

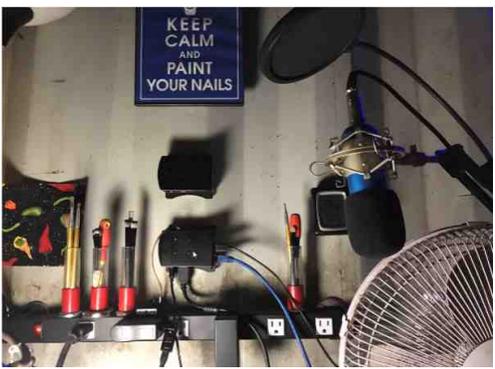


# January 2021 Newsletter

## Big Island Amateur Radio Club

# Meet on Zoom

Set for Saturday,  
January 9:  
Noon BIARC  
Board meeting, then  
a membership  
program at 2 p.m.  
Details on BIARC  
ListServe.

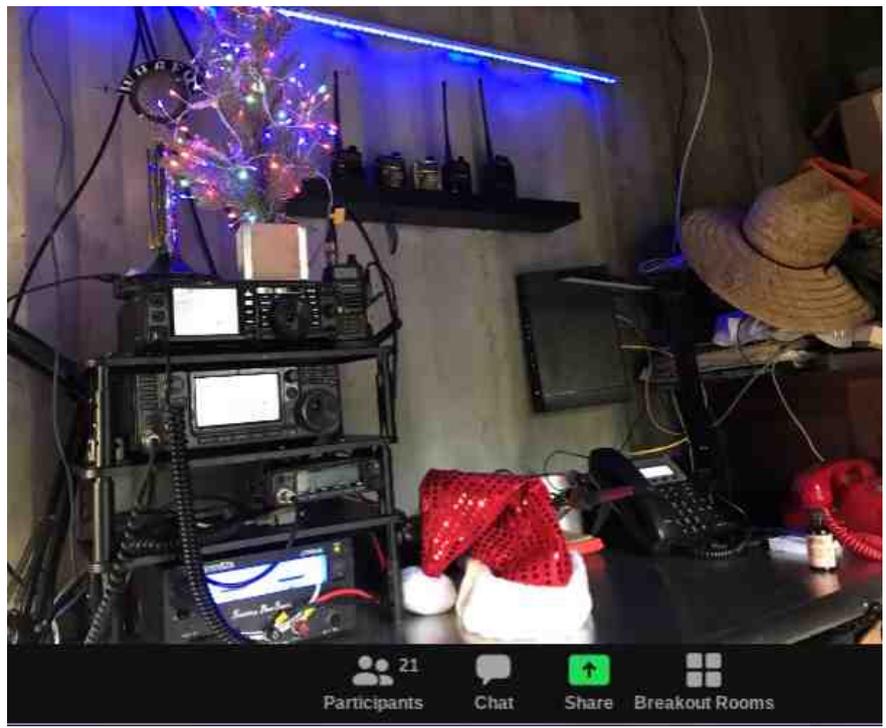


Magnets are a primary building block at the WH6FQI shack.

## New format for annual holiday party lets BIARC members socialize safely

The essence and warmth of the Christmas spirit were in the air and in the room, albeit a bit fragmented, on Dec. 12 as the club celebrated the holidays. Members who could, gathered on Zoom to exchange greetings, share reminiscences and deal with bits of BIARC and other

Continued on next page



Vice President Jim Huntley, WH6FQI, invited us into his shack housed in "a giant metal box," where he makes serious use of magnets to install radio equipment and other necessary fixtures, including his "Charlie Brown Christmas tree."



Jim Huntley, WH6FQI



Harvey Motomura, AH6JA



Bob Schneider, AH6J



Jeremy Punsalan, KH7CN



Linda Quarberg, WH6LQ



Mike Last, NH7JT



Doug Wilson, KH7DQ



William Polhemus, NH6ET

From Page 1



Alan Okinaka, KH6ATU



John Bush, KH6DLK

Terry  
Dowling,  
KH6L

Mel Uchida, KH6EKD



Les Hittner, KOBAD



Kevin Bogan, AH6QO

hobby-related business.

It was at times a virtual open house, as we got a look at hamshack equipment and heard from some of the operators.

In opening the "freeform" session, President William Polhemus, NH6ET, noted that he "loves all things radio" and is "in the hobby to help people."

Treasurer Tony Kitchen, WH6DVI, discussed the emergency siren testing support isle hams are providing the Hawaii County Civil Defense Agency. On the first working day of the month, strategically placed radio operators are monitoring performance of community sirens. Tony said more volunteers are needed to serve as net controls. If you have All-Star capabilities and want to help, contact him, Darrell Asuka, KH6RDO, or Bev Gable, KH7LM.

