



## Newsletter – October 2011

### Banner Picture

A popular new HF/6 meter transceiver. Lots of these were used in the Hawai'i QSO Party.



### KH6LC in the Hawai'i QSO Party

With the big push for activity in this year's HQP, Lloyd KH6LC, assisted by Rob NH6V, Fred KH7Y, and Curt AH6RE, organized a three transmitter multi operator effort, ending up making almost 5000 QSOs.



Fred KH7Y at the 10/15/20/160 meter station



Lloyd KH6LC and Ginger at the 10/15/20/80 meter station

All three of the stations could be used on 10, 15, and 20 meters using Yagi antennas on three different towers. In addition, one station was connected to the 160 meter shunt-fed tower, a second was connected to the 80 meter four square, and the third was connected to a 40 meter Yagi on one of the three towers.



Not everyone was excited

There was lots more activity than we ever expected, especially from the nearly 1000 European stations in our log.



Rob NH6V at the 10/15/20/40 meter station

Summary:

Band	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Mults
160:		8			
80:		72		13	
40:		295		431	
20:		928		1476	
15:		286		1201	
10:		65		198	

Total: 1654 3319 161  
 Total Score = 1,318,751

The multipliers included 90 DXCC, 49 States + DC, 11 VE, and 10 KH6 regions (no Ni'ihau)

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### HQP Report from KH7T

This year it seemed that the Hawaii QSO party took off. There were many Hawaii participants with mainlanders and DX stations also calling CQ HQP. KH7T worked 774 claimed contacts, mostly ssb with large pileups on 40, 20, and 15 and one lonely 75 meter QSO. Even made a few CW contacts and got two 7 hour nights of sleep during the Friday 6PM to Sunday Noon time period. The bands were also wide open for DX.

I "cheated" and gave the new Elecraft KPA 500 watt amplifier a workout. So I landed in the single operator, high power division. The extra 7 db power over my usual 100 watts did put the station in the position of having a few stations call me that the K3 could not quite pull out of the noise. I usually took the time to try really hard to pull out a contact with a really weak signal.

I do not think I have the contesting gene. I stopped a few large pileups with high rates of contacts for meal

calls and sleep, or just when my head could not take it anymore. But I had a lot of fun, allowed distraction by some hunt and pounce for DX, and did a bit of rag chewing at times, and did not get a headache.

It was particularly satisfying to note that with the large piles of calling stations, when I finally got a letter or two of a call, the pile up would shut up until the contact was over. Of course there were a few bad actors noted, but the courteous discipline was generally excellent. I also noticed many people asking if the frequency was in use BEFORE starting to send CQs. And when stations were called on someone's run frequency the statement that "this is not my frequency, up 5" was often heard.



John KH7T with his HQP award from last year

Has conduct on the phone bands actually improved with the influx of new operators? It sounded like it to me.

73, John Buck KH7T

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### Hilo ARC – AL0HA in the HQP

Well, we had a good turn-out for the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of Hilo ARC. The weather was great, also. Since we had the pavilion permit on Coconut Island for Saturday only, we only had AL0HA on the air 15 and 20 CW in the morning and afternoon on Saturday.



Max KH6ZM operating ALOHA

Max KH6ZM was the operator on all contacts. The band conditions were judged below normal. Sorry!  
73, Dean KH6B



Part of the Crowd at Moku Ola

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**Hawaii QSO Party 2011  
NH6YK**

QTH: Volcano National Park – a new “mult” in the contest

I believe I was the only participant from the VOL multiplier, which meant there was no chance of me working that mult! :-)

On Friday Evening, I set up and operated from the Kilauea overlook picnic area. A nice location with a shelter and two tables. I put the generator (Thanks KH6SX!!) outside the shelter, and put a mag-mount “hamstick” on the car, parked close enough to the shelter so the coax would reach... With my normal problems (RF feedback and the like) – I finally got

things up and running and made a few contacts. Art (KH6SX) came over with some food, so we also had a bit of talk story, and finally the band sort of faded. Sometimes it felt that I was just working the Hawaii stations :-), though I did have a nice chat with ZS3Y, and, as is my normal fate, I could hear more people than I worked.

Due to another commitment, I couldn't operate during the day on Saturday, but, when that was over, I trundled all the gear up to the top of the Mauna Loa Access Road – about 6600 ft up. Arriving there just after sunset, it took me a little longer than the previous evening to set up. However, with a vertical dipole for 20M and a great takeoff angle – pretty close to a virtual 6600 ft tower with a view to the East, from North to South. Mauna Loa was to the west, but it is a gentle rise, so it wasn't too bad in that direction.

With this, that and the other, I got started even later, but, the vertical wire dipole was a lot better than the ham-stick :-), and the site was quieter, and what a view! I could see the glow in Halema'uma'u and occasionally the glow from Pu'u 'O'o as its activity changed and clouds moved around.

