

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME LXII NUMBER 1

JANUARY 2009

EBARC Meeting

January 9, 2009

7:30 p.m.

Hornet Amateur Radio Club
Ken Fowler, KO6NO



The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets the second Friday of each month
at the Salvation Army, 4600 Appian 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:
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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 Feb. issue: Tuesday, Jan. 27th

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

Treasurer's Report November 2008

Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

NOVEMBER INCOME

New Member: Wm. Pridgen III \$25.00
 Regular Renewals: AA6XZ, KG6ATH,
 WD6GGC, KF6HEX, W8JSN,
 KE6ZWO, KA6BQF, NU6W,
 K6ZLG, W6DEI, KD6SWU 275.00
 Family Renewal: KI6EMD/KI6ENT 30.00
 W6CUS Station Fund Donation 5.00
 Coffee Kitty November 16.75
 Total Nov. Income \$351.75

NOVEMBER DISBURSEMENTS

Blown Fuse Printing \$25.58
 Blown Fuse Postage 15.54
 AT&T (W6CUS phone). 25.13
 4Cs Picnic supplies share 143.69
 Total Nov. Disbursements \$209.94

BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS

Checking (General Fund) \$3,873.11
 Savings (Station Fund*) \$3,311.05

*\$1,169 earmarked for W6CUS Roofing Fund.

We are now collecting the dues for 2009. Regular individual membership is \$25, family membership is \$30. Please include your call sign on your check. You can pay dues at a meeting, or send it to our P.O. Box.

2009 EBARC Membership Renewal

Name

Call Sign N T T+ G A E
License Class (circle)

Street

City, State, Zip

Phone (include area code)

e-mail address

ARRL Member? Yes No
 Membership Type Regular Family
 Blown Fuse delivery e-mail snail mail

Dues: Regular \$25, Family \$30, K-12 \$10

Mail to P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530

Additional family member name(s), call, and class

Please use the lines above to tell us your ham interests, and any non-ham skills or hobbies

January EBARC Meeting

At our general meeting Friday, January 9th, we'll have a PowerPoint presentation about the USS Hornet Museum and the Hornet Amateur Radio Club (HARC). Ken Fowler, KO6NO, president of both clubs, will preside.

No Crab Feed this Year

At the December EBARC Board meeting, the officers decided not to hold a crab feed this year. Crab is expensive, the economy isn't doing well, and we didn't do enough advance planning for this event. We may have some other kind of fundraiser dinner or luncheon later in the year.

EBARC Roster Update

NEW MEMBER: Michael A. Curry, KI6TYV, has a Technician ticket. He lives at 2007 Marin Ave., Berkeley. His phone is 459-9535, and email is dgspotman@gmail.com. His ham interests are emergency communication, RDF, and antennas. He also dabbles in neon, metal fabrication, and software programming.

Extra Class Course ARRL East Bay Section Mgr. James R. Latham, AF6AQ

The Salvation Army and the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club will be holding an Extra Class course, where you can learn everything you need to upgrade your General Class FCC Amateur Radio License to the top level.

Classes begin January 8, 2009 at 7-9 pm
At The Salvation Army, 3950 Clayton Road, (at West St.), Concord 94520

Registration is requested for classroom sizing.

Recommended Text: *ARRL Extra Class License Manual*

To join, contact: Chuck Graham, KI6DCD
graham.chuck@gmail.com or 925 689-7640

Congressional Committee Members Release Report Lambasting FCC Chairman Kevin Martin

[Excerpt from The ARRL Letter, 12/12/2008]

On Tuesday, December 9, the House Committee on Energy and Commerce -- the congressional committee that oversees the Federal Communications Commission -- released its majority staff report "on the bipartisan investigation of the FCC's regulatory processes and management practices." The report -- "Deception and Distrust: The Federal Communications Commission under Chairman Kevin J. Martin" -- stated that the investigation was prompted "by allegations to the effect that [FCC] Chairman Kevin J. Martin has abused FCC procedures by manipulating or suppressing reports, data and information."

The report said that "in an investigation of this nature," the Committee would usually hold hearings "to receive testimony from witnesses and to further examine the issues." But due to what the Committee called "the climate of fear that currently pervades the FCC," the report said the Committee found that key witnesses "were unwilling to testify or even have their names become known." For that reason, they issued a report in place of a hearing "to protect the many honest people who came forward under a promise of protection or anonymity." Chairman Martin was invited to meet with the Committee to discuss matters addressed by the investigation, but the report said he "ignored [the Committee's] invitation,"...

