



THE SIGNAL



Official Newsletter of the
Tulsa Repeater Organization

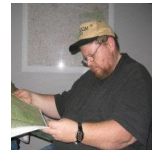


Vol. 47 Issue 2 MAY 2014

“Covering Tulsa through the air”

UP FRONT – A Word from the Editor

Welcome to the new format and layout of The Signal! At the April meeting, I said that was developing a new template for The Signal, and if I got it finished by the May meeting, I would step up and take on the role of Public Relations Chair for the TRO. Well, I finished it Friday the 16th, and so I'm committed to the position.



My first act as the TRO PR officer was to go out and take part in the club display at Camp Bandage. I took a few pictures and posted them on the club's Facebook page, and I'll also include some here as well.

Along with changes to The Signal, I have other plans to help with promoting the club and ham radio.

First, is a banner for displays intended for the general public. We do not have one that specifically mentions ham radio. At Camp Bandage, we had one that said 'Storm Chasers,' and I noticed we wound up answering a lot of questions about storm chasing and tornadoes. We do more than that, and we need to let people know.

Also, I will be looking to set up displays and demonstrations at other times of the year. Field Day is partly a PR event. The demonstration at the Boy Scout jamboree is directed at a limited audience. I will be considering another event, probably in the Fall, with a bigger reach to the whole public.

THE OFFICIAL WORD! - What Our Leaders Have To Say

PREZ SEZ - Stanley Callahan, KE5HPB

Here we are in the month of May, prime storm season and it's been relatively quiet. It is also when we as a club/org start getting busy as well with activities. This month some of you have already started with the Tour de Tulsa. We have also attended Camp Bandage as an information event promoting ham radio and educating the public about weather safety. On Memorial Day in the annual Maple Ridge Run near 21 & Peoria. Then on May 31 is Tour de Cure at Hillcrest South.



As I stated at last months meeting we plan to bring back the event contests. We will use the biggest 5 events this year to promote this, starting with Tour de Cure.

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

PREZ SEZ cont'd

For those who work these events we will have a drawing for a gift. It may be a \$20 gift card, 2015 TRO dues paid up to \$25, or even a gift certificate to a restaurant (depending on availability). As stated earlier, there will 5 events. The other events will be Center of the Universe, Dam Jam, Rt. 66 Marathon and BikeMS OK. On the 2 day events I am still working on the details for that but first option I am looking at is that if you work both days your name is in twice. I may be able to come up with a better option like 2 drawings but still working on it.

Something new on Tour de Cure this year is that TdC will have medics doing ride alongside with us on the course. This will improve response time for injuries on course. This is the same option the M.S. Ride medical is considering.

Field Day is just around the corner. We will be at Chandler Park with TARC again. This is the same set up as last year. We don't know who the cook is yet this year but whoever it is we know we will "grub out" in style! If you have any Q's you can contact Bart Pickens or myself or any board member.

Looking ahead to July we will be participating in the Center of the Universe festival. This is the 2nd annual event and is bigger and better than last year. It will cover more ground and we do mean more ground, and have more vendors and entertainment. We will need even more volunteers than last year. I am guessing 12 - 15 operators. Most assignments will be stationary on foot posts with HT's. This is a 2 day event in the evenings of Friday & Saturday until about 2 am. It is easy work , you get to be entertained by local and nationally famed music. You will be fed as well. Just be prepared to endure some very warm weather.

I would like to say a 'BIG' thank you to Doug Lee, KC5ZQM for stepping up to the plate for PR and now producing the Signal. Give him all your support and let him know how much we appreciate him doing this.

Stan
KE5HPB

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

NEW MEMBERS
Paul Lockyer - KF5ZTC
Dan Crews—W9UQ
Welcome to the TRO and thank you for joining!

MEETING NOTES – ED COMPOS, K5CRQ



Minutes of the meetings would go here if made available.
Instead of the regular minutes, I, your humble editor will recount what I remember of the March and April meetings.

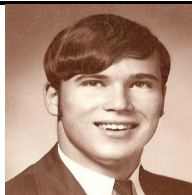
In March, the business portion included the standard reports, with a recap of the club's presence at Green Country Hamfest. Then Steve Piltz, KA9MLL, Meteorologist-In-Charge at the Tulsa NWS office discussed the use of social media in severe weather operations, and the use of unmanned aerial systems (formerly officially known as drones) in probing severe storms. The discussion also included which frequencies to use in which portions of the Tulsa CWA.

