

Mississippi Section Report for October 2013

SM: Malcolm Keown, W5XX. Mississippi Section Web Page at arrlmiss@org. Web Master: W5UE at w5ue@arrl.net. ASM: K5DSG, KA5ICO, W4WLF, KB5YEE, AG5Z; PIC: KB9ZR, SGL: AK5J, TC: N5JGK.

October was public service month for Mississippi Hams. EC KF5Ezt reports that Rankin County ARES provided communications on October 2 for the 4th annual Hot Diggity Dog 5K walk benefiting Gallant Hearts Seeing Eye Dogs. The event took place at Laurel Park in the Belhaven area of Jackson. Those participating were W5PRL Tony (and his XYL Deborah), WM5A, K5Gcy, N5DU, KF5QXU (and his XYL Germaine), KF5IZ, K5RWB, K5TMA, and KF5Ezt.

On October 6th, Jackson ARC provided communications for the Diabetes 5K walk at Southern Farm Bureau Headquarters in Jackson. K5Gcy advises that over 600 walkers were there. In addition to Gary the event was supported by K5CID, K5KKD and KF5QXU. And the next weekend (October 12-13) K5Gcy reports that the JARC worked the 'Bike To The Battlefield Ride' for the National MS Society. This ride began in Clinton on Saturday Morning and after winding through the hills of Hinds and Warren Counties ended up at the Hampton Inn in Vicksburg on Saturday Night. On Sunday Morning the riders returned to Clinton. Gary notes that 70 riders made it to Vicksburg and 55 to Clinton. Besides Gary the following Hams supported this event: K5TDD, K5BLL, WM5A, N5DU, KF5Ezt, N5KLT, KE5JKD, KE5WAC, KF5QXU, KF5RBP, K5IMT, N5JGK, AC5MR (from Georgia), and KF4YPT and KG4DBE (from Birmingham).

On October 12 Vicksburg ARC Activities Chairman N5KWT reports that the Club again provided communications for the Annual Five Mile Run/Walk Across the River starting at the Welcome Station on the Mississippi Side of the River with the 2.5-mile turnaround near Delta, Louisiana and some 900 plus runners/walkers participating. The weather was perfect and there were no serious problems reported by the Hams stationed every half mile along the race course. Besides Don, VARC Members participating were K5IMT, KF5NMD, N5JGK, K5NRK, W5WAF, KJ5XQ, and W5XX.

N5MZ advises that on November 2 the Petal Amateur Radio Wireless Society provided safety and support communications for the annual YMCA 'Miles that Matter' 5K Race. This race is held on the streets of Petal, so the group not only provides communications, but also directs runners at turns in the course and helps with traffic. Participating with this activity were KE5MWD, KB5OXA (and son Evan), KE5AJG, KE5RJU, KE5AFC, K5STM, KF5EOA, N5YCJ, KF5SPG, N5MZ, and NCS K5JBA (who is a 7th grader at Petal Middle School). The Petal Amateur Wireless Society is a mixed group of adult hams and high school students that promotes Amateur Radio in Petal. They meet on the first Thursday at 7 PM at Petal High School.

EC WX5N reports that the 2013 Prentiss/Tishomingo Counties SET was a huge success in terms of training and equipment testing. The Tishomingo County ARC had their EMCOMM Trailer set up for the annual fly-in at the Iuka Airport operating on emergency power. Before the fly-in got started ARES conducted the SET scripted for a widespread tornado outbreak on Northeast Mississippi. KU4WW was the NCS using the 2-meter repeater on Woodall Mountain. WX5N handled damage and health and welfare reports on 7238 from WA5TEF giving reports from Lee County and relaying traffic from KB5NMB in Itawamba county. WB5DO was liaison station relaying traffic to net control from the 440 MHz repeaters in Alcorn and Tippah counties. Counties with check-ins were Alcorn, Tishomingo, Prentiss, Itawamba, Monroe, Pontotoc, Union, Tippah, and Colbert County in Alabama and Wayne and

Hardin Counties in Tennessee. Served agencies were the Iuka Hospital, Magnolia Regional Regional Hospital in Corinth, and the North Mississippi Medical Center in Tupelo. The new Tishomingo County EMA director Mrs. Payton S. Berklite was on hand to see the EMCOMM trailer and its capabilities.

