



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

MAY 2017



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THE PRESIDENT'S PONDERING—ED HOARD WX4ED



Our April meeting was well-attended as we christened our new location at the Butts County Fairgrounds. The larger meeting space is certainly more comfortable, but the best part is we have room to grow! As we continue to introduce interested persons to our hobby, it's a certainty that our club will continue to grow. The more we grow, the greater is our opportunity to make a difference "when all else fails."

Last month's speaker, Steve Hudson (AA4BW) gave us an interesting look at QRP operation. The FCC's guidelines regarding power is: "use only as much power as you need." We discovered that we really don't need a lot of power to effect a successful contact especially in the digital modes. I was genuinely surprised to see how the math works for QRP in the *minimal* reduction of "S" units with a *maximum* reduction in output power! Thanks again to Buzz for lining up such interesting and informative programs each month.

Our major training opportunity in April was our *Special Event Station* W4D at the Bluebirds and Bluegrass Festival at Dauset Trails. There was a good turn-out for breakfast followed by a large

number of our club members who helped to set-up the radios, antennas and other equipment. After a dry period of no contacts, we thought to check the antenna with an analyzer and found a problem in the antenna system. After putting up a wire dipole at about 15 feet, we were all a little surprised when we started making contacts with New York, Wisconsin, Texas, Canada and South America! Congratulations to Nancy Phillips (K4NEP) who made her very *first* HF contacts and who made the *most* contacts during the day! Many thanks to Elaine (KW4AQ) and her team for getting a special event call sign for the day and for all the work that went into the exercise.

The month of May will be a busy month for the club. We will again this year provide emergency communications for the Jackson High School football team's 5K fundraiser. We provided emcomms last year and are invited for an encore. The date is Saturday, May 6th. Mark Clark (NI2Y) is heading up the effort for the club. We need your participation. Times and pertinent info will be "pushed" to you through the Yahoo Group.

Then on Saturday, May 13 (note the change in the normal date), our V.E. Team, under the leadership of Dan Darsey (W4DED), will hold our bi-monthly V.E. session. Again, the location will be Fire Station # 7..

Thank you for your participation in and commitment to our hobby and our club.

Ed WX4ED



SAVE THE DATES

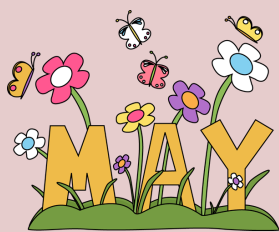
Sundays @ 21:30 Z
Weekly Butts County
FM Training Net
147.285- PL 131.8

June 5
Monthly Training
Meeting, FS#7
7:00 PM

May 13
Hungry Hams
Lunch Box, 7:30 AM
VE Session,
FS # 7, 9:00
AM

WX4BCA REPEATER 147.285- PL 131.8

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR



May

- May 1**— Monthly Meeting
May 6— Jackson Alumni Football 5K
May 9 — CERT Training (course in progress) FS #7,
NC Law Enforcement Center, 7:00 PM
May 9 — Newton County Club Meeting.
NC Law Enforcement Center, 7:00 PM
May 13— Hungry Hams, Lunch Box Restaurant, 7:30 AM
V.E. Session, FS #7 , Field Day Meeting
May 19-21 — Hamvention
May 27—Special Tech Saturday, Look for further announcements

June

- June 3** — Atlanta Hamfest
June 5 — Monthly Club Meeting , FS #7,
Pre-meeting dinner, Mesquite Grill, 5:30 PM
June 13— Newton County Club Meeting.
NC Law Enforcement Center, 7:00 PM
June 10 — FD Tech Saturday, Tech Saturday
June 17— Hungry Hams, Lunchbox Restaurant, 7:30 AM, FD final dry run
Tech Saturday
June 24, 25, 26 — Field Day, Kersey Pavilion



Online Articles / Sites of Interest to Hams



Part 95 Personal Radio Service Reform —

https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-344617A1.pdf

Technician License Prep Classes –NEW



Goodbye HAMCRAM :(
But wait !...Hello 2 day Technican Class :)

Dates & Times

July 8 - 8:00 AM to 4:PM

July 15 - 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Limited Class Size to 14 Students

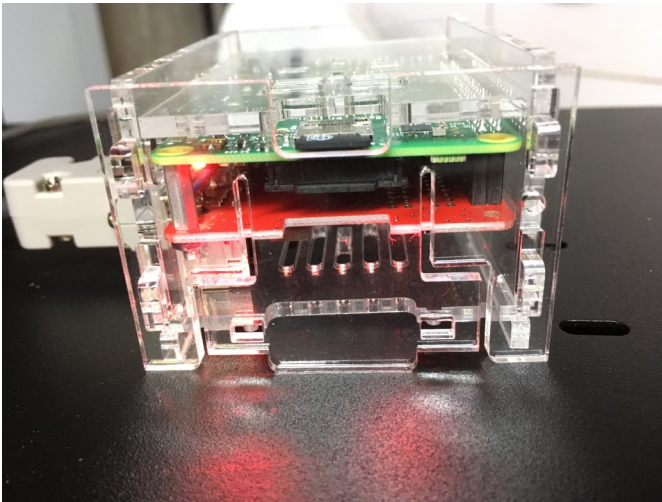
To reserve a seat contact:

