

Mississippi Section Report for February 2008

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

Emergency Coordinators: KB5AAB, KD5CKP, KD5CQT, WB5CON, WV5D, AD5DO, KC5EAK, AE5FK, KD5FUO, K5FV, W5GEJ, WB5GUD, KD5GWM, W4HOZ, WB5HQB, KC5IJP, AD5IT, KB5JN, W5JVK, KD5KXJ, N5LJC, W5LMW, W5MPC, WX5N, K5NRK, KD5NMB, N5TBB, K5TV, KC5TYL, N5UDK, W4WLF, K5WLP, KM5WX, KD5XG, KB5ZEA, N5ZNT, and KB0ZTX.

The fifth running of the Mississippi QSO Party was by far the best with excellent weather for mobile operation and excellent participation both inside and outside of the state. Although the logs are still coming at this point in early March (about 55 so far) at least 3 stations made over 900 QSOs (one a mobile!) and two others made over 500. Thanks to mobiles KS5A (NN9K wheelman), NO5W, K4ZGB, and W5XX for putting out many rare counties. Honorable mention to N5CW, who arrived on site in Jefferson Davis County to start his trip, but found that his antenna tuning motor failed. Now that is frustrating!

A few other records were set. NO5W's wheelman (XYL Keri) drove 550 miles through 26 counties in 9.5 hours without getting a ticket (MHP needs to tighten up and get some of that Texas money!). KS5A drove in from Arizona to be in the QSO Party and his Wheelman NN9K from Illinois! And at Oxford, the Ole Miss ARC (W5UMS) set up in front of the Lyceum. Operators KS5U, KE5JQZ, KE5NQP (his first ever QSO) and K5KMB all logged their first DX QSO with VP6DX using their own call signs during the QSO Party. And down in Ocean Springs K2FF reports that he was called by W1AW, worked 38 mobiles, talked with several folks who had been stationed at Keesler, and had a good QSO from a Ham from Wyoming, who had worked in Ocean Springs during the Katrina aftermath.

By this time next month all of the logs will be in hand and the preliminary winners will be known. Remember all logs must be to W5XX by March 31.

Operation 'Current Gamble 08' was coordinated by the National Guard 47th Civil Support Team and the City of Vicksburg and conducted at several locations along the Mississippi side of the River. This exercise consisted of several training scenarios involving terrorist/hostage situations. A summary of the exercise indicates that 700 persons participated representing 60 Federal, state, and local agencies. The Vicksburg ARC role was to demonstrate communications among agencies when other means were not available.

Local Exercise Coordinator W5WAF reports that an emergency response communications net demonstration was established between the Current Gamble ICS (W5WAF), SW MS RRT Team (KA5SBK), MEMA – KM5EMA (AB5WF), NWS Jackson – WX5JAN (N5XXX and K5BLL), Vicksburg Red Cross (KB5YEE), Rankin County EOC – K5RKN (WM5A), and the Warren County EOC – K5ZRO (KD5CQX). Mobile/fixed stations standing by for assignments on the net were K5CID, W5DXZ, KD5FUY, KE5HJC, KE5IMJ, K5IMT, N5JDA, KC5QZW, W5VXG, KD5WCN, and W5XX.

Be sure and read 'A Station for the ARRL Sponsored 500 KHz Experiment' by our own W5THT (page 43 March QST). This well written article will bring you up to speed on the experimental work in progress below the AM Broadcast Band. And following publication of the article we find out that on February 21 WD2XSH/6 (aka W5THT) was received by V73NS on Roi-Namur, a Pacific Ocean atoll in the Marshall Islands. As of this writing the 6679 Mile path is the record for the 500 KHz band. Congratulations, Pat. On to DXCC! Pat's accomplishment beat the old record of 4737 miles set in January 2008.

Club Pres W5WAF reports that the Vicksburg ARC again provided communications for the 'Run Through History' through the Vicksburg National Military Park. For the first time in several years two medical emergencies occurred. KC5QCW and N5KWT and XYL cared for the downed participants until help arrived. Those VARC members participating were N5JGK, KB5YEE, KD5DHR, KD5WCN (and XYL), N5KWT (and XYL) and W5WAF.

Following last month's listing of EOCs with ham Stations, Asst. Prentiss County EC KE5HJQ advises that the County EOC has VHF capabilities and is working toward an HF installation.

Tippah County EC N5TBB reports that the station at the EOC is now fully functional after a move from its former location. In addition, WB5CON reports from Alcorn County that the 440 ARES Repeater is finally on the air.

