

# **VOLUME LXII NUMBER 10**

# OCTOBER 2014



# EBARC Meetings

October 10, 2014, 7:30 p.m.

To Be Announced

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

The Executive Board meets monthly before each general meeting. For the date, time, & location, contact President Ken Fowler, KO6NO, at 222-0830.



POSTMASTER: Address Correction Requested



FIRST CLASS MAIL

EI CELLIO, CA 94530 Post Office Box 1393 THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. *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 Nov. issue: Tues., Oct. 28th

[Articles may be submitted by "snail" mail, by dictation over the 'phone 510-741-8227, or by e-mail to aa6xz@earthlink.net]

## October 10<sup>th</sup> EBARC Meeting Ron Smith, KE6RS, 1<sup>st</sup> VP

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

At press time, the program is unknown, but there will always be mentoring & friendship.

#### Free SDR Lecture "Introduction to Software Defined Radio" Jeffrey Pawlan, WA6KBL

Thursday, November 13, 6-8 p.m. Aristotle Room Keysight (Agilent) Technologies 5301 Stevens Creek Boulevard Santa Clara, California

This lecture will begin with the definition, history and evolution of Software Defined Radio (SDR). RF/microwave engineers will find it clear and understandable because analogies will be made to conventional classic radio systems and components. The lecture will introduce the concepts of oversampling and undersampling as it applies to SDR. There will also be an introduction and explanation of the firmware and software portions of SDR. A comparison with state-ofthe art conventional analog circuitry will be shown. Several live demonstrations of SDR will be presented.

Software Defined Radio (SDR) is the culmination of advances on several fronts and probably the most significant area of development in radio systems today. The entire worldwide cellular system uses SDR. NASA and the US military communications are now almost exclusively using SDR.

Jeffrey Pawlan, WA6KBL, is a Distinguished Lecturer in the IEEE MTT Society. In addition to his more than 40 years of work experience in analog, RF, and microwave engineering, he has been licensed as WA6KBL for 54 years. He has loved VHF, UHF, and microwave design, construction, and operation since 1961 when he first upgraded.

## Treasurer's Report August 2014 Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Treasurer

Beginning Balance	\$4,354.59
Income:	
New Member: KK6NDF	\$0.00
Donations	
Refreshment Kitty	<u>15.11</u>
Total General Income:	\$45.36

#### **Disbursements**

PG&E (August)	\$21.29
Blown Fuse (July)	22.39
Blown Fuse (August)	23.43
Meeting Food	21.55
4Cs/EBARC Picnic	77.57
CA SOS Annual Filing	<u>20.00</u>
Total General Disbursements.	\$186.23
Ending Balance	\$4,213.72
(portion as petty cash	\$30.00)

#### THE BLOWN FUSE

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

<u>AUGUST STATION FUND</u> Beginning Balance:.....\$3,378.90 <u>Income</u>: Total Station Income.....\$0.00

<u>Disbursements:</u> Storage Costs (Aug. & Sep.).....\$154.00

Ending Balance.....\$3,224.90

## General Meeting Minutes September 12, 2014 Robin Spalding, N6RLS, Secretary

**Opening**: President Fowler called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM. A round of selfintroductions was made: Name, callsign, QTH, any recent activities? Sign-in sheet was circulated, 14 members and one guest signed in. Minutes of the August 8th, 2014 meeting were approved as published in *The Blown Fuse*.

**From Intros:** Mathison, KJ6DZB, has been busy with APRS and related homebrew gear. Jay, KJ6HSH, is still selling old club gear at swap meets. Ron, KE6RS, working ARRL Centennial stations, many in TX. Steve, KK6EOA, just got first radio (HT) and is a CERT volunteer. Jim, KK6NDG, is doing a lot of scanner listening. Marc, K6MMG, has APRS on his boat and is also taking a portable station to Africa next month. Peter, W6DEI, inspired by last month's program has set up a small MESH network. Ken, KO6NO, some home and USS Hornet activity and is seeking more students for the General License class.

