

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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# THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME LIX NUMBER 5 & 6

MAY / JUNE 2011

## EBARC Meetings

May 13, 2011, 7:30 p.m.  
Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ  
"DXpedition to Niue"

June 10, 2011, 7:30 p.m.  
Jack Burris, K6JEB & Friends  
"EBARC's Field Day Planning"

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.  
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 July issue: Tues., June 21<sup>st</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 13<sup>th</sup> EBARC Meeting**  
**Jack Burris, K6JEB, Program Chair**

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

For May's meeting our beloved Dr. Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ, will give a presentation on his latest(?) DXpedition to Niue (ZK2). As many of you know, Dr Alan is a world-class DXer and contester. He's been licensed since age twelve (1956). Dr. Alan is coming all the way down from Penngrove, Sonoma County, California so let's give a warm and hearty homecoming, since he used to live right here in the East Bay (Berkeley).

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**June 10<sup>th</sup> EBARC Meeting**  
**Jack Burris, K6JEB, Program Chair**

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

For June's meeting, K6JEB and friends will be giving a Pep Talk/Presentation on Field Day 2011. WE NEED EVERY ONE OF YOU for

FIELD DAY. We'll briefly discuss computerized logging of contacts, our setup schedule, how you can help out, and how you can GET ON THE AIR. At the time of this writing we are planning to operate 3A with a GOTA station at Caesar Chavez Park next to the Berkeley Marina. Setup will be Friday the 24th. Field Day is June 25th and 26th. If you would like to operate any of the shifts, please contact Jack, K6JEB: k6jeb@arrl.org

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**Treasurer's Report**  
**March 2011**  
**John Wood, N6JDW, Treasurer**

MARCH GENERAL FUND<sup>1</sup>  
2/28/11 Beginning Balance .....\$3,789.00  
Blown Fuse Printing (Apr. issue) ..... -48.24  
Blown Fuse Postage (Apr. issue) ..... -28.60  
(Expense Subtotal: \$76.84)  
3/31/11 Ending Balance .....\$3,712.16

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

MARCH STATION FUND<sup>2</sup>  
2/28/11 Beginning Balance .....\$4,297.00  
Roof Donation, Coville .....500.00  
3/31/11 Ending Balance .....\$4,797.00

<sup>2</sup>\$1,669 earmarked for W6CUS Roofing Fund.

Total March Income .....\$500.00  
Total March Disbursements .....\$76.84

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**General Meeting Minutes**  
**April 8, 2011**  
**Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, Acting Sec'ty**

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 p.m. by President Ken Fowler. A round of introductions was the first order of business.

The minutes of the March general meeting were accepted as printed in "The Blown Fuse."

Membership: Sharon Primbsch reported that Don Pool joined EBARC at this meeting. He has no license yet, and is currently studying in EBARC's class.

Newsletter: Sharon reported that the next issue will be for May and June. She encouraged everyone to get articles to her early, especially for Field Day.

Treasurer: John Wood reported that the balances at the end of March were \$3,712.16 in the general fund and \$4,797.00 in the station fund. There was a \$500 donation to the roofing fund from Pamela Coville. The EBARC Federal tax return has been filed (we are not federally tax exempt). We are not required to file a California return (we are a California charitable trust). No taxes are due for 2010.

Secretary: Randy Jenkins was not present. Ken Fowler led a discussion of a letter that EBARC received from NARCC's Spectrum Management Committee. This committee wants feedback on their plan to take over management of all frequencies above 29 MHz in Northern California.

President: Ken discussed a proposal to reallocate some frequencies (this is being considered in Congress). See the ARRL website for details. Make your views known to ARRL, and they will lobby Congress.

Education: Ken discussed the General license class we're holding every Tuesday evening until June 7th at Alvarado Adult School. There are eleven students now. There will also be Wednesday evening classes for those now in the General class who do not already have a Technician license. Ken needs help teaching!

Volunteer Examiners: Sharon reported that there's a VE session in Oakland April 17th.

Club Station: Stanton Gleason reported that we have ordered materials for reroofing the club station. A generator has been donated,

but it needs some work. Stanton requests help with the generator refurbishing.

Field Day: Jack Burris reported that we need a SSB Station Manager for Field Day.

Show and Tell: Mathison Ott showed a multiband 3 – 30 MHz software-defined receiver kit that sells for about \$56. You get a waterfall display of the spectrum. A transmitter kit is also available. See [kb9yig.com](http://kb9yig.com) for more information.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m. for refreshments, and a program by Jason Spence, KF6RGF.

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## **Everyone Can Play in RACES May 21<sup>st</sup> Exercise! Michael McMillan, K6MCM**

The next RACES Exercise with Simulated Traffic (REST 1105) will be held on Saturday morning, May 21, from 8:30 to 10:30 am. The task will be to relay messages using simplex from one end of the county to the other (from Bethel Island to Richmond, for example).

We have 22 stations set to participate, including Richmond, San Pablo, El Cerrito, Pinole, and Kensington. You don't have to be a RACES member to participate. Email Mike McMillan ([K6MCM@arrrl.net](mailto:K6MCM@arrrl.net)) to join in or for more information.

The exercise will operate something like a QSO contest in that the goal will be to obtain a specific message from each of the 22 stations using only simplex and relaying between stations as necessary. It should be a fun learning experience.

Thanks for your continuing support of emergency communications in Contra Costa.

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## Petition to NARCC to Save Simplex Frequencies

On January 29, 2011, the NARCC Board approved a plan to reduce the number of simplex frequencies from 26 to 13 and to use the spectrum of those released 13 simplex frequencies for digital repeaters.

