June 2025



THE BIG ISLAND HAMGRAM

The newsletter of the Big Island Amateur Radio Club

Governor declares
June Amateur Radio
Month in Hawaii
See Page 5

Learn about annual BIARC Field Day at club's monthly Hilo meeting on June 8

On Sunday, June 8, the main focus of the 2 p.m. BIARC meeting at Kamana Center will be on the annual Field Day event set for Saturday, June 28, in Hilo.

"Field Day will be potluck and we need people to bring food, drinks, canopies, folding tables, chairs, coolers, etc.," said coordinator Joseph Rosenbaum.

Field Day will be at the Wailoa River State Recreation Area.

"We will be using the No. 4 wedding pavilion. Check-in time is 8:30 a.m. and the event will last until 8 p.m., or pau — probably more like 4 p.m., but we'll see," said Joe, WH6JOE.

At the June 8 meeting, besides planning for Field Day, William Polhemus, NH6ET, will give a talk/ presentation on operating multiple stations in close quarters and there will also be a talk on the foxhunt that the club will be having at Field Day.



AND EVERYONE PASSED! This photo includes the contingent from Makua Lani Christian Academy in Kailua-Kona. The students are Brandon Buehler, Kapono Corpus, Alexander Lim, and Caleb Smith. Their teacher, Frederick Herrmann, is at the far left. At right, is coordinator Doug Wilson, KH7DQ. In back: Jim Tatar, WH6EMN; Bob Schneider, AH6J; David Miller, KH6CZ; Linda Quarberg, WH6LQ.

Club volunteers wind up Technician Prep Classes with students achieving 100% success at VE Testing session May 18

The Technician License Preparation Class and the Accelerated Technician License Preparation Class which followed, were concluded on May 18.

An in-person testing session was conducted that same day. Twelve people sat for the exam and all 12 (100%) passed their exams.

Ten earned their Technician license, one earned a General license and one had his Amateur Extra license reinstated.

Of the 10 people who earned a Technician license, four were stu-

dents from Makua Lani Christian Academy in Kailua, Kona, along with their teacher (pictured here).

"Many thanks to Jim Tatar (WH6EMN) for assisting with teaching both classes," said coordinator Doug Wilson, KH7DQ. "Also a big mahalo to Linda Quarberg (WH6LQ), Bob Schneider (AH6J), David Miller (KH6CZ) and Jim Tatar for serving as Volunteer Examiners (VEs) for this testing session.

"And, CONGRATULATIONS to all who passed their exam!"

Members OK constitutional changes at semi-annual biz meeting

BIARC members unanimously approved changes to the club's constitution and bylaws at the semi-annual membership business meeting May 18 at Kamana Center.

Prior to the meeting, constitution-related proposals had been circulated via the club's online presence, including the Hamgram, Discord, and membership mailing list at http://www.qsl.net. And club trustee William Polhemus, NH6ET, made the motions in person at the meeting, with a proper quorum of voting members present.

The complete wording of the approved constitutional changes is printed on Page 3 of this edition of the Hamgram.

In brief, here is the gist of these and other actions aimed at improving the functioning of our club.

Amendment 1: Decouple the Program Chairman post from the Vice President position. This will now be an appointed and separate position within the club's operating structure. (Moved, William Polhemus; seconded, Joseph Rosenbaum; passed unanimously.)

Continued on next page

SEMI-ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

From previous page

Amendment 2: Decouple Club Trustee position from the Public Service and Communications Committee. Under Section 3 of BIARC Bylaws, under Standing Committees, strikes the language mandating that "station trustee shall be a member." (Moved, Tony Kitchen; seconded, William Polhemus; passed unanimously.)

Change to bylaws: Because, as in any organization, the club's executive board often must take action between its formal monthly meetings. Therefore, a new Section No. 4 in the bylaws will allow more flexibility and no longer mandate approval of each and every board member.

(Moved, William Polhemus; seconded, Tony Kitchen; passed unanimously.)

Additional voting:

-- Motion to extend our monthly 2 p.m. club membership program session by one hour. This extension from a quitting time of 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. will allow presentations to be completed, as well as more time for informal and formal connectivity between members. (Moved by William Polhemus; seconded by Mark Watanabe; passed unanimously.)

