



THE SIGNAL



Official Newsletter of the
Tulsa Repeater Organization



Vol. 48 Issue 3 August 2015

“Covering Tulsa through the air”

UP FRONT – A Word from the Editor

First thing I need to do in this issue is to apologize for not getting out the June issue. I started one, but didn't finish it in time, and I decided to let it slide. I was busy that month working Net Control for Tour de Cure, writing up a report (including ICS documents) on it, assisting with Tulsa Tough at my usual assignment, looking around and working some HF at Field Day, and dealing with some health issues.



Partly because I didn't produce a regular issue two months ago, I have thought some about the content of The Signal. With this issue, I am placing more emphasis on activities, and less on the details of club business. I'll still include business info, mostly highlights of discussions and decisions made at club meetings, but no treasurer's reports or minutes.

Also, I usually try to place content into categories, or pigeonholes. I'm going to loosen up a bit, by removing some of the categorical headings, but I will try to keep related content together. During the warm weather months from late spring to early fall, I will move activity reports towards the front, and probably put more emphasis on the tech stuff in the colder months.

Speaking of business, efforts have begun towards merging the Tulsa Repeater Organization with the Tulsa Amateur Radio Club. The clubs have formed committees and they have had several meetings already. The process is progressing along well, but it might take some time to iron out all the details. I'm not sure yet how this will affect the public relations department, but I am willing to continue in either leading or helping with any efforts to promote ham radio, or to just inform the public about the vital role that ham radio plays in public safety and the development of new technology.

Speaking of public relations, we were offered an opportunity, but I passed on it. The event was the Broken Arrow Police Department's Back To School Bash. We have set up ham radio displays/demonstrations in Broken Arrow before, but those events (Camp Bandage and the Boy Scout Fall Festival) were more general in nature, and they drew in people from outside BA. Because this event was more narrowly focused on BA, I decided the Broken Arrow Amateur Radio Club should work this event. So, I passed on the information to their leaders, and they decided to do it. I did go out there to help, because the BA club doesn't have as much of a PR program as the TRO does. I mainly helped with the literature display, and set up a portable 2 meter station. Tony White, KA5TRO, did help me with making up some power cords with Anderson power poles for my portable station. I used one of the cords to run the radio with a battery that I had recently bought for the portable station.

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

The Boy Scout Fall Festival is coming up September 19 again at the Jack Graves Scout Reservation. So far, this looks like the only PR event that day. Last year the Tulsa Health Department had an event on the same day, but I do not see anything like it listed on their website's calendar. This will mean a lot less effort on my part, and I'm sure the Green Bean Mobile (my car) will appreciate the fewer miles I will have to drive.

Thanks to everyone who has and will continue to help out at public relations / public information events!

ArchiTread 2015 Spring Edition Public Service Communications Event

Event Description: Bicycle tour of sites featuring structures with interesting architecture.

Date / Time: Saturday, 25 MAY 2015 / 1300 – 1600 CDT

Event Organization / Sponsors: American Institute of Architects Eastern Oklahoma, and the Tulsa Foundation for Architecture.

Location or Venue: Downtown Tulsa over to Lewis Avenue; base of operations (start/finish line) at Soundpony Lounge, 409 N Main.

Purpose of Event: Education and exploration of Tulsa's architectural history, possible fundraiser for AIA / TFA programs.

Plan of Operation: Riders would travel in groups of 25, led by tour guides.

NET SUMMARY

Frequency: 146.940 WA5LVT Repeater (standard negative offset, 88.5 CTCSS tone)

Start Time: 1317 CDT

End Time: 1625 CDT

Duration: 3 hours, 8 minutes

Number of Stations: 6

Number of Messages: 55

Table of Operators / Assignments

OPERATOR	CALL SIGN	TACTICAL CALL	DESCRIPTION
TOM STROUD	KD5OPH	NET CONTROL	COMM DIRECTOR
DOUG LEE	KC5ZQM	NET CONTROL	NET CONTROL
FRED WILLIAMS	KD5NBR	GROUP 1	GROUP 1 TAILGUNNER
PAUL YOUNG	KE5EHM	SAG 2	SAG BETWEEN GROUPS 1 & 2
STEVE HAMMANS	W5HRA	REST STOP / SAG 1	REST STOP UNTIL GROUP 1 LEFT / SAG GROUP 1
MARVIN BAKER	KF5RPD	GROUP 2	GROUP 2 TAILGUNNER

