

Butts County Georgia Emergency Communications Auxiliary

February 02, 2015

Meeting Held at Fire Station #7 Butts County, Georgia

Attendance at Meeting: Randy Beacham; David Burnham; Mike Crowe; Dan Darsey; John Harwood; Ed Hoard; Buzz Kutcher; Monica Ladson; John Lipscomb; Darlene Ragon; Anthony Strite; Brent Strite; JD VanSickel; Ken Wallis; Glenn Wyatt; George Olive; Ken Reid; Drew Harwood

Office of Homeland Security/CERT: Director Glen Goens There will be a table top exercise on March 5, 2015 from 10 am to 2 pm at the Thomaston-Upson County Civic Center; the disaster to be simulated will be a major earthquake. This exercise is sponsored by GEMA District 4.

Net Manager's Report: Ed Hoard Elaine Stachowiak volunteered to be Net Control Operator for the May 2015 Net and Darlene Ragon volunteered to be Net Control Operator for June 2015 Net.

VE Team: Dan Darsey We had 14 people who tested on Jan 17, 2015; 11 passed and received a Technician License. Congratulations to those passing. Next testing opportunity will be March 21, 2015 at the Butts County Recreational Center beginning at 0900. Contact Dan Darsey to register.

Repeater/Technical Committee: Mike Crowe David Burnham checked the water tower antenna and found it not to be working. It is possible that we might be able to replace the coax cable and increase the height of the antenna if the tower's owner can be found. Mike said he and Buzz were planning to work on the repeaters' duplexers this week.

Skywarn Coordinator: Elaine Stachowiak We will be having a Skywarn class as our monthly presentation program on March 2, 2015 from 1900-2100 at Fire Station #7. This class will include students from the currently in progress CERT class. Buzz reminded us that we need to attend a Skywarn class every two years to maintain certification. There will be a tornado drill net held Feb 4, 2015 at 0900 held on the Macon, Griffin, Covington UHF repeaters. A special HF Net will be held on 75m at 0830 on frequency 3.975.

Field Day Committee: David Burnham & Randy Beacham

Membership Chairman: Randy Beacham Membership Dues will be payable at the March 2, 2015 meeting. Individual dues are \$20 and Family Membership Dues are \$25.

Public Information Officer: Ed Hoard Ed asked if everyone was receiving their 'Repeater' newsletter and encouraged us to check or participate at the Clubs' Facebook page.

EC Report: Buzz Kutcher Information detailed in the meeting agenda.

Treasurers' Report: General Funds Balance \$665.00 Repeater Fund \$840.00 Total Club Funds \$1505.29

Club Old Business: We have 5 students taking the General License Preparatory classes weekly. Yaesu reports that the Fusion Repeater our Club has purchased should be available for delivery the end of February. Mike Crowe had asked about training opportunities on the use of this repeater and was told there would be informal training held on Manufacturers' Day at HRO. Also the GARES will have some training as well to be held at Sylvan Grove.

Club New Business: Dan Darsey is heading up the Nominating Committee for new Officers to be elected on March 2, 2015. **Remember to arrive at 1830 so we can vote before our regular meeting!** There will be a soldering class held on April 18, 2015 at Fire Station #7 at 0900. Project board costs to be \$10-\$15.

Coming Events: The Georgia QSO Party will be held the weekend of April 11-12, 2015 with the purpose of contacting all counties in Georgia.

Remember Field Day Activities are to be held at our new location in downtown Jackson this year; dates for Field Day are June 27-28, 2015. Mark your calendars now for this important activity.

Regional Hospital exercise Feb 13, 2015 at 1000. Our Club is working with Westbury Nursing Home for this exercise.

Monthly Program: Ken Reid presented a great presentation on the National Hurricane Center's Amateur Radio station and volunteers that work that station during events. He shared his experiences while deployed to Haiti after the tragic earthquake in 2010. Ken certainly made it clear just how important Amateur Radio communications can be in a disaster situation.

Raffle Funds Raised this Meeting: We raised \$60 in raffle funds at this meeting.