

## Mississippi Section Report for May 2008

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

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Clear your calendars for Field Day 2008 on June 28-29! Mississippi Hams will charge off into the boonies to wrestle with coax and guy wires, scratch their heads when rigs won't load, fight the heat and humidity, and swat mosquitoes. Don't miss the fun, food, and fellowship! Now is the time to get prepared.

State Government Liaison AK5J has made arrangements for Governor Barbour to declare June 22 through 29 as Amateur Radio Week. A copy of the document will be placed on the web site about June 20. If you would like an advance copy before then for publicity purposes send an email to ak5j@arrl.net.

Speaking of being prepared for Field Day, the Pearl River County ARC conducted a FD warm up by organizing a "Dxpedition" to Red Bluff which is a 200-foot deep geological formation near Colombia. Red Bluff was carved out eons ago by the mighty Pearl as it flowed to the Gulf. Over time the formation was been enlarged by wind and rainfall runoff erosion. PRCARC made contacts with 11 states on CW and SSB operating with 25 watts from battery power. Those braving this hostile environment were WA5WRE, KA5BLD, KB7PGT, KB5OXE, N5WLW, KB5JSG, and AD5WA.

Log checking has been completed for the 2008 Mississippi QSO Party. The state winner is AG5Z from Hattiesburg, the out of state winner W6RLL from Arizona, and the top mobile score KS5A, originally from Laurel, but who drove in from Arizona for the QSO Party. NN9K was his wheelman. A survey of the logs shows that 111 Mississippi stations were on the air in 72 of the 82 counties. More details will follow when the certificates and results summary come out in July. The weather was perfect, and the mobiles reported no serious mishaps. All we needed were a few sunspots!

The 2008 ARRL Day in the Park will be hosted by the Mississippi Coast ARA and held October 18 at Davis Bayou near Ocean Springs. POC is W4WLF at [w4wlf@arrl.net](mailto:w4wlf@arrl.net). The campground is open year around; also see the Davis Bayou Web Site at <http://www.nps.gov/guis/planyourvisit/davis-bayou-area.htm>. More info to follow as the time gets closer.

Tornadoes marched across the state during the entire month of May. Reports from ECs WX5N and KD5XG and Desoto County Deputy EMA Director KD5VMV indicate the worst days were May 2, 10, and 15 with 101 hams checking into the SKYWARN various nets. Numerous reports of possible tornados, high winds, and property damage were passed to the NWS.

N5WLW reports that both the Pearl River County Hospital at Poplarville and the Highland Community Hospital at Picayune have new amateur radio equipment installed for use in emergencies. Utilizing a grant from the Mississippi Hospitals Association, the two hospitals took part in a program which assisted hospitals in all six coastal counties to purchase and install ham gear. The program permitted hospitals to be reimbursed up to \$5,000 for the gear. In addition, the May 25 edition of the 'Times of Stone County and South Mississippi' reports that the Stone County Hospital has also just received a grant. In addition, Lafayette County EC W5MPC reports Ole Miss has provided funding to set up an on campus APRS Digipeater. The equipment has arrived and is undergoing preliminary testing.

The Magnolia ARC with some help from the W5YD Club (MSU) provided communications for the Rock Crusher Classic Mountain Bike Race held at Tombigbee National Forest. This is one of a series of races in the Southern Regional Championships. Those participating were AC5MR (NCS), KE5EXK, KE5UGI, KE5UGH, KE5UGL, KE5POH, KE5THF, KK5QZ, and KC5AKX.

Dayton 08 is now history. Apparently \$4 dollar gas, ebay, and bad weather on Friday took their collective toll. The Flea Market was somewhat barren, but there was plenty of activity inside Hara Arena. The forums were excellent and the vendors were making deals. Those Mississippi Hams seen enjoying the festivities were W5BJM, KF5C, KF4D, AA5ED, K5FLU, KB5JNZ, WS1L, K5MIQ, AA5MT, KB5NSZ, KC5RC, N5UDK, K5VVA, W5XX, and WZ5Y.

From the netherlands below the AM Broadcast Band WD2XSH/6 (W5THT) reports that the ARRL 600 Meter Experimental Group is evaluating daytime summer ground wave conditions for the next nine weeks. If you live within 100 to 300 miles of Long Beach and can receive 505.266 KHz, please contact Pat at [w5tht@arrl.net](mailto:w5tht@arrl.net) for more information. Reports will be appreciated!

Ever wish you had an electronic version of the ARRL Radiogram Form such that you could keyboard in the information instead of using a pencil. Contact W5XX if you would like a copy of the file.

