

Big Island Amateur Radio Club

BIARC Newsletter

June 2008

President's message – June 2008

Field Day is right around the corner and we are sure looking forward to a big turnout. This is a good time to learn, enjoy new and old friends and practice our communications skills. Setting up the stations and then operating, working as many other stations as possible is the goal. Some view the Field Day event as a contest, but it is really not a contest per se. It is an exercise to learn how to set-up and operate during emergencies. We plan to work all HF bands plus Satellite. We will have emergency power including solar. There will be VEC testing during the weekend. The Wailoa Center is a great place for exposure to the public, and I hope we have many onlookers. Please contact Paul WH7BR if you have any ideas or other help. We will be meeting at Wailoa center Saturday June 28 at about 6AM and will get ready to build the stations. We will have a 92-foot tower, well it is a crane and will have some nice antennas atop. So please come out and give a hand, operate and enjoy. We will have a steak dinner and the steaks are on Paul and Fred for each person that makes 25 contacts during the day, or who operates for the 10PM to 6AM time period. Contact me to reserve a steak. Field Day starts on Saturday June 28 at 1800UTC and runs 24 hours.

Thank you to our new Civil Defense Director Quince Mento for a very informative overview of how Civil Defense operates during emergencies. The Big Island Amateur Radio Club looks forward to being an important resource for Civil Defense during any emergencies.

Aloha, Fred KH7Y

Big Island Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 1938
Hilo, HI 96721

Officers

President	Fred Honnold KH7Y	982-5226
Vice President	Arman Wiggins WH6BVZ	963-6846
Treasurer	Ron Phillips AH6HN	982-6513
Secretary	Barbara Darling NH7FY	982-9126

One Year Directors

Beau Mills NH7WV	968-1271
Bob Schneider AH6J	966-8146
Curt Knight AH6RE	966-8304
Richard Fetchen KH6WE	982-7426

Two Year Directors

Richard Darling AH7G	982-9126
Fred Benardella KH6FI	968-1331
Rick Frazier AH7H	985-9169
Paul Ducasse WH7BR	985-9222
Gregg Datlof WH7FC	982-9838
Peter Yoes WH7CB	965-5429

Standing Committees

Service/Awards co-chair	Harry Nishiyama	KH6FKG
Education	Ron Phillips	AH6HN
Emergency Coord.	Harvey Motomura	AH6JA
Equipment	Harry Nishiyama	KH6FKG
Health&Welfare	Bill Carlson	KH7E
Hospitality	Barbara Darling	NH7FY
Newsletter	Gloria Whiteley	Associate
Programs	Curt Knight	AH6RE
Repeater	Arman Wiggins	WH6BVZ
Webmaster	Ron Phillips	AH6HN
	Rick Frazier	AH7H

Special Committees

Christmas Party Improvement co-chair	Gloria Whiteley	Associate
Field Day	Harry Nishiyama	KH6FKG
Hamfest co-chair	Ron Phillips	AH6HN
QSL Bureau	Paul Ducasse	WH7BR
Volcano Run	Bob Schneider	AH6J
	John Buck	KH7T
	Barbara Darling	NH7FY
	Sean Stueber	NH7SA

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 – every Friday at the Queen's Court Restaurant in the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel. Meet in the lobby between 11:00 and 11:15, or we will see you inside in the far left corner.

East Hawai'i Net

The East Hawai'i Net meets on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings at 8AM HST on 146.76 MHz.

BIWARN accessible Repeaters

Repeaters in bold font are BIWARN/MCDA linked. When operating over a link, remember to leave extra time each transmission for the link to be established. 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- Pepeekeo 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
- 147.32+** Hilo Hospital NH7HI (100)
- 147.38+** Waimea East KH7T experimental
- 442.35+** Kaanapali Maui (136.5)
- 442.5+** Kea'au KH6EJ
- 443.65+ Ocean View Hub
- 444.225+** Haleakala Maui KH6RS (110.9)
- 444.45+** Parker Ranch KH6EJ (88.5)

**Big Island Amateur Radio Club
General Meeting
May 10, 2008**

Meeting was opened at 2:05PM by President Fred KH7Y. Sign in sheet was passed around and attached to these minutes.

Introductions were made by those present. Fred announced that it is Armed Forces Day. A moment of silence was held for Jack Wheeler KH6CC who died on April 9th. Barbara announced that Mayor Kim will not be able to attend Field Day but is sending Quince Mento in his place. She also showed the Proclamation from the mayor proclaiming the week of Field Day Amateur Radio Week in Hawaii.

