

# Mississippi Section Report for May 2023

SM: Malcolm Keown, W5XX. Section Website at [www.arrlmiss.org](http://www.arrlmiss.org). Webmaster: W5UE, ASM: KB5HC, KA5ICO, K0UPW, W4WLF, KB5YEE, AG5Z, KB0ZTX; ACC: W5VMS, PIC: K5RFL, SEC: KC5IMN, ASEC: AA1NA, W5DIX; SGL: AK5J; TC: N5JGK.

The 20th MSQP is now history. The 245 logs submitted have been checked. 83 Mississippi Stations were on the air in 56 of Mississippi's 82 counties. Here are the initial results:

Single Op Fixed (Top Ten): N5YT, W5XX, AD5IT, NA5DX, WQ5L, W1AW/5 (N5CW op), KD4VVZ, KG5PBJ, KG5AZL, N5PA

Single Op Portable: W4XK, N5N (op W5UE), KZ5DX (Op K2FF), WQ5L, W9NG, AB6Z

Multi Op Fixed: W5YD, K4FMH,

Multi Op Portable: W5SGL, N5OS

Single Op Mobile: K5OMC, K5RFL, KD5BS

Most MS Counties Worked (Top Ten): KG5PBJ (35), W5YD (32), K4FMH (27), N5JGK (25), W5XX (23), W5ORC (21), AD5IT (14), K5YVY (14), NA5DX (14), N5YT (14), W5SGL (14)

Interest in FT4/FT8/RTTY continues to increase. Of the 41 Mississippi logs submitted 17 operated digital and 7 were digital only.

Thanks to AG5Z, N5NA, K2FF, and W5UE for helping to make the QSO Party a success.

In April 2022, the ARRL NTS 2.0 Steering Committee was organized to survey the current state of the National Traffic System (NTS) and to help it evolve and grow. After several meetings, the Committee broke the tasks at hand down to five areas of focus: Recruiting and Training, EMCOMM, Performance Standards and Assessment, Access and Delivery, and NTS-2.0 Digital. A major problem was that ICS-213 did not cross over to the standard ARRL Radiogram format that most Hams are familiar with. Looking at the forms there are 10 fields on the ICS-213, but very few are the same as the Radiogram form.

WV5Q volunteered to be a member of the NTS-2.0 Digital subgroup. With the major problem identified, Don volunteered to develop a form that would embed the ICS-213 into the standard Radiogram. This work assignment was completed, reviewed, and accepted. This is a major event and will have a long-term impact on how message traffic is handled.

Congratulations and a pat on the back for Don on his significant effort. The July QST (pp 64-65) has information on the progress of the NTS 2.0 working groups with a link to a new ARRL NTS-2.0 web page where everyone will be able to download the Hybrid Radiogram forms which are PDF Fillable.

From NA5DX in Saucier the Magnolia DX Association conducted a Parks on the Air (POTA) activation from the Big Biloxi Campground in the De Soto National Forest (Park K-4494) using club call W5NO and logging a total of 208 contacts. They made contacts with stations in 26 states and 12 DXCC entities outside the continental United States, including Alaska, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, European Russia, France, Italy, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Slovak Republic, Spain, and Switzerland. Operators making contacts were AE5MU, K5IJ, KB5HC, N5GD, NA5DX, W5DAW, W5XMD, WG5GK, and WQ5L. Last, but not least, the camaraderie and the food were excellent! (See photo on [www.arrlmiss.org](http://www.arrlmiss.org))

VOTA is rolling into its sixth month. Thus far 211 Mississippi stations have uploaded to LOTW. Mississippi Leaders (as of June 1) are N5YT, WQ5L, WD5CCA, K9DSS, AE5MI, N4OGW, K5ATP, N5CW, W5YD, and K5XU. Updates can be accessed on [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org) by typing into the search engine 'VOTA', then New Event Scoreboard, and then Leaderboard. There are still over six months to go. See the January QST for details. Get on the Air! Get in the race!

For your reference the listing of Mississippi VE Test dates for 2023 is on [www.arrlmiss.org](http://www.arrlmiss.org). Please forward any corrections or additions to [w5xx@arrl.org](mailto:w5xx@arrl.org).

Do you like Ham Radio Maps? Here is a new one at [haminfo.tetranz.com/map](http://haminfo.tetranz.com/map) where you can find out what grid you are in, what Hams live in your area, or see a plan view of buildings in your area. Or wander endlessly from grid to grid to see what you can see. This is a good place to waste a lot of time, if you are a map lover.

In EC Reports from around the State ...

From KB5SZJ in Lauderdale County. The repeater for Clarke County has been given to Gary Smith to be put in service just north of Quitman. It will be tested at this site for a few weeks and then announced open to the public for use. Our next test session is coming up in July, the exact date and location on the ARRL website.

From W5VMS in Warren County:

5/2/2023: W5VMS participated in monthly Regional Emergency Communications Coordination Working Group teleconference.

5/3/2023: Conversation with State Wireless Commission regarding AUXCOMM training opportunities later this fall; more details possibly later.

5/4/2023: K5ZRO (KG5OVR) checked in as Warren Co. EOC; W5VMS checked in as Warren Co. EC; KG5YEE checked in as Warren Co. AEC; all on MSPN May EMCOMM Net. (Audio terrible, HF almost unusable at Warren County EOC).

5/9/2023 and 5/12/2023: W5VMS attended final planning and coordination meetings for Chillin' in the Hills (Grace Christian Counseling Center) race.

5/13/2023: Community Service Event - Grace Christian Counseling Center Chillin' in the Hills 5K run/walk. Thirteen members of the Vicksburg Amateur Radio Club provided emergency communication support for the event.

