



the **Wireless Dispatch**

The Official Newsletter of the Emergency Amateur Radio Club
Honolulu, Hawaii, USA

Volume XVI, No. 1

Winter 2015

REMEMBERING THREE WHO SERVED

As 2014 gave way to 2015, over the short span of about two weeks, the EARC and the Hawaii ham community lost three active members, Richard Hardy KH7HNL, John Vorbau KH6HAM, and Bob Collester KJ4HUH. They contributed much to the life of our club and to ham radio in Hawaii in general. We salute their commitment and miss their presence. This issue of the Wireless Dispatch is dedicated to their memory.



Richard Hardy
KH7HNL (SK)

He was known on the air for his booming, resonant voice, and his wonderful, friendly demeanor, and he was a great ambassador for our hobby. It was a great loss when **Richard Hardy, KH7HNL**, passed away on December 30, 2014, after a brief battle with cancer.

Originally licensed as KC6EYS, while in Hawaii he was known under several different call signs, including N6ZBI, later WH7ZB, and finally KH7HNL. Outside of ham radio, he had a successful career as a real estate appraiser, and was working up until the very end.

His ham radio interests included antenna work, and he was a member of the EARC antenna help group.

Perhaps his biggest contribution to the EARC (and in particular, its pocketbook) was collaborating with **Chuck Hanebuth, KH6HNL**, to develop the

EARC matchbox antenna, a 9:1 unun matchbox that allows an antenna tuner to tune up an end-fed wire antenna. Interest in the antenna grew on the Internet, and the EARC matchbox antenna is now one of the greatest sources of revenue for the EARC, netting the club about \$5,000 in 2014. He and Chuck were honored with lifetime memberships in February 2013.

A fundraiser to help defray his medical expenses was held at the Lotus Room in Waikiki on February 8, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. with admission by donation. His ashes were scattered off Duke Kahanamoku Beach in Waikiki at 9 a.m. on February 18.

Chuck will also be overseeing a silent auction for Richard's equipment. Contact Chuck at chanebuth@yahoo.com for more information.

(Continued on page 3)

About the

EMERGENCY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



*The **Emergency Amateur Radio Club (EARC)** is an ARRL affiliated club based in Honolulu, Hawaii. We are committed to advancing amateur radio in Hawaii and encouraging our members to develop their skills and enthusiasm through emergency and public service communications, education, and recreation.*

Regular club meetings

General Membership Meeting: Every third Tuesday of the month, at the Fleet Reserve Association, 891 Valkenburgh Street, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Board of Directors Meeting: Every first Monday of the month, at the Fleet Reserve Association. All interested are welcome to attend.

2015 Club Board of Directors

President: Chris Colquhoun, NH7QH
Vice President: Wayne Greenleaf, KH6MEI
Secretary: Gloria Hall, KH6GLO
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 Darrell Omuro, KH6XL
 Ralph Toyama, NH6PY

About the **WIRELESS DISPATCH**

Editor: Keith K. Higa, WH7GG

The **Wireless Dispatch** is the official newsletter of the EARC. It is published bi-monthly and sent to all members in good standing with the EARC. The newsletter is also available online on the EARC's website at www.earchi.org.

Articles and photos are always welcome from members and others on club events, timely issues in ham radio, or anything that may be of general interest to club members. All such articles reflect the views of the respective authors, and not necessarily those of the editor or Board of Directors. Articles may be edited for length or grammar. Deadline for submission for any issue is the General Membership meeting preceding publication.

Correspondence regarding the *Wireless Dispatch* may be submitted to the editor at wh7gg@arrl.net.

IN MEMORIAM



John Vorbau
KH6HAM (SK)

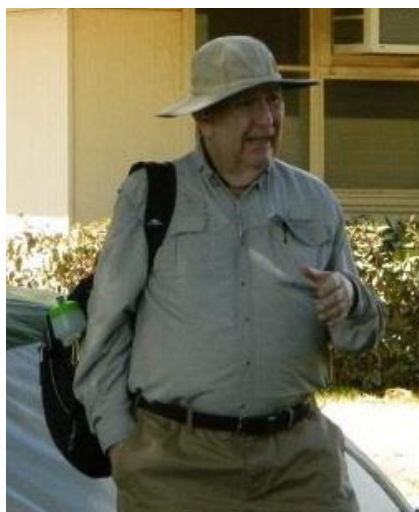
John Vorbau, KH6HAM, passed away January 9, 2015, after a battle with leukemia.

