



Next up on Zoom
(get link on BIARC ListServe)

Saturday, Jan. 8
Noon: BIARC Board meeting
2 p.m.: Membership gathering

January 2022 Newsletter

Big Island Amateur Radio Club

President's Annual Report to BIARC membership

Prepared by William Polhemus, NH6ET
November, 2021

Much as 2020 was, 2021 has been a challenge for a social club such as the Big Island Amateur Radio Club.

The continued effects of the COVID pandemic have certainly suppressed the social side of things. Without meaningful opportunities for socialization and enrichment, I feared coming into 2021 that the club would weaken; members would choose to not renew, and the club would functionally change. To my pleasure, my fears were completely unfounded.

Early in 2021 it did appear as if the membership was in decline. However, by mid-year, the numbers showed that this was not the case. I credit this to the deep love for the hobby which has brought us all

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President William Polhemus, NH6ET, presides over BIARC December Zoom session.



Alan Okinaka, KH6ATU, provides a white Christmas for the club's Dec. 11 holiday gathering.

Club holds holiday party on Zoom for second year

Lacking the festive trappings of our traditional BIARC holiday party, the club's annual event took to Zoom for the second December in a row.

With a nod to the season, and hopes for an in-person gathering next Christmas, on Dec. 11 members switched smoothly into radioactive mode to discuss amateur radio issues – especially emergency communications – on Ha-



Tony Kitchen, WH6DVI

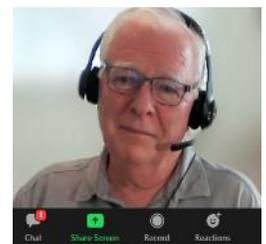
waii Island and throughout the state.

President William Polhemus, NH6ET, opened up a wide-ranging forum, starting with "hot wash"

discussion of the state's recent "catastrophic" rain event and the resulting extended access to the VOAD repeater on Mouna Kea. At least three nets were operated and a number of equipment tests done over several days.

In addition, BIARC members on other frequencies were involved in providing updates on such critical issues as downed trees, live conductors down, power

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David Miller, KH6CZ



Les Hittner, K0BAD

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outages and closed roads.

BIARC has received thanks from the Hawaii County Civil Defense Agency for earlier reporting an albizia tree with branches growing into the high voltage wires at the BIARC Pepeekeo Repeater site. As it turns out, a work crew then trimmed the tree – in the nick of time, prior to the big storm -- averting damage. (All because of a BIARC photo sent to Civil Defense, who forwarded it on to HECO.)

Our 146.760 Kulani Repeater switched onto emergency power early in the storm event, courtesy of its new location in a critical-infrastructure position on the tower, thanks to the huge U.S. Coast Guard generator on site. William noted that there were three different breaks in the power line going up the mountain to Kulani.

The club's infrastructure held up pretty well, and BIARC definitely helped our community in many ways, he said.

Tony noted also that the community's needs were well communicated, due to efforts by hams, and pointed out that BIARC members were active in the community beyond the use of radio infrastructure. This included serving on damage assessment teams.

He said National Weather Service warnings were spread by radio operators "much sooner than it was publicly available."

After all, William pointed out: When info needs to get out, you can "telephone, telegraph or tell your amateur radio operator."



John Bush, KH6DLK

Many stories have been shared – several during the Zoom session – about folks putting their emergency equipment through its paces during power outages. In many instances, the knowledge gained during the event will lead to upgrades and tweaks of such equipment going forward.

Club Treasurer Tony Kitchen, WH6DVI, chairs the Hawaii Island Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD) Communications Working Group and is the Hawaii ARES representative to Hawaii VOAD (Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters, a nationwide effort). He -- together with Kevin Bogan, AH6QO, who chairs the statewide VOAD Communications Working Group -- invites Big Island operators to volunteer to serve as net control stations. All Amateur Radio operators are invited to participate in the monthly one-hour formal repeater test net on the VOAD repeater atop Mauna Kea. This net happens on the first Saturday of each month from 12:00 - 13:00 HST. We want to schedule mini-exercises during those first-Saturday nets, he said. David Miller, KH6CZ, is our BIARC representative to both the county-level COAD and Hawaii VOAD.

