

Mississippi Section Report for July 2023

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From SEC KC5IMN: Mississippi ARES conducted its statewide Simulated Emergency Test (SET for short) on Saturday 12 Aug 2023. The MS ARES team spent the last 7 months planning and training for this operation and initial reports are that the SET was very successful. The MS ARES Team operated for 12 continuous hours beginning at 430am and completing the day at 430pm. Numerous instances of simulation emergency communications were passed via Amateur Radio networks on behalf of local, county, and state organizations. In case you missed it, this year's SET scenario was a landfalling hurricane named ICYMI. ARES County emergency operations as well as MS State RACES operators also got into the fray. Everyone that checked into the nets got a lot of traffic handling experience for when the real deal happens.

For 2023, there was significant use of NBEMS digital as well as WINLINK-email that was directed to the main state level served agency, the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA). While the scenario included a hurricane, there were also power disruptions, flooding, tornados, traffic accidents, and even a downed NASA satellite that the Civil Air Patrol simulated a search and recover effort in the Tupelo area.

Robert would like to thank everyone that participated in this year's test. He appreciates the Hams that gave up their Saturday to test the MS ARES machine. (in W5XX's opinion this was the very best SET ever. When you see Robert or run across him on the air give him a pat on the back for the many hours he spent organizing the 2023 SET)

... and now on to the DX front. All Hams like to work some DX at one time or another. If you work hard, you can make DXCC in a weekend during a contest. If you want to make the DXCC Honor Roll allow about 20 years. To make it the Top of the Honor Roll allow about 30 years, if you are lucky and all of the entities are on the air. Well, there is one more giant step. 3000 on the DXCC challenge. With 340 entities on the list, it looks like a Ham would need 300 entities on 10 bands. To make 300 entities on 6 Meters is impossible. That means a DXer would have to make more than 300 entities on the other 9 bands, Good Luck! Well, K2FF in Ocean Springs did exactly that. Congratulations to Glenn to being the first in Mississippi to make 3,000 on the DX Challenge!

From KF8PD in DeSoto County: Come Join us for ARRL Day In The Park 2.0 on October 14, 2023 from 0900-1500hrs. HF stations will be set up, VE Test Session, lunch will be served, card checking will be available, tailgating/swap area, door prizes.

The location will be at the Olive Branch City Park, 8267 Goodman Rd. Olive Branch sponsored by the Olive Branch Amateur Radio Club and the Chickasaw Amateur Radio Association. For more information contact kf8pd@siscom.net. The Day in the Park committee is looking for a sponsor willing to donate a dualband mobile or other large prize that we could raffle to offset the club's expenses. All the other prizes are free.

JARC President AK5J reports that Hams from the Jackson Amateur Radio Club, the Central Mississippi Amateur Radio Association, and the Vicksburg Amateur Radio Club assisted with communications for the Soul City Cycling Summer Sizzler Bike Ride on July 15. There were about 200 bike riders in this event. Hams were placed at all rest stops and major intersections and gave progress reports and reported any problems. The event was very well organized and went very smoothly except for one rider who fell down but was not seriously injured. The ride officials were very complimentary of the Hams and the help they provided. Hams participating were K5XU, K5KKD, AK5J, K4FMH, N5KLT, K5ERB, KG4HRG, AC5Z, KI5MJT, W5VMS, and K5CID.

In Field Day after action information K0UPW reports from Rankin County ...The preliminary Field Day 2023-point totals are in, and we DOUBLED last year's totals due to the large number of CW and digital (FT8) contacts made. 632 points for CW, 816 points for Digital, and 427 points for Phone. We accumulated 1,130 bonus points (media, education, etc.) plus a multiplier. The preliminary total for Field Day 2023 was 4,880 points. Also, the Field Day Contact Map shows the group contacted all but one section in the U.S. -- and that section was San Francisco (SF).

From ACC W5UMS: MEMA offers a wide variety of training opportunities for emergency first responders and support personnel. For ARRL/ARES members, the most significant resident courses include FEMA's ICS-300 and ICS-400. Applying for MEMA training is a two-step process. First, request access to the training course website (instructions at <https://68rd9e.a2cdn1.secureserver.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Requesting-System-Access.pdf>). Second, register for a training course (instructions at <https://68rd9e.a2cdn1.secureserver.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Registering-for-a-Training-Course.pdf>). Courses are offered at various times throughout the state. Individuals are responsible for any travel and/or lodging expenses, as well as all prerequisite coursework. Additional details are at <https://www.msema.org/resources/training/>.

Only seven more months for VOTA. Time to get on the air and make some points. As of August 1, the top 10 in Mississippi are: N5YT, WQ5L, WD5CCA, AE5MI, W5YD, N4OGW, KD5BS, KF5IZ, and W5XX. The current leader board is on the ARRL Website. Start to locate it by typing in VOTA in the ARRL website search engine box.

K4FMH invites all to Highlands Presbyterian in Ridgeland for the annual International Churches On The Air Event September 9 from 8 to 4. The Jackson Amateur Radio Club will be on site to welcome visitors. During the day attempts will be made to contact the International Space Station which will make several passes. Madison County Libraries will be in attendance with information about STEM activities in public libraries throughout the county. If the XYL gets impatient she can go across the street for shopping at Renaissance. More detailed info to follow.

In EC Reports from around the State ...

