people as the RT. 66 Marathon. This is important that if we can to cover this event because they are a financial supporter of TRO.

In August we have been asked to support a tri-athlon in Claremore by Fleet Feet. This will be discussed at the July meeting. It is up in the air if we can support it or not because the events now in July is a low response at the time of writing this

letter.

September is back into full swing with a busy month of events. DamJam is Sept 7 (I think). in Pryor. which has been on our calendars for a few years now. The operations will about the same as in the past.

Bike M.S.-Ride the Mother Road is Sept. 14/15 in Chandler. This is a little different this year. The starting and finish line is in Chandler and at a new location. It will be at the Lincoln Co. Fairgrounds. It is a bigger property with more RV hook ups and an enclosed building for headquarters and part of it will be a bunk house with A/C. I strongly urge you if you can to sleep over there in the building as for there still very limited number of motel rooms available. We will have a stationary command post this year at that location and the course is all new. We may not have to run SAGs but have semi stationary posts on the course. We may get away 6 - 10 operators now. Food is provided and fuel is reimbursed for expenses.

Sept. 21 is the annual Scouting Fall Festival in Broken Arrow. This is a 1 day event where we set up various radios and encouragement and show Scouts the new world of "Ham Radio". Bart Pickens is the 'head-up' on this event.

A big thanks to Joe, Ben, Steve and Merlin for their work on the .880 machine. As I am writing this, they are back up on City-Plex working on it again (I think replacing an antenna). Good work Guys. The check is in the mail!!!! We will be getting new antennas for the other machines as well this year.

Joe and I went over to Alan Minor's house, now a silent key, to help remove the antennas, poles and coaxes from the residence. TRO inherited some of the poles, antennas etc. from that job. we used some of it for Field Day. The 30 ft push up pole we can really use on some of these events on the command post, especially in

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The next TRO meeting will be Tuesday, August 27th starting at 1900 at Tally's Good Food Cafe 1102 S Yale

Pres Says—Continued

Chandler.

It's hard to believe that it's almost time to start on planning the Christmas party again. That's just a few QUICK months away. This year our normal meeting night would be on Christmas Eve. This year's December meeting can go two ways; 1 is to have it a week early on Dec. 17 and share it with or not with TARC. Or pass it on to the next regular meeting in January. Think about it and let any of the Board members know what your thoughts are. This is YOUR club.

Stay cool and safe as for sure the really hot weather is just around the corner

Stan Callahan
KE5HPB

August—First up I hope everyone weathered the storm that hit right after last month's meeting. Heavy rain and winds that hit around midnight or so. Wind speeds reached near 76 mph. That storm crippled much of the metro area and surrounding area.

Now backing up a few days and a week earlier. The Duathlon went off without a hitch. Thanks to Ed Compos and Paul Young who came out to help Tom and myself.

Now on to CoU Festival, WOW !!! This was a new adventure for TRO, working a crowd control & security support. And throw in a drinking atmosphere in the mix. This opens up a new horizon for communications.

Friday night we had Louis Montes (this was his first uh/vhf contacts as well as event), Ben Joplin, Brian Gnad, Paul Young, & Ed Compos working gates, I worked relief/welfare and Tom Stroud in command.

Saturday Night there was Tom in Command, Ben Joplin, Paul Young, Ed Compos, Brian Gnad, John Grace & Mark Thrash on gate security and I was relief. The crowds were beyond what was expected for both nights. Latest reports were 80,000 attended. 40,000 is what was expected. Saturday night also included a trip to St. Johns Hospital for Ben Joplin, with me in the waiting room. Good news is that Ben came home Sunday.

Now I do want to explain that Tom and I "do not solicit" our services out for events!! You/we have built a reputation in the community as the "go to" people for communication support. They come to us asking for our services. Fleet Feet, Toms Cycles, etc. are more than happy to refer us to anyone for the asking. TARC is the only other club that will provide communication in the Tulsa area as well as northeast Oklahoma. No other club does what we do. I don't know about you but I am

proud as hell about what we do.

With us working more & more biking events and other situations that put us into the traffic, that we have started looking into a new event t-shirt that could put us in a safer state and possibly meet DOT specs. This would be in addition to the vest or replace it during the HOT summer.

Stan Callahan
KE5HPB

TRO MEETING MINUTES BY SECRETARY ED COMPOS—K5CRQ

TRO Meeting 7-23-2013

Meeting was called to order by President Stan Callahan KE5HPB at 19:00 hrs

Minutes of the Board Meeting held 7-16-13 were read by Ed Compos—K5CRQ secretary.

