

Mississippi Section Report for July 2013

SM: Malcolm Keown, W5XX. Mississippi Section Web Page at arrlmiss@org. Web Master: W5UE at w5ue@arrl.net. ASM: K5DSG, KA5ICO, W4WLF, KB5YEE, AG5Z; PIC: KB9ZR, SGL: AK5J, TC: N5JGK.

Vicksburg area hams assisted Gains in the Education of Mathematics and Science (GEMS) Camp students in a balloon launch at the Waterways Experiment Station on July 16. The balloon payload contained an APRS transmitter (144.390 MHz) that allowed the payload to be tracked as well as a CW beacon on 446.000 MHz. The balloon reached an altitude of over 97,000 and flew 70 miles west of Vicksburg landing southwest of Delhi, Louisiana. At launch were KE5PYL, KF5NMD, KJ5XQ, K5NRK, N5JGK, WB5YKR, and W5XX. Recovery was supported by KE5PYL, KF5NMD N5JGK, and WB5YKR with K5NRK as reach-back. For a You Tube summary of the flight see: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ufxs9jM8QzQ&feature=youtu.be>

EC N9OKV reports from Harrison County that in the past year they have installed a new dual band D-Star Radio in the EOC. Further, they have repaired their Kenwood dual band radio and have it installed and active on Winlink, as well as having two new computers and UPS power supplies installed and ready for use. There are now three radio positions for use in the ARES Radio Room. They also have two spare 2 Meter radios, and extra antennas for 2 Meter, 440, and HF and have made a major effort to maintain their towers and feed lines. The EOC is now opened the first Thursday of every month for ARES Members use. Harrison County ARES is ready for the next storm event!

Don't forget to put the annual ARRL Day in the Park on your calendar for September 21 at Shiloh Park in Brandon. This year's event will be hosted by the Central Mississippi ARA. Shiloh Park has a great paved area next to the Pavilion, so bring your pickup truck full of goodies for tailgating. The CMARA VE Team will be on site, if there is anyone who wants to take a test. In addition, after the Day in the Park, NWS-Jackson will host a tour of the facilities at Thompson Field. Contact kf5ezt@arrl.net for more info.

W5ILR reports that the W5ILR-10 RMS Gateway continues to operate on 145.010 MHz from the Armed Forces Retirement Home (AFRH) in Gulfport. In addition, an AFRH ARES Team has been formed with assistance from the Harrison County ARES Team. WM5DX has completed the initial ARES Training and will train the remaining team members.

WB5EIN points out that there are some really good videos to go with the ARRL Technician Manual for self study for the Tech Exam. See http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fEWmiMotimY&feature=em-share_video_user

Lafayette County EC KF5IMA reports that ARES participated in a joint First Responder Drill at Vaught-Hemingway Stadium where a simulated propane tank exploded. Bruce reports that the first responder Ham Station is located in the MED II Emergency Hospital Command Trailer. ARES responsibility was to maintain communications with Baptist Hospital which was done.

The following information will be old news by the time the August Section Report comes out, so it will be reported now here in early August. The Mississippi Section held its Simulated Emergency Test (SET) on August 10. In the event of a hurricane the Mississippi ARES Emergency Net will operate on 7238 plus or minus QRM during the daylight hours. The SET objective was to get a better feeling of

what we could be up against propagation wise on 40 and to check 40 meter station equipment operation.

The ARES Emergency Net conducted sessions at 9 AM, 1 PM, and 4 PM with W5XX as NCS. The 9AM Session was bad news propagation wise. Only 13 stations were able to check in with the NCS with many of them by relay from W1DVZ in San Antonio; however on the plus side 6 stations checked in via Winlink. The 1 PM session was great; 36 stations checked in from around the state and for the most part every one seemed to be able to hear everyone else (2 Winlink Checkins). At 4 PM 30 stations checked in; however, the long skip was starting to come in along with bad QSB and relays to the NCS were necessary with help from W5MLO (1 Winlink checkin).

During a well behaved Sunspot Cycle Peak 40 meters is usually rock solid for short range communications during most of the daylight hours; however, this is not a well behaved Sunspot Cycle Peak. The lessons learned from this SET is that 40 Meters can probably only be counted on for in state communications from late morning until late afternoon. Although this is only one data point, this should be kept in mind if we need to activate an Emergency Net on 40.

