

Road trip to  
Waimea Hamfest  
for our January  
gathering  
(details below)

## January 2018 Newsletter

### Big Island Amateur Radio Club

## Annual Christmas festivities a hit at December meeting

### Pascal Nelson is new club president

The essence of the Christmas and aloha spirits filled the big room at the Keaau Community Center Dec. 9 as BIARC members installed new officers, celebrated the holidays and looked forward to 2018. The annual big potluck buffet featured seasonal favorites and other delicious fare. And for a special party favor, Barbara Darling presented each attendee with a jar of her homemade guava or lilikoi jelly to take home.

Pascal Nelson leads BIARC as president, with Vice President Peggy Gentle, Secretary Les Hittner, Treasurer Paul Ducasse and directors Gary Schwiter, Kim Fendt, Cory Allen, Bill Hanson, Barbara Darling, John Bush and Bob Schneider.

Outgoing President Gary Schwiter thanked the membership for helping to make 2017 a good, active year for the club. Pascal congratulated Gary on a job well done, and said he's looking forward to the challenges and opportunities of the new year. He asked for the membership's continued support and kokua.

### No formal January meeting

BIARC will take our January gathering on the road, since the



At the December BIARC meeting, members celebrated a good year, looked forward to the new year, installed new officers and enjoyed the fellowship and food on the holiday buffet table.

-- Photos by  
Linda Quarberg

annual hamfest (postponed from Nov. 4) will be held on the same day as our regular monthly meeting: Saturday, Jan. 13.

Hamfest activities start at 8 a.m., with a breakfast get-together at the Hawaiian Style Cafe. Vendor setup starts at 9 a.m., with doors opening at 9:30 at the nearby Waimea Community Center.

Officially known as the Big Island of Hawaii International Swap Meet/Hamfest, the event is sponsored by the Kohala Hamakua Radio Club (Website: <http://www.hamradioandmore.com/khrc.htm>).

The community center is at 65-



Story, photos  
continue on next page



# HAPPY HOLIDAYS, BIARC STYLE

## Continued from previous page

1260 Kawaihae Road in Waimea, next to the ball field off Mamalahoa Highway. Cost is \$10 per table for vendors. Admission is \$5 per person at sign-in. Be sure to get your raffle tickets for the "Big ticket items." Event ends at 2 p.m.

At noon, enjoy guest presentations in the adjoining room.

At 1 p.m. there will be ARRL VE testing. (Bring current drivers' license or passport, a copy of current FCC license or CSCE if applicable, and \$15 in exact change.)

Talk-in: 146.940 Maui Repeater, 147.320 Waimea, and 443.650 (100 Hz tone) Kona. Contact: Steve Milner, [wh6n@arrl.net](mailto:wh6n@arrl.net).



## Don't forget to sign up for the QTH.NET Email Listserve

The Big Island Amateur Radio Club has begun using an email listserve.

"The main advantage of using such a listserve is that you do not have to individually maintain a list of club-member email addresses in order to enter into important conversations related to club operations," explains coordinator Les Hittner.

"The listserve can be set up to maintain two independent lists; a general one and an administrative one. The advantages follow:

- Members do not have to maintain their own list of BIARC email addresses.
- Messages sent via the listserve can be archived. This is particularly important for the administrative listserve where club business might be discussed.

- The listserve provides a secure means of sending club email.

- Listserve emails are easily identified by their unique Subject Line headings.

- Access to the Listserve can be placed on the club's website.

Additional information can be found at:

<http://mailman.qth.net/>

In order to become a member of the BIARC Listserve, simply send me an email:

**[lhittner@hbc.com](mailto:lhittner@hbc.com)**

and let me know that you want to be placed on the listserve. I will enroll you and then send you an information email about its use.

