

The Repeater

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WX4BCA 147.285 + (131.8)

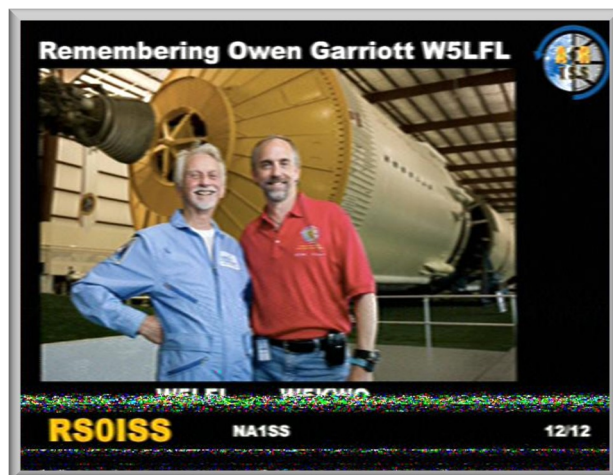
Amateur Radio Club of Butts County



Jackson, GA



DIGITAL PHOTOS CAPTURED FROM THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION



Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) is a cooperative venture of international amateur radio societies and the space agencies that support the International Space Station (ISS). In the United States, sponsors are the Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation (AMSAT), the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), the ISS National Lab and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The primary goal of ARISS is to promote exploration of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) topics by organizing scheduled contacts via amateur radio between crew members aboard the ISS and students in classrooms or public forms. Before and during these radio contacts, students, educators, parents, and communities learn about space, space technologies, and amateur radio. For more information, see www.ariss.org.

Images captured from the ISS by Buzz Kutcher as the International Space Station passed over north Georgia on 3 August 2019. More on Owen Garriott on page 5.

Nancy Phillips
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**AUGUST
2019**

Vol 7, No 8

Amateur Radio Club of Butts County**August 5, 2019****Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Darlene Ragon, Secretary ARCBC****Meeting Held at Butts County Fairgrounds - Jackson, Georgia****Meeting Called to Order by Nancy Phillips at 1858****Meeting Concluded at 2026**

Attendance at Meeting: David Burnham; Michelle Burnham; Mike Crowe; Dan Darsey; Jarrod Henderson; Buzz Kutcher; John Lipscomb; Melvin Mosier; Dana Persells; Nancy Phillips; Darlene Ragon; Chris Southerland; Anthony Strite; Brent Strite; Ken Wallis; Glenn Wyatt; James Williams; Isaiah Foster.

Office of Homeland Security/CERT: Director Glen Goens Representative not in attendance tonight.

Net Manager's Report: Ken Wallis We held 5 nets last month but participation is minimal. Ken suggested for members participating to explore some of the other ICS forms and practice sending them during our digital portion of the weekly net. Ken reinforced how much he is in need of volunteers to act as Net Control for the net; you don't have to worry about not doing things perfectly to begin with if you are inexperienced...that is what the net is for; practice among encouraging friends. Ken also shared that our experienced members may have a real challenge staffing County facilities in case of a real time event. Works are in the plan for the Mobile Command Bus in Butts County which will feature a spot for Ham Radio operations. This Mobile Command vehicle will require two radio operators.

VE Team: Dan Darsey Dan reported that one student took and passed the recent Technician License Ham Cram, Curt Williams. Curt has joined our group and we all send congratulations to him and a big welcome to the Club. Dan also said he would require full VE team support for the VE testing scheduled on September 21, 2019. This is the first test after the finish of the General Licensing class.

Repeater/Technical Committee: Mike Crowe We have had some issues with the repeater recently and sadly are still waiting on the Information Technicians at Sylvan Grove to assist us with Web access.

Skywarn Coordinator: Elaine Stachowiak Representative not in attendance tonight.

Hospital Team: Dan Darsey Dan reported that the Hospital Net for August was able to complete voice and digital check in but was unable to communicate on the D-Star radio due to user error. Thanks to all that attended that monthly net.

Public Health Department Team: Ken Wallis Members met with Mark Austin, Emergency Director for Spalding Regional Hospital, and he has agreed to purchase toner for the printer being used at the Health Department. Mark further reported that his immediate supervisor has resigned and Lisa Johnson will assume that position. We have worked successfully with Lisa in many instances in the past and look forward to obtaining her assistance with a few issues. Health Department's call sign is KW4BHD.

CERT Activities: David Ridgeway Representative not in attendance tonight.

Field Day Committee: Nancy Phillips Nancy discussed the hot wash of Field Day as our program tonight.

Membership Chairman: Nancy Phillips We have 36 Club members at present.

Public Information Officer: Buzz Kutcher We still have excellent support from the local newspaper and radio station publicizing our Club's activities.

EC Report: Buzz Kutcher Buzz attended an AxComm meeting recently which outlined changes to qualify for participation in ARES. The State has instituted a program of certification that includes a 'task booklet' listing the requirements for each of the 3 levels of ARES participation. This booklet can be found in the Files area of our Clubs' io.groups forum. Updated classes have been posted on the ICS training site and all members are encouraged to re-take the 100-200-700-800 classes. When you have completed the requirements for each level the information must be sent to GEMA. You will then receive an official ID card from GEMA and must have this ID card in order to serve in any capacity with GEMA. This is a nationwide federally funded program and properly credentialed persons will be covered by insurance while serving, receive mileage and a per diem for their service.

