



**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**

NOVEMBER 2015



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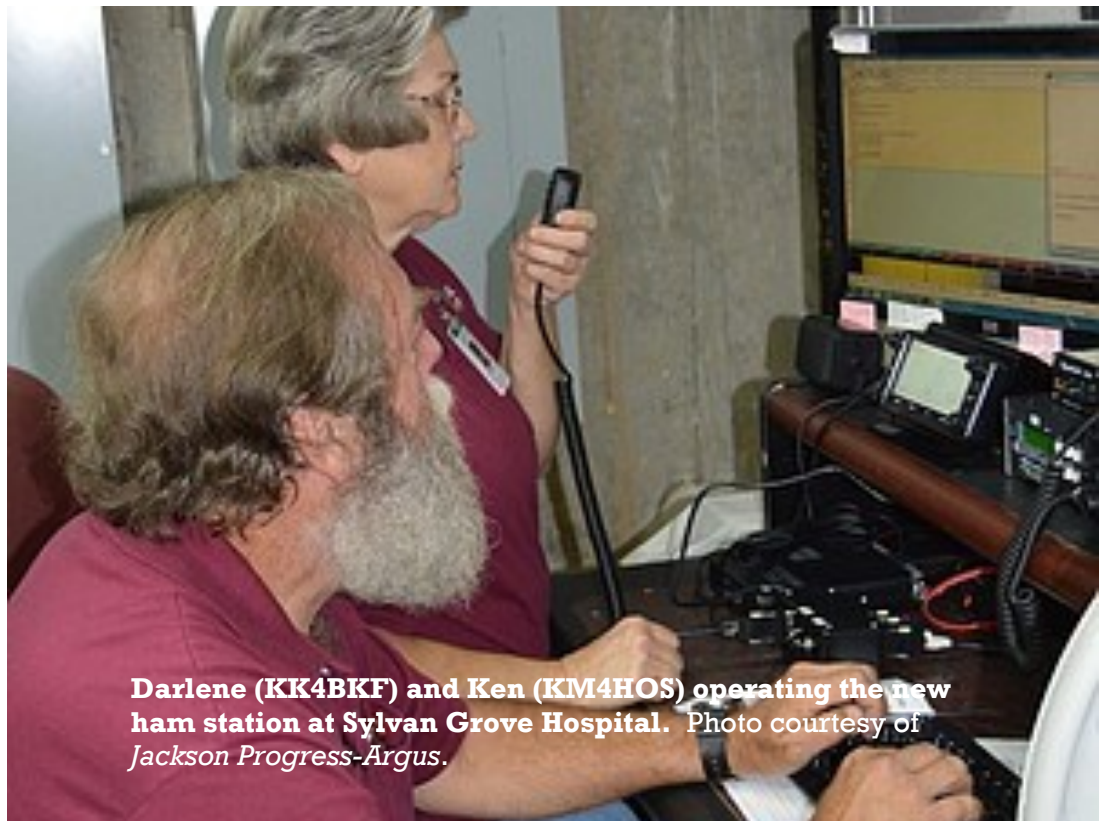
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**BCECA FEATURED ON INTERNATIONAL WEB SITE**

The installation of our new ham station at Sylvan Grove Hospital has generated not only local interest, but international interest as well!

paper has an average circulation of approximately 3,200 subscribers. But a popular British web site picked up the story and has increased its



**Darlene (KK4BKF) and Ken (KM4HOS) operating the new ham station at Sylvan Grove Hospital.** Photo courtesy of *Jackson Progress-Argus*.

**SAVE THE DATES**

- Sundays @ 4:30 PM**  
Weekly Butts County FM Training Net
- Monday, Nov. 2**  
Pre-meeting meal at Mesquite, 5:30  
Club Meeting, 7:00 PM, Fire Station #7
- Saturday, Nov. 21**  
Hungry Hams, 7:30 AM, Lunch Box Restaurant  
V.E. Session, 9:00 AM  
Butts Co. Rec Ctr

Following the station's installation, Sherri Ellington of local newspaper *The Jackson Progress-Argus*, was on hand to take photos and interview club members about emergency communication.

