

Mississippi Section Report for June 2011

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Field Day was hot in Mississippi this year. Not only did humidity index approach 100, but 6 and 10 meters were hotter than any year in recent memory. Some locations reported QSO rates in excess of 100 per hour. In addition we had a record turn out. Those clubs/groups known to be on the air were:

599 DX Assc. (NA5NN)
Alcorn County ARES (WB5DO)
ARC of Amite County (W5CCW)
Armed Forces Retirement Home (KN4WJ)
Central Mississippi ARC (WM5A)
Chickasaw ARA (W5GWD)
Hattiesburg ARC (K5PN)
Jackson ARC (W5PFC)
Jackson County ARA (W5WA)
Magnolia DX Assc./Great Southern DX Assc. (K5MDX)
Meridian ARC (W5FQ)
Mississippi Coast ARA (W5SGL)
Mississippi State ARC (W5YD)
Northeast Mississippi ARA (W5NEM)
Panola Emergency ARC (KF5EJL)
Pearl River ARC (W5PMS)
Southwest Mississippi ARC (W5WQ)
Tishomingo ARC (W5TCR)
Tupelo ARC (KK5K)
University of Mississippi ARC (W5UMS)
Vicksburg ARC (K5ZRO)
W4IOS
N5CW

23 clubs/groups on the air for Field Day. Good Show! Field Day Messages for the SM (100 points!) were received from N5CW, W5FQ, K5MDX, W5NEM, NA5NN, W5PFC, K5PN, W5SGL, W5TCR, and W5WQ.

Field Day in Mississippi got good media coverage. Some of the known articles were in the Brookhaven Daily Leader (re W5WQ), the Picayune Item (re W5PMS), the Sun Herald (re W5SGL), the Meridian Star (re W5FQ) and the Tupelo Daily Journal (re W5NEM). There were also several TV interviews including WLOX in Biloxi interviewing Hams at the W5SGL and W5WA Field Day Sites, WTOK in Meridian visiting the W5FQ site, and Channel 4 in Columbus and Channel 9 in Tupelo visiting the W5NEM Site. There are probably more that have not been reported.

Good News from South Mississippi! The South Mississippi Repeater Coalition was organized in the mid 1990's under the leadership of N5LRQ. The Coalition ultimately activated seven linked repeaters on commercial towers designed to provide emergency communications for South Mississippi which proved invaluable during Hurricane Katrina. In 2007 the towers on which the repeaters were located

were purchased by Verizon which instructed that all of the repeater equipment must be removed. This conceivably meant the near term end of the Repeater Coalition. After lengthy negotiations with Verizon, the company agreed to lease space for a per tower monthly fee which proved to be too costly for the Coalition. Through the efforts of the Governor's Office, MEMA, EMA offices in Forrest, Lamar, and Stone Counties, and others, Verizon agreed to let the repeaters to stay on site provided the Coalition had liability insurance. Working through the ARRL's Insurance Program Administrator, Hays Affinity Group, the Hattiesburg ARC secured the required liability insurance for the Coalition. Thanks to all concerned who persevered to a satisfactory conclusion to a difficult situation!

The logs for the 2011 Mississippi QSO Party have been checked. The top ten in Mississippi are AG5Z, W4HOZ, W5NA, K5DWI, NA5DX, WQ5L, W5UE, AE5BR, AE5QV, and K2FF. The top mobiles were W4SIG, W3DYA, K4ZGB, and K5WBM. The top portable was W5GWB (Chickasaw ARC) operating from Tunica County. Outside of Mississippi the top scores were K0DEQ (MO), N6MU (CA), WB8WBQ (MI), K4YT (VA), and W5ESE (TX). AG5Z, W4SIG, W5GWB, and K0DEQ will all receive plaques for their first place finish in their categories. The logs indicate that 103 Mississippi Stations were on the air in 75 of the 82 Counties. The complete results should be posted on the Section Web Site by the end of July and all certificates should be in the mail by the end of August.

If you are a credentialed health care professional or non-medical volunteer interested in assisting during an emergency medical situation, the State of Mississippi Department of Health maintains an online registry at <http://volunteer.msdh.state.ms.us>. Training is provided through the VIPR Seminars.

It's tough to loose a good man, but K5XU advises that K6MG and his XYL have moved back to California. K6MG was a regular checkin for many years on the Mississippi SSB/CW Nets. We'll miss you Mr. Earl!

Lauderdale/Clarke County EC AE5FE reports that ARES assisted the Anderson Hospital North Campus in installing and setting up of a Station in the basement EOC (HF/6M/VHF/UHF) and in the Emergency Room (UHF/VHF). Currently one General class licensee, W4MED, and one Technician class licensee, KC5LUX, are available to operate stations at Anderson Hospital North Campus. An HF antenna is on back order for the South Campus. ARES will assist them with the installation when the antenna arrives. Communication checks were performed at Anderson North and a certification of availability sent to MS Hospital Association. Further, Rick reports that ARES took a mobile Command Post (CP) from the Lauderdale Emergency Management Agency (LEMA) to the W5FQ Field Day site. All communications were powered by three solar panels supplemented with four Gel cell batteries with a total of 225 AH available.

