



## **Big Island Amateur Radio Club Newsletter – May 2009**

### **President's Message**

It feels more like winter yet instead of spring. With all the rain the grass hasn't even been growing which suits me just fine. We're still using the flannel sheets on the bed and two blankets. We of course know that spring is here because Merry Monarch has arrived in Hilo.

Gloria Whiteley is still a resident at the Life Care Center. We haven't been to see her as much recently because we have been busy trying to get Annette Miller situated in a home. If our prayers are answered by tomorrow (4/18) she will be a resident in the new VA Home next to the hospital. Kelly McGrew will eventually give me a list of available equipment from Eddie's house. He has been very busy having his house built on 6<sup>th</sup> St. in HPP. We're glad to have him back in our area. Now we're waiting to see if Joe and Vicki from Georgia have bought their property and when they will start building.

At our last meeting it was decided that we will be meeting at the Hukalani Steakhouse in the Keaau Shopping Center on Fridays at 11:30AM. We have really been enjoying the food and Russ the chef, formally with Disney in Orlando, has been stopping by the table to make sure we are satisfied with the food and has asked for our suggestions.

Paul WH7BR has been doing a great job lining up terrific

programs for us. The 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary program on the Mauna Loa flow, done by Frank Trusdale a volcanologist at HVO, was outstanding. Even though we weren't here for the happening quite a few of our audience were here and they thoroughly enjoyed hearing his report.

Richard AH7G has now been officially designated as an ARRL DXCC card checker. He suggests that you go to the ARRL website and read card checking information to see what it entails.

Speaking of QSL cards, today we received a box from Japan with over 4,000 cards. Some of you guys/gals are really burning up the airwaves, at least to Japan. At least the last two shipments from there have not come in those big canvas bags.

Hope you all had a Happy Easter and are ready for spring now. Richard and I are both getting over a virus and we hear that many others have been having colds and viruses too. Get well quick.....

73 Barbara NH7FY



## **May Meeting Program – Mike Last**

Mike (NH7JT) will be our featured speaker at the May meeting. He will give an informative talk on various subjects (not to exceed 45 minutes); which will include: voltage drop; a very easy way to measure instantaneous power at your home; solar water heating-how will I know if I'm saving money? (The principles presented are the basis for evaluation, and applicable to any type of electrical energy savings proposal.) As a bonus- there will be available for distribution a high quality handout. This talk will be presented only once, don't miss out. Operators are standing by!



**Big Island Amateur Radio Club  
General Membership Meeting  
April 11, 2009**

General meeting was called to order by Barbara Darling NH7FY at 2:17 pm. Introductions were made.

Barbara Darling announced the passing of Ray Hicks WH6CME who was residing in Idaho with his daughter. A moment of silence was observed.

Barbara Darling asked for any questions or comments on the March minutes as printed in the newsletter. Hearing none they will be accepted as printed.

The treasurer, Curt Knight AH6RE, was not present but his report via email is as follows:

TOTAL ASSETS	3,088.68
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2009 Year to Date

Income

Donations	
Refreshments	34.83
Repeater	230.00
Total Donations	264.83

Membership Dues

Associate	30.00
Family	110.00
General Membership	1,380.00
Student	10.00
Total Membership Dues	1,530.00

Total Income	1,794.83
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Expense

Bank Service Charges	5.00
Dues and Subscriptions	35.00
Equipment Insurance	72.00

Postage and Delivery	84.00
Printing and Reproduction	39.12
Repeater Maintenance	520.00
Returned Check	20.00
Refreshments	77.17
Total Expense	852.29
Net Income	942.54

Report will be approved subject to audit.

Kelly McGrew is making an inventory of all of Eddy Miller's W7GMH (SK) radio equipment and will be making it available for possible sale to BIARC members.

As of right now next months meeting will be back in Keaau.

John Buck KH7T gave the repeater report. The Hualalai 147.16 MHz repeater is in for repairs after a near lightning strike scrambled some of the electronics. When it is reinstalled it will require a 100 Hz tone to access. And it will have double its current battery capacity when it is operational.

Health & Welfare: Gloria Whiteley is still in Life Care and doing much better. She enjoys visitors, so stop by.

Ann Miller is still in Hilo Hospital wrestling with the State Veterans Home about admitting her. She is not well enough to go home and may have to go to Life Care if things don't work out. She would welcome visitors.

Barbara NH7FY passed on a question from Curt AH6RE about whether the Hukalani Steak House in Keaau would become the permanent Friday luncheon site. Someone suggested that it be considered the permanent site of the Friday luncheon and the consensus of those present concurred. It will be posted on the web site so that visitors to the area can connect with club members.

