

BIG ISLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



Newsletter – August 2012

President's Message August 2012

It was with great sadness that I reported the death of our dear friend and fellow ham operator, Paul Lieb KH6HME. He will not only be missed by the hams here in Hawaii but around the world. I am hoping that next month we will be able to devote a good portion of our newsletter to Paul as we have many great pictures and there are many things to be written about him. I'm hoping that some of our members and fellow hams in the area will put some of their thoughts down and send them on to me so that we can include them in this special issue. Example: I remember Paul, whenever he had a job here in HPP, he always stopped to see if we had ice cream available. He liked ice cream almost as much as my husband Richard. They both would have a LARGE bowl together. I remember when he pulled in the driveway his old car horn tooted CQ to let us know that he had arrived.

I have just completed an article concerning the Tee/Polo Shirt order that we will be putting through by the end of August. We need to pay half of our bill with the order and remaining amount when the shirts are picked up. Please make your checks out to BIARC and note that it is for Tee shirts. This way Milt will be able to keep track of the amount we have for shirts.

I had a call letting us know that Ron's (AH6HN) house and car are going up for sale. The post and pier house which is two bedrooms, 1 bath, two car garage with bath, flash propane water heater, gas stove, washer and dryer, older refrigerator has been appraised at \$205,000. There is a vacant lot next door for \$20,000. The car is a 2003 Honda station wagon with 56,000+ miles asking \$6,000. Anyone interested or has questions should call Chuck Cartwright at 982-7563

Field Day was a success this year with many new hams attending which was great. It has been decided that the

Wailoa site is going to be used again next year. Robert NH6AH has agreed to chair FD again next year.

Don't forget to save October 27th for our annual Hamfest to be held this year at the Keaau Community Center. Now is the time to start checking out what you'd like to bring.

Also mark August 11th on your calendar for our annual picnic with the Hilo QRP Club at Wailoa Park (Smaller pavilion-not the real big one) It will start at 11AM. Potluck with dinnerware and beverages will be provided. Thanks to Dean KH6B for reserving the spot for us all.

If you missed last Saturday's meeting you missed a great program put on by Jim Todd KC7OKZ with some assistance by his wife Carol. Many of our members have interesting stories to tell. Thanks again Jim. We may take you up on that offer to tell us more in the future.

We have just received a membership from the state of Ohio. His name is Loren "Dale" Wilbur. He and his wife come out here every other year. They will be here from August 16-26th this year and are going to be looking for a house. Hopefully we'll get to meet them while they are here. His call sign is N4RSP and his wife is waiting to get her new Tech call sign. Congratulations!

Barbara NH7FY



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	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 the Pizza Hut near the KTA in Puainako Shopping Center.

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.

ARES Emergency Net

Meets Saturday evening at 1900 HST on the 146.76 repeater. Backup is 146.76 simplex. All are welcome to check in.

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 (103.5)
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)

VE Exam News

New licenses from Field Day testing:

WH6DZW Sherlyn Siegel
WH6DZX Leigh Critchelow
WH6DZY William Ahl
WH6DZZ Daniel Wela
WH6EAA Jack Ehle, Jr General

Congratulations to :

Raymond Luga – former WH6DYM, now AH6XO

New General Class licensees:

WH6DYN Lopaka Lee
WH6DYO Raymond Quihano
WH6DYR Tracy Desa
WH6DZY Bill Ahl

-thanks Milt AH6I



OR



??

Elecraft K3 vs. the new KX3 John Buck KH7T

I just got word that my KX3 was shipped Monday and USPS says it was shipped to the Big Island from Honolulu today July 4. Mine will be known as Little

Firecracker when I pick it up tomorrow. Serial numbers to 661 or higher have been delivered. Elecraft is still working on shipping the first 2 days of orders.

It is a hard either/or question to compare the K3 and the KX3. I will use both in my operations.

K3 pluses:

I am leaving out most K3 pluses vs the rest of the world. YAECOMWOOD who?

Four years production with at least 6600 units.

Still best overall performance except for 50 volt Class A power amplifiers in the transmitter capability in another brand.

Firmware has been hashed and rehashed and is still improving. It has been excellent for several years and is still improving.

The second receiver is equal to the primary receiver in performance although it is a bit clumsy to setup. It can be used for listening at the other end of the band [or even a different band! -ed] not just within 10 or 15 kHz like the KX3 second receiver function.