Buzz also notified members that you will need to call on the phone to register for any classes held at GSPTC. A class is being held on September 13, 2019 teaching basic skills such as building small emergency antennas; attaching connectors to coax cables, etc. Buzz reported that the use of ARES Connect for registering for activities has been suspended for the present. Buzz will continue to record our attendance and participation in activities as he has in the past. Thank you Buzz for your service! Our Club donated 167 hours of training and service in July for a value of \$4200.

Treasurers' Report: John Lipscomb General Fund \$1429.50 Repeater Fund \$2185.00 Total Funds \$3614.50

Club Old Business: Buzz Kutcher made a motion for our Club to donate \$100 from Club funds to the ARRL Education Fund in memory of our recently deceased member, J.D. Van Sickle. John Lipscomb 2nd the motion and it was passed by all members in attendance. Ken is hoping to continue the mapping survey this month of outlying areas in Butts County. This month's focus will

Whit's Wisdom

Whit Smith - WA4VBX

More Meters

Given: A meter has a full scale reading of 50 microamps. How do you calculate the internal resistance of the meter?

Set up a test circuit with an adjustable power supply, a test resistor, and the meter all connected in series. You also will need a voltmeter.

As a starting point, calculate the value of a test resistor with a 1.5 volt source. 1.5 volts divided by .00005 amps gives 30,000 ohms. A quick look at I squared times resistance will show that almost any value of wattage is ok.

Now with the 30,000 ohm resistor in series with the meter and the power supply, adjust the voltage until the meter reads 50 microamps. Measure the voltage directly across the meter and divide that voltage by 50 microamps and that will be the internal resistance of the meter in ohms.

With the full scale reading of the meter, and the internal resistance of the meter, you can determine the required resistor for the desired range for your particular application. There are different configurations possible. After your circuit design is selected, check the wattage rating required for the resistors used.

For more information, refer to an article published in the July 2019 issue of the "Repeater" entitled "Meters".

_ WS

MINUTES continued from page 2

be on Zone 7. Interested parties can contact Ken for further information; the work day is scheduled for Saturday August 24, 2019.

Buzz reminded members that we are only using the groups i.o email system for Club business now.

Club New Business: Dan Darsey presented the calendar for 2020 to the Club. He stressed we note the change in May 2020 for the VE session and Club monthly meeting day change in September due to the Labor Day Holiday. The date for the October 2020 SET has not been released yet. Members were given copies of the projected calendar.

Buzz Kutcher made a motion to take up a collection in addition to the funds already designated for the J.D. Van Sickle memorial donation. Funds were collected in the amount of \$105.00 and Buzz moved this money also be donated to the ARRL Educational Fund in J.D.'s memory. Dan Darsey 2nd the motion and it was passed by all in attendance.

Buzz shared that a special event will be held from August 21, 2019 to September 8, 2019 for the 150th birthday of the founder of the ARRL. The September issue of QST contains an article outlining the special event. Buzz has offered the person in our Club who has the most contacts the Grand Prize of the candy bar of his or her choice! Woo Hoo!

Coming Events: Tech Saturday will be held August 17, 2019. It has been scheduled as a planning day for Field Day 2020. Breakfast at 0700 at the Huddle House near Fire Station #7 with the meeting to follow at 0900 at the Fire Station. All interested parties are invited to attend.

Monthly Program: Comments from the discussion of Field Day 2019:

We need more operators.

We may need to ground our solar power and generators.

Bravo to John Lipscomb for building the power hub!

We need our Public Officials to attend our Field Day activities.

John Lipscomb expressed his appreciation to Ken Wallis for taking the time to give him one on one digital comms training.

Ken helped a total of 6 people with digital training during Field Day. Many Thanks Ken, well done!!

David Burnham shared that he thought we needed to be more visible to the community.

Mike Crowe said that Elaine had already claimed the HEX beam antenna for use in 2020.

What do we want to do differently next year?

Raffle Funds Raised this Meeting: No raffle was held this evening.

_DR

Here it comes, it's yer 19th nervous breakdown ... NOT!!

It's the 2019 Hurricane Season

_Ken Wallis

Well, here we are already, startin' August and the peak of the Hurricane season is right at the door. As a rule we here in Butts Co. may not be directly impacted by the hurricanes themselves, but we usually get the residual heavy weather fm 'em. ie: tropical storms/depressions and the subsequent threat of hvy wx to include tornados, strong winds, thunderstorms, and the possibility of flooding at low spots around the county. While 'Skywarn' procedures cover most of what we'd do and report in these 'events', there are still other documents/procedures we ALL oughta read over AGAIN to 'refresh' our memories.

