



# THE SIGNAL



Official Newsletter of the  
Tulsa Repeater Organization

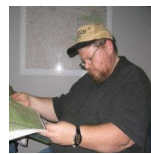


Vol. 48 Issue 1 February 2015

“Covering Tulsa through the air”

## UP FRONT – A Word from the Editor

In this new year, the Tulsa Repeater Organization will again see many opportunities to serve the public... and also many opportunities to tell the public about ham radio in general and what we specifically do in Tulsa and surrounding areas. Tom Stroud, KD5OPH, our Activities Chair, will speak more about public service events at this month's meeting. On the other hand, I will take this opportunity to present the PR agenda for the year:



Green Country Hamfest, 13 & 14 MAR 15: at the club table, we will have limited interaction with the general public, but this will be a great opportunity to recruit new and/or returning members.

Wagoner County Preparedness & Safety Expo 28 MAR 15, details to come  
Camp Bandage 16 MAY 15, Chisholm Trail South Park, 4000 E New Orleans, BA  
Rogers County Storm Chaser Appreciation Day, 16 MAY 15 Rogers Landing, Catoosa  
ARRL Field Day, 26 – 28 JUN 15, location TBD  
Boy Scout Fall Festival, 12 SEP 15, Jack Graves Scout Reservation, BA  
Tulsa Health Department 12 SEP 15, THD Complex, 51<sup>st</sup> & 129<sup>th</sup> E. Ave.

Last year, Tom KD5OPH, took the lead on the Wagoner and Roger County events. He will probably do so again, and I will give him as much support as I can.

The dates and details on these events could change. Keep an eye here, or on the website ([tulahamradio.org](http://tulahamradio.org)) for updates.

I will not go into detail here, but the big difference this year from last is a change in club leadership. Let's get behind the new leaders and give them all the support we can! (Or, at least, don't give them too much trouble. But let's do keep them on their toes!)

## THE OFFICIAL WORD! - What Our Leaders Have To Say

### PREZ SEZ - Stanley Callahan, KE5HPB

This will be my last newsletter as your President. It has been a roller coaster ride for the last 4 years & it has been a blast & my pleasure to serve you !!! This is my last month as your President and my 1st month to be retired from MTTA after 26 years. It was not an easy decision to make but necessary one. *cont'd on next page*



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**THE OFFICIAL WORD! cont'd - What Our Leaders Have To Say**

**PREZ SEZ cont'd**

Later this month I will see an orthopedic surgeon. There is very good possibility that I will have knee surgery or replacement. That will put me out of commission for a little while. If I were a horse you would have to shoot me!! Thank goodness that I'm not.

Moving on ! In March you will have a new president taking office, Chase Crum. He is new blood and that brings in new ideas. Welcome him and give him your support.

March is also Hamfest time. We will have the same set-up as last year. You can pay your membership dues there in person if you don't pay by mail or pay pal. That is a great time to see the "Old Timers" that you only see once or twice a year. I may or may not make Hamfest depending on the outcome of my appointment with the surgeon.

Now looking back, we had a great Christmas party/meeting with TARC. I've said this before: I will not take credit for something I didn't do. The Christmas party is one of those. The credit goes to Steve Miller, AA5V, and Ben Joplin, WB5VST. They are the force behind the TRO's part of the party/meeting. I was only the emcee.

One of the things I pushed for as President was to get the .94 machine back up and running, and that happened. Again, I didn't really have much to do with it unless Steve got tired of me asking him about it. Steve was the big player in that happening and to Kelly Baker for the new location at the Sun Bldg. Plus all of the engineering department that worked on it. Thank You. Now a big Thank you to everyone that hand hands in the engineering projects. we couldn't do what we do or have fun without you.

Now on to activities. Tom has served as activities chair for another year. I know he loves it or he wouldn't do it, but that is a lot of work (really). Thank You to Tom and to everyone that has worked in the field on these events. It would not happen if not for all of you. Lots of kudos to everyone. Again my pleasure is to work with and to serve you. Pat yourselves on the back for a fantastic year.

