



# SHORTS

*The Bulletin of the Bedford County Amateur Radio Society*

Number 18 -Volume IV – June 2015

## **BCARS Members assist Everett with Three Major Events in May**

On Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup> Everett witnessed a large turnout of ARES-RACES volunteers from BCARS, who assisted with both the ***Bloody Run Canoe Classic and the Rails to Trails Triathlon***. Our regulars were joined by some first timers and new hams as our group provided exceptional communications for both organizations. Stations up and down the race courses, BCARS operators provided immediate and accurate reports of race action, including a call for an ambulance and coordination of some misguided riders. The team included: KB3DFZ, ARES EC, KA3UDR, KC3BTA, WB3JEK, KB3VZC, K3QNT, KB3WXW, KC3BTH, KC3CMF, KC3EXR, KA3PNL, KC3DNB and KC3DNA. Both sides of the river were covered this year thanks to the generous loan of our radio-equipped EZ-GO from KC3CMF and communications were routed through the 145.490 repeater. very few

exceptions, everyone was loud and clear.



**WB3JEK – KC3CMF - KC3DNB**



**KC3DNA passing traffic**

Operators, using hand-helds and mobile rigs maintained excellent circuit discipline with KA3UDR as net control. For the first time this year, a roving mobile station covered the rail trail. KC3CMF and K3QNT acting as an on board radio op blazed new trails over hill and highly questionable bridges.



**KC3CMF carefully negotiating EZ-GO over 130 year old trestle**

### **Ham Radio Provides critical communications and other services to "Float for Charity."**

When 13 members of the Bedford County ARES-RACES were deployed for what was anticipated to be a routine

communications exercise, the Bedford group performed beyond all expectations. The event support was well planned by Steve -KA3UDR and Kenny -WB3JEK. Our famous tower trailer was deployed at Coopers Recreation Area in Hopewell to support our 146.580 simplex net. All hands really hit the deck by providing 50 watt mobile units plus 5/8 wave, J-Pole and collinear antennas to make sure everyone was heard. The effort resulted in flawless communications throughout the 15 mile course.



**1<sup>st</sup> Mate Robin - KC3EXR**

The highlight of the preparations was the launch of our first ever fresh water Marine Mobile Tactical Radio Unit designed and operated by KB3DFZ and newly licensed XYL, Robin – KC3EXR. Donning water wings and a manning oars, the daring duo paddled their way up the river. Net Control was able to stay in direct contact with vessel **“Gilligan”** while underway. The boat, provided by KC3CMF proved to be most sea-worthy and performed well in every respect. In addition to the sailors, other ARES-RACES members who supported the effort were: Mark-KC3CMF, Josiah – KC3EXU, Robert-KC3CMI, Glen – KB3VZC, Jeff – KA3PNL, Bill – KC3EXQ, Jay – K3SCM, Lloyd – K3QNT & Bill – KB3HUA.



**KC3CMF on duty at Launch Area**

## **New Hams Join ARES-RACES**

Three newly licensed Hams experienced their first ARES-RACES support event at the “Float for Charity.” Bill -KC3EXQ of Crystal Lake jumped right in by being a river observer during the race. Josiah – KC3EXU of Woodbury stepped up to help Net Control and installation of our tower trailer. Robin -KC3EXR of Bedford, demonstrated her nautical skills and performed admirably on the radio throughout the event.

## **Kudos**

Many thanks to WB3JEK, KA3PNL, KB3HUA and KB3DFZ for providing additional photos for this issue.

If you have news for an upcoming **S\*H\*O\*R\*T\*S** contact, Lloyd Bankson Roach – K3QNT, Editor in Chief. 814-310-2415 or [k3qnt@arrl.net](mailto:k3qnt@arrl.net)