



BUTTS COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AUXILIARY

Dedicated to serving the communities in and surrounding Butts County, working hand-in-hand with local and state governments, the Red Cross, and other non-profit community-service organizations.

THE REPEATER

FEBRUARY 2016



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STATE ARES MEETING AT GPSTC IN FORSYTH

The 2016 Georgia State ARES meeting is February 13 from 9:30 AM—4:00 PM. Once again hams from across the state will gather at GPSTC in Forsyth for a time of information and inspiration.

The theme for this year's annual meeting is "Critical Infrastructure & Key Resources."

Guest presenters will include Keith Stellman, National Weather Service,

network.

Other special topics will be MARS, GSDF and a Q&A with ARES leadership.

As always there will be door prizes and the selection of "Ham of the Year." Grand prize this year is a Tablet/Signalink set-up.

An orientation session for new ECs will take place and the Georgia Hospital Net



Georgia Public Service Training Center
Forsyth, GA

Peachtree City, GA. Keith will speak on impact-based warnings, weather and El Nino impacts.

Thomas Powell, of the Georgia Power Company, will discuss "Vulnerabilities in Utilities and Solutions." His address will include lightning strikes, cascade failures, power line noise, cyber security, power lines in snow, down wires, safety and security.

There will be digital demonstrations, D-STAR, D-RATS, FLdigi and MESH

Operators will meet.

Dan Darsey (W4DED) has asked for all members of the BCECA Hospital Team to bring a sack lunch so that during the lunch break, he can lead a training session.

As we have done in the past, our club will gather for breakfast (location to be determined at the February club meeting) at 8:00 AM.

Please make every effort to attend this year's annual ARES meeting.

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SAVE THE DATES

Sundays @ 4:30 PM

Weekly Butts County
FM Training Net

February 1

Monthly BCECA
Meeting, FS #7
7:00 PM

February 20

Hungry Hams, Lunch
Box, 7:30 AM
Tech Saturday
Field Day prep



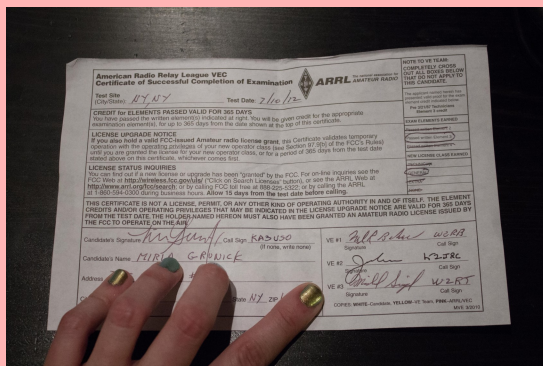
UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

**FEBRUARY**

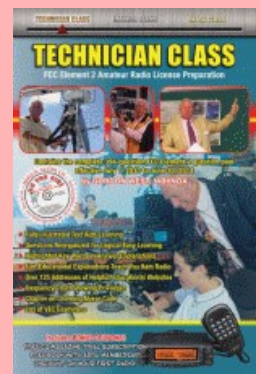
- February 1** — Pre-meeting dinner and fellowship. Mesquite Grill, 5:30
Monthly Club Meeting & Training. 7:00 PM. Fire Station #7
February 4, 11, 18, 25 — General Class, FS #7, 6:30 PM
February 13 — State ARES Meeting, GPSTC, Forsyth, GA
February 16 — Newton County Club Meeting.
NC Law Enforcement Center, 7:00 PM.
February 20 — Hungry Hams, Lunch Box Restaurant, 7:00 AM
Tech Saturday, Field Day Planning

MARCH

- March 3, 10, 17** — General Class, FS #7, 6:30 PM
March 7 — Pre-meeting dinner and fellowship. Mesquite Grill, 5:30
Monthly Club Meeting & Training. 7:00 PM. Fire Station #7
March 15 — Newton County Club Meeting.
NC Law Enforcement Center, 7:00 PM.
March 19 — Hungry Hams, Lunch Box Restaurant, 7:30 AM
V.E. Session, Butts County Rec Department, 9:00 AM
March 26 — Bluebird & Bluegrass Festival
Dauset Trails, Jackson

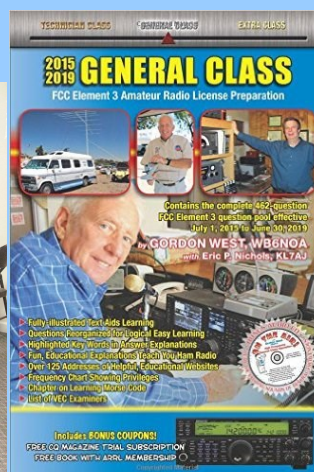
**Congratulations New Techs !!**

Josh Nelson KM4QMH
Bob Horansky KM4QMK
William French KM4QMJ
Scott McCarthy KM4QMI
Mark Clark KM4QML

