

Mississippi Section Report for September 2025

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There will be plenty of action for Mississippi Hams on October 18. Read on below.

**** From AK5J in Jackson: The 2025 ARRL Day in the Park will be held on Saturday, October 18, at the beautiful Lake Trace Park on the Barnett Reservoir in Ridgeland. The host club is the Jackson Amateur Radio Club, and the hours will be from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm. The folks at Ridgeland Parks and Recreation have graciously allowed us to use their Recreation Center adjacent to the main parking lot. This will be a fun time of fellowship, forums, food, flea market, and other activities. There is a nice dog run very close to the Recreation Center.

A forum on DMR will be presented by KC5IMN and KD4VVZ at 10:00 am. There will also be a forum on GMRS at 11:00 am given by W5VMS. Lunch (Dutch Treat) at noon followed by comments by W5XX and a number of door prizes.

Old Trace Park is located at 422 Post Road in Ridgeland. To get there follow the signs to the Bill Waller Craft Center on Rice Road and then continue on Rice Road a short distance until you get to a stop sign at the intersection with Post Road. Take a right on Post Road and Old Trace Park will then be the second right. The Rec Center will be on the right side of the large parking lot as you drive in.

Talk-in is 146.640 77 hz tone

PLEASE NOTE: Upon entering Old Trace Park, if the gate is closed, use the following code to get in: 0123 Otherwise, there is a charge of \$5 per car. If anyone has to pay \$5 to get in, you will be reimbursed. For further information or if you have trouble getting in, contact AK5J at cell no. 601-709-6740. You can also email ak5j@arrl.net.

**** From WJ5K in Tupelo. We are moving Papa Jack's Trade Day to Pontotoc on October 18. We will be located at the Tanglefoot Trail Pavilion at 139 West Reynolds Street from 8AM to 2 PM. Setup starts at 7AM. If possible, bring your own tables/chairs. There is no table fee and admission free.

The exciting news is that Chatt Radio from Chattanooga will be joining us and will donate an ICOM IC-7100 as the Grand Door Prize. This is the first time we have had a dealer at a Papa Jack's event.

**** From AG5ND in Starkville, The Magnolia ARC will host the 2025 Repeater Roundup on November 1, 2025, from 7AM to 7PM. All call signs are welcome to participate; club membership is NOT required to take part. So far, we have nearly 30 repeaters on our Roundup list.

The goal is to work as many contacts as you can on as many different repeaters as possible. There are bonus points for making contact with YL/XYL operators, and youth operators. Bonus points for your first UHF and your first VHF contacts. Bonus points also for your first contact on a specific repeater. Some of these repeaters are rarely used, so you may need to plan/schedule your contacts on these repeaters to make sure you can make the QSO count. The repeaters being used for the Roundup cover a wide geographical area, traversing most of the northeast quarter of Mississippi. While a Ham can certainly have a good time racking up points sitting at home, the best point totals will probably be by going mobile and getting within range of every repeater on the list. (Making the first contact on each repeater is worth an extra 250 points!) If possible, scheduling a contact with a Ham local to mostly quiet repeaters may make it even more fun.

Three files have been uploaded to the FILES section of the Magnolia ARC Facebook page, and these are the files you will need to download and print. They are Instructions, Log Sheet, and Repeater List. The link to the files page can be found here:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/497073537139477/files/files>

Logs can be mailed using the postal service, or they can be scanned and

emailed. Check the instruction sheet for those addresses. All stations, mobile, portable, and home rigs can participate.

The goal of this contest, other than having fun, will be to introduce Hams to some new repeaters, re-learn how to program our VHF/UHF rigs, and expose newer Hams to the idea of contesting, without having to have a \$5,000 transmitter on top of a mountain somewhere. This whole event can be done with a Baofeng handheld and a tank of gas.

**** From W5VMS in Vicksburg. On September 27th, members of both the Jackson Amateur Radio Club (JARC) and Vicksburg Amateur Radio Club (VARC) provided communication support for the 2025 Jackson Walk for Diabetes. The event, at LeFleur's Bluff State Park in Jackson, involved almost 200 participants, 21 teams, and raised over \$32,000 for the Diabetes Foundation of Mississippi. Unfortunately Mississippi leads the nation with diabetes. The walk helps educate and support those living with the disease and their families. Once again members of the Vicksburg Civil Air Patrol Squadron provided communication support along the 3-mile trail at strategic locations. General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) simplex radios were used to great effect, with no communication issues. The Civil Air Patrol members also assisted with location tear-down and packing.

**** 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.

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

EC AB6Z in Pearl River County reports that the old WWII armory in Poplarville is being torn down. This building hosted many Hamfests and the Pearl River County EOC. ARES requested space in the new facility in Picayune and was assigned a room which will be used for ARES EmComm.

EC AG5ND reports from Oktibbeha County that their training session was the annual SET. They developed 20 situational scenarios around this

year's theme and operated from the Oktibbeha County EOC. As Amateurs arrived at the EOC, they were sent out on support missions connected to one of the scenarios. Each Amateur team (usually 2-3 Hams) received an envelope with one scenario in it and then went to the named location to provide comms service as needed. Several Hams staffed the EOC station, and relayed messages and traffic as needed.

