

Big Island Amateur Radio Club

BIARC Bulletin

January 2009

January 2009 President's Message

Hope that you all had a Merry Christmas and will have a Happy, Healthy New Year. Our annual Christmas dinner which was held at the Congregational Church in Kea'au on December 13th had approximately forty people in attendance. There was more than enough food and everyone enjoyed the socializing. We had two FCC guests at the dinner who are here to help with the Hawaii transition from Analog to Digital TV . June Gonzales a Deputy Project Manager currently from Honolulu and Jamison Prime an attorney from Washington DC explained what is going to be happening in the middle of January here in Hawaii. Someone from FCC will be doing our program for us in January as they are hoping that BIARC will be able to assist in this transition.

It has come to my attention that we have two Silent Keys that we have not mentioned in our newsletters. One is KH6FOO Russel Sakai and the other KH6BGE Florence Kumukahi. Both were members in the past according to our records. I never met either one so really can't tell you about them.

We included a membership form in the December newsletter for your convenience. We sure would appreciate your getting your dues in as early as possible for 2009.

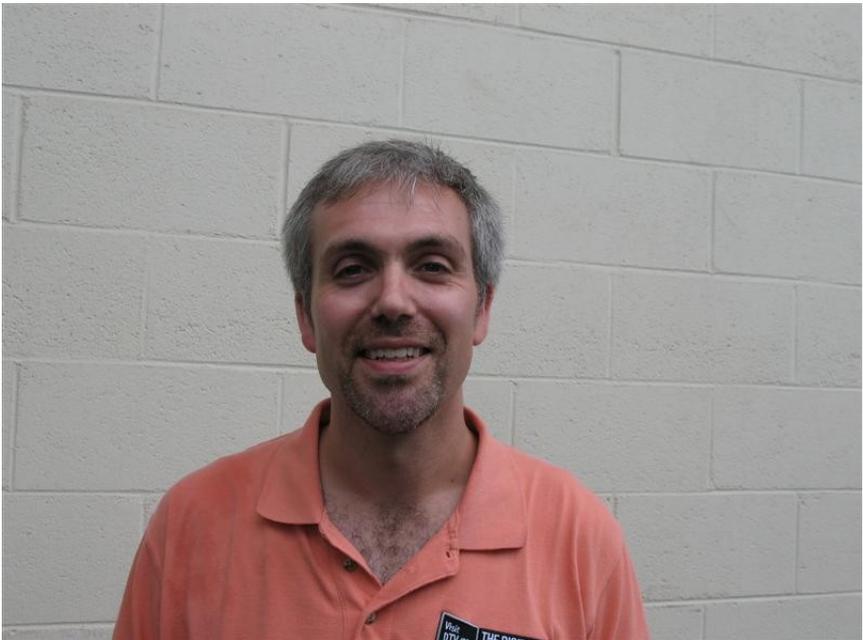
Rick WH6LU is going to be holding a class for potential Technician operators in January up in Hawaiian Acres. If you know anyone who would be interested please have them get in touch with Rick at 989-3106. Beau NH7WV has agreed to give him a hand with the class. Each person attending must have his own study book.

In January we will be having a Board meeting prior to the General meeting on January 10th at 1PM. And as I mentioned before FCC

will do the program for that month. Check out the Coming Events section below for information on the February program.

If you have ideas for programs for 2009 please get in touch with Paul WH7BR at 985-9222 or talk to him at one of the meetings. I know that Sidney NH7OD has already spoken for the month of March. We will be meeting at the Keaau Community Hall in 2009, except for a couple months that the hall has been rented out. (April 11th and June 13th). Will let you know where those meetings will be held.

Barbara NH7FY



FCC attorney Jamison Prime



FCC Project Manager June Gonzales

ARRL Section Manager's Report

[The SM report has been edited.: Some information relating to clubs not on the big island has been removed. The full report is available to ARRL members at www.arrl.org]

November 30 was the official end of hurricane season however storms or other disasters are always possible so always be prepared. As if to emphasize the point there was a Flash flood watch November 21 & 22, however the heavy rain resulted in only minor damage. Thanks to Kevin Bogan, AH6QO, for the alert.

