



The GroundWire

Johnny's Mailbag

ISSUE 2009—12

It is that time of year again, Thanksgiving is over and the Christmas frenzy is in full swing. It is time to finish planning all the activities we are participating in. If you have not sent Bill Ellis an email to affirm your intention to come to the club Christmas dinner please do so soon. Those brining dishes and table centerpieces need to know how many to plan for. This year we decided to make this a potluck dinner instead of having it catered to make it more economical. Club members are encouraged to bring their families and a side dish or desert. The Ham of The Year Award will be presented and a drawing for door prizes will be one of the high lights of the evening. Those who attend are requested to bring a door prize. The prizes may be a white elephant, a gadget or a desirable gift, your choice.

Jerry Keltner has labored long to complete the application to get a 501(C)3 tax classification for the club. At the November meeting the club voted to transfer three hundred dollars from the property fund to the general fund to pay the fees required to be submitted with the application.

The club will be electing officers in short order and the election committee has a slate of officers to present to the club for nomination. If you have someone you wish to nominate for a position please come to a meeting and do so. Your participation in the club activities is what makes the club successful.

I look forward to seeing you at a meeting.

73,

Johnny KJ5LB



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Orienteering Course



This will be a fairly fast paced class with plenty of topics to cover.

Saturday Oct 12 2009, 9:00am to 3:00pm local, Silver Creek Baptist Church, 151 Ruth Lane, Azle, Texas 76020. No charge for the class, parking is free. Bring your note-taking equipment, sack lunch, snacks & beverages, any show-and-tell items. Sponsored by Tri-County Amateur Radio Club WC5C.

Basic Section

1) How to use Topographical Terrain Maps

- a) How to read Symbols, Scales and Legends
- b) Orienting the map (using compass or landmarks)
- c) Navigating using the map, plotting a course
- d) Determining ground elevation and distances between points
- e) Finding and Recognizing landmarks from the map
- f) Celestial navigation using Terrain Map

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2) How to use a Compass

- a) Different compass constructions and what to use them for
- b) Finding North and all directions relative to North
- c) Reading the Compass Protractor
- d) Orienting a map with a compass
- e) Determining an Azimuth
- f) How to use Triangulation (Re-Section) to find your own position
- g) How to use Triangulation (Cross Section) to find a waypoint on the map

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3) Celestial Orienteering

- a) Using the Sun to determine direction
- b) Using the Stars to determine direction
- c) Recognizing specific stars for celestial navigation
- d) Using a Sundial to determine direction
- e) Using shade to determine direction
- f) Other clues



Intermediate Section

4) Fox Hunting (Radio Direction Finding) using a Compass and a Map

- a) How to use Triangulation (Cross Section) to find a transmitter
- b) How to use Triangulation (Re-Section) to find a position based on Landmarks

5) How to use a Global Positioning System (GPS) Receiver

- a) GPS types and why to pick one
- b) GPS features and what you can do with one
- c) Using a GPS with a Compass and a Map
- d) Using a GPS with your Computer
- e) Using GPS with your Cellphone
- f) Navigating with a GPS

Advanced Section

6) Automated Position Reporting Service (APRS)

- a) What is APRS and how does it work
- b) Finding out who is where using Internet
- c) Finding out who is where using a Receiver and a Computer
- d) Finding out who is where using a Receiver and a Map
- e) Announcing your location using Internet
- f) Announcing your location using GPS and a Transceiver
- g) Ham Radio Frequencies and Radio Settings, Hardware, Software for APRS

7) Orbital Satellites Carrying Amateur Radio

- a) Azimuth versus Elevation
- b) Aiming an antenna, manual tracking using a Compass and Map
- c) Az-El Rotators, manual and automated
- d) Satellites and Frequencies
- e) Radios and Settings
- f) Operating Procedures

Field Day 2009



NTX results

| # | Call | Score | Cat. | QSOs | Power | GOTA | Sec | Part. | Club |
|----------|--------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|----------|-------------|------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | K5LFD | 9,942 | 2A | 3,036 | 2 | WR5W | NTX | 38 | TX AR Rescue Group |
| 2 | NG5A | 7,690 | 4A | 2,001 | 2 | AD5NR | NTX | 30 | Boars RC |
| 3 | W5MRC | 5,184 | 3A | 1,171 | 2 | AE5IT | NTX | 43 | McKinney ARC |
| 4 | W5AUY | 4,958 | 3F | 1,043 | 2 | N5UV | NTX | 45 | Southwest Dallas Co ARC |
| 5 | W5IU | 4,900 | 4A | 1,075 | 2 | | NTX | 39 | Lockheed Martin ARC |
| 6 | W5ZDN | 4,756 | 2A | 1,180 | 2 | W5TSA | NTX | 35 | Heart O' Texas ARC |
| 7 | K5WNH | 4,680 | 1B1B | 433 | 5 | | NTX | 1 | |
| 8 | N5WLA | 3,582 | 2A | 886 | 2 | | NTX | 8 | Know Hill Krew |
| 9 | W5ROK | 3,474 | 3E | 933 | 2 | | NTX | 10 | |
| 10 | WJ5J | 3,424 | 5F | 1,015 | 2 | | NTX | 10 | Ham Assn of Mequite |