The front end inter-mod rejection is about 10db better. It has selectable, optional, IF crystal filters in addition to the firmware controlled SDR hardware for all IF and down functions. So there are two stage filtering options available.

P3 pan-adaptor is well integrated with the K3 but new firmware needs more work. I really cannot remember chasing DX without it.

Yes, I like my K3.

KX3 Advantages:

The KX3 is a pure SDR using latest A/D and DSP. I believe these are two generations more recent components than used in the K3.

The Analog Devices SHARC processor is a 32 bit /40 bit floating point system rated up to 300 MHz. This goes well beyond the requirements I defined in a paper I wrote about 25 years ago to help define the digital products needed to implement a radio that would outperform the best analog radios then in existence.

At this instant I am not sure what the A/D precision is, but it is good enough for ratings within 10 db of the K3 in critical close in blocking dynamic range tests using the internal optional high performance post mixer filter.

I believe the performance is better than the K2 which is

still after 8 or 10 years in the upper tier of all the ham radios tested.

The KX3 is much smaller and more portable with lower receive current. It has an internal 8S AA battery space. I will forgo the optional trickle charger, and plan to use an external 4S lithium-poly pack.

I will get the upcoming (several months away) amplifier module for 100 watt mobile. I expect to get about 250 watts out of my KPA500 amplifier driving it with the KX3.

The KX3 also has I/Q audio outputs. Direct input to a stereo computer audio system can then use LP-Pan software developed for the K3 to provide pan-adaptor capability along with providing a second receiver function.

The KX3 is cheaper than a K3. After installation of the optional high performance dual passband roofing filter in front of the DSP there is no temptation to buy additional expensive crystal filters.

I see improvements happening in the K3 firmware, such as just released firmware with much improved agc function, that I believe are being driven by intensive work being done for the KX3. I see feature improvements flowing in both directions. However, the KX3 firmware is still definitely a work in progress. For example, as of today the noise reduction function is stubbed out, firmware to be released soon. A major update of the KX3 firmware was released yesterday, July 3.

I am not sure just how good the KX3 6 meter receive performance will be. The specification looks like it may be very good. The K3 with an optional well integrated preamplifier is good enough for 6 meter moon bounce. So a tough standard has been set.

The KX3 has most of the same computer commands as the K3. Much of the K3 developed software will work with the KX3.

I do not see the KX3 replacing the K3 on my desk top yet but it will certainly be my choice for portable operation.

There is a well developed remote option for the K3. I suspect that a similar remote option for the KX3 will be a year or more down the road. The first push will be firmware to use the KX3 as a remote controller for the K3.

There will be a low power 2 meter option within the KX3 to use all the surplus space. It will cover the entire 2 meter band all mode. The K3 covers only the lower half of the band with the optional external transverter.

If I were choosing between the two today, I might choose the KX3 and be so happy with it that I might not know for a long time that I needed a K3.

Aloha,
John Buck KH7T

Disclosure: OK, I admit it. I am an Elecraft Junkie. I have been seduced by Elecraft excellence in product development, and unheard of level of product/customer support.



Manual for Service Monitor Needed

The Motorola service monitor owned by BIARC is badly in need of repair. Somewhere we have a service manual for it. It hasn't turned up in any of the suspected places. If anyone has knowledge or possession of the service manual, please contact Milt Nodacker, 965-6471.



New Technician Class Begins 14 August

The next Technician test preparation class sponsored by the Hilo Stake of the LDS Church will begin on 14 August at 6:30 p.m. The location is at the LDS Church building at the corner of Highway 130 and Orchidland Drive between Keaau and Pahoa. There is no charge for this six week class, though a donation is requested to help defray the cost of printed material handed out in the class. For further information contact the instructor, Milt Nodacker, AH6I, 965-6471 or nodacker@gmail.com



Exam time at Field Day 2012

Amateur Radio General Class On-line Course Announcement!

An interactive Internet on-line course for Technician class operators wishing to upgrade to General Class will be held Mondays beginning July 23 at 7PM HST for five weeks.

July 23: Elements G1 and G3

July 30: Elements G2 and G5

Aug 6: Elements G6 and G7

Aug 13: Elements G8 and G9

Aug 20: Elements G4 and G0

Students will be assisted in finding an examination in their area soon after course completion.

This course is free for registered students.

The instructor is Milt Nodacker AH6I, who has years of experience teaching amateur radio, having assisted in licensing over 80 hams on the mainland and in Hawai'i.

