



W5IAS.com

TULSA AMATEUR  
RADIO CLUB

Emergency Communications



# The W5IAS Transmitter

## TARC Officers & Committees

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Mark Adams, WA5MA
- ◆ **Second Vice President**  
Ky Vargus, KY5VAR
- ◆ **Treasurer**  
Jerry Weikel, KE5PMK
- ◆ **Membership Committee**  
Jack Conway, W5JHC
- ◆ **Newsletter Editor**  
Andrew Shead, W5AWS
- ◆ **Public Service Liaison**  
Robert Kerns, KI5WDD  
Bobby Hunt, KJ5CLV
- ◆ **Repeater Maintenance**  
Paul Teel, WB5ANX  
David Kennedy, N5DMK
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Jack Conway, W5JHC
- ◆ **Secretary**  
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- ◆ **Repeater Trustee**  
Gregg Wonderly, W5GGW
- ◆ **Club Historian**  
Andrew Shead, W5AWS
- ◆ **Webmaster**  
Jack Conway, W5JHC
- ◆ **ARES Coordinator Tulsa County**  
Paul Teel, WB5ANX
- ◆ **Quartermaster**  
Paul Young, KE5EHM

## TARC Weekly Net

Tuesdays at 8:00 PM on the Superlink System

<https://w5ias.com/repeater-systems/>

In Tulsa tune to 443.850 MHz 88.5 PL, or listen online via Broadcastify

<https://www.broadcastify.com/listen/feed/43986>

## TARC Tech Night

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM

## TARC Monthly Meeting

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM

All meetings are at Tulsa University

Keplinger Hall Room 3140

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## Endnotes Review

In this newsletter, we have endnotes intended to help newly licensed operators who might be struggling with the Hamster Lingo and other abbreviations. It's easy: Need to know what a LID<sup>1</sup> is? Find out by clicking on the superscript number immediately after the term.

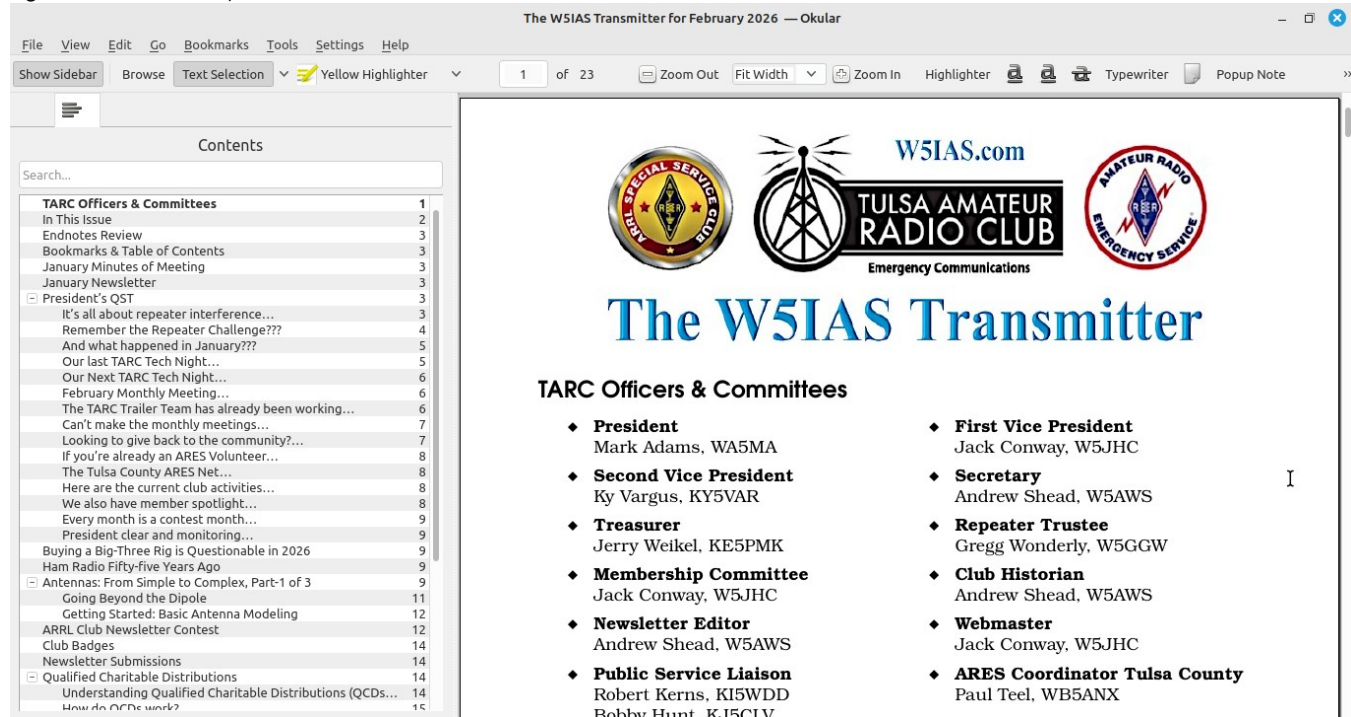
## Bookmarks & Table of Contents

As you saw scrolling by getting to here, there is a table of contents for this newsletter. Each entry is an active link to the heading of the article, making it easy for you to go direct to your area of interest.

Opening this newsletter in your web-browser, you should see a list of bookmarks open in the left-hand pane of your browser window, at least you should if you use a browser like FireFox.

Opening this newsletter in a PDF<sup>2</sup> viewer like the free Okular, you should see the bookmarks and content as shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Newsletter open in Okular PDF viewer



## May Minutes of Meeting

See this URL<sup>3</sup> for the minutes of the last in-person club meeting:

- <https://w5ias.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/20260519-TARC-Meeting-Minutes.pdf>

## May Newsletter

If you missed last month's newsletter, you can find it on our website at this location:

- <https://w5ias.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/20260504-TARC-Newsletter-May-2026.pdf>

## President's QST<sup>4</sup>

—Mark, WA5MA

### *We're looking for a few good...yes, GREAT hams...*

Main reason why the Tulsa Amateur Radio Club is able to do all the activities that we do is because we have club members who volunteer their time, talent, experience, and love for the ham radio hobby.

