

Silent Key

NGRC-SPSC Amateur Radio Association

Calvin Hashi KH7W, W6TRW Club Member and Friend

January 2008

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January 7, 2008:

I received the sad news this morning that Calvin Hashi passed away this morning at about 11:45am. Calvin had left for vacation with his family in Hawaii the week before Christmas. He was not feeling well and had checked into a Hospital on Maui, where they discovered that his liver was failing. He and his wife Barbara flew back to LA, where he had checked into Torrance Memorial. They transferred Calvin on Sunday to USC with the hope of a liver transplant.

Unfortunately Calvin Took a turn for the worst on Monday and was in a coma on respirator. His other organs were failing.

Calvin is survived by his wife Barbara and his 14 year old daughter Emmy. They will be holding a small private celebration of Calvin's life this weekend. Calvin was a long-time member of W6TRW, and had held the position of ECT Coordinator in the past. He was also very active in the Disaster Medical Assistance program (CA-1) as a Communications Officer.

He will be sorely missed.

--Wendell Young KE6ASC



Many years ago I was supporting a building evacuation for a fire drill when saw Calvin Hashi helping out dressed in a bright orange vest and carrying a really cool radio. Calvin told me that he was a Ham Radio Operator and a member of the W6TRW ECT team. I was hooked and wanted to join so Calvin took the time to help me get my FCC license and train me on how to professionally run a Net. I wish I could tell you about "Calvin and his bicycle" or "The great Calvin flashlight story", but now is not the time so when you next see me, feel free to ask me about them.

I am going to miss him...

--Mike Hamada KF6UCN



Calvin Hashi - KH7W



Ever since I joined the W6TRW Amateur Radio Club Calvin Hashi has served as a mentor to me. Those of us who were fortunate enough to work with Calvin know that he could be a bit tough on you at times but as far as I am concerned he was a great source of knowledge, a great teacher and a person you could count on to "watch your back". I will miss his big smile and his booming laugh.

--Stuart Gorsky K9STU



Calvin Hashi has been a friend and mentor to me as well as other members of our Disaster Medical Assistant Team (DMAT). We supported several deployments and team drills together over the past 8 years. He also supported many of the ECT activities over the years. I have learned so much from him.

I will miss his laugh and his smile. I could talk to him about anything and he always had an encouraging word for me.

--Connie Warner WA6JLD



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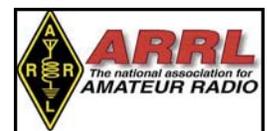
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Special points of interest:

- Swapmeet - Saturday January 26th, 7:30 to 11:30 AM
- W6TRW Club Meeting, Tuesday, February 12th.



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How I Got Started in Amateur Radio

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My first venture into electronic communications as a hobby and career started with monitoring police and fire frequencies. I was a college freshman in the early 1970s when I bought my first "police radio", a used Lafayette high-band VHF-FM receiver, from a friend. The receiver was a mobile unit with a small tuning knob and a 1" clear plastic skirt with the frequency markings. I remember that it was often a challenge to accurately tune the frequency (around 155 MHz) while listening to the intermittent dispatch transmissions of the Honolulu Police Department. In fact, I could confirm the exact frequency only by listening for the patrol unit tactical call signs.

Sometime later, from the same friend I bought a used Radio Shack VHF "**pocket scanner**". It featured individual red LEDs for channel indicators, used a nine-volt battery, and had a rubber-duckie antenna. The operational limitation with this **4-channel** receiver was that each frequency required a separate plug-in crystal and it only had four socket positions. At the time, HPD used seven dispatch channels and the Fire Department used two other VHF frequencies!

It was with this interest in two-way radios that I decided to switch to a two-year Electronics Technology degree program at Honolulu Community College. My career goal at the time was to get a job in the police radio shop. After graduation, I worked for an electronics firm in Honolulu before moving to the mainland. I have worked for TRW as a technician and test engineer since 1981, except for a three-year departure to work at the University of Hawaii solar observatory on Maui.

The real catalyst for getting an amateur radio license came on October 1, 1987. It was early in the morning and I was at work in a lab and turning on the equipment on a test setup for integrated circuits on still uncut 3-1/2" diameter wafers. The operation was so delicate that the probe station was mounted on a desk-sized, 18-inch thick, solid granite block to dampen vibrations and a specially-trained technician came over daily from another building to land the very-fine probes onto the individuals chips while using a microscope. Then it happened. **BOOM! BOOM!! BOOM!!!** I watched in shock and amazement as the huge granite block was jolted up and down several inches. It was 7:42 AM – a magnitude 5.9 earthquake had just struck, with the epicenter near Whittier, CA. This was followed by a sizable aftershock a few minutes later (the largest aftershock came three days later). Needless to say, my project manager came into the lab and told me "Don't probe any wafers today, find something else to do". In the Los Angeles area, eight people were killed and there was \$358 million in damage due to the Whittier Narrows earthquake.

My ultimate reaction to that experience was to get involved in disaster preparedness and I thought that a ham radio license would be a good thing to have. The following April, I purchased a Gordon West ham radio kit from Radio Shack and it took me six weeks to learn the Morse code at 5 words-per-minute. I passed the Novice Class license code and written exams on June 16, 1988. I then upgraded to Technician Class a month later. Even though I successfully passed all of the ham radio written exam elements in the following two months, it was not until 1990 that I passed the 13 WPM code test for an Advanced Class license. In 1997, I passed the 20 WPM code for an Extra Class license (finally!).

