



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

APRIL 2015



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SAVE THE DATES

Sundays @ 5:30 PM
Weekly Butts County Training Net

Monday, April 6
April Club Meeting
5:00 PM Dinner at Mesquite Grill, Jackson
7:00 PM Club Meeting Fire Station #7

Saturday, April 18
Hungry Hams, 7:30
Project Workshop Fire Station #7
9:00 AM

CERT TEAM & BCECA UNDERGO SKYWARN TRAINING

Our March club meeting was a joint meeting with the Butts County CERT Team and featured SkyWarn Spotter Training.

There was not a seat remaining as Trish Atwell, meteorologist from the National Weather Service in Peachtree City, was our guest presenter.

Trish gave the NWS's newest presentation that included some spell-binding video of severe weather—particularly tornadoes.

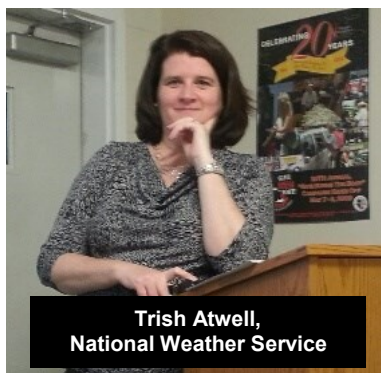
Trish taught the attendees to distinguish between benign clouds and ominous storm/tornado clouds. She advised our CERT Team and EmComm volunteers on the best way to contact the National Weather Service once dangerous weather has been spotted.

A Tornado Watch is issued when conditions are favorable for tornado development. People located in and around the watch area should keep an eye to the sky and listen to their NOAA weather radio all hazards or tune to local broadcast media for further weather information.

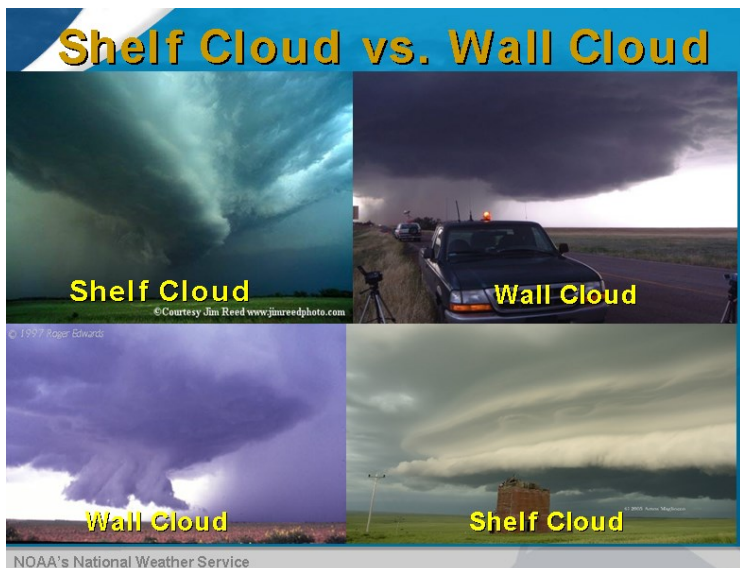
The watch is intended to give you time to prepare and time to review your safety rules.

Tornado Warning - issued when a developing tornado has been detected by National Weather Service doppler radar or a reliable report of a tornado has been reported. A tornado warning is usually issued for portions of one or two counties, for an hour or less. The storm could also produce large hail and destructive straight line

winds. If the tornado warning includes your neighborhood or work place, you should seek safe shelter immediately.



Trish Atwell,
National Weather Service



NOAA's National Weather Service

In addition to our Storm Spotter training, club members gathered earlier to hear a report from our Nominating Committee. The committee recommended that our present officers

serve in their positions for another term. There were no nominations from the floor and the election was declared closed.

Our next club meeting will be April 6 at Fire Station #7 on Colwell Road at 7:00 PM.



UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

April

April 6 — Pre-meeting dinner and fellowship. Mesquite Grill, Jackson. 5:00 PM
Monthly Club Meeting & Training. 7:00 PM. Fire Station #7
Monthly Training: *Basic Soldering*

April 11 — Mobile, AL Hamfest (w4iax.net)

April 18 — Project Workshop. Soldering a circuit board. Fire Station #7.