ArchiTread 2015 Spring Edition Public Service Communications Event - cont'd

EVENT NARRATIVE

Tom Stroud, KD5OPH, TRO Activities Chair, received the request for assistance for this event less than two weeks prior to the scheduled date. Because only a few field operators would be needed, he decided to forego the usual procedure of submitting this event to a vote of the club membership. He used social media, the club's Facebook page, for all recruiting and initial planning. Enough volunteers signed up through that means, so we proceeded to work this event.

Because this was a new event, both the organizers and the TRO communications team faced a learning curve. We had to wait on what the organizers decided based on turnout before we could decide on field assignments.

While the organizers were waiting to see what their final turnout would be, we set up across the street. We did not have a canopy or tent, but we were stationed on the shaded side of a building.

Fred Williams, KD5NBR, allowed the use of a 6 ft. fold up table for Net Control use.

Net Control, Doug Lee, KC5ZQM, settled on the 146.940 repeater for the event, because its location on the southern edge of Downtown Tulsa would give the best coverage. The repeater served us well one night during the Center of the Universe Music Festival in July of 2014, and this event was held in the same general area.

The organizers expected up to 150 riders, but less than 40 preregistered online. About a dozen signed up on site at the event, but with the 6 tour guides, they had only about 50 riders total. They decided to go with 2 groups, with extra tour guides accompanying each group.

We decided then on one tailgunner per group, with a SAG vehicle in between the groups, and an operator stationed at the Rest Stop, the Tulsa Fire Alarm Building that now serves as the local headquarters of the American Lung Association. Once the first group left the Rest Stop, he would no longer be needed there, so Tom Stroud decided to re-assign him to SAG duty behind Group 1.

On the communications side, things went smoothly with only one operator having a problem keying up the repeater. He was close to the repeater site, but he might have been in an RF shadow caused by the location of the repeater's receive antenna and his exact position at the assignment's location. The problem cleared up when he moved away from there.

Our field operators did encounter some road closures due to construction or other public events, but they managed to navigate around them without incident.

Only one rider had issues that prevented her from finishing the tour as planned. She fell twice due to not being familiar with advanced equipment on her bike. Our tailgunner offered her medical and SAG assistance, but she refused both. She did leave the tour route and returned directly to base, accompanied by a tour guide who was a more experience rider. When she left the course, Tom was concerned that she had no way to communicate if she needed help. We assumed either she or the tour guide had a cell phone. Net Control did observe two riders matching their reported description arriving at base, and he confirmed that they were the riders who left the course and one had a cell phone.

Our biggest service to the organizers might have been information that would prove useful in managing future episodes of this event. Fred Williams, KD5NBR made several observations about conditions and other factors that did effect how efficiently the tour went. Net Control also made an observation about the placement of the registration tent that could have become a public safety issue.

**ArchiTread Tulsa will have
another tour in the Fall.
Stay tuned for details!**



Camp Bandage 2015 TRO Ham Radio Display / Demonstration

Event Description: First held in 1983, Camp Bandage grew out of the efforts of a Broken Arrow doctor and his wife, a registered nurse, to teach safety and first aid to their children before allowing them to play outside. Today, it is a exposition of various safety, accident and injury prevention and first aid measures, as well as informative displays by various government and non-government public service groups.

Date / Time: Saturday 16 MAY 2015, open to public 1000 to 1500 (10 AM to 3 PM)

Event Organization / Sponsors: Camp Bandage Committee, Immanuel Lutheran Church, 400 N Aspen, Broken Arrow OK 74012 918-258-2506 <http://www.immanuelba.org/> info@immanuelba.org

Location or Venue: Chisholm Trail South Park, 4000 E New Orleans, Broken Arrow OK

Purpose of Event: To educate the public, especially children, about safety, accident, injury, and disease prevention, and first aid procedures, and to inform the public about the capabilities of various non-government and government public service agencies and groups.