More DX that evening as the sun rose in Europe! Though it faded out for me as it got later. As it got a little chilly, and the band faded, I figured it was time to pack up and head down the twisty road.

So – with a little more than 3 hours of actual contest seat time – something like 50QSOs in 18 DXCC entities (counting KH6/KL7/K) and 10 States / 2 provinces. Certainly not stellar, but fun nonetheless! I can only imagine what would have happened if I had all of Friday night and Saturday to play!!!

If I'm here next year, I'll be in the park again, maybe you can join me!

**DXCC Worked:**

DL, DU, EA, ES, F, G, GD, I, ON, PA, SM, UR, VE (BC/AB), VK, ZS (K, KH6, KL7)

**WAS Worked**

AK, CA, GA, KS, NV, OH, OR, TX, WA (HI)

**HQP / Hawaii Mults Worked**

FORD Island– HAWaii – HONolulu – KALaupapa – KAUai

Ted NH6YK

## Big Island Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 1938

Hilo, HI 96721

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

<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-	Pepe'ekeo KH6EJ (may be linked)
<b>146.92-</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 (100)
<b>147.32+</b>	Waimea Hospital NH7HI (100)
<b>147.38+</b>	Waimea East KH7T experimental
<b>442.35+</b>	Ka'anapali Maui (136.5)
<b>442.5+</b>	Kea'au KH6EJ
443.40+	Ocean View KH7MS (77.0)
443.40+	Kona KH7MS (100.0)
443.65+	Ocean View Hub
<b>444.225+</b>	Haleakala Maui KH6RS (110.9)
<b>444.45+</b>	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 September 10, 2011**

The regular meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m. by club vice-president Milt Nodacker AH6I. Meeting was held at the Kea'au Community Center, in the front rather than in the rear room. The lauhala-making group that has usually met in the front had chosen to meet in the rear instead. Sixteen hams were present, plus one junior future ham.

The meeting went directly to the program, presented by Paul Ducasse WH7BR. Rescue 21 is the U.S. Coast Guard's (USCG) upgrade of VHF marine radio communications. The marine frequency band is just above the ham two-meter band. The USCG's system has used and will continue to use Kulani Cone as its radio site to serve the east side of the Big Island. Radio coverage is good, except for an area off the southern end of the island. Coverage standard is a hand-held radio transmitting one watt. Marine VHF radios usually come with two power settings, one and 20 watts. Users are instructed to use one watt whenever possible, so as to minimize and possible interference with other users.

The new VHF technology updates the present 1970s legacy system. The existing USCG system covers 42,000 miles of coastline, including inland waterways. The USCG conducts an average of 40,000 search and rescue operations each year, saving 4,000 lives.

Problems with the 1970s legacy system include lack of coverage, affecting some areas in Hawaiian waters. Communications are voice only. The system cannot DF (direction find) boat communications. Communications can only be monitored by the local USCG station. In Hawaii, this means that all communications are monitored by USCG Honolulu. The system lacks interoperability with local police and fire, and other agencies. Phony Mayday calls result in searches that are quite expensive for the USCG. 38-60% of all Mayday calls prove to be phony. More than half of these are from juveniles.

Rescue 21 will have the ability to communicate with DSC (dual selective calling) marine radios. DSC radios have voice capability like present radios, but also have digital capabilities on marine Channel 70. Pressing one button automatically sends a digital distress message with vessel name, type, color, and location. The USCG monitors Ch 70, and will have the ability to shift monitoring responsibilities to other monitoring locations in the United States, using remote control. This capability might be useful under circumstances such as an approaching hurricane.

Rescue 21 will cover 95,000 miles of coastline.

Eighty percent of that coastline will have access to two towers. Where two towers are accessible, it will be possible to DF vessel positions. Where only one tower is accessible, it will only be possible to obtain a relative bearing. The radio system will have digital recording/instant playback capability.

Vessels wishing to use DSC capability will need to obtain Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI) numbers (nine digits). They can be obtained from the FCC or (at lower cost) from [www.BoatUS.com](http://www.BoatUS.com).

Norm Paik NH7CT offered use of his 1930 Ford Model A for participation in the Kea'au Christmas parade in December. The club can put radio signage on it.

The meeting broke from 2:36 to 2:46 for refreshments.

The meeting resumed at 2:46 for regular business. Vice-president Milt began the meeting with several announcements. The usual October hamfest will be held in lieu of the regular October club meeting. Hamfest will be at the Waimea Community Center, with setup beginning at 9:00, trading at 10:00, and testing at 1:00. From previous experience, it is best to get there early, before users of the athletic fields take up all the parking spaces. Rent for the facility is \$100, to be paid from contributions.

