

# THE REPEATER

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## November 2017

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.

## ARES Activity Reports – Where do the reports go and who receives them?

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KE4QCM - Tom Fuller compiles ARES activity reports from all areas of Georgia and sends them to ARRL headquarters.

Butts County

348 Patrick Circle  
Jenkinsburg, Georgia  
30234

770-957-0779  
wx4bca@arrl.net





### NOVEMBER

- 4 & 5 - Stone Mountain Hamfest (Breakfast?)
- 6 - Monthly Club Meeting, Exchange Club  
Pre-meeting dinner, Mesquite Grill - 5:30 PM
- 11 - North Fulton Club's HamJam - Tickets on-line
- 11 - Veteran's Day
- 18 - Hungry Hams - 7:30 AM, VE Session - 8:45 AM
- 23 - Thanksgiving



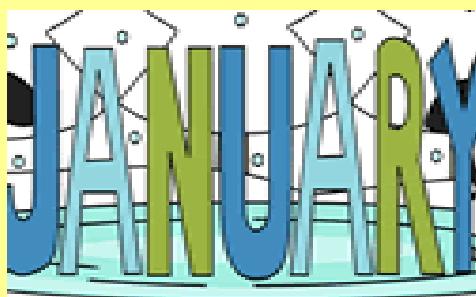
### DECEMBER

- 7 - Family Christmas Dinner (7th Anniversary) -  
Buckner's Restaurant - 6:30 PM
- 16 - TECH SATURDAY - D-Star Training - 9:00 AM
- 25 - \*\*\*\*\***CHRISTMAS**\*\*\*\*\*



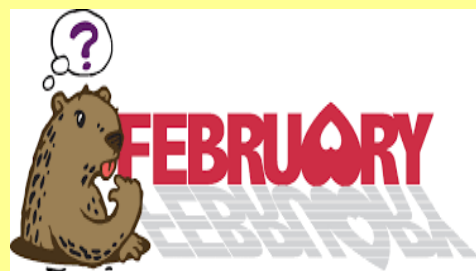
### JANUARY

- 8 - Monthly Club Meeting - Exchange Club - 7:00 PM  
(rescheduled due to New Year's Day)
- 13 - Georgia ARES Meeting (GPSTC) - 9:30 AM
- 27 - Tech License Class - Fire Station 7 - 8:45 AM



### FEBRUARY

- 3 - Tech License Class and Special VE Session  
(Fire Station 7) - 9:00 AM
- 5 - Monthly Club Meeting - Exchange Club - 7:00 PM
- 17 - Tech Saturday - 8:45 AM



**\*\*Hungry Hams meet on the 3rd Saturday at The Lunchbox restaurant in Jackson (07:30)\*\***

# MEMBER BEACON



The November Repeater features our on Buzz Kutcher, K3GWK. Let's get to know him better through his personal perspective of the diverse hobby of HAM radio.

Thank you Buzz for your contribution to our club and *The Repeater*

## Buzz Kutcher — K3GWK AKA Buzz and Buzzo

Name: George W. Kutcher, Jr. (AKA: Buzz)

In which year were you first licensed? (Which one?)

1971 as WN3QIQ (Novice)  
1985 as KA3NUB (Technician) – Commodore 64 Computer did it  
1988 as N3GKP (Technician Plus) – Joined KVHF Club  
1998 as N3GKP (General) – Elmer, W3AXC finally taught me Morse code  
1998 as N3GKP (Advanced)  
1999 as K3GWK (Vanity Call)  
2000 as K3GWK (Amateur Extra)

What aspect of HAM radio first interested you in the hobby?

A family friend was a ham, W3ZYM, and he got me interested, just never took the time to learn the code. In the Coast Guard we had a group studying Morse code and that is what caused me to take the first of several Novice tests. I never really got the CW bug though; Tech-Plus and joining the Keystone VHF Club in York, PA sealed the deal. Great club with plenty of Elmers. (Like our club)

What type of radio was your first radio?