Fred introduced Quince Mento and Bill Hanson of Civil Defense. They each told about themselves and what they hope to accomplish at Civil Defense. They have invited the club to come to the Operations Center to see the setup there. The date of July 12th has been selected for this meeting at 2PM. Both Quince and Bill answered questions from the audience.

Refreshments and Social time followed the program.

Business Meeting started at 3PM.

Secretary's report was approved as printed in the newsletter.

Ron AH6HN was not available to give a treasurer's report. It was reported that we have 99 members at this time. We received an application from Teddi Stransky KH6TS which brought the total to 100.

Bob AH6J reported on the repeater status. He reported that Helco is now out of the building at Kulani and that he has purchased a new combination lock to be put on the building. He hasn't heard anything from Dennis KH7H about Mauna Kea. Rick WH6FC reported that the machine at South Point was switched off again and the link was down. Apparently turning it back on again with the control codes is solving the problem. Paul WH7BR is in a

position to send the control codes and can see whether it is functioning or not, so he's going to do it periodically to make sure it stays on. Rick wanted to remind the club to send a letter to the Pacific Radio Group in regards to South Point site use. Bob will follow up but he is sure that the letter has been sent.

Barbara reported on the status of the QSL Bureau. During the month of April there were 1195 cards received. (The original 6000 cards received in March have all been sent out) There have been 17 envelopes containing 60 cards returned as undeliverable and these cards will be returned to ARRL. As of April 30th we have 32 hams who do not want bureau cards. These cards will also be returned to ARRL. The undeliverable and no bureau cards will be stamped as such and returned to ARRL who in turn will return them to the originators. The first expense report sent to ARRL was a big one...\$446.58 which included \$220.69 for postage and stamps, \$41.67 for printing of letter, \$87.50 for 5 rubber stamps, \$81.72 for Office Max supplies and \$15.00 for checks. There are 94 hams at this time with envelopes/credits on hand. Funds in the donation account are being used to pay for insufficient postage on some envelopes. Ned KH7JJ on Oahu has been advised to send the remaining cards for the mainland back with Chuck AH6SC next week. Barbara will see about mailing them out from here. Barbara reported that she has received some interesting messages from hams and all are very appreciative of our taking over the bureau. She read one letter from Bud Skoien AH6NZ who lives in Tampa, Florida.

Health and Welfare: Barbara has sent sympathy cards to the Haruwo Yamamoto and Jack Wheeler families and to Chuck Cartwright on the death of his wife Nora. Thinking of You card was sent to Harry Barnes KH6QM and a note to Gloria Whiteley on her recent illness.

Curt AH6RE reported that everything is okay with the newsletter. He needs articles in by 20th of each month. It was noted that he had received an E Mail from Mel Kernahan, an associate member from California, praising him on how excellent the last newsletter was.

Old Business:

The KH6IAA tower is not down yet. Fred KH7Y is hoping to get a crew together to get it taken care of.

Paul WH7BR had presented an agenda to the Board and briefly went over it for the General meeting. Food during the day will be each persons responsibility but there will be a steak dinner in the evening. As incentives to get hams to operate Fred KH7Y and Paul WH7BR are offering a free dinner to anyone who makes at least 25 contacts or makes contacts overnight between the hours of 10PM and 6AM. Otherwise there will be a charge of \$5 for the dinner.

New Business:

Annual Report to ARRL- Fred wanted to know who updated the report and when was it last done. Bob AH6J reported that Ron had been doing it. Bob will check to see when it was done last.

Club Assets- Inventory must be completed. Wilbur says he has a list. Fred will work with him to get it done. Paul WH7BR has offered to help. Bob AH6J has a list of the repeater equipment. Rick WH6FC will make a list of materials at South Point.

Club Activities- Fred asked what activities the club is interested in doing. These items were mentioned: Emergency Communications, Annual Tsunami Drill on May 24th, being involved in emergency training and SET in October.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:24 PM

Barbara Darling NH7FY Secretary



ARRL SM Report – May 2008

[The SM report has been edited owing to space limitations – some club information for clubs not on the Big Island has been removed.]

Please keep 14.270, 7.050, and 7.060 clear for the emergency in China. I realize propagation may not allow direct communications, however you might interfere with a station that can work them. Thanks, Kevin, AH6QO, ARRL Pacific SEC.

