

Mississippi Section Report for April 2021

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Mississippi High School teachers have been very good to introduce Ham Radio to teenagers via the classroom. The latest report comes from K5ATA at Lafayette Middle School in Oxford. Steve reports nearly 50 students have passed the Technician Exam in the past two years. Several of these students are studying for their General and one for Extra. One student, who upgraded to General, made a presentation to the University of Mississippi ARC on how to get started on Echo Link!

Testing has been conducted via the UMARC VE Team. However, when the February Snowstorm cancelled a VE Test Session, Steve used his personal You Tube Channel to recruit the Greater Los Angeles Area Amateur Radio Group to conduct the tests which was a success.

Steve has also used his used his You Tube channel to take his classroom efforts one step further by raising funds to purchase HTs for the students. Coupled with many generous personal donations, the Oxford repeater has been kept hopping! Kudos to Steve for his efforts.

SEC KC5IMN reports that the 2020 SET report has been submitted to ARRL Headquarters showing that 102 Mississippi Hams participated. Reporting SET Form A was received from the West Central Mississippi District (KC5IMN), the Southeast Mississippi District (KF7DLW), NBEMS Digital Net (W5DIX), Forrest County (N5AAS), Harrison County (AG5RI) Jackson County (K9EYZ), Scott County (K1REZ); submitter shown in parenthesis Final results will be in the July 2021 QST.

The logs for the 2021 Mississippi QSO Party are in. 280 Logs were received compared with 225 last year and more that twice as many than two years ago. This was a great year for participation both inside and outside of the state. Mississippi is well represented among the 45 national and provincial QSO Parties! Let the log checking begin!

WB5AKR has started a neighborhood watch group using the FRS (Family Radio Service) radios. The group now has 18 members using 13 FRS radios. Larry encourages all hams to get involved and organize a watch group on their street or in their community. During the last month the radio net was activated for two severe weather events and two suspicious vehicles which were reported to the Lauderdale County Sheriff. If Larry can be of any help to you in establishing your watch group contact wb5akr@comast.net . Ham Radio could serve as the link for the FRS groups to pass on information to authorities.

From Vancleave N2PKW reports that Gater Trader was a success by any measure with 120 plus in attendance. The food vendor sold out of sandwiches. The winner of the FTM-300DR grand prize was W5LAC from Hattiesburg. Charlie says it was great to have good attendance, but the most important part was Hams having a chance to talk one-on-one after many months of

isolation. We needed that. Thanks to N2PKW and the Jackson County ARC for sponsoring this event.

Club President AK5J notes that Hams from the Jackson Amateur Radio Club and Central Mississippi Amateur Radio Association provided communications for the Natchez Trace Century Ride on May 1. There were over 1,000 riders in this event, including several world class riders and some country music celebrities. Hams were placed in strategic locations and reported important information. Ridgeland Parks and Recreation, sponsor of the event, was very complimentary of the Hams and stated that the Hams always look after the safety of the riders. Hams participating were K5XU, K5KKD, WB5OFZ, AK5J, K0UPW and KD5KHI. AE5SK actually rode in the event with his hand-held and reported important information to net control.

And in EC Reports from around the state:

KD5SQZ (Hinds County) reports that Central Mississippi ARES will have an in-person meeting immediately following the Central MS Amateur Radio Association meeting on June 8 at 7:00 pm at 601 Marquette Road in Brandon, Mississippi. Further, they conduct training on EMCOMM digital modes with a focus on NBEMS, every Monday at 6:00 pm CDT on 145.390. Following at 7:00 pm CDT they have a training session using voice mode focusing on ARRL Radiograms, ICS 213, and Storm Spotter reports. Everyone is encouraged to join their training nets and to meet with them on June 8. Come and learn more about emergency communications. More information about Central MS ARES can be found on or website at msares.com.

AG5RI (Harrison County) notes that ARES has updated the Harrison County EOC Repeater by adding a newly tuned duplexer that was donated by Tom W4WLF. Robert WX5RJ has reworked their logs at the EOC and is outlining an updated training program. Getting ready for storm season.