Vice President Jim Huntley, WH6FQI, invited us into his shack, where he no doubt has set some sort of world record for employing the most magmounts. Noting that he lives in "a giant metal box," Jim said he makes serious use of magnets to install radio equipment and other necessary fixtures, including his "Charlie Brown Christmas tree."

As the "show and tell"



Roy Kunishige, WH6FYK



Tony Kitchen, WH6DVI



Kyle Matsuda, WH6FQQ



David Miller, KH6CZ

session drew to a close, William said he had one major announcement: Membership! As of the holiday gathering, we had only three paid members heading into the next year. Dues are due, he said. Pay online or mail a check to the club.

Check club website, [biarc.net](http://biarc.net), for details.

## Aloha, Peggy

# KE6TIS, hard-working BIARC volunteer, moves to Colorado

The club sends its aloha across the miles to Peggy Gentle, KE6TIS, who has moved from Puna to Pueblo, Colorado to reunite with her family.

Long-time net control for the BIARC Wednesday morning net, Peggy provided a professional, yet personal, warm and welcoming mid-week chat session for hams driving to and fro or just grasping their first hot beverages of the day.

Instead of seeing lush jungle and Kalij pheasants, she now looks out her window to see cold white stuff on the ground and deer ambling by.

We miss you already, Peggy, and thank you for all of the time and effort and years you've dedicated to amateur radio in East Hawaii.

KE6TIS is a former BIARC Vice President, a VE (Volunteer Examiner) generous



Photo by WH6LQ

*Peggy Gentle, KE6TIS, has a new QTH -- Pueblo, Colorado. A longtime stalwart of BIARC, she is missed.*

with her time in assisting with licensing and license upgrade testing sessions, and an all-around volunteer at countless club events.

She has toted the club's big refreshments tubs to and from meetings for several years, setting up, cleaning up and

greeting everyone while making countless pots of coffee.

Peggy got involved in ham radio back in the early '90s while working for the phone company in California.

She ran a regular weekly net there, as she did for many years for BIARC, and stood up for emcomms in times of crisis.

"I fell in love with the magic of radio in my first phone company job in 1969," Peggy reminisced.

"I worked coastal harbor and HF marine radio while working in the Oakland Overseas and High Seas office.

"I have always loved the "connecting" of people through radio.

"Even in my answering service work, in Sonoma County, which came later, we did voice paging for things like the airport crash line, and phone patch radio connecting for the geysers plant.

"It was always useful and rewarding."

## Aloha Chapter of 10-10 International

Local hams active on 10-meters encourage amateur radio licensees at all levels to join in the fun.

[More info on the world of Ten-Ten is available on Facebook and at <https://www.ten-ten.org>]

# Tech License Preparation Class via Zoom starts Feb. 10

Coordinator Doug Wilson, KH7DQ, announces the next Technician License Preparation Class via Zoom starts Feb. 10. He provides this synopsis of the class:

**Purpose:** The purpose of this class is to prepare you to pass the test for the entry-level Technician Class Amateur Radio License and be able to assist as a communicator with disaster relief activities.

If you're not interested in disaster relief, this will still be a good introduction to a wonderful life-long hobby. There is much more that you will want and need to learn to become a competent radio operator and to enjoy Amateur Radio as a service activity and hobby. That additional knowledge and experience can be gained after you have received your license through operation, additional classes, or working with an "Elmer."

**American Radio Relay League (ARRL):** We encourage you to join the ARRL (arrl.net). This is a national organization of radio amateurs which works to protect our frequencies and operating privileges and provides our Volunteer Examiner (VE) service for exams. The cost is very reasonable and you get a great monthly magazine ("QST") with technical, operating, equipment reviews, and general interest features for hams. You can also choose to receive a monthly magazine ("On the Air") that contains subjects to help new hams.

**Reference:** You will be provided, by email, with the Technician License question pool and numerous other reference materials throughout this course to assist you in preparing for the exam.

**Schedule:** This class will be conducted virtually via Zoom. You will be provided with an invitation that contains a link to the Zoom site before each class. All classes will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. and we suggest that you check in 5 minutes before class starts.

Here is what will be covered: Taking the exam: When you have completed this class, you may take the exam virtually as well.

Please go to this web page to register for your <http://hameducation.org/register> You will need to send a check for \$15.00 payable to the ARRL.VEC. You will receive instructions when you register.

