



EAST BAY BANJO CLUB



EBBC Membership **SINCE 1963**

May-June 2011

Membership Newsletter

Volume 6 Issue 3

2011 Play-out Schedule

- ⇒ **Monday, July 4**
Orinda Parade & Play out
Time TBA - Blue Polo
- ⇒ **Friday, July 15**
30's, 40's, 50's Club Rossmoor
6:30-7:30PM - Blue Polo
- ⇒ **Sunday, Aug. 6**
Club Picnic at Lander's
Landing, 10:00 AM - ?
Your choice of Clothing.
- ⇒ **Sunday, Aug. 14**
Redwood Chapter, Eastern
Star, Santa Cruz
12:00 - 2:00PM - Blue Polo
- ⇒ **Sunday, Aug. 28**
Stoneman Village, Pittsburg
3:00-4:00 PM Blue Polo
- ⇒ **Sunday, Sept. 18**
St. Anne's Society, Walnut
Creek, 6:00-7:00PM - Blue
Polo
- ⇒ **Sunday, Dec. 4**
Merrill Gardens of Vallejo,
1:00-2:00PM—Gold Vest
- ⇒ **Saturday, Dec. 17**
Rossmoor Tennis Club
Christmas Party, Walnut
Creek, 7:15-8:15 PM - Gold
Vest.

Presidents Message:

Presidents Message:

It is hard to believe that the East Bay Banjo Clubs 3rd Annual Summer Jazz Banjo Festival is over.....I have received a multitude of positive feed-backs. The Crowne Plaza appreciated our business and entertainers enjoyed playing to the crowd. It was apparent you worked hard & did everything to make the festival work for all. Some members may have been exposed to tasks outside of their comfort areas but in the end all your team work paid off. One of the special moments for me was during the opening of the main event on Sunday when Laura M. Hoffmeister, Mayor of the City of Concord on behalf of the City Council proclaimed June 11, 2011 as Concord Banjo Festival



Day and I accepted the proclamation on behalf of the club. Thank you for making the weekend such a positive experience for all.

As we move into summer my thoughts turn to two of my favorite events - Orinda 4th of July Parade & Celebration, I will be asking non-players to join me by walking along side the parade float to hand out beads. Then there is our Annual Club Picnic on August 6th - who could miss that.....boating along the delta waterways, great conversations, jamming and great food.

Remember to SMILE..... June Rosploch

**East Bay Banjo Club
Meets:**

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

For the most current play-out information visit:

www.eastbaybanjo.org

or Contact

John Rosploch,

Booking Agent, email:

bookingagent@eastbaybanjo.org

or

Call 925-864-3692

(April Left-Over) ... April 26th, Retired Military Wives, at Boundary Oak

“A View From The Stage”

By reporter, Kit Nelson



What an audience we had! Tuesday, April 26th, early afternoon, a luncheon held at “Boundary Oaks”, located in Walnut Creek for the “Retired Military Officers’ Wives Association: and what a lively group they were! They had requested Patriotic Music and they got it; With Sing-A-Longs from the audience, our entire band and the group were just in such good spirits, ‘n sync with one another and a great “PARTY” was occurring!

In attendance were Music Director, Bill Cooper, Guy Black, Terry Horner, Kit Nelson, Sheila Welt, Ardie Jarrett, Bill Dowling, Chris Lardge, Mickie McDonald, and Dina Melamed; Dina was so kind to go into the audience and share her “Washboard” with Lynn Guy, and this musical person played along with us for a few songs; so audience participation was enjoyed by both our group and theirs and a lot of fun was had by all; they were talking about having us back, and we’re sure they will. Respectfully Submitted, Kit Nelson



(April Left-Over) ... April 29th, Concord Senior Club Dinner



April 29 was a day that will live in history. At London’s Westminster Abbey, in a small private ceremony attended by a few thousand of their closest friends and watched by millions around the world, Prince William, second in line to the British throne, wed his college sweetheart Kate Middleton. While the guests were still celebrating their nuptials in Buckingham Palace well into the wee hours, they missed the EBBC’s happy hour performance at the Concord Senior Club.