N5AAS from Forest County relays that ARES had a great month, with many volunteers showing up at the Hattiesburg Half Marathon and demonstrating Ham Radio and ARES operations. There were nearly 3,000 participants in the race with 15 Ham Stations on the air.

KB5SZJ (Lauderdale County) reports that Meridian ARC meeting numbers are improving, and anyone can attend. They welcome all Hams and look forward to seeing you at the meeting. They meet on the first Saturday of the month at Western Sizzler. Doors open at 11am, lunch buffet is served.

2020 was a frustrating year for Mississippi Hams with most events being cancelled or scaled down. As Covid 19 continues into 2021 circumstances promise to be about the same or slightly better for the first part of this year. Attached for your information below is the current status (updated from last month) of known Ham events in and around Mississippi:

- Gulf Coast Hurricanes Special Event, May 22-25, www.ag5z.net
- Mobile Hamfest, May 22, POC: w4nnf@arrl.net
- 7290 Message Traffic Handling Class, June 2 and 5. Sessions at 9:30 and 12:00
- Hamvention, Dayton, see www.hamvention.org for online activity.

- Hamcom, Plano, QRT after 41 Years.
- Black Warrior Hamfest, June 19, 2020, Northport, AL, POC:KF4DGS
- ARRL Field Day June 26-27, 2021. See Covid rules on www.arrl.org
- ARRL Mississippi Section SET, August 7, Prepare !! POC:KC5IMN
- Shreveport Hamfest. Cancelled for 2021. See you in 2022!
- Huntsville, August 20-21, 2021. All systems go. www.hamfest.org
- Jackson County Hamfest, November 12-13. POC kj4njt@arrl.net
- Greater New Orleans, November 13. POC: Joen5ozq@hotmail.com

Anybody have additional information? Thanks to all who helped pull this information together. This list will be updated in future Section Reports.

And congratulations to the following who upgraded in April: KI5LXP, Adam – Long Beach; KI5ORL, Robert – Mooreville; KI5OUH, Joseph – Como; KI5OUI, Daniel – Hernando; KI5OUK, Holly Springs; KI5PDI, Rebecca – Smithdale; KD4PJN, Daniel – Nesbit.

Welcome to the following new Hams in Mississippi in April; KI5PFL, Dwight – Lawrence; KI5PFN, David – Madison; KI5PGA, John – Southaven; KI5PGB, Phillip – Starkville; KI5PGK, Michael – Iuka; KI5PKE, Joseph – Gulfport; KI5PLD, Bradley – Tupelo; KI5PLX, Fred – Coldwater; KIK5PLY, Matthew – Senatobia; KI5PLZ, William – Coldwater; KI5PMU, Thomas – Hazlehurst; KI5PNY, Matthew – Olive Branch.

Twelve new Hams in Mississippi in April. Covid-19 is not slowing Ham Radio down in Mississippi. Thanks to all of the VE Teams that made this happen!

Also welcome the following new ARRL Members in April: KB5GHZ, Alpha – Leakesville; KI5OJB, Duncan – Laurel; KI5ONK, Michael – Starkville; KI5ONL, Robert – Brandon; KI5OUH, Joel – Como; KI5PLD, Bradley – Tupelo; KI5PLJ, Larry – Florence; KE5PRI, Patrick – Oxford; N5PU, Leon – Moss Point; KD5UOJ, Patricia - Hattiesburg; W5XTX, Clay – Como; and K5YMB, Kasey – Nettleton;

ARRL Membership is now 1,000 down 10 from last month. Let's don't drop below 1000! Go to work in May! Thanks to all who support ARRL Membership in Mississippi.

And last, but not least, welcome to K0UPW as ASM, N5OMK as ASM, KF5VVU as EC for Scott County, AD5IT as EC for Grenada County, KI5HVD as AEC for Harrison County, and AE5SK as OES. Many thanks to retiring Scott County EC K1REZ on a job well done in organizing ARES in Central Mississippi.

