



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

SEPTEMBER 2016



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2016 S.E.T. ACTIVATED NUMEROUS EM PERSONNEL

Eleven members of our Club participated in a county-wide emergency drill on August 18. This drill will count as our Simulated Emergency Test (SET) for 2016.

The scenario involved a person's inadvertently puncturing a natural gas pipeline in rural eastern Butts County. There were simulated injuries and a simulated fire broke out.

Participating in the drill were officials of Dixie Pipeline, Butts County OHS/EMA, Butts County Public Safety and the Butts County Emergency Communications Auxiliary.

The day before the drill we ascertained that we could communicate from the incident site with our repeater but that we needed to use the McDonough repeater for our digital communications.

Three radio stations were set-up: (1) at the Incident Command Site, (2) the 911 Center/EOC and (3) Sylvan Grove Hospital.

Timely emergency information (traffic) was passed between all stations and the drill was a valuable learning experience for all of us involved.

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Club members going over last minute details before being briefed by Chief Glen Goens



Darlene (KK4BKF) handling traffic at Sylvan Grove Hospital



Chief Glen Goens briefing all participants prior to the exercise

SAVE THE DATES

Sundays @ 5:30 PM
Weekly Butts County
FM Training Net
147.285- PL131.8

September 12
Monthly BCECA
Meeting, Fire Station
#7, 7:00 PM

September 17
Hungry Hams
Lunch Box, 7:30 AM
V.E. Session at Butts
County Rec Center
9:00 AM



UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

**September**

September 12 — Pre-meeting dinner and fellowship. Mesquite Grill, 5:30

Monthly Club Meeting & Training. 7:00 PM. Fire Station #7

September 17 — Hungry Hams, Lunchbox Restaurant, 7:00 AM

V.E. Session, Butts County Rec Center, 9:00 AM

September 20 — Newton County Club Meeting

NC Law Enforcement Center, 7:00 PM.

September 24 — Covington HamFest

Berry's Christmas Tree Farm, Covington

October

October 3 — Pre-meeting dinner and fellowship. Mesquite Grill, 5:30

Monthly Club Meeting & Training. 7:00 PM. Fire Station #7

October 15 — Hungry Hams, Lunchbox Restaurant, 7:00 AM

October 16 — Spin For Kids, Morgan County

October 18 — Newton County Club Meeting.

NC Law Enforcement Center, 7:00 PM.

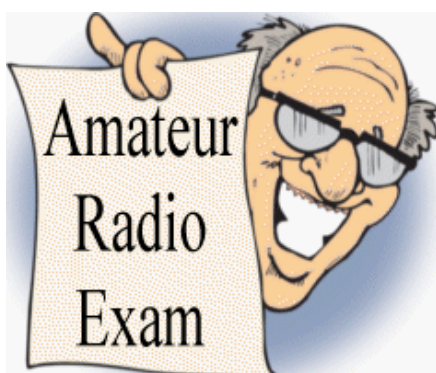
**Online Articles of Interest to Hams**

The IComm IC 7300 has made such a splash with its low price and high-tech SDR features—now Yaesu has come out with its response, the Yaesu FT 991A. And the price is even lower!

<http://qrznow.com/the-new-yaesu-ft-991a/>

There are several good internet “TV” shows that help hams hone their skills. One of the better ones is “Ham College.”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KUmsHP-NT44>

**Spalding County**

Saturday,
September 10

9:00 AM

Spalding Regional
Hospital

601 South 8th Street

Griffin, GA

Butts County

Saturday,
September 17

9:00 PM

Butts County
Recreation Center

Ernest Biles Dr.

Jackson, GA



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

There was a lot of activity this month. August 15th our ARES group participated in a major ARES/MARS (Military Affiliate Radio System) COMEX. Ken (KM4HOS) operated his home station as our Net Controller. Eight of our members participated in the exercise and both the 911 station and the station at Sylvan Grove Hospital were activated. Check-ins were made to our local FM net on the WX4BCA repeater and on HF using 60 meter and 75 meter phone.

Then on August 17th and 18th we participated in a full scale county exercise. The exercise was a joint effort of Dixie Pipeline, the Butts County OHS/EMA and the county's Department of Public Safety. We had 11 members of our ARES team involved, operating three stations (911 Center/EOC, Sylvan Grove Hospital and Mike's portable station at the Incident Command site). Several messages were passed between the stations and WL2K email messages were sent to OHS/EMA Director Goens. The exercise was a good test for us and pointed out several issues we need to resolve. Our redundancy capabilities came in handy. Testing on the 17th proved we could communicate to the 911 Center using the Jackson repeater and Simplex but to get the best coverage from the Incident Command site we decided to use the WA4ASI repeater in Covington. The "hot wash" session was held at Fresh Air BBQ. This exercise will be considered our SET for 2016.

