

Mississippi Section Report for October 2014

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W1AW will again visit Mississippi on November 12-18. If you are interested in operating your station as W1AW from Mississippi contact N4OGW at rt_clay@bellsouth.net. Be prepared for some serious pile ups.

President KB5SZJ reports in the Club's 'Spark Gap' Newsletter that the Meridian ARC Swapfest was a great success. The event started off with twenty two tables, and before 9:00 AM, more tables had to be added to adjust for the influx of Hams wanting to have a chance to buy and sell some quality items. This was the second Swapfest ever held in Meridian, and hopefully the Club will have another one next year. Besides KB5SZJ those helping to organize the event were NO5C, K5DAD, KI6DES, and KL7SLM.

Before 2014 rolls to a close we still have two great Mississippi Hamfests on the calendar. On November 14-15 the Jackson County ARA will host its annual Hamfest at the St. Martin Community Center, 15008 Lemoyne Blvd, in Biloxi. Doors will be open from 5 PM to 9 PM on Friday and 8 AM to 3 PM on Saturday. Contact Chris K5MOZ at k5moz@arml for more info. And on December 13 the Pearl River ARC will host their Hamfest at the old National Guard Armory at the Intersection of Highways 11 and 26 in Poplarville. Contact K5RDA at k5rda@att.net for more info.

In addition KC5AAW advises that the Saturday Morning Amateur Radio Time (SMART) will be held on November 15 at 1 PM at the Strawberry Patch Park, 271 Augustine Drive, in Madison. Contact KC5AAW at dboackle@gmail.com for more info. You are welcome and encouraged to bring your radios and antennas, however, that is not required. There will be a number of radios available for you to use and evaluate different brands and models. Please do not bring any gasoline generators due to noise concerns. Batteries and solar panels will be available if participants need power.

K5GCY reports that on October 18 the Jackson ARC provided radio communications for the Boy Scout Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA) at Springwater Ranch Fishing Club. There were a total of 115 scouts and 49 advisers at the camp site. JARC made 106 contacts on several HF frequencies. JARC Members working this event were: AE5SK, K5TDD, and K5GCY. AE5SK did extra duty as he camped there on Friday and Saturday nights. JARC wishes to thank WB5BZH for use of the Salvation Army Comm Trailer.

WX5N says that the Tishomingo County ARC also set up for the JOTA from at the National Guard Armory in Iuka. Although the Boy Scouts were a no show due to other activities, TCARC set up their EMCOMM Trailer and Dakota, KF5FXS, a former Scout, made some good contacts. A 43ft vertical and a dipole were tied to a National Guard tank resulting in a big signal. TCARC had a great time.

N2PKW reports Boy Scout Troop 271 requested that the Jackson County Amateur Radio Association (JCARA) support the Boy Scout Merit Badge University conducted at the St Martin High School, D'Iberville on October 24-26, 2014. The JCARA was asked to help 15 Boy Scouts to qualify for the Radio Merit Badge. The training session took place over a four hour period, Saturday afternoon. To qualify for the Radio Merit Badge the Boy Scout's learned about the technology and communication standards that are involved in amateur and commercial radio communications. The Radio Merit Badge

qualifications also require the Scouts to participate in one of three options of hands on experience: an Amateur Radio QSO, a tour of a commercial radio/television station and developing a broadcast schedule, or listening to a SWL broadcast and receive a SWL card from the station verifying the Scout's reception of the station. The JCARA set up a special 2 Meter training net on their W5WA repeater. The Scouts were provided with a scripted QSO that involved phonetically calling an Amateur Radio operator by his callsign, and the Scout identifying himself by phonetically spelling out his first name. The QSO also involved using Q signs, also a requirement of the Radio Merit Badge. The on air QSOs were enjoyed by all and the Boy Scouts gave a great showing of themselves, handling the phonetics and Q signs like pros. No mike fright with these Scouts. The JCARA organization is very proud to having helped 15 Scouts qualify for their Radio Merit Badge.

KF5UBZ reports that the Scott County ARC provided communications for the New Liberty Baptist Church Operation Christmas Child 5K Run/Walk and Fun Run. In addition to Eddie, thanks to KC5IIW, KF5VVU, KF5QXU, and K1REZ for providing assistance. Also a Ham-Mesh and Aerial Mesh Node Copter (provided by KF5QXU) was used and did a good job. The Scott County ARC is the first to put up an aerial node. The Club still has a few kinks to work out with this system, but those will be solved in a matter of time.

Congratulations to KW5GP of the Olive Branch ARC on the publishing of his new book by the ARRL entitled 'Arduino For Ham Radio.' According to the ARRL, it was their best selling title at Pacificon (Oct 10-12) and has been well received by the ARRL Membership. He also wrote the August 2014 QST review of the Ten-Tec Rebel Arduino-based CW Transceiver. Glen regularly does forums and club presentations on the Arduino for local clubs and hamfests. He presented forums on the Arduino and one with John Henry of Ten-Tec on the Rebel and Patriot Transceivers at the Huntsville Hamfest in August. In addition, Glen co-presented a forum titled 'When Worlds Collide: The Blending of the Maker, Survivalist, and Amateur Radio Cultures' at the ARRL Centennial in Hartford.

WB5EIN reports that the Northeast Mississippi ARA now has a D-Star repeater on the Booneville ETV Tower resulting from coordination efforts by N5VGK. Some antenna work is still needed, but, for now, it has a great SW lobe. AB5OR worked the repeater from beneath the water tower in Oxford mobile! The footprint won't make it to Corinth right now, but that problem should be eliminated when the broken antenna at 400 ft is repaired. Besides Chuck, those helping in this effort were AB5OR, KX5DUG, W1LAW, KF5TTU, KF5TMM, WX5SE, and KE5BSB.

