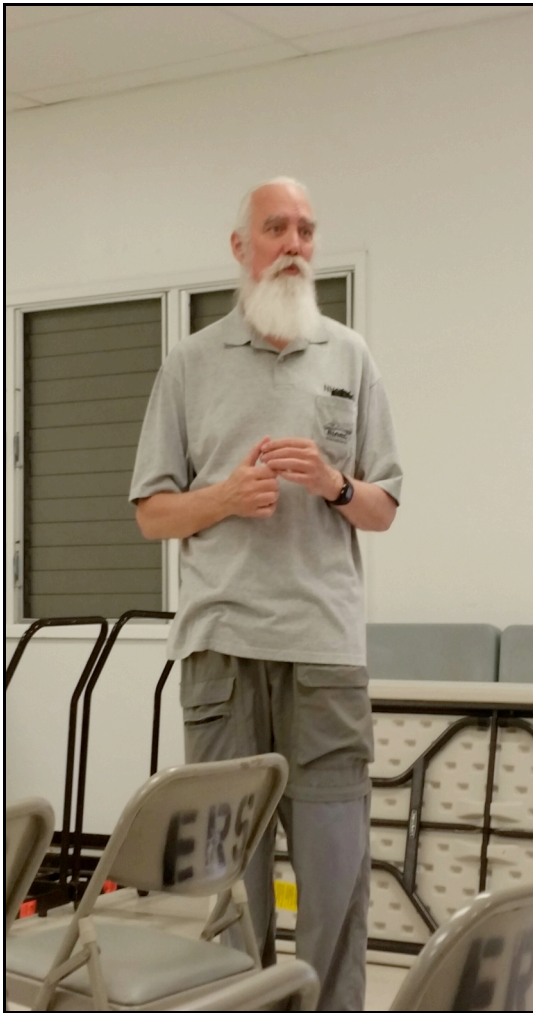


Big Island Amateur Radio Club

Newsletter

February 2015

New year starts for
East Hawaii hams



**President Ted Brattstrom
greet members at the year's
first meeting on Jan. 10.**



**Incoming Treasurer Mike Last, outgoing
Treasurer George Bezilla and President Ted
Brattstrom confer at the January gathering.**



**Hospitality Committee
co-Chair Sharon
McCartin provided a
sumptuous, healthful
assortment of tasty
refreshments at the
January meeting at
the Keaau Community
Center.**

**Photos by Linda
Quarberg**



RAC CANADA DAY CONTEST WINNER

CANADA DAY SINGLE-OP ALL-BAND PHONE

Congratulations to Gus Treewater, VE7GTC, above, who won a first-place this year, capturing the SO-AB-PH plaque sponsored by the Saskatchewan Contest Club with a score of 141,208. Gus has dual citizenship - U.S. and Canadian.

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Congratulations, as well, to Kimo Chun, KH7U, who has been honored with a Yasme Excellence Award for 20 years of behind-the-scenes support to DXpeditions to Pacific entities -- including logistics, organization, equipment, local contacts, and planning.

FCC 'Paperless' Amateur Radio License Policy Goes into Effect on February 17

Starting on February 17, the FCC no longer will routinely issue paper license documents to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees. The Commission has maintained for some time now that the official Amateur Radio license authorization is the electronic record that exists in its Universal Licensing System ([ULS](#)), although the FCC has routinely continued to print and mail hard copy licenses. That will stop this month. In mid-December, the FCC adopted final procedures to provide access to official electronic authorizations, as it had [proposed](#) in WT Docket 14-161 as part of its "process reform" initiatives. Under the new procedures, licensees will access their current official authorization ("Active" status only) via the ULS License Manager. The FCC will continue to provide paper license documents to all licensees who notify the Commission that they prefer to receive one. Licensees will also be able to print out an official authorization, as well as an unofficial "reference copy," from the ULS License Manager.

"We find this electronic process will improve efficiency by simplifying access to official authorizations in ULS, shortening the time period between grant of an application and access to the official authorization, and reducing regulatory costs," the FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) said. According to the WTB, the new procedures will save at least \$304,000 a year, including the cost of staff resources.

In [comments](#) filed November 5, the ARRL had strongly recommended that the FCC "give serious consideration to continuing a default provision for sending an initial paper license document to new licensees in the Amateur Radio Service, along with detailed, simple instructions for how to make the elections set forth in the notice relative to future modified or renewed licenses."

