



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

JUNE 2016



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PREPARATIONS UNDERWAY FOR FIELD DAY 2016

The high, holy day for Amateur Radio is Field Day. Months of preparation culminate in a 24-hour marathon of making contacts from a station that has been constructed "in the field" and using non-commercial power.

Two years ago our Team was ranked #1 in the State of Georgia in the number of contacts made. We accomplished this using two stations operating simultaneously. Then last year we got bold and moved up into the very competitive 3A (three stations) category. When the points were tallied, we were #2 in the State behind the gargantuan Fulton County Radio Club that has many times more members than our club!

We will begin our preparations in earnest as we hold our June Club meeting at the Tim Kersey Pavilion located in the Butts County Recreation Center on Ernest Biles Road.

The meeting will be preceded by our very popular pre-meeting meal at the Mesquite Mexican Restaurant on the square in Jackson. We will eat at 5:30 and QSY over to the Tim Kersey Pavilion for our June club meeting.

Field Day is our annual amateur radio exercise encouraging emergency communications preparedness among amateur radio operators. Here in the

United States, it is typically the largest single emergency preparedness exercise in the country, with over 30,000 operators participating each year. Field Day is always the fourth full weekend of June, beginning at 1800 UTC Saturday and running through 2059 UTC Sunday.

Since the first ARRL Field Day in 1933, radio amateurs throughout North America have

practiced the rapid deployment of radio communications equipment in environments ranging from operations under tents in remote areas to operations inside Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs). Operations using emergency and alternative power sources are highly encouraged, since electricity and other public infrastructures are often among the

first to fail during a natural disaster or severe weather.

To determine the effectiveness of the exercise and of each participant's operations, there is an integrated contesting component, and many clubs also take part in accompanying leisure activities (camping out, cookouts, etc.). Operations typically last a continuous twenty-four hours, requiring scheduled relief operators to keep stations on the air. Additional contest points are awarded for experimenting with unusual modes, making contacts via satellite, and involving youth in the activity. Ω



SAVE THE DATES

Sundays @ 5:30 PM
Weekly Butts County
FM Training Net

June 6
Monthly BCECA
Meeting, Tim Kersey
Pavilion
7:00 PM

June 25-26
Field Day, Tim Kersey
Pavilion, Butts Co.
Rec Center, Jackson



UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

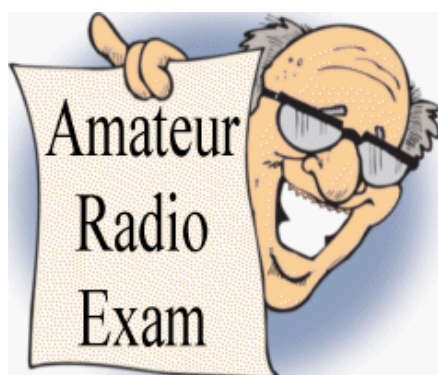
June**June 4** — Atlanta Hamfest**June 6** — Pre-meeting dinner and fellowship. Mesquite Grill, 5:30
Monthly Club Meeting & Training. 7:00 PM. Tim Kersey PavilionProgram: *Field Day Training***June 21** — Newton County Club Meeting.
NC Law Enforcement Center, 7:00 PM.**June 25** — Field Day & Family Picnic, Tim Kersey Pavilion**June 26** — Field Day, Tim Kersey PavilionJuly**July 4** -- Independence Day**July 11** — Pre-meeting dinner and fellowship. Mesquite Grill, 5:30
Monthly Club Meeting & Training. 7:00 PM. Fire Station #7**July 16** — Hungry Hams, Lunchbox Restaurant, 7:00 AM
HamCram, Fire Station #7, 8:30 AM
V.E. Session, 4:00 PM**July 19** — Newton County Club Meeting.
NC Law Enforcement Center, 7:00 PM.

Field Day Training

Monday, June 6 — 7:00 PM

TIM KERSEY
VOLUNTEER MEMORIAL PAVILION

Tim Kersey Pavilion

Spalding CountySaturday,
June 11
9:00 AMSpalding Regional
Hospital
601 South 8th Street
Griffin, GAButts CountySaturday,
July 16
9:00 AMButts County
Recreation Center
Ernest Biles Drive
Jackson, GAHenry CountySaturday,
July 16
9:00 AMPiedmont Henry
Medical Center
1133 Eagle's
Landing Parkway
Stockbridge, GA



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

May is turning out to be a fairly active month for us. Charlie Norman, a Red Cross Disaster Team member from Griffin, filled in for Jessica McFadden and gave the group a good overview of the Red Cross' programs. I noticed he was cornered by several members after the meeting. I spoke to him about the HamCram coming up in July. Maybe we can get him licensed.

I was very proud of our team and their enthusiastic response to the Jackson Football Alumni 5K held on May 7th. We had a total of sixteen hams involved. Melvin and Mark did a great job operating the net control station. They had some serious QRM at their location; we will definitely set NCS up at a different (quieter) spot next time. It was a learning experience for us and for the event organizers. The Race Chairman, Montez Morgan, was very happy with our efforts. He wants us back next year. We need to remember to block Fairground Street next time. Thanks to: KM4NRP, KM4QML, KM4KZN, W4DED, KK4QJR, KK4BKF, KK4SUO, KW4AQ, KM4DHZ, KA3ZPM, KM4MHW, KM4HOS, KA8LAD, KM4QMH and KJ4PLJ.

The event turned out to be a good training exercise, demonstrating how effective operating simplex can be. With the turnout we had, we may count it as our Simulated Emergency Test for 2016.