It appears that hams are very active in parts of the Chinese earthquake zone. While little can be done from the USA due to propagation being poor, we all can help by NOT adding to the clutter. More info as it becomes available. Meanwhile, in neighboring Myanmar (used to be Burma), there still is no ham activity known. Allen G Pitts, W1AGP, ARRL Media & PR Manager

Of all the ARRL sections, the Pacific has the greatest chance of either helping or hindering the efforts due to our locations. PLEASE MONITOR BUT DO NOT TRANSMIT UNLESS YOU CAN SUBSTANTIALLY HELP IN SOME WAY. Also be aware that the US and China do not have a third party agreement. Bob Schneider, AH6J, ARRL Pacific SM

We are sad to report the passing of Joe Fenn, KH6JF, at age 86 on March 20, 2008. He was born in Kokomo, IN and was a retired radio operator for Aeronautical Radio. He was a WW2 veteran in the Army Air Corps and he was active in QCWA, MARS and the Honolulu ARC. His memorial service was private. His obituary appeared in the April 5 Honolulu Star Bulletin and April 2 Honolulu Advertiser.

As was reported in last months column, Jack Wheeler, KH6CC died April 9. His memorial service was held May 10th at his Paauilo home. Unfortunately the get together conflicted with the Big Island Amateur Radio Club, aka BIARC, meeting however several hams were able to attend. Thanks John, KH7T.

Kevin Bogan, our section Emergency Coordinator said the Makani Pahili hurricane exercise will be May 24 from 9AM to 12 noon.

This year we will attempt to have ham activity during the week of the exercise. More details are pending. See http://www.kauaiarc.org/08Monthly/makani_pahili_hurricane_exer.htm for more details.

Again, Barbara Darling, NH7FY, has taken over as Hawaii QSL manager. At the May BIARC meeting she reported that both she and Ned Conklin, KH7JJ, have finished sorting their respective backlogs. Ned is in charge of sorting the Oahu cards and Kevin Bogan, AH6QO, will be taking the Oahu cards to various Oahu club meetings. FYI, ten pounds of new cards just arrived this week. Thanks for a job well done to the whole team. If you want your cards sent direct contact Barbara and make arrangements. This is one of the many services provided by ARRL, however it is not necessary that you be an ARRL member to participate. Address is: Hawaii QSL Bureau - P.O. Box 1938 - Hilo, HI 96721.

At the last meeting of BIARC, Quince Mento, the new Hawaii County CD director spoke to the club. He introduced one of his new assistants, Bill Hanson. On Wednesday May 14th several of us met with the CD people at the CD office. At that time John Drummond was also introduced as part of the staff. They are just getting settled into their new jobs. One of the points that Mr. Mento made was that emergencies can't always be totally planned for. The CD office over the years has made plans for many kinds of problem however no one foresaw the problem of Sulfur Dioxide so a plan had to be invented and the result is the newly activated color coded alert system. As if to emphasize the problem, toward the end of our meeting the director was called away to take care of a problem at the county viewing area in Kalapana as the wind had changed and was blowing stuff into the public viewing area.

DEC Rick Ward, WH6FC; ASM Ron Phillips, AH6HN; DEC Eric Grabowski, KH6CQ and SM Bob Schneider, AH6J were at the CD meeting.

Big Island ARC had a display at the Tsunami Education Fair Saturday April 19 at the Old Kress Building in downtown Hilo. The purpose is to inform the public about Tsunami related issues. Thanks Harvey, AH6JA.

Also at the same time the Mormon Church had a display at their main Ward in Hilo. The Mormon Church encourages emergency preparation and food storage.

June 28 & 29, 2008 is the ARRL annual Field Day. Check with your local club for the nearest setup to you.

On Saturday July 26, the Big Island ARC will support Big Island Road Runners at the annual Volcano Rim Run. Due to the recent volcanic eruptions at Halemaumau the 10 mile and 27 mile races will have to change routes so this is a chance to see new places. The 5 mile race will remain the same. Please be cautioned that volcanic fumes may be present at some locations.

The Kohala Hamakua Radio Club will meet Wed June 11 in Waimea at 7PM in the Carter Professional Center. They plan to cover the Ironman qualifier bike race on May 31 and have participated in several training events this last month. Thanks Norm, NH7UA.

Kevin Bogan, AH6QO, attended EMCOMMWEST 2008 on May 2-4 in Reno, NV. We look forward to hearing about his experience.