The 'Wx event' itself may only last a couple of hrs or so, but the AFTERMATH of it can be serious enuf to last days or weeks depending on the severity and area/scope of damage. South GA & our Southeastern/Golden Isles coast aren't the only places that can get clobber'd by down'd trees, power outages, flooding, destroyed homes & infrastructure. In any case Amateur Radio operators will be needed as part of their county, district, and state Emergency Operations Plans, either as reporting entities or as recievers/relays of reported (and very possibly 'Emerg/priority') traffic/information.

So the question is... are we familiar enuf w/ our local, a lready published' EOP's to KNOW if something's amiss, maybe need to crank up the radios? Do we KNOW where to tune the dials and who to chk-in with? Do we KNOW Butts Co's 'top 25' freq channels so we can switch to one of 'em if directed to by the NCS? WHAT are the protocols/procedures (VERY important) for the different Emerg Nets? (VHF/HF) HOW/WHERE/WHEN to pass 'traffic' (voice & digital) if needed. Or even HOW to start up/run a Net for an 'event' if one occurs and YOU are 'first-up'? ALL of these questions have their answers in our well thought out and tested EOP's and their Annex's, both for the county & state.

Here in Butts Co we are fortunate to have HAM

stations at our local 911 Ctr, at Sylvan Grove Hospital, the Health Dept office, and comin' soon to yer local 'calamity' will be 'WX4BCA /Mobile' our Butts Co EMA's Mobile Command Vehicle. All VERY well and good IF they're not 'victims' themselves of our local Emergency. This begs the next question...

WHAT are each of us PREPARED to DO?

With our families/homes/neighbors bein' our 1st PRIORITIES:

1. Do we have an Alternative electrical pwr source for our homes? Gas/propane, cash on hand, enuf food & water for a couple days, a week?
2. Can we operate our radios at home if needed? VHF/HF/digital/D-Star?

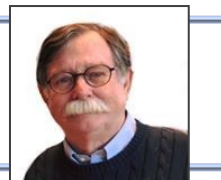
and if our families/homes are OK:

1. Can we support our assigned Response Team, or augment an RT whose mbrs may be unable to get to their site? What if it's a long-duration 'event' and we need to operate in 8 or 12 hr 'shifts', would we need to call Henry or Newton Co for help, or could we handle it 'in house'. Can we operate / mobile? (think blocked roads & access here) Are we equipped to operate portable, maybe set-up an Incident Cmd Post or Relay station somewhere out in da boonies if needed? VHF/HF/digital /D-Star? Gotta 'Bingo bag' pack'd??
2. Do we know our way around the 'Skywarn' program... freqs, WX criteria, reporting, POC's, etc??
3. Is your Ga ARES page up to date, and does it reflect your current equipment/capabilities? If you're not an ARES mbr, does Elaine or one of our AEC's know if you'd be willing to help and what your capabilities are?

Altho a 'serious' WX event hasn't happen'd here for many yrs and local cel, internet, and long-duration pwr outages are for the most part infrequent, these are pertinent

NOTES FROM THE BACK ACRE

_ Buzz Kutcher, K3GWK



Georgia ARES monthly report - July, 2019

Reported by: Butts County

Report ID# 11807.

Report submitted by: K3GWK, Buzz Kutcher

Total number of ARES members in group is: 26

Change since last month: -1

Name of your Local ARES Net:

Net Frequency: Butts Co PL 131.8

Day of the week: Tuesday

Time of the Net: 19:30 LOCAL

Total of Nets this month: 10

NTS Liaison: GA ARES, GA SSB

Drills, Tests and Training sessions: 8

Drills, Tests and Training Man Hours: 67

Public Service Events: 4

Public Service Man Hours: 48

Emergency Operations: 0

Emergency Operations Man Hours: 0

Misc. Activities: 0

Misc. man hours: 0

TOTAL ARES OPERATIONS: 12

TOTAL ARES MAN HOURS: 115

Total* Calculated Service Hours: 167 (Value \$4,200.00)

Membership: Active 10, Pending 5, Deployable 12

*Includes Nets

Club members who are interested in registering with ARES please contact: AJ4GU, W4DED, AK4EM, KJ4SUO, NI2Y or K3GWK

POST: BC-ARES@groups.io

SUBSCRIBE: BC-ARES+subscribe@groups.io

UNSUBSCRIBE:

BC-ARES+unsubscribe@groups.io

GROUP OWNER:

BC-ARES+owner@groups.io

HELP: BC-ARES+help@groups.io.

Over the weekend of August 1 through August 4 the life and accomplishments of astronaut and ham radio in space pioneer Owen Garriott, W5LFL, was celebrated with a series of SSTV broadcasts from the International Space Station. The one-way transmissions were sent using the PD120 slow scan TV mode. The photos attached to this article were all copied using a free "soundcard" program called MMSSTV. MMSSTV was developed by Makoto Mon, JE3HHT. MMSSTV is no longer support but it is a very stable program, one that is easy to set up and use. The 145.800 MHz FM down-

link signals were copied at my QTH using an FT-8800 radio, Signalink and a Comet style, dual-band vertical antenna.



