

Mississippi Section Report for September 2008

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The next big event on the Mississippi Ham Calendar will be the ARRL Day in the Park on October 18 sponsored by the Mississippi Coast Amateur Radio Association (MCARA). The festivities will be held at the Gulf Island National Seashore Park off Hwy 90 in Ocean Springs, across the bridge from Biloxi. Chairman WB5WB says that the club plans to have the traditional Hamburgers and Hotdogs with all the fixings. Talk in frequency will be 146.73 minus offset with a tone of 136.5. Visit the MCARA website at www.w5sgl.org for maps and directions. If you need any other information contact Barry at 228-374-3233 or e-mail wb5wb@cableone.net.

On September 20 the Central Mississippi Amateur Radio Association again provided communications for the Giro d'Rankin Bicycle Race. The course this year was 14.2 miles, and the race was 4 laps in length. The race start/finish line was in Downtown Pelahatchie. The ham participants were, WM5A, K5FV, KE5DHC, AD5ZN, N5VEI, KF5IZ, WB5ROI, W5DXZ, KE5KTU, K5BLL, and KE5WAD and his wife Debbie.

KB5NMB reports that the Northeast Mississippi RA set up a HF/VHF Station at the Mantachie Fest on September 20th. The club was fortunate enough to get a table near the entrance gate so most of the visitors got a Ham Radio demo. Those participating were KD5JXJ, N5SPG, KE5SSB, KE5MAT, and KB5NMB.

EC W5MPC reports that during the week of September 21 - 26 members of the University of Mississippi Amateur Radio Club W5UMS set up a special event station for the 2008 Presidential Debate held at Ole Miss. The special event station was one of many official events put on by the Ole Miss and Oxford communities to celebrate this historic event. Other events held at Ole Miss leading up to the debate included lectures and panel discussions, musical performances, and exhibits. UMARC operated the special event station from a staging area away from the debate site. Also at this staging area were the MEMA Mobile Operations Center, the Mississippi Department of Health, and the Mississippi Highway Patrol. Over the course of the week W5UMS had many visitors and guest operators. The club also got a little airtime on Fox News during the event! Not only was this a chance to show amateur radio to our community but to allow amateurs from all over the US and the world to be part of the debate festivities. The totals for the special event station were 601 QSO's, 44 states, and 17 countries. Those who helped make the special event station a success were KE5TMY, WB5VWF, KS5U, N7AMG, WF5N, K5LMB, KE5NQP, KE5NQO, KE5VIG, WB5VYH, W4DQK, WB5DAN, W5JMO, KE5JQZ, WB3GRC, WA5TMC, N5TBB, WD4Q, W5XX, K5DSG, N5RB, W5BJC, AD5IT, W5MPC, KE5MIS, and KE5MIR. (W5MPC apologizes apologies if he missed anyone).

EC KD5VMV reports that ARES/RACES in DeSoto County has been very busy lately. October is Fire Prevention Month so they did their part to spread the safety word by setting up operations at the Bridgetown Fire Department Open House on September 27 (KD5CKP and KD5VMV) and the Hernando Fire Department Open House on October 4 (KB0ZTX, W9IK, KE5EQQ, KI4OTF and KD5VMV). Further on Friday October 3rd the football game of the season was held in Olive Branch as the OBHS Conquistadors hosted the undefeated South Panola Tigers. Approximately 12,000 people attended the game between the two long-standing rivals. DeSoto County Emergency Services turned out in force to support the crowd control and security operation. Participating RACES/ARES members included: KD5CKP, KE5WKF, and KD5VMV.

The Jackson ARC had a busy weekend on Oct. 4 and 5 by providing communications assistance for two public service events simultaneously. On Saturday and Sunday the Club supported the two-day fundraiser for The National Multiple Sclerosis Society, the MS150. The event consisted of a 150-mile bicycle ride thru Hinds and Warren Counties, from Clinton to Vicksburg then from Vicksburg back to Clinton. The bicyclist rode 75 miles each day of the event. The event had 270

bicycle riders participating. There were 18 Ham Radio operators supporting the event, using everything from hand-held transceivers to motorcycle mobile units. The event was written up in the Clarion Ledger and on their website where there are photographs of several ham radio operators conferring prior to the start of the event. Ham Radio Event Chairman KD5JPB reports that those participating were K5CID, K5RWB, K5BLL, KA5TJW, KD5CZF, K5XU, KE5RAW, N5DU, K5TMA, KD5ZBL, KM5GE, KE5JKD (and XYL), AD5BV, KD5JPB, WB5TTE, K5CEO, and WM5A.

Then on Sunday Afternoon the JARC supported the 2008 Diabetes Walk at the Farm Bureau Building off of I-220 in Jackson. This event featured a one and three mile walk. Coordinator N5DU reports the following participants AB5WF, K5CID, K5RWB, KE5MQS, WB8BZH, KA0SPH, and N5DU.

A large group of operators from the Magnolia DX Association will be active from East Ship Island (NA-082) starting at approximately 1700 UTC on October 16 and running until approximately 1800 UTC on October 19. The team plans to have four stations on the air and will operate CW, SSB, and RTTY on 80 through 10. The call sign K5S will be used during the entire 4-day period, plus the call sign K5Z will be added during the last two days as an entry in the W/VE US Islands QSO Party. QSL to W5UE. Detailed information can be found at www.k5s-na082.com.

DEC/EC WB5CON reports that the Alcorn County ARES collocated 2M/440 Repeaters will be moved to new and separate locations. In the event a storm takes out one of the repeaters then hopefully the other repeater will be operational. This will also result in an increased antenna height for both repeaters. Fred also notes that funding for a Ham Station in the new Alcorn County EOC is in the budget!

