

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME LXV NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2017

EBARC Meeting



February 24, 2017, 7:30 p.m.
"Low Band DXing"
Rich Holoch, KY6R



EBARC meets this month at El Sobrante United Methodist Church, 670
Appian Way, El Sobrante (enter parking opposite 5156 Argyle Rd.)

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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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: Mon., Mar. 6th

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

MEETING VENUE AND DATE CHANGE!

Because the El Sobrante Library will be unavailable for our meetings for the next few months we've found another nearby location. We will be meeting at the El Sobrante United Methodist Church on the 4th Friday of each month from January through April. (NOTE THE DATE CHANGE TOO). The location is:

**El Sobrante United Methodist Church
670 Appian Way, El Sobrante**

**Parking entrance is opposite 5156 Argyle Rd.
GPS coordinates: 37.981938, -122.294720**

Directions: from the center of I-80 and the Appian Way exit, it is 1.0 miles to Appian and Argyle Rd. (If you get to the El Sobrante Post Office on your right, you have gone too far.) Turn left onto Argyle Rd., pass the parking lot on your right, then enter the lot on your left.

In May we should be able to return to our usual location and schedule, i.e., the El Sobrante Library on the 2nd Friday of each month.

February 24th EBARC Meeting Peter Hoffman, W6DEI

What does a DXer do at the bottom of the solar cycle when our beloved 20-meter band is a shadow of its former self? The answer might just be to "Go Low" and go really, really low like 160 meters. The solar minimum means D-layer absorption is also at a minimum, yet the F-layer is still capable of refracting low frequency signals. But operating on 160 meters poses many challenges. Rich Holoch, KY6R, will tell us how he's attacking those challenges and give us all some ideas of how we might do that also. Maybe the solar minimum can provide its own fun for hams.

President's Message Jay Sparks, KJ6HSH

The January meeting was well attended. As always, the speakers; Mat, Jack and Martin, were terrific. APRS is a fun and practical mode. Thanks for the informative and timely presentation!

Our temporary meeting location, El Sobrante United Methodist Church, will serve us very well for the next few months (through April) while the El Sobrante Library is unavailable. We would like to find some token of our appreciation for the church's generosity. If you have any thoughts, please express them to any Board member.

Speaking of Board members, a current topic is revising the by-laws which, needs to be done periodically. Peter will be posting possible revisions and updates on the EBARC website once the Board has had a chance to review them. I suggest that any interested members read over the current bylaws (always available from the *HOME* page at ebarc.org) and bring questions to the meeting. We will likely have a vote in May or June. [The "BREAKING NEWS"]

tab at ebarc.org has the current proposed changes – Editor]

Planning is progressing for the March 14th morning launch of the HENRY-1 balloon, depending on weather conditions. We will have meetings on the Berkeley campus, and tele-conferencing is possible. The first meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 7th at 5 p.m. Please let me know if you wish to be included (you can connect by computer or phone). Enthusiastic participation is always welcome!

Tech & General License Courses

Ken Fowler, KO6NO

Spring courses for Technician and General class ham licenses start April 11, 2017, eleven sessions each, at Alvarado School, 5625 Sutter St., Richmond, CA 94805

The General class will meet on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The textbook is *The ARRL General Class License Manual*, 8th Edition.

The Technician class will meet on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The textbook is *The ARRL HAM RADIO License Manual*, 3rd Edition.

Books will be available for purchase. Tech and General courses may be taken concurrently. At the conclusion of both courses, FCC examinations and license applications will be administered at a joint session by the EBARC Volunteer Examiners. The exam fee is \$15.

Preregister at the West Contra Costa Adult Education Office (in Alvarado School) or online at: <http://www.wccae.info/index.html>. Their phone is (510) 231-1453. The WCCAE Class fee is \$15 for each class.

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

Treasurer's Report

October 2016

Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Treasurer

OCTOBER GENERAL FUND¹

Beginning Balance\$5,606.36

Income:

HRO Ad.....\$180.00

Refreshment Kitty.....15.00

Total General Income:.....\$195.00

Disbursements

Total General Expenditures.....\$0.00

Ending Balance\$5,801.36

(portion as petty cash..... \$57.21)

¹\$100 earmarked for youth scholarships.

In May 2015 the club voted to contribute \$150.00 to Cal's Balloon Launch Project. We have not yet made that donation.