Several Counties conducted local SETs parallel with the Section SET. Their results will be noted in next month's Section Report when the August EC Reports come in.

Welcome to the following new Hams in Mississippi in July: KF5WJA, Shawn – Lumberton; KF5WHB, Robert – Mathiston; KF5WHO, Linda – Madison; KF5WHP, Jeffrey – Vicksburg; KF5WKZ, Mark – Corinth; KF5WNQ, Andrew – Olive Branch; KF5WNY, William – Houston; and KF5WQD, Darrell – Pearl.

Also welcome to the following new ARRL Members in July: KE5AJF – Maben; WE5BEE – Steens; N5KZK – Waveland; WE5ROK – Steens; KF5TNV – Pearl; KF5VPB – Ridgeland; KF5VPD – Madison; KF5VPG – Madison; and KE5YZC – Batesville. As of July 31, Mississippi had 1,136 ARRL Members. No change from last month. Thanks to all who promote ARRL Membership!

Congratulations to to the following on their upgrades: KF5GFD – Lumberton; KC5NMB – Columbus; KF5SDB - Olive Branch; KF5SQB – Gulfport; KF5TJK – Diamondhead; KF5TMM – Amory; KF5TQG – Brookhaven; and KF5UFB – Corinth.

Lee County EC K5TV has relocated to Itawamba County. WA5TEF has taken over as EC. Welcome aboard, Jim!

DEC/EC Monthly Reports for July 2013: WB5CON (NE MS/Alcorn), KB5EZT (Rankin), AE5FE (Lauderdale/Clarke), N5KDA (Adams), KE5KTU (Hinds), K5MOZ (Jackson), WX5N (Prentiss and Tishomingo), N9OKV (Harrison), K1REZ (Scott), WV1Q (Jasper), and KE5WJN (Pearl River).

Club Newsletter/Reports (Editor): Hattiesburg ARC (AC5E), Lowndes County ARC (AD5DO), Meridian ARC (W5MAV), Mississippi Coast ARA (KB9ZR), NE MS ARA (KB5NMB), and the Tishomingo County ARC (KU4WW).

Regret to report the passing of KB5ASR of Meridian. Bill as a long time regular checkin on the MSPN and an engineer at WTOK for 30 years.

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

Magnolia Section Net 31/1159/20 (K5DSG)
MS Baptist Hams Net 3/14/0 (WF5F)
MSPN 31/2256/41 (K5NRK)
MS Slow Net 22/37/0 (W3TWD)

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

Booneville and Prentiss County Net 5/46/0 (WX5N)
Capital Area Em Net 4/88/0 (K5XU)
Delta ARES Simplex Net 4/16/0 (K5JAW)
Itawamba County ARES Net 4/44/1 (KB5NMB)
Jackson ARC Em Net 5/62/0 (N5DU)
Jackson County Em Net 25/432/2 (K5MOZ)
Magnolia DX Assn Net 5/78/0 (K5OAZ)
Meridian Area EM Net 5/62/0 (AE5FE)
Metro Jackson ARES Net 5/63/2 (K5GCY)
Miss/Lou Em Net 4/25/0 (K5NRK)
MS Preparedness Project EN 4/40/0 (WX5H)
NE MS Skywarn Net 4/43/0 (W5LMW)
Olive Branch ARC Tech and Info Net 11/99/0 (KD5CKP)
Pearl River ARES Net 4/32/0 (KE5WJN)
Pearl River ARC Net 4/71/0 (K5RDA)
Rankin County ARES 3/47/0 (KE5EZT)
South Central Skywarn and Jasper County ARES 5/20/0 (WV1Q)
Southern MS YL Net 3/16/0 (KB5CSQ)
Stateline Skywarn Net 4/39/0 (KB5NMB)
Stone County ARES Net 5/72/0 (N5UDK)
Tishomingo ARC Net 5/54/0 (WX5N)
UMARC Net 4/28/0 (K5LMB)
Yazoo County ARES Net 5/32/0 (KF5DJS)

PSHR – W5XX 75

Compilation of Net statistics provided by KB5RCJ.