Plan of Operation: Arrange displays and demonstrations along and in the fields next to a road that runs northeast from the parking lot. Setup could be done on Friday evening as BAPD would be out for overnight security. Final setup would begin 0600 (6 AM) on Saturday. A planning meeting for volunteers and exhibitors was held 1800 (6 PM) on Monday 11 MAY 2015 at the Broken Arrow Public Service Complex, 1101 N 6th, Broken Arrow OK 74012

The event would open to the public at 1000 (10 AM) and end with a simulated traffic accident at 1500 (3PM). Exhibitors were asked to keep their displays going at least until 1400 (2 PM).

Each child would receive a red wristband with identification information in case the child became separated from their family. Volunteers and exhibitors were instructed to take lost children to the stage area.

Free water, hot dogs, snow cones and ice cream would be available to everyone. Volunteers and exhibitors could receive additional food at the hospitality tent with a green wristband.

Volunteers and exhibitors were encouraged to see all the displays.

History and Locations: Dr. Gerner and his wife (a nurse), decided to teach safety and first aid to their children before letting them play outside on their ranch in Broken Arrow. Other families asked them to share those lessons. Eventually, this led to the first Camp Bandage event in 1983, and it included additional safety and first aid information from various federal, state and local agencies. The event became an annual occurrence in the spring, and Dr. Gerner also consulted with other groups, nationwide and internationally, who wanted to put on similar events. After the passing of Dr. Gerner and his wife, the event was taken over by Immanuel Lutheran Church in BA.

For quite a number of years, the event was held in a park behind the church on Aspen Street. This year, they moved the event to a new location, the Chisholm Trail South Park. This new venue allowed more room and a more centralized organization of displays.

The Camp Bandage committee first invited the Tulsa Repeater Organization to come out in 2013. Doug Lee, KC5ZQM, had just volunteered to serve as TRO Public Relations / Public Information Officer right before the event in 2014, so this was his first PR event. While that event was productive in helping to educate the public about weather safety and the capabilities and contributions of ham radio operators in severe weather, disaster and emergency communications, Mr. Lee did make some observations that have led to improvements in the PR kit and materials. *(cont'd on next page)*

Planning and Preparation: Doug, KC5ZQM, registered online in early April to reserve a space for the TRO in the 2015 event. Tom, KD5OPH, created a Facebook page for the event. Most of the planning was done at the April TRO meeting and on Facebook.

In the 2014 event, we had displays of ham radio equipment, APRS and weather radar software, literature and storm spotter / chaser vehicles. The PR/PIO wanted to replicate that as much as possible, and add the new club banners. He also requested that the portable APRS digipeater that was only displayed last year be set up and working this

year. Another addition planned at the April meeting was the portable tower from the Sub Club (the USS Batfish Club in Muskogee) that we had at the Wagoner Co. Preparedness Event in March.

The tower was not available, so we arranged for Ben, WB5VST, to bring out his military issue telescoping mast that he mounts on the back of his truck. Fred, KD5NBR, was planning on bringing out his HF rig and needed a support for his G5RV antenna.

Fred proved invaluable, and not just for the HF rig. He went out to the park the afternoon before the event and found out the Camp Bandage committee would not supply us a tent. He then contacted the PR/PIO and offered to set up his 10' x 20' awning. He also displayed his chaser vehicle, set up some tables, and displayed a cloud chart that drew quite a bit of interest.

Others displaying vehicles included Tom, KD5OPH, Kenneth, KG5CBM, Paul, KE5EHM, Ben, WB5VST, Steve, W5HRA, and Brian, KB5TSI. Paul was also very helpful, bringing out an extra banner, tables, a generator, and a monitor for Ben's APRS display.

A few minutes before the opening ceremonies, the PR/PIO held a briefing to cover some information that came out at the volunteer planning meeting and to give a couple of tips about PR.

During the Event: Chase, KG5CLM, and Jim, KG5EWK were good at dealing with the public, answering questions and getting conversations started. Chase also allowed several young people to talk as guest operators with Stan Callahan, KE5HPB, and Devin Bretherton, N5NRL.

