



THE SIGNAL



Official Newsletter of the
Tulsa Repeater Organization



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"Covering Tulsa through the air"

PREZ SAYZ:

Hi everyone,

Our next regular club meeting will be held on July 28 at the Freeway Cafe (5849 South 49th East Ave). The meeting begins at 7:00 PM, but please feel free to arrive around 6:00 PM if you would like to eat and socialize beforehand.

I hope to see you at our July meeting.

Best regards,
Paul Young – KE5EHM
TRO – President

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Green Country Hamfest 2026 is in the books and possibly the best we had, and one of the biggest.

The Grand Prize, a complete Yaesu station, Antenna, Power Source Yaesu FT-891 160-6M transceiver and back pack type carrying case for all of it; was won by Sean KJ5ARH of Tulsa. This setup is oriented for portable operation, such as Field Day or camping.

Second Place prize a Yaesu FTDX-10 160-6M many modes SDR transceiver was won by Mike KD5KJH of Mannford.

Third Prize Yaesu FTM510DRASP Dual Band 2M/70 CM FM/C4FM mobile transceiver; was won by Dirk N5PEF Dirk of Springdale, AR.

The Yaesu 710AESS special drawing prize was won by **TRO's** own Joe N5TEX of Sand Springs.

The volunteer's prize a gift certificate to Associated Radio was won by Don N5SGE of Claremore. Don serves on the planning committee, as a VE, and helped at the front ticket table for a while.

We gave away lots of other stuff, Green Country Hamfest Ball caps, Chick-Fil-A gift cards, a number of dual band HT's and a couple of DMR/Analog dual band HT's. Then other stuff. We also heard that the DX-Banquet was well attended this year. Which we were glad to hear.

One of the problems we encountered on the prize drawings was the ticket drawn for the grand prize was that it was the wrong part of the ticket. There was no way to identify who purchased the ticket. We don't track that. If the ticket holder wrote a name or call sign on there, we might have tracked, he/she down. So, we put the word out on the boredom breakers net and some other places, asking that the ticket holder come forward. Thinking that they kept the other part of the ticket. Now, somebody may have thrown both parts of the ticket in the drum, thinking it would double their chances. After nobody contacted anyone on the committee, one of our treasurer's Mike Mitchell W5BHS and Merlin Griffin President met and redrew for the grand prize, and the ticket we drew out likewise was the stub with no identifying characteristics, and I believe we drew another one like that, before we drew a properly filled out ticket. So, starting in 2027, if we draw a ticket stub and not an actual ticket with name, call sign, address and all that stuff, we will announce the ticket number from the stage twice and if nobody can produce the other half of the ticket in a couple of minutes, we will immediately redraw then. For the top prizes, you will still not have to be present to win, ***but we must know who you are and how to get the prize to you.***

Yes, we know there are problems with the limited PA system we were using. Here is the deal, the PA system at Claremore Expo does not belong to Claremore Expo, it belongs to the Rogers State University Athletics Department and they don't allow anyone at Claremore Expo to use it. We've talked to various people at RSU and got absolutely nowhere. Claremore Expo staff reports the same thing. We've kicked around various ideas about what we can do about it. One we will implement in 2027 is announce the drawing winner on the RCWA's 70 CM repeater, 444.35 + 5 MHz (88.5). We will not say what the prize is, just a QST give a call and first name, and say you need to report to the Green Country stage. We may also be able to rent a better system, or expand the system we have. We are exploring our options. Also, the call signs of prize winners get wrote on the white board and stay there until the prize is picked up or near the end of the Hamfest on Saturday.

Financially, we were very successful and may be able to expand a bit on the prize package.

Green Country Hamfest 2027 will be April 9 & 10 2027. The planning committee will resume meeting on September 10, 2026. Another good thing is we've got new committee members, and especially now two treasurers, Mike and Jerry. We still could use a secretary to take notes of the meetings.

Also, our long time emcee extraordinaire/publicity chair/security chair, Mark N7XYO is retiring from these duties. We do appreciate his service over the years. He did agree to continue to help out with the security part. I believe we have the emcee part covered. Jeff WX5WDG (current president of RCWA) and another ham, said they would cover the emcee duties. Jeff, said he would help with the PR too. I suggested they find a third team member for the PA announcing, so they could take turns on the PA announcing and spend time at their club tables and enjoying the Hamfest too.

