



# EAST BAY BANJO CLUB



Since 1963

December 2010

Membership Newsletter

Volume 5 Issue 6

## 2011 Play-out Schedule

⇒ Saturday, Jan. 29

Diablo Lodge, Danville  
6:15 P.M. – 7:15 P.M.

⇒ Feb. 8 / 9 / 10

Banjo Snow Train @  
Harrahs , Reno

⇒ March 27

Banjo Rama, Red Lion Inn,  
Sacramento

⇒ Friday, April 1

May Park, Pinole  
2:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.

### **East Bay Banjo Club Meets:**

**Every Wednesday  
7:30 PM to 9:30 PM  
Round Table Pizza,  
1938 Oak Park Blvd.,  
Pleasant Hill, California**



## Featured Story

### EBBC Music Director Bill Cooper

#### Reported By: Terry Horner

Bill and Sue live on a small ranch in Martinez along with 19 chickens, 7 guinea fowl, 4 cats, 2 dogs, one sulcata tortoise, and Arabella the Wonder Goat.



Bill was born in Reno where his dad was in engineering school. The family soon moved to Richmond and then Martinez where Bill grew up, attending Martinez schools through Alhambra High. After attending the US Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York, and Diablo Valley College, he graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno, majoring in political science. He then went to work as a surveyor for 6 years while attending law school at night. He practiced law for 13 years and then was called to teach special education in Pittsburg until his retirement in 2008.

When he was 10 he was given a baritone ukulele. At 12 he and friend Al Posey taught each other to play the banjo and sat in with the ancestor of the EBBC founded by Al's parents, Chuck and Jeannie Posey, Earl Collins, and Red March. The 200 member club played at the Straw Hat Pizza Parlor in Pleasant Hill and included Bill's sister, Vali, and his dad, Jasper. After finishing college Bill returned to the EBBC and started a family. His musically gifted kids, Jasper and Anna, would later teach Bill about musical notation so he could create the EBBC music book. He has been the musical director since 1978, as well as playing the banjo with several local Dixieland bands. All this and more I learned from Arabella the Wonder Goat.



### **For the most current play-out information:**

- ⇒ **Web Site: [www.eastbaybanjo.org](http://www.eastbaybanjo.org)**
- ⇒ **Email: [bookingagent@eastbaybanjo.org](mailto:bookingagent@eastbaybanjo.org)**
- ⇒ **Phone: 925-372-0553**



**November 5, 2010—Walnut Creek Seniors**

**Reported By: Terry Horner**

Another fine day

We played for the Walnut Creek Seniors' luncheon on Friday, November 5th. Our "Ladies Names" song list was led by **Bill Cooper**, who also did much of the fine singing, banter, equipment toting, and set up. Welcome back, Bill. Other singing strummers included **Kit Nelson** and **Chico Grande** (Chris Lardge). **Bob Malucelli**, **Bob Nelson**, and **Guy Black** helped carry the equipment and set it up. Thanks guys. Simply swell strumming was provided by **Bill Dowling**, **Kermit Collins**, **Sheila Welt**, **Jim Blankenship**, and **Dominic Borchers**. The rhythm section included **Guy Black**, **Dina Melamed**, and **Terry Horner**. Photos, booking, and general support were provided, as usual, by **Bob Nelson**.

We had dancers. We had group singing. We had several birthdays (about half the audience was born in November). We had a fine time. What didn't we have? We didn't have parking. Even the Senior Center staff, who arrived hours before the luncheon, had to park blocks away. A construction crew was setting up the Winter Ice Rink, obliterating much of the parking lot. Hey, how about a skating banjo group doing Christmas carols next month?



**November 11, 2010 – Aegis Concord**

**Reported By: Sheila Welt**

I have misplaced the list of players (bet I find it after this is sent off to June for publication). Aegis had a very nice program for their Veterans. Each veteran received recognition for their service to our country. We all sang THE STARS SPANGLED BANER. It was a very moving presentation.

We played songs that reflected the era(s) of those who served. Everyone loved the songs and enjoyed singing along with us. We enjoyed playing for everyone!

Bob Malucelli, Kermit Collins, Guy Black, Terry Horner, Sheila Welt, Bill Dowling, Chris Lardge, Dominic Borchers, Bill Cooper, Dina Melamed, Kit Nelson, and Tim Perry.



