

Big Island Amateur Radio Club

BIARC Newsletter

March 2008

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FOR MARCH, 2008

Our February meeting was excellent. Our big thank you to Jim Kennedy K6MIO/KH6, his presentation was excellent and very interesting. I have known Jim for many years. When we both lived in California we would work each other on various types of propagation. The most interesting was when we could point both our antennas northwest and work backscatter off sporadic E clouds out in the Pacific. I have also worked Paul, KH6HME from my California QTH on 2, 144, 222, 432 MHz SSB many times over the years using "tropo ducting". At times Paul would be in for weeks at a time and some times very strong. All the different types of propagation make our hobby very interesting indeed. It does not take a large antenna or much power, just patience.

Thank you is in order to the budget committee for their time in preparing the 2008 budget. The club membership at the February meeting approved the 2008 budget. I notice that we have a number of members that have not renewed their membership. We need everyone to renew so we can meet our operating budget goals. Please send your checks to BIARC PO Box 1938 Hilo, Hawaii 96721.

It looks like there will be four hamfests during 2008. Waimea in October, Hilo August 9th joint with Hawaii QRP Club, South Point ARC TBD and Kona TBD. There will be testing, Swap tables and more. We will continue to pass on information as it is available.

And last a bit of BIARC history reading the monthly newsletter for 1995 written by Jon Gager, NH6XM, as President: "BIARC made history in 1995. First of all, we became incorporated. We also have a constitution and Bylaws that have been overhauled"

Please note if anyone has questions or needs help setting up your station, please give one of the "ELMER" committee members a call. We will be glad to meet at your QTH and give you a hand. Members are WH7CB, NH7WV, WH7FC, AH6RE, WH6AWH and KH7Y.

Aloha, Fred KH7Y President

DXCC CARD CHECKING

IF YOU HAVE CARDS TO BE CHECKED FOR ARRL DXCC, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH ME BEFORE YOU FILL OUT YOUR APPLICATION. CALL ME AT 959-8863 AND LEAVE YOUR CALL AND PHONE NUMBER OR E-MAIL ME AT kh6fkg@aol.com WITH "DXCC" IN THE SUBJECT LINE.

Harry KH6FKG, ARRL DXCC Card Checker.



Jim Kennedy K6MIO

**Big Island Amateur Radio Club
General Membership Meeting
February 9, 2008**

The meeting was called to order by Fred KH7Y at 2PM. Introductions were made and announcements given. Fred announced that next weekend is the ARRL DX CW contest,

Our speaker for the day, James Kennedy KH6/K6MIO, was introduced. His presentation on the Ionospheric Propagation was well received. Many questions were presented to Jim. He recommended a book for further study: Ionospheric Radio by Kenneth Davies, Peregrinus Ltd., London ISBN 0 86341 186X.

Refreshments and social time followed presentation.

Business Meeting:

Secretary's report of January meeting was approved as printed in the newsletter.

Treasurer's report was given by Ron AH6HN. Balance on hand \$1,444.81. Membership stands at 57.

Repeaters: Ron reported that all are up and working. They had discovered that the Naalehu repeater had been turned off. Maui has been hooked up for several months. John KH7T reported that 7 UHF systems on Maui are going to be linked. Bob AH6J has delivered the cabinet and co-ax to Rick Ward at Ocean View and only needs one connector to do the hook up at the KH6RC location. Emergency power for repeaters needs to be looked into for this year.

Web Site: Looking good. Webmaster Rick Frazier AH7H says that we should change the Webmaster designation to Curt AH6RE. Rick will be available to assist if needed. Looks as though the old web site is gone.

Newsletter: Looking good, thanks to Curt. Articles are to be in to Curt by the 20th of the month.

Proposed Budget: Budget presented by Ron AH6HN. Paul WH7BR made a motion to accept the budget, seconded by John KH7T. All approved. Copy of budget will be printed in the newsletter.

Old Business:

QSL Bureau: Bob AH6J reported that the plaque to be given to Wayne Jones has arrived. Bob hopes that by April 1st we will be taking over the Hawaii QSL Bureau.

New Business:

Ron mentioned that the 2M net which is held on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings needs a net control for Wednesday morning. If you are interested in giving it a try get in touch with Ron AH6HN at 982-6513.

