

July 2015 Newsletter

Big Island Amateur Radio Club

Minutes for BIARC meeting 6/13/15

1. Call to order at exactly 2PM HST by Vice President (VEEP) Bob Schneider, AH6J, as President Ted is out of town for two meetings.
 - a. There was an announcement that the VEEP & Treasurer were new.
 - b. The agenda was circulated.
 - c. There was a round of introductions. Everyone was asked to sign in.
 - d. The program for the meeting was planning for Field Day and a report by John Bush, KH6DLK, on his recent trip to Federated States of Micronesia.
2. Minutes: Beau Mills was not at the meeting and no Minutes were read.
3. Treasurer's report: Robert Oliver gave update.
4. Committee Reports
 - a. QSL report by Barbara Darling was given. This month's cards were light.
 - b. A brief report on the repeater status was given by VEEP Bob and others. Mauna Kea is still down. 147.04 RACES is still not linked. Mauna Loa, Pepeekeo and Ka'u are working.
 - c. Newsletter needs to be updated on the calendar and 2015 officers list.
5. There was no old or new business.
6. Hurricane season started June first and lasts to November first.
7. Several exercises were ongoing last week by several agencies including the hospital and CD.
8. Short break at 2:20 PM
The Refreshments were excellent.
9. Programs
 - a. FD with Robert Oliver
 - b. FSM with John Bush
10. Meeting adjourned at 4PM HST
Respectfully submitted,
Bob Schneider, AH6J, VEEP



Field Day this weekend at Wailoa Center in Hilo

The Big Island Amateur Radio Club (KH6EJ) will Host the annual ARRL Field Day at the Wailoa Center on Piopio Street makai of the State Building in Hilo. The DLNR Permit requires that no smoking or Alcoholic beverages are allowed in this area. Our club members will set up transmitters to demonstrate emergency radio communications. This 24 hour event starts at 8AM Saturday till 8AM Sunday. Field Day is an American Radio Relay League event when all Amateur Radio Clubs throughout the US mainland and Canada are given the opportunity to demonstrate to the public how emergency communications are handled. The public with children are invited to visit. Hams have gotten their Licenses as young as five years old. Our volunteer exam team licensed a girl who is 10 years old at our most recent testing session. Our Hobby is a stepping stone for advance education.

Hams often become electrical engineers, architects, scientist, and evolve other engineering fields. Steve Jobs mentioned in a 1965 interview that a ham had given him the realization that he could build a advanced computer himself, the Apple Macintosh.

Club members will be able to answer questions about "ham radio." For More Information contact: Robert Oliver, NH6AH, at 969-9993, also email: oliver@reotron.com. FCC Radio License Testing will held starting at 9:00 AM Saturday morning. Contact Doug Wilson KH7DQ at 985-9362 to sit for exam. Please visit our event. However, if you can't make it, several other clubs will be operating at the same time. Everyone starts at 8AM HST but may not necessarily operate for the full 24 hours:

Puna Emergency Radio Club – HVNP near the main visitor center by the Art Center.

South Point Amateur Radio Club - Whittington state park in Ka'u.