The Green Country 2027 kickoff meeting will be live and in person on 9/10/2026 19:00 @ in the RC Building, NW corner of the Expo parking lot. Subsequent meetings will be held on the 2nd Thursday of the month 20:00 via Zoom. You don't need to leave your own Hamshack.

-...-

TRO/Tulsa Red Cross VE testing Session:

At the TRO/Tulsa Red Cross VE testing session on Thursday July 16, 2026 we had three candidates show up and take the test and all three got what they came for, they were:

Mr. Buck Fry KW5FRY of Dewar OK, upgraded from Tech to General.

Mr. Jwan Jackson KJ5MXH of Tulsa, upgraded from Tech to General.

Ms. Jenna Merkle of Claremore unlicensed to Technician and she is under 18 too!

The VE Team was Curtis N5CEL, Tom K5OHM, and Merlin WB5OSM

A new question pool went into effect for the Tech license on July 1.

Our May test session had no applicants, but I will say there has been a history of younger people showing up at the test sessions and getting licensed.

Our next TRO/Tulsa Red Cross VE Testing session will be held on 9/17/2026 @ 19:00. Walk-ins accepted.

By the way: The exams are now given electronically using the Exam Tools system. An applicant will come in to the testing site. Provide photo-Id and pay the testing fee. Then he/she is provided an electronic tablet. The VE team will be coordinating the testing activities on one or more laptops. All of which must be connected to a network, wireless preferably.

So, to take the test these days, you need:

1. Photo ID.
2. \$15.00 cash/check; cash is preferred. You may be able to do an electronic transfer to the VE liaison. We are not setup at least yet to take credit/debit cards. Will that be coming? I don't know.
3. An FRN number from the FCC. They take your SSN, that way you don't have to give it to us, the VE team or the VEC. If you have a license, your FRN is published on the license. If you don't have a license, get on the FCC's CORES system and obtain your FRN. It's a free service
4. A valid email address. The FCC prefers to communicate with you by email. The Fee payment request from them will come via email, and the link to print out an "official" license copy will be emailed to you. That is if you still have a felt need for "Wall Paper." many hams do.

We no longer need a copy of your license for an upgrade; the FRN number will tell the VE Team everything we need to know. In fact, it basically fills out the NCVEC 605 form for us.

At Green Country 2026 we had two people that were convicted felons, but out of prison wanting to take an amateur exam ask about what to do, if you check that box yes on the application. Yes, any form being submitted to a government agency of any kind, answer honestly. No, this does not mean you can't have a HAM license. We (VE team) will hand you a card with instructions to follow. What your exact circumstances are. That's between you and the FCC. It's none of the VE team's business; we will administer the exam to you like anyone else. Again, it's between you and the FCC.

73 DE WB5OSM

TRO TREASURY REPORT OF 07/24/2026:

Total TRO Accounts Beginning Balance		\$6499.29
Checking Beginning Balance	\$2492.36	
Checking Ending Balance	\$2492.36	
PayPal Beginning Balance	\$497.72	
No Activity		
PayPal Ending Balance	\$497.72	
Cash Beginning Balance	\$35.00	
No Activity		
Cash Ending Balance	\$35.00	
Savings Beginning Balance		\$3474.80
06/30 Interest Earned	+0.57	
Ending Savings Account Balance		\$3475.37
Total TRO Account Balance		\$6500.45

Respectfully Submitted by Steve Miller – AA5V 07/24/2026

ENGINEERING REPORT:

Paul Teel and I accessed the 146.88 site today 07/24/26 and gave a check-up to the 88 repeater and the 900 MHz repeater. Also, Paul accessed the roof and gave the antennas a visual inspection.

The power supply indicates that the repeater is pulling around 3.5 amps in receive mode. That seemed a bit high, but it is the Kenwood repeater, the two Motorola Radius receivers, the SCOM 7330 controller, a receive pre-amp, and one of the cooling fans in the power amp runs constantly. The two on the heat sink are thermostatically controlled. When the repeater starts transmitting, the current goes up to around 34 amps.

The transmit antenna checked 1.8 - 2.0 on VSWR on antenna analyzers, but they seem to struggle a bit at that site, when we switched to a Bird directional wattmeter on the 100 W scale it showed >100 W coming out of the filters, and no reflected power. That forward reading seemed a bit high; we normally see about 80 coming out of the cavities. When we switched to the 250 W scale, it showed a little under a 100 W forward and no reflected power. We did not have a service monitor to check receiver performance. Paul's pix of the transmit and receive antennas showed they were upright and intact.

