



East Bay Banjo Club

Since 1963



June 2010

Membership Newsletter

Volume 5 Issue 3

Play-out Schedule

⇒ Saturday, June 26

Diablo Lodge, Danville

6:15 P.M. – 7:15 P.M.

⇒ Friday, July 9

Atria Valley View, Walnut Creek

3:15 P.M. – 4:15 P.M.

⇒ Friday, August 13

Aegis of Concord

3:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

⇒ Thursday, August 26

Bay Park Independent Living, Pinole

6:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

For the most current play-out information visit:

www.eastbaybanjo.org

Or

**Contact Bob Nelson,
Booking Agent**

bookin-
gagent@eastbaybanjo.org

or 925-372-0553

**East Bay Banjo Club
Meets:**

Every **Wednesday** (Please
Note Change)

7:30 PM to 9:30 PM

Round Table Pizza, 1938
Oak Park Blvd., Pleasant
Hill, California

PLAY-OUT REPORTS

Lafayette/Orinda Presbyterian Parish at Rossmoor, April 25

Reported By: Terry Horner



On Sunday, April 25th we put on a fine show for the Rossmoor parish of the Lafayette/Orinda Presbyterian Church. Huddled together in the aisle outside the Dollar Clubhouse dining room, we were led by BILL COOPER in a rousing set of the saddest songs imaginable. But who could be unhappy watching MARCO GREEN perform with the coaching of his dad, Brian Green. The audience loved him.

JESSE DE TORRES opened with April Show-

ers and sang several of his best numbers. TIM PERRY and KIT NELSON and BILL COOPER sang several songs each. MICKIE MCDONALD backed up several duets, including one with LYNNE DEUTSCHER. Other players included BETTY DAVID, KERMIT COLLINS, BOB MALUCELLI, CHRIS HORNER, and MARILYN YOUNG. Rhythm was provided by GUY BLACK, DINA MELAMED, and TERRY HORNER.



It was goofy hats day for the band and the audience. You can pick your favorite from the pictures taken by BOB NELSON, who also gave the St. Mary's Summer Jazz Festival commercial and toted in the sound equipment. What a guy!



Events

⇒ July 4

25th Annual Orinda Parade &
Plaza Performance

Orinda, CA

⇒ August 21

EBBC Picnic @ Landers Landing

⇒ September 12

Banjo Jubilee
San Jose, CA

AZ Banjo Blast, May 13 - 15

Reported By: Terry Horner



...FROM THE JAWS OF DEFEAT...

May 13 to 15 the EBBC gathered in impressive numbers to take part in the Arizona Banjo Blast at the fabulous Hilton El Conquistador in Tucson. We were led by BILL COOPER, backed by JACK CONVERY, KIT NELSON, CHRIS LARDGE, JIM BLANKENSHIP, BUD PEARCE, CHRIS and TERRY HORNER, LARRY RISNER, LYNNE DEUTSCHER, DON GRANBERG, MICKIE McDONALD, and GUY BLACK as the largest band at the show. The spouse/roady/cheerleading section included BOB NELSON, YVETTE LARDGE, LAURA CON-

VERY, GLORIA PEARCE, DIANNE RISNER, MARY BLACK, and GARRY KERR. The program was outstanding: multiple daily seminars from top national banjoists, nightly concerts at the hotel's Last Frontier amphitheater, daily performances around the pool by many great groups, and jam sessions aplenty.

Our performance started off on a rocky note (that's the note just below B-flat) with a less-than-sparkling performance at the Last Frontier. President Jack Convery called an emergency post-gig meeting wherein we reviewed what went wrong: the audio staff had given



leader Bill Cooper a dead microphone, so the band couldn't follow him; the tune selection included some poorly rehearsed numbers; the arrangement of players on stage was not favorable; etc. Profiting from this embarrassment, we went on to produce a stellar pool-side hour show the next day: no monitor speaker so one of the main speakers was moved into monitor position, back row players moved into the back row, only songs we knew well on the playlist, etc. A raging good show it was. We look forward to the 2012 Blast in Tucson, AZ.

Lafayette Garden Club "Sweet Magnolia Hat Contest" The Pereira Plantation, June 10 Submitted by: Sheila Welt



What a glorious day for a luncheon play-out! The Plantation is in the hills, has great expanses of lawn and lots of trees and flowers. The ladies had a tent set up with the tables covered with white table cloths, napkins and crystal stemware. This was a class act!!!