Tony Kitchen, BIARC treasurer, gave members a run-through of the various board and committee statements that are published each month in the Hamgram. They contain up-to-date financial information, broken down into various categories, as well as activity reports from committee chairs.

Tony also noted that the Hawaii County Civil Defense Agency will host an Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) Summit.

The June 12 event is open to all amateur radio operators and will provide valuable updates, networking opportunities, and a chance to strengthen our island-wide communications community.

It will be at Aunty Sally's Luau Hale in Hilo. (See Pages 3-4 for complete details and instructions on registration.)

BIARC President Thomas Avila offered a "state of our union" report, noting that the club has had some growth in membership.

And he pointed out that, at the same time the membership was meeting, some 10-15 aspiring folks were taking the FCC/ARRL testing for various levels of amateur radio licensing in the next-door room at Kamana Center.

"It feels nice to be a part of this

group," he said. "And we're on track, financially."

Thomas asked club members to let board members know what they are thinking and what they'd like to see happen within the club: programs, activities, etc.

Discussion then turned to the BIARC gateway, and whether, and/ or how, we could open it up to hams outside of BIARC.

After assorted points of view were presented, William moved that we maintain the status quo, that only club members can use the existing gateway to access the Kulani 146.760 repeater. Luke McKay seconded the motion, which passed 10-2.

William suggested that there are other ways we can provide open access to folks outside the club.

Shawn Farley pointed out that the younger generation uses the cell phone for anything involving communications.

And they like Meshtastic, Shawn noted, emphasizing that "Meshtastic is the gateway" to becoming a ham.

Gary Schwiter said he supports a 70-centimeter site, as well as use of the All-Star network. Administration of permitted usage would set time limits and enforce "non-persistent connections."

William then proposed an amendment to his previous motion which would allow the BIARC gateway to expand to allow a case-by-case non-BIARC use for special ad hoc events and linking to emergency communications systems. This motion was seconded by Shawn and passed 13-1.

William suggested that the club should revisit the gateway access subject at our November membership business meeting.

Makani Pahili

The 2025 Hawaii Island **ARES Makani Pahili ComEx** will be staged on Saturday, June 14. The website is at the following link: https://sites.google.com/ view/hico-ares-makanipahili (This also works if typed into your browser)

Details on Makani Pahili are on Page 6.

BIARC Executive Board

Thomas Avila, KH6GG, was reelected club president at the January BIARC Executive Board meeting. Others on the 2025 leadership team are Vice President David Miller, KH6CZ, Secretary Joseph Rosenbaum, WH6JOE, and Treasurer Tony Kitchen,

The seven-member board also includes two at-large directors, Mark Watanabe, WH6FSA, and Shawn Farley, WH6GXZ, and our KH6EJ station trustee, William Polhemus, NH6ET.

Members of the club are encouraged to get involved at a committee level on one or more of the BIARC standing committees. There are many ways to help, and the committee activities vary widely.

As NH6ET noted, the committee level is where things happen. And the committees need "boots on the ground." So, if you see a committee focus that interests you, hop aboard.

Here are the committees: Digital Systems: Luke McKay WH6GRW(Chair), Gary Schwiter WH6EPS, Shawn Farley WH6GXZ, Trevor Manago KH6IM and Jason Estrella WH6GZZ

Education and Outreach: David Miller KH6CZ(Chair), Joe Rosenbaum WH6JOE, Mark Watanabe WH6FSA, Fred Fischer WH6HAA, Jim Tatar WH6EMN, Leigh Critchlow WH6LC, Les Hittner K0BAD

Operating Activities: Joseph Rosenbaum WH6JOE(Chair), John Bush KH6DLK, Tony Kitchen WH6DVI Programs: William Polhemus NH6ET (Chair), Joseph Rosenbaum WH6JOE **Public Service Communications: Les** Hittner K0BAD(chair), Jim Tatar WH6EMN

Voice Repeaters: Trevor Manago KH6IM(chair), Gary Schwiter WH6EPS, William Polhemus NH6ET, Joe Rosenbaum WH6JOE, Steve Brown KH6SB, Stefan Pommerenk NH6SP, Shawn Farley WH6GXZ, Luke McKay WH6GRW, Frank Roff KH6BFD Meeting refreshments: Chair Jim Tatar, WH6EMN

The BIARC board meets at noon on the second Sunday of each month, followed by the 2 p.m. monthly membership program, at Kamana Senior Center in Hilo. All members are welcome at both sessions, and the meetings are accessible live via the Internet. Find the links on our website, biarc.net.

