

Big Island Amateur Radio Club



Newsletter – May 2012

President's Message

After listening to Doug WH6DTD present our March program on "What to do with our radio equipment after we're gone" I thought it was interesting that we received our MARCH CQ magazine and on page 72 there was an article titled "A Most Sensitive Topic and the Pre-Estate Sale Idea" written by Wayne Yoshida KH6WZ. It seems that this topic has come at a time when we are being reminded right and left that we should be thinking about this topic. In the past month or so we have lost three of our amateur radio friends. Scotty Beckstrom KH6AVF was the first with Ted Ross AH6GD following. The other night our very good friend Ron Phillips AH6HN passed away too. Ted's wife Lorryne will be moving to the mainland to live with one of their sons and they have donated all of Ted's radio and radio book collection to BIARC. At the present time Milt AH6I, who has been appointed as our caretaker of BIARC radio material, has all this equipment stored in his garage. We will have to decide what is to be done with it and further equipment that is donated to the club. We are hoping to have some of our new ham radio people take advantage of the material. We have no idea how much of the equipment is in good usable condition but I'm sure it will be put to good use.

On April 1st Richard and I attended a concert in Kamuela. One of the groups to present a few pieces was a Madrigal group led by Christian Veillet F5IDM. He is an astronomer in Kamuela who has done programs for us in the past. After the program we were able to talk to Christian and he has volunteered to do a program for us again. Doug, our Vice-President is getting in touch with him to see if he can fill our one last program slot in July. Our program next month will be by Jim Kennedy K6MIO who will speak on "What's Going on in the Current Solar Cycle". Jim has done programs for us in the past and I'm sure he'll have some interesting info for us this time too.

After three years of doctors and tests Richard AH7G will be having hip replacement surgery on April 27th in

Honolulu. We will be in Honolulu for a couple days for the surgery. We aren't sure about the rehab yet, but imagine it will be here in Hilo as an outpatient. We have a friend coming to stay at the house to take care of our Rascal cat.

Wilbur KH7E took a fall at home and broke his arm. He was trying to clean a window while standing on a plastic chair. Household accidents are responsible for many such problems so please be careful. As we get older it doesn't take much for a bone to break.

Barbara NH7FY



Dean KH6B, Scotty KH6AVF, and Russ KH6JRM score Oleg KH6OB's exam

Big Island Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 1938

Hilo, HI 96721

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	Vacant	
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	Vacant	
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 April 14, 2012

The general membership meeting was called to order by President Barbara Darling, NH7FY, at 14:05W. There was a round of introductions. There were 26 people on the sign in sheet with at least one missing; Wilbur, KH7E. Be sure and sign in as that is how we get a count of attendance.

Mike Last, NH7JT, from Naalehu is running for the State Senate. Sunday April 15 there was a memorial service for Scotty, KH6AVF, at Laupahoehoe. The funeral for Ted Ross, AH6GD was attended by several members and friends from BIARC. Under health and welfare Wilbur Carlson, KH7E (the one that didn't sign in) had a fall and broke his arm. Maybe that is why he didn't sign in. He seemed OK in the meeting. Also Larry Sell's, AH6SK, wife Barbara broke her arm. We hope they get better quickly.

Milt Nodacker, AH6I, gave a program on aviation electronics including HF communications, VHF/UHF communications, navigation, radar ID, fly by wire and other systems as well as a brief history. After that there was a break with refreshment furnished by the Mills family. Janet Mills, NH7AK, did a fantastic job and was given a round of applause at the end of the meeting.

The business part of the meeting was called back to order at 15:20W by Barbara. The secretary's report was accepted as printed. The treasurer, Milt Nodacker (AH6I) said we had \$4,007.30 at the end of last month. As of now, with expenses paid and new memberships, we have \$4027.30. At the beginning of the meeting we had 69 regular, 11 family, five associates and one family membership for a total of 86 members. With the addition of three family and four associate members paid today we now have 93 members.

Paul Ducasse, WH7BR, said that just before the regular meeting the repeater committee met. While the committee discussed many aspects of the BIWARN repeater system, the main changes are the addition of a new battery backup and charger controller at Kulani.

Barbara reminded everyone that articles for the newsletter should be in by the 20th of the month. The club distributes the newsletter by e-mail so it is important that everyone give the club a current e-mail address. She reported that the QSL bureau received 2,852 cards in March for a total of 10,714 for 2012.

Milt said there are two ongoing license classes. Contact him for more details. He also said he is running a "Go to meeting Session" with six people on three islands participating. Next Exam will be Tuesday May 22 at Orchidland LDS church. After that, the next exam will be at the BIARC Field Day at Wailoa Center on June 23.

Jim Kennedy, K6MIO, will be the speaker at the next BIARC meeting on May 12 and will talk on what is going on in the current solar cycle.

