

Big Island Amateur Radio Club

Newsletter – September 2009

President's Message- September 2009

Almost autumn but it still feels like a pretty hot and muggy summer to me. The year is quickly coming to an end with our Hamfest coming up in a couple weeks, two more meetings with great programs and then our Christmas party. There have not been any suggestions made for as to where we should be holding our party this year. Any suggestions would be appreciated.

I will make this message short as I believe my extra long bio may be in this month's newsletter. We sure enjoyed the combined get-together at Wailoa Park on August 8th. We appreciated Eran Agmon WH6R coming over from Oahu and doing a presentation on ham radio antennas for us. We had one of the biggest crowds of hams under one roof that I can remember (approximately 50), except at possibly one of our Hamfests.

A roster was enclosed with our last newsletter and we asked everyone to check their information to make sure we had everything right. Blake Stene has a new address: P.O. Box 5101, Kailua Kona, Hi 96745 and phone 430-4170. Also James Kennedy's phone number needs to be corrected to: 964-3140. We also have a new member that you can add to your list along with these changes: Bernie Walp, WB6PIO, 101 Aupuni St., Apt 526, Hilo, Hi 96720 Phone: 935-8208 and his E Mail is: wb6pio@arrl.net Bernie is one of our observatory workers.

Hopefully we'll get to meet him face to face soon, possibly at the Hamfest if he's not on the mountain that day.

Speaking of the Hamfest which is of course on September 12th, set-up beginning at 9AM and sales at 10AM, Bob Vallio W6RGG the ARRL Pacific Division Director is going to be in attendance that day and hopefully at our Friday lunch at Hukalani Steakhouse. We are anxious to meet Bob. He has never visited the Big Island.

Our nominating committee, headed by Ron AH6HN, has come up with a slate of officers and directors to be presented at our October meeting with election being held in November. I was very pleased to see that some of our members are taking the bull by the horns and getting involved with our club operation. Thank you very much. I'm already looking forward to a great 2010. Thanks to the committee for a great job.

See you at the Hamfest, Barbara NH7FY



CW operators at NU1AW/KH6 (@KH6LC) in the IARU contest. Ken N6KB, Fred KH7Y, Curt AH6RE, Lloyd KH6LC, Rob NH6V

Big Island Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 1938
Hilo, HI 96721

www.biarc.net

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 KH7HI	965-5429

Standing Committees

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

Special Committees

Christmas Party	Committee	
Improvement	Ron Phillips	AH6HN
Field Day	Peter Yoes	KH7HI
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 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)
146.94-	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+	Waimea 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)

ARRL Section Manager's Report

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

This report covers Mid July to Mid August 2009.

STOLEN RADIO: The file for the Hilo Hospital emergency radio that was stolen from a car April 29, 2009 in downtown Hilo file has gone inactive according to a shift supervisor at HCPD. It is an ICOM 706 mark II G s# 1513194. If you have information contact Hawaii County Police. The case number is C-09012649. Please disseminate this information. We have called the police several times for an update. It is best to call (808) 961-2213 and during the recording dial 0 to get the desk officer in charge. This is the last notice in the SM Report unless something changes.

SK: We are sad to report that Ray Mikami, KH6AFM, passed away July 10 at age 90. Ray's son notified John Peters, K1ER. I first met Ray in the 1960's. First licensed in 1947, he has an active member of the Honolulu ARC for decades. See the picture in the Pacific Section webpage.

We are sad to report that Ed Steffens, KH6NYC, passed away July 26, 2009. The notice came from John Peters, K1IR, who received a phone call from Ed's widow. Ed was a member of ARRL and Honolulu ARC. He lived in Pearl City.