In its 110-page report, the Committee described 12 allegations ... Not all 12 allegations were substantiated by the Committee.

* Broadband over Power Lines

The report found that in October 2004, as then-Chairman Michael Powell issued his final rule "defining BPL access and setting technical and administrative requirements to protect licensed radio operators from harmful interference," the FCC "withheld from the public certain

engineering reports on which it relied in promulgating the rule" from the final rule and order.

The report goes on to say that on April 25, 2008, the US Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit found that the FCC, in the case filed by the ARRL, "violated the Administrative Procedure Act when it played 'hide and seek' with engineering data used in its support of the order and 'cherry-picked' a study on which it had relied".

"The fact that the FCC withheld the required engineering reports in this matter," the report concluded, "indicates poor judgment and an attempt to hide critical weaknesses in its decision. Ironically, the FCC's attempts to hide this information only served to provoke suspicion and its handmaiden, litigation. This case [filed by the ARRL] illustrates the extent to which a culture of secrecy has developed at the FCC that is as counterproductive as it is unnecessary." The report states that this "particular situation" has been corrected by the courts and technological issues arising from BPL have been "rendered largely moot over time due to improvements" in BPL technology.

"It is distressing, but unfortunately not surprising," said ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, "to read that the FCC's mishandling of the BPL issue was simply a part of a broad pattern of dysfunction at the Commission. This is a relatively recent development and is unprecedented in the ARRL's long experience with the FCC – an association that dates back to the very creation of the agency, 20 years after the founding of the ARRL. While the marketplace failure of BPL and the steps taken voluntarily by the few companies that have deployed BPL systems have combined to minimize interference, the regulatory issue is by no means moot. The rules remain inadequate."

Sumner continued: "More than seven months after the Court remand, the FCC has done nothing to correct its errors, nor has it complied

with the very specific instructions from the United States Court of Appeals...

* Committee Methodology

Over the course of its investigation, the Committee staff reviewed "several hundred thousand documents, including 95 boxes of paper documents; conducted 73 interviews of current and former FCC employees and individuals associated with the telecommunications industry; solicited and received e-mails from FCC employees and contractors at a secure e-mail address established for this purpose, and reviewed dozens of allegations."....

The Committee also emphasized that not everything they found is included in its report ... Still, other allegations have not been adequately investigated because the FCC has not yet produced all of the records requested by the Committee."

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: Robert 925-560-5646 (h). More info at www.livermoreark.org/swap/swap.html
- EBARC, ORCA, and ARCA sponsor joint ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions quarterly at 9 a.m. The dates for 2009 are Jan. 25th, Apr. 26th, Jul. 26th, & Oct. 25th. Tests are in the Media Room, 1605 Martin Luther King Jr. Way (at 16th St.), Oakland. The 2009 test fee is \$15. For info call 510-846-1587 or 510-741-8227.
- CoCoCo RACES Training: Details at 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, call (510) 233-7509, contact any EBARC officer, see Web page 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. The packet station, W6CUS-1, is on 145.630 Mhz, and is linked to the EAST BAY LAN (EBAY) on 223.720 Mhz.

2009 EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB EXECUTIVE BOARD

Ken Fowler, KO6NO, President	222-0830
"Texx" Woodworth, KG6ATH, 1 st VP - Program Chair.....	524-7452
Don Lindstad, K6VAI, 2nd VP - Hospitality Chair	758-2608
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Stanton Gleason, KD6SWU, Club Station Manager, '08 Memb-at-Large	385-4044
Jack Burris, K6JEB, W6CUS Trustee.....	415-305-2547
Peter Hoffman, W6DEI, Field Day Chair, Webmaster, Publicity Chair	525-0694
Bob Bowling, K6ZLG, '08 Member-at-Large.....	233-5749
John Wood, N6JDW, "vacationing" '08 Member-at-Large	741-7050
Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, '08 Education Chair	526-4089
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Awards Chair.....	
Social & Digital Committees Chair.....	
Legislative Affairs	
RFI Committee Chair.....	
Historian	
Mark O'Brien, AF6FR, af6fr@yahoo.com , Ride Coordinator.....	650-776-1817

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
"Going Home Group"	Mo-Fr	1600 (PL 82.5-)	145.110

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