

Big Island Amateur Radio Club

Newsletter – July 2013

President's Message July 2013

At this writing Field Day has not occurred yet. Robert NH6AH has lined up equipment and Mike NH7JT from Ocean View has agreed to bring his generator up to charge the batteries. Too bad we couldn't have found someone more local to supply us one. Leigh WH6DZX from the Hawaii Tribune Herald has been doing one great job of writing newspaper articles recently, not only about the awards given last month but also about Field Day. The most advertising for FD that we have ever had. Have just read the article that will be in the newspaper tomorrow (Thursday June 20). Hope that many of you will be able to attend and give a hand setting up, operating and cleaning up Sunday morning.

I will have the tee shirt order form with me at FD Saturday so that you can order if you want to. If not I'll have it at the next meeting. I will not be collecting any money at this time as we have to have a minimum of 36 shirts to order and I don't want to have to return money if that quantity isn't reached.

Paul WH6FM is scheduled to present our program at the July 11th meeting. His topic will be Digital Modes of operating ham radio.

Richard and I have been invited to go to Micronesia to meet some of the people that Richard has been talking to over the past two years and to the island where we have sent supplies. Final plans have not been made so will keep you updated as to whether it can be accomplished at this time.

73 Barbara NH7FY



Robert NH6AH sends this picture to show that the recent BIARC antenna making party was a big success. Now let's see all these folks on the air with their new stuff.

Big Island Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 1938

Hilo, HI 96721

www.biarc.net

Officers

President	Barbara Darling NH7FY	982-9126
Vice Pres.	Doug Wilson KH7DQ	985-7540
Treasurer	Milt Nodacker AH6I	965-6471
Secretary	Leigh Critchlow WH6DZX	930-7330

Two Year Directors

John Buck KH7T	885-9718
Mary Brewer WH6DYW	985-9595
John Bush KH6DLK/V63JB	935-5500

One Year Directors

Richard Darling AH7G	982-9126
Steven Jacquier WH6DPM	907-350-2122
Paul Ducasse WH7BR	985-9222
Darryl Koon AH6TQ	968-7106

Standing Committees

Service/Awards	vacant	
Education	Milt Nodacker	AH6I
Emergency	Paul Ducasse	WH7BR
Equipment	Milt Nodacker	AH6I
Health&Welfare	Barbara Darling	NH7FY
Membership	Richard Darling	AH7G
Hospitality	Beau Mills	NH7WV
Newsletter	Curt Knight	AH6RE
Programs	Doug Wilson	KH7DQ
Repeater	Bob Schneider	AH6J
Webmaster	Curt Knight	AH6RE

Special Committees

Improvement	Vacant	
Field Day	Robert Oliver (969-9993)	NH6AH
Hamfest	Bob Schneider	AH6J
co-chair	Doug Wilson	KH7DQ
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 the Native Pasta and Steak in the Kea'au mall 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.

ARES Emergency Net

Meets Saturday evening at 1900 HST on the 146.76 repeater. Backup is 146.76 simplex. All are welcome to check in.

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.

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-	Pepe'ekeo KH6EJ (may be linked)
146.92-	Ka'u PD KH6EJ
146.94-	Haleakala Maui KH6RS (110.9)
147.02+	Haleakala Maui RACES KH6HPZ (103.5)
147.04+	Mauna Loa RACES KH6HPZ
147.16+	Kona (Hualalai) WH6DEW (100)
147.32+	Waimea Hospital NH7HI (100)
147.38+	Waimea East KH7T experimental
442.35+	Ka'anapali Maui (136.5)
442.5+	Kea'au KH6EJ
443.40+	Ocean View KH7MS (77.0)
443.40+	Kona KH7MS (100.0)
443.65+	Ocean View Hub
444.225+	Haleakala Maui KH6RS (110.9)
444.45+	Parker Ranch KH6EJ (88.5)
444.9+	Hilo WH6FM WIN system (100)
444.775+	Hilo WH6FM XO system (123)

Big Island Amateur Radio Club
Minutes
June 8, 2013
Monthly meeting at Keaau Community Center

President Barbara Darling, NH7FY, convened the meeting at 2 p.m., with 13 hams and one future ham in attendance.

