

The **WIRELESS** **DISPATCH**

The Bi-Monthly Newsletter of the Emergency Amateur Radio Club

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FREE

Exciting times ahead for ham community, EARC

The President's Corner

Kevin Bogan
AH6QO



Much has been happening in the Amateur Radio community lately. The club had great presentations at the general membership meetings in January and February. Next time you see Kimo, KH7U, and Jim, WH6GS, thank them for their intriguing presentations on Anatomy of a Repeater and PSK31, respectively. Skywarn was activated for thunderstorms and high winds. Connie, NH7IE, Bart, WH6AA, and Zeph, N7WAP, showed the new Warning Coordination Meteorologist, Nezette Rydell, just how amateur radio can assist the National Weather Service. Ms. Rydell will be conducting Skywarn training for the EARC at the NWS on May 27. Toby Clairmont, KH7FR, is looking forward to presenting to us his update on the Health Association at the March 25 meeting.

Of great importance comes the news that the HB2773 and HB2774 bills allowing Amateur Radio antennas in condos and CC&R restricted subdivisions have passed the House and have gone on to the Senate. By the time you read this, progress may have been made. If you haven't developed your testimony to send to your senator, please consult with us and do so immediately. Even if these restrictions do not apply to you, they may apply to a

friend or to a station that might just help you in an emergency.

The EARC will have an informational table at the Ham Radio Swap Meet at Aiea Elementary School on April 3. This event is sponsored by the KARC and EARC and is a project of Warren Munro, KH6WM. Information will be available at the next GM meeting. In the past, these events have been a lot of fun and you just may find that radio or antenna that you have been looking for at a great price.

We need your help. Please renew your application for the club if you have not done so already. We work to make the club informative, educational, and interesting. We would like to have as many members as possible in order to support the activities and repeaters that we have. Our budget allows for club insurance, mailings of the Wireless Dispatch newsletter, awarding of the scholarships through the Katashi Nose Scholarship Fund, as well as maintenance and other expenses. We need to build our funds in order to provide the level of repeater performance and coverage you have come to expect. The easiest way is for more members to join. Also, donations are always welcome. Lastly, you can help just by coming to the meetings and enjoying yourself. Remember the meetings are potluck and it is always a surprise as to what treats will appear. Thanks to everyone who has brought refreshments so far! We look forward to seeing you all soon.

More than food needed to provide services to hungry

by Kevin Bogan (AH6QO)

Nestled in Mapunapuna near the airport back behind Delta Communications is Hawaii Foodbank, one of the served-agencies of Amateur Radio emergency communications. In January, I met with Brett Schlemmer, Director of Operations, who is also with Hawai'i State Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD). He took me on a tour of their warehouse operations. It is a huge warehouse bustling with volunteers sorting, inventoring, packaging, and delivering about 37,000 pounds of food a day during their work week.

Brett explained to me that they supply their items to other agencies such as the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, food pantries, and others. During an emergency, their ability to communicate with the other agencies that provide for shel-

ter management (e.g., American Red Cross) and mass care (e.g., the Salvation Army) may be severely reduced. In addition to their warehouse distribution center and HQ in Mapunapuna, they have three trucks and are associated with the foodbanks on the other islands. I explained how Amateur Radio, especially trained emergency communicators, could help him continue communicating even during an emergency. Since we have too few Amateur Radio emergency communicators (ARES/RACES) to even staff the shelters if they were all opened, I talked to him about the need to develop the communicators in house as HealthComm has done. Brett likes the idea and said that he would be willing to get his amateur radio license. From that beginning, we can help him to develop a vital link in our community of emergency responders. He would be willing to have the EARC tour the facility as one of the General Membership meeting topics. Please let me know what you think about this. Contact me via email: ah6qo@arrl.org. For more information on the Hawaii Foodbank, check out their website at www.hawaiiifoodbank.org.

... about ...

The WIRELESS DISPATCH

The WIRELESS DISPATCH (WD) is the official newsletter of the Emergency Amateur Radio Club and is published bi-monthly and is available online at <http://www.qsl.net/earc/>. Special editions may be published if the club sees fit. Expenses for printing and postage are covered by the club, and receipt of the WD is free for all members who are in good standing.

Editor Crissy T. Kawamoto, KH7CHI

Asst. Editor Todd Kawamoto, KH7UK

Questions and comments regarding the WD, as well as submissions or corrections, may be sent to the editor via e-mail at teriyaki@mac.com, or via the EARC, P.O. Box 30315, Honolulu, HI 96820-0315.

Message from the Editor

Welcome to the second issue of the Wireless Dispatch for the year 2004. Mahalo to those of you who have given me feedback on recent issues of the newsletter -- it's always great to hear what the readership likes or would like to see improved. The EARC membership profile feature seems to be a big hit so far, and fear not, it shall return in coming issues.

The upcoming issues of the WD are ones you won't want to miss. The Board of Directors is currently working on some amendments to the club by-laws that will be presented in writing in the next issue or so and will be put to vote at the general membership meeting that follows. But if you're not paid up for 2004, you probably won't get those next editions of the WD, and you won't get to vote on issues that affect the club and its entities, such as those repeaters we all love so much, so do it now: RENEW!

73,

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 am donating \$_____ (enclosed) to go to the ARRL fight against BPL.
- ☐ 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



What's Ahead

for your EARC

March 25: Health Association Update

... at the American Red Cross building
Bring some food (we'll provide pizza) and join us for an update on the role of amateur radio in hospital communications, as presented by Toby Clairmont, KH7FR.

April 22: General Membership Meeting

... at the American Red Cross building
Topic to be announced.

May 27: Skywarn Training

*** at the National Weather Service office ***
2525 Correa Road, Suite 250.

April 3: Ham Radio Swap Meet

... at the Aiea Elementary School parking lot and cafeteria, 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Come join your fellow hams for fellowship and good buys. Bring things you want to get rid of, and make some extra cash. Hams get in for a \$3 suggested donation, and non-hams get in free, so bring the family, too! Coordinated by Warren Munro, KH6WM, and co-sponsored by the EARC and KARC.

Stay tuned to the nightly nets for details on these and all other events!



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Honolulu, HI 96820-0315