**2016 General Class Students**

Mark Baker KM4NRP
Dennis Wagner KM4MHW

Aaron Ross KM4KZP
Bob Kaylor KG4GHM





FROM THE BACKACRE — BUZZ (K3GWK) Butts County Emergency Coordinator

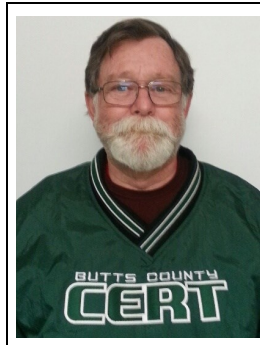
Some of you may wonder where the title of my monthly article comes from. When I was a kid, living in York County Pennsylvania, our house was a converted one-room school. The school house had extremely high ceilings and the previous owners of our house had replaced the windows, lowered the ceilings and remodeled the first floor into a comfortable living space. My Dad expanded on that by adding two more bedrooms on the second floor. The house sat on a little over an acre of land and, for a while we had a truck patch garden on the back section of the plot. He claimed that working that garden with just a hand tractor was "back aching" work and since the garden was "on the back acre" our place became known as Kutcher's Backacre.

Thus the name of my monthly report. Our acre here in Jenkinsburg can be a backacre, too. I still have the sign from the old house in Thomasville and the original school bell. One of the teachers who taught there was Miss Sarah Jane Hall. Miss Hall later taught second grade at the elementary school that I attended. My family lived there from 1948 until 1980.

Our ARES roster has been reviewed and, sadly, more members have been removed due to lack of participation. Our Active Roster count is now twenty-four with one member pending. Once that member completes

the Gwinnett Basic Ares course and the required FEMA Independent Study courses, that status will change to Active. When our group re-organized in March 2010 we had four members.

December Activity Report: Nets 9 (50 Hours), Drills & Training 4 (79 Hours), Public Service 1 (12 Hours) and Miscellaneous Activities 2 (10 Hours). One SKYWARN Net (12 Hours) was activated during the ice storm. During December the ham station at the 911 Center was reactivated.



by our work.

The GA State ARES meeting and Convention is coming up on February 13 at GPSTC in Forsyth. As is our custom we will meet for breakfast and then car pool to the meeting. The morning session begins at 09:30 and will feature a presentation by Keith Stellman, Meteorologist-In-Charge at the

Peachtree City NWS office. Keith will give an update on El Nino and what to expect this winter.

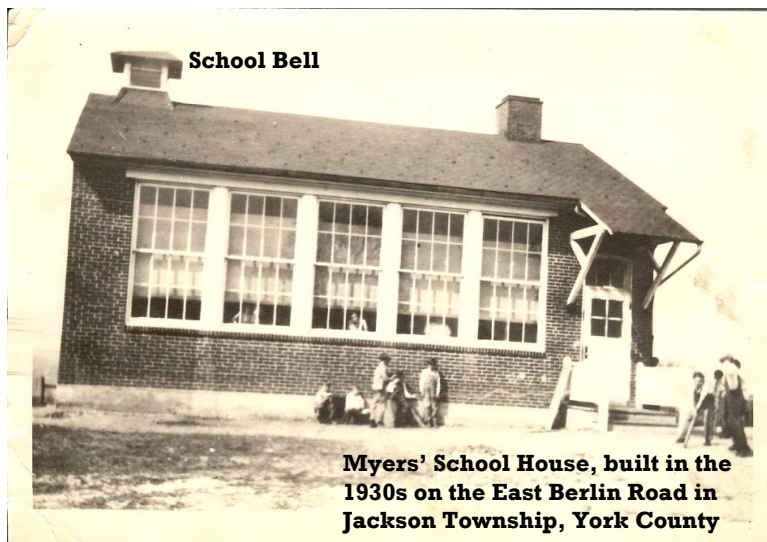
During the two hour lunch period there will be break-

leadership team.

There will be door prize drawings during both the morning and afternoon sessions. The ARES Ham of the Year award will be presented. The final prize drawing will be for a Signalink and tablet PC.

This annual gathering is a great place to meet and greet, find out what is going on in the Georgia Sections ARES community and check out the lunchtime demonstrations. There is always something new.

Our February meeting is Monday evening (01FEB2016) at BCFD Station #7. As is our custom, there will a gathering at The Mesquite Grill (Jackson) at 5:30 PM.



