

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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# THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME LXVI NUMBER 4

APRIL 2018

## EBARC Meetings

April 13, 2018, 7:30 p.m.  
"3D Printing"  
Alan Biocca, W6AKB



EBARC meets this month at El Sobrante United Methodist Church, 670  
Applan Way, El Sobrante (enter parking opposite 5156 Argyle Rd.)

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

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*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 May issue: Tue., Apr. 24<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)]

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## **Fire at El Sobrante Library! At Least 2 Meetings Move!**

On February 27<sup>th</sup> there was a fire at the El Sobrante Library which affected its roof. Our April & May EBARC meetings will move to

El Sobrante United Methodist Church  
670 Appian Way, El Sobrante

Parking entrance is opposite 5156 Argyle Rd.  
GPS coordinates: 37.981938, -122.294720

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## **April 13<sup>th</sup> EBARC Meeting Peter Hoffman, W6DEI**

At our April meeting, Alan Biocca, W6AKB, will explore the world of 3D printing. While not specific to ham radio, 3D printing certainly has a place in building components of a ham station. Since prices for these printers continue to come down rapidly, 3D printing is no longer only reserved for well-funded academic laboratories and big corporations. Come learn what can be done with 3D printers. It's not just in the realm of science fiction any longer.

## **President's Message Jay Sparks, KJ6HSH**

First, a hearty thank you to the El Sobrante United Methodist Church for allowing us to use their meeting hall, and also for allowing Ken to hold his Tech class there. (Details are in this issue.)

At February's meeting, Peter, Martin, and Jack gave a wonderful demo of the new and exciting FT8 digital mode. ARRL claims that this is the fastest growing mode among hams.

Next month, we look forward to hearing from Allen Biocca who will be discussing 3D printing. Again, due to Library closure, the April meeting will be held at the Church.

(...drum roll...) Now, I'm happy to announce the relaunch of the EBARC webpage! Thank you, Martin Rothfield, W6MRR, for your time and effort! I urge all of you to check out the new look at [ebarc.org](http://ebarc.org)! Pay special attention to the "Have a License?" section. It's a work in progress, and Martin will also be making it work nicely on cell phones.

Robin Spalding, N6RLS, created an EBARC Facebook page which will aid in promoting Ken's class and streamline the student sign up process. Find it and "like" it at "East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc." Robin had also previously set up Twitter for us. To participate, "follow" @w6cus. Thanks, Robin!

I'm applying for our Field Day permit from the City of Berkeley. They have added a new person and office into the mix, which means I'm still waiting for approval as this month's *Blown Fuse* goes to press. It's always a fascinating process dealing with bureaucracy!

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

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## Technician License Class Ken Fowler, KO6NO

EBARC is offering a class to prepare applicants for the Technician Class Amateur Radio License. The class starts April 6, 2018 and ends June 8. The class will meet each Friday from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at El Sobrante United Methodist Church, on Argyle Rd. off Appian Way in El Sobrante. The textbook is the *ARRL Ham Radio License Manual Revised 3rd Edition*. Books will be available for purchase at the class.

FCC examinations and license applications will be administered at the final class session by the EBARC Volunteer Examiners, for a fee of \$15.

To register, contact Ken Fowler at 510-222-0830 or email: ko6no@comcast.net by April 5, 2018.

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## More Facebook Ham Pages Richard Friedman, AG6RF

There are a number of active, ham radio oriented groups on Facebook. The two I follow are;

Ham Radio Operators:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/hamops/>

Ham Radio:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/12699105116/>

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## General Meeting Minutes Robin Spalding, N6RLS, Secretary

**Opening:** March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018, United Methodist Church meeting room, El Sobrante. Pres. Jay Sparks began about 7:30 p.m. with the usual round of introductions. He also noted that we may be at this location (United Methodist Church) for months, pending smoke damage repair at our usual El Sobrante Library location. Ken Fowler noted it might not always be

available on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday. Jay said the calendar ahead looks good. Sharon Primbsch said "we'll keep you posted" (email and website) as to any changes for club meetings.

**Hospitality:** Second VP Ken said enjoy the refreshment, and please feed the kitty.

**Membership:** Third VP Sharon Primbsch noted that any club rosters handed out to just-now dues-paying members won't have them listed. Promised to give any dues collected tonight to Randy.

**Public Events/Education:** Jay noted that Randy Jenkins (Treasurer) is bowing out from his Net Control position at the Boy Scouts Fages Hike on June 2<sup>nd</sup> this year. We are looking for volunteer(s). Contact Ken Fowler if you can participate.

Ken noted that his next Technician License classes will be held at the United Methodist Church location, from April 6<sup>th</sup> to June 8<sup>th</sup>. The class lasts nine weeks, including a VE session at the end. Register through Eventbrite or Ken's site: ko6no.com or by his email or phone number; both are in the Blown Fuse. He would like to get 10 to 15 students. Pass the word. Always welcome are other members to help teach classes. The course is designed to produce Amateur Radio operators who know something about radio, and what hams do. Additional elmering classes are in the works.

