

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

Q  
L  
F

# THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME LXVIII NUMBER 1

JANUARY 2020  
2020

## EBARC Meetings

January 10, 7:30 p.m.  
To Be Announced  
(see ebarc.org)



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, at [rajama@pacbell.net](mailto:rajama@pacbell.net).

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 Feb. issue: Tues., Jan. 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](mailto:aa6xz@earthlink.net)]

## Temporary Meeting Place!

El Sobrante United Methodist Church  
670 Appian Way, El Sobrante  
Parking entrance is opposite 5156 Argyle Rd.  
GPS coordinates: 37.981938, -122.294720

## December 13<sup>th</sup> EBARC Meeting Katie Carney, KN6APB

By press time, we hadn't heard from one of two potential presenters. One is from Elecraft to present their latest prototype mobile equipment. The other is from HRO or elsewhere to discuss the new and latest developments in ham gear. Watch your inbox!

## President's Message Jay Sparks, KJ6HSH

Greetings EBARC membership! A big "thank you" to outgoing Board members for a fun and productive 2019! Several have agreed to continue, and we'll do our best to offer compelling speakers, programs and opportunities to connect with other hams and

the public. Increasing membership through outreach is a priority, as well as securing a location for Field Day.

Also, I've asked, and Todd and Mathison have agreed, to be Members at Large.

Speaking for the incoming Board, we wish you all a happy and safe holiday season.

## Treasurer's Report November 2019 Maria Hauger, KI6ENT, Treasurer

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

Beginning Balance .....\$7,857.54

#### Income:

Individual Renewals: WS6V, KG6VMA,  
W6BBQ, WA6UDS, KE6EUA, WA6KCP  
KK6NDF, KE6BEE, W6WTJ, K5EJL  
W6QNT, KO6NDF, KD6MZC, W6MRR  
K6MCM, KI6KOZ, N6PLM, AG6W  
KK6MUX, AG6RF, KD6UL, W6WTJ  
KN6CRP, KE6RS, AA6XZ, W8JSN  
KM6HFU, KW6R, AC6ZF .....\$870.00

Family Renewals: KI6EMD/KI6ENT,  
W6AKB/KG6LXL/KB6LHP/KI6ELP,  
KM6LIX/KM6LIY, KK6ZPM/KJ6WSS,  
KC6OBK/K6KOP, KI7FQ/KE6MRH,  
KA6BQF/KG6WPN (2 years),  
KD6SWU/Judy, .....315.00

Donation: R. Jenkins & P. McGuire ..110.00

Earned Interest.....0.05

Refreshment Kitty:.....33.00

Total General Income:.....\$1,328.05

#### Disbursements:

Refreshments (Nov & Dec) .....\$44.42

Total General Disbursements.....\$44.42

Ending Balance .....\$9,141.17  
(portion as petty cash..... (\$40.00)

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

## **Nov. General Meeting Minutes Robin Spalding, N6RLS, Secretary**

**Opening:** The General EBARC meeting at the Ace Monster Toys (Emeryville) meeting room, November 8, 2019 was called to order about 7:30 p.m. by President Todd Teachout. We thank Martin Rothfield for getting us this space for tonight. Comments on this space were requested, for future considerations by the EBARC Board.

**Program:** Katie Carney, 1<sup>st</sup> VP said there will be a Holiday party / social event (and elections) for December. Tonight is a presentation on the USS Hornet ARC.

**Hospitality:** Craig brought chicken along with the other food for refreshments.

**Membership:** Sharon absent.

**Finance:** Maria, Final total balance: \$7,857. Details will be found in *the Blown Fuse*.

**Public Events/Education:** Mathison reported on the HAB non-launch at the mini-Maker Faire (due to weather) and that about 100 people, some already licensed, stopped by the table there.

**Announcements:** Todd reported on his dealings with the City of El Cerrito to acquire a grant to cover possible access to a meeting space there for the Club. Also the El Sobrante Library may reopen soon, so we may have multiple meeting place options.

