

Butts County Georgia Emergency Communications Auxiliary

July 11, 2016

Meeting Held at Fire Station #7 Butts County, Georgia

Attendance at Meeting: Mark Baker; David Burnham; Mark Clark; Tim Clayman; Mike Crowe, Dan Darsey; Ed Hoard; Buzz Kutcher; John Lipscomb; Melvin Mosier; Darlene Ragon; David Ridgeway; Elaine Stachowiak; Anthony Strite; Brent Strite; JD VanSickle; Dennis Wagner; Ken Wallis; Rudy Williams; Glenn Wyatt; Neil Martin

Office of Homeland Security/CERT: Director Glen Goens Information has been passed on to our Club that Glen is planning to start a new CERT training class and that there will be an "Active Shooter" class held shortly; details to follow.

Net Manager's Report: Ken Wallis Our Club still needs volunteers to be Net Control for the months of September through the remainder of the year. Please consider volunteering, it is good practice to help you get over the nervousness of talking on the radio because you are among friends. Anyone that has the equipment to be Net Control should be volunteering; it is a lot easier to practice now rather than when we are really needed for an event. Please remember to send Ken a weekly report of all the digital nets you check into, no matter where they are. During our weekly Sunday afternoon net a digital message is usually sent for practice; read the message, follow the instructions and send your reply via Winlink communications to Ken, thanks!

VE Team: Dan Darsey Dan reports that he has 12-13 participants signed up for the July 16 Ham Cram and is also expecting 5-6 walk-ins to upgrade.

Repeater/Technical Committee: Mike Crowe Our duplexers were given to Buzz today to be taken to a technician for assessment and repair.

Skywarn Coordinator: Elaine Stachowiak There will be a webinar held at Fire Station #7 Thursday night July 21, 2016 sponsored by the ARRL on the upcoming Hurricane season and how instrumental Ham Radio Operators are during an event. Monitor the Yahoo Group for further details.

Field Day Committee: Dennis Wagner All members of the Club would like to express deep gratitude to David Burnham and Randy Beacham for their service for many years as Field Day Coordinators! Furthermore Club members want to send thanks to Dennis Wagner for volunteering to become Field Day Chairman for 2017. Please be willing to offer your assistance to Dennis as he undertakes this challenging position.

Membership Chairman: Ken Wallis 36 active Club members and 4 CERT/MSAR

Public Information Officer: Ed Hoard The latest issue of the 'Repeater' has been sent to members, is on the Yahoo Group and is posted at our Club website. Thank you Ed for all the hard work you put into the newsletter. It is certainly a newsletter our Club can be proud of! Ed is always looking for stories of note to add to the newsletter; consider writing an article to share.

The Jackson Radio Station donated \$600.00 worth of air time devoted to the advertisement of our Field Day activities; a motion was proposed and passed later in this meeting to honor their efforts.

EC Report: Buzz Kutcher Our Club will be participating in an exercise with Spalding County in October 2016. This activity will be in conjunction with a Strategic National Stockpile drill. Watch for further information as it is updated. Mark Clark graciously volunteered to be the representative from ARES to coordinate with Jackson High School for the 2017 Jackson High School Football Fundraising 5K Race. Thank you Mark for serving in this position! Last month we had 10 Nets (28 Hours); 7 Drills and Training (625 Hours); Zero EM Ops; Zero Public Service; 1 Misc Activity (9 Hours). Total Hours 634 for June 2016

Treasurers' Report: John Lipscomb General Fund \$436.42 Repeater Fund \$1230.00 Total Funds \$1666.42 Expenditures for last month were: \$228.39 for Club tee shirts and patches; \$100.00 for Field Day supplies; \$165.00 for embroidery of names and call signs onto our tee shirts.

Club Old Business: With the change over in ownership of Sylvan Grove Hospital we have a new facilities engineer to work with but there are no pending changes in the way we assist them at present.

Buzz reminded us to keep up our personal membership with ARRL because if our Club maintains a certain percent of ARRL members we receive many benefits as an ARRL affiliated Club.

The Club is still looking for members willing to serve as Club Officers for the next term. Please consider taking a position of leadership in our Club as fresh ideas and leadership enriches us all. John Lipscomb has agreed to serve another term as Club Treasurer and Darlene Ragon has agreed to continue as Club Secretary.

Ken Wallis, in his capacity on the Hospital Team, has shared that Hospital Team members will need to participate in an abbreviated HIPPA class to educate us on protecting patient privacy during our service as Ham Radio Operators for the Hospital.

Ken also requested that there be further Fldigi and Flmsg training held for the Hospital Team and Emergency Operations staff at the 911 center; details to follow.

Club New Business: Ed Hoard made a motion that the Club produce 3 plaques at \$35.00 each in recognition of the service to our Club by: The Jackson Progress-Argus Newspaper; our Club Web Host, James Walters and the Jackson Radio Station. JD VanSickle seconded the motion and it was passed by all members as a yes vote.

Dennis Wagner has agreed to be the Field Day Chairman for 2017; many thanks to Dennis!

Ed Hoard has volunteered to be the Chairman for our second 'Newbie Night' activity to be held on Monday evening July 25, 2016 at Fire Station #7.

The Club is in need for programs of education or general interest activities for August, September, October and November. Contact Buzz Kutcher with suggestions of classes.

There will be a South Metro Area digital training class held at the Henry County Hospital campus: August class will be on Winlink; October class to be on Fldigi. Contact Mike Crowe for further information.

Coming Events: Ham Cram July 16, 2016 at Fire Station #7 beginning at 8:30 am.

Volunteers are still needed for the Covington Century Bike Race to be held on Saturday July 30, 2016. Contact Jim Marston, N4DOI@aarl.net to volunteer.

Spin for Kids Race will be held on Sunday October 16, 2016 in Rutledge, Georgia. Contact Bill Ronay, billronay@plantationcable.net to volunteer.

Monthly Program: Georgia ARES Database and Review of our Field Day Activities

Raffle Funds Raised this Meeting: Club members raised \$52.00 this evening for the Repeater Fund. Please consider making a donation of useful items to the Raffle fund raising; contact Anthony Strite to donate. Thank You!