**Program**: First Vice-President Ron Smith noted tonight's scheduled presenter cancelled due to his double booking. Will show historic DVD instead – Oct Program is to be announced (may be tonight's cancelled guest: Henry Styron). November is still open. December will be the annual social gathering following the General Meeting.

**Hospitality**: Second Vice-President Sparks says "Feed the Kitty!"

**Membership**: Third Vice-President Primbsch reported deadline for *The Blown Fuse* comes on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Members are encouraged to submit articles or other things to be published.

**Finance**: Treasurer Jenkins absent. Ken is handling checkbook matters.

**Secretary**: Secretary Spalding reported the last PG&E bill (just over \$5.00) has been received.

**Station Manager**: Gleason reported the club station power has been shut off. Still looking for help to lower one and move two towers to Marin storage by the middle of October. Ken noted some nice 5-wheel chairs still up for grabs. See Stanton for access to station, or to help with tower issues.

**Public Events/Education**: Randy Jenkins absent this month

**Web Page**: Webmaster Hoffman reported news on club website about the Audubon Conservation Program bird-tracking program. They are seeking VHF tone-burst monitoring help from hams. For details see http://www.eastbayarc.org/break.htm

**President**: Fowler reported BSA Mt Diablo Silverado Council, Herms District, is requesting help with their Jamboree On The Air on October 18<sup>th</sup> (more info here: http://www.bsamdsc.org/about/committees/international/jamb oree-airinternet?did=791). EBARC members are encouraged to contact Ken if they want to help with setting up a station there and talk to the kids about Amateur Radio. Also, MDARC is again presenting Pacificon in Santa Clara 10-12 October. For details see http://pacificon.org/ Floor Announcements: There's a UHF/VHF contest this weekend. Sharon noted we need EBARC officers for next year. Ken: big turn over on the board this year; President & First Vice-President needed as Ken and Ron are stepping down. Secretary candidate(s) also wanted. Election nominations are accepted at November club meeting. Ballots are sent out during November. Votes are counted at the December meeting. Robin reminded us about EBARC Twitter page: http://twitter.com/w6cus, and to check out the American Radio History site: http://www.americanradiohistory.com/

**Next Meeting**: the next meeting will be on October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 7:30 PM.

**Closing**: There being no further business, the membership meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

**Presentation:** After a break for refreshments, Ron Smith presented a classic video produced by Western Electric in 1948 on the wonders of the vacuum tube: "Bottle of Magic." On http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fz4mUEEH 6Rk a fuzzier version can be seen.

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

## EBARC Needs 2015 Officers. Please contact Ken Fowler at 222-0830.

Here's what EBARC's bylaws say about the duties of President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, and Secretary:

"The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and conduct the same according to the rules adopted. He shall enforce due observance of the Constitution and Bylaws; decide all questions of order; sign all official documents that are adopted by the Club; preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee; and perform all other customary duties pertaining to the office of *President*.

"The 1st Vice President shall assume responsibility as Chairman of the Program Committee. In the absence of the President, he shall assume the duties of the latter.

"The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of all meetings, keep a roll of members, carry on correspondence, read communications at each meeting, and ensure that members are notified of special meetings."

# **Change EBARC Meeting Day?**

The November ballot mailing will probably include the final survey about your preference for the EBARC general meeting day. So far our online survey has had only 16 responses; 7 for keeping it the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday at 7:30 PM, and 9 to change it. For those who want a change, every weekday has been proposed, as has each of the first three weeks. All believe that 7 or 7:30 PM are good times. Members should realize that, for the moment, the Executive Committee meets an hour before the general meeting. It's important that EVERYONE express an opinion on this matter!