Craig ran through the election process, and solicited for volunteers for the several positions. Two new (non-returning) candidates were nominated: Jay Sparks, KJ6HSH, for President; and Mike Camp, KI7FQ, for 2<sup>nd</sup> VP. Other nominees are Katie Carney, KN6APB, for 1<sup>st</sup> VP; Maria Hauger, KI6ENT; for Treasurer, Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, for 3<sup>rd</sup> VP; and Robin Spalding, N6RLS for Secretary. Elections (and renewals) will be by snail-mail.

**Closing:** There being no further business, the membership meeting was adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, December 13, 2019.

**Presentation:** Jerry Inman, AE6I, President of the Hornet Amateur Radio Club, gave a history of his involvement with the ship and his efforts to elevate the status of the Hornet ARC to where it is today. His "slide show" covered the ship and the space used by the club. He noted that the club lost control of its former website when its administrator passed away, but mentioned their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/NB6GC/>. He also invited folks to visit. Meetings are on the first Saturday of the month.

---

## **Dec. General Meeting Minutes Robin Spalding, N6RLS, Secretary**

**Opening:** The General EBARC meeting at the El Sobrante United Methodist Church Friday, 13 December, 2019 was called to order about 7:50 p.m. by President Todd Teachout. There was a round of introductions, then a call for 3 folks not on the ballot to count the ballots for next year's club officers.

**Program:** Katie Carney noted that the USS Hornet ARC is trying to break last year's number of contacts record, so they are asking for volunteers to come help operate on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of December.

Holiday program (presents for all, some from HRO) tonight; Future plans, for January & February, include folks from Elecraft to present their latest prototype mobile equipment; also folks from HRO or elsewhere to discuss the new and latest developments in ham gear.

**Hospitality:** Craig Hauger: brought extra end-of-the-year goodies – feed the kitty!

**Membership:** Sharon Primbsch: no new members this month. Next VE session is January 26, 2020, and preregisration is required.

**Finance:** Maria Hauger: final balance is \$9,141.62. Details are elsewhere in *the Blown Fuse*. [Maria's report probably has the correct total, \$9,141.17 – Editor.]

**Announcements:** Todd Teachout: updated us on efforts to secure options for a new meeting space. The El Sobrante Library is now open again, but their new configuration and sign-up requirements may not work for us. City of El Cerrito is not a “no” but is also not encouraging toward us so far.

Todd also reported on details of the meeting he and Mathison attended with ARRL Pacific Division Director Jim Tiemstra in Livermore, on 7 December. He noted that there are now no licensed hams within the current FCC body of voting members. ARRL will need to work harder to make its cases.

Ballot committee reported that, excepting one write-in vote for president (Stormy Daniels), it was unanimous for all the candidates on the ballot. Results elsewhere in *the Blown Fuse*.

**Presentation:** Following a long refreshments break, Katie Carney, as Ham Santa's first VP of Programming, officiated in a gift distribution ceremony (she had provided numbers for everyone at the meeting) where each recipient, by number, came up and said what they were happy or grateful for during the past year before selecting a wrapped gift from the table. Preceding the gifts, the poem (modified version of a 1996 poem by Gary Pierce, KN4AQ - <https://bigislandarrlnews.com/2018/12/25/a-ham-radio-operators-night-before-christmas/> ) was read. The Yule Log “fireplace” was provided (projected) by Mathison Ott.

**Attendance:** There were 18 roster signers, all EBARC members.

**Closing:** There being no further business, the membership meeting was adjourned at about 9:10 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, 10 January, 2020.

---

## State of EBARC, 2019

### Todd Teachout, KM6HFU, 2019 Pres.

Below is a summary of the state of the East Bay Amateur Radio Club as of Dec. 13, 2019.