Announcements from the president:

— Barbara showed the group a copy of the August, 1957 edition of ARRL's QST magazine just handed to her by David Johnson, WB4JTT. He had found it in a box of vintage ham radio treasures and brought it to the meeting. Tucked into the magazine was a QSL card for the late Florence Kumukahi, who had gotten involved in amateur radio through her husband, the late Sam Kumukahi. John Buck, KH7T, recalled Sam's ham shack and his outdoor setup employing extensive footage of early coax and a romni antenna. The magazine, which sold for 50 cents, contained a small article on Florence, a nurse, who believed she was the only "wahine ham" at that time on what the magazine called the "island of Hilo." Her call sign was KH6BGE, and her OM's was KH6AFS.

— Following the business meeting, today's program will be presented by Field Day Chair Robert Oliver, NH6AH, who will preview plans for the June 22-23 event at Wailoa Center in Hilo. Next month's speaker will be Paul Agamata, who will focus on "digital modes."

Regular business

— The secretary's minutes from the May meeting were approved as circulated in the June newsletter.

— Due to a scheduling conflict, Treasurer Milt Nodacker, AH6I, could not be present, but transmitted his report via Barbara. We are in about the same fiscal fitness as last month, with approximately \$4,800 in our bank account.

One problem: Inexplicably, our liability insurance policy, for which we routinely pay \$325 per year, expired without notice at the end of December. Milt has applied for a new policy, to ensure that it is in effect for Field Day. In order for Robert to finalize the reservation of Wailoa Center with the state Department of Land and Natural Resources, he must provide documentation proving BIARC is insured.

— Education Committee Chair Milt also reminded the club that a new Technician licensing class begins June 13 at the LDS center on Kilaua, next to Seven Eleven. The next testing session, for all licenses, will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, June 22, during Field Day at Wailoa Center.

— Repeater Committee Chair Bob Schneider, AH6J, reported that approval for the new South Point repeater is getting closer, with some movement also toward getting approval for others in the works. The monthly test of the Mauna Kea repeater went well on the first Tuesday of the month; Kona-side system is working; still problems with Haleakala linking; a couple of new sites in the works, with a good chance they will be added to the system. In his report, Bob also commented on the new ham radio club, the Puna Emergency Radio Club, or PERC, and its goal of getting stand-alone repeaters up and running. Of PERC, Bob welcomed the new effort by saying: "We need everything we can get." The big emergency communications exercise with Civil Defense earlier in the week showed that the system and the volunteers participating were overwhelmed. For emergency communications to work in the wake of a disaster, the Big Island needs as many

channels of communication as possible, he said.

John Buck gave an update on the BIWARN system. He said the Girl Scout Kilohana station picks up Waimea, Maui and Kona and funnels it all to Mauna Loa, then into the 76 repeater and southward. He described current problems with the 76 repeater as "morning sickness," attributable to bad batteries, or bad coupling in charging, or both. The batteries are about three and a half years old, he said, and were purchased in a cost-sharing venture by BIARC and the North Hawaii and Kona ham groups.

"The hard problem is getting access to the site," he explained. There's been a change in administration at DLNR, and a subsequent increase in paperwork. He said Civil Defense is aware of the situation.

The good news, John said, is that "this repeater tends to work during the daytime if the sun is shining, even if the batteries aren't."

Robert Oliver reported that, at long last, "we have a very successful station" at Hilo Medical Center. Volunteers Paul Lakin, WH6DYX, and Paul Ducasse, WH7BR, helped string lengthy coax to finish the project. Backup communications at the hospital are now set up, and situated, to function well when needed in a crisis. Under Health and Welfare, Barbara noted the passing of the mother of Vice President Doug Wilson, KH7DQ, and expressed condolences to the family.

QSL Bureau: Barbara reported receiving cards from Sweden, Russia and Denmark, along with "a big box from ARRL" over the last month. Since the last meeting, we got 1,455 cards, for a year-to-date total of 8,735. She noted that activity on this front is down substantially, with only about half as many cards coming in as did last year. At this time last year, we had received 15,163 QSL cards. New T-shirt order? Barbara said we need a minimum of 36 to place a new order. Information is in the June newsletter. Let her know if you want to augment your wardrobe. Also, for those wanting more formal wear, the shirts can be ordered without the club graphics on the back, and simply the small personal call sign logo on the front.

Monthly presentation

Robert gave an update on Field Day, and revised plans for building a two-unit filter device to improve communications at the yearly event. He showed the schematics drawn up by David Robbins, K1TTT, a big DXer who happens also to be Barbara's son. "It's all very simple," he said, showing in a slide show how the filtering devices will work. "Hopefully, we'll have much better reception for Field Day without any interference." The setup will belong to the club and be a long-term asset for such occasions.