As a new year and a new president is coming I expect nothing less than you to give him the support that you have shown me over the last 4 years. As I step down I say thank you to all of the members for letting me serve you & supporting me, the board, and committee chairs.

73's Stan, KE5HPB

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

**NEW MEMBERS**

Chase Crum – KG5CLM  
 James Erb – KG5EWK  
 David Rodriguez – KF5GTA  
 John Hester – N5YOL

Welcome to the TRO  
 and thank you for  
 joining!

**MEETING NOTES**

In lieu of the regular report by Ed Compos, K5CRQ, TRO Secretary, I will synopsize the proceedings.

Ed, K5CRQ, was not present at the December meeting, so he had no minutes to read. I took notes at that meeting and included them in The Signal. Motion made and passed to accept the minutes as reported in December Signal.

Steve Miller, AA5V, read the Treasurer's Report and it was accepted as read.

Charles Burka, KE5AHE, TRO Membership Chairman, reported that the January test session produced 2 new techs/members.

Engineering – Audio on .88 is up and down as if voter card is trying to switch receivers. Keetonville receiver is working, downlink may be off frequency. Skiatook receiver package is ready to install. Local receiver is unfiltered, so open to noise.

- DMR repeater to be installed at Mounds on Friday after the meeting.
- 220 repeater is in the works.

Activities – only Bike MS Oklahoma and Tour de Cure have responded to inquiries about our support this year.

Hamfest – Prize lineup held over from last year except for Second Prize. Bob Heil, W9EID, might be back for a forum if he doesn't have a concert to work that weekend. A Digital Forum will cover D-STAR and other modes.

APRS – Bob Buford, W5RAB, discussed packet delivery through the system. Packets could be dropped because no verification of delivery is guaranteed, and delivery is left to best effort.

**FOR THE RECORD cont'd – Minutes, Money, and other organizational stuff**

**MEETING NOTES cont'd**

Bart Pickens, N5TWB, TRO Nominating Committee Chairman, presented the slate of nominees. All current officers were willing to continue except for President and Vice President. President Stan Callahan, KE5HPB, has served for 4 years, is retiring from his job, and faces some health issues. Vice President Ben Joplin, WB5VST, has his hands full with maintaining and upgrading the club's APRS equipment.

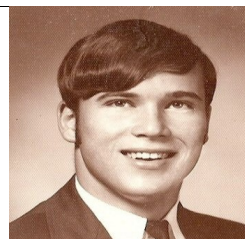
Paul Young, KE5EHM, has put his name in for Vice President.

Bart, N5TWB, then reported he found someone willing to serve as President, but the election of this candidate would require a waiver of the requirement that the President be a member for at least 3 years. That candidate is Chase Crum, KG5CLM. Chase shared biographical information about his experience in the military, the Masons, and in the IT field.

Bob, W5RAB, made a motion that we waive the 3-year membership requirement for Chase and elect the entire slate of officers by acclamation. Motion was seconded and passed.

**TREASURY REPORT – STEVE MILLER, AA5V**

**Treasurer’s report of January 26, 2015**



Total TRO Accounts Beginning Balances		\$4540.04
Checking Beginning Balance	\$2576.34	
01/07 3217 CityPlex Towers – 88 rental space	-\$100.00	
01/25 3218 Steve Miller-AA5V Xmas Prizes	-\$280.70	
12/19 Deposit – Route 66 Donation	+\$1000.00	
12/19 Deposit – membership	+\$25.00	
Checking Balance	\$3220.64	
PayPal Beginning Balance	\$45.46	
01/07 New Member – KF5GTA	+25.00	
Paypal fee	-1.03	
PayPal Ending Balance	\$69.43	
Savings Beginning Balance	\$1918.24	
11/28 Interest	+0.24	
Savings Ending Balance	\$1918.48	
Total TRO Account Balances		\$5208.55

**OFFICER BIOS**

**Chase Crum, KG5CLM – President**

I was born on on a military installation in Memphis Tennessee in 1976. Both of my parents were in the service and so we moved frequently while I was young. After their services ended, we settled down in Alabama. I enlisted in the Army as soon as I was able to in 1994 as a combat explosives engineer. I was initially in the reserves while I attended college in upstate New York and joined the regular (active) army afterwards. After two re-enlistments I ended up at Fort Benning Georgia where I was reassigned as an IT specialist. After deploying to the Middle East with the 3rd Infantry Division, I was medically discharged and moved to Savannah Georgia.

