

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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# THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME LIX NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2011

## EBARC Meeting

February 11, 2011  
7:30 p.m.

APRS (Automatic Position Reporting System)  
Steve Bjork, K16JJW



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.

POSTMASTER:  
Address Correction Requested



FIRST CLASS MAIL

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. 22<sup>nd</sup>

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

## February 11<sup>th</sup> EBARC Meeting Jack Burris, K6JEB, Program Chair

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

Steve Bjork, KI6JJW, will describe his APRS (Automatic Position Reporting System) Setup. Did you ever want to know about how to get into APRS but didn't know where to start? Steve, KI6JJW will show us how he built his APRS station. His station regularly communicates with the International Space Station! Do we have your attention now? Don't miss this one. Steve lives in El Sobrante. He is a DXer, contesteer, builder, microcontroller programmer, electronics experimenter, and ham extraordinaire.

## 2011 Field Day is Coming!

Please put on your "thinking cap" to help us figure out what kind of Field Day EBARC should have this year! To volunteer, ask questions, or offer suggestions, please contact President Ken Fowler, KO6NO. Our earliest need is to acquire permission to use the site.

## Treasurer's Report December 2010 John Wood, N6JDW, Treasurer

### DECEMBER GENERAL FUND<sup>1</sup>

11/30/10 Beginning Balance .....	\$3,583.64
Regular Renewals: KI6UKC, KB6WC, N6RLS, WA6QJT, AF6AQ, WI6O, KE6EUA, KO6NO, KA6BQF, KG6WPN, WA6UDS, KI6CEZ, N6JGC, W6EFD, KG6ATH, KD6SWU, KJ6OZB .....	425.00
Family Renewals: N6MNL/KD6OKJ, K6JEB/KI6FYW, and KG6VLY/KG6VLX .....	90.00
Donation by KD6SWU .....	5.00
December Coffee Kitty .....	8.00
Silent Auction Proceeds .....	33.00
Check Stop Payment.....	<u>22.27</u>
(Income Subtotal: \$583.27)	
Ballot Printing .....	-\$6.42
Ballot Postage .....	-50.16
Blown Fuse Printing (Jan. issue) .....	-18.27
Blown Fuse Postage (Jan. issue) .....	-13.64
Equipment Insurance add-on .....	-7.00
P.G.&E. ....	<u>-19.62</u>
(Expense Subtotal: \$115.11)	
12/31/10 Ending Balance .....	\$4,051.80

<sup>1</sup>\$100 earmarked for youth scholarships.

### DECEMBER STATION FUND<sup>2</sup>

11/30/10 Ending Balance .....	\$4,297.00
12/31/10 Ending Balance .....	\$4,297.00

<sup>2</sup>\$1,169 earmarked for W6CUS Roofing Fund.

Total December Income .....	\$583.27
Total December Disbursements.....	\$115.11

[At press time, Treasurer Wood corrected two December figures that he reported at the January General meeting. December's General Fund actually finished with \$4,051.80 (not \$4,019.91), and there was \$115.11 (not \$147.00) in disbursements from the General Fund. – Ye Olde Editor]

# General Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2010

Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 19:30 hours by President Ken Fowler. There was a sign-in sheet available. 27 members and guests signed in. A round of introductions was the first order of business.

The minutes of the December 10, 2010 meeting were approved as published in *The Blown Fuse*.

First Vice President Burris reported that tonight's presentation would be by KY6R. Jack commented on the Rookie Roundup activity at the club station in December. February's program is still in progress.

Second Vice President Sparks had refreshments available.

Third Vice President Primbsch reported that there would be a VE session in Oakland on January 23. Applications for membership were distributed to interested parties.

Treasurer Wood reported that December finished with \$4,019.91 in checking, and \$4,297.00 in savings. There was \$583.27 in income and \$147.00 in disbursements from checking.

Secretary Jenkins reported on mail received (State of CA letter passed to President).

Station Manager Gleason, No report.

Events: Jenkins reported on the Grizzly Peak Century (5/01/11) and the BSA FAGES Hike in June.

Education: Fowler reported attempts to schedule a General class for the spring. Jenkins announced that he would be teaching a Technician class in Marin beginning January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Webmaster Hoffman needs updates for the website.