Lloyd, KH6LC, and a crew consisting of Oliver, W6NV; Ken, N6KB; Curt, AH6RE; Fred, KH7Y and Goran, SM0DRD operated the CQWW CW Contest on Nov 29-30. Also operating the contest was John Peters, K1ER; Tetsuo, AH7C, and their crew on Oahu. Both were Multi 2 going head to head. At this writing the results were not out yet.

On Saturday Dec 6 there was a combined club breakfast at the Koa Shop Kaffee in Mountain View on the Island of Hawaii. Your SM attended. After the meeting some suggestions were sent to Pacific Division Director Bob Vallio for the upcoming January Directors meeting. It was announced that the Hilo ARC and Hawaii QRP club have elected Dean Manley, KH6B, as president, Max Zenobi, KH6ZM, as Vice President and Paul Lieb, KH6HME as Secretary-Treasurer. Thanks Dean, KH6B.

The Kohala Hamakua Radio Club met Wed Dec 10 in Waimea. Your SM went and helped with testing. One person passed his Technician License.

The Kona Amateur Radio Society will hold its next meeting & barbeque on Sunday December 21 at the OTEC beach park at NELHA from 2 PM to 5 PM. KARS continues to hold regularly scheduled meetings on the third Sunday of each month. Newly elected president is Van Malan, NH7IT; Vice President is Stu Johnston, KH7DX and General Member is Dewey Proietti, NH6M. The club repeater is 147.16+MHz which is tied into the BIWARN system. Last month on November 16 your Section manager attended. For more information or if you have any suggestions contact Van, NH7IT at 325-5223. Thanks Van

NEXT YEAR

On Sat. Jan. 3, please check-in on the State HF Health Comm Net. They meet monthly on the First Sat. at 9:00 AM. Please start on, alternate frequency 3.888 MHz, then go to primary frequency 7.088 MHz and finally try 5,371.5 KHz on 60meters. Thanks Jack, KH6DQ

The changeover from analog to digital TV will happen first in the state of Hawaii on January 15th with the rest of the country to follow shortly. The FCC would like to get some help for people still using analog over the air TV sets. The FCC Honolulu Agent, John Raymond, is contacting leaders in the Amateur Radio community and asking for their help. He and other agents will be trying to meet with several groups. The issue is how to instruct people to program and set up a converter box. The FCC hopes to assemble a technical base to provide hands-on assistance to those in need.

Public calls will be routed through local FCC DTV hot-lines, and then referred to participants in the immediate vicinity. The Oahu phone numbers for the DTV team are 808-541-2389 or 808-541-2390. You may also e-mail HawaiiDTVtransition@fcc.gov for further information.

There will be both an FCC Commercial and Amateur examination session on Saturday 17th January 2009. Pre-registration is required NLT 15th January 2009 @ 9 PM by phoning Lee @ (808) 247-0587 daily between 9 AM and 9 PM. At this pre-registration each applicant will be briefed as to what is expected. This is a W5YI exam team so the following fee increase may or may not be in effect.

In November the ARRL VEC has announced that beginning 1 January 2009; Amateur Licensing exam fees will increase by \$1.00 from \$14.00 to \$15.00 for each session. This is the first increase in fees in four years.

Thanks, Jim WH6GS

NEWS and VIEWS:

There are 2700 hams in Hawaii and about 3200 total in the Pacific Section.