And my own personal experience has taught me that you can never have enough volunteers and every club position needs a backup. As President of TARC, I have a backup in the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President position. As a backup to the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President position, we have the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President position. We now have two club members as Public Service Liaisons with Bobby, KJ5CLV, and Robert, KI5WDD, Each supports the other, and often two heads are better than one.

All the nets that I know of all have multiple Net Control Operators, just in case one can't make it there are others who can step in take over. Our Amateur Radio Emergency Service Coordinator for Tulsa County, Paul WB5ANX, has a lot on his plate, he has two backup Assistant Coordinators, Bart N5TWB and myself WA5MA.

There are a few positions that currently do not have backups and that's what I would like to remedy. Our Secretary, Andrew W5AWS, is also our historian, he records the minutes at the monthly club meetings, and he is also the club's Parliamentarian during the fall when it's time to start taking nominations for club officers. Our logger for the weekly TARC Net is David, K5TZS, and been doing the logging as far back as when we were using NetLogger and now Ham.Live. Fortunately, he's been willing and able to do logging every week but there is no one to back him up. Another one is our Net Control Operator who has Net Control duties when we're having our 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday club meeting; Dirk W4IPD, lives in the Oklahoma City area but has agreed to take over Net Control duties while we have our club meeting here in Tulsa. Is there someone out there to substitute for him so that he can get a break? It's only once a month, and there's a net script; I email any announcements to him for the net, and you don't have to be in the Tulsa area. We need a backup NCO!

Here are those club positions again...and a few others!

- Tuesday net logger.
- Tuesday Net Control Operator (during the regular Tuesday club meeting nights).

- Club Secretary or Historian.
- A backup person or persons to help Jack with Field Day planning.
- We have a Route 66 On The Air Coordinator with Daryl N5NYT (Thanks Daryl!).
- In addition to that we're also looking for Event Coordinators to help with other events such as Winter Field Day, the club Christmas Party, MakerFair, Green Country Hamfest, etc.
- As of now, Jack W5JHC is the only one that can livestream and record the Tech Nights and club meetings. Do you know audio and video? Jack could use a backup.
- We'd love to have a Training/Mentor Coordinator.

We're also open to any other position that you can think of that you'd like to help with.

Thanks in advance for your support. Give it a try and if you don't like it, try something else. Just jump in and support your club. A club is all about people and their community.

## ***We have a Special Event coming up...***

On June 20th is a new event for TARC and that's the Sooner Sprint. Our own club member Mike, KI5EGH, has been working on this one for several months. Here's what it's all about from Mike...

The Sooner Sprint is a friendly, low-pressure amateur radio contest designed to welcome both new and experienced operators into a fast, enjoyable operating format. The rules are intentionally lightweight: simple exchanges, relaxed CW speeds, and clear, easy-to-submit log structure. Operators across Oklahoma and beyond work stations on all HF bands (except WARC<sup>5</sup> bands) using CW, SSB or digital modes — although FT4 and FT8 are excluded. Weekly one-hour CW sprints on Thursday evenings help operators sharpen their skills and contribute to quarterly rankings, while the main annual event on June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026 runs a full 12 hours and encourages broad participation from individuals and clubs alike.

Scoring emphasizes accessibility and operator choice. Every QSO counts for one point, with multipliers based on power level and mode — QRP and CW operators earn the highest bonuses. Oklahoma stations provide their county, while non-Oklahoma stations send their state, province, or DX entity, making county-hunting a fun part of the event. Logs are submitted in ADIF format within 15 days, and participants can earn digital certificates like the ones below and bragging rights in categories such as most Oklahoma contacts or most counties worked.



We will issue QSL cards too. The Sooner Sprint blends structure with flexibility, creating a contest atmosphere that's competitive enough to be exciting but welcoming enough for anyone to jump in and enjoy. Why not give it a try. Got more questions? Contact Mike, KI5EGH, at [ki5egh@yahoo.com](mailto:ki5egh@yahoo.com).

**SOONER SPRINT  
2026**

OKLAHOMA QSO SPRINT

CALLSIGN: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_


TIME (UTC) \_\_\_\_\_ BAND/MODE \_\_\_\_\_

EXCHANGED WITH: \_\_\_\_\_

RST: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY/STATE/DX \_\_\_\_\_



Thanks for slowing down and making the QSO!



TULSA AMATEUR  
RADIO CLUB  
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

HOSTED BY  
TULSA AMATEUR  
RADIO CLUB

## Field Day...

This is another premier event for the Tulsa Amateur Radio Club and that's Field Day at Haikey Creek Park. Planning will happen at the club meetings on May 19<sup>th</sup> and June 16<sup>th</sup>. Come on out and bring your suggestions and ideas for us to try. You can also come out to the park whether you're a club member or not.

Worried about being tied up all day? Well don't worry about that because we'll take as much time as you have to offer. You don't need to worry about the cost of gas in your vehicle either while driving in a bike ride. Some of the bike rides will reimburse you for your gas.

If you're an Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) Volunteer all bike rides and Field Day mentioned above count towards you staying on the Active list.

## Do you have a vehicle that can tow a trailer...

We are still looking for those club members that can tow the trailer from its new storage location to wherever it needs to be for an event. Having the trailer in its new location and completing some current projects means the trailer is available on very

short notice if needed, and it'll make operating inside the trailer more efficient and a more pleasurable experience. Can you tow the trailer? Let us know, so we can put you to work. Thanks.

## ***Can't make the monthly meetings...***

We're streaming and recording video of the monthly meetings and showing them on Zoom for those unable to attend in person. If we have recorded the meeting, it will be on the W5IAS.com website in the Recent Posts on the Home page and on our Facebook page. If you're interested in learning more please contact Jack, W5JHC, for info. Thanks, Jack!

## ***We're trying to make DMR great again!***

There is a new DMR hangout talkgroup and it's called Local 2. It includes the Keetonville, Tulsa Central, Leonard and Mounds DMR repeaters so if you're in any of those areas you should be able to do DMR. Give it a try...ya' know the Repeater Challenge works just as well on DMR as it does on any other repeater.

