



Tulsa Repeater Organization

THE SIGNAL

TRO's Official Monthly Newsletter

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Dayton Hamvention 2012: Another great ham radio experience

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

My Dayton experience started at 3:45 am Thursday morning. That's when I had to get up so that I could make it to the Fairborn Holiday Inn in time for the first session of this year's Four Days in May (FDIM) conference. FDIM is a one-day conference put on by the QRP Amateur Radio Club International (<http://qrparci.org/>) and is a great way to start the "Dayton experience."

This year, we were treated to six very fine presentations. They included talks on using microcontrollers for various projects, software-defined radio, VHF and UHF for QRPers, homebrewing with "hollow state" devices (more commonly known as tubes), using open-source electronic design tools, and operating pedestrian mobile. The two talks that I enjoyed the most were "Hollow State (Thermatron) Homebrewing" by Grayson, TA2ZGE/KJ7UM and "Leveraging Free and Open Source Tools in Homebrewing" by Jason, NT7S.

Friday morning, I got up early again, so that I could make the 7:30am bus to the Hamvention. We arrived about 8:00 am, just as the gates were opening. The first thing that I did was to head to the FAR Circuits tent, which is—as the name implies—at the far end of the flea market. There, I made my first purchases, a board to make a regenerative receiver and one to make an audio breakout box.

The rest of the day was a combination of wandering the aisles of the outdoor flea market, fighting the crowds inside the arena, attending seminars, and meeting people that I know. By the time, 4:30 pm rolled around, I was pretty hot and tired. Temperatures topped 80 degrees, and on the blacktop surface of the flea market,

temperatures were undoubtedly higher. I was happy to get on the bus and head back to the hotel.

Saturday, was pretty much the same story, except it was even hotter. The temperature almost hit 90 degrees. I didn't bring any sunscreen, either, so I got a little rosy.

I ran into some people that I knew that had just come down for the day, or perhaps that I'd missed the day before. One guy I ran into at the Ohio Repeater Council booth, pulled out his new Elecraft KX-3 and gave me a quick demo. It's actually quite a cool, little radio. I'm still saving up for a K-3, though.

Around noon, I went to the food court for a slice of pizza and a glass of beer. Seating is catch as catch can, so I shared a table with several other hams. This is great because you get to meet all kinds of different people.

This year, an older gentleman sat down next to me with his beer. We got to chatting, and as it turned out, this was his 55th straight year attending the Dayton Hamvention! He started going before it was even held at Hara Arena, and even after they moved to Hara, they didn't use the entire facility as they do now. I'm really glad that I got to speak with him.

So, what did you buy? I didn't really go down to Dayton with much of a shopping list. In addition to the PC boards, I did pick up a bunch of other little stuff including some strain reliefs, more clamp-on ferrite cores, a paddle pad from Vibroplex (\$1) to keep the paddle down at the club station from sliding around, and some tube sockets! One of the vendors there had a box of tube sockets that they were selling for a quarter apiece or five for a dollar. I picked out five and paid the lady,

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FROM THE EDITOR

Want to be published?

Send in your ham radio related articles. Without your contributions the newsletter would be blank.

Charles Sharpe—NE3M

MEETINGS

The next TRO meeting will be Tuesday, March 27th starting at 1930 at Tally's Good Food Cafe 1102 S Yale



PREZ SAYS BY STAN CALLAHAN—KE5HPB

Now that Spring is almost over but not without cost this year. We had another record year for tornados nationwide. Locally tornados hit fairly close to home but we've been really lucky again!! We did have some flooding in our area this year. Thank God we made it thru so far.

We are making some changes in TRO that we think will be good for the whole. We are in the process of changing our internet host provider to GoDaddy.com . We will soon be installing some equipment in the SunCo building in the downtown corridor. Thanks to Kelly Baker N5TUG for hosting us at this site.

We are going into our busy time of year again. Maple Ridge Run is just around the corner on Memorial day near 21 and Peoria. this is an annual event for us to provide communication support. This is an easy event to work, all stationary posts and only about 1/2 mile in any direction. There is still time to say "count me in" on this event, Just contact myself or

Tom Stroud KD5OPH to get on the list.

Tour-de-Cure is then on the next wknd, June 2 at Southcrest Hospital at 91 st and hwy 169. This year they will pay you up front for your fuel (no out of pocket expense) We will need many operators for this event. Again contact myself or Tom Stroud to sign-up .. We REALLY NEED YOU for this event!!! This is a new course all in south Tulsa and into Muskogee county near Haskell ad so on. It will be most of the day for some BUT lots a fun if you let it happen.

