

Big Island Amateur Radio Club



Newsletter – May 2011

No More Printed/Mailed Newsletters

Due to excessive cost, this will be the last monthly newsletter that BIARC will print and mail. It was decided at the April regular club meeting that the costs have become excessive. The cost of printing, folding, and stapling 40 copies of the March newsletter at Office Max was \$45.00. Add to that 44 cents postage per copy. Total cost per year per member for mailed newsletters is now \$18.78, nearly all of the member's annual dues.

Instead, the newsletter will be sent out via e-mail. If the club does not have a current e-mail address for you, please supply one. If access to your e-mail account requires permission from you (Otherwise, club e-mail will be automatically rejected.), please provide the permission. For those who prefer not to receive via e-mail, the newsletter will be posted on the BIARC website. There will also be a couple of printed copies available for reading at the next club meeting.

Letter from BIARC president Tom Thornton AH6ZZ

RE: Relocation to Oahu

A year ago, I accepted a position with a small government contractor in Honolulu. Part of the work, I do virtually from Hilo, but a growing portion requires that I be in Honolulu. Growth of our customer base and the number of employees has been phenomenal [70 new

employees in the past 11 months] and I spend two to five days a week in Honolulu. The time involved in travel runs from five to ten hours a week, which adds significantly to the hours I spend at this “part-time” job. The catch-up time while I am in Hilo means that I work most weekends.

It has become clear that living on the Big Island and commuting to Oahu adds significantly to the stress and detracts from my ability to do the job which at this point is full-time plus. Consequently, we have decided to relocate back to Honolulu. Our plan is to move sometime in May, but that could be delayed a day or weeks or months – but the ball has been set in motion.

All this means of course that I will not be here for EMCOM and other unplanned (and some planned) activities – but I will return to Big Island each month for the club meetings including June's Field Day weekend and the October Ham Fest.

With the concurrence of the Board of Directors, I will remain as President of BIARC until December 2011.

{signed}

The Board concurred, thanked Tom for his service to BIARC, and expressed appreciation for his continuing willingness to serve.

May Meeting to be held at Puna Covenant Church

The regular club meeting (no board meeting) will be held at 2:00 on May 14 at Puna Covenant Church, formerly Puna Congregational Church. The church is located in Kea'au on the same street as McDonald's and the fire department, one-quarter mile mauka of the fire department. Our usual meeting location, the Kea'au Community Center, has been reserved for that date, likely for one of the high school graduation parties very common this time of year. Program will be by Darryl Koon, director of Mauna Loa Solar Observatory, located at 11,000 feet. He will be discussing solar flares, sunspots, and other phenomena relevant to HF propagation. He has invited club members to tour the observatory, in groups of no more than ten.

It has not yet been decided whether there will be a regular meeting in June, or whether there will be only a Field Day planning meeting, for those involved. If there is a regular meeting, there will be no program. Instead, the meeting will be dedicated solely to Field Day planning.

Big Island Amateur Radio Club Board Meeting of April 9, 2011

The board meeting was called to order at 1:06 p.m. by club president Tom Thornton AH6ZZ. Ten of 15 board members were present.

No committee reports. Letter from Tom Thornton (printed above) was read and accepted.

Old Business:

Ron Phillips AH6HN is back from California, and is very pleased to be back. He brought up the matter of the callsign on the Mauna Kea repeater. It still has Dennis Carvalho's callsign KH7H on it, even though he is no longer custodian of it. Bob Schneider

AH6J stated that the club had previously had permission to use Dennis' callsign, and that the reason it had not been changed was winter ice and snow on the mountain. Ron, custodian of the club's AH6EJ callsign, said it would be okay for the club to use this callsign. The Mauna Kea repeater is property of VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters), but BIARC has agreed to maintain it. Paul Agamata WH6FM, repeater chair, has the control codes and other maintenance information.



Ron AH6HN

In response to previous discussions of amateur radio's role in Civil Defense, Milt Nodacker AH6I circulated printed copies of some suggestions for inclusion in a Memorandum of Understanding between the Big Island amateur

radio community and Hawaii County Civil Defense.

Field Day at Wailoa Center June 25-26 was discussed after Robert Oliver NH6AH, Field Day chair, arrived at 1:40. Milt Nodacker said that he will be in town, and will help. Pete Yoes KH7HI said he will supply one tower and HF yagi. The club's coax is at Wilbur KH7E and Doris Carlson's. Robert Oliver said that his letter to Wailoa Center management provides for "24-hour operations."

New Business:

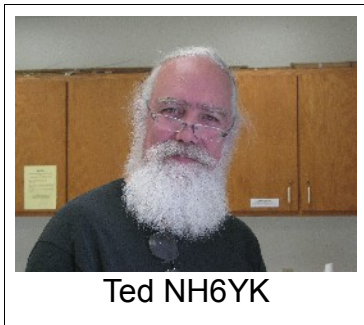
Date for the October swap meet in Waimea was discussed. October 8 will conflict with the Ironman Triathlon. Target date was set as October 22, with the 29th as backup.