Civil Defense Agency announces Auxiliary Comms Summit

Aloha Amateur Radio Operators, You are invited to attend the upcoming Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) Summit, hosted by the Hawaii County Civil Defense Agency. This event is open to all amateur radio operators and will provide valuable updates, networking opportunities, and a chance to strengthen our island-wide communications community.

Event Details:

Date: Thursday, June 12, 2025

Time: 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Ŷ Location: Aunty Sally's Luau Hale,

Hilo, Hawaii

Lunch will be provided, and an RSVP is required by Monday, June 9 to ensure an accurate lunch count.

Please RSVP to:

& 808-935-0031

civildefense@hawaiicounty.gov
The official flyer is attached with all
the event details (See Page 4 of this
Hamgram).

We look forward to seeing you there and appreciate your ongoing support and service.

Mahalo,

Rhonda Carreira

Secretary

Notice of proposed constitutional amendment

Big Island Amateur Radio Club

Submitted by:

William Polhemus, Full Member Date of Vote: May 18, 2025 Submitted: April 13, 2025

In accordance with Article VI, Section 1 of the BIARC Constitution, this serves as official written notice of a proposed amendment to the club's Constitution and Bylaws. The proposal will be brought to a vote at the upcoming Semi-Annual Membership Meeting.

Proposed Motion

Motion: To modify the Constitution and/or Bylaws as may be necessary to decouple the Programs Committee Chair position from the office of Vice President, thereby allowing any Member or Associate Member to be appointed by a vote of the club Board as the Programs Committee Chair.

<u>Purpose:</u> This change ensures that the individual responsible for program solicitation and development is someone with a genuine interest in curating meaningful content for the club — not assigned automatically by holding another office. It allows the Programs Chair to be selected based on interest, availability, and qualifications.

Proposed Text Changes To Amend Constitution — Article II, Section 9

Current Language:

"The Vice President shall: (1) assume all the duties of the President in the absence of the latter; (2) be the chair of the club Program Committee; and (3) arrange for meeting places..."

Amended Language:

"The Vice President shall: (1) assume all the duties of the President in the absence of the latter; and (2) arrange for meeting places for monthly club activities and scheduled meetings of the membership."

(Removes the automatic assignment of the Program Committee Chair role to the Vice President.)

Amend Bylaws — Section 3 (Program Committee)

"The Program Committee shall be composed of persons from appropriate interest areas and shall be chaired by a Member or Associate Member appointed by a vote of the club Board. The Program Committee is responsible for organizing monthly programs and activities, including identifying and securing speakers or content, and coordinating logistics with the Vice President."

Why This Requires Advance Notice

Although this proposal includes changes to both the Constitution and the Bylaws, advance notice is only required because it amends the Constitution.

Under Article VI of the Constitution:

- Constitutional amendments require one month's written notice and a two-thirds majority vote at a membership meeting.
- Bylaws amendments can be passed with a simple majority vote at the same meeting, with no advance notice required.
 Understanding this distinction helps members know how club governance works — and how they can participate in shaping it.

Discussion Encouraged

Members are encouraged to talk with one another about this proposal before the May General Membership Meeting and bring questions or feedback to the floor discussion prior to the vote.

Reminder

A two-thirds majority of voting Full Members in attendance is required to adopt this constitutional amendment.



1ST ANNUAL KEANAKOLU SUMMIT



Hawaii County Civil Defense Agency Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS)









All Amateur Radio Operators are Invited!