AE5JG and PIC KB9ZR advise that on Thursday morning, 17 October, the Jackson County Amateur Radio Association and 599DXA members began preparing the Round Island Lighthouse Park in Pascagoula for their 'K5R' special event which was held on October 18-20. The first Lighthouse was built in 1833 on poor foundation material and eventually succumbed to the elements. A new Lighthouse was built in 1859. Over the next 70 years the Lighthouse was damaged by storms and extinguished many times by forces from both the South and the North. Operation ceased in 1928. In 1998 Hurricane George reduced the Lighthouse to a shell of its former self and Hurricane Katrina destroyed the remainder in 2005. The remains were transported by barge from the Island and then overland to the end of the high-rise bridge in Pascagoula in 2010 where it has undergone restoration.

The K5R operation had five stations on the air (SSB, CW & Digital) using a tri-bander, R-7 Vertical, Buddi Pole and a Carolina Windom. The final QSO total shows 850 QSOs (CW - 220, USB - 595, LSB - 27 and PSK31 - 8). Those JCARA and 599 Club Members participating were AE5JG, KF5PPK, KE5QHZ, N5FG, N9RQX, N5GJ, KF5CXI, AE5WU, AG5CC, N9RRI, WU5D, AF5DQ, N2PKW, K5MOZ, K2FF, W5UE, K5YG, and KF5KDH.

Media coverage was extensive. On October 15 AE5JG and Beth Meyers from the City of Pascagoula appeared on the WLOX Channel 13 Midday Report with Rhonda Weidner to promote the special event. WLOX and WXXV both came to the event and did on-site interviews. The WLOX interview was live with Michelle Lady on the Good Morning Mississippi Show. The Mississippi Free Press and the Sun Herald conducted on-site interviews and took pictures. The operation also had a publicity segment on FM104.9. In addition, many visitors stopped by (both Amateur Radio Operators and Non-operators).

Petal High School Instructor N5MZ reports that his classes have been busy. Brad just finished a unit on power/electronics/wireless with his high school Information Technology I students and of course taught FCC regulations, radio theory, RF safety, and operating practices too followed by offering them the chance to sit for the Technician Class Exam. Seven students in his morning class and five in his afternoon class passed and have received their calls (see listing below in Welcome to the following new Hams in Mississippi).

Brad is trying to recruit local businesses to sponsor each of my newly licensed students so he can provide them with an HT to get on the air. Over the summer, a local Ham group got permission from Clear Channel Radio to place the Hattiesburg ARC 147.36 repeater at 275' on their tower in Petal. Once the students are on the air, the next step will be to form a weekly net to encourage activity among the twelve licensed this year and the seventeen licensed last year. Brad is certainly doing a great job in Petal with his students. Give him a pat on the back the next time you see him!

WA5TEF and KA5ICO advise that the Tupelo ARC got a page and a half spread in the Tupelo Daily Journal including photos of the local club members and a QSL Display. The article also included information on international and local Ham operations and details on the licensing structure. Great PR!

Two Ham Classes were held in Mississippi in October. AE5FE, WB5BNV, and KF5QLL taught a Technician Class at the East Mississippi State Hospital resulting in seven new Technicians (see listing below of new Meridian, Porterville, Wesson, Collinsville and Raymond Hams). In addition, AG5Z taught a Class in Columbia resulting in four new Technicians, one General, and one student that passed

all the way to Extra! Many thanks to those Hams that take time to teach classes.

W5THT (WD2XSH/6) reports that participating 630 Meter Experiment Stations have now beamed over 150,000 hours without any reports of interference from other services. In addition, 504 CW QSOs have been made of which our own W5THT has made 189 of these QSOs.

On October 19 AE5FE, WB5BNV, KF5MWE, and KF5QLL setup a VHF 2M, HF Phone, and HF Digital Station (WinLink) to demonstrate and introduce Amateur Radio to Boy Scouts and Webelos of the Choctaw Council Area at Camp Binachi off of Hwy 19 South of Meridian. 35 Scouts participated in the Power Point presentation given and nearly half made contacts on either 2M or HF. This was the first attempt of a Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA) activity by the Choctaw Council BSA.