## November 19, 2010 – Stoneman Village in Pittsburg Reported By: Sheila Welt

Those playing were: Bill Cooper, Terry Horner, Guy Black, Jim Blankenship, Sheila Welt, Bob Malucelli, Tom Brunetti, Kit Nelson, Ardie Jarrett, Dina Melamed, Kermit Collins, and Don Granberg.

The residents enjoyed our presentation. Some kept rhythm with us by tapping on the tables. Some people even joined us in singing.

A good time was had by all. The staff offered us cookies and soft drinks. Very nice of them.

It was raining when we finished. Certainly am glad that the Banjo's were protected by their cases.



## November 22, 2010—Contra Costa Jewish Center, Walnut Creek

Reported By: Dina Melamed

### *Thanksgiving Luncheon*

Lunch was over before we started playing. Our leader was missing at the beginning. We were concerned for him. The M.C. of Jewish community center began to read something to the guests to keep their attention and after that we were like sheep herd without a shepherd, but we began to play and sing rather lamely. When our leader came in and took the reigns we presented a variety of songs. Yes, including "Oakland....." Terry Horner said to us: This is a 100% refund..... You know what I mean. Lessons Learned: We should strive to get our act together and practice what we play. Rhythm is important especially in group playing to entertain others. There were 2 "no Show" to this gig. Phones were taken by a kind gentlemen from the audience. Our group included: Bill Cooper, Terry Horner, Chris Lardge, Guy Black, Bob Malucelli, Marilyn Young, Pat Wheaton, Sheila Welt, Kermit Collins, Ardi Jarrett and Dina Melamed.



Christmas Party and Annual Business Meeting

Reported By: June Rosploch

Elected 2011 Board Members:

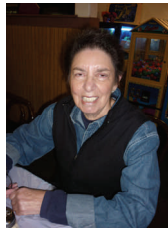
President—June Rosploch

Vice President—Betty David

Secretary—Lynne Deutscher

Treasurer—Robin Reeves

Music Director—Bill Cooper





## *Hour Glass of Time*

Reported By Terry Horner

### **A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE EAST BAY BANJO CLUB**

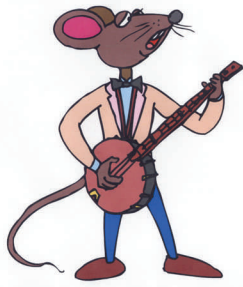
In the 1950's and 60's groups like the Kingston Trio, the Red Garter pub, and Shakey's Pizza popularized folk music, Dixieland, and the banjo. In the East Bay, Chuck and Jeannie Posey and their friends Earl Collins and Red March were playing at pizza parlors and each other's homes when, in 1962, they began to play together at the Straw Hat Pizza parlor on Contra Costa Blvd in Pleasant Hill. Before long there were over 200 members of this East Bay Banjo Club, including young Bill Cooper, Larry Risner, Al Posey, and Gerry Kerr. Young Guy Black was playing tuba in some of Red March's gigs.

In 1970 the club followed Rod, the manager at Straw Hat, to Solano Ave in Concord where he opened Rod's Pizza. In 1977 they moved to another pizza parlor on Clayton Road in Concord. In 1980 they moved to the current Round Table Pizza parlor in Pleasant Hill, which was a western style pizza parlor then. An early leader was 18 year old Billy Hirt, and his mother, Betty Purchase, played the gutbucket. Gerry Kerr took over for a while, and then Ed Stevens was director until he cut off his left fingers while tuning his daughter's car in 1978. Bill Cooper picked up the baton, not the fingers, at that point and has been director ever since.

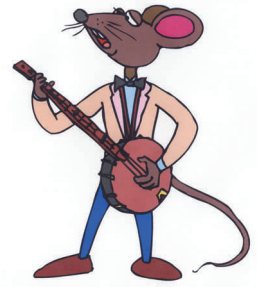
### **THE FLOAT**

Chuck Posey, Phil Hakola, the Jacksons and many volunteers turned the chassis of an old Diamond-T truck into a stern wheel paddle boat parade float that carried 60 EBBC banjo players on two decks. Originally they installed a 1959 Cadillac engine amidships, and later they replaced that with an old Ford school bus engine. Garry Kerr was a regular driver. Many parades were graced with the EBBC banjo players in their float, including the Chinese New Year's parade in San Francisco. Eventually the banjo craze peaked, the club size diminished, and the float was sold for lack of support.





