



April 2025

THE BIG ISLAND HAMGRAM

The newsletter of the Big Island Amateur Radio Club



The war years.

Direction finding was March focus

President Thomas Avila, KH6GG, presented a program on direction finding at the March get-together. This included a video on direction-finding in Britain from Ringway Manchester on YouTube. To check it out, you can access his YouTube channel (@TheGeekiestGuy), then go to his Playlist. The video is found in the "Antennas" link on that list. It includes techniques used in World War II and afterward in civilian life (including patrolling U.K. streets to locate "unlicensed" televisions).

He said he has repaired our club "fox" and is working on finishing up building another one from a kit he bought online: "I just have to remember how to write my own code."

The fox kit was purchased from hackerboxes.com.

"I bought the last vhf model but they still have the uhf model in stock as of right now," he said. (For info on direction-finding activities in the U.S. and around the world, visit www.ardf-r2.org).

"The IOio antenna I built was cobbled together with some titanium rods I had left over from a past project and plans I found from a ham in Brazil.

"The updated Lillygo T-deck is the meshtastic device I showed



Post-war trolling for illegal TVs.

the group. I know they wanted info on buying the parts and having me print a case, so I'll see if my writeup on the build is still around."



KH6GG's March show-and-tell



Club seeks volunteers for Radio Day local outreach event

Feedback and kokua are needed to help BIARC put together an event

this month for World Amateur Radio Day. ARRL encourages clubs in all 50 states to present an open house focusing on "the true modern state of amateur radio."

Events are to be staged throughout April, in support of the April 18 worldwide activity. For more info, visit (<https://www.arrl.org/world-amateur-radio-day>).

"The first thing we need is a venue open to the public, preferably free or very low cost," explained coordinator Joseph Rosenbaum, WH6JOE.

"We will also need the use of a laptop and computer monitor to showcase modes such as FT8 and the mapping program that shows how far a signal has traveled," he explained.

"Then there will also be a need for someone to coordinate getting the club 991A radio and antenna and making sure the radio and computer are set up for modes such as FT8, with the monitor.

"I hope we can get a group effort going to make this happen. Please let me know if anyone has any ideas," he said.

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Monthly raffle to benefit club

At its March meeting, the BIARC Executive Board authorized a monthly raffle to be held to raise funds for the Infrastructure Fund and related radio projects approved by the board. The tickets will be sold prior to the meeting, and possibly during the meeting as long as it does not disrupt the proceedings.

Tickets will be \$1 each and you may buy as many as you wish.

The drawing will be held prior to the

Continued on next page



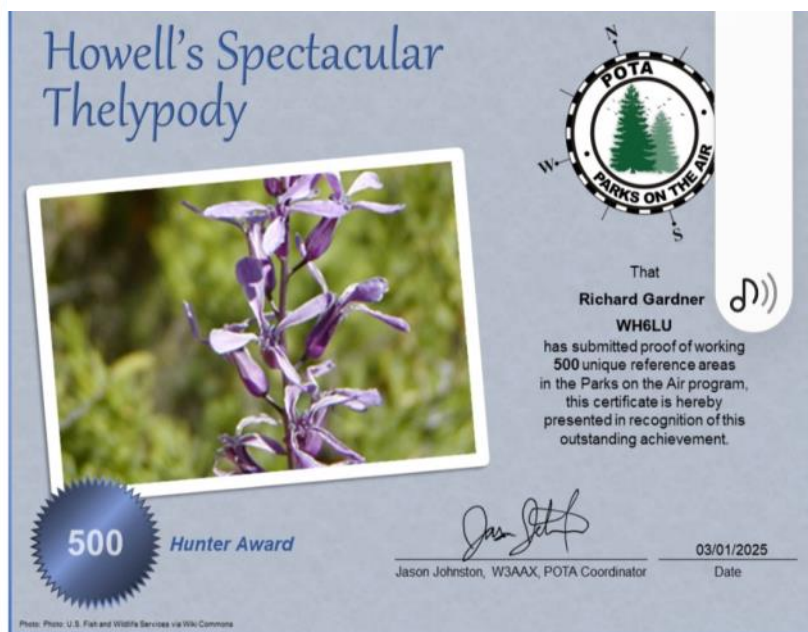
RAFFLE: From Page 1

conclusion of the meeting, probably during the 3 p.m. break, since some people need to leave at that time. At least half of the money collected will go to the fund and the remainder will be awarded to people who purchased raffle tickets. The winners will receive \$5 per winning ticket until the portion reserved for the members is exhausted. Remaining odd dollar

amounts between \$1 and \$4 will go to the club fund. An example would be if there are \$33 in tickets sold, \$18 will go to the Treasurer and the remaining \$15 will be divided into 3 winning tickets of \$5 each.