President Fowler commented on the upcoming presentations. The need for a Field Day Coordinator was mentioned. Ken reported on the status of the roof at the club station, and the status of the building with Richmond. New members and guests were announced.

Ron Smith announced that the North America SSB QSO Party was next weekend.

The next meeting is February 11, 2011. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 19:53.

A presentation was made by Rich Holoch, KY6R, on wire antenna arrays for DXing. President Fowler presented Rich with a Certificate of Appreciation.

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## EBARC Roster Update

- **UPGRADE:** Mathison Ott, KJ6DZB, just earned his General ticket.
- **NEW MEMBER:** P. Michael Nicholson, K6CUG, has a General license. He lives at 1311 Canterbury, Hercules, CA 94547. You can reach him at h: 510-245-7012, c: 626-390-6740, or k6cug@arrl.net. He's interested in RACES, and Field Day. His non-ham interests are weather, earthquakes, gardening, photography, and camping.
- **NEW MEMBER:** Chris Harwood, KJ6GLR, has a General license. He lives at 5904 Amend Rd., Richmond, 94803. You can reach him at crharwood@gmail.com or at 510-868-0906. He's interested in HF, antenna building, and PSK. His non-ham interests include dirt biking, surfing, and skilled labor.

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**Questions that haunt me:** Why does round pizza come in a square box?

## The !@&# “PAST DUE” Stamp!

If the cover of your *Blown Fuse* or the email you received says “PAST DUE”, our records show that you have not yet renewed for 2011. 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 2011 roster! We’ll examine the mail in the EBARC post office box before we cut you off. If you’re sure you renewed before mid-January, contact John Wood at 967-8685!

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## Is Your Roster Entry Up To Date?

If you have changed your license class, your snail-mail address, your email address, or your telephone number(s) in the last year, please notify Sharon, AA6XZ, at [aa6xz@earthlink.net](mailto:aa6xz@earthlink.net). The 2011 EBARC membership roster will be reissued next month!

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## Excerpt from *ARRL East Bay Section News*, by James R Latham, AF6AQ

The year 2010 has been filled with many great successes and some changes in the East Bay Section:

- I have gone from geographical Assistant Section Managers (ASMs) to functional ASMs. As a result there are now three (3) new cabinet level positions; ASM Education and Training (David Haycock, KI6AWR), ASM Contesting and DX (Chris Tate, N6WM), and ASM Youth Activities (Ryan Lee, K3SFG). Please take advantage of these new positions to plan, organize and coordinate programs in their respective areas of responsibility.
- We saw the return of Pacificon to San Ramon again this year. This was another great convention. Unfortunately, Pacificon will be moving from the East Bay Section to the Santa Clara Valley Section for at least

the next two years. This will allow for a larger and even better event with the National ARRL convention coming in 2012.

- There have also been some changes and improvements to the ARES® program in the Section. There are now two levels of ARES membership with required training and a photo ID for the higher level.
  - We now have an official DXCC Card checker in the EB Section (Bruce Croskey, AH0U).
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**More questions that haunt me:** Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog’s face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him for a car ride, he sticks his head out the window?

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

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## Future Bay Area Events

- Current Bay Area Public Service Events: See [www.eastbayarc.org](http://www.eastbayarc.org), click on “Current Events”, then scroll to “Public Service.”
- 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 tests for 2011 are; Apr 17<sup>th</sup>, Jul 24<sup>th</sup>, and Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>. The fee for 2011 is \$15. Info at 510-918-4627 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.

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.

## 2011 East Bay Amateur Radio Club Executive Committee

Ken Fowler, KO6NO, President ..... 222-0830  
 Jack Burris, K6JEB, 1<sup>st</sup> VP - Program Chair..... 415-305-2547  
 Jay Sparks KJ6HSH, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP - Hospitality Chair ..... 384-4233  
 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, Member-at-Large - Club Station Manager . 385-4044  
 Russell Wikander Jr., KI6CEZ, Member-at-Large ..... 847-3583

## 2011 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  
 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
9 a.m. Talk Net	Mo-Fr	0900 (PL 100.0-)	145.230
Youth Net	Sat	1400 (PL 100.0-)	145.230

RACES, 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).