Ham radio is a great hobby - I have been active for many years with the W6TRW Amateur Radio Association and the Emergency Communications Team. I have participated in ham radio public service events, contests, T-hunts, and at Field Days; been a member of RACES; trained with the Red Cross; taught ham radio license classes on Maui; and occasionally serve as an Volunteer Examiner.

My main interest has always been emergency and disaster response. Through the National Disaster Medical System, I am very fortunate to have been federally-deployed to many drills and exercises, hurricane responses, the Alaska Air 261 crash, the 2000 Democratic National Convention, and to Ground Zero during the WTC disaster response in New York City. My most recent assignment was to the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City.

Nearly thirty years after starting this hobby, I have a small collection of HF, VHF, and UHF radios. I have also started listening to overseas broadcast programs with a newly-acquired Icom R75 shortwave receiver. My latest addition is a **1000-channel** Yaesu VR-500 receiver (with programmable DC-to-daylight frequency coverage from 100 kHz to 1300 MHz) that is smaller than my original "**pocket scanner**". However, with the latest trunking radio systems, I still can't listen to all of the public service channels that I'm interested in! Besides, I have never worked in a police radio shop. Not yet, anyway.

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SPSC ARC Monthly Calendar of Events

Second Tuesday	6:00 pm	Club Meeting Round Table Pizza, SE Corner Hawthorne/RB Blvds.
Third Tuesday of each month	12:00 noon	Emergency Communications Team Meeting R3 Emergency Operations Center
Third Monday of each month	5:30 pm	Executive Board Meeting, E2/9043h (All Club Members are invited)
Last Saturday of each month	7:00 am	SPSC ARC W6TRW Swap Meet Marine and Aviation (Southeast Corner)
During the Swapmeet	10:00 am	VE Exam Sessions in Cafeteria

Weekly Events

Every Monday Night (Except the 1st & Holidays)	7:30 pm	Disaster Communication Systems (DCS) Net DCS Members: Check in on 2m Rptr
Every Wednesday	12:00 noon	ECT Net on 2 meter Repeater All Amateurs Welcome
Every Wednesday	12:00 noon	NG Family Net 14.270 MHz
Every Thursday	6:00 pm	W6TRW Net on 2m Repeater All Amateurs Welcome
Every Thursday	7:00 pm	Space Hams Net on 2 meter Repeater with N6SHI and W6EKK
Every Mon, Wed, Fri	2200Z	W6TRW Retirees Net 7185 KHz
Every Friday Morning Talk-in on 2 meters	7:00 am	SPSC Amateur Radio Club Breakfast Building S Cafeteria - Everyone is invited



NGRC-SPSC Amateur Radio Association

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W6TRW 2-meter Repeater (Open Repeater)

145.320 (-600) PL 114.8 Hz

W6TRW 70cm Repeater (Open Repeater / Closed Autopatch)

447.000 (-5 MHz) PL 100 Hz

W6TRW 23cm (1.2ghz) (Open Repeater)

1283.075 (-12mhz) PL 136.5 Hz

W6TRW-3 Packet Radio Internet Gateway and BBS (1200 Baud Port)

146.745 (-600)

ELECTED OFFICERS

President	Bob Briggs	KD6WYQ	O1 / 1250	(310) 813-2622
Vice President	Greg Shreve	KE6YEX	R2 / 1120	(310) 812-9347
Commissioner	Mike Hamada	KF6UCN	M5 / 0560	(310) 814-2628
Secretary	Jim Winterroth	KF6IMA	R11 / 1053	(310) 812-2844
Treasurer	Wendell Young	KE6ASC	E2 / 9043	(310) 813-7691

APPOINTED STAFF

2m Repeater	John Cheatham	KE6OJM	R9 / 2896	(310) 813-5903
447 Repeater/Autopatch	Duane Park	N6DSP	M2 / 2200	(310) 813-2824
Activities Chairperson	Greg Shreve	KE6YEX	R2 / 1120	(310) 812-9347
Crosstalk Editor	Stuart Gorsky	K9STU	R5 / 1160	(310) 812-0255
Emer. Comm. Coordinator	Paul Goss	KG6OXM	01 / 2181	(310) 813-7150
Librarian	Jim Harrison	K6OUE	R6 / 2541	(310) 814-1937
Membership Chairperson	Open			
Past President	Wendell Young	KE6ASC	R3 / 1086	(310) 813-7691
Publicity Chairperson	Rod Scott	KE6PI	R1 / 1044	(310) 813-1493
QSL Manager	Craig Gullickson	N6ED	R6 / 2529	(310) 812-5389
Shack Master	Pete Livingston	W3CRI	R1 / 1096	(310) 813-9550
Swap Meet Manager	Wendy Crawford	KQ6CG		
Technical Chairperson	John Cheatham	KE6OJM	R9 / 2896	(310) 813-5903
Training Chairperson	Bryan DeAro	KN6OW	120 / 1020	(310) 812-4789
Trustee of W6TRW License	Pete Livingston	W3CRI	R1 / 1096	(310) 813-9550
Webmaster w6trw.com	Duane Park	N6DSP	M2 / 2200	(310) 813-2824