

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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# THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME LXIII NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2010

## EBARC Meeting

February 12, 2010  
7:30 p.m.

"Soldering Surface Mount Parts"  
Jack Burris, K6JEB / Ron Smith, KE6RS

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

The Executive Board meets the Monday before each general meeting at 7:30 p.m.  
at the W6CUS club station, 3200 Macdonald Ave. Richmond.



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THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.  
Post Office Box 1393  
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 Mar. issue: Tuesday, Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>

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

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## February EBARC Program

At the February 12<sup>th</sup> EBARC general meeting, Jack Burriss, K6JEB, and Ron Smith, KE6RS, will show us how to assemble those surface mount parts on a circuit board, while still enjoying the process. Using easily available tools, they will do a demonstration and invite you to try it out for yourself. Bring a friend, bring a few! We'll see you there for a fun and informative night. There's more info on the EBARC Web site, [eastbayarc.org](http://eastbayarc.org); click on LINKS, then under "Past EBARC Programs," look at "Surface Mount Technology."

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

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## Silent Key, WD6GGC

On December 31, 2009 John Billones, WD6GCC (Golden Gate Charlie) passed away. He had been in intensive care for about 2 weeks. John was 91 years young.

One of my best memories of John was how he could build a simple radio out of parts found at home. The knobs would be made from

toothpaste tube caps, etc. Field Days were also a special time for me to visit with John. His stories and paintings spoke of the great talents he had.

John's sister, Olga, wants all of us to know how much John enjoyed EBARC, the 4Cs, and all the special friendships he had. There will be no service for John. The family wants everyone to know that they are thankful for the prayers and cards sent over the last 6+ months.

73 John - You will be missed.

Barbara & Robby Robinson

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## Silent Key, WA6FNP

William "Bill" Cross passed away on January 17, 2010. He had been a member of the 4Cs since 3/90 and of EBARC since last November. He held a General Class License. Bill had a stroke, and although he was sent to Creekside for rehab, it seemed that one after the other medical condition kept him fighting strong. I saw Bill the Friday before his passing. Although he could not speak clearly, his eyes told his feeling. I shared with him the happenings on the 4Cs nets and at its prior Sunday meeting, and his eye would light up. Bill would very seldom miss any of our nets.

Bill was always willing to help another member. He made sure to visit members in the hospital or rest homes. He would always give a ride to anyone who asked. There was no stopping Bill from practicing the old saying, "Treat people like you would want to be treated."

He will be missed very much.

Please join his mother and son for a memorial service on Saturday, January 30, 2010 at noon at the Eagles Hall, 2100 Rivers St. San Pablo.

Robby Robinson, N6MNL

## **The View from the Bank** **John Wood, N6JDW, Treasurer**

Now that the holidays are over and I've finally gotten most of the Treasurer's jobs started, I thought that it would be helpful to report on the project so far. Believe me; I had no idea that the Treasurer's job had so many functions. Being one of the required corporate board members has more to it than just collecting the dues, paying the bills and making a monthly status report. I'm finally beginning to understand the scope of the responsibility. I can only say Bravo to Gordy for taking care of us so well for the past 17 years.

I plan to make this column a regular item during my tenure in order to make suggestions to the membership as to the direction that I feel would improve the operation of the Treasurer's office. Also, I invite those of you with ideas for fundraising or other issues to speak to me about them. I don't promise anything except to listen attentively and to consider your idea.

Because I wanted to make the transfer to the next Treasurer as smooth as possible I decided that all correspondence should be sent to the PO box address for the club. I was able to contact the various payees and get this change implemented. Second I needed to get access to the bank accounts, which turned out to be a real challenge due to the apparent ongoing misunderstandings of the bank official. Finally after several weeks of labor, I have been able to get the two accounts transferred to business accounts and to have them available to me via the bank's Internet web site. Also, as a means of easily bringing a new Treasurer up to speed, it is my intention to write a confidential document which will disclose how it is all done and what the various account numbers and passwords are. Hopefully it won't be as big a shock to the next tenant.

I've been visiting the PO box on a regular basis and have received several renewal checks from members. I've been depositing the

money and writing the membership cards, which will be passed out at the next meeting. I plan to eventually mail membership cards to those that don't come to the meeting, but it would save the club postage costs if you were to come to the meeting to receive yours. If you have sent your check and have not received a membership card yet, please let me know.