Old Business: Barbara NH7FY mentioned that the turnout at Eddy Miller's funeral was very good. Ann Miller was pleased with

the way services were conducted.

New Business: Rick Gardner WH6LU mentioned the 10 meter net on Monday evenings at 6:30 pm local time on 28.487 Mhz. Irene Kubica NH7PE is net control. All are encouraged to check in.

Richard Darling AH7G asked if any of the members were receiving an email prior to the BIARC meeting from Hawaii DX association announcing their meeting. We are trying to figure out the source of this email. John Buck KH7T said that Harry Nishiyama KH6FKG (SK) had started it and it was on automatic. Richard said they would find a way to stop the emails.

Barbara announced that Richard AH7G is now the official DXCC card checker. John Buck KH7T expressed his condolences.

John KH7T mentioned that earlier in the day at the Hawaii County Civil Defense booth that was being manned by some of our BIARC members that he had a chance to talk with Bill Hansen of Civil Defense. Bill mentioned that there is now a federal mandate for interoperability for the various radio services which he believes includes amateur radio.

John also said because commercial radio stations, due to cost considerations, are now connecting their studios to their transmitters via the internet there is a real possibility that they won't be on the air in an emergency. This makes amateur radio even more important for emergency communications.

John also suggested that the club should come up with a comprehensive plan to make our linked repeater system completely independent of all power and phone lines. Also there is a greater possibility in the current political environment that funding for upgrades could be available.

Paul Ducasse WH7BR said that Mike Last NH7JT would be giving the presentation at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm.

Submitted by: Arman Wiggins WH6AW

## Harry Nishiyama Equipment Sale

The following equipment from the estate of Harry Nishiyama KH6FKG is being sold. For more information, please contact Sue Nishiyama at 808-959-8863 between 8 AM and 4 PM Hawaii time.

Kenwood TS-850S \$750.00 Nice. manual, no cw filter or tuner

Kenwood PS-52 supply for TS-850 \$150.00

Kenwood MC-60 desk mic for TS-850 \$50.00

Kenwood TS-830 \$275.00 Manual

Kenwood VFO-230 \$75.00

Kenwood MC-50 mic for TS-830 \$50.00

Kenwood TS-830 \$275.00

Kenwood SP-520 Speaker. \$40.00

Kenwood TS-430S \$300.00 Nice. Manual

Kenwood PS-430 Supply for TS-430 \$100.00

Kenwood TM-2550A 2 Meter FM xcvr \$75.00

Henry 2K-4 Linear Amp \$650.00

Kenwood TL-922A Linear Amp \$800.00 Nice

Collins 312-B5 Wattmeter/phone patch \$125.00

Heathkit SA-2040 Antenna tuner \$150.00

MFJ Versa Tuner \$75.00

Viking Phone Patch \$20.00

Drake KW Lowpass filter \$10.00

Ham-M Rotator \$200.00

TailTwister Rotator \$300.00



## ARRL Section Manager's Report

[The SM report has been edited owing to space limitations. Information about clubs not on the big island has been removed. The complete SM report is available to ARRL members on the ARRL web site.]

This report covers Mid March 2009 to Mid April 2009. During this period there was heavy rain on most islands and two medium earthquakes on the Big Island as well as several larger ones around the rim of the Pacific. April is Tsunami Awareness Month in

Hawaii. It was on April 1, 1946 that Hawaii suffered a Tsunami generated from a giant earthquake in the Aleutian Islands. These Tsunamis can be generated anywhere in the Pacific for example the May 22, 1960 Tsunami came from off the coast of Chile.

Ron Hashiro, AH6RH, has been keeping up with the proposed Oahu Cell phone prohibition bill. With the help of a dedicated core group, the Honolulu City council has been convinced to modify it to exclude Amateur Radio operators. A similar bill is pending in the County of Hawaii and the State legislature. Continued vigilance is necessary to make sure this type of law doesn't pass unchallenged and result in operating prohibitions for Ham Radio. Please see:

<http://ronhashiro.htohanenet.com/am-radio/in-hawaii.html>,  
[www.qsl.net/ah6rh/am-radio/in-hawaii.html](http://www.qsl.net/ah6rh/am-radio/in-hawaii.html). or  
<http://www.qsl.net/ah6rh/am-radio/cellular-phone-ordinance.html>  
for more information. There are also quite a few other web links imbedded in Ron's web pages that clarify the issues.

