

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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# THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME LXVI NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2018

## EBARC Meetings

February 9, 2018, 7:30 p.m.  
"What's NASA Up To?"  
(Speaker TBD)



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:  
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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 Mar. issue: Tue., Feb. 27<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]*

## February EBARC Meeting

### Peter Hoffman, W6DEI

Our February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting will be presented by a speaker from NASA's Moffett Field facility. We'll find out what NASA is doing now and what it's planning for the future.

## President's Message

### Jay Sparks, KJ6HSH

Last month's presentation, antenna modeling, kicked off another year of interesting talks. Thanks Peter!

We're still planning on a field trip to Pt. Reyes ham station. Possible dates and details will be discussed at the February meeting.

In other news, the organizers for the Berkeley Cycling Club are changing the format of their Century Ride and will no longer need our services. They have been generous with their thanks and contributions over the years. Many thanks go to EBARC members who supported their event.

Please plan to attend next month's meeting, where I'd like to suggest that we purchase a banner for June's ARRL Field Day. We'll also discuss other thoughts about promoting this event.

## Treasurer's Report

### December 2017

### Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Treasurer

#### DECEMBER GENERAL FUND<sup>1</sup>

Beginning Balance .....\$5,591.53

#### Income:

Individual Renewals: KM6LJC, AA6XZ, KK6MO?, W8JSN, KF6MVH?, WS6V, KE6EUA, W6QNT, KJ6EZB, KJ6JPN, KO6NO, KM6HDD, AI6GD, KF6HEX, KE6RS, KG6VMA, KI6KOZ, K6MCM, AC6ZF, WB6VEX, KM6HFU, N6RLS, KA6BQF, KG6WPN, W6DEI, KJ6SHS, KD6UL, KK6NDF, KK6TLB .....\$870.00

Family Renewals: KM6LIY/KM6LIX, KD6OKJ/N6MNL, KI6ENT/KI6EMD, KE6MRH/KI7FQ.....140.00  
Refreshment Kitty.....12.62  
Total General Income:.....\$1,022.62

#### Disbursements

Ballot Printing .....\$9.01  
Refreshments.....23.07  
Ballot Postage .....53.31  
Supplies .....8.73  
Total General Disbursements.....\$94.12  
Ending Balance .....\$6,520.03  
(portion as petty cash..... \$40.00)

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

#### DECEMBER STATION FUND

Beginning Balance: .....\$1,585.69  
Total Station Income .....0.00  
Total Station Expenditures .....0.00  
Ending Balance .....\$1,585.69

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

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***Renew for 2018 before the Feb 28<sup>th</sup> deadline, so you'll be listed in the roster (to be published in March)!***

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## **General Meeting Minutes**

### **Robin Spalding, N6RLS, Secretary**

**Opening:** The January 12, 2018 general meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by First VP Hoffman for President Sparks. Sign-in sheet was circulated. A round of self-introductions was made.

**Program:** First Vice-President Hoffman reported that tonight's program is part 2 of the Antenna Modeling presentation – part 1 was last November. February's meeting will feature a speaker from NASA.

**Hospitality:** Second Vice-President Fowler set out a great selection of snacks and requested members "feed the kitty."

**Membership:** Third Vice-President Primbsch noted that a few members have yet to pick up their club badges. She circulated a list of remaining Fred Nieman (W6BBQ) radio stuff for sale, and said she would email the membership with it, including contact details. Articles for the *Blown Fuse* are very welcome.

**Finance:** Treasurer Jenkins reported club financial information. Bills are coming in next month for the club Post Office Box, and for our insurance.

**Public Events/Education:** Third VP Primbsch reminded us that the next regular VE session is the last Sunday of this month, details in the January *Blown Fuse*. We have again been asked to conduct another mega-VE session at

UC Berkeley on Wednesday, February 7. As many as 50 students are expected.

Second VP Ken Fowler noted that Ron Smith has offered to help set up a classroom for Club instructional use at the Methodist Church, where we had some of our meetings last year. Ken is looking to offer a Technician License class soon.

**Announcements:** Ken Fowler noted that club president Sparks asked about buying some crates at Home Depot for storing Field Day equipment. Vote was taken and the idea approved.

**Next Meeting:** the next meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. on February 9, 2018.

**Closing:** There being no further business, the membership meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

**Presentation:** First VP Peter Hoffman presented a very enjoyable part 2 of his Antenna Modeling talk, starting with a detailed review of the software as covered in Part 1 last November. As at that presentation, members brought in their own laptops with the 4nec2 software loaded and practiced modeling antennas, helping each other through learning the process. Very hands-on.

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## **News from the Edge of Space**

### **Martin Rothfield, W6MRR**

One of the Cal students from the HENRY-1 high altitude ballooners, Tristan KM6GRC, got an internship at NASA based on the air sampler experiment he flew. He has joined other students at *Space Technologies at Cal* (STAC) <https://stac.berkeley.edu> to pursue HABing (*High Altitude Balloon*). They plan on launching their first balloon in early March. They will be flying a cheap muon detector (<http://www.cosmicwatch.lns.mit.edu/>) suggested by Sharon, AA6XZ.

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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 test dates for 2018 are Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>, 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 [ebarcw6cus@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## 2018 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 / <i>Blown Fuse</i> Editor..... | 741-8227     |
| Robin Spalding, N6RLS, Secretary .....  | 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

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| 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](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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- Wide ALC adjustable range • Full duty cycle • Auto antenna tuner built-in • Auto AC input voltage selector is employed



## IC-7851 | HF/50MHz Transceiver

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## IC-7100 | All Mode Transceiver

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## 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



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