April 18 — Cheerios Challenge (Newton Co. Club)

April 21 — Newton County Club Meeting. 911 Center, 8146 Carlton Trail. 7:00 PM

May

May 4 — Pre-meeting dinner and fellowship. Mesquite Grill, Jackson. 5:00 PM
Monthly Club Meeting & Training. 7:00 PM. Fire Station #7
Program: *Field Day Preparation*

May 15-17 — Dayton Hamvention. Hamvention.org

May 16 — VE Session. Butts County Rec Center. 9:00 AM

May 19 — Newton County Club Meeting. NC Law Enforcement Ctr. 7:00 PM.

May 29 — Region F Hospital Exercise. Sylvan Grove Hospital

Spalding County

Saturday,
April 11

9:00 AM

Spalding Regional
Hospital

601 South 8th Street
Griffin, GA

Henry County

Saturday,
April 18

9:00 AM

Piedmont Henry
Medical Center
1133 Eagle's Land-
ing Parkway

Stockbridge, GA

Butts County

Saturday,
May 16

9:00 AM

Butts County
Recreation Center

576 Ernest Biles
Drive
Jackson, GA

Here is your opportunity to swap, buy or sell any ham radio equipment and/or peripherals. To list your item(s), just email newsletter editor, Ed Hoard (WX4ED) at edhoard@yahoo.com.

The
**Swap
Shop**

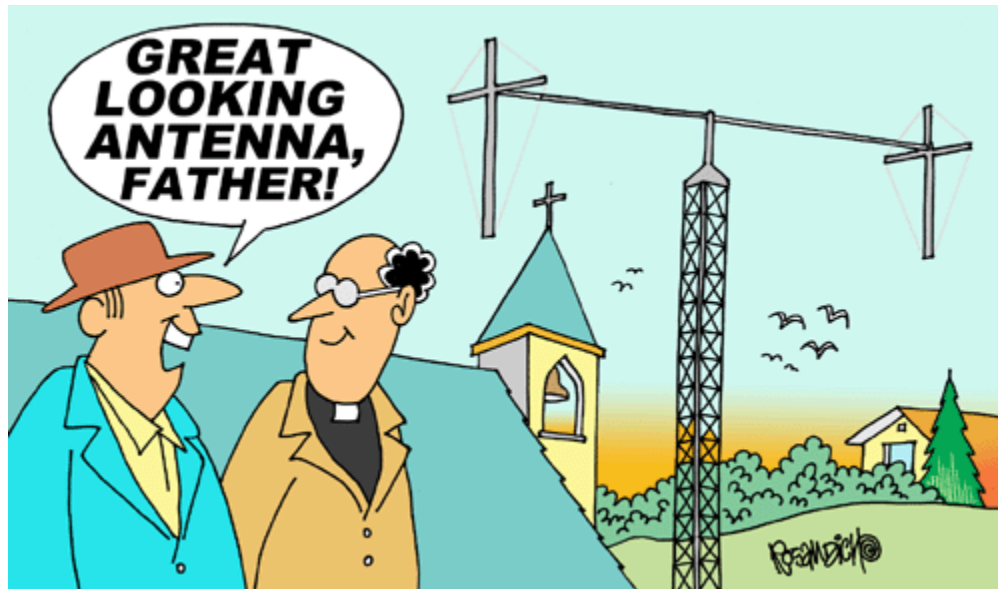
Wanted to Buy: 2 meter J Pole or materials with which to construct one. John Harwood (KM4DHY). Contact: jwharwood@gmail.com.

