



## 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

MAY 2015



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## GLEN GOENS (KJ4TVO) EMA DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR

Chief Glen Goens (KJ4TVO) member of our amateur radio club, fire chief, director of our local Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency was recently named "Georgia Emergency Management Director of the Year." The following article appeared in the *Jackson Progress-Argus* Newspaper and is re-printed by permission.

Glen Goens wears a lot of hats to protect Butts County from disasters large and small. Recently his hard work was rewarded when he was named the Georgia Emergency Management Director of the Year. The award came from the Emergency Management Association of Georgia.

"It was a shock. I was looking around to see who was going to stand up and he called my name. I had no idea," Goens said.

Goens is area vice chairman so he not only runs hazardous materials drills here, he evaluates other counties' exercises and collaborates on regional drills on disasters of all kinds.

He was chosen from 161 emergency management directors in Georgia. Also represented were more than 300 people from public health, the Georgia Hospital Association, National Weather Service and Georgia Nursing Home Association. All are involved in emergency preparedness.

A Butts County native, Goens became a fire department volunteer soon after graduating from Indian Springs Academy. On May 19, 1988, he started his career as a

full-time firefighter and was named the county Emergency Management Agency director in 2008, starting out as a training officer. He has countless hours of training himself.



Glen Goens (KJ4TVO)

As the Butts County EMA director, Goens oversees a number of programs aimed at community safety. The Local Emergency Planning Committee prepares for hazardous materials spills. A Community Organizations Active in Disasters program aims to get churches and other groups cooperating in disaster relief. There are drills to test and improve communications between public safety personnel.

Citizens Emergency Response Teams are trained to help themselves and their neighbors in case a disaster isolates them. Goens taught the first

teen CERT class to health occupation students at Jackson High School but anyone can sign up. New classes are coming up as soon as the roster is filled. "We also have a mounted search and rescue unit," he said.

A new hazard mitigation plan was recently approved by the county, Jackson, Jenkinsburg and Flovilla. Up next is an emergency operations plan which all local governments also must sign.

"I like the planning," he said. "I try to teach people self-preservation in a time of disaster. You never know when a big storm could come in and destroy things. It can really happen."

Congratulations Chief Goens!

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### SAVE THE DATES

#### Sundays @ 5:30 PM

Weekly Butts County Training Net

#### Monday, May 4

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

#### Saturday, May 16

Hungry Hams, 7:30  
V.E. Session @ Rec Center 9:00 AM



**UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR**

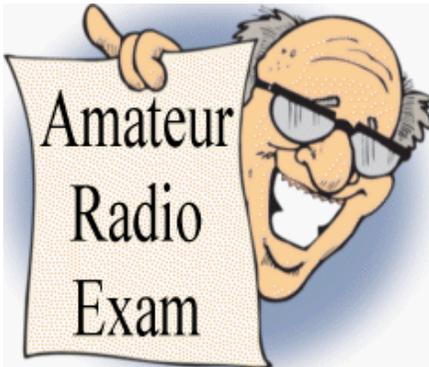


May

- 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** — Hungry Hams. Lunchbox Restaurant. 7:30 AM  
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

June

- June 1** — Pre-meeting dinner and fellowship. Mesquite Grill, Jackson. 5:00 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 27-28** — Field Day. Ernest Biles Park. Jackson  
Family Picnic. June 28. 4:00 PM



Spalding County

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

Butts County

Saturday,  
May 16  
9:00 AM  
Butts County  
Recreation Center  
576 Ernest Biles  
Drive  
Jackson, GA

Henry County

Saturday,  
June 20  
9:00 AM  
Piedmont Henry  
Medical Center  
1133 Eagle's Land-  
ing Parkway  
Stockbridge, GA

**Georgia QSO Party Results**

Well, it seems there's a new kid in town! The veteran contesters David (AK4EM) and Buzz (K3GWK) finished well behind this year's newcomer Elaine (KW4AQ).

Elaine has only been working HF for a relatively short time. The preliminary reports are that she racked up a whopping 12,000 points to leave the other contenders stuck in the slop!

