

Mississippi Section Report for January 2011

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District Emergency Coordinators: WB5CON, KD5FUO, KE5KTU, K5XXV, AG5Z, N5ZNT and KB0ZTX.

Emergency Coordinators: WB5CON, AE5CY, WV5D, W5DYC, KI5F, AE5FE, AE5FK, KD5FUO, K5FV, W4HOZ, WB5HQH, KA5ICO, AD5IT, KB5JN, KE5KTU, KD5KXJ, N5LJC, KG6LJN, K5LMB, W5LMW, KE5MIS, K5MOZ, WX5N, KB5NMB, K5NRK, N9OKV, NE5P, K5PJM, KA1RBA, N5SP, N5TBB, K5TV, N5UDK, KD5VMV, KE5WJN, KE5WUN, KE5YES, KB5ZEA, N5ZNT, and KB0ZTX.

Thanks to the Jackson ARC for hosting another great Capital City Hamfest. Our guest from ARRL Headquarters was W5MPC, the ARRL Emergency Response Manager and hopefully an Ole Miss Masters Graduate very shortly. In addition, Delta Division Director K5MC, Vice Director K5UZ, and Arkansas SM N5XFW visited with us. The Grand Prize Winner was N5GT of Raymond. Keeper of the statistics N5WDG reports 1,271 in attendance. Great weather really brings the folks in!

Hamfest Chairman N5VEI wishes to thank the following Hamfest Staff for making it all happen: WM5A, K5BFA, K5BLL, K5CID, W5CSI, KD5CZF, N5DU, KM5GE, K5GCV, N5GT, K5HQV, AK5J, K1JHS, KE5JKD, KD5JPB, K5KKD, KE5KTU, K5LEM, KC5LK, KD5NHJ, N5OH, KC5OSM, W5RUE, K5RWB, KC5STC, AE5SK, K5TDD, N3TZJ, K5VU, KE5WAC, N5WDG, AB5WF, AD5XR, K5XU, W5XX, NC5Y, and XYLs Annie Spencer, Marianna White, and Paula Drake. It takes 40 hard working folks to put on a first-class hamfest!

Don't forget the Mississippi QSO Party on February 26 from 9AM to 9PM local time. Hams from all over will be looking for Mississippi Stations. This is not a contest as such but a chance to catch up with old friends, give a deserving County Hunter a rare county, or pass out a QSO to someone who likes to work QSO Parties. You could win a certificate for the high score from your county or a plaque for the High Mississippi Score, the High Mississippi Mobile Score, or the High Mississippi Portable Score. Complete rules are on the section Website at www.arrlmiss.org. See you during the QSO Party!

N5XXX reports that WX5JAN was on the air for Skywarn Recognition Day from the NWS in Jackson. They made some 50 plus contacts in 19 states. Those participating were KC5PYM, KF5EZZ, KE5PTL, K5CGY, and AD5XR. KE5KTU reports that SKYWARN was again activated as the request of NWS-Jackson during the February 3-4 ice storm providing ice accumulation and road condition reports during 19 hours of operation. Those participating were K5GCV, KE5PYM, W5PKN, AE5SK, N5XXX, and KE5JKD.

EC AE5FE emails that ARES was activated at the Lauderdale Emergency Management Agency (LEMA) by request of the Director on January 13 at 1000 due to a severe ice storm developing in the area. The Ham Station at the EOC was manned and the Meridian Area Emergency Net (MAEN) was activated at 1030. WX5MEI at the LEMA EOC was brought up HF to relay reports to NWS JAN on 3862. Reports were received from all parts of Lauderdale, Clarke, and Jasper County as to conditions developing and experienced, or observed. Cell Phone and pager system communications used by Public Service Communications deteriorated due to icing. W5FQ repeater coverage was diminished due to icing of antenna at repeater site. All communications experienced higher than usual SWR

because of the icy conditions. ARES in the area was very effective in the reporting of road conditions and in a few cases limbs that had partially blocked roads. The severe weather warning for the local area was canceled at 2315, and the EMA Director released ARES.

