

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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# THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME LXI NUMBER 5

MAY 2013

## EBARC Meetings



May 10, 2013, 7:30 p.m.  
W6BB Discussion  
U.C. Berkeley Students



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.

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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 June issue: Tues. May 28<sup>th</sup>

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

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**May 10<sup>th</sup> EBARC Meeting**  
**Jack Burris, K6JEB, 1<sup>st</sup> VP**

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

This month Cal students will talk to us about their ham club, W6BB.

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**WANTED: Volunteer Amateur Radio Operators for Hospital Disaster Response Communications**  
**David Otey, WB6NER**

Kaiser Permanente, Richmond Medical Center, is looking for interested, community based, volunteer Amateur Radio operators to staff the disaster response amateur radio station (located in the hospital) which may become activated in a declared community-wide disaster. If you're interested, please contact David Otey, WB6NER via email at wb6ner@arrl.net or by phone at 510-918-4627.

**Treasurer's Report**  
**March 2013**  
**Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Treasurer**

MARCH GENERAL FUND<sup>1</sup>

Beginning Balance .....\$4,079.38  
Income:  
New Memberships; KK6BKQ  
(free, from class) .....\$0.00  
Individual Renewals; KG6ATH, KG6VLY,  
KJ6SWK .....90.00  
Refreshment Kitty:.....7.63  
Interest .....0.44  
Total General Income:.....\$98.07

Disbursements

PG&E (Mar.).....\$22.20  
Blown Fuse .....67.58  
Meeting Food .....22.26  
Total General Disbursements.....\$112.04  
Ending Balance .....\$4,065.41

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

MARCH STATION FUND

Beginning Balance: .....\$3,520.80  
Income: .....\$0.00

Disbursements: .....\$0.00  
Ending Balance .....\$3,520.80

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**General Meeting Minutes**  
**April 12, 2013**  
**Mike McMillan, K6MCM, Secretary**

**Opening:** The meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m. by President Fowler. Sign-in sheet was circulated, members and guests signed in. A round of self-introductions was made. Minutes of the March 8, 2013 meeting were approved as published in *The Blown Fuse*.

Question of the day was "How do you use a computer with your station?" Responses included: don't use a computer; use logging software and digital modes; program memories

into the radio; want to look into software-defined radio; trying to learn Fldigi; look up maps of users on the air; get signal reports on-line; have APRS station; and use the Internet to look up ham events.

**Program:** First Vice-President Burris reported that tonight's program will be Dave Palmer, KB5WIA. He has been licensed since 1992 and holds an Amateur Advanced class license. His main radio interests are the ham radio satellites, but he also works VHF, QRP, HF mobile, and EME when he gets the chance. He will be talking about his expedition to activate grid square CM79. Next month's program is scheduled to be Cal students discussing the W6BB Cal Radio Club.

**Hospitality:** Second Vice-President Sparks provided excellent refreshments.

**Membership:** Third Vice-President Primbsch was absent.

**Finance:** Treasurer Jenkins reported club financial information. General fund balance was \$4,065.41; station fund balance was \$3,520.80. Federal taxes have been filed as well as state forms.

**Secretary:** Secretary McMillan reported no significant correspondence received.

**Station Manager:** Gleason reported rotor connection and water connection still to be resolved.

**Public Events/Education:** Jenkins reported Grizzly Peak Century coming May 5, radio operators still needed. Boy Scout hike June first also looking for radio operators. See links on EBARC website for more information.

**Web Page:** Webmaster Hoffman absent.

**President:** Fowler reported General class going on, members are welcome to sit in and perhaps share some test equipment or stories.

**New Members and Guests:** Several new members and guests were introduced.

**Announcements:** Member-at-Large Spalding displayed a brochure from the OM International Sideband Society ([www.omiss.net](http://www.omiss.net)). "OMISS is an awards-type net with its primary focus on newer Amateurs ready to jump into the wild world of radio communications. All hams General or higher are welcome to join." Member Bob Frederick made contact with Friends of the Library and reported most donated books go right to sales. We need to have books approved by the main library committee in Pleasant Hill before we can be sure they will be placed on the shelves for patrons. A new book from ARRL, "Ham Radio for Arduino and PICAXE," was displayed featuring a chapter and cover photo by EBARC member Alan Biocca, W6AKB.