Johnson Ranger I transmitter and a National NC-270 receiver (Still have the NC-270). I had a Johnson Viking II but never got it on the air. Traded it for the Ranger which I wish I still had. (Real radios glow in the dark)

What is your favorite radio?

ICOM IC-746PRO (Current HF Rig)  
I have owned a Kenwood TS-520S – good radio also.

Which aspect of HAM radio interests you most now?

Pretty much everything: EMCOMM, DX'ing and Contesting  
Learning about and operating new modes  
Social aspect and club life is fun

What future area of HAM radio would you consider learning more about?

Satellite operations  
Slow Scan Amateur Television

Are any of your relatives licensed HAMs ?

Not that I know of, my Dad had a license in the 20's

## BUZZ KUTCHER – K3GWK

**What is your most interesting contact?**

QSO on 20 meters with KC4AAA, the AMUNDSEN-SCOTT South Pole Station in Antarctica, QRP on SSB – beat a big pile up

**Are there any licensing and/or operating regulations that you would like to see changed?**

Not sure about regulations changes, I do believe that the ARRL's Official Observer program needs revised to make it more effective as an enforcement tool. With the constant reduction in FCC budgets, self monitoring of Amateur Radio is very important.

I would like to see the ARRL VEC program improved.

**Where is your station located? (example: inside house or other location)**

Spare bedroom

**What kind of antennas do you use?**

103' G5RV Dipole  
Butternut 9 Band Vertical  
Hy-Gain TH-3 Jr. Tri-band, three element beam (oldie, but goodie)  
Cushcraft Dual Mode 2 meter beam antenna (FM and CW/SSB)  
Dual Band Vertical

**How could amateur radio attract more young members?**

School related STEM Clubs, Maker Activities, Scouts, it's really hard – kids today aren't impressed by just radio

**Which club activity do you enjoy most?**

Breakfast

**What advice would you give to new HAMs?**

Take your time; become a knowledgeable Technician than a knowledgeable General, etc.

If you are interested in Emergency and Public Service communications, register with ARES and complete the required basic courses

Become an instructor

Learn about (and use) new and different modes and capabilities

Get on the air and log your contacts

Get involved with a great club – like ours (Gordon West said so)

**Is there any information about you or comments that you would like to add?**

Married (1968), two daughters, two grandchildren

Graduate of Penn State – 2EET Degree 1993 (Tau Alpha Pi)

US Coast Guard Veteran (67 to 71)

DX Century Club #43,978

10-10 #46946

"Deadhead" back in the 80's

After 46 years, ham radio still amazes me

## PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS

### DR. ED HOARD – WX4ED

Our President is back from vacation and ready to share his ponderings.

October was a busy month! Our October club meeting was well-attended with an in-depth presentation on Raspberry Pi by Jim Reed. Jim obviously “knew his stuff” and piqued the interest of several of our members to get started working with this little inexpensive but powerful micro-computer.

By week's end many of our ARES members were involved in the yearly Simulated Emergency Test. Kudos to our Hospital Team as they continue to drill and sharpen their skills in passing emergency traffic. Dan W4DED and his team are to be commended for their hard work and dedication.

Meanwhile Buzz K3GWK led a group of volunteers to build and staff a booth at the Butts County Fair. Three years ago we received a “third place” award for our booth, but this year we garnered two ribbons! We earned a “first place” ribbon for our category and a “second place” ribbon in the over-all competition! Thanks, Buzz and all who were involved at the Fair.

The club registered a “first” during October. We had our very first Executive Committee meeting. The Constitution and By-Laws designate an Executive Committee that may meet ad lib to consider club business between plenary meetings. The meeting was productive as we considered ways to improve our club and make it more viable.

There was a huge turn-out for the Kiwanis Club-sponsored Zombie Fun Run in Jenkinsburg. The city park was the venue for food vendors, kids activities, serious runners and Zombies. Our club set up a Net Control Station and members scattered to cover the various intersection positions. Even though the race was run in the dark, thankfully there were no injuries or problems. There was at least one new ham who manned a position during the run. Another not-so-new ham left his chair (for the second time) and incurred the derision of Mark NI2Y (who is so kind to retrieve my left-behind furniture and to make sure my abandoned accoutrements get back to their obtuse owner!)