While the band played, Concord’s senior citizens enjoyed a “Great Recession” soup kitchen style meal consisting of an appetizer of Jello fruit salad, followed by chicken cordon bleu, baked potato, green beans, and éclair. This was followed by a raffle for an apple pie — all for the princely sum of \$6. It must be great to be a Senior in Concord. Unfortunately the band was too busy playing to partake.

Our musicians started with the “Banjo Pickers Ball” followed by a couple of Beatle songs, Obla Dee, Obla Dah and Honey Pie, which neatly reflected the British-ness of the day. Vocals were provided by Bill Cooper and Chico Grande. Our girl singer Kit Nelson sang several songs including a nice version of “Sweet Man”, Champagne Lady, Mickie McDonald sang her Hawaiian hit, “Ha He’s making eyes at me” followed by a romantic duet with Bill Cooper of “Till we meet again”.

Gerry Reeves sang the Fats Domino hit “I’m Walk’in” and Terry Horner played a nice gut bucket break of Duke Ellington’s “mood Indigo”. Most probably the Duke never heard it played quite like that in his lifetime.

For our absentee pickers, they will regret having missing a turbo-charged version of “Tiger Rag. It is said that Mozart wrote the fourth movement of this opus in 4 flats—the first two were in Salzburg and the other two in Vienna and Prague.

Our players were Bill Cooper (leader), Guy Black, Bill Dowling, Don Granberg, Terry Horner, Chris Lardge, Mickie McDonald, Dina Melamed, Kit Nelson, and Gerry Reeves. Bob Nelson took care of the audio & photography.

Reported by Chris Lardg

Poor Gerry Reeves. What’s a guy to do when the something goes wrong with the ramp for your stage exit?



Flo Hall

wrong with the

5th Annual Moraga Community Faire, May 14, 2011

Reported by June Rosploch

We were not the only ones to brave the outdoors on Saturday, May 14. Who would have guessed that the weather was to turn on us—cloudy, windy, and **COLD**.

I am sure the 5th Annual Moraga Community Faire attendance would have been up if last weekends weather had stayed; however, those in attendance had plenty to keep them entertained. Whether it was classic cars, arts and crafts, children's activities, music or a chance to sample Lamorinda wines and local restaurants cuisine, there was some-



thing planned for people of all ages. In the area of the Entertainment Stage listeners could relax and enjoy the musical performances by local favorites, including the Oak Grove Bluegrass Family Band, the Campolindo Chorus, Chris LeBel, Peter Pan Foundation, and EAST BAY BANJO CLUB. Other areas were set aside for wine tasting by local vineyards and classic cars that highlighted trophy cars owned by area residents who have so carefully restored them.



The Moraga Community Faire is organized and sponsored by the Moraga Chamber of Commerce and supported by the Town of Moraga.

Performers: Bill Cooper, Dina Melamed, Jack Hurley, Tom Brunetti, Ardie Jarrett, Kit Nelson, Don Granberg, Betty David, Bob Malucelli, Mickie McDonald, Bill Dowling, Gerry Reeves, and June Rosploch.

Support Crew: Robin Reeves, Clyde Dedmon, Lauren Hurley, Kevin Hurley, Bob Nelson, Dorothy Cahill, Bobbie Landers and John Rosploch.

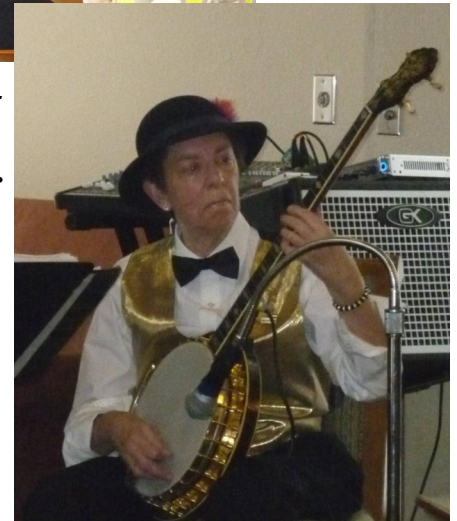


Happy Birthday...
DOROTHY'S 90TH
 Merrill Gardens in Vallejo
 May 22nd

*Dorothy Allen
 Was Pleasantly Surprised!*



How does a family keep a production like this, a huge surprise? Well they certainly did. Not only was Dorothy surprised, she had a lot of fun with friends and family, listening to our East Bay Banjo Club, drinking Champaign, and enjoying good food and yummy Birthday CAKES!