For Sale: Lenovo laptop computer. 15" screen. Lightly used. Near-perfect condition. \$100. Ed Hoard (WX4ED). Contact: edhoard@yahoo.com

GARS Swap Net — Mondays— 7:30-8:30 PM
147.075 + PL 82.5 Lawrenceville, GA
EchoLink: W4GR-R



HAM "HI HI"

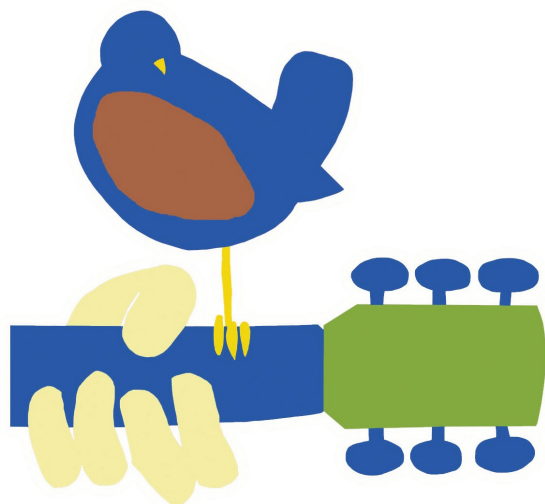


15th Annual

Bluebirds & Bluegrass Festival 2015

WX4BCA

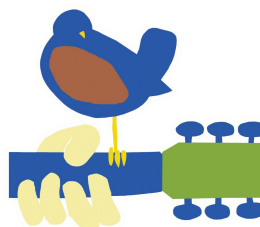
Special Event Station
at the
Bluebirds & Bluegrass
Festival
Saturday, March 28
2015



**Dauset Trails
Nature Center**

15th Annual

Bluebirds & Bluegrass Festival 2015



**Dauset Trails
Nature Center**

WX4BCA

To Radio _____
Date _____ Time (UTC) _____
Band _____ FQ _____
Mode _____ RST _____

73! de Butts County Amateur
Radio Club, Jackson, GA WX4BCA
EM73xh ITU Zone 8



To:



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

March started off with an all-seats-filled, SKYWARN Storm Spotter training class. Trish Atwell from the NWS office in Peachtree City presented the new training program. Many of us have not had a Storm Spotter class in several years; Trish presented the information in a new way. Thanks to OHS/EM Director Glen Goens (KJ4TVO) and our SKYWARN Coordinator, Elaine Stachowiak (KW4AQ) for setting up the training.

There were several DXpeditions on the air in March and the K3GWK log has a couple more ATNO multi-band contacts. One of the stations was in Eritrea (Middle East along the Red Sea) and the other one was in the Democratic Republic of Congo (West Africa). It takes a brave crew to put those locations on the air.

My overall DXCC count stands at 161 and I just qualified for a DXCC on 20 meter phone. There was a big solar storm related band opening on 10 meters during the ARRL's DX Contest – WOW!

Mike Crowe, Ed Hoard, Dan Darsey and I attended a session of the Georgia Hospital Association's Mutual Aid Task Force last Friday. We were there to assist Ken Reid (KG4USN) with his presentation on the importance of Digital Communications using

NBEMS and a Signalink on HF and VHF. Mike and I each set up a portable VHF station and passed traffic using

Flmsg and Fldigi. We had several attendees spend some

time watching and asking questions. It was a good opportunity to get ham radio in front of the emergency preparedness leaders from Georgia's hospitals. There was a very interesting presentation by Pat Warner, a VP with Waffle House regarding their "Model of Preparedness." FEMA actually has a "Waffle House Index" to rate natural disasters. If the WH is closed, things are real, real bad. Waffle House is serious about



storm response, staying open or re-opening ASAP.

Our 1st quarter exercise will be the operation of a portable "Special

Event" station at the Bluebirds & Bluegrass Festival at the Dauset Trails Nature Center (360 Mt. Vernon Church

Road) on March 28. We will be operating a station on 20 meters. Plan to stop by to chat or operate or just help us draw a crowd. We will be set up near the barn. Elaine Stachowiak will be the Incident Commander.

Our General class ended on March 17 and on Saturday five of the six students in the class passed their General Class test. Kudos to our club's new Generals: JD VanSickle (KM4DHY), John Harwood (KM4DHS) and Ken Wallis (KM4HOS).

Two other class members, Corbett Tate (KM4GDL) and Greg Reule (KM4HOY) and Vickie Henry (KK4VUG), a ham from Newton County, also

passed the General test. The VE team did a great job and we had a "full house" at the Hungry Hams breakfast prior to the VE session.

Don't forget to log in to your GA ARES database account – your call sign is your user name. The new version of the database will be operational soon and it is important to make sure everyone's information is correct and their user IDs and passwords work.

