

## Mississippi Section Report for March 2008

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WA8SME, Director of the ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology, has announced that N5MZ of Petal and N5VEI of Madison have been selected to attend one of this summer's six scheduled institutes. Brad and Bill will travel to Newington in late July with all expenses paid for the four day Institute which will include basic wireless technology literacy, electronics, and the science of radio; bringing space into the classroom; ham radio operation; introduction to micro controllers; and basic robotics. Brad and Bill are only the second and third Mississippi teachers to be selected for the Institute. KD5VDV from Wiggins attended in 2006. WA8SME notes that there are a very few slots left for highly qualified teachers and all applications must be in by May 15 (see ARRL Web site).

The logs for the 2008 Mississippi QSO Party are in (a record 66 this year) and a preliminary check of the logs indicate that the Top Ten In State winners by score are: AG5Z, K5SVC, K2FF, N5BLY, WQ5L, W8FR, W5UMS, W5UE, KB5FSV, and KK5K. And the Top Ten Out of State: W6RLL (AZ), N8II (WV), K8CW (OH), W9MSE (WI), K4YT (VA), W2LHL (NJ), W7GVE (AZ), K4AMC (TN), K9WA (IL), and K4PBY (FL). All of these scores are subject to score validation, i.e., I need to check them all again.

And last but not least thanks to the hard working mobiles, who made the QSO Party interesting for the county hunters, but in years past have had to brave wind, rain, lightning, line noise, and irate property owners. This year the temperature was just right, the roads were dry, no close calls, and there weren't too many complaints about line noise. Thanks to KS5A/NN9K, NO5W, W5XX, and K4ZGB for collectively activating 52 of the 82 counties in the state. Note that KS5A came in all the way from Arizona, NN9K from Illinois, NO5W from Texas, and K4ZGB from Alabama. Thanks, guys!

Activity was at an all time high this year in spite of the not too great band conditions. Logs indicate that AG5Z, K5SVC, and KS5A/M all made over 900 QSOs! W6RLL made 125 Mississippi QSOs from Arizona and CU2JT made 41 QSOs from the Azores. Certificates and final results should be available by July 1.

The Mississippi Section Web Site at [www.arrlmiss.org](http://www.arrlmiss.org) was originally set up by K5IBM in 1999. W5KWB (now NW5R) took over in March of 2004. Since that time there have been nearly 21,000 hits on the site. Kenny (plus W5XX) works hard to keep the information accurate, but he needs your help in keeping info up to date. Looking at the menu of the left hand side of the web site, Club Officers can help by reviewing 'Club Locations/Dates' to see if information is current. VE Teams can review 'VE Test Dates' to see if the information is correct. Net Managers/Members can review 'Nets' to determine if the information is accurate. Repeater Trustees/owners/users can review 'Repeaters' to insure that the information is correct. Send your updates to [nw5r@arrl.net](mailto:nw5r@arrl.net). Your help in keeping accurate information on the Section Web Site is appreciated!

With regret the resignation of AB5WF has been accepted as DEC for West Central Mississippi. In the short term Ron will remain as States RACES officer, but anticipates he and his XYL moving to South Carolina in the future. Over the years Ron has been instrumental in promoting ARES/RACES in Mississippi, as well as many other ham related activities. Ron, thanks for your efforts!

In the area of EMCOMM, Prentiss/Tishomingo County EC WX5N reports that a severe early March thunderstorm required activation of the Tishomingo County ARC EN. Numerous reports of dime and nickel size hail were passed to the NWS. Those checking in were KE5LWY, KD5YP, WX5N, K5WSY, KE5RXN, and KU4WW. Rick also notes that funding has been secured for a pull type trailer to be used for EMCOMM and special events. More info to come.

EC WB5GUD advises that Newton County ARES now has a repeater on the air two miles south of Union on 147.24 (103.5).

EC K5NRK reports that the EOC 'antenna farm' on top of the Warren County Court house has been reworked thanks to KD5CQX, KB5BEE, and W5XX. The 75 M Dipole is at 150 feet; not exactly NVIS, but it was the only option. This antenna should be great for working DX next winter.

Marshall County EC KB0ZTX calls our attention to the fact that Mississippi ARES had a nice write up related to the February storm events in North Mississippi, North Alabama, and West Tennessee in the April CQ. Check out the Public Service Column on page 60.

N5WLW reports that the Pearl River ARC now has a new antenna for their 145.210 repeater on KB5QBK's 380 ft tower. The four-bay folded dipole was fabricated by WA5WRE and raised by Club President KB7PGT (now that's leadership!) and KB5QBK's sons David and Barry. Other Members of the club who stayed on the ground for a number of reasons (?) as helpers were WA5WRE, KE5EKS, N5PSL, KB5QBK, KD6PJW, WA5JLL, N5WLW, K5WNU, N5ELI, KB5JSG, KB5ECY, and AD5WA.

And lastly, a severe squall line moved through Central Mississippi on April 4<sup>th</sup> resulting in six tornados on the ground and widespread power outages and damage to property due to fallen trees. K5BLL and KE5PTL activated Skywarn from the NWS Jackson during the storm event and passed 17 reports related to severe weather and damage. Winds in excess of 80 mph were clocked in many locations in Central Mississippi.

In Vicksburg, K5NRK heard on the Skywarn Net that a 4 foot diameter oak tree had fallen length wise on N5JGK's mother's trailer. No one had been able to reach the trailer to check on Eddie's mother. Russ raced to the scene dodging fallen trees and downed power lines. After getting to within one-quarter of a mile of the trailer, Russ had to walk the rest of the way with first aid kit in hand.