On Saturday, 27 AUG, in cooperation with Clayton/Henry ARES, we held a "Digital Workshop" session on Winlink 2000 using Winlink Express. Mike Crowe (AJ4GU) did a great job as the instructor and the folks who attended got Winlink Express loaded and set-up, message form and templates installed and also got to see how WINMOR (HF) operates. There was an opportunity to assemble and discuss NVIS antennas and we will be having a NVIS antenna build session soon. Thanks to Roy (AJ4GT), the

Clayton/Henry EC, for arranging the use of the Clayton FD training facility. WOW!

Our Field Day chairman, Dennis (KM4MHW), held his first FD2016 planning meeting and has many of the committee positions filled. Remember, we all need to be working on making contacts on PSK and JT65 to help our score next year.

Our ACTIVE ARES membership is now 30 (+6) with 6 PENDING. We just need ARES/RACES registrations completed to get those PENDING folks on the ACTIVE roster. There are 4

INACTIVE, all members of the MSAR Team.

We had five training events in August (169 Hours) and two miscellaneous activities (22 Hours). A total of eight nets: four FM Phone and four WL2K tests (33 Hours). When you send your Sunday WL2K test message to WX4BCA and WX4GMA remember to use the ICS-213 form.

In Metro ARES District news; our District Emergency Coordinator, Jim Millsap (WB4NWS) has resigned and a new DEC appointed. Hal Collier (W4IGE), currently the Gwinnett County EC, will replace Jim.

"Spin for Kids" bike ride is coming up on October 16th. This event is held in Morgan County and is a great way to practice "portable operations". It is a high profile event and raises a pile of money for Camp Twin Lakes. This is a great Public Relations opportunity for Amateur Radio. If you can help out, let me know. The Stone Mountain Hamfest is the weekend (yep two days!) of November 5 and 6. Lots of vendors, tail-gating and some good forums. Gordon West, WB6NOA (via SKYPE) and David Freese, W1HKJ (author of Fldigi), will be featured speakers. This is a great time to pay your ARRL dues and get a free "Repeater Directory." Just see Doctor Gene at the ARRL booth. Hamfest tickets are available on-line.

Next meeting is SEPTEMBER 12 – date changed due to Labor Day.

Thanks for all you do.
73,
Buzz Kutcher K3GWK

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MONICA LADSON (KK4KUF) FEATURED IN SEPTEMBER QST MAGAZINE

Most of us have already heard about Monica's (KK4KUF) being selected for the Gene Sallee ARRL Scholarship. But Monica, along with all the other scholarship winners, was featured in the September, 2016 issue of QST Magazine!

We are, indeed, proud of Monica for her interest in and love for amateur radio and her active involvement in the BCECA.

Of course, proudest of all is her grandfather, Dan W4DED!

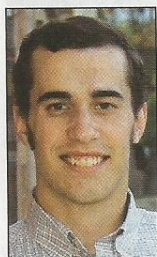
Monica is currently a freshman at Georgia State University in Atlanta majoring in Business.



Monica J. Ladson
KK4KUF, Eugene
"Gene" Sallee,
W4YFR, Memorial
Scholarship



Monica J. Ladson,
KK4KUF, Eugene
"Gene" Sallee,
W4YFR, Memorial
Scholarship



Joseph Lawrence,
KG7PAY, Wilse
Morgan, WX7P,
Memorial ARRL
Northwestern
Division Scholarship



Benjamin D. Lee, K7JS, Alfred
E. Friend, Jr.,
W4CF, Memorial
Scholarship



Thomas E. Lee,
KK6RLU, Charles
N. Fisher Memorial
Scholarship



John J. Light,
KM4ICZ, IRARC
Memorial Joseph P.
Rubino, WA4MMD,
Scholarship



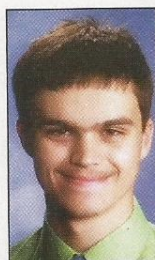
James R. Lithgow,
KC9LXT, Edmond
A. Metzger
Scholarship



Alexander M. Lozada, KK4THC,
Outdoor Hams
Scholarship



Duncan MacLachlan,
KU0DM, Irving W.
Cook, WA0CGS,
Scholarship



George E. Main IV, W1GIV,
New England
F.E.M.A.R.A.
Scholarship



Jordyn L. Mann, W1KXJ,
Androscoggin
Amateur Radio Club
Scholarship



Erik J. Maplethorpe,
KC9PDU,
Chicago FM Club
Scholarship



Benjamin R. Meisenzahl,
KD2AMO, Henry
Broughton,
K2AE, Memorial
Scholarship



Randal J. Michnovicz,
KF5JIT, Dayton
Amateur Radio
Association
Scholarship



Krista Mills,
KC8VLJ, Albert
H. Hix, W8AH,
Memorial
Scholarship



Magdalena L. Moses, KM4EGE,
ARRL Foundation
General Fund
Scholarship



Brian T. Nuss,
WH6ETE, Bill
Salerno, W2ONV,
and Ann Salerno
Memorial
Scholarship



Tech Notes

Whit WA4VBX

KNEE PAD PROTECTOR REPAIR

I noticed that there was a split (see fig.1 & 2) in the stem of the button to which the leg strap attaches. If left un-repaired and it fails, the button will become unattached and one of the leg straps will not be usable.