BIARC Annual Report

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together being so prevalent in the membership. A sense of community is oft quoted to me as a reason for being a member. Others cite a love for the public service aspects of our activity. Some credit the educational nature and information sharing as their draw. This mix seems to be the magic recipe.

It is still completely unknown when we will be able to resume in-person meetings. We have adapted well to virtual meetings, such as on Zoom. However, some of us are restless. Activities such as Field Day, Grid Madness, and the repeater work parties have helped. However, antenna build days and a holiday party sure would be nice. Options are being explored for in-person events. However, thus far every option that a member has explored has resulted in a closed door.

A venue for in-person events is a high priority for the club at this point. So I call upon the members of the club to assist in any way possible. If you are connected to an entity who has a potential venue – a place of worship, a subdivision community center, a private employer – please, explore the possibility for us. If your in-laws are on vacation, and you want to let us use their house ...

The BIARC Executive Board has been kept busy by the six commit-

tees. These six committees are really where the rubber meets the road. Sure, the Executive Board is running the routine business of the club, but it's the committees which get stuff done. If you don't recall, the six standing committees are:

Public Service

Communications:

The Public Service

Communications Committee is the BIARC liaison to our local, state, and federal agencies and BIARC. They interface with these agencies, and other community groups and individuals, and make recommendations to the Executive Board regarding activities pertaining to public services provided by the club. This committee has a strong focus on emergency management. ◦

Chaired by Tony

Kitchen – WH6DVI



WH6DVI

Operating Activities:

The Operating Activities Committee seeks input from the club membership regarding operating activities that may be sponsored by the club. The committee helps in coordinating these activities, such as Field Day, and special projects. ◦ **Chaired by Roy Kunishige - KH6KU**



KH6KU

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Programs Committee:

The Programs Committee has the hard job of bringing you interesting presentations each month. This committee's members are really the unsung heroes of our monthly enrichment as amateur service operators. This committee never receives enough support, or thanks, from the community. Without them, our monthly meeting would last about five minutes.



WH6FQI

o Chaired by Jim Huntley – WH6FQI

Digital Systems Committee:

The Digital Systems Committee is responsible for maintaining all non-repeater digital equipment, including digital voice and data, owned by the club. This committee works hand in hand with the Voice Repeaters Committee, helping to divide the infrastructure support work into manageable workflows. o

Chaired by Jim Huntley – WH6FQI

Voice Repeater Committee:

The Voice Repeater Committee is responsible for maintaining all VHF/UHF voice repeater equipment owned by the club. This includes establishing links between voice repeaters, which is often done in coordination with the Digital Systems Committee. The Voice Repeater Committee will make recommendations to the Executive Board regarding maintenance and update or replacement issues. o



NH6ET

Chaired by me, William Polhemus – NH6ET

Education and Outreach Committee:

The Education and Outreach Committee is responsible for coordinating VEC access to our community, as may be needed. Additionally, they have a strong focus on establishing relationships with local education agencies in order to provide resources for study related to the amateur service. This committee also manages BIARC's public-facing resources, such as our online presence, and media relations.



K0BAD

o Chaired by Les Hittner – K0BAD

Each of the club chairs has a report about their club's progress and actions throughout the year. I'll leave it to them to give you details. Each of these committees has several additional members. But there is always more room in each committee if steering the activities of the club in one of these areas interests you. I encourage each and every one of you to consider joining a committee. It will help the club grow, and it will help you grow as an amateur operator.

The hobby is in a decline. We all know the struggle the amateur service has had in appearing relevant to the younger generations. Amateur radio organizations the world around remain befuddled as to how to stem the loss of interest.

