

## Butts County Georgia Emergency Communications Auxiliary

November 03, 2014

### Meeting Held at Fire Station #7 Butts County, Georgia

**Attendance at Meeting:** Mike Crowe; David Burnahm; Buzz Kutcher; Lee Dale; Darlene Ragon; Glenn Wyatt; Monica Ladson; Mel Mosier; David Ridgeway; Chuck Sims; JD VanSickle; Tony Strite; Elaine Stachowiak; Randy Beacham; Dan Darsey; Whit Smith; Ed Hoard

**Office of Homeland Security/CERT:** November 17, 2014 is the Table Top exercise for the "Out of Africa: Ebola" scenario. No updated information on the progress on the Mobile Communications Vehicle.

**Net Manager's Report:** Darlene Ragon volunteered to be Net Control for the month of March 2015.

**VE Team:** The next VE Session will be November 15, 2014 at the Butts County Recreational Center to begin at 0900. The next Ham Cram & VE Session will be January 17, 2015 limited to 12 attendees. Contact Dan Darsey for more information.

**Repeater/Technical Committee:** Henry County Hospital now has a DMR digi mode unit positioned there; at the present it has poor coverage & is experiencing Internet problems. The Jackson Repeater is not functioning well at this time. We still need to add a controller to the Jackson Repeater. Mike informed the Club of a special offer that Yaesu is offering until March 31, 2015. Yaesu has a new UHF/VHF Fusion Repeater at an introductory price of \$500. He suggested the Club seriously consider purchasing one. The new Repeater could be placed at the 911 Center. It was also mentioned that a tall tower is located in Stark, Ga and asked if anyone knew who owned that tower.

**Skywarn Coordinator:** Elaine is still working with Glen Goens to schedule a Skywarn class in March or April 2015.

**Field Day Committee: David Burnahm & Randy Beacham**

**Membership Chairman:** 27 Members in the Club at present.

**Public Information Officer:** Ed challenged Club members to take a photo of their home Ham Station and submit it to him for publication in the "Repeater" newsletter.

**EC Report:** Buzz encouraged Club members to continue to complete unfinished ICS courses & to add course ICS-802 to the list of required classes.

During the ARES meeting at the upcoming Ham Fest we can meet the new Section Emergency Coordinator. Discussion of the 2015 SET exercise may involve MARS this year. Interoperability issues are noted with local ARES Ham Groups and plans are set to work on this problem.

The Annual ARES meeting held at the GPSTC will be on January 24, 2015 in Forsyth, Ga. Attendees are encouraged to bring their 'Go Kits' for an extra raffle ticket. Family members are also welcomed at this meeting as there will be classes and displays on Family Preparedness. If we know our family members are able to care for their needs it allows us as emergency volunteers to serve without worries of their condition on our minds.

#### Treasurers' Report:

**Club Old Business:** Buzz gave thanks to everyone involved in the Jenkinsburg Anniversary event. There is still some interest in offering a General Class to begin in January 2015.

**Club New Business:** Butts County "Out of Africa; Ebola" Table Top exercise to be held November 14, 2014. Sylvan Grove Hospital will most likely be overwhelmed with telephone calls & we can assist with communications. We could run a line to the TV crews in the parking lots. It would be advantageous to meet with Hospital employees ahead of time so they are familiar with us in the event of a disaster. Volunteers need an official ID badge to allow them to pass through road blocks during a disaster.

There will be a Region F Hospital Exercise involving Henry County Hospital; this scenario is a full scale evacuation of the Savannah, Ga area. Table Top exercise is December 4, 2014 will full exercise to take place May 29, 2015. In February 2015 we will have election of Club officers; Dan Darsey is chairing the nominating committee.

Newton County is sponsoring a Technicians' Class in March 2015; it will run in two sessions. Henry County may offer a General Class at their 911 Center.

**Coming Events:** 'Hungry Hams' breakfast on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month at the Lunch Box in Jackson, Ga at 0730.  
Next event is November 15, 2014  
VE Testing November 15, 2015 at 0900  
Ham Jam November 8, 2014 in Alpharetta, Ga starting at 0800. Three expert speakers to present, great opportunity.  
Annual Christmas Dinner at Buckner's Restaurant December 4, 2014 at 1800.

**Monthly Program:** Propagation and Propagation Beacons

**Raffle Funds Raised this Meeting:** We raised \$63.00 in raffle funds at this meeting.