



Newsletter – June 2012

President's Message June 2012

Doesn't seem possible that the year is almost half over. Before we know it we'll be having our Christmas party. Field Day is almost upon us again. Our planning session will be at our regular June meeting on the 9th and Field Day on the 23rd/24th of June at Wailoa Park at the Art Center where we have been the last couple years. Seems like an ideal location to attract more of the public. There will be a pot luck dinner at 5PM as usual so plan to be there.

On July 14th, prior to our regular meeting, there will be a repeater committee meeting at 1PM at the Keaau Community Hall. As of today there are two different programs in the works for July. I will let you know by E Mail what the final decision is.

The Hilo Medical Center held an EM Fair on Friday May 18th. Robert Oliver NH6AH was our representative. Beau Mills NH7WV who was there representing HELCO was able to assist Robert.

Last week was the military funeral at the Veterans Cemetery #2 for Ron Phillips AH6HN and Ed Breen NH6HT. Dennis Carvalho KH7H was in charge of the service. BIARC was well represented.

I am always amazed at what a small world this can be. Richard had hip replacement surgery at Kaiser Hospital in Honolulu on April 26th. Since his surgery was on a Thursday, the surgeon had another doctor checking him over the weekend. As we were talking to Dr. Matthews the subject of ham radio came up. He told us that the doctor who talked him into coming to Kaiser is a ham operator. I asked what his name was and was told Albert Mariani. The name was familiar to me as I have received QSL cards for him through the bureau. When we got home I looked up his call which is

KH6MD. So I stuck a note in with the cards I have for him to let him know that we had met Dr. Matthews. That was part of the story.....Richard was informed that our doctor here in Hilo was putting through a referral for him to see another doctor. We received a notice in the mail with the appointment information and lo and behold the doctor's name is Albert Mariani. Of course we have no way of knowing whether this is the same doctor that Dr. Matthews told us about. So I immediately put the QSL cards in my pocketbook and if it is KH6MD I'll be able to hand deliver them next Wednesday instead of mailing them. Will have to fill you in on the rest of the story later.....

Richard and I would like to thank you for all your prayers and good wishes. As far as we know the surgery was a success and he is now getting out to walk every day. We'd especially like to thank Norm NH7CT and his wife Kathleen for bringing us dinner on the night we arrived home and to Rich KH6WE and his wife Judy for bringing dinner another evening. Very thoughtful of you all and we sure appreciated it.

Thanks to Dave Broyles KH7SO who has agreed to fill in as secretary while Bob AH6J and his wife Esther are on the mainland vacationing.

73 Barbara NH7FY



Big Island Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 1938
Hilo, HI 96721

www.biarc.net

Officers

President	Barbara Darling NH7FY	982-9126
Vice Pres.	Doug Wilson WH6DTD	985-7540
Treasurer	Milt Nodacker AH6I	965-6471
Secretary	Bob Schneider AH6J	966-8146

One Year Directors

Beau Mills NH7WV	968-1271
Richard Fetchen KH6WE	982-7426
Paul Agamata WH6FM	315-7156
Elizabeth Yoes WH7CU	965-5429
Chuck Epperson AH6SC	966-4698
Rick Gardner WH6LU	

Two Year Directors

Richard Darling AH7G	982-9126
Steven Jacquier WH6DPM	907-350-2122
Paul Ducasse WH7BR	985-9222
Darryl Koon AH6TQ	968-7106

Standing Committees

Service/Awards	Ron Phillips	AH6HN
Education	Milt Nodacker	AH6I
Emergency	Paul Ducasse	WH7BR
Equipment	Lloyd Cabral	KH6LC
Health&Welfare	Barbara Darling	NH7FY
Membership	Richard Darling	AH7G
Hospitality	Beau Mills	NH7WV
Newsletter	Curt Knight	AH6RE
Programs	Doug Wilson	WH6DTD
Repeater	Paul Ducasse	WH7BR
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.

ARES Emergency Net

Meets Saturday evening at 1900 HST on the 146.76 repeater. Backup is 146.76 simplex. All are welcome to check in.

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)

**Big Island Amateur Radio Club
Regular Meeting of May 12, 2012
(no Board meeting was held)**

The regular club meeting was called to order at 2:06 p.m. by club president Barbara Darling NH7FY, at the usual meeting location, the Keaau Community Center. There were 24 hams present, including two new Extra class hams who had passed their exams within the previous month.

After introductions, a moment of silence was held in memory of Ron Phillips AH6HN and Ed Breen NH6HT. The meeting went to the program by Jim Kennedy KH6/K6MIO, concerning Solar Cycle 24 and F2 layer propagation.

The Program:

Jim Kennedy presented the program from the perspective of a six meter Dxr. Six meters was Jim's first DX band. He was fortunate to enter ham radio during the most favorable solar cycle of the past century, which made six meter DX the most accessible it has been during the past century. Jim had worked at the National Solar Observatory on the Mainland before moving to the Big Island to work for the Gemini Observatory.