BIARC is no exception. The club board, and several of the committees have discussed at length how to revitalize interest in the hobby locally. The recent balloon launch and tracking, conducted as a joint program with several participating schools, was a great success. It garnered more interest than previous balloon launches. The successful outreach was not unnoticed, and events of this type – not just balloon launches – are being explored for their outreach potential. But we need more than a single trick in our bag. Recruitment into the hobby remains a high priority, as yet an unmet goal.

The state of the club is good. We certainly have room to improve in the new normal of distance social events, as we move toward a hybrid model where we can combine online virtual events with one or more in-person venues. However, we haven't dwindled while confined to virtual-only sessions. Recruitment into the amateur service remains difficult. And it is difficult to tell at this point if the new normal is helping or hurting our efforts. However, there is always room to improve in recruitment. And the club committees and executive board are making good strides.

*William Polhemus – NH6ET
President*

Big Island Amateur Radio Club

Technician License Class set

Doug Wilson's next Technician License Preparation Class starts on January 15.

If you know of anyone who is interested have them contact Doug at douscelle@aol.com.

Annual Report
Voice Repeaters Committee
Big Island Amateur Radio Club

Prepared by William Polhemus, Committee Chair

November 11, 2021

2021 committee members:

William Polhemus, Chair, NH6ET
Paul Ducasse, Station Trustee, WH7BR
Gary Schwiter, WH6EPS
Alan Okinaka, KH6ATU

The Big Island Amateur Radio Club's Voice Repeaters Committee respectfully submits this summarization of our activities to the General Membership of the club. This year, as seems to be typical, was not as productive as the committee desired; however, large strides were made on several large projects. The existing club infrastructure has experienced very little downtime in the past year, with the bulk of the outage hours occurring only this last week with the failure of our Pepeekeo repeater.

The linked repeater project is ongoing. The network elements have been purchased, and work parties will soon be scheduled for the installation of the microwave radios to connect the Pepeekeo site to the Kulani Cone site. This involved getting permission for several site owners, and a significant amount of systems engineering and planning. There are several additional planned phases to this project. Once this first phase is in place, we will be able to work on the next phase. The second phase is the one which consists of two subtending hub repeaters – one in Naalehu and one on the slope of Mauna Kea, high above Laupahoehoe. This will allow an operator to begin a QSO while driving in Discovery harbor and be able to continue talking all the way through the Kau, Puna, South Hilo, North Hilo and Hamakua districts.

We had hoped to complete phase 1 of this project by the end of the year. However, our Committee Chair forgot that special hardware is needed to attach anything to the very large Kulani tower legs. This hardware has to be special ordered, and will delay the project at least another month. However, the phase 2 goal remains to have that work completed by mid 2022.

The C4FM project, being led by committee guest and subject matter expert Les Hittner (K0BAD,) is moving along nicely. The new microwave radio link from Pepeekeo to Kulani Cone will allow us to link the installed Yaesu C4FM repeater on Kulani Cone to the rest of the Yaesu C4FM repeaters,

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which are in the process of being rolled out. The replacement of the Pepeekeo 2M FM repeater will allow the Yaesu C4FM capable repeater currently use there to be re-deployed as a C4FM repeater. The club has also re-deployed the Mauna Loa repeater as C4FM capable, through the YSF reflectors on the Pi-Star platform.

Additional projects are underway, such as a repeater installation for our friends at the Hawaii County Civil Defense Agency, and the building of a set of portable repeaters, including a cross band repeater. These portable repeaters will allow rapid deployment for not only planned events, but also in emergencies.

This past year we were able to support our partners with a work party at the Kulani Cone repeater site. This has helped to solidify our position as a partner to the site owner. We were happy to help, and I am thankful to those who lent a hand. That successful work party went very well, and did not go unnoticed by our peers. It is this type of effort which will continue to open doors for us to be able to home repeaters in ideal locations. Thank you again to those who helped.

We can never move as fast as we want. And we always bite off more than we can chew. But the progress is real, and we look forward to the fruits of our labor. We hope you do too.