*cont'd on next page*

**FOR THE RECORD cont'd – Minutes, Money, and other organizational stuff****Chase Crum, KG5CLM – President (contd)**

My career in IT developed quickly over the years, taking me to Atlanta Georgia, and then to Oklahoma City as an engineer for Dell. I later took a position on the National Weather Service's campus in Norman Oklahoma where I stayed until I remarried and moved to Tulsa. I currently work as an IT Infrastructure Design Engineer, specializing in high complexity Linux clustering. I am a content contributing member of the Linux Foundation and have helped create many of the standards used in the industry today.

I am both a past master of my Lodge and a Shriner (two things I am VERY proud of). I have three teenage children and a daughter who is almost a year old. In addition to my career, I am also a full time student working towards my Master's degree in Information Technology Management.

My family and I live in west Tulsa and spend our time either at our children's sporting events or at home. My hobbies include traveling and playing tourist, amateur satellite projects and ham radio. I currently hold a general class license and hope to have my extra class soon.

-Chase, KG5CLM

**Paul Young, KE5EHM – Vice President**

I got started in CB radio in 1975 at age 20, did volunteer work with the Salvation Army Communications club did this for 5 years. I worked at Safeway and Homeland for 23 years started out as a sacker then to checker and on to Produce manger for a year or so. Had to retire from Safeway in 1995 because of back problems. High school friend and ham got me thinking about getting my ham ticket. I went to a class and studied and took my test March 2005 at the Green Country Hamfest and got my ticket on the 29<sup>th</sup>. I joined TRO and started helping on their events. I also joined Skywarn and have gone to a lot of the NWS storm spotting classes. I hope as a new VP that I can bring some new ideals to help the club more forward.

-Paul Young, KE5EHM

**Ed Compos, K5CRQ – Secretary**

I'm Ed Compos, K5CRQ and I have been the Club Secretary for 9 or 10 years and will continue to do the job if you all wish. I hold a tech class license and enjoy working the different runs and events that the TRO Club works with. Thanks in advance for your support.

**Steve Miller, AA5V – Treasurer**

I have been Treasurer of the TRO for seven years in the past and it is my fourth office held in TRO since becoming a member in 1978. I have been the Site Chairman of the 146.94 MHz repeater since 1981. My interest in amateur radio began with earning the Amateur Extra Class license and Commercial Radiotelephone license in 1978. I have been a member of ARRL since April 1977.

Additional membership activities include my participation in the planning committee for Green Country Hamfest, Inc., VE test examiner, webmaster for TRO and Green Country and as an active member in the Skywarn Group. My occupation is a Lead Programmer Analyst for Tulsa County.

**Merlin Griffin, WB5OSM – Trustee**

I was first licensed as WN5EMG in 1971 back when Novices were only allowed CW operation on 80, 40, and 15 meters. crystal controlled and power limit of 75 Watts DC Input. I mainly operated on 40 meter CW, and the Xtals I chose, I learned there were shortwave broadcasters at night on two of the three frequencies. It was my 75 watts against their ¼ megawatt.

I now hold the Extra Class license and as many of you know. I am a highly experienced ARRL accredited Volunteer Examiner, one of the most experienced in the U. S. I have participated in somewhere around 250 test sessions.