We found out that Dorothy used to play banjo and really loves banjo music, so what better gift, the family decided, for Dorothy's 90th. The band played all of her favorite tunes and we also had some wonderful sing-a-longs going. Betty David was our band leader and singers were Tim Perry, Kit Nelson, Bud Pearce, and Mickie McDonald.

Dina Melamed was on the wash board and Don Granberg occasional would play his. Other band members included Guy Black, Sheila Welt, and Ardie Jarrett. We couldn't have done so well without our support team, Mary Black and Bob Nelson.

Dorothy had a GREAT time, her family had lots of fun surprising her, the residents loved being a part of the surprise, and we enjoyed being the main attraction. Happy 90th, Dorothy, and may you have many more.

**San Ramon Welcome Reception
for the Delegation from Weifang, China
Special Guest of the 2011 San Ramon Art & Wind Festival**

In 1967 The Beatles released their iconic album "Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" containing future classic rock tunes like "When I'm sixty-four", "Lucy in the Sky with diamonds" and "With a little help from my friends". The album was a potent mixture of nostalgia, psychedelia and surreal artwork by Peter Blake, which in turn inspired the Beach Boys' album "Pet Sounds". The last track was one of the more conventional songs; "For the benefit of Mr. Kite" which was about a circus acrobat who went by the name of Fred Kite. Who would have thought that 44 years later on the EBBC would be playing another "Benefit for Mr. Kite"?

Actually, the benefit was for several Chinese kites and their owners who were visiting from Weifang, China on a cultural exchange program to San Ramon. Weifang is in the Shandong Province and is known as the "Kite Capital of the World". The City of San Ramon, which also is a windy place, traditionally holds an "Art and Wind Festival" over the Memorial Day weekend. This particular Saturday, they supplied the wind (and some unseasonal rain) and EBBC supplied the "Art".

Under the direction of our musical director, Bill Cooper, the EBBC played an eclectic program. Our boy singer Tim Perry sang a lusty version of "Five foot two". Champagne lady Mickie McDonald regaled us again with her Hawaiian hit "Mahi's making eyes at me" and Bill Cooper sang a sultry version of "Do you know WIMTMNO". A prize if you figure out what that acronym stands for.

Things really got rolling when Gerry Reeves sang Fats Domino's "I'm walkin'". As if on cue, a long line of conga dancers formed spontaneously and danced around the tables. And to our surprise at the head of the line was our own John Rosploch. I wonder if he does that at home while June is practicing! The Chinese conga line kept going (and getting longer) while the band played "Waiting for the Robert E Lee". Bill kept yelling, "keep it going" until it felt like we played it long enough to get into the Guinness, Book of Records, that is).

The troubadours were Bill Cooper, Music Director, Guy Black (Bass), Don Granberg, Jack Hurley (Tuba), Ardie Jarrett, Chris Lardge, Mickie McDonald, Dina Melamed, Tim Perry, Gerry Reeves, June Rosploch, and Sheila Welt.

Our support crew consisted of Clyde Dedmon, Lauren and Kevin Hurley, Robin Reeves, and John Rosploch, the dancer.

Oh, just in case you are wondering, we didn't play China Boy or Chinatown. Go figure. **Reported by Chico Grande, Alias Chris Ladge.**



Weifang houses the biggest kite museum in the world & the head-Quarter of the International Kite Federation, and won the title of "Kite Capital of the World" in 1988 and hosts annually the largest kite festival on earth in April.



MEMORIAL DAY AT MONTECITO



Many were remembered on Memorial Day at the Montecito retirement home on May 30th, thanks to the fine music of the East Bay Banjo Club. **Bill Cooper** led the band, brought all the sound equipment, set it up, took it down, and put it away. Thank you, Bill!

Our military veterans were remembered with our military medley and our WWI songs.