Dan Darsey

w4ded@arrl.net



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



I believe our new meeting location will work out just fine. Thanks again to the well connected Nancy Phillips (K4NEP) for making the arrangements. We now have plenty of room for growth so let's all do some recruiting and fill up the seats. We have a two Saturday Technician Class planned for July (8 and 15). This will be a good opportunity to add folks to our great hobby and "talk-up" our group. We have licensed 116 Technicians through our HamCram efforts (17 HamCrams since March 2010) but only gained 22 BCECA members.

Have you ordered your new QRP rig yet? I talked to Karla (KJ4TVP) after the meeting; she is pretty excited about learning CW and getting a QRP station to take along on her future hiking adventures. If you haven't found a QRP radio yet (remember the Atlanta Hamfest is June 3rd), have you tried turning the power down? I have been playing around with JT65, a weak signal digital mode, and have been amazed at where my '20 watts and a wire' signal is being heard.

Our ARES activity for April totaled 500 Ham Hours; the **value of that time was just about \$12,000.**

There were five FM Voice Nets in April. NCS Melvin (KK4QJR) with his assistant Susan Bennett, did a really great job as Net Control. Really quite an accomplishment! Ken (KM4HOS) and Mel spent several hours getting the talking NCS program to work. Thanks guys! Ken was an NCS for the Sunday GA Digital Traffic Net and was pretty busy, so the after net Fldigi tests were suspended for April. There was a message test after the 30 April net; only had one reply. Don't forget about our two digital oppor-



tunities on Sunday; WL2K to WX4BCA (ICS-213 please) and the Fldigi test following FM net. Sending a Telnet WL2K message on Sundays is a great way for members who can't use FM repeater to maintain their required monthly tivity. There were five training opportunities (94 Ham Hours) and one Public Service event (8 Ham Hours); Cheerio Challenge support (AK4EM and N4TZY). We had a pile of Miscellaneous hours this month (300). Thanks to Ken (KM4HOS), Dan

(W4DED), Nancy (N4NEP), Mike (AJ4GU), Mark (NI2Y) and patient X for their hard work installing the new UHF/VHF station at the Butts County Health Department office. Our DPH Nurse Manager, Krystle Whitten, really supports our efforts, arranging the funds and getting permission from the county BOC for us to install the equipment. Ken made the very first net contact when he checked in via D-STAR to the Georgia Public Health Net (30B) on Thursday morning. We now have three "Public Safety Support" stations available in Butts County.

Our ARES roster now stands at thirty-three (+1). There are nineteen ACTIVE members (Jeff Phillips, KN4FRG has completed all six of the required courses) and four PENDING members. The PENDING members must complete a Basic ARES course, IS-100, IS-700 and IS-802 to achieve full ACTIVE status. Only four of our ACTIVE members have completed the four required basic courses. Come on folks, let's get this done. Eight ACTIVE members still need to complete a Basic ARES Course. Remember to include Butts County (EC Buzz Kutcher K3GWK) when you register for the Gwinnett Basic ARES course. Eight need ICS-100, twelve need to complete ICS-700 and eighteen need to complete ICS-802.

Check your GA ARES Database data and make sure your records are accurate. If you have any questions, please see me after the meeting.

We still have two open meeting presentation slots; October and November. Elaine is working on Tom Rauch (W8JI) and I have contacted Jim Reed (N4BFR) to see if he is available to talk to our group about the RaspberryPi as it relates to ham radio. A RaspberryPi board is the heart of our new D-STAR repeater. The Basic CERT class will continue until May 30.

That's about it from Jenkinsburg Station. (Weather Underground ID: KGAJEN-K12)





FIELD DAY — 2017

The 2017 Annual Field Day event is approaching.

This year we have prepared well ahead of time and we hope the effort pays off.

Our band captains, Rudy /KA8LAD and Elaine/ KW4AQ are ready to go on the 40 and 80 M bands. the 20 M band will be ready if the propagation leads us there.

Our team has committed their supplies and resources.

The networking and logging exercise has been completed.

Our nearby Southern Crescent and Newton Ham Clubs have been invited to participate this year. We look forward to a good response and participation.

Sign up sheets for operators and loggers are in progress. We need more commitments if we are to cover the 24 hour period on the air. The schedule sheets will be available at our meetings so please sign up early. Also, you may e-mail Mark at NI2Y@arrl.org to volunteer.

A picnic with home cookin' was unanimously recommended and Darlene will be assigning the food items. Please reply to her requests for food items.

73,

Mark/ Field Day Coordinator



Field Day Tech Saturday— The Field Day team sets up their laptops for a networked Field Day Contest Log

Success !

