

Mississippi Section Report for April 2016

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Project Chairman AB6Z reports that the Louisiana and Mississippi Packet Backbone project (LMPB) is moving along as planned. LMPB has received numerous emails from Hams in the Delta, Central and Northeastern sections of Mississippi expressing interest and involvement. Everyday more and more packet stations are coming on the air. For the time being, all packet communication will occur on 145.010 MHz. LMPB needs to be able to see what sites/locations are available for the backbone and feeder channels and then begin to fill in the holes with nodes and digipeaters. 145.010 MHz. will eventually become the 9600b backbone of the system. Nodes are preferable to digipeters, so if you can get one or the other on the air, please do. Redundancy is not a bad word, so the more the merrier. The plan is once the backbone is established, to move all the 1200b traffic off of .01 to one of the other four packet frequencies (i.e. 145.030 MHz) as a feeder frequency. This is where all the gateways will reside. A function diagram will soon be posted to the website that will diagram the system.

LMPB now has a new website, which contains briefing material and information. The URL for the website is <https://sites.google.com/site/lmpacket/>. It is being updated daily so check it often for the latest nodes and status. If you would like to become a member of one of the LMPB teams, have questions, or just want to put up a node, LMPB can be contacted via email at: lmpb.assoc@gmail.com. A team member should contact you soon after the email is received.

Spring brings plenty of Public Service opportunities for Clubs. The University of Mississippi Amateur Radio Club (W5UMS) provided race marshaling and communications for the 2016 Double Decker Spring Run. UMARC Members assisted the Oxford and University Police Departments with traffic control to protect the 5k/10k participants. Members tracked the participants and provided updates to race organizers from the course. Club volunteers were: K5LMB, Net Control and on course marshaling; W1IBL, Liaison to race organizers; and WF5N, following the 5K participants providing APRS location. Volunteers on the 5K/10K course route were: N5RB, KC5KLW, KZ7H, KE5TMY, KC9NPF, KG5MBN, AB5TR, KG5MBP, KG5MBO, KF5IMA, K5MBI, KG5AUW, KD5JHE, and K5DSG.

WM5A reports that on Saturday, April the 16th, Central Mississippi ARA gathered at the School for the Blind and provided communications for the Hot Diggity Dog 5K walk used as a fund raiser for the Gallant Heart organization. Gallant Heart is a group that provides service dogs for the sight impaired. KC5IIW and AF5QD took the Net Control with K5KKD, KC5NJA, KG5JAW, AG5BC, AG5CL, W5SSJ, AG5QD manning the various stations along the route. KD5JPB took the leaders around the course, and WM5A cleared the route as Tail-End-Charlie. This team came together with very short notice and did a great service for this event.

AF5PO reports that the Tishomingo Amateur Radio Club provided communications for the Swinging Bridge Trail Run at the Tishomingo State Park. Members were stationed at each of the

checkpoints along the race route. 113 runners and 65 volunteers participated in this event. Those Hams supporting this effort were KU4WW, AF5PO, KF5FXR, KF5FXS, WB5DO, KG5JMN, WB5EO, and WB5DM.

As part of the University of Southern Mississippi/City of Petal annual celebration to experience Native American Culture, special event station W0W operated from April 1-15. Coordinator N5CW notes that in spite of poor band conditions W0W had a very successful run making over 5,200 QSOs in all states, all continents, 88 countries, and 900 counties. Special thanks to W5UE for preparing the operators page and QRZ Website

During the just past Mississippi QSO Party the Magnolia DX Association again offered a participation certificate by working special event stations with suffixes that spelled out MISSISSIPPI. Special event stations on the air were W5I, W5M, W5P, and W5S, with club station K5MDX also being on the air to be a 'wildcard' letter to spell out MISSISSIPI. Event Coordinator NA5DX reports that the MDXA collectively made 967 contacts with 630 unique call signs, worked 45 U. S. States, and 11 DXCC Entities. A total of 32 stations qualified for the MDXA special event certificate by working at least four MDXA stations; 16 stations worked all five of the stations for a "clean sweep". Even though band conditions didn't seem as good as last year, two European stations still managed to qualify for a certificate by working four of the stations. Those MDXA members participating were AE5WU, K5IJ, N5GD, N5YY, WQ5L, and NA5DX.

Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC), K1REZ reports that 16 of our state's 42 ARES county Emergency Coordinators (ECs) complied with the ARRL's monthly FSD-212 Form reporting requirement for the month of April 2016. They were: Alcorn (WB5CON), Carroll (KF5IAY), Chickasaw (KA5ICO), Copiah (KC5IMN), DeSoto (KF5WVJ), Forrest (N5MZ), Hinds (KC5IMN) Jackson (K5MOZ), Lafayette (KF5IMA), Madison (KC5IMN), Marion (N5LJC), Marshall (KB0ZTX), Prentiss (WX5N), and Scott (KC5IHW). In this monthly form our ARES leaders report to the SEC the number of ARES members in their county, the number of local net sessions they held, the number of drills, tests, training sessions, public service events, and emergency activations they participated in that month. The submission of this monthly form is very important. It lets us know how well our county ECs and their ARES teams are performing the duties entrusted to them to prepare for and provide emergency communications in their communities. The section SEC totals up the numbers from all of the county ECs' forms and sends it to ARRL in his monthly Mississippi ARES SEC report. The numbers in this report document to the ARRL and the FCC that Mississippi Amateur Radio Operators are indeed meeting their FCC mandate "to provide the nation with a pool of trained radio operators and technicians who can provide essential communications during emergencies."