OCTOBER STATION FUND

Beginning Balance:\$2,371.94

Income:

Total Station Income\$0.00

Disbursements:

Building Materials for Storage:

(Ken, KO6NO)\$78.20

Building Materials for Storage:

(Jay, KJ6HSH)671.47

Refreshments (Jim, KK6NDG)36.88

Total Station Expenditures\$786.55

Ending Balance\$1,585.39

Treasurer's Report

November 2016

Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Treasurer

NOVEMBER GENERAL FUND¹

Beginning Balance\$5,801.36

Income:

Refreshment Kitty\$16.20
 Total General Income:\$16.20

Disbursements

4Cs/EBARC picnic\$47.22
 Total General Expenditures\$47.22
 Ending Balance\$5,770.34
 (portion as petty cash\$56.20)

¹\$100 earmarked for youth scholarships.

In May 2015 the club voted to contribute \$150.00 to Cal's Balloon Launch Project. We have not yet made that donation.

NOVEMBER STATION FUND

Beginning Balance:\$1,585.39

Income:

Total Station Income\$0.00

Disbursements:

Total Station Expenditures\$0.00
 Ending Balance\$1,585.39

**Treasurer's Report
 December 2016**

Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Treasurer

DECEMBER GENERAL FUND¹

Beginning Balance\$5,770.34

Income:

Renewals, Individual: KJ6JPN, KA6BQF, KG6WPN, KF6HEX, KK6UQX, W6QNT, K5EJL, WS6V, W6WTJ, N6SPY, KW6R, KO6NO, KI6KOZ, KE6RS, KK6MO, W6MRR, N6RLS, KK6NDF, KE6EUA, AA6XZ, KD6SWU, WB6VEX, AC6ZF, K6MCM, W6DEI, WA6UDS, KG6VMA, KK6TLB, KD6UL, WI6O, W8JSN, KK6UPI, AI6GD\$990.00

Renewals, Family: KI7FQ/KE6MRH, KI6EMD/KI6ENT, W6BBQ/KF6MVH, KC6OBK/K6KOP, KD6OKJ/ N6MNL 175.00
 Donation 10.00

Total General Income:\$1,175.00

Disbursements

Total General Expenditures\$0.00
 Ending Balance\$6,945.34
 (portion as petty cash \$42.20)

¹\$100 earmarked for youth scholarships.

In May 2015 the club voted to contribute \$150.00 to Cal's Balloon Launch Project. We have not yet made that donation.

DECEMBER STATION FUND

Beginning Balance:\$1,585.39

Income:

Bank Interest 10/01\$0.15

Disbursements:

Total Station Expenditures\$0.00
 Ending Balance\$1,585.54

**Treasurer's Report
 January 2017**

Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Treasurer

JANUARY GENERAL FUND¹

Beginning Balance\$6,945.34

Income:

Renewals, Individual: KJ6EZB, KD6MZC, AG6FU, KK6NDJ, KJ6DZB, KK6NDG\$150.00
 Renewals, Family: KI6KOV/KI6KOU, KK6ZPM/KJ6WSS, W6AKB/KB6LHP, KG6LXL/KI6ELP 105.00
 Refreshment Kitty44.02
 Total General Income:\$299.02

Disbursements

Insurance\$464.00
 Postage 61.10
 Refreshments 37.03
 Supplies 31.73
 Total General Expenditures\$593.86
 Ending Balance\$6,650.50

(portion as petty cash\$144.20)

¹\$100 earmarked for youth scholarships.

In May 2015 the club voted to contribute \$150.00 to Cal's Balloon Launch Project. We have not yet made that donation.

JANUARY STATION FUND

Beginning Balance: \$1,585.54

Income:

Bank Interest 10/01 \$0.15

Disbursements:

Total Station Expenditures \$0.00

Ending Balance \$1,585.69

Renew for 2017 before the Feb 28th deadline, so you'll be listed in the roster (to be published in March)!

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 dates for 2017 are; Apr. 23rd, Jul. 23rd, and 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
 Member-at-Large (to be announced).....
 Member-at-Large (to be announced).....

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
 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 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, West CoCoCo: Mike McMillan, K6MCM, mcmillan50y@yahoo.com, phone 510 223-3052.
 Frequencies: #1=145.110-, #2=147.570s.

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/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

ANAHEIM, CA
(800) 854-6046

OAKLAND, CA
(877) 892-1745

SUNNYVALE, CA
(877) 892-1749

PORTLAND, OR
(800) 765-4267

PHOENIX, AZ
(800) 559-7388

WOODBIDGE, VA
(800) 444-4799

PLANO, TX
(877) 455-8750

BURBANK, CA
(877) 892-1748

SAN DIEGO, CA
(877) 520-9623

NEW CASTLE, DE
(800) 644-4476

DENVER, CO
(800) 444-9476

ATLANTA, GA
(800) 444-7927

SALEM, NH
(800) 444-0047

ONLINE STORE
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.