



EAST BAY BANJO CLUB

SINCE 1963



August 2010

Membership Newsletter

Volume 5 Issue 4

Play-out Schedule

⇒ Thursday, Aug. 26

Bay Park Independent Living, Pinole

6:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

⇒ Thursday, Sept. 9

Golden State Club, Ross-moor

7:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

⇒ Tuesday, Sept. 28

The Waterford/ North Lobby, Rossmoor

7:10 P.M. – 8:05 P.M.

⇒ Friday, Oct. 8

Atria Valley View, Walnut Creek

3:15 P.M. – 4:15 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

Feature Story

How to Build a Tambourine Banjo Reported by June Rosploch

In the interest of finding ways to involve the youth of our community and banjos together Bob Malucelli had an idea, "What about having a craft for children where they could make their own instrument". EBBC (East Bay Banjo Club) first introduced this concept at the 2009 East Bay Banjo Club Summer Jazz Banjo Festival by making Gut Buckets and Shakers.



Bob went out to the internet to learn what information was available for making musical instruments. To his surprise there was one idea that appealed to him, making a Tambourine Banjo. You see Bob played the ukulele before expanding his talents to the banjo. It seemed to him this would be a simple, fun, and inexpensive activate for children.

Events

⇒ August 28

EBBC Picnic @ Landers Landing

⇒ September 12

Banjo Jubilee

Holiday Inn, San Jose, CA

12:25 P.M —12:45 P.M.

⇒ December 8

EBBC Christmas Party and Annual Business Meeting

It wasn't long before Bob discovered that there was more to making the simple tambourine banjo that first meets the eye.

He set out purchasing a set of four tuning pegs, a piece of Burch wood for the neck, a tambourine and banjo strings for a total cost of \$40.00.

(continued on page 3)

Aegis of Pleasant Hill—June 24

Reported By: Sheila Welt



Even though the weather was more like December than June, there were eighteen of us at this play-out. Those who braved this outdoor event were: BILL COOPER, KIT NELSON, BOB MALUCELLI, LYNNE DEUTSCHER, MARILYN YOUNG, FREDDIE KINADETER, KERMIT COLLINS, CHRIS LARDGE, BETTY DAVID, HERB MOORE, MICKIE MCDONALD, JIM BLANKENSHIP, JESSE DETORRES, TOM BRUNETTE, BUD PERARCE, GERRY REEVES, DINA MELAMED, SHEILA WELT (walking wounded).

The residents of Aegis really enjoyed our concert and showed their appreciation by clapping, singing and even dancing to our music. At the intermission we were treated to wonderful foods; spring rolls, meat balls, warm artichoke spread with bread, wine, soft drinks and water.

This is a lovely venue and with such a receptive audience a great time was had by all.

Artia Valley View—July 9

Reported By Terry Horner

A PLAYOUT FOR THE BIRDS



On Friday, July 9th we played for the residents of the Atria Valley View retirement home again. They are having major construction work done, and the workers occupied most of the parking spaces. We were moved out of their theater area and into the lobby where the ceiling has been removed and the florescent lights give out a wind-swept whine at about 10 decibels. We played in front of an aviary dominated by a large and loud cockatiel. Nevertheless, we had one of the best play-outs in my memory.

Leader BILL COOPER, bookie BOB NELSON, and strongman BOB MALUCELLI brought in and set up our ancient sound equipment for its final performance. We did a great job and a set of "See the USA" sounds that the audience loved. Especially, the cockatiel loved KIT NELSON, and whistled loudly after each of her vocals. Other players included PAT WHEATON, KERMIT COLLIN, CHRIS LARDGE, KEN FOGARTY, GUY BLACK, BUD PEARCE, RANDY VIERS, and TERRY HORNER. There were lots of hors d'oeuvres and an open bar; what's not to like.



Diablo Lodge, Danville—June 26

Pictures Provided By Betty David



FEATURE STORY (Continued from page 1)

How to Build a Tambourine Banjo

Bob sawed the neck the shape of a base electric guitar because of the shape of the tuner. He then added wood to the neck base and attached the neck to the tambourine with a long bolt with nuts. Next Bob made the tail piece out of metal and attached the strings. The last step was to use finishing nails, cutting and gluing them in place to make the frets.

It is estimated the project took 15 hours and could have been done faster if he had a jigsaw instead of just using hand tools.

In Bobs search of the internet he did find a banjo ukulele selling for \$80.00. If interested in trying your own hand at making a tambourine banjo go to "You Tube" and search on "How to build a tambourine banjo".



