

## Mississippi Section Report for August 2007

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District Emergency Coordinators: KD5CKP, WB5CON, KD5FUO, KA5ICO, AB5WF, W4WLF, AG5Z, and N5ZNT.

Emergency Coordinators: KB5AAB, KD5CKP, KD5CQT, WB5CON, WV5D, AD5DO, KC5EAK, KD5FUO, W5GEJ, WB5GUD, KD5GWM, W4HOZ, KA5ICO, KC5IJP, AD5IT, KB5JN, W5JVK, KD5KXJ, N5LJC, W5LMW, W5MPC, WX5N, K5NRK, KD5NMB, KD5NSP, N5TBB, KC5TYL, N5UDK, W4WLF, K5WLP, KM5WX, KD5XG, N5XXX, KB5ZEA, N5ZNT, and KB0ZTX.

Thanks to MFJ for hosting the 2007 ARRL Day in the Park in Starkville as part of their 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. Chairman KC5NSZ reports that over 400 were in attendance for the two-day event. Participants were given the opportunity to tour all four MFJ Facilities and ask all of the questions they could think of. Special guests were K1MMH from ARRL Headquarters and K9JA from ICOM, who brought along an IC-7800 for the participants to drool over. Also in attendance were Delta Division Director WD4Q and Vice Director WA5TMC, who presented Martin (K5FLU) with a plaque recognizing his contributions to Ham Radio over the past 35 years.

The MFJ 35th Anniversary was surely an event that provided a unique opportunity see the results of American entrepreneurship at its best and an opportunity for fun, food, and fellowship. Sorry, if you missed it.

At the section level Mississippi is better prepared for an emergency communications response than we were before Katrina. However, because Katrina wiped out the 2005 SET and there wasn't much enthusiasm for a Post Katrina Simulated Emergency Test (SET) in 2006, local level ARES exercises have been rather hit and miss since our last SET in 2004. With this in mind, we will have a Section SET on October 27 focused on local ARES emergency response with the proviso that if we have a major hurricane in the interim then the SET will be cancelled.

The local SET Scenarios will be developed by District Emergency Coordinators and/or Emergency Coordinators (DEC/EC). Scenarios can be set up on a district or county basis such that the scenario is appropriate for the area. The SET will be conducted on Saturday Morning October 27 with a start time for each local exercise to be determined by the DEC and/or EC.

The training value we realize from this year's SET will depend on how well the DEC/ECs have done their Pre-SET homework. This is a golden opportunity to resurrect a dormant ARES Group that has Post Katrina Letdown and to get back on the radar screens of your local EMA Director, law enforcement officials, Red Cross Director, Salvation Army Corps, etc. Contact your EC and see what part you will play in the SET.

EC W5MPC reports that Lafayette County Emergency Management contacted ARES to assist the Lafayette County Fire Department and the Mississippi Forestry Commission in fighting a large wildfire in a densely wooded area in the northwestern part of the county. The assistance rendered was not directly communications related. Due to the size and scope of the fire and other emergencies going on simultaneously local law enforcement was not available to secure the roads leading to the fire scene. ARES members responded within minutes of the request for assistance and secured the roads leading into the area. This prevented local residents from getting too close to the scene and kept a clear path for the fire equipment to get through. Those hams participating in this effort were K5DSG, K5LMB, K5MHB, KE5PPU, W4DQK, KD5JHE, KE5JQZ, WB5VYH, and W5MPC.

DEC W4WLF reports that the McHenry D-Star is a work in progress. Through the efforts of

Harold K5GVR, Ray K5XXV and Tim N5UDK, the receive antennas for the 2 meter and 440 digital voice repeaters have been split from the transmit antennas. The receive antennas are now at about 1100 feet. It was found that the 440 amplifier was bad. The removal of it allows the signal to be heard all the way to the coastline in Gulfport. It is hoped that the addition of preamps to the 2 meter and 440 receive systems will bring them up to par. Hopefully the Internet Gateway will be activated soon, in addition to waiting on Icom to give the go ahead for the national/international system.

The Mississippi Coast ARA activated K5K focusing on the second anniversary of Katrina's Landfall. W5ACS reports making over 200 QSOs. QSL with SASE to W5ACS.

The DeSoto County RACES group attended the City of Olive Branch Neighborhood Watch "Safety Fair" on Saturday August 11. They displayed the DeSoto County EMA Rescue Truck (you have to see this!), handed out disaster preparedness materials, and demonstrated how simple and efficient amateur radio communications could be set up by using a G5RV, battery and a 'Go Box.' The demonstration was a hit and a bunch of potential hams asked a lot of questions. Members in attendance were KB0ZTX, KD5VMV, KE5EOQ, KI4OTF, KE5MXY, KD5ARO, and KC5KLL.