Field day is just around the corner and we aill again this year partner with TARC at Chandler Park. This year we will start on Friday night and run through Sunday morning for the 'die hard' operators. We are assured that there are no glitches with the park this year. Campout if you like, just NO ground fires!

Have a safe Memorial Day weekend and remember what this holiday is really for. God Bless our Veterans past and present.

—Stan

Tulsa Repeater Organization
Treasury Report 5-16-12 for April 2012

TRO Accounts Balance Beginning: \$3,799.43

Checking beginning balance:	\$1,599.63
Check 3187(clubinsur.)-	\$200.00
Checking ending balance:	\$1,399.63

Savings beginning balance:	\$1,909.33
4-30-12 Interest+	\$0.35
Ending savings balance:	\$1,909.68

Paypal account beginning:	\$290.47
Paypal account ending:	\$290.47

TRO Ending Accounts Balance: \$3,599.78

Respectfully submitted by Gary Parham-KC5ZQP



MEETING MINUTES BY Ed Compos—K5CRQ

Board meeting notes: TRO BOARD MEETING 04-24-2012
Stan Callahan KE5HPB open the meeting at 18:20 hrs.

Field day was discussed and TARC has secured Chandler park for their site and issued a invitation to join them. A motion was made to take this to the vote of the floor to accept or not by Ed Compos K5CRQ and Seconded By Tom Stroud KD5OPH.

Discussion was held on accepting the Sun Building as a site for a TRO repeater. We will put the 146.94 repeater up at that site.

Ed K5CRQ will talk to Johnnie Munn with MERC and find out about maybe getting to use the Hilcrest building at 10 w 7th st for a repeater to use with the Hospital Net.

Board meeting closed at 19:25 hrs

Regular TRO Meeting opened by President Stan Callahan KE5HPB at 1927 hrs.

Minutes were in the signal.

Hanover Insurance company will carry the club insurance at a savings. This passed on a vote after a motion by Stan KE5HPB and a seconded by Tom KD5OPH.

146.94 repeater going up on the Sun Building down town.

Ben Joplin went up to the 444.725 site in Skiatook and could not find anything wrong with the link to 146.88 .

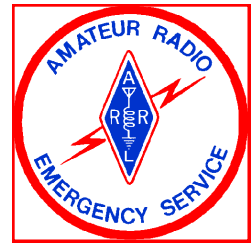
Stan KB5HPB reported the budget will stay about the same, 146.94 budget was changed to \$300.00

Summer is the time for activities with bike races, foot races, etc be sure to check the website and newsletter for Tom Strouds KD5OPH's info and help him all you can.

Stan KB5HPB discussed Field day and a motion was made to have it at Chandler park with TARC by Ed K5CRQ and seconded by Ben WB5VST and passed on vote of the membership present.

Steve Miller requested the we change Web Site providers since were having problems they won't fix or can't. He suggest "go daddy " provide the service and Ben WB5VST made a motion to change and Bill Downes KE5VKB seconded. Motion passed on vote.

Motion made by Ed K5CRQ to close meeting at 20:30 and passed on vote.



ARES/RACES Net
Tuesday evenings at
2030 local time on the
146.88 repeater with
back-up on 146.94

Tuesday night's meeting agenda. First on the agenda is to set the annual budget, Those involved in the budget to meet at Tally's 6:30 or earlier to put together this years budget. The highlight of the meeting will be the Nat'l Weather Service presentation, weather permitting.

Op Standards
With
Ben Joplin, WB5VST

Nothing new to report. Everyone is doing fine. Just a couple reminders. Please be careful not to sit on your mic. When using the repeaters key your mic, wait for the remotes and voter cards to sink, then talk.

ENGINEERING REPORT FROM STEVE MILLER—AA5V

146.94:

146.88:

146.805:

444.1:

444.1:

Frequency	PL	Status
146.34/94	none	Down
146.28/88	141.3	Up
146.205/805	88.5	Up
449.1/444.1	88.5	Down
449.725/444.725	88.5	Up
449.95/444.95	none	Up
ATV 421.25/434.25	none	Up

and as I was walking away, I decided that they were such a good deal that I went back and bought five more.

My biggest purchase was NT7S's OpenBeacon QRSS transmitter (www.etherkit.com). It cost me \$40. It looks like a very nice kit, and I'm hoping to be on 30m QRSS shortly with it. The nice thing about this transmitter is that it has a microcontroller that lets it transmit DFCW and Hell-schreiber, in addition to CW. It should be fun to both build and operate.