"You are encouraged to enter the drawings beginning with our April meeting," said coordinator Jim Tatar.

Rick Gardner, WH6LU, recently was awarded the POTA Hunter Award for making 500 unique contacts on Parks on the Air. Said Rick: "it wasn't easy, but a heck of a challenge -- AND FUN!"



RATPAC Amateur Radio

Radio Amateur Training Planning and Activities Committee (RATPAC) comprises Amateur Radio Operators of a wide variety of backgrounds and experiences. Together, we host nationwide Amateur Radio Zoom presentations twice a week, Wednesdays on general radio topics and Thursdays on amateur radio emergency communications.

BIARC Executive Board

Thomas Avila, KH6GG, was re-elected club president at the January BIARC Executive Board meeting. Others on the 2025 leadership team are Vice President David Miller, KH6CZ, Secretary Joseph Rosenbaum, WH6JOE, and Treasurer Tony Kitchen, WH6DVI.

The seven-member board also includes two at-large directors, Mark Watanabe, WH6FSA, and Shawn Farley, WH6GXZ, and our KH6EJ station trustee, William Polhemus, NH6ET.

Members of the club are encouraged to get involved at a committee level on one or more of the BIARC standing committees. There are many ways to help, and the committee activities vary widely.

As NH6ET noted, the committee level is where things happen. And the committees need "boots on the ground." So, if you see a committee focus that interests you, hop aboard.

Here are the committees:

Digital Systems: Luke McKay WH6GRW(Chair), Gary Schwiter WH6EPS, Shawn Farley WH6GXZ, Trevor Manago KH6IM and Jason Estrella WH6GZZ

Education and Outreach: David Miller KH6CZ(Chair), Joe Rosenbaum WH6JOE, Mark Watanabe WH6FSA, Fred Fischer WH6HAA, Jim Tatar WH6EMN, Leigh Critchlow WH6LC, Les Hittner K0BAD

Operating Activities: Joseph Rosenbaum WH6JOE(Chair), John Bush KH6DLK, Tony Kitchen WH6DVI

Programs: William Polhemus NH6ET (Chair), Joseph Rosenbaum WH6JOE

Public Service Communications: Les Hittner K0BAD(chair), Jim Tatar WH6EMN

Voice Repeaters: Trevor Manago KH6IM(chair), Gary Schwiter WH6EPS, William Polhemus NH6ET, Joe Rosenbaum WH6JOE, Steve Brown KH6SB, Stefan Pommerenk NH6SP, Shawn Farley WH6GXZ, Luke McKay WH6GRW, Frank Roff KH6BFD

Meeting refreshments: Chair Jim Tatar, WH6EMN

The BIARC board meets at noon on the second Sunday of each month, followed by the 2 p.m. monthly membership program, at Kamana Senior Center in Hilo. All members are welcome at both sessions, and the meetings are accessible live via the Internet. Find the links on our website, biarc.net.

Honolulu HamFest is April 19

Aloha:

It is with pleasure that I share with you the official announcement of the 2025 Honolulu HamFest, hosted by the Emergency Amateur Radio Club of Hawai'i on Saturday, April 19, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (Returning to 891 Valkenburgh Street—home of the Armed Forces Association of Hawai'i, National Guard Association Center—it, too, has been home for the Honolulu HamFest for many years.)

This free public event invites amateur radio enthusiasts and novices alike to enjoy food, fun, and fellowship. A few things to look forward to in this year's event:

- Demonstration of amateur radio equipment; builds, projects, and experiments.
- Buy, sell, and trade in the swap meet.
- Support club initiatives by purchasing stickers, patches, the world famous "EARCHI" antenna; and bidding on an array of silent auction items.
- Food and beverage.
- Raffle drawing prizes.

For more details, visit linktr.ee/earc_hi. Links to RSVP or to register as a vendor can be found on the Linktr.ee website.

Should you have any questions, comments, and/or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Mahalo, and we look forward to seeing you on April 19th!

C. Pono Higa, WH6CPH

Event Organizer

Call/text: (808) 457-7243



WORLD AMATEUR RADIO DAY: From Page 1

ARRL officials say momentum is building for this opportunity for clubs "to put their most technological foot forward and show the public the true modern state of amateur radio." This year's WARD commemorates 100 years of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU).