EBBC Summer Jazz Banjo Festival

Reported By Bill Sullivan

Wow, what a weekend...the fun factor was off the scales at the Second Annual Summer Jazz Banjo Festival, held again this year on the campus of Saint Mary's College of California.

The weekend began with a Saturday night BBQ, concert, and jam session. The headliner for this intimate concert setting was legendary jazz guitarist Howard Alden, backed by Jack Convery and Gary Neuman on keyboards.

Howard began his musical career in Southern California, cutting his chops as a banjo player. His first professional gig was at a pizza joint and later playing banjo at Disneyland. Following Howard's stellar performance he was joined on stage by banjo hall of famer Charlie Tagawa. The night ended with everyone breaking out their banjos, gutbuckets, basses, washboards-everything but the kitchen sink! The jam featured the fine vocals of our own Tim Perry and Karen Swift-how cool was it to hear Darkness on the Delta as the evening sky began to shine. The evening ended under a perfect summer night sky and to think it was 60 degrees the night before!

The main event on Sunday afternoon was filled with the stalwarts of the Northern California 4-string banjo scene. Including: the Peninsula Banjo Band, Sacramento Banjo Band, San Francisco Banjo Band, the Wineland Banjo Band and the host band, the East Bay Banjo Club.

Once again Howard Alden was our headliner. Featured performers included Charlie Tagawa's trio, Jack Convery and Friends, and Rob Wright.

Rob is the founder of the [Arizona Banjo Blast](#) and was voted the *most entertaining* with his humorous stories woven into some stellar banjo playing.

Jack Convery dedicated his set to an extraordinary group of young musicians. Including Jack on tuba, Natalie on vocals and 5-year-old Marco on banjo. The future looks very bright in the hands of these talented youngsters. Bravo Jack for providing them this opportunity. Last year Natalie stole the show, this year I think that honor goes to Marco!

The Smalltimers, entertained us between sets with a variety of instrumental versions of ragtime favorites.

Once again the East Bay Banjo Club finished the night by inviting all the banjo players in the hall to join in a world record attempt: the largest number of banjo players playing the "Bells of Saint Mary's". A rousing finish to a fabulous weekend. See you next year.

P.S. Unofficially, I think we've got the record.



**Orinda 4th of July Parade
Reported By Chico Grande***



To your average visiting (legal) alien, like our reporter, there is nothing quite as uniquely American as a Fourth of July Parade. Every small town seems to transform itself into a clone of River City, Iowa complete with babies, bunting, beads and flags. For Orinda this was a special Fourth of July, representing it's 25th anniversary of it's incorporation to a city. While the traditional 76 trombones were missing this year, they were ably replaced by 20 or so banjos of the EBBC.

The weather was hot, and so was the music. Led by our whistle-blowing Music Director Bill (One good eye) Cooper we entertained our adoring fans with endless loops of "The Saints" in G, as we rode slowly through downtown Orinda. At the end of our trek, Congressman John Garamendi was there to greet us and help us dismount from the truck.



We started out auspiciously, like the Beatles did in their first gig in 1957, on the back of a flat-bed truck. The



Our generous sponsor Mary Chatton Brown rode with us and distributed a bottomless supply of beads to the populace. I wonder what they do with them!

After a break for refreshments and searching for shade, we re-grouped outside the Café and did an hour gig, comprised mainly of WW1 and other patriotic songs.

One highlight was watching a couple dancing the Charleston to the "Marine's Hymn". Another was having the winner of the "Orinda Idol" competition sing "Take me out to the Ballgame" for us.

Participants in this patriotic occasion were BILL and SUE COOPER, BOB and KIT NELSON, GERRY and ROBIN REEVES, MARCO and BRIAN GREEN, JOHN and JUNE ROSPLOCH, JESSE and GEORGETTE DETORRES, LYNNE DEUTSCHER, MICKIE MCDONALD, GUY BLACK (Bass), JACK HURLEY (Tuba), TERRY HORNER (Gut Bucket Bass), HERB MOORE, JIM BLANKENSHIP, BUD PEARCE, ARDIE JARRETT, KERMIT COLLINS, DON GRANBERG, KAREN SWIFT, BETTY DAVID, DICK NEUMAN, BOB MALUCELLI, CHRIS LARDGE and last but not least, Uncle Sam!