I am a past president of the TRO. I also serve as president of Green Country Hamfest, Inc. I am vice president and frequency coordinator for Oklahoma Repeater Society, Inc. We coordinate repeater frequencies in the state of Oklahoma and work with coordinators in the surrounding states to minimize interference

**FOR THE RECORD cont'd – Minutes, Money, and other organizational stuff**

**Merlin Griffin, WB5OSM – Trustee (cont'd)**

across state lines. I serve as net control operator for the Tulsa Skywarn operation, which I have been involved in that for many years. I think some of the other Skywarn NCO refer to me as NCO Emeritus. I also serve TRO as the engineering site chairman for the 146.88 repeater.

I have been employed by the City of Tulsa for 35 years, currently doing database administration and computer support for the Public Works Departments Quality Assurance Laboratory. I have expertise in both fields, analytical chemistry and computer science.

I reside in Owasso and have been an Owassoan since before it was cool. I am married to Lynda KE5VYN and have two beautiful grandchildren living with us most of the time: Kevyn, nine, and Lexie, who just turned eight. You have seen the bumper sticker, "If I knew grandchildren were so much fun I would have had them first." I pulled that off!

Look forward to seeing everybody at the Green Country Hamfest 3/13 & 14/2015 in Claremore!

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

**ENGINEERING REPORT – Joe Gorkos, N5TEX**

Last week several of us went over to CityPlex to replace multiple link receivers on the .88 system. We had some difficulties getting the audio to work through the voter. After we left .88 was hanging up and timing out. Need to make another trip to resolve the issue.



Equipment is ready to install at Skiatook, we just need to schedule time to work on the site.

(report submitted 10 FEB 15)

Editor's note: I have encountered the problem Joe mentioned. Audio volume would alternate between high and low, sometimes during a single transmission, especially if using the 88.5 PL. I expect our fine engineering team will have this corrected before storm season settles in. Until then I recommend using the 146.94 repeater on top of the Sun Building.

**REPEATER STATUS**

146.805 (-) PL 88.5 71<sup>st</sup> & Yale Working

148.880 (-) PL 88.5 (Skiatook or Keatonville receivers) or 141.3 (CityPlex) 81<sup>st</sup> & Lewis

Working, with audio problems

146.940 (-) PL 88.5 9<sup>th</sup> & Detroit Working

444.1 (+) PL 88.5 41<sup>st</sup> & Skelly Drive Working

442.725 (+) PL 88.5

NW of Skiatook Working

444.950 (+) No PL

Autumn Oaks, 71<sup>st</sup> & Yale Working

ATV Repeater

421.250 Output

434.250 Input

Work In Progress

**FLDIGI Software Training Links**

FLDIGI is a software package for running the different digital modes, mostly on HF.

The Tulsa Digital Radio Club conducted an FLDIGI workshop on 07 FEB at the OKC Police and Fire Academy. Live streaming of the workshop was provided by the Tuttle First Baptist Church, and videos of the workshop are available at their website:

<http://new.livestream.com/fbctuttle/events/1792672>

In addition, David Freese, W1HKJ, has posted a document, A Beginner's Guide to FLDIGI at this website:

[A Beginner's Guide to FLDIGI](#)

**D-STAR & AMSAT Forums at Green Country Hamfest**

[Green Country Hamfest Forum listing](#)

**GETTING RADIO ACTIVE - Activities Report, Schedule of TRO Events**

**ACTIVITIES REPORT – Tom Stroud, KD5OPH**

Committee meetings have started for Tour de Cure (set for June 6th) and Bike MS (set for mid-September), now with an altogether new route to look at and work on. A new route means creating a new plan from the ground up. This will take committee work to make that happen. I look forward to working with you in the 2015 season. Your time and dedication to the job is greatly appreciated by us. 2015 is shaping up to be a very busy year for us so enjoy the next few months then it is time to get back in the game. Big thanks to everyone!