School Bell

Myers' School House, built in the 1930s on the East Berlin Road in Jackson Township, York County

The equipment was moved out of the Dispatching Center and into a separate room. The coax cables were left in place under the floor so two new cable runs were installed. A big thank-you to Dan, Mike and Ken for helping to get the 911 station back on the air. 911 Director Sonia Sands was "pretty impressed"

out sessions and demonstrations of D-STAR & D-RATS, Fldigi, Winlink, and MESH Networking. Bag lunches are encouraged. After lunch there will be presentations by Georgia Power, MARS, the Georgia State Defense Force and a Q&A opportunity with the Georgia Section

We still need ideas for monthly presentations; we hope to have Dr. Ron Johnson, WB4GWA, speak at our March meeting about SERA, the South East Repeater Association.

We will have a "Tech Saturday" in February on the 20th following our Hungry Hams meeting. The topic will be Field Day Antenna Planning.

Don't forget about that New Year's

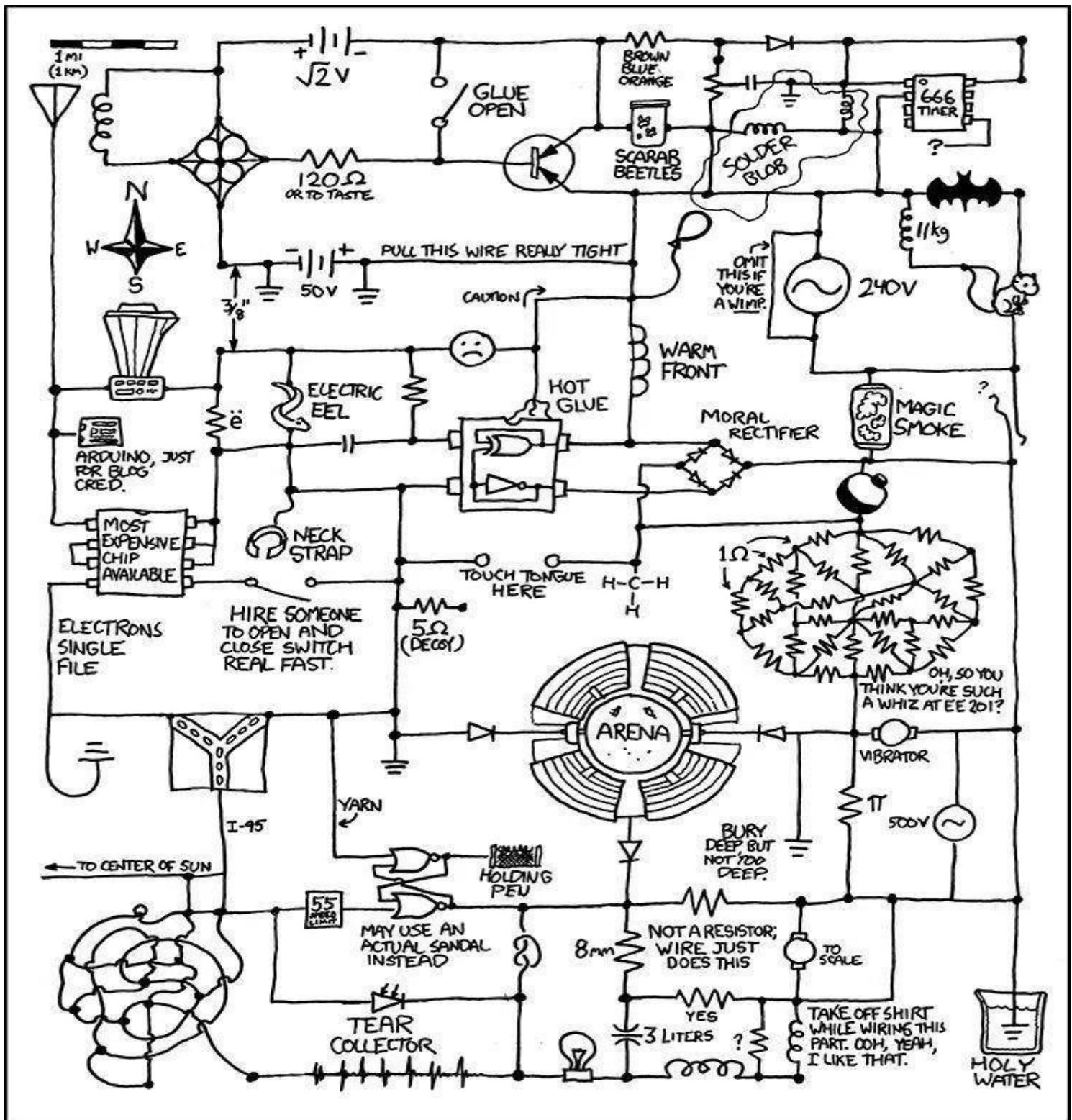
Resolution you all made to finish the required and recommended ARES and FEMA courses.