Recently there have been discussions among section managers and ARRL staff on how to approach Frequency Coordination on VHF/UHF. Frequency Coordination is not an ARRL function nevertheless SM, Directors and staff are often looked to for answers in this area. ARRL suggested a band plan that is widely recognized and they published a repeater directory. In Hawaii there have been three frequency coordinators widely recognized. They were Jules Vetter, Pat Corrigan and now Rick Ching. The frequency coordinator received his authority from a vote of the major clubs who agree to follow his lead. Rick Ching, KH7O is recognized as a member of the National Frequency Coordinators' Council, Inc. NFCC. This coordinator has been certified by the NFCC and complies with the NFCC standards. An ARRL link at <http://www.arrl.org/nfcc/> provides more information on NFCC. Rick has performed this job very well and is to be commended for his fine work. Users should check, update and verify their information at least every two years via email to: kh7o@hawaii.rr.com . For

more information about repeaters in Hawaii go to:
<http://www.hawaiirepeaters.net/>. In the past a FC link was on the SM webpage. A new web-site is now up to date and the link is:
<http://www.hawaiirepeaters.net/coordinated.htm> . This new site has maps and listings. It is constantly being updated and improved. Be aware there is also an older webpage at:
<http://www.karc.net/HSRAC/> it is not as up to date however it contains some information missing on the new site. Your SM wants to publicly thank Joe Speroni for his many years of service in keeping information flowing on several websites which contain Frequency Coordination and other information of interest to us all.

73, Bob Schneider, AH6J - ARRL Pacific Section Manager



Deja vu all over again!
Barbara accepts the bouncing gavel back from Fred.

Big Island Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 1938
Hilo, HI 96721

Officers

President	Barbara Darling NH7FY	982-9126
Vice President	Paul Ducasse WH7BR	
Treasurer	Curt Knight AH6RE	966-8304
Secretary	Arman Wiggins WH6BVZ	963-6846

Two Year Directors

Beau Mills NH7WV	968-1271
Richard Fetchen KH6WE	982-7426
Kile Golden WH7FB	
Elizabeth Yoes WH7CU	
Chuck Epperson AH6SC	

One Year Directors

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

Standing Committees

Service/Awards co-chair	Harry Nishiyama	KH6FKG
Education	Ron Phillips	AH6HN
Emergency Coord.	Harvey Motomura	AH6JA
Equipment	Harry Nishiyama	KH6FKG
Health&Welfare	Fred Benardella	KH6FI
Hospitality	Gloria Whiteley	
Newsletter	Kile Golden	WH7FB
Programs	Curt Knight	AH6RE
Repeater	Paul Ducasse	WH7BR
Webmaster	Ron Phillips	AH6HN
	Curt Knight	AH6RE

Special Committees

Christmas Party Improvement co-chair	Committee	
Field Day	Harry Nishiyama	KH6FKG
Hamfest	Ron Phillips	AH6HN
co-chair	--Vacant--	
QSL Bureau	Bob Schneider	AH6J
	John Buck	KH7T
	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 – Check the opening page of the web site for the latest location information.

East Hawai'i Net

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

BIWARN accessible Repeaters

Repeaters in bold font are BIWARN/MCDA linked. When operating over a link, remember to leave extra time each transmission for the link to be established. Number in parentheses is the tone access frequency.

145.29-	HOVE-Ka'u WH6FC (100)
146.66-	HOVE (100)
146.68-	Kea'au limited area KH6EJ
146.76-	Kulani KH6EJ
146.82-	Mauna Loa ARES KH6EJ
146.88-	Pepeekeo KH6EJ (may be linked)
146.92-	Ka'u PD KH6EJ
146.94-	Haleakala Maui KH6RS (110.9)
147.02+	Haleakala Maui RACES AH6JA
147.04+	Mauna Loa RACES AH6JA
147.16+	Kona (Hualalai) WH6DEW
147.32+	Hilo Hospital NH7HI (100)
147.38+	Waimea East KH7T experimental
442.35+	Kaanapali Maui (136.5)
442.5+	Kea'au KH6EJ
443.65+	Ocean View Hub
444.225+	Haleakala Maui KH6RS (110.9)
444.45+	Parker Ranch KH6EJ (88.5)

Budget Committee Recommendation

The budget committee met on December 22 and recommends the following budget for 2009:

Insurance:	
Liability	325.
Equipment	100.
P.O. Box Rent	94.
Field Day	225.
Repeater:	
Maint. And Upgrade	500.
Health and Welfare	25.
Office Supply	75.
Printing	240.
Postage	250.
Christmas Party	100.
Social	100.
Misc.	51.
 Total	 \$2085.

