

Mississippi Section Report for August 2014

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

Emergency Coordinators: WB5CON, WV5D, KF5DJS, KF5EZT KI5F, AE5FE, AE5FK, KA5ICO, KC5IHW, KF5IMA, AD5IT, K5JAW, KF5JOO, W5JWW, N5KDA, KE5KTU, N5LJC, KE5MIS, K5MOZ, N5MZ, WX5N, KB5NMB, K5NRK, N9OKV, K5PJM, AE5QP, KA1RBC, N5SP, N5TBB, WA5TEF, N5UDK, KD5VMV, KD4VVZ, KE5WJN, KE5WUN, KB5ZEA, N5ZNT, and KB0ZTX.

Put October 4 on your calendar for the annual Mississippi ARRL Day in the Park. This year's event will be hosted by the Grenada ARC and held at the Grenada Lake North Abutment Public Use Area (Pavilion 500) starting at 8 AM. Lunch will be available. Tail gating will be allowed. Bring your junk. Talkin will be on 146.700 no tone. For more information contact W5BAM or AD5IT at barbaraanmiller32@gmail.com or W5XX at w5xx@vicksburg.com.

The results of the 2014 Mississippi QSO Party are posted on the Section Website at www.arrlmiss.org. Plaques will be presented at club meetings or other appropriate Ham gatherings, if possible. Certificates will follow by snail mail.

State Government Liaison AK5J reports that efforts are well under way to encourage Mississippi Congressmen to co-sponsor H.R. 4969, the Amateur Radio Communications Regulatory Parity Act. Currently, the FCC's 'reasonable accommodation' policy applies to outside satellite dishes and TV reception antennas, but not to Ham antennas. Passage of H.R. 4969 would not guarantee that Hams subject to private land use regulations would be able to put up outside antennas, but would give Hams a piece of paper in their hand to make the regulatory agencies aware that they were in conflict with FCC policy.

In addition to the Congressional co-sponsorship effort, letters from constituents are needed to support this effort. 'Go By' letters are available from AK5J and W5XX. Letters need to be sent to ARRL Headquarters by September 19 and will be hand-delivered to Congressmen's offices shortly thereafter.

As we approach the peak of the Hurricane Season, it looks like we may slide by without a landfall. Surely holding a Mississippi SET on August 9 contributed in part to keep these 'Not Welcome Visitors' away from the Magnolia State. The Mississippi ARES Emergency Net, the Mississippi Digital Traffic Net, and several counties participated in the SET.

The ARES Emergency Net held four sessions on 40/75 to test propagation during the day and pass formal practice traffic. The first and last session were on 75 at 9 AM and 4 PM and the 40 Meter sessions were at 11 AM and 2 PM. Propagation on 75 was great; 40 was OK, but not so great. As we slip further toward the bottom of the Sunspot Cycle 40 will become useless for reliable statewide communications and all of the EMCOMM operations will have to be on 75 or VHF. This will be a problem since during a hurricane the QRM becomes rough on 75. During the four ARES Emergency Net sessions 76 stations checked in and 13 pieces of traffic were passed with MEMA and the Salvation Army stations on frequency to take traffic.

The Mississippi Digital Traffic Net operated in separate sessions from 9 AM to 9 PM as the MS-P2P-

Email Net and the MS-NBEMS Net. K1REZ reports that between the two nets 28 stations checked in and 190 pieces of traffic were passed - WOW! When the Sunspot Cycle hits bottom and the QRN is rough on 75, digital traffic may be the only way to get messages to MEMA.

Several counties conducted local SETs: Hinds, Jackson, Lee, Rankin, Scott, and the Delta. WA5TEF reports from Lee County that the scenario involved a tornado touchdown in west Tupelo using the repeaters of the North Mississippi Storm Spotters and Chasers Network for communications. Several messages were passed from individual stations to the Lee County EOC and the Salvation Army Mobile Kitchen.

K5GCY reports that the Jackson ARC provided communications for two recent events. The first was a 100 mile bike ride on the Natchez Trace sponsored by the Jackson Metro Club on Labor Day. There were three problems with heat exhaustion, but all riders were OK. Those supporting this effort were K5GCY, WB5BZH, KE5WRB, KF5QXU, KF5BRP, and N5GT. And on the following weekend JARC assisted the Salvation Army which sponsored a 5k walk/run to help fund a women/children abuse house. This is the first house of this kind in Jackson. There were about 150 runners/walkers. The Hams working this event were K5TDD, KE5WRB, K5CID, K5BLL, WB5BZH, and K5RWB.