The ladies were all decked out in their hats - some fancy some more utilitarian. They all looked great! Not to be too out-done, the EBBC wore hats also.

There were eleven players in attendance: **Jim Blankenship, Tom Brunetti, Kermit Collins, Bill Cooper, Terry Horner, Ardie Jarrett** (first play-out), **Bob Malucelli, Dina Melamed, Kit Nelson, and Sheila Welt.** **Bob Nelson** took pictures. We played on a nice shady porch.



The ladies enjoyed our concert and several asked where and when we practiced. I would not be surprised if some of them didn't show up for our practices some Wednesday night.

The Wedding of Ralph Iwasa and Betsy Safine —May 22 Reported By Lynne Deutscher



The banjo club was invited to play at Ralph and Betsy's wedding at Boundary Oaks Country Club.



It was a breezy but gorgeous afternoon, with an abundance of happy guests and beautifully arranged flowers. The performance was attended by **Lynne Deutscher, Mickie McDonald, Dina Melamed, Don Granberg, Betty David, Terry Horner, Jesse De Torres, Kit Nelson, Bob Malucelli, Bill Cooper, Tom Brunettei, Kermit Collins, Tim Perry, Jim Blankenship, Ken Fogerty, Bud Pearce** and young **Jack Hurley** on the tuba. We played a combination of very fast songs intermixed with slower meaningful songs for the happy couple. We made use of many of our vocalists. Jesse sang "For Me and My Gal" and ????, Bud megaphoned out "Toot, Toot, Tootsie". Tim sang "You Were Meant for Me" and ???. Bill and Bud teamed up for "Yes Sir, That's my Baby", Mickie and Lynne for "Darktown Strutters Ball, and Mickie and Kit for "Cuddle up a Little Closer". Kit roused everyone with "A Good Man is Hard to Find", and closed with "What a Wonderful World". Betty took the second verse to "Bye, Bye Blues" and did a fabulous job, as she always does!



The bride, Betsy has two sons, both with boys of their own. Her sons, Kevin and Brian had been very skeptic about having a banjo club play at their mother's wedding, but they loved it and the BEST PART, was their young boys who were absolutely glued to the performance. Bill Nickman (Betsy's brother) and his wife have a young son also, named Billy. But Billy was not content just to listen. He wanted to sing "You Are My Sunshine" in his little 4 year old voice. So, we gave him the microphone, and he made an interesting and delightful attempt.



It was a very fun and uplifting playout which I think everyone enjoyed.

**Jazz at the Elks – sponsored by the Pittsburg Banjo Club
Allegheny Elks Lodge #339
400 Cedar Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15212
October 9 & 10**

Sunday, October 9, 7 P.M.

**From Orlando, Florida, The Mickey Finn Show With
Fred “Mickey” Finn & Cathy Reilly
Doors open at 6 P.M. \$10.00 a seat**

Note: Saturday, Cathy will be conducting a 2-hour banjo seminar/workshop at the Elks Lodge beginning at 1 P.M. for \$10.00

Fred “Mickey” Finn – Piano Wizard – San Diego’s “Mickie Finns” night club drew over 2 million visitors in 14 years, leading to an NBC TV series, 25 year. Visit: www.mickeyfinnshow.com

Cathy Reilly – Virtuoso Banjoist – Former Miss Delaware, runner up Miss America, won the talent competition in the pageant, voted USO Entertainer of the Year, first woman to be inducted into the National Four-String Banjo Hall of Fame.



Sunday, October 10, 7 P.M.

**From New York City, Cynthia Sayer and Her Pittsburgh All Stars
Doors open at 6 P.M. \$10.00 a seat**

Note: Sunday, Cynthia will be conducting a 2-hour banjo seminar/workshop at the Elks beginning at 1 P.M. \$10.00

Cynthia Sayer is internationally acclaimed as one of the leading jazz banjoists, and is also known for her vocal, entertaining and multi-instrumental talents. She has worked with such artists as Woody Allen, Bill Cosby, George Segal, Les Paul, and many others. She tours regularly and is featured in concert and at festivals worldwide. Member of the National Four-String Banjo Hall of Fame. Visit: www.cynthiasayer.com

