



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 2015



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CLUB MAKES PLANS FOR FIELD DAY 2015

On Monday, June 1, the Butts County Amateur Radio Club met for their monthly meeting. This month's meeting was held at the Tim Kersey Pavilion at the Butts County Recreation Park.

This brand new pavilion was constructed and dedicated last summer and named for

and are looking forward to setting up our operations there this year.

In addition to Field Day comments from Randy (NV4RB), we heard a report from Buzz (K3GWK) regarding the acquisition of new equipment for our Sylvan Grove Hospital emergency station. The gear is



SAVE THE DATES

Sundays @ 5:30 PM
Weekly Butts County
Training Net

Saturday, June 20
Hungry Hams, 7:30
Lunch Box Restaurant
Jackson

June 27-28
Field Day 2015
Tim Kersey Pavilion
Butts County
Recreation Park
Family Picnic,
Saturday at 5:30 PM

Tim Kersey, a long-time volunteer in the Butts County recreation department. Tim passed away several years ago —much too young —leaving a young widow and two sons. Tim was the brother-in-law of Butts County Sheriff Gary Long.

Ed Hoard (WX4ED) spoke at the dedication of the pavilion having served as Tim & Lisa's pastor and friend.

This will be our first Field Day inside Butts County. In past years, we have operated from the Locust Grove United Methodist Church's pavilion, a location that was well-suited for our operation. But since we are a Butts County club, it was determined that we should find a location inside the county. We scouted out the Tim Kersey pavilion

now in our possession and our Tech Team will be installing it soon.

Keith Cox (KM4DHV) reported on his investigation of liability insurance for our club. The club voted unanimously to purchase liability insurance for a premium of \$200 per annum for \$1,000,000 of coverage per incident.

Buzz also encouraged members to attend the Jackson City Council meeting on June 2 to receive a proclamation from Mayor Kay Pippin declaring the week of June 22 as Amateur Radio Week in Butts County.

The June meeting was well-attended and there was a good spirit of anticipation for Field Day.

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UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

June

- June 1** — Pre-meeting dinner and fellowship. Mesquite Grill, Jackson. 5:30 PM
Monthly Club Meeting & Training. 7:00 PM. Ernest Biles Park
Program: *Field Day Preparation*
- June 6** — Atlanta HamFest & GA State Convention. atlantahamfest.com
- June 16** — Newton County Club Meeting. NC Law Enforcement Ctr. 7:00 PM.
- June 20** — Hungry Hams breakfast. Lunch Box Restaurant. 7:30 AM
- June 27-28** — Field Day. Ernest Biles Park. Jackson
Family Picnic. June 27. 5:30 PM

July

- June 30—July 5** — 13 Colonies Special Event on HF
- July 4** — Independence Day
- July 6** — Pre-meeting dinner and fellowship. Mesquite Grill, Jackson. 5:30 PM
Monthly Club Meeting & Training. 7:00 PM. Fire Station #7
Program: *Basic ARES and the Incident Command System*
- July 18** — Ham Cram & V.E. Session. Fire Station #7. 8:30 AM
- July 21** — Newton County Club Meeting. NC Law Enforcement Ctr. 7:00 PM.



HOSPITAL RESPONSE TEAM PERFORMS SUCCESSFUL TEST

Our Hospital Response Team performed flawlessly in a Region F full scale simulated emergency test on May 29.

The simulated senario was a hurricane hitting Savannah, Georgia. The test was to determine if, in the absence of normal communication modes (telephone), traffic could be passed between Savannah, Emergency Control in Macon and Spalding Regional Hospital in Griffin.

Elaine (KK4BKF) and Ed (WX4ED) set up as Sylvan

Grove Hospital at Elaine's QTH and Ken (KM4HOS) and Buzz (K3GWK) manned the ham station at Spalding Regional Hospital.

The Sylvan Grove station was able to pass traffic on HF with Savannah and Macon and via VHF FM with the Spalding Regional station.