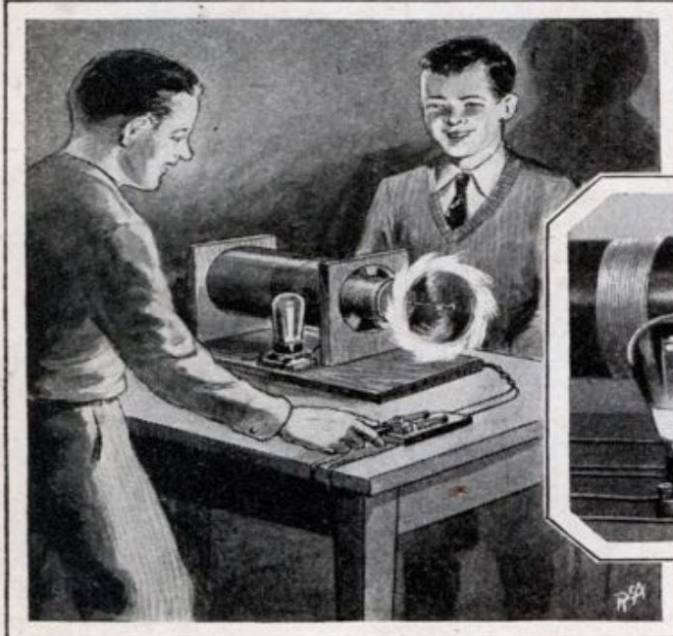
STS-9 mission specialist Owen Garriott, W5LFL

Owen Garriott (1930 – 2019) was the very first "Ham-in-Space". He was a graduate of the University of Oklahoma, earning a degree in electrical engineering. A Navy veteran, Garriott also attended a United States Air Force pilot training course and was qualified as a pilot in jet aircraft. He was selected as one of the original six scientist-astronauts in 1965. Garriott spent 60 days on Skylab and also flew as a member of the Space Shuttle *Columbia* STS-9 crew. While aboard *Columbia* he operated the first space-based ham radio station using a Motorola HT and a special window mounted antenna. That effort resulted in ham radio being included on the Space Shuttle, the *MIR* Space Station and the International Space Station.

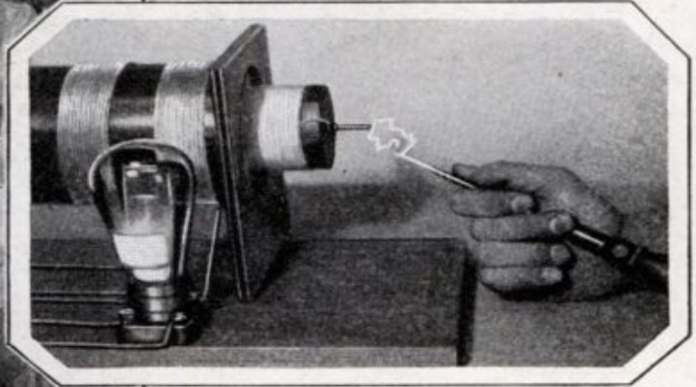


--- A PAGE OF HISTORY FROM 100 YEARS AGO ---

Vacuum Tube Tesla Coil



Light bulbs and spinning wires which glow with weird effects, cigarettes which light mysteriously—these are a few of the stunts you can do with this vacuum tube Tesla coil.



Coil is tested with screw driver as shown.

One of the spectacular effects that can be created with Tesla coil is shown above. Spinning wire shoots off glowing sparks when current is turned on.

THE older types of Tesla coils, calling for a high tension transformer and spark gap for excitation, were undoubtedly interesting and instructive, but the one shown in the accompanying photographs and sketches will prove much less expensive to construct and yet will provide plenty of sure fire fun and spectacular results. It makes use of many radio parts and therefore should prove very inexpensive to construct by those readers possessing a stock of spare radio "junk." It is simply a matter of plugging in to the 110-volt electric light line to carry on an almost endless number of interesting and instructive experiments in high frequency currents. You will need the following parts:

- A baseboard 18 in. long by 10 in. wide.
- Cardboard tube 8 in. long, 4 in. diameter.
- Cardboard tube 11 in. long, 2½ in. diameter.
- Two radio UX sockets.
- Transformer giving about 500 volts and provided with two 7½-volt filament windings.
- One 210 type radio tube.

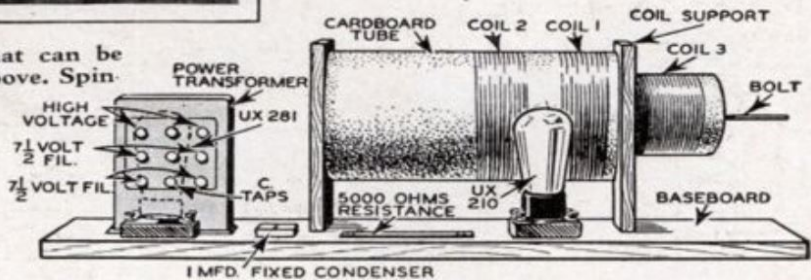


Fig. 1. Here is a side view of the vacuum tube Tesla coil, showing the layout of parts on a baseboard. For higher power, an additional tube may be used, wired up in parallel with the 210 tube.

