

## Mississippi Section Report for May 2006

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Congratulations to WA5TMC on being appointed as Delta Division Vice Director replacing WD4Q who has moved up to Director. It has been many years since Mississippi has been able to send somebody to the ARRL Board Meetings. Although Karl can't vote he can twist some arms.

Additional congratulations are in order for to W4KGJ on receiving a plaque from the ARRL recognizing his 60<sup>th</sup> year as a ham. The plaque was presented at the Hattiesburg ARC Meeting.

And lastly, congratulations are in order for Candice, KD5VDV, of Wiggins who has been selected to attend the ARRL 2006 Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology in Roseville, California, on June 19-23. Candice teaches at Stone County Middle School and is the daughter of WZ5Y. She is the first teacher from Mississippi ever selected for the ARRL Teachers Institute which is an all expenses paid five-day session covering such topics as wireless technology literacy, bringing space into the classroom, introduction to micro controllers, and basic robotics.

Field Day is here already! It's time to prepare. Gather up your transceivers, push up masts, dipoles, and coax and be ready to charge off into the hot and bug infested Mississippi boondocks for 24 hours of fun and fellowship. Complete rules are on page 105 of the May QST. Thanks to the efforts of SGL AB5WF, Governor Haley Barbour has proclaimed the week of Field Day as Amateur Radio Week in Mississippi in recognition of our contribution to the state's emergency preparedness.

Speaking of emergency preparedness, the Simulated Emergency Test (SET) is conducted annually by the ARRL to promote served agency interaction with the ham community. For a given section, the SET date can be scheduled anytime between September 1 and November 30. This date range presents a problem for the Gulf South and East Coast which are potential hurricane impact areas during this time as well as being "fire season" in the western states. Further, by not having the SET on a national single date the National Traffic System for all practical purposes is cut out of the participation loop because it cannot be brought up in extended session to accommodate each section SET date.

In the past eight years, two of the scheduled Mississippi SETs have had to be moved because of hurricanes and last year the SET was cancelled all together due to Katrina. One apparent solution is to have the SET in the late spring on a single date well after tornado season. This concept has been proposed to ARRL Headquarters. Let's standby and see what happens.

As noted in an earlier Monthly Section report, Mississippi has entered into an MOU with Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi to handle tactical communications during wide area storm events. In addition, the managers of the Magnolia Section Net (AD5J) and the Mississippi Section Phone Net (K5NRK) have developed a Joint Emergency Operation Procedure such the 3862.5/3862 can be manned 24/7 during storm events. The nets will meet at their regular time after which the nets will maintain an "open net" with an NCS always on frequency until the next net starts to handle primarily health/welfare traffic and tactical communications, as necessary, Further, RN5 and Mississippi Traffic Net Manager KB5W has organized the Gulf Coast CW

Guard Net which will maintain watch on 3711 or 7111 24/7 to handle emergency related traffic. Hopefully, with all of this preplanning, nothing will happen this year.

Another helpful form of emergency operations assistance will be ready to deploy "Go-Kits" that will be available from ARRL Headquarters. These "Go Kits" are fitted into Pelican Cases and can be shipped overnight from ARRL Headquarters. Several types of kits are available: HF, VHF HTs; VHF HTs with base station, repeater, and several support kits including power supplies and batteries, tuners, antennas, digital gear, and amplifiers. Currently seven of each type of kit are available to deploy.

Jackson ARC VE Test Team Chairmen AC5SU and K5BLL report a record VE Test Session on June 4. Mississippi has 30 new technicians and two new extras. This record number of new hams resulted from a Thursday-Friday-Saturday Class taught by K5BLL and W5GEJ for Mississippi Department of Health first responders and IT personnel. There was so much paperwork flying around that it took 10 VE's to process all of the required administrative requirements during the test session.

Ham Radio was well represented at the annual Mississippi Civil Defense Emergency Management Agency annual conference held at the Convention Center in Gulfport June 5 through 7. State RACES Officer AB5WF chaired a break out session and was assisted with presentations by W4WLF and W5XX.

