



## 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

JANUARY 2017



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STATE ARES ANNUAL MEETING AT GPSTC, FORSYTH, GA

# GPSTC

GEORGIA PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING CENTER



### SAVE THE DATES

**Sundays @ 4:30 PM**  
Weekly Butts County  
FM Training Net  
147.285- PL 131.8

**January 9**  
Monthly Training  
Meeting, FS#7  
7:00 PM

**January 28**  
Hungry Hams  
Lunch Box 7:00 AM  
Ham Cram  
and V.E. Session FS#7  
8:30 AM & 4:00 PM

**January 21 — 9:30 AM**

**Pre-meeting Breakfast at Denny's I-75 & GA 36  
8:00 AM**

**WX4BCA REPEATER 147.285- PL 131.8**



## UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

January

January 1 — Happy New Year!

January 9 — January Club Meeting, FS #7, 7:00 PM  
Pre-meeting dinner, Mesquite Grill, 5:30 PM

January 14 — Tech Fest, Gwinett County

January 17 — Newton County Club Meeting.

NC Law Enforcement Center, 7:00 PM

January 21 — State ARES Meeting, GPSTC Forsyth, 9:00 AM

January 28 — Ham Cram &amp; V.E. Session, FS #7, 8:30 AM

February

February 2,9,16,23 — General Class, FS #7, 6:30 PM

February 6 — February Club Meeting, FS #7,  
Pre-meeting dinner, Mesquite Grill, 5:30 PM

February 18 — Tech Saturday, Lunch Box 7:30 AM

February 21 — Newton County Club Meeting.  
NC Law Enforcement Center, 7:00 PM

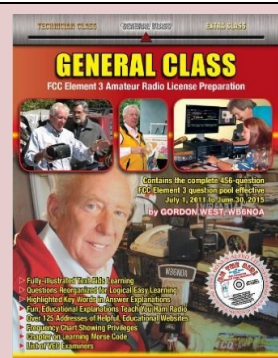
## Online Articles / Sites of Interest to Hams

Gary KN4AQ and new Co-Host David Goldenberg  
W0DHG launch the HamRadioNow EmComm Extra on  
Hurricane Matthew.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2USmVq89iWA>

**General License Prep Class****February 2,9,16,23 March 2,9,16****6:30 — 8:30 PM @ Fire Station #7****V.E. Session — March 18****\*All-Star Faculty**

(\*Actually not—but we'll do our best to get you ready!)







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

Best wishes for a Happy and Healthy 2017 to you, your family and your friends.

I sure did enjoy the Family Christmas Party; it was great to see so many club and family members. Several of our newest members attended; hopefully they got to see why we have such a great group – participation and support. Our first Christmas celebration was a cake, cookies and some beverages after our December meeting in 2010. We have certainly moved on from that small gathering.

Our ARES group had an active year. After beginning the year with 24 members we have added six more operators to our roster. We also added two Assistant ECs; David Ridgeway (KK4SUO) and Mark Clark (KW4VB). David is our liaison to CERT and Mark is our liaison to the Sheriff's Department.

One of our more active "response teams" is the Sylvan Grove team. They have activated the Sylvan Grove station regularly for the monthly Hospital Net and the skill level of that group continues to improve. Thanks to Dan and his hospital team (W4DED, KK4BKF, KK4GNO, KK4KUF, KM4NRP and WX4ED). Not only did our hospital hams activate the station for the monthly nets, they also were active during several state and local exercises. I believe we have one of the best ARES/Hospital relationships in Georgia.

We have had some excellent training opportunities in 2016. A big "thank you" goes to Mike (AJ4GU) for spearheading the digital training sessions. David Benoist (AG4ZR) took some time from his busy schedule to assist Mike at our Fldigi class. David was, at the time, our Section EC. He is now the Georgia Section Manager. We also need to thank Roy Baker (AJ4GT) for making the arrangements for the use the Clayton Co. Fire Department's training facility. Our ARES group also supported the county's EMA/OHS and Fire Department with the Pipeline Explosion Table Top and Full Scale exercises. Both events were great training for all of those involved and included a hard-to-get training session on WebEOC. During the FSX we were able to demonstrate the redundant capabilities of ham radio.