Pacificon 2009, the annual ARRL Pacific Division Convention, will be held along with Emcommwest, on May 1-3, at the Circus Circus Hotel in Reno, NV. See the Pacificon web site for more info. In the past Pacificon was held on the third weekend in October but the Mt. Diablo ARC could not negotiate the hotel this year so it was moved. <http://www.emcommwest.org/> A late report is that Tom Van Stavern of the FCC will not be there. A good number of ARRL officials will be there.

Laura Smith was named to fill the vacant position of Riley Hollinsworth, K4ZDH last quarter. Laura does not have a Ham license yet. She is expected to be at the Dayton Hamvention May 15-17. On 3/20, President Barack Obama announced his intention to nominate FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein to serve as Administrator for the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), of the USDA; the nomination will need to be confirmed by the US Senate. It is expected that Adelstein will not leave the five-member Commission until at least one of the three Commissioner vacancies is filled, since his departure would leave the FCC without a quorum. In other FCC news the FCC Clarifies What Constitutes an Amateur Radio Repeater. In December 2007, Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU, President of the Northern California Packet

Association (NCPA), filed a Petition with the FCC, asking for the Commission to clarify the definition of a repeater. According to Part 97, Section 3(a)(39). A repeater in the amateur service is a station that simultaneously retransmits the transmission on a different channel. Mitchell sought clarification on the word simultaneously, asking if it referred to the signal information being retransmitted, or to the fact that the receiver and transmitter must both be active at the same time while acting on the same signal information. On March 23, 2009, the Commission clarified that even if there is a slight delay between what is received and transmitted, as in the case of D-STAR or other digital means, it is considered simultaneous if the receiver and transmitter are both active at the same time.

The Kohala Hamakua Radio Club, an ARRL affiliated club, met Wednesday April 8 at 1900W (7PM HST) at the Lucy Henriques Medical Center in Waimea. Contact Steve, WH6N or Norm NH7UA for more information. Their web site is:

<http://aditl.com/ham/khrc/index.html> . Norm, NH7UA has forwarded the webpage for the training manual for the Canadian equivalent of ARES. It is called the RAC group. It is 16 Megs long but can be down loaded in smaller chunks from:

<http://www.rac.ca/fieldorg/RACARESTrainingManual.htm>

Before the meeting Norm installed AGW tracking software so that now they have ARPS fixed station capability for KH6KCC. This will give yet another communications mode and will enhance emergency communications capability. Tnx Norm, NH7UA.

The Hilo Amateur Radio Club & Hawaii QRP Club, both ARRL affiliated clubs, meets daily about 9AM at Jack in the Box Hilo.

Their website is: <http://www.chem.hawaii.edu/uham/higrp.html>

There will be a mini dxpedition on Saturday April 25 for the 16th annual Moku Ola Island dxpedition. The Station will be AL0HA.

The Hawaii DX Association in Hilo, an ARRL affiliated club, meets irregularly. The new DXCC checker is Richard Darling, AH7G.

The Kona Amateur Radio Society of Kailua Kona, an ARRL affiliated club, meets on the third Sunday at 2PM at the OTEC beach park at NELHA. They met April 19th. The informal meeting was followed by a potluck. Every month is a different food theme. This month's pot luck meeting was healthy food. The club voted to

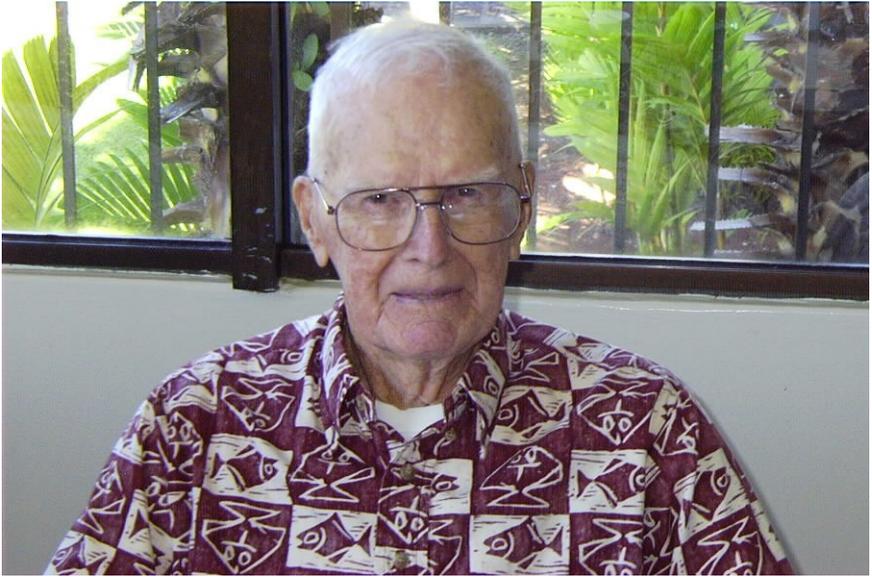
endorse Rick Ching as Frequency Coordinator. If you have questions contact Van, NH7IT at 325-5223. Their website is: <http://www.cfht.hawaii.edu/~veillet/hwars.html>