There was a past resolution in effect to pay up to \$800 for the new batteries and charge controller for Kulani. Doug Wilson, WH6DTD made a motion to revise the amount to \$905.25 which was the actual cost. Motion seconded by Larry Sell, AH6SK, and unanimously passed.

Barbara reported that when she came to get the key for the building, she was told that it had been rented for the day of our meeting and the lady forgot to tell us. Later Margaret, the lady in charge, called back and said the people that rented the building had canceled. There was a discussion if we should ask for the right of first refusal should the building be rented on our meeting day. There was no decision. We have paid for the building for our October 27 Hamfest to make sure the building is available.

Robert Oliver, NH6AH, reported that field day preparations are well underway. He has secured the Wailoa Center, asked for a mayoral proclamation, and started working on publicity.

There was a discussion on what do we do with donated equipment such as the Ted Ross estate. There was no conclusion and the matter was deferred to later.

There was a discussion if we should put up a station at Hawaii Volcano National Park in August for the Hawaii QSO party. Again there was no conclusion and the matter was deferred to later. One question that came up was if we do go to the park, where would we go.

The meeting was closed at exactly 16:00W.
Respectfully submitted, Bob Schneider, AH6J



Field Day – coming in June



Ted Adams Ross AH6GD (1923-2012)

Ted was 88 years old when he passed away on March 17 at home. He was born in Point Richmond, California. He was a retired central communications operator for Pacific Telephone. He was a member of Glad Tidings Church, Sonar Men of America, Telephone Pioneers and the Big Island Amateur Radio Club. He was a veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Navy during World War 2 while serving on the USS Muskogee in the battle of Leyte Gulf. He is survived by his wife Lorryayne of Hilo, sons Dennis of Lakeview, Oregon and Terrance of Simi Valley, California, five grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Ted was a member of BIARC since 1995 as far as I could tell from our records. He preferred to operate CW but did get on the 2M net for many years always giving the weather from downtown Hilo. He will be missed by the ham radio community. AH6GD is now a Silent Key.
- Barbara NH7FY



as it has in the past. Please plan to attend and participate!



Field Day 2011



William Scott Beckstrom KH6AVF (1944-2012)

Better known to us in the radio community as Scotty he always lived up to his call sign, KH6AVF (Always Very Friendly). Scotty was a young 67 when he passed away on March 15, 2012. He was born in Louisiana and was a retired freight delivery driver. Some of us also know that he worked for Hertz Car Rental in Hilo. He is survived by his brother John from Oahu and two nieces. A memorial breakfast was held on April 7th at the Lava Rock Café in Volcano by his ham radio friends and a memorial was also held at Laupahoehoe Park on April 15th. Scotty was a member of BIARC in past years and will be missed by his ham radio friends.
Barbara NH7FY



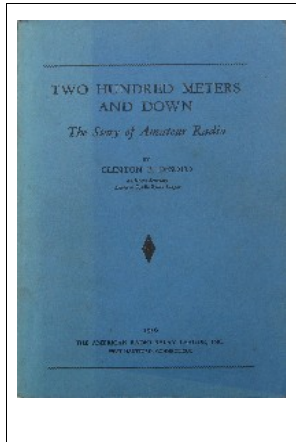
Field Day will be the weekend of 23 and 24 June, 2012. BIARC will hold Field Day at the Wailoa Center in Hilo

A Little Amateur Radio History

People entering our hobby today are bombarded with a seemingly overwhelming amount of new information to peruse and absorb. First, there's the licensing hurdle to overcome, which includes mounds of new terminology to decipher, not to mention all the advertising and specifications for that new equipment we all crave so badly.

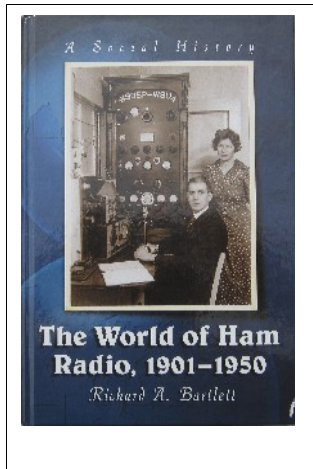
Generally speaking, most everything a new ham encounters is focused on getting his/her license, setting up a station, and hopefully getting on the air. There's an old saying which goes something like this...."it's hard to know where you're going unless you know where you came from". This same logic can be applied to our hobby today. It's certainly beneficial for a new ham to spend a little time gathering a bit of knowledge and understanding of how our hobby has evolved to the point it is today. With a little reading you'll be surprised at all the little nuances of our hobby you'll suddenly understand. There are several excellent publications available which will help provide that badly needed history lesson and perspective.

First on my list of recommended reading would be the ARRL publication "Two Hundred Meters and Down" written in 1936 by Clinton DeSoto.