**Tenor Jazz Banjoist, Stephen DiBonaventura, Opens Both Shows
Cash bar and food available**

Limited Seating, Advance Ticked Sale Only. All seats \$10.00

(Please specify which show)

Checks to: Pittsburg Banjo Club, P.O. Box 101025, Pittsburgh, PA 15237



pittsburghbanjoclub@earthlink.net

The items in this column come from our readers & members. So if you have some information that you would like published, please let the EBBC Newsletter Editor, June Rosploch know. Email Address: editor@eastbaybanjo.org

**Local Student Summer Camp (in the Vallejo/Benicia/Fairfield area)
Shared By: Sheila Welt**

They offer fun and educational rock camps at their music school. Their rock camps have been a huge hit during the school year, so are now offering them as a summer camp format!

Starting in June, the students will have 3 hours of daily instruction with a final concert at the Empress Theater. The kids and teens will be rocking out every day advancing on their instruments appropriate to their levels (beginners welcome to the am camp), learning what it takes to play with other musicians and experience the rush of playing in a real rock show. Our website has more information here: <http://stepupmusicvallejo.com>

**SBB Newsletter Items
For Sale**

B&D Silverbell, custom Plectrum #1, banjo, Serial number 15883. Excellent condition. Must see to appreciate. \$1,700. Call Betty, at 916-625-0109.

Vega tenor banjo for sale, in great shape. Please call Vidolt at 530-622-6685 for details.

Uniform

Definition according to Webster: (1) Not varying or variable. (2) Of the same form with others. (3) Conforming to one rule or mode presenting an unvaried appearance of surface, pattern or color. (4) Dress of a distinctive design or fashion, worn by members of a particular group and serving as means of identification.

Volunteers don't get paid; not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless. ~Sherry Anderson

Bluegrass on the Brain

Shared By: Chris Lardge from June Edition of an unknown UK magazine.

Banjo player Eddie Adcock underwent brain surgery to correct a hand tremor that interfered with his ability to play his instrument. He was awake during part of the surgery and played his banjo during the operation. This was necessary to locate the relevant nerves. Eddie Adcock is regarded as one of the most talented bluegrass banjo player. His fast picking and distinctive style made him an innovator of bluegrass. In recent years his performances suffered as he began to experience mysterious shakes in his right hand. Doctors diagnosed 'essential tremor' – an involuntary trembling that affects millions.

The pioneering operation was hailed a success and Eddie is now playing better than ever. There is no known cure that fixes the technique of banjo players who never practice.

Obituary


Long time East Bay Banjo Club member Dick Weber recently passed away. Dick loved banjo music, but he especially loved his banjo family. He will be missed!

Remember

Guitar Heaven supports the East Bay Banjo Club, please support them.

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East Bay Banjo Club Board Meeting Minutes

April 7, 2010

Attendees: **Jack Convery, June Rosploch, Bill Cooper, Bob Nelson**

Guests - None

Meeting quorum (simple majority of board members) was reached for this meeting.

Reports

Secretary - June Rosploch - Minutes for March 2 Board Meeting were presented - Motion to approve minutes by Bob Nelson / seconded by Bill Cooper – approved 3 / 0 / 0

Treasurer Report – June Rosploch (for Bill Sullivan) - February 2010 - Income \$1,774.00, Expenses \$693.16, Monthly Gross Profit \$1,080.84, Net February Balance \$1,157.99 - Motion to approve financial report by Bill Cooper / seconded by Bob Nelson – approved 3 / 0 / 0

Booking Report - Bob Nelson - Gigs booked for 2010 - New 2, YTD 23 - CDs - Sold 1, In Stock 152 - CD Baby, No activity to report - Motion to approve booking report by June Rosploch / seconded by Bill Cooper – approved 3 / 0 / 0

2nd Annual Summer Jazz Festival - Jack Convery - Jack Convery has started promoting the event by visiting all the local banjo groups, Advertisements (Ads) are secured and paid, Entertainment is confirmed, Bill Cooper and Bud Pearce are soliciting Sunday Event Volunteers, Bob Nelson is focusing on ticket sales

Old Business

Sound System - Bill Cooper - The amplifier is in most need of being replaced. If we do not replace the sound equipment with smaller, lighter options the club will have to invest in some kind of cart for moving the equipment around. Bill Cooper

per has looked into some options and will make a recommendation at the April 7 board meeting.