*Chico Grande is the nom-de-plume of CHRIS LARDGE



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

Obituary

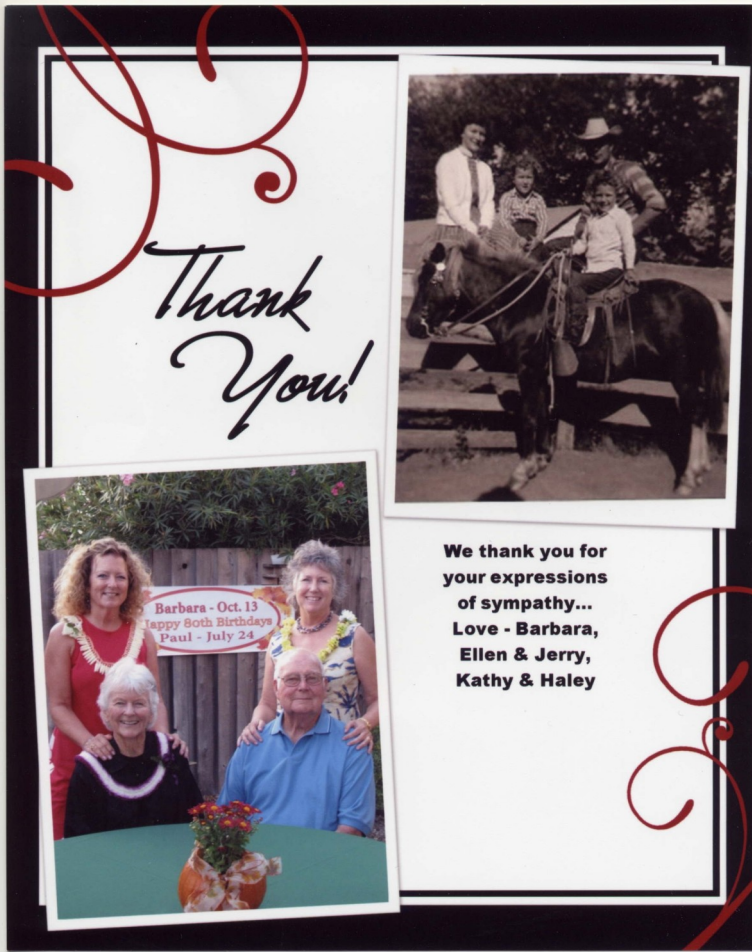
David Paul Findlay

July 24, 1929—July 20, 2010

Resident of Walnut Creek and Waikoloa, Hawaii

Paul Findlay, 80 died at home in Walnut Creek from complications due to prostate cancer. He was born in Berkeley and raised in Lafayette by parents David John Findlay and Loudella Ann Grimes Findlay (McNeil). His father led pack trips into the High Sierra and his mother was an award-winning rodeo barrel racer. Paul competed in steer roping. As a teenager he was a ticket-taker at the Orinda Theater and graduated from Acalanes High School in 1947. He married his sweetheart Barbara Rae Hubbard in 1948. Paul spent most of his career as owner-operator of Paul Find-lay Trucking. The family lived in Walnut Creek, Concord, Bethel Island and Hawaii.

In their retirement years Paul and Barbara traveled the US in their motor home and lived part of the year in Hawaii. Paul enjoyed water-skiing and boating, western novels and cowboy movies, snorkeling, NASCAR and he was the Number One Fan of Barbara's banjo activities that led them all across the country. Paul is survived by his wife of 62 years, Barbara; daughters Kathleen David (daughter Haley) and Ellen (husband Jerry) Herdegen of Concord. Memorial gifts may be made to Vitas Hospice, 365 Lennon Lane, Ste. 140, Walnut Creek, CA 94598.



traveled the US in their motor home and lived part of the year in Hawaii. Paul enjoyed water-skiing and boating, western novels and cowboy movies, snorkeling, NASCAR and he was the Number One Fan of Barbara's banjo activities that led them all across the country. Paul is survived by his wife of 62 years, Barbara; daughters Kathleen David (daughter Haley) and Ellen (husband Jerry) Herdegen of Concord. Memorial gifts may be made to Vitas Hospice, 365 Lennon Lane, Ste. 140, Walnut Creek, CA 94598.

Note: A club donation of \$100 was sent to Vitas Hospice in Paul's name. He will be missed.!

The club held many picnics and Opening Day of the Delta events at Paul and Barbara's Bethel Island home. Ed.