*The trainers for this class will be:*  
**Doug Wilson, KH7DQ, Amateur Extra Class,**  
**ARRL Registered Instructor**  
**Ph. (808) 985-9362**

*Email: [douscelle@aol.com](mailto:douscelle@aol.com)*

*Jim Tatar, WH6EMN, Amateur Extra Class*  
**Ph. (808) 960-1545**

*Email: [james.tatar@yahoo.com](mailto:james.tatar@yahoo.com)*

It's up to you: Experience has shown that those who are successful on the exam are those who attend class regularly and study outside of class using the study aids provided and available on the internet.

For online test practice, we recommend three sources:

*<http://qrz.com>.* This site generates practice tests and gives you immediate feedback on questions answered correctly or incorrectly. It keeps track of which of the 423 possible questions that you may encounter on your test that you have seen. On the home page click the "Resources" drop-down tab at the top of the page and select "Practice Amateur Radio Exams." You will need to register to use this. You won't have a call sign yet, so register with another user name. You can change it to your call sign later. You need a valid, working email address to complete registration.

Make sure that you select the "2018 Technician Exam Practice Test" when using this tool to practice. This site becomes more valuable after about the third session when you have been exposed to most of the material.

*<http://eham.net/exams>.* This site also generates practice tests and gives you feedback after you have completed answering all 35 questions. At the end of the test it gives you the answers you got right and for those that you missed it gives you the correct answers. No registration is required to use this site.

*<http://hamstudy.org>.* This site offers several study features including "Study Flash Cards", "Read Questions" and "Practice Test." Although the site asks you to log in, you can click on "Continue as Guest" without having to register.

**Ask us:**

As you study, keep track of the things you don't understand and ask them in class. Also feel free to email or call us at any time with questions. It's a new language. In many ways, learning the material for the amateur radio exam is like learning a new language. You will hear words and terms that sound familiar but which may have a different meaning in this context. There will be concepts that will be new to you, unless you have a technical background.

Don't feel alone. Everybody feels as lost as you do. Help everyone in the class by asking the things that puzzle you during our class sessions.

## Winlink practice session

From nh7it@arrl.net on Dec. 17:

Aloha, to Hawaii ARES members:

Many of you have probably heard about Winlink email. This digital means of sending email over amateur radio bands is gaining popularity in the emergency communication field. The American Red Cross recognizes Winlink as an important means of sending messages.

(see

<https://www.redcross.org/local/california/southern-california/about-us/news-and-events/news/disaster-services-technology.html>)

## First solar image from isle observatory shows sunspot close up

The world's largest solar observatory, National Science Foundation (NSF) Daniel K. Inouye Solar Telescope in Hawaii, has released its first image of a sunspot, capturing the phenomenon in striking detail.

The image, taken last January, is among the first solar images of the new Solar Cycle 25. The telescope's 4-meter primary mirror will give the best views of the sun from Earth throughout Solar Cycle 25. The image was released along with the first of a series of Inouye-related articles featured in the Solar Physics journal. As radio amateurs know, sunspots and other solar activity can affect HF radio propagation, among other things, and they are where coronal mass ejections (CMEs) and solarflares originate. The Inouye telescope is in its final stages of construction.

"While the start of telescope operations

Our ARES leadership would like to extend the opportunity for you to learn and practice sending Winlink messages.

We plan to have a weekly practice and learning session starting in January. I plan to send to each member that joins a practice assignment that you have a week or more to complete.

Please send me your call sign, and starting soon I will send to you via Winlink your weekly assignment. If you are new to Winlink, ask for help and I will send you instructions on how to start learning about Winlink, or you can visit [www.winlink.org](http://www.winlink.org).

*Van  
ASEC-PAC*

has been slightly delayed due to the impacts of the COVID-19 global pandemic, this image represents an early preview of the unprecedented capabilities that the facility will bring to bear on our understanding of the sun," said David Boboltz, NSF Inouye Solar Telescope Program Director. Solar Cycle 25 is predicted to peak in mid-2025.

"With this solar cycle just beginning, we also enter the era of the Inouye Solar Telescope," said Matt Mountain, President of the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy (AURA), the organization that manages the National Solar Observatory and the Inouye Solar Telescope.

During the peak of Solar Cycle 24, 120 sunspots were tracked. Some 115 sunspots are predicted for the peak of Solar Cycle 25.

*-- Thanks to the National Solar  
Observatory and news media reports*

## Check out 'HIPPA for Ham Radio' presentation

If you are interested in viewing the recent "HIPPA for Ham Radio presentation," it is available under the link below.