#### 2019 Actions Summary

1. Successful Field Day
2. Club equipment inventory prepared & verified
3. Two licensing prep classes completed
4. Donation to church for use of meeting space
5. Merged General Fund with Station Fund
6. PO Box transferred to current Treasurer
7. Club equipment moved (Jim Fast's home to Chris Harwood's home on temp basis)
8. Facebook page set up
9. Speaker topic survey completed
10. Info table at Mini Maker Fair in October
11. Info table at Boy Scouts, Order of the Arrow Event-Camp Hermes in September
12. Field trip to KPH/K6KPH Maritime Radio Station in Bolinas/National Seashore
13. Drake linear amplifier sold

#### 2019 Issues Explored

1. Non-profit 501(c)(3) Status Explored (tabled)
2. Ebarc.org domain ownership transfer (done, not sure if complete)
3. Paypal payments explored. No service activated as of December 2019
4. EBHam.Office digital club record repository (trial underway with Exec Comm)
5. Ways to gain higher rate of return on club funds with discussion of investment strategies

#### Continuing Items for Future Consideration

1. Permanent meeting place

2. Permanent equipment storage location
3. Need for Internet/Web admin policies
4. Safety procedures and/or liability release when dealing with risky, dangerous activity

---

## **ARRL Leadership Meeting Todd Teachout, KM6HFU**

On December 7<sup>th</sup>, Mathison Ott and I attended an ARRL leadership meeting in Livermore, led by Pacific Division Director, Jim Tiemstra.

Jim discussed the effort to get new legislation introduced to replace the Proposed Parity Act that was withdrawn last year. The new legislation is expected to continue to address matters about installing antennas in developments with HOA. The new act will reemphasize the emergency communications benefits.

He discussed FCC matters, the ongoing vigilance to preserve amateur use of 3.3 GHz and 5.9 GHz bands given industry efforts to use it for proprietary services (automobile autonomous vehicle communication cited as an example). He also mention the DOD appears to be behind efforts to lower the power levels allowed on the 5.3MHz band (60Meters). ARRL is working with the FCC on ongoing band planning activities; how to accommodate changes in modes of use, what is reasonable for those modes whose use is in decline, and how soon to recognize new modes.

ARES and the whole range of emergency communication programs, were discussed. ARRL is hoping for 30,000 people to register into ARES. At the moment approximately 12,000 have done so. The attendees expressed minor confusion and frustration with the ARES roll-out as it relates to other programs. There seems to be bugs in the current system, as it is difficult to verify membership and the terms of that membership. Those clubs which support their community in other ways (sporting events, civic

groups, boys/girl scouts) indicated that the ARES program does not serve such efforts very well. Jim noted the issues and would report back to ARRL HQ.

The Volunteer Monitoring (VM) Program is now underway. All 300 VM positions are filled. Most VMs are trained. Some are now actively monitoring the airwaves for unauthorized uses. It is expected that all first round VM training will be finished soon. Not all former OOs were allowed to become VMs. New VM applications were reviewed on a first come first serve basis. Those OOs who procrastinated found themselves closed out. Alternates have been notified. There's uncertainty about those applications that were rejected because the quota had been filled.

FCC rejected a new license level. They are working with ARRL to adjust the Technician Level to adapt to current realities.

80M and 75M bands are being rebalanced.

RF Exposure Regulations are finalized. Updates to 1994 Amendments are done. There's more info at ARRL "Audio News." Several Boafeng radios are in violation; others are likely. The remedy is to pay attention to radiated power levels on cheap radios.

Amateur Radio operators will not be exempted from distracted driving laws (there's no national law). FCC is not supportive of an exemption.

World Radio Conference concluded recently. The report will be in QST soon.

FCC adopted guidelines (not sure if formal or informal) on licensing of small satellites. Academic projects frequently are being classified as commercial uses. Status quo persists for purely amateur limited time projects.

Jim reported that there no longer are any licensed Amateur Radio operators within the body of FCC voting members.

Members at the meeting advocated for continuing/renewing the agreement with the National Association of Broadcasters (recognizing each other). Apparently there is some possibility of existing agreements not being renewed, with the main impact being there would no longer be a gratis ARRL booth space at the NAB annual convention.

---

## EBARC 2020 Election Results

We thank the vote-counters for the 2020 officers' election. They were Mathison Ott, Chris Harwood, and Peter Hoffman. All six officers were elected with 43 votes each, except 42 for President (there was one vote for Stormy Daniels). The new officers are listed, as usual, on the last page of this newsletter.