Remember

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East Bay Banjo Club Board Meeting Minutes

June 2, 2010

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

Guests : Guy Black, Mickie McDonald, Kit Nelson, John Rosploch

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

Reports

Secretary - June Rosploch - Minutes for May 4 Board Meeting were presented - Motion to approve minutes by Bill Sullivan / seconded by Bob Nelson - approved 5/0/0

Treasurer Report - Bill Sullivan - The spreadsheet of income/expenses for the club monthly & year-to-date report was not available. Current bank balance is \$11,299.00. East Bay Banjo Club (EBBC) Summer Jazz Banjo Festival expenses as of 5/31/2010: \$5,418.00, income generated as of 5/31/2010: \$5,335.00 (More details in section - 2nd Annual Summer Jazz Festival Report - Motion to approve report by June Rosploch / seconded by Jim Blankenship - approved 5/0/0

Booking Report - Bob Nelson - Gigs booked for 2010 - 2 New, 1 Cancellation for a YTD total of 24 (18 Paid, 6 Free), CDs - 3 Sold for an in stock total of 149, CD Baby - generated income of \$20.29 - Motion to approve booking report by Bill Sullivan / seconded by Bill Cooper - approved 5/0/0

2nd Annual Summer Jazz Festival - Bill Sullivan (for Jack Convery) - The program, entertainment, and beer/wine are outstanding expenses to date. It is expected income for the 2010 event will be \$16,000.00, expenses of \$11,000.00, for an anticipated profit

of \$5,000.00 which would be roughly \$2,000.00 more than last year's event profit of \$2,595.00. A copyright change to event web pages was made clarifying the event as an East Bay Banjo Club activity.

Old Business

Sound System - Bill Cooper - The new sound system will be ordered this month with an anticipated July delivery date.

Club Photo - Bob Nelson - Two club photos were provided to Bill Sullivan (color and black/white of each) - It is unclear what photos were to be supplied to the club for the \$150.00 fee. The board anticipated a CD would be provided with a selection of photos. **Action Item: Bill Sullivan will verify if the agreement was for the 2 photos or is there a CD of the photo shoot still pending.**

Club Banner - Bob Nelson - Bob Nelson obtained a quote of \$310 to \$350 for a banner which the board felt was high. **Action Item: Jim Blankenship will seek quotes from major chain stores such as Office Depot, and Staples**

New Business

Club Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Classification - Recognized by IRS as 501(c)(7) corporation in 1971 - The 1997 amended Articles of Organization were not filed with IRS to be recognized as a 501(c)(4) corporation. This was made clear in the IRS letter of March 16, 2010. 1997 amendment changes were made to: Article II stating the specific purpose of the corporation is to; (a) Promote the common good and general welfare of the community. Article III stating the corporation is to be organized and operated as a 501(c)(4) corporation. A copy of the amended and original Articles of Organization along with a copy of

the IRS March 16, 2010 letter are to be forwarded to the IRS to resolve the misclassification of the corporation. **Action Item: Bill Sullivan will forward all required documentation including filling instructions to the Secretary, June Rosploch to file.**

Orinda 4th of July Parade - Bob Malucelli - As Vice President of the club, Bob Malucelli is responsible for the 4th of July club parade arrangements. Bill Cooper will have the bales of hay but needs help this year transferring them on and off of the parade truck. **Action Items: Bob Malucelli will confirm with Bobbie Landers that arrangements have been finalized for the truck, sponsor and any staging time changes. Bob will also bring the morning refreshments, and float decorations.**

Summary of Agenda Items for Future Board meetings:

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

August - By-laws

September - 8x10 Club Photo

Closing - Meeting Adjourned at 7:25 PM - Minutes are respectfully submitted by June Rosploch

July 7, 2010

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

Guests: Sheila Welt, Mickie McDonald, and John Rosploch

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

East Bay Banjo Club Board Meeting Minutes (Continued)

Reports

Secretary - June Rosploch - Minutes for June 2 Board Meeting were presented - Motion to approve minutes by Bob Nelson/ seconded by Bill Cooper - approved 4/0/0.

Treasurer Report – Bob Nelson for Bill Sullivan - The spreadsheet of income/expenses for the club monthly & year-to-date report was not available.

EBBC 2010 Summer Jazz Banjo Festival partial financial report has presented as noted in the table on page 9.