This budget is based on the following expectations:

General Members (82)	1640.
Family members (15)	150.
Associate members (10)	100.
Student members (6)	60.
Donations	135.
 Total	 \$2085.



Coming Events

In setting up our programs for the first couple months, we had originally decided that we would just have an ice cream social on Valentines Day. Those plans have been set aside as I received a letter from Joe Owen KO4RR of Box Springs, Georgia. In the letter he stated that he and his wife Vicki N4WV are coming back

to Hawaii for about a month, staying in Kalapana. He was part of a DXpedition to the Sovereign Military Order of Malta in 2007 (using call sign 1A0KM) and he offered to do a short program for us on that trip. I wrote back to him and told him we would be delighted to have him do a program. He would like to have some audio visual equipment if possible as he isn't bringing that with him. Hopefully either Ted NH6YK or Harvey AH6JA may have some available for that day. (from Barbara NH7FY)



BIARC Restaurant Reviews

Our lunch on December 12th was held at Kuhio Grill. There were 8 in attendance. We were all able to sit together, the food was good, prices reasonable and service was good. On December 19th we returned to Coqui Hideaway on Kamehameha St, across from the Tsunami Clock. We were disappointed that we couldn't use the side room as there was a Christmas party being held there so we had to sit in the main dining room and could not all sit together. There were 18 in attendance which included two representatives from FCC. Service was good as was the food. On December 26th we are returning to Coqui and have been assured of having the side room. At our January meeting we will discuss where to go on a regular basis. (from Barbara NH7FY)



The oath of office is given for 2009

BIARC Radio Contest News

The contest news is compiled from your reports and using information gathered from the contesting.com web sites.

KH6LC had the high overall score in the **Stew Perry Warmup**. Now on to the real event the weekend after Christmas.

The big event last month was the **CQ Worldwide CW** contest. Conditions were only fair, with 10 meters almost nonexistent and 15 meters of limited use. **Bill KH7B** ran a single band 40 meter operation and made 2670 Qs in 39 zones and 126 countries for a score of 1311355 that put him close to the top of reported scores in this category. **Lloyd KH6LC** assisted by **N6KB**, **SM0DRD**, **KH7Y**, **W6NV**, and **AH6RE** put on a multi-operator 2 transmitter effort, making 5702 Qs, 148 zone multipliers, and 317 country multipliers for a score of 7815255, a little less than last year. The **KH6LC** crew would like to emphasize that contacts made via smoke signals from Lloyd's linear amplifier were not counted in the final claimed score.

The **ARRL 160** meter contest opened to fair conditions the first night that declined to poor the second night, at least in the Pacific and the western part of the US mainland. **KH6LC** was manned by **N6KB** and **AH6RE** using Curt's K3 radio, and Ken's Ten-Tec Titan amplifier was used in place of Lloyd's smoke-damaged amp. They eked out 559 Qs in 67 sections and 13 countries for 114880 points. The second night was particularly painful.

It takes a masochist to spend a lot of time on an affair like the **ARRL 10** meter contest with conditions like we have been having lately, but **Fred KH7Y** stepped up to the plate and made all of 95 Qs and 21 mults in the mixed high power category for a total score of 6300. If **Irene NH7PE** tried the contest in the low power category, she and Fred were not in direct competition and they may both get certificates this year.





A live display of digital television, demonstrating that signals from Hilo can almost be received 8 miles away in Kea'au.



Dave K1TTT is our most distant BIARC member. He has a huge station in western Massachusetts. Check out his maintenance log at:

<http://wiki.k1ttt.net/2008%20Maintenance%20and%20Upgrade%20Blog.ashx#Bottom>

and look at the dates around December 13 the next time you feel like complaining about the rain!

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