



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

OCTOBER 2015



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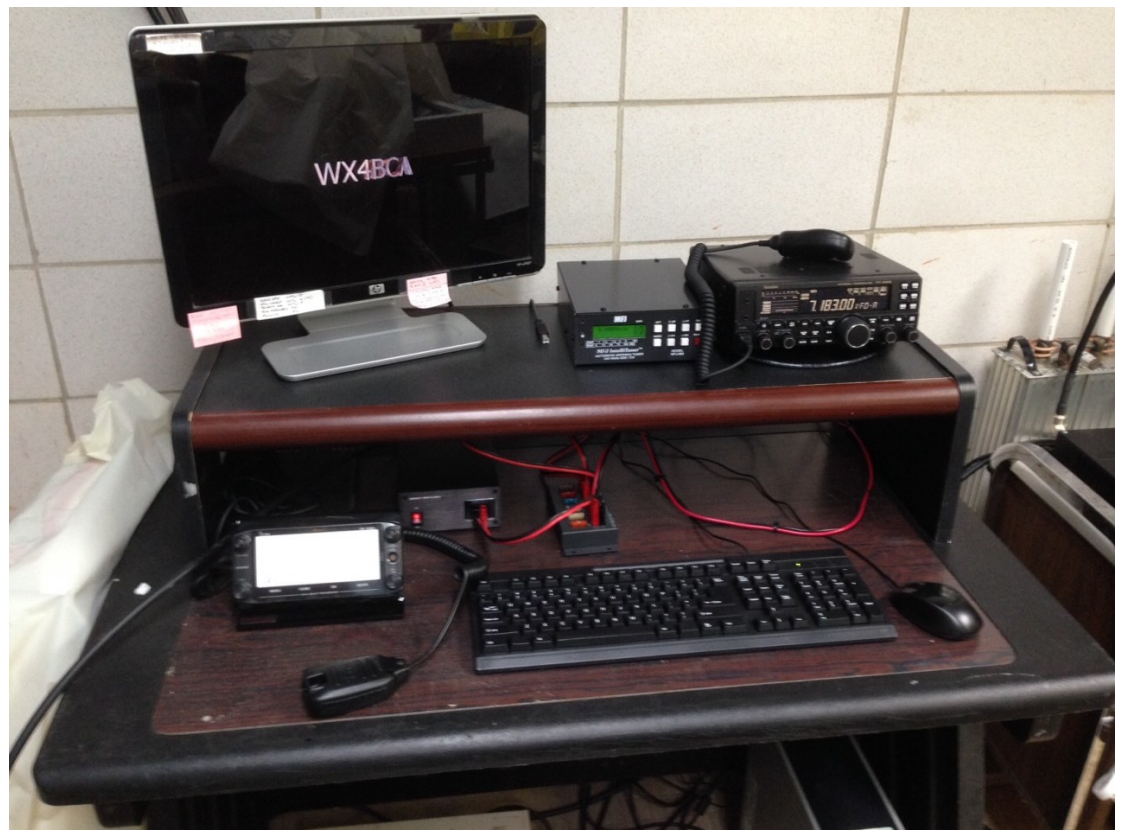
SYLVAN GROVE STATION WX4BCA NOW INSTALLED

At long last the funds were made available, the equipment was purchased and Station WX4BCA was installed in our new location at the Sylvan Grove Hospital.

On Tuesday morning, September 1, Mike AJ4GU, Darlene KK4BKF, Ken KM4HOS and Buzz K3GWK met at Sylvan Grove Hospital for

installed through a section of the basement wall. There is still plenty of room for more cables to be installed as needed.

The VHF repeater has also been moved to the "radio room." Mike will be installing it in a 6' rack and getting the controller on-line soon. The rack we will be using is the same



a 6 hour work detail. They extended the antenna cables and set up the new ham station at the hospital.

The station is located in the basement adjacent to the Maintenance Department Office. Getting the cables (3 Coax and 1 Hardline) through the wall was quite a project. Ken (KM4HOS) was able to drill a hole big enough for a 3" PVC sleeve to be

rack that housed the 147.285 repeater when it sat atop the Georgia Power office building.

The station consists of a Yaesu FT-450D and MFJ Auto-Tuner on HF and an ICOM ID-5100 for UHF and VHF FM (with D-STAR). There is a donated Windows 7 PC and printer.