The April business meeting again covered the standard reports, with a brief discussion of a new 900 MHZ repeater at the CityPlex Towers and sources for 900 MHZ radios, and a considerable discussion of upcoming activities.

TRO Meeting, 7 PM, 27 MAY 14, Tally's Good Food Cafe, 11th & Yale

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

TREASURY REPORT – STEVE MILLER, AA5V



Treasurer's report as of May 15, 2014

Total TRO Accounts Beginning Balances	\$4854.37
Checking Beginning Balance	\$2691.27
05/05 Deposit	+\$130.00
Checking Ending Balance	\$2821.27
PayPal Beginning Balance	\$246.78
2 renewals	+\$55.00
Paypal Fees	-\$2.20
PayPal Ending Balance	\$299.58
Savings Beginning Balance	\$1916.32
03/31 Interest	+\$0.24
Ending Savings Account Balance	\$1916.56
Total TRO Account Balances	\$5037.41

Respectfully Submitted by Steve Miller – AA5V 05/15/2014

TESTING RESULTS

Summary of Green Country Hamfest sessions:

12 new Techs

7 new Generals (2 are new hams)

4 new Extras

From 15 MAY session:

Lance Meidl, Owasso & Curtis Allen, Tulsa – new Techs

Kevin Wade, KB5VOI, Inola & Steven Breau, KG5BOT, Tulsa – new Generals

Welcome to new hams! Congratulations to all who passed, whether new hams or upgrades!

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

ENGINEERING REPORT – Joe Gorkos, N5TEX

Instead of the normal report by Joe, N5TEX, we have this item submitted by Merlin Griffin, WB5OSM:

The TRO has a new 900 MHz repeater operating from CityPlex on 927.7 MHz, -25 kHz offset, DCS tone 074. It's operating under the call sign W5ETD. Rick Wilson provided the equipment and will serve as control operator, since I as trustee have no equipment that will readily monitor this frequency. I thought my FT 7900 would, but that part of 900 MHz is blocked out for some reason.

73 DE WB5OSM

TRO Mobile APRS tracker unit and portable APRS digipeater on display at Camp Bandage, Broken Arrow, Saturday, 17 MAY



REPEATER STATUS

146.805 (-) PL 88.5 71st & Yale - Working

148.880 (-) PL 88.5 (Skiatook / Keatonville) or 141.3 (CityPlex) 81st & Lewis - Working

146.940 (-) PL 88.5 9th & Detroit Working

444.1 (+) PL 88.5 41st & Skelly Drive Working

442.725 (+) PL 88.5 NW of Skiatook – Working

444.950 (+) No PL Autumn Oaks, 71st & Yale - Working

GETTING RADIO ACTIVE - Activities Report, Schedule of TRO Events

TRO EVENTS

PUBLIC SERVICE

Tulsa Tour de Cure 2014

Saturday 31 MAY 14 0600
Hillcrest South, 91st & US 169

TRO / TARC Field Day

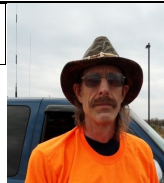
Saturday & Sunday 28 & 29 JUN 14
Chandler Park, 21st & 59th West

Center Of The Universe Festival

Friday & Saturday 25 & 26 JUL 14

PUBLIC RELATIONS

ACTIVITIES REPORT – Tom Stroud, KD5OPH



Time to start thinking about events! First up will be Maple Ridge Run on May 26th, and then Tour de Cure on May 31st. I have several slots open for these. You can register on Face Book. Just go to the click on the events tab and you will find information on our TRO upcoming events.



Storm Chasers Attend Storm Chasers Appreciation Day hosted by Second Chance Safe Rooms, May 17, 2014. I don't know too many businesses that have a day dedicated to the storm chasers of the area. Eddie is a great guy that will spare nothing to support the storm chasers and storm spotters. He really does try to go all out each year to make it bigger and better. Thanks Eddie for all that you do for us each year I can not wait to see what he has in store for next year.

Keep it live and on the air 73's KD5OPH

Camp Bandage Ham Radio and Weather Safety Display - 17 MAY 14, Immanuel Lutheran Church, 400 N Aspen, Broken Arrow OK

By the time I arrived that Saturday morning, Stan Callahan, KE5HPB, Ben Joplin, WB5VST, Paul Young, KE5EHM, and Ray Young, K5CFY had almost finished setting up their displays. I brought along my laptop computer to display PYKL3, an Android weather radar and information app. I use a program called BlueStacks that allows you to run Android apps on PC's or Mac's.

