



## **Big Island Amateur Radio Club Newsletter – June 2009**

### **President's Message**

This is the month of Field Day (last weekend in June) and we are fortunate to have Pete KH7HI as our leader this year. It will be held at the Wailoa Center where it was held last year. I'm sure he would appreciate your giving him a hand. Our planning session will be held at our meeting on June 13<sup>th</sup>.

Gloria Whiteley is in Room 301 at the Life Care Center and she is looking for visitors. As she said "I'm WAITING". It gets mighty lonely for her. Today when we visited the highlight of her day was going outside in her wheelchair and having some refreshments that one of the visitors brought in. The same goes for Ann Miller in the VA Home- Room 254A .We got a cake to celebrate Ann's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 20. These two ladies could sure use some diversions. I'm sure that they might get bored just having Richard and I stopping in.

Fred KH7Y is now officially moved into his new home. Their new address is 92-962 Kahili Blvd., Ocean View Ranchos. His phone number is 557-9022 and his new E Mail address is [kh7y@alohabroadband.net](mailto:kh7y@alohabroadband.net)

I have not given a report on the QSL Bureau the last couple months. In March we had 1,489 cards received and in April 5,599 cards for a total so far this year of 13,163. The last box sent from Japan had over 4,000 cards but it turned out that about 1,000 of them were sent to us in error. They belong to Alaska. The ham

receiving the most cards in our area is Fred KH7Y. He just picked up a box of cards for himself and other hams in the Ocean View area. One card that we really found interesting in the last batch that came through was one sent to AH6GN. In case you don't recognize this call it was Wilbur's old call. His call now is KH7E. This card came from Yugoslavia and was dated 1989, almost 20 years ago. We're wondering whether it has been floating around or if the ham is just getting around to sending out cards.

I talked to Mike NH7JT the other day and he said that he was going to do a short article for the news letter telling how he got started in ham radio. We think it would be really neat if some of you other hams would think about doing the same thing. Even I might think about it.

I am taking a trip to the mainland in mid June for one week. My parents, Henry and Dorothy Hess, will be celebrating their 75<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. They are having a family get-together in Maryland where they live with my sister Mary and her husband Phil. I am really looking forward to seeing the whole family.

Hope to see many of you at the meeting on June 13<sup>th</sup> and again on Field Day as I will be back in time for that.

73 Barbara NH7FY



AH6HN – Field Day 2008

# Big Island Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 1938  
Hilo, HI 96721

[www.biarc.net](http://www.biarc.net)

## Officers

President	Barbara Darling NH7FY	982-9126
Vice President	Paul Ducasse WH7BR	985-9222
Treasurer	Curt Knight AH6RE	966-8304
Secretary	Arman Wiggins WH6BVZ	963-6846

## Two Year Directors

Beau Mills NH7WV	968-1271
Richard Fetchen KH6WE	982-7426
Kile Golden WH7FB	982-6782
Elizabeth Yoes WH7CU	965-5429
Chuck Epperson AH6SC	966-4698

## One Year Directors

Richard Darling AH7G	982-9126
Fred Benardella KH6FI	968-1331
Rick Frazier AH7H	985-9169
Gregg Datlof WH7FC	982-9838
Peter Yoes KH7HI	965-5429

## Standing Committees

Service/Awards	Vacant	
co-chair	Ron Phillips	AH6HN
Education	Harvey Motomura	AH6JA
Emergency Coord.	Vacant	
Equipment	Fred Benardella	KH6FI
Health&Welfare	Barbara Darling	NH7FY
Hospitality	Kile Golden	WH7FB
Newsletter	Curt Knight	AH6RE
Programs	Arman Wiggins	WH6BVZ
Repeater	Ron Phillips	AH6HN
Webmaster	Curt Knight	AH6RE

## Special Committees

Christmas Party	Committee	
Improvement	Ron Phillips	AH6HN
Field Day	Peter Yoes	KH7HI
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 each transmission for the link to be established. Number in parentheses is the tone access frequency.

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

**Big Island Amateur Radio Club  
General Membership Meeting  
May 9, 2009**

The General Meeting was called to order by Barbara Darling NH7FY at 2 pm.

Introductions were made.

Barbara announced that the Keaau Community Center would be occupied by others for next months meeting, so another place would have to be found to meet. Next months meeting will be a planning session for the upcoming Field Day.

Ann Miller has become a permanent resident of the State VA home next to the hospital. She is adjusting well and participating in many of the activities there.

The Secretary's report was approved as printed in the newsletter.