Two more members of our ARES team have completed all of the "required" and "recommended" Butts County ARES courses. Thanks to: KA3ZPM and KM4QML. We still have quite a few members who need one or two courses for a clean-sweep. CERT training is not a requirement but it is encouraged. You can check



your GA ARES Database Page (<https://gaares.org/cgi-bin/login.pl>) to view your training accomplishments. If you have any questions or are having trouble with GA ARES Database access, please let me know.

Our membership currently stands at 23 ACTIVE, 5 INACTIVE and 5 PENDING. I expect the PENDING roll will decrease soon as we add three new members to our ACTIVE roster. Half way through the month we have had 6 Nets (15 Hrs.) and 2 Training Events (38 Hrs.) and 1 Public Service Event (84 Hrs.).

Remember that two of our major events are coming in June. The Annual Family Picnic will be held again in conjunction with Field Day. The picnic will begin at 4:30 PM on Saturday (June 25); our special guest "Burger Meister" will be Mark Baker (KM4NRP) this year. Darlene Ragon (KK4BKF) is the food coordinator. Let her know what food you will be bringing. Field Day is June 25 and 26, with set-up beginning at 8:30 AM, Tim Kersey Pavilion, Butts County Leisure Services Park. This is an "all hands on deck" event. We will be discussing Field Day and the picnic at the June training.

Amateur Radio Week (June 20 through 26):

Mayor Pippin and the Jackson city council will present our group with a proclamation document on June 7 at 7 PM (Jackson Municipal Court Building). The Butts County Board of Commissioners will present us with a proclamation document at their June 13th meeting at 6:00 PM (Butts County Admin Building). Plan to arrive 15 minutes prior to the events.

June 4th is the Atlanta Hamfest in Jim Miller Park, Marietta, GA. We will probably meet for breakfast somewhere near the hamfest. This is usually a pretty good event with several vendors and a decent tail-gating area.

Thanks again for all you do...

PAT STONECIPHER W4DRT — SILENT KEY

Joseph Oscar (Pat) Stonecipher, 96, of Jackson passed away May 14. Pat was a graduate of Georgia Tech and was retired from Western Union and the GA DOT. He was a POW veteran of WWII, a pilot and ham radio operator.

"I first met Pat on the air shortly after we moved to GA and I got my station back on the air," commented Buzz K3GWK. "He was the Net Control Station for the "Reddy Kilowatt" net that meet every afternoon at 22:00 GMT on 75 meters. He told me then that he lived in Jackson, but we never met until one afternoon when Terry Atha and I went to Pat's home to help get his G5RV back up in the air. He is in my log on May 22, 2009 at 22.05 GMT."

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MAY MEETING FEATURED RED CROSS DISASTER RELIEF

Our May meeting was well-attended with every seat taken. Following our committee reports, Buzz K3GWK introduced Charlie Norman who is a volunteer and Disaster Program Specialist for the Central Midwest District of the Georgia Chapter, American Red Cross.

Charlie is retired from the healthcare profession and has lived at Sun City Griffin for the last 18 years.

According to Charlie, the Central Midwest District (CMD) includes 20 Georgia counties which is twice the number of served counties from 10 years ago. The served area includes around 1,000,000 people. The CMD is the second busiest Red Cross district behind the Metro Atlanta district.

Teddy Roosevelt was the impetus behind the founding of the American Red Cross which has chapters around the world. The Red Cross' three main functions are: Disaster Relief, Health & Safety, and Services to the Armed Forces.

The Red Cross responds to 70,000 disasters in the US each year. These emergencies include fires, earthquakes, storms and hurricanes. Charlie told the Club that his agency responded to 20 Butts County incidents in the past year. There are 9 emergency shelters in Butts County. All told the CMD helped 11,000 people in the past year through 750 disasters with mostly a volunteer force.

The Red Cross works with other volunteers and

agencies such as local fire departments and local ARES groups.

A very important program being undertaken by the CMD is called the "Pillowcase Project." This project, undertaken in conjunction with the Walt

Disney Company, provides pillow cases to local children with Walt Disney characters on one side and emergency preparedness instructions on the other. Kids are encouraged to put together a family "Go Kit" in advance of some natural or

manmade disaster.

The CMD is heavily invested in a shelter program where Ham Radio Operators are a vital communications link to family members outside the affected area.



Charlie Norman, CMD, Red Cross



American Red Cross

The Red Cross doesn't "go it alone" in their disaster response; they coordinate with the Salvation Army, local churches, county agencies and mental health

agencies.

They even provide \$500 to indigent persons for their burial costs.

Charlie spoke about the efficiency of the agency to shuttle donated monies to the victims. "Of every dollar given to the Red Cross, 92 cents gets to the victims," declared Charlie.

Charlie concluded his presentation by stating that the Red Cross needs volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering with disaster relief services call 1-800-REDCROSS.



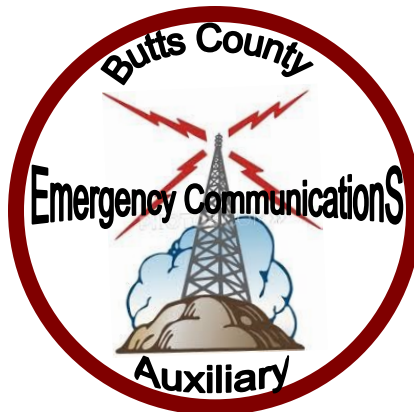
PICS FROM LAST YEAR'S FIELD DAY



Visit our website: www.bcgaares.org

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COMMUNICATIONS AUXILIARY**

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Net Manager
Ken Wallis KM4HOS
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**Net Control Station
Roster**

June
Mark KM4NRP

July
Mark KM4NRP

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)

Monday (9:00 PM) Rockdale Co. ARES Net — 147.21 MHz (162.2 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