Many thanks to the Technical Team that worked hard to make our station a reality. Ω

SAVE THE DATES

Sundays @ 5:30 PM
Weekly Butts County FM Training Net

Monday, Oct 5
Pre-meeting meal at Mesquite, 5:30
Club Meeting, 7:00 PM, Fire Station #7

Saturday, Oct 17
Hungry Hams, 7:30 AM, Lunch Box Restaurant



UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

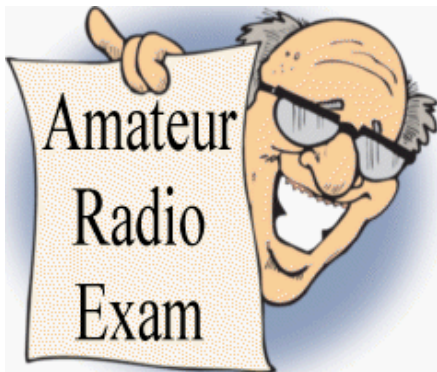


OCTOBER

- October 3** — ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET) Exercise
- October 5** — Pre-meeting dinner and fellowship. Mesquite Grill, 5:30
- Monthly Club Meeting & Training. 7:00 PM. Butts County Sheriff's Department
- October 17** — Hungry Hams, Lunch Box Restaurant, 7:30 AM
- October 18** — Spin For Kids, Newton County Club
- October 20**— Newton County Club Meeting. NC Law Enforcement Center, 7:00 PM.

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



Spalding County

Saturday,
October 10
9:00 AM
Spalding Regional
Hospital
601 South 8th Street
Griffin, GA

Butts County

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

Henry County

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

**2015 ARES Simulated Emergency Test
October 3, 2015**

The annual ARES SET will be held on October 3rd this year, from 08:30 until Noon. This year's SET will involve providing communications for the Butts County Department of Public Health at a simulated Point of Distribution or POD. Our team will be operating two or three stations. One will be the new ham station at Sylvan Grove Hospital staffed by the SGH Response Team ops.

We will also be setting up at least one portable station at the BC DPH office, 463 Ernest Biles Drive in Jackson (across from the Ernest Biles Recreation Center). If we have operators available we will also set up a voice only link to the secondary POD site. Our goal is to be able to communicate from the DPH station to the hospital using FM voice and digital, both on our repeater and on Simplex.

Additionally we will be testing HF communications between Jackson and the District DPH office in LaGrange and also with the "State Operations Center" in Atlanta. Fldigi with Fmsg will be the primary method used. Our HF station at SGH will also be checking in to the state ARES net on 3.975.00. We will also try to communicate, using digital, with ARES stations in Henry, Newton and Spalding counties. Ω





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

I don't know about you but I am tired of the rainy days. The yard here at "Kutcher's Backacre" is a swamp, going to have to put off cutting the grass for a while. I do enjoy the cooler mornings though; getting out on the screened porch and enjoying my morning coffee and the antics of the local hummingbird fleet.

As you read this the SET (part one, at least) is behind us. The second half will take place in November on the 13th and 14th. If requested, we will respond to support our local Public Health Department. More on that later.

The station at Sylvan Grove is set up and operating thanks to a lot of effort from Mike (AJ4GU), Darlene (KK4BKF) and Ken (KM4HOS). Over 60 ham hours were put into getting this long awaited station on the air.

The project included moving or extending coax and hard-line feeds, moving the VHF repeater, set up and

programming of the radios and some on air testing with stations around the state. The station has phone and digital capabilities on UHF, VHF and HF. It also has D-STAR capabilities on UHF and VHF.

There is still some work to do. An operating manual is needed

(Darlene and Ken are working on that). The station has a PC but no Internet connection; Sylvan Grove engineering is working on that. A

permanent flat screen monitor is also needed. It will be a "work in progress" for some time but it is well equipped and ready.

It is really great to have a permanently assembled station at the hospital. No more Go-Kits. We appreciate the hospital's continued support of ham radio.

There will be some good DXpedition opportunities coming

up — great chance for some ATNO (All Time New One) contacts.

Just a note about the Digital Training Workshop held on August 29th. The session was very well attended; our group had 16 hams in attendance out of a total of 29. The morning session on D-STAR and DRATS gave us all a

taste of something new. The session after lunch was an excellent NBEMS tune-up opportunity. A big thank you to John

Davis (WB4QDX), Ed Woodrick (WA4YIH), Roy Baker (AJ4GT), Paul Carrin (KE4KXV) and Mike Crowe (AJ4GU) for their assistance. The facility at Piedmont/Henry hospital was excellent. I will try to get John back for a session just on D-STAR using the ID-5100 radio. The UHF/VHF radio at Sylvan Grove is an ID-5100.

