

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME LXV NUMBER 12

DECEMBER 2017

EBARC Meetings

December 8, 2017, 7:30 p.m.
"Holiday Party &
Installation of Officers"



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.

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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 Jan. issue: Tue., Dec. 26th

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

December EBARC Meeting

Peter Hoffman, W6DEI

The December meeting is our traditional holiday social gathering. Please bring a snack to share. At this meeting, we'll count ballots and install 2018 officers. Besides socializing, if you want to bring your laptop with *4nec2* we can do some informal mentoring on antenna modeling. In January we'll continue Part 2 of the Antenna Modeling Workshop

2018 EBARC Officers' Election

Election materials have been snail-mailed. The Executive Committee nominees are:

- President, Jay Sparks, KJ6HSH
- 1st VP, Peter Hoffman, W6DEI
- 2nd VP, Ken Fowler, KO6NO
- 3rd VP, Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ
- Secretary, Robin Spalding, N6RLS
- Treasurer, Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF

The time limit for returning your ballot is only a few days! Be sure your vote reaches the EBARC post office box by December 6th!

President's Message

Jay Sparks, KJ6HSH

During the November membership meeting, we talked about public outreach, the renewed interest in radio, and how to help newcomers to the hobby. As a result, instead of having a one-day "elmer" class, we are asking for volunteers who would be willing to answer questions from people who may need help in configuring and using their radio. Peter can discuss this further with anyone interested.

Next, November's talk was presented by Dan Werthimer, Chief Scientist, SETI, "Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence." He discussed the history of the "citizen scientist" and the cooperation needed to continue the analysis of data. As he explained, added together, these personal computer nodes comprise "the world largest super-computer." He described Arecibo Observatory, one of the world's largest radio telescopes. Located in Puerto Rico, it suffered only minor recent storm damage. Funding from NSF and private sources will continue, but will be given a new name, "Breakthrough" (breakthroughinitiatives.org). He also described several "spin-offs," Einstein@Home (einsteinathome.org), for example.

In other news, balloting and election of EBARC Board is proceeding. We finally have a full slate of officers. Thank you for volunteering!

And, the 4Cs / EBARC Christmas Party is Dec., 9th, reserve by Dec.3rd.

Next month's meeting is back to our usual date and time, Dec. 8th, 7:30 p.m. at the El Sobrante Library. This meeting is for socializing. Ballots will be counted. We will need a couple of volunteers for this please. Once the election results are announced, we'll install 2018 officers.

4Cs/EBARC Christmas Party

Saturday, December 9th
doors open at 11:00 a.m.
eating starts at 11:30 a.m.

Tara Hills Mobile Home Park
16401 San Pablo Ave., San Pablo
(enter across from Tara Hills Dr.)
\$5.00 each, collected at the door
Sign up by Sunday, December 3rd

This is a potluck. For those of you who bring warm/hot dishes, please provide your own heating source if possible. Crock Pots worked great last year. There is an oven and microwave available, but they can be quite busy and must be cleaned after use. Plan your dish to feed 8 to 10 people. Coffee, water, and ice will be provided. Bring your own soda. Rolls, butter, plates, silverware, and cups will also be provided.

Contact Burgie Jones burgie0001@yahoo.com with your dish and the number of persons in your party. Her phone is 510-964-1467 (you can leave a message). Suggestions only - please feel free to bring your favorite dish; turkey, ham, vegetarian dish, casserole, vegetable, white or sweet potato dish (roasted, steamed, mashed, gratin, or scalloped), soup, salad, fruit, relish or vegetable plate, pies, brownies, cookies, or cake.

Parking within the park is limited to spaces directly along the building and on the right side of Tara Hills Drive. These spaces should be used first by our disabled members. No parking is allowed in front of any home. The streets can be narrow for emergency equipment, so there is parking only on one side of the street.

There is ample parking in the shopping center across San Pablo Ave. Please consider carpooling with friends.

Your EBARC Badge?

If you recently ordered an EBARC badge from Sharon, but didn't get it in October, please "pick up and pay" at the December meeting. The cost is \$8 per badge (exact change is appreciated.) You may contact Sharon at aa6xz@earthlink.net.

Treasurer's Report October 2017

Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Treasurer

OCTOBER GENERAL FUND¹

Beginning Balance\$5,727.59

Income:

Refreshment Kitty.....\$18.75

Total General Income:.....\$18.75

Disbursements

Donation to CCRA.....\$116.66

Refreshments.....21.26

Total General Disbursements.....\$137.92

Ending Balance\$5,608.42
(portion as petty cash..... \$58.75)

¹\$100 earmarked for youth scholarships.

