

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME LXV NUMBER 8

AUGUST 2017

EBARC Meetings

August 11, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

"u.RAT"

Rich Holoch, KY6R



The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets this month at the El Sobrante Library, 4191 Applan Way, El Sobrante.

The Executive Board meets monthly before each general meeting. For the date, time, & location, contact President Jay Sparks, KJ6HSH, at 384-4233.

POSTMASTER:
Address Correction Requested



FIRST CLASS MAIL

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
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El Cerrito, CA 94530

The Blown Fuse is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. *The Blown Fuse* welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. *The Blown Fuse* reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of *The Blown Fuse*. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for Sep. issue: Tue., Aug 22nd

[Articles may be submitted by "snail" mail, by dictation over the 'phone 510-741-8227, or by e-mail to aa6xz@earthlink.net]

August 11th EBARC Meeting

Peter Hoffman, W6DEI

We'll meet in the community meeting room at the El Sobrante Library, 4191 Appian Way. Enter through the back door.

In August we welcome back speaker Rich Holoch, KY6R. He'll tell us about u.RAT - the Universal Remote Antenna Tuner. If you've seen any of Rich's presentations for EBARC before, you'll know he's an avid DXer, covering topics like "Wire Antennas for DXing," "Low Band Antennas," "How I Made the DXCC Honor Roll," etc. With no new DX entities to work, and very few sunspots, Rich has still been keeping busy in amateur radio. This month's presentation will be on a universal remote antenna tuner that Rich dreamed up. He uses an Elecraft KPOD controller in an unorthodox way, pairing it with a RaspberryPi micro controller to run stepper motors that tune a remote analog antenna match (tuner). It took very creative, out-of-the-box thinking and a lot of computer programming to make this thing work. He'll be doing a presentation on this topic at Pacificon in October, but you can see it here first - right in your own backyard. So please plan to attend the August meeting.

President's Message

Jay Sparks, KJ6HSH

I hope everyone is having an enjoyable summer. Field Day 2017 is on the books, and I thank everyone who made it possible. For next year, I'd like to suggest signage at both walkway entrances. If you have thoughts to increase public awareness, please let me know.

For our August meeting, we will return to the El Sobrante Public Library on the second Friday, Aug. 11th. Last, but not least, I want to thank the El Sobrante Methodist Church for allowing us access these past seven months.

General License Class

Ken Fowler, KO6NO

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club (EBARC) and West Contra Costa Adult Education (WCCAE) will offer a class to prepare applicants for the Amateur Radio General Class License, starting Sept. 12, 2017 and ending Dec. 12. The class will meet on Tuesdays from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the Alvarado Adult School, 5625 Sutter St., Richmond, CA 94804. The textbook is the ARRL *General Class License Manual, 7th Edition*. Books will be available for purchase at the first class.

Preregister at the West Contra Costa County School District Adult Education Office, 5625 Sutter St., Richmond (510) 237-1444 or online at <http://www.wccae.info/reginfo.html>. Class fee is \$15 paid to WCCAE. FCC examinations and license applications will be administered at the final class session by EBARC Volunteer Examiners. The exam fee is \$15.

Contact Ken Fowler at 510-222-0830 or email: ko6no@comcast.net

Treasurer's Report

June 2017

Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Treasurer

JUNE GENERAL FUND¹

Beginning Balance \$6,174.97

Income:

New Member: N1REU \$22.50

Refreshment Kitty 33.20

Total General Income: \$55.70

Disbursements

Refreshments..... \$13.06

Total General Expenditures \$13.06

Ending Balance..... \$6,217.61

(portion as petty cash \$73.20)

¹\$100 earmarked for youth scholarships.

In May 2015 the club voted to contribute \$150.00 to Cal's Balloon Launch Project. In January 2017 the club voted to contribute another \$150.00. We have made those donations, in May. Total Balance: \$0.00

JUNE STATION FUND

Beginning Balance: \$1,585.69

Total Station Income 0.00

Total Station Expenditures 0.00

Ending Balance..... \$1,585.69

The Field Day count of PSK QSO's in last month's newsletter should have been 268!

Hams to Collect Data During the August 21st Solar Eclipse!

You can help scientists better understand the ionosphere by participating in the Solar Eclipse QSO Party on August 21st. For details, see <http://hamsci.org/solar-eclipse-qso-party>

Treasurer's Report

July 2017

Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Treasurer

JULY GENERAL FUND¹

Beginning Balance \$6,217.61

Income:

Grizzly Peak Century donation \$350.00

Refreshment Kitty..... 9.00

Total General Income:..... \$359.00

Disbursements

Total General Expenditures..... \$0.00

Ending Balance \$6,576.71

(portion as petty cash..... \$49.00)

¹\$100 earmarked for youth scholarships.

