



**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**

JUNE 2014



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**ARRL FIELD DAY 2014 – JUNE 28-29, 2014**



One of the biggest events on the Amateur Radio calendar is Field Day. This year's event is the weekend of June 28-29 at the pavilion at Locust Grove United Methodist Church on Peeksville Road. Co-chairmen, Randy (NV4RB) and David (AK4EM) are gearing up for our best one ever.

Our June club meeting will be at the Field Day site in Locust Grove as we prepare for the Main Event. Ω



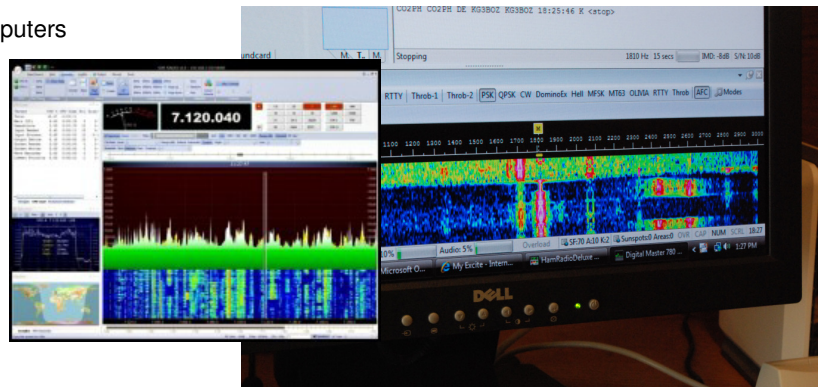
[www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)

**SAVE THE DATES**

Weekly Butts County Training Net Sundays at 5:30 PM  
 June Club Meeting June 10 & 24 7:00 PM  
 Field Day Prep June 10 & 24 7:00 PM  
 June Locust Grove UMC Fire Station #7

**DIGITAL TUNE-UP WITH AJ4GU – CLUB MEETING, JULY 7**

Bring your laptop computers to the July 7 club meeting and Mike Crowe (AJ4GU) will show us how to operate our rigs using digital communication. If you've already been making digital contacts, this will be a good refresher! Ω





### HAM CRAM – JULY 19



ing when afterwards some chose not to be involved in our club, but we expend the energy not only for our club, but for the good of the hobby in general. On July 19 Dan Darsey (W4DED) will be at the mic in his new role as VE Team Administrator.

Our "HamCrams" have been ultra successful in serving as an entry point for new Amateur Radio operators. It's disappoint-

If you know of friends, family or work associates who have always wanted to be ham radio operators, get them to the HamCram on

July 19. The testing begins at 8:30 AM at Fire Station #7. Ω

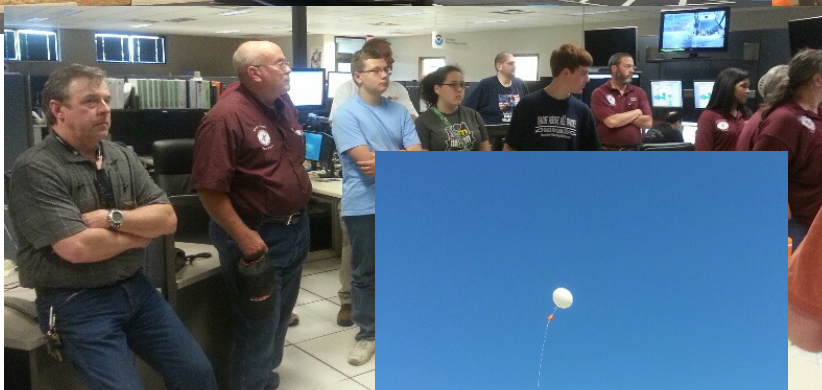


Prayer may have been removed from public school but it's still a staple of HamCrams!