"The goal for participation is 50 clubs in 50 states – but the more the merrier. ARRL is working with Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation (HamSCI and SciStarter to promote the event as part of April being Citizen Science Month."

In Brief...

Montana's Great Falls Area Amateur Radio Club (GFAARC) and Great Falls Masonic Amateur Radio Club (GFMARC) are joining together to sponsor the annual Spring Thaw event for 2025. The event will take place Saturday, May 3, from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM at the Cascade County DES Office in Great Falls. This year's theme is centered around the "makers" in the amateur radio hobby who like to build equipment to use in their radio shacks. Demonstrations include building high power batteries for portable operations, basic soldering skills, and building antennas for QRP operations. There will also be an opportunity for hams to acquire many types of new old stock (NOS) electronic components at low prices. Thousands of components available include capacitors, resistors, ICs, transistors, diodes, and connectors. In addition to a swap meet, special activities include an "All About Ham Radio" display provided by KA2ODP to introduce non-hams — and potentially new hams — to the hobby, and an equipment test station to allow checking basic equipment power and continuity functions. For more information, contact: Rod Jackson, AE7JJ, at hamae7jj@gmail.com or by cell at 406-899-8253.

"Radio Connects" is 2025 ARRL Field Day Theme — Merchandise Available for Preorder



ARRL has released the logo and theme for this year's Field Day, June 28 – 29, 2025.

The theme for 2025 Field Day is "Radio Connects" — highlighting the many ways that wireless technology connects people across distances near and far. The event is part picnic, campout, practice for emergencies, informal contest, and most of all, fun! ARRL Field Day is the most popular ham radio

activity held annually in the US and Canada. On the fourth weekend in June each year, more than 31,000 hams get together with their radio clubs, schools, or friends to operate from remote locations.

Ham radio provides a connection — both for practical communications and to form relationships with fellow radio amateurs. No matter who you are, or what your background or interests are, if you have an interest in radio and wireless technology, radio connects you with others.

The theme is universal, says ARRL Public Relations and Outreach Manager Sierra Harrop, W5DX. "Local amateur radio clubs bridge generations. Contacts made across town or around the world allow cultural exchange, right over the air. In times of crisis, radio connects those in need with information. The whole point of amateur radio is to connect, both literally and figuratively," she said. Amateur radio also inspires the next generation of technical leaders by providing a hands-on sandbox where students can gain experience in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

Make your plans to connect with radio for ARRL Field Day. Use the Field Day site locator to find a site near you. Clubs planning to host a site may list their event information there, as well.

Don't Forget the Swag!

2025 ARRL Field Day Radio Connects merchandise is available for preorder from the ARRL Store. All the fan-favorite gear is back: tee-shirts (complete with ARRL Sections checklist on the back!), mugs, and pins are available for shipping in late April 2025. Please note: any orders from the ARRL Store that contain 2025 ARRL Field Day merchandise will be held for shipping until the Field Day items are available in late April.



For more information about 2025 ARRL Field Day and the "Radio Connects" theme — or to start planning your activation — visit www.arrl.org/field-day.

Here's an updated link to get on the BIARC Discord server. The old one had expired.

<https://discord.gg/U3f9wsrj>



THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Thomas Avila,
KH6GG

Hello fellow Hams!

I've been busy and missed the deadline on the last Hamgram but I'm back and I wanted to share an idea I had while talking to a visiting ham.

Since I don't get out and about very much I wanted to see if visiting Hams would like to show off what equipment they're using while on island.

Today's entry comes from Bobby Sambolin KP4CI. You may have heard him on the repeaters while he was visiting.

While on our beautiful island he decided he'd try his luck at activating Hapuna beach. He brought with him his good ole Yaesu FT-817 in a printed cage and a tuner strapped on top.

While he may not have made many contacts, it is still great to see someone being radio-active on the beach and on vacation.

I hope more visitors reach out and share their travels while here on the Big Island (and gear pics) with us. I'd love to see what you folks take with you while you're on Q or just playing radio on a bench in the city, take some pictures and let us know about it.



KP4CI

Meet Bobby Sambolin KP4CI.
You may have heard him on the repeaters while he was on island.
On QRZ, KP4CI says:
"Currently I am an ARRL member, and Indiana ARRL Emergency Coordinator in Tippecanoe County Indiana (District 4)
I go by my nickname Bobby. I am a third generation Ham in the family. Born and raised in Puerto Rico, I currently live in West Lafayette, Indiana. (FCC changed R&R concerning callsigns and I am able to keep my callsign living on the continental USA). Many log books and websites place me in Puerto Rico, but that is incorrect.

