

Big Island Amateur Radio Club

Newsletter – April 2012

President's Message April 2012

Spring is here. Easter is early this year. I think that we have had more snow than many areas of the mainland this year as they are having a very mild winter so far.

Doug WH6DTD presented a very thought provoking program in March dealing with "How to handle our radio equipment after we go". My husband has decided to take his with him with head set on and all. He wanted to know if there was a weight limitation.

This past week we have lost another of our ham friends here on the Big Island. Scotty Beckstrom KH6AVF was known by many of us and will be missed. Also the chief on the island of Federai has passed away. A sympathy card was sent to the island from BIARC.

Our April 14th meeting will have Milt AH6I as our speaker with his topic "Aviation Electronics". Prior to the regular meeting there will be a repeater committee meeting at 1PM. Anyone interested in repeaters may attend.

Walter Anderson "Andy" W6WEF, a 95 year old ham, who lives with his son in Papaikou has donated two HF linear amplifiers to the club. A motion was made and approved by all to give Walter a one year membership in BIARC.

There was a rumor around that BIARC owns a climbing belt that people can use. If anyone knows anything about this belt we would certainly like to know its whereabouts. The club is not going to be the owner of such a belt as the liability to the club is too high. It was supposedly a belt that Fred KH6FI had owned. Please let us know if you have info regarding this belt.

It has been one year now since the devastating tsunami struck Japan. Just recently I received a large box of

QSL cards from Japan. While sorting them out I came across one with a picture of damage done by the tsunami. Under the picture was the message "Japan is grateful for the support of your country".

Happy Easter to all, Barbara NH7FY



Mauna Loa snow cover – thanks Darryl AH6TQ



February VE test session report

New HAM licenses issued 1 Mar 2012:

WH6DXE Donna Grabow
WH6DXF Lydia Meneses
WH6DXG Aukai Sewell
WH6DXH Darnell Mahi

General upgrade issued 1 Mar 2012:

WH6BR Collins Tomei

Congratulations, all.

-Milt, AH6I

Big Island Amateur Radio Club

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www.biarc.net

Officers

President	Barbara Darling NH7FY	982-9126
Vice Pres.	Doug Wilson WH6DTD	985-7540
Treasurer	Milt Nodacker AH6I	965-6471
Secretary	Bob Schneider AH6J	966-8146

One Year Directors

Beau Mills NH7WV	968-1271
Richard Fetchen KH6WE	982-7426
Paul Agamata WH6FM	315-7156
Elizabeth Yoes WH7CU	965-5429
Chuck Epperson AH6SC	966-4698
Rick Gardner WH6LU	

Two Year Directors

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

Standing Committees

Service/Awards	Ron Phillips	AH6HN
Education	Milt Nodacker	AH6I
Emergency	Paul Ducasse	WH7BR
Equipment	Lloyd Cabral	KH6LC
Health&Welfare	Barbara Darling	NH7FY
Membership	Richard Darling	AH7G
Hospitality	Beau Mills	NH7WV
Newsletter	Curt Knight	AH6RE
Programs	Doug Wilson	WH6DTD
Repeater	Paul Ducasse	WH7BR
Webmaster	Curt Knight	AH6RE

Special Committees

Improvement	Ron Phillips	AH6HN
Field Day	Robert Oliver	NH6AH
Hamfest	Bob Schneider	AH6J
co-chair	John Buck	KH7T
QSL Bureau	Barbara Darling	NH7FY

Meetings and Get-Togethers

Membership meetings – Second Saturday of each month at 2PM at the Kea'au Community Center

Board Meetings – will be held every other month 1 hour prior to the general membership meeting at the same location as the general meeting (January, March, May, July, September, November).

Friday Lunches – A group meets for lunch every Friday at 11:30 at Hokulani's Steak House in the mall at Kea'au near the Post Office.

East Hawai'i Net

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

BIWARN Accessible Repeaters

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

145.29-	HOVE-Ka'u WH6FC (100)
146.66-	HOVE (100)
146.68-	Kea'au limited area KH6EJ
146.76-	Kulani KH6EJ
146.82-	Mauna Loa ARES KH6EJ
146.88-	Pepe'ekeo KH6EJ (may be linked)
146.92-	Ka'u PD KH6EJ
146.94-	Haleakala Maui KH6RS (110.9)
147.02+	Haleakala Maui RACES AH6JA
147.04+	Mauna Loa RACES AH6JA
147.16+	Kona (Hualalai) WH6DEW (100)
147.32+	Waimea Hospital NH7HI (100)
147.38+	Waimea East KH7T experimental
442.35+	Ka'anapali Maui (136.5)
442.5+	Kea'au KH6EJ
443.40+	Ocean View KH7MS (77.0)
443.40+	Kona KH7MS (100.0)
443.65+	Ocean View Hub
444.225+	Haleakala Maui KH6RS (110.9)
444.45+	Parker Ranch KH6EJ (88.5)
444.9+	Hilo WH6FM WIN system (100)
444.775+	Hilo WH6FM XO system (123)

BIARC General Minutes for March 10, 2012

The general membership meeting was called to order by President Barbara Darling, NH7FY, at exactly 14:00W. There was a round of introductions. There were 21 people on the sign in sheet. John Buck, KH7T, from Waimea still has some license manuals left over if anyone wishes to purchase them. Blake Steen, KH7MS, from Kona made the long drive over to attend the meeting. Robert Oliver, NH6AH, reported on Field day progress. He is working on publicity at the moment. He has not downloaded the forms from the ARRL website and should do that in the next few days since they are now available. Robert Oliver also reported on progress at Hilo Hospital. As soon as the roof work is done he expects them to install a metal conduit to the roof near the west entrance. We already have a 200 foot run of coax to pull into the pipe. This will allow the low noise antenna to be located at the least noisy spot on the roof. There is RF noise from some of the hospital equipment and this should minimize the problem.