The F2 layer is particularly valuable for Dxers because of its height, 300 kilometers or more above the earth's surface. At this height, it is possible to achieve distances of 4,000 kilometers in a single hop. The fewer the hops, the better the DX. The F2 layer is produced by ionization caused by solar extreme ultraviolet.

Six meter DX is only possible near the peak of solar sunspot activity. Sunspots are cool (by solar standards) spots on the surface of the sun, produced by very strong magnetic fields inside the sun. They rotate around the sun every 27-28 days, rotation rate of the sun's gasses being different at the poles than at the solar equator. As the solar cycle moves from a relatively calm minimum towards its peak, two bands of sunspots form at latitudes of 30 degrees north and south of the equator. As the cycle intensifies, these bands move toward the equator. The cycle peaks when the sunspots are 15 degrees from the equator, and weakens as they move closer to the equator.

Solar cycles average 11 years, but can range from 9 to 14 years. The shorter cycles tend to be the stronger cycles. The cycle starts at solar minimum. However, the north and south hemispheres are not always in sync with each other. Recently, south has tended to lag north by six months, for both minimums and peaks. Typical time from minimum to peak is 48 months. Due to the south's lag, cycles have had two peaks, one peak for each north and south.

In this cycle (Cycle 24), north started 10 months before south. North reached minimum in January, 2008; south in December, 2008. It appears that north has already peaked. South will peak later this year. If this happens, the cycle will have two peaks. Unfortunately, neither will be very strong.

This won't be a good cycle for six meter Dxers. Fuzzy rules: An Ri of 60 is needed for transiting the equator. An Ri of 100 is needed for DX within the same hemisphere. It appears that the two peaks will be around 70, meaning that conditions for same-hemisphere may never develop.

The meeting recessed for refreshments at 3:25, and resumed at 3:40 for a short business meeting.

Business Meeting:

Secretary's minutes for April were approved as printed in the newsletter. Treasurer Milt Nodacker AH6I reported that the club had \$3,211.45 in the bank as of April 30. \$905.25 had been spent upgrading the Kulani repeater. \$35.60 was spent for April refreshments. Since April 30, Milt had deposited \$115, bringing the balance to \$3,326.45. The question was raised as to whether the club had fully reimbursed Ralph Fontaine (formerly AH6RF) for the repeaters he had purchased for the club. Ralph has been fully reimbursed.

Milt also reported that club membership stood at a total of 95: 74 full, 15 family, 5 associate, 1 student.

Repeater Committee: Paul Ducasse WH7BR reported that all repeaters are operating with no known problems. He plans to hold a Repeater Committee meeting preceding the regular club meeting July 14.

Health and Welfare: Barbara Darling reported that Richard Darling AH7G had hip replacement surgery on April 26. He was present, using a wheeled walker. He was pleased to report that he has now earned his DXCC on 75/80 meters. Beau Mills NH7WV reported that his daughter, Nalani WH6LM was graduating from Kea'au High School the following week.

QSL Bureau: Barbara Darling reported that 715 cards had been received in April, bringing the total for the year thus far to 11,429.

Testing: The May 1 test at Orchidland LDS yielded four new Technicians, two new General, and one new Extra. Jesse Crawford passed all three tests to become a new Extra. He had previously been licensed, but had let his license lapse. The May 8 at Kilauea Lodge in Volcano produced four new Technicians, two new Generals, and two upgrades from General to Extra. The present question pool for Extra expires June 30. Last opportunity to upgrade to Extra using the present question pool will be at Field Day June 23 at the Wailoa Art Center at 1:00.

Milt Nodacker announced that he will begin a six-week General class at the Orchidland LDS on May 22. He plans to start a new Technician class in August or September.

Club radios: Milt Nodacker has custody of radios that have been donated to the club. The most recent contributions were from the estate of Ted Ross AH6GD. The

club will loan these radios out to new hams. If it appears that the club will not be able to loan some, they will be sold at the Hamfest in October.

The meeting adjourned at 3:52.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Broyles KH7SO
for Robert Schneider AH6J, secretary



Jim Kennedy K6MIO



Hilo Medical Center Preparedness Fair



Robert Oliver, NH6AH, demonstrates the Heath-com's "Fly away Kit" at Hilo Medical Center's Emergency Preparedness Fair. The fair was in the basement level, and was for hospital employees. A portable "buddipole" antenna and case are shown in the background. The tri-fold presentation board will be shown at next BIARC meeting. The Icom706 was connected to a new outside invisible G5RV antenna,

and a 2 meter 5/8 wave magmount antenna sat on a metal railing at ground level. Many thanks to Beau Mills, NH7WV, who climbed the basement hill to the first level installing the 2 meter coax cable. Thanks to all those who came up on 40 and 2 meters to work our station. The 10 and 12 meter bands were open and DX was heard. KP3A was on 28.504 MHz, but I was distracted answering questions at the table, so didn't work him. I Did work JR6QJR on 24.955 MHz. Everyone complimented our radio exhibit. Hopefully, we may get some new interest in Ham radio.