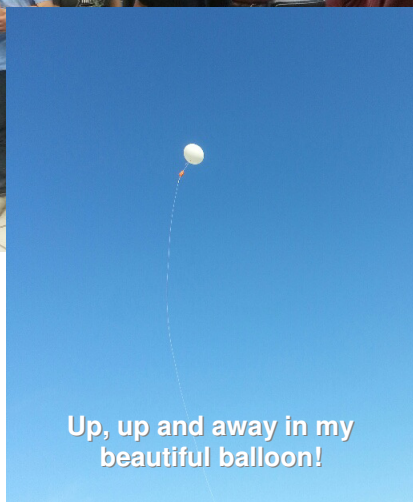
### CLUB FIELD TRIP TO THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE



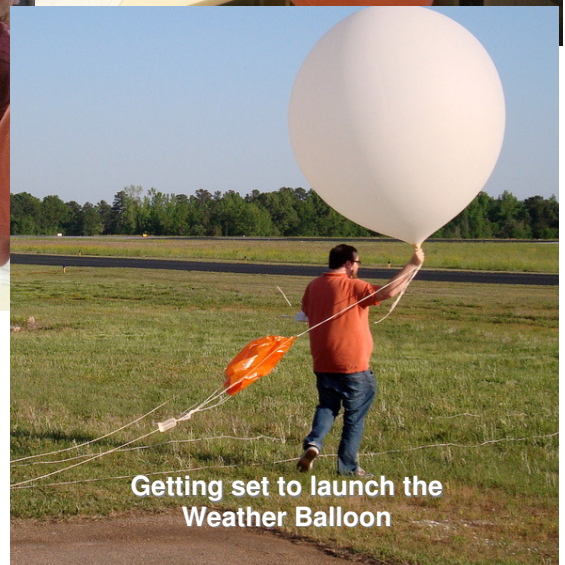
Meteorologist explains the work of the National Weather Service



Our May club meeting was a field trip to the National Weather Service in Peachtree City where we learned about the functions of the NWS and observed the daily launch of a weather balloon. Very Cool. Ω



Up, up and away in my beautiful balloon!



Getting set to launch the Weather Balloon



**SAVE THE DATES – IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Digital Tune-Up**  
 With Mike Crowe (AJ4GU)  
 July 7 @ 7:00PM  
 Fire Station #7

**Ham Cram**  
 July 19th, 2014  
 Fire Station #7

Please invite local persons who will be willing to get involved in our club!

**Butts County Emergency Communicators Net**

Temporarily on the McDonough Repeater  
 KI4FVI  
 146.715 - PL 146.2

**2014 Field Day Club Picnic**  
 June 28

www.arrl.org

**FROM THE BACKACRE – BUZZ (K3GWK) Emergency Coordinator**

Just when I had my station set back up and operating, experimenting with a new mode JT63, Murphy paid me a visit. There was the flash/boom of a very close lightning strike. This particular strike was accompanied by a very subtle pop and a brief whiff of burned electronics. My HF radio was in its normal shut down condition – no antenna connected. Once the storm had passed, I connected the antenna and made a few contacts. When I looked at my logger's main screen I noticed that the frequency read-out did not agree with the radio's frequency nor did it change when the "big dial" was rotated. After about an hour of troubleshooting, using two computers, a spare interface and my trusty DVM, I realized the pop and the smell had come from my HF radio's serial interface circuit. Long story short; several of the interface components had been vapor-

ized by the near-by strike. A quick vacation to Maine (N1EQ's repair shop) and my 746 is back to normal. Looks like a ground loop between my PC and the radio via the serial interface connection was the culprit. Tying my station ground to the electrical service ground would have probably saved the radio. May was a calm month for our group. We had a very interesting monthly training session at the Peachtree City NWS office. We took a long hike, watched the evening upper air balloon launch, had a brief tour of the facility and a presentation on CoCoRaHS. Thanks to Christine and Eric for taking the time to meet with us.