Under the new procedures, a new license applicant who already has an FRN and provides a valid e-mail address under "Applicant Information" in the ULS will receive an official ULS-generated electronic authorization via e-mail. New license applicants lacking an FCC Registration Number will receive in the mail an FRN and a temporary password to access the Commission Registration System (CORES), but will no longer automatically receive a license document; they must request one by changing their "Paper Authorization Preference" in the ULS License Manager.

The ARRL and other Amateur Radio commenters also worried that unless a license document is printed on distinctive paper stock, its authenticity could be questioned in such situations as obtaining vanity call sign license plates. To address this, the FCC said the watermark "Official Copy" will be printed on each page of an official authorization that a licensee prints out from the ULS. The WTB recently stopped using distinctive paper stock to produce hard copy licenses and has been printing these on "standard, white recycled paper." The Bureau noted that the distinctive paper stock it had been using was six times more expensive than the plain recycled paper it now uses.

The ULS License Manager now includes settings that allow licensees to notify the WTB that they prefer to receive official authorizations on paper. Once final procedures go into effect designating electronic access as the default, licensees can change the ULS License Manager setting so that the Bureau will print and mail a license document. Licensees also may contact [FCC Support](#) via the web, telephone, or mail to request paper licenses.

Ten-Ten Winter QSO Party, scholarship foundation, Aloha Chapter and nets called from all over the mainland: Join in!

The Ten-Ten Winter QSO Party will be Feb. 7-8 for 48 hours U.T.C. The required exchange is name, call sign, QTH and 10-10 number. Log all that with the date of each QSO, and send that log to the QSO Party manager. For more information, see www.ten-ten.org. Each year, the 10-10 International Net, through its nonprofit corporation, the 10-10 Scholarship Foundation, funds four \$1,500 scholarships, which are administered on its behalf by the Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR). It is suggested that every 10-10 member encourage qualified college-bound amateur radio operators to take advantage of this opportunity. Applicants must be licensed amateurs. There is no restriction on the chosen course of study, but applicants must intend to seek at least an associate degree from a college or university. Non-U.S. amateurs and those seeking graduate degrees are also eligible, as well as students who study outside the United

States. Completed applications must be received by FAR prior to April 15. Download an application from FAR's website, <http://www.farweb.org>, or request an application from FAR Scholarships, P.O. Box 911, Columbia MD 21044-0911.

The Aloha Chapter of 10-10 International Net, Inc., meets on Monday evening on 28.490mhz, alternate frequency 28.487mhz, at 6:30 p.m. HST. Every day, except Sunday, Ten-Ten International has daily nets on 28.380 and 28.800mhz at 1800Z, or 8 a.m. HST. Yes. They run at the same time! They are called from various places on the mainland. You'll have to check them out yourself, to see if you can hear them. Please join in! Let's keep 10 meters in amateur radio hands!

■ Irene, NH7PE

Deadline for March newsletter:

February 25

Send items to:
lcritchlow@mac.com



Irene, NH7PE

ARRL School Club Roundup is February 9-13!

A reminder: The "Winter/Spring Term" [School Club Roundup](#) gets under way on Monday, February 9, at 1300 UTC, and continues through Friday, February 13, at 2359 UTC. Stations may operate no more than 6 hours in any 24 hour period (up to a maximum of 24 hours). The twice-yearly event is an opportunity for school club stations -- from elementary school to college -- to get on the air for a friendly radio activity. Non-school clubs and individuals are encouraged to participate too.

BIARC's 2015 leadership

The Big Island Amateur Radio Club will be led in 2015 by our newly installed slate of officers:

President Ted Brattstrom: volcanoted@hotmail.com

Vice President Robert Oliver: oliver@reotron.com

Secretary Beau Mills: beau.mills@helcohi.com

Treasurer Mike Last: last_pl@yahoo.com

Directors:

Bill Hanson: whanson@co.hawaii.hi.us

Bob Schneider: ah6j@arrl.net

Dennis McCartin: dsmccar@earthlink.net

Gus Treewater: gtreewater@gmail.com

Paul Ducasse: ducasse@hawaii.rr.com

Club meetings normally are held at 2 p.m. on the second Saturday of each month at the Keaau Community Center.