Robert Oliver NH6AH



10 – 10 International Net

10-10 International Net Open Season PSK QSO Party will be held 0001Z June 2 through 2359Z June 3. Look for action around 28.120 MHz

The Spirit of 76 (7 days 6 modes) QSO Party will be held 0001Z Monday July 2 through 2359Z July 8 on USB, RTTY, CW, FM, PSK, and AM. The preferred AM frequency is 29.000 MHz. Work each participant on each of the six modes.

Remember the daily (except Sunday) 10-10 nets at 1800Z on 28.380 and 28.800 MHz, plus nearly 80 chapter nets are called across the band, including 56 available to technician class licensees between 28.300 and 28.500.

For more information, check www.ten-ten.org .

Thanks Irene NH7PE



Exam Session Results

New licenses issued 11 May 2012.

WH6BR General to Extra, Collins Tomei
AH6UB Extra, Jesse Crawford
WH6DYM Extra, Roland Luga
WH6DYQ General, Scott Bosshardt
WH6DYN Tech, Lopaka Lee
WH6DYO Tech, Raymond Quihano
WH6DYP Tech, Susan Munro
WH6DYR Tech, Tracy Desa

Test at Volcano 9 May:

WH6DYT Tech, Dania Blackmer
WH6DYU Tech, Lauren Diamond
WH6DYV General, Carolyn Bennett
WH6DYW Tech, Mary Brewer
WH6DYX General, Paul Lakin
WH6DYY Tech, Nancy Lakin

Congratulations to all!

– Milt AH6I

Upcoming Emergency Preparedness Event

'I Will Survive' Family Day Event is Saturday, May 26th at Hawaiian Beaches Park from 9:30-1:30. There will be booths, demonstrations, survival skill stations, sports, good food & fun, fun, FUN! There will be an amateur radio demonstration and AH6I will be attempting HF contact with the mainland using his newly constructed portable hex-beam. Come to help out or just to laugh at his efforts.
-Milt AH6I



Exam Information: Question Pool

The current Extra Class question pool expires the last day of June. The only test session we have scheduled after the newsletter publication date is at Field Day, 23 June at 1:00 p.m. Anybody who has been studying the current question pool should plan on taking that test.

-Milt AH6I

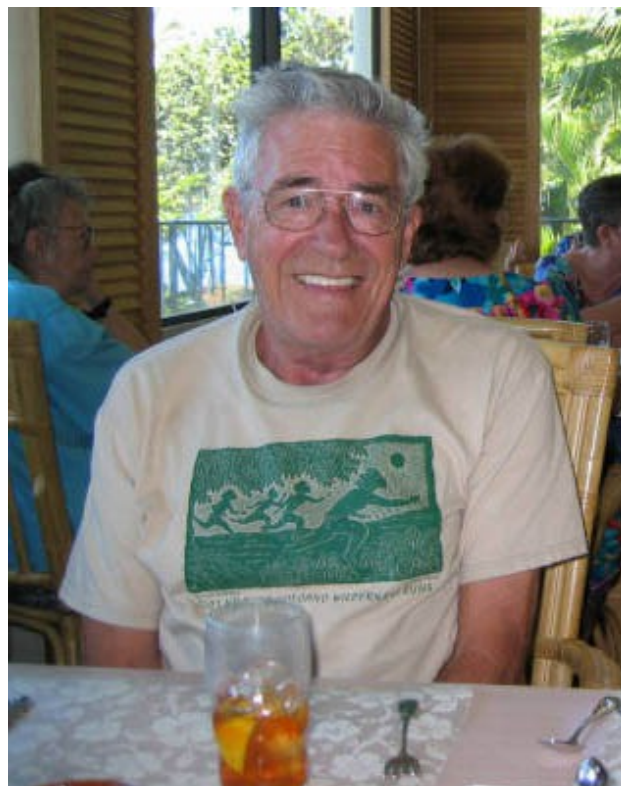


Some Six Meter DX News

Fred KH7Y reports that in spite of the bad news about the solar cycle from Jim Kennedy, he was able to work the 9M0L Spratly Islands expedition for country number 77 on 6 meters. The distance to 9M0L is almost 19000 km.



Layang-Layang atoll – site of 9M0L



Ronald C. Phillips AH6HN

Ron was born on March 19, 1934 in Burbank, California and resided in Kaaau for 25 years. He passed away on April 18 at Hilo Medical Center. Ron was a nuclear physicist who retired from TRW. He had been a long time member of the Big Island Amateur Radio Club holding several offices. He was the Lead VE tester, Official Observer Coordinator and ARRL Section Manager. Ron was a USAF Veteran who served in Korea. His ashes will be buried at Veteran's Cemetery #2, next to his long time friend Ed Breen NH6HT. Ron and Ed will be missed by many in the radio community.
-Barbara NH7FY



Ed NH6HT and Ron AH6HN at Field Day 2007

Titanium Man!



Certified 1% by weight titanium alloy "Titanium Man" Richard AH7G has returned from hip surgery and we all wish him a speedy recovery. Tennis season is coming up!



A Chicken in Every Pot



Mike Last NH7JT may or may not be running for state senate. There were no babies to be kissed at last month's meeting, hence the solo picture.