## ***Looking to give back to the community?...***

Looking to have some fun playing radio and hanging out with other hams? You found the right place.



## ***2026 is the Year of Readiness...***

ARES is always in need of volunteers, but to participate you must complete a self-paced training course and get an OKMRC badge that gives you access to the places where amateur radio operators can help with communications during emergencies. OKMRC badges are FEMA-approved and therefore involve a background check. ARES involves volunteer training, ARES nets, hospital nets, and Simulated Emergency Tests, but operating practice comes in the form of bike rides, Field Days and other events that you can participate in anytime.

Contact either Paul, WB5ANX, at [paulfeel@gmail.com](mailto:paulfeel@gmail.com); Bart, N5TWB at [bjpick@cox.net](mailto:bjpick@cox.net); or Mark, WA5MA, at [wa5ma.mark@gmail.com](mailto:wa5ma.mark@gmail.com) if you would like to learn more or sign up to be an ARES Volunteer.

## ***If you're already an ARES Volunteer...***

You should be checking in to the ARES Net every Thursday at 8:00 PM on the designated repeater. We're going to start doing some cool things on the Net and you need to be a part of it for training purposes, working equipment verification and communications protocols. Keep an eye out for upcoming comms checks by email, text, and over-the-air.

We're starting a new program for the registered ARES Volunteers. It's the ARES Active/Inactive list. We consider an ARES member active if they have participated in at least one Tulsa County ARES net per month, one training event per quarter and one exercise per quarter or one deployment within a rolling 90-day period.

What if you're on the in-active list? It means that you're on the secondary resource list because you don't have the training that those on the Active list have, and it could also result in your being removed from the ARES volunteer database. We really do want everyone on the Active list.

## ***The Tulsa County ARES Net...***

Uses the following frequencies:

- Weeks 1 – 3 on 145.170 (PL 88.5)
- Weeks 4 – 5 on the Superlink Repeater System 443.850 (PL88.5) in Tulsa.

Check the <https://w5ias.com/> website on the Repeater dropdown for system frequencies.

## ***Here are the current club activities...***

- Tech Night—1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month. 7:00 PM at TU.
- Monthly meeting—3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month. 7:00 PM at TU.

Paul WB5ANX will wrap up a couple of bike rides and give details on the next bike rides. We also have Jack W5JHC and Field Day planning.

Attend the meeting to support your club and club officers who do so very much for the club with activities, nets, events and keeping the club running smoothly.

We have 204 members, which means we need at least 41 members present at each meeting to form a quorum for voting.

- Weekly TARC Net on the Superlink System, Tuesdays at 8:00 PM
- CW Net, Mondays and Thursdays at 7:00 PM on 7.037 MHz +/- QRM<sup>6</sup>
- NCO<sup>7</sup> training, ARES training—TBD<sup>8</sup> in 2025

## ***We also have member spotlight...***

Member Spotlight is now a part of our monthly meetings. Want to show and tell your station or your love for a particular part of ham radio? Contact Ky, KY5VAR, and let him know. He'll get you scheduled.

KY5VAR also starting a *show-us-your-shack* presentation, so take some pictures and show us your ham shack.

## ***Every month is a contest month...***

Go to <https://www.arrl.org/>; click Contest Calendar; scroll to Contest Corral; click on the month you want to check. Try POTA<sup>9</sup> or SOTA<sup>10</sup>. Call CQ<sup>11</sup>. Go to a local park, grab one of the club go boxes, throw up a wire and get on the air.

Prepare now! The weather will soon be good enough to get outside!

## ***President clear and monitoring...***

Be safe, Be a good friend, Get on the air!

Mark, WA5MA,

President—Tulsa Amateur Radio Club.

## **June Tech Night Recap**

—Andrew, W5AWS

We had good attendance, about nine or ten came to hear about JS8Call and basic operation of a NanoVNA, I didn't bother to get an accurate count. Focus of the meeting was to show and tell, the eye-watering detail is in the documentation, so if you were

unable to attend the meeting, you can download and read these two documents, which are better seen on-screen than printed on paper.

- JS8Call Operator Guide—  
<https://drive.proton.me/urls/WYGPTR56V8#cZCTe3tEXuJT>
- NanoVNA Guide to Basic Operation—  
<https://drive.proton.me/urls/WYGPTR56V8#cZCTe3tEXuJT>

## ***Documentation***

At the meeting, I was just hand-waving and gibbering. Any careful, logical thought went into the documents. Whole point of the documentation is to collect relevant information into one place and make it easy for new hams to get started in the area of interest. An abiding problem for new operators is the vastness of the hobby and difficulty knowing where to start or which way to turn.

## ***Show-n-Tell***

For show-n-tell, I brought a Hustler RM-40-S vertical antenna on top of a Hustler MO-4 antenna mast, mag-mounted to a carbon-steel bake tray from Target; the mag-mount being a Hustler MBM. Radio Research has a good web-page for Hustler products, though you can get them through any of the usual suppliers:

- Hustler products from Radio Research Inc.  
<https://www.radioresearch.us/HUSTLER-Mobile-Antenna-Masts-for-RM-RM-S-Series-p/mo.htm>

## **Why Hustler Antennas?**

If you attend our monthly meetings, you might on occasion remember Gregg, W5GGW, extolling the virtues of Hustler mono-band antennas. Kenny, KC5MJE, reports lots of success making contacts with Hustler antennas. KC5MJE sticks a Hustler on the cab of his truck and can be on the air in minutes hunting Parks On The Air QSOs. So, I thought those recommendations worth investigating.

For an apartment dweller, or those who live in places with antenna restrictions, or those like me who don't want an antenna farm in their backyard, or a new ham who wants to get on the air with the minimum fuss, a Hustler vertical antenna is one easy way to go. They are also good for rapid deployment and emergency operations. No fuss, no muss!

These antennas are not as efficient as a dipole or End-Fed Half-Wave. They are convenient, and Room-3140 of Keplinger Hall at the University of Tulsa demonstrated that you don't need anything fancy.