Combined BIARC Executive Board Secretary and Education and Outreach Committee Report

November 13, 2021

This is a comprehensive report of my activities as both Executive Board Secretary and Chair of the Education and Outreach Committee.

Executive Board Secretary

I have continued to write meeting minutes primarily from the recordings of the Zoom sessions of the Executive Board meetings. In fact, I was even able to write a set of minutes for a meeting that I was unable to attend. I believe that even when we are able to again resume live in-person meetings, it would be wise to record these meetings. I found as Secretary that I have been able to more actively participate in these meetings when I did not have to record in writing and in real-time what was happening. I would certainly encourage future Executive Board Secretaries to do the same – and to merely make notes during the meeting of key items to watch for in the recordings.

Since keeping video copies of these meetings takes a lot of space in the club's Dropbox account, I have decided to transfer only the audio portions to Dropbox. I will pass entire video copies of Zoom Executive Board meetings to future secretaries on a USB drive or by other means.

I really look forward to resuming in-person Executive Board Meetings.

Education and Outreach Committee

The Education and Outreach Committee has been engaged in a number of behind-the-scenes activities throughout the year.

Media Coverage (Hawaii Tribune-Herald)

– Three members of the Executive Board met with reporters from the Hawaii Tribune-Herald in August. The article being prepared was to discuss the role of Amateur Radio in Public Service and Emergency Communications on Hawaii Island. This article was to serve as a follow-up on an earlier article (“Hamming It Up”) that discussed contest operation of ham radio enthusiasts. That article has not yet been published.

Media Coverage (Civil Beat) – Two members of the Executive Board met with a reporter from Hawaii Civil Beat, who also interviewed members of Hawaii County Civil Defense Agency. These Zoom meetings occurred the week of November 8-12. The reporter asked questions about many aspects of Amateur Radio Emergency Communications and how hams hope to work with government and non-government agencies during emergencies. We hope to see this article published in Civil Beat soon.

BIARC Lending Library – The BIARC Lending Library continues to grow. Doug Wilson has completed a transport table for the library that can be folded to fit into a car trunk or SUV back end. With adequate security locks the entire library could be contained on the table and safely stored at a meeting location (when in-person meetings can be resumed).

An index of the Lending Library contents will be included on the new BIARC website so that members can determine if reference books they are looking for can be checked out of the BIARC library.

Until in-person meetings are resumed, once-a-month Saturday morning checkout options will be made available in Hilo starting in January 2022.

New books are being added to the BIARC Lending Library nearly every month. If you wish to donate books, please contact me (k0bad@arrl.net).

License Classes – Technician Class License courses are being offered by Doug Wilson via Zoom. Please watch the BIARC website for details and dates. Remote testing opportunities are also announced and conducted as a part of these courses.

**Mahalo Nui,
Les Hittner, K0BAD**

BIARC Public Service Communications Committee

2020-2021 Annual Update

The BIARC PSCC continues to coordinate with public service groups and agencies involved in disaster response planning and emergency communications. Our primary partners have been the Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL/ARES), Hawaii County Civil Defense (HC CDA), and the Hawaii State Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (HVOAD) as well as the Hawaii Island Community Organizations Active in Disaster. (HICOAD) The following provides general information and a brief summary of our activities.

ARRL/ARES:

The PSCC is working together with the District Emergency Coordinators (DECs) of each of our 4 districts, as well as Clem Jung, KH7HO, our Section Emergency Coordinator. Tony Kitchen, WH6DVI has been assigned as the ARES Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator (ASEC) with operational responsibility for Hawaii County.

During this past year, ARES has coordinated and our members have participated in the Makani Pahili, Simulated Emergency Test (SET), and the Great Hawaiian Shakeout as well as numerous smaller exercises, nets, and drills. Participation from members of Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs), The Salvation Army, faith-based organizations, and other groups have increased island-wide. Training and nets have had an increased focus on the use of the hub and spoke set up for voice simplex operations, as well as digital modes, including APRS, Winlink, Packet, VARA, and others.

