

Mississippi Section Report for February 2014

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District Emergency Coordinators: WB5CON, KE5KTU, N9OKV, AG5Z, N5ZNT and KB0ZTX.

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Put Saturday April 5 on your calendar for the 11 th Mississippi QSO Party. As you are aware the QSO Party has been moved from the last weekend in February to the first weekend in April to provide better weather for the mobile/portables and to avoid competition from the many contests that occur at the end of February and early March.

Besides the date change there are several changes to the rules. Plaques will be offered to the high scoring club entry (minimum of 5 entries) and the a plaque for the high scoring youth entry (16 or under); in addition CW QSOs will count as two points. If you or your club can put a rare county on the air, the QSO Party is the time to do it. With the good propagation conditions we are having Hams from all over will be looking for that rare county or just to make a Mississippi contact for WAS. Complete rules are posted on the Section Website at www.arrlmiss.org.

The Vicksburg ARC again provided communications for the 35 th Run Through History at the Vicksburg National Military Park. VARC Members passed along Run/Walk leader information to Race Officials and time to the 750 plus runners and walkers as they passed by the mile markers. VARC Activity Chairman N5KWT reports no serious incidents occurred. Those participating, in addition to Don, were N5EZX, K5IMT, K5NRK, W5WAF, N5JGK and W5XX. In addition, KC5QCN flew in from Virginia to run for the 35 th time, and K5GCY came over from Jackson to man one of the mile markers. Thanks, Gary!

The Petal Amateur Wireless Association provided safety and support communications for the Petal Children's Task Force 2nd Annual Lighthouse Mission 5K Run on February 8. Volunteering to man the course were N5MZ, KB5OXD, KE5RJU, NG5C, NY9U, KF5ZCI, KF5YXO, KF5YXW, KF5YXY, KF5YXZ, K5JBA, and Emily (daughter of NY9U). This was the third 5K race PAWS has supported over the past six months.

K5GCY reports that the Jackson ARC worked the 64-mile bike ride in Flora for the Jackson Metro Cyclists Club with 78 riders on the course. The weather was great and the event had no problems. Hams participating, besides Gary, were K5CID, N5KLT, N5GT, KF5RBP, KF5QXU, K5IMT, KF5IZ and KG5ABU.

The first round of spring time severe storms moved through the State on February 20. In after action reports, MEMA did not report any fatalities or serious damage; however, ARES activated statewide. Reports from ECs and Net Managers indicated the following nets were activated (reporter shown in parenthesis): Central Mississippi Skywarn Net (KE5PYM), Hattiesburg Area Emergency Net (AG5Z), Scott County ARS Training Net (KC5IIW), Stateline Skywarn Net (KB5NMB), Tishomingo ARC Net (WX5N), and the University of Mississippi ARC Net (K5LMB). With the passing of this severe

weather, surely Spring was on its way. Wrong!

EC WA5TEF reports that Lee County ARES conducted a SET in cooperation with NWS-Memphis. The net result was VHF local communications were excellent, but HF communications with Memphis were marginal. This problem will be addressed in the immediate future. While at the Lee County EOC Jim and W5STV programmed the long silent VHF/UHF rig such that it could be used with local repeaters.

DEC K1REZ reports that the Scott County Amateur Radio Club and the Scott County ARES Team have been building microwave repeaters the last couple of months. They plan to launch Mississippi's first county-wide Broadband Hamnet linking the computers at local served agencies and ARES members via a 13 cm amateur radio frequency. The Scott County Broadband HamNet is a high speed, self discovering, self configuring, fault tolerant, wireless computer network that can run for days from a fully charged car battery, or indefinitely with the addition of a modest solar array or other supplemental power source. The purpose of the HamNet will be to provide an emergency backup computer network for served agencies.

EC WX5N reports from Tishomingo County that the Ham Radio Station formerly at the 911 Facility has been relocated to the EOC with the existing county emergency communications radios. This will allow greater communications efficiency in the event of an emergency.

Want to avoid an extra trip to the Courthouse to get the sticker for your Ham Tag? W5XX renewed his license this year. When he went to the Warren County Courthouse to get his sticker, he was informed that he must show his new license in order to get a new sticker. Another round trip.

Welcome to the following new Hams in Mississippi in February: KB5ABR, Richard – Vicksburg; KB5ABS, Sharon – Columbus; KG5ABT, Kenneth – McComb; KB5ABU, Trey – Madison; KG5ABV, Andrew – Brandon; KB5ABW, Edgar – Florence; KG5AFG, John – Biloxi; KG5AFK, Corey – Carriere; KG5AFS, Charles – Petal; KG5AFT; Kissi – Mize; KG5AGV, Johnie – Mississippi State; KG5AGY, John – Southaven; KG5AID, Torrey – Starkville; KF5AIE, Laurel – Eupora; KG5AKQ, Corey – Southaven; KG5AMF, Tian – Brandon; KG5AMG, Leon – Crystal Springs; KG5AMH, Kendrick – Brandon; KG5AMI, Gail – Wesson; KG5AMR, Sallie – Mississippi State; KG5AMS, William – Starkville; KG5AMT, Steven – West Point; KG5AMU, John – Steens; KG5AMV, Thomas – McComb; and KG5ANB, Ronald – Seminary. Twenty five new Hams in one month. Great! Thanks to all of the Instructors and VE Teams that made this happen.