Barbara announced that Richard Darling, AH6G, is in the process of updating a new BIARC membership roster and it should be published to all members soon. She also said that Tommy Akin, KH6TA, and Cherub, KH6CA will be moving from Ewa Beach on Oahu to the Big Island when remodeling on their house is complete. Barbara said that Oleg from Russia sent his regards to the club members. Barbara also announced that the Chief of Federai Island (part of Ulithi atoll) has passed away. We expect more details to be available in the near future.

Walter Anderson, W6WEF, a 95 year old ham from Papaikou donated two HF linear Amplifiers to the club. After they are evaluated we hope to send them down to Federai with John Bush. They are a Heathkit SB200 and SB1000. The secretary wrote a thank you letter. Motion by Bob Schneider, AH6J and seconded by Robert Oliver, NH6AH to give Walter a one year BIARC membership. There was unanimous agreement.

The program was given by Doug Wilson, WH6DTD, on what happens to your stuff after you go. It explored some of the laws pertaining to inheritance, wills and probate. We took a break at 15:15 and returned to the meeting at 15:25. The refreshments were hosted by the Mills family. Be sure to donate to the kitty to help with supplies.

The meeting was called back to order at 15:25. The secretary's report was accepted as printed.

The treasurer, Milt Nodacker (AH6I) said we had \$3,901.53 at the end of February. This is an increase from last months \$3,498.11. This does not count additional money collected for a beginning total today of \$4021.53. The treasurer continued to collect dues during and after the meeting so we expect next month's total to be higher. Milt paid the \$300 for the use of the building for the International Hamfest on October 27. Two Hundred dollars is refundable and \$100 is the actual rent for the building. We now have 58 full members, 10 family, 4 associate and one student member for a total of 73 members as of this date. General membership dues are \$20 a year.

Paul Ducasse, WH 7BR, reported on the repeater status and said there will be a Pepeekeo work party on Saturday March 17. We will meet at 8AM at Puainako McDonalds and expect to be on site by 9AM. We have told Pacific Radio Group that we will try to help with the cleanup of the area when we visit the site. We don't have any idea why the repeater is down. We hope to fix that too.

Don't forget the ARES net tonight (every Saturday) at 7PM. We plan on switching to Mauna Kea (146.72-) shortly after check in. The Governor has declared a state of emergency due to the flooding so we turned on the Mauna Kea repeater in accordance with the agreement of when Mauna Kea can be used.

There will be a repeater committee next month (April 14) at 1PM just before the General membership meeting. It is open to everyone

The Kona Repeater (147.16+) is on the air and is at a private residence (Dewey) temporarily until permanent arrangements can be made. The Kona people have been turning the link on and off from time to time due to intermittent interference.

Barbara reported that the website will soon contain an updated membership list with phone numbers and e-mail address. It will also be published in the newsletter. The deadline for articles for the newsletter is still the 20th of the month.

Barbara reported that the KH6 Bureau received 2,252 QSL cards in February for a YTD total of 7,862 QSL cards.

We had VE testing on February 22. We got two new techs, two former techs and one upgrade to General for a total of five new licenses. The next class starts March 20. See Milt for details. The next exam will be May 1, 2012.

Milt has the new agreement ready for anyone that wants to borrow the club's FT890 HF radio and Astron Power supply.

The Hamfest is set for Saturday October 27 at the Keaau Community Center. The center is already reserved and paid for. There was some feedback from the Kona group. They like the event to be in Waimea. ARRL has already sanctioned the event. It looks like our Pacific Division Director, Bob Vallio will be here and possibly a staff person from ARRL headquarters.

There was a general discussion with no conclusions about the Field Day parts box, the MJF antenna analyzer, the communications monitor and loaning a climbing belt (the club doesn't own any). Next month's program will be about Aviation electronics especially communications and navigation. It will be presented by Milt AH6I.

Meeting adjourned at 15:50 W.

Respectfully submitted, Bob Schneider, AH6J



Hawai'i QSO Party

It's not too early to be thinking about participating in the annual Hawai'i QSO Party, currently scheduled for late in August. A draft of the rules for 2012 can be found at www.hawaiiqso.org



Magic Twanger

No, this isn't something from the old Andy's Gang TV

show, it's a CW key. It's not a paddle, and it's not a bug. It works by sending each dot and dash by alternately pushing the lever to the left and right, so a B would be sent by pushing L,RLR or I suppose R,LRL. My paddle fist is already bad enough that I didn't dare try it out.

<http://youtu.be/YYZazW9Ja1k>