Mahalo,  
**Leslie Hittner, K0BAD**

## **New series of Technician License prep classes to be offered around the island**

### ***Free Tech Classes***

Hilo - Aupuni Conference Room:

February 15, 2018

February 22, 2018

March 1, 2018

March 8, 2018

March 15, 2018

March 22, 2018 (Exam)

Kona – West Hawaii Civic Center:

March 22, 2018

March 29, 2018

April 5, 2018

April 12, 2018

April 19, 2018

April 26, 2018 (Exam)

Ocean View – Hove Community Center

May 3, 2018

May 10, 2018

May 17, 2018

May 24, 2018

May 31, 2018

June 7, 2018 (Exam)

Kea'au – Kea'au Community Center

November 1, 2018

November 8, 2018

November 15, 2018

November 29, 2018

December 6, 2018

December 13, 2018 (Exam)

**Contact Doug Wilson (KH7DQ) at  
douscelle@aol.com or Ph. 985-9362**

***Note: Test fee of \$15 (in exact cash) due  
at time of each exam.***

## **President's message**

Hau'oli Makahiki Hou, BIARC 2018. I still can't quite get the Hawai'ian phrases to roll off my tongue, but I'm trying. Debbie (AH7DN) and I just counted up that this is our 5th Christmas/New Year in Hawai'i. We are so happy to be here. Once again ham radio has been the impetus and opportunity for us to meet many new friends and get engaged in a meaningful way with our new chosen home.

Thank you BIARC for welcoming both Debbie and myself and posing new possibilities for us. Little did we imagine a year ago that I would be asked to serve as president of this club, or that Debbie would be just one state short of WAS (RI if you're curious). 2017 was an amazing year for us as we got to know the Hawai'i ham community.

As your new president I am thrilled to expand the range of my involvement in this wonderful family of ham radio. For 53 years I have been part of the ham family. I have dipped my toes into a number of the streams that flow through ham land. CW and Phone. World-wide humanitarian phone patches and traffic. FM and Repeaters. Packet

Radio. Now FT8 and other digital modes. Not least the wonderful Hawai'i 40 meter net that has introduced me to hams all over the Hawai'ian Islands.

Many interests bring us to, and keep us in the ham family. We have a rich past, and a bright - if challenging - future. It is my hope as new BIARC president that I can help continue this trajectory. Let's have fun in whatever aspects of ham radio that we enjoy. Let's stretch ourselves to keep learning new things. Let's prepare ourselves for service to the wider community in times of emergency or crisis. Let's continue to train and welcome new hams to this wonderful hobby. Let's continue to share the joys and sadness of our BIARC family as we live out our lives and our adventures.

I look forward to serving as president. However, it is you -- each of you, all of you -- that are BIARC. I will offer what I can. I expect to listen to each of you. We'll move forward together, and have fun along the way. Let's keep the communication flowing. That's what ham radio is about.

Aloha,

**Pascal AC7N**

***On top of a volcano  
in the middle of the  
Pacific Ocean***

# 2018 BIARC leadership

BIARC 2018 Leadership: President Pascal Nelson, ac7n@arrl.net; Vice President Peggy Gentle, radiopeg@gmail.com; Secretary Les Hittner, lhittner@hbc.com; Treasurer Paul Ducasse, ducasse@hawaii.rr.com;

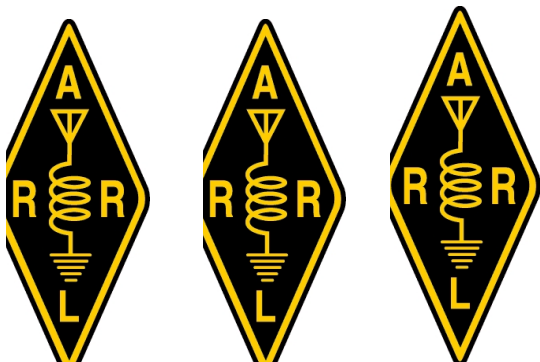
Directors: Gary Schwiter, wh6eps@gmx.com (past president); Cory Allen, KN6ZU@yahoo.com; Barbara Darling, nh7fy@yahoo.com; Kim Fendt, wh6kim@gmail.com; Bill Hanson, whanson@co.hawaii.hi.us; John Bush, amsjbush@gmail.com, and Bob Schneider, ah6j@arrl.org.

Program Committee co-chairs are John Bush and Les Hittner.



