

**Amateur Radio Club of Butts County**

**April 01, 2019**

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

**Meeting Began at 1908 Meeting Concluded at 2045**

**Attendance at Meeting:** Daniel English; Mike Crowe; David Burnham; Buzz Kutcher; Nancy Phillips; Brent Strite; Rudy Williams; Darlene Ragon; Glenn Wyatt; Melvin Mosier; Ken Wallis; Michelle Burnahm; Pete Acevedo; Elaine Stachowiak; Tony Strite; Mark Clark; Dan Darsey; Winford Barnes; Whit Smith.

**Office of Homeland Security/CERT: Director Glen Goens** No report tonight as Glen was unable to attend the meeting tonight.

**Net Manager's Report: Ken Wallis** Our weekly net is averaging 6 voice check ins; 3 digital check ins and 7 Winlink check ins. Please consider volunteering to serve as Net Control Operator; contact Ken to volunteer.

**VE Team: Dan Darsey** No one signed up for testing at the recently scheduled VE event.

**Repeater/Technical Committee: Mike Crowe** Our Club is still having security issues at Sylvan Grove Hospital obtaining a dedicated internet line for our use. Our Club has a D-Star radio, model #2820, available for use at the Health Department if needed.

**Skywarn Coordinator: Elaine Stachowiak** April is the peak tornado season for this area so stay informed when severe weather moves through our region. There is no Skywarn training scheduled in nearby areas at present.

**Hospital Team: Dan Darsey** The April Georgia Hospital Net will be held on April 7, 2019. Dan also stated that he had attended a quarterly Hospital training event held on March 22, 2019 at the training center in Forsyth, Ga.

**Public Health Department Team: Ken Wallis** All 4 weekly nets were covered and contact was made with no equipment problems. The Health Dept check in is every Thursday morning at 0830.

**CERT Activities: David Ridgeway** No report tonight as David was not able to attend the meeting.

**Field Day Committee: Nancy Phillips** The Club needs 12 pallets to create a raised floor for the CW station; tarps are needed to go around the shelters in case of heavy rain. Glenn Wyatt volunteered to procure the pallets.

**Membership Chairman: Nancy Phillips** We have 32 Club members. It was shared with members in attendance that our Club lost a dear member recently, J.D. Van Sickle. We have two new members joining our Club: Jarrod Henderson KN4RXM, who passed his Tech at the Nov VE session; and Dennis Mills, who keyed for us at the 2018 Field Day.

**Public Information Officer: Buzz Kutcher** Announcements of our Club activities and services continue to be represented by the local newspaper and radio station. Mark Clark reminded members that Thursday April 4, 2019 is the Chamber of Commerce after hours gathering to be held at the Rivers Distillery in Jackson, Ga.

**EC Report:** Currently there is no one serving the County in this position.

**Treasurers' Report: John Lipscomb** John was unable to attend tonight's meeting so no report was given.

**Club Old Business:** The Relay mapping activity held Saturday March 23, 2019 completed the mapping of Zone 10. Thanks go to members doing the work: David Burnahm; Glenn Wyatt; Mark Clark; and Ken Wallis.

Ken would like to work on Zone 9 on Saturday April 27, 2019. Extra people are needed to assist the radio operators in the position of 'loggers' to help record the information obtained in the field. Please consider volunteering. Breakfast at the Lunch Box begins at 0730 with the event starting at 0900.

Bluebird Bluegrass Festival being held on Saturday April 20, 2019; our Club will set up in the same location as we have for the past few years. Elaine volunteered to bring her HF/VHF radios; Dan will provide the covered shelter and antenna for the radios; Buzz is bringing his 'Go Kit'. The Club is need of someone to provide two tables and several chairs for the event.

Thursday, May 23, 2019 there will be a GEMA sponsored activity called 'Domino Down'. The event will simulate a major power failure in our area. There will be messaging activities held at 1400 and 2000. GEMA wants participants to use Winlink for communications during this activity.

**Club New Business:** Nancy requested the possibility of holding another General License educational event which would run for 7-8 weeks tentatively starting July 25, 2019. If the class is held, Mike Crowe suggested the Club provide new teachers' books.

July 20, 2019 there will be a Technician License Ham Cram held.

VE Sessions will be held on September 21, 2019 and November 16, 2019

**Coming Events:** April 13, 2019 Georgia QSO Party

April 20, 2019 Bluebird/Bluegrass Festival

April 27, 2019 Calhoun Hamfest

May 4, 2019 Jackson High School 5K Run Be on site at 0700

May 11, 2019 VE Session

May 18, 2019 Dayton, Ohio Hamfest

May 25, 2019 Memorial Day

June 1, 2019 Atlanta Hamfest

June 8, 2019 Tech Saturday This day will be used to create our computer network for Field Day and be sure everyone providing laptops and other equipment has the latest updates. Breakfast at the Lunch Box at 0730.

**Monthly Program:** Buzz Kutcher gave an excellent review of how Winlink works to refresh our knowledge and skills at this digital method of communication. Many thanks Buzz!

**Raffle Funds Raised this Meeting:** Our Club raised \$76.00 in raffle funds this evening.