W5XX's mailing address was changed by 911 from 14 Lake Circle Drive to 64 Lake Circle Drive about 5 years ago. Mail is still coming to the 14 Lake Circle Drive address. Please change your records to the correct address in that the Post Office will no longer deliver mail to 14 Lake Circle Drive (It's the same mail box ..... #&%@#&!!)

Welcome to new Mississippi Hams: KE5ULT, Hans – Gulfport; KE5ULW, Charles – Poplarville; KE5UQN, Brian – Vancleave; KE5UQQ, Barton – Biloxi; KE5UQR, Leon – Pearl; KE5UQT, Randy – Ridgeland; KE5UTH, Amelia – Etta; KE5UTI, Dwayne – Ripley; KE5UTJ, David – Como; KE5UTL, James – Magee; and KE5UYK, Joanne – Como.

Also welcome to KG6LJN as EC for Greene County

Congratulations to the following on their upgrades: KD5GGI – Lena; KE5GGJ – Lena; KE5NQO – Oxford; KE5NQP – Oxford; KC5ODF – Poplarville; KE5QMT – Senatobia; KE5RJM – Collins; KE5SZY – Hattiesburg; KE5TPQ – Hernando; KE5UBY – Philadelphia; and KB5ZKV – Mize. If you know of someone who needs some more study, W5ED recommends the practice exams at <http://aa9pw.com/radio/>.

Also congratulations to KD5XG, who completed ARRL ECC-002, KM4MW, who passed his Electronic Tech Certification, and to N4OGW who placed first nationwide in the QRP category in the 2007 ARRL CW Sweepstakes. Tor made 898 QSOs in 24 hours with 5 watts. Wow!

Welcome to new ARRL members: KE5BRF – Jackson; KE5BSB – Tremont; AE5CY – Monticello; KA5DAN – Blue Mountain; W5FRY – Purvis; KA5LNY – Magee; KE5LRA – Lucedale; KE5MAT – Fulton; KD5NXD – Oxford; KE5OVP – Amory; WA5OYU – Madison; WB5QZE – Amory; N5OYL – Vancleave; N5RSR – Jackson; KE5SSB – Fulton; KB5SSG – Olive Branch; KE5ULT – Gulfport; and N5WG – Grenada. The ARRL Membership in Mississippi is 993 as of June 1. Keep working. We will make that 1,000 mark yet!

Club Newsletters/Reports: Hattiesburg ARC (AC5E), Meridian ARC (W5MAV), Pearl River County ARC (N5WLW), Northeast Mississippi ARA (KB5NMB), the University of Mississippi ARC (W5MPC), and the Vicksburg ARC (W5WAF).

DEC/EC Reports: WB5CON (NE MS/Alcorn), KD5CQT (Jackson), KC5EAK (Pearl River), WB5GUD (Newton), KD5GWM (Lauderdale/Clarke), WX5N (Tishomingo/Prentiss), and KD5XG (Forest).

RACES Report: KD5VMV (DeSoto)

MEMA Ulysses Hurricane Exercise Report: KE5JJB (Forrest County General Hospital); W4WLF (Harrison County; BTW contrary to undercurrents, ham radio is not being removed from the Harrison County EOC).

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

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

MS Section Phone Net 31/2921/10 (K5NRK)

Magnolia Section Net 31/831/1 (K5DSG)

MS Traffic Net 31/143/0 (KB5W)

Jackson County EN 31/430/10 (KD5CQT)

MS Section Slow Net 22/35/0 (W3TWD)

Tishomingo County ARC 6/132/4 (WX5N)

Itawamba Co ARES 5/58/2 (KB5NMB)

MS-LA EN 5/45/1 (K5NRK)

South MS YL Net 5/97/0 (KB5CSQ)

Newton County ARES 5/32/0 (WB5GUD)

Meridian Area EN 4/34/0 (KD5GWM)

Alcorn Co ARES 4/42/0 (WB5CON)

Lowndes Co ARC Net 4/38/0 (AD5DO)

Stone Co ARES Net 4/49/0 (N5UDK)

Pearl River ARES 4/48/0 (KC5EAK)

Monroe ARC 4/32/0 (AD5DO)

MDXA 4/70/0 (N5FG)

NE MS ARES 4/54/0 (W5LMW)

MCARA Net 4/47/0 (KA2KMU)

PSHR: October - WB5ZED 150, W5XX 105.

Traffic: WB5ZED 3014, WA5FB 21, W5XX 5.

Compilation of Net and Traffic Statistics provided by KB5RCJ