**PERC ELECTS --** *The Puna Emergency Radio Club held its annual meeting and installation of officers Dec. 1 at the Great Organic Lava Farm clubhouse in Mountain View. Outgoing President Bob Gomez turned over the gavel to new President Thomas Hoomanawanui.*

*-- Cory Allen photo*



## World Wide Radio Operators Foundation announces KP4 Generator Project

Recovery efforts in Puerto Rico have largely cycled out of the news media, but residents are still struggling in the wake of fall's devastating hurricane damage. In order to help radio amateurs and radiosport enthusiasts in Puerto Rico get back on the air, the World Wide Radio Operators Foundation (WWROF) has announced the KP4 Generator Project, which will raise funds to purchase Honda eu2000i generators for the radio amateurs of Puerto Rico. Well-known contester Angel Vazquez, WP3R, will distribute the generators for emergency-related communication and other applications.

The WWROF will match the first \$5,000 in donations to the generator project. WWROF is an IRS 501(c)(3) organization.

Puerto Rico suffered extreme damage from hurricanes Irma and Maria, and while recovery efforts are

proceeding, a lot of work remains to be done that will take significant time, said WWROF Chairman John Dorr, K1AR.

"Amateur Radio has filled a vital need for communications, since the storm destroyed most of the island's wired and wireless infrastructure," Dorr noted. "Many of our fellow Amateur Radio operators and contesters are among the people who suffered significant damage."

The WWROF said generators remain in high demand and very short supply.

Donate to the KP4 Generator Project via PayPal (to donations@WWROF.org), via credit card on the WWROF website (click on the DONATE button), or by check to WWROF, P.O. Box 529, Fredericksburg, TX 78624-0529.





## **Reminder: W1AW begins scheduled transmissions on 6 Meters on January 2**

Beginning with the 1400 UTC fast code practice transmission on Tuesday, January 2, 2018, W1AW will add 6 meters — specifically 50.350 MHz — to its regular CW code practice, and CW, digital and phone bulletin transmission schedule. In addition to providing regularly scheduled transmissions on 6 meters, another goal is to act as a beacon on 6 meters, especially from the Northeast US.

Signal reports will be welcome. A web page that will allow listeners to provide signal reports will be made available after the start date. Reports may also be e-mailed to W1AW.

## **Ready, set, go: Prepare to Get Your Grid On!**

What's your grid square? Be prepared to answer that question a lot in 2018. The ARRL International Grid Chase 2018 begins this weekend and continues throughout the year.

The Grid Chase kicks off at 0000 UTC on Monday, January 1, which is New Year's Eve in US time zones, so get ready to hit your grid running.

This is an event for all radio amateurs, and taking part is as simple as just getting on the air and making contacts: The objective of the year-long event is to work stations on any band (except 60 meters) in as many different Maidenhead grid squares as possible, and then upload your logs to ARRL's Logbook of The World (LoTW).

All contacts on all permitted Amateur Radio bands, except 60 meters, are eligible for award credit. This includes contest contacts.



## **W1AW**

Each new grid square contact confirmed through LoTW will count toward your monthly total. Stations do not have to exchange grid squares for a valid contact, although it's anticipated that many operators will do so.

Some grid squares will be "rare ones," however, and will be in demand. How about yours? Get on the air, and get behind your grid! If you can, get out there, and activate the scarce ones.

Marconi Cape Cod Radio Club KM1CC at the Cape Cod National Seashore has just announced that its members will activate rare grid square FN51 January 18-19 for the International Grid Chase.

Complete details of the ARRL International Grid Chase 2018 appeared in the December 2017 issue of QST. For more information, contact the ARRL Contest Branch.

## January 1 Hosts Events for Legacy Keys, CW on Satellites

Every day is a good day to send CW, but January 1 is reserved for Straight Key Night (SKN), sponsored by ARRL.

Enjoy CW as it has been sent and enjoyed since the earliest days of Amateur Radio. The 24-hour event, which gets under way at 0000 UTC on January 1 (New Year's Eve in US time zones), is not a contest but a day dedicated to celebrating Amateur Radio's Morse heritage.

Participants are encouraged to get on the air and enjoy conversational CW contacts, preferably while using a straight key or a semi-automatic key ("bug"). No points! Everyone's a winner. Submit your votes for best fist and most interesting QSO.

The ARRL International Grid Chase 2018 kicks off on January 1 at 0000 UTC, so SKN is a chance to combine the two events!