I will be doing a deeper dive on the fox hunt transmitter I showed during the last program, as well as going over a tiny homemade antenna kit I'm putting together, in another blurb on the President's Corner coming up.

73,
KH6GG

KP4CI visits Hawaii Island



Above:
Yaesu FT-817 on the beach
Attached tuner - LDG Z817
Autotuner)

Closeup of Bobby's rig in the 3-D
printed cage)

(No picture of his antenna setup)

Silk screening update!

Everyone: With all the time Chris spends picking up and returning shirts, he and I have decided it would be more sensible for him to do them once or twice a year in a group to be more economical for him and

us. So, while I will be displaying some shirts here and there, he won't be taking any orders for some time until we come up with a pretty large order for him. Sorry for the inconvenience, folks.

Mahalo, Jim Tatar, WH6EMN

April 2025 Siren Report

From Darrell Asuka, KH6RDO, for the Big Island ARES Group

Location	Observer	Mode	Status	Notes
NOT WORKING				
Ainaloa (HA910)	WH6HAF	Allstar	Not Working	
HOVE Shopping Center #1 (HA806)	KH7MS	DMR	Not Working	rotated but no sound
Kolekole (HA112)	KH6RDO	Allstar	Not Working	rotated but no sound
Ainaloa (HA910)	WH6DVI	Mauna Kea	Not Working	
Keokea Park Kohala (HA502)	WH7PE	Email	Not Working	
WORKING				
Ainako Park (HA117)	WH6FSA	Mauna Kea	Working	
Banyan / Kam (HA104)	KH6ATU	Email	Working	
Captain Cook (HA702)	WH6WF	Text	Working	
Carvalho Park (HA114)	NH6WT	DMR	Working	
Downtown Federal Bldg (HA107)	WH6HBH	Allstar	Working	
Hakalau (HA113)	WH6ECX	Allstar	Working	
Hawaiian Beaches Park #1 (HA907)	KH7LM	Mauna Kea	Working	
Honoapu (HA802)	WH6HC	Allstar	Working	
Honomu (HA111)	KH6RDO	Allstar	Working	
HOVE Reef Blvd #3 (HA809)	WH6EPH	DMR	Working	
HPP #3 6th & Makuu (HA913)	NH6OV	Mauna Kea	Working	
HPP #1 Paradise / Ala Kai (HA925)	KH6CZ	Mauna Kea	Working	
Kaumana School (HA125)	KH7BR	Email	Working	
Kawaihae Harbor (HA407)	WH6EHJ	Mauna Kea	Working	
Laupahoehoe Point (HA202)	WH6FSI	Email	Working	
Naalehu (HA801)	WH6HC	DMR	Working	
NELHA Kona (HA611)	WH6GTD	Text	Working	
Ookala (HA304)	WH6GDC	Text	Working	
Paauilo (HA301)	AH6JA	Email	Working	
Paukaa (HA115)	AH6JA	Email	Working	
Puako General Store #1 (HA405)	WH6EHJ	Mauna Kea	Working	
Punaluu /.Sea Mountain (HA803)	AJ0T	DMR	Working	
State Building (HA116)	WH6FDE	Email	Working	
Waa Waa (HA937)	NH7PE	Text	Working	
Waiaka Bridge Kamuela (HA402)	WH6EHJ	Mauna Kea	Working	
Waiakea Uka Gym (HA124)	WH6FDE	Email	Working	
Waikaumalo Park Ninole (HA123)	WH6FIQ	Allstar	Working	
Waimea Park Kamuela (HA401)	WH6EHJ	Mauna Kea	Working	
Hilo Hillside Sdvn (HA925)	WH6FDE	Email	Working	



The BIARC channel on
Youtube is: [https://
www.youtube.com/
@BigIslandAmateurRadio-
Club](https://www.youtube.com/@BigIslandAmateurRadio-Club)

**BIARC Executive Board Regular Meeting
March 9, 2025
Kamana Senior Center**

The meeting was called to order at 12:14 pm by Board President Thomas Avila. A quorum of 6 board members were present.

Attendance:

Board members: Thomas Avila, David Miller, Tony Kitchen, Mark Watanabe, Shawn Farley and Joseph Rosenbaum.

Secretary's Report and Minutes:

David moved and Mark seconded to approve the February 2025 secretary's report. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

See attached. Mark moved and Thomas seconded to approve the treasurer's report, subject to audit. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Digital Systems: No report.

Education and Outreach: See attached.

