

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

Q  
L  
F

# THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME LXV NUMBER 9

SEPTEMBER 2017

## EBARC Meetings

September 8, 2017, 7:30 p.m.  
"Repairing Old Radios"  
Melvin Hendricksons



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

The Executive Board meets monthly before each general meeting. For the date, time, & location, contact President Jay Sparks, KJ6HSH, at 384-4233.

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 Oct. issue: Tue., Sep. 26<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](mailto:aa6xz@earthlink.net)]

---

## September 8<sup>th</sup> EBARC Meeting

### Peter Hoffman, W6DEI

Mel Hendrickson will be our September speaker. He and Pamela Deering are co-authors of a book on repairing old tube radios and other types of vintage electronic equipment. Mel also happens to be the cousin of our own Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF. The presentation will include a Q&A, so come to the September meeting with your questions.

---

## President's Message

### Jay Sparks, KJ6HSH

Fall is upon us as another summer winds down. Martin Rothfield, W6MRR, led several operators during the August 21<sup>st</sup> eclipse. The site [pskreporter.info](http://pskreporter.info) showed: "Monitoring W6MRR (last heard 5 mins ago). Automatic refresh in 5 minutes. Small markers are the 105 transmitters (show logbook) heard (distance chart) at W6MRR (588 reports, 15 countries last 24 hours; 3724 reports, 45 countries last week)."

Martin explains: "Most of the contacts were on 20 m and FT8. I did make some PSK31 contacts on 20 m. I made one RTTY contact with Peter. I made a handful of FT-8 contacts on 17 m. All contacts were made with between 30 and 60 watts. WSPR transmits a 5W." I think Martin has the makings of a talk!

We send a special thanks to last month's terrific speaker, Rich Holoch, KY6R! You can see his talk again at Pacifcon, which will be in San Ramon on October 20-22.

We are looking for EBARC Secretary to fill in for Ron Antaki. This is a wonderful opportunity to give back to your club and add your talent to the Board.

---

## 4Cs / EBARC Picnic!

The 4Cs / EBARC annual picnic is 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at Miller/Knox Regional Shoreline on Dornan Dr. in Richmond. Look for antennas on cars! The cost is \$5 per person, to be paid at the event. Please RSVP to Burgie Jones, KE6MSF, at 510-964-1476 or [burgie0001@yahoo.com](mailto:burgie0001@yahoo.com), so we can plan ahead for food. If you like, bring a dessert (optional). Families are welcome.

---

## SK, Fred Nieman, W6BBQ

It is with great sorrow that we mourn the death in mid-August of Fred Nieman, W6BBQ. He was a long-time member of EBARC and 4Cs. He was EBARC's President in 1994 and 1995. Fred was the 4Cs Trustee, and used to cook at EBARC Field Day. He and others organized the 4Cs/EBARC barbeque. He chose his "BBQ" vanity callsign because of his love of cooking. There will be a celebration of life service for him on Friday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2-6 p.m. at Rockefeller Lodge, 2650 Market Ave., San Pablo.

## NCDXC Elmering Project

The Northern California DX Club (NCDXC) has started an elmering project for hams. The goal is to get you on the HF bands doing something that you enjoy. Even if you're not primarily interested in working DX, there is material on all phases of HF operation, station building, equipment selection, and antennas. All classes are free and some are online. See [ncdxc.org](http://ncdxc.org) and click the "Elmer Project" link for details.

---

## New 605 Form Question

The federal Communications Act requires the FCC to evaluate whether an applicant is qualified to be issued any FCC license (both commercial and amateur). The Commission has revised the basic qualifications section of the "NCVEC Form 605" (used at VE exam sessions) and "FCC Form 605" to include a question regarding whether an application has been convicted of a felony in any state or federal court. An applicant's response and explanation to the basic qualification question (felony question), will be used to determine eligibility to be a Commission licensee. The question used to be on the old Form 610 amateur application, and at some point that question fell off the newer forms.

For potential amateur license holders, this means not just that they passed the examination, but also that they meet the character requirements. If the answer to the basic qualification question (felony question) is 'YES', applicants must submit a statement explaining the circumstances. The application will be off-lined (held) for a basic qualification review by the FCC. If an applicant answers 'YES,' it doesn't necessarily mean they will be denied a license. Applicants are required to answer the question *only* if they are filing NCVEC Form 605 or FCC Form 605 for one of the following purposes: New, Amendment, Modification (upgrade or call sign change), or Renewal / Modification.