# **Future Bay Area Events**

- Current Bay Area Public Service Events: See *www.eastbayarc.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 2014 is October 26<sup>th</sup>. The fee for 2014 is \$15. Info: 510-918-4627 or 510-741-8227.
- CoCoCo RACES Training: Details from mcmillan50y@yahoo.com or via RACES net, 6:45 p.m., Thursdays on 145.11 MHz.

# CCCC and EBARC Annual Christmas Party for 2014 Saturday, December 13, 2014 Arrival 11:30 a.m. and Eating around 12:00 noon Potluck is the theme for 2014

## **Cost: \$5.00 per person - pay at the door.**

Contact: Barbara Robinson KD6OKJ at 510-501-6745 or email her at <u>robar19@aol.com</u> to sign up by providing the number of people in your group and what dish you will be providing. Also let Barbara know if you can serve on the CLEANUP crew.

#### Signup Deadline is December 7<sup>th</sup>

This year we have changed things! So think about what you enjoy making for your family and bring it on down to this family.

We have electrical outlets for crock pots and warming dishes. There is limited access to an oven or microwave.

Suggested size of your dish should be for approximately 10 to 12 people.

Coffee, Cold Drinks, Iced Tea, Plates, Bowls, Cups, Napkins, and Silverware will be provided by a club member.

### We will need: Salads, Vegetables, Casserole/Crock Pot Main Dishes and Desserts

Already on the li	st are
French bread	Fresh Fruit
<b>Beef Stew</b>	<b>Green Salad</b>
Spaghetti	(we'll need more!)

LOCATION is Tara Hills Mobile Manor Reception Room 16401 San Pablo Ave. San Pablo, CA 94806

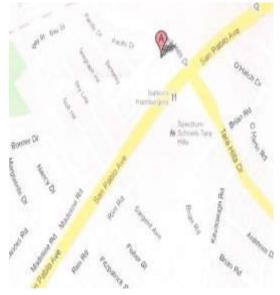
Directions: The Park is located at the corner of Tara Hills Dr. and San Pablo Ave. The entrance is on Tara Hills Dr.

**From I-80 south** exit at Appian Way: Use the middle **turn right lane** at the light. Immediately move into the **left turn lane: Turn left** onto Tara Hills. Go straight until you cross San Pablo Ave. The park entrance is on the right.

**From I-80 north** exit at Appian Way, turn left at the signal. Turn left onto Tara Hills. Go straight until you cross San Pablo Ave. You are at the park.

There are a few parking spaces on the street around the Rec Room and 3 or 4 visitor spaces behind it. Main parking is on the street around the entrance of the park. Parking on the streets in the park is limited. Do not block any residence driveway if you park on any streets in the park.





### THE BLOWN FUSE

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, contact any EBARC officer, see Web page *www.eastbayarc.org*, or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, until recently, has maintained a club station, W6CUS, at 3200 Macdonald Ave., Richmond.

### 2014 East Bay Amateur Radio Club Executive Committee

Ken Fowler, KO6NO, President	222-0830
Ron Smith, KE6RS, 1 <sup>st</sup> VP - Program Chair	724-5099
Jay Sparks KJ6HSH, 2 <sup>nd</sup> VP - Hospitality Chair	384-4233
Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, 3rd VP - Membership / Blown Fuse Editor	741-8227
Robin Spalding, N6RLS, Secretary	528-1144
Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Treasurer / Finance Committee Chair	526-4089
Russell Wikander Jr., KI6CEZ, Member-at-Large	847-3583
Jeff Miller, KJ6RHF, Member-at-Large	

### 2014 EBARC's Other Committee Heads and Contacts

Stanton Gleason, KD6SWU, Club Station Manager	385-4044
Jack Burris, K6JEB, W6CUS Trustee	
Peter Hoffman, W6DEI, Webmaster, Publicity Chair	525-0694
Field Day Chair	
Silent Key Chair	
Awards 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 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, West CoCoCo: Mike McMillan, K6MCM, mcmillan50y@yahoo.com, phone 510 223-3052. Frequencies: #1=145.110-, #2=147.570s.