73

*Tony Kitchen*

*WH6DVI*

*Chair, BIARC Public Service  
Communication Committee*

The program on Dec. 10 focused on HIPPA, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act,

with speakers/presenters Dr. Gordon Gibby, KX4Z, and Dr. Robert Patton, W4PG.

Viewing Zoom Presentation:

[https://vimeo.com/](https://vimeo.com/489768090)

489768090

Download Zoom

presentation:

[https://vimeo.com/user1075](https://vimeo.com/user107547861/download/489768090/b434785c3e)

47861/download/489768090

/b434785c3e

Documents:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh>

[/9kyu98a4ad1sxl6/AADwXx  
EFx0dZ58XQcfjiA6uJa?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/9kyu98a4ad1sxl6/AADwXxEFx0dZ58XQcfjiA6uJa?dl=0)

Please feel free to share this and our other presentations with your friends, clubs and organizations

Send presentation comments and suggestions to RATPAC Planning committee:

[ratpac.plan@gmail.com](mailto:ratpac.plan@gmail.com).

## Oregon ARRL VEC testing group offers drive-up service

Volunteer Examiners in Grant County, Oregon, affiliated with the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC), put their heads together to overcome adversity and hold a safe and secure drive-in exam session that took pandemic precautions into account.

Current health regulations in Oregon precluded both indoor and outdoor gatherings, so the Grant County Amateur Radio Club, the local ARES Group, and the Grant County Emergency Radio Infrastructure Coalition (ERIC) combined forces to offer five candidates the chance to obtain their first license or to upgrade their existing license, all from the comfort of their vehicles.

"Many amateur radio clubs have experimented with exams via the internet," said Steve Fletcher, K7AA, who is the ARES Emergency Coordinator for Grant County. "In eastern Oregon, with the cooperation of the County Roads Department, we chose to hold a 'drive-up' exam session on Dec. 12. Under the circumstances, we used four ARRL VEs for the exam instead of the required three." Wheeler County ARES loaned Stuart Bottom, K7FG, to help as the third required examiner.

Fletcher reports three new Technician-class licensees and two new General-class radio amateurs resulted from the session.

Required ARRL VEC forms contained pre-printed data -- including the FCC Registration Number (FRN) -- were given to the candidates on a clipboard. Each candidate took the exam in the front seat of their own



*Health regulations in Oregon precluded both indoor and outdoor gatherings, so the Grant County Amateur Radio Club, the local ARES Group, and the Grant County Emergency Radio Infrastructure Coalition (ERIC) combined forces to offer five candidates the chance to obtain their first license or to upgrade their existing license, all from the comfort of their vehicles.*



vehicle. Cell phones, papers, and anything not required for the exam were removed.

"Everyone dressed warmly, and most candidates had their heaters running," Fletcher reported.

A camper owned by Ronda Metler, KB5LAX, and a

communications van owned by Fletcher served as sites to check results and sign forms.

The Grant County Roads Department loaned its parking area for the exam session.

*Thanks to Steve Fletcher, K7AA; photos courtesy of Thomas Dekany*

## BIARC Board Meeting

December 12, 2020

### A. Begin Meeting

1. William Polhemus called the meeting to order at 12:00.
2. The following board members were in attendance: Leslie Hittner, Tony Kitchen, Mel Uchida, William Polhemus, James Huntley, and Robert Schneider
3. Incoming Board Member in attendance: Jim Sugg
4. The Secretary's Minutes for the board meeting of 11/14/2020 were approved as read. William **moved** and Tony **seconded** to approved the minutes as published by email. Motion **passed**.
5. The Treasurer's Report was presented by Tony (attached).

Fund totals:	
Repeater Fund:	\$ 1,061.97
Emergency Reserves:	\$ 1,000.00
<u>General Fund:</u>	<u>\$1,741.70</u>
Total Funds:	\$3,803.67

William **moved** and Mel **seconded** to accept the Treasurer's Report subject to audit. Motion **passed** with a unanimous vote.