Thanks again for all you do...

73, Buzz (K3GWK)
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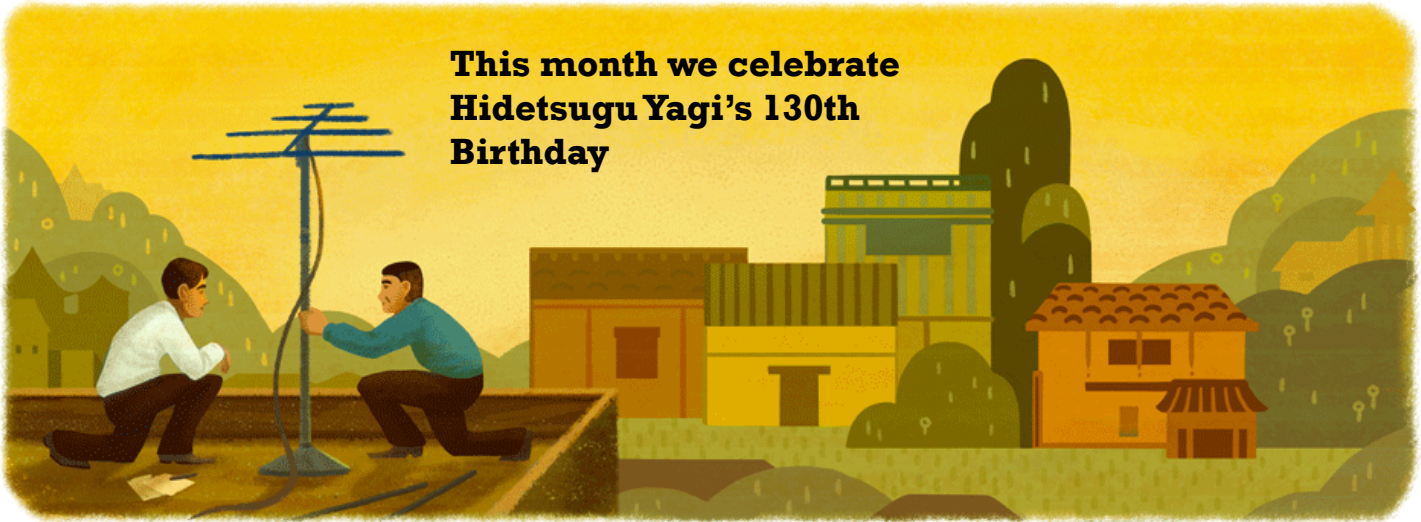


Editor's Note: This schematic diagram was submitted by Anthony (KM4DHz). He did not identify just what this is. Buzz (K3GWK) has surmised that it is a retroencabulator. Hal Reid has suggested that it might be some high level of non-asymmetrical hyperbolic phase distortion. What is your guess??





This month we celebrate Hidetsugu Yagi's 130th Birthday



This month we celebrate Hidetsugu Yagi's 130th birthday, and thank him for keeping our television and radio signals coming in loud and clear. Because of the Yagi antenna, radios and televisions can receive stronger signals from a specific direction, which helps avoid interference from surrounding signals. In ham radio, the Yagi antenna is the most popular directional antenna for HF, VHF and UHF frequencies.

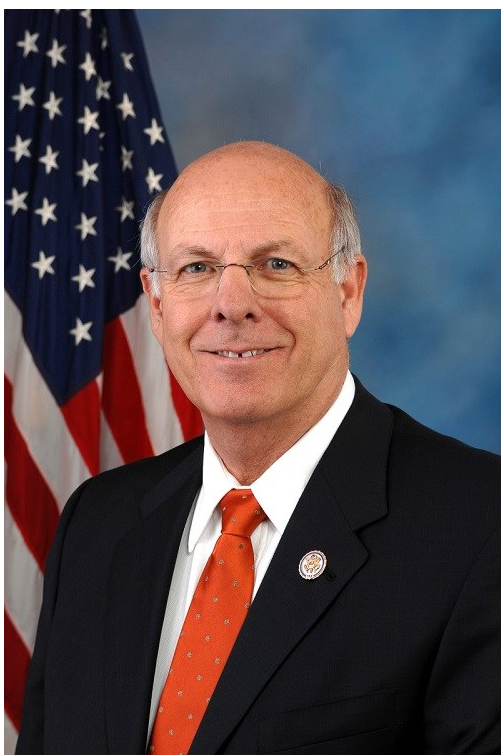
Hidetsugu Yagi was a Japanese electrical engineer.