The "Prog-Arg" as locals affectionately call the local paper, is circulated in Butts and surrounding counties. The

exposure quite a bit! The U.K.'s premiere ham radio web site **QRZnow.com**, seen by amateur radio operators all over the world, featured the story about Sylvan Grove's new emcomm station in its News section.

Hams the world over now know about our Butts County Amateur Radio club and the Butts County Emergency Communication's Auxiliary!



**UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR**



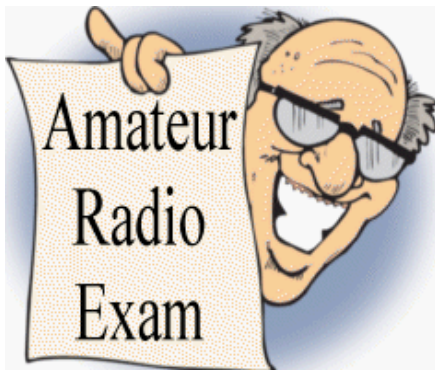
**NOVEMBER**

- November 2** — Pre-meeting dinner and fellowship. Mesquite Grill, 5:30  
Monthly Club Meeting & Training. 7:00 PM. Fire Station #7
- November 7-8** — Stone Mountain HamFest, Lawrenceville, GA
- November 17**— Newton County Club Meeting. NC Law Enforcement Center, 7:00 PM.
- November 21** — Hungry Hams, Lunch Box Restaurant, 7:30 AM
- V.E. Session, Butts County Rec Center, Ernest Biles Drive, Jackson
- November 26** — Thanksgiving Day



**DECEMBER**

- December 3** — Christmas Dinner  
(5th Anniversary)  
Buckner's Restaurant, Jackson
- December 25** — Christmas Day



**Spalding County**

Saturday,  
November 14  
9:00 AM  
Spalding Regional  
Hospital  
601 South 8th Street  
Griffin, GA

**Henry County**

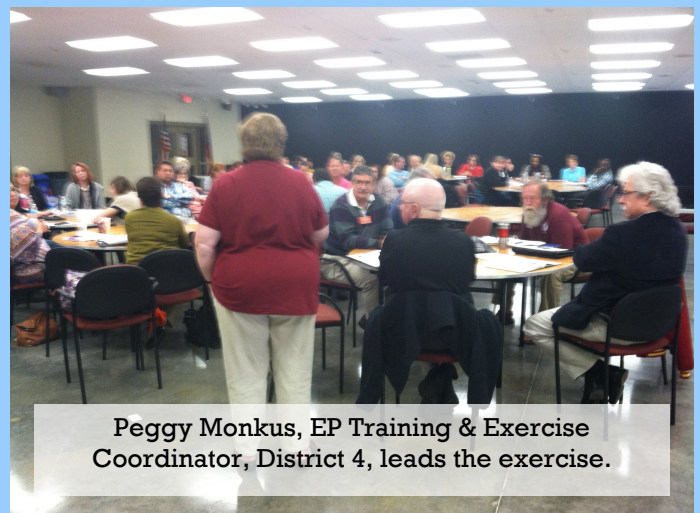
Saturday,  
November 21  
9:00 AM  
Piedmont Henry  
Medical Center  
1133 Eagle's  
Landing Parkway  
Stockbridge, GA

**Butts County**

Saturday,  
November 21  
9:00 AM  
Butts County  
Recreation Center  
Ernest Biles Drive  
Jackson, GA

**District 4 Public Health Table-Top Exercise**

On October 20 Ken (KM4HOS) and Ed (WX4ED) attended the District 4 Public Health meeting in Newnan. The program for the day was a "table-top" exercise in preparation for the upcoming SET on November 16. The scenario for this year's SET is that a terrorist organization has spread Plague over the City of Atlanta. It will be the responsibility of the County Public Health Departments to get life-saving antidotes to all the citizens of their counties within a 48-hour window. At the meeting, a group of Amateur Radio operators from around the 4th District were introduced and Greg Keck, EC for Troupe County, spoke to the group about the benefits of a back-up communications system with Amateur Radio.