From Winston County KI5SAG reports that the ARES Group had a training meeting July 25th. They were so excited and learned a lot from SEC KC5IMN. They discussed in detail the SET

for this year, the mission, and what was expected from their ARES team. Different ideas were discussed on how to obtain traffic for the SET.:

From W5VMS in Warren/Claiborne Counties: KG5OVR, KG5YEE, and W5VMS attempted to check in for the July EMCOMM Checkin. Audio was good at first, but they lost signal and were unable to check in on 3862. This has been a recurring problem with the Warren County EOC. This time the most likely culprit was atmospheric conditions, but 80 meters is not good for local comms (line-of-sight between stations is around 6 miles). Possible solutions for the future include relocating EOC comms or checking in on 2 meters.

From AG5ND in Oktibbeha County. The Magnolia ARC held its regular monthly meeting at the Oktibbeha County EOC and went over plans for the August SET.

Attached for your information below is the current status (updated from last month) of known upcoming Ham events in and around Mississippi:

- EMCOMM Checkin on 3862, 6:00 PM, Sep 7 (1st Thursday Each Month)
- Highlands Presbyterian On the Air, Sept 9, Ridgeland, POC: K4FMH
- Jackson County Hamfest, Sept 16, Ocean Springs, POC: N2PKW
- ARRL Day in the Park, Oct 14, Olive Branch Park, POC: KF8PD and KF5WVJ
- W1AW/5 VOTA Operation from Mississippi Nov 15-22, POC: W5UE
- New Year's Eve On-the-Air Party, Dec 31, 3862, 11 PM, POC: W5XX
- Capital City Hamfest, Feb 2-3, Trade Mart, Jackson, POC: AK5J
- 2024 Mississippi QSO Party. April 6-7, POC: W5XX

Welcome to the following new Amateurs in Mississippi in July: KJ5BTT, Hunter – Saltillo; KJ5BVR, Kevin – Jackson; KJ5BTV, Jonathan – Jackson; KJ5BUS, Kevin – Maben; KJ5BWA, Liam – Gulfport; KJ5BWI, Kenneth – Corinth; KJ5BXU, Harold - New Albany; KJ5BXY, Nathan – Foxworth; KJ5BZE, Connor – Starkville; KJ5BZS, Savannah – Nesbit; KJ5CAM, Tyler – Kokomo; KJ5CAN, Luanna – Kokomo; KJ5CBB, Evan – Greenwood; KJ5CBT, Nicholas – Burnsville; KJ5CBV, Anntwan – Petal;

What to do with this list? Club Officers and members, if you see a local on this list that you are not familiar with, locate and ask them to visit your next club meeting. Ask W5XX for contact information and also ask if they need help getting on the air.

Welcome to the following new ARRL members in July 2023: KJ5APO, Randy – Bay Saint Louis; KJ5BJT, Jonathan – Jackson; KB5YPN, David – Pearl; KI5ZQZ, Steve – Fulton.

ARRL Membership in Mississippi was 994 as of August 1. Down 8 from last month. Time to go back to work!

Remember, if a member signs up through your club, the club gets a rebate of \$15 for new members and \$5 for a current member renewal. See Club Reconciliation Form on the ARRL Website.

Welcome to N6PJW as AEC in Stone County.

Congratulations to the following on their upgrades in July: KJ5BCY, Timothy – Hattiesburg; KJ5BJI, James – Perkinston; KJ5BNG, Harry – Philadelphia; N1DUC, Junie – Ocean Springs; AI5MD, Thomas – Oxford; AI5ML, Joseph – Hattiesburg; KI5SKG, William – Quitman; KI5WGE, Patricia – Picayune; KI5ZYU, Robertus – Lumberton.

SEC/DEC Reports for July 2023: KC5IMN (SEC), KD4VVZ (Gulf Coast), KB0ZTX (NW MS)

EC Reports for July 2023: AE5FK (Walthall), NI5I (Perry), KA5ICO (Chickasaw), N5MIS (Pontotoc), AG5ND (Oktibbeha), K5RTW (Lee), KI5SAG (Winston), KG5SQZ (Hinds), KB5SZJ (Lauderdale), W5VMS (Warren/Claiborne), KD4VVZ (George/Greene), KF5WVJ (DeSoto), KB0ZTX (Marshall)

Club Newsletters (Editor): the Meridian ARC Spark Gap (W5MAV) and the Mississippi Coast ARA Splatter (N5OCT)

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

Magnolia Section Net 31/1163//6 (KA5ICO)

MS Baptist Hams Net 5/16/0 (WF5F) Sunday, 7263 at 4PM

MSPN 31/2070/11 (W5JGW)

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

Central Mississippi ARES Training Net 4/137/0 (KG5SQZ)

Calhoun/Chickasaw ARES Net 5/62/0 (KA5ICO)

DeSoto County Training and Information 5/85/0 (KF5WVJ)

George County ARES 4/42/0 (KF5TJO)

Lowndes County ARC 4/42/0 Late [report](#) for June; 4/56/0

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

Mississippi Coast ARA 4/104/0 (W5JGW)

Meridian ARC EM Net 4/17/0 (KB5SZJ)

MSU ARC Net 5/88/0 (K4MAG)

Northeast Mississippi Skywarn 5/50/0 (W5BAQ)

Oktibbeha County ARES 1/19/0 (AG5ND)

Pontotoc ARES Skywarn WX Net 4/60/1 (N5MIS)

Vicksburg ARC/MLEN 5/98/0 (KG5YEE) One community service event

Walthall County ARES Net 4/43/0 (AE5FK)

Digital Net Reports

Central Mississippi ARES Digital Net 5/32/29 (KI5JCL)
(3 VHF nets and 2 HF nets)

Traffic: WV5Q 37 and W5XX 3

PSHR: WV5Q 97 and W5XX 78