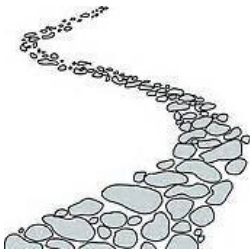
Persistence and collaboration paid off as individual laptops quirks were circumvented and the combined know how of our team solved logging software challenges.





THE PATH TO THE ARES REQUIREMENTS

Members are encouraged please make it a priority to complete the FEMA online ICS basic classes 100.b; 200.b; 700.a; 800.b and 802 as soon as possible. You are missing out on many continuing education opportunities by not having these basic classes. Here is the address to the site to access the classes. <http://training.fema.gov/>



Interactive study, downloadable materials and online tests are available for study and course certification.

Printable certificates are provided online with each successful online course completion. Please forward a copy of each completion certificate by email to Buzz at K3GWK@arrl.net. Members are encouraged to first complete the Gwinnett County Georgia Amateur Radio Emergency Service Basic Emergency Communications (Extracted from the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Program EC001). Remember to choose the Gwinnett County Course instead of other Georgia counties

Links:Course: http://www.gwinnettares.org/wpcontent/uploads/2017/03/training/gwinnett_ares_basic_training.pdf

Test: <http://www.arestest.org/>

FEMA Training

Please note that the IS Program now requires a FEMA SID to be used instead of your SSN. If you do not have a SID. Remember to print your SID

card for your records.

<https://cdp.dhs.gov/femasid>

IS-100.B: Introduction to Incident Command System, ICS-10 This course introduces the Incident Command System (ICS) and provides the foundation for higher level ICS training. This course describes the history, features and principles, and organizational structure of the Incident Command System. It also explains the relationship between ICS and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

IS-200.B: ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents This course is designed to enable personnel to operate efficiently during an incident or event within the Incident Command System (ICS). ICS-200 provides training on and resources for personnel who are likely to assume a supervisory position within the ICS.

IS-700.A: National Incident Management System (NIMS) An Introduction This course introduces and overviews the National Incident Management System (NIMS). NIMS provides a consistent nationwide template to enable all government, private-sector, and nongovernmental.

S-800.B: National Response Framework, An Introduction This course introduces participants to the concepts and principles of the National Response Framework.

Visit our website: www.bcgaares.org

**BUTTS COUNTY EMERGENCY
COMMUNICATIONS AUXILIARY**

348 Patrick Circle
Jenkinsburg, Georgia
30234
770-957-0779
wx4bca@arrl.net

Net Control Station Roster

May

Darlene KK4BKF

June

Buzz K3GWK

July

Mark NI2Y

August

Melvin KKQJR

September

Open

If you'd like to serve as NCS, please
email Ken (KM4HOS), Net Manager:

**BUTTS COUNTY AMATEUR
RADIO CLUB**

President

Ed Hoard WX4ED
edhoard@yahoo.com

Vice-president

Elaine Stachowiak KW4AQ
ubudogems@hotmail.com

Secretary

Darlene Ragon KK4BKF
lragon@aol.com

Treasurer

John Lipscomb IV KA3SME
john.lipscomb@delta.com

Public Information Officer

Mark Clark NI2Y
NI2Y@arrl.net

Club Photographer

J.D. Van Sickle KM4DHS
jvan12@charter.net

Weekly Training Net:

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

**BUTTS COUNTY EMERGENCY
COMMUNICATIONS AUXILIARY**

Emergency Coordinator

Buzz Kutcher K3GWK
k3gwk@arrl.net

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

Dan Darsey W4DED
w4ded@arrl.com

A.E.C. / CERT Team Liaison

David Ridgeway KK4SUO
dpridgeway@bellsouth.net

A.E.C. / Sheriff's Dept. Liaison

Mark Clark KW4VB
mercer17@live.com

A.E.C.

David Burnham AK4EM
burnham1078@gmail.com

SKYWARN Coordinator

Elaine Stachowiak KW4AQ
ubudogems@hotmail.com

Technical Coordinator

Mike Crowe AJ4GU
aj4gu@bellsouth.net

Director, Butts County

OHS/EMA
Glen Goens KJ4TV0

Net Manager

Ken Wallis KM4HOS
kawallis@charter.net

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 **Mark Clark (NI2Y)**
NI2Y@arrl.net



EDITOR'S NOTES



Thank you !

I wish to express my hearty thanks to all who participated in the 3rd Annual Jackson Football Alumni 5 K and the Bluebirds and Bluegrass Festival.

Everyone was prompt, enthusiastic, efficient, helpful, professional, patient, and involved. This event is just an example of the ability and



Dear Fellow Club Members,

Please accept my sincere apology for this late May edition of The Repeater.

As I noted in the past , Ed Hoard was and is a tough editor to follow.

Mark/NIZY

P.S.

An excuse list will only be offered on an individual request basis.)