However, I strongly caution you against running power at the full legal limit, or even the RM-40 rating of 400W. Even 100W might be too much for local electronics. Once we were at the first stop of a bike ride when the police arrived shortly after us to check on a nearby business; my guess is that our transmissions triggered the alarm.

One attendee of the Tech Night pointed out that an interior antenna is less susceptible to lightning.

## Choke

I brought a choke. With vertical antennas, the feedline becomes part of the antenna, which means you don't want RF getting back into the radio. At home, when I tested the rig prior to the meeting, I noticed that the NanoVNA readings were squirrely, stabilizing when I added the choke.

- <https://qrper.com/2025/09/hand-built-rfi-chokes-for-grp-and-pota-kf8ase-ham-radio-supply/>

My office has metal filing cabinets and other clutter that were surely an adverse influence on the antenna. During the demonstration the only difference between the choke and without the choke was a small change in the SWR. However, a choke is still a good idea because you need to stop RF getting back into the radio via common-mode currents in the coax, and from there to any other connected equipment like computers.

## Computer

Digital communications require a computer. I resurrected a Dell Chromebook that Google refused to continue updating by reflashing the firmware and installing Ultramarine Linux. Discarding working computer hardware because the Software overlords want you to buy new is horribly wasteful. I didn't document this process. For the firmware see MrChromebox, YouTube, and Ultramarine Linux.

- <https://docs.mrchromebox.tech/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z6oyqrrXTLM>
- <https://ultramarine-linux.org/>

For the firmware, I installed the UEFI Full ROM (Replace ChromeOS)

I used the XFCE edition of Ultramarine Linux because it doesn't need as much computing power to operate.

Internal Chromebook memory was big enough to contain the operating system but not big enough to support software updates, so I installed a large capacity removable SD-Card then let the Ultramarine installer use all available memory, both internal and external. Obviously, the removable SD-Card must remain installed; you can remove it, doing so will render the computer inoperative.

## Software Applications

On the computer, I installed JS8Call and WSJT-X for FT8. See the JS8Call Operator Guide.

## Radio

For this demonstration, I brought a five-band (tr)uSDX radio that I assembled from a kit. There are three models: Low Band, Classic Band, and High Band. Classic band is better for new operators because it includes 10 m at the top end; the other four bands are 80, 40, 20, and 15 m. Maximum power output is 5W at 13.8V. These radios operate from 5 to 16 Volts.

With the radio powered only via the USB port of the computer, it puts out about a ½ Watt.

With the radio, I brought a 3D-printed stand that I acquired when Jeff, AE5ME, invited me to help with a Rogers Country Wireless Association (RCWA) build-a-thon at Harvey Young airport a couple of years ago. Reason for the invitation was the build instructions for the radio that I created in eye-watering detail.

If you fancy building a (tr)uSDX then download these instructions, or just follow the link to satisfy your curiosity.

- (tr)uSDX User Manual

<https://drive.proton.me/urls/AZDEFBCCE0#hFOGklyO2mbY>

These radios are an inexpensive way to get into the HF<sup>12</sup> side of the hobby. Kenny, KC5MJE, has made voice contacts with a (tr)uSDX at surprising distances.

## External Sound Card

To make operation easier, it is best to separate the audio going to the radio from the system audio of the computer by using an external sound card. To do this, I use a UGREEN USB<sup>13</sup> to Audio Jack Sound Card Adapter with Dual TRS 3-Pole 3.5 mm Headphone and Microphone USB to Aux 3.5mm External Audio Converter.

- <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B01N905VOY?th=1>

Linux recognizes this and there is no need to install drivers. It's plug and play.

## Connecting Cables

I used a standard TRS<sup>14</sup> audio cable with 3.5 mm plugs on each end to connect the audio output of the radio to the audio input of the external sound card.

For CAT<sup>15</sup> control of the radio, I used a standard mini USB-A to micro-USB data cable.

Audio input to the radio from the external sound card requires a special cable. To make this cable, I followed DL2MAN's instructions except I used two TRS audio pig-tails that I soldered together in the required configuration, insulating the joints with heat-shrink tubing.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W5M2C7rW0b0>

## Power Supply

For more RF power, I attached a battery pack, one that I designed and built. Building your own supply isn't the cheapest way to go, for that find something that does the job on Amazon. Still, if you want to see what I did then have a look at this link.

- <https://drive.proton.me/urls/EW77MN0VKG#oTkPkneeopuW>

## Operation

First, we used the NanoVNA to check the SWR of the antenna. See the NanoVNA Guide to Basic Operation. We saw that despite the change in location, the antenna SWR remained below 2:1 at about 1.7:1 at 7.078 MHz, good enough to not bother adjusting the length of Hustler-antenna element.

After that, I connected everything and applied power. During the subsequent song-n-dance, the computer sounded alerts in Morse code announcing appearance of new stations, which was quite surprising since I didn't expect to get anything on 40 m inside Keplinger Hall. I sent CQ a couple of times as well as Heart Beats, then I noticed that KJ5MTI had made a request of KOEMP in Emporia, KS, about 155 miles north of here.

