

MILLEDGEVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

W4PCF/WB4DOJ

JULY 2007

NEWSLETTER

Club Officers/Coordinators:

President – Don Ames (W1GUU)
Vice President – Charles Pennington (K4GK)
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))
2008 ARRL Field Day Coordinator – Open

President's Message:

Hello MARC members and guests;

It's been a busy month. We had a great turn-out, and score at ARRL Field Day. Bill Mills (KC4AA) "after action report" will cover the details. I will not steal any more of his thunder, but I want to pass my personal thanks to all of the participants. In particular, I want to thank Jim Park (W0CYH) and Tony Nuetzi (KF4EOH) for bringing the emergency communications van. It made a great billboard for our weekend operation.

Our hard work (mostly our Secretary/Treasurer, Bill Mills) in preparing the submission for becoming an ARRL affiliated club has paid off. WE'RE IN! Potential members can find us in the ARRL database. You can look for yourselves at: <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/clubsearch.phtml>. We will have as our special guest at the July meeting, ARRL Georgia Section Manager, Susan Swiderski (AF4FQ), who will present our ARRL affiliated club credentials. Let's have a large turn out at the meeting. We don't have important guests attend our meetings very often.

Unfortunately, I will miss the meeting. Our MARC Vice President, Charles Pennington (K4GK), will lead the meeting activities. See you next month.

Best 73,
/Don
W1GUU
President

Treasurer's Report:

The MARC financial status is:

	\$	
Balance as of: 06 June	944.21	
Additions (monthly raffle and dues):	+ <u>73.00</u>	
	Sub Total	1,017.21
Less Expenditure (Field Day Food):	- <u>110.00</u>	
Balance as of: 10 July 2007	Total	907.21

Respectively submitted,
Bill Mills
KC4AA
Secretary-Treasurer

New Members/Guests:

MARC had 12 members and two guests attend the June meeting. The guests were: Emilie Reid (N4XQS) wife of Hal Reid (K6DPL) and Aaron Garner son of Jimmy (KD4NGC) and Dawn (KG4NBX) Garner.

Baldwin County ARES Report:

This month Baldwin County ARES participated in a Table Top exercise organized by the Baldwin County Chapter, American Red Cross. The scenario was; a tornado had hit student and public housing complexes on North Glynn Street in Milledgeville. Emergency shelters were set up in the Baldwin County High School, the American Red Cross Service Center and the Georgia National Guard Armory. A Command Center was established in the Oconee Medical Center's parking lot. Because the tornado was localized and did not cover a large area, most of the infrastructure remained intact. That is; electric power, telephones, water supply systems etc. all worked. However, telephone service at the Oconee Medical Center parking lot did not work as well as the American Red Cross supplied cell phones had little or no coverage. The American Red Cross requested that Baldwin County ARES to provide communications from the Command Center to the shelters and the Red Cross Service Center.

In supporting the request, a hypothetical VHF FM radio net (2 meter simplex) was activated using a net control station with three site stations. In the exercise, I had a provision for using the Oconee Medical Center's HF radio installation (even though the system is not yet installed). It seemed wise to look forward in case we had another similar drill or actual emergency event.

While the tornado occurred at 7:00 PM Tuesday night (10 July 2007), the primary communications support occurred Tuesday night and throughout Wednesday. By Wednesday night, the American Red Cross was focused on feeding relief workers and supporting the 20

people who remained in the shelter. The shelter was closed Saturday morning and turned back to Baldwin County High School.

Overall, we learned a great deal on providing emergency communications services to Baldwin County emergency service agencies.

'73,
Hal Reid (K6DPL)
EC, Baldwin County

2007 MARC Programs:

The following programs are scheduled to be presented at MARC monthly meetings:

21 Jul - HF Operating Procedures (Harvey Chase, W4TG)

- 18 Aug - ARRL Official Observer Program (Ed Kirkpatrick,
- 15 Sep - ARRL National Teacher Institute (Charles Kight, AI4UN)
- 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 MARC Program Chairman, Charles Pennington (K4GK).

WB4DOJ Repeater Status:

No changes or updates. The MARC 2 meter repeater (WB4DOJ) continues to provide good area coverage.

73,
Hurb Ingles (W1DOG)
WB4DOJ Repeater Trustee

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. The July meeting will be held on the following date:

21 July 2007

The 21 July club meeting program will be presented by Harvey Chase (W4TG) on HF Operating Procedures. If you have not had the experience of hearing one of Harvey's programs, plan to attend the July meeting.

We will also have a **distinguished special guest** in attendance, Susan Swiderski (AF4FO) ARRL Georgia Section Manager (on behalf of the ARRL) will present the ARRL Affiliated Club certificate to the Milledgeville Amateur Radio Club.

Since the availability of seating is limited at the Baldwin County Fire Station, please bring a folding chair to the meeting since we are anticipating a large attendance of members and guests.

The monthly club raffles continue to bring income to the MARC bank account for funding the maintenance of the club repeater (WB4DOJ) as well as other club related projects/activities. The June club raffle netted \$33.00. **Help support your club by bringing a raffle item to the July club meeting.**

2007 ARRL Field Day Report:

The MARC ARRL Field Day contest is over and all members and guests who participated are thanked for their efforts on making the 2007 field day a huge success. MARC total number of radio contacts made during the contest: 1,018 (710 CW and 308 Phone). This is the first time in +6 years the club has made over 1,000 contacts. Our dedicated group of CW operators ((Charles Pennington (K4GK), Hal Reid (K6DPL), Harvey Chase (W4TG), Don Ames (W1GUU), Harold Willis (W4HEW) and Tom Haskins (W4WXA)) are commended for an outstanding effort on CW. The Saturday evening picnic supper was a great success thanks to the efforts of Jimmy Garner (KD4NGC).

Special thanks are extended to Harvey Chase (W4TG), MARC's eldest statesman and CW operator "par excellence". Mr. Harvey "pounded brass" (operated CW) during the contest in excess of + two hours without taking a break. Harvey is a real inspiration and a radio operator from whom you can enhance your operating skills by observing.

A detailed after action report on the 2007 ARRL Field Day is attached. If you have additional comments to include in the report, please send them to Bill Mills (KC4AA).

Radio Contest Calendar:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CONTEST</u>
21-22 Jul	CQ WW VHF Contest
04-05 Aug	ARRL UHF Contest
08-09 Sep	ARRL VHF QSO Party
27-28 Oct	CQ WW DX Contest (SSB)
03-05 Nov	ARRL Sweepstakes (CW)
17-19 Nov	ARRL Sweepstakes (SSB)
30 Nov-02 Dec	ARRL 160 Meter Contest
08-09 Dec	ARRL 10 Meter Contest

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.

The new FCC revised set of General Class license test questions are in effect as of 1 July 2007. If you plan to sit for the General Class license exam, make sure your study material is dated 1 July 2007.

2007 Ham Fest/Conference Dates:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
11 Aug	Ellijay Hamfest, Ellijay, GA
18-19 Aug	Huntsville ARC Hamfest and ARRL National Convention, Huntsville, AL
31 Aug-02 Sep	Shelby ARC Hamfest, Shelby, NC
15 Sep	W9DXCC Convention, Chicago, IL
15 Sep	Dallas Hamfest, Dallas, GA
28-29 Sep	Ten-Tec Hamfest, Sevierville, TN
29 Sep	South Eastern DX and Contest Club Convention, Pigeon Forge, TN
13 Oct	Augusta Hamfest, Augusta, GA
20 Oct	Rome Hamfest, Rome, GA
03-04 Nov	Lawrenceville Hamfest, Lawrenceville, GA

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	K4PAR