There is a simple fix for this problem. Get a 4-40 screw (1" long in my case). Drill a small hole about the size of the screw through the center of the button and stem. Insert the screw into the hole with the bolt head along with a washer on the inside and a nut with a washer on the outside. Tighten the nut until there is about 1/16 " of thread showing. Take a hammer and brad the end of the nut to ensure that the nut will not come off. If for some reason you need to remove the screw, just wring it off and replace. This will be the 3rd button stem repair done on my knee protectors.

At some point in time, the strap end will split and not be usable. Replace the strap with a large rubber band. I have been using rubber bands for 2 of my four straps. They work well.

SPLIT IN BUTTON STEM

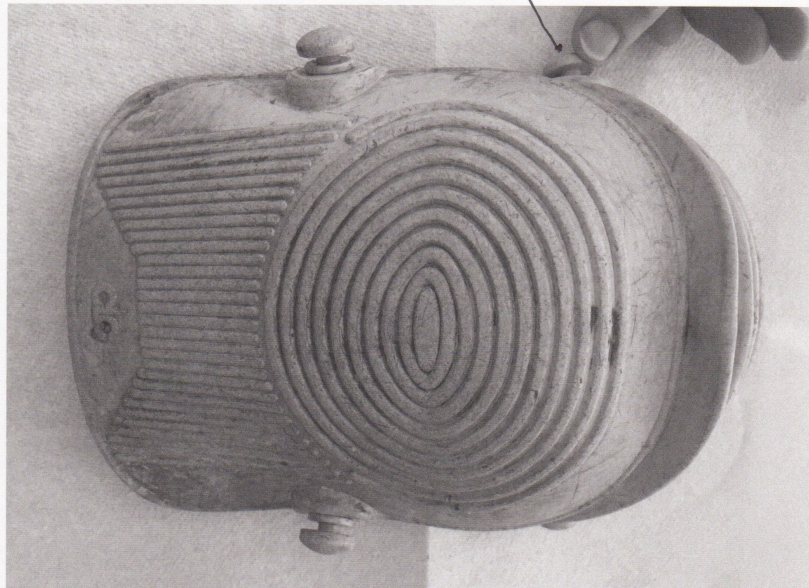


Figure 1 —
Knee Pad Protector





Tech Notes

Whit WA4VBX

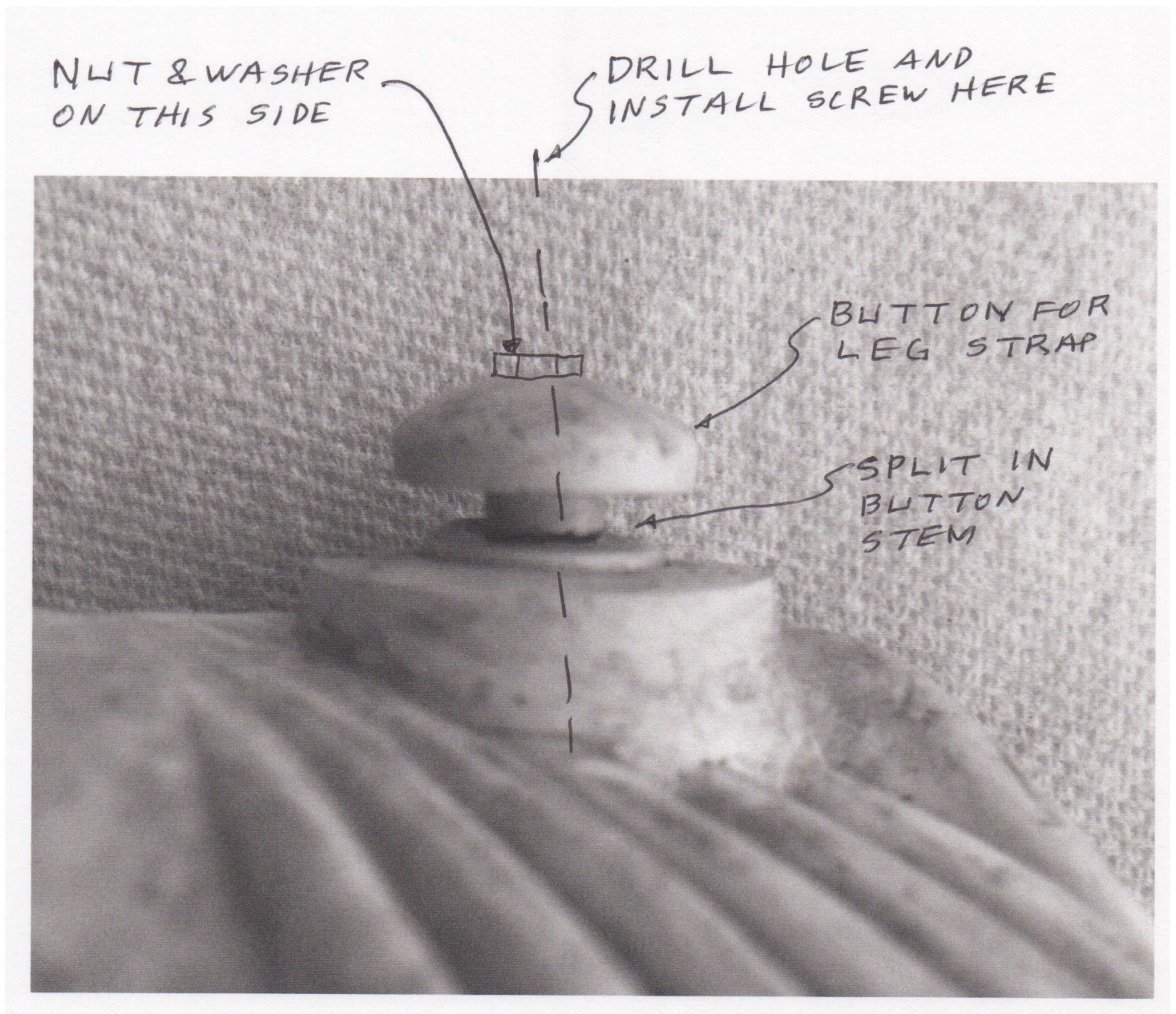


Figure 2 — Blow-up of Button Stem



Largest Hamfest in Georgia



STONE MOUNTAIN HAMFEST

Gwinnett County Fairgrounds / Lawrenceville, Ga.



Nov. 5-6, 2016 Sat: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Sun: 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
2405 Sugarloaf Parkway, Lawrenceville, GA 30045

November 5-6 2016

TailGate, Flea Market, Forums, Door Prizes and Raffle

www.StoneMountainHamfest.com





2016 Amateur Radio 2016 COVINGTON HAMFEST



COVINGTON, GEORGIA

SATURDAY— SEPTEMBER 24