Originally from Toledo, Ohio, he received his medical degree from Ohio State University, and started his medical career in the United States Navy, stationed at Camp Pendleton. He went on to have a successful career as a board-certified pediatrician in both California (where he was licensed as N6QGT), and later in Hawaii (where he received his current call sign).

In addition to being an EARC member, he was also a member of the Koolau and Honolulu

ARCs. He was active in the Battleship Missouri Radio Club, activating the ship's radio room for ham radio events. He was also a volunteer docent at the USS Arizona Memorial.

John is survived by his wife, Noeline Khaw, son Mark Vorbau (wife Beth), daughter Valerie Macarewicz (husband Matt), three grandchildren (Marley, Matthew, Nathan) and one great grandchild (Grace). Memorial services were held January 24, 2015, 10:00 a.m. at Aiea United Methodist Church. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to charitable organizations in his name.



Bob Collester
KJ4HUH (SK)

Robert W. "Bob" Collester, Jr., KJ4HUH, passed away on January 15, 2015 after a battle with cancer.

Originally from Chicago, Illinois, Bob lived in various places around the country, including Tennessee and Florida, before settling in Ewa Beach. He attended Southern Illinois University Carbondale and Indiana University. When he retired, he was a manager at AT&T. He was active in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

A relatively recent arrival to the ham ranks, having first received his license in April 2012, he was nonetheless willing to learn as much as he could about what the hobby could offer. He was a net control station for the EARC nightly night, and also helped out in other club activities.

Malcolm Higa, KH6MSH, who mentored Bob in net control duties, remembers: "The very first time Bob did the Monday night net, he struggled with hearing everyone's callsigns over the tiny speaker of his old HT. Being slightly hard of hearing himself only made things more difficult but he toughed it out and did it. After the Net I talked to him and said the first Net is always the most difficult. He said he was determined to do it and would continue to on and not give up. I always thought that summed up his character in a nutshell."

Memorial services were held on January 24, 2015, at 10:00 a.m., at the Ewa Beach branch of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 91-1154 North Rd., Ewa Beach.



2014 Education Committee Report

By Joe Speroni, AH0A

Hi EARC members,

Here's a short summary of the 2014 Education Committee activities.

First a note of thanks to all the EARC VEs that participated in VE test sessions that helped many get licensed or upgrade in 2014 – Claudette Castillo (KH6CHW), Terrance Castillo (KH6KC), Richard Flagg (AH6NM), Brian Foster (KD7SMV), Lovell Kaopua (AH6LL), Isaac Kaopua (KH6IKE), Darrell Omuro (KH6XL), Edward Stanwood (KH6GMB), Kippi Speroni (K1PPI), Krista Speroni (KR1STA) and Randolph Young (KH6IB).

Four five week training sessions were held in 2014 – Technician Feb 7th (Fleet Reserve), General May 19th (Fleet Reserve), Technician Aug 29th (Waimanalo) and Technician Nov 17th (Fleet Reserve).

In the EARC VE sessions a total 39 new Techs were licensed, 19 upgraded to General, and 4 to Extra. Congratulations to all!!