The First-Class CW Operators' Club sponsors a concurrent event, FOC Bug Day, concurrent with SKN. FOC asks for a description of the bug or bugs used, a list of



stations worked, and a vote for best bug fist heard to FOC Bug Day Manager Benny Owens, K5KV.

AMSAT will sponsor its second-annual satellite CW Activity Day on January 1. This year's event is dedicated to the memory of Pat Gowen, G3IOR. No rules. Just have fun. Just operate CW through any ham radio satellite. The use of straight keys and bugs is encouraged but not required.

## Radio anniversaries abounded in December

December is the month in which three notable events in radio history occurred -- the first radio transmission heard across the Atlantic Ocean in 1901, the first broadcast of the human voice and music in 1906, and the first successful transatlantic Amateur Radio HF transmissions in 1921.

On December 12, 1901, Italian wireless pioneer Guglielmo Marconi succeeded in receiving the first



**Marconi at Signal  
Hill in Newfoundland.**



**Paul Godley, 2ZE**

transatlantic radio signal, transmitted from Poldhu, in Cornwall, England, to St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada. Marconi's team in Cornwall transmitted the letter "S" in Morse code, and this was heard by Marconi and his assistant George Kemp at a facility set up in Cabot Tower on Signal Hill in St. John's.

On the Cornwall side, Marconi had erected a powerful spark-gap transmitter feeding a massive antenna. The receiving team used a kite antenna. The experiment proved that radio signals could be transmitted beyond the line of sight, opening the door to global wireless communication.

An article in the December 2007 issue of QST suggested that absorption may have been less in 1901 than in the 21st century, perhaps contributing to the success of the feat, which occurred during daylight on the Canadian end.

On Christmas Eve 1906, experimenter Reginald Fessenden made what may have been the first radio broadcast to include speech and music. The transmission originated at Brant Rock, Massachusetts, about 30 miles from Boston.

As he's done in year's past, Brian Justin, WA1ZMS, of Forest, Virginia, commemorated that first audio broadcast by operating WI2XLQ on 486 kHz, marking the 111th anniversary of the Fessenden's accomplishment. Historic accounts say Fessenden played the violin -- or a recording of violin music -- and read a brief Bible verse, astounding radio experimenters and shipboard operators who heard the broadcast.

"Since we now have a ham band on 630 meters, I will have a shorter transmission period this year that will only cover the Christmas holiday," Justin told ARRL. That's because he hopes to be active on the new band himself.

Justin began his transmission on December 24 at 1700 UTC and continued until December 26 at 1659 UTC. For his transmitter in 1906, Fessenden used an AC alternator modulated by placing carbon microphones in series with the antenna feed line.



**Reginald  
Fessenden**

Justin's homebuilt station is slightly more modern, based on a 1921 vacuum tube master oscillator power amplifier (MOPA) design, using a UV-202 tube. The transmitter employs Heising AM modulation, developed by Raymond Heising during World War I.

Send listener reports directly to Brian Justin, WA1ZMS.

In 1921, ARRL sponsored two series of transatlantic tests to see if signals from previously qualified Amateur Radio stations could be heard at a receiving station in Ardrossan, Scotland. The second series succeeded, with several ham stations heard on the receiving end, using equipment far superior to what had been available to Marconi just 20 years earlier. "The Story of the Transatlantics" chronicled the events in the February 1922 issue of QST, to great fanfare. As Mike Marinaro, WN1M, recounted in "The Transatlantic Tests," in the May 2014 issue of QST, the first signal "unofficially" heard in Scotland was actually that of a pirate, identifying as 1AW and not using the prearranged transmission format.

The "rough listening post" in Scotland, staffed by receiver designer Paul Godley, 2ZE, and D.E. Pearson of the Marconi Company, was equipped with a superheterodyne and regenerative receiver connected to a 1,300-foot Beverage antenna, 12 feet above ground.

On December 10, the CW signals of official entry 1BCG, owned by Minton Cronkhite, "were solidly heard on 230 to 235 meters," Marinaro wrote in 2014. "This signal derived from the specially designed and constructed station of the Radio Club of America at Greenwich, Connecticut -- the only station heard that morning."