Tech Saturday was a big success as Buzz K3GWK brought his expertise to a “hands-on” morning of antenna building. Several club members home-brewed a “tape measure” antenna that can be used for direction-finding and fox hunting. The photo of the group revealed a bunch of happy hams showing off their new “calibrated” Yagis.

Whew!! What a month of activities! Thanks to all who participated and gave our club visibility in the community.

November is the month we celebrate gratefulness. All of us are familiar with the story of the Pilgrims who landed in the “New World” November 19, 1620 to escape religious persecution in England. The voyage took 66 days to cross the Atlantic. Of the 106 Pilgrims who arrived at Plymouth Rock, only 52 survived their first winter in America.

On the one-year anniversary of their landing, the survivors planned a meal of thanksgiving. Our American tradition of celebrating “Thanksgiving” on the third Thursday of every November is our way of re-creating that first Thanksgiving. The Pilgrims expressed their thanks to God for allowing them to survive the winter and to begin anew in a strange and dangerous land.

This Thanksgiving I'm grateful for a number of things.

I'm thankful to my cousin, Neil N4SSI who pushed me to get into amateur radio. I'm grateful to the Butts County Amateur Radio Club for providing me a way to get licensed and mentored. I'm grateful for club members who have become dear friends.

I'm thankful for a wonderful wife, three fine sons, three grandchildren and a great-niece, all of whom I love dearly. I'm thankful for good health and a great church family. I'm thankful for my spiritual salvation that was purchased for me at great cost by my Savior.

The Apostle Paul gave some good advice to the Thessalonian believers, *“In all things give thanks...”* Many years ago an old Quaker prayed, *“Thou hast given so much to me. Give me one thing more, a grateful heart.”*

73!

Ed WX4ED



## NOTES FROM THE BACKACRE – K3GWK



Busy month! Thanks to all of the Butt County ARES team members who supported the Simulated Emergency Test (SET) again this year. We were able to operate from five locations and accomplished all our county goals and also the GA ARES goals. Of course there are some areas for improvement, but that is why we practice. EOC - KM4PKD & AK4EM; SGH - KM4NRP, W4DED & K4JAO; DPH - NI2Y & KA8LAD; SHELTER - KK4SUO, KK4QJR & KM4HOS; 911/NCS - KW4AQ, K4NEP & K3GWK

Our communications skills were tested again at the Kiwanis 5K and Zombie Fun Run in Jenkinsburg. We had another good turnout for that event. KW4AQ, KK4QJR, KM4HOS, WX4ED, K4NEP, KK4BKF, AK4EM, KM4PKD, KN4ETJ (Randy Parker), NI2Y, KK4SUO, KA3SME, AJ4GU, KA8LAD & K3GWK. I spoke with the Race Director after the event; the Kiwanis Club members and the Jenkinsburg event crew really appreciated our help.

Finally, thank you to the club members who gave up their evenings to staff our Award Winning booth at the Butts County Fair and also to all the members (and XYLs) who showed up to assemble and take down the booth. We had live radio demonstrations; KM4HOS called the Tuesday Net from the booth and also made several HF contacts and NI2Y demonstrated his remote controlled IC-7300. Bravo Zulu!

