

THE WIRELESS DISPATCH



Editor: Ric Maxfield, N6RIC

The President's Corner.....

Your New Board of Directors:

- President:
Chris Colquhoun
NH7QH
- Vice President:
Kevin Bogan
AH6QO
- Secretary:
David Cabatu
AH7E
- Treasure:
Ric Maxfield
N6RIC
- Director:
Jim Connell
KH6JKG
- Director:
Russell Houlton
WH7O
- Director:
Todd Kawamoto
KH7UK
- Director:
Mike Brown
W1BMB

Well this my first time here with The President's Corner. I would like to tell you little about myself. I'm originally from Maryland, joined the U.S. Navy in 1997 and been stationed in Hawaii for 6 years. I am currently stationed at Afloat Training Group Middle Pacific, Navigation Division as an Underway Instructor.

EARC is looking for help from the membership on Tax Exempt Status for the EARC. If you have knowledge on how to help set this up for EARC, Please email me at nh7qh@arrl.net.



Take a look at Mauna Kapu antenna with moss and rust.

EARC BOD has set aside \$2000 from our accounts for a Repeater Fund. The repeater fund is for upgrading repeaters that are owned by EARC. The current plan is to start with Mauna Kapu and get the VHF and UHF units fully operational. Mauna Kapu has Motorola Micro mobiles converted to repeater use. A dual band Comet is on a back up machine and temporary antenna. The comet antenna is full of moss, rust, and collecting water (see picture). The Mauna Kapu UHF is down graded and running at very low power for controlling of repeater. I am awaiting some parts for a temporary UHF control radio to keep the VHF up and take UHF machine off for repairs. The technical team is always looking for help when going to the different repeater sites. We are also taking donations to help with the upgrading on EARC owned repeaters.

73's,
Chris
NH7QH

If You Haven't Already, It's Time to Renew Your Membership

Time flies and we're well into the new year. Dues are due at the beginning of each year and are then prorated for a partial year for new members. All of us renewing our memberships need to pay \$20.00, no matter when during the year it is paid. EARC draws its

operating funds from the dues collected. It isn't much coming in so it is important that each of us renew at the beginning of the year so the funds can be utilized in support of the club. Dues can be given to Treasure Ric Maxfield at the meetings or mailed to:

EARC
P.O. Box 30315
Honolulu, HI 96820

A renewal/membership form can be found on our website and on page 4 of this newsletter.

Mahalo...

January Meeting & Automatic Position Reporting System (APRS)

By: Chris Colquhoun, NH7QH

The January EARC general membership meeting topic was on APRS. We passed out a slide show on APRS by Rick Ching (KH7O) and updated by myself. Here is a little back ground on the Automatic Position Reporting System (APRS) developed by Bob Bruninga, WB4APR. The System is capable of sending position data worldwide using radio, internet, satellites, ISS, and Special Format similar to packet, Nationally, on 144.39 MHz. Tactical short messages can be sent, without identifying path and World Wide tracking, via internet access. As we went though the topic of APRS a lot of good questions were brought up, followed by a demonstration of a program called APRS+SA. APRS+SA is a program to track APRS station send messages, data, and weather. You can download the program for free, but if you would like the program to keep your settings it costs \$15.00. You also need to have a copy of DeLorme Street Atlas (versions 4 to 9 will only work). Using a ribbon J-Pole, with a Alinco DR-135 and built in TNC, we had a text QSO with Todd (KH7UK) who was in California.



Here is APRS+SA track of Joe (NH7WL) 19FEB2006

My current mobile station is a VX-150, Tiny Trak 3, and Garmin GPS-18PC. I am using a Alinco DR-135T with built in TNC for data passing from my Laptop. I also have a Kamtronics KPC3+ TNC that can be used as a digapeter.



Active APRS Station in Hawaii

To learn more about APRS, visit these sites:

<http://aprs.rutgers.edu>

<http://www.tapr.org>

<http://www.aprs.net>

<http://aprs.org>

<http://www.pocketaprs.com>

<http://www.findu.com>

Byonics "Tiny Track 3" www.byonics.com

ELCOM Packet Radio USB micro TNC

WWW.ELCOM.GR

APRS Software on Interne

Win APRS CE <http://www.tapr.org/~aprsce/>

Win APRS(DOS and MAC) <http://www.winaprs.org/>

APRS+SA <http://www.tapr.org/~kh2z/aprsplus/>

Treasure's Report

By: Ric Maxfield, N6RIC

As a part of the February Board Member's meeting, the 2006 budget was voted on and approved. Not much changed over previous years, except \$2,000.00 was allocated to repair our repeaters. The expenditures of the budget total \$3,301.00. While the 2006 projected income is \$1,400.00, primarily from dues, our total assets in the bank are \$11,938.10. \$4,389.78 is in a Scholarship Fund that we cannot touch and the balance is from prior dues collected and not spent. Because of the deteriorating condition of our repeaters, the board voted to spend more than our projected income to insure that our repeaters are up and function for our members.