East Bay Banjo Club  
2011 Membership Form



*Dues are now payable in the amount  
of \$20.00 per member. Youth, under  
18 are Free.*

Please check one:

I want to continue my membership, Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

New Member \_\_\_\_\_

Name 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Month & Day (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Name 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Month & Day (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Youth \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Month & Day (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Paid \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail your 2011 Membership form along with \$20.00 per member annual dues to Sheila Welt, Membership Chairperson C/O EBBC, P.O. Box 5414, Concord, CA 94524**



## October 6, 2010

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

**Guests –** Guy Black

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

### Reports

1. Secretary - June Rosploch
    - a. Minutes for September 1 Board Meeting were presented
    - b. Motion to approve minutes by Bill Cooper/ seconded by Bob Nelson– approved 4/0/1.
  2. Treasurer Report –Bill Sullivan
    - a. Estimated bank balance of \$7,500.00
    - c. Motion to approve Treasurer Report by June Rosploch / seconded by Bill Cooper – approved 5/0/0
  3. Booking Report - Bob Nelson
    - a. Gigs booked for 2010 - YTD total of 30 (24 Paid, 6 Free)
    - b. CDs – 7 Sold for an in stock total of 117
    - c. CD Baby – No Activity
    - d. Motion to approve booking report by June Rosploch/ seconded by Bill Cooper – approved 4/0/0
  4. EBBC Summer Jazz Banjo Festival - Bill Cooper
    - a. Event committee has now met three times.
    - b. Have taken the following actions:
      - i. Elected Bill Cooper as Committee Chair, Dorothy Cahill as Committee Secretary, and Chris Lardge as Committee Treasurer
      - ii. Created a Budget Sub-committee (Chaired by Chris Lardge) that posed the budget in table below.
      - iii..Create a Polling Sub-committee (Chaired by Mickie McDonald) that polled the membership. It seems that about 70% of the membership would like to see us proceed with the event.
      - iv. Created a Venue Sub-committee (Chaired by John Rosploch) that has reported back that the Crown Plaza Hotel near the airport has offered us the best deal, at \$1,200.00 for the Sunday 500 seat venue and stage, use of an additional room for a green room, and a room Saturday night for jamming and banquet. The search is ongoing; presently it looks like this is the best deal.
      - v. We have voted to recommend to the Board that we proceed to have the summer event on Saturday, June 11 and Sunday, June 12.
    - c. Proposed budget in table below.
    - d. Motion to proceed with the 2011 Summer Jazz Festival club event by June Rosploch / seconded by Bill Cooper – approved 6/0/1
- Proposed budget:

### Old Business

1. Club Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Classification
  - a. Bill Sullivan supplied the Articles of Incorporation, By-laws and copy of IRS letter to the Secretary, June Rosploch for filing with the IRS to apply for 501 (c)(4) status.
2. Club Xmas party
  - a. Action Item: At the break tonight we will solicit volunteers to Chair and work on the December 8<sup>th</sup> Christmas Party committee.
  - b. Outstanding Action Item: Make arrangements to obtain the 2 boxes of decorations from Diane Shaw.
3. Digital Downloads – Jack Convery
  - a. Outstanding Action Item: Jack Convery will contact Bud Pearce to obtain the password and account information.