It was stated on air that the Sylvan Grove station's signal was the best signal on the network! Once again we proved that Ham Radio comes through when all other communication modes fail. Ω

Field Day
2015
June 27-28
Tim Kersey Pavilion
Butts County
Recreation Park
Ernest Biles Drive
Jackson
Family Picnic
June 27 5:30 PM





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

By now preparations for Field Day 2015 are in full swing. Ham radio groups from all over the US and Canada are preparing for their operations on June 27 and 28. David (AK4EM), Randy (NV4RB) and Mike (AJ4GU) have some great plans for our Field Day.

May was not a very busy month for us. We held 10 nets in May with Elaine (KW4AQ) serving as NCS. 5 of the nets were WL2K message tests. WL2K is an important tool for ARES; everyone should have WL2K capabilities. If you don't, contact your Elmer for assistance. Our ARES head-count stands at 26 (18 ACTIVE and 8 Deployable). We had 3 operations in May, 50 Ham Hours of service.

The Georgia Department of Public Health sponsored a Full Scale Exercise for medical facilities in Region F which was held on Friday, May 29. Sylvan Grove Hospital decided not to be part of the exercise. The Spalding Regional Medical Center in Griffin was involved and several of our "Hospital Response Team" members participated in support of the Griffin facility. Darlene (KK4BKF) and Ed (WX4ED) operated Darlene's home station "as" the ham station at Sylvan Grove. With both

UHF/VHF and HF capabilities, they acted as a relay station for the ham station at Spalding Regional. Spalding's regular ham team was unavailable so we filled in. Ken (KM4HOS) and I operated the station at Spalding. The premise of the exercise was the threat of a large hurricane along the Georgia coast. Over 190 "patients" need to be evacuated from several coastal medical facilities.

There were no actual patient transfers; the exercise was a test for the logistics of the situation – who moves, where were they moved and did they get there?

Our portion of the exercise began at 08:00 with my sending an Instant Message to our hospital responders asking them to prepare for deployment. By 09:00 the Spalding station was on-line, operating on back-up power, and at 09:40 Darlene and Ed were on the air also. (The exercise plan at Spalding was based on the hospital's being damaged by a tornado.) At 10:00 the Spalding facility suffered a total communication outage. A message to that effect was

sent to KK4BKF and then on to the "Exercise HF Net." Other net traffic was passed; tornado at a school in Macon, Navicent Hospital in Macon lost all communication, etc. According to the net station in Houston County, our group had the "best HF signal" on the net. The Spalding exercise ended at 10:37 and at 10:40 our operations were secured.

The ham station at Spalding is in a room in the basement of the hospital. There is phone service (nobody ever called) and a PC connected to the hospital's LAN system. There is no HT two-way radio coverage. Ken and I followed the exercise by monitoring the WebEOC feed.

I received a message from Billy Tomlinson, Spalding's Emergency Coordinator, praising our team and thanking us for our support. While not yet a ham, Billy is a strong advocate for ham radio at Spalding and at Sylvan Grove.

The ham radio equipment for the station at Sylvan Grove has arrived. The facility engineering department is preparing a

location in the maintenance office below the cafeteria. A work detail will be called to extend the antenna cables and set up the station. We will have HF and UHF/VHF, including DStar, capabilities.

The Jackson City Council meeting for June 2 was cancelled. We will receive the proclamation from Jackson at their next meeting on June 16 (7 PM). On Monday evening, June 8 at 6 PM, we will receive an "Amateur Radio Week" proclamation from the Butts County Board of Commissioners. Let's have a good turn-out and please, if you have one, wear your club shirt.

Breakfast on Field Day Saturday (June 27) will be held at The Lunchbox at 07:30.

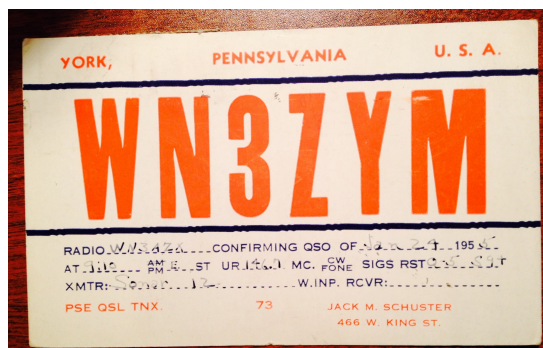
Thanks for all you do.

