

Mississippi Section Report for August 2016

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Marion County EC N5LJC reports that severe weather arrived in Columbia the day before the SET on August 5th toppling the Ham Club's 275-foot repeater tower. The NWS took pictures of the tower and looked back at radar images and determined there were winds of 140MPH at the site, and advised it was a 'micro-burst.'

The 45G tower was constructed under full specifications adhered to from Rohn's design guidance and rated at 110MPH. The storm broke the top 1/2 of the tower. It appears that the guys were literally stripped from the triple clamps on the top sets of guys. The guy wires were not snapped and the clamps were tightened to specs. Bill Paul reports that the biggest portion of the tower is now on the ground and efforts are under way on getting the rest of the tower down so efforts can be started to go back up with new antennas and feedline. Never give up! (see photo on Section Web Site that will be posted in a few days)

More bad weather visited Mississippi and Louisiana in August. Some stations reported as much as 30 inches of rain over a very short period. The major impacted counties in Mississippi were Wilkinson and Amite counties. In Wilkinson County where most of the damage occurred 79 homes and 15 roads sustained major damage, and 10 bridges were washed out.

The Louisiana SEC KD5LEH contacted Mississippi SEC K1REZ asking for emergency communications assistance. All of the after action reports are not in yet, so the extent of the assistance is not yet known; however, PIO KF5ZFI reports that two members of the Forrest County ARES team (KD5XG and KF5ZFI) deployed to the Baton Rouge Red Cross Headquarters. KF5ZCI was then stationed at the Headquarters to assist with communication, to make contact with 7 shelters, and to relay information on the status of these shelters back to the Red Cross. KD5XG was deployed to the Area 1 Red Cross staging area in Madisonville for 3 days where he assisted in passing traffic back to the Red Cross Headquarters.

SEC K1REZ reports that after much planning and preparation, Mississippi ARES Teams, Section Nets, and Local Nets participated in the annual Mississippi ARRL/ARES Simulated Emergency Test (SET) on Saturday, August 6. It is still too soon to have any numbers because SET report forms are still being received from ARES DECs, ECs, and Net Managers. However, Rez can report that we had a record number of county ARES Teams and Nets participate this year.

All Certificates for winners in the April Mississippi QSO Party are mailed out. The plaques will be along shortly. The results of the QSO Party have been posted by W5UE on the Section Web site at www.arrrlmiss.org.

PIO KF5ZFI notes that the Forrest County EOC now has a new Yaesu FT-991 and an 80-10 end fed dipole and in addition has Winlink up and running. The Lamar County EOC has also received new radios and is in the process of getting the station on the air.

Yalobusha County AEC, KD5NDU reports that their Bridgecom BCR-50 2 Meter Repeater has been received and the coordinated frequencies have been requested. David has also been working on the housing and solar power for the repeater, so it will be totally off the grid.

The ARRL Foundation Office has announced that WE5ROK of Steens has been awarded the Jackson County ARA Scholarship and the Mississippi Scholarship. Congratulations Ryann!

And on your short range calendar pencil in October 15 for the ARRL Day in the Park in Columbia (POC:AF5NG), November 11-12 for the Jackson County Hamfest in Ocean Springs at the St. Martin Community Center (POC: K5MOZ), December 10 for the Poplarville Hamfest at the Pearl River County EOC (POC: K5RDA), and January 27-28 for the Capital City Hamfest at the Trademart in Jackson (POC: K5GCV).

Due to an IT problem at ARRL Headquarters the listing for new Hams in Mississippi, upgrades, and new ARRL Members is not available for August. We will catch up next month.

As of August 31 ARRL Membership in Mississippi was 1,096 up one from the last report on July 31. Hopefully the membership decline in reaction to the dues increase is over.

And last but not least welcome to KE5BSB as EC for Itawamba County, K4FMH as EC for Madison County, KG5GMI as EC for Hinds County, AC5Q as Assistant EC for Itawamba County, and KD5XG as OES.

SEC/DEC Reports for August 2016: K1REZ (SEC), KB0ZTX (NW MS), WX5N (NE MS), KC5IMN (EC MS), KB5VE SE MS, and KD4VVZ (Gulf Coast).

EC Reports for August 2016: WM5A (Rankin), WB5CON (Alcorn), AE5FK (Walthall), KF5IAY (Carroll and Montgomery), KA5ICO (Chickasaw), KC5IIW (Scott), KF5IMA (Lafayette), KC5IMN (Copiah, Hinds, Madison), N5LJC (Marion), KF5MWE (Clarke), KE5MIS (Yalobusha), K5MOZ (Jackson), N5MZ (Forrest), WX5N (Prentiss), K5NRK (Warren), N9OKV (Harrison), AF5PO (Tishomingo), N5SP (Lamar), WA5TEF (Lee), N5UDK (Stone), KD4VVZ (George), KE5WUN (Panola), KF5WVJ (DeSoto), KM5ZA (Lowndes), and KB0ZTX (Marshall).

Club Newsletter/Reports (Editor): Mississippi Coast ARA Splatter (KB9ZR) and the Meridian ARC Spark Gap (W5MAV).

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

Magnolia Section Net 31/1092/11 (K5DSG)

MPP HF Net 2/16/0 (W5DIX)

MS Baptist Hams Net 4/13/0 (WF5F)

MSPN 31/1874/12 (K5NRK)

MS-NBEMS Net 5/14/3 (N5TQF)

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

Alcorn County ARES 5/56/0 (WB5CON)

Booneville and Prentiss County Weekly Net 5/74/0 (WX5N)

Capital Area Em Net 4/56/ (K5XU)

DeSoto County Emergency Training and Information Net 4/77/0 (KF5WVJ)

Hattiesburg ARC Emergency 2M Net 4/82/0 (K5TLL)

Hattiesburg 2M Simplex Net 1/12/0 (K5TLL)

Hattiesburg ARC 10M Simplex Net 4/33/0 (K5TLL)

Jackson County Em Net 27/584/2 (K5MOZ)

Lowndes County ARC Net 5/54/0 (KF5AZ)

Marion County HRC 5/30/0 (N5LJC)

MDXA Net 5/58/0 (N5GD)

Metro Jackson ARES Net 5/45/0 (AE5SK)

MPP 2M Net 4/44/0 (W5DIX)

MS Coast Em Services, WX, Training, and Tech Net 5/79/0 (KB9ZR)

Miss/Lou Em Net 4/42/0 (K5NRK)

Northeast MS Skywarn Net 5/64/0 (WA5TEF)

Olive Branch ARC Net 17/126/0 (KF5QGF)

Rankin County ARES Net 4/65/0 (KG5AVT)

Scott County ARES Training Net 5/53/0 (KC5IIW)

Scott County ARES Simplex Net 4/16/0 (KC5IIW)

Sundancer Solar Radio Club 5/32/0 (KA5ICO)

Tishomingo ARC Net 5/116/0 (AF5PO)

UMARC UHF Net 4/20/0 (K5LMB)

UMARC VHF Net 4/46/0 (K5LMB)

PSHR – KA5DON 97 and W5XX 73.

Traffic: KA5DON 47, KG5FRZ 14, W5JGW 3, and W5XX 2.

Compilation of Net Statistics provided by KB5RCJ.