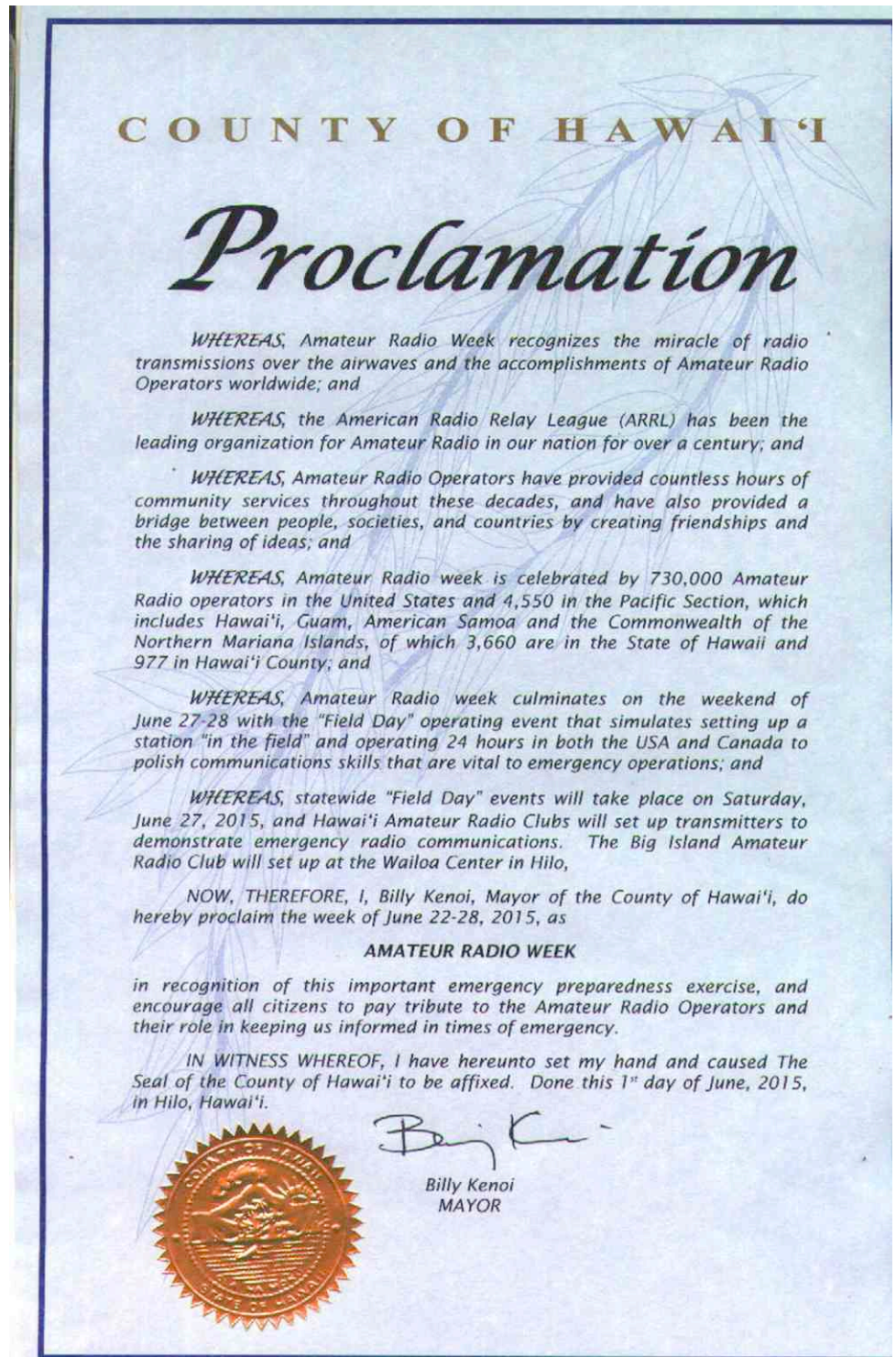
Kohala Hamaku Radio Club – KHRC has no FD plans as they will be supporting the Waikoloa marathon.

Kona Amateur Radio Society. No Field day plans however their regular meeting is on Sunday June 28th.

Maui Amateur Radio Club – KH6RS – Blockhouse by Ho`okipa Beach Park – see their website.

Emergency Amateur Radio club and Koolau ARC will combine at Kualoa Regional Park windward Oahu

Naval Submarine Base Pearl – KH6SP - USS



Bowfin Museum – Pearl Harbor visitor center

Kauai ARC – Nawiliwili Yacht Club

Hilo Amateur Radio Club – Hi QRP Club – KH6AA – Contact Dean, KH6B for information.

Marianas ARC – Guam Asian Beach; Mike Wendt, WH2M , 671-477-6737.

---Bob Schneider

(Follow Field Day on Facebook and Twitter! ARRL has created a Field Day event on Facebook, and you can also join the conversation by using the hash tag #ARRLFD. Share your plans, tips and tricks to a successful Field Day!)