Operating Activities:

Added a foxhunt to Field Day plans.

Programs: Today's program will be on amateur radio direction finding. Tentatively, in April, we will have a Public Safety representative for a presentation related to a pre-hurricane season update. In May, we will have our semi-annual membership meeting which may include other small presentations, if time allows. The June program will be a Field Day related presentation.

Public Service Communications: No report.

Voice Repeaters: No report.

Discussion was held on board reimbursement for approved items, to be included in the upcoming standard operating procedures. A suggestion was made to look into a Quickbooks subscription. Discussion was held on how best to manage the club's social media, Hamgram newsletter, Discord and listserv. Discussion was held on club procedures, bylaws and election process. Tony will cover those points in a talk to the members at the club activity.

New Business:

David moved and Shawn seconded to require all committees to submit a monthly report. Motion passed.

Tony moved and Shawn seconded to add Trevor Manago to the Education and Outreach committee and to appoint him the responsibility of moderating the club Discord. Thomas will give Trevor access. Motion passed.

Jim Tatar proposed we have a monthly raffle with \$1 tickets and half the proceeds will go back to the ticket holders and half will go to the club infrastructure fund and to fund other radio projects, as the board deems fit. Jim offered to buy the first roll. David moved and Tony seconded to accept Jim's proposal. Motion passed.

Old Business: None.

Other Business: None.

Thomas moved and Joe seconded to adjourn at 1:20 pm. Motion passed.

***Respectfully submitted,
Joseph Rosenbaum,
Secretary***

Big Island Amateur Radio Club Accounting & Budgeting Process:

- **BIARC Accounting:** (Modified cash basis.)
 - **Expenses** are posted to the operating statement as of the date when the expenses are actually paid. (This is based on the date of the check or date of the PayPal disbursement transaction.)
 - **Income** is posted in the period for which it applies. If we receive a dues payment for 2025, it would show up in the current financial statement. However if it applies to the subsequent year, it would not be included on the operating statement until the beginning of the next year. For example, when members pay their 2026 dues in December of 2025, those amounts show up on the January 2026 statement.
- **Budgets and funds.** There are two categories.
 - **Donation Fund Balances.** (Humanitarian Fund and Infrastructure Fund.) These are donations where the person donating the money earmarked their donation to one of these funds. The money accumulates in the designated fund from year to year. The board may use these funds at their discretion, but the money should be used in a way that comports with the general purposes described when these funds were created.
 - **Operating Income, General Fund**
 - This is the dues money received from our members.
 - Each year the board approves a budget describing the general categories that the money is intended to be used for.
 - It is a guideline only. At any Executive Board meeting where there is a quorum present, the board may change the plan via a proper motion that passes with a majority vote.
 - Any dues money which remains unspent at the end of the year stays in the general fund. The elected Executive Board in the subsequent year takes on the responsibility of developing that year's budget, consistent with our constitution, bylaws, and in accordance with motions made by members at the semi-annual membership meetings.
 - **Emergency Fund.** This fund was created to assure that the club has enough money to maintain continuity of operations, in the event that the club experiences financial hardship.

BIARC Operating Statement

	<u>2025 Budget</u>	<u>Actual 3/8/25*</u>
Income:		
Dues	\$1,300.00	\$1,037.50
Repeater and general Donations	\$400.00	\$265.81
Humanitarian Donations	\$100.00	\$0.00
PayPal Convenience Fees	\$26.00	\$35.94
Donated Equipment Sold		
Total Income	\$1,826.00	\$1,339.25
General Fund Disbursements:		
<i>Committees</i>		
Digital Systems	0**	\$0.00
Education & Outreach	\$75.00	\$0.00
Operating Activities	\$400.00	\$0.00
Field Day (\$250)		
Programs	\$100.00	\$0.00
Public Service Communications	\$0.00	\$0.00
Voice Repeaters	0**	\$0.00
<i>Club Administration</i>		
Club Liability Insurance	\$220.00	\$0.00
Club Equipment Insurance	\$220.00	\$0.00
Equipment	\$400.00	\$0.00
P. O. Box Fee	\$280.00	\$0.00
Humanitarian Awards	\$0.00	\$0.00
Office Supplies/Bank Fee/Misc.	\$10.00	\$0.00
Online Services	\$175.00	\$41.84
Paypal Transaction Fees	\$46.00	\$17.57
Total Expenses	\$1,926.00	\$59.41
Net (Income - Expenses)		\$1,279.84
Account Balances:	as of: 3/8/25	
BOH checking Account		\$4,823.84
Namecheap Balance (Website)		\$1.00
Paypal Account Balance		\$1,868.31
Total		\$6,693.15
Fund Balances: (3/8/25)		
Infrastructure fund	\$3,301.26	
Humanitarian Fund	\$467.00	
Emergency Reserves	\$1,000.00	
General Fund	\$1,924.89	
Total Funds	\$6,693.15	

* Income figures show dues and donations received for the 2025 dues year.