Connecticut radio amateur and radio history buff Clark Burgard, N1BCG, was among those celebrating the 96th anniversary of the first transatlantic shortwave transmission in Greenwich, Connecticut. Several other stations took part by establishing contacts between the US and Europe, including GM7VSB in Ardrossan, Scotland.

No specific bands and frequencies were set in advance, in order to "permit flexibility due to propagation." Burgard has posted additional information on his QRZ.com profile page. Chris Codella, W2PA, provides additional radio history on his "Ham Radio History" website.

## **Countries authorize new, expanded Amateur Radio allocations**

Several countries around the globe have allowed access to new and expanded frequency allocations.

Croatian radio amateurs now have a secondary 60-meter allocation of 5351.5-5366.5 kHz, as agreed to at World Radiocommunication Conference 2015 (WRC 15), with a maximum 15 W EIRP. For the last several years, the Croatian Regulatory Authority for Network Industries (HAKOM) had issued 1-year licenses to operate on 60 meters. Hams in Croatia now also have access to more of 160 meters: 1810-1850 kHz with a maximum power of 1.5 kW PEP, and 1850-2000 kHz with a maximum power of 1 kW PEP. The changes became effective on December 2.

Earlier this fall, radio amateurs in Colombia gained new allocations at 60, 630, and 2200 meters, as a result of efforts by the Liga Colombiana de Radioaficionados (LCRA) -- with the support of its "strategic partner" Liga Radio Bogotá (LRB). Access to the new bands was to become effective when the Colombian Communications Ministry granted the privileges by administrative act. The new allocations are 135.7-137.8 kHz (2200 meters); 472-479 kHz (630 meters); and 5351.5-5366.5 kHz (60 meters). In Germany, radio amateurs now have a 60-meter band plus an extended 6-meter band, the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club (DARC) reports. Amateur Radio has been allocated the band

5351.5-5366.5 kHz at a maximum power of 15 W EIRP on a secondary basis. This is in accordance with the allocation agreed upon at WRC 15. In addition, 6 meters was expanded slightly. The band 50.08-51.0 MHz, previously allocated to Amateur Radio on a secondary basis, has been enlarged to 50.03-51.0 MHz at a maximum 25 W EIRP.

Spain has also adopted the global, secondary 60-meter Amateur Radio allocation of 5351.5-5366.5 kHz, per WRC 15.

The Radio Club of Argentina has announced that Argentina will soon have privileges in the 630- and 60-meter bands, as well as extended allocations at 160, 80, and 30 meters. The new allocations are 472-479 kHz (630 meters) and 5351.5-5366.5 kHz (60 meters). Hams in Argentina will also be permitted to use 1800-2000 kHz (160 meters); 3500-4000 kHz (80/75 meters), and 10,100-10,150 kHz (30 meters) -- the same allocations available in the US. -- ***Thanks to Zeljko Ulip, 9A2EY, via Paul Gaskell, G4MWO/The 5 MHz Newsletter, Southgate Amateur Radio News***

## **Reputed World's Oldest Ham Jean Touzot, F8IL, SK**

Jean Touzot, F8IL, of Albi, France -- said to have been the world's oldest radio amateur -- has died. The "dean of French radio amateurs," Touzot was 109 and enjoyed operating CW with an old-fashioned hand key and a modern Yaesu transceiver. He "retired from the airwaves for health reasons" at age 105 in 2014, according to media accounts. Until then, he had been active on the air, making daily contacts on 80-meter CW with other stations in France. In stepping back from his ham activity, Touzot said he was no longer able to send CW and made "too many mistakes."

He was a member of France's International Amateur Radio Union member-society REF, as well as of the Union of French Telegraphists (UFT).

Born in Algeria, Touzot had been on the air since 1936 and had learned CW in 2 months during his time in the military. Prior to military service, he attended the Technical Institute of Toulouse and became an industrial designer, retiring in 1966.





