

# MILLEDGEVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

## W4PCF/WB4DOJ

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MAY 2008

NEWSLETTER

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### **Club Officers/Coordinators:**

President – Don Ames (W1GUU)

Vice President – Charles Pennington (K4GK)

Secretary/Treasurer – Bill Mills (KC4AA)

2008 ARRL Field Day Coordinators – Don Ames (W1GUU) and  
Charles Pennington (K4GK)

Baldwin County ARES EC – Hal Reid (K6DPL)

FCC Volunteer Exam Coordinator – Otis Murphy (W4OY)

MARC Repeater Trustee – Hurb Ingles (W1DOG)

MARC Web Page Designers – Jimmy and Dawn Garner (KD4NGC and KG4NBX)

### **President's Message:**

Hello MARC,

I hope you're starting to think seriously about ARRL Field Day (28-29 June). It's time to see if you can lay your hands on all of the bits and pieces that you will need to bring. Make a checklist so that you will remember to have everything you need for the weekend. Don't forget the bug spray! Keep the checklist out in plain sight for the next few weeks, you'll think of additional items, and add them to the "to go" box, as you work around the station.

Thinking of stations, Hurb (W1DOG) has scheduled a work party at the MARC repeater site following our meeting on Saturday. Bring your work clothes. Many hands make a short work day. We'll keep the business meeting as short as possible so that we can get on to the outside work before the real heat of the day begins.

See you on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

73,  
/Don  
W1GUU  
President

### **Treasurer's Report:**

The MARC financial status is:

	\$	
Balance as of: 31 March 2008	1,571.71	
Additions (monthly raffle and dues):	+ <u>75.00</u>	
	Sub Total	1,646.71
Less Expenditure:	- <u>00.00</u>	
Balance as of: 30 April 2008	Total	1,646.71

Respectively submitted,  
/Bill Mills  
KC4AA  
Secretary-Treasurer

### **MARC Meeting Attendance, New Members and Guests:**

Ten (10) members and one (1) guest attended the April 2008 meeting.

### **Baldwin County ARES News:**

I am still in Oregon so I haven't been able to organize too much that is new. However, I did discover a way to alert folks via a group text message mechanism. It works like this ... you set up an e-mail group with the ARES members cell telephone numbers and their cell telephone providers. When I get this procedure established, you will be able to send a cell telephone alert to ARES members via cell telephone. I have requested Otis (W4OY) to announce to ARES members on the Tuesday evening 2 meter net to e-mail me their cell telephone number and their cell telephone provider. Harold Willis (W4HEW) was the first person to send in the information (11 May). I was able to send him a practice alert message via cell telephone. Now that I am building a list of ARES member cell telephone numbers, I need to complete the list. Even though, as we found with the recent storm damage in Bibb County, it doesn't take much to eliminate cell telephone coverage when towers are blown down and communications buildings are damaged. Use of the cell telephone network to alert ARES members adds a new dimension to the emergency alert network (land line telephone, 2 meter repeater and cell telephone network).

Give it a try, send me your cell telephone number and your cell provider (AT&T, Sprint, etc.) and I will send you a test alert text message.

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

### **2008 MARC Programs:**

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

- 17 May – ARRL Field Day Planning
- 21 Jun – Final ARRL Field Day Planning

19 Jul –  
16 Aug –  
20 Sep –  
18 Oct –  
15 Nov –  
20 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:**

The MARC 2 meter repeater (WB4DOJ) continues to provide good area coverage. Rather than have an extended hour after the MARC May business meeting, club members will adjourn to the repeater site for a fast clean up and minor repairs to the “repeater shack”. Other work to be done is to run a new RF coax cable and antenna repair so we can place the primary repeater on line. We have a professional climber to do the water tower work.

73,  
/Hurb Ingles  
W1DOG  
MARC WB4DOJ Repeater Trustee

**MARC Meeting Dates**

MARC meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month at 10:00 AM at the Baldwin County Main Fire Station, Allen Memorial Drive, Milledgeville. The May meeting will be held on the following date:

17 May 2008

The May meeting will be presented by Don Ames (W1GUU) and Charles Pennington (K4GK) on ARRL Field Day operations. Mark your calendar and plan to attend the May MARC meeting.

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 April club raffle netted \$30.00 for the club treasury.

**2008 Radio Contest Calendar:**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CONTEST</u>
24-25 May	CQ WW WPX CW
14-15 Jun	ARRL June VHF QSO Party
28-29 Jun	ARRL Field Day
13-14 Sep	September VHF QSO Party
01-03 Nov	ARRL Sweepstakes (CW)
15-17 Nov	ARRL Sweepstakes (Phone)

13-14 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@windstream.net](mailto:omurphy@windstream.net).

Please note, the current Amateur Extra exam pool and study materials expire 30 June 2008. Persons planning to sit for the exam using the current published study materials, should plan to take the exam prior to 1 July 2008. A new set of Amateur Extra exam questions and study materials goes into effect 1 July 2008.

**2008 Ham Fest/Conference Dates:**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
16-18 May	Dayton Hamconvention, Dayton, OH
7 Jun	Atlanta Radio Club Hamfest, Marietta, GA
12 Jul	Gainesville Hamfest, Gainesville, GA
9 Aug	Ellijay Hamfest, Ellijay, GA
16-17 Aug	Huntsville Hamfest, Huntsville, AL

**MARC Net:**

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

**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