PIO KB9ZR advises that the Mississippi Coast Amateur Radio Association (MCARA) participated in a number of events during January. On the 25th K5KMU, W5ILR and AE5RI manned the club display at the Senior Expo sponsored by the Harrison County RSVP at the Lyman Community Center. WB5WB was at his home available to take any demonstration calls on 2 meters from the Expo. Literature from the ARRL and MCARA was passed out, and K5KMU gave out his phone number and e-mail address as point of contact to arrange training. A number of visitors expressed interest in Amateur Radio and the training to obtain a license. On January 29 WE5Y, gave a presentation on Amateur Radio at the Preparedness Seminar hosted by the Mississippi Gulf Coast 912 Project held at the St Martin Community Center. And lastly, license training for all classes of license is being conducted at the Garden Park Hospital sponsored by the MDXA. The following amateurs from MCARA are assisting in this training: AE5RI, K5KMU, N5PQ, KA5VFU, and KB5CSQ.

Mississippi Hams got some good press in January. K5FUR was front and center in the 'centerfold' of the January edition of 'Today in Mississippi' published by the 4-County Electric Power Association. Further, N4FF and KF4D were featured in the 'Up Front in QST' column in the February QST on the occasion of the 50 th Reunion of the Murphy High School ARC in Mobile. And lastly, entrepreneur K5FLU was featured in the Fall 2010 Edition of Momentum, the MSU Engineering Magazine. The article chronicles Martin's growing up years before MFJ and follows this with an account of the founding and development of MFJ Enterprises.

Jasper County EC WV1Q emails that ARES activated for severe weather in the Jasper and Jones County areas during the month of January. In addition, Albert did a 2m Radio Call-up Test for ARES members midday during the week to see how many check-ins he could get. Three members checked in on this random call-up. They then QSYed to simplex only to find out that the simplex frequency 146.420 was not that effective as a backup due to not all members having conditions to hear each other.

Lauderdale/Clarke Counties EC AE5FE reports that the existing duplexers at the W5FQ repeater site have been retuned so that the receive side (146.10 MHz) of the repeater and the Packet Radio System (145.010 MHz) can operate on the top antenna of the repeater. The transmit side of the repeater (146.70 MHz) remained as the lower antenna and coverage was not affected with the configuration change. After tweaking and a few adjustments the Packet System was placed in service on the afternoon of January 15. The Packet System Digipeater call is W5FQ, the mail/BBS call is W5FQ-10, and the node is MDN. Any station using the W5FQ Packet System is requested to send a packet message to Bill at KB5ASR in the W5FQ-10 mail box telling him their QTH so that Meridian Hams can get a better idea as to the area of coverage this system will support.

DEC WB5CON advises that Alcorn ARES has had two interesting presentations at their recent monthly meeting. First, W4TX demonstrated HF operation remotely with his laptop connected via internet back to his rig at his house. Then Bob, K0RIS, demonstrated line noise location. He uses two pieces of equipment that he built from QST articles. The first is a 3 element hand-held beam tuned to 138 MHz with a receiver in the AM mode. That gets him down to a few hundred feet of the source, particularly when he turns the beam around and nulls the noise off the back of the beam. Then he pulls out his parabolic dish with an ultrasonic detector. That will not only locate the noise down to the pole, but will show which insulator on the pole has a problem! He looks through a hole in the center of the dish while listening to the noise. The local power company has already called him couple of times to

locate noise for them. Now here are two good programs that nearly clubs to Corinth might want extend an invitation for.

The W5XX Family is expecting two new arrivals on March 1 (one in Baton Rouge and one in Raleigh-Durham.) Things are going to get hectic, so don't be surprised if the next Section Newsletter is late, or I don't immediately respond to your emails during this time frame.

Welcome to the following new Mississippi Hams in January: KF5JKF, Louis – Gautier; KF5JKG, Jay – McNeil; KF5JMI, Shana – Southaven; KF5JNQ, Calvin – Quitman; KF5JOO, Allen – Starkville; KF5JQO, Kevin – Petal; KF5JQP, Tyron – Ocean Springs; KF5JQQ, Joshua – Petal; KF5JQR, Garrett – Petal; and KF5JQS, Dylan – Petal. KF5JNQ is already on the air from Quitman County and checking into the MSPN!