To quote Russ, 'When I got to the trailer I called for his Mother and this quite voice came back saying she was fine but couldn't get out. That was amazing as the entire trailer was flattened; the oak tree must have been 100 years old. She was sitting on the floor in the bathroom and fortunately the bottom half of that room wasn't crushed; everything else was flattened. After making sure the power was off, I tore away the trailer wall and was able to look through a cabinet below the bathroom sink to find her sitting on the floor covered in insulation holding her little dog. About that time my friend N5JCG, her son, showed up, and we cut away the drain pipes and cabinet doors so she could crawl out. She was very, very lucky as she only had a cut on the side of her hand.' Kudos to K5NRK!

Welcome to the following new Mississippi Hams: KE5TES, Walter – Bogue Chitto; KE5THF, Lee – Starkville; KE5THG, Stephan – Corinth; KE5TKV, Alan – Vicksburg; KE5TML, William – Brandon; KE5TMM, Warner – Forest; KE5TMW, Andy – Olive Branch; KE5TMX, John – Hickory Flat; KE5TMY, Zack – Oxford; KE5TPP, Gina – Southaven; KE5TPQ, Randy – Hernando; KE5TQG, Wayne – Tishomingo; KE5TGR, Charles – Gulfport; KE5TLE, Jonathan – Vancleave; KE5TLF, Michael – Moss Point; KE5TMJ, Matt – Mississippi State; and KE5TNJ, Lawrence – Gulfport. Welcome aboard!

Also welcome to K4ZLC as EC for Benton County.

Congratulations to the following on their upgrades: KE5DHC Florence; KE5EFB – Corinth; KB5FSV – Gautier; KD5LAP – Walnut; KC5LJO – Jackson; N5MSJ – Gautier; KE5MLL – Richland; W5MSW – Gulfport; KE5MWA – Gulfport; KE5OKI – Ocean Springs; N5OKV – Long

Beach; N2PKW – Ocean Springs; KE5PXE – Pass Christian; N5PYQ – Hernando; KE5QHS – Saucier; KE5QHU – Biloxi; KE5QHY – Biloxi; KE5QIC – Saucier; KE5QIK – Long Beach; KE5QIN Gulfport; KE5QIO – Vancleave; KE5QXG – Gulfport; KE5QZM – Gulfport; KE5RDQ – Oxford; KE5RJN – Hattiesburg; KE5RRT – Long Beach; KE5RXN – Golden; KA5SNJ – Pass Christian; KA5SNK – Pass Christian; KE5SOK – Lorman; KE5TAZ - Coldwater; and KB0ZTX – Holly Springs. 32 upgrades in one month – Good Show! Note that our KE5's are not sitting on their duffs!

Also congratulations to Marshall County EC KB0ZTX, who completed FEMA Courses 100/200/700/800.

Welcome to the following new ARRL Members: KE5AKT – Olive Branch; KM5BJ – Belden; K5DNB – Beaumont; W5DYC – Magee; WT4E - Lamar; KB5FSV – Gautier; KE5IZL – Courtland; WB0JBZ – Canton; KE5MOY – Gulfport; N4NEX – Hernando; KC5NFI – Wiggins; K5NVP – Kiln; KE5QAQ – Wiggins; KE5SGD – Oxford; KE5TMX – Hickory Flat; KD5VDW – Wiggins; N5YAB – Wiggins; and N5ZAU – Jackson.

Newsletter/Club Reports: Hattiesburg ARC (AC5E), Itawamba County ARC (KB5NMB), Jackson ARC (K5VU), Meridian ARC (W5MAV), and Pearl River ARC (N5WLW).

DEC/EC Monthly Reports: Alcorn/NE MS (WB5CON), Jackson (KD5CQT), Lauderdale/Clarke (KD5GWM), Newton (WB5GUD), Pearl River (KC5EAK); Prentiss/Tishomingo (WX5N); Southwest Mississippi (N5ZNT; Tippah (N5TBB):

Net Reports: Session/QNI/QTC (Net Manager)

DRN5 62/MS 100% rep by W5XX, KA1ZIA, WB5ZED, W5MLO, WA5FB (WB5ZED)

MSPN 31/3108/23 (K5NRK)

Magnolia Section Net 31/883/8 (K5DSG)

Jackson Co ARES 31/436/7 (KD5CQT)

MS Slow Net 21/43/0 (W3TWD)

MS Baptist Hams Net 5/37/0 (WF5F)

Stone County ARES Net 7/164/0 (N5UDK)

Tishomingo County ARES 5/114/7 (WX5N)

MLEN 5/38/0 (K5NRK)

Alcorn County ARES 5/55/0 (WB5CON)

Metro Jackson ARES 5/29/0 (AB5WF)

Meridian AEN 4/57/0 (KD5GWM)

Itawamba County ARES 4/41/0 (KB5NMB)

Newton County ARES 4/40/0 (WB5GUD)

Magnolia DX Assc 4/72/0 (N5FG)

NE MS ARES 4/61/0 (W5LMW)

South MS YL Net 4/83/0 (KB5CSQ)

Monroe County ARC 4/38/0 (AD5DO)

Lowndes County ARC 4/46/0 (AD5DO)

Jackson ARC EN 4/46/7 (AB5WF)

Pearl River ARES 4/44/1 (KC5EAK)

SW MS ARES 4/33/0 (N5ZNT)

MS Coast ARA 4/42/0 (KA2KMU)

UMISS ARC 3/17/0 (W5MPC)

PSHR (minimum 70): WB5ZED 150 and W5XX 95.

Traffic: WB5ZED 4238 (Wow!)(BPL), WA5FB 31, and W5XX 5.

Compilation of Net and Traffic statistics provided by KB5RCJ.