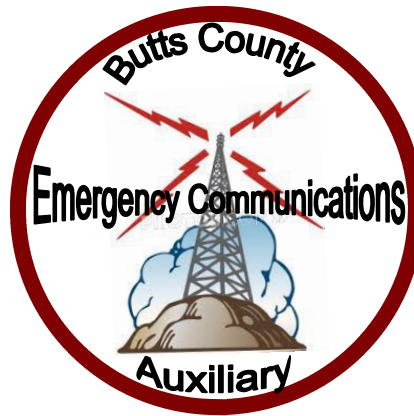
Our membership stands at 23 Active, 5 Pending and 12 Inactive. We had four FM training nets in May totaling 20 hours and participated in 4 activities (1 monthly meeting, 2 study group sessions and a special meeting with FEMA regarding the recent ice storm). Our group is not growing, we need to start talking it up again. Our summer "HamCram" is coming up on July 19. That is a good opportunity to get friends and relatives started in our wonderful hobby. If you know of anyone who might be interested let Dan or me know. Space in the HamCram is limited. Our Extra Class study group continues; only four sessions to

go until the July 19<sup>th</sup> VE session (T-Day). We have had good attendance at the sessions and hopefully everyone will do well on the Extra exam. Review, Practice, Repeat... Field Day is the fourth weekend in June (28 & 29). We will be receiving a "Ham Radio Week" proclamation from the Butts County Commissioners and the Locust Grove City Council again this year. We will be using the LG UMC pavilion again this year. The club's annual Family Picnic will be held at 5 PM on Saturday (June 28). Glen has started a CERT class. It meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday (7 PM) at Station 7. Contact [Glen](#) if you are interested or if you know someone who is. Thanks for all you do... 73, Buzz Kutcher, K3GWK Ω

Visit our website: [www.bcgaares.org](http://www.bcgaares.org)

**BUTTS COUNTY EMERGENCY  
COMMUNICATIONS AUXILIARY**

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**Emergency Coordinator**  
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**Director, Butts County  
OHS/EMA**  
Glen Goens  
KJ4TVO

**CERT Team Liaison**  
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**PIO / Net Manager**  
Ed Hoard  
KK4GNH  
[edhoard@yahoo.com](mailto:edhoard@yahoo.com)

**Net Control Station  
Schedule**

June — Darlene (KK4BKF)  
July — Ed (KK4GNH)  
August — Who will volunteer?  
September — Who will  
volunteer?

If you'd like to serve as NCS, please  
email Ed (KK4GNH), Net Manager:  
[edhoard@yahoo.com](mailto:edhoard@yahoo.com)

**Weekly Training Net:**

**Sunday 21:30 GMT 4:30 EST  
5:30 EDT**

**KI4FVI Repeater 146.715 - 146.2 PL  
McDonough, GA (temporarily)**

**BUTTS COUNTY / SOUTHERN CRESCENT AREA NETS — HF, VHF & UHF**

**Sunday (5:30 pm) GA ARES Digital Net — 3583 KHz (USB) or 7042 (PSK-31) Center 1000 Hz**

**Sunday (5:30 pm) Butts CO FM Training Net — 147.285 MHz (131.8 PL) Winlink: WX4BCA**

**Sunday (6:00 pm) GA ARES SSB Net — 3975 KHz (LSB) Winlink: WX4GMA**

**Monday (8:00 pm) Walton CO ARES FM Net — 147.270 MHz (88.5 PL)**

**Monday (9:00 pm) Rockdale CO ARES FM Net — 147.210 MHz (162.2 PL)**

**Monday (9:00 pm) Southern Crescent FM Net — 145.170 MHz (146.2 PL) & 444.875 MHz (123.0 PL)**

**Tuesday (7:30 pm) GA CERT Digital Net — 3585 KHz (USB) or 7042 (PSK-31) Center 1000 Hz**

**Tuesday (8:00 pm) GA CERT FM Net — 146.805 MHz (100.0 PL)**

**Wednesday (8:00 pm) Newton Co 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**

**MONTHLY HOSPITAL NET**

**1st Sunday (3:00 pm) GA Hospital Net — 7188 KHz**

NCS: Ken Reid (KG4USN) ASEC-Public Health: Barry Kanne (W4TGA)

**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 **Ed Hoard** (KK4GNH)  
[edhoard@yahoo.com](mailto:edhoard@yahoo.com)