Mickey McDonald did most of the singing. **Guy Black** and **Terry Horner** filled in the bass. **Dina Melamed** played rhythm. More memories came to mind as we played our patriotic rousers. **Betty David, Sheila Welt, Ardie Jarrett, Jim Blankenship** and president **June Rosploch** starred on their banjos. So many memories. Support services were provided by **Mary Black, Clyde Dedmon**, and booking agent, **John Rosploch**. Many of the audience were among the walking wounded, in rehab at the Montecito, and remembering better times. Terry Horner, Reporter

Is Our Bass Section Getting Bigger????



Guy Black

Betty David



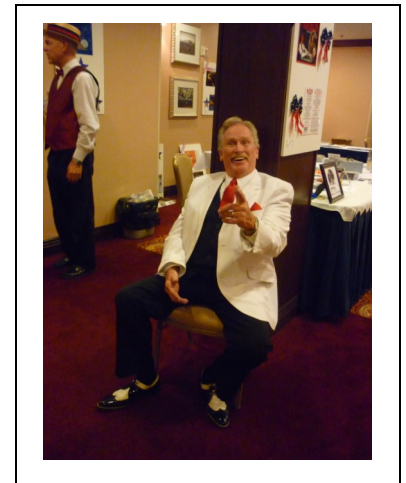
Jack Hurley

Connor Challey

A Great Weekend—Lots of Fun...



More coverage
in our
Next EBBC
Newsletter
July-August Issue



GARRY KERR

Past President, Past Music Director, Past Treasurer, and Member for over 39 years

Garry Kerr was born in Oakland. His family moved to Concord where he graduated from Mt. Diablo High School in 1957. He served as an aircraft mechanic in the Air Force for 4 years, followed by 4 years of apprentice training as a machinist at Mare Island Naval Shipyard where he was asked to stay on and helped build nuclear submarines. He worked as a journeyman machinist for high tech research and development firms in San Ramon for 12 years and then as city locksmith and pump station operator for the city of Concord until his retirement in 2005.



Garry started on the 5-string banjo in the 1960's, taking lessons from Rick Schubb at City Music. When he approached the East Bay Banjo Club in 1964, it was playing at straw Hat Pizza in Pleasant Hill. Driving up, he could hear the music pounding through the cinderblock walls and inside he found "banjos wall to wall". He took some 4-string banjo lessons from Georgette Twain, but had to drop out of the club after a few months to begin pilot training, which was also on Tuesday nights. He rejoined in the 1970's and served as president in 1977 and music director for a while and treasurer in the 1980's.

As president Garry helped revise the music book, which had been only lyrics and cord symbols, as well as revising the bylaws and resolutions, and creating the club non-profit status for tax purposes. He was a natural when work was needed on the club float, which he sometimes drove, "it was fun blowing the whistle in the Caldecott tunnel". As a banjo hobbyist, he has taken lessons from Charlie Tagawa, Dave Marty, and Dave Frey. He works hard to memorize many banjo songs. **As president and currently vice president of Banjos Unlimited, publisher of the Resonator, he has attended over 100 banjo shows in the last 45 years.**



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, Ardie Jarrett, know.
Email Address: editor@eastbaybanjo.org

Don Granberg's Recent Trip

“Recently, in April, just one day prior to the great tornado in Tuscaloosa, I traveled to New Orleans and managed to get into **Preservation Hall**. I waited 1 1/2 hours for a seat. While waiting for the fantastic Dixie-land music, I got my picture taken at the piano that **Sweet Emma** played her magic music when in the **Preservation Hall Jazz Band**.

Later, on the way home, I ran into one of the **Blues Brothers** and had my picture taken with him by a lovely young lady from South Carolina.

Enjoyed visiting LA, MISS, GA, FL, TENN, Alabama, and SC.

Wonderful Music Everywhere!”

Washbored don

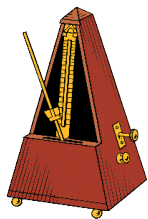


Florence “Flo” Hall



It was great to see Flo at the Concord Senior Citizens Club in April, when EBBC performed there. Flo greeted us with that happy face and huge smile that she is famous for. Flo always wears her EBBC Gold Vest when we're there. In conversation with Flo, she told me that in 1973 she took banjo lessons from now Banjo Hall of Fame member Georgette Twain, Flo retired from playing banjo in 2004 but has retained her EBBC membership and has been a member since 1973 (33 yrs.), she is an active member in the Concord Senior Citizen Club and enjoys visiting Round Table Pizza as often as she can to listen and visit old friends.

