

Big Island Amateur Radio Club

BIARC Bulletin

November 2008

ARRL Section Manager's Report – October 2008

This report covers mid September to Mid October

[The SM report has been edited owing to space limitations: some club information for clubs not on the big island has been deleted. The full SM report is available to ARRL members at www.arrl.org.]

At this moment there are no major storms in the Atlantic or Pacific, however that can change quickly. A large earthquake was recently reported in Tonga. It was just two years ago that the Big Island had a large earthquake.

The Big Island International Hamfest on October 4 was reported to be another success with about 100 attending. Your SM was unable to attend this year. During the last three months he has had to make three trips to the mainland US and Honolulu for family business so he will also miss Pacificon on October 18th.

Hams on the Kona side of the Big Island supported the Ironman race by supplying communications along the bike route where cell phone and other coverage is weak. They also helped supply TV coverage. See the SM webpage for a picture.

There was a SET exercise Saturday Oct 18 from 9 to noon. It was mostly on two meters with some HF operation. REACT also held an exercise on the same day called Project SOS. REACT is made up of both hams and unlicensed members. In a recent exercise they found that FRS radios (Family Radio Service) have a range of two miles or more. With a mixed membership non hams can

really be used to fill in the gaps in a widespread disaster. The goal is to get the message through.

The Kona ARS held its regular meeting on Sunday Oct 19. It met at the OTEC beach park at the NELHA. The theme was Oktoberfest so German food was the order of the day.

The regular meeting of BIARC will be Saturday November 8th. It will be held at the Hilo Elks Club in Downtown Hilo. 2009 officers will be elected. The December meeting will be Saturday December 13 and will be a pot luck and Christmas party at Puna Congregational Christian Church. Both meetings start at 2PM. The regular meeting place has been rented out so is not available.

There are only two more months left in 2008. Please keep your news reports coming.

ARRL Pacific Section

Section Manager: Robert L. Schneider, AH6J



Waimea Hamfest: KH7WG and NH6AH

Big Island Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 1938
Hilo, HI 96721

Officers

President	Fred Honnold KH7Y	982-5226
Vice President	Arman Wiggins WH6BVZ	963-6846
Treasurer	Ron Phillips AH6HN	982-6513
Secretary	Barbara Darling NH7FY	982-9126

One Year Directors

Beau Mills NH7WV	968-1271
Bob Schneider AH6J	966-8146
Curt Knight AH6RE	966-8304
Richard Fetchen KH6WE	982-7426

Two Year Directors

Richard Darling AH7G	982-9126
Fred Benardella KH6FI	968-1331
Rick Frazier AH7H	985-9169
Paul Ducasse WH7BR	985-9222
Gregg Datlof WH7FC	982-9838
Peter Yoes WH7CB	965-5429

Standing Committees

Service/Awards co-chair	Harry Nishiyama Ron Phillips	KH6FKG AH6HN
Education	Harvey Motomura	AH6JA
Emergency Coord.	Harry Nishiyama	KH6FKG
Equipment	Bill Carlson	KH7E
Health&Welfare	Barbara Darling	
	NH7FY	
Hospitality	Gloria Whiteley	Associate
Newsletter	Curt Knight	AH6RE
Programs	Arman Wiggins	WH6BVZ
Repeater	Ron Phillips	AH6HN
Webmaster	Rick Frazier	AH7H

Special Committees

Christmas Party	Gloria Whiteley	Associate
Improvement	Harry Nishiyama	KH6FKG
co-chair	Ron Phillips	AH6HN
Field Day	Paul Ducasse	WH7BR
Hamfest	Bob Schneider	AH6J
co-chair	John Buck	
	KH7T	
QSL Bureau	Barbara Darling	NH7FY
Volcano Run	Sean Stueber	NH7SA

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 – every Friday at the Queen's Court Restaurant in the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel. Meet in the lobby between 11:00 and 11:15, or we will see you inside in the far left corner.

East Hawai'i Net

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

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)
146.92-	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
147.32+	Hilo 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)

BIARC Nominating Committee Report

BIARC's Nominating Committee submits the following officers and directors for 2009 for your consideration.

PRESIDENT: BARBARA DARLING, NH7FY
VICE- PRES: PAUL DUCASSE, WH7BR
SECRETARY: ARMAN WIGGINS, WH6AW
TREASURER: CURT KNIGHT, AH6RE

ONE YEAR DIRECTORS:
RICHARD DARLING, AH7G
FRED BENARDELLA, KH6FI
RICK FRAZIER, AH7H
GREG DATLOF, WH7FC
PETER YOES, KH6HI

TWO YEAR DIRECTORS:
CHUCK EPPERSON, AH6SC
RICHARD FETCHEN, KH6WE
KILE GOLDEN, WH7FB
BEAU MILLS, NH7WV
ELIZABETH YOES, WH7CU

Voting and any additional nominations will be done at the November meeting.

