

Mississippi Section Report for November 2025

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***** On July 4, 2026, our nation will commemorate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The ARRL will support the 2026 yearlong celebration by sponsoring the Worked All States 250 Award (WAS250)(page 76 January QST). During the year W1AW portable will twice visit all 50 states. Mississippi's turn will be April 1-7, 2026, and November 18-24, 2026. W5UE will be coordinating the activity. This is your chance to be W1AW/5 from your home station.

Also, during 2026 the ARRL will be conducting the 'Year of the Club' recognizing that Clubs have traditionally been the backbone of Ham Radio (pages 9 and 70 January QST). Contests are being conducted for Best Club Website and Best News Letter (both contests have a suspense date of January 30, 2026 !!)

***** SEC KC5IMN advises that Mississippi ARES is transitioning from nine DEC districts to four. This decision was driven by the need to adapt to our changing demographics — specifically an aging volunteer base and a reduction in active personnel. By consolidating resources, ARES aims to:

Ensure Coverage: Provide support to counties that currently lack an assigned Emergency Coordinator.

Increase Efficiency: Streamline our command structure to operate more effectively with fewer personnel.

Foster Cooperation: Create operational overlaps that allows neighboring groups to support one another more easily.

The new districts are defined by major corridors (Hwy 82, I-20, and Hwy 84). While this is a significant change, it positions ARES to sustain its mission and support key personnel through better resource deployment and automation.

***** Central Mississippi ARES has been busy. Rankin County EC KJ5ET reports that two operations were conducted on October 3rd and 4th, This was a simultaneous coordination of resources. The first being a Rodeo that was held on Friday and Saturday evenings. The second event was a Youth CERT event conducted by The Department of Homeland Security.

Beginning Friday October 3, in the afternoon, ARES set up equipment to support radio communications for the Crossroads of Life 3rd Annual Rodeo. We had 11 radio operators on Friday evening providing communications to help ensure the safety of the spectators, vendors, and volunteers. Setup began around 1500L and lasted until the event concluded around 2200L.

Saturday morning October 4, four ARES volunteers participated in a Youth CERT event hosted by The Department of Homeland Security. DHS invited us to represent Amateur Radio and ARES to approximately 250 students, teachers, and parents. We were able to demonstrate the value of Amateur Radio in a disaster preparedness plan. The event was intended to recruit High School students to participate in CERT programs throughout the state.

Our participation in the event was a two-part effort. The second portion of our Youth CERT event was a live demonstration of Amateur Radio. We set up two radio stations, one HF station and one UHF/VHF station. Students were able to come by our tent and see Amateur Radio in action. They were also able to get on the air and communicate with other stations. The Youth CERT program lasted from 0700L until about 1400L. We hope that our efforts were of value to public safety in Mississippi. It is our goal to participate in this event next year should we get an invitation from DHS.

Later in the day October 4, thirteen radio operators conducted radio operations for the second night of the Crossroads of Life Rodeo. We began setting up the equipment that was taken down the previous evening at 1630L, and operations continued through 2200L. We had a lot of fun and enjoyed our time utilizing Amateur Radio to ensure the safety of everyone involved.

EC KJ5ET notes that this was a great learning experience to have two events held on the same weekend, but our ARES team members did a great job. With this experience we will be even more ready the next time we are called. I want to thank Crossroads of Life Church for the opportunity to practice our skills to become more efficient and participate in an event for Public Outreach.

***** From KG5YEE. Vicksburg ARC provided radio communications for the annual Reindeer Run 5K held in downtown Vicksburg. This was a fund raiser for the proposed Vicksburg Warren County Low Cost Spay and Neuter Clinic, hoping to be a reality mid-2026. This race is particularly enjoyable because many of the participants dress in holiday attire and run with their dogs decked out as well. The following operators were spread out in the streets of downtown Vicksburg, monitoring for safety as well as directing turns: KG5YEE, KG5OVR, N5ZNN, N5JGK, AF5OQ, KC5IBO, W5WAF, K5IMT, as well as W5VMS walking the route with his radio.

***** And lastly. Have you sent your support letter for S.459 and H.1094 to Senator Wicker and Senator Hyde-Smith and your Representative? HOAs can make your life miserable. Can you imagine having all of your antennas in your attic? Check the information in www.arrl.org/HOA and register your support.