Our next training session will be April 6th at Station 7. The training topics will be soldering and installing coax connectors. Bring your soldering equipment for "show & tell". On April 18th we will have a circuit board assembly workshop at Station 7 beginning at 09:00. There will be more information on the workshop at the April meeting. Prior to the workshop we will gather for our regular Hungry Hams breakfast – 07:30 at The Lunchbox in Jackson.

The [Georgia OSO Party](#) is coming up on April 11 and 12. There are several challengers hoping to take home the "bacon;" the much adored Locust Grove Transmitting Society GAQP Trophy.

Thanks for all you do to support Amateur Radio.

73,
Buzz Kutcher (K3GWK)
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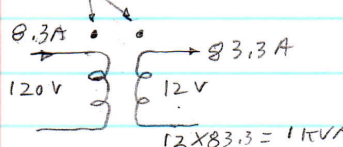


Tech Notes

1KVA Transformer Whitney Smith (WA4VBX)

SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM OF A 2 WINDING WITH VOLTAGE (V) AND AMPERAGE (A) SHOWN. EITHER SIDE CAN BE USED AS

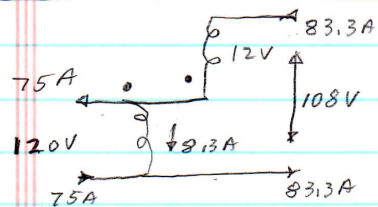
PHASING DOTS



$$120 \times 8.3 = 1000 \text{ VA OR } 1 \text{ KVA}$$

THIS CIRCUIT CAN TRANSFER
1 KVA

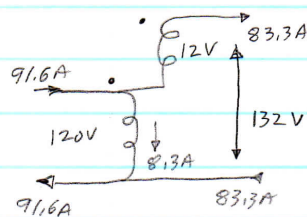
THE INPUT OR OUTPUT. BE CAREFUL RATINGS ARE NOT EXCEEDED. THE "A" FIGURES ARE MAXIMUM, BUT LOWER VALUES CAN BE USED. THERE ARE OTHER VOLTAGE RATIOS SUCH AS 120:6. PHASING DOTS ARE USED TO SHOW WIRING CONNECTIONS, BUT ARE NOT ON THE TRANSFORMER.



$$120 \text{ V} \times 75 \text{ A} = 9.0 \text{ KVA} \quad 108 \text{ V} \times 83.3 \text{ A} = 9.0 \text{ KVA}$$

THIS 1KVA TRANSFORMER CAN TRANSFER 9.0 KVA AT 108V IN THIS CONFIGURATION.

SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM IN "BUCK" WIRING CONFIGURATION. THIS CIRCUIT CAN BE USED IF A LOWER VOLTAGE IS DESIRED,

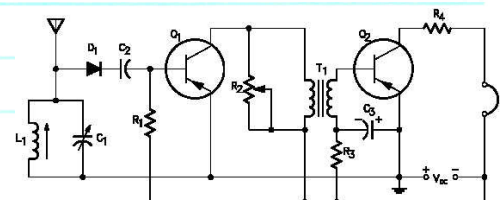


$$120 \text{ V} \times 91.6 \text{ A} = 11.0 \text{ KVA} \quad 132 \text{ V} \times 83.3 \text{ A} = 11.0 \text{ KVA}$$

THIS 1KVA TRANSFORMER CAN TRANSFER 11.0 KVA AT 132V IN THIS CONFIGURATION.

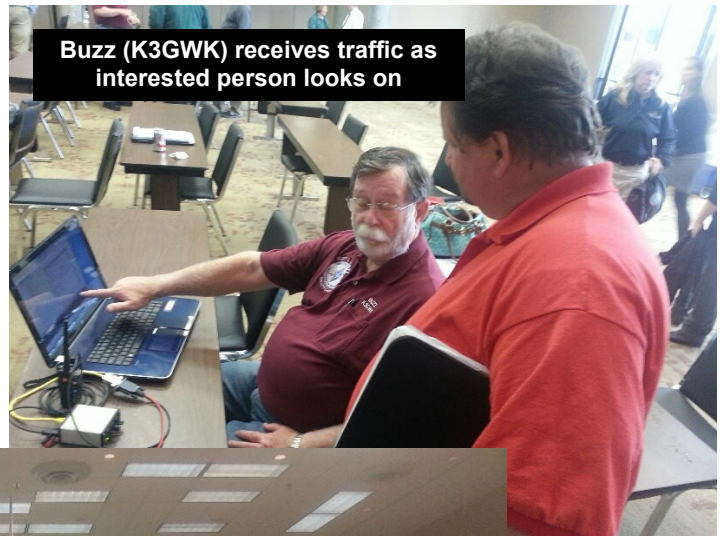
SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM IN "BOOST" WIRING CONFIGURATION. THIS CIRCUIT CAN BE USED IF A HIGHER VOLTAGE IS DESIRED