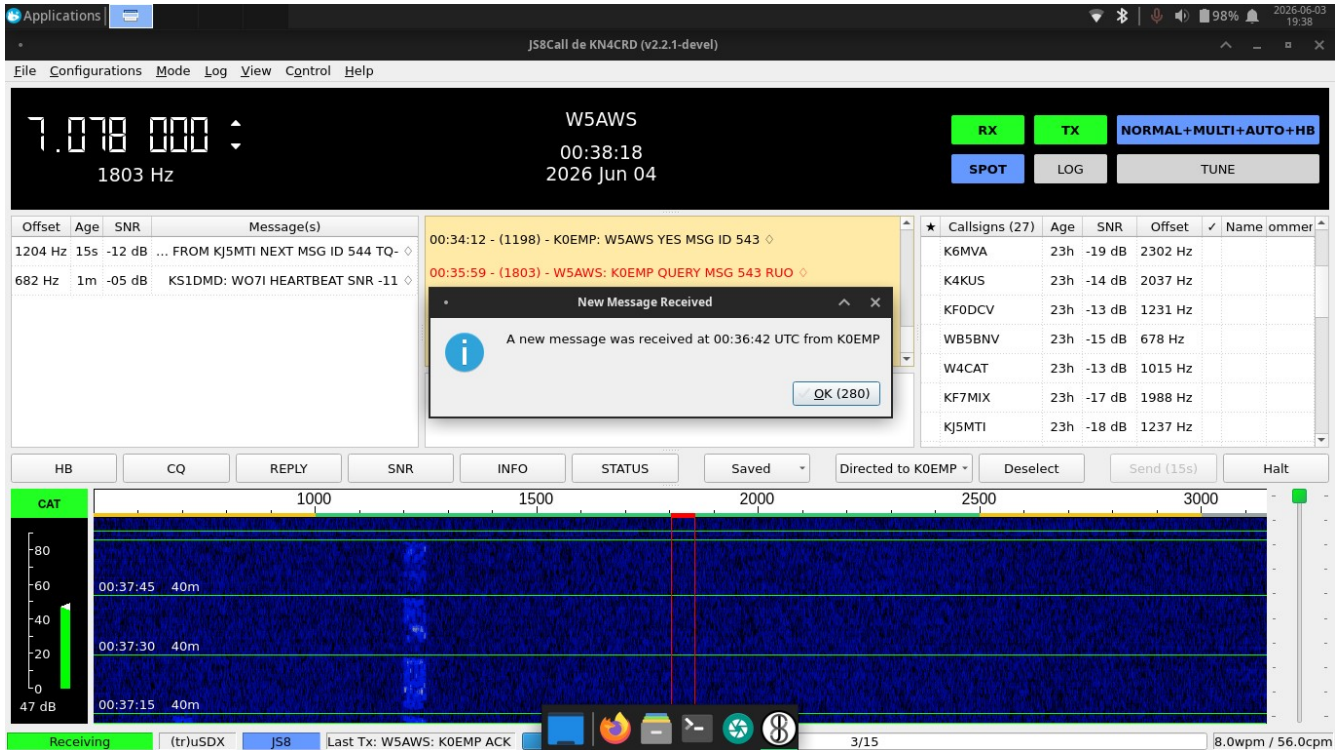
KJ5MTI and I worked together to create the JS8Call Operator Guide. I transmitted an ALLCALL query asking if anyone had any messages stored for me—nothing heard.

As I discovered via email on the day following, we had been heard by KOEMP. Here's what KJ5MTI said via email:

I was on air from 19:00 to 20:00. Never saw your call sign. From where I'm at, traffic varied during that hour.

I queried who could contact callsign W5AWS and received one reply from KOEMP (Emporia, KS). I sent two messages to KOEMP for W5AWS "Greetings TU Radio Club" and got back ACKs both times. So those messages are out there waiting for you! Haha,

As I write this on Wednesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, early evening I setup the station and did an ALLCALL for any messages, getting a YES reply from KOEMP with the first message number.

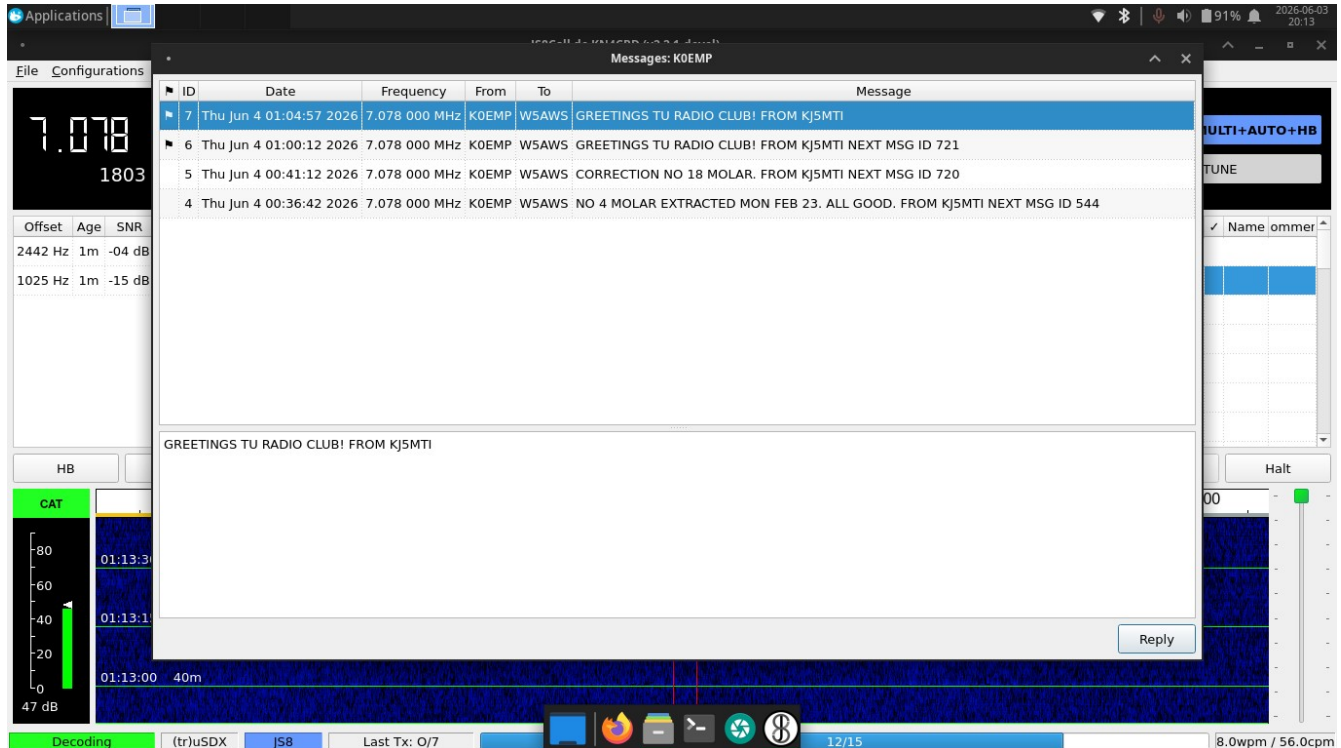


Conditions were variable though eventually I retrieved four messages. First two message was #543, and 544, the last two were 720 and 721, so the first two had been sitting on KOEMP's machine for a long time, which is a good indication of the last time I was on-air. The system automatically ACKs the sending station to acknowledge successful receipt.