The other expenses included in the budget are as follows:

Awards	\$100.00	Donations	\$140.00
Field Day	\$100.00	Liability Insurance	\$385.00
Misc. Expenses	\$ 50.00	Newsletter	\$420.00
PO Box Rental	\$106.00		

NET MANAGER REPORT....

By: David Cabatu, AH7E

STATISTICS - JANUARY 2006: Check Ins: 235, Duration: 600 minutes

Although there were no public service events for the first month of the new year, January proved to be a busy month for our nightly nets. We've had several newly licensed hams check-in to try their new technician class privileges, and since then they have made a regular presence on our repeaters. The net is a great way to get your feet wet into amateur radio and overcome those first-time jitters on the air.

NET SCRIPT CHANGES

When operating mobile, a station may traverse a large area and can quickly move out of repeater range. The net script is being updated to allow mobile stations to check-in and comment before the rest of the net. In addition, the update attempts to simplify the script and gives the Net Control Station (NCS) a variety of tools and options to conduct the net with a slightly different style, if necessary.

The updated script will be rolled out during the fourth week of February.

LOOKING FOR A CHALLENGE?

If you monitored amateur radio communications during the Honolulu Marathon last December, you were probably amazed at how well I was able to maintain my composure in the face of mounting challenges in the command center.

I realized quickly that when it comes down to the real thing, no amount of training prepared me for the deluge of messages that I got that day. Training and constant practice can reduced the problems in the field, but it never produced a problem-free net that I was hoping for during practice.

One of my goals for 2006 is to establish a "2/2" net schedule: 2 operators, 2 nets alternating every other week. This will help prevent burnout and allow others to gain experience as an NCS. As of today, we are about halfway there (3/7 days already have two operators).

As an NCS, you will sharpen your listening and communication skills, learn self-discipline, organizational skills, and people/message management. It's fun, it's easy, and you will gain a lot of respect for the position the next time you're out in the field.

Think you're up to the challenge? Contact me for more details.

ON STATION IDENTIFICATION... **[This section is separate from Net Manager Report]**

As a reminder, Part 97 Section 119 (Subpart A) of the Federal Communications Commission rules state that:

"Each amateur station, except a space station or telecommand station, must transmit its assigned call sign on its transmitting channel at the end of each communication, and at least every ten minutes during a communication, for the purpose of clearly making the source of the transmissions from the station known to those receiving the transmissions. No station may transmit unidentified communications or signals, or transmit as the station call sign, any call sign not authorized to the station."

So, although stations don't need to identify at the beginning of the conversation, stations must identify at ten-minute intervals thereafter or at the end of the "transaction", whichever comes first. When in doubt -- identify -- even if it means keying up your radio just to drop in your call sign.

Emergency Amateur Radio Club

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.

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: (____) _____.

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____ FAX: (____) _____.

☐ I would like to subscribe to the EARC e-mail listserv (no spam, just news!).

☐ I am willing to read the Wireless Dispatch online instead of receiving a paper copy (saves the club \$\$).

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

The Bi-Monthly Newsletter of the Emergency Amateur Radio Club

Primary Business Address
PO Box 30315
Honolulu, HI 96820

Yahoo Group (Reflector): EARC688



To:

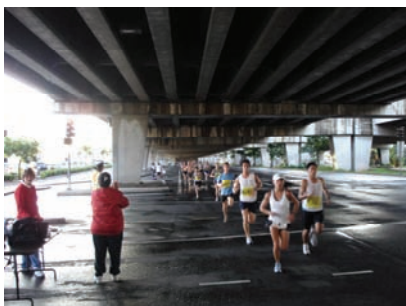
The Great Aloha Run....

By: Ric Maxfield, N6RIC

EARC members were out in force for the Great Aloha Run this year. Of course our numbers weren't anywhere near the 23,000 or so that actually participated in the Run. Still, it was an impressive showing by club and non-club Amateurs. Those that I have volunteering are as follows:

Adrian DiTucci, KH7GK
Jonna Sing, NH6UO
David Cabatu, AH7E
Wayne Jones, NH6K
Mike Matthews, KC6CBB
Bill Kendall, N0CO
Ray Moody, AH6LT
Crissy Kawamoto, KH7CHI
Ric Maxfield, N6RIC
Mike Brown, W1BMB
Steve Levy, NH7ZP
Russ Houlton, WH7O
Zeph McNaughten, N7WAP

Hopefully, I didn't miss anyone.
Everyone's help was greatly
Appreciated.



1st Runners at Aid Station 1 (Half Way)



1st Runners at Aid Station 1



Runners at Aid Station 1



Runners at Aid Station 1