We fielded lots of questions about weather, because severe weather was forecast for that evening. Two young boys were already interested in becoming meteorologists. One boy wants to design a tornado-proof car. When his brother was asked if he wanted to ride with him, he said he wanted his own tornado-proof car!

Craig Wooten, KD5CUZ, came by for a visit and expressed interest in rejoining TRO.

Volunteer List

OPERATOR	CALL SIGN	DESCRIPTION
TOM STROUD	KD5OPH	ACTIVITIES OFFICER / CHASER VEHICLE DISPLAY
BEN JOPLIN	WB5VST	APRS / NET CONTROL STATION / ANTENNA MAST
DOUG LEE	KC5ZQM	PUBLIC RELATIONS / PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER
PAUL YOUNG	KE5EHM	VICE PRESIDENT / WEATHER RADAR
KENNETH BAUCUM	KG5CBM	SPOTTER / CHASER VEHICLE DISPLAY
FRED WILLIAMS	KD5NBR	HF RADIO / CHASER VEHICLE
STEVE HAMMANS	W5HRA	SPOTTER /CHASER VEHICLE DISPLAY
BRIAN GNAD	KB5TSI	SPOTTER / CHASER VEHICLE DISPLAY
JIM ERB	KG5EWK	SPOTTER
CHASE CRUM	KG5CLM	PRESIDENT
MARVIN BAKER	KF5RPD	VOLUNTEER
ANNETTE WILLIAMS	KE5EB	CHASER VEHICLE DISPLAY



Maple Ridge Memorial Day Run Public Service Communications Event

Event Description: This neighborhood-based 5 kilometer run / walk also features a 1 mile Fun Run / Walk, a kids bicycle race and a small kids tricycle race.

Date / Time: 25 MAY 2015 0800 – Fun Run / Walk
 0830 – 5K Run / Walk
 0930 – Bicycle and Tricycle Races

Event Organization / Sponsors: Maple Ridge Neighborhood Association, with Fleet Feet Sports administrating the event.

Location or Venue: The historic and scenic Maple Ridge Neighborhood, between 21st & 31st Streets, Peoria Avenue and Riverside Drive in Tulsa OK

Purpose of Event: Fundraiser for the Neighborhood Association, and to promote fitness.

Plan of Operation: All races and runs / walks begin at the Start Line at the intersection of Woodward Boulevard, 25th Street, and Owasso Avenue. The Finish Line, Registration tent, and Command Post are at the "island" at the intersection of 26th Street, Norfolk and Owasso Avenues. The Fun Run participants make one loop around the outer course and veer off at Norfolk to finish at the west end of Owasso Island. The 5K participants make two loops on the outer course before turning at the Start Line to proceed to the Finish Line. The bicycle riders make one loop on the outer course and turn at the Start Line to end at the Finish Line. The Tricycle riders go directly from the Start Line to the Finish Line.

NET SUMMARY

Frequency: 146.550 FM Simplex

Start Time: 0750

End Time: 0951

Duration: 2 hours, 1 minute

Number of Stations: 13

Number of Messages: 92

EVENT NARRATIVE

This event is currently the one the Tulsa Repeater Organization has supported the longest, since at least 1998, if the Net Control's memory is correct.

We also promote this event as a good first public service event for new operators because it usually lasts for only a few hours, all assignments are stationary, and all assignments can be worked with just a handheld transceiver on 2-meter FM simplex. We did have a few new operators working this event for the first time, including one who had just passed the test for his Technician class license, but the Federal Communications Commission had not yet issued his call sign. We assigned this operator as an observer at Turn 1.

Most recruiting and promoting took place on social media via the club's Facebook page, and over the Thursday
(cont'd on next page)

Maple Ridge Memorial Day Run Public Service Communications Event - cont'd

night ARES Net. Because this event takes place on a holiday, a day that most people have off from work, we had no problems obtaining enough volunteers.

