

MILLEDGEVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

W4PCF/WB4DOJ

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FEBRUARY 2009

NEWSLETTER

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Club Officers/Coordinators:

President – Hal Reid (K6DPL) halreid@cox.net
Vice President – Charles Pennington (K4GK) chask4gk@aol.com
Secretary/Treasurer – Charles Kight (AI4UN) cekight3@yahoo.com
2009 ARRL Field Day Coordinator – TBD
Baldwin County ARES EC – Hal Reid (K6DPL) halreid@cox.net
FCC Volunteer Exam Coordinator – Otis Murphy (W4OY) chask4gk@aol.com
MARC Repeater Trustee – Hurb Ingles (W1DOG) chask4gk@aol.com
MARC Web Page Designers – Jimmy and Dawn Garner (KD4NGC and KG4NBX)
kd4ngc@windstream.net & kg4nbx@windstream.net

President's Message:

First, I'd like to thank Don (W1GUU), Charles (K4GK), and Bill (KC4AA), for their leadership these past two years and note that I appreciate Charles staying on as Vice President to provide continuity to the new team. Second, I would like to thank you for your confidence that I can help create direction for the Club as your President.

At this point, I see four fundamental issues that we have as a Club. Those are (not necessarily in priority order); the repeater, membership, programs and activities. I believe that it is imperative that we have a program for every meeting – excepting May and June for Field Day and December for the Christmas Party. In addition, I would like to see some more activities like the Foxhunt technology we had last year. Not counting Field Day, one activity a quarter would be good.

The ARRL has established an effort to include technology into their Sphere of Influence. I think we should do this as well, but do it in the manner of the WB8IMT column in QST, "Eclectic Technology". Technology as I see it, is knowing about stuff, not necessarily getting knee deep into it. My logic is that it is a lot easier to just get a spoonful of something new first, rather than a whole plateful. That could stem from my fear of commitment.

It is true that the Club does not rest on just one person's ideas, so your ideas are every bit as important as mine or your Officers. My overall agenda is to make going to Club meetings a looked forward to experience. An experience where you leave with more than you came with, not counting for the stuff you donated to the raffle.

See you at the meeting,

73,
/Hal (K6DPL)
President

Treasurer's Report:

The MARC financial status is:

	\$
Balance as of: 31 December 2008	1,618.89
Additions (monthly raffle dues and \$5 donation):	<u>221.00</u>
Sub Total	1,839.89
Less Expenditure:	- <u>00.00</u>
Balance as of: 9 February 2009	Total 1,839.89

Respectively submitted,
/Charles Kight (AI4UN)
Secretary-Treasurer

MARC Meeting Attendance, New Members and Guests:

Fourteen (14) members and guests attended the January 2009 meeting.

Baldwin County ARES News:

This month gave us an opportunity to participate in an Emcomm exercise involving the Oconee Regional Hospital. On January 27th we had a short exercise establishing communication with the Putnam Hospital. It gave Bill (KC4AA) and myself the opportunity to get into the equipment at the hospital and get up to speed on it. We were able to get familiar with both radios and add blue and red color coding where it hadn't been included in the original installation. One of the things we need to complete is a "cheat sheet" of the memories in both radios and some basic operational steps. If we are able to participate in the next 60 meter test, I'll try to get that completed.

The hospital has indicated that they would like to have communications with the following hospitals/county medical centers.

Jasper Memorial	Putnam County
Washington Memorial	Fairview Park – Laurens County
Bleckley Memorial	Taylor Regional – Pulaski County
Dodge County	

While there is good coverage with existing linked repeaters, I have a concern that those paths may be fairly congested in an emergency of the scope that involves these medical facilities. Of course, most of these facilities don't have any Ham equipment. This is a multi-county problem and will have to be addressed in a manner that is beyond just this EC.