He and his colleague Shintaro Uda developed and spread the technology for this antenna together, which is why the full name is the Yagi-Uda antenna.

Their invention was patented in 1926 and is used today on millions of houses throughout the world for radio and television reception and thousands of ham shacks.

If you look outside, you can probably see one or two of these right in your neighborhood—maybe even on your own roof!

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There's A New Ham In The House

US Rep Steve Pearce (R-NM-2) has become the third Amateur Radio licensee in the Congress. Pearce recently became KG5KIQ. He joins his House colleague, Rep Daniel Benishek, KB8TOW (R-MI), and Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR). Pearce had reached out earlier this year to ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Director Brian Milesosky, N5ZGT, and New Mexico Section Manager Ed James, KA8JMW, to find out more about ham radio.

"He said he had learned of ham radio and was interested in its utility for communicating with others wirelessly, especially at long distances on HF," Milesosky recounted.

More recently the congressman alerted Milesosky and James that he would be passing through Albuquerque and wanted to meet with them to chat further about Amateur Radio. The get-together over coffee with Pearce, an aide, James, and Milesosky lasted for "a very productive hour," Milesosky said. On November 12, Pearce's aide contacted James to say that the Congressman has just arrived in Albuquerque and wanted to take the Technician license examination, if possible.

"We notified Frank Warren, AB5WJ, whose VE team regularly conducts on-demand licensing exams," Milesosky said. Three hours after our first indication that he was in town, the Congressman was taking his Technician license exam."

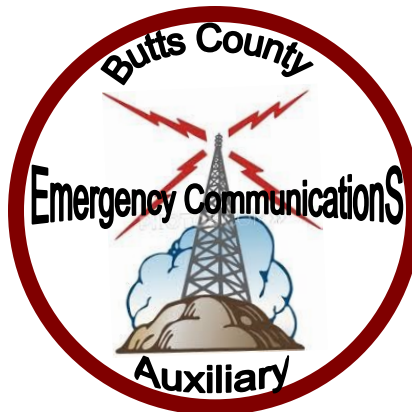
The FCC granted Pearce's license on November 18.

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Visit our website: www.bcgaares.org

**BUTTS COUNTY EMERGENCY
COMMUNICATIONS AUXILIARY**

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**Net Control Station
Roster**

February
Elaine KW4AQ

March
Ed WX4ED

April
Darlene KK4BKF

If you'd like to serve as NCS, please
email Ken (KM4HOS), Net Manager:
kawallis@charter.net

Weekly Training Net:

Sunday 21:30 GMT

4:30 EST 5:30 EDT

WX4BCA Repeater 147.285- PL131.8

Jackson, GA

BUTTS COUNTY / SOUTHERN CRESCENT AREA NETS — HF, VHF & UHF

Sunday (4:30 pm) GA ARES Digital Net — 3583 KHz (USB) or 7042 (PSK-31) Center 1000 Hz

Sunday (4:30 pm) Butts CO FM Training Net — 147.285 MHz (131.8 PL) Winlink: WX4BCA

Sunday (5:00 pm) GA ARES SSB Net — 3975 KHz (LSB) Winlink: WX4GMA

Monday (9:00 pm) Southern Crescent FM Net — 145.170 MHz (146.2 PL) & 444.875 MHz (123.0 PL)

Tuesday (7:30 pm) GA CERT Digital Net — 3585 KHz (USB) or 7042 (PSK-31) Center 1000 Hz

Tuesday (8:00 pm) GA CERT FM Net — 146.805 MHz (100.0 PL)

Wednesday (8:00 pm) Newton Co Digital Net — 146.925 MHz (88.5 PL) (MT63-2KL) Center 1500 Hz

Thursday (8:00 pm) NCRC/ARES/RACES FM Net — 146.925 & 444.800 MHz (88.5 PL) Winlink: K4NCR

Thursday (9:00 PM) Barnesville/Lamar County W8JI Repeater Net — 147.225 (no tone)

Saturday (11:00 am) *SATERN Net (Southern Section) — 7262 KHz

METRO ARES FM NET

1st Sunday (4:00 pm) Metro ARES FM Net — 145.430 MHz (107.2 PL)

Also on EchoLink at WB4NWS-R (Node: 593209)

Newsletter Submissions

Please submit all articles and/or suggestions to **Ed Hoard (WX4ED)**
edhoard@yahoo.com

QRT