ARRL has a new liability and equipment insurance carrier, the Hays Group, effective May 1. The club's equipment insurance policy with Marsh expires 3/12/2012, with the liability insurance policy expiring in late fall. BIARC will change carrier when current policies expire. Marsh wants a new list of insured items and serial numbers. Club treasurer Lloyd Cabral KH6LC will follow up.

The board meeting adjourned at 2:00.

Regular BIARC Club Meeting of April 9, 2011

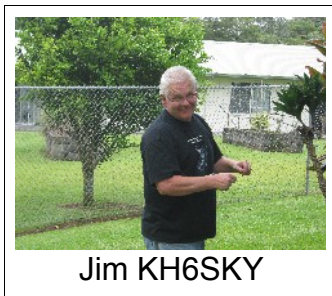
The regular meeting was called to order at 2:12 by club president Tom Thornton. Twenty-four hams were present. After introductions, the meeting proceeded with the scheduled program. Ted Brattstrom NH6YK and Jim Sky KH6SKY discussed radio astronomy. Ted Brattstrom did the PowerPoint presentation.



Ted NH6YK

Radio astronomy deals with wavelengths from one kilometer to one centimeter. Radio astronomy originated in 1933 when Jansky noted four minutes of radio interference every day at 20.1 MHz. He ultimately traced this interference to passage of the Milky Way across the sky.

World War II proved a great boon to radio astronomy. Hams were forced into radio silence, reducing interference from terrestrial sources. Also, the development of radar dishes enabled radio astronomers to focus in



Jim KH6SKY

on particular areas of the sky. First to use a dish was Grote Reber W9GFZ. The first radio sky map was completed in 1944, concentrating on 160 MHz and 460 MHz.

World War II radars first noticed interference at sunrise, which was determined to be due to radio emissions from the sun. It was discovered that 21 cm. (1420 MHz) was a particularly desirable frequency for listening to the sky, due to minimal random interference. After the war, surplus military radar dishes became the basis for the Jodrell Bank radio observatory in Britain.

Pulsars, which are rapidly rotating neutron stars, produce pulsating magnetic fields that generate radio waves at the rate of several to many times per second. Neutron stars, which have masses similar to the sun, have diameters of only around 10 km, and are collapsed supernovae.

Penzias and Wilson were awarded the Nobel in physics during the late 1970s for discovering that the cosmic background radiation found throughout the sky was doppler-shifted radiation from the Big Bang. Frank Drake initiated SETI, the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence, monitoring certain frequencies for anything that might have come from "ET".

One noted designer of antennas for listening to the sky was John Kraus W8JK of Ohio State. Some of his designs can be built by amateurs.

Unlike optical telescopes, radio telescopes are built in valleys rather than on mountaintops. This is to reduce RF interference.

Jim Sky set up a 0-30 MHz software-defined radio as a display, noting that it would function as a Radio Jove (Jupiter) receiver. BIARC members can go to his website radiosky.com for free radio astronomy software.

The meeting proceeded into business at 3:15 without a break. The secretary's minutes were accepted as printed in the newsletter. The treasurer, Lloyd Cabral, reported that the club has \$2,334.67 in the bank, with final payment of \$1,000 having been made to Ralph Fontaine for repeater equipment. There was no membership report.

There was no repeater committee report, Paul Agamata being absent. There was no website report, Curt Knight AH6RE also being absent. Health and welfare (Barbara Darling NH7FY) reported that Herb Vanderbeek WY6G, who had fallen , was up and about and in Minnesota for a World War II reunion at age 90. QSL bureau (also Barbara Darling) reported having received 1,524 cards in March, for a total of 7,874 for the year.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Joe Speroni AH0A, general manager of the August Hawaii QSO party, has decided to add an additional operating location, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.

Joe Owen KO4RR moved that the club cease printing and mailing of monthly newsletters after the April issue. The motion was seconded. Tom Thornton suggested bringing two printed copies to meetings, so that anyone present could read them. John Buck KH7T proposed an amendment to charge extra for mailed copies. Lloyd Cabral disagreed, citing the additional administrative burden. Barbara Darling reported that nine of the e-mailed newsletters from March had been returned, e-mail addresses having either been changed or unsolicited e-mails having been blocked.

After discussion, the following motion was adopted: "Effective after the next issue, there will be no more printed copies of the newsletter mailed. Newsletters will be

available via e-mail and will be posted on the BIARC website. Written copies will be available for reading at club meetings."

Milt Nodacker reminded the club that he is teaching a Technician licensing class at the Kilauea Ave. LDS church on Thursday evenings at 6:30. He later reported that 20 had attended the first class.