Because rain was possible that morning, Fred Williams, KD5NBR, offered the use of a 10 foot by 10 foot awning for the Net Control station. He forgot the awning, but did bring out a table for Net Control. Paul Young, KE5EHM, set up an antenna and mast from one of the club's portable APRS digipeaters for Net Control to use. This proved very useful, for Net Control, Doug Lee, KC5ZQM, had to use two HT's for his duties.

The only radio related problem that could have become a major issue was that two operators could not hear Net Control during the initial roll call. After a discussion with one of those operators, Net Control determined that that operator's radio was set with PL tones on receive. This is usually not needed on FM simplex, except to avoid interference. Chase Crum, KG5CLM, contacted the other operator and helped him to resolve the same issue with his radio.

The number of participants in this event was down last year, and was down again this year. Fewer participants means a reduced chance of medical issues, and none were reported. A vehicle incursion was reported at 0816 near Turn 2, but the Tulsa Police officer assigned to that area handled the issue without major incident.

As stated earlier, this event is a good learning opportunity for new operators. Along with the PL issue, one operator learned not to wear sandals to public service events.

Table of Operators / Assignments

OPERATOR	CALL SIGN	TACTICAL CALL	DESCRIPTION
TOM STROUD	KD5OPH	NET CONTROL	COMM DIRECTOR
DOUG LEE	KC5ZQM	NET CONTROL	NET CONTROL
JIM ERB	KG5EWK	START LINE	25TH & WOODWARD
JOHN GRACE	KD5VSB	FRONTSTRETCH 1	HAZEL & WOODWARD
KENNETH BAUCUM	KG5CBM	FRONTSTRETCH 2	27TH & WOODWARD
BEN JOPLIN	WB5VST	TURN 1	29TH & WOODWARD
FRED WILLIAMS	KD5NBR	TURN 2	29TH & CINCINNATI
BRIAN GNAD	KB5TSI	BACKSTRETCH 1	HAZEL & CINCINNATI
RAY YOUNG	K5CFY	BACKSTRETCH 2	25TH & CINCINNATI
PAUL YOUNG	KE5EHM	TURN 3	WOODWARD & CINCINNATI
PAUL TEEL	WB5ANX	TURN 4	WOODWARD & MADISON
MARVIN BAKER	KF5RPD	FINISH LINE	26TH & OWASSO
CHASE CRUM	KG5CLM	NET CONTROL	26TH & OWASSO
MICHAEL BULMER	KG5HSJ*	(None)	Observer at TURN 1

* Call not issued until after event, so volunteer was there to observe and learn.



MAPLE RIDGE RUN 2015 COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Brian Gnad KB5TSI, Ben Joplin WB5VST, Paul Teel WB5ANX, Kenneth Baucum KG5CBM, Ray Young K5CFY, Jim Erb KG5EWK, John Grace KD5VSB, Fred Williams KD5NBR, Paul Young KE5EHM, Tom Stroud KD5OPH, Marvin Baker KF5RPD, Doug Lee KC5ZQM, Chase Crum KG5CLM

Tour de Cure 2015 Public Service Communications Event
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Event Description: Fund-raising bicycle tour for the American Diabetes Association

Date / Time: 06 JUN 15 0730

Event Organization / Sponsors: American Diabetes Association, Tulsa OK

Location or Venue: Base of operations (Start/Finish and Command Post) at Hillcrest Hospital South, 91st & US169, Tulsa OK

Purpose of Event: Raise funds for diabetes education and research programs, promote fitness.

Plan of Operation: Rides include routes of 10, 25, 50, and 75 miles, with a 62 mile cutoff for those not able to finish the 75 mile ride in time. Ten mile route is completely within Tulsa County, on the bike trails running alongside the Creek Turnpike. The 25 mile route is also completely within Tulsa County, going from the Start/Finish down to Bixby and back. The 50 and 75 mile routes run concurrently with the 25 mile route, but split off and follow US64 through Leonard and Stone Bluff, then north on OK72 to the south side of Coweta. The 50 mile route then splits off to return to the Start/Finish. The 75 mile route then continues through Coweta to OK51B, then down to Stones Corner and continues on OK104 to Haskell, then follows 241st Street/Skelly Rd./Ferguson Rd. to Memorial Dr. then north back to the Start/Finish. The 62 mile split is at the intersection of 191st and OK72. Riders taking the cutoff head south to Haskell and follow the rest of the 75 mile route.