3/24	Calvin Kalilimoku WH6EKO	T	4/14	Luke Monopoli WH6ELG	T
	Florencia Kalilimoku WH6EKP	T		David Castro WH6ELN	T
	Brian Moriki WH6EKQ	T	6/30	Stephen Hall NH7ZD	G
	Rick Sloan WH6EKR	T		Robert Dalbec NH7DE	G
	Wes Yee WH6EKS	T		Elsie Watanabe WH7BB	G
	Jim Baker WH6EKT	T		Scott Kawahara WH6RG	G
	Danny Parrish WH6EKU	T		Ruth Masuda WH6DKH	G
	Brian Walsh WH6EKV	T		Greg Jackson WH6ECI	G
	Paul A. Fortunato WH6EIK	G		Linda Shinnery WH6EIB	G
	Michelle Fortunato WH6EKW	T		Bernard Yuen WH6EEQ	G
	Bryan Foster KD7SMV	E		Carol Cunningham N6JVJ	G
	James Haley WH6EKX	T		Leereen Kaivelata WH6ENF	T
	Joyce Morse WH6EKG	T		Dennis Kawashima WH6ENE	T
	Herman Hernaez WH6EKY	T	7/7	Daniel Parrish WH6EKU	G
	Nathan Stickel NH7FS	G	8/6	Ruby R. Real Layos WH6DJY	G
4/14	Joe Battle WH6EEL	E		Sandra Kanoa WH6EPJ	T
	Paul Fortunato III WH6ELM	T		Stanley Kanoa WH6EPK	T
	Arthur Keola WH6ELL	T		Vionna P. Keola WH6EPL	T
	Tim Ames WH6ELK	T		Lupe Kanoa WH6EPM	T
	Terrance Castillo KH6KC	E		Jason W. Rivera WH6EPN	T
	Corey Nakayama WH6ELJ	T		Florencia Kalilimoku WH6EKP	G
	Keala Nakanelua WH6ELI	T	11/10	Margaret K. Ralston WH6EQV	T
	Dwaine Hiromasa WH6ELH	T		Howard Kawakami WH6EQU	T
	Mario Alvarez KH6PRD	E		Suzanne Mann WH6EQT	T

11/10	Calvin Kalilimoku WH6EKO	G	12/22	Lehualani Nahina WH6ERR	T
12/22	Lynn Bailey WH6ERV	T		Eric Rice WH6ERQ	T
	Suzanne Mann WH6EQT	G		Vera Egge WH6ERP	T
	Samuel Turner KH7FC	G		Dino J. Fernandez WH6ERO	T
	Edward L. Ralston III WH6ERW	T		Aaron K. Lum WH6ERN	T
	Elizabeth Rizzo WH6ERU	T		Irma C. Sandbo WH6ERM	T
	Michael Grubbs WH6ERS	T			

Training was held for four new ARRL VEs for the Waimanalo/Kailua side of the island. Florencia Kalilimoku (WH6EKP), Calvin Kalilimoku (WH6EKO), Richard Kimitsuka (KH6OM) and Clem Jung (KH7HO) have applied for the VE credentials. Lovell Kaopua (AH6LL), an active VE for the club, has agreed to become an ARRL VE Team Leader so they can hold more frequent VE sessions on their side of the island.

A Technician class is planned for Kailua in January 2015; and Technician and General classes at the Fleet Reserve in 2015.

Lastly we have to thank the Fleet Reserve. They have been extremely helpful in making a class room available to the club for training and VE sessions. *From the funds collected administering ARRL VE sessions a total of \$400 have been contributed by the club to the Fleet Reserve building fund.*

73, Joe Speroni/AH0A

Winter Communications Exercise February 27-28

The Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HiEMA) will conduct a voluntary test of its emergency backup systems as a Winter Communications Exercise.

The Friday part of the exercise will be primarily for participating State and county agencies, with the Saturday portion for RACES elements who are unable to participate on Friday.

The exercise on Saturday will be held from 9:00 to 12:00. During this time, state RACES will check and operate the EOC's amateur radio equipment, and practice sending and receiving FLDIGI messages (updating the FLDIGI and FLMSG software in the EOC's

computer systems in the process.)

Frequencies to be used include the statewide VHF/UHF RACES repeater system and 7.088 MHz on HF. Both systems will be enabled for both voice and FLDIGI.

All amateur radio operators are invited to participate and provide simulated situation reports, requests for assistance, damage reports, and weather messages. Ron Hashiro (AH6RH) and Jack Tsujimura (KH6DQ) will be at the State EOC. State RACES members will



Photo Shuler Burton (Flickr), unmodified

operate from their home to simulate the county EOCs.

As always, during a communications exercise, always begin and end simulated messages with the sentence, "This is an exercise message."

The EARC 146.88 Repeater, Part 3

Conclusion of AH6RH's history of the EARC Diamond Head repeater

The EARC Nightly Net

Around May 1986, Bob N4ESX decided to start a nightly net on the Diamond Head repeater. He convened the net at 7:30 pm and would be the nightly net control station (NCS) for up to thirty days, with the understanding and expectation that others would sign up to be NCSes. Ron KH6JCA/AH6RH became the second NCS and started the Sunday evening timeslot. Other operators joined in and the nightly net became a standing feature of the Diamond Head 146.88 MHz repeater.