We really had a "hot time" at Field Day. Not the results we had hoped for but considering the

heat, humidity and band conditions, it turned out to be a successful event. We had a total of 405 QSOs for a score of 1900 points and, in spite of the weather; we had 55 participants or visitors. A big thank you to Darlene (KK4BKF) for organizing the Annual Family Picnic held on Saturday afternoon. The FD2017 committee is already hard at work on our next event.

Members of our ARES group participated in several Public Service events in Covington, Morgan County and Atlanta: Covington Century, Spin for Kids, Peachtree Road Race and Publix Marathon. We were also invited to provide some local support to the Red Devil Football Alumni "5K Fun Run." We have been

asked to return in 2017. Mark (KW4VB) is heading up that project. Those activities are a great way to put ham radio out in to the public eye; the event participants are always glad to see us. It is great training, too.

Our ARES team continues to be "one to watch" however, there is STILL one area where we have really fallen short of expectations (mine anyway!). We have thirty members on our ACTIVE roster, but only nineteen members have completed the Basic ARES Course (ARRL 01 or Gwinnett), fourteen have completed IS-

100 and IS-700 and only thirteen members have completed all of the required IS courses. There will probably be an "Aux Comm" class in 2017 and only General class hams with all the Georgia required ARES courses are eligible for this excellent training opportunity. Please check your GA ARES page and verify your training information is correct.

I will admit that I fell short on one of my ARES goals for 2016. We did not get anything installed at the Butts County Public Health office, not even an antenna. I'll keep it on the list for 2017.

As I have said many times, "This is the best hobby in the world." We meet new people, make new friends, we serve our neighbors, advance technology and we have a whole lot of fun. There are no "green fees." We don't have to rely on infrastructure so ham radio is often (usually) the last resort communication system available. "When all else fails..."

Thanks again for all you do...

73, Buzz (K3GWK)

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# **2016 Butts County ARES By the Numbers**

## **NETS**

104 (787.5 Ham Hours)  
538 Individual check-ins to the  
FM Training Net  
Average weekly check-ins —11  
Six stations had over 40 weekly  
check-ins to the voice net

## **DRILLS, TESTS and TRAINING**

55 (1653.5 Ham Hours)  
Three Special Events:  
NPOTA at the Ocmulgee  
National Monument  
Blue Bird & Bluegrass Festival  
Jackson Alive