Club Photo – Bob Nelson confirmed Sunday, April 18 is the date for the annual club photo. Due to date postponements the photographers rates increased from \$75.00 to \$150.00.

Club Banner - Jim Blankenship obtained a \$500.00 quote for a new club banner. Bob Nelson volunteered to obtain some additional quotes. The board felt \$500.00 was too much to spend for a new banner. **Action Item: Bob Nelson will obtain quotes and report back at the May board meeting.**

Meeting Space Constraints - Bill Cooper has made arrangements to have two of the large tables moved from the area we use for practice as a temporary solution to the space issue. At some point the club will have to investigate options for a permanent solution.

Change Control - The way the board disseminated the meeting night change notification did not work well. Two separate groups travelled, a large distance, to the weekly meeting not knowing the night had changed to Wednesday. It is the boards' responsibility to pay more attention to details.

Buffet Offer - June Rosploch, as a board member, was approached by several members questioning the possibility of extending the buffet dinner offer to Wednesday nights. The meal specials are region wide and mandated by the corporate office.

Outstanding Action Items

Copyright – Bill Sullivan - 1/5/2010: All copyright notations for the 2nd Annual Summer Jazz Festival will be changed back to the original copyright text of "Copywrite East Bay Banjo Club All Rights Re-

served".

Summary of Agenda Items for Future Board meetings:

May - Sound System – Bill Cooper, Club Banner-Bob Nelson, Honorary Life Membership – Board Discussion, Youth Music Camp – June Rosploch

Closing - Meeting Adjourned at 7:10 PM - Minutes are respectfully submitted by June Rosploch

May 5, 2010

Attendees: Jack Convery, Jim Blankenship, Bob Malucelli, June Rosploch, Bill Sullivan, Bill Cooper, Bob Nelson

Guests - Kit Nelson, John Rosploch

Meeting quorum (simple majority of board members) was reached for this meeting.

Reports

Secretary - June Rosploch - Minutes for April 7 Board Meeting were presented - Motion to approve minutes by Bill Cooper / seconded by Jim Blankenship – approved 5 / 0 / 0

Treasurer Report – Bill Sullivan - March 2010, No report - Requests for reimbursement were submitted by Bob Nelson and June Rosploch

Booking Report - Bob Nelson - Gigs booked for 2010, New 0, YTD 23 (17 Paid, 6 Free) - CDs, Sold 0, In Stock 152 - CD Baby, No activity to report - Motion to approve booking report by June Rosploch / seconded by Bill Cooper – approved 5 / 0 / 0

2nd Annual Summer Jazz Festival - Jack Convery- No report

East Bay Banjo Club Board Meeting Minutes (Continued)

Old Business

Sound System - Bill Cooper - Bill Cooper recommended the club purchase 4 JBL Eon powered speakers, a Mackie Pro FX 12 mixer board with 8 inputs, a Gator mixer board case, and all output cords be replaced for an estimated cost of \$3,200.00. The new sound equipment is to be purchased at Guitar Heaven. Guitar Heaven will provide a quote for the used equipment.

Jack Convery has requested an opportunity to buy the used equipment. If Jack Convery does not purchase the old equipment, Guitar Heaven will sell it, on consignment.

- Motion was made by June Rosploch / seconded by Bob Nelson to authorize Bill Cooper to purchase the new sound equipment for approximately \$3,500 - approved 5 / 0 / 0

Club Photo – Bob Nelson - Discussion postponed until June 2

Club Banner—Bob Nelson - Discussion postponed until June 2

Membership Categories - The club has one type of membership, regular member, which is in accordance with the club by-laws. However, in the past other types of memberships have been granted. The granting of other types of membership stopped as of 2009 until such time as there is a change to the club by-law. The board is not opposed to adding different membership categories; however, clearly defined guidelines / requirements will have to be in place along with the type of memberships available. – Action Item: Bill Cooper and June Rosploch will present draft recommendations for categories with eligibility requirements to the board on July 7.

Youth Music Program - A number of members have shown interest in having more youth focused activities by participating in community

and other events. With no youth activities at this year's annual EBBC Summer Jazz Festival June Rosploch asked for the club to support an EBBC Youth Summer Day Camp. A 5 year plan was requested outlining the plans for a program interesting youth in the banjo. - Action Item: June Rosploch will invite members to participate in crafting a draft 5 year plan to be presented at the July board meeting.