Let me close this diatribe by defining my ongoing reports to the membership. This will consist of two reports each month. The report in the Blown Fuse will represent all financial transactions during the previous calendar month. The report at the general meeting will consist of the previous month's activity plus any cash flow up to the meeting date.

Well, that's it for this month. I'm thinking of writing this column on a bi-monthly or quarterly basis. See you at the next meeting, I hope.

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## **General Meeting Minutes** **January 8, 2010** **Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Secretary**

The meeting was called to order at 19:33 hours by President Ken Fowler. A sign-in sheet was available at the entrance. 23 members or guests were present by the end of the meeting. A round of introductions was conducted.

The minutes of the previous general meeting were approved as published in *The Blown Fuse*.

Program Committee: Texx Woodworth reported that he had programs lined up for June, July, and August. He is still working on the remaining months, and has invitations out to several guest speakers. There was a discussion of potential program ideas, including construction of a J-pole zip line antenna, or a field trip to another location.

Editor: Sharon Primbsch reported that *The Blown Fuse* was coming along OK.

Membership: Sharon Primbsch reported that renewals were coming along OK.

Volunteer Examiners: Sharon Primbsch reported that the next VE session will be on Saturday, January 24, in Oakland.

Treasurer: John Wood reported \$4,220.81 in the checking account and \$4,181.42 in the savings or station fund account. Membership cards were passed out.

Secretary: Randy Jenkins reported that the incoming mail was renewals or junk mail.

Club Station: Ken Fowler reported that the power and water were back on at the club station, and we were working on the gas. Station Manager Stanton Gleason said he had not yet scheduled any work parties.

Web site: Peter Hoffman reported things were going well, and that he would post appropriate content when submitted.

Hospitality: Bob Bowling had no report other than the fact that refreshments will be available at the meeting break.

President: Ken Fowler reported that generally the club had a good month. However, we did lose a longtime member, John Billones, WD6GGC, who died Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>. There were many reminiscences about John from members.

Fowler read a letter that he had mailed to the Salvation Army in response to their previous letter. This met with the approval of the assembled members. There was a discussion on the issue of a donation to Salvation Army, but no motion was forthcoming.

Fowler also commented on the need for a Field Day team and chairperson.

Fowler presented certificates of appreciation from the last meeting to Peter Hoffman, Bob Bowling, and Russell Wikander.

Guests were introduced and welcomed to the meeting.

Announcements: 1) The USS Hornet ARC will hold a meeting at noon on Saturday, January 9. People interested in attending should see the guard at the security gangway. 2) The 4C's / EBARC picnic will be coming up in the fall. 3) The next 4C's breakfast is Sunday, January 10 at 7:30 a.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 20:22 hours.

Ken Fowler made a presentation on electronic components derived from his Boy Scout radio merit badge class.

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## EBARC Roster Update

- **NEW ADDRESS:** Bill Read, WD6AKC, has moved to 2850 Estates Dr., Pinole, 94654
- **RETURNING MEMBER:** Elliott Medrich, N6PF, now has an Extra class ticket. He lives at 121 Mandalay Rd., Oakland, CA 94618. His phone is 510-595-4121, and his email is eam1212003@yahoo.com. His main ham interest is DX.
- **NEW MEMBER:** Howard "Phil" Hoyt, KJ6ELD, has a General license. He lives at 2908 Russell St., Berkeley, 94705. His phone is 510-841-7731, and his email is phoyt@slac.stanford.edu. He's interested in emergency communications, DX, and aviation.

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## ARRL East Bay Section James Latham, AF6AQ

It is with regrets that I announce the retirement of Joe Lee, W6DOB, as East Bay Section Traffic manager. Joe has been a tremendous asset to the section for many years. To quote Joe "I am 82 going on 83 years old and can't function like in the past. I was involved in the Loma Prieta earthquake, Oakland hills fire, and

other ARES activities including Volunteer Examineer. I am following in Jetti Hill's footsteps - retiring to the pasture and enjoying life." Please join me in thanking Joe for a job well done and in wishing him the best in his retirement.

*[Editor's Note: As the liaison for the EBARC / ORCA / ARCA ARRL VE team, I'm hoping Joe will still "hang in there" with us, as he did for our January test session – Job Well Done!]*

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## The !@&# "PAST DUE" Stamp!

