

Mississippi Section Report for September 2011

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District Emergency Coordinators: WB5CON, KD5FUO, KE5KTU, K5XXV, AG5Z, N5ZNT and KB0ZTX.

Emergency Coordinators: WB5CON, AE5CY, WV5D, W5DYC, KI5F, AE5FE, AE5FK, KD5FUO, K5FV, W4HOZ, KA5ICO, AD5IT, KB5JN, KF5JOO, W5JWW, KE5KTU, KD5KXJ, N5LJC, KG6LJN, K5LMB, KE5MIS, K5MOZ, WX5N, KB5NMB, K5NRK, N9OKV, NE5P, K5PJM, KA1RBA, N5SP, N5TBB, WB5TTM, K5TV, N5UDK, W5UQT, KD5VMV, KE5WJN, KE5WUN, N5XZF, KE5YES, KB5ZEA, N5ZNT, and KB0ZTX.

Many thanks to the Tishomingo ARC for hosting the ARRL Day in the Park at Mineral Springs Park in Iuka. Some 60 plus Hams from Mississippi, Alabama, and Tennessee enjoyed fellowship and the famous 'slug burgers.' The Grand Prize Winner was KI4LMO of Huntsville. Event Chairman WX5N thanks club members KF5FXR, KF5FXS, KD5YP, AK4DI, KU4WW, KF5HZO, N5ML, and WB5CON for helping make this event a success.

Our State RACES Officer Ron, AB5WF, has moved to South Carolina to be with family. Ron served the Ham Radio Community in many capacities including Jackson ARC President, West Central Mississippi DEC, Chairman of the Jackson Hamfest for several years, as well as State RACES Officer. Ron was presented with the ARRL Delta Division Distinguished Service Award by Delta Division Director K5MC in 2009. In addition, before Ron left for South Carolina MEMA Director Mike Womack and Director of Emergency Operations Tom McAllister presented Ron with the MEMA Commendation Medal. We'll miss you Ron! Thanks for your service. WS7EOC will be taking over Ron's duties as State RACES Officer at MEMA.

EC WV1Q reports that in Mid September Jasper County experienced flash flooding from a torrential down pour of rain which flooded several roadways in the Heidelberg city limits and surrounding communities. Jasper County EMA and the Heidelberg Police and Fire Departments were assisted by Storm Spotters and Jasper County ARES in reporting weather conditions and flooded areas. Several residences and business were evacuated as a result of the rapid flooding.

K5JAW relays that the Delta ARES Simplex Net activated and moved to the N5LRL repeater on 147.285 MHz, (also linked with the N5PS repeater on 444.975), on Sept 25, 2011 due to severe weather in the Delta area. The following stations maintained the net, which was active for about 2.5 hours: KB5LJR (at the Bolivar EOC), KC5UYF, KE5BOC, N5PS, N5LRL, KC5WQ, and K5JAW. Damage was reported in Bolivar and Sunflower counties, but no amateur EMCOMM support was needed.

DeSoto County EC KD5VMV advises that ARES/RACES was very busy month in September. First, KB0ZTX, N5UOV and KD5VMV taught a Community Emergency Response Team course to 22 very energetic and enthusiastic members of the Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church in Olive Branch. The weekend went exceptionally well which resulted in a very nice plug for Ham Radio in the 'Circuit Rider' which is the Newsletter of the Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church. Then on September 25 DeSoto County was placed under a Tornado Watch. KB0ZTX and N5UOV responded to the EOC and manned the communications center during the Watch.

On September 15 the Jackson ARC provided communications for the 'Cyclist Curing Cancer Century Ride' sponsored by the Baptist Health System. This was a 50 mile ride down the Natchez Trace from Clinton to Port Gibson and return. Ham Event Coordinator K5GCV reports that 190 riders participated. The following hams assisted with communications: K5GCV, KD5JPB, KE5JKD, KE5WAC, N5GT, N5DU, WS7EOC, K5IMT, KC5QZW, K1JHS, K5CID, and K5BLL.

Rankin County AEC KF5EZT reports that on September 24 the Central Mississippi ARA provided communications for 'Miles for Meals' a 5K run/walk charity event in Richland sponsored by the South Rankin Food Group. Those participating were K5FV, WM5A, KE5DHC, W5PRL, KF5EZW, and WX5H. Eric further reports that on September 29 the Rankin County ARES Team simulated a repeater failure on the weekly net. The NCS was KF5EZT in Brandon, who previously instructed the Net to move to 146.540 simplex in the event of a failure. A total of 14 checked in either directly or by relay on the simplex net. All who moved from the repeater to 146.540 were able to check in except for K5IMT in Vicksburg and KF5ISQ in the Johns community on an HT. This was a successful event in that checkins were able to evaluate their radios in a simulated simplex EMCOMM mode. An upcoming Rankin County ARES Net will include a simulation of the net control station going off the air. Details will be available soon.

DeSoto County EC KD5VMV Tim reports that on October 1 the ARES/RACES Group participated in three separate events. DeSoto County honored the Veterans of the Korean War with a ceremony on the Courthouse Grounds. KI4OTF, N5PYQ, KB5LIN, KF5CSC and KD5VMV assisted with this event. Then the Home Depot in Olive Branch hosted a Fire Safety Day. KB0ZTX and N5UOV setup a portable HF station and demonstrated Ham Radio and disaster communications. And in the afternoon the Hernando Fire Department hosted it's annual Fire Life Safety Day at Fire Station # 2 which is always an education and fun filled event. Once again ARES/RACES was invited to set up and demonstrate our emergency communications equipment. Over 600 visitors attended the event this year. The Hams participating in the event were: KB0ZTX, N5UOV, KE5GYQ, K5OMC, KE5EOQ, KF5KVL, KF5HRD and KD5VMV. That was one busy Saturday in DeSoto County!