Gates Open to Public 8:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

***FREE VENDOR SPACE / *FREE TAILGATER SPACE
TABLES & CHAIRS ARE NOT PROVIDED — BRING YOUR OWN !
Vendor / Tailgater Set-Up: 7:00 A.M.**

Admission: \$5.00 (12/Under Free)

***EVERYONE PAYS ADMISSION — INCLUDING VENDORS / TAILGATERS**

**** Free Raffle Ticket with Each Admission ****

Free Parking Snacks Available

**BERRY'S CHRISTMAS TREE FARM, 70 MT. TABOR RD., COVINGTON, GA 30014
N 33.62165 W 83.92288**

**** Additional Raffle Tickets **
\$1.00 / Each or (6) / \$5.00**

**NOT NECESSARY TO BE PRESENT
TO WIN 1ST PRIZE**

PRIZE DRAWINGS

**10:00 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
12:00—NOON**

VE TESTING 9 AM - 11 AM

VE Contact: Dan Darsey W4DED dandarsey@yahoo.com

**Talk-In
146.925
(88.5 PL)**

**WA4ASI
Repeater**

**Hamfest
Contact
Vickie Henry
KK4VUG
(770) 597-8042
vbhtbn@hotmail.com**

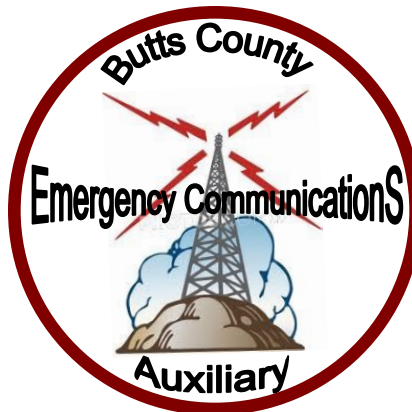
**Newton County Radio Club
<http://ncrcga.org>
<facebook.com/k4ncr>
K4NCR**



Visit our website: www.bcgaares.org

**BUTTS COUNTY EMERGENCY
COMMUNICATIONS AUXILIARY**

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OHS/EMA**
Glen Goens KJ4TV0

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Club Photographer
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Net Manager
Ken Wallis KM4HOS
kawallis@charter.net

**Net Control Station
Roster**

September
Buzz K3GWK

October
Mark Baker

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