Many years ago your SM had the privilege of operating from Kalawao from the guest quarters at the clinic and made 100 contacts. The net control chastised a county hunter net member who complained that the Hawaiian station is hogging the net. The net control said "Sir, this is the rarest county in the US and you will shut up." It is unknown if anyone will be operating from Kalawao during the QSO party. This area was set aside very early on, in the 1880's, as a colony for sufferers of Hansen's disease, aka Leprosy. It is where Father Damien (now Blessed Damien) worked. It was created as a county along with the other four Hawaii counties in 1905. It is unusual in that it was administered as a separate County by the Department of Health. Thus it has had special status from its creation. It became Kalaupapa National Historical Park in 1980.

The Hawaii County Cell phone bill was changed to exclude Amateur Radio operators using their mobiles. It is similar to the Oahu bill. It goes into effect January 1, 2010. Cell phones will now have to be operated with hands free connections such as Blue Tooth or not at all. If you do operated mobile Amateur Radio, keep your license with you and use common sense while driving. It is a good policy to keep distractions to a minimum. It is also a good idea to have a copy of your license and the ordinance with you.

Check out Ron Hashiro's, AH6RH, websites for more information on several subjects.

<http://www.qsl.net/ah6rh/am-radio/emcomm/makani-pahili-09.html>

<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/cellular-phone-ordinance.html>

There are also quite a few other web links imbedded in Ron's web pages.

On Saturday September 5, at 8AM there will be an informal breakfast sponsored by the Hawaii Council of Radio Clubs at Koa Koffee Shop in Mountain View, Hawaii. Everyone is welcome.

BOB VALLIO, W6RGG: The Pacific Division Director plans to be at the Maui ARC meeting Wed. Sept. 9 at 7pm at the Maui County CD office. He plans to be at a special meeting of EARC in Honolulu on Thurs. Sept. 10th at 7pm at the Aiea Methodist church. On Fri. he plans to have coffee time in the morning at Jack in the Box in Hilo followed by lunch at 11:30 at Hoku Lani Steakhouse in Keaau. On Saturday he plans to be at the Big Island International Hamfest in Waimea from 9AM to 1PM. He plans to speak only a short time and spend most of his time just meeting people. Your SM, Bob Schneider, AH6J and ASM/SEC Kevin Bogan, AH6QO, will also be there.

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 Ham Radio as a hobby. The event is free however everyone MUST sign in at the door and 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 KHz+ with a 100Hz tone. Contact name: John Buck, KH7T, at phone 808-885-9718 or email at: kh7t@arrl.net. The event Web URLs: <http://www.biarc.net> and <http://www.arrl.org/sections/PAC.html> Several Door prizes will be given.

Saturday October 3 will be the annual Simulated Emergency Test (SET). It will correspond with the national SET this year. The Makani-Pahili-09 exercise was in early June and many agencies were involved. The October SET is a chance for Amateur radio operators to become more familiar with the standard ICS-213 message form. There is some talk at ARRL HQ about changing the ARRL message form to the ICS-213 form. It is best if you are familiar with both message forms.

Dec. 11, 12 & 13 the Hilo ARC will be operating club station KH6CC at Laupahoehoe Point. There will be more on this later. This is the time of year when many clubs hold their Christmas party.

There are several new pictures and meeting notices on the Pacific Section website. Some are not repeated in this report. Check out: <http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=PAC>

On August 11, the FCC announced that the cost of an Amateur Radio vanity call sign will increase \$1.10, from \$12.30 to \$13.40. Now that notice of the increase has been published in the Federal Register, the increase will take effect in 30 days which is September 10, 2009.

73, Bob Schneider, AH6J

Pacific SM



BIARC Biographies – Barbara Darling NH7FY

I have been around ham radio for many years with a few hams in the family: son David K1TTT, brother Dick AA3HV, cousins Charlie KA3NRH and George N9ENN and Charlie's son Charles KC2MDQ. And then I married a ham (then W4ZYV and now AH7G). I knew what I was getting into so I can't complain about spending my honeymoon ten years ago sleeping on the couch. We were living in Florida at the time and we happened to get married on a contest weekend. Every ham knows how important contests are to some of us. Richard had moved into my house and sold his so we didn't have an antenna up yet. We had a neighbor in the back of us who was a ham and offered to hook his antenna up to Richard's radio. The only problem was that the coax wasn't quite long enough to reach the front of the house where the radio was. But it was long enough to come in the bedroom window so the radio was moved to the bedroom for the contest. To get any sleep I ended up sleeping on the couch.