John Buck moved, Doug seconded, and the group unanimously approved \$150 for the filter project, in addition to the Field Day food budget.

Also for the event, Robert needs the loan of a small generator, a solar cell and a proper radio. He will need help erecting antennas between 6 and 6:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 22, and volunteers to help clean up after the event early on that Sunday morning.

The club will host a potluck dinner at 5 p.m. on Field Day Saturday. Barbara adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m. The next BIARC meeting will be at 2 p.m. on Saturday, July 13, at the Keaau Community Center.

Respectfully submitted,
Leigh Critchlow/WH6DZX
Secretary



10-10 International Net

Ten-Ten International Net's Spirit of '76 (7 days 6 modes) QSO Party runs for the 7 days around July 4. Make as many contacts as you can during the week using USB (near 28.345), RTTY (near 28.086), CW (near 28.050), FM (near 29.600), PSK (near 28.120), and AM (near 29.000). Score two points for members and one point for non- members. For more information check out the web site www.10-10.org.

In other news, Irene NH7PE recently received her certificate for First Place Low Power SSB Single Operator 10 meters Hawai'i, with a score of 4598 points (64 contacts). Her effort also earned 7th place in Oceania. So keep sending in your logs!

Get ready for the Summer Phone QSO Party to be held the weekend of August 3 and 4. Every ham has privileges on 10 meters, and you don't have to be a big gun to contest.

-Irene NH7PE



The Hawai'i QSO Party is an event to promote HF operation from the unique Hawai'i destination in the Pacific. Hawai'i is an ARRL DXCC entity as well as the nation's 50th state needed for the ARRL WAS Award.

Clubs in Hawai'i with interest in HF operation promote this event to spur interest in Amateur Radio. Come join with us in making next year's event another success. Hawai'i, a very special radio destination, merits support from its Hams. We hope the contest will introduce newly licensed operators to the world of HF, DX'ing and contesting. And that it will encourage Hawai'i amateur operators to use their computer skills in conjunction with radio communications.

The 2013 Hawai'i QSO Party will be held the weekend of 24 – 26 August. For complete information, visit the web site:

<http://www.hawaiiqsoparty.org/>



The 2013 Hawaii Island international Ham Swap Meet

The Kona Amateur Radio Society will be Hosting the next international Ham Swap Meet in Waimea, on October 5th. 2013. We will be forming a group from club members to organize the event; parking, vendor placement, set up, testing, refreshments etc.

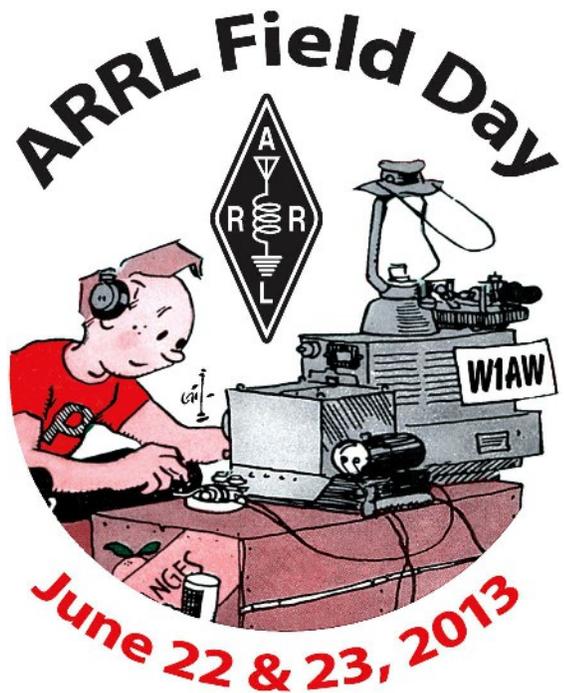
The Waimea radio club will be joining us on this project.

The venue is the Waimea recreation center, same location as past Swap Meets. The tentative schedule will be as follows:

- 8:00am Breakfast at Hawaiian Style Cafe
- 9:00am Vendor setup
- 10:00am doors open
- 12:00pm guest speakers, forum, presentations (your input)
- 1:00pm license testing
- 2:00pm wrap up clean up

There is always a good turnout from both sides of the island for this as well from off Island. Always a lot of great used ham radio gear, meeting old friends and meeting new ones.