Peggy Monkus, EP Training & Exercise Coordinator, District 4, leads the exercise.



**FROM THE BACKACRE — BUZZ (K3GWK)** Butts County Emergency Coordinator

The old Backacre is looking pretty good, thanks to some super XYL shrub pruning and a serious clean-up of the Jenkinsburg Railroad. There is still more to do and more “Burn Permits” to request. Cough, cough...

The first part of the 2015 SET is in the can. We did real well and accomplished several important goals. Eleven members participated and we operated two stations: the permanent station at Sylvan Grove Hospital and a portable station at the Butts County Department of Public Health Office on Ernst Biles Drive. The DPH location was simulating a POD (Point of Distribution) location. Our local DPH Nurse Manager, Krystle Whitten, provided several ICS-213 messages for us. Those messages were entered in to *Flmsg* and then sent from the POD site to Sylvan Grove using *Fldigi* and the WX4BCA repeater. Once received at Sylvan Grove, the messages were passed on to other stations; including Troup County ARES and the GEMA EOC. We also sent several messages using WINMOR. The connection to Troup County is important. LaGrange is the site of the District 4 DPH office. We also exchanged traffic with hams in Covington and Henry County. The second part of

the SET is scheduled for November 14 through 18 – more to come on that.

The results from Field Day 2015 have been released by the ARRL and **WE DID GOOD!** WX4BCA was #2 in Georgia behind the monster North Fulton County ARS. We were #94 nationally out of 283 teams. Thanks to David, Randy and Mike for their leadership and all the BCECA team members who supported the event. Also a **BIG** thank you to our families who let us “play radio” for a whole weekend and also attended the Annual Family Picnic.



Our ARES membership remains at 27. There are several members who have not participated in an ARES event for over six months. Maintaining activity is easier than ever. Training attendance is suggested of course but simply checking in to one of our nets is really all you need to do. If you know a member who has “dropped out” give them a call (or a visit) and offer to carry them to a meeting. With the exception of one member, all of our original Technician members (8) are

now MIA. Participation is important; “when all else fails” we have to know what to do. I am proud to be a BCECA member – we have one of the best ARES groups in Georgia.

The Basic CERT class is continuing with a good crew from Butts County ARES in attendance. Greg (KM4HOY), Ken (KM4HOS), Brent (KA3ZPM), Anthony (KM4DHZ) and Dennis (KM4MHW) are enrolled. Anne Wallis attended the last session – a new ham in the making? Remember our ARES group is the communications team for Butts County CERT.

Well that’s it for this report. Hope to see many of you at the Stone Mountain Hamfest in Lawrenceville on November 7 and 8. As is our custom, we will gather for breakfast prior to the Hamfest. All are welcome to join us at the iHop in Lawrenceville at 07:00 (1143 Scenic Highway, Lawrenceville, GA).

There will be several good forums at the Hamfest including a Metro District ARES meeting at 10:00. Hamfests are a great place visit with your ham buddies

(or meet new ones), find stuff you didn’t know you needed and even pay your ARRL membership dues. If you renew at a Hamfest you get a free Repeater Directory.

**Work on those Basic ARES and ICS courses. The courses are free and on-line from FEMA at <http://training.fema.gov/nims/>.**

**The GA Basic Ares Course is available via the GA ARES website or at: [http://www.gwinnettares.org/Basic\\_Test/Default.aspx](http://www.gwinnettares.org/Basic_Test/Default.aspx).**

**Be sure to register from BUTTS COUNTY.**

**Thanks for all you do!**

73, Buzz

(K3GWK)

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**Field Day Results — 3A Georgia**

#	Call	Score	Category	OSOs	Participants	Club
1	K4JJ	14,536	3A	4,195	216	North Fulton ARL
2	<b>WX4BCA</b>	<b>3,402</b>	<b>3A</b>	<b>1,096</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>Butts Cty EmComm Auxiliary</b>
3	W4O	3,298	3A	661	41	Ellijay ARS
4	WX4TC	2,948	3A	708	31	Tri-County ARC
5	W4TIY	2,626	3A	557	10	Paulding ARC
6	NE4GA	2,348	3A	465	18	Athens RC and Northeast GA ARC
7	WR4BC	1,382	3A	214	18	Barrow ARC



## BUTTS ECA MEMBERS PROVIDE EMCOMM AT SPIN FOR KIDS



Mike and Lee sending a photo to NCS via Easy Pal.