Also welcome to the following new ARRL Members in February: KG5ABU – Madison; KG5AKQ – Southaven; KC5AVF – Carriere; NG5C – Petal; KA5CUI – Indianola; W5DFD – Byhalia; KF5FXR – Tishomingo; AE5GN – Gulfport; KF5ISR – Clinton; KB5JAJ – Brookhaven; KD4JON – Southaven; W5KDA – Natchez; KA4LDU – Ocean Springs; W05LFY – Ocean Springs; KC5OAE – Gulfport; KD5RGT – Brookhaven; KD5RII – Brookhaven; W5SGO – Long Beach; N5WTH – Carthage; N5XQQ – Union; KE5YBU – Petal; KB5YJG – Fulton; and KF5ZRA – Jackson. ARRL Membership in Mississippi is 1,131 as of February 28. Up 7 from last month. Looks like we are back on track to break our record of 1,147. Thanks for your continuing efforts!

Congratulations to W5FFF who celebrated his 100 th birthday in February. Bob was the first Chief Engineer at WLBT-TV in Jackson. And last but not least congratulations to N5VEI who was commended by the current legislative session for his continued display of distinguished excellence in

teaching.

Also, congratulations to the following on their upgrades: KE5FBA, Chad - Starkville; KF5FND, Jerry – Port Gibson; KB5QBK, Donna – Rienzi; KF5SQF, Robert – Bay St. Louis; KE5VEB, Thomas – Oakland; KF5VRA, James – Laurel; KF5ZJI, Susan – Horn Lake; KF5ZUR, Janet – Purvis; KF5ZWU, Jonathan – Corinth; and KF5ZZK, Thomas – Florence.

Club Newsletters/Reports: Hattiesburg ARC (AC5E), Lowndes County ARA (AD5DO), Meridian ARC (W5MAV), Tishomingo County ARC (AG5RP), and the Northeast Mississippi ARA (KB5NMB).

DEC/EC Reports: KF5EZT (Rankin), AE5FE (Lauderdale/Clarke), KC5IIW (Scott), N5KDA (Adams), KE5KTU (Hinds), K5MOZ (Jackson), WX5N (Prentiss and Tishomingo), KB5NMB (Itawamba), K1REZ (EC MS), WA5TEF (Lee), and KE5WJN (Pearl River).

Regret to report the passing of WA5JTB of Booneville.

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

Magnolia Section Net 28/1059/33 (K5DSG)
MS Baptist Hams Net 4/23/0 (WF5F)
MSPN 28/2855/18 (K5NRK)
MS Slow Net 20/37/0 (W3TWD)

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

Booneville and Prentiss County ARES 4/41/0 (WX5N)
Capital Area Em Net 4/64/0 (K5XU)
Delta Simplex ARES Net 4/17/0 (K5JAW)
Hattiesburg Area 2M EN 4/70/0 (K5TLL) one severe weather activation
Hattiesburg Area 10M EN 4/41/0 (K5TLL)
Itawamba County ARES 3/41/2 (KB5NMB)
Jackson Co ARES Net 24/374/1 (K5MOZ)
Magnolia DX Assn 4/62/0 (K5OAZ)
Meridian Area EN 5/53/0 (AE5FE)
Metro Jackson ARES Net 4/47/0 (K5GCY)
MS HEARS Net District 6 3/26/2 (KF5QLL)
Miss/Lou Em Net 4/28/0 (K5NRK)
Mississippi Preparedness Project EN 4/47/0 (WX5H)
North MS Storm Chasers 4/34/0 (WS0Q)
Olive Branch ARC Tech and Info Net 11/113/1 (KD5CKP)
Pearl River County ARES 4/54/0 (KE5WJN)
Pearl River ARC Net 4/79/0 (K5RDA)
Rankin County ARES 4/46/0 (KF5EZT)
Scott County ARES Training Net 9/79/0 (KC5IIW) one severe weather activation
Southern MS YL Net 4/41/0 (KB5CSQ)
Stateline Skywarn Net 4/55/4 (KB5NMB) one severe weather activation
Stone County ARES 4/56/0 (N5UDK)
Tishomingo ARC Net 4/82/0 (WX5N) one severe weather activation

UMARC Net 4/21/0 (K5LMB) one severe weather activation
Yazoo County ARES 4/32/0 (KF5DJS)

PSHR: K5JAW 71, W5XX 71

Compilation of Net and PSHR statistics provided by KB5RCJ.