5/13/2023: Successfully demonstrated proof-of-concept that FRS radios can be used to expand communication footprint. Radios were given to AmeriCorps volunteers at communication gaps along the Chillin' in the Hills race route. In actuality, the FRS radios communicating in UHF simplex sounded much better than 2m VHF over a repeater. VARC technical working group determined that in this situation UHF was better suited to the task (this conclusion was NOT based on any scientific study). Lesson learned would be that not all amateur radio bands/frequencies will work in all situations; need to evaluate each case independently.

From AG5RI in Harrison County: We spent training time doing some reorganization of the team and preparing for the 2023 Hurricane Season.

From N5UDK in Stone County: Getting ready for Field Day. We are inviting our local 4-H group for on-the-air demos.

From AG5ND in Oktibbeha County: Our ARES group gatherings are mostly informal, due to our small number of people. We gather for a monthly Magnolia ARC meeting and cover ARES topics in that meeting, In May the W5YD weekly net added a section just for Oktibbeha County ARES members to check in, and over those 5 Mondays, the NCS logged in 11 ARES checkins. More than that checked in during the call for Oktibbeha County ARES members, but I am excluding the checkins that are not actually call signs who raised their hands and volunteered to be part of the ARES group. Some checkins are ARES from out of our county. These "non-local-ARES" folks will probably be some of the ones who will respond when we have an emergency that requires our skills, just as we would respond for them, but I'm only counting the three call signs who raised their hands and said, 'I'll do it'.

From NI5I in Perry County: On May 30 I had a meeting with the Perry County Emergency Management Director for about an hour. Discussed his needs and started planning to install a station in the county EOC.

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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- Field Day, June 24-25, see June 2023 QST for announcement.
- EMCOMM Checkin on 3862, 6:00 PM, July 6 (1st Thursday Each Month)
- SET, August 12, POC: KC5IMN
- 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

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

Welcome to the following new Amateurs in Mississippi in May: KJ5AXS, Brian – Foxworth; KJ5AYJ, Thomas – Oxford; KJ5AZL, Josh – Wiggins; KJ5AZN, Derrick - Gulfport; KJ5AZV, Lee – Eupora; KI5BCP, Gilbert – Tupelo; KJ5BBK, Jacob – Wiggins; KI5BCV, Robert – Oxford; KI5BCY, Timothy – Hattiesburg.

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 May 2023: KI5BXE, Larry – Brandon; K5EME, William – Columbia; KI5HKE, Reginald – Coila; KF5KYZ, James – Union; AA5MT, Tom – Starkville; N5RWM, Robert – Brookhaven; KI5SWH, Tim – Caledonia; KI5WZY, Steve – Ocean Springs; KI5YFH, Michael – Fulton; KI5YTQ, James – Lucedale.

No report from the ARRL this month on the Mississippi ARRL Membership. Looking at the list of new ARRL Members vs the number of lapsed ARRL members for May gives an estimate of 998. Thanks to all who help promote membership.

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.

Congratulations to the following on their upgrades in May: W3ACX, Ryan – Cascilla; KI5AHO, Jacob – Meridian; KJ5ANA, Gary – Itta Bena; KJ5APO, Randy – Bay St. Louis; KJ5AUR, Mark – Ocean Springs; KJ5AVV – Howard – Saucier; KJ5AXS, Brian – Foxworth; WD5BBQ, Michael – Southaven; KG5COO, Richard – Stonewall; K4EFW, Daniel – Quitman; WV5JAW, John – Gautier; KI5MCF, James – Byhalia; KE5MDF, Ron – Kosciusko; KI5REP, David – Natchez; KI5VGO, Ronald – Columbus; KI5VMV, Tara – Kosciusko; KI5YPN, David – Pearl; KI5ZYY, Bryant – Pass Christian.

Wow!! Eighteen upgrades in May. The Elmers and VE Teams have been hard at work!

SEC/DEC Reports for May 2023: KC5IMN (SEC), KB0ZTX (NW MS)

EC Reports for May 2023: AE5FK (Walthall), K5DGC (Newton), NI5I (Perry), KI5ICO (Chickasaw), N5MIS (Pontotoc), AG5ND (Oktibbeha), AG5RI (Harrison), K5RTW (Lee), KI5SAG (Winston), KG5SQZ (Hinds), KB5SZJ (Lauderdale), W5VMS (Warren/Claiborne), KF5WVJ (DeSoto), 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 31/1233/9 (KA5ICO)

MS Baptist Hams Net 2/4/0 (WF5F)

MSPN 31/2220/13 (W5JGW)

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

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

Chickasaw – Calhoun ARES Net 5/69/0 (KA5ICO)

DeSoto County Training and Information 5/57/0 (KF5WVJ)

Harrison County ARES 1/4/0 (AG5RI)

Lowndes County ARC Net 5/53/0 (K5TCO)

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

Mississippi Coast ARA 4/124/0 (W5JGW)

Meridian ARC EM Net 4/24/0 (KB5SZJ)

MSU ARC Net 5/102/0 (K4MAG)

Northeast Mississippi Skywarn 5/57/0 (W5BAQ) 4 Skywarn Nets

Oktibbeha County ARES 5/14/0 (AG5ND)

Pontotoc ARES Skywarn WX Net 4/53/2 (N5MIS)

Stone County ARES 2/24/0 (N5UDK)

Vicksburg ARC/MLEN 4/81/0 (KG5YEE) 1 Skywarn Net, 3 Community Service Nets

Walthall County ARES Net 2/25/0 (AE5FK)

### Digital Net Reports

Central Mississippi ARES Digital Net 4/30/28 (KI5JCL)  
(2 VHF nets and 2 HF nets)

Traffic: WV5Q 68 and W5XX 8

PSHR: WV5Q 128 and W5XX 77