Contact Stuart, KH7DX [808-896-1290](tel:808-896-1290) or <mailto:kh7dx@arrl.net> with your offer of assistance for this always fun project. More updates as they come in, and thanks for supporting HAM Radio in these Hawaiian Islands, Stuart .



Mike NH7JT with the generator he carried all the way from Na'alehu.



The club's old Yagi (10m reflector missing) in position at Field Day 2013.



Operations finally underway!



Milt AH6I and Barbara NH7FY at Field Day 2013.



*Proclamation
Presented*

**In Recognition of Amateur Radio Week
June 17-23, 2013**

WHEREAS, Amateur Radio Week recognizes the accomplishments of Amateur Radio Operators (“Hams”) nationwide; Amateur Radio Week is coordinated by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), the largest national organization of Hams; of the 704,000 Hams in the United States, 161,000 are ARRL members; and

WHEREAS, Amateur Radio Week is celebrated locally by the 635 ARRL members in the Pacific Section, which includes Hawai‘i, American Samoa, Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), and the estimated 2,000 to 2,400 additional licensed Hams in the region; and

WHEREAS, Amateur Radio Week was preceded by an emergency Ham exercise in Hawai‘i known as *Makani Pahili*; the exercise, which began on Saturday, June 1, 2013, and lasted for one week, was the largest simultaneous, multi-site, multi-band communications exercise in the history of the Hawai‘i amateur radio community concentrating on two-way exchanges of simulated messages; *Makani Pahili*, conducted by Hawai‘i State Civil Defense in coordination with governmental and private agencies, was a statewide exercise to test and evaluate preparations for operations before, during and after a hurricane; and

WHEREAS, Amateur Radio Week culminates in Hawai‘i on **Amateur Radio Field Day** (“Field Day”), which takes place from 8 a.m. Saturday, June 22, to 8 a.m. Sunday, June 23, 2013; Field Day is the largest national operating event for U.S. Hams; Field Day is a national contest and operating event used to polish communication skills that are vital in emergency situations; Field Day exercises on the island of O‘ahu include the Ko‘olau Amateur Radio Club (KARC) event at Kualoa Beach Park and the Emergency Amateur Radio Club (EARC) event at Bellows Air Force Station;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai‘i, do hereby proclaim June 17-23, 2013, as

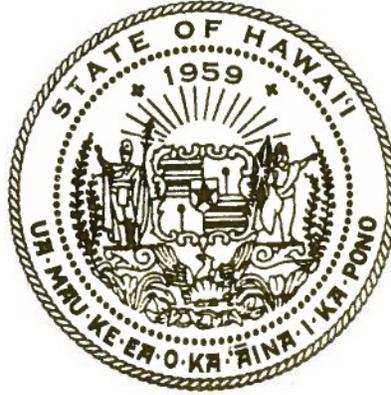
“AMATEUR RADIO WEEK”

in Hawai‘i and encourage the people of the Aloha State to recognize the skills and important function of Amateur Radio Operators in disaster responsiveness and to celebrate their role in keeping our *ohana* informed in times of emergency.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai‘i, this seventeenth day of June, 2013.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai‘i

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai‘i



Commendation

Presented to

John D. Bush, KH6DLK / VB3JB
American Radio Relay League

June 17, 2013

On behalf of the people of Hawai'i, I send greetings of *aloha* and offer congratulations to John D. Bush on being selected as the recipient of the **2012 International Humanitarian Award** by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL).

John is a *kama'aina* born and raised in Honolulu and graduated from Punahou School in 1965. After several years of education and work experience on the U.S. Mainland, John returned to Hawai'i and settled on the Big Island. In Hilo, he became active with community associations such as the Volcano Rotary and Big Island Amateur Radio Clubs. John used his considerable talents to organize support for public charter schools in Hawai'i.

John continued his tradition of educating and aiding those in need when he relocated to Federai Island, Ulithi Atoll, Yap State in the Federated States of Micronesia. By appealing to the members of his Hawai'i-based clubs, John mobilized a humanitarian relief effort for the children of Federai, supplying hygiene and educational products that have improved the quality of life on the island. John was also instrumental in improving communication capabilities of Federai, when he installed a ham radio system and worked with the Micronesian Federal Government to license four members of the community as operators.

John, you are an exemplary role model. Your achievements illustrate that, with hard work and perseverance, anything is possible. It gives me great pleasure to commend you for your ongoing efforts to make the world a better place. Congratulations again on being selected to receive the **2012 International Humanitarian Award**.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE

Governor, State of Hawai'i