# **EAST HAWAII CERT BASIC TRAINING COURSE HILO 2018**

**SATURDAYS: JANUARY 20  
JANUARY 27  
FEBRUARY 3  
FEBRUARY 10**

**Location:  
Aupuni Conference Room  
Hilo**

**TIME: 8:30 – 4:30**

**Community Emergency Response Team Training  
Provides you with knowledge and skills to prepare for  
and properly respond to an emergency impacting  
yourself, your family, and your community.**

**When disaster strikes your area, will you know what to  
do?**

## **CERT TRAINING**

**Is a comprehensive  
program including  
modules on:**

- Emergency Preparedness
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- Light Search and Rescue
- Incident Command Organization
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**Classes are free**

**For more information  
on CERT, visit  
<https://www.citizencorps.gov/cert/>**

**Questions:  
[hawaiiCERT@gmail.com](mailto:hawaiiCERT@gmail.com)**

**To reserve a  
space in the class  
go to Eventbrite:  
<https://certhilo.eventbrite.com>**

**Aupuni Conference  
Room  
101 Pauahi St.  
(near the DMV)  
Hilo)**

# Year-long NASA On The Air Event is underway

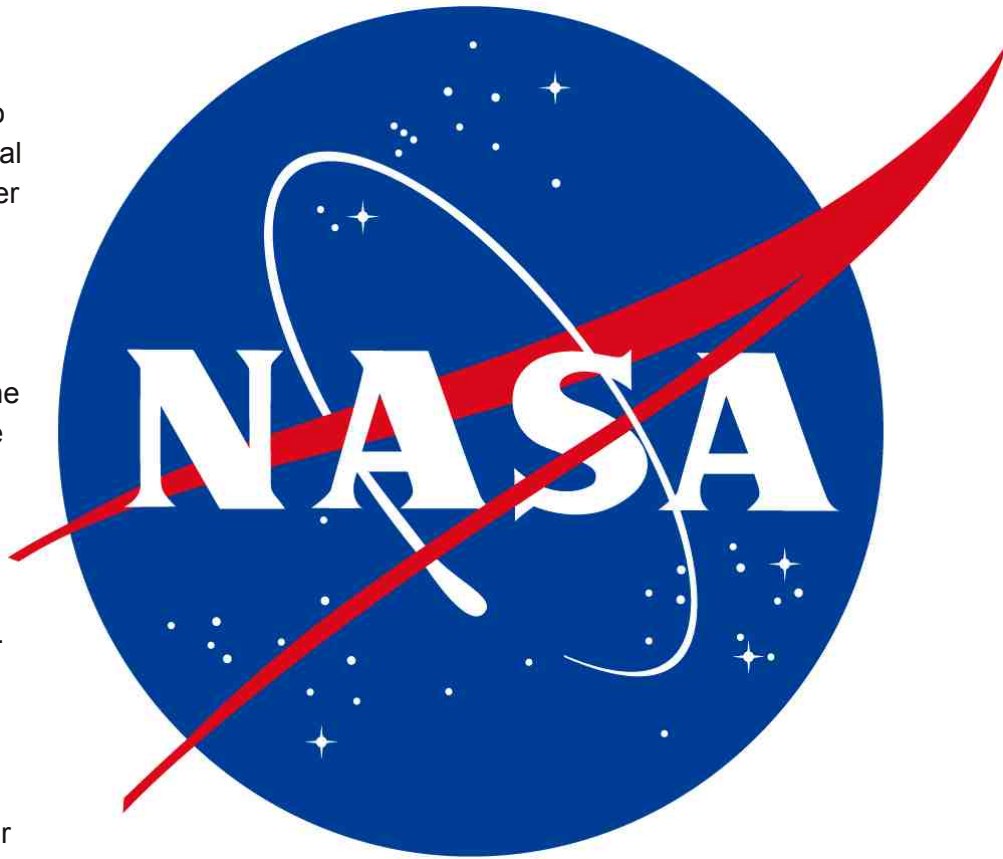
The Amateur Radio clubs at National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) centers around the U.S. have invited the Amateur Radio community to join the NASA On The Air (NOTA) special event. NOTA got under way in December and continues through December 2018.

In addition to being the agency's 60th anniversary, 2018 will mark 50 years since NASA orbited the first human around the moon, and 20 years since the first elements of the International Space Station (ISS) were launched into low-Earth orbit.

The Marshall Space Flight Center's NN4SA is one of the NASA Center stations that will be active during NOTA. Stations at various NASA centers and facilities will be on the air with special event operations to celebrate these monumental achievements, as well as current milestones. Some clubs will offer commemorative QSL cards, and a special certificate will be available indicating the number of NASA club stations worked on various bands and modes.