The meeting adjourned at 3:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Broyles KH7SO, secretary



Ricky – assistant at KH6LC

10-10 International Net

Irene NH7PE reminds us that the 10-10 International Net will hold its spring QSO Party the weekend of the 7th and 8th of May. You don't need to be a 10-10 member to participate. For more information, consult www.ten-ten.org . And don't forget the local on-air meeting on 28.490 Monday nights at 6:30 PM local time.

Big Island Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 1938

Hilo, HI 96721

www.biarc.net

Officers

President	Tom Thornton AH6ZZ	754-7412
Vice President	Milt Nodacker AH6I	965-6471
Treasurer	Lloyd Cabral KH6LC	966-7782
Secretary	David Broyles KH7SO	854-0362

Two Year Directors

Beau Mills NH7WV	968-1271
Richard Fetchen KH6WE	982-7426
Paul Agamata WH6FM	
Elizabeth Yoes WH7CU	965-5429
Chuck Epperson AH6SC	966-4698
Rick Gardner WH6LU	

One Year Directors

Richard Darling AH7G	982-9126
Ron Phillips AH6HN	982-6513
Rick Frazier AH7H	985-9169
Bob Schneider AH6J	966-8146
Peter Yoes KH7HI	965-5429

Standing Committees

Service/Awards	Ron Phillips	AH6HN
Education	Vacant	
Emergency	Paul Ducasse	WH7BR
Equipment	Lloyd Cabral	KH6LC
Health&Welfare	Barbara Darling	NH7FY
Hospitality	Barbara Darling	NH7FY
Newsletter	Curt Knight	AH6RE
Programs	Milt Nodacker	AH6I
Repeater	Paul Agamata	WH6FM
Webmaster	Curt Knight	AH6RE

Special Committees

Improvement	Ron Phillips	AH6HN
Field Day	Robert Oliver	NH6AH
Hamfest	Bob Schneider	AH6J
co-chair	John Buck	KH7T
QSL Bureau	Barbara Darling	NH7FY

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 – A group meets for lunch every Friday at 11:30 at Hokulani's Steak House in the mall at Kea'au near the Post Office.

East Hawai'i Net

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

BIWARN accessible Repeaters

Repeaters in bold font are BIWARN/MCDA linked. When operating over a link, remember to leave extra time in each transmission for the link to be established. The 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-	Pepe'ekeo 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 (100)
147.32+	Waimea Hospital NH7HI (100)
147.38+	Waimea East KH7T experimental
442.35+	Ka'anapali Maui (136.5)
442.5+	Kea'au KH6EJ
443.40+	Ocean View KH7MS (77.0)
443.40+	Kona KH7MS (100.0)
443.65+	Ocean View Hub
444.225+	Haleakala Maui KH6RS (110.9)
444.45+	Parker Ranch KH6EJ (88.5)
444.9+	Hilo WH6FM WIN system (100)
444.775+	Hilo WH6FM XO system (123)

BIARC Radio Contest Report

We haven't had a contest report for a while, so it's time to catch up a little.

Irene NH7PE reports that she has received a certificate for her efforts in the 2010 ARRL International DX Contest (SSB), single-operator single-band 10 meters, for first place in Hawai'i and second place worldwide. In the same contest, Rob NH6V operated KH6LC to take the 80 meters single operator single band prize.

In the 2011 ARRL DX SSB, Carl KH7BB reports 417 contacts and 48 sections for a score of 60048 in a single band 40 meter high power effort. Fred KH7Y chose 15 meters single-band and made 2830 contacts in 60 sections for 509400 points.

In the 2011 CQ WPX SSB, Fred NH6P (= KH7Y) made 2717 contacts in a single-operator single-band 15 meter high power effort, and Rob NH6V operating at KH6LC made 557 contacts on the same band, but Rob saved Lloyd's electric bill by entering in the QRP (5 watt) division. It seems from the reported results so far that Rob has a good shot at first place worldwide in the QRP division.



configuration, with four stations capable of

simultaneous operation. A big crew was required, and Lloyd recruited operators from as far away as Colorado to participate.

More recently, Lloyd repeated the multi-multi operation in the 2011 contest with most of the same crew and made a total of 7303 contacts and 336 multipliers for a score of 7360416, which will put him in the running for second place in the world according to information available now. Operators in 2011 were AH6RE, KH6KM, KH6LC, KH7Y, N6DA, N6KB, NH6V, W6NV, and W6SC.

This year's JapanInternational DX contest – CW was the weekend of the 9th and 10th of April. Rob NH6V entered in the low power (100 watt) division from KH6LC and the early returns show him in he lead worldwide in this division with 736 contacts and a score of 172656.



ARRL DX CW 2010 Crew



Oliver W6NV operates 10 meters at KH6LC