Exhausted riders stop at water station.



Lee tells Mike a joke that Mike has heard 10 times before.



Darlene knitting a new microphone for her Go-Kit.

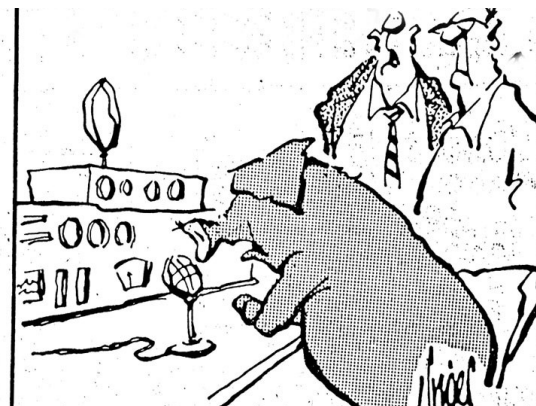


**BCECA TEAM STAFFS BOOTH AT THE BUTTS COUNTY FAIR**



Thanks to **Ken (KM4HOS)** for organizing our booth at the Butts County Fair. Every evening of the Fair, the booth was staffed by members of the BCECA. **Buzz (K3GWK)** put up a 2m antenna and an inverted “V” dipole for HF. **Elaine (KW4AQ)** made an HF contact on 20m Wednesday night. **Ed (WX4ED)** and **Elaine (KW4AQ)** enjoyed a QSO on the Butts County repeater Thursday night.

Thanks to **Ken (KM4HOS)**, **Elaine (KW4AQ)**, **Buzz (K3GWK)**, **Dennis (KM4MHW)** and **Ed (WX4ED)** for staffing the booth during the evenings of the Fair.



What—you've never heard of a Ham Operator before????

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

**BUTTS COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AUXILIARY**

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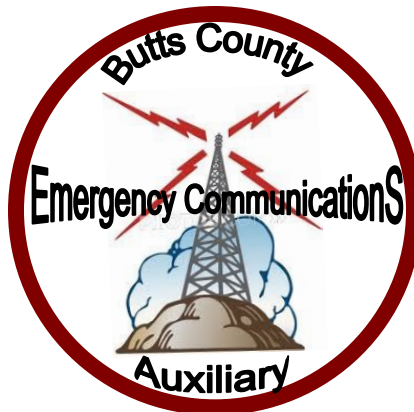
**Weekly Training Net:**

**Sunday 21:30 GMT**

**4:30 EST 5:30 EDT**

**WX4BCA Repeater 147.285- PL131.8**

**Jackson, GA**



**Emergency Coordinator**  
Buzz Kutcher K3GWK  
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Glen Goens KJ4TVO

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**Net Manager**  
Ken Wallis KM4HOS  
[kawallis@charter.net](mailto:kawallis@charter.net)

**Net Control Station Roster**

**November** — Ken  
(KM4HOS)

**December** —

If you'd like to serve as NCS, please email Ken (KM4HOS), Net Manager:  
[kawallis@charter.net](mailto:kawallis@charter.net)

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

**Sunday (4:30 pm) GA ARES Digital Net — 3583 KHz (USB) or 7042 (PSK-31) Center 1000 Hz**

**Sunday (4:30 pm) Butts CO FM Training Net — 147.285 MHz (131.8 PL) Winlink: WX4BCA**

**Sunday (5:00 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](mailto:edhoard@yahoo.com)

**QRT**