West Gulf results

| # | Call | Score | Cat. | QSOs | Power | GOTA | Sec. | Part. | Club |
|-----------|--------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|----------|-------------|------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | W5KFT | 10,326 | 5D | 3,577 | 2 | | STX | 13 | |
| 2 | K5WA | 10,282 | 2A | 2,811 | 2 | KD5HHD | STX | 8 | Tilson Contest Group |
| 3 | K5LFD | 9,942 | 2A | 3,036 | 2 | WR5W | NTX | 38 | TX AR Rescue Group |
| 4 | KD5C | 9,652 | 4A | 2,240 | 2 | W5QGG | WTX | 50 | Midland ARC |
| 5 | KK5I | 8,154 | 2A | 2,225 | 2 | K5ZEP | OK | 25 | MARC |
| 6 | K5DX | 7,904 | 2A | 1,976 | 2 | N5UR | STX | 38 | Texas DX Soc |
| 7 | NG5A | 7,690 | 4A | 2,001 | 2 | AD5NR | NTX | 30 | Boars RC |
| 8 | K5FD | 7,414 | 2A | 1,992 | 2 | AD5BB | WTX | 14 | Big Bend ARC |
| 9 | K5EOK | 5,442 | 3A | 1,328 | 2 | KE5TGZ | OK | 52 | Edmond ARS |
| 10 | WC5T | 5,382 | 2A | 1,230 | 2 | N5TW | STX | 32 | Williamson Co ARC |
| 11 | W5MRC | 5,184 | 3A | 1,171 | 2 | AE5IT | NTX | 43 | McKinney ARC |
| 12 | W5AUY | 4,958 | 3F | 1,043 | 2 | N5UV | NTX | 45 | Southwest Dallas Co ARC |
| 13 | W5IU | 4,900 | 4A | 1,075 | 2 | | NTX | 39 | Lockheed Martin ARC |
| 14 | W5ZDN | 4,756 | 2A | 1,180 | 2 | W5TSA | NTX | 35 | Heart O' Texas ARC |
| 15 | NN5Z | 4,702 | 2A | 1,141 | 2 | | OK | 7 | |

50/50 Hobby



Once you live with a man for 44 years you learn a lot about a guy and him about you. That was the way it was with Danny (W5WB) and I. Danny loved ham radio and especially going to Ham-Com and to the Belton Ham Fest and any other ham fest he could attend. Even before I got my license I was a tag along. You know these events have something for everyone. My main hobby is quilting, actually Danny said I just collected fabric, but he knew it was all about the journey.

It is amazing how ham radio and quilting often collide. At these trips I always see some cool tool that I can use in quilting. A new kind of scissor, tweezers, magnetic extending rods to pick up those pins and needles off the floor are just a few things that come to mind. Belton Ham Fest was always something to see because there was always something that you never expected to see. Danny & I always played "Whatz This". I got to see things that came out of airplanes, books older than I was and dirty-nasty-smelly "stuff". There was always a side trip to the quilt shop.

But it wasn't just about going to ham fests. Danny was thoughtful enough to include me in the Texas QSO party. He planned the route so he could talk on the radio while I visited quilt shops along the route. It was good quality time together. I am still not sure I ever learned to read a map but we laughed a lot. Quilting and ham radio do indeed cross paths frequently. Sometimes you need that strip of red fabric to tie on the end on an antenna pole sticking out the back of a pickup, sometimes you need that certain ruler or a tiny screwdriver that just comes out of my sewing kit to fix something.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention Danny's love of field day. His excitement for the event spread throughout the club. I usually did some hand appliqué or read a book while I got to watch him do his thing. Again watching Danny is what made me truly happy. Anyone that new Danny knows that his joy was contagious.

You might think that your other half is not interested in what your hobby is. Give it a chance. You show interest in what the other half's hobby is and you just might learn something that you never knew before. Even if you don't enjoy what they do.....enjoy watching their eyes light up like a child on Christmas morning.

