

## Butts County Georgia Emergency Communications Auxiliary

July 6, 2015

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

**Attendance at Meeting:** Randy Beacham; David Burnahm; Mike Crowe; Dan Darsey; Ed Hoard; Buzz Kutcher; Monica Ladson; John Lipscomb; Melvin Mosier; Darlene Ragon; David Ridgeway; Greg Reule; Whit Smith; Elaine Stachowiak; Anthony Strite; Brent Strite; JD VanSickle; Ken Wallis; Glenn Wyatt; Bobby Jones; Daniel English.

**Office of Homeland Security/CERT: Director Glen Goens** There will be a new CERT class forming which will begin classes on August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Classes will be held the second and fourth Monday evenings at 6:30 pm for approximately 12 weeks. See David Ridgeway or Glen Goens for registration information.

**Net Manager's Report: Ed Hoard** Net Control Officers are covered up until December 2015.

**VE Team: Dan Darsey** VE Session to be held July 18, 2015 at Butts County Recreation Center; testing to begin at 1600. VE participating please arrive on site slightly before 1600.

**Repeater/Technical Committee: Mike Crowe** Our new Ham Station location at Sylvan Grove Hospital awaits cleaning so that we may install the antenna wire and switch gear. There will be an antenna party at Mike Crowe's home this Saturday, July 11, 2015 at 0900 to assist Mike install his Hex Beam antenna. All willing hands welcome!

**Skywarn Coordinator: Elaine Stachowiak** Anytime there is a 'Severe Weather Watch' alert, monitor our club repeater for Skywarn activation. There should be a written Operational Plan to distribute shortly that will be added to our Butts County ARES Operation Plans.

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

**Membership Chairman: Randy Beacham**

**Public Information Officer: Ed Hoard** Latest newsletter has been published. Thanks to Ed for all he does in producing this wonderful record of our club's activities!

**EC Report: Buzz Kutcher** Buzz encouraged members that have not completed the Basic ARES and ICS courses to please dedicate some time to fulfilling these requirements in order to be deployable Hams. ICS course #802 has also been suggested for continuing education. Our group is hoping to get Echolink functioning at the 911 center.

**Treasurers' Report:** General Fund: \$1032.30 Repeater Fund: \$561.00 Total Funds \$1593.30

**Club Old Business:** Everyone expressed their thanks to Keith Cox for arranging the Club's insurance so quickly and presenting the information clearly to members. The Field Day report information is contained on the monthly agenda for reference.

**Club New Business:** The state-wide SET is coming up in October or November; we will be working closely with State and local Public Health organizations. Details to follow as the time gets closer.

Ed Hoard suggested we consider and have an open discussion on changing the name of our Club. Since most of our members don't reside in Butts County, proper, he suggested we change the name to the "Ocmulgee Ham Radio Club". This would better reflect the geographical region club members reside in. Discussion was tabled until the August 3, 2015 meeting.

It was proposed to hold educational 'Elmer Sessions' on the third Saturday of each month to follow the 'Hungry Ham' breakfast meetings held at the Lunch Box restaurant in Jackson, Ga at 0730.

D-Star and DRATS training on ID-5100 radios will be held August 29, 2015 in the Educational Building on the Henry County Regional Hospital campus. This class will be a three hour class.

**Coming Events:** Club members will vote next month whether to continue holding our Christmas Party at Buckners' Restaurant or change the location.

August 1, 2015 will be the Covington Century Bike Ride; volunteers are needed to assist Newton County ARES with communications. Please contact Mike Crowe to volunteer.

**Monthly Program:** Buzz Kutcher presented a program on how the GA ARES Database tracks our service and training exercises as well as a presentation on the basic functions of ARES groups, 'ARES 101'.

**Raffle Funds Raised this Meeting:** Funds raised at this meeting with raffle items was \$67.00. Anthony Strite requested that members please donate desirable items to this worthy cause which supports our Club repeater.