

## Mississippi Section Report for October 2022

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W5UE, ASM: KA5ICO, N5OMK, K0UPW, W4WLF, KB5YEE, AG5Z, KBOZTX; ACC:  
W5VMS, PIC: K5RFL, SEC: KC5IMN, ASEC: AA1NA, W5DIX; SGL: AK5J; TC:  
N5JGK.

The 2022 ARRL Day in the Park is back on our yearly agenda. After two years of not being able to have the event due to Covid, due to the efforts of K5BAK and the Magnolia, Lowndes County, and Sundancer Clubs, the event was held at McKee Park in Starkville on October 15. There was plenty of fellowship and good food with the highlight being the presentation of a commemorative plaque to Martin K5FLU recognizing his innovative efforts in behalf of the Ham community over the past 50 years.

Is your club meeting full of olde buzzards who sit around all day in their easy chair waiting for somebody to kerchunk the local repeater or you're having listen to some Old Timer who tells you every meeting about how he worked England in 1958 on 20 meters with 10 watts AM? K3VSA has some great ideas on how to improve your club meetings and for community outreach. See his reprint from the September ARRL Club News at the end of this newsletter.

Last chance for your club to receive a 2023 ARRL Handbook for a door prize at one of your next year's meetings. All Mississippi ARRL Affiliated Clubs that have a current Club Record as of December 1 can look for a Handbook in their mailbox.

Project Chairman KG5YEE reports that the Vicksburg Amateur Radio Club had a busy month. On October 1 they provided radio communications for the annual Bricks and Spokes bicycle ride. The ride is sponsored by the Vicksburg Main Street organization, which offers a choice of bike rides, ranging from 10 miles to 62 miles. Beginning in downtown Vicksburg, crossing the Mississippi River bridge into the rural areas of Louisiana, back across the bridge and potentially through the Military Park, ending back in downtown Vicksburg. Radio operators stationed along the routes were: WB5YKM, KC5GHU, KK5ED, W5VMS, KG5OVR, KG5YEE, K5IMT, K5VXV, W5SFL, while KD5DHR rode his bike with his HT.

The following Saturday, October 8, radio operators stationed themselves across the Mississippi River Bridge for the 34th annual Over the River Run. The annual event is a fund raiser for the Southern Cultural Heritage Foundation and is very popular in attracting walkers and runners across the region. Those participating were: KG5YEE, KG5OVR, K5IMT, WB5YKM, W5VMS, N5KWT, N5JGK, W5WAF, while KD5DHR walked the 5 miles carrying his HT. Two beautiful weather weekends made these events a pleasure to participate in.

ACC W5VMS requests that Clubs forward him information on their 2023 Club Officers and to update officers on their ARRL Club Record.

Still having password problems with the overhauled ARRL website? Contact Member Services at 1-860-594-0200. They are eager to help and can fix it quick!

From EC Monthly Reports from around the state ...

From Hinds County EC KG5SQZ tells us that K4UNK, a director at large for Central MS ARES, has installed, activated and tested a VHF Winlink Gateway for Central MS ARES. While there are a couple of bugs to work out, the system holds a lot of promise for our group. Further, a new repeater, owned by Johnny,

W5PFR, was installed and is being tested. The repeater is capable of Analog, Fusion, and DMR. More information will be provided once testing and evaluation are complete

From Carroll County EC KF5IAY reports that ARES had a booth at the Carrollton pilgrimage on the first Saturday in October.

From Lauderdale County EC KB5SZJ reports their test session went well.

Charlie is glad to say they have two new Hams and one upgrade. They have a General Class planned for Nov. 12 and another test session planned for Nov. 19. Both will be held at the Emergency services building at 2525 14th Street in Meridian.

From DeSoto County EC KF5WVJ reports he was able to obtain free Basic First Aid certification training for 15 of their ARES members provided by Matt Fitch a Firefighter/ EMS County Employee from the Bridgetown Community Fire Department. Further, ARES/ EMA Reservists were invited to set up their Comm Trailer at the Bridgetown Volunteer Fire station for their open house and neighborhood fire safety day on October 22 from 9am till 1pm. Attending were KF5WVJ, KI5HWA, KD5BS, KF5KVL, AG5FG, KG5TTU, KF5MMR and KC5BNM. All though the attendance was low, they had one teenager who was really interest in Ham Radio and was able to make a contact with a station in West Virginia using the ARES Yaseu FT-897 with a front bumper mounted screwdriver antenna, with the assistance of KF5HWA at the controls. They carried on a good 10-minute conversation and the teen left even more interested in Amateur Radio. May not be able to reach them all, however, one left interested.

From Pontotoc County EC N5MIS reports that ARES Skywarn net had four regular sessions and one short activation for a tornado warning in the area. There were no damages reported although some hail and strong winds and a whole lot of lightning were reported.

From Jackson County EC K9EYZ reports that ARES has been working on establishing 2m digital communications using Vara FM and NBEMS. They have established a local Winlink Gateway, local 2m BBS, packet digipeater, Vara FM digipeaters, HF Winlink Gateway, and HF BBS.

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, 6PM, December 1 (1st Thursday Each Month)
- New Year's Eve On-the- Air Party, POC: W5XX
- Capital City Hamfest. Jan 28-29, Trade Mart, POC: ak5j@arrl.net
- 2023 Mississippi QSO Party, April 1-2, 2023, POC: W5XX
- April Fool's Hamfest, April 1-2, Corinth, POC: WB5CON
- Field Day, June 24-25, see June 2023 QST for announcement

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 October: KI5YII, Hailey – Perkinston; KI5YJN, David – Meridian; KI5YKB, Charles – DeKalb; KI5YKK, Katherine – Hernando; KI5YNG, Don – West Point; KI5YNY, Amy – Nesbit; KI5YOI, Jacob – Hattiesburg; KI5YPC, Geanetta

- Ridgeland; KI5YPF, John – Laurel; KI5YPI, Mark – Ocean Springs; KI5YIP, Michael – Pascagoula; and KI5JTR, Christopher – Wiggins.

