

Chickasaw Amateur Radio Association Newsletter



The President's Corner

Greetings from N5PYQ. We're finally starting to see some long overdue sunspot activity and some exciting band openings. Hope everyone gets in on the great band conditions.

A little repeater update: we received some insurance money from the lightening incidents in August and are in the process of buying some new equipment. The Holly Springs repeater has parts ordered and should be back on the air shortly. We also have a new repeater for Tunica that is ready to be installed when time permits.

I would like to say a special thanks to Ed (KF8PD) and Sandy Thornburg (AB8LA) for opening up their home for the Jamboree on the Air for the Scouts. The little time I was there it appeared to have been a great event and sparked a lot of interest for potential new Hams.

Be planning to attend the Christmas Party on December 17th at around 3:00pm. This will be pot luck, so get those favorite recipes out and we will see who gets bragging rights. The party will be at my house, 4500 Smith Rd Hernando MS 38632. Hope to see everyone there.

Thanks for all your hard work.

73,
Tim Jones, N5PYQ

MS 150 Bike Race

The Mid-South Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society sponsored the MS 150 Bike Race which was held September 10 & 11 2011. Bikers assembled at the starting line at the DeSoto Civic Center in Southaven, MS and ended up at Harrah's casino in Tunica MS. Various stops were along the way for water and something to eat. There are areas along the bike route that cell service is non existence so communications for the event was provided by the Delta Amateur Radio Club (DARC) and the Chickasaw Amateur radio Association (CARA). The CARA 146.91 repeater was used to provide communication links though the two counties. Net control was provided by DARC and manned by KJ5DG and W4OQG. Rest areas along the route like this one at Williams and Spring Roads were set up all along the route. Communications at this stop was manned by W4GMM, KE5RHM, and KJ4GZB. The route also went through Hernando by city hall. Communications at city hall was provided by Tommie KE5NBD (not pictured) along with her two scout sons Jonathan and Nathan. There were no serious injuries this year and thanks to all the hams that came out to support the race.



Nathan & Jonathan



Rest stop Williams & Spring



KJ5DG & W4OQG



W4GMM, KE5RHM & KJ4GZV

Volume 2, Issue 7

Aug, Sept. Oct, 2011

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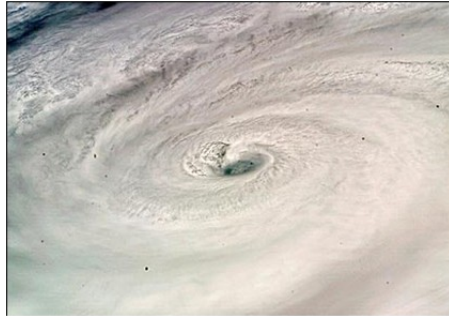
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Emergency Communications News

Many of you are aware it is now Hurricane season in full swing. The tropical waves keep rolling off the African coast and patterns start to favor the development of potentially land falling hurricanes. Many of you have seen the messages for preparedness from our ARES, RACES, and ARRL orgs. I wanted to spend some time this month talking about exactly what that means for us here in NW MS.



Anyone/ anywhere in the state of MS can be affected by a hurricane and all Amateur Radio Operators can help. Many hurricanes have the potential to not only bring devastation to the coast but can move inland and do serious wind damage, tornados, and especially flooding. I lost a column on my house in Katrina. The direct storm damage can be very devastating. The normal preparedness for severe weather applies to us for these situations. But even if the storm focuses little of its energy on NW MS, we still can have tremendous impacts.

A strike anywhere on the gulf coast stresses all the surrounding states. People are displaced and need housing. Thousands of people can end up in hotels and even eventually, emergency shelters as they evacuate the coastal cities. These people need provisions and most importantly to us, communications. Welfare traffic can skyrocket to an all time high in the shelters and our role in our MOUs with organizations like the Red Cross is essential. Our EMA offices will need people to deal with the massive influx of the displaced who need information. Our RACES volunteers become critical to support this role.

Even if you don't have the additional guests to care for in your area, the onset of the storm to the affected areas and the aftermath demand need for our services here. As the storms approach the coasts, fewer people are in the area to pass on information on conditions and damage. HAMS are often the few people reporting on the situations that unfold in the first 24 hrs of the storm in the affected area. Receiving and processing these messages is a critical role we play so that personnel can come to the aid of those in need. Local infrastructure in the affected area can in fact become so disrupted that HAMS pass traffic out of the area to obtain aid from public service agencies *in and around* the affected area. The actual conditions reported to the NWS also come from HAMS. The Hurricane Watch Net on 14.325 MHz is the primary relay to the Hurricane Center in FL for reports on the storms themselves.



And after the storm has passed, the traffic stops. An eerie calm often comes out of the affected area. The volume of inquiries into the NTS increases regarding the health and welfare of families and loved ones. Learning to pass these messages through your local nets such as our net on 3.862 MHz is critical to starting the long process of linking people back together. The Salvation Army Net on 14.265 MHz is also one organization that is also a key net to the welfare response.



