

# Mississippi Section Report for June 2023

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Field Day 2023 is now history. Conditions were so so and the heat was tough, but the fun, food, and fellowship were great. The following clubs/groups were scheduled to be in the field:

Area 51 Group – WA5RGM  
Central Mississippi ARC – K5XU  
Chickasaw/Olive Branch ARAs – K5K  
George County ARES – KC5CWW  
Jackson County ARA – N5OS  
Jones County ARC – W5FSJ  
Marion County Ham Radio Club – KG5HKK  
Meridian ARC - W5FQ  
Mississippi Coast ARA – W5SGL  
Mississippi State ARC – W5YD  
Non - Club Group – K5VSD  
Pine Belt ARA – K5PN  
Southwest Mississippi ARC – W5WQ  
Stone County ARES – K5STO  
Tupelo ARC – K5TUP  
University of Mississippi ARC – W5UMS  
Vicksburg ARC – K5ZRO

PIC K5RFL in Starkville has been in touch with several of the club Field Day operations and has the following comment and club reports. 'Field Day was a great success as always. As usual you could do more socializing at one event and more operating at another. That's one of my favorite things about this yearly event is that there really is no wrong way for it to be done as long as your club is on board and having fun.'

Fun, food, and fellowship were in tall order for the day with 20 members of the George County ARES with three visitors attending the event. This was the group's seventh year of holding ARRL Field Day with a focus on learning about the hobby and providing education with hands on building projects from group mentors such as building a Spider antenna, learning how to solder a PL259 to coax, and how to install a crimp PL259. The group operated two SSB and one FT8 stations. W5UE was the visiting ARRL Rep.

In West Point, the Magnolia ARC and Lowndes County ARC joined for Field Day at Mary Holmes College with a single station setup. Like George County they had more of a social aspect for the day and only operated on Saturday this year. Several local government entities issued proclamations in June.

The Central MS ARA operated from the Rankin County EOC in Brandon where they had a couple of camper operating stations setup. They used K5XU as their callsign for the event. The call belongs to Mike K5XU, who was their CW operator. KI5WQT was On-the-Air as the GOTA station.

K0UPW reports further that Rankin County loaned CMARA a 35KW generator except when they picked the generator up the propane tank was almost empty. They ran it until it went dry and then swapped it for a diesel generator. It also had a problem with a switch that kept kicking out so it wouldn't run the A/C in the campers, so it got rather warm in there. But CMARA made it through Field Day with flying colors with well over 1,000 contacts running 3F which beat last year when they were running 4F.

WJTV came and did a report at the event that aired after the event was over. And lastly CMARA did eat well. There were plenty of grilled hamburgers and some very tasty brats with all the trimmings.

Stone County ARES operated Field Day from the EOC in Wiggins hosted by EMA Director KI5SNQ. Mike was delayed in getting to operate because he was in charge of cooking the burgers. The EOC was visited by local 4-H ers who wanted to find out about Ham Radio. AG5Z was the ARRL visiting rep.

The Meridian ARC operated from O'Charley's parking lot in Meridian. After some experimenting and on-the-air operation they determined that vertical antennas were the way to go this year, having well outperformed the long wires. They had media coverage from WTOK at their event.

The Vicksburg ARC operated from the old Passenger Terminal (remember Republic and Southern Airways) at the Vicksburg Airport. FD Chairman N5JGK reports that having minimal traffic at the airport allowed VARC the run of the place with all kinds of opportunities to put up antennas.

In Desoto County, Chairman K9DSS coordinated a joint Field Day with the Olive Branch ARC and the Chickasaw ARA at Hernando Point Campground. The club members along with many friends of the club had a great time setting up equipment and sharing the bands. Saturday Breakfast was biscuits and sausage gravy then Dinner was chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs and all kinds of fixins. When Field Day started the radios were nonstop with the exception of breaks escaping the heat.

In Oxford, KC5LEO reports that the UMARC setup operations at mTrade Park (a soccer, baseball, and softball facility), and they borrowed the Lafayette County Joint Mobile Command Unit (it's a huge truck with a disaster operations center in the back). They operated three stations and had a great time setting up antennas and making contacts. Their chef for the weekend was KI5WMM, who served fried catfish, hush puppies, French fries, and cole slaw for lunch. Dinner was pulled pork BBQ and smoked chicken wings. Delicious! Just like the Grove on Saturdays in the fall, UMARC makes sure all are welcome and well fed. Come join us next year!