** Voice Repeaters & Digital Systems Projects will be funded from the Infrastructure Fund.
(Per Motion at February 15th Board Meeting)

Donated Fund Summary:

As of: 3/8/2025

<u>Year</u>	<u>BIARC Equipment Budget</u>	<u>Donations (Credit)</u>	<u>Equipment Purchases & Maintenance Costs</u>	<u>\$ Covered By Fund</u>	<u>Repeater Fund Balance</u>
2017	\$600.00	\$273.00	\$932.75	\$332.75	<u>-\$59.75</u>
2018	\$1,000.00	\$235.00	\$266.98	\$0.00	\$175.25
2019	\$500.00	\$255.00	None	\$0.00	\$430.25
2020	\$500.00	\$501.72	\$436.78	\$0.00	\$931.97
2021	\$600.00	\$1,595.00	\$1,548.28	\$948.28	\$1,578.69
2022	\$950.00	\$729.00	\$0.00		\$2,307.69
2023	\$950.00	\$455.75	\$2,626.92	\$586.84	\$2,176.60
2024		\$858.85	\$0.00		<u>\$3,035.45</u>
2025		\$265.81			<u>\$3,301.26</u>

Notes: This fund holds amounts donated to be used for repeater maintenance & upgrades.

Humanitarian Fund:

<u>Year</u>	<u>\$ Donated</u>	<u>Amount Spent</u>	<u>Balance</u>
2022	\$395.00	\$140.00	\$255.00
2023	\$158.75	\$0.00	\$413.75
2024	\$53.25	\$0.00	\$467.00
2025			

Donated Fund Summary:

As of: 2/15/2025

<u>Year</u>	<u>BIARC Equipment Budget</u>	<u>Donations (Credit)</u>	<u>Equipment Purchases & Maintenance Costs</u>	<u>\$ Covered By Repeater Fund</u>	<u>Repeater Fund Balance</u>
2017	\$600.00	\$273.00	\$932.75	\$332.75	<u>-\$59.75</u>
2018	\$1,000.00	\$235.00	\$266.98	\$0.00	\$175.25
2019	\$500.00	\$255.00	None	\$0.00	\$430.25
2020	\$500.00	\$501.72	\$436.78	\$0.00	\$931.97
2021	\$600.00	\$1,595.00	\$1,548.28	\$948.28	\$1,578.69
2022	\$950.00	\$729.00	\$0.00		\$2,307.69
2023	\$950.00	\$455.75	\$2,626.92	\$586.84	\$2,176.60
2024		\$858.85	\$0.00		<u>\$3,035.45</u>
2025		\$223.74			<u>\$3,259.19</u>

Notes: This fund holds amounts donated to be used for repeater maintenance & upgrades.

Humanitarian Fund:

<u>Year</u>	<u>\$ Donated</u>	<u>Amount Spent</u>	<u>Balance</u>
2022	\$395.00	\$140.00	\$255.00
2023	\$158.75	\$0.00	\$413.75
2024	\$53.25	\$0.00	\$467.00
2025			

BIARC Education & Outreach Committee

Executive Board Report – March 2025

Recent Activity

February 3	Siren Test Net on Mauna Kea Repeater Awapui and Paradise Ala Kai sirens supported
February 8	VERT/CERT Net support with mobile participation
February 16	BIARC Meetings attended
February 19	Combined HVOAD Committee Meeting attended via Zoom
February 21	Volcano School of Arts and Sciences support provided for engagement between BIARC and the School – response pending.
March 1	ARRL Pacific Division Town Hall Meeting attended via Zoom
March 3	Siren Test Net on Mauna Kea Repeater (Awapui and Paradise Ala Kai sirens)
March 7	Hilo Union Elementary – Education and Outreach Committee members, Many thanks to the following contributors: on site: Fred WH6HAA, Jim WH6EMN, John KH6DLK remote: on Repeater: Leigh WH6LC, Linda WH6LQ, Bob AH6J

Planned Activity

March 9	BIARC Meetings
April 1	Siren Test Net

Future

Reach out to East Hawaii schools for event participation with senior students.