The course will be conducted over the Internet using a no-cost meeting service. Participating students use a PC or Mac connected to the broadband Internet GoToMeeting service with speaker and microphone.

Classes will be recorded and published to YouTube as review material.

To register for the course send an email to ah0a@arrl.net containing your email address and phone contact information.

Supporting materials will be made available for students to download prior to classes.



10-10 International Net



The 10-10 International Summer Phone QSO Party will be held on August 4 and 5 from 0001Z Saturday until 2359Z Sunday. That's 2PM local time Friday until 2PM

local time Sunday here in Hawai'i. Exchange is call sign, name, 10-10 number, and QTH.

Remember that there are about 80 chapters of 10-10 International that meet on the air on 10 meters every week, as well as the daily nets called daily except for Sunday on 28.380MHz and 28.800MHz, both at 8AM local time.

The band has been open, so don't just listen, call CQ!

Thanks Irene NH7PE



Changes to Roster August 2012

Please make the following additions and changes to your club roster copy.

Add members:

Paul WH6FM and Christine KJ6CKZ Agamata, 69 Kamalii St., Hilo, HI 96720 Phone 315-7156 E Mail sysman@xceptions.com

Loren Dale Wilbur N4RSP, 114 Fairview Blvd., Circleville, OH 43113 Phone: 813-323-6027 E Mail: N4RSP@yahoo.com

Greg Wagner Sr. WH6CWL, 193 Hookua St., Hilo, HI 96720. Phone 959-2613, email wh6cwl2011@yahoo.com

Changes:

email for Lydia Meneses: lymola@aol.com

email for Cory Allen: kn6zu@yahoo.com

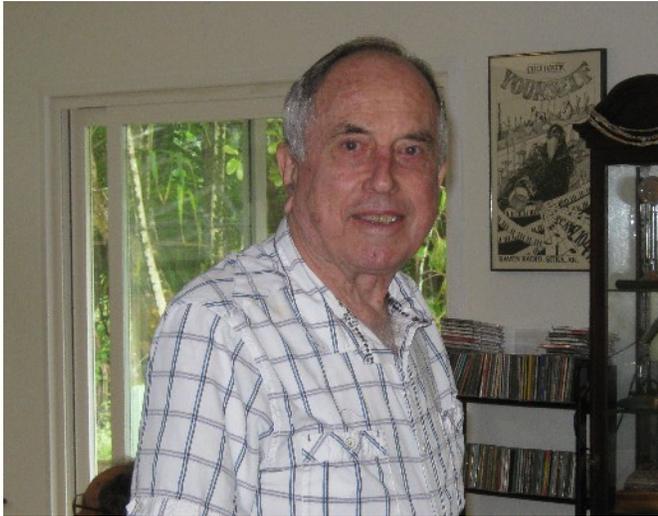
email for Peggy Gentle: radiopeg@yahoo.com

Address for Cory and Peggy is P.O. Box 459, Mountain View, HI 96771)

Address for Andrew Sheppe: P.O. Box 10816, Hilo, HI 96721

Call sign for Scott Bosshardt changed to KH7SB

-Barbara NH7FY



Paul Lieb KH6HME (1927 – 2012)

Paul Lieb KH6HME died Sunday 15 July 2012 while visiting family on the mainland.

Paul was a long time member of BIARC and a friend to many of us, and he was well known far beyond our local community for his activities in long distance tropospheric communication.

He was the winner of the Dayton Hamvention's 1999 Special Achievement Award for "his pioneering and record-setting work in tropospheric ducting and VHF, UHF and microwave communications." He is the holder of world distance records for tropospheric communication on 144, 220, 432, 902, 1296, 2304, 3456, and 5760 MHz. He operated beacons on 50, 144, 432, 1296, and 10368 MHz from a site high on Mauna Loa.



BIARC "T" Shirt Order 2012

We will be putting through an order for tee/polo shirts in the near future (Hopefully before the end of August so they will be available before the Hamfest). I will try to give you as much information here as I can. I will have pictures available at the picnic in August. If you have any questions regarding the shirts or want to place an order you can contact me by E Mail at nh7fy@yahoo.com or call me at 982-9126. If you are out of the area and want to order, there will be a shipping charge of \$5.35 for one shirt or \$11.35 for more than one. It will take up to three weeks for delivery after the order is placed. We are limited to light colors

so that our logo will print properly. The large logo will appear on the back of the shirt, a small black logo on the front (on the pocket or pocket area) and your call sign above the small logo. There are three styles for men and two for women (Women have been ordering the men's style too for themselves).