Norm, NH7UA, has stepped down as DEC for North Hawaii and Eric, KH6CQ, has taken his place. Thanks for your good work as DEC Norm and thanks for stepping up to the challenge Eric. Eric has already revised the emergency response plans and was at the meeting at CD.

73, Bob Schneider, AH6J - ARRL Pacific Section Manager

BIARC Radio Contest News

It has been a slow month in the Contest department, no activity reports were received. the News will return next time featuring the **CQ WPX CW**.





Aki JA5DQH and Jack KH6CC
(Photo JA5DQH used by permission)

Field Day 2008

Mark your calendars, this year's ARRL Field Day will be held the weekend of June 28 and 29. Operations will start at 0800 HST Saturday, and run until 0800 HST Sunday. Club members should plan to stop by the BIARC setup to visit and operate. Visitors will also be welcome at the Field Day operations of the other Big Island clubs.

BIARC Field Day 2008 will be held at Wailoa Park in Hilo, in the area between the Wailoa Center and Waiakea Pond. This is at the end of Piopio Street and is between the State building and the Kamehameha statue. Piopio Street runs east from Pauahi Street, which is accessible from either Kamehameha Avenue or Kilauea Avenue in Hilo. Talk-in will be available on the club repeater at 146.76 MHz. Information is available from Paul Ducasse WH7BR.

Setup will begin early Saturday morning.

This year's operation will be in class 1A using the club call KH6EJ. We plan to operate all HF bands between 80 and 10 meters, using both phone and CW, depending on propagation. Lloyd Cabral KH6LC has arranged for his crane truck to be available to hold one HF yagi and to support antennas for 40 and 80 meters. The main station will be an FT-1000D running 150 watts. There will be a TS-480SAT Get On The Air station for casual operation by visitors. We will interface the radios to computers to partially automate the logging.

Power will be provided by generators loaned by Paul WH7BR and Fred KH7Y. We will also operate on solar power for some time and maybe even a fuel cell for advanced power technology credit.

There will be a VHF/UHF satellite operation organized by Fred KH7Y.

Since there are many nearby places to get food, the club will not be providing breakfast and lunch as in previous years. However, there will be a steak dinner Saturday night. A dinner ticket will be \$5.00. Paul WH7BR and Fred KH7Y are sponsoring a free steak dinner challenge for anyone who operates during the day and makes more than 25 contacts, or anyone who operates overnight between 10 PM and 6 AM Sunday. Get in touch with Fred to reserve a steak.

There will be a VE licensing exam session at the Wailoa Center on Saturday morning at about 10:30. If you plan to attend the license exam, please contact Ron Phillips in advance.

The **South Point Amateur Radio Club** will have its Field Day activity at Whittington Park AKA Honuapo near Na'alehu. This will be their third year at the Honuapo location. For those equipped with GPS, steer for Latitude N19.086 and longitude W155.550. The navigationally challenged can get talked in on 146.520.

The club will use call sign KH6EL in class 1A with generator power. Setup will begin at 0800 HST on June 28. There will be a VE exam session at 1300 HST on June 28. For more information, contact WH6FC.

Dean KH7B says that the **Hilo ARC / Big Island QRP Club** will probably not participate in Field Day this year.

No information has been received from other Big Island clubs.

COUNTY OF HAWAII

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the County of Hawai'i has more than 300 licensed amateur radio operators who have rendered invaluable public assistance by providing emergency radio communications; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio operators donate their services free of charge to the County for the benefit of the community; and

WHEREAS, all Amateur Radio Clubs are given the opportunity during the annual Field Day to show the public how emergency communications are handled; and

WHEREAS, these amateur radio operators are on the alert for any emergency, local or worldwide, and practice their communication skills during the American Radio Relay League's Field Day exercise; and

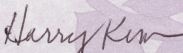
WHEREAS, this year's Amateur Radio Field Day will take place on June 28, 2008,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, HARRY KIM, Mayor of the County of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim the week of June 22-29, 2008, as

AMATEUR RADIO WEEK

in recognition of this important emergency preparedness exercise, and call upon all citizens to pay tribute to the amateur radio operators of our County.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused The Seal of the County of Hawai'i to be affixed. Done this 24th day of April, 2008, in Hilo, Hawai'i.


Harry Kim
Mayor
County of Hawai'i



Big Island Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 1938

Hilo, HI 96721