No minutes of the last meeting because we had Field Day instead.

Minutes of the meeting passed on vote of the floor.

Steve Miller, Treasurer presented the budget and it also passed on vote of the floor.

Discussion was held as to how the "Center of the Universe Event " went and all who worked it had a great time.

We got the antennas in and they are going to replaced the ones at the .805 site and .88 site. We hope this fixes the .88 problem.

Be sure to check the webpage for up coming events and Joplin hamfest is August 23 and 24....

It was requested that the by-laws be change to from printed posting of election info to electronic form for election info.. This will make it so we can post it in emails and on the website.

Motion made to adjourn by Brian Gnad—KB5TSI and seconded by Steve - AA5V. Meeting closed at 20:50 hrs

ACTIVITIES BY TOM STROUD—KD5OPH

July has been a busy month for our communication teams while we continue to meet with planning committees for events like MS Bike coming up in September and Williams Route 66 Marathon in November. We had to turned our attention toward two new events for July. To start with we put a team of (4) together to support the Fleet Feet Christa Voss Duathlon. Thanks go out to Stan Callahan, Paul Young and Ed Compose for their help on Sunday July 14th. We were blessed with a fairly cool day with over cast sky and you just couldn't ask for a better day to have an activity of that type.

It was pretty much an un-eventful kind of day for us and all went well. Our next challenge for July was a (2) day event held in the Brady Arts District in downtown Tulsa. A Music Festival like no other would be putting it mildly, the Center Of the Universe music Festival turned out to be one of the largest events of its type and stature that we have had the privilege to support. With numbers in attendance that way over exceeded the expected 40,000 for both days turned out to be more near a 100,000. Now it goes without saying that when you have near 50,000 people out in the field to support, our job scope became quite complex to say the least. Then you add to the mix a storm that moved in the area late Saturday night that just missed us before we closed the main stage. Yes there was definitely a lot going on in the old command post for this one. Seem like there was something happening every 5 minutes. From medical emergencies of versus types to include one of our own team members Ben WB5VST had to be taken by ambulance to the Hospital for a medical issue, thank God, Ben is doing better now and back is old self. So roll the credits, in attendance for Friday night we had Ben Joplin WB5VST, Brian Gand KB5TSI, Paul Young KE5EHM, Stan Callahan KE5HPB, Ed Compos K5CRQ, and our new member Luis KF5VSC, for day 2 we had every one back with John Grace KD5VSB, and Mark Thrash WB5MBK. And myself in the command post with our own NCO set-up on simplex along with 7 channels of 100 volunteer radios to monitor, Luis didn't work Saturday night he had some things to do but he did an awesome job for Friday night.

Memorable moments at COTU: Stan tells the story of parting 20,000 people to get to the other side of the main stage while checking out a spider man report that was said to be scaling a wall. Seeing 20 security officers run out the door when some one doesn't want a bag checked. And then there is the stuck hanging antenna stuck in a tree 40 to 60 feet above the street to end the night. I will let Ben WB5VST tell you about that one the good thing is it all turned out good and no one got hurt from the stuck antenna. This is just the first year for the

Center Of the Universe Music Festival and you can rest assured that it will continue to grow to become the biggest event of its kind to be held in the Tulsa area. Our thanks go out to all those that helped with COTU communications.

If it sounds like TRO has a lot of going on, that pretty much is true we do. The reason is that is what our members want and as long as that is the case we will continue to bring events to the table. With that in mind we have a new event for August. Now generally it's so hot in August that we tend to steer away from activities and stay more close to the air-conditioner. Never the less lets look at the Fleet Feet Triathlon coming up on August 18th that would be on a Sunday. We are looking for 6 to 8 HAMS or (Amateur Radio Operators) to support communications for a "Swim, Bike, Run" event. Centered around the beautiful Claremore lake Park stretching out some 50 miles each way for the bike course. I would say a medium size event of its kind with numbers of 2 to 300 in attendance. Looks like things will kick off at 7am and probably will close around 4 or 5pm. Or when everyone is back in safe. Free lunch, drinks, and a nice one of kind T-Shirt for those that help with communications. Let's meet at the Claremore Lake Park on the west side of the lake say at 6am and we will take it from there. Now guys and girls, this is a rain or shine kind of activity, I don't make the rules just go by what they tell me. So if it's raining that morning just come on out. Might get a little wet but in August that is not a bad thing. Talk in will be on 146.880 or 443.850 and we will probably use the Rogers County Wireless Repeater for event operations. But we will work all that out on the day of the event. So if you wake up that morning and say I would really like to work radio communications at a Triathlon today with those hard working radio heads at TRO but I didn't register, no problem, walk-ins are welcome and we always need the help and it makes our job more efficient. Not a member of TRO no problem! If you have an interest in amateur radio your in!. Here at TRO we are getting it done and not ridding the chair. Hope to see you at the Fleet Feet Triathlon and thanks for all your support.
73's Tommy KD5OPH