Also welcome to the following new ARRL Members: W5AJT – Holcomb; K5ARP – Holcomb; K5DXE – Ripley; KE5EAU – Hernando; KF5HGM – Laurel; KF5IXR – Hattiesburg; KF5IXS – Collins; KF5JJV – Laurel; KC5LXY – Meridian; KC5NFI – Wiggins; AB5OR – Tupelo; K5TSA – Richton; KB1USB – Greenville; WT4TOM – Carrollton; N5VGK – Belden; KB9VUN – Carriere; W0WIG – Water Valley; N5YAB – Wiggins; and KD5ZIO – Brookhaven. ARRL Membership in Mississippi is now up to 1088 – Wow! We have come a long way from 825 just after Katrina. Keep working. 1100 is actually in site!

And lastly, welcome to KF5IMA as Assistant EC for Lafayette County.

Congratulations to the following on their upgrades: KF5JKA – Hattiesburg; KE5MWS – Petal, and KD5NDU -Water Valley. And KD5NDU is another upgrade that is already checking into the MSPN.

Club Newsletters/Reports: Hattiesburg ARC (AC5E), Meridian ARC (W5MAV), Pearl River County ARC (N5WLW), and the Northeast Mississippi ARA (KE5SSB).

2010 EC Annual Reports: AE5FE (Lauderdale/Clarke), K5LMB (Lafayette), WX5N (Prentiss/Tishomingo), KB5NMB (Itawamba), N9OKV (Harrison), WV1Q (Jasper), N5TBB Tippah), K5TV (Lee), N5UDK (Stone), KD5VMV (DeSoto), KE5WJN (Pearl River), and KE5WUN (Panola).

2010 EC SET Reports: AE5FE (Lauderdale/Clarke), WX5N (Prentiss/Tishomingo), KB5NMB (Itawamba), N9OKV (Harrison), WV1Q (Jasper), KD5VMV (DeSoto), KE5WJN (Pearl River), and KE5WUN (Panola)

January 2011 Monthly DEC/EC Reports: WB5CON (NE MS/Alcorn), AE5FE (Lauderdale/Clark), KE5KTU (Hinds), K5MOZ (Jackson), WX5N (Prentiss and Tishomingo), WV1Q (Jasper), KE5WJN (Pearl River)

Public Service Activity Report: KE5KTU

Regret to report the passing of K5VV of Hernando, W5TJ of Amory, and N5CRZ of Ridgeland.

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

Magnolia Section Net 31/1020/7 (K5DSG)

MS Baptist Hams Net 5/41/0 (WF5F)

MSPN 31/3120/38 (K5NRK)

MS Slow Net 21/23/0 (W3TWD)

MTN/OZK 20/117/20 (AA5J)

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

Booneville and Prentiss County 4/62/2 (WX5N)

Capital Area Em Net 5/93/0 (K5XU)

Grenada County ARES 4/45/1 (AD5IT) (Two SKYWARN Activations)

Hattiesburg AEN 5/126/1 (K5MIQ)

Itawamba County ARES 4/54/3 (KB5NMB)

Jackson ARC Em Net 4/42/0 (N5DU)

Jackson Co ARES Net 14/169/2 (K5MOZ)

Jasper County ARES 4/20/0 (WV1Q)

Magnolia DX Assn 4/52/0 (K5OAZ)

Meridian Area EN 5/76/11 (AE5FE)

Metro Jackson ARES Net X/XX/X (KE5PTL)

Mississippi Coast ARA 4/52/1 (K5KMU)

Miss/Lou Em Net 4/21/0 (K5NRK)

NE MS Skywarn 5/70/0 (W5LMW)

Panola County ARES 4/27/0 (KC5DPJ)

Pearl River County ARES 5/68/0 (KE5WJN)

South MS YL Net 4/42/0 (KB5CSQ)

Southern MS Friendship Net 21/215/0 (WB5OHN)

Stone County ARES 5/105/0 (N5UDK)

Tishomingo ARC 4/120/1 (WX5N)

UMARC Net 5/59/0 (K5LMB)

Yalobusha County ARES 4/45/2 (KE5MIS) (Two Skywarn Activations)

PSHR: W5XX 77

Compilation of Net and PSHR statistics provided by KB5RCJ.