## **PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS**

8 Events  
(425 Ham Hours)

## **COUNTY TASKING**

3 Tasks  
(87.3 Ham Hours)

## **MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES**

16 Activities  
(365.5 Ham Hours)

## **CURRENT MEMBERSHIP**

31 Active  
7 Pending  
4 Inactive (CERT)

## **TOTAL HAM HOURS OF SERVICE**

3,318.6 Hours  
Economic Impact: \$78,186.00





## PHOTO GALLERY



Sylvan Grove  
Hospital Team



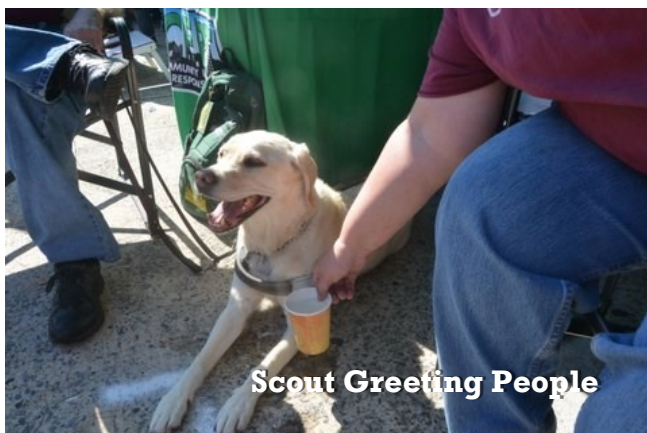
Jackson Alive  
BCECA Booth



Jackson Alive  
BCECA Booth



Jackson Alive  
BCECA Booth



Scout Greeting People

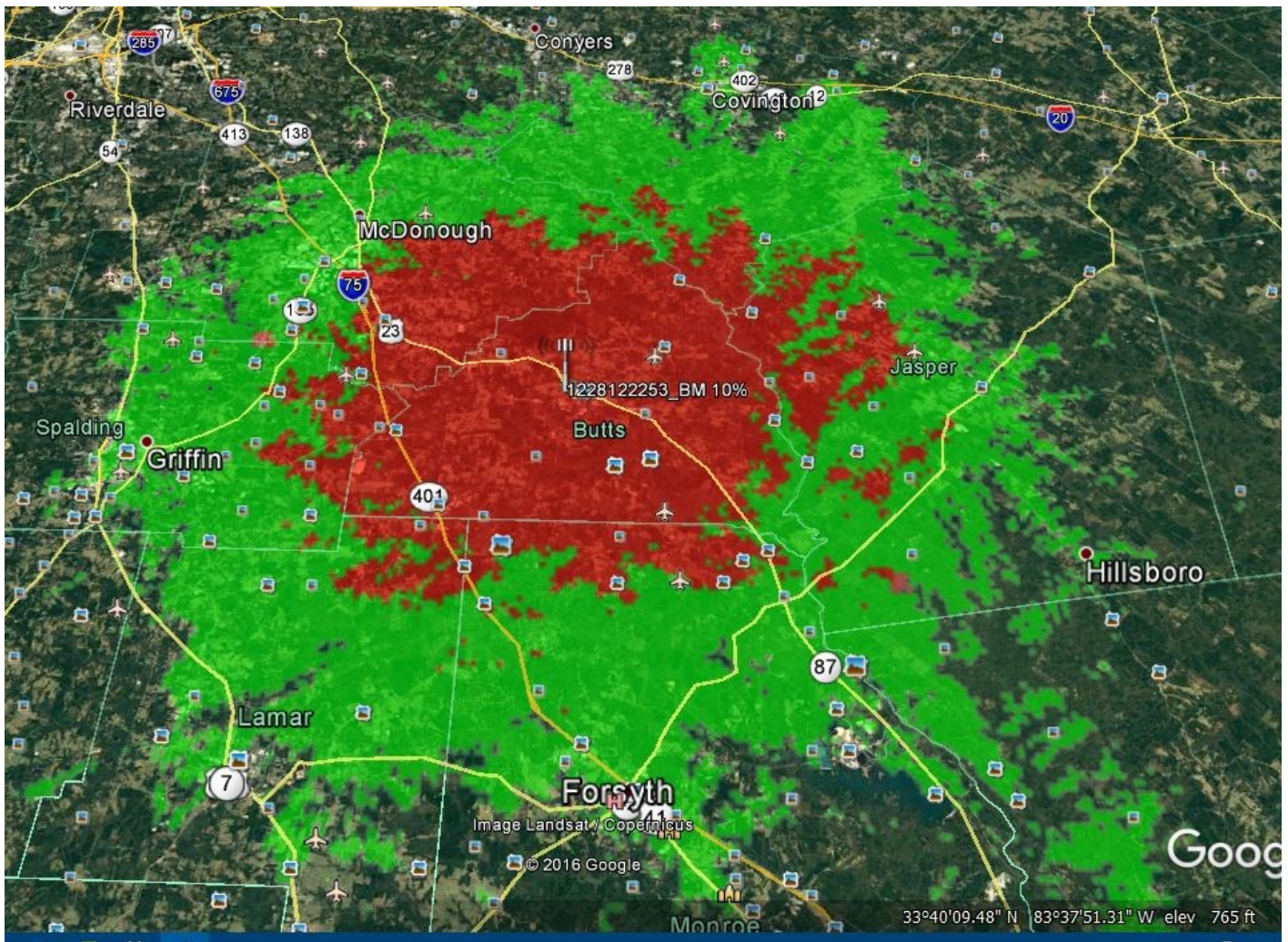


**At right** — Those of you who served in the military, you will recognize this dish as “S.O.S.” Civilians just call it “sausage gravy.” Whatever you call it, you need to taste it at **Heaven Café**, 656 Peeksville Rd. in Locust Grove.