### ARES ACTIVITY FOR OCTOBER:

**NETS:** 15 (5 Voice, 5 WL2K and 5 NBEMS)

– Remember our FM nets have moved to Tuesdays at 19:30\*

**Public Service:** 6 Events (111 Hours) – Fair Booth and 5K

**Drills, Tests and Training:** 5 Events (131) included the SET (113 Hours)

**Emergency Operations:** 0

**Miscellaneous:** 1 (20 Hours)

**Total Hours:** 311 (Value Added \$7,507.54)

*Net Statistics: Since December 2010 there have been 3,343 check-ins to our weekly FM training net.*

### MEMBERSHIP:

Deployable: 12

Active: 18 (All Basic ARES Requirements Complete 3)

Pending: 6

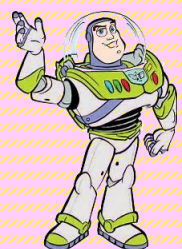
Total: 36

**\*The WINLINK 2000 test has not moved to Tuesday evening.** Continue to send your WL2K messages, using the ICS-213 form, to WX4BCA and WX4GMA on Sunday afternoons. Include your weekly *Digital Activity Report* in that message.

That's about it from Jenkinsburg Station.  
(Weather Underground ID: KGAJENKI2)

Thanks again for all you do for ARES and for Amateur Radio.

73, Buzz (K3GWK)



## WHIT'S WISDOM

**Whit Smith—WA4VBX**

### What is an RG-9B/U?



It is one of the many coaxial cables that has been used in the past. There are many designations for the many types of cables. Some of the cables you may not ever use, but it is nice to be able to determine if another cable is what you need. There is a lot of information available on-line and there you can get some performance data if you don't already have the information.

Generally, at Hamfests, there is at least one vendor who sells coaxial cable. They generally have the most popular types used and can answer a lot of questions.

There are a number of characteristics of coaxial cables that are of interest. Among them are the impedance (in ohms), db loss per 100 feet at various

frequencies, power rating, solid or stranded conductor and others. Another very important factor is cost. You may have to accept a higher than desirable cable loss because of the cost.

Coaxial cables are generally terminated with a connector. There are many connectors available, among them are UHF, N and BNC types. UHF type PL-259 has inserts for small cable, such as UG-175 for RG-58, and UG-176 for RG-59, & RG-8X. For additional information see ARRL Handbook.

Below is a list of coaxial cable designations. This is by no means a complete list, but it should be helpful if you run across a type of cable with which you are not familiar.

Trade #	RG #	Imp. (OHMS)	Trade #	RG #	Imp. (OHMS)	Trade #	RG #	Imp. (OHMS)
8264	5A/U	50		26/U	48		101/U	75
	5B/U	50		27/U	48		102/U	140
	6/U	76		28/U	48		108/U	76
	6A/U	75		33/U	51		108A/U	78
8237	8/U	52		34/U	71		114/U	185
	8A/U	52		34B/U	75		114A/U	185
8214	8/U FOAM	50		35/U	71		117/U	50
9258	8X/STRANDED	50		36/U	69		119/U	50
7808	8X SOLID	50		41/U	67.5		122/U	50
8242	9/U	51	8239	54A/U	58		126/U	50
	9A/U	51	8245	55/U	53.5		140/U	75
	9B/U	50	8240	58/U	53.5		141/U	50
8238	11/U	75	8259	58A/U	50		142/U	50
8261	11A/U	75	8262	58C/U	50		143A/U	50
	13/U	74	8241	59/U	73		144/U	72
	14/U	52	8263	59B/U	75	8216	174/U	50
	14A/U	52		60/U	50		176B/U	50
	16/U	52		61/U	500		180B/U	95
	17/U	52	8254	62/U	93		188A/U	50
	17A/U	52		63/U	125		195A/U	95
	19/U	52		63B/U	125		196A/U	50
	19A/U	52		64/U	48	8267	213/U	50
	21/U	53		65/U	950		214/U	50
	21A/U	53	8257	71/U	93		217/U	50
	22/U	95		71B/U	93		218/U	50
	22B/U	95		77/U	48		223/U	50
	23/B	125		87A/U	50	8281		75
	25/U	48		88/U	48	9248		75

## MONTHLY REPORTS

This new section will be reserved for club reports that were formerly presented at our monthly meeting. The Membership, Treasurer's, Net and ARES EC reports submitted at the end of each month will be included. Please send reports to NI2Y@arrl.net in advance of the publication of *The Repeater*.