Kudos to WB8BZH who got his picture in the November QST on page 97 while he was demonstrating the SATERN Remote Station Control System during the 2014 Global Amateur Radio Communications Conference in Huntsville.

From Scott County K1REZ advises that he and KF5UBZ have qualified as certified ARRL Field Examiners. Further, Rez is working on the requirements to qualify as a ARRL Field Instructor. He will then be able to offer the ARRL Introduction to Emergency Communications Course (EC-001) in class at no cost other than the EC-001 Manual. After the class is complete he and Eddie will be able to administer the course examination. Rez further adds that beginning in December they will also be making the exam available by request, during or immediately following their regular monthly VE Session for students who buy the ARRL EC-001 Manual and self study course. See details at <http://scottcountyarcs.org/veexams.html>.

K4FMH notes that a group affiliated with the Magnolia Intertie project have reached an agreement with French Camp Academy to outfit an Amateur Radio Club there. FCA is a Christian-based boarding

facility located along the Natchez Trace for orphans and other children with needs. Their development officials feel that they have a group of kids who are both interested in and would benefit from Amateur Radio experiences. At least three are licensed Technicians already! If you have Ham Radio equipment to outfit an HF station, a VHF/UHF station, or supporting antennas, please email Magnolia.intertie@gmail.com with the equipment specifications that you have. Frank will come to your QTH and pick the equipment and provide acknowledgment of your contribution for your tax records, if you so desire

Welcome to the following new Hams in Mississippi in October: KG5EGR, David - D'Iberville; KG5EGS, Chip - Diamondhead; KG5EGT, Richard - Biloxi; KG5EGU, Hector - Ocean Springs; KG5EGV, Beth - Ocean Springs; KG5EHK, Danny - Tupelo; KG5EHL, William - Batesville; KG5EIK, Joshua - Oxford; KG5EIJ, Tyler - Southaven; KG5EJC, Gregory - Union; KG5ELC, Karen - West Point; and KG5EMM, Michael - Horn Lake. If any of these new Hams are in your area give them a call and see if they need any help getting on the air and invite them to your next local club meeting.

Also welcome to the following new ARRL Members in October: K5AHG, Jamie - Corinth; KG5CHF, Cynthia - Horn Lake; KG5DMF, Jim - Brandon; KE5FAQ, John - Quitman; W1IBL, Ronald - Oxford; W5JBC, James - Florence; WD5KFH, Daniel - Long Beach; K5JSH, John - Pontotoc; KB1LPO, Mark - Perkinston; KF5RFA, Roger - Brandon; KE5RUD, Kelly - Clinton; WB4SHX, Curtis - Lucedale; and N5YAV, McCoy - Corinth. As of October 31 ARRL Membership in Mississippi was 1,156 up 5 from last month. A new record! Thanks to all who promote ARRL Membership!

Congratulations to to the following on their upgrades: W5IGE, Duane - Ocean Springs; KB5GGQ, Brian - Pearl; and KF5RFA, Roger - Brandon.

DEC/EC Monthly Reports for October 2014: WB5CON (NE MS/Alcorn), K5MOZ (Jackson), WX5N (Prentiss and Tishomingo), and WA5TEF (Lee).

SET Report: KC5IIW (Scott)

Club Newsletter/Reports (Editor): Lowndes County ARC (WE5BEE), Mississippi Coast ARA (KC5KMU), and the Meridian ARC (W5MAV).

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

Magnolia Section Net 31/1151/8 (K5DSG)

MS Baptist Hams Net 4/23/0 (WF5F)

MSPN 31/2108/13 (K5NRK)

MS Slow Net 23/48/0 (W3TWD)

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

Booneville and Prentiss County Net 4/33/0 (WX5N)

Capital Area Em Net 4/66/0 (K5XU)

Chickasaw ARA Net 4/90/0 (N5PYQ)

Delta ARES Simplex Net 4/31/0 (K5JAW)

Hattiesburg ARC 2M Net 4/93/0 (K5TLL)

Hattiesburg ARC 10M Net 4/39/0 (K5TLL)
Itawamba County ARES Net 4/74/0 (WX5SE)
Jackson County Em Net 28/550/2 (K5MOZ)
Lowndes County ARC Net 4/49/0 (AD5DO)
MDXA Net 4/49/0 (W5DAW)
Metro Jackson ARES Net 4/47/0 (W5PKN)
Miss/Lou Em Net 4/22/0 (K5NRK)
MSHEARN District 6 Net 4/29/4 (KF5QLL)
MS Preparedness Project EN 3/33/0 (KF5RFB)
Neshoba ARC Net 3/12/0 (KF5QLL)
Northeast MS Skywarn Net 4/58/0 (WA5TEF)
Olive Branch ARC Tech and Info Net 9/79/1 (KD5CKP)
Pearl River ARC Net 5/75/0 (K5RDA)
Petal Amateur Wireless Society 5/40/0 (NG5C)
Rankin County ARES 5/70/0 (KE5EZT)
Scott County ARES 4/54/0 (KC5IIW)
Southern Mississippi YL Net 3/49/0 (KB5CSQ)
Stateline Skywarn Net 4/71/0 (WX5SE)
Stone County ARES Net 4/48/0 (N5UDK)
Tishomingo ARC Net 4/59/0 (WX5N)
UMARC UHF Net 4/14/0 (K5LMB)
UMARC VHF Net 4/24/0 (K5LMB)
Yazoo County ARES Net 4/29/0 (KF5DJS)

PSHR - W5XX 84 and K5JAW 70

Traffic - KA5DON 27 and W5XX 14

Compilation of Net statistics provided by KB5RCJ.