If you have a design or do-it-yourself project, please submit your project to the Editor for inclusion in "Tech Notes."





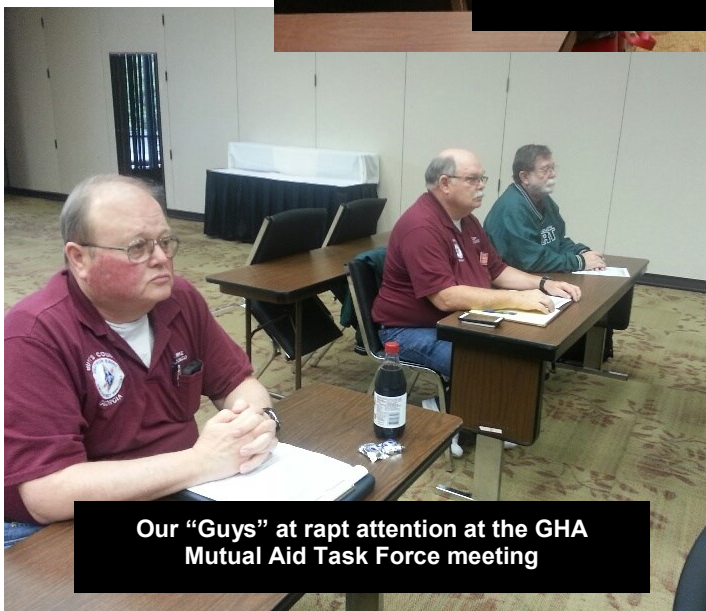
Mike (AJ4GU) sends "traffic" to Buzz (K3GWK) via FLSG



Buzz (K3GWK) receives traffic as interested person looks on



Georgia Hospital Association's Mutual Aid Task Force met at GPSTC March 20. Mike (AJ4GU), Dan (W4DED), Buzz (K3GWK) and Ed (WX4ED) attended and demonstrated FLDIGI



Our "Guys" at rapt attention at the GHA Mutual Aid Task Force meeting

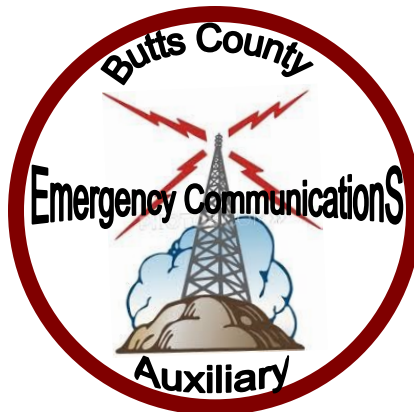


Ken Reid (KG4USN) spoke on the importance of Digital Communication in the event of an emergency

Visit our website: www.bcgaares.org

**BUTTS COUNTY EMERGENCY
COMMUNICATIONS AUXILIARY**

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Ed Hoard
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edhoard@yahoo.com

Club Photographer

J.D. Van Sickle
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**Net Control Station
Schedule**

April — J.D.
(KM4DHS)

May — Elaine
(KW4AQ)

June — Darlene
(KK4BKF)

If you'd like to serve as NCS, please
email Ed (WX4ED), Net Manager:
edhoard@yahoo.com

Weekly Training Net:

Sunday 21:30 GMT

4:30 EST 5:30 EDT

WX4BCA Repeater 147.285- PL131.8

Jackson, GA

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 — 146.715 MHz (146.2 PL) Winlink: WX4BCA

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

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

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 (WX4ED)**
edhoard@yahoo.com

QRT