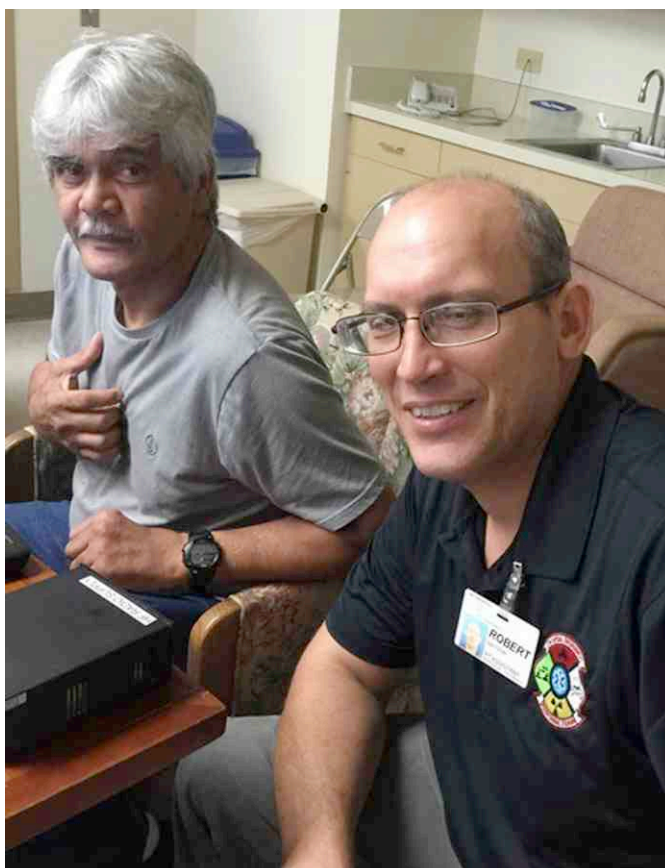
Getting ready for hurricane season via emergency drills

This is the operation at Hilo Medical Center on Wednesday, June 3. Hurricane season started June 1 for the Central Pacific and all that week there were ongoing emergency drills of one sort or another. These pictures show the operation center at HMC coordinated by Robert Oliver, NH6AH.

The yearly Set Test was part of the annual Makani Pahili Net.

Hams may register to be part of the regular support crew at HMC. For more information, contact Joanne C. Yoshiyama, Hilo Medical Center Volunteer Services Coordinator, at 932-3165.

Photos courtesy of Robert Schneider





HF privileges open to all hams on 10 meters

All Technician Class Licensees have 10-meter privileges, so try your hand on HF!

The Aloha Chapter of Ten-Ten International Net, Inc. meets on 28.490 MHz, with an alternate frequency of 28.487MHz, every Monday evening at 6:30 p.m. HST. If you don't hear me, don't just listen, call "CQ!"

Help keep 10 meters in amateur radio hands.
Thanks and aloha.

—Irene, NH7PE

A big Red, White and Blue Aloha from Ten-Ten International

A big Red, White and Blue Aloha from Ten-Ten International Net, Inc. The Spirit of '76 (7 days, 6 modes) QSO Party starts June 29 and continues through July 5. Make as many contacts as you can during the week, using 6 modes.

The modes to be used follow, as well as a suggested frequency to monitor: 1. USB (28.345); 2. RTTY (28.086); 3. CW (28.050); 4. FM (29.600); PSK (28.120); 6. AM (29.000). You can contact one ham 6 times, once on each mode, for a maximum of 12 points per call sign. Give it a try!

All Technician Class hams: Yes, You! Find a buddy with an HF radio, practice and prepare for the Summer Phone QSO Party Aug. 1-2. You'll have a load of fun, and quite possibly gather your ten 10-10 contacts so you can get

your own number. See www.ten-ten.org or www.10-10.org for more information.

The Aloha Chapter can be found on 28.490MHz on Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. HST. In UTC time, that same moment is Tuesday at 04:30z. We are a friendly net, and hope all who are listening will check in. Ten-Ten daily nets can be found on 28.380 and 28.800MHz, called from various places around the U.S. every day except Sunday at 8 a.m. HST (1800z).

The HF ARES Net, Tuesdays at 7 p.m. HST on 7.088MHz, is still a very lonely net. We are reviewing a Kentucky state ARES organizational paper. Soon, we will be practicing message handling again. Visit us!

Aloha,
Irene, NH7PE

News on LightSail

From Steven Jacquier

Please share ASAP with ham radio operator friends everywhere: "radio operators around the world are encouraged to listen for LightSail and submit data" -- the time window is narrow on this one.