I still need to mount the power supply better, and work on the programming. Before I can do that, I need to study the firmware and get reacquainted with it, and do some studying.

900 MHz repeater, antenna checked out, there are a couple bumps showing on the antenna analyzer that are hard to explain, unless it's due to bends in the feed-line.

The photo Paul took of what we think is the 900 Mhz antenna may show some wear and tear to the fiberglass radome. Those should be able to withstand long term exposure to UV. I've had previous antennas that the fiberglass radomes deteriorated after a few years, but they held up very well on Channel Six tower, even though they were high-end amateur grade antennas. My best guess is Cityplex being down on the Arkansas River, with all of its sand and the sand gets picked up by the wind and basically sand blasts whatever is up there for however long it's up there.

Also, there have been no more incidents of the 7330 controller or the 900 Mhz repeater getting their brains scrambled since we plugged the power supplies into a UPS.

Bottom line all systems checked out very well. Paul says he has trouble getting into the 900 Mhz repeater from his home QTH, but farther away he does just fine. After this our best guess is that is just the antenna pattern.

73 DE WB5OSM

REPEATER STATUS

146.805 (-) PL 88.5 ? ? ? ? – Down
146.880 (-) PL 88.5 (CityPlex), 82.5 (Skiatook) or 141.3
(Keetonville receiver) 81st & Lewis – Working
146.940 (-) PL 88.5 Sun Building, 9th & Detroit – Working
927.700 (-25 MHz) (902.7) CityPlex - Working

Metro Link:
444.1 (+) PL 88.5 Skyline East 41st & Skelly Drive – Working
444.725 (+) PL 88.5 GRDA tower NW of Skiatook – Working
444.950 (+) PL 88.5 ? ? ? ? – Down

Activities:

TRO Monthly Meeting at 1900 at Freeway Cafe

5849 South 49th West Avenue. Come early to eat. **Tuesday, July 28.**



ARES Net

Thursday evenings at 8:00 PM
1st, 2nd and 3rd Thursdays on the 145.17 MHz repeater
4th and if there is a 5th Thursday use the
TARC Super Link System 443.850 MHz PL 88.5 Hz

CLUB MEETINGS

Tulsa Repeater Organization

Fourth Tuesday of the month at 1900 (7PM) except June (Field Day) and December (Christmas).
Meetings are held at Freeway Cafe at 5849 South 49th West Avenue in Tulsa.
If you plan on eating be there 30 minutes to an hour early.

Tulsa Amateur Radio Club

Third Tuesday of the month 1900 (7PM)
Meetings are held at Tulsa University Keplinger Hall Room 3140 (west of Harvard & 5th Street)

Broken Arrow Amateur Radio Club

First Monday of the month (except for holidays) 1900 (7 PM)
Community Recreation Center, 1500 South Main, Broken Arrow

Rogers County Wireless Association

Second Saturday of every month at 0800 (8 AM)
Check the RCWA website at www.rcwa.org for meeting information.

VE TEST SESSIONS *WALK-INS ARE WELCOME AT ALL SESSIONS!*

Check with the contact for each testing session for their plans.

Tulsa Repeater Organization

Third Thursday of odd-numbered months, 1900 (7 PM)
American Red Cross 10151 E 11th (11th & US 169) Tulsa, Oklahoma 74128
Contact: Merlin Griffin WB5OSM at WB5OSM@hotmail.com or (918)520-7668 - leave message

Broken Arrow Emergency Management

First Saturday of odd-numbered months - 0900 to 1100 (9:00 to 11 AM)
Broken Arrow Public Service Complex 1001 N 6th Street Broken Arrow OK 74012
Contact: Loyd Beeson, AE5MM at ae5mm@arrl.net or (918)638-2393 (text msg or voice)

Broken Arrow Amateur Radio Club

Second Saturday of even-numbered months at 0930 (9:30 AM)
Broken Arrow Public Service Complex 1001 N 6th Street Broken Arrow OK 74012
Contact: Don Doyle AC5II at AC5II@arrl.net or (918)379-0962

Rogers County Wireless Association (New session in Owasso)

First Saturday of each quarter at 0900 (9:00 AM)
Trinity House, 9210 N Garnett, Owasso OK 74055
Contact: Dustin Dye, AB5C at contact@rcwa.org or (918)734-0869

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

Our Website: www.tulsahamradio.org

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

Our Twitter: <https://twitter.com/TulsaRepeaters>

TRO OFFICER CONTACT INFORMATION

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