

Mississippi Section Report for May 2013

SM: Malcolm Keown, W5XX. Section Web Site: www.arrlmiss.org. Web Master: w5ue@arrl.net.

District Emergency Coordinators: WB5CON, KD5FUO, KE5KTU, K1REZ, K5XXV, AG5Z, N5ZNT and KB0ZTX.

Emergency Coordinators: WB5CON, AE5CY, WV5D, KF5DJS, KI5F, AE5FE, AE5FK, KD5FUO, KA5ICO, KC5IHW, AD5IT, KF5JOO, W5JWW, N5KDA, KE5KTU, KD5KXJ, N5LJC, K5LMB, N5LOK, KE5MIS, K5MOZ, WX5N, KB5NMB, K5NRK, N9OKV, NE5P, K5PJM, WV1Q, AE5QP, KA1RBA, N5SP, N5TBB, WB5TTM, K5TV, N5UDK, KD5VMV, KD4VVZ, KE5WJN, KE5WUN, N5XZF, KB5ZEA, N5ZNT, and KB0ZTX.

Clear your calendars for Field Day 2013 on June 22-23! Mississippi Hams will charge off into the boonies to wrestle with coax and guy wires, scratch their heads when rigs won't load, fight the heat and humidity, and swat mosquitoes. (However, don't forget Category F if you want to operate from a nice cool EOC, if you can't stand the heat and humidity). If you don't know where there is a Field Day Site near you check the Field Day Station Locator on the ARRL Web Site. If your site is not on the Field Day Station Locator be sure to add it ASAP. Remember the Locator is intended to show public Field Day sites that members of the public and media can visit. If you're going to be operating a private location, don't add it to the map.

AB6Z reports that the Pearl River ARC (PRARC) (W5PMS) has big plans for Field Day. Tom says that the City of Picayune has proclaimed June 17-23, 2013 Amateur Radio Week. Further the PRARC will be coordinating with the Picayune EOC, Pearl River County EOC, and the Picayune Fire and Police Departments during Field Day. PRARC is planning to pass formal (NTS) emergency traffic for the Picayune Fire Department and EOC to MEMA – Jackson as well as to W5XX. The Fire Chief advises Tom that he wants to send over personnel during PRARC Field Day set-up to learn how to put up field expedient antennas and communications systems. He additionally requested that Tom come over to their new EOC and help them get it on the air! PRARC already has 10 Boy Scouts signed up for the BSA Radio Merit Badge which will be offered on Field Day Saturday.

EC AE5FE advises that the Lauderdale-Clarke Counties ARES will operate as WX5MEI along the I-20/59 Interstate Frontage Road from a closed car sales lot bringing along their own power, water, other support, etc. Anticipated guests include EMA Directors from Lauderdale and Clarke Counties with their EMCOMM static displays, the Meridian Mayor-Elect, the East Central Mississippi Red Cross Director and her ERV, plus Senator Roger Wicker and Congressman Greg Harper (possibly). This should be a great event to get exposure for Ham Radio!

... and from Corinth DEC/EC WB5CON reports that Alcorn County ARES (ACARES) will be operating from the the Crossroads Regional Park in an 18 wheeler trailer fitted out as an EMCOMM command post with air conditioning and 10kw diesel generator. They will run 3A with the callsign W5OA. ACARES had a new sign made so the public will know who they are. ACARES will also be serving BBQ and trimmings to the public for a donation.