The Treasurer's report is as follows:

	year to date	past month
Income		
Donations		
Refreshments	47.83	13.00
Repeater	230.00	
Membership Dues		
Associate	50.00	20.00
Family	130.00	20.00
General Membership	1,480.00	80.00
Student	20.00	10.00
Total Income	1,957.83	143.00
Expense		
Bank Service Charges	5.00	
Dues and Subscriptions	35.00	

Equipment Insurance	72.00	
Postage and Delivery	84.00	
Printing and Reproduction	39.12	
Repeater Maintenance	520.00	
Returned Check	20.00	
Refreshments	99.15	21.98
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>874.27</b>	<b>21.98</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>1,083.56</b>	<b>121.02</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>3,209.70</b>	

Total membership is 101 people.

Repeater report was given by Ron Phillips AH6HN. The repeater on Mauna Kea will be replaced by a new one shortly. The old repeater will be relocated to lower Puna and will not be connected to the BIWARN system. It will be a stand alone repeater.

There has been some concern with the level of "chit chat" on the BIWARN repeaters since that is not the purpose of BIWARN.

The purchase of batteries for some of the repeaters is also being planned for the near future so that the repeaters are not dependent on any form of public utilities for their operation. This will allow their continued operation in times of emergency.

Peter Yoes KH7HI gave the Field Day report. The Wailoa Center has been reserved for Field Day. Computers and radios are needed for Field Day. Let Pete KH7HI know if you can contribute.

Ron Phillips AH6HN mentioned that the club has some equipment that needs to be auctioned off. Ron suggested an auction at the July meeting. Much of the equipment is at Wilbur Carlson KH7E's house.

Barbara Darling NH7FY announced that she has received a number of emails regarding Bill 66 that was recently passed by the Honolulu City Council. It bans driving while talking on a cell phone but provides exemptions for amateur radio operators. Our

County Council may take up a similar bill and we want to ensure that the exemptions for amateur radio are in the Hawaii County version.

Robert Oliver NH6AH reported that an Icom 706 was stolen out of his car recently. He is asking people to keep an eye out for this radio. He would like to recover it if possible.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:25 pm.

Mike Last NH7JT gave an excellent talk on electricity consumption. He talked about ways to determine your actual usage and how to reduce it.

Submitted by Arman Wiggins WH6AW.



### **Equipment Wanted**

WANTED: AM Transmitter. Want old plate modulated AM rig. Any condition. Lloyd KH6LC , phone 966-7782



### **Newsletter – Request for Contributions**

The Editor would like to encourage members to submit articles for publication that relate to their particular interests in the ham radio spectrum. The most convenient form for a contribution is a plain text message typed directly into a file or an e-mail, but Open Office and Microsoft Word formats work, too. This month, at the suggestion of Mike Last, I begin what I hope will be a series of articles about how individual members became involved in the hobby, with personal anecdotes and pictures. Whether you are a newcomer or an old timer, please consider writing about your own experiences.



### **BIARC Biographies – Mike Last NH7JT**

During the course of our daily events, sometimes things will occur that forever changes a path we follow. Maybe it was an insignificant event (when it first occurred) that prompted us into a certain profession. Or perhaps a chance meeting that caused one to be introduced to a future partner. I was thinking about this and came upon a nostalgic story as to how I got into ham radio.

It was the early 60s, and as a young teenager my routine centered around school and the associated after school activities. One of the things I was involved in at the time was scouting. Once a week after school I'd walk the half-dozen blocks to where the Boy Scouts met. I'd always follow the same short route; except this one time I decided to travel a different route. Along the way I was surprised to see this metal tower that I thought extended a couple of hundred feet into the sky. Perched at the very top was a collection of metal rods; which I assumed was some sort of radio antenna. This entire neighborhood consisted of single family homes, yet no one was around the yard. I had no one to ask

about this radio station; and going up and knocking on the door was definitely something I couldn't do. I did however take note as to the location in hopes of next time I went by someone would be there.

I must have gone by three or four times in the next month, only to find the circumstances exactly as before- no one in sight. Now I was really intrigued, and wondered if my luck would improve on a weekend. One bright, warm Saturday afternoon I decided to bike the few blocks in the chance that somebody would be working outside on such a lovely day. No luck.. at first. I stopped and just took in the sight of this steel tower. While looking at the top with the assorted antennas, I didn't notice that someone had come out of the house and asked me something. This older man (must have been at least 50!) then repeated his question, "Can I help you son?" I said that I never saw such a large structure in someone's yard.