### B. Committee Reports

1. **Digital Systems:** Huntley (Chair) – No Written Report – Testing seems to require additional nodes as digipeating does not seem to work on Mauna Loa. Les stated that the ID may be different for digipeater, but that it may do both. Jim will experiment with Mauna Loa to see if it is both a node and a digipeater. Jim Sugg asked about statewide Vara gateway packages that have worked well. William noted that has not been the case on Hawaii Island.
2. **Education and Outreach:** Hittner (Chair) – Partial Written Report (attached) – The lending library is ready to be activated. Les stated that he would do so starting on January 16, 2021 and will do so on the third Saturday of each month. Les also stated that he has a second tote and boxes for the QSL Manager and the Programs Committee.  
UHH has not responded to my email concerning the use of the lower hallway of the new Pharmacy building for on-site license testing.  
Tony mentioned that he had received a communication from Joe Spironi about on-line General Classes that are available. Tony will put those classes on the web site. Tony will follow up.
3. **Operating Activities:** Kunishige (Chair) – No Report
4. **Program:** Huntley (Chair) – No Written Report – Today is the Virtual Christmas Party. Jim had nothing for January at this point and is looking for some ideas. Tony suggested discussing the packet and Winlink digipeating and node issues. Jim would also like to do another antenna build project that could be done on-line after supplying people with a kit that would not require soldering.  
Kristen McIntyre, K6WX, has taken the place of the recently deceased Pacific Division Director. She had an excellent presentation on Ham Nation and it would be nice to see if she could do a virtual talk to the club. Bob will follow up. Tony said that a discussion of the glass-mount antennas that a few people have recently ordered might be of interest to other members. William suggested expanding the discussion to other methods of mounting mobile antennas.
5. **Public Service Communications:** Kitchen (Chair) – No Written Report – Darrel Atsuka is asking for NCS volunteers for the Siren Net. There was considerable discussion about exactly what mode and talk group (31153) were being used by the net and whether it was regular DMR or Brandmeister's version or connected to All Star, and whether there was an inter-mode bridge involved. It all sounded very complicated to this Secretary. Tony will clarify what is needed and work to resolve issues. William wondered why the Mauna Kea repeater could not be used for the siren net as that event appears to closely match its mission. Bob noted that the UHH agreement for that repeater is pretty tightly bound to actual emergency situations as opposed to emergency-related public service and preparedness communications.
6. **Voice Repeaters:** Polhemus (Chair) – No Written Report – The Mauna Loa DMR repeater dropped off-line, but Brandmeister servers were not accepting communications. A new need to authenticate with a username and a password are now required. William and Paul Ducasse will coordinate establishing the required authentication.  
Kulani repeater has been on and off of e-power (supplied by a Coast Guard generator) several times over the past month and it is working well. The repeater must re-start at each transition but the eventual addition of a UPS to the system will prevent the restarts when switching to/from e-power.  
William has received approval to install a monopole antenna for one of his commercial projects on an old County foundation at Lolehaehae. There will also be room to install the local two-meter repeater antenna that was previously scheduled to be at Mel's QTH.  
Once we have a 70 cm repeater pair assigned, the C4FM repeater will become operational at Kulani.  
The Committee will meet in January with the Digital Systems Committee.

### C. Old Business:

1. **Status of MOU with Hawaii Department of Water Supply**  
William submitted the MOU and was asked to resubmit the MOU with a specific project at a specific DWS site described in detail (This seems to imply to this Secretary that multiple MOUs may eventually be in effect – one for each site and/or project.) The Voice Repeaters Committee will prioritize the potential sites (There are three.) and pick one for this MOU. It will then re-submit the MOU. The

# The President's Corner

## Twenty Twenty Won



William Polhemus  
NH6ET

It's hard to write impactful things after such an impactful year. 2020 is a hard act to follow. This is the last of these articles for me to write from the President's seat. The assignment of specific officer's positions will happen at the next board meeting, and my role in 2021 will be different. I'd better make this good ...

But no. I've been scratching my head for days trying to figure out what to say to my radio ohana, as 2020 comes to a close, and 2021 takes over. I could wax poetic about change, and all that. It all seemed a bit too contrived.

Instead, I just want to say thank you. Thank you for being there at the meetings. Thank you for being there on the air. Thank you for being there for your friends and family.

Being a member of

most likely project will be a site at the end of Mountain House Road above Naalehu, which has very broad coverage of the southern part of the Island.

### D. New Business:

#### 1. Final Thoughts on The December Activity

This will be very free-form with members talking to members. Tony asked about breakout rooms. Les suggested offering the breakout rooms and simply allow members to muse them if they wished.

#### 2. Digipeaters or Nodes?

Discussed in Item B1.

#### 3. Membership Application Notice

Tony is concerned that only 13 people have signed up so far. An on-line Adobe PDF form has been set up. There are a few bugs, but it is being worked on. Older people in particular may have problems with the small print. That is being worked on. Jim Sugg had a question about using the form to renew. Tony likes to have the forms submitted during a renewal in order to have updated information.

The new website will handle this differently and members will be able to update the form at any time.

Eventually, Tony may develop an HTML form and may consider the use of Caspio – an on-line data base – for maintaining membership database in the new website. The HTML database is better suited for use on smartphones. An on-line database will be very helpful.