- One 281 type rectifying tube.
- Two wooden supports for the 4 in. tube.
- One 5,000-ohm grid leak about 5 watts rating.
- One 1 Mfd. fixed condenser to stand at least 500 volts breakdown voltage.
- 50 ft. No. 16 DCC wire.
- 700 ft. No. 28 DCC wire.
- Hookup wire.
- Assortment of nuts, bolts, screws, etc.

The hookup and layout of parts indicated in Fig. 2 should be followed to the letter to insure best results. Place the transformer at the left end of the baseboard near the rear. Then mount one of the sockets in front of it for the rectifying tube (281). To the right of the tube mount the fixed condenser. Mount the two coil supports to the right of the transformer. Then in front of this coil mount

190805 Net Mgr Report

We held 5 ARCoBC Trng Nets in July, averaging 4+ voice chk-in's per wk, 2 on MT-63, and 7+ on WL. Just about everybody's got the hang of usin' the ICS-213's now, so... y'all feel free to start sendin' some of the other 'forms' (like Severe Wx, Hospital Bed Availability, Wx rpts, etc) available on FLDigi/FLMsg and WL Express just to familiarize yourself with 'em, know how to fill 'em out, and where to find 'em if needed. Also remember to Preface & end 'em with 'THIS IS A DRILL', if applicable. Any questions, gimme a holler, 678-313-1659.

Participation wuz still DOWN last month, gittin' kinda ugly. Sure would be nice to see a DOZEN or so chk-ins EVERY week for all 3 modes. Believe it or not, we used to do that on our weekly nets, With Buzz's update on ol' Yeller (the MCV) we may have ANOTHER (semipermanent) Response Team site to 'staff-up' purty soon, and to be honest, I ain't gotta clue WHO we have to man it that isn't already tagged for another RT or two. And there are FOUR, count 'em FOUR radio positions in that thing!! We need some more Qualified people that can do FLDigi, WL (HF & Pkt), and NCS an 'event' if the County EMA decides to turn that dog loose!! (on top of the 3 other RT sites we're responsible for) Y'all think about it, it's CRUNCH time (for operators), and we haven't even been 'crunched' yet...

As always, the ARCoBC still needs Net Controllers for our weekly Trng net, for August and the following months. Thanks to Buzz for coverin' July for us. Y'all don't be bashful, this is a TRAINING Net (for NCS's too), and myself or sumbuddy else is almost always on the Net that can help you out as NCS if needed. The 'Preamble' (script) is posted on Yahoo & groups.io 'files' pages and I'll be more than happy to send you my macros for FLDigi and show you how to use 'em.

Please lemme know if yer interested.

Don't forget to keep your ARES Connect up to date weekly, daily if possible. Appreciate all y'all's time & effort last month in support of Butts Co. HAM radio.

"...we gotta be able to DO what we SAY we can do."

- Mike Crowe, AJ4GU, Nov '16 mtg

Thx & 73,

Ken, KM4HOS, Butts Co Net Mgr

190805 BCHD Report

We got chk'd into only 3 outta 4 Ga Health Dept Nets last month, the new radio is still workin' GREAT!! Problem wuz that on the 4th of July the BCHD wuz closed, and try as I did fm my front yard in Flovilla, I couldn't get chk'd in, and I usually CAN fm there. I could hear Griffin, Macon, Stone Mtn, and others, but the only one I could talk to wuz Warm Springs (!??@#\$%&*??) and he wasn't linked to 30B... go figure. Next time I'll make sure I gotta haircut & my beard iz trimmed, er sumthin'...

One of our 7 BCHD Response Team (RT) operators chk's in every Thurs AM at 0830 to the GA DPH D-Star Net fm the KW4BHD station at the BCHD office. And, if you're D-Star equipped, ANY of you in the ARCoBC might wanna just listen in, or even try chk'g in fm home or your mobile station, as there is usually about 5-10 min at the end of the net, just before 9AM where it's kinda quiet. Just tell 'em you're 'off site' and representing the Butts Co Health Dept in Jackson, GA, District 4. We use Griffin's W4AMI D-Star repeater at 145.800, minus (-) Duplex, and sometimes Macon's WX4EMA at 145.34 -, Fayetteville's KK4GQ, or Atlanta's W4DOC. If you need help finding the repeaterz we use, gimme a holler and I'll give you a list or the file we use in our K4SGH or KW4BHD radio programs. If you're interested in helpin' us out over there, pls contact Ken, KM4HOS, for more details.

Reminder: Would be beneficial if ALL the RT operators could make sure they have 'up to date' FLDigi/FL Msg, and WinLink Express (w/ UZ7HO's 'Sound Modem' program) on their laptops so we're able to go 'digital' if the Health Dept staff needs us to. We don't have a 'station' laptop at the Health Dept. so **BCHD REPORT** cont'd on page 8

BUTTS CO EP SURVEY _Ken Wallis KM4HOS**190805**

brought to you this month by 'WX4BCA - Mobile', for those of us who are into workin' on old school busses, doin' antenna parties on 'em, and painting mobile-home type interiors. Yeah, we're hobby-wide 'trendsetters' here in the ARCoBC. You've got all sorts of different facets of Amateur Radio; phone, CW, digital, with FT-8 & 4, DX, and also Moonbounce, ARISS, and Satellite stuff, but here in Butts Co we're startin' somethin' NEW; 'MCV (Mobile Command Vehicle) Radio Room Installations'. Not too technical or electronic, kinda like 'automotive arduino', but sure to be a hit and spread like wildfire throughout the worldwide Amateur Radio community (or at least here in Butts Co, GA USA) I had planned on doin' Zone 8 (WSW Butts Co) at the end of this month, BUT (yeah, I know), we've just got word of a county-wide exercise that sounds like a good idea for us to do in September, SO ...

