

## Butts County Georgia Emergency Communications Auxiliary

September 12, 2016

### Meeting Held at Fire Station #7 Butts County, Georgia

**Attendance at Meeting:** Peter Acevedo; Mark Baker; David Burnham; Mike Crowe; Dan Darsey; Ed Hoard; Buzz Kutcher; Melvin Mosier; Darlene Ragon; David Ridgeway; Chris Southerland, Elaine Stachowiak; Anthony Strite; Brent Strite; JD VanSickle; Ken Wallis; Rudy Williams; Glenn Wyatt; Chuck McCord; Donna McCord; Jarred Henderson; Bob Kaylor.

**Office of Homeland Security/CERT: Director Glen Goens** No Report

**Net Manager's Report: Ken Wallis** November Net Control Operator; Ken Wallis December Net Control Operator; Darlene Ragon January 2017 Net Control Operator; Elaine Stachowiak Thanks to those willing to serve as Net Control Operators.

Ken, our Net Manager, encourages us to continue using the ICS-213 forms for sending digital messages to check in during Nets as this will help us become familiar with them. When a "real" emergency occurs is not the time to learn this form of communication.

**VE Team: Dan Darsey** There will be a VE session this coming Saturday, September 17, 2016 held at the Biles Recreation Center in Jackson, Ga. VE team members need to arrive by 8:45 that morning. Our Club will be assisting with the Newton County VE session held in conjunction with the Newton County Hamfest to be held on September 24, 2016. The Hamfest is being held at the Barry Tree Farm, contact Dan or Buzz for directions as needed.

**Repeater/Technical Committee: Mike Crowe** Our Club has located a certified tower climber to replace the antenna and check all connections at the Sylvan Grove Station; his charge is \$500.00 for this service. We still need to procure a new antenna for this location.

There will be a digital training class held at the Clayton County EOC location on Saturday October 15, 2016. This presentation will cover all aspects of Fldigi communications; please mark your calendars and plan to attend this important training session so kindly offered by Club member Mike Crowe.

**Skywarn Coordinator: Elaine Stachowiak** Two Skywarn classes are scheduled; one to be offered in Pike County on September 21, 2016 and the second one held in Clayton County on October 27, 2016. Check the Yahoo Group Board for time and location.

**Field Day Committee: Dennis Wagner** All Band Captain positions are filled for Field Day 2017 as well as a person to be Safety Monitor; Public Information Officer; Computer Networking Officer and someone to organize the GOTA station. Many thanks to those who volunteered to begin planning on this activity so far in advance! Way to go Dennis!

**Membership Chairman: Ken Wallis** We currently have 43 members in our Club.

**CERT Activities: David Ridgeway** Contact David for registration forms for upcoming CERT classes.

**Public Information Officer: Ed Hoard** Our Club briefly discussed participation in Jackson Alive activities scheduled for Saturday October 29, 2016. There is a \$65.00 charge to set up a booth for this event. We are hoping to work with Butts County CERT members in this activity. More details to follow.

**EC Report: Buzz Kutcher** Strategic National Stockpile activity is scheduled for late October; more details to come. We have 30 registered ARES members in our Club, contact Buzz if you need to register for ARES membership. Hal Collier has been appointed our new District Emergency Coordinator, W4IGE. Buzz Kutcher is searching for any unwanted Linksys WRT54 routers which may be repurposed for HSMM Broad Band. Check your closets or unused electronic boxes in case you may have one.

**Treasurers' Report: John Lipscomb** General Fund \$1021.42 Repeater Fund \$1382.00 Total Funds \$2403.42

**Club Old Business:** Hopefully Elaine Stachowiak's efforts to organize 'National Parks on the Air' activities can resume as the weather cools down a bit for this area. What a hot summer we have experienced!

Lisa Johnson, from WellStar is planning to give a short presentation at our November monthly meeting on any HIPPA Training we may need while serving Sylvan Grove Hospital.

Several Hospital Communication Team members received new ID badges tonight prepared by WellStar.

Ed Hoard displayed and briefly spoke about the recognition plaques our Club created to honor those agencies and individuals that have been supportive of our Club and ARES efforts for Butts County. Thank you Ed for coordinating these presentations!

**Club New Business:** Club members need to decide whether we want to hold our annual Christmas Family Dinner on Thursday December 1<sup>st</sup> or December 8<sup>th</sup> so that Darlene Ragon can notify Buckners' Restaurant.

Buzz Kutcher is encouraging members to suggest a topic for our October 3, 2016 meeting. If you have an interest in a particular subject you would like to learn more about or can share your knowledge by presenting a program please contact Buzz. Buzz puts so much time and effort into our Club members' training that it behooves us to assist when asked to.

We are still assessing interest in holding a Winter Field Day the weekend of January 28-29, 2017. Please let your thoughts be known if you are interested in participating.

It has been suggested that Club members participate in a good natured competition within our membership in an already scheduled Contest. We thought to plan on working the 10 Meter Contest scheduled for December 10-11, 2016. By using the 10 meter contest even our new Technician licensees can have fun in this challenge! Check the ARRL website for further information on this contest.

It was unanimously decided that our Club would not participate in the Butts County Fair this year; partially to not having received an invitation to do so.

Is anyone interested in volunteering to be the Coordinator for the Jenkinsburg "Zombie Run" to be held Friday September 30, 2016? We would need a coordinator and approximately 5-6 Operators. Contact Buzz if you can participate.

**Coming Events:** Hungry Hams Breakfast every third Saturday morning at 7:30 am held at the Lunch Box in Jackson, Ga.

Next meeting is October 3, 2016 at 7 pm at the Butts County Fire Station #7. Many members gather for dinner at the Mesquite Grill in downtown Jackson at 5:30 pm.

"Spin for Kids" October 16, 2016 Contact Bill Ronay at [billronay@plantationcable.net](mailto:billronay@plantationcable.net) to volunteer. A 2m portable base station will be needed for participation in this race.

Stone Mountain Hamfest will be held November 5 & 6, 2016 at the Gwinnett Fairgrounds.

Further discussion about the 10m contest will be held at our October monthly meeting.

**Monthly Program:** Our program tonight was a Power Point Presentation on NVIS antennas. Mike Crowe shared examples of the equipment and wiring that members will need to build their own NIVS antennas in an upcoming Tech Saturday activity. The Stone Mountain Hamfest will be a good source of the supplies required to assemble this antenna.

**Raffle Funds Raised this Meeting:** Our Club raised \$55.00 for the Repeater Fund tonight. Please look around for orphaned equipment that would be of use to Hams or donate anything of good value. This month the fresh eggs and honey were the first items to be picked as door prizes. Contact Anthony, N4TZY, to donate items for the raffle.

**Guests at this meeting:** Chuck and Donna McCord; Jarred Henderson; Bob Kaylor