Congratulations Elaine for taking home the bacon this year!





## HAM RADIO OPERATORS ASSIST COMMUNICATION EFFORTS IN NEPAL

In the wake of the devastating April 25 earthquake, hams in Nepal, already in limited supply, have been turning out to help in the ongoing recovery. The Nepalese government also is reported to be cutting some of the red tape that has prevented hams from outside the country from operating within Nepal. Several hams from India are among those who have arrived in Nepal to help facilitate

communication. Word earlier this week via Amateur Radio Society of India President Gopal Madhavan, VU2GMN, was that visiting hams would

not be permitted to operate in Nepal, unless they were part of a government team. On the other hand, getting needed Amateur Radio equipment into Nepal remains problematic.

"ARRL is working closely with amateurs in Nepal to identify equipment needed for the relief effort," said ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, K1IU. "We are preparing a shipment from the [Ham Aid](#) inventory, but like other NGOs, we are facing transportation challenges. We hope to have transportation arrangements in place soon." Unconfirmed reports said another group was having problems getting a repeater into Nepal.

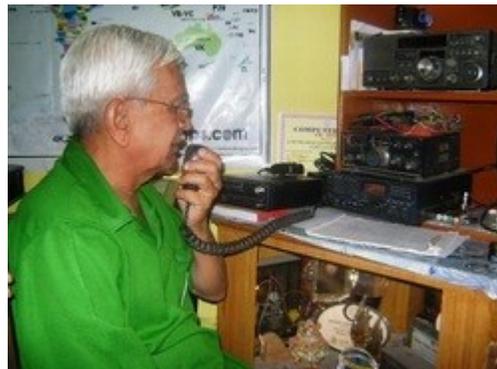
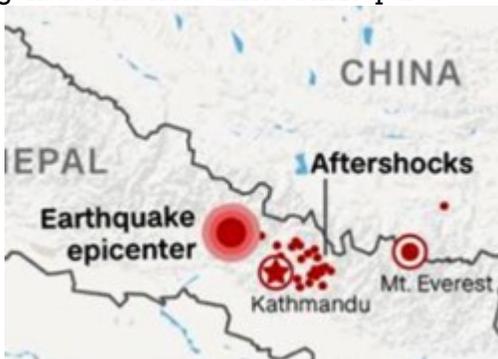
While parts of the telecommunication infrastructure remain in operation, power is out. Ham radio remains a reliable link at this stage of the recovery effort. A major focus of rescue teams has been attempting to locate the missing, as well as to recover quake victims buried beneath debris. More than 5000 people are now reported dead as a result of the earthquake and subsequent aftershocks. The disaster also has stranded many people, as roads were cut off by landslides and damage. Rain, heavy at times, has hampered rescue and recovery work.

"In spite of the conditions, ham radio operation is in progress, and the Nepal government has started issuing licenses to visiting hams, with 9N7 prefixes," said Jayu Bhide, VU2JAU. Bhide, who is the Amateur Radio Society of India's National Coordinator for Disaster Communication, said these stations have been asked to help provide communication to more of the devastated region. Ham radio groups are being asked to spread out in terms of operating frequencies as well. Bhide said a lot

of the Amateur Radio traffic has consisted of health-and-welfare inquiries.

Mike Kalter, W8CI, told ARRL that he relayed an urgent request from the family of a woman traveling between Nepal and Tibet with a tour group. He passed along the information via ham radio to Mohan Suri, VU2MYH, in Nepal, who supplied the information to authorities.

Within a few days, the woman being sought reported back through Jerry Long, KJ4YAP, that groups were going through the streets of Kathmandu, announcing names of individuals being sought, and she heard her name called out. The woman and her tour group were subsequently helicoptered out of Nepal.



At least two groups of hams from Gujarat, India, were planning to travel to Nepal and set up stations "at critical places," Bhide said, adding that he, Ananda Majumdar, VU2AGJ, and Sandip Baruah, VU2MUE,

Jayu Bhide, VU2JAU, has been active on HF nets aiding the Nepal earthquake relief and recovery effort. were planning to set up HF and VHF stations at Gorakhpur, on the India-Nepal border.