Too rich for my blood

In other news, both Kenwood and FlexRadio both introduced new radios at Dayton. Perhaps the most buzz was around the Kenwood TS-990. All they were showing was a prototype under a Plexiglass cover. In addition to being incredibly expensive, the radio is huge! I heard someone joke that to produce this radio, Kenwood is going to have to corner the market on buttons and knobs. If you've seen the photo in QST (which was allegedly produced with Photo-shop), you'll know what I mean.

The other radio with a bit of buzz is the new FlexRadio FLEX-6000. For the past couple of weeks, the FlexRadio website was proclaiming that this radio was going to be a game changer. Perhaps it is, but at \$6,000+, this radio is out of my league, and too expensive for the majority of radio amateurs. That being the case, I really don't know what all the buzz is about.

I'm sure that the TS-990 and the FLEX-6000 are both great radios, but I think that the law of diminishing returns applies here. At some point, are you really getting \$6,000 or \$12,000 of fun out of the radio? I don't think that I would.

Well, that's it. Another Dayton Hamvention is in the bag. It was a lot of fun, and I'm already looking forward to next year. I've already contacted one of the forum organizers about adding an adult education forum. I think that's something that's both needed and would be popular. I'll just have to make sure to leave enough time to hit the flea market and grab some more tube sockets or coax or whatever.

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When he's not tromping around flea markets, or attending conferences, Dan, KB6NU, writes books about ham radio. His latest, 21 Things to Do After You Get Your Amateur Radio License, is available as an e-book from Amazon, Barnes&Noble, or from his website, <http://www.kb6nu.com/>. You can e-mail him with comments, questions, compliments, or brickbats at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

AREA AMATEUR RADIO TESTING

When:
Third Thursday of odd numbered months.
Start @ 7:00 P.M.

By:

Where:
Red Cross building at 11th & 169.
Tulsa Area Chapter
10151 East 11th Street
Tulsa, OK 74128

Contact:
Merlin Griffin
Phone: 520-7668
Email: wb5osm@hotmail.com

When:
First or Second Saturday of ODD numbered months for 2012
January 7th
March 3th
May 5th
July 7th
September 8th (subject to change)
November 3th

From 0930 to 1100 AM.
Walk-ins Welcome Until 10:00 am

By:
Hardesty Regional Library VE Group (ARRL)

Where:
Hardesty Regional Library
8316 E 93rd Street
Tulsa, OK 74133

Contact:
Loyd - AE5MM
Phone: 918.638.2393 (text msg or voice)
Email: ae5mm@arrl.net

When:
Second Saturday of even numbered months
Start at 9:30 A.M.
Walk-ins Welcome

By:

Where:
Broken Arrow Church of Christ
505 E Kenosha Street
Broken Arrow, OK 74012

Contact:
Don Doyle AC5II
Phone: 379-0962
Email: ac5II@arrl.net

When:
Last Saturday of even numbered months
Start at 10:00 A.M.
All testing by appointment ONLY.

By:

Where:
Martin East Regional Library
2601 S. Garnett Rd.
Tulsa, OK 74129

Contact:
John K5ENA
Phone: 918.346.8284
Email: K5ENA@cox.net

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



AREA AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNITY SERVICE

Monday, May 28 7AM thru 11AM	TRO is once again providing communications for the Maple Ridge Memorial Day Run, on Moday May 28.. To volunteer, contact Tom Stroud at KD5OPH@tulsahamradio.org , or call 918-695-3735.
Saturday, June 2 8AM thru 3PM	Tour de Cure—American Diabetes Association Bicycle Tour
Sunday, June 12	Tulsa Triathlon—TRO to provide communications— <i>Tentative</i>
Saturday & Sunday June 23 & 24 12PM thru 12PM	TRO & ARRL Field Day—Location to be determined.



Tulsa Repeater Organization

P.O. Box 1422
Tulsa, OK 74101

Mail To:

For more information about the *TRO* visit www.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.net or write to:

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

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Secretary	Ed Compos	K5CRQ	918.231.7730	k5crq@cox.net
Treasurer	Gary Parham	KC5ZQP	918.369.1055	kc5zqp@aol.com
Trustee	Merlin Griffin	WB5OSM	918.520.7668	wb5osm@hotmail.com

Committee Chairperson contact information:

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