

Mississippi Section Report for November 2018

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In November the Mississippi Public Service Commission issued a resolution requesting that state law be modified in the upcoming legislative session to permit rural electric cooperatives to provide internet service via power lines. This puts us back to the 2004 period when the FCC adopted rules for access BPL Systems. Although there were numerous interference protests to the FCC from the ARRL and several commercial and noncommercial concerns against allowing BPL, ultimately BPL collapsed by 2014 because of financial considerations and continuing technical problems experienced by providers.

The ARRL noted that “because power lines are not designed to prevent radiation of RF energy, BPL represents a significant potential interference source for all radio services in the 1.7 to 80 MHz range.” Mississippi is the only state that does not allow rural electric cooperatives to use power lines for internet access. For further information, the ARRL web pages contain voluminous information on the problems associated with BPL. Mississippi Hams should prepare for a potential effort to defeat a legislative bill, if it is introduced.

Addendum to November Section Report: Feedback points out that the movement to use BPL for rural internet access in Mississippi could be erroneous in that the current push is to provide access via fiber optics not wire. Some media reports lacking detail can be misinterpreted. More than one bill addressing this issue is anticipated to be introduced in the next legislative session.

Adams County EC N5KDA reports that on November 2 around 2 AM ARES activated their VHF net as severe weather entered the area. Several dozen homes in Adams county were damaged. Some of the damage occurred at WA5CAMs (AEC) home as he lost a tower. The net deactivated after about two hours. The threat of more bad weather had passed and all local communications systems were in operation.

Alcorn County EC WB5CON relays that ARES had a float in the Corinth Christmas Parade on December 1 featuring plenty of antennas, a Rohn 25 top section with lots of Christmas lights, Ham gear on an operating table, and big signs down both sides. Also, Hams in Santa hats throwing lots of candy to the kids. (Sounds like fun and good PR for Ham Radio!)

Lauderdale County EC KB5SZJ advises that they are working on getting their packet station back on the air. They will be running it out of the EOC until they can move the station back to their repeater site.

WB5AKR reports that he has acquired permission to resend and test current data/ graphics of Jackson NOAA from a provider of weather products (different formats). He is using the most current data only when it is timely for weather events. In addition, Larry and WB5BNV are working with Hams that have sight problems helping them finding programs that allow them to get on the air with digital modes (text to speech).

K5GCY reports that he and KE5JKD visited Sumner Hill School from 9 to noon on November 8. This was a Science with Santa event. About 200 3rd thru 6th graders were in attendance, and they talked with them and their parents about Ham Radio. It was a fun event.

On your long-range calendar pencil in the Capital City Hamfest, January 25-26, 2019 in Jackson (POC K5GCY). Our representative from ARRL Headquarters will be Mike Corey, KI1U, who will conduct a forum on "ARRL Connect." If you are confused, this will be a great opportunity to get answers to your questions.

Welcome to the following new Hams in Mississippi in November: KI5CDI, Jeremy – Coldwater; KI5CFJ, Bette – Hattiesburg; KI5CFP, Henry – Louisville; KI5CGG, Christopher – D'Iberville; KI5CIT, Jesse – Batesville; and KI5CKU, Paris – Vicksburg.

Also welcome to the following new ARRL Members in November: K5BBA, Earle – Vicksburg; KI5BXY, James – Eupora; K4ETM, Luther – Moss Point; W5MLJ, Michael – Ocean Springs; K5RKU, Terry – Ripley; KE5RUD, Kelley – Clinton; KE5YYQ, Thomas – Columbus; KC5YYW, John – Hernando; and N5ZMU, Anne – Pass Christian;

As of November 30, ARRL Membership in Mississippi was 988 the same as last month! Maybe we have finally reached the bottom! Give somebody an ARRL Membership for Christmas so we can head back to 1,000 members in Mississippi!

And last but not least welcome to K5LVL as ADEC for the Southeast Mississippi District.

Congratulations to the following on their upgrades in November: KI5AVD, Michael – Saucier; KI5BXF, John – Brandon; KI5CHV, James – Pope; K5LVL, Kyle – Purvis; KG5SQZ, Maury – Terry; and KG5YVI, Roy – Scobey.