Integrate Video Display and Programming

Engage with IEEE opportunity.

Enrich E&OC program with inclusion of suggested changes and enhancement.

Scheduled Events: TBD

David Miller, Chair, BIARC Education and Outreach Committee

BIARC Executive Board Regular Meeting

February 16, 2025
Kamana Senior Center

The meeting was called to order at 12:06 pm by Board President Thomas Avila. A quorum of 6 board members were present. (Mark Watanabe entered at an unknown time.)

Attendance:

- Board members: Thomas Avila, David Miller, Tony Kitchen, William Polhemus, Shawn Farley and Joseph Rosenbaum.

Secretary's Report and Minutes:

- William moved and David seconded to approve the January 2025 secretary's report. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

- See attached. William moved and Joe seconded to approve the treasurer's report, subject to audit. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Digital Systems:

- A \$600 budget request was submitted by Shawn for the Meshtastic infrastructure project.

Education and Outreach:

- See attached. David noted and thanked Les(K0BAD) for donating 200 BIARC flyers. David requested additional sets of ARRL fliers (ARES, Amateur Radio and Youth on the Air fliers ARRL). Tony (WH6DVI) said he would supply these at no cost to the club.

Operating Activities:

- Joe detailed proposed activities for 2025. He made a budget request of \$400.
- Joe said there would be an additional \$50 deposit for park reservations at 2 events, above and beyond the \$400 requested. This deposit would be refunded to BIARC from the parks department.
- William moved and Shawn seconded to approve up to \$250 for field day expenses. Motion passed.

Programs:

- Feb - Meshtastic
- March - Amateur Radio Direction Finding
- April - Coordinate with Public Safety representative re: presentation related to a pre-hurricane season update.)
- May - Semi-annual membership meeting. (May include other small presentations, if time allows.)
- June - Field Day Related

Public Service Communications:

- Les contacted the director of the Big Island International Marathon and expressed our interest in providing service. This event will be held on March 16, 2025.
- Plan: Provide voice communications at locations designated by marathon officials where they wish to have communications.
- Proposal: For all major races, have an APRS transmitter provided to the person at the tail end of the race, and a unit at their HQ where his position is tracked and mapped in real-time to provide situational awareness on the event progress. A discussion on providing equipment included a conversation about a monitor and APRS transmitter the club can provide. BIARC has no working computer for the event, but the consensus was we could get one of us to lend the needed equipment.
- Les anticipated it would take a minimum of 6 BIARC volunteers to support these functions.
- Mark moved and Shawn seconded to approve Les in representing BIARC in coordinating these activities with race officials. Motion passed.

Voice Repeaters:

- Tony displayed the written request submitted by Trevor detailing proposed equipment purchases. The budget request totaled: \$1306.46.
- Additional questions and discussions involved linking via an IP network between Kulani, Pepee, and Mauna Loa.

Agenda Item: 2025 Budget:

- A discussion was held describing the General Fund (dues) versus the Infrastructure fund, and Humanitarian fund. (donations)
- Discussion was held regarding the repeater fund, which was renamed to the infrastructure fund 2 years ago by the board and it has been described this way since then.
- Tony moved and William seconded to move the funding for the Digital Systems and Voice Repeaters committees to the infrastructure fund. Motion passed.
- William moved and Tony seconded to approve a budget of \$400 for Operating Activities. Motion passed.
- William moved and Shawn seconded to create budget line items for each of the committees (from the General Fund) and set the budgets for Digital Systems, Voice Repeaters, and Education & Outreach at \$0. Motion
 - Discussion was held on clarifications needed to prevent the conflation of Assets vs Expenses, and proper accounting for each fund.
- William moved and Mark seconded to set the Educational & Outreach Committee budget at \$75, with sub-line items of \$25 to VOAD, \$50 to printing. Motion passed.
- William moved and David seconded to fund the Digital Systems & Voice Repeaters budgets line items out of the infrastructure fund at 50% of the current balance to Voice Repeaters, and 50% to Digital Systems. Motion passed. William moved and Thomas seconded to set the Programs Committee budget with the remainder of the operating budget to go to a "Club Administration" category. (Sub-line items of liability insurance \$220, equipment insurance \$220, PO Box fee \$280, office supplies/misc \$10, online services \$175, Paycom transaction fees \$46. Total club administration: \$951. Total Budget expenses \$1926. William moved and Mark seconded to pass the budget as discussed. Motion passed. The board directed the treasurer to make the needed changes to the budget document and present it to the board.
- Committee chairs were asked if allocation of funds would be required before the next Executive Board meeting. No additional allocation requests were made.
- Agenda Item: UH and Hawaii Community College Affiliation, NH6ET
 - William continues to pursue becoming affiliated with HCC. HCC has now aligned their policies with the rest of the UH system, allowing us to proceed with this process.
 - The possibility of BIARC using their facilities for our activities is not the only benefit of affiliation. We will need to explore options.
 - William was asked to continue this process.
- Agenda Item: Discussion on Setting Meeting Dates to accommodate room availability. Action: Deferred to March Meeting
- Agenda Item: Review and codify any surviving and new BIARC Executive Board policies, rules, and procedures. Adherence to the meeting agenda. Action: Deferred to March meeting
- Motion to adjourn. Tony moved and Mark seconded to adjourn the meeting at 12:47 PM. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph Rosenbaum,
Secretary

