

Mississippi Section Report for December 2010

SM: Malcolm Keown, W5XX. Mississippi Section Web Page at arrrlmiss@org. Web Master: NW5R at nw5r@arrrl.net, ASM: NW5R, K5DSG, KA5ICO, W4WLF, ACC: K5WLP, PIC: N5WLW, SGL: AK5J, TC: N5JGK.

December 2010 went out with a bang. Not with fire crackers but because of a strong line of thunder storms that moved through the state from northwest to southeast spawning 10 tornadoes across Warren, Hinds, Rankin, Lincoln, Attala, Choctaw, Oktibbeha, Kemper and Noxubee counties. Most of the damage was in Pearl, Byrum, and Attala County including the EMCOMM Ham station tower and tribander at Central Hills Baptist Assembly.

KE5PYM reports that Skywarn was activated 2 PM on New Year's Eve and closed shortly after 6 AM the next morning with WX5JAN being on the air for a total of over 16 hours. During this time there were a total of 90 check ins and 32 reports were passed to NWS-Jackson. Thanks to operators KF5EZT, KE5JKD, KE5KTU, N5XXX, and KE5PYM, who kept WX5JAN on the air for this storm event.

Unfortunately, the storm moved through Warren County at 11PM, the start time for the Annual MSPN On-the-Air New Year's Eve Party. Because of the lightning NCS K5NRK was unable to get on the air and moderate the Party.

Thanks again to the Jackson County ARA which hosted the Ocean Springs Hamfest at the St. Martin Community Center on November 12-13 and to the Pearl River County ARC which hosted their annual Hamfest on December 11 at the Old National Guard Armory in Poplarville. Hamfest Chairman N5WLW reports that over 350 attended this event with plenty of publicity in the Picayune Item and the Hattiesburg American.

The next item on your Hamfest Agenda is the Capital City Hamfest on January 28-29 at the Trade Mart in Jackson. Our guest from Headquarters will be W5MPC, who is the ARRL Emergency Communications Preparedness Manager. The festivities will start at 5 PM on Friday Night and conclude with the main prize drawings at 4 PM on Saturday. For more information see <http://www.msham.org/hamfest.php> or email to hamfest@msham.org. See you there!

Magnolia Section Net Manager K5DSG notes there was an increase in checkins during each month in 2010. Good Show! For you early risers the Magnolia net meets on 3863 each day at 6 AM except on holidays and weekends when the net is called at 7 AM. Join them!

Good news from Corinth. DEC WB5CON reports that the FAA has approved a 180 ft tower for erection at the new Alcorn County Justice Center which is 80% complete. The new EOC will be located in the Justice Center which means the the new EMCOMM Ham Station at the EOC will have a home and a tower for antennas.

And from Houston, more good news, EC KA5ICO advises that a Yaesu FT950 and Yaesu 8900R have been installed at the Chickasaw County EOC, and KD5YBU is on the air! In addition the problems with the local repeater are are being worked out.

The Pearl River ARC Newsletter reports that the Club held its annual SET with the scenario being a 'lost 5 year old child' in a swampy area near I-59. The County Emergency Communications Trailer was

set up in the Wal*Mart Parking Lot in Picayune for coordination; in addition four rescue teams came from Gulfport and six personnel from Stone County. The alert was started at 0946 and the 'lost child' was located at 1446. EC KE5WJN said the exercise was designed not only for training but to identify shortcomings. He noted the need for some new equipment and repair for some commo gear.

W4IOS reports that the Meridian W5YI Team set up a bare bones sound card digital station at the Meridian Air National Guard Family Day Festivities. The purpose was to show appreciation for those personnel, who have supported conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq, to show the kids of the families that there are ways to communicate besides cell phone or the internet, and to demonstrate to military personnel the capabilities of a small, well trained communications group, who could handle large volumes of message traffic without the Internet by using any of the sound card digital modes available to Hams today.