73, Buzz
(K3GWK)

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K3GWK'S CURRENT SHACK & 1ST QSL CARD



We'd love to see a pic of your Shack and 1st QSL card.

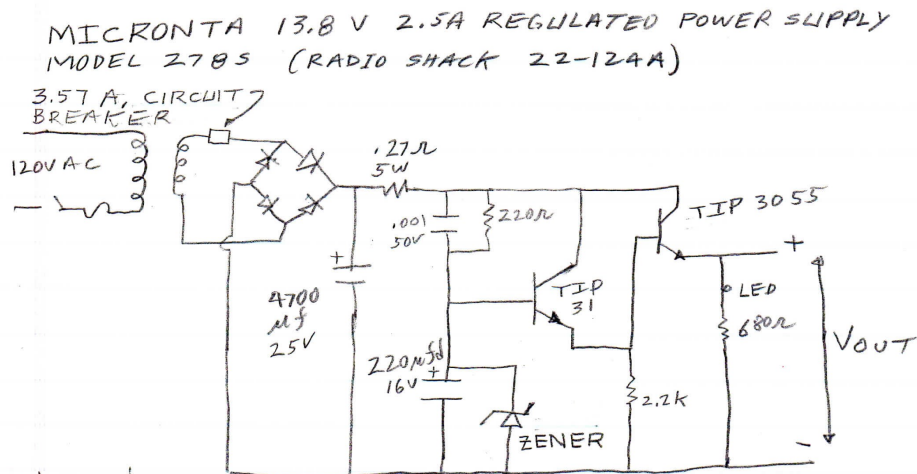
Please email to:
edhoard@yahoo.com

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Tech Notes

Micronta Regulated Power Supply Alteration Whitney Smith (WA4VBX)

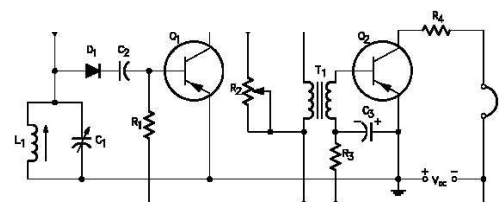


NOTES!

1. V_{OUT} SHOULD READ ABOUT 13.8 V OR SLIGHTLY LESS,
2. ONE SUPPLY HAD V_{OUT} OF 14.5 V AND THE OTHER SUPPLY HAD V_{OUT} OF 16 V.
3. CHANGE THE ZENER DIODE TO 15.0 V OF THE SAME OR LARGER WATTAGE RATING TO CORRECT THE OUTPUT VOLTAGE.
4. THIS IS A "BARE BONES" POWER SUPPLY.
5. ADDING A CROWBAR CIRCUIT, A MOV ON THE 120 V. INPUT, HIGHER VOLTAGE RATING ON SOME CAPACITORS, AND A FUSED OUTPUT WOULD BE NICE.
6. WHEN YOU GET A POWER SUPPLY, CHECK THE OUTPUT VOLTAGE AT NO LOAD AND AT FULL LOAD. THE VOLTAGE CHANGE SHOULD GENERALLY BE LESS THAN $\frac{1}{2}$ VOLT.
7. DO NOT USE YOUR RADIO TO TEST A POWER SUPPLY. USE A "DUMMY" LOAD.

4/9/15
WLS

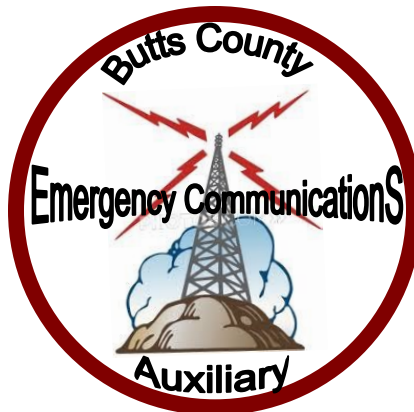
If you have a design or do-it-yourself project, please submit your project to the Editor for inclusion in "Tech Notes."



Visit our website: www.bcgaares.org

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COMMUNICATIONS AUXILIARY**

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**Net Control Station
Schedule**

June — Darlene
(KK4BKF)

July — Buzz
(K3GWK)

August — Darlene
(KK4BKF)

September — Ed
(WX4ED)

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