

**Butts County Georgia Emergency Communications Auxiliary**

**May 01, 2017**

**Meeting Held at Butts County Fairgrounds Jackson, Georgia**

**Meeting Began at 18:59**

**Meeting Concluded at 20:45**

**Attendance at Meeting:** Pete Acevedo; Mark Baker; David Burnham; Mark Clark; Mike Crowe; Lee Dale; Dan Darsey; Ed Hoard; Buzz Kutcher; John Lipscomb; Neil Martin; Chuck McCord; Melvin Mosier; Nancy Phillips; Darlene Ragon; Elaine Stachowiak; Anthony Strite; Brent Strite; Ken Wallis; Rudy Williams; Glenn Wyatt; Michelle Burnham; Del Davis; Alan Levy.

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

**Net Manager's Report: Ken Wallis** Mark Clark volunteered to be Net Control for July 2017, many thanks Mark! And our Club will be delighted to have Melvin Mosier as Net Control for August 2017, thank you Melvin! Ken gave a short talk on the benefits of serving as Net Control Operator to become comfortable talking on the radio and handling digital communications so that when we are called upon to work during an emergency we are experienced operators. Once again Ken reminded us to report our digital activity to him each week when we check in digitally to our Club Net.

**VE Team: Dan Darsey** A VE session will be held on Saturday May 13, 2017 at Fire Station #7; contact Dan for registration or further information. Beginning in July there will be 2 Technician Classes held on July 8 and July 15, 2017 in preparation for testing interested parties. Contact Buzz to volunteer your experience by serving as a teacher for a topic.

**Repeater/Technical Committee: Mike Crowe** On May 27, 2017 Mike will be holding a D-Star Training Class so our members will be trained in its' use. (Note: As of May 21<sup>st</sup> this class has been postponed to a later date as it is possible that members may be called upon to deploy.) The D-Star Repeater at the Hospital is ready to go; we are just waiting for Internet service to the Hospital station area. ARES has requested assistance from the Butts County Fire Department with the installation of J Pole antennas on the county fire stations. Butts County EMA provided the antennas; one has been installed at Station #7. A materials list was sent to the Fire Department. This program is on hold until the Fire Department gets involved and purchases the materials needed to complete the installations. Members planning on serving during a call up need to prepare a "Go Kit" to take with them for use, these stations will not have prepositioned radios there. Mike Crowe highly recommended a recent ARRL publication for member's information and training. The book is "Grounding and Bonding".

**Skywarn Coordinator: Elaine Stachowiak** Elaine shared that there has already been 50 plus tornadoes in our state so far this year! She reminded members that any of us are authorized to start up a weather net should the need arise and she is unable to begin one. The NWS projects 12 named hurricanes this season; now is the time for family preparations for hurricane season.

**Hospital Team and Public Health Department Team: Dan Darsey or Ken Wallis** May 7, 2017 is the first Sunday of the month so the Georgia Hospital Net will be held beginning at 1430. Contact Ken to participate. The Public Health Department now has a D-Star radio on site. Thanks to those helping to set up that station.

**CERT Activities: David Ridgeway** No report tonight.

**Field Day Committee: Mark Clark** Our Club has invited Newton and Henry County Clubs to join us for Field Day activities. Field Day is the weekend of June 23-25, 2017. Training and Planning sessions in preparation for Field Day are as follows:  
May 13, 2017 After the scheduled VE Session  
June 10, 2017  
June 17, 2017 Will be a dry run of Field Day

**Membership Chairman: Ken Wallis** Membership Dues for 2017--deadline is May 31, 2017.

**Public Information Officer: Mark Clark** This months' issue of the "Repeater" is on stands now.

**EC Report: Buzz Kutcher** Buzz reminded members that ICS Course 802 has been added to the list of required classes to be taken, please make every effort to take this class and forward your certificate to Buzz.

**Treasurers' Report: John Lipscomb** General Funds \$1122.38 Repeater Funds \$1172.45 Total Funds \$2294.83

**Club Old Business:** Bluebird & Bluegrass Festival Our special event station experienced poor solar conditions during the period of operation. We also encountered antenna problems and a fly away shade shelter. While these were inconvenient none the less a great time was had by all.

Saturday May 6, 2017 is the Jackson High School Alumni's 5K Race. Breakfast will be at 0600 at the Lunch Box and set up to begin at 0715.

**Club New Business:** A motion was made by Buzz Kutcher to renew our Club's ARRL insurance; the motion was seconded by Lee Dale and Nancy Phillips. The motion was passed by all members in attendance.

A motion was made by Nancy Phillips to reimburse Dan Darsey \$27.51 for fuel he used in acquiring equipment for the Public Health Department' Radio Station. The motion was seconded by Buzz Kutcher and passed by all members in attendance.

Dan Darsey presented information on obtaining new Club shirts using an online vendor, HamThreads.com Their phone number is 817-471-4488. Shirts are in the range of \$35.00 and be sure to specifically request the color "Maroon" to be in Club compliance.

Our Club has the opportunity to assist the Butts County Leadership Committee with a 5K "Glow Run" Race to be held July 22, 2017 beginning at 1700. This race is coordinated by Sonja Sands.

Mark Clark discussed the Drop Box account he created for our Club to locate files needed for Club activities/information.

**Coming Events:** The Atlanta Hamfest will be held on June 3, 2017 at the Jim Miller Park.

**Monthly Program:** This month's program was some 'housekeeping' items and planning for upcoming activities.

**Raffle Funds Raised this Meeting:** Our Club raised \$59.00 tonight for the Repeater Funds.

Thanks to all for their generosity! Remember all types of items are welcomed for the Raffle; as our gardens come in contemplate sharing some of your fresh produce as a raffle item. Members who can't garden will certainly compete for tasty veggies, eggs, honey, ect.