And in other pre-Field Day info the Southwest Mississippi ARC will be operating from the Brookhaven Recreation Department in Brookhaven; the Mississippi Coast ARA (W5SGL) from the Jefferson Davis Campus of the Mississippi Community College in Gulfport; the MSU Club (W5YD) from Camp

Seminole north of Starkville; the 599 DXA (NA5NN) from the Dantzler Community Center in Brooklyn; the Meridian ARC (KB5ARC) from the East Central Mississippi Red Cross Facility in Meridian; the Jackson County ARA (N5OS) from the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College – Gautier Campus; the Central Mississippi ARA (WM5A) from the Woman's Hospital in Flowood; the Mississippi MDOT ARC (KM5DOT) from Jackson; the Dixie ARC (KE5WEE) from a location on Highway 333 near Grenada; the Olive Branch ARC (W5OBM) from the Olive Branch Park; the North Mississippi Radio Amateurs (W5NEM) from the Itawamba County EOC; the Ole Miss ARC (W5UMS) from Oxford; and the Jackson ARC (W5PFC) will be out to maximize public contact by operating from a grass field between Sam's and the Bass Pro Shop in Pearl! Everybody should have a Field Day Site near them. CU FD!

On your long range calendar, the Central Mississippi ARA will host the annual ARRL Day in the Park in Brandon at Shiloh Park on September 21 from 9AM to 1 PM. More details to follow from Chairman KF5EZT.

Asst. SM AG5Z reports from Biloxi that he and Event POC N5UDK, representing the ARRL, manned a display booth at the joint Mississippi Association of Broadcasters/Louisiana Association of Broadcasters annual convention at the IP Casino on June 5th and 6th. The gathering consisted of radio and television station owners as well as broadcast engineers brought together to discuss various issues impacting the broadcast industry. Also in attendance were exhibitors of many products and services used by and of interest to the broadcasters. The ARRL Booth afforded the opportunity to disperse information on ham radio and the capabilities that may be useful to broadcasters especially in times of emergency. Contact information was exchanged with several TV and radio station owners with follow-up planned in the near future. Tower space for repeaters was a common item of discussion and in all cases replies from owners were favorable.

There was also some interesting new equipment on display that may soon be impacting the Ham bands in a positive way. High power RF devices have made big strides on the past few years. AG5Z suspects that we will be seeing more on this before too long.

And in another opportunity to showcase Ham Radio, KB9ZR reports in the June Mississippi Coast ARA 'Splatter' that four members of the club manned an information booth at the Emergency Preparedness Fair held at the Latter Day Saints Church in Gulfport. Numerous people stopped by and asked for information and many asked about classes. Thanks to K5KMU, KF5BA, AE5MU, and KB9ZR for volunteering their time.

This was another good year for Dayton with over 24,000 in attendance and only a few sprinkles in the flea market as well as the excellent forums and the usual huge display of new gear by the commercial vendors. Mississippi was well represented by N5ZNO, W5JDX, AE5OG, K5VU, KJ5XQ, WZ5Y, KB5VE, NE5P, AG5Z, W5XX, and K5FLU with the MFJ Crew. A highlight of the weekend was the presentation of the 2013 Dayton Hamvention Special Achievement Award to W5JDX for his work on Amateur logic TV and Ham Nation. Prior to the Hamvention a banquet was given in George's honor at Table 100 in Dogwood organized by K4FMH.

DEC KB0ZTX advises that severe weather impacted DeSoto County on May 21. The major problem was flooding of roads and structures. Ken thanks to the following for passing in reports on the storm

event: KD5VMV, N4IL, N5UOV, KF5KVL, W5ETZ, KF5TPU, KI4OTF, KF5PNF, KD5VHX, KE5EOR, KD5IWH, KE5NBD, KE5SDB, KA5WGF, W4FP, and KI4QAQ.

N5DU reports that on Saturday, May 4, 2013, members of the Jackson Amateur Radio Club and the Central Mississippi Amateur Radio Association provided communications support for the City of Ridgeland 2013 Natchez Trace Century Ride. Over 400 bicycle riders participated in this event, which consisted of a 25 mile ride, a 50 mile ride, a 62 mile ride, or a 100 mile ride. In recent years, the course has started at the Old Trace Park in Ridgeland and gone 50 miles up the Natchez Trace and then back along the same stretch of the Natchez Trace for the full 100 miles, with designated turn around points for the shorter rides. This year marked a substantial change from the past, with the main course leaving Old Trace Park and taking a long loop through Rankin and Madison Counties before returning several miles down the Natchez Trace to the Park. One of the rides had a few miles not on the main loop, so there was well over 100 miles of course to cover for this event.