SEC/DEC Reports for April 2021: KC5IMN (SEC), KD4VVZ (Gulf Coast), N5ZNT (SW MS), and KB0ZTX (NW MS).

EC Reports for April: N5AAS (Forrest), K5ATA (Panola), N5CRS (Jasper), AE5FK (Walthall), KF5IAY (Carroll), KA5ICO (Chickasaw), N5KDA (Adams), AE5LG (Oktibbeha), KD5NDU (AEC)(Yalobusha), AG5RI (Harrison), K5RTW (Lee), KB5SQZ (Hinds), KB5SZJ

(Lauderdale), KD4VVZ (George), KF5WVJ (DeSoto), N5ZNT (Lincoln and Wilkerson), and KB0ZTX (Marshall).

ACC Report from W5VMS. Scott notes that the following clubs are, or soon will be, meeting in person:

- Magnolia Amateur Radio Club
- Mississippi State (Starkville) Amateur Radio Club
- Meridian Amateur Radio Club
- Lowndes County (Columbus) Amateur Radio Club
- Vicksburg Amateur Radio Club
- Tupelo Amateur Radio Club
- Central Mississippi Amateur Radio Association (June)
- Olive Branch Amateur Radio Club

Scott also notes that of the 34 clubs in Mississippi 24 have updated Annual Club reports, but 10 do not. Tardy clubs ... don't get on Scott's bad list. You know who you are! Ask Scott for help.

Club Newsletter/Reports (Editor): the Meridian ARC Spark Gap (W5MAV)

Regret to report the passing of WA5CAM. Stan was a long time Natchez fire fighter and retired Adams County EMA Director. Stan was known to the Amateur Community as a very active Ham and long time checkin to the MSPN.

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

Hattiesburg ARC 10M Net 5/43/0 (KD5XG)

K5TAL 80M Net 4/66/0 (WV5Q)

Magnolia Section Net 30/1048/3 (KA5ICO)

MS Baptist Hams Net 4/10/0 (WF5F)

MSPN 30/2277/18 (W5JGW)

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

Adams County ARES Net 4/52/0 (N5KDA)

Capital Area Emergency Net 4/42/0 (K5XU)

Central Mississippi ARES Training Net 4/49/12 (KG5SQZ)
DeSoto County Training and Information Net 4/88/0 (KF5WVJ)
Delta Area Net ?/164/0 (KF5IAY)
Forrest County ARES Net 2/24/0 (N5AAS)
George County ARES /30/0 (KD4VVZ)
Harrison County ARES 1/4/0 (AG5RI)
Hattiesburg ARC 2 M Net 5/53/2 (KD5XG)
Hattiesburg ARC 2 M Simplex Net 1/12/0 (KD5XG)
JARC Emergency Net 4/48/0 (K5XU)
Jasper County ARES 4/35/0 (N5CRS)
Lowndes County ARC 4/76/0 (KF5AZ)
Marshall County ARES – meets with DeSoto County Net (KB0ZTX)
Meridian Area EM Net 4/67/0 (KB5SZJ)
Mississippi Coast ARA 4/118/0 (AB5FU)
MSU ARC Net 4/130/0 (N5OMK)
Northeast Mississippi Skywarn Net 4/90/0 (W5BAQ)
Olive Branch ARC 4/44/0 (K5OLV)
Southwest MS ARES Team 5/25/0 (N5ZNT)
Sundancer Solar ARES Net 4/94/0 (KA5ICO)
Vicksburg ARC/MLEN 4/110/0 (KD5DHR)
Walthall County ARES Net 4/71/0 (AE5FK)
Yalobusha County ARES 2/8/0 (KD5NDU)

Digital Net Reports

Central Mississippi ARES Digital Net 4/20/44 (KI5JCL)

Central Mississippi WL2K Net 1/10/0 (KI5JCL

EMTARG – 385 (WB5BNV)

K5TAL Digital Voice Net 5/66/0 (WV5Q)

Traffic: WV5Q 51, and W5XX 2.

PSHR: WV5Q 104 and W5XX 77.