I didn't like or understand ham radio for years & years. In fact all it meant to me what extra noise that came across my TV speaker when he talked on certain frequencies. It was ugly antennas on a pick up and the hope that he didn't want one of those bug catcher antennas on his truck. Why would anyone want to talk on the radio for 24 hours during November Sweepstakes? He asked me several times to get my license but I always said I wasn't interested. The closest I ever came to showing interest in ham radio was listening to the storm chasers during severe weather. After that we attended several of the Garland storm warning schools. We had a scanner at home and since I got home before he did I got to listen to the scanner. I monitored the conversations he had with several of the guys all the way home from work. Most of the time I wished I could just chime in with some sly comment. Shortly after that Danny told me that the requirements changed and I could get a license without doing Morse code. We got a book and he helped me to study and as they say the rest is history. To this day I can just say that it was several things that made me want to get my license but my best incentive was Danny. It all started with sharing a hobby. So guys get involved with what your wife does and you can't tell you just might encourage her to become more involved with your hobby.

Drena Cromaz-KK5YC

Financial Report ... November 2009



| General Fund | Income | Expense | Balance | Petty Cash |
|--------------------------------|----------|----------|------------|------------|
| Beginning Balance 11/1/09 | | | \$364.24 | |
| INCOME/EXPENSE | | | | |
| Dues Income-2009 | | | | |
| Transfer From Matl. Property | \$300.00 | | | |
| Transfer Petty Cash income | | | | |
| TOTAL INCOME | \$300.00 | | | |
| EXPENSES | | | | |
| IRS 501(c)(3) Applic Fee CK595 | | \$300.00 | | |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | | \$300.00 | | |
| TOTAL INCOME/EXPENSE | \$300.00 | \$300.00 | | |
| Ending Balance 11/30/2009 | | | \$364.24 | |
| | | | | |
| Special Events Fund | | | | |
| Beginning Balance 11/1/09 | | | \$149.42 | |
| INCOME/EXPENSE | | | | |
| Trans from General Fund | | | | |
| TOTAL INCOME | \$0.00 | | | |
| EXPENSES | | | | |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | | \$0.00 | | |
| TOTAL INCOME/EXPENSE | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | |
| Ending Balance 11/30/2009 | | | \$149.42 | |
| | | | | |
| Material Property Fund | | | | |
| Beginning Balance 11/1/09 | | | \$2,211.11 | |
| INCOME/EXPENSE | | | | |
| Dues Income - 2009 | \$0.00 | | | |
| Transfer from General Fund | | | | |
| TOTAL INCOME | \$0.00 | | | |
| EXPENSES | | | | |
| Telephone Ck593 | | \$36.50 | | |
| Transfer to General Fund | | \$300.00 | | |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | | \$336.50 | | |
| TOTAL INCOME/EXPENSE | \$0.00 | \$336.50 | | |
| Ending Balance 11/30/2009 | | | \$1,874.61 | |
| November Totals | \$300.00 | \$636.50 | \$2,388.27 | |

Upcoming Events

Christmas Party

December 15th—6:30PM

Turkey & Ham furnished, bring a side dish. Also bring a door prize.

Club Breakfast

Saturday Mornings

We begin gathering about 6:45AM but we don't order until 7:00AM. Technical discussions, war stories and lies continue until 8:00 to 8:30 or until they run us off.

BE THERE



Burgers 'N More Cafe 67

261 S. Hwy. 67 @ Copper Exit
Cedar Hill, TX, 75104

Minutes of Board Meeting ... November 2009



The meeting was called to order and the invocation given by Johnny Roberson KJ5LB-President.

Board Members Present: Johnny Roberson KJ5LB, Mike Harang K5MMH, Jerry Keltner KB6OJE, Drena Cromaz KK5YC, Floyd Rodgers KC5QBC, Rick Ellis KJ5UY, Scott Crappa KE5NLK.

Guests: Bill Ellis N5TXN, Pat Roberson KB5YPP, & Ben Barber K5NEB

Minutes: A motion to correct a typing error in the minutes from W6GSR to W5GSR was made by Scott Crappa KE5NLK and 2nd by Rick Ellis KJ5UY, motion passed.

Treasurer Report: motion by Rick Ellis KJ5UY and 2nd by Scott Crappa KE5NLK motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Repeater: Johnny Roberson KJ5LB reported all OK

VE Session: It was reported that William Turk -N5TLH upgraded to extra.

EOC: Johnny Roberson reported that there will be a CERT meeting next Monday in Duncanville.

Membership: Scott Crappa KE5NLK reported no new members. He is sending a backup file on the membership packets to Russ Thompson KX5G.

Net: Russ Thompson KX5G picked up the Monday night net & had 5 check ins.

MRC: Floyd Rodgers KC5QBC reported that the MRC is doing H1N1 training & have requested volunteers to man the telephones.