Ron also mentioned that the ARES Net is held every Saturday night at 7PM local time on 146.76 .

Meeting was adjourned at 4PM.

Barbara Darling NH7FY



Andrew Sheppe K1OWL at the Hilo Hawaiian

BIARC Budget for 2008

Income:

General Members	92@ \$20	1840.
Family Members	15@ \$10	150.
Associate Members	10@ \$10	100.
Student Members	6@ \$10	60.
Donations		200.
TOTAL		2350.

Expenses:

Insurance		
Liability		325.
Equipment		100.
PO Box Rent		92.
Field Day		200.
Repeater upgrade + maintenance		800.
Health/Welfare		30.
Office Supplies		100.
Printing		240.
Postage		250.
Christmas Party		100.
Social activities		100.
Miscellaneous		13.
TOTAL		2350.

Approved by the membership.

The speaker at the March meeting will be Ken Cutting KH7ZJ on the subject of emergency preparedness.

Your contributions are essential for making this newsletter interesting and informative. How do you enjoy yourself with amateur radio? Let us all know! Contact the Editor with story ideas. ah6re -at- arrl.net

Big Island Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 1938
Hilo, HI 96721

Officers

President	Fred Honnold KH7Y	982-5226
Vice President	Arman Wiggins WH6BVZ	963-6846
Treasurer	Ron Phillips AH6HN	982-6513
Secretary	Barbara Darling NH7FY	982-9126

One Year Directors

Beau Mills NH7WV	968-1271
Bob Schneider AH6J	966-8146
Curt Knight AH6RE	966-8304
Richard Fetchen KH6WE	982-7426

Two Year Directors

Richard Darling AH7G	982-9126
Fred Benardella KH6FI	968-1331
Rick Frazier AH7H	985-9169
Paul Ducasse WH7BR	985-9222
Gregg Datlof WH7FC	982-9838
Peter Yoes WH7CB	965-5429

Standing Committees

Service/Awards co-chair	Harry Nishiyama	KH6FKG
Education	Ron Phillips	AH6HN
Emergency Coord.	Harvey Motomura	AH6JA
Equipment	Harry Nishiyama	KH6FKG
Health&Welfare	Bill Carlson	KH7E
Hospitality	Barbara Darling	NH7FY
Newsletter Programs	Gloria Whiteley	Associate
Repeater	Curt Knight	AH6RE
Webmaster	Arman Wiggins	WH6BVZ
	Ron Phillips	AH6HN
	Rick Frazier	AH7H

Special Committees

Christmas Party Improvement co-chair	Gloria Whiteley	Associate
Field Day	Harry Nishiyama	KH6FKG
Hamfest co-chair	Ron Phillips	AH6HN
QSL Bureau	Paul Ducasse	WH7BR
Volcano Run	Bob Schneider	AH6J
	John Buck	KH7T
	Barbara Darling	NH7FY
	Sean Stueber	NH7SA

Meetings and Get-Togethers

Membership meetings – Second Saturday of each month at 2PM at the Kea'au Community Center

Board Meetings – will be held every other month 1 hour prior to the general membership meeting at the same location as the general meeting (January, March, May, July, September, November).

Friday Lunches – every Friday at the Queen's Court Restaurant in the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel. Meet in the lobby between 11:00 and 11:15, or we will see you inside in the far left corner.

East Hawai'i Net

The East Hawai'i Net meets on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings at 8AM HST on 146.76 MHz.

BIWARN accessible Repeaters

Repeaters in bold font are BIWARN/MCDA linked. When operating over a link, remember to leave extra time each transmission for the link to be established. Number in parentheses is the tone access frequency.