OCTOBER STATION FUND

Beginning Balance:\$1,585.69

Total Station Income0.00

Total Station Expenditures0.00

Ending Balance\$1,585.69

EBARC Mentoring Initiative Peter Hoffman, W6DEI

A word that has come up repeatedly in recent club meetings is "mentoring" - or if you prefer the quaint ham vernacular, "elmering." I believe there are a lot of club members who are more than willing and very capable of mentoring on a variety of ham radio related topics, and all one has to do is ask to get their

help. But to make things a little more formal, we'd like to post a list of mentors on our website. It should also make it easier for anyone who wants some help to be able to find it.

The first step is to compile a list of mentors. So please let me know if you're willing to put your name on the list and what areas of interest you can cover. Some suggested areas of interest (by no means exhaustive): digital modes, antennas, software-defined radios, VHF/UHF repeater-related radios, CW skills, kit building, QRP, DXing, etc. After we've compiled a list, I will put it on the "Contacts" page of our website. Initially, only names will be listed and members can look up email addresses and phone numbers on our roster sheet (which is private and not posted online, but which all members have). If we wanted to open up the mentoring program to non-members, we could later add email addresses to the online list.

So please let me know if you want to be a mentor. I sincerely doubt that it will require a lot of time and effort, but you can make a big difference in someone's enjoyment of, and competence in, the hobby of ham radio. So please consider joining the mentor list.

EBARC General Meeting Minutes November 17, 2017

Michael McMillan, K6MCM, Acting Secretary

Opening: The meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m. by President Sparks. Sign-in sheet was prepared and circulated. A round of self-introductions was made. Minutes of the October 13, 2017 meeting were approved as published in *The Blown Fuse*.

Program: First Vice-President Hoffman reported that tonight's program is on SETI. Next month's program will be our annual holiday party, plus help will be available for

those learning the antenna software featured in October. January's meeting will be Part 2 of antenna modeling. February's meeting will feature a speaker from NASA.

Hospitality: Second Vice-President Fowler set out a great selection of snacks and requested members "feed the kitty."

Membership: Third Vice-President Primbsch was absent.

Finance: Treasurer Jenkins reported club financial information. General fund balance was \$5,608.42; station fund balance was \$1,585.69; for a combined club balance of \$7,194.11.

Public Events/Education: There will be a VE session tomorrow in Marin. There will be a Technician class starting Jan. 2 at the Adult Education campus. The Hayward new ham class was a success, provided good introduction to radios, nets, and repeaters. The November Side-band Sweepstakes are on, a good opportunity to "work all states" and learn about HF. Anyone interested in Elmering other club members should contact Peter Hoffman to be listed on the EBARC website.

Announcements: The 2017 MARS Christmas party will be Dec. 6 at the MARS Clubhouse in Mill Valley; contact rsvp@w6sg.net for information. The EBARC December meeting is a good time to bring in any surplus equipment you want to trade or give away. The EBARC/4Cs party is coming Dec. 9, need to RSVP soon so they know how many are coming to this pot-luck event.

Next Meeting: the next meeting will be on December 8, 2017.

Closing: There being no further business, the membership meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Presentation: After a break for refreshments, Dan Werthimer, Chief Scientist from the UC

Berkeley Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence (SETI) Research Center, gave a lively overview of their current research – sorry, no unambiguous signals from “ET” yet. The Center conducts experiments searching for electromagnetic signatures of intelligence, spanning wavelengths from radio to visible light. Dan described how computing power has greatly increased the number channels they can monitor at once and how patterns could be recognized. He also touched on Messaging to Extraterrestrial Intelligence (METI); rather than listening for incoming signals, we send an outgoing signal to solar systems likely to contain a “Goldilocks” planet (one not too hot, not too cold, but just right for life to evolve).

Dan ended with mention of the SETI@home volunteer computing program, free software that utilizes spare resources on volunteer computers to aid in processing data from radio telescopes. He invited members to download the software (<http://setiathome.berkeley.edu/>) and help search through the enormous volume of data captured by SETI. If you’ve ever been haunted by the question of “Are we alone?” here’s your chance find out. If they’re out there, we may make contact at any time.

Silent Key, Joe Lee, W6DOB

I am sad to report that Joe Lee, W6DOB, passed away. He died in his sleep at home on 20 November 2017. For the past several years he was house-bound and ailing.

John Tim, W6QNT

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 test dates for 2018 are Jan. 28th, Apr. 22nd, Jul. 22nd, and Oct. 28th. The fee for 2018 is \$15. Info: 510-918-4627 or 510-741-8227.
- CoCoCo ACS Training: Details from mcmillan50y@yahoo.com, www.cocoacs.org, 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!

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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/440: 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



5 Ways to Shop!

- 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

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