## Conclusion

With inexpensive hardware we could establish a network of JS8Call stations that provide enough always-on coverage to store messages for later retrieval as demonstrated here, or for message relay across multiple hops. JS8Call solves the problem of being inside the skip-zone of an RF signal, as we can see; from my QTH, I can't reach KJ5MTI; however, we can exchange messages through an outlying station like KOEMP in Emporia, KS, or others elsewhere. This means that we can use any band that is open for communication. Those with a competitive streak can see how far they can go by relaying messages across country and the world. It is quite amazing that with severely compromised antennas and a mere 5W, likely a lot less once the energy gets out of the antenna, we can successfully exchange messages hundreds of miles away. In this example the round-trip transmission distance is over 300 miles in variable atmospheric conditions.

I requested message retrieval several times while the band faded in and out, eventually succeeding in emptying the queue on KOEMP's computer.



Interested in Becoming an ARES Volunteer...?



## AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE TULSA COUNTY

### New Member: Getting Started Checklist

#### Download & Print Required Documents

- Download - ARES Tulsa County Position Taskbook V3.2 (PDF)\*\*
- Download - ARES Tulsa County PTB Info V2 (keep in your Taskbook)
- Download - ARES Tulsa County Deployment Checklist V3 (keep in your Taskbook)
- More info, - ARES Tulsa County ARRL EMCOMM V1 (keep in your Taskbook)

## Getting Started on the Website

- Return to the website header and click **\*\*ARES OK\*\***
- Review the **\*\*ARES Officers\*\*** list
- Review the **\*\*ARRL and ARES information\*\*** on the page
- Under **\*For More Information About ARES Oklahoma\***, review links to ARESOK.org
- Note the listed contact information for questions

## ARES Sign-Up

- Go to <https://www.w5ias.com>
- On the home page, click the **\*\*ARES OK\*\*** link
- From the dropdown menu, click **\*\*Sign Up\*\*** (Tulsa County ARES Sign-Up Form)
- Complete the sign-up form as thoroughly as possible
- Click **\*\*Submit\*\*** to send your application
- Check your email for an acknowledgment confirming receipt
- Respond to any follow-up requests for missing information
- Once accepted, verify you are added to the Tulsa County ARES Volunteer Database

- [ARRL Emergency Communication \(EmComm\) Training Materials](#)

## Begin Taskbook Progress

- Start working on **\*\*Level 1\*\*** tasks in your Position Task Book (PTB)
- Track completion of each required task
- Upon completing Level 1, contact **\*\*Paul WB5ANX\*\*** for sign-off Questions??? Send an e mail to [ares@w5ias.com](mailto:ares@w5ias.com)

## Club Badges

—Jeffrey, KJ7JTU

Our new club badge is more durable and looks like the one shown here, except with your name and callsign. To get one, contact Jeffrey, KJ7JTU, by completing and submitting the form on our website that you can reach via this URL:

- <https://w5ias.com/member/tarc-badge-request/>



## Newsletter Submissions

Do you have something you would like to share with other members of our club? Send your contributions, text and pictures, via email to the editor of the newsletter at this address [Editor@W5ias.com](mailto:Editor@W5ias.com).

Deadline for submissions is the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month.

There are no word limits. Use as many words as you need to tell your story. If you have much to say, think about writing your story in installments. Use pictures to save words; send pictures at full resolution. Busy pictures the size of postage stamps don't work.

Don't be shy. The editor's job is to make you look good in print.

## Qualified Charitable Distributions

—via Mark, WA5MA

Here is some information on a different Q-code... QCD, Qualified Charitable Distribution. Check it out!

### *Understanding Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs)...*

A Smart Way for IRA Owners to Support Charities and Reduce Taxes is to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD), a tax-savvy strategy that allows individuals aged 70½ or older to transfer funds directly from their Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to a qualified charity. QCDs offer significant tax advantages, making them a popular choice for retirees who want to support their favorite causes while managing their tax liability.

### *How do QCDs work?...*

With a QCD, funds are sent directly from your IRA to an eligible charitable organization, bypassing your taxable income. The distribution amount can count toward your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) for the year, helping you meet IRS withdrawal requirements without increasing your adjusted gross income (AGI), and therefore your tax liability.

### *Who can make a qualified charitable distribution?...*

- You must be at least 70½ years old at the time of the distribution.
- The QCD must come from a traditional IRA, not a 401(k) or similar employer plan.

- The distribution must go directly to a qualified public charity, not a donor-advised fund or private foundation.

## ***Benefits of making a qcd...***

- **Tax Savings:** QCDs are excluded from your taxable income, which can help lower your overall tax bill and potentially keep you in a lower income bracket.
- **RMD Fulfillment:** The amount donated via QCD can count toward your annual RMD, helping you avoid penalties for missed withdrawals.
- **Charitable Effect:** QCDs provide immediate support to qualified charities, allowing you to see the benefits of your philanthropy in action.
- **Medicare and Social Security:** Lowering your taxable income may reduce the negative effect of income-based surcharges on Medicare premiums and the taxation of Social Security benefits.

## ***Key rules and limits...***

- The maximum annual QCD allowed is \$108,000 per individual for 2025 and is adjusted annually for inflation.
- You must arrange for the IRA custodian to send the funds directly to the charity; distributions made to you first and then donated do not qualify.
- You cannot claim a charitable deduction for a QCD, since it is not included in your taxable income.

## ***How to make a qualified charitable distribution...***

1. Contact your IRA custodian or financial advisor to initiate the QCD process.
2. Specify the amount and the charity to which you wish to direct the distribution.
3. Ensure the charity provides a receipt for your records, as the IRS may request verification.
4. Report the QCD on your tax return as a non-taxable IRA distribution: Consult your tax advisor for details.

## ***Is a qcd right for you?...***

If you are required to take RMDs and want to support charitable organizations, a QCD might be a smart and effective way to achieve your goals. Always consult with a financial or tax advisor to ensure that a QCD aligns with your overall financial plan and meets all IRS requirements.

