



EAST BAY BANJO CLUB

SINCE 1963



FEBRUARY 2009

MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 1

Play-out Schedule

- ⇒ Sunday, Feb. 15
Chateau I, Pleasant Hill
2:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.
- ⇒ Wednesday, Feb. 18
Kensington Place,
Walnut Creek
6:45 P.M. – 7:45 P.M.
- ⇒ Sunday, March 7
Atria Valley View,
Walnut Creek
6:45 P.M. – 7:45 P.M.
- ⇒ Friday, March 13
Walnut Creek Manor,
Walnut Creek
6:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.
- ⇒ Wednesday, April 15
Kensington Place,
Walnut Creek
6:45 P.M. – 7:45 P.M.
- ⇒ Saturday, April 18
First Congregational
Church, Alameda
2:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.
- ⇒ Monday, April 20
John Muir Hospital,
Walnut Creek
10:10 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.

For the most current
information visit:
www.eastbaybanjo.org
Or
Call Bob Nelson
925-372-0553

Presidents Message



Here we are 2009, and a lot going on.

I'd like to welcome our new members, **Gerry and Robin Reeves**, as well as **Bob Malucelli**. They are Plectrum Banjoists and working hard at learning the music.

Bob Nelson, our Booking Agent, has set us up with 17 play-outs so far this year. And offers keep coming in for our music. Does Bob get any sleep? We are very much appreciative of all his hard work.

Jack Convery has scheduled the 3rd. Annual Snow Train with the East Bay Banjo Club to Reno on February 24-26, 2009. We have 2 railroad cars filled with Banjo players including members from the

Peninsula and Sacramento Banjo Bands. There will be a lot of jamming on the train and while staying at Harrah's. Jack will conduct a Banjo Clinic and evening jam with special guest **Georgette Twain**.

On March 1st, 28 members of our club will drive up to Sacramento for the Sacramento Banjo Club's Annual Banjo Rama. There will be plenty of regional bands as well as solo artists. It promises to be a great day.

We are preparing for our first Summer Jazz Banjo Festival which will take place at St. Mary's College in Moraga on June 14, 2009. This program is being coordinated by **Jack Convery** and **Bill Sullivan**. We are featuring the East Bay Banjo Club, Peninsula Banjo Band, Sacramento Banjo Band, San Francisco Banjo Band, Wineland Banjo Band, and Harry Higgins Original Red Garter Band with Jack Dupan (member of the Banjo Hall of Fame). Our solo guests will include Jack Convery/Gary Neuman, Charlie Tagawa (member Banjo Hall of Fame), and Tim Weed. We have several committees working on the Festival, and most of the club members are pitching in to help out. It is a lot of work, but getting to be a labor of love.

Up-Coming Events

- ⇒ February 24/26
Reno Snow Train
Martinez to Harrah's, Reno
- ⇒ March 1
Sacramento Banjo Rama
12:15 P.M. — 12:30 P.M.
- ⇒ June 14
Summer Jazz Banjo Festival
Saint Mary's College, Moraga
Noon – 4:00 P.M.

It should be noted that we are encouraging youths to participate in the Festival. There will be a program where scouts will be able to work on music merit badges as well as Banjo "Petting Zoo". We will have banjos and club members available to assist youths in learning how to play music. **June and John Rosploch** have been working with Scout Troops and local schools for this phase of the program.

I'll have more information regarding the Festival in our next news letter.

Keep On Strumming..... Jim Blankenship

East Bay Banjo Club Meets:
Every Tuesday
7:30 PM to 9:30 PM
Round Table Pizza, 1938 Oak Park Blvd.,
Pleasant Hill, California

Oakland Masonic Crab Feed

Reported By: Lynn Deutscher



Off we go again! This time it was to Oakland at the Masonic Lodge for their yearly crab feed.

It was a great evening. I enjoyed the great variety of the patrons. It was truly a mix of nationalities and colors, but they all seemed very happy and shared tables and conversations.

We played for close to two hours and the only real applause was with "Oakland, We're for You". It wasn't that they didn't like the music; they were just too busy eating!

A couple of things that made it memorable were the little children that were dancing along! They were priceless, and even though they did not know each other, they held hands and laughed!

The second thing that made it memorable was watching Terry leaving with his gut bucket upside down so that he could carry crab in it!

