

MILLEDGEVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

W4PCF/WB4DOJ

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DECEMBER 2006

NEWSLETTER

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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:

Seasons Reflections.

This time of the year we often reflect on the past as we move forward into another year. This year in amateur radio we have moved toward new times as well.

The big news this year, was the FCC ruling called the “omnibus” report and order, which gives additional frequencies to phone operators on 80 and 40 meters, and additional frequencies to Novice and Technician Plus operators, as well as other changes. There is much controversy concerning this ruling. If you are not familiar with these changes, send me an e-mail and I will send you a copy of the ruling. The ruling becomes effective at 12:01 AM December 15, 2006. (**NOTE:** The ARRL has developed a single sheet frequency plan. Copies will be available at the 16 December MARC Christmas party.)

Still pending action by the FCC, is the proposal to eliminate the Morse code requirement for the General and Extra license classes. A ruling is expected in 2007.

In club news ... Your radio club, MARC, continues to grow and make progress. Attendance is up at the meetings, the club 2 meter repeater is alive and working well and ARRL Field Day continues to be one of the premier activities in all of amateur radio.

Sadly, I am aware of three additions to the “Silent Key (SK)” rolls this year. All who had connections to MARC.

Judy Johnsen (KF4JAI) was very active during the 1990's. She will be remembered

for her abilities to secure door prizes for our club events.

Robert Tondee (KD4TCN) who lived in Putnam County and worked for many years at Ham Radio Outlet in Atlanta.

James (Jim) Hawkins (AB4GJ). While Jim was never a member of MARC, he provided great support to our club Volunteer Examining Team, traveling from Macon to Milledgeville, to assist with exams in the late 1980's.

With the new year of 2007 fast approaching, we will review a proposed new draft of the MARC Constitution and Bylaws at the January 2007 meeting. The current MARC Constitution and Bylaws date back to 1980/1988 and require updating to bring them in line with current club operations.

Now ... Let us move into another year, proud of our past and re-energized for new opportunities.

Merry Christmas and best wishes for the New Year to you and your family.

See you at the MARC December club meeting!

Charles Pennington
K4GK
President

Treasurer's Report:

The MARC financial status is:

	\$	
Balance as of: 10 Nov 2006		506.35
Additions (member dues, donations, raffle, etc.):	+ 80.00	
	Sub Total	586.35
Less Expenditure (None.):	- 0.00	
Balance as of: 12 Dec 2006	Total	586.35

Bill Mills (KC4AA)
MARC Secretary/Treasurer

New Members/Guests:

MARC welcomed the following guest at the MARC November meeting: None reported.

2006/2007 MARC Programs:

The following programs are scheduled to be presented at the year 2006/2007 MARC monthly meetings:

16 Dec - Christmas Party

2007

20 Jan - MARC Constitution/By Laws Update. Club elections.
17 Feb - Safety
17 Mar -
21 Apr -
19 May - ARRL Field Day Planning
16 Jun - Final ARRL Field Day Planning
21 Jul -
18 Aug -
15 Sep -
20 Oct -
17 Nov -
15 Dec - Christmas Party

We welcome program suggestions. If you have a special interest subject that you would like to have presented as a MARC monthly program, please contact Charles Pennington (K4GK) or Bill Mills (KC4AA).

WB4DOJ Repeater Status:

The MARC 2 meter repeater is operational and providing good area coverage. Tower antenna work is pending and will be completed when the weather is good and the tower climber is able to fit MARC into his work schedule.

Hurb Ingles (W1DOG) our club repeater “guru” is currently in Alaska visiting family. Hurb reports on the Alaskan 2 meter repeater system as follows. Hi from the Alaskan interior! I will give you a quick snapshot of the interior Alaska repeater system. On 146.88 MHz there are at least 4 connected 2 meter repeaters that reside on Chena Dome to the North and Fairbanks, Delta Junction and Dot Lake to the South. The repeaters cover Alaska highway Route 3 to the Arctic Circle. Alaska highway Route 2 (Fort Richardson highway) coverage is from Fairbanks to Delta Junction and the Alcan Highway from Delta to Tok. That makes some 400 miles of highway covered with few “dead spots” and all on a single repeater frequency! Imagine the coverage that the Interior Alaska VHF net has. The back up “wilderness call frequency” with the usual terrain/line of sight limitations is 146.52 MHz direct.

73,
Hurb Ingles (W1DOG/KL7)
WB4DOJ Repeater Trustee
Reporting from Tok, Alaska

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. Meeting will be held on the following date:

16 Dec Christmas Party

Mark your activity calendar and plan to attend the club December Christmas party. We will have an informal meeting with light refreshments. If you plan to attend, please bring a light snack or cookie to share.

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 December club meeting.**

Radio Contest Dates:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CONTEST</u>
20-22 Jan 2007	ARRL VHF Sweepstakes

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>
13 Jan	Greenwood ARS Hamfest, Greenwood, SC
03 Feb	Charleston ARS Hamfest, Ladson, SC
24 Feb	Dalton Hamfest, Dalton, GA
14 Apr	Anderson ARC Hamfest, Anderson, SC
05 May	Blue Ridge ARS Hamfest, Spartanburg, SC
02 Jun	Atlanta Hamfest, Jim Miller Park, Cobb County, GA
18-19 Aug	Huntsville ARC Hamfest, Huntsville, AL

MARC Net:

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

Other Nets:

	<u>Baldwin County ARES</u>	<u>Georgia 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	