I think we'll do Zone 7 (SW Butts Co, just below Zone 8) this month and save Zone 8's 'Survey' for Sept and do it with the exercise, and kill 2 birds w/ one stone. Zone 8 is a the biggest Zone we'll do, plus I wanted to incorporate/redesign some of Zone 9's outlying sites w/ Zone 8's Survey. Me thinks this 'hybrid' survey would fit in perfectly w/ this exercise. We'll put our pointy little heads together and discuss it at the August mtg and see what everyone thinks.

....and remember, for ALL yer MCV Communication Restorations, call 'WX4BCA- Mobile', the 'shade-tree' answer to all your mobile EMA communications needs.

_ until our next Adventure into WILD Butts Co,

Ken, KM4HOS

ARCoBC Recreational Adventure chairman

BCHD REPORT continued from page 7

we're gonna have to use our own if needed. The 'station' has a SignalLink and all the cables needed to hook up to your laptop, and the Pkt WL freq's are already loaded into the 2820, so all you'd need is your laptop for an 'event', Be advised, the wkly Ga DPH Net chk-ins DON'T need a laptop, it's just a voice chk-in.

Reminder: BE CAREFUL how you handle the IC-2820H radio if you have to move/reposition it WHILE IT'S ON, if you press one of the buttons on the bottom of the front faceplate by mistake, it could take you HOURS TO UNDO wut you did... trust me, ugghhh.

The 'Butts Co Health Dept Radio Club' documents (mbrs, charter, by-laws, license, etc.) are on groups.io & Yahoo pages, under 'files', 'Butts Co Health Dept', if anybody wants to know anything about that club (and also IF you're IN IT and/or are a club OFFICER, yuk, yuk) The new 'Vanity' callsign, KW4BHD, was recieved last month fm 'the powers dat be', so reckon that hoop's been cleared and in the rear view mirror for now.

Thx fer yer support ... Bartles & Jam ... nevermind.

Ken, KM4HOS

yer friendly, neighborhood HD rep

Tuesday Net NCS for August
Ken KM4HOS



Is your ARRL membership up-to-date?

This is important for our club affiliation with ARRL.

Please update and inform the membership chairman.

REPEATER ETIQUETTE

Here are some helpful hints and suggested etiquette when using a repeater:

- *Listen* prior to transmitting.
- You don't have to call CQ. Give your callsign and say "listening" or "monitoring"; that will tell other operators you're looking for a conversation. It is considered bad practice to continually announce you're listening - if no one responds after the first two calls, there is no one around or they're not feeling talkative.
- **Don't use the word 'break' unless there is an emergency.** Instead, give your callsign inbetween transmissions. If there is no acknowledgment after two tries, don't keep interrupting.
- If there are people having a conversation (which is called a QSO) it is impolite to interrupt them unless you know them or have something insightful to add to the conversation. It's the equivalent of walking up to someone on the street and breaking in to a conversation.
- Always wait for the courtesy tone before making a transmission. The courtesy tone is a single tone or a series of beeps the repeater sends after someone transmits which indicates the time-out timer has reset and lets other operators know it's okay to transmit.
- There is a timer (time-out timer) which will shut the repeater off if you talk too long -- most are 3 mins and some are as short as 60 seconds. Keep your transmissions short.
- It is not necessary to say "over" or "back to you" -- the courtesy tone will let everyone know you're through talking. However, it is good practice to hand it off to someone when there's more than one person.
- Unless you're asking for the quality of your audio, you cannot obtain a signal report from a repeater -- the other station isn't receiving *your* signal; they're receiving the repeater's signal.
- It is considered bad practice to use 11meter CB slang.
- Never curse or use other obscenities, never talk of indecent things. **You never know who is listening** - like the parent introducing their child to amateur radio or a member of the Official Observer program.
- It is not necessary use phonetics (Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, ...) unless someone specifically says they're having trouble copying. Some nets do ask for phonetics when checking in, mainly for clarity.
- Speak in plain English. The use of Q-codes has somewhat crept into phone transmission, but it's alright to ask someone their location rather than their "QTH", or say you're going to sleep rather than announce you're going "QRT".
- When finished using the repeater, give your callsign and say "clear". If you want to incite the other station to make on elast transmission but not to expect a response from you, say "clear on your final".
- *Listen* prior to transmitting.
- Don't forget to give your callsign in accordance with Part 97 Rules (a period not to exceed 10 mins). It is not necessary to say "for identification" or "for ID" when giving your callsign. **FCC 97.119(a)** *"Each amateur station, except a space station or telecommand station, must identify its assigned callsign on its transmitting channel at the end of each communication, and at least every 10 minutes during a communication, for the purpose of clearly making the source of the transmissions from the station known to those receiving the transmissions. No station may transmit unidentified communications or signals, or transmit as the station callsign, any call sign not authorized to the station."*
- It is not necessary to do formal exchanges of callsigns after every transmission in a conversation. When you do, remember your callsign comes LAST. [(Other station) THIS IS (your callsign).]
- Don't forget about simplex! If you find that you can hear someone on the repeater's input and wish to have a lengthy conversation, consider picking a simplex frequency and