## ***QCD conclusion...***

Qualified Charitable Distributions are a win-win for retirees and charities alike. By donating directly from your IRA, you can support the causes you care about, fulfill your RMD obligations, and potentially reduce your tax burden. Take advantage of this valuable opportunity to make a difference in your community and your financial future.

Contributions can be tax-free since the Tulsa Amateur Radio Club is a non-profit organization.

## **Repeater Maintenance Sinking Fund**

Our Treasurer, Jerry KE5PMK, says the sinking fund for repeater maintenance is growing and now with the death of Bob, W5RAB, we're taking over maintenance on several more repeaters, so we would really appreciate any contributions from club members and others as well. Contributions can be tax-free since TARC is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

We can't let this fall through the crack and risk repeater failure.

Scan the QR code or click on the link to donate, and thank you.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/ensure-tarcs-lifesaving-services-continue>

Another way to donate to the club is with Qualified Charitable Distributions, described above. Check it out!



## Club-serving Members

Tulsa Amateur Radio Club Active Positions				
	Position	Name	Call Sign	Duration
<b>ELECTED</b>	President	Mark Adams	WA5MA	31 Dec 2026
	First Vice President	Jack Conway, IV	W5JHC	31 Dec 2026
	Second Vice President	Ky Vargus	KY5VAR	31 Dec 2026
	Secretary	Andrew Shead	W5AWS	31 Dec 2026
	Treasurer	Jerry Weikel	KE5PMK	31 Dec 2026
	Public Service Liaison Officer	Robert Kerns	K15WDD	31 Dec 2028
		Bobby Hunt	KJ5CLV	
Trustee	Gregg Wonderly	W5GGW	31 Dec 2028	
<b>APPOINTED</b>	Quartermaster	Paul Young	KE5EHM	<b>UNLIMITED</b>
	Webmaster	Jack Conway, IV	W5JHC	
	Social Media Administrator	Greg Meador	AI5HV	
	Merchandise Coordinator	Robert Kerns	K15WDD	
	Newsletter Editor	Andrew Shead	W5AWS	
	Membership Committee	Jack Conway, IV	W5JHC	
	ARES Coordinator	Paul Teel, III	WB5ANX	
	Volunteer Examiner Coordinator	David Kennedy	N5DMK	
	Trailer Team Leader	Cody Guillaume	KJ5JDO	
	Trailer Team Members	Greg Meador	AI5HV	
		Robbie Moreland	W5RML	
		Gabe Griffin	KJ5JOW	
		Rusty Johnstone	KJ5MGC	
		David Kennedy	N5DMK	
		Tim Morgan	KI5ZDF	
		Cory Anderson	KJ5LAM	
	Trailer Team Advisors	Steve Childers	KF5VCQ	
Jack Conway, IV		W5JHC		
Paul Teel, III		WB5ANX		
Repeater Maintenance Committee	Paul Teel, III	WB5ANX		
	David Kennedy	N5DMK		

## Treasurer's Cash Report

—Jerry, KE5PMK

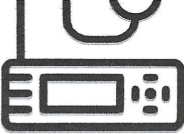
TARC				Current Mo	Year to	Current Yr	Prior Yr
Treasurer's Report				Total	Date	To Date	Total
#NAME?	General	Hamfest	Sinking Fund			Budget	
Cash balance beg of period	5,448.98	1,037.63	8,575.65	15,062.26	13,802.52	13,977	13,976.92
Receipts							
Dues	400.00	-	433.88	833.88	5,303.88	4,640	5,820.00
Sale of radio equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	685.72
Green Country Hamfest	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Raffle	-	-	-	-	425.00	550	961.00
Centennial dinner	-	-	-	-	-	-	55.00
Contribution	-	-	-	-	336.59	417	1,152.00
Interest	-	-	3.88	3.88	16.88	19	40.75
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	6.00	-	3.00
Total deposits	400.00	-	437.76	837.76	6,088.35	5,625	8,717.47
Disbursements							
Repeaters:							
Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rent	-	-	-	-	998.00	-	-
Green Country Hamfest:							
3 tables & 1 electric drop	-	-	-	-	55.00	55	55.00
Radio Equipment	924.65	-	-	924.65	1,562.60	600	1,538.34
Door prizes	-	-	-	-	100.00	100	100.00
Ares	-	-	-	-	-	300	-
Centennial expenditures	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,302.83
Insurance	200.00	-	-	200.00	200.00	200	619.51
PayPal fees	21.80	-	-	21.80	138.35	135	151.03
HF University	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Field day	-	-	-	-	-	-	658.50
Ice cream social	-	-	-	-	-	-	162.66
Domain & Website	44.55	-	-	44.55	222.75	223	673.65
Mail Box	180.00	-	-	180.00	180.00	180	180.00
Miscellaneous	49.00	-	-	49.00	226.23	-	154.45
Christmas	-	-	-	-	239.60	-	296.30
Maker Faire	-	-	-	-	57.16	-	-
Trailer & related	-	-	-	-	1,431.16	-	-
Total expenditures	1,420.00	-	-	1,420.00	5,410.85	1,792.92	8,892.27
Transfers into fund	1,475.41	-	1,024.59	2,500.00	-	-	-
Transfers out of fund	(1,475.41)	-	(1,024.59)	(2,500.00)	-	-	-
Cash balance end of period	4,428.98	1,037.63	9,013.41	14,480.02	14,480.02	17,809	13,802.12
<b>Summary by Account</b>							
Checking	728.39	-	388.64	1,117.03	-	-	-
Savings	3,466.13	1,037.63	8,310.89	12,814.65	-	-	-
PayPal	234.46	-	313.88	548.34	-	-	-
Total	4,428.98	1,037.63	9,013.41	14,480.02	-	-	-

**Jerome Weikel:**  
Tulsa Tough  
Radios 702.50  
Batteries 222.15  
Total 924.65

**Jerome Weikel:**  
Registered agent  
renewal


## Track Your Ham Radio Skills

—via Mark WA5MA




### Skill Tree: Color in the boxes and level up your skills

Use for individuals or as a group by picking a colour each and coloring in a part of the box. Everyone's journey is different and you can interpret the goals flexibly. The aim is to inspire you to learn and try new things. Not everything needs to be completed.