BIARC Operating Statement

February 2025

	<u>2025 Budget</u> <u>(draft)</u>	<u>Actual*– As of</u> <u>2/15/25</u>
Income:		
Dues	\$1,300.00	\$950.00
Repeater and general Donations	\$400.00	\$223.74
Humanitarian Donations	\$100.00	\$0.00
PayPal Convenience Fees	\$26.00	\$31.76
Donated Equipment Sold		
Total Income	<u>\$1,826.00</u>	<u>\$1,205.50</u>
Disbursements:		
Club Liability Insurance	\$220.00	
Club Equipment Insurance***	\$220.00	\$0.00
Equipment	\$400.00	\$0.00
Club Activities	\$400.00	
P. O. Box Fee	\$280.00	
Humanitarian Awards	\$0.00	\$0.00
VOAD Dues	\$25.00	\$25.00
Printing/Publicity	\$50.00	
Office Supplies/Bank Fee/Misc.	\$10.00	
Online Services	\$175.00	\$31.38
Paypal Transaction Fees**	\$46.00	
Total Expenses	<u>\$1,826.00</u>	<u>\$56.38</u>
Net (Income - Expenses)		\$1,149.12
Account Balances:		
	as of: 2/15/25	
BOH checking Account		\$4,716.80
Namecheap Balance (Website)		\$1.00
Paypal Account Balance		\$1,828.74
Total		\$6,546.54
Fund Balances: (2/15/25)		
Infrastructure fund	\$3,259.19	
Humanitarian Fund	\$467.00	
Emergency Reserves	\$1,000.00	
General Fund	\$1,820.35	
Total Funds	<u>\$6,546.54</u>	

* Income figures show dues and donations received for the 2025 dues year.

The BIARC Education and Outreach Committee continues to extend their Reach

The Big Island Amateur Radio Club continued its outreach to the Puna Elementary Schools in conjunction with the Hawaii Science and Technology Museum through 2024 with nine schools reached through the Education and Outreach Committee. Our objective has been to introduce students, parents and teachers to the world of ham radio and to support further engagement through BIARC. Information is collected from those interested in obtaining ham training through local and online ham radio training programs. Doug, KH7DQ, continues to be the POC for obtaining such training.

Member participation in the E&OC Committee includes the following BIARC members:

Fred Fischer WH6HAA, David Miller KH6CZ, Joe Rosenbaum WH6JOE,

Jim Tatar WH6EMN, Mark Watanabe WH6FSA, and Les Hittner K0BAD,

Leigh Critchlow, WH6LC has been very active on the Repeater side.

We rely on the balance of the Club's membership to support outreach activity on the Kulani repeater. Events typically occur monthly and rotate through the different school locations. We have had very good participation from both the attendees and BIARC members. New ideas are being explored continually to help us engage more effectively and suggestions are welcome.

The E&OC is well equipped with access to the club's ft991a transceiver, VHF/UHF radios donated by members and FRS handhelds used by the students in attendance. Our supply of BIARC tri-fold flyers is maintained by Les, K0BAD, while Tony, WH6DVI, supplies our ARRL/ARES material.

While prepared for most situations we are always looking for more support on the repeater side and plan to schedule half-hour segments for net operators who want to support our on-air activity.

Our outreach considers the requirements of the East Hawaii schools and groups. The school program has been oriented toward the elementary school community in conjunction with the Hawaii Museum of Technology and Science. However, during the summer, we also engaged with the YMCA in its Summer Activity program and this past month we were present at the Mountain View Elementary school through the Noir Lab and Communications, Education and Engagement, Gemini North. Our usual BIARC cadre is in action at any given time and location.

February 15, 2025

David Miller

Chair, BIARC Education and Outreach Committee