

Mississippi Section Report – June 2020

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This year's Field Day will be one we won't forget. The bands were wall to wall with great sporadic E on 6, 10, and 15. It looks like a lot of folks who normally go to the field were all at home and on the air!

PIC K5RFL followed up Field Day with contacting several clubs to check on their Field Day activities. Input (below) was received from George County ARES, the Magnolia DX Association, the Mississippi Coast ARA, the Magnolia ARC, the Lowndes County ARC, the MSU ARC, KK4PAC, WA4OVO, the Olive Branch ARC, and the Chickasaw ARC.

EC KD4VVZ, hosted nine members of the George County ARES Group at his residence. They had three stations setup, one of which was a digital station, and made around 120 contacts during the 12-hour duration they operated. A highlight from the report received by K5RFL was that George County AEC, KG5AZM, showed some members how to build a 49:1 Endfed Antenna, and it was used by one of the stations for Field Day. Thanks to PIO KG5AZL for sharing this information.

Club President WQ5L reported that most of the Magnolia DX Association (K5GDX) crew operated from home this year, many for the first time.

Four of them, however, did setup at the clubhouse and used shower curtains to separate the stations for added isolation. Ray noted that 16 other MS stations are in their log, mostly 1D stations.

Staying on the coast let's moving over to the Biloxi area where the Mississippi Coast ARA had a small event as well and a new operator, whose callsign wasn't known at time of the email received by K5RFL.

The new op got in on some CW with AD5HS. The club call W5SGL was used, and the field location was furnished by MCARA club member N5AHM.

Next, we move from the Mississippi coast up to the Golden Triangle Area where the Magnolia, Lowndes County, and W5YD (MSU) Amateur Radio Clubs worked together to put on a great Field Day event. MFJ Enterprises loaned some radios, antennas, and other equipment as part of the event, and the clubs are working with MFJ to create a certificate for the event.

K5RFL indicates that considering the social distancing guidelines, he believes their multi-club site worked out incredibly well, allowing for their 4 stations (2 HF, 1 VHF/UHF, and 1 GOTA) to be spread out.

Operating under the K5DY (Magnolia ARC) callsign, the contact count was

726 from the site, and they had a few operating from home stations that they will be submitting for K5DY as well. From start to finish they had 41 in attendance and 2 of those changed status after arriving Saturday morning. They had a test session Saturday morning where one of the current Magnolia ARC members upgraded to General Class, and they welcomed a new Technician. The site is the currently the Community Counseling Services Administration building, formerly the Mary Holmes College Campus in West Point, MS.

Last, but not least by any means, we move up to the Northwest part of the state to Desoto County. Let's start here with a great representation of what the rule change allowed for. Two friends set up independent 1B stations side by side in their front yard for Field Day as KK5PAC and WA4OVO. Bobby made 276 Digital contacts on FT4 using his Yaesu FT-991A and DX Commander antenna while Joe made 116 Phone contacts with his Icom 7300 and End-Fed Wire.

Now we'll move over to the Olive Branch City Park where members of the Olive Branch ARC and Chickasaw ARA teamed up for a Field Day event.

They operated 6A for the full 24 hr period and made 1066 QSOs

Thanks to PIC K5RFL for collecting the above information

In other activity around the state K1REZ indicates that due to the Corona-virus pandemic, the Scott County Amateur Radio Club elected not to hold their usual Field Day at Farris Park in Morton, but instead encouraged members to operate from home. During Field Day three of their members participated from their homes, scoring over 1000 points for the club. W5MSV worked CW, K1REZ worked Digital, and N5SPJ worked Phone and Digital.

The Vicksburg ARC operated from home with N5JGK, KJ5RC, N5DU, K5XU, AG5BC, and W5XX participating with heavy emphasis on FT4/FT8 and CW.

And lastly K1REZ reports that from 1:00 pm on June 27 to 4:00 pm on June 28, members of the East Mississippi Tailbone Amateur Radio Group (EMTARG) manned their digital stations and passed 298 pieces of in-state and out-of-state traffic on behalf of stations participating in the 2020 Field Day.