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

**CLUB MEETINGS**

**TRO** Fourth Tuesday of the month, except June (Field Day) and December (Christmas)

1900 (7PM) Tally's Cafe, 11<sup>th</sup> & Yale  
 Schedule for 2015: 24 FEB 27 24 MAR  
 28 APR 26 MAY 27-28 JUN (ARRL Field Day) 28 JUL  
 25 AUG 22 SEP 27 OCT 24 NOV 15 DEC

**Tulsa Amateur Radio Club** Third Tuesday of the month

1900 (7PM) Keplinger Hall, TU Campus, 5<sup>th</sup> & Harvard  
 Schedule for 2015: 17 MAR 21 APR 19 MAY  
 16 JUN 27-28 JUN (ARRL Field Day) 21 JUL  
 18 AUG 15 SEP 20 OCT 17 NOV 15 DEC

**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: 02 MAR 06 APR 04 MAY  
 01 JUN 06 JUL 03 AUG 08 SEP (Tuesday due to holiday) 05 OCT 02 NOV 07 DEC (tentative due to holiday)

**American Airlines Amateur Radio Club** Last Saturday of every EVEN numbered month

0900 (AM) Martin East Regional Library  
 26<sup>th</sup> & Garnett  
 Schedule for 2015: 28 FEB 25 APR 27 JUN  
 29 AUG 31 OCT 26 DEC

**HAMFEST SCHEDULE**

**GREEN COUNTRY HAMFEST 13 – 14 MAR 15**

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 12 MAR 15 at the Claremore Expo Center. The TRO will have an information table set up. You can come sit and help watch the table, pay your annual dues, or just say Hi!

[www.greencountryhamfest.org](http://www.greencountryhamfest.org)

Hanging Judge Hamfest, SAT 04 APR 15 0800 - 1500  
 Columbus Acres  
 10203 Columbus Acres Road, Fort Smith, AR

[hangingjudgehamfest.com/](http://hangingjudgehamfest.com/)

OZARK CON 10 - 11 APR 15  
 Stone Castle Hotel and Conference Center  
 3050 Green Mountain Drive, Branson MO

[ozarkcon.com/index.php](http://ozarkcon.com/index.php)

ON TAP: Dayton Hamvention in May, Ham-Com, Irving TX in June, OKC Ham Holiday in July.

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.tulsahamradio.org](http://www.tulsahamradio.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	<a href="mailto:ke5hpb@tulsahamradio.org">ke5hpb@tulsahamradio.org</a>
President (incoming)	Chase Crum	KG5CLM	918.991.9031	<a href="mailto:kg5clm@tulsahamradio.org">kg5clm@tulsahamradio.org</a>
Vice-President (outgoing)	Ben Joplin	WB5VST	918.396.1651	<a href="mailto:wb5vst@tulsahamradio.org">wb5vst@tulsahamradio.org</a>
Vice-President (incoming)	Paul Young	KE5EHM	918.637.8414	<a href="mailto:ke5ehm@tulsahamradio.org">ke5ehm@tulsahamradio.org</a>
Secretary	Ed Compos	K5CRQ	918.231.7730	<a href="mailto:k5crq@cox.net">k5crq@cox.net</a>
Treasurer	Steve Miller	AA5V	918.381.8574	<a href="mailto:aa5v@tulsahamradio.org">aa5v@tulsahamradio.org</a>
Trustee	Merlin Griffin	WB5OSM	918.520.7668	<a href="mailto:wb5osm@tulsahamradio.org">wb5osm@tulsahamradio.org</a>
Activities	Tom Stroud	KD5OPH	918.695.3735	<a href="mailto:kd5oph@tulsahamradio.org">kd5oph@tulsahamradio.org</a>
By-Laws	Gary Parham	KC5ZQP	918.369.1065	<a href="mailto:kc5zqp@aol.com">kc5zqp@aol.com</a>
Engineering	Joe Gorkos	N5TEX	918.230.8243	<a href="mailto:n5tex@tulsahamradio.org">n5tex@tulsahamradio.org</a>
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Past President	Mark Conklin	N7XYO	918.366.2007	<a href="mailto:n7xyo@arrl.org">n7xyo@arrl.org</a>
Public Relations	Doug Lee	KC5ZQM	918.805.0337	<a href="mailto:kc5zqm@gmail.com">kc5zqm@gmail.com</a>

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



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