145.29-	HOVE-Ka'u WH6FC (100)
146.66-	HOVE (100)
146.68-	Kea'au limited area KH6EJ
146.76-	Kulani KH6EJ
146.82-	Mauna Loa ARES KH6EJ
146.88-	Pepeekeo KH6EJ (may be linked)
146.92-	Ka'u PD KH6EJ
146.94-	Haleakala Maui KH6RS (110.9)
147.02+	Haleakala Maui RACES AH6JA
147.04+	Mauna Loa RACES AH6JA
147.16+	Kona (Hualalai) WH6DEW
147.32+	Hilo Hospital NH7HI (100)
147.38+	Waimea East KH7T experimental
442.35+	Kaanapali Maui (136.5)
442.5+	Kea'au KH6EJ
443.65+	Ocean View Hub
444.225+	Haleakala Maui KH6RS (110.9)
444.45+	Parker Ranch KH6EJ (88.5)

BIARC Radio Contest News

The **CQ 160m CW** contest was held the weekend of 29-30 January. **Lloyd KH6LC** and regulars **N6KB** and **AH6RE** made 893 contacts in 56 states/provinces and 26 countries for a grand total of 726602. Conditions were great and the crew learned how advantageous even a poor beverage antenna can be thanks to **Ken N6KB** who crawled through the jungle in the pouring rain to lay down a couple.

Another favorite on the recent calendar was the **ARRL DX CW** which was held the weekend of 15 February. There was considerable local activity. Fred **KH7Y** operated all bands for 2654 contacts and 224 multipliers and 1783488 points. In spite of the sunspot number of zero, Fred reports "A very good opening on 10 meters Sunday morning with a run of about 100 stations. 15 and 20 meters were real good Sunday. Ten meter amp went up in smoke, so back to getting it ready for SSB. A fun contest." **Bill KH7B** in Laupahoehoe made 1706 contacts and 59 multipliers in a single band 40 meter effort, breaking the old Oceania record. Bill will continue to fill out his antenna farm over the next few weeks. Down the road in Keaau, **Lloyd KH6LC** and the crew **N6KB**, **N6GQ**, **SM0DRD**, and **AH6RE** sweated through mediocre conditions to amass 5228 contacts and 293 multipliers for a 4592775 score. In preparation for the ARRL DX Phone contest Lloyd has instituted a rooster QRM elimination program and he claims great success so far.

This year's **ARRL DX Phone** will be held the weekend of March 1 and 2. **Jeff N6GQ** will keep the tubes warm at **KH6LC** in single operator category, using his brand new K3 transceiver. This contest is also a favorite of **Harry KH6FKG**. Harry made the top ten in single operator single band 40m in 2007 with 104463 points. Harry doesn't know if he will be able to enter this year, but "I'm getting better, however, too much talking triggers my coughing so I'm off the air for now and doing my antenna maintenance. Equipment I use is a TS850S with a Henry 2K4 linear backed off and cruises along at 800W into a homebrewed 3 element 40m beam. I usually enter single op, single band high power on 40m since here in Hawaii 40m is usually open from 0300Z to 1500Z which gives me lots of sack time."

Remember, you don't have to be “serious” to participate – all are welcome. And afterward, send your report in to the Editor.

Iraq Ham Operating

Have you ever thought what it would be like to be a ham radio operator in a country like Iraq? Mel Kernahan, an associate member from California, recently sent me an article dated January 14, 2008 from the Los Angeles Times that made me realize just how lucky we are to be able to operate in the United States. The title of the article was “Amateur Radio Enthusiasts in Iraq are mostly Over and Out”. While under the rule of Saddam Hussein, ham operators had to report to government-sanctioned clubs where monitors listened in on their conversations. Now they face suspicion, from both U.S. troops and the Iraqi government, that their transmissions are tools of the insurgency.

One ham radio operator Abdul Karim Hadi YI1AK, who has been operating since 1978, is trying to revive interest in the hobby and keep it alive. He recalls that during Hussein’s years ham radio operators could not use their radios at home. You would be hanged if they found you with a transmitter. They thought you were a spy if you had an antenna. He is trying his best to persuade other hams to get back on the air in Iraq. Hopefully they will all get back on the air soon and we’ll be able to talk to them again.

Barbara NH7FY

February ARRL Section Manager's Report

[The SM report has been edited owing to space constraints – club news has been removed for some clubs not on the Island of Hawai'i]

Even though hurricane season officially ended on November 30, 2007 continued weather problems remind us that we are never completely out of danger. Early February proved it again when heavy rain caused flooding in many parts of the state. Sky Warn

and several nets were activated. Information came in from several areas including Hawaii County Civil Defense. IRLP and Echolink were used in conjunction with VHF and HF radio to keep the information flowing. AH6JA also sent several test messages from Hawaii County CD by winlink to prove that e-mail is still possible even if wire and cable connections are lost. Winlink is an HF protocol that allows e-mail to be sent over HF radio.

