

MILLEDGEVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

W4PCF/WB4DOJ

NOVEMBER 2006

NEWSLETTER

Club Officers/Coordinators:

President – Charles Pennington (K4GK)
Vice President – Hurb Ingles (W1DOG)
Secretary/Treasurer – Bill Mills (KC4AA)
Repeater Trustee – Hurb Ingles (W1DOG)
FCC Volunteer Exam Coordinator – Otis Murphy (W4OY)
MARC Web Page Designers – Jimmy and Dawn Garner (KD4NGC and KG4NBX))
2007 ARRL Field Day Coordinator – Bill Mills (KC4AA)

President's Message:

Fall is an exciting time!

With the falling leaves, and cooler temperatures, each fall brings new **improved band conditions** for working those rare DX stations and chasing those grids on VHF.

Conditions have improved dramatically in the past few weeks and promise to stay that way until late spring.

Yours truly managed to work the Socorro Island DXpedition station (XF4DL) on nine (9) different bands, that's 160 through 10 meters, in the past two weeks with my **\$4.99 piece of wire** (antenna ?) hanging from a tree running barefoot on six of those bands.

So, you say, that XF4 is only a mere 2,000 miles from Georgia? Well, yesterday I worked VK9CGG on Cocos-Keeling Island, with my modest setup, on three (3) different amateur bands in less than four hours of operation. VK9 is some 11,000 miles from Georgia!

Condx must be good!

I look forward to the fall DX season and the upcoming December Sporadic "E" openings on 6 meters.

I'm going to have fun, how 'bout you?

See you at the club meeting!

AR de K4GK Dit Dit
President

Treasurer's Report:

The MARC financial status is:

| | | |
|---|-----------|--------|
| | \$ | |
| Balance as of: 11 Oct 2006 | | 466.35 |
| Additions (member dues, donations, raffle, etc.): | + 40.00 | |
| | Sub Total | 506.35 |
| Less Expenditure (Hamtronics transmitter board.): | - 159.25 | |
| Balance as of: 10 Nov 2006 | Total | 347.10 |

Bill Mills (KC4AA)
MARC Secretary/Treasurer

New Members/Guests:

MARC welcomed the following guest at the MARC October meeting: Hal Reid (K6DPL). Hal joined MARC and we look forward to his becoming an active member.

2006 MARC Programs:

The following programs will be presented at the year 2006 MARC monthly meetings:

Nov - QSL Cards and QSLing Techniques
Dec - Christmas Party TBD

WB4DOJ Repeater Status:

Installation of the repaired Hamtronics 2 meter repeater at the WB4DOJ repeater site is pending the repair/replacement of the 2 meter antenna on the Baldwin County water tower. A temporary 2 meter vertical antenna has been installed near the repeater building and is connected to the VHF Engineering back-up repeater transmitter. This temporary repeater configuration continues to perform a stellar job. The WB4DOJ repeater repair has returned the repeater to "near normal" operation with a return of activity and some very fine QSO's. The tower climber hopes to have the antenna/RF feed line work completed, weather permitting, over the next few weekends.

Hurb Ingles (W1DOG)
WB4DOJ Repeater Trustee

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE INTERNATIONAL REPLY COUPONS (IRC)

MARC members who direct mail to DX stations and include an IRC for that worked “most wanted” DX QSL card are advised the current IRC (picture of mountains and picture of girl on front) has an expiration date of 31 December 2006. Some DX stations **are not** accepting IRC’s with the 31 December 2006 expiration date. The U.S. Postal Service Office in Milledgeville has the “new” IRC (expiration date of 31 December 2009) for sale for \$1.85.

MARC ITEMS FOR SALE

MARC has the following (surplus to club needs) items for sale:

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Yaesu FT-2500M 2 meter transceiver with microphone and manual | \$ 125.00 |
| Pyramid PS-14K DC power supply | 25.00 |

Both items are in excellent working condition. If interested, call or e-mail Bill Mills (KC4AA) 478-452-2957 or millsend@alltel.net.

MARC Meeting Dates

MARC meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of the month at 10:00 AM at the Baldwin County Main Fire Station, Allen Memorial Drive, Milledgeville. Meetings will be held on the following dates:

18 Nov

16 Dec

Mark your activity calendar and plan to attend a club meeting and/or activity. The monthly club raffle was not held at the October MARC meeting due to limited attendance. Prizes donated will be raffled at the 18 November meeting. I am sure all of us have one or two items or more in our “ham shack” (radio room) junk box that we no longer need and can donate to the club. The club monthly raffles bring in much needed income to the MARC bank account for funding the maintenance of the club repeater (WB4DOJ) and other club related projects/activities. **Help support MARC by bringing a raffle item donation to the November club meeting.**

Radio Contest Dates:

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>CONTEST</u> |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 25-26 Nov 2006 | CQ WW DX CW |
| 02-03 Dec 2006 | ARRL 160 Meter |
| 09-10 Dec 2006 | ARRL 10 Meter |
| 27-28 Jan 2007 | CQ 160 Meter CW |
| 17-18 Feb 2007 | ARRL DX CW |
| 03-04 Mar 2007 | ARRL DX Phone |
| 23-24 Jun 2007 | ARRL Field Day |

VE Test Schedules:

The MARC Volunteer Exam (VE) test team conducts FCC test sessions at the Baldwin County (Mary Vinson) Library on the second Saturday of the month. The test sessions begin at 10:00 AM. Walk-in individuals interested in sitting for the FCC amateur radio exams are welcomed. The cost of taking a FCC test is \$14.00. If you have questions, please contact Otis Murphy (W4OY) 478-452-6394 or omurphy@alltel.net.

2007 Ham Fest Dates:

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>EVENT</u> |
|-------------|---|
| 02 Jun | Atlanta Hamfest, Jim Miller Park, Cobb County, GA |

MARC Net:

When: Thursday Evening
Time: 8:00 PM
Frequency (MHz): 146.700 (Currently: 147.135)
Callsign: WB4DOJ (Currently: KE4UWJ)

Other Nets:

| | | | | |
|-------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| | Baldwin | Georgia | | |
| | <u>County ARES</u> | <u>State ARES</u> | <u>Old Capitol</u> | <u>PARES</u> |
| When: | Tuesday | Sunday | Sunday | Sunday |

| | | | | |
|------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Time: | 8:00 PM | 6:00 PM | 9:00 PM | 8:00 PM |
| Frequency (MHz): | 146.700 | 3.975 | 147.135 | 147.090 |
| Callsign: | WB4DOJ | K4GK | KE4UWJ | |