Here are some upcoming events to put on your calendar:

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- New Years Eve Party, 3862, Dec 31, 11 PM, POC: W5XX
- No EMCOMM Checkin, Jan 1, New Years Day – Regular Net only.
- 2026 Capital City Hamfest, Jan 30-31, POC: AK5J
- Jackson County Hamfest, Mar 20-21, Ocean Springs, POC: N2PKW

- W1AW/5 on the air from Mississippi, Apr 1-7, POC: W5UE
- Mississippi QSO Party, Apr 4-5, POC: W5XX
- ARRL Field Day, June 26-27, see www.arrl.org
- W1AW/5 Second 2026 visit to Mississippi, Nov 18-24, POC: W5UE

..... and in EC Reports from around the state.

From KD5KMO in Chickasaw County. I am working to obtain contact information for local amateur operators in hopes of restarting our monthly club meetings.

From KD5SQZ in Hinds County. On November 15, instead of our usual third Saturday emergency setup, we held a point-to-point communications exercise based on the Wilderness Protocol. Participants contacted each other at preset times and frequencies during ten-minute intervals from any location using base or portable equipment. The scheduled times were 0900-0910, 0930-0940, 1000-1010, and 1030-1040. Four VHF frequencies plus one each on 40 and 20 meters were designated. Point-to-point contacts could use other frequencies, if arranged during the main contact.

The exercise was a big success involving twenty amateurs and contacts from Arizona, Michigan, Texas, and at least one Houston contact via Echo Link. The exercise helped operators practice using the Wilderness Protocol for emergency coordination.

Welcome to the following new Hams in Mississippi in November: KJ5NAW, Richard – Olive Branch; KJ5NDF, Christopher – Brookhaven; KJ5NGI, Robert- Starkville; KJ5NGP, Stewart – Biloxi; KJ5NHD, Conner – Gulfport; KJ5NHK, Elijah – Kosciusko; KJ5NIM, Anthony – Collinsville;

SEC/DEC/EC Reports: KC5IMN (SEC), K5DSC (Newton), AE5FK (Walthall), NI5I (Perry), KD5KMO (Chickasaw), N5LOK (Webster), AG5ND (North MS/Oktibbeha), W5OA (Alcorn), KG5SQZ (Hinds), K5TCO (Lowndes), KC5VCB (AEC)(Stone), KB5ZEA (Attala), W5VMS (Central MS/Warren/Claiborne), KF5WVJ (DeSoto).

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

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

Magnolia Section Net 30/1133/3 (KF5BA)

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

MSPN 30/2437/16 (W5JGW)

Pine Belt ARA 10M Net 4/31/0 (K5TLL)

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

Alcorn County ARES Net 3/30/0 (W5OA)

Bluff City EMCOMM Net 4/84/0 (WF5ES)

Capital Area Em Net 5/47/0 (K5XU)

Central MS ARES 8/158/0 (KD5SQZ)

Chickasaw County ARES 4/21/0 (KD5KMO)

DeSoto County Training and Information Net 4/45/0 (KF5WVJ)

Houston/Chickasaw/Calhoun County ARES Net 4/20/0 (KI5LKJ)

Jackson ARC Net 4/37/0 (K5XU)

Lowndes County ARES Net 4/47/0 (K5TCO)

Mississippi Coast ARC 4/105/0 (N5GQ)

NE MS WX Net 4/22/0 (W5BA Q)

Pine Belt ARC 2M Em Training Net 4/37/0 (K5TLL)

Pine Belt ARC 2M Simplex Net 4/5/0 (K5TLL)

Stone County ARES Net 3/22/0 (KC5VCB)

Vicksburg ARC/MLEN 5/86/0 (KG5YEE)

Walthall County ARES 3/36/0 (AE5FK)

W5YD Monday Night Net 4/15/0 (AG5ND)

Digital Net Reports

East MS EMCOMM Team 29/274/6 (K5TCO)

K5FIT WL2K Hybrid Gateway – 203 connections to pass traffic.

MS WL2K Net QNI 77 by 6 stations (K5FIT)

NE MS DMR Net – QNI 460 (KI5LKJ)

Traffic: AE5MI 53, WV5Q 19, W5XX 11

PSHR: AE5MI 130, WV5Q 89, W5XX 88

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