ARES, BIARC, HVOAD, and other groups with Amateur Radio operators have continued to work together. Through various working groups and committees we have set goals and objectives. We provide training, define activation and deployment guidelines, standardize operating procedures, and coordinate our simplex frequency and repeater usage.

Updates to the ICS-217A for Hawaii Island are ongoing, and the distribution of ICS-205s for various organizations and situations have been underway with the guidance and assistance of Hawaii ARES. We are working together to develop maps of stations, repeaters, and simplex frequency usage as well as contact rosters, guidelines, and checklists for deployment. Work is ongoing on EmComm net protocols and message handling.

Hawaii County Civil Defense Agency: (HCCDA)

Cooperation with HC CDA continues with the Siren Test Nets held both on DMR and the Hawaii Mainland AllStar network stations in the county. These nets support the County of Hawaii by providing “boots on the ground” information about the county sirens when they are tested on the first working day of each month at 11:45 HST.

BIARC will be updating our list of EmComm operators to HC CDA by the end of 2021. This list includes stations willing to assist HC CDA with ongoing needs related to EmComm as well as maintenance and other support. Stations interested in being on this list may provide their contact information to the PSCC. This is an important part of our MOU with HC CDA which was signed in 2020. We also encourage our members to support the Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS), which is headed by Doug Wilson, KH7DQ. BIARC PSCC members are also encouraged to support the needs of CERTs, by answering questions, working together on infrastructure, helping with EmComm related training, and joining the CERT in your community.

Hawaii State VOAD (HVOAD) & Hawaii Island COAD (HICOAD)

Hawaii State VOAD is the umbrella organization where groups providing disaster-related planning, response, and recovery efforts join in order to coordinate their activities and operate together as a unified group. Hawaii Island COAD is a division of HVOAD. (See HawaiiStateVOAD.org)

The BIARC PSCC participates in various workgroups and the regular meetings of these organizations to coordinate, train, and exchange information between various non-profit groups and government organizations. Our focus is on Emergency Communications.

BIARC is a voting member of both the HVOAD and HICOAD, and our members may serve on the boards and workgroups of each. BIARC members have participated in the Communications workgroup of HVOAD, as well as the Sub Radio and Sub Website workgroups. Tony Kitchen, WH6DVI is the Chair of the HICOAD Communications Work Group, and David Miller, KH6CZ is the representative between BIARC and HVOAD/HICOAD.

Kevin Bogan, AH6QO is the chair of the HVOAD Communications Work Group. He is responsible for the activation and operation of the Maunakea HVOAD repeater. The use of the Maunakea equipment is strictly controlled under the MOA with the Institute for Astronomy (IfA) Center for Maunakea Stewardship. HVOAD is allowed to hold a 1-hour repeater test net on the first Saturday of each month from 12:00 – 13:00 HST.

The Maunakea site is an EmComm only repeater. All stations must strive to follow the HVOAD Standard Operating Guidelines and directions of the Net Control Station. It is normally offline and may only be activated when the Hawaii Governor declares an emergency, and a wide range of emergency communications capabilities may be required. HVOAD/HICOAD members are invited to work with the chair of the Communications Work Group if they wish to plan and schedule communication exercises during this monthly test net.

Summary

The BIARC PSCC is committed to serving our communities. We need your help. Please contact the PSCC Chair, Tony Kitchen, WH6DVI at TonyKitchen808@gmail.com if you wish to join our efforts. We welcome your ideas and participation. Please reach out and become involved.