Welcome to new Mississippi Hams: KE5SOK, Robert – Lorman; KE5SRC, Steven – French Camp; KE5SSB, Kayla – Fulton; KE5SSC, Doris – Booneville; KE5SSD, Gary – Rienzi; KE5SUB, Shelly – Wesson; KE5SUO, Sylvester – Pearl; KE5SUR, Dean – Brandon; KE5SUS, John – Jackson; KE5SWS – McHenry; KE5SYT, Shane – Pearl; KE5SZY, Brian – Hattiesburg; KE5TAE, Shae – Grenada; KE5TAF, Roger – Grenada; KE5TAG, Tristian – Grenada; and KE5TAZ, Lewers – Coldwater.

Also welcome to K5DSG as the new Net Manager of the Magnolia Net. Many thanks to retiring Net Manager AD5J, who is retiring after many years of service.

In addition welcome to K5FV as the new EC for Rankin County and AE5FK as the new EC for Walthall County. N5XXX retired as Rankin County EC in order to focus his efforts on Skywarn Operations at NWS Jackson.

Congratulations to the following on their upgrades: KE5IUJ – Collins; KE5MIR – Coffeerville; KE5MIS – Coffeerville; KE5MSZ – Florence; KC5NMB – Meridian; KE5QCS – Gulfport, KE5QNM – Conehatta; KE5RHM – Coldwater; KE5RJT – Magnolia; KD5STW – Ellisville; KE5TAF – Grenada; WB5VJT – Kiln; N5XZF – Ellisville; KD5YBV – Carriere; KB5YEE – Vicksburg (way to go, John!); and KB0ZTX – Holly Springs.

Also congratulations to KB5CSQ who was recently elected as the 5th District Chairman of the YLRL.

Welcome to new ARRL members: W5AJB – Jackson; N5DUZ – Philadelphia; AE5FR – Lena; KE5LQB – Mize; KE5MIR – Coffeerville; KE5MIS – Coffeerville; KD5NBL – Jackson; KD5OFV – Philadelphia; N5OKV – Long Beach; KD5ORL – Olive Branch; N5QEX – Madison; KE5RZS – Gulfport; KE5SGE – Aberdeen; KE5SWS – McHenry; KA5TQY – Greenwood; KD4UQE – Jackson; WA5VFP – Philadelphia; WB5VGV – Burnsville; and KE5VTY – French Camp. As a footnote in history W5XX just received his 'Certificate of Recognition' for 50 years as an ARRL Member (another dinosaur in our midst).

And speaking of ARRL membership, when W5XX became SM in 1998 the ARRL Membership in Mississippi was about 950 and stayed relatively constant. Then Katrina came along, and when renewal notices were sent out, a lot of mailboxes couldn't be found. As a result the membership dropped to 825 by January 2006. Thanks to the hard work of many folks we are back up to 987. Let's push it over 1,000 just to say we did it!

Club Newsletters/Reports: Hattiesburg ARC (AC5E), Meridian ARC (W5MAV), Pearl River County ARC (N5WLW), the University of Mississippi ARC (W5MPC), and the Vicksburg ARC (W5WAF).

Regret to report the passing of KB5FLC of Michigan City.

DEC/EC Reports: WB5CON (NE MS/Alcorn). KD5CQT (Jackson), KC5EAK (Pearl River), WB5GUD (Newton), KD5GWM (Lauderdale/Clarke), WX5N (Tishomingo), N5TBB (Tippah), K5WLP (Sunflower), and N5ZNT (SW MS).

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

DRN5 62/Miss 100% Rep by W5XX, KA1ZIA, W5MLO, and WA5FB (WB5ZED)

MS Section Phone Net 29/2939/38 (K5NRK)

Magnolia Section Net 29/834/3 (K5DSG)

Jackson County EN 29/396/8 (KD5CQT)

MS Section Slow Net 19/38/0 (W3TWD)

Stone Co ARES Net 6/122/0 (N5UDK)

Itawamba Co ARES 4/35/0 (KB5NMB)

Hattiesburg AEN 4/128/0 (N5MZ)

South MS YL Net 4/86/0 (KB5CSQ)

Newton County ARES 4/37/0 (WB5GUD)

Tishomingo County ARC 4/100/2 (WX5N)

Jackson ARC Em Net 4/29/0 (AB5WF)

Meridian Area EN 4/56/0 (KD5GWM)

Alcorn Co ARES 4/38/0 (WB5CON)

Lowndes Co ARC Net 4/43/0 (AD5DO)

Pearl River ARES 4/35/0 (KC5EAK)

MS-LA EN 4/28/0 (K5NRK)

Monroe ARC 4/22/0 (AD5DO)

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

Metro Jackson ARES 4/43/0 (AB5WF)

MDXA 4/70/0 (N5FG)

NE MS ARES 4/76/0 (W5LMW)

PSHR: October - WB5ZED 150, KA1ZIA 111, W5XX 99.

Traffic: WB5ZED 3562, KA1ZIA 98, W5XX 6.

Compilation of Net and Traffic Statistics provided by KB5RCJ