Ham radio operators, as Sweeps, Safeties, and SAG's patrol the routes and monitor the splits to track the progress of the riders, watch for riders needing mechanical and/or medical assistance, report any issues to Net Control, and respond as directed by either instructions issued before the event, or according to responses from the Director. Hams stationed at the Rest Stop can report on these same issues, but also report on the status of the rest stop.

Table of Operators / Assignments

OPERATOR	CALL SIGN	TACTICAL CALL	DESCRIPTION
TOM STROUD	KD5OPH	NET CONTROL	COMM DIRECTOR
DOUG LEE	KC5ZQM	NET CONTROL	NET CONTROL
KENNETH BAUCUM	KG5CBM	SAFETY A	25 MILE RIDE SUPPORT
BRIAN GNAD	KB5TSI	SAFETY B	50 MILE RIDE SUPPORT
BART PICKENS	N5TWB	SAFETY C	75 MILE RIDE SUPPORT
STEVE HAMMANS	W5HRA	SAG 1	10 MILE RIDE SUPPORT
JOHN GRACE	KD5VSB	SAG 2	25 MILE RIDE SUPPORT
ROB GIGER	KG5AUN	SAG 5	50 MILE RIDE SUPPORT
DUSTIN DYE	AF5XC	SAG 7	75 MILE RIDE SUPPORT
FRED WILLIAMS	KD5NBR	SWEEP 25	25 MILE RIDE SUPPORT
CHASE CRUM	KG5KLM	SWEEP 50	50 MILE RIDE SUPPORT
PAUL YOUNG	KE5EHM	TAIL 75	75 MILE RIDE SUPPORT
MARVIN BAKER	KF5RPD	REST STOP 1 - 6	REST STOP SUPPORT
DAVID SIEBERT	KF5YZW	REST STOP 7	REST STOP SUPPORT

Tour de Cure 2015 Public Service Communications Event - cont'd
NET SUMMARY

Frequency: 147.390 WB5NJU Tulsa/Mounds and 147.225 WX5OKM Preston repeaters

Start Time: 0725

End Time: 1355

Duration: 6 hours, 30 minutes

Number of Stations: 14

Number of Messages: 187

EVENT NARRATIVE

The Tulsa Repeater Organization has supported this event for several years, and quite a few of our regular volunteers work this every year that they are able. This year, a few of our regulars were not able to come out, but we had enough new volunteers to more than cover the slack.

We began arriving at the Command Post location around 0600, and most had arrived by 0630. The initial briefings were set to begin then, but were delayed for a few minutes. Tom Stroud, KE5OPH, TRO Activities Chair and Safety/Communications Director for the even gave an operational briefing. Doug Lee, KC5ZQM, Net Control, followed with a net briefing.

Tom's plan was to have one Safety, one Sweep, and at least one SAG for each of the longer routes. Of course, most of our dedicated volunteers that work shorter assignments will stay to help with the longer ones. The two notable exceptions this year were Kenneth Baucum, KG5CBM, Safety A, and Fred Williams, KD5NBR, Sweep 25 left as soon as their assignments were done, so they could go provide communications support for FreeWheel Oklahoma, a week-long bicycle tour that crosses the state in stages, and was beginning that day in the southwestern corner of Oklahoma.

The major focus of the net briefing was on operating procedures and alternative frequencies. Doug, KC5ZQM, had noted that "quick-keying" had led to long duty cycles on some area repeaters recently and encouraged the practice of Listen, Press, Pause, then Speak (LiPPS) on all repeaters.

Volunteers began to disperse to their assignments after 0700, and Net Control opened the net at 0725.

Operations at the Command Post went mostly the same as in previous years, with one exception: we had visitors. Hams and Tour de Cure committee members from northwest Arkansas came to observe and learn. They were quite impressed with our operation! One of the hams even got a closer look by sitting in as net control for a few minutes while I took a much needed bio-break.