This is an election year in the Delta Division when we will be selecting a Director and Vice-Director for the next three-year term. If you haven't received a ballot by now, contact ARRL Headquarters. Ballots must be received in the office of the election accounting firm by noon on November 21, 2008. Please vote!

PIC N5WLW reports that he just completed teaching a Tech Class at the Picayune Number 1 Fire Station with seven graduates, two of which also passed their general. N5ELI, N5UDK, and AD5WA conducted the VE Test Session.

W5THT (WD2XSH/6) reports no damage to his 600 Meter Antenna due to Gustav. His beacon is on the air from sunset until midnight or later. QRN is still a problem that will hopefully go away as winter approaches. Take a listen at 506.35 KHz and see if you can hear Pat's Beacon.

The Tishomingo County ARC will issue a certificate to anyone who checks into the TCARC Two Meter Net 25 times. Check with WX5N for details.

As noted in an announcement sent over the SM Remailer, ARRL Headquarters indicated the participation in the emergency communications response to Hurricane Gustav could be recognized as 2008 SET participation (this primarily applies to counties south of I-20). Counties that were not active in the Gustav Response can conduct a local SET at a date determined by their County EC. Contact your EC to determine details.

Welcome to the following new Mississippi Hams: KE5WFG - David, Meridian; KE5WGV, Nathan - Saucier; KE5WGW, Michael - Saucier; KE5WHE, Leroy - Lorman; KE5WJL, Ronald - Carriere; KE5WJM, Daniel - Picayune; KE5WJN, Daniel - Picayune; KE5WJO, Ryan - Carriere; KE5WJP, Vincent - Carriere; KE5WJQ, Nathan - Poplarville; KE5WKA, Angelica - Byhalia; KE5WKE, Brian - Etta; KE5WKF - Paul, Courtland; KE5WKX, Stan - Purvis; KE5WKY - Zhaoxian, Hattiesburg; and KE5WLB, Judy - Tishomingo.

Congratulations to the following on their upgrades: KE5ATB – Toomsuba; KD5DRD Gulfport; KE5KTU – Bolton; KB5VML – Iuka; KE5VMV – Biloxi; KE5VUZ – Gulfport; and KD5YTB - Cleveland.

Also congratulations to DEC KD5FUO and XYL KD5HVF on the arrival of their first harmonic, to N5GH, who won the first prize (FT-2000) at the SEDCO Convention in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, and to KD5VMV, who completed ARRL ECC-001.

Welcome to the following new ARRL Members: KA9ABZ – Tupelo; N5ASO – Hattiesburg; KE5ATB – Toomsuba; W5DAW – Saucier; KB5DMT – Senatobia; N5GMI – Kiln; WB5SUD – Long Beach; KE5UTF – Como; KE5UTK – Como; KE5VID – Kosciusko; KB5VML – Iuka; KE5VMQ – Bolton; KD5VMV – Biloxi; N5VSE – Mathiston; KE5WFG – Meridian; KE5WJL - Carriere; and KB5WWS – Senatobia. The Mississippi Section Membership is now 1,002. Let's keep it above 1,000!

Also welcome to KE5MIS as EC for Yalobusha County.

Newsletter/Club Reports: Hattiesburg ARC (AC5E), Meridian ARC (W5MAV), Northeast Mississippi ARA (KB5NMB), Pearl River ARC (N5WLW), Sundancer ARC (KA5ICO), and the Vicksburg ARC (W5WAF).

DEC/EC Monthly Reports: WB5CON (NE MS/Alcorn), KD5CQT (Jackson), KD5VMV (DeSoto), KC5EAK (Pearl River), K5FV (Rankin), WB5GUD (Newton), KD5GWM (Lauderdale/Clarke), KE5KTU (Hinds), WX5N (Prentiss/Tishomingo), N5TBB (Tippah), KD5VMV (DeSoto), KB5ZEA (Attala), and N5ZNT (SW MS).

Regret to report the passing of KD5NXD of Oxford.

Net Reports: Session/QNI/QTC (Net Manager)

DRN5 60/MS 100% rep by W5XX, W5MLO, WA5FB, W5CPO, W5OXA, KA1ZIA (WB5ZED)

MSPN 30/2974/25 (K5NRK)

Magnolia Section Net 30/724/1 (K5DSG)

MS Traffic Net 30/151/5 (KB5W)

Jackson County EN 30/443/5 (KD5CQT)

MS Slow Net 21/34/0 (W3TWD)

Stone County ARES Net 6/88/2 (N5UDK)

Magnolia DX Assc 5/73/0 (N5FG)

Meridian AEN 5/61/0 (KD5GWM)

MCARA Net 5/50/0 (KA2KMU)

Attala County ARES 5/36/0 (KB5ZEA)

Newton County ARES 5/30/0 (WB5GUD)

NE MS ARES 5/73/0 (W5LMW)

MS Baptist Hams Net 4/27/0 (WF5F)

Tishomingo County ARES 4/141/8 (WX5N)

MLEN 4/28/0 (K5NRK)

Rankin County ARES 4/58/0 (K5FV)

Itawamba County ARES 4/39/2 (KB5NMB)

Pearl River ARES 4/59/0 (KC5EAK)

Alcorn County ARES 3/29/0 (WB5CON)

SW MS ARES 2/10/0 (N5ZNT)

PSHR (minimum 70): WB5ZED 200 and W5XX 159.

Traffic: WB5ZED 2307(BPL), and W5XX 7.

Compilation of Net and Traffic statistics provided by KB5RCJ.