The Meridian Star Newspaper published an article about the JOTA which may be viewed at meridianstar.com/local/x134984327/sthash.fAtJ4LKV.gbpl. Photos may be viewed at https://www.facebook.com/kf5mwe/media_set?set=a.10200824039671318.1073741832.1473458133&type=1

Welcome to the following new Hams in Mississippi in July: KF5YEH, Monty – Caledonia; KF5YGG, Joel – Morton; KF5YHY, William – Oxford; KF5YHZ, William – Oxford; KF5YIA, Perry – Thaxton; KF5YQY, Ted – Meridian; KF5YQZ, Scott – Porterville; KF5YRA, Lawrence – Meridian; KF5YRB, Michael – Wesson; KF5YRC, Robert – Meridian; KF5YRD, Benjamin – Collinsville; KF5YRE, Anthony – Raymond; KF5YXO, Stephen – Petal, KF5YXP, Damon – Petal; KF5YXQ, Vincent – Petal; KF5YXR, Jamie – Petal; KF5YXS, Nicole – Petal; KF5YXT, Chris – Petal; KF5YXU, Ben – Petal; KF5YXW, Hayden - Petal; KF5YXX, Matthew – Petal; KF5YXY, Said - Petal; KF5YXZ, Matt – Petal; and KF5YYA, Jarod - Petal.

Also welcome to the following new ARRL Members in October: N0ILB – Diamondhead; KD5JDK – Gautier; WB5KFN – Hattiesburg; W5MZH – Brandon; KA5PGN – Ripley; and KF5WVB – Madison. As of October 31 ARRL Membership in Mississippi had dropped to 1,113 from a high of 1,146. Time to go back to work! Thanks to all who promote ARRL Membership!

Congratulations to to the following on their upgrades: KB5FRF, Mark – Crystal Springs; KD5PGA, Scott – Starkville; KF5WFY, James – Meridian; KF5WKZ, Mark – Corinth; and KF5WQD, Darrell – Pearl.

And congratulations to NM5Z in McComb, who just received his Worked All Zones Award.

Welcome to N5WDG as an OO and WS0Q as AEC for Alcorn County.

DEC/EC Monthly Reports for October 2013: WB5CON (NE MS/Alcorn), KF5EZT (Rankin), AE5FE (Lauderdale/Clarke), KE5KTU (Hinds), K5MOZ (Jackson), WX5N (Prentiss/Tishomingo), KB5NMB (Itawamba), N9OKV (Harrison), WV1Q (Jasper), WA5TEF (Lee), and KE5WJN (Pearl River)(also September Report).

Club Newsletter/Reports (Editor): Hattiesburg ARC (AC5E), Lowndes County ARC (AD5DO), Meridian ARC (W5MAV), Mississippi Coast ARA (KB9ZR), Northeast Mississippi ARA (KB5NMB), and the Tishomingo County ARC (KU4WW).

Regret to report the passing of N5CFN of Hattiesburg.

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

Magnolia Section Net 31/1202/10 (K5DSG)

MS Baptist Hams Net 3/22/0 (WF5F)

MSPN 31/2583/22 (K5NRK)

MS Slow Net 22/46/0 (W3TWD)

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

Booneville and Prentiss County Net 5/64/0 (WX5N)

Capital Area Em Net 4/62/0 (K5XU)

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

Itawamba County ARES Net 4/62/0 (KB5NMB)

Jackson ARC Em Net 5/62/0 (N5DU)

Jackson County Em Net 27/453/0 (K5MOZ)

Magnolia DX Assn Net 4/59/0 (K5OAZ)

Meridian Area EM Net 6/53/0 (AE5FE)

Metro Jackson ARES Net 4/65/0 (K5GCY)

Miss/Lou Em Net 4/26/0 (K5NRK)

MS Preparedness Project EN 5/61/0 (WX5H)

Olive Branch ARC Tech and Info Net 8/62/0 (KD5CKP)

Pearl River ARES Net 4/??/0 (KE5WJN)(also September Net Report)

Pearl River ARC Net 5/90/0 (K5RDA)

Rankin County ARES 5/83/0 (KE5EZT)

South Central Skywarn and Jasper County ARES 4/35/0 (WV1Q)

Stateline Skywarn Net 4/51/0 (KB5NMB)

Stone County ARES Net 4/58/0 (N5UDK)

Tishomingo ARC Net 5/96/0 (WX5N)

UMARC Net 4/19/0 (K5LMB)

Yazoo County ARES Net 3/22/0 (KF5DJS)

PSHR – W5XX 72

Compilation of Net statistics provided by KB5RCJ.