Richard and I had made a trip to Midway in 1998 where I sat and watched him operate. Again to Midway in 1999 where we spent three and a half months doing volunteer work. He spent his time setting up a ham radio station and I worked in the Operations area. They didn't tell me ahead of time that one of my duties was to monitor the radios. Even got to talk to some airplanes going over



Barbara NH7FY

and to the USS Midway when she was out to sea. Again I watched Richard operate the ham radio. After leaving Midway in January 2000 we spent two weeks on Christmas Island where I watched AGAIN. I was fortunate enough on Midway and again on Christmas Island that Richard let me say hello to my son David

K1TTT. On our trips through Hawaii we made side trips to the Big Island as Richard wanted to meet some of the hams he had been talking to over the years, especially Uncle Harry KH6FKG and we also visited Ted NH6YK who at that time was still on Oahu (We had met his girl friend, now wife Lisa, on Midway where she was a ranger). While on the Big Island we discovered that Ken KH6CQH was going to the mainland with his wife Fern for six months of travel in their motor home. We offered to come back out and house/cat sit for them and they took us up on our offer. After about 4 months we decided that we liked it so much here that we started looking at houses and by the time Ken and Fern arrived home we had bought a house. We returned to Florida, sold out there and returned to our home in April 2001.

I guess I shouldn't have been too surprised when Harry KH6FKG started asking me "when are you going to get your license?" He could be very persistent. So you have him to thank for my becoming a ham along with my husband backing me all the way. Got my Tech license in August 2001 and by August 2002 had gotten my Extra class and that was after having to take the code test twice. Code is not my thing. Talking is my thing. And talk I did. And then the fun began.....

I became a member of BIARC and the Hawaii DX Association. Over the past nine years I have held every office in BIARC (2 as treasurer, 1 VP, 1 secretary and 5 as president). The Hawaii DX Association has confirmed my first 100 DX contacts and BIARC passed my message handling class run by Harry KH6FKG. I got my DXCC in August 2003, WAS in 2004 and IARU WAC in January 2005.

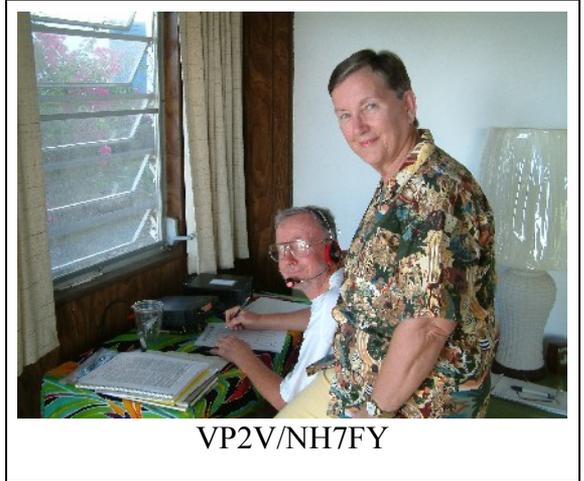
In 2003 I started getting on the HHH 40 meter net. In November of that year I achieved my WAS award and was given my number 823. I was also named ham of the month and DXer of the year. As far as I know I am the only woman in the state of Hawaii to have obtained their number and at that time was the only ham on the Big Island to have the number. Since then Harry KH6FKG and Richard AH7G have gotten numbers.

I really do enjoy working contests when I can find the time. I think I have worked 4 CQ contests, all on 15 meters. In 2004 WWDX I was #3 Oceania, #1 Hawaii. In 2005 WWDX #3 in Oceania, #1 Hawaii. In 2006 WWWPX single op assisted 1st place world. In

2007 WWWPX single op assisted, 1st place Oceania.

In 2003 Richard and I became members of Ten-Ten International. I was awarded my number 73968. In the winter of 2004 and 2005 I participated in the Aloha Chapter of Ten-Ten International Winter contests. Our chapter took first place both years.