If you do not accept frequency recommendations from NARCC outside the repeater segments of the band plan, you may wish to sign the petition that's available on the EBARC web site, [www.eastbayarc.org](http://www.eastbayarc.org). Go to the site, click on "Current Events" and see the two documents listed under "NARCC's simplex frequency..." The petitions must be received by NARCC in time for their May 7<sup>th</sup> annual meeting.

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### ARRL East Bay Section Convention James R Latham, AF6AQ

The first annual ARRL East Bay Section Convention will be held June 4 from 0900 to 1300 hours at the KRE Building, 601 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. This is the home of the California Historical Radio Society, Bay Area Radio Museum, and W6CF Memorial Station. Admission is free. See last month's *Blown Fuse* or contact Jim Latham, AF6AQ, at [af6aq@arrl.net](mailto:af6aq@arrl.net)

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

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### Ye Olde Editor Needs Help With Nets

It has come to Ye Olde Editor's attention that some of the nets listed on the next-to-last page are no longer active. If you regularly use any of these nets, please tell me which one(s), and I will keep them in the list. Otherwise they go! ([aa6xz@earthlink.net](mailto:aa6xz@earthlink.net))

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## Public Service Events

EBARC directly supports these two events:

- The Grizzly Peak Century bike ride, Sunday May 01
- The FAGES Trail BSA Hike, Saturday, June 04

Volunteers may contact Randy, KA6BQF, [ka6bqf@arrl.net](mailto:ka6bqf@arrl.net), 510-526-4089; or Stanton, KD6SWU, 510-385-4044

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## EBARC Roster Update

- **NEW MEMBER:** Don Pool is studying for his General license. He lives at 6209 Glenwood Way, El Cerrito, CA 94530. His phone is 525-1386, and his email is [d3n2p1l@gmail.com](mailto:d3n2p1l@gmail.com). Welcome!
  - **NEW MEMBER:** Davis L. Todhunter is also studying for his license. He likes Public Safety and CERT. He is a retired mechanical engineer and former Navy Fire Control Technician. He lives at 7400 Cutting Blvd., El Cerrito, CA 94530. His phone is 510-232-9767, and email is [dltodhunter@comcast.net](mailto:dltodhunter@comcast.net).
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## EMCOMMWEST May 6-8, 2011 Robert B Vallio, W6RGG Advance Registration Closes April 29!

This ARRL Specialty Convention will again be held at the beautiful Grand Sierra Resort Hotel in Reno, Nevada.

This year's Keynote ARRL speaker will be Mike Corey, W5MPC, Emergency Response and Planning Manager from Newington, CT. Mike will share the latest in the world of emergency communications.

For our Saturday night banquet, we have our former ARRL president, Jim Haynie, W5JBP, who served 3 terms as League president, and made some awesome contributions to Amateur Radio, including his creation, "The

Big Project” to attract young people into the hobby.

The Sunday morning breakfast speaker is Tom Taormina, K5RC. On Friday night the “Welcome BBQ”, hosted by the SATERN team at the Reno Salvation Army, will feature Don Carlson’s, KQ6FM, famous chili. Be sure to attend the swap meet on Saturday morning.

There will be lots of door prize drawings, plus our grand prizes this year are an ICOM 7000, and a KENWOOD TS-2000!

Registration is open now, and all information can be found at [www.emcommwest.org](http://www.emcommwest.org). For more information and questions, please email to [info@emcommwest.org](mailto:info@emcommwest.org).

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## For Sale – 2M Mobile Stuff

For Sale: a Kenwood TM-231A, 144 MHz FM Transceiver with microphone and manual. Included is a mag-mount with a short rubber ducky antenna, and a mag-mount with a 2-meter whip. He/She who offers the most by May 11<sup>th</sup> is the new owner! Contact Sharon Primbsch at 510-741-8227 or by email at [aa6xz@earthlink.net](mailto:aa6xz@earthlink.net).

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## LARK Swap Meet Ends

We regret to inform you that after nearly two decades of monthly Sunday morning amateur radio and electronics swap meets, the Livermore Amateur Radio Klub (LARK) is pulling the plug and canceling all future swap meets effective immediately. There will NOT be a May swap and all swaps for the foreseeable future have been canceled. This was a difficult decision, one that was avoided several times in recent months, but the reality cannot be avoided any longer. Declining attendance by both sellers and buyers, rising costs and the difficulty in recovering from the loss of the swap being held at Los Positas college are just a few of the reasons that led to

this decision. It takes an enormous amount of work and resource to make these swaps successful, and, as a club, we have witnessed a steady decline in both revenue and manpower to make the swap a worthwhile venture.

We greatly appreciate your support over the years. It has been a fun ride while it lasted. LARK would especially like to thank all those who volunteered and rose at the crack of dawn on Sunday mornings to get the swap meet up and running to provide this fun and rewarding event for the amateur radio community at large. The swap will be missed.

LARK is looking at the possibility of a biannual event that may look more like a Hamfest, including a swap meet. For that reason we are keeping the Yahoo swap list alive and we hope that you will keep your subscription active. Stay tuned as we work out those details.

73 from the Livermore Amateur Radio Klub (LARK)

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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.”
- South Bay Electronics Flea Market, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month, March through October, De Anza College, Cupertino. Details at [www.asvaro.org](http://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 16<sup>th</sup> St.), Oakland. The remaining tests for 2011 are Jul 24<sup>th</sup> and Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>. The fee is \$15. Info at 510-918-4627 or 510-741-8227.
- CoCoCo RACES Training: Details at [www.cc-races.org](http://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](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.

## 2011 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  
 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

## 2011 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
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, [www.cc-races.org](http://www.cc-races.org).