Also, "Interested in catching a glimpse of LightSail as it soars across the sky?" -please check this link: <http://www.planetary.org/blogs/jason-davis/2015/20150607-lightsail-deployment-initiated.html>

Updates of interest from ARRL, other sources

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/?issue=2015-05-21>

CQ Names 2015 Hall of Fame Inductees

CQ magazine has announced its 2015 Hall of Fame inductees.

The CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame honors individuals, licensed or not, who have made significant contributions to Amateur Radio, to their professions, or "to some other aspect of life on our planet," CQ said.

CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame

- Tim Allen, KK6OTD -- Actor and star of the ABC comedy "Last Man Standing," on which he portrays a ham, Mike Baxter, KA0XTT.

- Charles Apgar, ex-2MN (SK) -- Uncovered German spy transmissions from Telefunken shore station WSL in New York during World War I, before the US became involved in the hostilities.

- Dr. Dan Benishek, KB8TOW -- Member of Congress from Michigan, medical doctor, and advocate for veterans.

- Olof Lundberg, G0CKV -- Leader of the communications satellite industry for a quarter-century.

- Bre Pettis, W2BRE -- 3D printing pioneer and founder of MakerBot.

- Alvino Rey, W6UK (SK) -- A leading musician of the swing era, Rey combined his love for music with his love of radio to transform the music world.

- Bob Twiggs, KE6QMD -- Co-inventor of the CubeSat design model.

- Greg Walden, W7EQI -- Member of

Congress from Oregon and chairman of the House Communications and Technology Subcommittee.

- Joko "Jokowi" Widodo, YD2JKW -- President of Indonesia.

The CQ DX and Contest Halls of Fame honor those amateurs who not only excel in personal performance in these major areas of Amateur Radio but who also give back to the hobby in outstanding ways.

CQ DX Hall of Fame

- Yasuo "Zorro" Miyazawa, JH1AJT -- A DXer, DXpeditioner, educator, and philanthropist, Zorro Miyazawa is the founder and CEO of the Seisa Group, which operates schools in several countries, and is founder/CEO of the Foundation for Global Children.

- Michael Wells, G7VJR -- Founder of ClubLog, an online DXpedition log-hosting tool that has changed the face of DXpedition operating.

CQ Contest Hall of Fame

- Doug Grant, K1DG -- President of the 2014 World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC) Board and a world-class contester, Grant has shared his knowledge and skills with others. He has competed in five WRTC events, medaling three times.

- Ward Silver, N0AX -- A contester for more than 4 decades, he helped to found the WRTC competitions in 1990 and is president of the Yasm Foundation.

Inductions to the CQ Contest and DX Halls of Fame took place at Dayton Hamvention.

ARRL 2015 Hurricane Season Webinar Set for July 20

The ARRL will host a 2015 Hurricane Season webinar Monday, July 20, getting under way at 8 PM EDT (July 21, 0000 UTC). The approximately 90-minute session will address the role of Amateur Radio during the 2015 Hurricane Season.

Anyone interested in hurricane preparedness and response is invited to attend this online presentation. Topics will include a meteorological overview of the upcoming season; Amateur Radio station WX4NHC at the National Hurricane Center: Who We Are and What We Do; ARRL Media and Public Relations; the Hurricane Watch Net (HWN); the VoIP Hurricane Net, and ARRL coordination and interface.

The program will include presentations by representatives of the National Hurricane Center and WX4NHC, the VoIP Hurricane Net, the HWN, the Canadian Hurricane Centre, and the ARRL. Webinar registration is open to all, but should be of particular interest to radio amateurs in hurricane-prone areas. The webinar will conclude with a Q&A session.

Register online. -- *Thanks to Mike Corey, K1IU, ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager*

Medium-Wave Experimenters to Transmit Field Day Greetings

Once again this year, a group of medium-wave experimental licensees will transmit greetings on 630 meters during the ARRL Field Day weekend, June 27-28. While the 472 to 479 kHz band is not yet available for Amateur Radio use, John Langridge, KB5NJD, said he'd like to continue promoting awareness of the proposed ham band. In

April, the FCC proposed a new 630 meter Amateur Service MW allocation at 472 to 479 kHz, and it allocated a new LF band, 135.7 to 137.8 kHz -- both on a secondary basis. Langridge this year is hoping that some LF experimenters will also take part in the exercise. No Amateur Radio operation will be permitted in either band until the FCC establishes specific operating rules. Some of the stations involved in the Field Day activity, including Langridge, are associated with the ARRL 600 Meter Experimental Group (WD2XSH).