ETIQUETTE continued on page 11

HURRICANES continued from page 4

of us, especially NOW with this year's Hurricane season startin' to git REAL. Just askin' y'all to think about it ... FLDigi/Msg & WinLink Express both contain all the ICS forms we'd need to send/ receive digital 'traffic'. It would be a good idea for us to start using some of 'em on our Tues night digital chk-ins instead of the ICS-213's that most everybody's already familiar with. Using 'em would familiarize us w/ where to find 'em, how to fill 'em out, tx/rx'g, and where to save 'em if we need to review 'em after an event. Just remember on the more 'volatile' (Emerg) 'forms', to preface & end 'em w/ 'THIS IS A DRILL MSG', *puhleez*...

FLDigi has a pre-programmed macro 'insert' for 'get Wx fm' any airport you want, using that airport's ICAO code. It'd come in handy if you were tryin' to keep up with an approaching storm (or ANY WX for that matter). Most of the time they're faster (more up to date) than other forecasters. I gotta list of ALL the ICAO codes for all the airports along the Gulf, FL, GA, SC, NC, VA coasts, and the Caribbean, where 'canes usually track, and can send 'em to anybody that wants it, save y'all fm havin' to look 'em all up.

As for documents we might wanna 'brush-up' on, take a look at these:

The Butts Co EOP, located on our Yahoo group webpage and soon (VERY) to be in groups.io, under files. Please don't stop at just the 'Skywarn' procedures in Annex 5, look ALL of it over, including all the Annex's, altho some of it needs updating, there's ALOT of useful info in here for EVERYBODY, not just the ARES folks.

GA ARES, at gaares.org, this website is bein' updated since they upgraded to the new Webpage format, but alot of the info here is OK. BESIDES, like they say in EmComm circles 'All disasters are local' (as no matter how big the 'event' is, we'll be dealing with how it affects our county/ communities), so any HAM radio involvement for an 'event' will be under the direct supervision of our county EMA and EC anyway.

It's IMPORTANT to keep these freqs CLEAR unless you are participating in hurricane relief efforts.

Hurricane Watch Net

Day: 14.325 MHz

Night: 7.268 MHz

SATERN (Salvation Army Team Emerg Network)

National: 14.265 MHz

Southern Territory: 7.262 MHz

Georgia ARES Emergency Plan

Primary Voice: 3.975 MHz

Alternate: 3.982.5 MHz, 3.995 MHz, 5.330.5 MHz, 7.287.5 MHz

Special modes: 3.583MHz (PSK & MT63), 3.549 MHz (CW)

North Florida ARES Emergency Plan

Primary Voice: 3.950 MHz

Alternate: 7.254 MHz

South Carolina ARES Emergency Plan

Primary Voice: 3.990 MHz

Alternate: 3.993.5 MHz, 7.232 MHz

North Carolina ARES Emergency Plan

Primary Voice: 3.923 MHz

Alternate: 7.232 MHz, CW: 3.573 MHz

A BIG event here at our home, probly never happen... But, like I sed earlier, y'all jez take a little time to think about this. Our BC ARES crew is fast becoming shorthanded for operators right now. It sure would be nice to hear familiar voices on our radios if the stuff hit the fan.

73, Ken, KM4HOS,

yer ever-luv'in' Excedrine headache #1

GENERAL LICENSE COURSE - Begins Thursday, **August 1st**, running every Thursday night from 6:30-8:30 PM, thru Sept 19th. This puts class out on Thursday before the VE Session [\$15] on Sat, Sept 21 (0830AM).

Nancy 573-528-0697 or K4NEP@arrl.net to sign up.

NETS

SUNDAY:

(rev. 190722)

Metro ARES FM Net - 1st Sunday ONLY at 1600L,
WA4ASI repeater, Covington, 146.925-, 88.5 PL
KK4GQ repeater, Fayetteville, 145.210 -, 131.8 PL
KC4AQS repeater, Paulding Co, 145.805 +, 100.0 PL

GA ARES/ARCBC WL Express Net - Send an ICS-213 (or regular typed msg, if unable 213) to WX4GMA and WX4BCA by 2200Z. [1700L EST winter/1800L EDT summer.] Please use a Winlink RF gateway; Winmor packet, etc, if capable; otherwise, use Telnet.

GA ARES Digital Nets - 2100Z [1600 EST winter/1700 EDT summer] 3.583 MHz USB.