Milt began another Technician licensing class September 13. The class meets every Tuesday evening at 6:30 at the Orchidland LDS church. The class is sponsored by the LDS, not BIARC. He plans a General class to start in early November. Persons in the Technician class will test at the hamfest, although it may be necessary to schedule a second testing session for those who cannot make it to Waimea.

The annual SET (Simulated Emergency Test) will be on October 1. Hawaii Civil Defense will set up the scenario. Milt is District Emergency Coordinator for East Hawaii, and is looking for ideas and support. Health Communications, located at all hospitals, is always looking for more volunteers. Volunteers at the Hilo Medical Center must take a test regarding health and safety.

The treasurer's report shows an account balance of \$2,640.90.

There will be a board meeting prior to the hamfest, for the purpose of nominating club officers for next year. Voting will be at the November regular meeting. Club president Tom Thornton AH6ZZ had proposed having it the evening of Friday October 21 at his residence. The possibility of Thursday evening was also mentioned. No date or time was set.

There was no old business. Under new business, Paul Ducasse stated that the Naalehu repeater is causing problems, primarily due to bad batteries that need to be replaced. John Buck KH7T estimated that new batteries and a new charge controller will cost \$720-750, based upon data collected by West Hawaii. Milt will get with repeater coordinator Paul Agamata WH6FM to discuss the matter.

Rick Gardner WH6LU suggested that the 146.88 repeater be disconnected from the linked BIWARN repeater network, so that it can be used for local ragchew. Bob Schneider AH6J said that it can be disconnected by numerical code, and then also reconnected by numerical code. He will obtain and provide the codes.

The informal Friday lunches at the Hokulani Steak House have been experiencing declining attendance. Possibilities mentioned were meeting once monthly before the BIARC meeting, once monthly eight days before the club meeting, and finding a new place. The lunch being an informal event and not an official club function, it was decided to let those who attend make the decision.

The meeting adjourned at 3:25.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dave Broyles KH7SO, secretary



### Additional VE Testing

In addition to the VE Testing Session at the Waimea Hamfest at 1:00 p.m. on 22 October, there will be a testing session on Tuesday, 25 October, at 6:30 p.m. at the Orchidland LDS meetinghouse. Contact Milt, AH6I for information.



### Denise and Clarence Smith Lunch

Denise and Clarence Smith AH7A are relocating to California, and a going away lunch was held for them on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August. They have been our friends and neighbors, and Clarence has been a member of BIARC, for 20 years. We wish them the best. Thanks Barbara NH7FY



Part of the Crowd at Denise and Clarence's lunch



Aloha to Denise and Clarence



### The NH6YK DX Quiz

Ted NH6YK invites all of BIARC to take his DX Quiz. Answers next month. The winner will receive absolutely nothing.

- 1 - What single DXCC entity is in two continents?
- 2 - What is the callsign of the DX station that you could work that is in 7 WAZ at one time, yet doesn't count for WAC for its continent?
- 3 - What DXCC *parent* entity, has subsidiary entities in all continents? List the prefixes.  
What entity is in second place?
- 4 What *one* prefix has the most DXCC entities
- 5 - List 10 DXCC entities with no "resident" population
- 6 – List the DXCC entity that you will never be able to

work a YL operator in.

7 - What DXCC entity is Antipodal to KH6?

8 - What country is on two continents and has two DXCC entities (one for each side)

9 - What Maidenhead Grid Locators are there for the Big Island? For the Neighbor islands?

10 – How many grids do you have to work for VUCC on 10GHz? Where is the best place in Hawaii to stand to do it?

11 - Who was the first person to get DXCC on 2M?

12 - What DXing couple attained DXCC from DXCC?

13 - What Japanese ham and Finnish ham show up on lots of “New Ones”?



### **KH6FI Equipment Finds New Home**

Lloyd KH6LC has been working hard to find new homes for all the pieces of radio equipment left by Fred KH6FI (SK). The job is almost complete, and I am informed that the remnants will be available at the Waimea hamfest. In the picture below, Lloyd stands next to the crate that contains Fred's 6n2 Thunderbolt, on its way to a happy new owner in Tuscaloosa, AL.



### **Ten-Ten International Net**

Irene NH7PE, net control for the local Aloha Chapter net, reminds us that 10-10 will hold a sprint QSO party on 10 October from 0001 to 2359 UTC. The fall 10-10 CW QSO Party will be the third full weekend of October, this year the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. For more information, visit [www.ten-ten.org](http://www.ten-ten.org). As always, the Aloha Chapter meets Monday nights at 6:30PM HST on 28.490. Technician licensees are particularly invited. Ten meters has been hot lately, with DX from Europe and Africa heard, so let's all join in.