Welcome to new Mississippi Hams: KE5PXB, Hal – Bay St. Louis; KE5PXC, Ernest – Wiggins; KE5PXD, John – Ocean Springs; KE5PXE, Henry – Pass Christian; KE5PXF, Ben – Long Beach; KE5PXJ, Richard – Olive Branch; KE5PYK, Sheila – Jackson; KE5PYL, Charles – Vicksburg; KE5PYN, Tommy – Crystal Springs; KE5QAP, Neil – Picayune; KE5QAQ, Krystal – Wiggins; KE5QCD, Michael – Lumberton; KE5QCE, Jose – Wiggins; KE5QCF – Karen, Carriere; KE5QCG, Kim – Kiln; KE5QCH, Charlene – Kiln; KE5QCI, Linnie – Poplarville; KE5QCJ, Christine – Poplarville; KE5QCK, Pamela – Carriere; KE5QCL, James – Poplarville; KE5QCM, Jeffery – Diamondhead; KE5QCO, Brenda – Lumberton; KE5QCQ, Robert – Perkinston; KE5QCR, Dwayne – Poplarville; KE5QCS, Marsha – Gulfport; KE5QCT, Mitchell – Lucedale; KE5QEM, Barry – Columbus; KE5QHJ, Bonnie – Walnut Grove; KE5QHK, Victor – Lena; KE5QHL, Terry – Laurel; KE5QHM, William – Laurel; KE5QHP, Gerrit – Ocean Springs; KE5QHQ, Leigh – Ocean Springs; KE5QHR, Michael – Ocean Springs; KE5QHS, Daniel – Saucier; KE5QHT, Patrick – Gulfport; KE5QHU, Peter – Biloxi; KE5QHV, Betty – Gulfport; KE5QHW, James – Wiggins; KE5QHX, Sandra – Saucier; KE5QHY, Richard – Biloxi; KE5QHZ, Barbara – Saucier; KE5QIA, Patricia – Biloxi; KE5QIB, Charles – Ocean Springs; KE5QIC, Daniel – Saucier; KE5QID, Robert – Ocean Springs; KE5QIE, Magdalena – Long Beach; KE5QIF, Daniel – Wiggins; KE5QIG, Charles – Kiln; KE5QIH, Aloysius – Vancleave; KE5QII, James – Long Beach; KE5QIJ, Eleanor – Ocean Springs; KE5QIL, Scott – Ocean Springs; KE5QIM, Gary – Ocean Springs; KE5QIN, Barbara – Gulfport; and KE5QIO, Althea – Vancleave. WOW! 56 news hams in one month. Instructors and VE Teams: Keep up the good work!

Also welcome to N5UDK, who has been appointed Assistant DEC on the Gulf Coast, and WX5N as EC for Tishomingo County. Former EC K5WSY has retired from this position,

Congratulations to the following on their upgrades: KC5RFL – Sumner; KA5DON - Vancleave; KE5KBF – Marks; KE5KMF – Poplarville; N3MHJ – Poplarville; KE5OVP – Amory; KE5PYM – Pearl; N5WDG – Madison; and WA5TPM – Tupelo.

Also congratulations are in order for KA5DON, who passed ARRL ECC-01, ECC-02, and ECC-03, as well as congratulations to KB5CSQ for being nominated and appointed as a HF QSL Checker and KA5VFU as a VUCC QSL Checker. We now have HF/VUCC Checkers in the Southern, Central, and Northern Parts of the state, so no one should have to mail their cards into ARRL Headquarters. The complete list of Card Checkers is on the Section Web Site.

Additional congratulations are in order for Griffin, KE5QEK, who passed his Tech Exam at the ripe old age of 8. Has anyone passed an exam at an age equal to or younger than 8? Is Griffin now the youngest ham in the state?

Welcome to new ARRL members: AE5CX – Jackson; W5EHZ – Terry; N5EKR – Ellisville; W5ESV – Raymond; KE5MIT – Alligator; KD5NSO – Tupelo; KA9OFM – Walnut; KE5PKO – Ellisville; KB5PMP – Picayune; KE5QCS – Gulfport; KE4RXB – Glen; K5SHE – Fulton; WW5OJ – Philadelphia; N5SOX – Clinton; AC5SU – Jackson; KA5TTR – Buckatunna; WA5UAW – Starkville; and N5WDG – Madison.

PIC Report: N5TBB

Club Newsletters/Reports: Hattiesburg ARC (AC5E), Mississippi Coast ARA (WE5Y), University of Mississippi ARC (W5MPC), Vicksburg ARC (W5WAF)

DEC/EC Report: WB5CON (NE MS/Alcorn), KD5CQT (Jackson), KC5EAK (Pearl River), WB5GUD (Newton), KD5GWM (Lauderdale/Clarke), N5TBB (Tippah/Benton), W4WLF (Gulf Coast/Harrison), K5WLP (Sunflower), and K5WSY (Tishomingo).

Net reports: sessions/QNI/QTC (Net Manager)

DRN5 62/Miss 100% Rep by W5XX, WA5FB, WB5ZED (WB5ZED)

MS Section Phone Net 31/2065/10 (K5NRK)

Magnolia Section Net 31/873/2 (AD5J)

MS Section Traffic Net 31/118/6 (KB5W)

Jackson County EN 31/479/6 (KD5CQT)

MS Section Slow Net 23/56/1 (W3TWD)

Hattiesburg AEN 5/116/0 (N5MZ)

South MS YL Net 5/83/0 (KB5CSQ)

Newton County ARES 5/47/0 (WB5GUD)

Tishomingo County ARC 5/115/5 (KU4WW)

Stone Co ARES Net 5/133/0 (N5UDK)

Jackson ARC Em Net 4/34/0 (AB5WF)

Meridian Area EN 4/48/0 (KD5GWM)

Lowndes Co ARC Net 4/51/0 (AD5DO)

Pearl River ARES 4/64/1 (KC5EAK)

NE MS ARES 4/62/0 (W5LMW); Late report for July 5/68/0.

MS-LA EN 4/32/0 (K5NRK)

Monroe ARC 4/48/0 (AD5DO)

MS Baptist Hams Net 4/30/0 (WF5F)

UMARC 2M Net 4/44/0 (W5MPC)

Metro Jackson ARES 3/16/0 (AB5WF)

MDXA 2/36/0 (N5FG)

PSHR: W5XX 170, WB5ZED 150, and AB5WF 83

Traffic: WB5ZED 3148 (BPL)

Compilation of Net and Traffic Statistics provided by KB5RCJ