Southwest Mississippi ARES operated as W5WQ from the Brookhaven Parks and Recreation Center. N5ZNT says FD 2023 was AWESOME with turnout & participation. The club finally made their first Satellite contact thanks to their newest Rookie Ham N5RWM!

.... and in other news

The 245 logs received for the Mississippi QSO Party have been checked and double checked. Results are being emailed to those who submitted logs followed in August by certificates for the winners.

From KF8PD in DeSoto County: Come Join us for Amateur Radio 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](mailto:kf8pd@siscom.net).

KM5EMA has been off the air for some time. Thanks to newly appointed State RACES Officer K5FIT and with WM5A and WA5GYM helping out things are turning around. New 75- and 40-Meter Dipoles have been installed. Further, the damaged coax from the MEMA Headquarters Building to the dipoles on the remote tower will be replaced by MEMA. In addition, a new Yaesu FT DX 10 has been ordered by MEMA, Wow!

SEC KC5IMN advises that the 2023 MS ARES SET on August 12 will feature a land falling hurricane and recovery. It will be 12 hours in duration. The hours of operations have been updated to 430am through 430pm local time. Modes in use will be VHF/UHF repeaters (for inland for support as well as using the Brandmeister DMR Talk-groups for Mississippi). Coordination will always be on statewide DMR, NBEMS, the MSPN 75-, 60-, and 40-meter nets. The SET will be in three phases: Pre-landfall preps, Landfall, and Recovery.

There will also be MS ARES leader directed tasks. In addition, each operating region will have to notify a served agency POC and deliver traffic/messaging, and someone will have to use alternative radio devices to conduct emergency communications on behalf of emergency traffic handling.

KC5IMN needs volunteers to help write and proof the operations and the script. The next planning meeting is at 8pm, 17 July 2023. Contact [kc5imn@arrl.net](mailto:kc5imn@arrl.net) for more info.

VOTA is half over. Only six more months to run up a big score.! As of July 1, the top 10 in Mississippi were N5YT, WQ5L, WD5CCA, K9DSS, AE5MI, W5YD, N4OGW, KD5BS, KF5IZ, K5TRP. Don't let these folks run away with all of the honors. Get on the air!

Regret to report the passing of KA5PSG of Meridian. Buck was a was a veteran navigator flying F4 Jets in the Air National Guard where he retired as a Colonel. He trained to become a Trooper with the Mississippi Highway Patrol and continued with his law enforcement career retiring as an Agent with the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics serving as their helicopter pilot. In his spare

time, he enjoyed checking into the MSPN and sailing with his family and friends. He also enjoyed spending time with his pilot friends at Meridian Aviation and Wednesday nights over a meal at the Western Sizzler.

In EC Reports from around the State ...

N5UDK reports from Stone County that thanks to N6PJW's help, ARES now has a DMR hotspot and radio that will be used as needed during activation.

W5VMS reports from Warren County that several members reported extended power outages for a number of days resulting in lower-than-normal operating activities. However, during the recent Civil Air Patrol Mississippi Wing encampment W5VMS (under a different callsign, of course) probably spent more time on the radio than the rest of the year combined. Maybe it all balances out?

From KI5SAG in Winston County the ARES Group met June 20th and trained on traffic messages to be sent for the upcoming SET and what their roles would be. On June 1st KI5SAG spoke on the role of EMCOMM to a Ham Radio class alongside the Delta Amateur Radio Club in Ludlow, MS

From KB5SZK in Lauderdale County they are working on getting the tower in place for the repeater in Clarke County. Field day was a learning experience for all. They learned the importance of properly installed antennas and will practice on deployment more often.

From KD4VVZ in George/Greene Counties they had a great meeting in June going over ARES qualifications and items of ARES structure and functions. They are also looking forward to and preparing for the upcoming Scratching Post Event in the fall.