Always smiling KD5CQX got a nice write up in the Vicksburg Post highlighting his volunteer work at local hospitals, teaching Bible classes at a local correctional institute, conducting funerals, pitch-hitting for the preacher, church song leader, maintaining a repeater, and hanging out at the low end of 40 CW. Reggie can do it all!

The Northeast Mississippi ARA played Santa this year by sponsoring a family in Tremont. The club was able to raise \$650 plus many donated toys and food items. These contributions provided funds and donations sufficient to have gifts for the kids the night of the Club Christmas Party as well as surprises from Santa and household goods for the parents on Christmas Morning. Well done NMARA!

WM5A reports that the Central Mississippi Amateur Radio Association again provided communications for the Mississippi Blues Marathon. With the help of the Jackson ARC, the Salvation Army, WB8BZH, and a few others, the job was well done. N5DU and K5BLL took over as coordinators for the initial AM meeting and then operated the Net Control Station. By utilizing WiFi provided by the SATERN Team and APRS equipment provided by KM5GE, they were able to give real time info to the race officials from start to finish. KD5JPD led the way and WM5A followed the last runner. The Rankin Co. EOC provided its Mobile Command Bus for use during the event. In no particular order a special thanks to the rest of the team including K5GCY, KE5UQT, K5KKD, K5XU, K5CID, K5LEM, WX5H, KE5WAC, W5CSI, K5RWB, KE5JKD, KF5EZT, K1REZ, W5JMJ, AB5WF, KE5WRB, KF5EZV, KD8BMA, and Cecily Kumor.

W5ILR reports that he has activated a WL2K RMS Gateway (W5ILR-10) at the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Gulfport. The Gateway is now on the air for Beta testing on 145.750 Simplex with a temporary antenna pending approval to install a permanent antenna at 140 ft. Allan invites all to connect as he works to improve the Gateway.

K5XU calls our attention to XYL X-Rated Snipit at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O7kirdtdI1c>. Don't ever let your better half ever see this

In the event that you send an email to W5XX and don't get a response, be aware that there is some kind of dispute between vicksburg.com and comcast.net. If you don't get a response in a reasonable amount of time give W5XX a call at 601-636-0827.

Welcome to the following new hams in Mississippi in December: KF5JEM, Suzanne – Walls; KF5JES, Barbara – Grenada; KF5JET, Paula – Grenada; KF5JGD, David – Pearl; KF5JGE, Alex – Brandon; KF5JID, Debbie – New Site; KF5JJV, Cynthia – Laurel; KF5JJZ, Eugene – Nicholson; and KF5JKA, Richard – Hattiesburg. Thanks to all of the instructors and VE Teams that continue to bring

new hams into the Amateur Service.

Also welcome to the following new ARRL Members: W5AAT – Madison; KF5EYN – McHenry; AB5FI – Grenada; KF5IMF – Meridian; KF5INK – Corinth; KF5IXO – Hattiesburg; W5JMJ – Pelahatchie; KD5LDE – Senatobia; KE5MLD – Brandon; KF5NDU – Water Valley; N5NUR – Ridgeland; K5OMC – Lake Cormorant; KE5WJL – Carriere; and KG5SX – Hattiesburg. ARRL Membership in Mississippi is now 1,082. Another new record! During 2010 Mississippi had a 2.9% membership increase. This was the third highest among the 71 ARRL Section surpassed only by Utah and Wyoming. I made the somewhat tongue-in-cheek comment a few months back that maybe 1100 was not too far away. This may be really possible! Keep working! Thanks to everyone for their continuing efforts.

And last but not least welcome to K5JAW as OES and KB9ZR as PIO (who successfully completed the ARRL PIO Course).

Congratulations to the following on their upgrades: KF5DJS – Yazoo City; KF5EQE – Byhalia; KF5EVT – Nesbit; KF5EZT – Brandon; KF5FWR – Heidelberg; KF5ISM – Pearl; KF5IUI – Wiggins; KF5IVW – Holcomb; KF5IVX – Holcomb; KF5IZB – Jackson; KF5IZD – Mississippi State; KF5FES – Grenada; KM5MH – Meridian; KA4MVS – Jackson; KE5UQT – Ridgeland; KE5YDX – Byram; KE5YDY – Terry; and KF5YFA – Pearl. We are doing a great job in moving our new Hams up!