Amateur Radio HF nets have been one link between Nepal and the outside world, as Internet service continues to be spotty. Nepalese hams also are active locally on VHF/UHF.

Bhide said residents in the affected areas were finding it difficult to contact family members, as their cell phones have discharged, and no charging facility is available. He and some of the radio amateurs active on the relief and recovery nets contacted agencies in Nepal to provide small solar charging units.

The earthquake -- said to be the worst in Nepal in 80 years -- hit an area between the capital city of Kathmandu and the city of Pokhara.

Reprinted from the *ARRL Letter*, a weekly eLetter from the Amateur Radio Relay League. ARRL members may subscribe at no cost or unsubscribe by editing their Member Data Page as described at <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>.



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

April's training was a two part adventure. Mike Crowe, AJ4GU, gave an interesting presentation at the monthly meeting featuring several very informative videos on the proper installation of coax connectors on both RG-8 and RG-8X cable. Mike and Elaine Stachowiak, KW4AQ, followed that with a "hands-on" workshop on circuit board assembly on 18APR. Both events were well attended. I was out of town for the workshop and really hated to miss that training.

Georgia QSO Party: I'm sure everyone wants to know, "who won the pig?" The way it looks, the pig will be residing at the QTH of KW4AQ. Rumor has it that Elaine scored over 12,000 points and will be taking home the bacon.

Glen Goens and I attended the 2015 EMAG Summit in Savannah. EMAG is a gathering of the Georgia EMA and Public Health service community. It is three days of meetings, vendor visits and presentations. The after-lunch speaker on Thursday was Bob Patterson, the Executive Director of EMS for Mercy Health Systems in

Missouri. He was responsible for the emergency response during the Joplin, Missouri tornado outbreak in May of 2011. During his remarks he stated that one of his biggest regrets during the response to the tragedy in Joplin (the destruction of Mercy Hospital) was that he forgot to involve his ham radio operators during the initial phase of the response. "Not involving the hams cost valuable time." In addition to Mr. Patterson's talk, the Georgia ARES Coordinator for Public Health, Barry Kanne (K4TGA) was a "break-out session" presenter. Good coverage of ham radio at EMAG 2015. At the final luncheon, our OHS Director Glen Goens (KJ4TVO) was named Georgia's EMA Director of the Year. ...well deserved!

The grant check for the Sylvan Grove ham radio station equipment has been received and a wish-list has been submitted to the folks at Tenet. If we get what we have requested we will have a pretty nice station

complete with an FT-450D HF transceiver and an ICOM ID-5100a dual-band for FM and D-Star. Keep your fingers (and toes) crossed.

I attended another planning meeting for the up-coming Region F hospital exercise. Sylvan Grove Hospital is not participating in this exercise but BC ARES will be called-in to Sylvan

Grove to provide communications support for the folks at Spalding Regional Medical Center in Griffin. The exercise will take place on 29MAY2015 and begin sometime after 9:00

AM.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Bluebird & Bluegrass Special Event on March 28. The operation went very well. We set up two HF stations and operated for several hours as WX4BCA "Special Event." According to the log we made over 70 contacts during the operation. It was a good show for Amateur Radio and CERT. We had lots of people stop by to watch and operate the

stations. We also demonstrated NBEMS. Sadly, it was the last time that many of us got to talk to John Harwood. John (KM4DHS) stopped by to visit just as we were packing up. John passed away on Monday, March 30. The club will be donating over \$190.00 to the ARRL's Scholarship Fund in John's memory. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the club's donation.

May is when we begin to plan for our annual Field Day weekend. This year we will operate from Butts County's new pavilion. Our May meeting presentation will be a demonstration of our logging program and a general discussion of Field Day. Our co-captains (David, AK4EM and Randy, NV4RB) are "chomping at the bit" to get going. Our antenna guru, AJ4GU, has several new tricks up his sleeve.