Webmaster - Bill Sullivan would like additions to the website such as facebook, my space, flash and java features, with a focus on a younger generation. John Rosploch informed the board that size limitations and costs are factors; however, changes can be accommodated. Jack Convery confirmed our website is comparable to the other banjo club sites. The web site currently focuses on member information and needs. Information as to how the Webmaster is chosen was shared with Bill Sullivan. Appointed Non-Board positions are: Webmaster, Booking Agent, Membership Chairperson, Assistant Music Director(s), Newsletter Editor/Publisher, Hospitality Chairperson, Librarian, and EBBC Summer Jazz Festival Co-Chair(s). Elected Board positions are: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Music Director.

FIGA Program - Jack Convery asked the board to reimburse him \$500.00 for expenses to attend the July FIGA Convention in Chicago. Jack Convery would like to represent the club by proposing the club host a FIGA Convention to bring a higher class of banjo entertainment to the East Bay. The FIGA event would replace our annual EBBC Summer Jazz Festival for one year. Some board opposition to reimbursing Jack and/or hosting a FIGA Convention were: we are not members of FIGA; no interest in skipping a year for the EBBC Summer Jazz Festival, the initial fact finding can

be done via email and phone calls. - Motion was made by Bob Nelson / seconded by Jim Blankenship to reimburse Jack Convery \$500.00 for attending the July FIGA Convention as a fact finding opportunity for future hosting of a FIGA event in the East Bay – not approved by a vote of 2 / 3 / 1

Weekly Club Business - The weekly club business breaks are stretching out to the point people are leave or going about other things. It was suggested that the club business be announced at the being of each weeks practice leaving the breaks for personal socializing. There was no action taken on this item.

Newsletter - Before the newsletter is published it will be sent to the board and those individuals that contributed materials. The only editing to newsletter items submitted will be making sure full names are used, checking spelling and the information wholesome in nature. There will be a 24 hour turn around for corrections before the final publication is sent out and posted on the club web site. - Action Item: June Rosploch will announce this process to the members.

Outstanding Action Items

Copyright – Bill Sullivan - 1/5/2010: All copyright notations for the 2nd Annual Summer Jazz Festival will be changed back to the original copyright text; "Copyright 2009 East Bay Banjo Club All Rights Reserved". Note: Privately June Rosploch and Jack Convery discuss how to resolve the outstanding action item. Jack Convery agreed he was the appropriate point person for the action item because the web pages are on his private site. Jacks son, as the webmaster, will make the necessary changes.

East Bay Banjo Club Board Meeting Minutes (Continued)

Summary of Agenda Items for Future Board meetings:

June - Sound System – Bill Cooper, Club Banner-Bob Nelson

July - Youth Music Camp – June Rosploch, Honorary Life Membership – Board Discussion

August - By-laws

Closing - Meeting Adjourned at 7:28 PM - Minutes are respectfully submitted by June Rosploch

August Newsletter Reporters-

June 24 / Sheila Welt

June 26 / Betty David

July 4 / Chris Lardge

July 9 / Open

August 13 / Open

Board Positions

President-Jack Convery (president@eastbaybanjo.org)

Vice President-Bob Malucelli(vicepresident@eastbaybanjolog)

Secretary-June Rosploch (secretary@eastbaybanjo.org)

Treasurer-Bill Sullivan (treasureer@eastbaybanjo.org)

Music Director-Bill Cooper (musicdirector@eastbaybanjo.org)

Immediate Past President-Jim Blankenship (pastpresident@eastbaybanjo.org)

Booking Agent -Bob Nelson (bookingagent@eastbaybanjo.org)

Non-Board Positions

Assistant Music Directors-Betty David, Larry Risner (lrisner@sbcglobal.net), Jack Convery (president@eastbaybanjo.org)

Web Master-John Rosploch (webmaster@eastbaybanjo.org)

Newsletter Editor/Publisher-June Rosploch (editor@eastbaybanjo.org)

Membership-Sheila Welt (membership@eastbaybanjo.org)

Hospitality-Mickie McDonald

Librarian-Jim Blankenship (pastpresident@eastbaybanjo.org)

EBBC Summer Jazz Festival Co-Chairs-Bill Sullivan (treasureer@eastbaybanjo.org), Jack Convery (president@eastbaybanjo.org)



East Bay Banjo Club circa 2010