### E. Other Business: None

### F. Adjourn:

There being no further business, William adjourned the meeting at 12:57.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie D. Hittner

Leslie Hittner, Secretary

Enc: Written Reports  
(Treasurer's Report, Education and Outreach Committee Report)

*'Mahalo to my radio ohana'*

BIARC has been one of the most positive and rewarding parts of my life. I am an incredibly private and reclusive person. No, really, I am that cranky hermit living at the end of that road everyone says not to go down, "because there's a cranky hermit down there."

Having the club in my life has brought me into contact with great people. People whom I would have never met, had it not been for our shared passion for radio. I showed up to the club without knowing a single one of you, and you accepted me. Not only did you accept me, you pulled me in.

There are a lot of changes afoot. That's just life. Me? I know I'll get through those changes just fine.

Because, I have you. My radio ohana. Thank you.

*William – NH6ET*

# BIARC Lending Library

Date	Title	Other Information	Author	Publisher	Donated By
11/19/20	The ARRL Antenna Book 20th Edition		Multiple	ARRL	Hittner, KOBAD
	The ARRL Antenna Book 24th Edition		Multiple	ARRL	Polhemus, NH6ET
	HF Antennas For All Locations		L.A. Moxon, G6XN	RSGB	Hittner, KOBAD
	The ARRL Operating Manual, 7th Edition		Multiple	ARRL	Hittner, KOBAD
	The Radio Amateur's Handbook, 1979		Multiple	ARRL	Hittner, KOBAD
	The Radio Amateur's Handbook, 2020		Multiple	ARRL	Polhemus, NH6ET
	The Radio Amateur's Handbook, 2021	Six-volume Set	Multiple	ARRL	Hittner, KOBAD
	Volume 1: Introduction and Fundamental Theory				
	Volume 2: Practical Design and Principles PART 1				
	Volume 3: Practical Design and Principles PART 2				
	Volume 4: Antenna Systems and Radio Propagation				
	Volume 5: Equipment Construction and Station Accessories				
	Volume 6: Test Equipment, Troubleshooting, RFI & Index				
	Remote Operating For Amateur Radio		Steve Ford, WB8IMY	ARRL	Hittner, KOBAD
	Storm Spotting and Amateur Radio		Michael Corey, W5MPC Victor Morris, AH6WX	ARRL	Hittner, KOBAD
11/28/20	Basic Theory and Application of Transistors		Dept of Army - Multiple	Dover Publications	Hittner, KOBAD
	Building Successful HF Antennas		Peter Dodd, G3LDO	RSGB	Hittner, KOBAD
	HF Digital Handbook		Steve Ford, WB8IMY	ARRL	Hittner, KOBAD
	High Speed Multimedia for Amateur Radio		Glen Popiel, KW5GP	ARRL	Hittner, KOBAD
	Radio Amateur's F-M Repeater Handbook		Ken W. Sessions, K6MVH	Editors and Engineers, Ltd.	Hittner, KOBAD

## BIARC 2020 Budget & Operating Statement

**Leslie Hittner**

**From:** "Tony Elias" <TonyEliasHi@hotmail.com>  
**Date:** Friday, December 11, 2020 23:34  
**To:** "Bob Schneider" <ah6j@arrl.net>; "Mel Uchida" <glenmie@aol.com>; "Paul Decasse" <ducasse@hawaii.rr.com>; "AH6AE" <jimsugg7@gmail.com>; "Jim Huntley" <wh6fqi@gmail.com>; "Les Hittner" <k0bad@arrl.net>; "William Polhemus" <william.polhemus@ieec.org>  
**Attach:** 2020-12 BIARC Operating Statement.pdf  
**Subject:** Revision to December 2020 Treasurer Report.

The footnote in the previously sent December treasurer's report (PDF Attachment) was a bit unclear and needed to be re-worded. I have also reworded some of my summary for clarity. Please replace the previous report with the following, which includes a revised attachment. (Adobe PDF)

**Treasurers Report Summary: (As of 12/11/2020)**

- Since the November report, we have no new members. The membership count remains at 97.
- Although dues receipts for 2020 were \$76 short of the budgeted amount, total receipts are **\$135.59** above the estimated budget income due to larger than anticipated repeater fund donations.
- We have spent less than the budgeted amounts for 2020. Although a couple of expenses were slightly higher than anticipated (PO Box Fee & Insurance) we spent **\$574.39** less than what was in the 2020 expense budget overall.
- This month we paid \$95 to USPS for our P.O. Box rental fee covering the period from January through June of 2021. There were no additional requests for reimbursement or disbursements made since the last report.
- Our receipts for 2021 dues have been far less than normal. Only 13 members have paid so far.
- The 2021 receipts collected to date are not reflected in the income section of the attached December 2020 financial statement. These receipts will be included in the income section of the January 2021 financial Statement.