### **ARES EC REPORT – Please see the Backacre**

**Field Day:** It is certainly starting to feel a bit cooler out but do not get too comfortable. It is nearly time to be warming up for Field Day. As some of the club are already aware I am unable to commit to the position of Field Day director for 2018. 2018 may be a year of travel and some of it will be spontaneous. I will be chasing cheap air fares and travel bargains which can be on the spur of the moment. Club members there is no time like the present to step up to the plate. I have plenty of notes and forms that should help with the process and I should be around to help. Remember the position of band captain is critical to our success so we will need volunteers again this year for these positions. Elaine, KW4AQ and Rudy, KA8LAD were persistent on the radios to make contacts. Ken, KM4HOS basically invented our new digital station and was glued to his post. He even wove a nice training into the experience. Darlene, KK4BKF prevented starvation by organizing a feast of a picnic. Brent, KA3ZPM protected us from the scorching sun and blowing rain. Mike, AJ4GU brought with him a truck load of amazing antennas, hardware and the knowledge to make the work the best. Da, W4DED kept us safe and obedient to the rules of ladder, electricity and radio waves. The volunteerism for 2017 made for a great and smooth Field Day. I am most appreciative for that. Yes, there was some rain, but we do not control the weather yet. I hear that some conspiracy theorists think we can play with mother nature. If that is true we can call on them to give us a cool dry summer weekend for Field Day. Final scores and rankings for 2017 are not reported yet but based on last year should be out soon, maybe?

**PIO:** No newsletter is complete without some good photos. Sometimes we might in a mood just to look at pictures and not read words the first time through the newsletter. Well, photos are a bit sparse for now so please share any that you can for the December issue. I see a good many camera phones in the crowd. Articles are also appreciated. Remember the radio review by Jeff, KN4FRG. The risk of a lack of articles could be more editor QRM. There is enough static and interference already. Articles can serve as a highly selective filter for such noise.

The Jackson Progress-Argus has been very supportive to include our requests in the paper when needed. Last week's edition included our meeting announcement in the Community Events section. Let's have some more event copy for the JPA. It helps us raise community awareness.

A special thanks to Ed, WX4ED, Buzz, K3GWK and Whit, WA4VBX for monthly contributions to the Repeater. The articles are informative and well written. Whit's article this month is a good segue to the planned coax and connectors Tech Saturday (to be announced). My final thanks go to Nancy, K4NEP for her skills with Microsoft Publisher. She knows how to fit the copy and spruce up the Newsletter to transform it into a more professional publication. Sometimes I stare quizzically into Microsoft Publisher as if it is the Matrix.

Happy Thanksgiving, 73, Mark/NI2Y

### **2 Nov 2017 Membership Report**

39 Regular members, 2 Special members, and 1 LIFE member, for a total of 42 bona fide members.

*Nancy Phillips, Chair*

**OCTOBER 2017 MINUTES****Butts County Georgia  
Emergency Communications Auxiliary****October 02, 2017****Meeting Held at Butts County Fairgrounds  
Jackson, Georgia****Meeting Began at 1858  
Meeting Concluded at 2045**

**Attendance at Meeting:** Pete Acevedo; David Burnham; Mike Crowe; Lee Dale; Dan Darsey; Ed Hoard; Buzz Kutcher; John Lipscomb; Melvin Mosier; Randy Parker; Nancy Phillips; Darlene Ragon; David Ridgeway; Whit Smith; Elaine Stachowiak; JD Van Sickle; Ken Wallis; Rudy Williams; Glenn Wyatt; Jim Reed.

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

**Net Manager's Report: Ken Wallis** Our digital check ins were down this month; please send your digital activity report to Ken on Sunday afternoons so he can compile them to turn into State digital manager on Tuesdays.

**VE Team: Dan Darsey** Our Club's next VE session will be held on November 18, 2017 at the Butts County Recreational Center. Testing begins at 0900. Contact Dan to register for testing.