Harrison County EC AG5RI reports that ARES is remotely conducting their ARES Meetings in furtherance of social distancing. They are preparing and refreshing for hurricanes season. They are planning an organizational meeting if social distancing measures lift, and if not, then they are going to organize a Zoom meeting. Jason's goal to increase ARES activities in the community in addition to storm preparedness and response.

K1REZ reports that on June 4 the Scott County Amateur Radio Club held its monthly club meeting on the Pelahatchie Repeater, 145.390 with a 77HZ tone. After discussing club business, AD5XR gave an excellent presentation on Restoring Antique Radios. Handouts were made

available for download on their website so that everyone could follow along during the presentation. After the presentation there was much discussion as various Hams mentioned their own radio restoration and repair projects with AD5XR answering questions.

Lauderdale county EC KB5SZJ reports that the Meridian ARC hopes to resume classes and testing in July. They have many wanting to take the class and test so hopefully in the next few months Meridian will see new Hams in the area.

From Desoto County EC KF5WVJ reports that Desoto County ARES/RACES joined OBARC and CARA for Field Day and used it as a training day. They had about ten members show up and Rick had the County EMCOMM trailer at Olive Branch City Park where they held a deployment and EMCOMM training session. They trained on deployment of HF antennas and the setup and use of the EMCOMM trailer.

EC K1REZ reports that on the evening of June 5 a series of severe thunderstorms moved rapidly into Scott County. KF5VVU, the Scott County AEC in charge of SKYWARN, activated the ARES and SKYWARN Teams and the Scott County Severe Weather Net, which ran approximately two hours.

KF5VVU read the latest Severe Weather Reports over the air from the National Weather Service forecast office in Jackson and took a total of 7 check ins and Storm Spotter Reports from Amateur Radio operators in and around Scott County. Fortunately, there was no damage in Scott County, and the SKYWARN Team was able to get in some good hands on training.

On your long-range calendar pencil in:

- Simulated Emergency Test, August 8, POC KC5IMN and AA1NA. ARES Prepare. Hurricane Josephine is coming.
- Huntsville Hamfest; Von Braun Center, Huntsville, Alabama, Cancelled
- ARRL Day in the Park/Papa Jack's Trade Day, Tupelo, Date: Tentative, POC: KG5IVL
- Jackson County Hamfest, Ocean Springs, November 13-14, POC: N2PKW
- Capital City Hamfest, Trademart, Jackson, January 29-30, POC:K2GCY@att.net
- 2021 Mississippi QSO Party, April 3, POC: [w5xx@cablelynx.com](mailto:w5xx@cablelynx.com)

Congratulations to the following on their upgrades in June: KI5FHR, Jared – Hattiesburg; KI5FYQ, Jack – Sturgis; KI5GDY, Levi - Vardaman; KI5GET, Kenneth – Southaven; KI5JFW, Harry – Greenwood; N5TAX, Danny – Booneville; and KC5FRQ, Donald – Pontotoc.

And congratulations to K1REZ who qualified for the ARRL Brass Pounders League for originating and receiving over 500 messages during the month of June. According to the W5XX data base this is the first BPL in Mississippi since Camille in 1969!

And last, but not least, congratulations to KD5SPB, who completed ARRL PR-101, Public Relations 101 for Radio Amateurs.

Welcome to the following new Hams in Mississippi in June: AG5ZH, Loyd – Biloxi; KI5JFV, Charles – Olive branch; KI5JJP, Jeffrey – Pascagoula; KI5JNA, Jose – Ocean Springs; KI5JNC, Christina – Columbus; KI5JOD, Peter – Benoit; and KI5JRK, Michael – Starkville.

Thanks to the VE Teams who managed to conduct session in a safe manner despite Covid 19.

Also welcome the following new ARRL Members in June : KM4CRD, John – Booneville; KI5HLL, Elizabeth Laurel; W5JBC, James – Florence; KI5JCL, Kyle – Madison; WBOJBZ, Katherine – Canton; KI5JNA, Jose – Ocean Springs; KD5KMS, James – Pontotoc; K5KRC, Michael – Osyka; KD5KRY, Charles – Waynesboro; KU3L, Grant – Diamondhead; N3LHJ, Lane – Starkville; K3MFV, Michael – Diamondhead; KE5MFV, Robert – Byhalia; KC5NJA, James – Brandon; KJ4NJT, John – Gulfport; K5RTR, John – Sumrall; AE5YT, Stanley – Long Beach; and AG5ZH, Loyd – Biloxi;

ARRL membership in Mississippi is now 996 down 6 from last month. We had a record 21 new ARRL members in June; however, we had a record number of lapsed members coupled with an unfortunate number of Silent Keys which caused the loss. Keep working! Thanks to all who support ARRL Membership in Mississippi.

