

# ALBANY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

P.O. Box 70601  
Albany, GA 31708-0601

**W4MM**  
www.w4mm.com

Newsletter January 2012

**Next Club Meeting**  
**January 24th**  
**7PM**  
**Phoebe North**  
**Hospital**  
**Training Room**



## W4MM Repeaters

146.700  
146.730  
146.820 t110.9  
147.360 t173.8  
444.500

## W4MM-15 Digipeter

144.390 MHz  
QTH of WB4TFW  
The coordinates are:  
31°34.057' N Lat.  
84°05.077' W Long

## W4MM-12 Digipeter

144.390 MHz  
Emergency Comm.  
Trailer

## CLUB OFFICERS

### President

Ken Adams K1KBA  
Kba1@surfsouth.com

### Vice President

Dr. Gene Clark W4AYK  
w4ayk@mchsi.com

### Secretary

Leon Perrett K4GCR  
K4gcr@bellsouth.net

### Treasurer/Editor

### Webmaster

Bob Smith K4PHE  
K4phe@bellsouth.net

## Happy Birthday

NT9U Hank 7th W4GW Glend 29th  
AD4KT Charles 18th

## Upcoming Events for 2012

Jan. 14	TechFest Lawrenceville, GA <a href="http://gars.org">http://gars.org</a>
Jan. 21	ARES Annual Meeting in Forsyth starting at 9:30AM
Feb 10-12	Orlando Hamcation <a href="http://www.hamcation.com">www.hamcation.com</a>
Feb. 25	Dalton ARC Hamfest <a href="http://DaltonHamfest.com">http://DaltonHamfest.com</a>
March 3	Albany Marathon <a href="http://albanymarathon.com/">http://albanymarathon.com/</a>
March 17	Kennehoochee Hamfest Marietta, GA <a href="http://www.w4bti.org/hamfest_2012.html">http://www.w4bti.org/hamfest_2012.html</a>
May 12	Heart of Georgia Hamfest <a href="http://wa4ort.com">http://wa4ort.com</a>
April 14-15	Georgia QSO Party <a href="http://georgiaqsoparty.org/">http://georgiaqsoparty.org/</a>
July 1-5	4Th of July Week-The Original 13 Colonies Special Event

## Club Officers and Board Members for 2012

President: Ken Adams K1KBA, Vice President: Dr. Gene Clark W4AYK,  
Secretary: Leon Perrett K4GCR, Treasurer: Bob Smith K4PHE.

The 3 new members elected to the Board of Directors are Gene Clark W4AYK, Joe Woody WG4JOE and Ken Adams K1KBA.

## Club Dues

Invoices for 2012 club dues will be mailed out on January 1, 2012. We hope everyone will continue to support the Albany Club.

## State ARES Meeting in Forsyth

The date is January 21st at the Georgia Public Service Training Center at 1000 Indian Springs Rd. Take exit 188 off I 75 and go West (going North on I 75 that means you loop back and under the interstate). Time is 9:30 AM until about 4PM and it is for all interested in ARES. Admission is free and we suggest you bring a "Brown Bag" lunch so that you can spend the 2 hour lunch period at the various booths in the dining area there. We will have "Talk-in" on 146.52 simplex.

## Highlights of the new single-piece First-Class Mail pricing, effective Jan. 22, 2012, include:

- Letters (1 oz.) - 1-cent increase to 45 cents
- Letters additional ounces - unchanged at 20 cents
- Postcards - 3-cent increase to 32 cents
- Letters to Canada or Mexico (1 oz.) - 5-cent increase to 85 cents.
- Letters to other international destinations - 7-cent increase to \$1.05
- Prices also will change for other mailing services, including
- Standard Mail, Periodicals, Package Services and Extra Services.
- The announcement does not affect Express Mail and Priority Mail

## Albany Marathon



The Sixth Albany Marathon & Half Marathon will be on **Saturday March 3, 2012**. The Albany Club has again been asked to provide communications for this event. Mark your calendar as we will need all the volunteers we can get to support this event. This is always good opportunity to spotlight our club. If you want to see more information on this event, go to: <http://albanymarathon.com/>

If are planning to help please let Bob K4PHE [k4phe@bellsouth.net](mailto:k4phe@bellsouth.net) know. If you volunteered last year you will be placed at the same location.

We have 14 Water Stations that need communicators so if you have not volunteered before we can certainly use your help. More information and maps will available later.

## FCC Adopts Calm Act Rules To Limit TV Commercial Volume

The Federal Communications Commission has taken what it terms as a major step toward eliminating one of the most persistent problems of the television age. That being those overly loud commercials that the public seems to hate.

On Wednesday, December 14th the Commission adopted a Report and Order that implements the 2010 Commercial Advertisement Loudness Mitigation or CALM Act. That's the statute in which Congress gave the Commission, for the first time, authority to address the problem of excessive commercial loudness.

The rules as adopted require that commercials have the same average volume as the programs they accompany. The rules also establish simple, practical ways for stations and multi-channel video programming distributors to demonstrate their compliance with the new regulations.

The CALM Act rules will become effective one year after the date of their adoption, or 13 December, 2012. This gives those broadcasters falling under the regulation until that date to be in full compliance. Equally important, it provides ample time for programmers and networks to provide their distributors with certifications stating the commercials that accompany their programming are fully compliant with these new rules.

While consumer complaints about loud commercials have diminished since 2009, the FCC expects that these new rules will reduce loudness complaints even further. (Media Network, FCC)

## A Big Thank You

We want to thank **Roy K4KZO** and **Joyce K4KZP** for their donation of 3 batteries for our club's Emergency Communications Trailer. Thank you both for your continued support of the Albany Club.