Thanks for all you do to support Amateur Radio and also thanks for your thoughts and prayers for Freida and me during our recent eye surgeries. All is well...

**73,  
Buzz Kutcher (K3GWK)**



**SUCCESSFUL HANDS-ON SOLDERING/PROJECT BOARD CLASS**

On 18APR2015 Mike Crowe (AJ4GU) led a hands-on workshop to teach effective soldering methods.

More than a dozen hams participated at Fire Station #7 following a Hungry Hams breakfast at the Lunchbox Restaurant.

Mike spread out an assortment of

circuit board projects and the eager hams began work.

Three hours later, there were flashing Christmas trees, audio amplifiers and a number of other circuit board projects operating successfully!

Thanks, Mike and Elaine (KW4AQ) for your help and supervision.

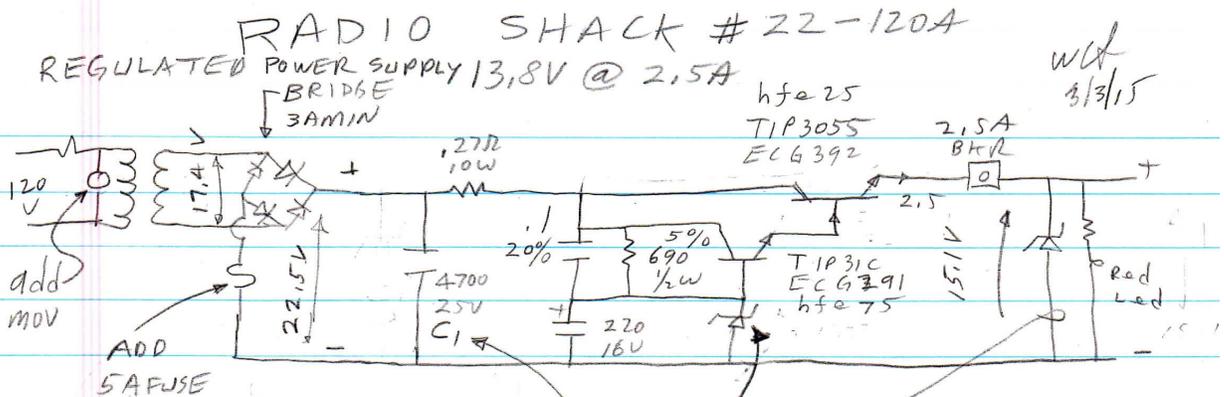


**Ed (WX4ED) built this stereo audio amplifier**



# Tech Notes

## Radio Shack Regulated Power Supply Fix Whitney Smith (WA4VBX)

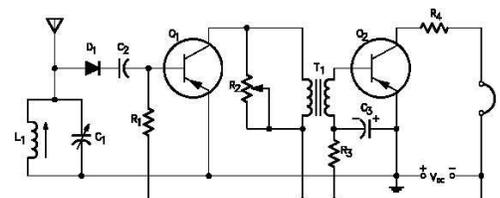


CHANGE C1 FROM  
4700µF, 25V TO  
4700µF, 30V

change 16V Zener to 15V  
IN4745A 1WATT Zener  
ECG 5075A 5%

WHEN THIS UNIT WAS ANALYZED,  
THIS POWER SUPPLY DELIVERED 15.1 V OUTPUT  
INSTEAD OF RATED 13.8 V.  
THE 16 V ZENER DIODE WAS CHANGED TO A 15V  
ZENER DIODE AND THIS REDUCED THE OUTPUT  
TO 13.4V, WHICH IS SLIGHTLY LESS THAN 13.8V  
BUT THE 13.4 V LEVEL IS AN OK LEVEL.

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](http://www.bcgaares.org)

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**Club Photographer**

J.D. Van Sickle  
KM4DHS  
[jvan12@charter.net](mailto:jvan12@charter.net)

**Net Control Station Schedule**

**May** — Elaine  
(KW4AQ)

**June** — Darlene  
(KK4BKF)

**July** — Buzz  
(K3GWK)

**August** — Darlene  
(KK4BKF)

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

**QRT**