ADVANCED



The skill tree consists of a grid of 100 hexagonal tiles arranged in 10 rows and 10 columns. Each tile contains a task and an icon. The tasks range from basic skills like 'Get a technician licence' to advanced tasks like 'Operate on water with maritime permission'. The grid is flanked by a vertical arrow on the left pointing upwards, labeled 'ADVANCED' at the top and 'BASICS' at the bottom. At the bottom center, there is a 'START HERE' button. At the bottom right, there is a box for 'Total Score' and a note '1 tile = 1 point'.

BASICS

**START HERE**

1 tile = 1 point

Total Score

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Glossary

ARES.....Amateur Radio Emergency Service.

ARRL.....Amateur Radio Relay League.

AWG.....American Wire Gauge.

BMS.....Battery Management System:

A battery safety system that does load balancing of the charge and discharge cycles and monitors the temperature, health and safety of the individual cells that comprise the battery, incorporating short-circuit and reverse polarity protection.

CD.....Compact Disc.

CQ.....Seek-You—telegraphers abbreviation requesting contact from anyone hearing.

CW.....Continuous Wave, synonymous with the practice of Morse code When you transmit Morse code using CW, you are sending bursts of unmodulated radio frequency energy that the receivers detect by offsetting the receive-frequency by a few hundred Hertz All of which is done automatically most of the time.

DMR.....Digital Mobile Radio.

DVM.....Digital Volt Meter.

DX.....Ham jargon for long distance, also a brand of gasoline for obvious reason farther on a gallon.

Elmer.....Ham radio jargon for a mentor, someone willing to help others thrive in the hobby.

EZNEC.....Easy Numerical Electromagnetics Code.

FCC.....Federal Communications Commission.

FEMA.....Federal Emergency Management Agency.

FF.....Far Field: Radiation pattern at distance

HF.....High Frequency—3 to 30 MHz.

HOA.....Home Owners Association.

HT.....Handheld Transceiver.

iPad.....Line of tablet computers by Apple

kerchunk....A technical term peculiar to the operation of repeater systems An onomatopoeia expressive of the sound heard when you briefly press the PTT of a transceiver to engage the repeater to hear if it is possible to open it for communication Don't do this; push-to-talk, announce your callsign then ask for a signal check.

LID.....Licensed IDiot: A rude or unobservant operator Those who don't learn from their mistakes We learn by doing, and if we're not making mistakes, we're not doing anything The trick is to avoid making the same mistake

too many times Click on the number of this footnote to return to the text and continue reading.

MMANA.....<http://gal-ana.de/basicmm/en/>

NCO.....Net Control Operator.

NIFOG.....National Interoperability Field Operations Guide

NTS.....National Traffic System

OKMRC.....Oklahoma Medical Reserve Corps.

PC.....Personal Computer

PDF.....Portable Document Format

POTA.....Parks On The Air.

PTT.....Push To Talk.

QRM.....On-frequency interference Telegrapher's Q-code abbreviation.

QRP.....Low power 5W and below Telegraphers Q-code that says lower your power.

QSL.....Q-code for I confirm receipt of your transmission.

QSO.....Completed contact with another operator Telegrapher's Q-code for I can communicate with.

QST.....Telegrapher's Q-Code shorthand for "Calling All Stations".

QSY.....Change frequency. Telegrapher's Q-code requesting a change in operating frequency.

ROM.....Read Only Memory.

SOTA.....Summits On The Air.

SSB.....Single SideBand modulation.

SWR.....Standing Wave Ratio The ratio of transmitted energy to energy reflected back to the transmitter by a mismatched impedance Voltages generated by high SWR can destroy the power transistors of a transceiver High SWR also means that the antenna radiates less energy.

TARC.....Tulsa Amateur Radio Club.

TBD.....To Be Determined.

TRO.....Tulsa Repeater Organization.

TRS.....Tip, Ring, Sleeve of a segmented single-pole plug.

TU.....University of Tulsa.

UHF.....Ultra High Frequency—300 MHz to 3 GHz.

URL.....Universal Resource Locator.

VHF.....Very High Frequency—30 to 300 MHz.

WARC.....The World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC) bands are three portions of the shortwave radio spectrum used by licensed and/or certified amateur radio operators. They consist of 30 meters (10.1–10.15 MHz), 17

meters (18.068–18.168 MHz), and 12 meters (24.89–24.99 MHz).[1][2] They were named after the World Administrative Radio Conference, which in 1979 created a worldwide allocation of these bands for amateur use. The bands were opened for use in the early 1980s. Due to their relatively small bandwidth of 100 kHz or less, there is a gentlemen's agreement that the WARC bands may not be used for general contesting. This agreement has been codified in official recommendations, such as the IARU Region 1 HF Manager's Handbook, which states: “Contest activity shall not take place on the 5, 10, 18, and 24 MHz bands.”

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/WARC\\_bands](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/WARC_bands)

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- 1 LID—Licensed IDiot: A rude or unobservant operator. Those who don't learn from their mistakes. We learn by doing, and if we're not making mistakes, we're not doing anything. The trick is to avoid making the same mistake too many times. [Click on the number of this footnote to return to the text and continue reading.](#)
- 2 PDF—Portable Document Format
- 3 URL—Universal Resource Locator.
- 4 QST—Telegrapher's Q-Code shorthand for "Calling All Stations".
- 5 WARC—World Administrative Radio Conference bands.
- 6 QRM—On-frequency interference. Telegrapher's Q-code abbreviation.
- 7 NCO—Net Control Operator.
- 8 TBD—To Be Determined.
- 9 POTA—Parks On The Air.
- 10 SOTA—Summits On The Air.
- 11 CQ—Seek-You, telegraphers abbreviation requesting contact from anyone hearing.
- 12 HF—High Frequency: 3 to 30 MHz.
- 13 USB—Universal Serial Bus.
- 14 TRS—Tip, Ring, Sleeve of a segmented single-pole plug.
- 15 CAT—Computer Assisted Transceiver.