Please see the attached Adobe PDF financial statement as of 12/11/2020.

Tony Kitchen  
 WH6DVI  
 2020 BIARC Treasurer

	2020 Budget	Actual- 1/1/2020 To 12/11/2020	Variance
<b>Income:</b>			
Dues	\$1,590.00	\$1,514.00	\$76.00
Repeater and general donations	\$275.00	\$501.72	-\$226.72
Donations for refreshments	\$25.00	\$10.64	\$14.36
PayPal Adjusted Donation		-\$0.77*	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,890.00</b>	<b>\$2,025.59</b>	<b>-\$135.59</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>			
Club Liability Insurance	\$320.00	\$323.20	-\$3.20
Club Equipment Insurance	\$185.00	\$186.85	-\$1.85
Donations (PCC)	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Equipment	\$500.00	\$436.78	\$63.22
Field Day	\$320.00	\$70.50	\$249.50
Printing (Membership Booklet)	\$175.00	\$162.33	\$12.67
Annual Build Project	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
P. O. Box Fee	\$176.00	\$190.00	-\$14.00
Monthly Meeting Refreshments	\$19.00	\$0.00	\$19.00
VOAD Dues	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$0.00
Office Supplies/Bank Fee/Misc.	\$70.00	\$18.50	\$51.50
Website Costs	\$65.00	\$38.04	\$26.96
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,955.00</b>	<b>\$1,451.20</b>	
<b>Excess (Deficit)</b>		<b>\$574.39</b>	
<b>Bank of Hawaii Balance</b>	as of: 12/11/2020	<b>\$3,263.34</b>	
Deposit Pending		\$100.00**	
Namecheap Balance		\$11.96	
Paypal Account Balance		\$428.37**	
<b>Fund Balances:</b>			
Repeater fund	\$1,061.97**		
Emergency Reserves	\$1,000.00		
General Fund	\$1,741.70**		
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>\$3,803.67**</b>	

\*PayPal processing donations received minus PayPal fees charged.

\*\*2021 Dues and contributions received in Nov./Dec 2020 are include in these figures. However these 2021 amounts are not included under the income figures listed at the top. The 2021 dues and contributions received will be included on the January 2021 financial statement.

# BIARC Semi-Annual Membership Meeting

November 14, 2020

## A. Begin Meeting

- i. William Polhemus called the meeting via Zoom to order at 1404
- ii. The number of members required for a quorum was 14 members. Quorum was determined by identification upon entry to the Zoom meeting. There were 22 members present at the start of the meeting.
- iii. The Secretary's Minutes for the Semi-Annual Membership Meeting for November 2019 were unavailable. William reviewed the meeting from the agenda of the 2019 Semi-Annual Meeting. William then **moved** and Mel **seconded** to approve the minutes as reviewed by William from the agenda of the 2019 Semi-Annual Membership Meeting. After some discussion, the motion **passed** with one abstention.

## B. Executive Board Reports

- i. President is extremely pleased with the process the club has made in the past year. We have formalized (EMCOMM) agreements with some government agencies and are pursuing additional agreements with other agencies that we seek to partner with during emergencies. Through those agreements we seek to provide and expand our resources to the community during emergency situations. Such resources include the Amateur Radio repeater infrastructure that we can make available as well as digital messaging systems, such as packet and VARA (APRS and Winlink).

Thank you to each of the club's Standing Committees. It is through these Standing Committees that the real work of the club is accomplished.

- MOU with HCCDA that allows us to partner with them and for them to assist us. HCCDA was instrumental in getting a new home for the BIARC Kulani Repeater, when the tower site it had been on was scheduled to be taken down.
- Formal agreements are in the process of being established with other governmental entities.

I encourage all club members to become active in one of these committees. I also encourage members to consider becoming active on the Executive Board by running for positions next year. The Q&A session at the end of this meeting will give you a chance to focus the Executive Board on the activities and decisions that you want addressed and the communal technologies that you want the club to deploy in the future.

- ii. Treasurer (Attached) In addition, Tony noted that we currently have 97 members.
- iii. Secretary (Attached)
- iv. Standing Committees
  - i. **Voice Repeaters (William Polhemus, Chair)**

### vi. Education and Outreach (Attached – Leslie Hittner, Chair)

Members: Leslie Hittner, Doug Wilson, Tony Kitchen, Leigh Critchlow (Newsletter Editor)

## C. New Business:

### i. Report of the Nominating Committee

Paul Ducasse, the Chair of the Nominations Committee, noted that three members' terms expire at the end of 2020. These members are: William Polhemus, Leslie Hittner, and Mel Uchida. He then announced the slate of nominees as presented by the Board's Ad Hoc Nomination Committee as follows: William Polhemus (NH6ET), Leslie Hittner (K0BAD), and Jim Sugg (AH6AE).