73,

***Tony Kitchen, WH6DVI
Chair, BIARC PSCC***

BIARC 2021 Budget & Operating Statement

	<u>2021 Budget</u>	<u>Actual– 1/1/2021 To 11/09/2021</u>
	\$1,500.00	\$1,451.00
	\$500.00	\$1,595.00
		\$12.89
Income:	<u>\$2,000.00</u>	<u>\$3,058.89</u>
Dues		
Repeater Fund Donations		
On-line Payment Fees*		
Total Income	\$325.00	\$323.20
	\$200.00	\$186.85
	\$25.00	\$0.00
Expenses:		
Club Liability Insurance	\$600.00	\$168.39
Club Equipment Insurance	\$370.00	\$96.25
Donations (PCC)	\$100.00	\$0.00
Equipment	\$50.00	\$113.00
Field Day	\$190.00	\$25.00
Printing (Membership Booklet)	\$50.00	\$3.50
Annual Build Project	\$40.00	\$45.04
P. O. Box Fee	\$50.00	<u>\$961.23</u>
VOAD Dues	<u>\$2,000.00</u>	
Office Supplies/Bank Fee/Misc.		\$2,097.66
Website Costs		
Total Expenses		\$4,407.15
		\$6.00
	as of: 11/09/2021	\$1.00
Excess (Deficit)		\$1,174.40

Bank of Hawaii Balance

Deposit Pending

Namecheap Balance

Paypal Account Balance

Fund Balances: (11/09/2021)

Repeater Fund \$2,526.97

Emergency Reserves \$1,000.00

General Fund \$2,061.58

Total Funds \$5,588.55

* 10% Convenience fee for on-line dues payments minus processing fees.

BIARC Semi-Annual Membership Meeting

November 13, 2021

Begin Meeting

William Polhemus called the Annual Meeting via Zoom to order at 1402.

The Quorum is 12 people. The following 22 members were in attendance: William Polhemus (NH6ET), Tony Kitchen (WH6DVI), Leslie Hittner (K0BAD), Robert Schneider (AH6J), Alan Okinaka (KH6ATU), Mel Uchida (KH6EKD), David Miller (KH6CZ), Paul Ducasse (WH7BR), John Bush (KH6DLK), Harvey Motomura (AH6JA), Leigh Critchlow (WH6LC), Joseph Rosenbaum (WH6FZH), Roy Kunishige (WH6FYK), Jimmy Love (WH6GEM), Gary Schwiter (WH6EPS), Kyle Matsuda (WH6FQQ), James Huntley (WH6FQI), Tom English (WH6EBS), Jeff Barker (NH6A), Jim Sugg (AH6AE), Glenn Kadota (AH6EI), Bev Gable (KH7LM), Jeremy Punsalan (KH7CN).

Unverified members present: Shannon

Board Member and Committee Chair introductions

New Business:

Report of the Nominating Committee

Paul Ducasse, the Chair of the Nominations Committee, noted that three members' terms expire at the end of 2021. These members are: James Huntley, Tony Kitchen, and Robert Schneider. He then announced the slate of nominees as presented by the Board's Ad Hoc Nomination Committee as follows: James Huntley, Tony Kitchen, and Roy Kunishige.

Nomination of Executive Board Members

William asked for additional nominations. There were none.

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

Jimmy Love **moved** and Robert Schneider **seconded** to approve the slate as presented by the Nominating Committee by unanimous consent. The motion **passed** with a unanimous vote.

William thanked Robert Schneider for his service on the BIARC Executive Board and to the Amateur Radio hobby in general.

The BIARC Executive Board members for 2022 are as follows:

Paul Ducasse (Custodian), WH7BR
Leslie Hittner, K0BAD
James Huntley, WH6FQI
Tony Kitchen, WH6DVI
William Polhemus, NH6ET
Roy Kunishige, WH6FYK
Jim Sugg, AH6AE

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Paul Ducasse expressed his desire to step down from the position of Station Custodian during or after 2022.

Upon hearing this, Jimmy Love **moved** and David Miller **seconded** to recommend that the Executive Board name William Polhemus to the position of Station Custodian when Paul Ducasse steps down. The motion **passed**.

C. Announcements

i. William Polhemus asked for people willing to volunteer to participate in a work party to the Pe-peekeo repeater site. On Sunday, November 14. The work party was organized.

William is confident that he can host an in-person Holiday Party at his classroom at the Community College. There are some limitations, but he feels he can deal with them. He asked for members to email him at William.polhemus@ieee.org or NH6ET@arrl.net. He will then work to register each individual for the December 11, 2021 in-person Holiday Party.