Claremore Lake Fleet Feet Triathlon:

Thanks and appreciation go out to our communications team that worked the Claremore Lake Triathlon.

Job well done by all 73s ... TS

Paul Young—KE5EHM

Ray Young—K5CFY

Nathan Huffstetler—AE5NK

Fred Williams—KD5NBR

Ben Joplin—WB5VST

Jim Beach

Tom Stroud—KD5OPH

What's Happening With The Repeaters?

Steve Miller—AA5V

Joe Gorkos—N5TEX Engineering Chair, Ben Joplin—WB5VST Vice-President, Merlin Griffin—WB5OSM Trustee and myself made a trip to CityPlex to install the new antennas on the roof for the 146.88 repeater on Thursday, August 22nd.

We installed a Hustler G7 for VHF and a dual-band VHF/UHF Hustler G6 for the downlink receivers and to eventually try splitting the local 146.28 VHF receiver for better isolation between it and the 146.88 transmitter.

The system is much improved. The power output is now 80 watts with SWR measuring under 1.5:1 on 146.88. I can vouch for the improvements of the local receiver myself. Full quieting from the parking lot of the Steer Inn Restaurant in Mannford on a hood mount magnetic mount antenna on high power and not very much noise on the signal at medium power (10W). Before I couldn't hit the local receiver from my driveway in Prattville on high power (50W).

Thanks Joe—N5TEX for the help installing the antennas and Ben—WB5VST & Merlin—WB5OSM being great supervisors we were not on the roof but about 45 minutes. We stopped

by the 59th floor on our way out to test the antennas and were out of the building by about 2015.

I encourage everyone to try the local receiver by using the 141.3 PL tone that it requires. I don't know if we can make the receiver do much better than it is, but, we will get a diplexer to split the UHF/VHF receivers and try it anyway. If it gets any better I may have to try it with an 88.5 PL to make it more standard to the area for PLs.

Another thanks to Merlin—WB5OSM for ordering the antennas and getting the G7 to CityPlex and Ben—WB5VST for bringing the G6 down because it wouldn't fit in Merlin's car.

For 146.94: Merlin—WB5OSM ordered two of the Hustler G7's when he ordered for 146.88, so, I have an antenna for 146.94 now.

We need to get a couple of us will get together to take it to the Sun Building and get it on the air.

444.1: It is about the same as 146.94, we just need to get it taken to the Skyline East building and plugged in. I think we'll get that scheduled soon.

Tom Shaw—K5OVT, Mike Reynolds—W0KIE and Bud Blust—WA5QDZ are interested in this project and may be taking this equipment up soon to install.

TRO REPEATER STATUS		
Frequency	PL	Status
146.34/94	88.5	Down
146.28/88	88.5 141.3	Up Up
146.205/805	none	Up
449.1/444.1	88.5	Down
449.725/444.725	88.5	Up
449.95/444.95	none	Up
ATV 421.25	none	??


TRO Vice-President Ben Joplin—WB5VST

I just had my 70th birthday and did a little reflecting. I just realized that I have had my license for over half my life. I got into ham radio to do public service and that has not changed. I still like to work events, chase storms and provide emergency communications. It is amazing to me how ham radio has changed and not changed. Technology has had a tremendous impact on the equipment we use today. My first radio was VHF crystal controlled mobile. There was room for 23 channels. I only had 6 installed. It cost about \$20.00 a channel for crystals. I bought it used and got a good deal. My second radio was a used VHF 6 channel crystal controlled handheld. I had all 6 channels in it. I installed a phone pad on it so I could make auto patch calls. Who remembers auto patch? MY first HF rig was a Swan 500C with analog dial. I was in heaven. Now all of my radios are dual band that can work from DC to light. Amazingly the cost of equipment has not changed all that much. I feel really lucky to have picked ham radio as a hobby. I have made a lot or really good friends over the years. It now keeps me busy in retirement. Ham radio seems to be a timeless hobby.