“Support your local nets and Check in”



Continued on page 3

Emergency Commnicationcont

As HAMS get deployed into the area and people begin assembling care for those in need, the traffic picks up coming back out of the affected area. Although less in number than the inquiries inbound, there is such a huge opportunity for closure in the human struggle to reconnect. HAMS often offer the only way to provide this service. Those who can be mobile and can depart work with portability and skills in dealing with such a response are invaluable to the effort. Having food, water, operating gear, and personal arrangements in order in advance is essential to being aid to a positive response. If you'll need it, you will need to bring it with you. Even if you can't deploy, be prepared to pass traffic to your area from home! Messages have to get through to someone.



We support our own state and the surrounding states should such an event occur through another MOU. I highly recommend everyone with a desire to help read the Emergency Operations Plan from our MS ARRL website which can be found at www.arrlmiss.org. It will help you better understand and prepare in advance to fulfill our role in such a crisis. I also encourage those who have been through such an event to step forward and mentor our newcomers who have an honest desire to help. There is no substitute for the experience so many of us have from our lived near and on the coastal areas.

73,

Ken Johnson
 KBOZTX/ CD8/ SAR 40
 901-240-3051



146.910 Repeater

MS QSO Party 2012

It won't be long until it's time for the MS QSO Party February 25th 9:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. It looks like preliminary plans are to activate Tunica County again and well as talk of activating another county. Everyone had a good time and good food last year. We need operators so mark it on your calendar to attend the 2012 MS QSO Party.



We are on the Web
<http://www.qsl.net/w5gwd/>

Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) 2011

Ed and Sandi Thornsburg KF8PD and AB8LA hosted the 2011 Jamboree on the Air at their home in Coldwater, MS. JOTA 2011 was a huge success. They had a total of 28 people from troops 239, 41, Ole 97 and the Chickasaw Amateur Radio Association (CARA).

All the scouts and quite a few of the leaders and parents got on the radio to make contacts. It was a great chance to introduce them to radio and some of its capabilities. They made contacts with Texas, Iowa, Arizona, Oregon, Virginia and the UK. A special thanks to Ray, W5RAY, for spending an hour and a half talking to the boys. The scouts talked about their hobbies, things they like to do, the weather, what level they have achieved in Boy Scouts and even their favorite sports teams.

There were a lot of puzzled looks on their faces as a static crash would come rolling down or a robot would start talking nearby. Then someone speaking a foreign language or making beeping sounds would pass by. We even had a UFO station (KJ7UFO) stop by to chat.

The scouts were eager to talk but waited patiently until it was their turn. Some were naturals while others had to be nudged along to get them going. In the end they all had a ball and were eager to learn more.

They had a cookout and everyone got to mingle. The troops were talking about doing a campout together.

The Scout Masters will be presenting a QSL card (see center photo) with their contacts listed, a participation certificate and a JOTA Boy Scout Patch. Many thanks to all the parents, scouts and members of CARA for making this such a success! "We look forward to doing it again next year."



Mystery Antenna

Anyone ever heard of a "Mystery Antenna" It was designed by John W5GI. This antenna is a collinear array and resembles a G5RV with lots of gain on 20m. Works on the low bands with a tuner and out performs a G5rv on 40, 80, and 160m. It has 6 lobes broadside, and gain is amazing. If you live in a restricted area and have a way to put up a wire antenna that is 100 ft in total length, and has 6db gain on 20m, this is the antenna for you.

The W5GI Mystery antenna, erected at various heights and configurations, is currently being used by thousands of amateurs throughout the world. Feedback from users indicates that the antenna has met or exceeded all performance criteria. The "mystery" part of the antenna comes from the fact that it is difficult, if not impossible, to model and explain why the antenna works as well as it does. The antenna is especially well suited to hams who are unable to erect towers and rotating arrays. All that's needed is two vertical supports (trees work well) about 130 feet apart to permit installation of wire antennas at about 25 feet above ground.

Up Grading Your License

Tech's ever consider up grading your license to General. It's not that hard just a little studying , come to the monthly meeting a 6:00 P.M. and take your test. Here are a few sample question from the General test pool.

- Which of the following emission types are permissible while operating HF mobile?
 - CW
 - SSB
 - FM
 - All of these choices are correct.
- What is one good way to avoid stray RF energy in an amateur station?
 - Keep the station's ground wire as short as possible
 - Install an RF filter in series with the ground wire.
 - Use a ground loop for best conductivity
 - Install a few ferrite beads on the ground wire where it connects to your station.

Answers:
1. D
2. A

Annual Membership

Please take the time to send in your annual membership dues if you have not already done so. The dues that you pay are vital in keeping our repeaters on the air and are tax deductible. As you may or may not know we have two additional repeaters the 147.225 in Holly Springs and the 145.350 on the Baptist DeSoto Hospital. So your annual dues are much needed in order to keep all three on the air so they will be available during emergencies and for normal activities. If you are not a member of C.A.R.A. please consider becoming a member. We have a club meeting every third Monday at 7 P.M. at the Lewisburg Fire Department. Application for membership is on page 5 of this newsletter.