Welcome to the following new Hams in Mississippi in June: KF5LGE, Benny – Meridian; KF5LHZ, Robert - Carriere; KF5LJF, Gene – Tupelo; KF5LJH, Hale – Biloxi; KF5LJI, Dennis – Gulfport; KF5LJJ, Curtis – Ocean Springs; KF5LKN, Theresa – Louisville; KF5LKO, Hal – Louisville; KF5LMN, Laura – Corinth; KF5LMV, Robert – Laurel; KF5LOC, James – Olive Branch; KF5LQB, James – Carriere, and KK4CVA from Gilbertown, AL, who came to Meridian to take his test.

Also welcome to the following new ARRL Members: KE5ARL – Vicksburg; KE5CAO – Gautier; KC5FMN – Union; KE5IMG – Brandon; KF5KDJ – Moss Point; WB5KIW – Madison; KF5KRZ – Oxford; KF5LCM – Olive Branch; KF5LHX – Vancleave; KF5LHY – Vancleave; WB5LVA – Tillatoba; and KB5WKQ – Long Beach. ARRL Membership in Mississippi is now 1,074 which is down eight from last month. Keep working! Thanks to everyone for their continuing efforts.

Congratulations to the following on their upgrades: KF5FRH – Picayune; KF5GBH – Carriere; KF5IMF – Meridian; KF5IVD – Batesville; KF5JSV – Ethel; KE5NND – Sallis; KE5TWR – Meridian; KB5WKQ – Long Beach; KE5YEM – Meridian, KE5YWR – Meridian, and KE5YXA – Waynesboro.

Also Congratulations to Yazoo County EC KE5YES, who was awarded the 2011 Healthcare Engineers and Facilities Managers Emerging Leader Award by the Mississippi Hospital Association. Much of Glenn's activities have been centered around establishing emergency communications for King's Daughters Hospital and the Yazoo County Area.

And congratulations to the Chickasaw ARA for their nice write up in the June 15 Memphis Commercial Appeal. Hernando's vacated Police Station had a 120 ft tower adjacent to the station that needed to be removed at an estimated cost to the city of \$2,000. Led by civic minded N5PYQ and KA5WGF, the tower was dismantled by starting at 6 AM and finishing up by noon in spite of the heat. The Hams got to keep the tower sections (what a deal!).

DEC/EC Monthly Reports: AE5FE (Lauderdale/Clarke), WX5N (Prentiss and Tishomingo), NE5P (Lamar), K5PJM (Amite), WV1Q (Jasper), KE5WJN (Pearl River), and AG5Z (SE MS)

Club Newsletter/Reports: Chickasaw ARA (KE5RHM), Hattiesburg ARC (AC5E), Meridian ARC (W5MAV), Mississippi Coast ARA (KB9ZR), and the Northeast Mississippi ARA (KE5SSB).

Public Service Activity Report : WV1Q (May 2011)

Regret to report the passing of K5CHZ of Hattiesburg, KF5BNB of Saltillo, KM5UH of Columbus, and KE5HTG of Tallulah, La. Although Wade lived across the River from Vicksburg, he was an active member of the Vicksburg ARC and also EC of Madison Parish, Louisiana.

HF Net reports - sessions/QNI/QTC (Net Manager)

Magnolia Section Net 30/1024/21 (K5DSG)

MS Baptist Hams Net 4/13/0 (WF5F)

MSPN 29/3345/34 (K5NRK)

MS Slow Net 21/39/0 (W3TWD)

MTN/OZK 14/43/4 (AA5J)

VHF Net Reports - sessions/QNI/QTC (Net Manager)

Booneville and Prentiss County 4/48/0 (WX5N) One weather net activation

Capital Area Em Net 4/80/0 (K5XU)

Delta ARES Simplex Net 4/21/0 (K5JAW)

Hattiesburg AEN 4/94/0 (K5MIQ)

Itawamba County ARES 5/83/3 (KB5NMB)

Jackson ARC Em Net 4/43/0 (N5DU)

Jackson Metro ARES Net 4/60/0 (K5GCY)

Jasper County ARES/ South Central Skywarn 5/27/0 (WV1Q)

Magnolia DX Assn 4/53/0 (K5OAZ)

Meridian Area EN 3/23/0 (AE5FE)

Miss/Lou Em Net 4/33/0 (K5NRK)

NE MS Skywarn 4/60/0 (W5LMW)

Panola County ARES 5/47/0 (KC5DPJ)

Pearl River ARES 4/32/0 (KE5WJN)

SCMSG Info Net 5/69/0 (AE5JG) (Southern Coast Medical Support Group)

Scott County ARES 4/31/3 (W5JMJ)

Southern MS Friendship Net 21/190/0 (WB5OHN)

Southern MS YL Net 5/23/0 (K5IJ)

Stone County ARES 4/64/0 (N5UDK)

Tishomingo ARC 4/112/6 (WX5N)

University of Mississippi ARC Net 4/35/0 (K5LMB)

PSHR: W5XX 70

Compilation of Net and PSHR statistics provided by KB5RCJ.