And congratulations to the the Mississippi Coast ARA who placed first in Mississippi in the 2010 CQ SSB WW 160 Contest and eighth place in the Fifth Call Area.

And last but not least, congratulations are in order for the following new officers and Board Members:

Pearl River ARC: KE5WLJ, President, N5WLW, VP, KF5JJZ, Secretary, and KE5ELS, Treasurer as well as Board Members KF5FRA, KE5WJN, K5WNU, KB9VUN, and KB5QBK.

Meridian ARC: W5MAV, President, NO5C, VP, KD5GWN, Secretary, and KD5JYJ, Treasurer.

Mississippi Coast ARA: K5QJ, President, KF5FA, VP, KF5DIN, Secretary, W5EG, Treasurer, and K5KMU, Activities Chairman.

Vicksburg ARC: KE5LUJ, President, KD5WCR, VP, and K5NRK, S/T.

Alcorn County ARES: W5OA, President, KJ4IHT, VP, W5JOR/WB5CON Co-Secretary, and W5JOR, Treasurer.

DEC/EC Monthly Reports: WB5CON (NE MS/Alcorn), AE5FE (Lauderdale/Clarke), AD5IT (Grenada), KE5MIS (Yalobusha), K5MOZ (Jackson), WX5N (Prentiss/Tishomingo), NE5P (Lamar), WV1Q (Jasper), and KE5WJN (Pearl River).

Club Newsletter/Reports: Hattiesburg ARC (AC5E), Meridian ARC (W5MAV), Mississippi Coast ARA (KB9ZR), Northeast Mississippi ARA (KE5SSB), Pearl River ARC (N5WLW), and the Sundance Solar ARC (KA5ICO).

Regret to report the passing of W5UHF of Hattiesburg.

HF Net reports - sessions/QNI/QTC (Net Manager)
Magnolia Section Net 31/982/14 (K5DSG)
MS Baptist Hams Net 4/21/0 (WF5F)
MSPN 31/2768/49 (K5NRK)
MS Slow Net 21/21/0 (W3TWD)
VHF Net Reports - sessions/QNI/QTC (Net Manager)
Booneville and Prentiss County 4/55/2 (WX5N)
Capital Area Em Net 4/64/0 (K5XU)
Grenada County ARES 5/39/0 (AD5IT)
Hattiesburg AEN 4/85/0 (K5MIQ)
Itawamba County ARES 3/27/0 (KB5NMB)
Jackson ARC Em Net 4/42/0 (N5DU)
Jackson Co ARES Net 18/198/1 (K5MOZ)
Jasper County ARES Group Net 4/22/0 (WV1Q)
Magnolia DX Assn 4/47/0 (AE5JG)
Meridian Area EN 5/45/1 (AE5FE)
Metro Jackson ARES Net 4/57/0 (KE5PTL)
Miss/Lou Em Net 4/14/1 (K5NRK)
NE MS Skywarn 5/63/0 (W5LMW)
Panola County ARES 4/26/0 (KC5DPJ)
Pearl River ARES 3/30/0 (KE5WJN)
SCMSG Info Net 5/62/0 (AE5JG) (Southern Coast Medical Support Group)
Southern MS Friendship Net 23/198/0 (WB5OHN)
Southern MS YL Net 5/76/0 (KB5CSQ)

Stone County ARES 4/82/0 (N5UDK)

Tishomingo ARC 4/129/3 (WX5N)

UMARC Net 4/45/0 (K5LMB)

Yalobusha County ARES 4/42/0 (KE5MIS)

Yazoo County ARES 4/44/0 (W5PKN)

PSHR: W5XX 78

Compilation of Net and PSHR statistics provided by KB5RCJ.