Ray NH6K was a regular on the net, checking in from the heights above Kona on the Big Island. A recent addition has been Cedric KH6CPU as the first ham on Lanai in over 20 years.

Recent History

From 1968 to 1980, the TV series Hawaii Five-O filmed on Oahu with the filming operations centered at the Hawaii Film Studios just outside of the Diamond Head crater. The access roads outside of the crater, the roads in the interior, the FAA building and the access road leading to the northeast crater rim were used as the backdrop for a number of scenes. The access road from Diamond Head Road to Battery Harlow was a favorite filming location.

The newer Hawaii Five-O series also used Diamond Head



Bottom right: A closer view of the wooden utility pole along the access road supporting the Phelps-Dodge antenna for the UHF repeater. It is the antenna farthest from the camera.

for its scenes. In January 2012, the road leading to the former FAA building served as a stand-in scene for the Tsunami Warning Center. The Battery Harlow access road, Kapahulu tunnel, and the road leading to the former FAA building also served as the funeral motorcade scene for Hookman (Season 3, episode 15). The start of the crater rim access road leading to Huling tunnel served as the sniper vantage point for "Hookman".

In 1979, the official Diamond Head Master Plan was adopted by the Department of Land and Natural Resources and subsequently adopted by the State

Top left: A closer view of the wooden utility pole supporting the Diamond F-23 antenna for the VHF repeater. It is the tallest antenna in the photo.



Legislature as the official guiding document for the development and future use of the Diamond Head State Monument and the land transferred to the State Department of Land and Natural Resources. As a result of the master plan, in 2001 the FAA facility was relocated from the crater floor to near the Honolulu International Airport, the FAA building was demolished and the FAA radio building on the back rim was transferred to the Hawaii State Government.

The summit of Diamond Head became increasingly popular with the visitors starting in the 1980s. Hundreds of visitors

(Continued on page 7)



Continuing towards the right, the view of the floor of the crater, leading up to the summit.



The Ewa entrance to Huling Tunnel, from the access road.

(Continued from page 6)
 walked or rode through the Kahala Tunnel to view the inside of the crater, and to make the hour hike to the summit. Improvements were made to the trail, the parking lot and restroom facility.

The State Civil Defense (SCD) developed a "Diamond Head Public Safety Radio Station Consolidation Master Plan" to identify specific radio and antenna consolidations and other accessory improvements that would be phased to occur over a 15-year period. This Master Plan was completed in January 2006 and is intended to serve as a guide for the funding and con-

struction of these improvements during this timeframe.

The Diamond Head Public Safety Radio Consolidation Master Plan Environmental Assessment (23 Mbyte) is posted on the Internet. For the EARC Diamond Head repeater, refer to page 16. The EARC Diamond Head repeater along with other equipment and materials will need to be removed from the tunnels.

Conclusion

The EARC Diamond Head repeaters served the community of Oahu and Hawaii for many years due to the initiative, dedication and perseverance of in-

dividuals sharing a common dream and goal. The efforts, knowledge and skill of these individuals is only one generation away from lapsing into eternity. May we not take for granted the past efforts and contributions and instead strive to carry on to build a better tomorrow for the generations now and to come.

Contributions

The author would like to thank Bob Schneider AH6J, Robin Liu AH6CP and Ken Hoppe KH7R for their contributions to this article.

NEWS SHORTS

EARC to hold spring Technician and General classes

Responding to member inquiries for more classes, the EARC Education Committee, headed by **Joe Speroni (AH0A)**, will be holding classes for the Technician and General class exams.

The Technician level class will be for anyone who wants to get their license for the first time. Classes will be held at the Fleet Reserve Association on Monday evenings starting on March 9, leading to an exam to be held on April 13.

The General level class will be

also be held at the FRA, starting on April 27, on Mondays leading to a General exam on June 8.

There is no charge to register for the class; however, prospective students will need to purchase either the *ARRL Ham Radio License Manual* for the Tech class or the *ARRL General Class License Manual* for the General class.

Registration for both classes is limited to 10 students each. To reserve a place, contact Joe at ah0a@arrl.net.



Pacific Section looking for Section Youth Coordinator

ARRL Pacific Section Manager Bob Schneider (AH6J) is looking for an ARRL member to take the role of Section Youth Coordinator (SYC). This is a new appointment that will be filled as soon as possible.