Our Safeties did an excellent job of handling road hazards, medical emergencies, and one gun threat incident. Road hazards included several areas of loose gravel on the roadways that needed to be marked, and another area involving soft roads and drainpipes. Fortunately, neither medical emergency required transport by ambulance, as one rider only had bruises, and the other had a minor puncture wound that was treated at a urgent care center located not too far off the route. The gun pointing incident was reported to the proper authorities, along with witness statements and the tag number and description of the offender's vehicle.

Otherwise, SAG's and Sweeps dealt with several flat tires and only a couple of mechanical issues that were more serious.

Set up and final preparations for Tour de Cure 2015

ARRL Field Day W5OK Operation at Chandler Park with TARC & TRO



Fred, KD5NBR, operated both 15 M and infrared



Jerry, AC5JM, operating 20 M phone



GOTA Station, supplied by Jim, KG5EWK



Everyone enjoyed the fruits of Fred's IR station!

Tulsa County ARES News – Hospital Net Test Paul Teel, WB5ANX, Tulsa Co. EC

I have been asked several times recently if we will have a Hospital Net anytime soon. The Tulsa County ARES organization has a rich tradition of providing emergency communications for a group of healthcare facilities in our area. Typically we test the systems at each facility twice a year, however we were not able to conduct the test this past Spring. Also, there have been some organizational and resource changes within the Medical Emergency Response Center. I have been in discussions with the MERC coordinator and the Tulsa County Emergency Manager regarding a fall test. We intend to conduct the test this fall and have already begun the planning for it. We will be needing at least a dozen active ARES members for the test. The actual date for the test has not been set. Details will be communicated via the ARES Oklahoma Yahoo page, weekly ARES nets, as well as the Tulsa County ARES Facebook page.

Paul H. Teel

ARES Emergency Coordinator, Tulsa County

Listen for the ARES-Oklahoma Tulsa Regional Weekly Thursday Night Net

2000 hrs (8:00 PM) Every Thursday Weeks 1-3: 147.39 (no PL); Weeks 4 & 5: TARC W5IAS UHF Superlink System 443.850 (East Tulsa hub), 442.000 (Mannford), 444.600 (Mounds/ NW Okmulgee Co.), all with (+) offset and 88.5 PL.

Back- up: 146.880 (PL 82.5, 88.5 or 141.3)

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: 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: 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: 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: 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
Schedule for 2015: 12 SEP 10 OCT 14 NOV 12 DEC
rcwa.org

TRO EVENTS**PUBLIC SERVICE**

Cystic Fibrosis Nite Ride
Friday, 28 AUG 15
Guthrie Green
111 E. Brady, Tulsa OK

Dam Jam Bicycle Tour
Saturday, 12 SEP 15
Whitaker Park
Park Ave. & Coo Y Yah Street
Pryor OK

Bike MS Oklahoma
Saturday & Sunday, 26 & 27 SEP 15
Guthrie OK

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Boy Scouts Fall Festival
Saturday, 19 SEP 15
Jack Graves Scout Reservation
101st Street, East of 193rd E. Ave. (County Line Road)
Broken Arrow OK

On Tap: ArchiTread 2015 Fall Edition, possibly in October, Route 66 Marathon in November

TARC PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Great Raft Race
Labor Day, Monday, 07 SEP 15
Sand Springs River Park

Fall Century Bicycle Tour
Saturday, 26 SEP 15
Whirlpool Plant
US 75 & 76th Street North, Tulsa OK

On Tap: Sand Springs Christmas Parade & Toys for Tots Toy Run in December

Listen for the ARES Oklahoma HF Net @ 2130 hrs UTC (1630 CDT)
Every Sunday 7.260 MHz (alt freq 3.900 MHz)+/- QRM

REPEATER STATUS
146.805 (-) PL 88.5 71 st & Yale Working
148.880 (-) PL 82.5 (Skiatook receiver) 88.5 (Keatonville receiver) or 141.3 (CityPlex) 81 st & Lewis Working
146.940 (-) PL 88.5 9 th & Detroit Working
444.1 (+) PL 88.5 41 st & Skelly Drive Working
442.725 (+) PL 88.5 NW of Skiatook Working
444.950 (+) No PL Autumn Oaks, 71 st & Yale Working
ATV Repeater
421.250 Output
434.250 Input
Work In Progress