4. Sound System – Bill Cooper

- a. Jack Convery is interested in buying the old sound systems for \$200.00

**New Business**

1. Membership Category – Bill Cooper, June Rosploch

- a. The board compromised for Junior privileges by lowering the age a person is considered a Regular member to 16 and agreed to four (4) classification of membership; Regular, Life, Honorary, and Junior:
- Regular Membership which is available to any person 16 years of age or older who elects to avail him or herself of all privileges of the club upon payment of dues, including the right to vote and hold office.
  - Life membership may be awarded by a unanimous yeas vote of the Board of Directors to a member of not less than 5 years continuous membership to the club, and who has performed special meritorious service to the club. The title shall be conferred for life. Life members shall be exempt from payment of dues, and shall have the right to vote and hold office.
  - Honorary membership may be awarded by a unanimous yeas vote of the Board of Directors to anyone who has made an outstanding service contribution to the club or to the banjo. The title shall be conferred for life. An Honorary member shall be exempt from payment of dues, and shall not have the right to vote or hold office. Honorary members may become Regular members upon payment of dues without jeopardy to his/her status as an Honorary Member.
  - Junior membership shall be available to persons under the age of 16 years. Parents of junior members will be responsible for that junior member at all club activities. Junior member shall be exempt from payment of dues, and do not have the right to vote or hold office.
- b. Action Item: Bill Cooper will edit the proposed Membership Category verbiage and bring it back as an agenda item in November.

2. **Warranty**

- a. Action Item: Bill Cooper will turn over the new sound system warranties to June Rosploch.

3. **Nomination Committee**

- a. Those currently on the board that are not seeking a board position are; Jack Convery, Bob Malucelli, and Bill Sullivan.
- b. An announcement and email will be sent to canvas the membership to determine who is interested in volunteering as a 2011 officer.
- c. Action Item: Bill Cooper will announce June Rosploch will be heading up the committee and volunteers are welcome to be part of the committee.
- d. Action Item: June Rosploch will send out an email asking for those interested in seeking a 2011 officer position to contact her.

**Summary of Agenda Items for Future Board meetings:**

- 1 October
- a. 8x10 Club Photo
  - b. Nomination Committee
  - c. 501 (c)(4)
- 2 November
- a. Bylaws Committee
  - b. Youth Music Camp – June Rosploch

**Closing**

Meeting Adjourned at 7:25 PM

Minutes are respectfully submitted by June Rosploch

## November 11, 2010

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

**Guests**

- None

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

**Reports**

1. Secretary - June Rosploch
- a. Minutes for October 6 Board Meeting were presented
  - b. Motion to approve minutes by Jim Blankenship / seconded by Bob Malucelli, approved 4/0/0.
2. Treasurer Report –Bill Sullivan
- a. Bank balance of \$7,280 as of October 17, 2010.
  - c. An Expense (AP) / Deposit (AR) template was developed by Bill Sullivan to be used for record keeping.
  - d. Action Item: Bill Sullivan will provide the soft copy of the template.
  - e. Motion to approve Treasurer Report by June Rosploch / seconded by Bob Nelson, approved 5/0/0

3. Booking Report - Bob Nelson
  - a. Gigs booked for 2010 - YTD total of 31 (25 Paid, 6 Free)
  - b. CDs – 1 sold for an in stock total of 111 (5 CD's on consignment @ The Waterford/Rossmoor)
  - c. CD Baby – No Activity
  - d. Motion to approve booking report by June Rosploch / seconded by Bob Malucelli – approved 4/0/0
4. EBBC Summer Jazz Banjo Festival - Bill Cooper
  - a. Bill Cooper absent, report deferred to December Board Meeting

#### **Old Business**

1. Club Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Classification (501 (c)(4) – June Rosploch
  - a. The documentation provide by Bill Sullivan was not ready for mailing.
  - b. Action Item: Bill Sullivan will complete the required documentation necessary to submit a request to change our 501 (C) (7) classification to 501 (C)(4)
2. Club Xmas Party
  - a. Mickie McDonald has expressed interest in heading the Xmas Party Committee.
  - b. The 2 boxes of decorations cannot be located.
  - c. A \$50 limit was set for decorations.
  - d. Action Item: June Rosploch will ask Mickie McDonald to chair the Xmas Party committee.
  - e. Action Item: An announcement will be made at break for volunteers to help with the event.
3. Digital Downloads – Jack Convery
  - a. Outstanding Action Item: Jack Convery will contact Bud Pearce to obtain the password and account information.
4. Sound System – Bill Cooper
  - a. Jack Convery purchased the club's old sound systems for \$200.00
5. Membership Category – Bill Cooper, June Rosploch
  - a. Outstanding Action Item: Bill Cooper will edit the proposed Membership Category verbiage and report back to the board.

#### **1. Warranty**

- a. Outstanding Action Item: Bill Cooper will provide the new sound system paperwork for the club records.

#### **2. Nomination Committee**

- a. A slate is pending.
- b. Mickie McDonald and June Rosploch are activity canvassing members to identify those with interest in filling a board position.