JULY STATION FUND

Beginning Balance: \$1,585.69

Total Station Income 0.00

Total Station Expenditures 0.00

Ending Balance \$1,585.69

Many thanks to Michael McMillan, K6MCM, for preafrooding this month's *Blown Fuse*.

Future Bay Area Events

- Current Bay Area Public Service Events: See www.ebarc.org, click on "Current Events", then scroll to "Public Service."
- EBARC, ORCA, and ARCA sponsor joint ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions quarterly at 9 a.m. in the Media Room, 1605 Martin Luther King Jr. Way (at 16th St.), Oakland. The remaining test date for 2017 is Oct. 29th. The fee for 2017 is \$15. Info: 510-918-4627 or 510-741-8227.
- CoCoCo ACS Training: Details from mcmillan50y@yahoo.com or via RACES net, 6:45 p.m., Thursdays on 145.11 MHz.

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, founded in 1947, is a California non-profit organization of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone interested in amateur radio. Annual dues are \$30 for individual membership, \$35 for a family membership, and \$10 for students K-12. For information, send email to ebarcw6cus@gmail.com, contact any EBARC officer, see Web page www.ebarc.org, or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. You can also follow us on Twitter using @w6cus.

2017 East Bay Amateur Radio Club Executive Committee

Jay Sparks, KJ6HSH, President..... 384-4233
 Peter Hoffman, W6DEI, 1st VP - Program Chair / Webmaster..... 684-6543
 Ken Fowler, KO6NO, 2nd VP - Hospitality / Club Station Mgr..... 222-0830
 Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, 3rd VP - Membership / *Blown Fuse* Editor..... 741-8227
 Ron Antaki, KK6NDJ, Secretary..... 375-3756
 Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Treasurer / Finance Committee Chair..... 707-557-5521
 Robin Spalding, N6RLS, Member-at-Large..... 528-1144
 Jim Fast, KK6NDG, Member-at-Large 237-7145

2017 EBARC's Other Committee Heads and Contacts

Jack Burris, K6JEB, W6CUS Trustee..... 415-305-2547
 Club Station Manager, Stanton Gleason, KD6SWU..... 385-4044
 Field Day Chair, Ken Fowler, KO6NO 222-0830
 Silent Key Chair
 Social & Digital Committees Chair
 RFI Committee Chair.....
 Historian.....

AMATEUR RADIO NETS

| NET | DAYS | LOCAL TIME | FREQ, MHZ |
|--|-------|------------------|-----------|
| West Contra Costa EMCOMM Net | Thurs | 1845 (PL 82.5-) | 145.110 |
| KARO/ECHO ARES/RACES(ACS) Net | Thurs | ~1900 simplex | 146.415 |
| EBARC "Explore Net" (HF) | Mon | 1930 (USB) | 28.425 |
| NALCO RACES/ARES Net | Thurs | 1915 (PL 131.8+) | 440.900 |
| Oakland ARES Emergency Communications Net | Thurs | 1930 (PL 77-) | 146.880 |
| Contra Costa Communications Club Net | Thurs | 1930 (PL 82.5-) | 145.110 |
| Tech Net | Thurs | 2000 (PL 82.5-) | 145.110 |
| "Over the Hill Gang" Breakfast/Commute Net | Mo-Fr | 0710 (PL 82.5-) | 145.110 |
| Northern Calif. Net VHF Session (traffic) | Daily | 1930 (PL 107.2-) | 145.410 |
| "QRM Net" | Tues | 1930 (PL 82.5-) | 224.300 |
| 9 a.m. Talk Net | Mo-Fr | 0900 (PL 100.0-) | 145.230 |
| Youth Net | Sat | 1400 (PL 100.0-) | 145.230 |

RACES(ACS), West CoCoCo: Mike McMillan, K6MCM, mcmillan50y@yahoo.com, phone 510 223-3052. Frequencies: #1=145.110-, #2=147.570s. ACS details are at www.cocoacs.org

HAM RADIO OUTLET

14 STORE BUYING POWER!

ICOM



IC-7600 | All Mode Transceiver

• 100W HF/6m Transceiver, gen cov. receiver • Dual DSP 32 bit • Three roofing filters- 3, 6, 15kHz • 5.8 in WQVGA TFT display • Hi-res real time spectrum scope



IC-7200 | HF Transceiver

• 160-10M • 100W • Simple & tough with IF DSP • AGC Loop Management • Digital IF Filter • Digital Twin PBT • Digital Noise Reduction • Digital Noise Blanker • USB Port for PC Control