## General License Class

**Ken Fowler, KO6NO**

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club (EBARC) and West Contra Costa Adult Education (WCCAE) will offer a class to prepare applicants for the Amateur Radio General Class License, starting Sept. 12, 2017 and ending Dec. 12. The class will meet on Tuesdays from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the Alvarado Adult School, 5625 Sutter St., Richmond, CA 94804. The textbook is the ARRL *General Class License Manual, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition*. Books will be available for purchase at the first class.

Preregister at the West Contra Costa County School District Adult Education Office, 5625 Sutter St., Richmond (510) 237-1444 or online at <http://www.wccae.info/reginfo.html>. Class fee is \$15 paid to WCCAE. FCC examinations and license applications will be administered at the final class session by EBARC Volunteer Examiners. The exam fee is \$15.

Contact Ken Fowler at 510-222-0830 or email: [ko6no@comcast.net](mailto:ko6no@comcast.net)

---

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

---

## Future Bay Area Events

- Current Bay Area Public Service Events: See [www.ebarc.org](http://www.ebarc.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 date for 2017 is Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>. The fee for 2017 is \$15. Info: 510-918-4627 or 510-741-8227.
- CoCoCo ACS Training: Details from [mcmillan50y@yahoo.com](mailto:mcmillan50y@yahoo.com), [www.cocoacs.org](http://www.cocoacs.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 \$30 for individual membership, \$35 for a family membership, and \$10 for students K-12. For information, send email to ebarcw6cus@gmail.com, contact any EBARC officer, see Web page [www.ebarc.org](http://www.ebarc.org), or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. You can also follow us on Twitter using @w6cus.

## 2017 East Bay Amateur Radio Club Executive Committee

Jay Sparks, KJ6HSH, President..... 384-4233  
 Peter Hoffman, W6DEI, 1<sup>st</sup> VP - Program Chair / Webmaster..... 684-6543  
 Ken Fowler, KO6NO, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP - Hospitality / Club Station Mgr..... 222-0830  
 Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, 3<sup>rd</sup> VP - Membership / *Blown Fuse* Editor..... 741-8227  
 Ron Antaki, KK6NDJ, Secretary..... 375-3756  
 Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Treasurer / Finance Committee Chair..... 707-557-5521  
 Robin Spalding, N6RLS, Member-at-Large..... 528-1144  
 Jim Fast, KK6NDG, Member-at-Large ..... 237-7145

## 2017 EBARC's Other Committee Heads and Contacts

Jack Burris, K6JEB, W6CUS Trustee..... 415-305-2547  
 Club Station Manager, Stanton Gleason, KD6SWU..... 385-4044  
 Field Day Chair, Ken Fowler, KO6NO ..... 222-0830  
 Silent Key Chair .....  
 Social & Digital Committees Chair .....  
 RFI Committee Chair.....  
 Historian.....

## AMATEUR RADIO NETS

| NET  | DAYS  | LOCAL TIME       | FREQ, MHZ |
|--|-------|------------------|-----------|
| West Contra Costa EMCOMM Net               | Thurs | 1845 (PL 82.5-)  | 145.110   |
| KARO/ECHO ARES/RACES(ACS) Net              | Thurs | ~1900 simplex    | 146.415   |
| EBARC "Explore Net" (HF)                   | Mon   | 1930 (USB)       | 28.425    |
| 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(ACS), West CoCoCo: Mike McMillan, K6MCM, mcmillan50y@yahoo.com, phone 510 223-3052. Frequencies: #1=145.110-, #2=147.570s. ACS details are at [www.cocoacs.org](http://www.cocoacs.org)

# HAM RADIO OUTLET

14 STORE BUYING POWER!

**ICOM**



**IC-7600 | All Mode Transceiver**

- 100W HF/6m Transceiver, gen cov. receiver • Dual DSP 32 bit • Three roofing filters- 3, 6, 15kHz • 5.8 in WQVGA TFT display • Hi-res real time spectrum scope



**IC-7200 | HF Transceiver**

- 160-10M • 100W • Simple & tough with IF DSP • AGC Loop Management • Digital IF Filter • Digital Twin PBT • Digital Noise Reduction • Digital Noise Blanker • USB Port for PC Control



**IC-7100 | All Mode Transceiver**

- HF/50/144/430/440 MHz Multi-band, Multi-mode, IF DSP • D-STAR DV Mode (Digital Voice + Data) • Intuitive Touch Screen Interface • Built-in RTTY Functions



**ID-5100A | VHF/UHF Dual Band Digital Transceiver**

- Analog FM/D-Star DV Mode • SD Card Slot for Voice & Data Storage • 50W Output on VHF/UHF Bands • Integrated GPS Receiver • AM Airband Dualwatch • FM Analog/DV Repeater List Function