Ben had displays of APRS and Gibson Ridge radar, plus he had brought along portable HF and dual-band radios. He tuned the dualbander to the BAARC 146.910 and the TARC 443.850 repeaters. The HF rig was set to 20 meters and fed into an LDG tuner and BuddiPole antenna.

Ben, Stan, Ray and Paul had their vehicles parked on display near the tent. I left the Green Bean mobile in the parking area because it doesn't have any special signage or lights, and it's pretty much a Belchfuel Knoodleknocker anyway.

Other items on display included a slideshow of storm photos, a cloud chart, one of the TRO's mobile APRS trackers and a portable APRS digipeater. Brochures and other literature were made available for those wanting to learn more later.

For most of the rest of the event we greeted people, answered questions, and looked at a few of the other displays. Stan and I also took pics. A couple of times, Ray or Paul set up "third party" contacts for young people wishing to see how ham radio worked. A couple of mascots came by, the Chick-Fil-A cow, and a fox. When I saw the fox, I thought, "A meat-eating predator around hams... not necessarily a good idea!" (hi hi!)

Quite a bit of the time, I sat next to the HF rig and threw out my call sign from time to time, but the (cont'd on next page)

GETTING RADIO ACTIVE cont'd - Activities Report, Schedule of TRO Events, etc.

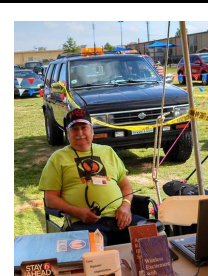
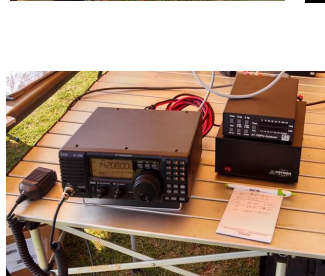
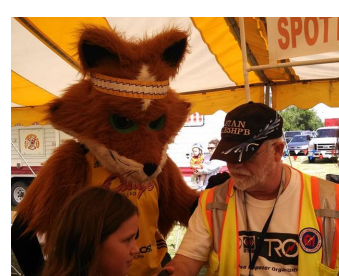
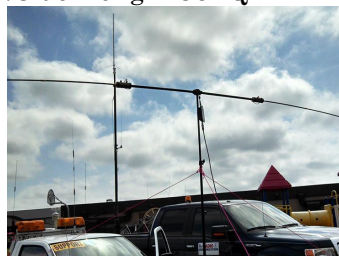
Camp Bandage - cont'd

band was pretty quiet until sometime after noon. Then it opened up and I started to tune around the band. I could hear a couple of stations fairly well, but I don't think they could hear me.

The radar displays started to show some rain areas out to the west heading our way. Stan advised the Camp Bandage sponsors about this, and they decided to shut things down early.

Overall, the turnout was pretty good, and I'm sure we educated people about the role of ham radio in severe weather and other emergency operations. If you've never been to Camp Bandage, and if you have kids that you want to impress on them the importance of safety and preparedness, I encourage you to go next year.

73 de Doug KC5ZQM



OTHER PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Tulsa Tough Gran Fondo Bike Rides, Saturday & Sunday, 07 & 08 JUN 14

Comm & SAG support by TARC. BIG NEED ON THIS ONE, FOLKS! You can work one or both days. Volunteers must register on the event website:

www.tulsatough.com

To volunteer for TARC events, contact Jay Eimer, AD5PE, at ad5pe@arrl.net or 918.852.2885 or 918.371.9137.

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

GREEN COUNTRY HAMFEST 2014 RECAP – Merlin Griffin, WB5OSM

Green Country Hamfest was very successful again this year. Attendance was up some and we were financially very successful, so we see no reason to change ticket or table prices next year. We may be able to enhance an already great prize package and make it even greater!

Our special guest Bob Heil of Heil Sound and Ham Nation enjoyed his visit and we really appreciated him showing up at our show. His visit was arranged by the efforts of certain members of the Broken Arrow Amateur Radio Club and the Committee really appreciates the renewed and increased involvement of the BA Club. They are already planning to try to invite another special guest or two for Green Country 2015. We will let you know how that goes.