Motion to approve partial event report by June Rosploch/ seconded by Jim Blankenship – approved 3/ 2/0 (Those opposed to approving an incomplete report were Bill Cooper and June Rosploch - Bob Malucelli voted to brake the tie) **Action Item: A full event financial report to be provided at August board meeting.**

Booking Report - Bob Nelson - Gigs booked for 2010 - YTD total of 24 (18 Paid, 6 Free), CDs – 15 Sold for an in stock total of 134, CD Baby – No Activity, Motion to approve booking report by June Rosploch/ seconded by Bill Cooper – approved 4/0/0

2nd Annual Summer Jazz Festival - Bob Nelson for Jack Convery -See Treasurer Report - Mickey McDonald approached the board for direction in resolving her insurance claim issue related to the festival. The board directed her to tender a claim with St. Mary's and seek legal advice. - The event web page information remains misleading

including the copyright . On May 11, 2010 the concern was brought to the attention of Jack Convery. A separate fact finding meeting was requested by Bill Cooper facilitating the meeting. The brain storming meeting will focus on: What went well, What did not go so well, and Recommendations. **Action Item: June Rosploch is to schedule meeting at Round Table Pizza other than Wednesday night and invite all club members to attend.**

Old Business

Sound System - Bill Cooper - The equipment was ordered and received. The final cost was over the anticipated amount by \$300.00. Motion to approve an additional \$300.00 was made by Bob Nelson/ seconded by Jim Blankenship – approved 4/0/0

Club Photo – Bill Sullivan - Postponed till August board meeting. **Pending Action Item: Bill Sullivan will verify if the agreement was for the 2 photos or is there a CD of the photo shoot still pending.**

Club Banner-Jim Blankenship - Quote of \$150 was obtained. Motion to approve purchase of banner for \$150.00 was made by June Rosploch/ seconded by Bill Cooper – approved 4/0/0

Club Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Classification – No Update - **Pending Action Item: Bill Sullivan will forward all required documentation including filling instructions to the Secretary, June Rosploch to file.**

Orinda 4th of July Parade – Bob Malucelli - What went well – snacks, water. What did not – area for play-out did not have enough shade for those performing and spectators. Recommendation - have members that are not playing walk along side float to through beads.

New Business

Club Xmas Party - Diane Shaw will be approached to see if she will oversee the event this year. The pizza parlor will be approached to see if they would extend the buffet for the club on that Wednesday evening. Motion to schedule party on Wednesday, December 8 was made by Bill Cooper/ seconded by Jim Blankenship – approved 4/0/0

Local Shirt Vendor – Sheila Welt - There is a local source for customized items. The board agreed this was a great opportunity for non-official items. Sheila will be the point person for any orders.

Summary of Agenda Items for Future Board meetings:

July - Honorary Life Membership – Board Discussion

August - By-laws– Board Discussion

September - 8x10 Club Photo – Bill Sullivan and Youth Music Camp – June Rosploch

Closing- Meeting Adjourned at 7:31 PM—Minutes are respectfully submitted by June Rosploch

East Bay Banjo Club Board Meeting Minutes (Continued from page 8)

EBBC Summer Jazz Banjo Festival Financial Report

Expenses		Totals
Site Rental	\$2,500.00	
Talent (Headliners)	2,000.00	
Travel (Hotel, Airline Ticket, Rental Car)	1,380.00	
Program	1,804.00	
Flyers/Brochure	186.00	
Polos (shirts)	932.00	
Ads	90.00	
Insurance	200.00	
Web	900.00	
BBQ	1,123.00	
Permits	100.00	
Beer & wine	225.00	
Buttons	239.00	
Misc	53.00	
Total		\$11,732.00
Income Saturday BBQ		
Tickets	\$1,960.00	
Brown Paper (on-line)	760.00	
DOE (day of event)	160.00	
Beer & Wine	275.00	
Income Sunday Festival		
Musicians (Local Clubs/Bands - Group Sales)	\$1,081.00	
Tickets	1,743.00	
Brown Paper (on-line)	480.00	
DOE (day of event)	997.00	
Beer & Wine	90.00	
Polos (Shirts)	625.00	
Festival Income		
Sponsors	\$3,000.00	
Advertisements	\$450.00	
Total		\$11,621.00
Grand Total		- \$111.00

Board Positions

President-Jack Convery (president@eastbaybanjo.org)

Vice President-Bob Malucelli(vicepresident@eastbaybanjol.org)

Secretary-June Rosploch (secretary@eastbaybanjo.org)

Treasurer-Bill Sullivan (treasurer@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
(ljrisner@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)

Origin of the Title About "Ob-La-Di, Ob-La-Da"

From the original Beatles Album "[The Beatles - White Album](#)" (1968)

JOHN 1980: "I might've given him a couple of lyrics, but it's his song, his lyric."

PAUL 1984: "A fella who used to hang around the clubs used to say, (Jamaican accent) 'Ob-la-di, ob-la-da, life goes on,' and he got annoyed when I did a song of it, 'cuz he wanted a cut. I said, 'Come on, Jimmy, it's just an expression. If you'd written the song, you could have had a cut.' He also used to say, 'Nothin's too much, just outta sight.' He was just one of those guys who had great expressions, you know."