2011 Dues for Calendar Year (JANUARY 1 – DECEMBER 31)

\$30.00 - MEMBERSHIP DUES

Make checks payable to:

Chickasaw Amateur Radio Association (C.A.R.A.)

Training and Information Net

The primary purpose of this net is to practice net operations similar to those used in actual emergencies. This net will also be used for routine training and traffic handling, as well as local information for the amateur community. In the event of any severe weather, this net will act as the DeSoto County Emergency Net, Providing coordinated emergency communications in response to severe weather, or any other disaster. Also, severe weather information from the DeSoto County area will be passed on to DeSoto County EMA and the

National Weather Service in Memphis.

Date: Every Monday Night

Time: 8:30 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

Location: 146.910 No Tone

146.91 Simplex if repeater is down

Asterisk denotes Club mtg night

Net control schedule through Dec. 26, 2011

KE5NBD	Tommie	11/7/11
KE5GYQ	Steve	11/14/11
W5KK	Ken	11/21/11 *
KE5RHM	Jim	11/28/11
KE5NBD	Tommie	12/5/11
N5PYQ	Tim	12/12/11
W5KK	Ken	12/19/11 *
KBOZTX	Ken	12/26/11



**Chickasaw Amateur Radio
Association**

**Chickasaw Amateur Radio
Association
P.O. Box 2
Hernando, MS 38632**

***When All Else Fails Amateur
Radio is There.***

We are on the Web

<http://www.qsl.net/w5gwd/>

Become a member of CARA membership applications are on our website. If you have any questions concerning membership, you can contact any of the Board members or E-mail the reflector at cara-ms@yahoo.com
Web Site: <http://www.qsl.net/w5gwd>

DUES RATES PER CALENDAR YEAR (JANUARY 1 – DECEMBER 31)
\$30.00 - MEMBERSHIP DUES
Make checks payable to:
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P.O. Box 2
Hernando, MS 38632

Nets

Mississippi Nets

Magnolia Section Net 3863 6:00 A.M. Mon-Fri
Magnolia Section Net 3862 7:00 A.M. Sat-Sun
Mississippi Phone Net 3862 6:00 P.M. Daily DST & 5:30 P.M. SDT
Mississippi Slow Net (CW) 3543 7:00 P.M. Mon-Fri

Memphis & North Mississippi Area Nets

- **Chickasaw Amateur Radio Association (CARA) 146.91 8:30 P.M. Every Monday**
- OBARC Net 147.255 (79.7) 8:00 P.M. Tuesday
- Panola County ARES Net 146.610 (107.2) 8:30 P.M. Wednesday
- Mid-South Barefooted Bullfrog net 146.535 7:30p Daily
- Delta Club Traffic and Information Net 146.820-(107.2) 8:00p Daily
- Secret Service Net 224.780- 8:30p Monday
- Elmer Net 147.030+(107.2) 9:00p Monday
- The Short Winded Net 146.850- 8:30p Tuesday
- Med/MERS Net 146.730-(107.2) 12:00p Wednesday
- Six Meter Tech Net 53.01- 8:30p Wednesday
- ARES Training Net 146.880-(107.2) 9:00p 2nd & 4th Thursday

Newsletter Editor: Jim Sanders KE5RHM. I am soliciting any photos articles or any information you would like to share. Please include names and call signs of people in the photographs with a brief description of what is happening. If you did a radio project or made some interesting contacts sent it to me. Send all photos and articles to ke5rhm@arrl.net.

Monthly CARA Meeting

C.A.R.A meets every 3rd Monday of the Month at 7:00 PM. Meeting will be at the LEWISBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT, 8771 Byhalia Rd, Olive Branch, MS 38654. Hope to see you there.

CARA Website

We are still soliciting pictures or other content you would like to see posted on the website. If you have something you would like to contribute or see posted please send me an email at kf5bti@gmail.com

Area Hamfest

[FreeFest April 2012 Bartlett, TN](#)

Chickasaw Amateur Radio Association

P.O. Box 2
Hernando, MS 38632

2011 Membership Application Form

Application Date ___/___/___

Call sign _____ Class of License _____ Exp Date ___/___/___

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone (____) _____ Publish? Yes ___ No ___

Cell (____) _____ Publish? Yes ___ No ___

Work Phone (____) _____ E-mail _____

Date of your original Amateur License ___/___/___

ARRL Member Yes ___ No ___ Life ___

Signature _____ Date ___/___/___

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\$30.00 - MEMBERSHIP DUES

Make checks payable to:

Chickasaw Amateur Radio Association (C.A.R.A.)

P.O. Box 2

Hernando, MS 38632

If you have any questions concerning membership, you can contact Timmy Jones N5PYQ@arrl.net 901.870.2849 or Jim Sanders KE5RHM@arrl.net

Office Use Only:

Date received: ___/___/___

Cash/Check: # _____

Date Deposited: ___/___/___ By: _____

Input: _____ Website: _____