**ID-51A | VHF/UHF Dual Band Transceiver**

- 5/2.5/1.0/0.5/0.1W Output • RX: 0.52-1.71, 88-174, 380-479 MHz\*\* • AM/FM-FM-N/WFM/DV • 1304 Alphanumeric Memory Chls • Integrated GPS • D-STAR Repeater Directory • IPX7 Submersible



**KENWOOD**



**TS-590SG | HF/50MHz Transceiver**

- Equipped with 500 Hz/2.7 kHz roofing filter as standard • ALC derived from TS-990S eliminating spike issues • Antenna output function (shared with DRV connector) • CW - morse code decoder function



**TM-D710G | 2M/440 Dualband**

- V+V/V+U/U+U operation • Built-in GPS • Built-in TNC for APRS & DX-Cluster operation • 50W 2M & UHF • 1,000 memories • Dual receive • Green or amber backlight colors • Latest APRS firmware w/new features • Sky Command II remote functions



**TM-V71A | 2M/440 Dualband**

- High RF output (50W) • Multiple Scan • Dual receive on same band (VxV, UxU) • Echolink® memory (auto dialer) • Echolink® Sysop mode for node terminal ops • Invertible front panel • Choice of green/amber for LCD panel • 104 code digital code squelch



**TM-281A | 2 Mtr Mobile**

- 65 Watt • 200 Memories • CTCSS/DCS • Mil-Std specs • Hi-quality audio

**TH-F6A | 2M/220/440**

- Dual channel receive • .1 - 1300 MHz (cell blocked) RX • FM, AM, SSB • 5W 2M/220/440 TX, FM • 435 Memories • Li-Ion Battery



**YAESU**  
The radio



**FT-991 | HF/50MHz/2M/440 Transceiver**

- 160 M-440MHz - SSB/CW/FM/C4FM Digital/AM/RTTY/PSK • 100 W (2M/440: 50 Watts) • 3.5" TFT full-color touch panel operation • High speed spectrum scope • Roofing filters: 3kHz & 15kHz • 32-bit high speed floating point IF DSP



**FTDX1200 | 100W HF + 6M Transceiver**

- Triple Conversion Receiver With 32-bit Floating Point DSP • 40 MHz 1st IF with selectable 3 kHz, 6kHz & 15 kHz Roofing Filters • Optional FFT-1 Supports AF-FFT Scope, RTTY/PSK31 Encode/Decode, CW Decode/Auto Zero-In • Full Color 4.3" TFT Display



**FT-450D | A100W HF + 6M Transceiver**

- 100W HF/6M • Auto tuner built-in • DSP built-in • 500 memories • DNR, IF Notch, IF Shift



**FTM-400DR | 2M/440 Mobile**

- Color display-green, blue, orange, purple, gray • GPS/APRS • Packet 1200/9600 bd ready • Spectrum scope • Bluetooth • MicroSD slot • 500 memory per band

**FT-60R | 2M/440 5W HT**

- Wide receiver coverage • AM air band receive • 1000 memory channels w/alpha labels • Huge LCD display • Rugged die-cast, water resistant case • NOAA severe weather alert with alert scan



- RETAIL LOCATIONS – Store hours 10:00AM - 5:30PM - Closed Sunday
- PHONE – Toll-free phone hours 9:30AM - 5:30PM
- FAX – All store locations
- ONLINE – WWW.HAMRADIO.COM
- MAIL – All store locations



|                               |                                 |                                  |                                |                               |                                 |                                  |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ANAHEIM, CA<br>(800) 854-6046 | OAKLAND, CA<br>(877) 892-1745   | SUNNYVALE, CA<br>(877) 892-1749  | PORTLAND, OR<br>(800) 765-4267 | PHOENIX, AZ<br>(800) 559-7388 | WOODBIDGE, VA<br>(800) 444-4799 | PLANO, TX<br>(877) 455-8750      |
| BURBANK, CA<br>(877) 892-1748 | SAN DIEGO, CA<br>(877) 520-9623 | NEW CASTLE, DE<br>(800) 644-4476 | DENVER, CO<br>(800) 444-9476   | ATLANTA, GA<br>(800) 444-7927 | SALEM, NH<br>(800) 444-0047     | ONLINE STORE<br>WWW.HAMRADIO.COM |

Contact HRO for promotion details. Toll-free including Hawaii, Alaska and Canada. Call will be routed to the nearest store. All HRO 800-lines can assist you. If the first line you call is busy, you may call another. AZ, CA, CO, GA, VA residents add sales tax. Prices, specifications and descriptions subject to change without notice.