## WX4BCA REPEATER COVERAGE RFINDER MODEL







# Tech Notes

## TECH NOTES — WHIT (WA4VBX)

### Have you ever discovered that the batteries were left too long in an electronic device and that the batteries **LEAKED?**

This situation, if left long enough, can cause the terminals to corrode and not make a good electrical connection. Sometimes a minor cleaning is all that is required. If the terminals are corroded, they will need to be scraped with a knife, ice pick, screw driver, or some other implement. The scraping needs to be as complete as can be done. Sometimes the terminals are hard to get to and are difficult to scrape clean.

After the terminals are scraped as good as possible, put some solder flux on the terminal(s). Don't be stingy with the flux, but don't get carried away either. Heat the flux, and add solder and tin the terminal(s). This method may not look very pretty, but with good electrical connections your electronic device can be put back into service. Be careful and do the soldering as quickly as possible to avoid melting the plastic that holds the terminal(s) in place.

Below are two pictures. One shows a corroded contact, and the other shows the contact that have been tinned. This process has been successfully utilized on flashlights, radios and other battery operated equipment.



Visit our website: [www.bcgaares.org](http://www.bcgaares.org)

**BUTTS COUNTY EMERGENCY  
COMMUNICATIONS AUXILIARY**

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Jenkinsburg, Georgia  
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770-957-0779  
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**Net Control Station Roster**

**January**

Elaine KW4AQ

**February**

Buzz K3GWK

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

**BUTTS COUNTY AMATEUR  
RADIO CLUB**

**President**

Buzz Kutcher K3GWK  
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**Vice-president**

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**Treasurer**

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**Public Information Officer**

Ed Hoard WX4ED  
[edhoard@yahoo.com](mailto:edhoard@yahoo.com)

**Club Photographer**

J.D. Van Sickle KM4DHS  
[jvan12@charter.net](mailto:jvan12@charter.net)

**BUTTS COUNTY EMERGENCY  
COMMUNICATIONS AUXILIARY**

**Emergency Coordinator**

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**A.E.C. / V.E. Team Admin.**

Dan Darsey W4DED  
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**A.E.C. / Sheriff's Dept. Liaison**

Mark Clark KW4VB

**A.E.C.**

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**Technical Coordinator**

Mike Crowe AJ4GU  
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**Director, Butts County**

**OHS/EMA**  
Glen Goens KJ4TV0

**Net Manager**

Ken Wallis KM4HOS  
[kawallis@charter.net](mailto:kawallis@charter.net)

**Weekly Training  
Net:**

**Sunday 21:30 GMT**  
**4:30 EST 5:30 EDT**  
**WX4BCA Repeater**  
**147.285- PL131.8**

**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 (5:30 pm) GA ARES D-Rats Net on the GA ARES Port**

**Sunday (21:30Z) Butts CO FM Training Net — 147.285 MHz (131.8 PL) Winlink: WX4BCA**

**Sunday (22:00Z) GA ARES SSB Net — 3975 KHz (LSB) Winlink: WX4GMA**

**Sunday (9:00 PM) SE Weather Net on D-Rats**

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

**Monday (8:30 pm) Central GA District Digital Net — 3583 KHz (PSK-63/125) Center 1000 Hz**

**Tuesday (7:30 pm) NW GA Digital Net — 3853 KHz (USB) or 7042 (PSK-125) Center 1000 Hz**

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

**Wednesday (9:00 pm) SE Metro 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 **Dr. Ed Hoard** (WX4ED)  
[edhoard@yahoo.com](mailto:edhoard@yahoo.com)