

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME LX NUMBER 3

MARCH 2012

EBARC Meetings

March 9, 2012, 7:30 p.m.

"Confessions of a WSJT Junkie"
Jack Burris, K6JEB



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

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THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
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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 Apr. issue: Tues. Mar. 27th

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

March 9th EBARC Meeting
Jack Burris, K6JEB, 1st VP

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

The March Program will be "Confessions of a WSJT Junkie" by yours truly, Jack, K6JEB. I'll fess up about how to work long haul DX and explore propagation modes, such as meteor scatter and even moon bounce.

Treasurer's Report
January 2012

Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Treasurer

JANUARY GENERAL FUND¹

Beginning Balance: \$4,381.08
Income:
 New Memberships: KJ6VLW 25.00
 Renewals, Individual: K6CUG,
 KJ6DYX, KI6CEZ, KI6UKC,
 K6YV, N6JGC..... 150.00
 Renewals, Family: W6AKB/KG6LXL,
 W6THD/W6THB, and
 KG6VLX/KG6VLY 90.00
 Refreshment Kitty: 17.25

Total General Income:.....\$282.25

Disbursements

PG&E (Dec.)\$20.50
 Meeting Food (Dec & Jan)41.99
 Blown Fuse29.64
 Text Books (adj.)10.00
 Total General Disbursements.....\$102.13
 Ending Balance\$4,561.20

¹\$100 earmarked for youth scholarships.

JANUARY STATION FUND²

Beginning Balance:\$4,325.26
Income:\$0.00

Disbursements

Rotor Control Cable.....\$163.13
 Ending Balance\$4,189.13

²\$1,413.50 earmarked for W6CUS Roofing Fund.

This is the Roster Issue!

If you receive *The Blown Fuse* via snail-mail, you'll have the 2012 EBARC roster enclosed with this issue. If you get the newsletter via email, you'll get the roster via snail-mail, but with only the newsletter's cover page. Enjoy!

General Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2012

Mike McMillan, K6MCM, Secretary

Opening: The meeting at the El Sobrante Library was called to order at 7:32 p.m. by President Fowler. A sign-in sheet was circulated: 26 members and guests signed in. A round of self-introductions was made. Minutes of the January 13, 2012 general meeting were approved as published in the *Blown Fuse*.

Program: First Vice-President Burris reported that tonight's program will be by Mathison Ott, KJ6DZB, "My Journey into Software Defined

Radio and The Next Generation of Broadband RF Interface". Next month's program is open.

Hospitality: Second Vice-President Sparks provided an excellent array of refreshments.

Membership: Third Vice-President Primbsch reported EBARC has 67 members for 2012.

The membership roster will be distributed soon. A VE session will be held on February 12 for Technicians only. Postage rate has gone up for mailing copies of the *Blown Fuse*.

Finance: Treasurer Jenkins reported club financial information. General fund balance was \$4,561.20; and station fund balance was \$4,189.13. Monthly general income was \$282.25; and expenses were \$102.13. Station fund had expenses of \$163.13 (no income).

Secretary: Secretary McMillan reported some miscellaneous correspondence received.

Station Manager: Gleason absent; Fowler reported some sheet-metal work completed on the club station roof. Work party for roof repair scheduled for February 25, 9:30 a.m. Helpers are requested, particularly those who can work safely on a roof.

Public Events/Education: Jenkins reported the Grizzly Peak bike ride will be Sunday, May 6. Anyone wishing to help should contact Randy. Fowler reports a General license class will be starting in April at WCCAE; instructors are solicited – contact Ken if interested.

Web Page: Webmaster Hoffman reported that four presentations by Rich Holoch, KY6R, on antennas have been posted on the EBARC website. They make great reading.

President: Fowler reported that EBARC is having a good year. The library meeting location is assured via a new computer reservation system. DX is low.

New Members and Guests: Vern Orme, AA6YE, was recognized as a returning member.

Announcements: *Blown Fuse* deadline for the next issue is February 21, 2012. Contact Sharon, AA6XZ, if you have anything you'd like in the next edition.

Next Meeting: is scheduled for March 9, 2012 at the El Sobrante library.

Closing: There being no further business, the membership meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Presentation: Following a break for refreshments, Mathison Ott, KJ6DZB, began his presentation on software-defined radio (SDR). A basic SDR system consists of a personal computer equipped with a sound card, or other analog-to-digital converter, preceded by some form of RF front end. Significant amounts of signal processing are handed over to the general-purpose processor rather than being done in special-purpose radio hardware. This produces a radio that can receive and transmit widely different radio protocols and frequencies (CW, voice, PSK, etc.) based solely on the software used. Mathison showed slides of many brands currently being tested and sold, followed by a live demonstration using Internet access through the library's system.

Future Bay Area Events

- Current Bay Area Public Service Events: See www.eastbayarc.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 2012 are April 22, July 22, and October 28. The fee for 2012 remains \$15. Info at 510-918-4627 or 510-741-8227.
- 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).
- CoCoCo RACES Training: Details from mcmillan50y@yahoo.com or via RACES net, 6:45 p.m., Thursdays on 145.11 MHz.

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

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.

2012 East Bay Amateur Radio Club Executive Committee

Ken Fowler, KO6NO, President 222-0830
 Jack Burris, K6JEB, 1st VP - Program Chair / Field Day Chair 415-305-2547
 Jay Sparks KJ6HSH, 2nd VP - Hospitality Chair 384-4233
 Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, 3rd VP - Membership / *Blown Fuse* Editor 741-8227
 Mike McMillan, K6MCM, Secretary 223-3052
 Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Treasurer / Finance Committee Chair 526-4089
 Russell Wikander Jr., KI6CEZ, Member-at-Large 847-3583
 John Wood, N6JDW, Member-at-Large 967-8685

2012 EBARC's Other Committee Heads and Contacts

Stanton Gleason, KD6SWU, Club Station Manager 385-4044
 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 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, phone 510 223-3052.
 Frequencies: #1=145.110-, #2=147.570s.