The SYC will be expected to maintain a current assessment of youth amateur radio operators in the section, including

those involved with clubs, Scouting, other youth organizations, and schools. He or she will also promote youth-oriented on-air activities such as ARRL Kid's Day, Jamboree on the Air (JOTA), Field Day, and School Club Roundup, among other duties.

Applicant should be an ARRL member in good standing, a li-

censed radio amateur for at least two years at General class or higher, and work with youth on a regular basis.

A full job description is available at www.arrl.org/section-youth-coordinator.

If you are interested, please contact Bob Schneider at ah6j@arrl.net.

FCC: New paperless license policy now in effect

If you are looking to get or renew your license soon, take note: As of February 17, 2015, the FCC will no longer routinely mail paper licenses to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees. Applicants may request a paper license from the FCC, but it will be printed on standard white paper stock instead of water-marked paper.

The FCC has long maintained that the official authorization now resides in the Universal Licensing System. You may now print an official copy of your license, or request that the FCC mail paper copies for your record, by logging into the ULS License Manager.



Membership Application Form

Time to renew your membership, or to become a new member? Here's the perfect opportunity to do either. Just fill out this form and turn it in, along with your annual dues (see form for amount due) at the next general membership meeting OR mail it in to us at the address shown at the bottom of the form. **You can also apply for or renew membership online at <http://www.earchi.org>. Follow the link for the Online Membership application form.**

Membership has its privileges! Here are just a few:

- free subscription to the *Wireless Dispatch*
- free EARC-sponsored test sessions for first-time hams and upgraders alike
- prize at the end of the year for the member that recruits the most new members
- an opportunity to do community service through club-sponsored events (i.e., the Great Aloha Run)
- a network of incredibly helpful, friendly, knowledgeable people who share your enthusiasm for amateur radio

And that's just the beginning. As a member, you'll have opportunities to present your ideas, as well. So fill out the form below, and get started!

✂-----

NEW MEMBERS JOINING IN: JAN-MAR \$20.00, APR-JUN \$15.00, JUL-SEP \$10.00, OCT-DEC \$5.00.
Renewals: \$20.00 for the calendar year.

New Member Renewal Address Change (if this only, do not include payment)

CALL SIGN _____ LICENSE CLASS _____ LICENSE EXP DATE _____

NAME _____
Last, First MI

(Family: Name _____ Call _____ Name _____ Call _____)

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ - _____

HOME PHONE: (____) _____ WORK: (____) _____
PAGER: (____) _____ FAX: (____) _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

- I am willing to read the *Wireless Dispatch* online instead of receiving a paper copy (saves the club \$\$).
- I am a current member of the ARRL.
- I need a new or replacement EARC badge.

If you wish to submit this form by mail, please remit it, as well as a check for the amount specified to the EARC to the following address:

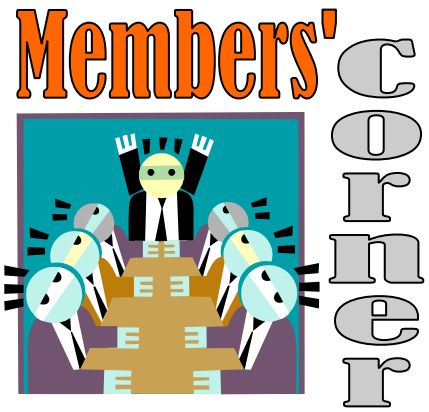
Emergency Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 30315
Honolulu, HI 96820-0315

Welcome!

Lynn Bailey, WH6ERV
Lloyd Becones, WH6EDQ
Lehualani Nahina, WH6EER
Edward Ralston, KH6CXV
Margaret Ralston, KH6MLK
Elizabeth Rizzo, WH6ERU
Irma Sandbo, WH6ERM
Charles Schenck, KH6CS
Bob Snyder, KH6Y
Jason Taglianetti, WH6DLS

New calls

Trevor Manago, KH6IM
(formerly WH6EJL)



Join the EARC online at earchi.org, or return the membership form on page 7. Memberships are \$20 for calendar year 2015.

Upgraded? New call? Share it with the club. Please let Steve NH7ZD know.



WIRELESS DISPATCH

Emergency Amateur Radio Club
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