

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME LXIII NUMBER 7

JULY 2010

EBARC Meeting

July 9, 2010
7:30 p.m.

"Mobile Installations"
John Wood, N6JDW
Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ



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. NO JULY MEETING!

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 Aug. issue: Tuesday, July 27th

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

July 9th EBARC Program Prius Ham Radio Installation

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

This month John Wood, N6JDW, and Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, will tell us about installing 2-meter / 440 MHz radios in their 2009 Priuses.

Treasurer's Report May 2010

John Wood, N6JDW, Treasurer

MAY GENERAL FUND¹

4/30/10 Beginning Balance	\$3,990.00
New Members: WB6LLW, N6RLS, and KJ6HSH.....	37.50
May Coffee Kitty.....	<u>17.00</u>
(Income Subtotal: \$54.50)	
P.G.& E.	-151.69
Blown Fuse Printing (June issue).....	0.00
Blown Fuse Postage (June issue).....	-11.88
Refreshments (B. Bowling)	<u>-9.75</u>
(Expense Subtotal: \$173.32)	
5/31/10 Ending Balance.....	\$3,871.18

¹\$100 earmarked for youth scholarships.

MAY STATION FUND²

4/30/10 Beginning Balance	\$4,295.41
5/31/10 Ending Balance	\$4,295.41

²\$1,169 earmarked for W6CUS Roofing Fund.

Total May Income.....	\$54.50
Total May Disbursements.....	\$173.32

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

General Meeting Minutes

June 11, 2010

Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 19:33 hours by President Ken Fowler. There was a sign-in sheet available. Sixteen members and guests were in attendance. A round of introductions was the first order of business. The minutes of the May 14, 2010 meeting were approved as published in *The Blown Fuse*.

First VP Woodward was not present. Sharon Primbsch read the list of upcoming presentations: July – John Wood & Sharon Primbsch on Mobile installations; August – Texx Woodworth & Jack Burriss on Towers; September – Bob Uhrhammer; and October – Tom Tazlar on Roll-up J-Pole construction.

Second Vice President Bowling was not present with refreshments. (Bob arrived as the business meeting adjourned.)

Third Vice President Primbsch reported no problems with membership or the newsletter. The early July issue deadline will be June 15.

Treasurer Wood reported that April finished with \$3,682.59 in checking, and \$4,295.41 in savings. There were \$54.50 in income and \$361.91 in disbursements from checking. The

Executive Board decided to move the accounts from Bank of the West to Mechanics Bank.

Secretary Jenkins reported no mail received.

Station Manager Gleason reported that the station was still standing.

Education: Jenkins reported that the Technician class successfully concluded, with the remaining four students passing their exams. Jenkins thanked Fowler and Woodworth for their assistance in teaching the class. Two of the students had already passed their Technician Class test elsewhere.

Website: Fowler reported that it was running fine.

President Fowler commented on teaching the Technician class. Ken also commented on the BSA Fages II 20 mile hike that EBARC operators provided communications for, and thanked Stanton Gleason for organizing the event. Ken commented on Field Day; June 25, 26, and 27

Two new members were signed up at the meeting: Bob Irwin, K6YV, and Mathison Ott, KJ6DZB.

Jenkins announced that there were public service opportunities in Marin in August. There will be no Executive Committee meeting at the club station in July. The next general membership meeting will be July 9.

There being no further business, the business meeting was adjourned at 19:55 hours.

A Field Day planning discussion was held after the refreshment break.

Save These Dates!

Sep. 12 – 4Cs / EBARC picnic

Dec. 11 – 4Cs / EBARC holiday luncheon

Public Service Help Needed

Operators are needed for the Marin Century / Mt. Tam Double Century Ride on Saturday, August 7; and for the Holstein 100 Ride on August 21. Contact Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, ka6bqf@arrl.net for information.