Date: Thursday, June 12th, 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

Location: Aunty Sally Kaleohano's Luau Hale - Hilo

- RSVP Required Call by Monday, 6/9/2025
- Lunch provided
- **(808) 935-0031**
- civildefense@hawaiicounty.gov





Proclamation

WHEREAS, the celebration of Amateur Radio Month is to recognize the miracle of radio transmissions over the airwaves and the accomplishments of amateur radio operators worldwide; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio operators have provided countless hours of community service throughout the years; and

WHEREAS, they have also provided a bridge between individuals, societies, and countries by creating friendships and sharing ideas; and

WHEREAS, Amateur Radio Month is marked by more than 740,000 amateur radio operators in the United States and 3,400 in the Pacific region; and

WHEREAS, in 1914, the Marconi Wireless Telegraphy station located on Oahu's North Shore opened, and in 1916, messages were transmitted 4,200 miles from Hawai'i to Japan; and

WHEREAS, Amateur Radio Month culminates on the weekend of June 28 and 29, 2025 with the "Field Day" operating event that simulates setting up a station "in the field" and operating 24 hours in both the United States and Canada to exercise communications skills that are vital to emergency operations;

NOW, THEREFORE I, Josh Green, M.D., Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim June 1, 2025, as:

"AMATEUR RADIO MONTH"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in recognizing and extending a warm mahalo to all amateur radio operators for their dedication and unwavering commitment to public service and keeping our community informed in times of crisis throughout the Islands.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, on this fifteenth day of May 2025.

Josh Green, M.D.

Governor, State of Hawai'i

Joh Green M.D.

Makani Pahili: Increase situational awareness and practice emergency comms

The 2025 Hawaii Island ARES Makani Pahili ComEx will be staged on Saturday, June 14. The website is at the following link:

https://sites.google.com/view/hico-ares-makani-pahili (This also works if typed into your browser)

What does it take to be an ARES Volunteer?

- An FCC (Ham Radio) License
- A Radio. (Transceiver)
- · Electrical Power. (Batteries)
- · A focus on safety at all times.
- · A willingness to learn.
- A commitment to serve your community.
- The ability to problem solve, stay calm, and exercise good judgement.



The 2025 Hawaii County ARES participation in the Makani Pahili exercise is Saturday, June 14, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Other organizations and emergency management agencies are holding other exercises at various dates and times during the week of June 8.

Scenario:

Heavy rain and winds have impacted island wide during the past 24 hours, resulting in the loss of telephone and internet services. Rainfall in some areas reached as much as 4" Per hour, with Windspeeds sustained at 15-30 MPH, and gusts up to 50 MPH. Fallen trees, landslides, and flooding has occurred. Your role is to originate and relay situational awareness messages detailing realistic impacts and move messages towards our simulated EOC.

Amateur Radio in Medical Facilities:

Most hospitals, and some clinics have amateur radio equipment. Amateur Radio volunteers can step in when regular communications fail. Yet trained volunteers are often in short supply.

ARES is a training organization, and strives to prepare new volunteers to fill the ranks at other organizations that may need volunteers with a diverse set of radio skills.







When other forms of communication fail:

- We integrate all forms of radio and satellite communication.
- Our hubs enable Comms between individuals and groups.
- Our operators have off-grid power.
- We shadow other teams or may set up at a site when requested.

Hawaii County

Disaster Communications Support



In blue skies we help others develop and exercise their disaster plans.

The Hawaii County Siren Report for June 2025

From Darrell Asuka, KH6RDO, for the Big Island ARES Group

Observer	Mode	Status	Notes
		NOT WORKING	
l (KH7MS	DMR	Not Working	rotates but no sound
KH6FA	DMR	Not Working	
KH6RDO	Allstar	Not Working	rotates but no sound
WH6FIQ	Allstar	Not Working	
	d (KH7MS KH6FA KH6RDO	d (KH7MS DMR KH6FA DMR KH6RDO Allstar	NOT WORKING I (KH7MS DMR Not Working KH6FA DMR Not Working KH6RDO Allstar Not Working

