



# The GroundWire

## DFing Does it Again

ISSUE 2009—01

I love my job. I'm a pilot and work at Dallas Executive Airport as the Assistant Manager (over Airfield Operations and Maintenance). My office looks out over the airfield and when I'm not sitting at my desk with the scanner in the background, listening to the Control Tower and Ground chatter on the radio (yes, that is actually a requirement... I HAVE to maintain a listening watch over the operations! Gee!!!!) I'm out driving around the airfield watching the operations, looking at the work going on, supervising, etc.

A few weeks ago, we were notified that there was an ELT going off on our airport and we needed to find it and get it shut down. An ELT is an Emergency Locating Transmitter, and it is supposed to activate when a plane goes down to provide a beacon for search and rescue parties to look for. When it goes off to help someone who's made an emergency landing out there somewhere, that's a good thing. When it accidentally goes off after a hard landing and is sending out a false alarm, that's a bad thing. That's when they called us to go find this ELT as quickly as possible.

I happened to have my dual band HT at work with me ("don't leave home without it!") and programmed the emergency frequency of 121.5 MHz in ...and sure enough, the rhythmic pulse of the ELT could clearly be heard. Lacking a directional antenna, I simply drove around the ramp area of the airport until I got increased signal strength, finally homing in on two rows of hangars where it was full scale. I pulled the antenna off and drove along those two rows again, and at one of the hangars got a signal. Aha! I walked up to the door of that hangar and stuck the antenna jack up to the crack in the door and the signal jumped to full scale!!! BINGO!

A simple call to the owner of the hangar resulted in them responding and accessing the aircraft inside, and a simple flick of the reset switch solved our problem. Elapsed time: 12 minutes. After calling my boss and enhancing my reputation as a miracle worker, I drove off realizing that I not only got to spend that day at the airport, watching and listening to airplanes (and getting paid for it!) but they even threw in the bonus of letting me play with some real life direction finding!

I REALLY love my job!!!

73 de Rick (KJ5UY)



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**Your dues for 2009 are now due. Please mail your check to the PO Box listed on the bottom of this page. Cost is \$25.00 per member and \$10.00 additional for each family member.**

# Financial Report for December 2008



General Fund	Income	Expense	Balance	Petty Cash
<b>Beginning Balance 12/1/08</b>			<b>\$ 702.29</b>	
<b>INCOME/EXPENSE</b>				
Dues Income - 2008	\$204.00			
Transfer From Matl. Property				
Transfer Petty Cash income				
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 204.00</b>			
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ -		
<b>TOTAL INCOME/EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 204.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>		
<b>Ending Balance 12/31/2008</b>			<b>\$ 906.29</b>	
<b>Special Events Fund</b>				
<b>Beginning Balance 12/1/08</b>			<b>\$ 372.28</b>	
<b>INCOME/EXPENSE</b>				
Trans from General Fund				
<b>Mtg. food income Xmas &amp; Donation</b>				
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ -</b>			
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Floyd Rodgers Ck 575 Club Shirts		\$ 282.55		
Voided Ck 574		\$ -		
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$ 282.55</b>		
<b>TOTAL INCOME/EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 282.55</b>		
<b>Ending Balance 12/31/2008</b>			<b>\$ 89.73</b>	
<b>Material Property Fund</b>				
<b>Beginning Balance 12/1/08</b>			<b>\$ 1,875.80</b>	
<b>INCOME/EXPENSE</b>				
Dues Income - 2008	\$ 51.00			
Transfer from General Fund				
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 51.00</b>			
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Telephone Ck 573		35.16		
Transfer to General Fund				
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$ 35.16</b>		
<b>TOTAL INCOME/EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 51.00</b>	<b>\$ 35.16</b>		
<b>Ending Balance 12/31/2008</b>			<b>\$ 1,891.64</b>	
<b>December Totals</b>	<b>\$ 255.00</b>	<b>\$ 317.71</b>	<b>\$ 2,887.66</b>	

## *YouTube Links*

### **Head for the Hills (part 1)**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p-c7Lax7YKA>

### **Head for the Hills (part 2)**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QgJOMx5mnjQ>

### **OK QSO Party (part 1)**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y7KgLRctBio>

### **OK QSO Party (part 2)**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y7YLQeNUDiA&feature=related>

## *Officers and Board Position Nominations*

### **President:**

Johnny Roberson (KJ5LB)

### **Vice President:**

Mike Harang (K5MMH)

### **Secretary:**

Drena Cromaz (KK5YC)

### **Treasurer:**

Jerry Keltner (KB6OJE)

### **3 year Board Member:**

Scott Crappa (KE5NLK)

Floyd Rodgers (KC5QBC) moves to the one year Board position and Don Hickey (KD5SCZ) move into the two year position.

## Minutes of Board Meeting ... December 2008



The meeting was called to order by President Richard Baker N5KXA, with board members Richard Baker N5KXA, Mike Harang K5MMH, Jerry Keltner KB6OJE, and Don Hickey KD5SCZ and guests Johnny Roberson KJ5LB, Bill Ellis N5TXN, Scott Crappa KE5NLK, Rick Ellis KJ5UY and Rebecca Ellis KC5FHG present.