In order for our SEC's monthly report to be an accurate reflection of ARES in Mississippi we need all of our ECs and DECs to comply with this reporting requirement. The numbers from all of the ARRL Sections in the United States are compiled by the ARRL and sent to the FCC. They constitute the only justification we amateur radio operators have for keeping the frequencies we enjoy. For this reason, ARRL requires that the monthly submission of the FSD-212 Form be sent

by each EC to their state SEC by the 2nd of each month and by each DEC by the 5th of the month. K1REZ recently received an email from Mike Corey, KI1U, the ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager, and Steve Ewald, WV1X, the Supervisor of the ARRL Field Organization, asking him to remind our state's ARES leaders that the submission of their monthly FSD-212 Form to the SEC is not optional, but is a requirement for all Mississippi ECs and DECs, who wish to keep their ARES appointments.

Welcome to the following new Hams in Mississippi in April: AG5DO, Austin – Hattiesburg; KG5MQS, Justin, Saucier; KG5MQW, Charles - Brookhaven; KG5MQY, Doug – Brandon; KG5MQZ, Cynthia – Canton; KG5MTC, Christopher – Columbus; KG5MTU, Michael – Diamondhead; KG5MTV, Marc – Biloxi; KG5MTW, James – Nesbit; KG5MUE, Wayne – Gulfport; KG5MWA, Robert – Madison; KG5MWB, Socorro – Vicksburg; KG5MWC, Daniel – Madison; KG5MWE, Chase – Madison; KG5NBE, Robert – Brandon; KG5NDB, Charlie – Tupelo; KG5NBF, Jerry – Brandon; KG5NDG, Edwin – Monticello; KG5NDH, Chuck – Brandon; KG5NDY, Carol – Harrisville; KG5NET, Garrett – Summit; KG5NEZ, Toxie – Hattiesburg; and KG5NGC, Rance – Poplarville. Invite one of these new Hams to your next local club meeting!

Also welcome to the following new ARRL Members in April: KG5GBH, Richard – Byhalia; KF5GWD, Miranda – Oxford; KA4LDU, John – Ocean Springs; WO5LFY, Kenyon – Ocean Springs; WD8LTH, Richard – Fulton; K5MHB, Meagan – Oxford; KG5MID, Craig – Poplarville; KG5MNA, Colton – Meridian; KG5NBF, Jerry – Brandon; KB5SBF, Carl – Pearl; KB2SSA, Michael – Vancleave; W5SSJ, Brian – Flowood; and KC5UWM, Johnie – Pontotoc. As of April 30 ARRL Membership in Mississippi was 1,130 up 1 from the last report on March 30.

Congratulations to the following on their upgrades: KG5AAR, Garrett – Meridian; KE5FAY, Paul – Starkville; KG5HHG, Sergio – Starkville; KG5JDQ, Stephen – Tupelo; KG5JQF, Talmadge – Corinth; KG5KSB, Danny – Ocean Springs; KG5LGU, James – Monticello; KG5LVK, Lynwood – Brooklyn; KG5MID, Craig – Poplarville; and KM4SDN, James – Pascagoula.

Also congratulations to KG5GMI, who completed the ARRL Public Service and Emergency Communications for Radio Amateurs Course (EO-16). This effort takes 120 hours of study!

SEC/DEC/EC Reports for April 2016: WM5A (Rankin), WB5CON (Alcorn), KF5IAY (Carroll), KA5ICO (Chickasaw), KF5IIW (Scott), KF5IMA (Lafayette), KC5IMN (WC MS), K5MOZ (Jackson), N5MZ (Forrest), WX5N (NE MS/Prentiss), K1REZ (SEC), KF5WVJ (DeSoto), N5ZNT (SW MS/Lincoln/Wilkinson), and KB0ZTX (NW MS/Marshall).

Club Newsletter/Reports (Editor): Meridian ARC (W5MAV).

Regret to report the passing of WB5WQN of Booneville and N5ACW of Marietta.

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

Magnolia Section Net 30/1022/7 (K5DSG)

MS Baptist Hams Net 4/22/0 (WF5F)

MSPN 30/2012/14(K5NRK)

MS-NBEMS Net 4/13/5 (N5TQF)

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

Alcorn County ARES 4/51/0 (WB5CON)

Booneville and Prentiss County Net 4/57/0 (WX5N)

Capital Area Em Net 4/55/0 (K5XU)

DeSoto County Emergency Training and Information Net 4/890 (N5PYQ/KF5WVJ)
1 severe weather activation

Hattiesburg ARC Emergency 2M Net 4/84/0 (K5TLL)

Hattiesburg ARC 10M Simplex Net 4/38/0 (K5TLL)

Jackson County Em Net 26/594/9 (K5MOZ)

Lowndes County ARC Net 4/28/0 (KF5AZ)

MDXA Net 4/33/0 (N5GD)

Metro Jackson ARES Net 4/23/0 (AE5SK/KC5IMN)

MS Coast Em Services, WX, Training, and Tech Net May 4/66/0 (N5AHM)

Miss/Lou Em Net 4/31/0 (K5NRK)

Northeast MS Skywarn Net 4/45/0 (WA5TEF)

Olive Branch ARC Net 15/119/1 (KF5QGF)

Pearl River ARC Net 4/46/0 (K5RDA)

Rankin County ARES Net 5/73/1 (KG5AVT) 1 severe weather activation

Scott County ARES Training Net 4/29/1 (W5JMJ)

Scott County ARES Simplex Net 4/11/0 (W5JMJ)

Tishomingo ARC Net 4/87/0 (AF5PO)

UMARC UHF Net 4/21/0 (K5LMB)

UMARC VHF Net 4/51/0 (K5LMB and KF5IMA)

PSHR – KA5DON 95 and W5XX 70.

Traffic: KA5DON 45, K5CUB 16, W5XX 10, and KG5FRZ 8.

Compilation of Net Statistics provided by KB5RCJ.