			WORKIN
Banyan / Kam (HA104)	KH6ATU	Allstar	Working
Carvalho Park (HA114)	NH6WT	DMR	Working
Cooper Center Volcano (HA936)	KH7DQ	Mauna Kea	Working
Downtown Federal Bldg (HA107)	WH6FDE	Email	Working
Hawaiian Beaches #2 Wela St (HA911)	NH7PE	Text	Working
Hawaiian Beaches Park #1 (HA907)	KH7LM	Text	Working
Honomu (HA111)	KH6RDO	Allstar	Working
HOVE Reef Blvd #3 (HA809)	WH6FC	DMR	Working
HPP #1 Paradise / Ala Kai (HA925)	KH6CZ	Mauna Kea	Working
HPP #2 4th & Awapuhi (HA912)	WH6HAA	Mauna Kea	Working
Kawaihae Harbor (HA407)	WH6EHJ	Mauna Kea	Working
Lanikaula (HA106)	NH7GX	Allstar	Working
Laupahoehoe Lookout (HA201)	WH6FSE	Allstar	Working
Laupahoehoe Point (HA202)	WH6FSK	Allstar	Working
NELHA Kona (HA611)	WH6GTD	Allstar	Working
Ookala (HA304)	WH6GDC	Text	Working
Pahala (HA804)	WH6JOE	Email	Working
Puako General Store #1 (HA405)	WH6EHJ	Mauna Kea	Working
State Building (HA116)	WH6FDE	Email	Working
Waa Waa (HA937)	NH7PE	Text	Working
Waiaka Bridge Kamuela (HA402)	WH6EHJ	Mauna Kea	Working
Waimea Park Kamuela (HA401)	WH6EHJ	Mauna Kea	Working
HOVE Reef Blvd #3 (HA809)	WH6EPH	DMR	Working
(HA601) Lowes	KH6ICU	DMR	Working



The BIARC channel on Youtube is: https:// www.youtube.com/ @BiglslandAmateurRadio-Club

Late reports

WH7WZ: Kamehameha Park, North Kohala, working

AH6JA: Paauilo, working

AH6JA: Kaumana School, working KH6PGA: Kaimu Beach, working

Regular Meeting May 18, 2025 Kamana Senior Center

The meeting was called to order at 12:06 pm by Board President Thomas Avila. A guorum of 7 board members were present.

Attendance:

Board members: Thomas Avila, David Miller, Tony Kitchen, William Polhemus, Mark Watanabe, Shawn Farley and Joseph Rosenbaum.

Secretary's Report and Minutes:

David moved and Tony seconded to approve the April 2025 Secretary's report. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

See attached. William moved and Joe seconded to approve the Treasurer's report, subject to audit. Motion passed.

Committee reports:

Digital Systems:

Nothing new to report.

Education and Outreach:

See attached. Mark moved and Tony seconded to approve the acceptance of a T.V. monitor donated to the club by David Miller. Motion passed.

Operating Activities:

Arrangements have been made for the pick-up and delivery of supplies for Field Day.

Programs:

The May program will be the semi-annual membership meeting. The June program will be on Field Day preparations and operating multiple stations in close quarters. The committee is working on securing a presentation by an official from the National Guard to talk about what they do and how they individually prepare for disasters that they deploy to and ones that will affect their lives and safety.

Public Service Communications:

Nothing new to report.

Voice Repeaters:

Nothing new to report.

Old Business:

Raffle idea by Jim Tatar. Tabled until the June 2025 meeting.

New Business:

Discussion was held on possible legal issues with photo taking and audio/visual recordings of minors at school and other events. William moved and Mark seconded to direct the Education and Outreach committee to not take photos and/or audio/visual recordings of minors without advanced express consent from hosting entities. Motion passed. This policy is for all actions of the club that are involved in education and outreach of minors.

Discussion was held on possibly moving the meeting day from Sunday to Saturday. A survey will be sent to members by Tony to state their preference. The adherence to meeting agenda item is tabled until the June 2025 meeting.

Discussion was held on in-person, online and hybrid meetings, like we currently have.

Discussion was held on videography of meetings.

Other Business:

None

William moved and Tony seconded to adjourn the meeting at 1:17 pm. Motion passed.