The participation of the club members was very good, considering the drive. Attendants were **Jim** Blank a da Blank, **Don** Grannyberg, **Betty** (who slew Goliath with the help of David), **Guy** Black or black guy, **Kit** and Caboodle, **Bill** super pooper scooper, **Terry** the Hornet, **Tim** the thin man, **Bud** (who is no longer wiser), **Bill** Son of a Gun, **Easter** or is it April, **Diane** who "saw" it all, **Chuck** the cook who did not feed us, **Mickie** who is a girl, and **Rich** (who would like to be the boss). OK. I'm dead now! Notice that I intentionally left my name out!



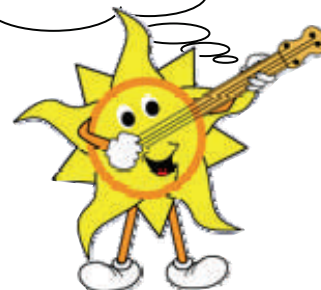
Summer Jazz Banjo Festival

SPACE IS LIMITED
ORDER TICKETS NOW!

Calling all Members

Reported By: **Bill Sullivan**

Calling all members...We need volunteers to successfully stage the first annual Summer Jazz Banjo Festival. Sign-up on Tuesdays or call **Bill Sullivan** @ 925-798-3542. Plenty of opportunities available for all.



Youth Opportunity

Reported By: **June Rosploch**

The club is taking an active role in identifying the youths in our area that would be interested in learning to play the 4-string banjo. One such activity reaching out to youths will be a program at this year's Summer Jazz Banjo Festival on June 14 at Saint Mary's College. With two rooms (the Auditorium and Cley's Lodge) reserved we will have the space to provide youth activities geared to; learning some music basics, make their own gut bucket, and **Jack Convery** will be teaching them a few banjo chords culminating with them playing a song. Both boys and girls in scouts will be able to complete some music badge requirements. If you have contact or communication with music teachers, school music department heads, youth groups, etc. in the area please share a youth flyer with them or provide the person's name and email address to: **John Rosploch** (webmaster@eastbaybanjo.org), **Bill Sullivan** (treasurer@eastbaybanjo.org), or **June Rosploch** (vicepresident@eastbaybanjo.org), so a flyer can be sent to them.

Club Practice at Summer Festival Site

On Sunday, February 1, the club went to Saint Mary's College, to see the lay-out of the building that will be used for the festival in June and to also test acoustics of each room.



Festival Progress Report

The festival entertainment is secured, there are volunteer sign up sheets for the day of event jobs, flyers are being distributed, food arrangements are being finalized and volunteer groups are meeting to refine work flow details.

So what is next? Selling and Buying of Tickets! Remember Space is Limited, Order Tickets Now. Tickets will only be available at the door if the event is not sold out. For more festival details see flyer on page 6.



Club Dues Are Due!

Twenty dollars cash or check (made out to East Bay Banjo Club) see Bill Sullivan on Tuesdays or send your check to:

East Bay Banjo Club, P.O. Box 5414, Concord, CA 94524



Club Birthdays

<i>February</i>	<i>March</i>	<i>April</i>
Guy Black	Jim Blankenship	Bobbie Landers
Terry Horner	Dina Melamed	
Bud Pearce	Garry Kerr	

A Music Puzzle

Submitted by: Garry Kerr

Some of the club’s sheet music contains certain symbols not often found in banjo band music books, but are used in classical music scores. The names and meanings of some of these symbols have been scrambled below. Test your knowledge by using a pencil line to connect the sign, the name, and the meaning.

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
1.	a. da capo	1. Play louder.
2.	b. coda	2. Repeat from beginning, to. . . (sign or instruction).
3.	c. fermata	3. The end.
4. <i>f</i>	d. fine	4. The “sign”.
5. <i>p</i>	e. tacit	5. Play softly.
6. <i>d.c.</i>	f. forte	6. Jump to added section marked with same sign.
7. <i>d.s.</i>	g. segno	7. Do not play.
8. <i>rit.</i>	h. dal segno	8. Slow down.
9. <i>fine.</i>	i. piano	9. Extended pause, or hold.
10. <i>tacit</i>	j. ritardando	10. Repeat from the. . . (sign or instruction).

Find answers on page 5

Newsletter Event Reporter	Date	Location
Don Granberg	February 15	Chateau I, Pleasant Hill
Dina Melamed	February 18	Kensington Place, Walnut Creek
Jack Convery	February 24 / 26	Reno Banjo Snow Train
Karen Swift	March 1	Sacramento Banjo Rama
Terry Horner	March 7	Atria Valley View, Walnut Creek
Bill Sullivan	March 13	Walnut Creek Manor, Walnut Creek
Deadline for inclusion in the next newsletter is April 15		



Congratulations to Dave Frey. Dave's superb talent will be recognized in April when he is inducted into the Banjo Hall of Fame. And, you will be able to see and congratulate Dave at the Sacramento Banjo-Rama.