With a great show of support from the Ham Radio community, operators covered all 8 rest stops, the start/finish line, one rover on the course in Rankin County, one rover on the course in Madison County, and a tail end Charlie following the last rider at all times. The following seventeen operators participated in the event: KD5KHI, KF5QXU, KF5RBF, WM5A, WX5H, KE5JKD, KE5WAC, N5GT, K5IMT, K5GCV, KF5EZT, KD5JPB, KF5IZ, KD5SBP, KD5CZF, K5BLL, and N5DU. Many thanks to all of those who worked this event.

K5XU advises that on Saturday, May 11, members of the Jackson Amateur Radio Club provided communications for the 100 Miles of MAYHEM charity bike ride. This ride drew approximately 150 participants, who covered up to 100 miles of roads and trails in Madison County. The ride was sponsored by the Bike Crossing Bicycle Shop as a benefit for the Blair E. Batson Children's Hospital. The amateurs who participated were K5GCV, KA5TJW, KE5JKD, KE5WAC, N5KLT, K5IMT, K5BLL, K5XU, and N5DU. The 147.075 repeater, operated by AA5JC provided excellent coverage of the entire route.

As part of the 150 th Anniversary of the Vicksburg Campaign, Club President K5IMT reports that the Vicksburg ARC set up special event station W5V at the Vicksburg Tourist Bureau Office. Those participating were N5JGK, WB5YKR, K5NRK, KJ5XQ, W5WAF, and K5IMT. And the fun continued the next weekend for the 'Museum Ships on the Air' when W5V was activated from the U.S.S Cairo Museum in the Vicksburg National Military Park. During the operation tourist WA6PPI came by to check out the activities. Those operating were N5JGK, K5NRK, K5IMT, and W5XX. Band conditions were not good either weekend, but a good time was had by all.

For many years now Mississippi has been one of the states that does not have a county award. With this in mind the 599 DX Association is now sponsoring the Worked All Mississippi Counties Award. The basic award is for working 41 of the 82 counties while the top award is to work all 82 counties. Details can be found on the 599 DXA Web Site at 599dxa.org or by contacting Awards Manager K5JUM at k5jum@599dxa.org.

K5JAW relays that he and KC5WQ have successfully sent to and received digital packet signals back from the International Space Station (RS0ISS-4) as the ISS passed over the Mississippi Delta.

Welcome to the following new Hams in Mississippi in May: KF5VKO, Greta – Columbus; KF5VLB, James – New Albany; KF5VPB, Charles – Ridgeland; KF5VPC, Victor – Star; KF5VPD, Edwin – Madison; KF5VPE, Jasper – Hazlehurst; KF5VPE, Ginger – Crystal Springs; KF5VPG, Corley –

Madison; KF5VPK, Jimmy – Biloxi; KF5VPQ, James – Columbus; KF5VPR, Brian – Columbus; KF5VPS, James – Starkville; KF5VPT, Martin - Starkville; KF5VPU, Justin – Maben; KF5VPV, Latisha – Starkville; KF5VPW, Brandon – Caledonia; KF5VPX, Steven – Mathiston; KF5VPY, Macin – Starkville; KF5VQA, Charles – Lucedale; KF5VRU, Mabel – Gulfport; KF5VVT, James – Clinton; KF5VVU, Jimmy – Morton; KF5VVZ, Sammy – Holly Springs; KF5VWP, Kathy – Horn Lake; and KF5VWQ, Mildred – Horn Lake.