On October 2nd, the Jackson ARC provided communications for the 2011 Walk for Diabetes. The annual event raises awareness and money for Diabetes research in Mississippi. An estimated 1,200 people walked the five kilometer route in the business park at Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance on I-220 in Jackson. Thanks to K5GCV, K5CID, K1JHS, N5GT and K5BLL who provided communications for the walk. Due to the small area of coverage, Hams used 2-meter handi-talkies on simplex to stay in touch and provide updates to the event coordinators.

The Vicksburg ARC again provided communications for the Annual Five Mile Run Across the River starting at the Welcome Station on the Mississippi Side of the River with the 2.5-mile turnaround being near Delta, Louisiana. The annual event was conducted by the book for the 700 plus runners/walkers. Those VARC Members participating were K5NRK, KD5WCR, KB5YEE, N5KWT, N5JGK, W5WAF, and KC5QZW.

Welcome to the following new Hams in Mississippi in September: KF5MPL, Earl – Gulfport; KF5MPM, Bruce – Moss Point; KF5MPN, Constance – Biloxi; KF5MPO, Paula – Pass Christian; KF5MQK, Authry – Booneville; KF5MQL, Mattie – Rienzi; KF5MQM, Bradley – Rienzi; KF5MQN, Randy – Booneville; KF5MQU, John – Meridian; KF5MSO, Edward – Brandon; KF5MSP, Thomas – Jackson; KF5MST, Jeremy – Water Valley; KF5MSU, Derrick – Pontotoc; KF5MSW, Charles – Meridian; KF5MUC, Richard - Ellisville; KF5MUF, James – Nesbit; and KF5MWE, Gary – Quitman.

Also welcome to the following new ARRL Members in September: KF5BGL – Pascagoula; N5CFD – Clinton; KF5CFE – Pittsboro; W5CSU – Decatur; KA2EZL – Ocean Springs; W5GWF – Gattman; K5GWW – New Albany; WA2GWW – Houston; AE5HJ – Brandon; KF5MPL – Gulfport; KF5MQU – Meridian; KF5MSU – Pontotoc; KF5MUF – Nesbit; KF5MWE – Quitman; KD5TY – Gulfport; KD5UBC – Jackson; WU3V – Wesson; and W5VOL – Steens. The Mississippi ARRL Membership is now 1085 up 2 from last month. Our record is 1088. Keep pushing!

And last but not least, welcome to KC5RFL as AEC for Tallahatchie County and WS7EOC as OES.

Congratulations to the following on their upgrades: KF5ISQ – Brandon; KD5IWH – Southaven; KE5MAT – Saltillo; KF5MHQ – Carriere; KF5MHS – Long Beach; and WA5YOU – West.

Also congratulations to K1REZ, Scott County EC, who completed ARRL EC-001 – Introduction to Emergency Communications.

Club Newsletters/Reports: (KE5RHM), Hattiesburg ARC (AC5E), Meridian ARC (W5MAV), Mississippi Coast ARA (KB9ZR), Northeast Mississippi ARA (KE5SSB), Old Towne Middle School (N5VEI), and the Tishomingo County ARC (KU4WW).

DEC/EC Reports: WB5CON (NE MS/Alcorn), KF5EZT (AEC) (Rankin); AE5FE (Lauderdale/Clarke), KD5FUO (GT/Lowndes), W5JWW (Tallahatchie), K5MOZ (Jackson), WX5N (Prentiss and Tishomingo), WV1Q (Jasper), W5UQT (Madison), KE5WJN (Pearl River), and KE5WUN (Panola).

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

Magnolia Section Net 30/1131/5 (K5DSG)

MS Baptist Hams Net 4/23/0 (WF5F)

MSPN 30/2650/21 (K5NRK)

MS Slow Net 21/49/2 (W3TWD)

MTN/OZK 27/83/11 (K5DMC)

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

Booneville and Prentiss County ARES 4/56/0 (WX5N)

Capital Area Em Net 4/67/0 (K5XU)

Delta ARES Net 4/26/0 (K5JAW)

Hattiesburg AEN 4/83/0 (K5MIQ)

Itawamba County ARES 5/73/2 (KB5NMB)

Jackson ARC Em Net 4/49/0 (N5DU)

Jackson Co ARES Net 23/287/2 (K5MOZ)

Magnolia DX Assn 4/62/0 (K5OAZ)

Meridian Area EN 4/34/0 (AE5FE)

Metro Jackson ARES Net 4/50/0 (K5GCY)

Mississippi Coast ARA X/XX/X (K5KMU)

Miss/Lou Em Net 4/27/0 (K5NRK)

NE MS Skywarn 4/58/0 (W5LMW)

Panola County ARES 3/29/0 (KC5DPJ)

Pearl River County ARES 4/52/0 (KE5WJN)

SCMSRG Net 4/42/0 (AE5JG)

Scott County ARES Net 4/44/1 (K1REZ/W5JMJ)

South MS YL Net 5/29/0 (K5IJ)

South Central Skywarn and Jasper County ARES 5/54/0 (WV1Q)

Southern MS Friendship Net 22/232/0 (WB5OHN)

Stone County ARES 3/42/0 (N5UDK)

Tishomingo ARC Net 4/94/2 (WX5N)

UMARC Net 4/30/0 (K5LMB)

Compilation of Net and PSHR statistics provided by KB5RCJ.