Mississippi Section Report for September 2023

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Thanks to the Jackson County ARA for hosting another great Hamfest at the St. Martins Community Center in Ocean Springs. This event was moved from last year in mid-November to Mid-September this year. Club President WG5GK notes that this looks like a good move in that the flea market tables were sold out. Seminars were presented by W5DDX on setting up your first station, WG5GK on Introduction to WL2K, WF5W on operating POTA, and N2PKW on resonant antennas. Big prize winners were W4NNF, W5LAC and AD4IV.

JARC Club President AK5J reports that Hams from the Jackson Amateur Radio Club provided communications for the annual Walk for Diabetes in Jackson sponsored by the Diabetes Foundation of Mississippi. Hams were placed at all rest stops and reported on the status of the walk to net control and the Director of the event. The Hams were able to help race officials with any reported problems and with ordering supplies for the rest stops. The Director of the Diabetes Foundation was very appreciative of the help provided and stated that the hams always looked after the safety of the walkers. Hams participating were K5XU, K5KKD, K5CID, N5KLT and AK5J.

Want to learn how to handle traffic in ARRL Format? MSPN Net Manager W5JGW is making arrangements to hold a tutorial after the MSPN to cover this topic. Every Ham needs to be familiar with traffic handling. Stand By for more info.

From the Mississippi Coast ARA 'Spatter' Editor N5OCT: Don't' have HF? Poor Conditions? Go to WebSDR at EM84an (lumpkinschools.com) to listen to the Mississippi Section Phone Net on 3862.0 KHz or go to an alternate website na5b.com in Washington DC. These are great sites if you are stuck somewhere and don't have a radio to listen to.

Are you a teenage Ham looking for a dream rig? The Intrepid-DX Group recognizes the importance of including Youth in our great hobby because they are our future! They are continuing their annual 'Dream Rig' Youth Essay Contest to gather the views and ideas of young people involved in Amateur Radio. What are the prizes .. First prize an ICOM IC-7300, second an ICOM ID51090 dual band radio with D-Star, third prize an ICOM ID52A dual band handy talkie with D-Star. The requirement is submission of a two-page essay on what attracted you to Ham Radio. Deadline for submission is November 30. Specific details are available via email from intrepiddxgroup@gmail.com

N5CW reports from Hattiesburg that each year the Pine Belt Amateur Radio Club operates a special Event Station in support of the USM POW WOW event. The call sign will be W0W. This year the POW WOW will be held on the USM campus on November 18th. Operating using W0W may be done by any licensed amateur from November 11 – November 18 from their own home station.

In order to keep order for operating and FCC compliance, operators are required to contact either W5UE, AG5Z or N5CW to gain access to the operator sign up page. An access link will be sent to requesting operators. Operators may sign up in one hour time slots.

The special QSL card will carry a special theme highlighting a contribution of Native Americans. This theme is determined and directed by USM Intertribal Affairs. Past events have highlighted Code Talkers, stickball competition, drums, others. This year will be on the building of Palmetto huts. N5CW will respond to all QSL requests with a special card, carrying the theme of the event.

The operating period will begin November 11 and run through November 18 2359z. Any and all modes may be operated.

On November 18, on the grounds of the POW WOW, a special event station will be set up for operation. All amateur operators are requested and encouraged to come operate the event station as the POW WOW. The station will operate SSB for the benefit of those observing.

Only three more months left for VOTA. Time to get on the air and make some points. As of October 1, the top 10 in Mississippi were: N5YT, WQ5L, W5XX, WD5CCA, K5TLL, N4OGW, AE5MI, KD5BS, K9DDS, W5YD. The current leader board is on the ARRL Website. Start to locate it by typing in VOTA in the ARRL website search engine box.

In EC Reports from around the State ...

From DEC/EC in Warren/Claiborne Counties: KG5OVR, KG5YEE and W5VMS attempted to check into the Monthly EMCOMM checkin from K5ZRO at the EOC in the Warren County Courthouse; however, terrible static interference made any radio communication impossible. Both KG5OVR and the Section Technical Coordinator, N5JGK, checked the radio, antenna, and feedline the day before and everything was good. Just one of those radio gremlins. W5VMS completed the Inland Search and Rescue (SAR) Planning Course at the National SAR School in Yorktown, Virginia.

From N5MIS in Pontotoc County: Joe visited with others having a POTA event at Trace State Park in Pontotoc. There was a good turn out and a good time was had by all.

From N5AAS in Forrest County: local ARES members are beginning to gear up for fall race assistance. They have two upcoming events 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, Nov 2 (1st Thursday Each Month)

- AFMARS 75th Anniversary, Nov 5-11, POC: KD5SBP
- W0W Special Event Station, Nov 13-18, USM, POC: N5CW
- 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 September: KJ5CNY, Morgan – Gulfport; KJ5CPN, Elmer – Lucedale; KJ5CRG, Olivia – Starkville; KJ5CRQ, John – Olive Branch; KJ5CRT, Donald – Oxford; KJ5CSU, Nancy – Belden.

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 September 2023: W5BAM, Barbara – Grenada; KJ5CNY, Morgan – Gulfport; KI5NYI, James - Meridian; KI5PCH, Sara – Water Valley; KG5TVR, Dennis – Purvis.

ARRL Membership in Mississippi was 997 as of October 1. Need three more!

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 September: KJ5AUD, Michael - Hernando; Oxford; N5NKD, Marsha - Brandon; KI5NYR, Sarah - Oxford; KF5OXW, Travis - Oxford; KI5PCH, Sara - Water Valley; KG5RRG, Jo - Carrollton; KG5RSA, Raymond - Water Valley; KJ7TBK, Savannah - Corinth; KI5TLW, Katelyn - Philadelphia.; KI5YIP, Michael - Pascagoula; K5KRZ, Bryant - Pass Christian; WB5YMO, Garey - Moss Point; KI5YTQ, James - Lucedale; KI5ZCW, Kenneth - Lumberton; KI5ZLP, Karey - Philadelphia.

WOW! A lot of studying has been going on with help by Elmers and VE Teams.

SEC/DEC Reports for September: KC5IMN (SEC), KF7DLW (SE MS), AG5ND (Golden Triangle), KD4VVZ (Gulf Coast), W5VMS (West Central MS), KB0ZTX (NW MS)

EC Reports for September: N5AAS (Forrest), K5DSC (Newton), AE5FK (Walthall), KF5IAY (Carroll), KA5ICO (Chickasaw), N5MIS (Pontotoc), AG5ND (Oktibbeha), KG5SQZ (Hinds), 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)

Regret to report the passing of K4SVX of Milton, Florida. Ken was a long-time regular check into the MSPN, a faithful attendee of the Jackson County Hamfest, and had many Ham friends in Mississippi. He was a dedicated educator, having taught in the Escambia County School System for 10 years and Pensacola State College for 30 years.

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

Magnolia Section Net 30/1281/18 (KA5ICO)

MS Baptist Hams Net 4/17/0 (WF5F) Sunday, 7263 at 4PM

MSPN 30/2402/9 (W5JGW)

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

Capital Area Em Net 4/47/0 (K5XU)

Central Mississippi ARES Training Net 4/89/0 (KG5SQZ)

Calhoun/Chickasaw ARES Net 4/58/0 (KA5ICO)

Delta Amateur Radio Net 22/211/0 (KF5IAY)

DeSoto County Training and Information 4/56/0 (KF5WVJ)

George/Green County ARES 4/52/0 (KF5TJO)

Jackson ARC Net 3/35/0 (K5XU)

Lowndes County ARC 4/46/0 (K5TCO)

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

Mississippi Coast ARA 4/112/0 (W5JGW)

Northeast Mississippi Skywarn 4/49/0 (W5BAQ)

Oktibbeha County ARES W5YD Weekly Net ?/17/0 (AG5ND)

Pontotoc ARES Skywarn WX Net 4/58/0 (N5MIS)

SE MS ARES Training Net ?/14/0 (N5AAS)

Vicksburg ARC/MLEN 4/83/0 (KG5YEE)

Walthall County ARES Net 4/49/0 (AE5FK)

Digital Net Reports

Central Mississippi ARES Digital Net 3/21/16 (KI5JCL) (2 VHF nets and 2 HF nets)

Traffic: WV5Q 67 and W5XX 8

PSHR: WV5Q 127 and W5XX 77