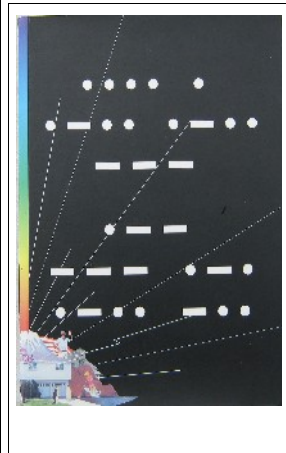


It's available at the ARRL Bookstore. I'll guarantee that once you start reading it you won't be able to put it down. It should be considered mandatory reading for any new ham, it's that good.

My second recommendation would be "The World of Ham Radio, 1901-1950" by Richard Bartlett. As the title implies, this hardbound book looks at the first 50 years of our hobby, its social history

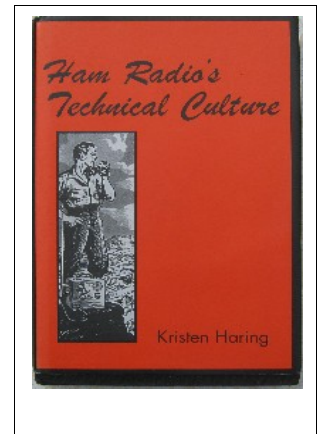


and amateur radio's contribution to worldwide communications. There are lots of stories of how early traffic networks were developed, how amateur radio was used by early explorers such as Richard Byrd and Charles Lindbergh, as well as the Dolebirds, the first ill conceived trans-pacific air race in 1927.

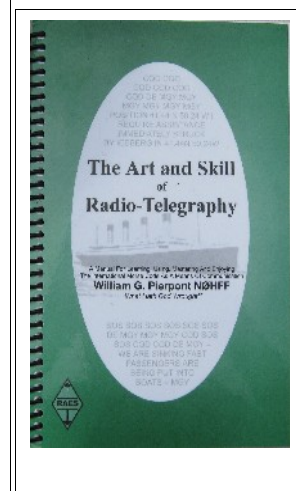


their accompanying stories. If you enjoy looking at old QSL cards, this book is for you!

Another book out is "Ham Radio's Technical Culture" by Kristen Haring. While lacking any great depth, Kristen's book touches on a number of subjects. It basically tells the story of early amateur radio operators profound effect on society, the military, their contribution to the electrical and electronic manufacturing industry as well as the application and marketing of those products. Early on, many hams were often the leading technical experts in those areas.



There are two other publications currently available which I feel obligated to mention. While both offer some insight into our hobby, neither offers much in the way of new information that's not covered in the publications mentioned above. The first is "Hello, A Life in Ham Radio" by Danny Gregory and Paul Sahr. What little historical value it offers is presented in a visual display of old QSL cards and



along with many tips for learning, using, mastering and enjoying Morse Code as a means of radio communication. I highly recommend it.

Finally, this article couldn't (or wouldn't) be complete without the mention of radio telegraphy. Yes, the Morse Code, continuous wave, CW for short. Like it or not, it's an undeniable part of our history. While there have been numerous books and articles written about radio telegraphy, I feel none is better than this one: "The Art and Skill of Radio-Telegraphy" by William G. Pierpont N0HFF. This small booklet contains a wonderful mix of historical short stories

It's my hope that by reading up on our history, you'll

come away with a greater appreciation of how we got to where we are today and the trials, tribulations and sacrifices our founders made getting us here.

Lloyd Cabral, KH6LC



Ronald C Phillips AH6HN (1934 – 2012)

Ron Phillips AH6HN died in the evening on April 18. He was a past Section Manager of the ARRL Pacific Section, and a long time and very active member of BIARC. Check next month for a more complete story.



10-10 International Net will have their Spring Digital QSO Party the last full weekend of April, this year April 28 and 29.

Their Spring QSO Party will be the first weekend in May, this year May 5 and 6.

The Open Season PSK QSO Party will be the first full weekend in June, this year June 2 and 3.

All QSO Parties run from 0001 UTC to 2359 UTC over their two days. Suggested frequencies are for RTTY 28.086 MHz, PSK 28.120 MHz, and CW 28.050. Look for more information at www.10-10.org (this is a new web address).

The Aloha Chapter of 10-10 meets Monday evenings at 6:30 PM HST on 28.490, with 28.487 as an alternate frequency. Everyone with privileges on this frequency is invited to join us. The Ali'i Chapter on Kaua'i meets at noon on Saturdays on 28.730. Ten-ten international net meets every day except for Sunday at 8:00 AM HST on 28.380 and 28.800. These nets are based on the mainland. In addition, there are about 80 other chapters of 10-10 that meet each week. Check the web site for details. If you hear us, join us!

Irene NH7PE