Next meetings:

The next meeting will be held on June 8, 2025 at the Kamana Senior Center in Hilo. The Executive Board meeting will be at 12:00 pm and the member activity will be at 2:00 pm. Both meetings can be attended online, the links are on biarc.net

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Rosenbaum Secretary

BIARC Operating Statement

	2025 Budget	Actual 5/17/25*
Income:		
Dues	\$1,300.00	\$1,087.50
Repeater and general Donations	\$400.00	\$265.81
Humanitarian Donations	\$100.00	\$0.00
PayPal Convenience Fees	\$26.00	\$38.44
Donated Equipment Sold		
Total Income	\$1,826.00	\$1,391.75
General Fund Disbursements:		
Committees	9233	
Digital Systems	0**	\$0.00
Education & Outreach	\$75.00	\$0.00
Operating Activities Field Day (\$250)	\$400.00	\$38.00
Programs	\$100.00	\$0.00
Public Service Communications	\$0.00	\$0.00
Voice Repeaters Club Administration	0**	\$0.00
Club Liability Insurance	\$220.00	\$0.00
Club Equipment Insurance	\$220.00	\$0.00
Equipment	\$400.00	\$0.00
P. O. Box Fee	\$280.00	\$0.00
Humanitarian Awards	\$0.00	\$0.00
Office Supplies/Bank Fee/Misc.	\$10.00	\$0.00
Online Services	\$175.00	\$136.18
Paypal Transaction Fees	\$46.00	\$18.85
Total Expenses	\$1,926.00	\$155.03
Net (Income - Expenses)		\$1,236.72
Account Balances:	as of: 5/17/25	
BOH checking Account		\$4,813.38
Namecheap Balance (Website)		\$1.00
Paypal Account Balance		\$1,810.65
Deposit Pending		\$25.00
Total		\$6,650.03
Fund Balances: (5/17/25)	74-07-0-07-07-07-07	
Infrastructure fund	\$3,301.26	
Humanitarian Fund	\$467.00	
Emergency Reserves	\$1,000.00	
General Fund	\$1,881.77	
Total Funds	\$6,650.03	

^{*} Income figures show dues and donations received for the 2025 dues year.

BIARC Treasurer's Report

As of 5/17/25 BIARC has 47 paid members. There were 2 disbursements since the last report:

Paypal disbursement on 5/10/25 for \$83.88. Website hosting payment. (Covers BIARC's website hosting from 6/2025 for one year)

Check#1861 \$10.46 (Reimbursement to Marvin Kitchen for March 2025 Google Workspace Payment)

The following payments & reimbursements will be paid in the next 30 days.

Reimbursement to Marvin Kitchen for Pavilion rental for Field Day: \$38

Reimbursement to Marvin Kitchen for April & May Google Workspace: \$20.92

ARRL Liability Insurance: (\$220 Expected)

USPS PO Box Fee (\$282 Expected)

2025 VOAD Dues. (\$25) - While going through our payment records I discovered that I had neglected to pay it in January when it was due.

The donated funds balances have not changed since the last report. Our operating statement is attached (see above).

Tony Kitchen, WH6DVI, Treasurer

^{**} Voice Repeaters & Digital Systems Projects will be funded from the Infrastructure Fund. (Per Motion at February 15th Board Meeting)

BIARC Education & Outreach Committee Executive Board Report - May 12, 2025

Recent Activity

- April 1 Siren Test Net. Fred, Jim, Joe, Mark, Tony
- April 13 BIARC Meetings attended at Kamana Center
- April 16 HVOAD Combined Committee Meetings attended via Zoom
- May 1 Siren Test Net participation on VOAD Repeater. Fred KH6HAA, David KH6CZ
- May 3 BIARC E&OC responded to RFA from HCCDA supporting the Boy Scouts of Ameri Makahiki event in Hilo. Supported by fellow BIARC members including Bob AH6J, Shawn WH6GXZ, Gary WH6EPS with thanks.
- May 7 Keonepoko Elementary School Science Fair E&OC:

 Leigh WH6LC, Mark WH6FSA, Jim WH6EMN, Joe WH6JOE, David KH6CZ

Planned Activity

- May 18 BIARC Meetings
- May 21 HVOAD Combined Committee Meetings via Zoom
- May 28 Na'alehu Elementary School Science Fair
- June 2 Siren Test Net participation

Future

- Outreach to East Hawaii schools for event participation with students, teachers, parents
- Integrate Video Display and Programming
- Enrich E&OC program with inclusion of suggested changes and enhancement.

E&OC Membership

 Leigh WH6LC, Fred WH6HAA, David KH6CZ, Joe WH6JOE, Jim WH6EMN, Mark WH6FSA, Les K0BAD

David Miller, Education and Outreach Committee, BIARC