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 taking the class. Our ARES group is the communications team for Butts County CERT.

Well that's it for this report. I have the HF radio on and listening to the Hurricanes Net on 14.325. There isn't much activity right now but I expect it will get busy as Joaquin moves through the Caribbean and then up the US East Coast.

Please work on those Basic ARES and ICS courses. Hopefully the introduction to the Incident Command System at the September meeting helped you to understand why they are important. The courses are free and on-line from FEMA at <http://training.fema.gov/nims/>.

Thanks for all you do!

73, Buzz

(K3GWK)

Ω





D-STAR & DRATS SEMINAR PICS

Sixteen of our members attended the D-Star / DRATS seminar on August 29 at the Piedmont Henry Medical Center in Stockbridge. John Davis (WB4QDX) was the D-Star / DRATS presenter and our own Mike (AJ4GU) presented his Fldigi Digital Tune-Up. There were 29 total attendees.



Largest Hamfest in Georgia *2015 Georgia Section Convention*

GEORGIA'S LARGEST HAMFEST

Sponsored by the

ALPHEA MEMORIAL RADIO CLUB
STONE MOUNTAIN GA

STONE MOUNTAIN HAMFEST
AND COMPUTER EXPO
W4BOC

November 7 & 8, 2015



Gwinnett County Fairgrounds.
Lawrenceville, GA

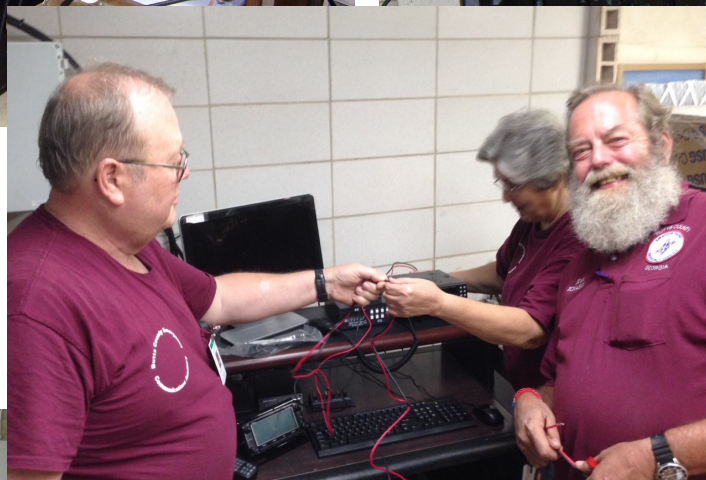
TailGate, Flea Market, Forums, Door Prizes and Raffle

www.StoneMountainHamfest.com





HOSPITAL TEAM INSTALLATION PICS



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Congratulations to **Mike Crowe (AJ4GU)** for being appointed **Digital Assistant District Emergency Coordinator** for the Atlanta District. Mike regularly checks in to Newton County Digital Net and offers his time and expertise to teach others in the use of digital communications. Congrats Mike!

Congratulations to **David Walker** for passing the **Amateur Extra** exam at our recent V.E. Session on September 19.

Also congratulations to **Mark Baker** for passing his Technician exam at the September V.E. Session.

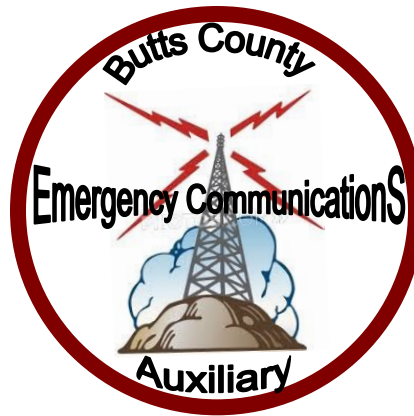
Congratulations to **Ed Hoard (WX4ED)** for being appointed **Emergency Coordinator** for Pike County.

Pike County has not had an EC for several years. Although QRZ lists more than 60 hams in the county, Pike has not been active in ARES for quite a while.

Visit our website: www.bcgaares.org

BUTTS COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AUXILIARY

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Club Photographer
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Net Manager
Ken Wallis KM4HOS
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Net Control Station Roster

October — J.D.
(KM4DHS)

November — Ken
(KM4HOS)

December —

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

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

QRT