"We plan to have a web-based system for you to check your points total and download a printable certificate at the end of the event in December 2018," the NASA announcement said. "Points will be awarded for each center worked on each band and mode (phone, CW, digital, and 'space' modes -- satellites, meteor scatter, EME, ISS APRS)." That would, of course, include contacts with any of the Amateur Radio stations on the ISS.

Key anniversaries during NOTA include the 45th anniversary of Apollo 17 on December 11, 2017, which kicked off the event.



Special programs during 2018 will revolve around NASA's founding on July 29, 1958; the 20th anniversary of the ISS first element launch on November 20, 1998; the 20th anniversary of the ISS Node 1 Launch on December 4, 1998, and the 50th anniversary of Apollo 8 -- launched on December 21, 1968, and returned on December 27 -- marking the end of the event.

More information is on the NASA On The Air website. Participating Amateur Radio clubs and the NOTA event are independent of -- and not officially sponsored by -- NASA.

**-- Thanks to Rob Suggs, KB5EZ, NASA Marshall Space Flight Center Amateur Radio Club (NN4SA), and Kevin Zari, KK4YEL, NASA Kennedy Space Center Amateur Radio Club (N1KSC).**



# Ten Ten International

You have to make contacts to get results!



*Irene Kubica, NH7PE, is an avid participant in 10-meter activity and encourages hams at all levels to join in the fun.*

## Upcoming Events

Mon Jan 01, 2018 00:00  
[10-10 Anniversary](#)

Mon Jan 01, 2018 00:00  
[10-10 Meet the Volunteers](#)

Sat Feb 03, 2018 00:00 -  
Sun Feb 04, 2018 23:59  
[Winter Phone QSO Party](#)

Sat Feb 03, 2018 00:00 -  
Sun Feb 04, 2018 23:59  
[Winter Phone QSO Party](#)

Sat Apr 28, 2018 00:00 -  
Sun Apr 29, 2018 23:59  
[Spring Digital QSO Party](#)

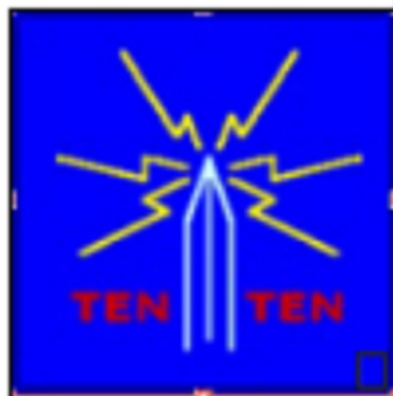
Sat May 05, 2018 00:00 -  
Sun May 06, 2018 23:59  
[Spring CW QSO Party](#)

Sat May 05, 2018 00:00 -  
Sun May 06, 2018 23:59  
[Spring CW QSO Party](#)

Sat Jun 02, 2018 00:00 -  
Sun Jun 03, 2018 23:59  
[Open Season QSO Party](#)

## The 10-10 Connection

with NH7PE,  
**10-10 Aloha Chapter**



### *Have a hankering for rag-chewing?*

Check into the daily (except Sunday) SSB nets at 8 a.m. HST on 28.380 and 28.800MHz. They are called from Illinois, California, Arizona, Florida, North Carolina and Michigan. Try them out.

Remember: You have to make contacts to get results!

*Be sure to check  
[www.ten-ten.org](http://www.ten-ten.org) for  
details*

### Ten-Ten International QSO Parties

For those who join in the Ten-Ten QSO Parties, remember: You can assign your score to the Aloha Chapter. Logs must be postmarked no later than 15 days after the respective QSO Party. To see what's open on 10 meters, listen to the beacons from 28.175-28.300 so you will know where DX is coming from.

The Ten-Ten International News has reprinted several antenna articles by L.B. Cebik (SK), W4RNL #41159.

Ten-Ten International pins are available for purchase at \$2 each. See [www.ten-ten.org](http://www.ten-ten.org) for details.

CW news: FISTS Get Your Feet Wet Activity Day! Every third Sunday from 0001 to 2400 UTC on 80 and 40 meters (3.558-7.110 MHz): exchange name, QTH, FIST #, RST.