Congratulations to Becky McKinney, KF5UMX and Louis Montes, KF5VSC. Becky and Louis are new hams and made their first HF contacts at Field day. Louis also helped at Center of The Universe. I think he made his first VHF contact at that event.

Ben Joplin—WB5VST



Reviews Summary for Icom IC-22A			
	Reviews: 1	Average rating: 4.0/5	MSRP: \$~\$350.00
Description: 10W 2M FM 22 channel crystal controlled workhorse.			
Product is not in production.			
More info: http://			

TRO Treasurer's Report By Steve Miller—AA5V
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Tulsa Repeater Organization

Treasurer's report as of August 23, 2013

		\$4410.55
Total TRO Accounts Beginning Balances		
Checking Beginning Balance	\$2137.33	
07/23 Merlin Griffin – WB5OSM 88 G7 & Dual Band Ant.	-\$664.70	
Checking Balance	\$1472.63	
PayPal Beginning Balance	\$359.14	
06/23 Renewal WD5ETD	+\$25.00	
Fees	-\$1.03	
PayPal Ending Balance	\$383.11	
Savings Beginning Balance	\$1914.08	
07/30 Interest	+0.32	
Ending Savings Account Balance	\$1914.40	
Total TRO Account Balances		\$3770.14

Respectfully Submitted by Steve Miller – AA5V

08/23/2013

AREA AMATEUR RADIO TESTING

Third Thursday of odd numbered months.
7:00 P.M. at the Red Cross building at 11th & 169.

Contact Merlin Griffin
Phone 918.520.7668
or email
wb5osm@hotmail.com

First Saturday of odd numbered months.
0915 to 1100 at Hardesty Regional Library
8316 E 93rd Street
Tulsa, OK 74133
2013 Schedule:
January 5th
March 2nd
May 4th
July 6th
September 7th
November 2nd

Walk-ins Welcome until 0945
Contact Loyd—AE5MM
AE5MM@arrl.net
or 918.638.2393 (text msg or voice)

Second Saturday of even numbered months,
9:30 A.M. at the Church of Christ, 505 E Kenosha Street, Broken Arrow.
Walk-ins welcome.
Contact: Don Doyle—AC5II at
ac5II@arrl.net
or 918.379.0962

Last Saturday of even numbered months
10:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. at the Martin East Regional Library
2601 S Garnett Road
Tulsa, OK.
Contact: John—K5ENA at
K5ENA@cox.net
or 918.346.8284.

THE TRO WISHES TO THANK THESE SUPPORTERS

Tower Properties (CityPlex)
Tulsa Tech College
Bates Realty
City Of Tulsa
City of Skiatook
Liberty Fire Department

The TRO Proudly Serves Our Community and



Sat., Sept. 7
9:30-11:30 PM [ARRL VE Testing](#) - Hardesty Regional Library

Sat., Sept. 7
6:00 AM till 8:00 PM [Dam J.A.M. Bicycle Tour](#) - Will need communications volunteers

Saturday, Sept. 21
9:00 AM [Boy Scout Festival](#) - A demonstration of Ham Radio Communications

Saturday, Sept. 21
9:00 AM [Bike MS Oklahoma](#) - The Mother Road Ride in Chandler, Oklahoma

Sunday, Sept. 22
9:00 AM [Bike MS Oklahoma](#) - The Mother Road Ride in Chandler, Oklahoma

Saturday, Sept. 28 Tulsa Bicycle Club's Fall Century - [Contact Jay - AD5PE](#) if you can help as a S.A.G. for this
7:00 AM ride or want more information - *Tentative Date*

Saturday, Oct. 5
?:?? AM [ARRL Simulated Emergency Test \(SET\)](#) - information at www.aresok.org

Sunday, Oct. 6
?:?? AM [ARRL Simulated Emergency Test \(SET\)](#) - information at www.aresok.org

Saturday, Nov. 16 [Route 66 Marathon Practice Run](#) - TRO providing communications for this event. - *Tentative*



Tulsa Repeater Organization

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Tulsa, OK 74101

Mail To:

For more information about the *TRO* visit www.tulсахamradio.org

Want more information about the ***Tulsa Repeater Organization*** or have questions about articles in the newsletter, contact us at email address wa5lvt@tulсахamradio.net or write to:

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Treasurer	Steve Miller	AA5V	918.381.8574	AA5V@tulсахamradio.org
Trustee	Merlin Griffin	WB5OSM	918.520.7668	wb5osm@hotmail.com

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