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 them if they need help getting on the air.

Welcome to KI5JEE from Louisville as AEC for Winston County.

Welcome to the following new ARRL members in October: K5BUG, Jay – Cleveland; KB5CDM, Larry – Pearl; KF5ISR, David- Clinton; K5JBG, James – Southaven; KI5PCF, Cynthia – Corinth; KF5TNS, Eddie – Jackson; KG5VBP, Herbert – Brandon; W5XTX, Robert – Como; and KC5YNL, Nancy – Summit.

The ARRL Membership in Mississippi as of November 1 is 993, up from 4 from October 1. Remember, if a new member signs up through a club, the club gets a rebate of \$15 for new members and \$5 for a current member renewal.

Congratulations to the following on their upgrades: KI5HCM, Earle – Collinsville; KE5PYL, Charles – Vicksburg; KI5TDZ, Dane – Ocean Springs, KI5WQT, Donna – Brandon; and KI5YPH, Michael – Fulton.

Regret to report the passing of: N4FF of Hattiesburg. Ike was an active member of Oak Grove Methodist Church and Gideon's International. Ike loved chasing DX and was one of the founding members of the 599 DX Association.

KG5AVJ of Hernando. James was a past Security Guard at Baptist Memorial and worked for many years in the oil fields. He was a member of Desoto County ARES and the Chickasaw and Olive Branch ARCS.

SEC/DEC Reports for October 2022: KC5IMN (SEC), and KB0ZTX (NW MS).

EC Reports for October 2022: K9EYZ (Jackson), AE5FK (Walthall), KF5IAY (Carroll), KA5ICO (Chickasaw), N5MIS (Pontotoc), KG5SQZ (Hinds), KB5SZJ (Lauderdale), KG5TTU (Tate), N5UDK (Stone), KF5WVJ (DeSoto). KB5ZEA (Attala), and KB0ZTX (Marshall).

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

HF Net Reports

Magnolia Section Net 31/1174/5 (KA5ICO)

MS Baptist Hams Net 2/6/0 (WF5F)

MSPN 31/2568/14 (W5JGW)

PBARC 10M Net 5/35/0 (KD5XG)

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

Capital Area EM Net 5/46/0 (K5XU)

Central Mississippi ARES Training Net 5/130/0 – joint net count (KG5SQZ)

Delta ARA EM Net ?/185/0 (KF5IAY)  
DeSoto County Training and Information 5/71/0 (KF5WVJ)  
Jackson Area EM Net 3/28/0 (K5XU)  
Jackson County ARES 4/69/0 (K9EYZ)  
Lowndes County ARC 4/51/0 (K5TCO)  
Marshall County 4/4/0 (KB0ZTX) - Trains with DeSoto ARA Net  
Meridian ARC Em Net ?/30/0 (KB5SZJ)  
Mississippi Coast ARA 4/119/0 (W5JGW)  
Mississippi State ARC 5/128/0 (K4MAG)  
Northeast Mississippi Skywarn 5/57/0 (W5BAQ)  
PBARC 2M Net 5/62/3 (KD5XG)  
PBARC 2M Simplex Net 1/6/0 (KD5XG)  
Pontotoc County ARES 4/45/1 (N5MIS)  
Stone County ARES 2/20/0 (N5UDK)  
Sundancer Solar ARES Net 5/71/0 (KA5ICO)  
Tate County ARES 5/71/0 (KG5TTU)  
Vicksburg ARC/MLEN 7/119/0 (KG5YEE)  
Walthall County ARES 4/62/0 (AE5FK)

#### Digital Net Reports

Central Mississippi ARES Digital Net 5/30/18 (KI5JCL)

Traffic: WV5Q 60 and W5XX 10

PSHR: WV5Q 120 and W5XX 80

#### Suggestions for Clubs by K3VSA

1. Offer a free year's membership to newly licensed hams, especially if they are kids. But they must show up in person to a club meeting in order to qualify. If they attend a meeting, make sure a mature member is tasked with making them feel welcome and helping them determine what they need to become radioactive. If for some reason they never come back, it will have cost the club nothing but the time it took to process their membership form. But if they do decide not to come back, you need to find out why.
2. There's no need to keep all of your print editions of QST now that you can access them online. So, keep some of them in your car, and when you visit the doctor, barber shop, auto repair place, etc., leave them with all of the other magazines provided at each business for others to browse them while they wait. You should probably use a marker to cross out the name and address, as you would not want to advertise that the addressee has valuable electronics gear at that residence. Better yet, get some Avery® labels to cover up that information. I suggest printing your club's information on the label, such as: "Compliments of the Podunk Valley Amateur Radio Society ([www.podunkars.org](http://www.podunkars.org)). We meet every third

Tuesday at 7:30 PM at the Podunk Rescue Squad Headquarters Building, 101 Main St. Visitors are always welcome!"

3. If your club conducts test sessions, make sure it has a promotional brochure that talks about the organization. Make sure new licensees are made aware of the free membership offer and the assistance you provide to help them get on the air. Most important: when they show up, smile!

-- Raymond "Woody" Woodward, K3VSA (AD, RK), an ARRL-trained Public Information Officer