Men's Tee Type A: Tee shirt with pocket: Sizes small through 5X : Colors are white, ash (light) grey, light blue, safety green, safety orange, sand and sport (darker) grey. Cost \$12.50

Men's Polo Type B: Polo shirt with collar and two buttons and a pocket: Sizes small through 5X: Colors are white, ash (light) grey, light blue, safety green, safety orange and oxford (darker grey). Price \$17.71

Men's Polo Type C: Polo shirt with collar and two buttons with NO pocket: Sizes small through 5X: Colors are white, ash (light) grey, light blue, safety green, safety orange, oxford (darker grey), gold and sand. Price \$16.67

Women's Polo Type D: Polo shirt with Johnny collar and NO pocket: Sizes Small through 2X: Colors are white, pink, light blue, Oxford (darker grey) Price\$16.67

Women's Tee Type E: Scoop neck Tee shirt with NO pocket: Sizes Small through 2X: Colors for small through 2X are white and frost pink: Colors for Small through 1X are white, frost pink, azalea (deep pink) ,violet, and yellow haze. Price \$11.46

Barbara NH7FY



BIARC General Minutes July 14, 2012

The general membership meeting was called to order by President Barbara Darling, NH7FY, at 14:00W. There was a round of introductions. There were about 30 people at the meeting. Barbara said that BIARC shirt orders are now being taken. There is a variety of styles, colors and prices available. We must have a minimum order of 36 before we can send it in. See Barbara for details.

Chuck Cartwright, AH7Y, sent a message that items from the estate of Ron Phillips are now available for sale. The 2003 Honda Odyssey Van with 56K miles is going for around \$6,000. The house is valued at about \$205,000 and the vacant lot next door at \$20,000.

There was a reminder that the Hawaii QSO party is August 25. A printout with details was passed out.

John, KH7T, showed his new Elecraft KX3. The price as shown was about \$1,200. Base price is \$1,000.

The program was given by Jim Todd, KC7OKZ and his wife Carol. It was "Oceanic Hamming and Sailing" and about their adventures sailing in the Pacific. At one time Carol was Harbormaster at Kwajalein. After the program we took a break at 3:12 PM W followed by the business meeting.

The secretary's report was approved as printed. Milt Nodacker, AH6I, gave the treasurer's report. We had \$3,435 last month. With the refreshment fund, new members, paying bills etc. we ended up with \$3,529 in checking and a total of 117 members. Dues for brand new members are 50% (\$10) until the end of the year. Old members must still pay the full price.

Paul Ducasse, WH7BR, gave the repeater report. We had a repeater planning meeting just before the general meeting that started at 1:10PM. We hope to bring the Pepeekeo repeater down for extensive shop repairs this coming Thursday. Paul expressed a desire to replace several items. First on the list are the batteries at Naalehu.

The newsletter and website were discussed. Be sure to have articles in by the 20th of the month. To protect people's privacy, their phone numbers are not on the web, however the officer's numbers are listed.

There were no Health and Welfare issues this month.

Milt Nodacker, AH6I, gave the education report. We have four new Generals from the last testing. A new five week internet class for General class will begin July 23. There will be a Technician Class at the Orchidland LDS church starting August 14.

Barbara reported the QSL bureau received 616 new cards in June and 15,779 YTD.

Robert Oliver, NH6AH, gave a report on Field Day and showed some slides. He handed out certificates of merit to some of the participants. We made 31 CW and 53 phone contacts. Robert volunteered to be chairperson next year. A motion was made, seconded and passed to have next year Field Day at Wailoa Center. Robert will

contact the center to make reservations. The big plus was the number of new hams that attended and publicity. The minus was problems with antennas and clean up.

Next month on August 11th will be a combined Summer Picnic with the Hilo QRP Club starting around 11AM at Wailoa Park. This is a potluck with dinnerware and beverages provided.

The Big Island Hamfest will be October 27 at the Keaau Community Center.

The meeting was closed at 3:15PM W.

After the meeting Beau Mills, NH7WV, said that 35 Boy Scouts received their Radio Merit badge at camp between June 24 and June 29. Seven additional boys received the badge on July 11. Congratulations!

Respectfully,
Bob Schneider, AH6J