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

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- SET Planning Meeting, July 17, 8PM, POC: kc5imn@arrl.net
- EMCOMM Checkin on 3862, 6:00 PM, Aug 3 (1st Thursday Each Month)
- SET, August 12, POC: KC5IMN
- 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
- Capital City Hamfest, Feb 2-3, Trade Mart, Jackson, POC: AK5J

HEADS UP! Note that the Jackson County Hamfest and the Capital City Hamfest have changed dates. The Jackson County Hamfest has traditionally been the second weekend in November and now is September 16 for this year. The Capital City Hamfest has traditionally been the last full weekend in January and now is February 2-3 this year.

Welcome to the following new Amateurs in Mississippi in June: KJ5BIP, Aaron – Florence; KJ5BJD, Larry – Louisville; KI5BJI, James – Perkinston; KJ5BJW, Mark – McComb;

KJ5BKM, Robert – Tutwiler; KJ5BNG, Harry – Philadelphia; KJ5BNO, Thomas - 0vett;  
KJ5BOM, Dustin – Tupelo; KJ5BSB, Robert – Lucedale; KJ5BSF, George – Florence.

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 June 2023: KJ5AHX, Gregory - Saltillo;  
KJ4AVV, Howard – Saucier; KI5FCB, Johnny – Biloxi; AI5LH, Douglas – Byhalia.

ARRL Membership in Mississippi was 1,002 as of July 1. Keep Membership above 1,000!

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 AG5FG as AEC in DeSoto County.

Congratulations to the following on their upgrades in June: KJ5AUR, Mark – Ocean Springs;  
KJ5AYJ, Thomas – Oxford; KJ5BCV, Robert - Oxford; KJ5BCY, Timothy – Hattiesburg;  
KI5ERG, Romey – Myrtle; N5MSU, Joseph – Starkville; N5NUE, Nancy – Starkville; KI5OCB,  
Christopher – Olive Branch; KD4PJN, Daniel – Nesbit; KI5WMM, Jeff – Oxford; KI5ZIO,  
George – Carriere;

SEC/DEC Reports for June 2023: KC5IMN (SEC), KD4VVZ (Gulf Coast), N5ZNT (SW MS),  
KB0ZTX (NW MS)

EC Reports for June 2023: AE5FK (Walthall), NI5I (Perry), KA5ICO (Chickasaw), N5MIS  
(Pontotoc), AG5ND (Oktibbeha), AG5RI (Harrison), KI5SAG (Winston), KG5SQZ (Hinds),  
KB5SZJ (Lauderdale), N5UDK (Stone), W5VMS (Warren/Claiborne), KD4VVZ  
(George/Greene), KF5WVJ (DeSoto), N5ZNT (Lincoln), KB0ZTX (Marshall)

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

Note: The legend for the following net reports is number of sessions held/checkins/formal  
traffic.

HF Net Reports

Magnolia Section Net 30/1163/9 (KA5ICO)

MS Baptist Hams Net 3/12/0 (WF5F)

MSPN 30/1676/5 (W5JGW) (bad news conditions in June)

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

Capital Area EM Net 4/48/0 (K5XU)

Central Mississippi ARES Training Net 4/111/1 (KG5SQZ) 1 Emergency Operation

Chickasaw / Calhoun ARES Net 4/59/0 (KA5ICO)

DeSoto County Training and Information 4/60/0 (KF5WVJ)

George County ARES 4/49/0 (KF5TJO)

Harrison County ARES 1/3/0 (AG5RI) 2 Emergency Operations

Jackson ARC Em Net 3/37/0 (K5XU)

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

Mississippi Coast ARA 4/126/0 (W5JGW)

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

MSU ARC Net 4/73/0 (K4MAG)

Northeast Mississippi Skywarn 4/52/0 (W5BAQ)

Oktibbeha County ARES 4/18/0 (AG5ND)

Pontotoc ARES Skywarn WX Net 5/69/0 (N5MIS)

Southwest MS ARES Team 7/36/1 (N5ZNT) 1 Skywarn Operation

Stone County ARES 2/24/0 (N5UDK) 6 Skywarn Operations

Vicksburg ARC/MLEN 4/70/0 (KG5YEE)

Walthall County ARES Net 5/58/0 (AE5FK)

## Digital Net Reports

Central Mississippi ARES Digital Net 4/24/23 (KI5JCL)  
(2 VHF nets and 2 HF nets)

Traffic: WV5Q 54 and W5XX 2

PSHR: WV5Q 114 and W5XX 71