The next 2 day Technician License Class training will be held on January 27, 2018 and February 3, 2018. Testing will occur at the end of the class on February 3, 2018.

**Repeater/Technical Committee: Mike Crowe** No report tonight.

**Skywarn Coordinator: Elaine Stachowiak** Our Club has a visit to the National Weather Service in Peachtree City scheduled for February 17, 2018. We hope to meet there in time to see the weather balloon released at 1800.

**Hospital Team and Public Health Department Team: Dan Darsey and Ken Wallis** The Georgia Hospital net went well this month; team members were able to check in on all 3 required frequencies.

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

**Field Day Committee: Mark Clark** No expected report tonight.

**Membership Chairman: Nancy Phillips** The Club still has 9 members that have not paid their dues for 2016.

**Public Information Officer: Mark Clark** Mark is attending the Butts County Citizens' Police Academy tonight.

**EC Report: Buzz Kutcher** We have 35 ARES members. Total volunteer hours last month were 201 hours. Our Club is providing communications for the Zombie Run in Jenkinsburg on October 20, 2017. Please meet behind the Jenkinsburg Fire Station at 1800 that evening.

The SET exercise will be held on October 7, 2017; the scenario will be a Hurricane event. We plan to have operating stations at Sylvan Grove Hospital; 911 center; Health Department; a shelter situation at Talladega Church and Fire Station 7. Each location will need to provide back-up power using a generator. Remember to log your stations' activities during the SET.

**Treasurers' Report: John Lipscomb** Total Balance \$2432.47 (Annual audit in progress)

**Club Old Business:** Buzz Kutcher made a motion that our Club participate in the Butts County Fair this year. David Ridgeway seconded the motion and the motion was passed after discussion that we would have static session with display materials and members could choose whether to participate or not in the fair activity. Set up of the booth will be on Monday October 9, 2017 at 0900.

The Atlanta Track Club is holding a race on October 22, 2017 and is in need of volunteers to help with communications; please contact Dan Darsey to volunteer.

Spin for Kids Bike race will be held on October 15, 2017 and is in need of volunteers as well, contact Dan Darsey to volunteer or for further information.

**Club New Business:** We will be trying to get someone from Sylvan Grove to give Club members their flu shot at next month's meeting.

Plan to attend D-Star radio training December 16, 2017; details to follow.

Nancy Phillips requested that the Club consider holding extra digital training sessions on Monday evenings to help new folks catch up with their digital skills.

Buzz Kutcher will be taking over from Anthony Strite as our Club Repeater Fund person. Many thanks to Anthony and his dad, Brent, for their hard work assisting with Club fund raising. Remember to donate items to use for fund raising if you possibly can.

**Coming Events:** Executive Committee Mtg. October 16, 2017 at Fire Station #7 at 1900.

Tech Saturday will be on October 21, 2017 Building a Tape Measure Antenna; held at Fire Station #7 beginning at 0900. (Continued on next page.)

## October 2017 Minutes, continued

Stone Mountain Hamfest November 4-5, 2017  
Pre-fest breakfast at the IHOP @ 1143 Scenic Highway, Lawrenceville at 0700.

November Monthly Meeting to be held November 6, 2017

NFARL Ham Jam November 11, 2017

VE Session November 18, 2017.

Family Christmas Dinner at Buckner's Restaurant; our 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. December 7, 2017 at 1830.

Tech Saturday December 16, 2017 D-Star with ID-5100 and ID-880h to be held at Fire Station #7 beginning at 0900.

GA ARES Meeting at GPSTC Forsyth, Georgia Saturday January 13, 2018 beginning at 0930.

GARS Tech Fest and Chili Cook-Off January 20, 2018 in Lawrenceville.

Technician Class January 27, 2018 and February 3, 2018. VE Session to follow the February 3, 2018 class.

**Monthly Program:** Jim Reed, N4BFR, from Atlanta presented our Program tonight; an introduction to the Raspberry Pi computer and its' use in Ham Radio Communications.