The weather cooperated at Dayton this year with three days of sunshine in the Flea Market. Forum Room logistics (space and temperature) were greatly improved as well as bus transportation from the off-site parking area. Mississippi was well represented by: W5BJM, WD5BJT, KD5BM, KE5BMO, AA5ED, KE5FBA, KE5FBB, K5FC, K2FF, K5FLU, AD5HM, K5IJX, KD5JHA, KB5JNZ, N5LRQ, AA5MT, KD5NDR, KC5NSZ, KC5RC, KC5OXI, N5TBB, WA5TMC, W4UDH, KB5VE, K5VVA, W5XX, WB4YBY, KB5YJH, and K5YG.

W5KWB has retired as MSPN Bulletin Station after five years of service. Thanks Kenny! KD5JLG will be taking over as Bulletin Station.

Congratulations to the following on their upgrades: KD5BFO – Pascagoula; N5IEM – Edwards; KA9OFM – Walnut; WB5RSK – Tupelo; N4RTB – Picayune; N5VSB – Cedar Bluff; and KB5ZHN – Tupelo. Also congratulations to W4WLF, who completed FEMA IS 100/200/700/800, KD5GMC, who completed FEMA IS 100 and IS 700, and to WB5GUD, who completed the ARRL Level 1 EMCMM Course.

Welcome to WB5CON as DEC for North Mississippi and N5TBB as EC for Tippah County each replacing WA5TMC, who moved up to Vice Director, to WX5N as EC for Prentiss County, and to KB5AAB as EC for Wayne County. In addition, AC5SU has retired as EC for Metro Jackson after 5 years of service (Thanks, Ben!). KD5JPB is the new Jackson Metro EC.

Welcome to new Mississippi Hams: Lorie, KE5HYD – Coldwater; Robert, KE5HYS – Corinth; Bryan, KE5HYT – Corinth; Wesley, KE5HYU – Corinth; David, Eddie, KE5HZF – Houston; KE5HZG – Tupelo; John, KE5HYK – Carriere; Jeffrey, KE5HYL – Starkville; James KE5HYM – Terry; Charles, KE5IAU – Ocean Springs; Gabriel, KE5IGD – Saucier; Eric, KE5IDI – Columbus; and David, KE5IMJ – Crystal Springs.

Also welcome to new ARRL members: KF5AE, W5FMO, KE5FTH, N4HIF, WB5HQH, KE5HZG, KE5IAU, KB5MPW, N5VON, KB5PLC, KD5SBP, WB5VCE, N5YAV,

Club Newsletters/Reports: Jackson ARC (K5VU), Hattiesburg ARC (AC5E), Olive Branch ARC (KB0ZTX), Tippah ARA (N5TBB), Vicksburg ARC (W5WAF).

PIC Report: N5TBB

DEC/EC Report: WB5CON (Alcorn), KD5CQT (Jackson), KC5EAK (Pearl River), KD5GWM (Lauderdale/Clarke), W5LMW (Union), N5TBB (Benton), K5WSY (Tishomingo), and KB0ZTX (Marshall).

Net reports: sessions/QNI/QTC

DRN5 62/Miss 100% Rep/174 (WB5ZED)

MS Section Phone Net 31/2314/18 (KA1ZIA)

MS Section Traffic Net 31/135/3 (KB5W)

Magnolia Section Net 31/1052/8 (AD5J)

Jackson County EN 31/315/5 (KD5CQT)

MS Section Slow Net 23/75/1 (W3TWD)

Meridian Area EN 6/73/0 (KD5GWM)

St. Tammany/Pearl River ARES 5/21/0 (KC5EAK)

Jackson ARC EN 5/48/0 (AB5WF)

MS Baptist Hams Net 4/29/0 (WF5F)

Itawamba Co. ARES 4/44/0 (KB5NMB)

Hattiesburg AEN 4/30/0 (N5MZ)

PSHR: WB5ZED 150, KD5FUY 105, AB5WF 105, N5FP 98, W5XX 81.

Traffic: WB5ZED 1613 (BPL), N5FP 28, W5XX 7

Compilation of Net and Traffic Statistics provided by N5FP, Mississippi Section Traffic Manager