#### **New Business**

- 1 8x10 Club Photo – Bill Sullivan
  - a. Other options are being looked into
  - b. Action Item: Bill Sullivan will send a sample prior to the December 1 Board Meeting
- 2 2011 Sacramento Youth Jazz Camp – June Rosploch
  - a. The idea of an annual scholarship was well received by all.
- 3 Bylaws Committee
  - a. No action at this time.

#### **Summary of Agenda Items for Future Board meetings:**

1. December 1, 2010
  - b. End of the Year Item – Bill Sullivan

#### **Closing**

Meeting Adjourned at 7:05 PM

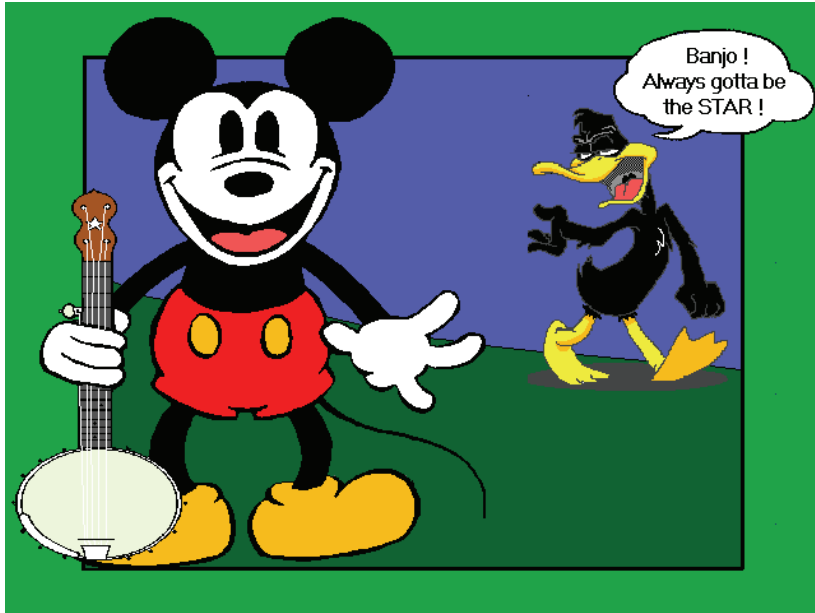
Minutes are respectfully submitted by June Rosploch

***MERRY CHRISTMAS***

***&***

***HAPPY NEW YEAR***





2011 EBBC Board	
<b>President</b> president@eastbaybanjo.org	<b>June Rosploch</b>
<b>Vice President</b> 925-938-0126	<b>Betty David</b>
<b>Secretary</b> secretary@eastbaybanjo.org	<b>Lynne Deutscher</b>
<b>Treasurer</b> 925-685-0673	<b>Robin Reeves</b>
<b>Music Director</b> musicdirector@eastbaybanjo.org	<b>Bill Cooper</b>
<b>Immediate Past President</b> 707-747-1004	<b>Jack Convery</b>
<b>Booking Agent</b> bookingagent@eastbaybanjo.org	<b>Open</b>

Non-Board Positions	
<b>Assistant Music Directors</b> ljrisner@sbcglobal.net	<b>Betty David</b> <b>Larry Risner</b> <b>Jack Convery</b>
<b>Web Master</b> webmaster@eastbaybanjo.org	<b>Open</b>
<b>Newsletter Editor/Publisher</b>	<b>Open</b>
<b>Membership</b> membership@eastbaybanjo.org	<b>Sheila Welt</b>
<b>Hospitality</b> 925-831-6922	<b>Mickie McDonald</b>
<b>Librarian</b> jpblankenship@att.net	<b>Jim Blankenship</b>
<b>Summer Jazz Banjo Festival Chair</b> musicdirector@eastbaybanjo.org	<b>Bill Cooper</b>



Concord, CA 94524

P.O. Box 5414

[WWW.EASTBAYBANJO.ORG](http://WWW.EASTBAYBANJO.ORG)



**EAST BAY BANJO CLUB**



# East Bay Banjo Club

**Meets every Wednesday  
From 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM**

At

**Round Table Pizza**

**1938 Oak Park Blvd.**

**Pleasant Hill, CA**