He then went on to tell me all about amateur radio; how he could talk to strangers all around the world. You can imagine what an impact this had on a 14 year old. Then he said those most wonderful words- "Like to see the radio station?"

In that one moment I literally fell for ham radio. Later on I appreciated the equipment. To this day I remember it was a Collins S-Line with a 1000 watt linear amp. And the tower's height?. He said it was 40', but to a youngster it looked a whole lot taller. Time has erased where that first contact (on an S-Line, no less!) was to. I remember calling CQ, CQ, and not much else that day.

In 1962 on my way to high school, a friend who was two years my senior, and had a general ticket, gave me the code exam (while on the subway!). From that moment on, I considered myself a ham.

In the years that followed I was an Explorer Scout in a ham radio post. (Our advisor was K2QQZ.) While at summer camp I found out that one of the chaplains was a ham. He brought along his rig, which consisted of a National transceiver (HRO-60?), where you inserted a component (coils, etc.) for the different bands. I spent a lot of time at his shack.. a real religious experience!

One of my neighbors was a long time ham- W2BOH. He wrote a



few articles for various amateur publications. (I still have his radio amateur's handbook- sixth ed. 1930!)

In 1976 I moved to a small private community a few miles from New York City; Tuxedo Park (in Orange County, NY near West Point.) One of my neighbors was K2GL, Hazard "Buzz" Reeves. He had a company, Reeves Sound which was the largest manufacturer of crystals for the government during WW II. They also manufactured reel-to-reel tape machines. Buzz devised the use of optical sound recognition for motion pictures. His ham set-up was like that first station I saw (back as a teenager). He also had a tower, and Collins equipment. But that's where the similarity ended. Unlike my first ham friend, Buzz had half a dozen towers; each approaching 200 feet! And his Collins rig was duplicated six times! One for each band, 160 through 10 meters. No wonder he would always rack up the points during contests.. with six operators; each with their own equipment!

One day Buzz called and asked if I was free to come over and meet a visiting ham. "Sure!" I said. When I got there I was introduced to 'Senator Barry Goldwater'. He and Buzz were long time friends.. and hams!

I sometimes look back at how amateur radio has progressed, and wonder if it was a positive change. How many of you remember Collins? Or National, Hallicrafters, Hammarlund, Johnson, Knight Kits from Allied Radio, Heath Kits, and Lafayette Radio? And Radio Shack; when it was a one store surplus operation (in Boston!) How about when we had to insert a crystal to determine frequency when operating with a novice ticket? Then the thrill of using a VFO when that general license arrived! For me the most profound thing was when you no longer needed to "pound brass" to obtain operating privileges. To me, the ability to copy code put hams on a higher level.

Perhaps my pursuit of a vocation was directly related to when I first eyed that ham radio tower. I did go into electrical engineering, and at one time was the chief engineer for a combined AM/FM/TV station in Georgia. Perhaps it is possible that if I didn't take a detour past that first ham station, my choice of profession might have been different.

Hope you enjoyed reading about my relationship with amateur radio. I look forward to reading other people's stories in future

BIARC Bulletins. Not to worry if you can't recall all the details, just the fact that you remember some of them will do.

73 and Aloha.

Mike NH7JT

ex- WN2AMC; KA2RAG



## Hilo represented at FDIM in Dayton



Here I'm at the Saturday night Banquet. We shared the table with QRP ARCI board members and honored guests. Note that Martin F Jue (Mr. MFJ) is talking with Oleg Borodin RV3GM, sitting next to me. Martin is explaining his two-transistor transceiver that runs 100 milliWatts, and connected to his hearing aid. The two empty chairs are for the president George Pascoe G0BPS and vice president Ken Evans W4DU. Great bunch of people and great fun!

72/73, Dean KH6B

Bosnia & Hercegovina  
REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA

T98G  
YUGOSLAVIA ✓  
 4N4AE

TO RADIO	DATE	GMT
AH6GN	10.11.89.	0610
MHz	RST	MODE
14	59	SSB

GORAN AREŽINA "GOCA" PSE QSL TNX  
Kosovke Djevojke25, Banja Luka, Bosna i Hercegovina

73! *GoCA, 4N4AE*

AH6GN

KH7E

Willam

Recently seen at the bureau - better late than never

### Special Notice – June Meeting

The June BIARC meeting will be held at the Wailoa Center in Hilo on June 13th at 2PM. This will be our Field Day location (like last year) and the meeting will feature Field Day planning. Please bring your own chair unless you want to sit out in the sun/rain on a bench or on the ground/concrete.

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