FCC Proposes FRS/GMRS Radio Rule Changes

[This email was forwarded by Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF. GMRS is General Mobile Radio Service. FRS is Family Radio Service. I have edited the contents, with apologies to the original author, who is unknown. The actual FCC NPRM document is at http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-10-106A1.pdf – Ye Olde Editor]

Dear Two-Way Radio professional and end-user:

I bring to your attention the FCC Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) 10-106A. It was released yesterday, June 7, with a 30-day comment due date (July 7, 2010).

While it's rather broad in scope and attempts to address and unify multiple Part 95 Services, it specifically proposes some pretty drastic changes to GMRS operations. Since many of my dealer/partners, reps, end users and contacts do use Part 90 Land Mobile products for Part 95 GMRS applications, I thought it prudent to bring this proposed set of rule changes to your attention.

It's my opinion that the FCC has pigeon-holed GMRS in the same category as Family Radio Service; namely, that the FCC considers GMRS to be a consumer-oriented service limited to recreational use. While this may be true in many cases, and while many vendors (Cobra, Midland, etc) sell GMRS products in "blister packaged" configurations for sale by big-box retailers, GMRS has been widely adopted by state, county, local and emergency (CERT, OEM, OES, etc) agencies to provide

emergency and disaster communications. Many of these agencies have procured Part 90 products and implemented them to serve under Part 95 GMRS operations. So GMRS needs to be viewed not only as a consumer service, but, as a vital and emergency (non-consumer) service and to this end I think the FCC is making some poor recommendations.

While the list below is not all-inclusive and is greatly simplified, here are some key points the FCC is proposing in NPRM 10-106A (I urge you to read the entire document):

1) Power limits of portable devices shall be reduced to 2 watts ERP, in

keeping with MURS rules and restrictions

2) Operation of mobile units shall cease, due to possible coordination issues with licensed Business Band Part 90 operations

3) Operation of repeater systems shall cease, again due to high power levels and antenna gain issues causing potential interference to Part 90 operations

4) GMRS station licenses shall be terminated

5) GMRS operation shall be converted to "rules-based operations" rather than station operation, similar to MURS or radio remote control devices

6) GMRS operations will be required to convert to narrow-band operation (not really an issue, but, it's mentioned in the NPRM)

7) The upper repeater input frequencies will be allocated to non-GMRS operations, most likely Business Band Part 90

My comments above are brief and are not intended to be a complete and thorough analysis of NPRM 10-106A. But, should you, your end-users and/or emergency partners depend on GMRS for communications of any kind or purpose, this rulemaking change will have a direct impact. I strongly urge you to read the document, share this information with your colleagues, and make the effort to reply to the FCC by the deadline if you feel that revocation of GMRS operations under present-day rules will severely impact you.

EBARC Roster Update

- **CORRECTION:** N6RLS is Robin Spalding, not Robin Spelling, as printed in the June newsletter. [*Sorry for the mistake! – Ye Olde Editor*]
- **NEW MEMBER:** Mathison Ott, KJ6DZB, is a Technician. He lives at 1416 Ninth St., Apt. D, Berkeley, 94710. His email is mathisono@gmail.com, and his phone is 510-701-0234.
- **NEW MEMBER:** Robert Irwin, K6YV, holds an Extra ticket. He lives at 1213 Henry St., Berkeley, 94709. His phone is 510-524-1514, and his email is k6yv@arrl.net. He's interested in SSB and contesting. He also likes astronomy and computers.

Future Bay Area Events

- Current Bay Area Public Service Events: See 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
- South Bay Electronics Flea Market, 2nd Saturday of each month, March through October, De Anza College, Cupertino. Details at www.asvaro.org. Talk-in on 145.27 MHz (-, 100 Hz PL).
- 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 dates for 2010 are July 25th and Oct. 24th. 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 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, 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 East Bay Amateur Radio Club Executive Committee

Ken Fowler, KO6NO, President 222-0830
 "Texx" Woodworth, KG6ATH, 1st VP - Program Chair..... 524-7452
 Bob Bowling, K6ZLG, 2nd VP - Hospitality Chair 233-5749
 Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, 3rd 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

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
 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

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