Banjo Hall of Fame to Induct New Members:

The American Banjo Hall of Fame will induct new members on Thursday evening, April 16, 2009.

The ceremony will be held at the Petroleum Club in Oklahoma City.

Inducted this year will be:

- ⇒ John Becker
- ⇒ Buck Kelly
- ⇒ Dave Frey
- ⇒ Henry Lea

Tickets are \$40.00 per person. Reservations are necessary. Call (405) 260-1323 or (800) OKBANJO or email: banjomuseum@sbcglobal.net.

Agenda: On Friday, a tour of the soon to open American Banjo Museum facility at 1:30 PM followed by an evening of informal jamming and performances at various venues throughout the Brick town entertainment district of downtown Oklahoma City. Performers will include Dave Frey, Kurt Abell, Rob Wright, and others.

Did You Know :

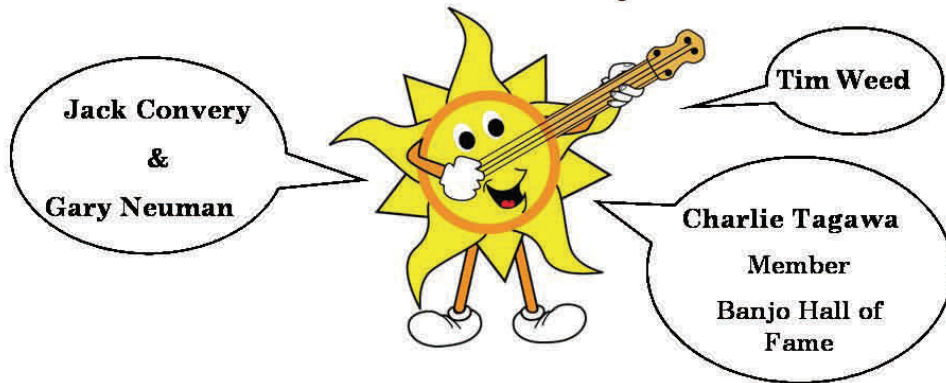
- ⇒ As of 2/15 our eastbaybanjo.org web site had the following activity - CD Baby Link was clicked on 456 times, the Gig sheet page was visited 3,016 times, Newsletter page had 1,793 visits and in 2009 the club site had a total of 13,278 hits.
- ⇒ Harry S. Truman in 1947 signed an executive proclamation making the banjo our National Instrument.
- ⇒ Emily Post (1872-1960), the world-recognized author, expert, and consultant on etiquette and good manners, was also --are you ready for this?-- a banjo player!

Thanks to: **Bud Pearce** for providing the photographs for this issue of the newsletter.

EBBC Board		
President	Jim Blankenship	president@eastbaybanjo.org
Vice President	June Rosploch	vicepresident@eastbaybanjolorg
Secretary	Tim Perry	secretary@eastbaybanjo.org
Treasurer	Bill Sullivan	treasurer@eastbaybanjolorg
Music Director	Bill Cooper	wcooper2480@comcast.net
Immediate Past President	Bud Pearce	bud.pearce@pearcechris.com
Booking Agent	Bob Nelson	bookingagent@eastbaybanjo.org

Non-Board Positions	
Assistant Music Directors	Betty David, Larry Risner
Web Master	John Rosploch
Newsletter Editor/Publisher	June Rosploch
Librarian	Bob Nelson

Summer Jazz Banjo Festival



Join the fun at scenic

Saint Mary's College

1928 St. Mary's Road, Soda Center, Moraga, CA 94575

Sunday, June 14, 2009

Noon to 4:00 PM

Featuring - East Bay Banjo Club - Sacramento Banjo Band
 - Peninsula Banjo Band - San Francisco Banjo Band
 - Wineland Banjo Band - The Original Red Garter Band

Festival Highlights

- ⇒ Plenty of fun, food, and toe tapping music
- ⇒ Banjo Players from far and wide!
- ⇒ Tunes everyone knows and loves from Ragtime to War Time

Ticket Information

- ⇒ \$15 Advance sales (ends June 1)
- ⇒ \$20.00 at door, if not sold out
- ⇒ 14 & under free with an adult
- ⇒ Scouts in uniform free, with an adult
- ⇒ Email: Tickets@EastBayBanjo.org
- ⇒ Phone: 925-706-0880

For More Information

- ⇒ Visit: www.SummerJazzBanjoFestival.com