SEC/DEC Reports for November 2018: KC5IMN (SEC), KC5IIW (EC MS), AF5PO (NE MS), KD4VVZ (Gulf Coast), and N5ZNT (SW MS).

EC Reports for November 2018: WB5CON (Alcorn), KF7DLW (Forrest), AE5FK (Walthall), AG5GN (Lamar), KA5ICO (Chickasaw), KC5IIW (Scott), KF5IMA (Lafayette), N5KDA (Adams), AD7KJ (Franklin), NS5M (Washington), KD5NDU (AEC) (Yalobusha), AF5NG (Marion), AF5PO (Tishomingo), KB5SZJ (Lauderdale), WA5TEF (Lee), KD4VVZ (George), KF5WVJ (DeSoto), and N5ZNT (Lincoln/Wilkinson).

OES Reports: AD5TJ and WB5AKR.

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

Regret to report the passing of W5TMM of Hattiesburg. Toxey was a Viet Nam Veteran and practiced medicine in the Hattiesburg area for 40 years, as well as playing a significant medical and Amateur Radio role during and after Katrina. Also, regret to report the passing of WB5ASP of Brookhaven. Homer was very active in community affairs in addition to his Ham Radio activities. And lastly, regret to report the passing of KB5MOK of Amory. George was a retired

veteran and very involved in church work.

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

Hattiesburg ARC 10M Net 4/28/0 (KD5XG)

K5TAL - American Legion 80M Net 4/23/0 (KA5DON)

Magnolia Section Net 30/1050/6 (KA5ICO)

MS Baptist Hams Net 4/27/0 (WF5F)

MSPN 30/2072/15 (W5JGW)

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

Adams County ARES 4/45/0 (N5KDA) One ARES emergency operation.

Alcorn County ARES Net 4/48/0 (WB5CON)

Booneville and Prentiss Co Net 4/54/0 (WX5N)

Capital Area Emergency Net 4/51/0 (K5XU)

DeSoto County Training and Information Net 4/99/0 (KF5WVJ) One Skywarn Operation

Forrest/Perry Counties ARES 2/24/0 (KF7DLW)

George County ARES 4/49/0 (KD4VVZ)

Hattiesburg ARC 2M Net 4/58/1 (KD5XG)

Hattiesburg 2M Simplex Net 1/9/0 (KD5XG)

Jackson ARC Emergency Net 4/40/0 (K5XU)

Jasper County ARES 4/52/0 (KG5WJM)

K5TAL – American Legion 2M Net 4/23/0 (KA5DON)

Lamar County ARES Net 2/26/0 (AG5GN)

Lowndes County ARC Net 4/42/0 (KF5AZ)

Marion County ARES Net 4/34/0 (AF5NG)

Madison County ARES 4/22/0 (W5DIX)

Marshall County ARES – meets with Desoto County – (KB0ZTX)

MDXA Net 4/23/0 (N5GD)

Meridian Area Emergency Net 4/49/0 (KB5SZJ and KF5ETN)

Metro Jackson ARES Net 2/15/0 (AE5SK)

Mississippi Coast ARA 4/65/0 (N5AHM)

MSU ARC 4/78/0 (N5OMK)

Northeast Mississippi Skywarn 4/62/0 (WA5TEF)

Olive Branch ARC 4/27/0 (K5OLV)

Scott County ARES Training Net 4/37/0 (KC5IIW)

Scott County ARES Simplex Net 1/3/0 (KC5IIW)

Southwest MS ARES Team 5/15/0 (N5ZNT)

Sundancer Solar ARES Net 4/49/0 (KA5ICO)

Tishomingo ARES Net 4/61/0 (AD5PO)

University of Mississippi ARC Net 4/38/0 (KF5IMA)

Vicksburg ARC MLEN Net 4/110/0 (KD5DHR)

Vicksburg ARC UHF Net 1/16/0 (KD5DHR)

Walthall County ARES Net 3/27/0 (AE5FK)

Yalobusha County Skywarn Net 2/8/0 (KD5NDU) One Skywarn Activation

Digital Net Reports

MS NBEMS Traffic Net 4/28/3 (W5DIX)

EMTARG/Sandpounder Group – 325 (WB5AKR)

PSHR – KA5DON 107, W5XX 70, and AD5TJ 32 (48 in Oct).

Traffic: KA5DON 47, KG5FRZ 26, and W5XX 2.