Nominating Committee: Paul Ducasse, Bob Schneider, Ron Phillips



Volcano Wilderness Run

It was with great sadness that I read Wayne "Big Dog" Joseph's article in the Hawaii Tribune Herald on October 6th, 2008, telling that this 26th year of the Volcano Wilderness Run was the last one. This race was considered one of the most unique running events in the world. It was considered one of the most difficult races also as it not only went through the desert area but over lava and through rain forests.

The park listed numerous reasons for ending the race such as overuse of the trails, invasive species being carried on the shoes (even though the racers had their shoes scrubbed before the race, which isn't done to the millions of visitors visiting the volcano each year) and also the major reason given was the loud voice of the Hawaiian elders who want to protect the sacredness of the mountain.

I have gone back through our BIARC newsletters and found that BIARC started helping with the marathon in July 1991 when 15 hams assisted. BIARC had participated in the marathon section of the Wilderness Run for 18 years. There was also a ten mile run and five mile walk. A portable repeater was set up at the Observatory that year by Army Curtis AH6P (now AE5P) and his wife Pat NH6VJ. One woman runner had both knees injured that year and was evacuated to the hospital.

Apparently the first couple years a portable repeater was used not only from the Observatory but taken up to Mauna Loa for better reception. In 1994 our hams started reporting the runner's progress as they went through each aid station. That year there were 30 hams that helped with one injury reported when a runner collapsed 1/10th of a mile from the finish line.

In 1996 Harry Nishiyama KH6FKG took over the net control area for the first time. Others have done this job also including Ron Phillips AH6HN, and most recently Sean Stueber NH7SA. There are too many hams who have helped over the years that I can't even begin to name them all. I'm sure that we will all miss getting up at 4AM to get to the Volcano in time for the starting gun. I can remember arriving at the chapel to find Satoshi Yabuki KA2IXG

hooking up a heater to keep the net control area warm where Gloria Whiteley Associate member was trying to copy down runner's numbers as they were called in. We had problems over the years in certain areas with bad reception. One of these was the Escape Road where last year Paul Ducasse WH7BR and Bob Schneider AH6J managed to solve the problem with a better antenna. Paul tells about the car load of women who arrived to man the aid station this year and were amazed that their cell phones wouldn't work in that location. When asked what he was doing there he told them that he was their communication's person. It was quite exciting to watch for Billy Conner KH6VA from Maui each year as he handed us a QSL card as he went through the stations. This year we even spotted Rob Van Geen NH6V from Waikoloa (Both of these men were marathon participants). We had many nice lunches at the Volcano Golf Course Restaurant or KMC Restaurant after closing up shop at the chapel.

We certainly will miss the Wilderness Run, but maybe we'll be lucky and they'll find a new location to run the race. If so we BIARC hams will be there to assist.

Barbara NH7FY



Fred KH6FI and Bill KH7E

BIARC Radio Contest News

The contest news returns as activity is picking up for the fall 2008 season.

The **California QSO Party** was held the first weekend of October. This is a friendly, fun event. **Fred KH7Y** put in a QRP entry this year and made 63 contacts in 33 counties for 6237 points. **Curt AH6RE** was at **KH6LC** to defend his Hawaii state record set last year and made 610 contacts on 5 bands and in 58 counties for 91002 points. Curt's plan to extend the record by breaking 100K points was thwarted by the almost complete lack of a 15 meter opening.

The **KH6LC** crew (**KH7Y, N6KB, NH6V, AH6RE**) put in an appearance for the 160 meter **Stew Perry Contest Warmup** on October 18. **Ken N6KB** hacked through the jungle carrying rolls of aluminum fence wire to provide two Beverage receiving antennas, one for the mainland and one for Japan and Asia. The result was a stereo presentation in the earphones with JA in the left ear, and US in the right ear. The crew made 211 contacts and 2687 points, the highest score yet reported on 3830.

Curt AH6RE operated for 3 hours in the **Oceania DX Contest – CW** making 88 contacts and 63 multipliers for a total of 28098 points. There were lots of 80 and 160 meter contacts, leading to the relatively high score. Bigger and better next year.

Want to see your name in print? You will if you send your results to the Editor.

November Meeting

The November meeting will be held at the Hilo Elks' Club. The parking for the Club is accessible from the dead end of Ululani Street off of Haili Street, near the big McDonald's downtown, and not too far from the Hilo Library. One way to get there: go to Waianuenu and turn toward downtown onto Kinoole. Take the next right on Haili, then right on Ululani and right again near the end of the street into the Elks parking lot.

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