Ron Smith noted plans for CERT training classes in the future.

Jay and Ken noted that sign-up sheets for positions at our Field Day event are here. We need people for things on 22-24 June. Field Day itself is 23 & 24 June. Positions for bringing food for Saturday night are also available.

Robin noted the existing EBARC website and Twitter page, and the upcoming Facebook page.

**Announcements:** Ken noted a need to get prospective Amateurs to attend EBARC meetings, to help them understand all the different aspects of the hobby.

Martin noted the high altitude balloon flight activities of the Space Technology at Cal (STAC) group:  
<https://stac.berkeley.edu/project/balloon> Also:  
<https://www.facebook.com/stacBerkeley>

**Next Meeting:** 7:30 pm. on April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018.  
(Watch email & ebarc.org for any updates)

**Closing:** There being no further business, the membership meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

**Presentation:** Following the meeting, First VP Peter Hoffman gave a very detailed presentation, with audio examples, about digital modes. This included the new FT-8 mode, with an on-air, live demo of the FT-8 send/receive process. Martin Rothfield, Jack

Burris and Ron Smith operated radios for the demo.

**Roster:** There were 23 signatures on the meeting roster. It's possible that some folks didn't sign in.

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## 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 dates for 2018 are Apr. 22<sup>nd</sup>, Jul. 22<sup>nd</sup>, and Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>. The fee for 2018 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 [ebarc.w6cus@gmail.com](mailto:ebarc.w6cus@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, or on Facebook's "East Bay Amateur Radio Club."

## 2018 East Bay Amateur Radio Club Executive Committee

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

## 2018 EBARC's Other Committee Heads and Contacts

W6CUS Trustee, Jack Burris, K6JEB.....	415-305-2547
Club Station Manager, Stanton Gleason, KD6SWU.....	385-4044
Field Day Chair, Ken Fowler, KO6NO .....	222-0830
Webmaster & Facebook, Martin Rothfield, W6MRR .....	705-1199
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](mailto: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)

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- Double superheterodyne with image rejection mixer



## 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 Blanking • USB Port for PC Control



## IC-PW1 | HF/50 MHz Amplifier

- Wide freq. coverage - 1 kW from 1.8 MHz to 50 MHz (amateur bands only) • Wide ALC adjustable range • Full duty cycle • Auto antenna tuner built-in • Auto AC input voltage selector is employed



## IC-7851 | HF/50MHz Transceiver

- 1.2kHz "Optimum" roofing filter • New local oscillator design • Improved phase noise • Improved spectrum scope • Dual scope function • Enhanced mouse operation for spectrum scope



## 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 Deluxe

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



## IC-7700 | HF/50MHz Transceiver

- The Contester's Rig • HF + 6m operation • +40dBm ultra high intercept point • IF DSP, user defined filters • 200W output power full duty cycle • Digital voice recorder



## IC-718 | HF Transceiver

- 160-10M\*\* • 100W • 12V operation • Simple to use • CW Keyer Built-in • One touch band switching • Direct frequency input • VOX Built-in • Band stacking register • IF shift • 101 memories



## ID-4100A | VHF/UHF Dual Band Digital Xcvr

- Compact, Detachable Controller for Flexible Installation • DV/FM Near Repeater Search Function • Apps for iOS™ and Android™ devices • Wireless Operation with VS-3 & UT-137 Bluetooth® Headset & Module • MicroSD Card Slot



## IC-7610 | HF/50 MHz All Mode Transceiver

- Large 7-inch color display with high resolution real-time spectrum scope and waterfall • Independent direct sampling receivers capable of receiving two bands/two modes simultaneously



## IC-2300H | VHF FM Transceiver

- 65W RF Output Power • 4.5W Audio Output • MIL-STD 810 G Specifications • 207 alphanumeric Memory Channels • Built-in CTCSS/DTCS Encoder/Decoder • DMS



## IC-V80 | HD 2 Meter FM Transceiver

- Tough construction • 750mW loud audio • Powerful 5.5W of output power • IP54 and MIL-STD-810 rugged construction • Built-in CTCSS/DTCS • WX channel & weather alert function



## IC-7300 | HF/50MHz Transceiver

- RF Direct Sampling System • New "IP+" Function • Class Leading RMDR and Phase Noise Characteristics • 15 Discrete Band-Pass Filters • Built-In Automatic Antenna Tuner



## IC-2730A | VHF/UHF Dual Band Transceiver

- VHF/VHF, UHF/UHF simultaneous receive • 50 watts of output on VHF and UHF • Optional VS-3 Bluetooth® headset • Easy-to-See large white backlight LCD • Controller attachment to the main Unit

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