ARRL 600 Meter Experimental Group (WD2XSH) Coordinator Fritz Raab, W1FR, said the FCC's April Report and Order, Order, and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is a step in the right direction, and he hopes it will eventually lead to a new 630 meter amateur band in the US. "However, it's a huge document, so we expect it to take a while for any of the proposed changes to be implemented," he told ARRL. "With that in mind, we plan to renew the WD2XSH license and continue operations much as we have been until such time as the 630 meter band becomes a reality."

Langridge said last year he got about 60 reports on his own transmissions from Texas. "It seems the longer we do this, the more legs that grow on it, and participation has really increased," he said. The point is to make

active, relevant signals available to existing Field Day stations that might have a large pool of operators, many still having no idea that anything is going on below the broadcast band."

Langridge said Field Day stations could try using an HF transceiver capable of covering the 472-479 kHz range to listen for participating stations. He stressed that stations can use "whatever antennas that they have on site -- a dipole, a tribander, a vertical, whatever -- as the impedance mismatch may help improve the signal-to-noise ratio enough for effective copy."

Langridge said that in 2014 he received an Argo screen shot of his CW signal from Utah. He transmitted in "normal, aural CW at about 17 WPM over a 36-hour period, and he plans on doing the same this year, with transmissions every quarter hour on 474 kHz.

"Reporting is important, since we all like to know who is listening and how we are doing," he said. Stations hearing any of the MW (or possible LW) Field Day "greeters" may report their reception online.

Langridge said stations also may want to send a message to the ARRL via the National Traffic System (NTS). "This does two things," he explained. "It shows the ARRL that there is activity and interest, and it gives the club an incentive, since they get points for generating and sending NTS traffic."

Langridge said that while all of this year's participants have indicated they'll use CW again this year, he's encouraging MW operators to consider introducing some digital modes. "Having a digital mode available might be very useful in this day and age when Field Day sites are often setup for PSK31 and other soundcard modes," he said.

Contact John Langridge, KB5NJD, if you plan to take part in the 2015 Field Day Greeting event on MW or LW.

From SM Bob Schneider:

We are still looking for someone to be the **Section Youth Coordinator (SYC)**. It is a new, section-level ARRL Field Organization appointment that is available and ready to be filled as soon as we have someone for the position. Here are the appointment guidelines that describe the requirements and responsibilities: <http://www.arrl.org/section-youth-coordinator>

If you are interested or know of someone who would be just right for the job, let the SM know.

Free Morse Mouse App provides good ed tool for CW's newbies

Chelmsford, England, radio amateur Charlie, M0PZT, has released Morse Mouse (<http://www.m0pzt.com/?mouse>), a free app he developed to demonstrate Morse code to young people in the form of a game. He said the program, which runs in Windows, is aimed at aiding in the teaching of Morse code to youngsters -- and the young at heart.

In the game, the player has 5 to 10 seconds to type the letter being sent in Morse. The program offers three "lives" to guess correctly, and the letter is sent again if the player is incorrect. with a repeat sending of the character if guessed incorrectly. The object is to get the mouse closer to the cheese, which happens with each correct response.

If the player is wrong, the mouse moves away from the cheese. The quicker the player is at correctly identifying what has been send, the higher the final score. While he makes a crib sheet available, "that's not to say that those comfortable with 15-20 WPM speeds



won't get some fun out of this," he said.

Morse Mouse debuted in March as part of British Science Week. It certainly unleashed visitors' competitive streaks, with people trying to better their scores," he said, adding that some visitors expressed surprise that Morse code is still used.

Annual Hawaii QSO Party set for August

This year's Hawaii QSO Party is set for the Aug. 22 weekend. Details are on the website at www.HawaiiQSOParty.org.

Coordinator Joe Speroni, AH0A, and his committee are seeking stories and photos of last year's operations to share on the website. If you have something you'd like to share with others, send an email to awards@HawaiiQSOParty.org.