Also welcome to the following new ARRL Members in May: KJ5EE – Brandon; K5EJO – Diamondhead; KD5OTK – Madison; KF5SEJ – Crystal Springs; KF5SHS – Biloxi; W5TF – Laurel; N5TNT – Hattiesburg; KF5TTU – Saltillo; KD5UVV – Picayune; KF5VPV – Star; and NU5U – Pontotoc. ARRL Membership in Mississippi fell back in May being down 12 from our record high of 1,146 in March and April. Time to go back to work!

Also welcome to KD4VVZ as EC for George County and KC5IIW as EC For Scott County. Former Scott County EC K1REZ will concentrate on his new duties as DEC for East Central Mississippi. In addition welcome to KF5UBZ as Asst. EC for Scott County and KB5JN as Asst. EC for Adams County.

Congratulations to the following on their upgrades: WA5CYR – Baldwyn; KF5NGZ – New Albany; KJ4NWC – Byhalia; KF5TAV – Horn Lake; KF5TQO – Meadville; KF5TRK – Natchez; KF5TWK – Olive Branch; and KF5UWG – Myrtle.

Also congratulations to Adams County EC N5KDA who completed ARRL EC-001 – Introduction to Amateur Radio Emergency Communications.

Club Newsletters/Reports: Hattiesburg ARC (AC5E), Lowndes County ARA (AD5DO), Meridian ARC (W5MAV), Mississippi Coast ARA (KB9ZR), and the Northeast Mississippi ARA (KB5NMB).

DEC/EC Reports: WB5CON (NE MS/Alcorn), KF5EZT (Rankin), AF5FE (Lauderdale/Clarke), N5KDA (Adams), K5MOZ (Jackson), KB5NMB (Itawamba), WX5N (Prentiss and Tishomingo), WV1Q (Jasper), K1REZ (EC MS/Scott), KE5WJN (Pearl River), and KB0ZTX (NW MS/Marshall).

Regret to report the passing of W5SAR of Waynesboro. Dennis was a WWII veteran and a long time check in on the MSPN.

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

Magnolia Section Net 31/1140/28 (K5DSG)
MS Baptist Hams Net 2/5/0 (WF5F)
MSPN 31/2228/25 (K5NRK)
MS Slow Net 22/51/0 (W3TWD)

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

Booneville and Prentiss County ARES 4/47/0 (WX5N)
Capital Area Em Net 4/80/0 (K5XU)
Delta ARES Net 4/24/0 (K5JAW)
Grenada/Yalobusha ARES Net One Skywarn Activation (AD5IT)

Itawamba County ARES 5/67/1 (KB5NMB)
Jackson ARC Em Net 4/45/0 (N5DU)
Jackson Co ARES Net 27/457/1 (K5MOZ)
Magnolia DX Assn 3/49/0 (K5OAZ)
Meridian Area EN 4/42/0 (AE5FE)
Metro Jackson ARES Net 4/37/0 (K5GCY)
Miss/Lou Em Net 4/26/1 (K5NRK)
Mississippi Preparedness Project EN 5/48/0 (WX5H)
NE MS Skywarn 4/55/0 (W5LMW)
Olive Branch ARC Tech and Info Net 10/82/1 (KD5CKP)
Pearl River County ARES 4/41/0 (KE5WJN)
Pearl River ARC Net 5/82/0 (K5RDA)
Rankin County ARES 5/77/1 (KF5EZT)
Scott County ARES 4/52/1 (W5JMJ/K1REZ)
South Central Skywarn and Jasper County ARES 4/40/0 (WV1Q)
Southern MS YL Net 3/24/0 (KB5CSQ)
Stateline Skywarn Net 5/52/1 (KB5NMB)
Stone County ARES 4/58/0 (N5UDK)
Tishomingo ARC Net 4/56/0 (WX5N)
UMARC Net 4/35/0 (K5LMB)
Yazoo County ARES 4/28/0 (KF5DJS)

PSHR: W5XX 71

Compilation of Net and PSHR statistics provided by KB5RCJ.