Executive Board Reports

President (Attached)

Treasurer (Attached)

John Bush **moved** and William Polhemus **seconded** that the club again budget the renewal of a three-year ARRL membership for William, V63YWR, who lives on Ulithi Atoll in the Federated States of Micronesia. The motion **passed**.

Jimmy Love **moved** that the Tony Kitchen be appointed as President of the BIARC Executive Board. Leslie Hittner objected, saying the motion was out of order. William Polhemus concurred and because there was no second, the motion died on the floor.

William Polhemus **moved** and Jim Huntley **seconded** to accept and approve the Secretary's statement that no business was conducted at the May 2021 Semi-Annual Membership meeting. Motion **passed**.

Secretary (Attached)

Standing Committees

Public Service Communications (Attached – Tony Kitchen, Chair)

Members: Tony Kitchen (Chair), Leslie Hittner, Paul Ducasse, David Miller, and Mark Watanabe.

Operating Activities (Roy Kunishige, Chair)

Members: Roy Kunishige (Chair), John Bush, John Bonewitz, Joe Rosenbaun, and Paul Ducasse

Roy Kunishige raised the following ideas for operating activities:

Winter Field Day, Regular Field Day, and possibly some Fox Hunting activities.

Programs (James Huntley, Chair)

Members: James Huntley (Chair), Bob Schneider, and William Polhemus

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A number of members suggested possible future program activities to the Committee Chair:

Jimmy Love: 30 second advertisements (Better suited for Education and Outreach - Secretary)

Roy Kunishige: Another antenna build project – a role-up Slim Jim.

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

Voice Repeaters (William Polhemus, Chair) and Digital Systems (James Huntley, Chair)

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

Members: (Digital Systems) James Huntley (Chair), Mel Uchida, Paul Ducasse, Gary Schwiter, and Jim Sugg.

William discussed the new backhaul microwave infrastructure beginning with Kulanani Cone and Pepekeo sites. He also described how this non-internet IP-based infrastructure can be used for several purposes including Fusion IMRS, AREDN Mesh. The system can also support an internet gateway to support those applications that require the internet.

Education and Outreach (Attached – Leslie Hittner, Chair)

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

Open Forum

Jeff Barker suggested that we consider writing ARRL Grant applications to install amateur stations in educational institutions. He is willing to help with such an effort.

Jimmy Love again suggested creating 30-second public service adds.

Alan Okinaka stated that we need to become less “clickish” and focus on less complex program presentations that might be available to non-hams and potential hams. Currently, presentations quickly move to complex and technical discussions to extend far beyond basic knowledge. Jimmy Love suggested a “newbies” Tech Net. Other members offered other suggestions: propagation, sponsor outward-facing events directed to others, coordinate with Doug Wilson, Include Amateur Radio topics in Community College Communications Electronics classes, supporting of amateur weather balloon activities.

Alan Okinaka also suggested that an index of quality U-Tube presentations about amateur radio equipment, etc. be indexed and placed into the Share Library.

Alan Okinaka wondered if it would be possible to obtain quality feedback about utility and other organizational disaster preparedness plans and activities.

Roy Kunishige wondered about the effectiveness of the Siren Nets. Has HCCDA acted on the information provided by the Siren Nets? William Polhemus stated that HIE-MA is the managing agency for siren installation and repair – and that the situation is locked in a bureaucratic quagmire.

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Emergency Battery Packs -There was a discussion about emergency batteries and battery packs.

Adjourn

There being no further business or discussion, William adjourned the meeting at 1623.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie Hittner, Secretary

Enc: State of the Club

Executive Board Secretary and Education and Outreach Committee Annual Report

BIARC 2021 Budget & Operating Statement

Repeater Committee Annual Report

Public Service Communications Committee Annual Report

Digital Systems Committee Annual Report

Education & Outreach Committee Annual Report