ENGINEERING REPORT – Joe Gorkos, N5TEX

All repeaters are working at this time. We had 444.1 go down it had low output. Bart and I removed the unit and Dave repaired it. We reinstalled the repaired unit and all is well. Reports from several operators say it is working just fine.
Joe, N5TEX



Portable Station Project Doug Lee, KC5ZQM

Some of you may have heard me recently on the Broken Arrow or Tulsa ARES Nets talking on a portable station. The station is kinda sorta somewhat complete, but it will continue to be a work in progress for some time. Here is the story behind the station so far:

Several years ago, the pigtail mounted antenna connector on the 2M radio in my car came apart. I removed the radio, and had to resort to using only HT's for a while.

I held on to the Icom IC-228H because it is a good radio, and except for the SO-239, it really didn't have any major problems. Oh, it does have a few "battle scars" from having been mounted in 3 different vehicles since I bought it from Don Foster, K5KW at the 1998 Green Country Hamfest. I saw no reason for discarding it.

I did buy a new Icom IC-208 dualbander for the Green Bean Mobile at the 2011 Hamfest. No major complaints there.

Last year at the Maple Ridge Run, I had to use HT's to run the Net, because no one brought out a portable station like in previous years. I decided I should work towards obtaining my own. Thus the 'resurrection' of the 228H.

The separated connector on the 228H was crimped on. I figured I might be able to solder on a replacement, but I don't have a good workbench, so I passed on that idea. I also remembered Joe Gorkos, N5TEX, talking about how using the right crimping tool for RF connectors is important. He also mentioned that he had the right crimper. So, after a discussion at a club meeting and several emails, Joe installed a brand new PL-259, and added a barrel connector. Thanks, Joe!

For several months, I would usually be at my computer when the nets came on. As some may know, I usually use HT's when I'm at home in Kiefer, and I often have problems getting a clean signal into the repeaters. Over the years, most hams will accumulate a mass of items, including antennas, that no longer work, but pieces of those items could be cobbled together to make something that works. I have just

such an antenna, a mag mount for 2M that works pretty good for that, but it looks strange. I put on top of my microwave, which is near my computer, and using an adapter, I would connect my HT's to it for the nets. Still, at low power, I would have problems at times getting into the repeaters. But now, I had a more powerful radio to hook it to, but no way to power the radio... or so I thought.

Last month, while going through a box that I used for ham radio accessories, I discovered an old Radio Shack 3 amp power supply that I forgot I had. I also found a cord that I had cobbled together with a cigarette lighter plug years ago. Now I could put the 228H workhorse back on the air, and I did! At low power, of course. But low power on this radio is about 10 watts, I believe. I was getting into the nets loud and clear!

The next step was to obtain a power source that would allow for full power, at least for a while. I originally thought about a 35Ah gel cell battery for long term operation as a net control station, but I realized I didn't need one that strong just yet. So, at the first of this month, I bought a 9Ah battery at Batteries Plus, 111th & Memorial.

The old power cords and adapters that I had all used a Molex style connector. I wanted to replace them with the newer Anderson power pole types. At the Broken Arrow Back to School Bash, Tony White, KA5TRO, loaned me the use of his crimper, and showed me how to use it. Now I have some more reliable and useful cords! Thanks, Tony!

The only thing left to work on is a portable antenna mast and antenna. I do have one cobbled together, but that will have to wait for another article.

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: 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: 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

Sunday, September 20th at 3pm/ 1500hrs.

Okmulgee County EOC 110 N Alabama.

Jason Dawson

KF5KFB

Okmulgee County

Emergency Management (COMT)

KF5KFB@gmail.com

OCEM715@gmail.com

(918)-521-1968 cell

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: 29 AUG 31 OCT 26 DEC

Club Officer Contact Information

President	Chase Crum	KG5CLM	918.991.9031	kg5clm@tulsahamradio.org
Vice-President	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 wa5lvt@tulsahamradio.org or write to:



Tulsa Repeater Organization

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

Mail to: