

Mississippi Section Report for December 2023

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Mississippi Hams welcomed in 2024 on 3862 with our annual New Year's Eve On-the-Air Party. Special guests ARRL President K5UR, Delta Division Director K5UZ, and Delta Division Vice Director WB4RHQ checked in and passed along New Year's greetings and updated current ARRL events. NCS W5XX reported 45 checkins with several more checkins by email. K5CUB and W5JGW provided commentary on major events in 2023. For those that couldn't make the On-the-Air Party, the commentary on 2023 Events is posted on www.arrlmiss.org.

From MSPN Manager W5JGW. The MSPN saw substantial growth in 2023 from the years 2021 and 2022. The year end checkin total was 28,637. This was an increase of 853 from 2022! The average daily check-in numbers were 78. As the Magnolia Net also set new highs for 2023, it's evident more Hams in the State of Mississippi and surrounding states are getting the word and participating more often. This provides Mississippi with great visibility when it comes to Ham Radio activity and will serve to improve our operational skills and increase participation in events like the SET, Field Day, and the MSQP. Many thanks to Net Controllers who sacrifice their time to ensure our Net is always there. Without our Net Controllers, we couldn't have a Net!

Net Manager KA5ICO reports that the Magnolia Section Net set a new record for total annual check-ins, in 2023 with a total of 14,412 averaging 39.5 per day! Bobby says the members of the Net are really responsible for the good report, of course, but the members continue to show up because of NCS consistency and good management of the sessions.

VOTA 2023 is now history. Operations concluded as the clock struck midnight on New Year's Eve. As of January 1, at 0000Z the top ten in Mississippi were N5YT, WQ5L, W5XX, K5TLL, N4OGW, WD5CCA, AE5MI, AH6SU, KD5BS. All updated listings must be in by January 15 after which the final standings will be posted. VOTA really made the bands light up with activity. As a sample data point, collectively during 2023 the top ten Mississippi Stations put 50,800 QSOs in the log! Nationwide the expected total QSOs will probably be in the millions. VOTA was a good way to protect our bands with a lot of activity. Dead bands are a prime place for frequency vultures to look for targets.

K1REZ reports that a new Ten-Ten Chapter is being organized now awaiting official approval. The Mississippi Ten-Ten Net is meeting on Wednesdays at 10 AM CST on 28,410 USB, More info from info@scottcountyar.org

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, 5:30 PM, Feb 1 (1st Thursday Each Month)
- Capital City Hamfest, Feb 2-3, Trade Mart, Jackson, POC: AK5J
- 2024 Mississippi QSO Party. April 6-7, POC: W5XX

In EC Reports from around the State ...

DEC/EC AG5ND reports from Starkville that five of six guys in Oktibbeha County have completed FEMA IS-100c. Number 6 is getting it done. We have started taking FEMA IS-700b. When those two courses are complete, we'll move on to ARRL EC-001. License class scheduled for January 2024

AEC KI5TRX from Hinds County reports extra unofficial nets were held on the 145.390 repeater to test signal strength and reception with Net Control Stations. Some NCS stations have difficulty reaching the 145.45 repeater but were able to reach the 145.390 and were readable. On Monday, December 9, 2023, Central MS ARES activated an emergency net in support of NWS for a severe weather event.

EC WX5RJ reports from Harrison County that ARES has published a 3 month training plan to ensure that all members rotate thru critical positions. AEC AE5MI has taken on additional NTS traffic handling responsibilities by regular checkins to DRN5 and the 7290 Traffic Net.

KF5WVJ reports that Desoto County ARES held their December Eating Meeting at a local restaurant and gave retiring DEC for NW MS KB0ZTX a great send off to retired life with many well wishes and thanks for service in Desoto County and NW MS. Ricky says that he certainly learned a lot from Ken over the years and thanks him for what he has taught NW MS ARES through training and experience. We all wish him many years to enjoy retired life in Oklahoma.

West Central MS DEC W5VMS reports he attended the National Emergency Services Academy-Southeast, Maxwell AFB, AL as CAP Operations Support Officer for the Ground Search and Rescue School.

Welcome to the following new Amateurs in Mississippi in December: KJ5DME, Steven – Summit; KJ5DNE, Arthur – Pascagoula; KJ5DOC, Don – Madison; KJ5DPQ, Richard – Brandon; KJ5DQG, Gerald – Vicksburg; KJ5DQX, Andrew – Edwards; KJ5DUF, Keith – Meridian.

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, if needed, and also ask if they need help getting on the air.

Welcome to the following new ARRL members in December 2023: KJ5CBB, Evan – Greenwood; KJ5CFY, Jay – Hernando; KI5F, Tim – Carthage; AD5OT, George – Starkville.

ARRL Membership in Mississippi was 986 as of January 1 down 4 from last month.

Welcome to KF8PD as ASM, KF5WVJ as DEC for Northwest Mississippi, and KJ5AUK as AEC for Marshall County.

Congratulations to the following on their upgrades in December: KJ5CXS, Nick – Brookhaven; KJ5DCB, Joseph – Gautier; K5DWN, Andrew – Pearl; AI5NW, Donald – Long Beach; KI5OFV, Eric – Vicksburg; WB5PL, Tomothy – Hattiesburg; KI5WDK, Jerry – Poplarville.

SEC/DEC Reports for December 2023: KC5IMN (SEC), KD4VVZ (Gulf Coast), and W5VMS (West Central MS) and KF5WVJ (MW MS).

EC Reports for December: N5AAS (Forrest), W4BBW (Marshall), K5DSC (Newton), AE5FK (Walthall), NI5I (Perry), KA5ICO (Chickasaw), AD7KJ (Franklin), N5MIS (Pontotoc), WX5RJ (Harrison), K5RTW (Lee), KI5SAG (Winston), KG5SQZ (Hinds), KB5SZJ (Lauderdale), K5TCO (Lowndes), W5VMS (Warren/Claiborne), KD4VVZ (George), KF5WVJ (DeSoto), AB6Z (Pearl River), and KB5ZEA (Attala).

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 31/1304/4 (KA5ICO)

MS Baptist Hams Net 4/20/0 (WF5F) Sunday, 7263 at 4PM

MSPN 31/2529/14 (W5JGW)

Pine Belt ARC 10M Net 4/38/0 K5TLL)

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

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

Central Mississippi ARES Training Net 6/77/0 (KI5TRX)

Calhoun/Chickasaw ARES Net 4/39/0 (KA5ICO)

DeSoto County Training and Information 4/59/0 (KF5WVJ)

Forrest County ARES 2/15/0 (N5AAS)

George County ARES 4/621/0 (KD4VVZ)

Harrison County ARES 4/12/0 (WX5RJ)

Jackson ARC Net 4/34/0 (K5XU)

Lowndes County ARC 4/43/0 (K5TCO)

Mississippi Coast ARA 4/114/0 (W5JGW)

Meridian ARC EM Net 4/22/0 (KB5SZJ)

Northeast Mississippi Skywarn 3/35/0 (W5BAQ)

Pearl River County ARES 4/48/0 (AB6Z)

Pine Belt ARC 2M Net 4/58/0 (K5TLL)

Pine Belt ARC 2M Simplex Net 1/12/0 (K5TLL)

Pontotoc ARES Skywarn WX Net 3/31/0 (N5MIS)

Vicksburg ARC/MLEN 5/101/0 (KG5YEE)

Walthall County ARES Net 4/52/0 (AE5FK)

W5YD ARES Net 4/12/0 (AG5ND)

Digital Net Reports

Central Mississippi ARES Digital Net 3/25/21 (KI5JCL)
(1 VHF net and 2 HF nets)

Traffic: WV5Q 62, AE5MI 4, and W5XX 3

PSHR: WV5Q 122 and W5XX 76