From EC W5VMS in Warren/Claiborne Counties. Vicksburg ARC Club members participated in the SET. The MissLou Emergency Net (VHF) was active for ten hours and thirteen members were active at some time during the event. HF communication worked until about 0900 local time, when the bands pretty well went dead. If anything, this suggests the section needs to develop alternatives to HF voice for emergency communications statewide.

From EC WX5RJ in Harrison County. We are still working on a Go Box and trying to add 6 meters to the organization strength.

From EC KG5SQZ in Hinds County. Central MS ARES participated in the 2025 SET. Twenty-four stations participated using four vhf/uhf repeaters with emergency power as well as hf digital. Forty-six messages were delivered, serving six communities and handling communications for six agencies.

From new EC KD5KMO in Houston. ARES is actively recruiting new Ham Radio operators in Chickasaw County.

From EC KF5WVJ in Hernando. The Desoto County ARES/ EMA Reservist were invited to the Water Tower Festival in Hernando and added to the Hernando Police Dept IAP (Incident Action Plan) for the event as weather overseers. KF5WVJ, KG5TTU, KI5HWA, KF8PD, AB8LA, KO4EZG, KI5ZKM, and KA5JNK were in attendance. Since the weather worked out to our advantage, we used the event for Public Outreach as well.

Here are some upcoming events to put on your calendar:

- ARRL Day in the Park, Oct 18, Ridgeland, POC: AK5J
- Papa Jack's Trade Day, Oct 18, Pontotoc, POC: WK5J
- Vicksburg ARC Picnic, Oct 25 Airport, POC: KG5YEE

- 2025 Repeater Roundup, Nov 1, POC: AG5ND
- EMM COMM Checkin on 3862, 6:00 PM, November 6
- 2026 Capital City Hamfest, Jan 30-31, POC: AK5J

- Jackson County Hamfest, Mar 20-21, 2026, Ocean Springs

Welcome to the following new Hams in Mississippi in September: KJ5MSX, James - Kiln; KJ5MSZ, Barry - Kiln; KJ5MUD, Justin - Vicksburg; KJ5MVS, Dennis - Corinth; KJ5MVU, Samuel - Flowood; KJ5MVV, Roy - Byram; KJ5MVY, Corey - Moss Point; KJ5MWG, Terry - Waynesboro; KJ5MWI, Jacob - Waynesboro; KJ5MWT, Andrew - Hattiesburg;

Welcome to new ARRL Members: KM5CF, Charles - Taylorsville; KD5KMO, Jonathan - Houston; KJ5MRG, James - Meridian.

ARRL Membership in Mississippi on October 1 was 803 down 8 from last month.

SEC/DEC/EC Reports: KC5IMN (SEC), K5DSC (Newton), AE5FK (Walthall), KD5KMO (Chickasaw), N5LOK (Webster), AG5ND (Golden Triangle/Oktibbeha), KG5SQZ (Hinds), KC5VCB (AEC)(Stone), W5VMS (West Central MS/Warren/Claiborne), KD4VVZ (Gulf Coast/George), KF5WVJ (DeSoto), AB6Z (Pearl River).

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//1086/11 (KF5BA)

MS Baptist Hams Net 3/13/0 (WF5F) Sunday, 7263 at 4PM

Pine Belt ARA 10M Net 4/19/0 (K5TLL)

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

Alcorn County ARES Net 5/72/0 (W5OA)

Bluff City EMCOMM Net 5/91/0 (WF5ES)

Capital Area Em Net 4/40/0 (K5XU)

Central MS ARES 7/137/0 (KD5SQZ)

Chickasaw County ARES 4/31/0 (KD5KMO)

DeSoto County Training and Information Net 5/55/0 (KF5WVJ)

George County ARES 4/56/0 (KD4VVZ)

Houston/Chickasaw/Calhoun County ARES Net 4/26/0 (KI5LKJ)

Jackson ARC Net 5/45/0 (K5XU)

Lowndes County ARES Net 5/41/0 (K5TCO)

NE MS WX Net 5/39/0 (W5BAQ)

Pearl River ARES Net 4/55/0 (AB6Z)

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

Pine Belt ARC 2M Simplex Net 4/7/0 (K5TLL)

Stone County ARES Net 2/28/0 (KC5VCB)

Vicksburg ARC/MLEN 4/85/0 (KG5YEE)

Walthall County ARES 4/45/0 (AE5FK)

W5YD Monday Night Net 5/15/0 (AG5ND)

Digital Net Reports

East MS EMM COMM Team 30/300/2 (K5TCO)

K5FIT WL2K Hybrid Gateway – 139 connections to pass traffic.

MS WL2K Net QNI 72 by 5 stations (K5FIT)

NE MS DMR Net – QNI 589 (KI5LKJ)

Traffic: WV5W 115, AE5MI 56.

PSHR: AE5MI 115, WV5Q 110