**Next Meeting:** the next meeting will be on May 10, 2013.

**Closing:** There being no further business, the membership meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

**Presentation:** After a break for refreshments, Dave Palmer, KB5WIA, gave a very interesting presentation about QSOs via satellites, satellites in service, and how their polar-orbits enable multiple chances for contacts each day. He then went into his Dxpedition to activate grid square CM79, one of the very rare squares on the coast of northern California. Although he made several field trials of the equipment, he kept facing new challenges. Then three days before leaving for the adventure, he received a letter from ARRL saying his physical coverage of the four grid square corners had to be modified. Overcoming steep terrain, needing to hike all equipment in several miles, and carrying his bear spray, he was finally able to configure a two antenna setup that allowed him to make multiple satellite contacts from the four grid corners including the rare CM79.

## Father & Son Bring Accuracy to Telegraph Scenes in *Lincoln*

[This is an excerpt of an article by David A. Maurer, *The Daily Progress*, Posted on 12/23/2012 – Ye Olde Editor]

Charlottesville: Steven Spielberg's new film, *Lincoln*, shows the importance of the telegraph during the [Civil] war years. Local Morse code enthusiasts Jim Wilson and his son Matt helped the renowned filmmaker attain a level of historical authenticity as it pertains to the telegraph of that era.

Jim Wilson is the longtime editor of *Dots & Dashes*, the official publication of the Morse Telegraph Club Inc. For years, he and his son have participated in Civil War re-enactments as telegraph operators of the period.

[Spielberg's staff] wanted us to be technical consultants and put together a class for the actors who would be portraying the operators. We did that, and on Oct. 17, 2011, in Mechanicsville, we taught about 30 people about things like how to hold the telegraph key. We showed them how to send the original American Morse code, not the International Morse code that was introduced later.

"The main telegraph operator in the film was brought down from a stage play he was doing on Broadway." said Jim Wilson, a Vietnam veteran who taught Morse code while serving in the Army. "He asked to borrow our telegraph key and sounder overnight. When he came back the next day, he had that particular message memorized and could send it perfectly."

Jim Wilson learned Morse code from his father, who was a ham radio operator. In turn, he taught it to his son when he became interested in it.

Both Wilsons appear in the *Lincoln* movie, most of which was filmed in Richmond and Petersburg. The father is seen as a

businessman, and the son portrays a telegraph operator.

The father-son team provided Spielberg with exact information on what Lincoln's telegraph office looked like. It was two blocks from the White House and became one of the President's favorite haunts.

"As a potential Spielberg classic," said Matt Wilson, "I assumed *Lincoln* would also be an important historical chronicle, so it was important to get it right.

"Being meticulous and scrutinizing, even in our small role, felt like a meaningful contribution to telling history with accuracy."

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## Upcoming Public Service Events Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF

Grizzly Peak Century - Sunday May 5, 2013  
06:00 to 18:30 For further information see

- [http://w6sg.net/blog/?page\\_id=25](http://w6sg.net/blog/?page_id=25)

Boy Scout FAGES II Hike - Saturday, June 1, 2013  
07:00 - 19:00 For further information see

- [http://w6sg.net/blog/?page\\_id=57](http://w6sg.net/blog/?page_id=57)

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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."
- 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 test dates for 2013 are April 28<sup>th</sup>, July 28<sup>th</sup>, and October 27<sup>th</sup>. The fee for 2013 is \$15. Info at 510-918-4627 or 510-741-8227.
- CoCoCo RACES Training: Details from [mcmillan50y@yahoo.com](mailto: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, 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.

## 2013 East Bay Amateur Radio Club Executive Committee

Ken Fowler, KO6NO, President ..... 222-0830  
 Jack Burris, K6JEB, 1<sup>st</sup> VP - Program Chair / Field Day 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  
 Mike McMillan, K6MCM, Secretary ..... 223-3052  
 Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Treasurer / Finance Committee Chair ..... 526-4089  
 Russell Wikander Jr., KI6CEZ, Member-at-Large ..... 847-3583  
 Robin Spalding, N6RLS, Member-at-Large ..... 528-1144

## 2013 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 (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](mailto:mcmillan50y@yahoo.com), phone 510 223-3052.  
 Frequencies: #1=145.110-, #2=147.570s.