- **GA ARES PSK 'Traffic' Net** - **EVERY** mo, FLDigi, MT-63 1KS, centered 2K MHz. called by GA ARES districts, send an 'I have traffic' msg when your district is called, wait til CFD'd, then ICS-213 to WX4GMA NCS.

- **GA ARES PSK 'check-in' Net** - **Even** mos, FLDigi, BPSK -125, centered 1000Hz, just a 'text' check-ins only and runs concurrently with the PSK 'Traffic' Net.

- **GA ARES D-RATS Net** - 2130Z [1630 EST/1730 EDT]. **Odd** months, port: gaares.ratflector.com, use 'chat' to ck-in; also under 'messages', send ICS-213, if able; runs concurrently with 'Traffic' net.

GA Section HF Net - 2200Z [1630 EST/1730 EDT], 3.975 MHz LSB, voice, by callsign prefix.

SE Weather Net - 2100L, D-Rats/D-Star, on sewx.ratflector.com. D-Star Voice on REF004A.

TUESDAY:

Butts County Emergency Comm Training Net - 1930L, WX4BCA repeater, 147.285 MHz, + offset, 131.8 PL, begins with voice check-ins, followed by NBEMS Digital Net. WL Express msgs accepted if Not sent the previous Sunday, send to WX4BCA with name, callsign, location, whether on mobile or aux power.

THURSDAY:

NCRC/ARES/RACES FM Net - 2000L, WA4ASI repeater, 146.925 - & 444.800 -, 88.5 PL. WL - K4NCR. May have a 'follow on' Digital Net - MT63-2KL, centered 1500 Hz, D-Rats on gaares.ratflector.com.

*** For other training opportunities, see the ARCBC Group.io website, and/or the GA ARES website for other Nets w/ days, times, freqs, protocols, etc, for your training convenience.***

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moving. There may be other hams who are too far apart or someone on an HT who wants to utilize the repeater.

- Common Simplex Frequencies:
 - * 146.520 MHz - National 2 M Calling Freq
 - * 145.550 MHz - Commonly Used Simplex Freq
 - * 147.525 MHz - Butts Co Simplex Freq
- Common abbreviations and "ham speak":
 - * 73 - "Best wishes" (don't pluralize it and 73s because that would be "best wisheses".)
 - * 88 - "Hugs and kisses"
 - * H-I or HIHI - Indicates sarcasm or a joke. Stems from sending Morse Code; opertors wold send HI or HIHI because it sounds like laughing (di-di-dit/di-dit.)
 - * CW - Morse Code
 - * Brick - A plifier
 - * DFQ - "Dead Full Quieting". You judge an FM transmission based on "quieting", meaning how much hiss is in the background. When some one says you're DFQ, it means you have a perfect signal into the repeater.
 - * Q5 - Indicates full quality of audio station is DFQ. A lower number indicates less than ideal audio quality.
- *Listen* prior to transmitting.

Thanks to the South Mountain Repeater Association, Inc., Cumberland County, PA.

MORSE CODE I COURSE - Beginning Monday **23rd**, following the VE session in Sept, and running every Monday & Thursday evening, from 7-8 PM, thru Nov 14th. This puts class ending on Thur, before the VE Session [\$15] on Sat, Nov 16 (0830AM). [Morse Code is no longer required to obtain an Amateur Radio license.]

Nancy 573-528-0697 or K4NEP@arrl.net to sign up.

CALENDAR

AUGUST 2019

22, 29 - GENERAL, FS #7, 1830-2030, FS7
17 - Hungry Hams - Lunch Box - 0730
17 - Tech Saturday, 0830, FS #7, 144 Colwell Rd.

SEPTEMBER 2019

5, 12, 19 - GENERAL course, FS #7, 1830-2030
9 - Group Dinner - Brickery (2nd/Mimosa), 1730
9 - Monthly Meeting - 7PM, Jackson FGs
14 - Skills Day - GEMA, Forsyth
21 - Hungry Hams - Huddle House (I-75/16) - 0730
21 - VE Session - 0830, FS #7, 144 Colwell Rd
23, 26, 30 - Morse Code I, 1900-2000, FS #7

OCTOBER 2019

3, 10, 14, 17, 21, 24, 28, 31 - Morse Code I, 1900-2000, 144 Colwell Rd
7 - Group Dinner - Brickery (2nd/Mimosa), 1730
7 - Monthly Meeting - 7PM, Jackson FGs
19 - Hungry Hams - Huddle House (I-75/16) - 0730
19 - Tech Saturday - 0830, FS #7, 144 Colwell Rd

NOVEMBER 2019

4, 7, 11, 14 - Morse Code I, 1900-200, 144 Colwell
4 - Group Dinner - Brickery (2nd/Mimosa), 1730
4 - Monthly Meeting - 7M, Jackson FGs
16 - Hungry Hams - Huddle House (I-75/16) - 0730
16 - VE Session - 0830, FS #7, 144 Colwell Rd

DECEMBER 2019

6 - 9th Anniv Family Christmas Dinner - Buckner's
21 - Hungry Hams - Huddle House (I-75/16) - 0730
21 - Tech Saturday - 0830, FS #7, 144 Colwell Rd
25 - Merry Christmas!

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