A snafu affected the special event station, and due to the location of commercial portable tower we were unable to set up the trailer tower of the Sub Club. The Sub Club, if you are not familiar with them, promotes the display of the USS Batfish WWII submarine down at Muskogee. They run a special event station that serves to bring attention to the sub, which is a memorial to U. S. Naval personnel that we lost in WWII. It also introduces the public to amateur radio.

(cont'd on next page)

THE BIG PICTURE cont'd – News from ARRL, Green Country Hamfest, ARES....

Green Country Recap - cont'd

The Sub Club built a trailer-mounted tower on a boat trailer that can be easily towed by a typical car or truck, and can be deployed within a few minutes. It's an impressive piece of workmanship. I know other clubs are inquiring as to how they did it. I am sure they have far less invested in their portable tower than the commercial folks did.

We also appreciate the Ft. Smith Club W5ANR in bringing up their portable station built in an old remote broadcast truck that was donated by a Ft. Smith broadcast station.

Green Country 2015 will be March 13-14 2015 back at the Claremore Expo Center. Now we have learned that we may have to make some changes for Green Country 2016. The primary user of the Expo Center these days is the RSU Hillcats Basketball Team. They will be moving up to bigger division in 2016 and will be participating in a small college version of March Madness. Bottom line is that the Expo Center will have the main arena set up for basketball and will not be available in early March for a Hamfest. They offered us the use of Indoor Arena next door, which is typically used for Rodeos and livestock shows. They plan to enclose and improve the HVAC for that arena, and they also can cover the floor with and AstroTurf type carpet. Some of our committee members checked it out

CLUB MEETINGS

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

1900 (7PM) Tally's Cafe, 11th & Yale

Schedule for 2014: 27 MAY 28 -29 JUN (ARRL Field Day)
22 JUL 26 AUG 23 SEP 28 OCT 25 NOV DEC TBD

Tulsa Amateur Radio Club Third Tuesday of the month

1900 (7PM) Keplinger Hall, TU Campus, 5th & Harvard

Schedule for 2014: 20 MAY 28-29 JUN (ARRL Field Day)
15 JUL 19 AUG 16 SEP 21 OCT

18 NOV DEC TBD

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 2014: 02 JUN 07 JUL 04 AUG 03 SEP
(Tuesday due to holiday) 06 OCT 03 NOV 01 DEC
(tentative due to holiday)

American Airlines Amateur Radio Club

Last Saturday of every EVEN numbered month

0900 (AM) Martin East Regional Library

26th & Garnett

Schedule for 2014: 28 JUN 30 AUG 25 OCT 27 DEC

during the Claremore Home and Garden show, and found thought that the floor would not be very satisfactory for the Hamfest, especially for some of our attendees that use wheel chairs or walk with a cane. Now Expo is offering us that area \$200 a day cheaper than where we are. It's also considerably larger than where we are now. However, we still don't know about the floor. So our next consideration is to move our show down to the second week of April. So we will see what we are going to do.

Prize Winners: Bill Meredith KC5SB of Tulsa won the Elecraft K3 grand prize, James Roberts N5IGN of Shongaloo, Louisiana won the Elecraft KX3 second prize, and Joy Ward KF5ELD won the Yaesu FT-897D third prize.

VE Testing at the Hamfest:

The Friday night session led by John Campbell K5ENA had 15 candidates, including one who retested for General. Of the 15 candidates 11 upgraded. We had 7 Technicians, 2 Generals, and 2 Extras.

The Saturday session led by Merlin Griffin WB5OSM produced Five Technicians, Five Generals at least two of which are going in as General class and skipping the Tech. Then Two Extras.

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 2014: 17 JUL 18 SEP 20 NOV

First Saturday of odd-numbered months - 0930 to 1100 (9:30 to 11 AM)

Hardesty Regional Library

8316 E 93rd Street

Tulsa, OK 74133

Contact: Loyd Beeson, AE5MM at ae5mm@arrl.net or 918.638.2393 (text msg or voice)

Schedule for 2014: 05 JUL 14 06 SEP 01 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 2014: 14 JUN 09 AUG 12 OCT 14 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, or 918 346-8284

Schedule for 2014: 28 JUN 31 AUG 26 OCT 28 DEC

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

Our Website: www.tulsahamrdio.org

Our Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/189314365941/>

MAKING CONTACT – Club Officer Contact Information

Our Yahoo Group: <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/WA5LVT/info>

President	Stan Callahan	KE5HPB	918.381.9990	ke5hpb@tulsahamradio.org
Vice-President	Ben Joplin	WB5VST	918.396.1651	wb5vst@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

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