The South Point ARC, an informal non-affiliated club, meets on the first Sunday of each month at 12 noon at the Manuka State park on Highway 11 just north of Ocean View. It is a potluck event. Contact Rick, WH6FC, for more information. Their website is: <http://www.fastnethi.com/norm/sparc/sparc.html>

The State Health Comm. Net meets on the first Saturday of each month at 9AM. Check-in if you can, especially if you are at a Hospital or medical facility. Please start on the alternate frequency of 3,888 Khz then go to primary 7,088 KHz and finally change to 5,371 KHz on 60 meters. Remember this is Center Channel Frequency since 60 meters is channelized. Thanks Jack, KH6DQ & Jeff, KH6O

On Saturday August 8 there will be the Hilo ARC Hamfest at Wailoa River State Park. It is an all day informal affair with a potluck lunch at 11AM. Tail gate Flea Market all day. Coffee, soda & Juice provided. They plan to have a small HF station in operation.

Saturday September 12th is the Big Island International Hamfest at the Waimea Community center in Waimea (aka Kamuela) from 10AM to 2PM with doors open for setup at 9AM. There will be ARRL sponsored Amateur Radio Amateur License exams at a time to be determined around noon. Please note that this is a non commercial event that promotes the trading of equipment and information. It is open to the public to promote the open exchange of information concerning the benefits of exploring Ham Radio as a hobby. The event is free however everyone must sign in at the door and any donations will be used to defer costs. Talk in will be on the BIWARN repeater system. In Waimea & Kona the best frequency should now be 147.16+ because as of this writing, a group is expected to reinstall that repeater back on top of Hualalai on Sunday April 26. Contact name: John Buck, KH7T, at phone 808-885-9718 or email at: [kh7t@arrl.net](mailto:kh7t@arrl.net). The event Web URLs: <http://www.biarc.net> and <http://www.arrl.org/sections/PAC.html>



**Raymond L Hicks WH6CME  
1914 – 2009**

Raymond L. Hicks WH6CME was born on January 22, 1914 and died on March 22, 2009 at the age of 95. His wife Lucille predeceased him. He had one daughter Sandra Collins, 2 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren. The main job that he retired from was as a warehouse foreman for a distributor. Ray started out his radio years as a Novice and became a Technician in 1991. When he was in his 80's he got a physician's letter asking that he be excused from doing the code so that he could obtain his General license. He went on to study for his Extra Class license which he obtained at age 87. Ray was quite active on the morning 2 meter net. When he didn't show up we always wondered if he was okay. A couple years ago the family moved back to the Boise, Idaho area. Ray was always a very soft spoken gentleman. We sure did miss Ray and I know that he was always thinking of us by the frequent phone calls he made here. His daughter Sandra asked me to send her regards to everyone in BIARC. -Barbara NH7FY



# Big Island Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 1938  
Hilo, HI 96721

## Officers

President	Barbara Darling NH7FY	982-9126
Vice President	Paul Ducasse WH7BR	985-9222
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	982-6782
Elizabeth Yoes WH7CU	965-5429
Chuck Epperson AH6SC	966-4698

## 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	Vacant	
Education	Ron Phillips	AH6HN
Emergency Coord.	Harvey Motomura	AH6JA
Equipment	Vacant	
Health&Welfare	Fred Benardella	KH6FI
Hospitality	Barbara Darling	NH7FY
Newsletter Programs	Kile Golden	WH7FB
Repeater	Curt Knight	AH6RE
Webmaster	Arman Wiggins	WH6BVZ
	Ron Phillips	AH6HN
	Curt Knight	AH6RE

## Special Committees

Christmas Party Improvement co-chair	Committee	
Field Day	Harry Nishiyama	KH6FKG
Hamfest co-chair	Ron Phillips	AH6HN
QSL Bureau	Peter Yoes	WH7CB
	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** – A group meets for lunch every Friday at 11:30 at Hokulani's Steak House (formerly Charlie's) 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 each transmission for the link to be established. Number in parentheses is the tone access frequency.

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

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**Hilo, HI 96721**

**USA**