IC-7100 | All Mode Transceiver

• HF/50/144/430/440 MHz Multi-band, Multi-mode, IF DSP • D-STAR DV Mode (Digital Voice + Data) • Intuitive Touch Screen Interface • Built-in RTTY Functions



ID-5100A | VHF/UHF Dual Band Digital Transceiver

• Analog FM/D-Star DV Mode • SD Card Slot for Voice & Data Storage • 50W Output on VHF/UHF Bands • Integrated GPS Receiver • AM Airband Dualwatch • FM Analog/DV Repeater List Function

ID-51A | VHF/UHF Dual Band Transceiver

• 5/2.5/1.0/0.5/0.1W Output • RX: 0.52-1.71, 88-174, 380-479 MHz** • AM/FM-FM-N/WFM/DV • 1304 Alphanumeric Memory Chls • Integrated GPS • D-STAR Repeater Directory • IPX7 Submersible



KENWOOD



TS-590SG | HF/50MHz Transceiver

• Equipped with 500 Hz/2.7 kHz roofing filter as standard • ALC derived from TS-990S eliminating spike issues • Antenna output function (shared with DRV connector) • CW - morse code decoder function



TM-D710G | 2M/440 Dualband

• V+V/V+U/U+U operation • Built-in GPS • Built-in TNC for APRS & DX-Cluster operation • 50W 2M & UHF • 1,000 memories • Dual receive • Green or amber backlight colors • Latest APRS firmware w/new features • Sky Command II remote functions



TM-V71A | 2M/440 Dualband

• High RF output (50W) • Multiple Scan • Dual receive on same band (VxV, UxU) • Echolink® memory (auto dialer) • Echolink® Sysop mode for node terminal ops • Invertible front panel • Choice of green/amber for LCD panel • 104 code digital code squelch



TM-281A | 2 Mtr Mobile

• 65 Watt • 200 Memories • CTCSS/DCS • Mil-Std specs • Hi-quality audio

TH-F6A | 2M/220/440

• Dual channel receive • .1 - 1300 MHz (cell blocked) RX • FM, AM, SSB • 5W 2M/220/440 TX, FM • 435 Memories • Li-Ion Battery



YAESU
The radio



FT-991 | HF/50MHz/2M/440 Transceiver

• 160 M-440MHz - SSB/CW/FM/C4FM Digital/AM/RTTY/PSK • 100 W (2M/4440: 50 Watts) • 3.5" TFT full-color touch panel operation • High speed spectrum scope • Roofing filters: 3kHz & 15kHz • 32-bit high speed floating point IF DSP



FTDX1200 | 100W HF + 6M Transceiver

• Triple Conversion Receiver With 32-bit Floating Point DSP • 40 MHz 1st IF with selectable 3 kHz, 6kHz & 15 kHz Roofing Filters • Optional FFT-1 Supports AF-FFT Scope, RTTY/PSK31 Encode/Decode, CW Decode/Auto Zero-In • Full Color 4.3" TFT Display



FT-450D | A100W HF + 6M Transceiver

• 100W HF/6M • Auto tuner built-in • DSP built-in • 500 memories • DNR, IF Notch, IF Shift



FTM-400DR | 2M/440 Mobile

• Color display-green, blue, orange, purple, gray • GPS/APRS • Packet 1200/9600 bd ready • Spectrum scope • Bluetooth • MicroSD slot • 500 memory per band

FT-60R | 2M/440 5W HT

• Wide receiver coverage • AM air band receive • 1000 memory channels w/alpha labels • Huge LCD display • Rugged die-cast, water resistant case • NOAA severe weather alert with alert scan



- RETAIL LOCATIONS – Store hours 10:00AM - 5:30PM - Closed Sunday
- PHONE – Toll-free phone hours 9:30AM - 5:30PM
- FAX – All store locations
- ONLINE – WWW.HAMRADIO.COM
- MAIL – All store locations

ANAHEIM, CA
(800) 854-6046

OAKLAND, CA
(877) 892-1745

SUNNYVALE, CA
(877) 892-1749

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DENVER, CO
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ATLANTA, GA
(800) 444-7927

SALEM, NH
(800) 444-0047

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WWW.HAMRADIO.COM

Contact HRO for promotion details. Toll-free including Hawaii, Alaska and Canada. Call will be routed to the nearest store. All HRO 800-lines can assist you. If the first line you call is busy, you may call another. AZ, CA, CO, GA, VA residents add sales tax. Prices, specifications and descriptions subject to change without notice.