SEC Report for June 2020: KC5IMN (SEC)

EC Reports for June 2020: N5AAS (Forrest), K5ATA (Panola), AE5FK (Walthall), KA5ICO (Chickasaw), N5KDA (Adams), AD7KJ (Franklin), KE5MIS (Yalobusha), AF5NG (Marion), K1REZ (Scott), AG5RI (Harrison), AA5SG (Jones/Wayne), KB5SZJ (Lauderdale), KG5TTU (Tate), KG5WJM (Jasper), KF5WVJ (DeSoto), and KA5ZEA (Attala).

ACC Report: W5VMS. Scott reports that the Vicksburg ARC updated heir Special Service Club (SSC) status. Many clubs in Mississippi should seek SSC status in recognition of their commitment to community and Ham Radio. Also, the Scott County ARC completed ARRL club affiliation. If your club hasn't completed you annual ARRL Club Report or applied for ARRL Affiliation or SSC, Scott will be visiting with you shortly.

OES Report: WB5AKR. Larry would like to invite everyone to join EMARTG on 3595 kHz. His P2P station now runs 24/7. Try Winmor P2P direct.

Connect anytime to test the path conditions on 80 meters. 3595 (dial) on USB.

Club Newsletter/Reports (Editor): the Meridian ARC Spark Gap (W5MAV)

Regret to report the passing of KE5UFZ of Tupelo. Chuck was an Assistant Emergency Coordinator and very active in Skywarn.

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

Hattiesburg ARC HF Net 4/39/0 (KD5XG)

K5TAL 80M Net 4/71/0 (WV5Q)

Magnolia Section Net 30/1117/0 (KA5ICO)

MS Baptist Hams Net 3/11/0 (WF5F)

MSPN 30/2387/10 (W5JGW)

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

Adams County ARES 5/51/0 (N5KDA)

Capital Area Emergency Net 4/51/0 (K5XU)

Central Mississippi ARES Training Net 5/46/5 (K1REZ)

DeSoto County Training and Information Net 4/111/0 (KF5WVJ)

Forrest/Perry Counties Net ARES 2/20/0 (N5AAS)

Harrison County ARES 2/7/0 (AG5RI)

Hattiesburg ARC 2 M Net 4/50/3 (KD5XG)

Hattiesburg ARC 2 M Simplex Net 1/11/0 (KD5XG)

Jackson ARC Emergency Net 5/72/0 (K5XU)

Jasper County ARES 4/26/0 (KG5WJM)

Jones/Wayne Counties ARES 4/59/0 (AA5SG)

Lowndes County ARC 5/104/0 (KF5AZ)

Marion County ARES Net 5/39/0 (AF5NG)

Marshall County ARES – meets with DeSoto County Net (KB0ZTX)

Meridian Area Emergency Net 5/71/0 (KB5SZJ)

MSU ARC Net 5/179/4 (N5OMK)

MCARA Training Net 5/134/0 (KF5BA)

Northeast Mississippi Skywarn Net 5/96/0 (W5BAQ)

Panola County ARES 4/42/0 (K5ATA)

Sundancer Solar ARES Net 6/125/0 (KA5ICO)

Tate County ARES – Meets with Desoto County Net (KG5TTU)

Vicksburg ARC MLEN Net 4/118/0 (KD5DHR)

Walthall County ARES Net 4/47/0 (AE5FK)

Yalobusha County ARES 2/6/0 (KE5MIS)

Digital Net Reports

EMTARG – 1797 (WB5AKR)

K5TAL Digital Voice Net 4/56/0 (WV5Q)

Traffic: K1REZ 678 (BPL), and WV5Q 42.

PSHR: K1REZ 265, WV5Q 102, W5XX 75