If the cover of your *Blown Fuse* or the email you received with this issue says "PAST DUE", our records show that you have not yet renewed for 2010. If you haven't renewed by mid-February, you won't receive the next issue of the newsletter, and you won't be in the 2010 roster! We'll examine the mail in the EBARC post office box before we cut you off! If you're sure you renewed before a month ago, contact John Wood at 967-8685!

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## Future Bay Area Events

- Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Robertson Park, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 MHz. Info: [www.livermoreark.org/swap/swap.html](http://www.livermoreark.org/swap/swap.html)
  - 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 16<sup>th</sup> St.), Oakland. The remaining dates for 2010 are Apr. 25<sup>th</sup>, July 25<sup>th</sup>, and Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>. The fee for 2010 remains at \$15. Info at 510-846-1587 or 510-741-8227.
  - CoCoCo RACES Training: Details at [www.cc-races.org](http://www.cc-races.org) or via RACES net, 6:45 p.m., Thursdays on 145.11 MHz.
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## The 4Cs 220 Net

There's a "QRM" net on 224.300 Mhz (- offset, pl 82.5) every Tuesday at 1930 local time. I hope that anyone who has a 220 radio will check into this net. We need to keep the 220 frequency available and not sold commercially.

Robby Robinson, N6MNL,  
Trustee, Contra Costa Communications Club

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*[The expanded list of nets and officers is being eliminated from the printed newsletter this month to save on printing costs. It will return next month - Ye Olde Editor]*

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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 \$25 for individual membership, \$30 for a family membership, and \$10 for students K-12. For information, contact any EBARC officer, see Web page [www.eastbayarc.org](http://www.eastbayarc.org), or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. The East Bay Amateur Radio Club maintains a club station, W6CUS, at 3200 Macdonald Ave., Richmond.

## 2010 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Ken Fowler, KO6NO, President, 222-0830
- "Texx" Woodworth, KG6ATH, 1<sup>st</sup> VP - Program Chair, 524-7452
- Bob Bowling, K6ZLG, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP - Hospitality Chair, 233-5749
- Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, 3<sup>rd</sup> VP - Membership / *Blown Fuse* Editor, 741-8227
- John Wood, N6JDW, Treasurer - Finance Committee Chair, 967-8685
- Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Secretary / Education Chair, 526-4089
- Stanton Gleason, KD6SWU, Club Station Manager/Member at Large, 385-4044
- Russell Wikander Jr., KI6CEZ, Member-at-Large, 847-3583

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Bob Bowling, K6ZLG, 2 <sup>nd</sup> VP - Hospitality Chair .....	233-5749	
Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, 3 <sup>rd</sup> VP - Membership / <i>Blown Fuse</i> Editor.....	741-8227	
John Wood, N6JDW, Treasurer - Finance Committee Chair.....	967-8685	
Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Secretary / Education Chair .....	526-4089	
Stanton Gleason, KD6SWU, Member-at-Large - Club Station Manager .	385-4044	
Russell Wikander Jr., KI6CEZ, Member-at-Large .....	847-3583	

## 2010 EBARC'S OTHER COMMITTEE HEADS AND CONTACTS

Jack Burris, K6JEB, W6CUS Trustee.....	415-305-2547
Peter Hoffman, W6DEI, Webmaster, Publicity Chair.....	525-0694
Joe Lee, W6DOB, Silent Key Chair.....	724-0533
Mark O'Brien, AF6FR, <a href="mailto:af6fr@yahoo.com">af6fr@yahoo.com</a> , Ride Coordinator.....	650-776-1817
Awards Chair.....	
Social & Digital Committees Chair.....	
Legislative Affairs .....	
RFI Committee Chair.....	
Historian .....	

## AMATEUR RADIO NETS

NET	DAYS	LOCAL TIME	FREQ, MHZ
West Contra Costa County ARES/RACES Net	Thurs	1845 (PL 82.5-)	145.110
EBARC "Explore Net" (HF)	Mon	1930 (USB)	28.425
KARO/ECHO ARES/RACES Net	Thurs	~1900 simplex	146.415
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	Daily	1930 (PL 107.2-)	145.410
"QRM Net"	Tues	1930 (PL 82.5-)	224.300

Asst. EC West CoCoCo: Mike McMillan, K6MCM, [mcmillan50y@yahoo.com](mailto:mcmillan50y@yahoo.com), phone 510 223-3052.  
 Frequencies: #1=145.110-, #2=147.570s, [www.cc-races.org](http://www.cc-races.org).