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

2009 MARC Programs:

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

- 21 Feb – "Traffic Handling 101" by Charles Pennington (K4GK)
- 21 Mar – "Magic Digital Modes" by Hal Reid (K6DPL)
- 18 Apr –
- 16 May – Initial ARRL Field Day Planning
- 20 Jun – Final ARRL Field Day Planning
- 18 Jul –
- 15 Aug –
- 19 Sep –
- 17 Oct –
- 21 Nov –
- 19 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 continues to provide excellent area coverage.

73,
/Hurb Ingles (W1DOG)
MARC WB4DOJ Repeater Trustee

MARC Annual Dues:

With the beginning of year 2009, it is **time to renew your membership in MARC**. Member annual dues are \$20.00 and \$5.00 for a family member living in the same household. Please bring your dues to the February meeting, or if you are not able to attend, mail your check to Charles Kight (AI4UN)

MARC Meeting Date:

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 February 2009 meeting will be held on the following date:

21 February 2009

The February meeting program will be presented by Charles Pennington (K4GK) on "Traffic Handling 101". Mark your calendar and plan to attend the February 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 January raffle raised \$31. Check your "junk box" and consider

bringing a raffle item to the February meeting as well as bringing extra cash to purchase an item or two.

W5G Texas Special Event Station

Bill Mills, (KC4AA) wanted to remind us of the W5G, Goliad, Texas special event station. W5G will be on the air 19-22 March and will operate from the Goliad County Fair Grounds. Goliath is celebrating its 260th Anniversary. Bill will be attending with a good friend, John Whittington (G4KHM) who will be in the United States on holiday. John lives in Ferring, West Sussex, England. Bill lived in Goliad from 1945 till 1961 when he went into the U.S. Army. A very nice W5G photo QSL card has been printed and will be mailed to operators who work the station. Time: 1500-2200Z, Freq: 21.230, 14.270, 7.215. More information can be found in the March 2009 edition of QST magazine (page 94).

Macon Cherry Blossom Festival Special Event Station

The Macon ARC will be celebrating the 27th Macon Cherry Blossom Festival with a Special Event Station. Time: 1500-2200Z, Freq: 145.370, 14.240, 7.225, 7.050. More information can be found in the March 2009 edition of QST magazine (page 94).

2009 Radio Contest and Special Event Calendar:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CONTEST</u>
17 – 19 Jan	ARRL VHF Sweepstakes
23 – 25 Jan	CQ WW 160 Meter CW
21 – 22 Feb	ARRL International DX Contest (CW)
27 Feb – 01 Mar	CQ WW 160 Meter SSB
7 – 8 Mar	ARRL International DX Contest (Phone)
19 – 22 Mar	Goliath 260 th Anniversary Special Event Station
21 Mar	Cherry Blossom Festival Special Event Station
11 – 12 Apr	GA QSO Party
13 – 14 Jun	ARRL June VHF QSO Party
27 – 28 Jun	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 the W5YI FCC test is \$14.00. The cost of the ARRL FCC test will cost \$15.00 effective 1 January 2009. If you have questions, please contact Otis Murphy (W4OY) 478-452-6394 or omurphy@windstream.net.

2009 Ham Fest Calendar:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
28 Feb	Dalton Hamfest, Dalton, GA
21 Mar	Kennehoochee Hamfest, Marietta, GA
9 May	Heart of GA Hamfest, Byron, GA
6 Jun	Georgia State Convention Atlanta Radio Club, Marietta, GA Jim Miller Park

MARC Net:

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

Other Nets:

	Baldwin <u>County ARES</u>	Georgia <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	K4PAR

Classified:

Do you have ham equipment to sell? If so, it can be listed here. Please send description, price, and contact information in time to make the next Newsletter Deadline.

Newsletter Deadline:

The deadline for submissions for the next newsletter is Saturday, March 14. Please submit to:

Charles Kight (AI4UN)
319 Weatherford Place
Macon, GA 31210
478-477-8339
cekight3@yahoo.com