**Minutes:** Approved as posted in the Groundwire

**Treasurer Report:** Approved as posted in the Groundwire

**Repeater:** Johnny Roberson KJ5LB located a DTMF encoder to control the repeater . Cost is around \$130.00. Richard N5KXA is looking into an alternate device. 2-Meter repeater is still dropping out during QSOs.

**HOTY Plaque:** A plaque that would rotate between the HOTY of each year was discussed and table until 2009.

**VE Testing:** At last session one person passed both Tech and General. The new format of testing on meeting might is working well.

**Christmas Party:** Party will start at 1900, setup to begin at 1730. Need salads, and veggie trays. Johnny KJ5LB to bring cole slaw and potato salad. Three dozen tamales to be supplied by Rebecca Ellis KC5FHG. Bill N5TXN to send out email to club members announcing party and requesting food.

**Election Committee:** Richard Baker listed the nominations for 2009. The floor will be opened for nominations at the January membership meeting.

Respectfully Submitted by Mike Harang K5MMH for Rebecca Holt, Secretary.

### ***2008 Board Members***

#### **President**

Richard Baker (N5KXA)

#### **Vice-President**

Mike Harang (K5MMH)

#### **Treasurer**

Jerry Keltner (KB6OJE)

#### **Secretary**

Rachel Holt (KE5KMS)

#### **Directors**

Bernie McPartland (KC5MQC)

Floyd Rodgers (KC5QBC)

Don Hickey (KD5SCZ)

### ***2008 Elmers***

Bob Best: Safety, VHF Satellite

Todd Huovenin: Net Ops, SWL

John Langridge: Propagation, Vertical Antennas, Contesting, HF Ops

Rebecca Ellis: Family Activities

David Lusk: Contesting, Digital Comms

Chuck Poindexter: WiFi Mgmt

Paul Dryer: CW, HF Antennas

Rick Ellis: Foxhunting

Johnny Roberson: Emergency Generators, Mobile Radio Installation

Don Hickey: Screwdriver Antennas

Bill Ellis: Web-Site, *Groundwire*

Floyd Rodgers: Web Management, VHF Ops

Mike Harang: Phased Verticals

Rachael Holt: Railroad Comms

Russ Thompson: Database Management, HF Antennas

Special Counsel to President:

Johnny Roberson, Mike Harang, Floyd Rodgers and Paul Dryer

## General Membership Meeting ... December 2008



The meeting was called to order by President Richard Baker N5KXA with opening prayer by Paul Dryer KC5IVP. An immediate recess was declared to announce the winner of the Chili Cook-Off. Rebecca Ellis KC5FGH announced that the winner is Lisa Dryer. The meeting will continue immediately after our Christmas Dinner which was graciously provided by the membership.

**Guests:** Tom Blackwell-North Texas Section Manager spoke to the membership & presented a plaque in recognition of the SWDCARC results of the 2007 ARRL Field Day. He also gave the club a 2009 calendar, an antenna book, and a hard-bound copy of the 2009 handbook to use as door prizes tonight.

**Minutes:** Approved as posted in the Groundwire

**Treasurer Report:** Approved as posted in the Groundwire

**Repeater:** Johnny Roberson KJ5LB – Reported no new news. He reminded the membership that the new call sign for the 440 machine is KE5YAQ.

**VE Session:** Paul Dryer KC5IVP-Reported 1 test taker last month & he passed the General exam.

**Desoto EOC:** Paul Dryer KC5IVP-Reported he is the Radio Officer for the Desoto EOC and they are RACES. If anyone in Desoto or surrounding area is interested in becoming a RACES member let him know.

**Net:** Todd Huovinen KB5TMD-Reported 9 check-ins last night with Bernie McPartland KC5MQC as net control.

**Election Committee:** Richard Baker listed the nominations for 2009. The floor will be opened for nominations at the January membership meeting.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Ft. Worth Ham Fest:** January 9th & 10th at the Lockheed Martin Recreation Area

**Door Prizes:** Rebecca Ellis KC5FHG & Drena Cromaz KK5YC handled the drawing for the 21 door prizes donated by club members & Tom Blackwell. The winners (in no order) were: Bob Best, Vincent Walt, Rick Ellis, Teresa Rodgers, Johnny Roberson, Amber Thompson, Mike Harang, Suzette Harang, Mary Crappa, Russ Thompson, Jessica Huovinen, Scott Crappa, Rebecca Ellis, Todd Huovinen, Floyd Rodgers, Paul Dryer, Jerry Keltner, Rick Ellis, Sarah Rodgers, Jerry Vincent, & Drena Cromaz.

**PROGRAM:** Rick Ellis KJ5UY presented Ham of the Year to Jerry Keltner KB6OJE.

Respectfully Submitted by Drena Cromaz KK5YC for Rebecca Holt, Secretary

*January*



**Office and Board Members  
Nominations**

*NCS Schedule*

**January 2009**

05-KB5TMD  
12-KC5MQC  
19-KX5G  
26-KJ5UY

**February 2009**

02-KB5TMD  
09-KC5MQC  
16-KX5G  
23- KJ5UY

**Net times are Mondays at  
8:00PM**

**Primary frequency is  
147.060 with the alternate  
frequency being 444.500**