**Raffle Funds Raised this Meeting:** No raffle drawing this evening.



Forum Speaker,  
Mike Corey, K11U,  
EC from ARRL  
Headquarters in  
Newington, CT

and

Buzz Kutcher, K3GWK,  
ARES EC for Butts Co

Stone Mountain Hamfest  
Lawrenceville, GA  
4 November 2017

### BUTTS COUNTY / SOUTHERN CRESCENT HF / VHF / UHF NETS

**Sunday** (4:30 PM) GA ARES Digital Net - November Program: D-RATS - send ICS-213 to port: gaares.ratflector.com:9000 RMS Express/Winlink - send ICS-213 to WX4GMA (WX4GMA@Winlink.org) RF WINMOOR preferred over Telnet

**Sunday** afternoon BCARES WL2K ICS-213, Include a weekly Digital Report to the attention of the Net Manager, KM4HOS RF WINMOOR preferred over Telnet

**Sunday** (5:30 PM) GA ARES D-RATS - send ICS-213 to port: gaares.ratflector.com:9000

**Tuesday** (7:30 PM) Butts Co FM Training Net and Digital Training - 147.285 MHz (131.8 PL) Net begins with voice check-ins followed by an NBEMS Digital Practice Net. WL2K test messages using an ICS-213 form will be accepted. Winlink: WX4BCA, RF WINMOOR preferred over Telnet

**Sunday** (22:00Z) GA ARES SSB Net - 3975 KHz (LSB)

**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)

**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

November

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

**kawallis@charter.net**

### Weekly Training Net:

FM Tuesday 7:30 PM

Sunday 21:30 GMT 16:30 EST 17:30 EDT

WX4BCA Repeater  
47.285 - PL 131.8  
Jackson, Georgia

## BUTTS COUNTY AMATEUR COMMUNICATIONS AUXILIARY 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

### Membership

Nancy Phillips K4NEP  
topazmeadows@arrl.net

### 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 / PIO

Mark Clark NI2Y  
NI2Y@arrl.net

### A.E.C.

David Burnham AK4EM  
burnham1078@gmail.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 Co OHS/EMA

Glen Goens KJ4TVO

### Net Manager

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### 'Digimeister'

Ken Wallis, KM4HOS,  
tending the booth at the  
Butts Co Fair - October 2017





## Editor's Ramblings - NI2Y

### Pushing a Rope

I am back from the Stone Mountain Hamfest and was impressed by the amount of volunteer man hours that our compadres and our local members provided during the recent cluster of natural disasters. Tom Fuller reported nearly 10,000 hours for our state last month. Some of those hours were provided out of state.

Hurricanes, floods, wild fires and earthquakes occurred in a narrow space of time. It was not possible to anticipate the type, location or degree of impact on our citizens.

This prompted me to think about our local collaboration with a local partners and just how fortunate we are. Our county has a number of well trained departments many understand and sincerely appreciate how we fit into the master plan collaboration. There are however some opportunities for improvement in our inclusion on the local scene. What we do should not be a hard sell.

Our members work hard to get the word out, raise community awareness and demonstrate proficiency in real and practice disasters as well as community fundraising events. It is persistently amazing to me that volunteers more patient than me, have to work so diligently to have a seat at the table. There is however room for more collaboration and understanding by some partners to benefit from our communication capabilities. The FirstNet high speed broadband for First Responders mission is likely to provide a false sense of security. It is possible the FirstNet could fail in a disaster. It is interesting to note that Georgia has not opted in to this high speed broadband plan for First Responders.

It is time to become even more proactive. One of our slogans is "When all else fails". Recent events have now convinced me more than ever there are more words that we live by. "It is not a matter of if, but when."

It is futile to move a rope by pushing the end. And at times we can feel as if we are pushing on the rope end. We are ready and more than willing to explain what we can do and show our capabilities. My hope is that those less aware will now reach out to learn more about our volunteer motivation and skills. Hopefully we can become integral partners with all of our first responder entities.

73 and have a safe and happy holiday,

Mark/NI2Y