One of the most exciting times in ham radio for me happened in 2003 when Richard and I were invited to spend a couple weeks with Norm NH7CT and his wife Kathleen at their home on Virgin Gorda in the British Virgin Islands. We planned on doing ham operating along with sightseeing, before



VP2V/NH7FY

touring the islands and then returning with them by way of the Panama Canal. After setting up the radio I was given the honor of operating first as I had never been on a DXpedition before. After operating for a short time I agreed to give up the radio to Richard. Our objective was: I wanted WAS and Richard wanted to work 100 countries for DXCC. Richard no sooner got started operating when the radio went up in smoke. The next day was spent making arrangements for another radio to be shipped in. While waiting for the radio to arrive we did our touring of the island and the second week we concentrated on radio operation. We were down to our last day and I still needed one state, Idaho and Richard needed one country for DXCC. Everyone was trying to line up an Idaho station for me. On the last night I ended up getting two Idaho stations to my amazement. Richard still needed his one country. The next morningI really shouldn't be telling you about what happened to him as he can tell you that in his own article. Guess you'll have to wait to see what happened to him. After getting home I finally received all my cards for WAS VP2V/NH7FY. (I ended up having trouble getting a good card from Idaho. I sent two different ones to my first contact and both had something wrong on his card, so I finally sent to my second

contact and got a good card).

The latest job taken on has been the manager of the KH6 QSL Bureau covering all of Hawaii's incoming QSL cards. I have been fortunate to have Chuck AH6SC to hand deliver cards to Oahu to Ned KH7JJ on the USS Missouri, and Yano WH6CZD on Maui and Mitch NH6JC on Kauai to take care of distribution on those two islands. Since taking on the job we handled 18,440 cards in 2008 and so far in 2009 have handled over 20,000 and the year is only half over. It has been a lot of work but fun too.

Many of you probably remember Bonnie KG6EHM and her husband Ken KI4WWP from the Moonbird. They spent some time here on the island while repairing their boat. They eventually are planning on settling down here after getting their sailing done. On their way south to the Marshall Island I believe, Bonnie had an accident. She spilled a pan of scalding coffee down her front. I got a call from one of the net controllers Randy KH6RC from South Point wanting to know if I could get on the Pacific Seafarers Net and talk to Bonnie. She knew I was a nurse and wanted to know if she was treating her burns appropriately. I reassured her that she was. One of the other net controllers from the Marshall Islands assured me that as soon as they got into port they would make sure she got to the hospital to be checked. So for a few days I checked into the net just to make sure she was doing okay.

For the short time that I have been a ham it has been rather exciting. We have met some of the nicest people. We have had hams visit us here on the island and have also met some face to face in other places. On our trip to New Zealand last year we finally got to meet Myrle ZL2MIC one of the net controls for the ANZA net. It's always nice to be able to put a face to a voice. She and her husband Jim have invited us to come back someday which we would love to do. Ham radio has opened up an entire new world for me. I have worked a total of 283 countries with 269 confirmed in 8 years. I hope to be able to get back to my operating again very soon. 73 and 88 Barbara NH7FY



BIARC Equipment For Sale

Curt AH6RE has a number of items for sale including an FT-897D with microphone, power supply, and manuals (for Don KH6KA) , and an Icom 746 with SSB and CW filters. These are both in excellent condition. For more information about these and all the rest check out the list at www.hokualele.net or contact Curt at 966-8304 or ah6re -at- arrl.net.



Editor's Request for Articles

The series “BIARC Biographies” will end soon unless more members choose to divulge the secrets of their past. Please send stories about your early years in ham radio to the Editor. Pictures add interest but are not required. It's not necessary to have a polished product, as editorial assistance is available.



Lucy and Irene NH7PE at Field Day

Big Island Amateur Radio Club

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