Battleship Missouri ARC (BMAC) reports KH6BB generally operates from 9AM to Noon every Tuesday. Ned Conklin, KH7JJ, received the Battleship Missouri Memorial Award as the outstanding volunteer of the year. He is a volunteer since 1998 and president of the Battleship Missouri ARC.

Kohala Hamakua Radio Club (KHRC) reported light activity except for one emergency road incident. They next meet Sunday March 9th at 2PM in Hawi.

Kona ARS next meets on Sunday March 16 at OTEC park at 2PM.

Marianas ARC (MARC) Please join the MARC International Net which starts at 7:00 p.m. Monday, Guam time, or 11:00 p.m. Sunday HST. This is 0900 Monday UTC. It is on the Club repeater 146.91(-) and on the IRLP Reflector 9254. There is an Echo-Link bridge to Reflector 9254. Thanks to Carter Davis, KH6FV and Kent Johnson, W7AOR, for setting up the IRLP and Echo-link.

Thirty Oahu hams supported the 8th annual HURT 100 (miles) Ultra Marathon endurance race. It lasts 36 hours. It was held January 19th and 20th. They ran four shifts to communicate between the three aid stations located at Paradise Park, Makiki and Nuuanu. Digital communication proved very effective. With real time updates available. Thanks especially go to Sprint for donation of the wireless access. The pages were accessed more than 20,000 times from throughout the world. See:

<http://aditl.com/hurt/> . Photos can be viewed at:
http://www.aditl.com/photogallery/main.php?g2_itemId=10173

The ham radio and web support for the race was organized by a team of Bart, WH6AA, Bev, AH6NF, Jim, WH6GS and Kimo, KH7U.

Warren Munro, KH6WM, is holding an Intermediate Amateur Radio class at Kaimuki Adult Education expected to go Feb 12 to April 29. Emphasis will be on General license preparation so the students are expected to have either a Technician License or equivalent knowledge. For more information call Warren at 487-1863. You may also e-mail to kh6wm@arri.net. Warren says thanks to all who have helped in recent classes.

Special thanks go to Warren for sending information on various happenings. An example is the change of the alternate frequency of the 1900Z (9AM Local) Daily Friendly net. The primary frequency is 7,290Khz. The alternate of 3860Khz has been changed to 3888Khz. If you have information and are not sure if it is newsworthy, send it anyway.

Several stations reported hearing the Special 40 meter HAARP station reflected back from the moon.

Rick Ward, WH6FC, and the South Point ARC aka SPARC are now in the process of assembling a repeater to tie the "soft underbelly" of the Island of Hawaii into the Big Island Wide Area Network known as BIWARN. The most southern repeater is now located in Naalehu. With the new machine the southernmost repeater will be at South Point and it will cover South Kau and Hawaiian Ocean View Estates. The BIWARN system was used to feed weather and road information to CD and Sky Warn during the recent storms.

There are now 576 members of ARRL in the Pacific Section however only 308 are receiving the SM and Directors newsletter by e-mail.

The ARRL Board has created two new Field Organization positions. They are Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator and Assistant District Emergency Coordinator. The Board authorized Dave Patton, NN1N, Manager of the Membership and Volunteer Services Department, to develop and implement terms of reference for these positions. These two positions require ARRL membership.

The board also decided that members in the ARRL Pacific Section (which includes Hawaii and the US Pacific Island Territories) would have their ballots mailed via First Class Mail to ensure timely arrival. Ballots are currently mailed via bulk mail.

European full Reciprocal Licenses may now be limited to Advanced and Extra Class Licensees. The European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) have revised its table of equivalence between FCC amateur licenses and the CEPT license effective February 4, 2008. If you plan to operate overseas recheck the requirements for the country you are going to.

Makani Pahili hurricane exercise will be in mid-May. This year we will attempt to have ham activity during the week of the exercise in addition to the two hour segment on Saturday. More details are pending.

ARRL Pacific Section

Section Manager: Robert L. Schneider, AH6J



Army Curtis AE5P and Bob AH6J at the Hilo Hawaiian

Big Island Amateur Radio Club

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Hilo, HI 96721