### ii. Nomination of Executive Board Members

William asked for additional nominations. There were none.

There being no further nominations, Tom English **moved** and Peggy Gentle **seconded** to close nominations. Motion **passed**.

Leslie Hittner **moved** and Tom English **seconded** to approve the slate as presented by the Nominating Committee by unanimous consent. The motion **passed** with a unanimous vote.

The BIARC Executive Board members for 2021 are as follows:

- Paul Ducasse (Custodian), WH7BR
- Leslie Hittner, K0BAD
- James Huntley, WH7FQI
- Tony Kitchen, WH6DVI
- William Polhemus, NH6ET
- Robert Schneider, AH6J
- Jim Sugg, AH6AE

### iii. Approve proposed Constitutional Amendment (attached)

Leslie Hittner described the nature of the proposed Constitutional Amendment.

William asked for discussion. There was one question from KH6L

BIARC Constitutional Amendment vote: **25 for and 1 against** (KH6L). Amendment **passes**.

### iv. Approve proposed By Laws Amendment (attached)

Leslie Hittner describes the nature of the proposed By Laws Amendment.

William asked for discussion. There were questions about the Pay Pal fees. Tony said that there are less than 10% but it does vary. William clarified that 10% was easily calculated and that it left a bit of leeway so that fewer changes would be required.

BIARC By Laws Amendment vote: **26 for and 0 against**. Amendment **passes**.

Members: William Polhemus, Gary Schwiter, Paul Ducasse (Custodian), and Alan Okinaka

William discussed the Kulani repeater and the need to move to a different tower on Kulani Cone. This new installation needs some final tweaking at this time. At the same time the committee is seeking additional repeater sites to accommodate its repeater infrastructure. A DMR repeater has been installed on Mauna Loa and most recently, that repeater has been made available for the use of the Hawaii Siren Net.

Committee members include myself, Gary Schwiter, Paul Ducasse, Alan Okinaka. I encourage others who are interested to participate with and/or join the Voice Repeaters Committee.

Future projects include building a System Fusion repeater network on the east side of Hawaii Island.

## ii. Public Service Communications (Attached – Tony Kitchen, Chair)

Members: Tony Kitchen, Leslie Hittner, Paul Ducasse

Leslie Hittner noted that he had not accepted the position of Hawaii County Amateur Radio Skyward Coordinator. Tony added that we are working with other government agencies in order to provide ECOMM services and secure additional Amateur Radio infrastructure locations.

## iii. Operating Activities (Roy Kunishige, Chair)

Members: Roy Kunishige, John Bush, John Bonewitz, and Joe Rosenbaum

Roy would like to put together some sort of a makeshift Winter Field Day at remote locations. He is interested in members' thoughts about Winter Field Day.

## iv. Programs (James Huntley, Chair)

Members: James Huntley and Mel Uchida

James thanked all the people that assisted and/or presented for programs. He would like member input on future programs. This year two out-of-state presenters – possible by using Zoom – were featured. This may continue until mid-to-late next year. Please email him with your thoughts.

William asked members to volunteer with program thoughts – especially interactive projects that are suitable on Zoom.

## v. Digital Systems (Attached – James Huntley, Chair)

Members: James Huntley, Mel Uchida, Paul Ducasse, Gary Schwiter, and Lawrence Byng.

Digital has a Winlink site at the QTH of Roy (WH6FYK). He also has a satellite-based internet connection. VARA capabilities are being added to this same location. The committee is also looking at adding packet digipeaters and APRS infrastructure.

## D. Other Business:

- i. Peggy Gentle asked that someone else take on the responsibility for the snack boxes and the paper Newsletter Archives, since she is leaving the island. William assured her that it would be taken care of.

E. Program: Q&A Session to help guide the Executive Board in its decision-making during the next year.

## F. Adjourn

There being no further business or discussion, William adjourned the meeting at 1644.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Leslie D. Hittner*

Leslie Hittner, Secretary

Enc: Proposed Bylaws Amendment  
Proposed Constitutional Amendment  
Executive Board Secretary Annual Report  
Treasurer's Annual Report  
Public Service Communications Committee Annual Report  
Digital Systems Committee Annual Report  
Education & Outreach Committee Annual Report