EBARC election season is over, but 2020 renewal season isn't. Use the nifty SASE and renewal form that came with your ballot. Our address is also on the front page of this newsletter. Individual renewal is \$30 and family renewal is \$35. Be sure to tell us any new info (address, callsign, license class, phone, etc.) so we'll have an accurate 2020 roster. The club needs you to be an ARRL member to maintain our status with them. If

you newly joined ARRL, please tell Sharon at [aa6xz@earthlink.net](mailto:aa6xz@earthlink.net).

---

EBARC thanks Jeff Miller, KJ6RHF, for his generous donation of 100 postage stamps!

---

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 "Calendar of Bay Area Ham Radio Public Service Events."
- 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 2020 are Jan 26, Apr 26, Jul 26, & Oct 25. The fee is \$15. Candidates must preregister at [aa6xz@earthlink.net](mailto:aa6xz@earthlink.net) or call 510-741-8227.
- East Bay Section ARRL ARES; [arrl.volunteerhub.com/lp/eb](http://arrl.volunteerhub.com/lp/eb). CoCoCo ACS Training: Details from "DJ" djovida, KJ6DJ, [kj6dj@arrl.net](mailto:kj6dj@arrl.net), (415) 215-6658, 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."

## 2020 East Bay Amateur Radio Club Executive Committee

Jay Sparks, KJ6HSH, President.....	384-4233
Katie Carney, KN6APB, 1 <sup>st</sup> VP - Program Chair .....	326-3886
Mike Camp, KI7FQ, 2 <sup>nd</sup> VP - Hospitality.....	524-0723
Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, 3 <sup>rd</sup> VP - Membership / <i>Blown Fuse</i> Editor.....	741-8227
Robin Spalding, N6RLS, Secretary / Twitter .....	528-1144
Maria Hauger, KI6ENT, Treasurer / Finance Committee Chair .....	672-8382
Mathison Ott, KJ6DZB, Member-at-Large /Field Day Chair .....	701-0234
Todd Teachout, KM6HFU, Member-at-Large.....	799-6051

## 2020 EBARC's Other Committee Heads and Contacts

W6CUS Trustee; Jack Burris, K6JEB.....	415-305-2547
Club Station Manager; Stanton Gleason, KD6SWU.....	385-4044
Education; Ken Fowler, KO6NO.....	222-0830
Webmaster, Facebook, & Meetup.....	
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

ACS West CoCoCo: "DJ" djovida, KJ6DJ, [kj6dj@arri.net](mailto:kj6dj@arri.net), (415) 215-6658.  
Frequencies: #1=145.110, #2=147.570s.

# HAM RADIO OUTLET

**MULTI-STORE BUYING POWER!**

**ICOM**



**IC-9700**  
*All Mode Tri-Band Transceiver*



**IC-7300**  
*HF Transceiver*



**IC-7100**  
*All Mode Transceiver*



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



**ID-51A Plus2**  
*VHF/UHF D-STAR Portable*

**KENWOOD**



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



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



**TM-V71A**  
*2M/440 DualBand*



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



**TH-D74A**  
*2M/220/440 HT*

**YAESU**  
*The radio*



**FT-991A**  
*HF/VHF/UHF Transceiver*



**FT-891**  
*HF+50 MHz All Mode Transceiver*



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



**FTM-400XD**  
*2M/440 Mobile*



**FT-70DR**  
*C4FM/FM 144/430 Xcvr*

**5 Ways to Shop!**

- 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](http://WWW.HAMRADIO.COM)
- MAIL – All store locations

*HRO is family owned and operated by active hams!*

ANAHEIM, CA  
(800) 854-6046  
BURBANK, CA  
(877) 892-1748

OAKLAND, CA  
(877) 892-1745  
SAN DIEGO, CA  
(877) 520-9623

PORTLAND, OR  
(800) 765-4267  
DENVER, CO  
(800) 444-9476

PHOENIX, AZ  
(800) 559-7388  
ATLANTA, GA  
(800) 444-7927

MILWAUKEE, WI  
(800) 558-0411  
NEW CASTLE, DE  
(800) 644-4476

WOODBIDGE, VA  
(800) 444-4799  
SALEM, NH  
(800) 444-0047

PLANO, TX  
(877) 455-8750  
ONLINE STORE  
[WWW.HAMRADIO.COM](http://WWW.HAMRADIO.COM)