OLD BUSINESS

501C3: Jerry Keltner KB6OJE reported he had received the EIN number. He is searching the original corporation papers needed for the 501C3 application.

Election Committee: Mike Harang, Bob Best, Ben Barber-The committee will meet after the board meeting.

Ham of the Year: Committee of Jerry Keltner, Dave Lusk, John Langridge. Deadline for ballots is the November general membership meeting.

Christmas Dinner: 12/15/09 Club night at the church. Drena Cromaz KK5YC agreed to type a sign up sheet for food.

NEW BUSINESS

2010 Head for the Hills Bike Rally.-Mike Harang K5MMH has agreed to chair this project with Jerry Keltner KB6OJE as co-chairman.

Program: Pat Roberson KB5YPP will present "Life on a Yacht"
Motion to adjourn made by Rick Ellis KJ5UY & 2nd by Scott Crappa KE5NLK, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by: Drena Cromaz-KK5YC, secretary

2009 Board Members

President

Johnny Roberson (KJ5LB)

Vice-President

Mike Harang (K5MMH)

Treasurer

Jerry Keltner (KB6OJE)

Secretary

Drena Cromaz (KK5YC)

Directors

Floyd Rodgers (KC5QBC) -
Material Property

Rick Ellis (KJ5UY) -
Programs

Scott Crappa (KE5NLK) -
Membership

Committee Positions

Repeater Trustee

Johnny Roberson (KJ5LB)

Newsletter Editor

Bill Ellis (N5TXN)

Web Master

Russ Thompson (KX5G)

General Membership Meeting ... November 2009



The meeting was called to order and the invocation given by President Johnny Roberson KJ5LB. There were 16 members present and 5 guests.

Minutes: Motion made by Rick Ellis KJ5UY with 2nd by Floyd Rodgers KC5QBC to accept as posted in the *GroundWire*, motion passed.

Treasurer Report: Motion made by Rick Ellis KJ5UY with 2nd by Floyd Rodgers KC5QBC to accept as posted in the *GroundWire*, motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Repeater: Johnny Roberson KJ5LB reported all OK.

VE Session: It was reported that William Turk N5TLH upgraded to extra.

EOC: Johnny Roberson KJ5LB advised that Duncanville is working up a policy for EOC duties. Pat Weaver KF5AZL reported that RACES is looking for a place for a sky warn school. It was noted that our club usually sponsors a sky warn school here at the church, one will be scheduled in January 2010.

MRC: Johnny Roberson KJ5LB reported that there will be a Flu shot clinic on Saturday November 21st and the MRC is asking for volunteers.

NET: Rick Ellis KJ5UY reported that he had net control this past Monday. He has requested that more club members check into the Monday night net.

WEBSITE: Nothing new to report.

OLD BUSINESS

501C3: Jerry Keltner KB6OJE reported that there will be a \$300 application fee. Rick Ellis KJ5UY made a motion to move \$300 from the repeater fund to the general fund to pay the one time application fee for the 501C3. 2nd by Bill Ellis N5TXN. Motion passed.

Election Committee: Mike Harang reported that the committee will present the candidates at the December Board of Directors meeting.

Ham of the Year: Jerry Keltner advised that tonight was the deadline for ballots for Ham of the Year. Paper nominations were accepted during the meeting.

Christmas Dinner: Bill Ellis N5TXN will send out a broadcast message requesting a head count of those wishing to attend the Christmas dinner. Drena Cromaz KK5YC passed around a sign up list for side dishes, desserts, salads, etc. Members are encouraged to bring a door prize (new or white elephant) to the dinner. The dinner is free this year with turkey & ham being provided by Rick Ellis KJ5UY & Johnny Roberson KJ5LB.

2010 Head for the Hills Bike Rally: Mike Harang K5MMH and Jerry Keltner KB6OJE have volunteered to chair this project.

NEW BUSINESS

Field Day 2010: Johnny Roberson KJ5LB reported that the Cedar Hill EOC will be the site again for 2010. Results of our club's participation for 2009 were reported with SWDCARC placing 6th in the nation in class 3F.

Motion to adjourn for the program made by Rick Ellis KJ5LB with 2nd by Floyd Rodgers KC5QBC, motion passed.

PROGRAM

Pat Roberson KB5YPP gave a program on her trip "Life on a Yacht"

December Program: Christmas Dinner & Ham of the Year Presentation.

Respectfully submitted by: Drena Cromaz KK5YC. Secretary

December



**Christmas Party
& Ham of The Year**

2009 NCS Schedule

December

7-KX5G

14-KJ5UY

21-K5NEB

28-KC5MQC

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

**Primary frequency is
147.060+ (110.9 PL)
with the alternate
frequency being 444.500+**