K1REZ requests that all MS Packet Stations and MS Packet BBSs send their monthly statistics to K1REZ@ARRL.Net for compilation and inclusion in the monthly Section Report. Rez also reports that the Mississippi Digital ARC is in the process of building the MS-BroadBandHamNet Network throughout the state. The goal of the MS-DARC is to link each District, and eventually every county in the state via Broadband HamNet. The Scott County BroadBand HamNet EmComm group is close to closing a deal on a tower on the highest hill in Scott County which they believe will give very good coverage into Scott, Rankin, Hinds, Leake, Newton, Smith and parts of Neshoba, Jasper, and Madison counties.

Welcome to the following new Hams in Mississippi in August: KG5DJJ, Thomas - Iuka; KG5DKF, Dave - Gulfport; KG5DKG, Francis - Hattiesburg; KG5DMF, James - Brandon; KG5DMU, Ryan - Houlika; KG5DMV, Brad - Senatobia; KG5DMW, Jacquelyn - Olive Branch; and KG5DQQ, Robert - Starkville. Thanks for the assistance from the instructors, mentors, and VE Teams, who conducted the exams.

Also welcome to the following new ARRL Members in August: KI5DVG, Elton - Hattiesburg; N5KKG, Frank - Laurel; KB5LIN, Kimberly - Hernando; AF5OH, Robert - Tupelo; N5QBJ, Kelsie - Morton; K5SCW, Shawn - Lumberton; KF5SEJ, Herbert - Crystal Springs; KI5SV, Demps - Tupelo; WA5UAW, Nel - Starkville; KF5VRU, Mabel - Gulfport; WD5Y, Joe - Vicksburg; and KF5YRT, Robert - Foxworth; The Mississippi ARRL Membership is now 1,153. Up 3 from last month. A New Record! Thanks for your continuing membership recruitment efforts!

Congratulations to the following on their upgrades in August: KC5AAW, David - Jackson; KG5BMF, Barbara - Pearl; KG5DGY, James - Laurel; KG5DKA, Kermit - Hernando; and KF5ZQM, Dewey - McNeil.

Club Newsletters/Reports: Lowndes County ARC (AD5DO), Meridian ARC (W5MAV), Mississippi Coast ARA (KC5KMU), and the Northeast Mississippi ARA (KB5NMB).

DEC/EC Reports: K5MOZ (Jackson), WX5N (Prentiss and Tishomingo), KB5NMB (Itawamba), WA5TEF (Lee), and KE5WJN (Pearl River)

Regret to report the passing of N5ORT of Wiggins. Orin was a drag racer and dedicated DXer. For several years he only lacked the Amsterdam Island in the South Indian Ocean to work them all. Finally, in January of this year he worked FT5ZM to make the Top of the Honor Roll!

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

Magnolia Section Net 31/1187/17 (K5DSG)
MS Baptist Hams Net 5/26/0 (WF5F)
MSPN 31/1977/30 (K5NRK)
MS-NBEMS Network 31/107/57 (K1REZ)
MS-P2P-EMail Network 31/176/229 (K1REZ)
MS Slow Net 21/33/0 (W3TWD)

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

Booneville and Prentiss County ARES Net 4/22/0 (WX5N)
Capital Area Em Net 5/72/0 (K5XU)
Chickasaw ARA 4/57/0 (N5PYQ); July 4/51/0
Delta ARES Net 5/28/0 (K5JAW)
Hattiesburg ARC 2M Net 4/77/0 (K5TLL)
Hattiesburg ARC 10M Net 4/35/0 (K5TLL)
Itawamba County ARES 4/39/0 (KB5NMB)
Jackson ARC Em Net 4/44/0 (N5DU)
Jackson County Em Net 27/476/3 (K5MOZ)
Lowndes Co ARC Net 4/42/0 (AD5DO)
Magnolia DX Assn 4/43/0 (W5DAW)
Metro Jackson ARES Net 3/70/0 (W5PKN)
Miss/Lou Em Net 5/31/0 (K5NRK)
MSHEARN District 6 Net 3/20/0 (KF5QLL)
Neshoba ARC 5/18/0 (KF5QLL)
Northeast MS Skywarn Net 4/42/0 (WA5TEF)
Olive Branch Tech and Info Net 14/108/2 (KD5CKP)
Pearl River ARES 4/49/0 (KE5WJN)
Pearl River ARC 4/52/0 (K5RDA)
Petal Amateur Wireless Society 4/34/0 (NG5C)
Scott County ARES Training Net 4/29/0 (KC5IIW)
Stateline Skywarn Net 4/44/0 (KB5NMB)
Tishomingo ARC Net 4/52/0 (WX5N)
UMARC VHF Net 5/34/0 (K5LMB)
UMARC UHF Net 5/17/0 (K5LMB)
Yazoo County ARES Net 4/28/0 (KF5DJS)

Public Service Honor Roll: K5JAW 75 and W5XX 72.

Compilation of Net and PSHR statistics provided by KB5RCJ.