Bob Nelson / Reporter



Celebrating Our Birthdays

MAY

Larry Risner
June Rosploch

Betty David
Lito Micheli

JUNE

Robin Reeves



Obituary – Max Horn, Nov. 7, 1924 – May 2, 2011

Submitted by June Rosploch

Max was a long time supporter of the East Bay Banjo Club. Until recently due to health reasons, there wasn't a weekly club practice that Max didn't attend. He and his wife June introduced and instructed the club on the Chicken Dance. Max will be fondly remembered and I personally will miss my weekly history lessons as Max was an avid reader of anything related to local history.

Max was born in Calipatria, CA. He spent his childhood in the small towns in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, graduating from high school in Sierraville, CA. In 1942 he entered the US Marine Corps serving in the South Pacific until his discharge in 1946.

Max attended the University of California in Berkeley. He married Virginia Warren in 1950 and had two daughters, Nancy and Linda. Max began working as a construction estimator for Dinwiddie Construction Company in San Francisco. Virginia died in 1968.

Max and June were married in 1975, and moved to their farm in Martinez in 1976 where they renovated and lived in the 100-year-old farmhouse. Max taught International Folk Dancing throughout Northern California and many may recall attending folk dance lessons and events at the Martinez farm.

Survivors include his wife June, daughters, brother-in-law Claude Warren, June's daughter Patricia and daughter-in-law Kathy.

(Note: Some content was condensed from the May 5, 2011 Bay Area News Group publication.)



GIG REPORTERS NEEDED—Please Volunteer!

Monday, July 4th, Orinda Parade:	
Friday, July 15th, Rossmoor 30's, 40's, 50's Club:	
Sunday, Aug. 6th, EBBC Picnic, Landers Landing:	
Sunday, Aug. 28th, Stoneman Village, Pittsburg	

East Bay Banjo Club Condensed EBBC Board Meeting Minutes**Date: April 5, 2011**

BOD Members Present: June Rosploch, President; Betty David, Vice President; John Rosploch, Booking Agent; Bill Cooper, Music Director.

BOD Members Absent: Robin Reeves, Treasurer; Lynne Deutscher, Secretary; Jack Convery, Immediate Past President.

Guest Present: Mickie McDonald (Hospitality), Bob Malucelli, Bob & Kit Nelson

Reports:

Secretary – Lynne Deutscher

Minutes from March 2 were read but still need clarification on item 11 from Sheila Welt on Membership Handbook Draft.

Minutes were approved with this exclusion.

Treasurer – Robin Reeves

No report was given

Booking Agent – John Rosploch

Bookings are on the rise

Betty David will be the music lead for the Moraga Chamber of Commerce, Community Faire in Rheem on Saturday, May 14.

Booking agents' report was approved.

EBBC Summer Jazz Festival – John Rosploch

Buttons will serve as event tickets and have been ordered.

Paid Ads for the program are shaping up.

The same printer that produced the post cards will be used for printing the program at a third of the cost in past years.

There will be a limited number of individuals needed for the day of the event. It is time for volunteers to sign up for the remainder of the behind the scene tasks.

EBBC Summer Jazz Festival report was approved.

Membership – June Rosploch reporting for Sheila Welt

There are 66 club members

Hospitality – Mickie McDonald

Submitted request to be reimbursed \$24.00 for YTD expenses.

Youth Scholarship – June Rosploch

Material was sent to parents of eligible youths.

No applicants came forward so the money set aside for the scholarship will not be used this year.

Old Business:

IRS Educational Status

Bill Cooper will continue to research if it is feasible to pursue further and report back to the board

New Business:

Festival Talent

Motion for the club to accept donations to pay Jack Convery to perform at the Summer Jazz Festival- was not seconded and motion died on the table.

Discount Festival Tickets

Bob Nelson asked the club to offer discount admission tickets to the Sunday event.

Sunday event tickets are being sold for \$20.00 per person which is already a discounted price for all. The committee was originally considering \$30.00 per person admission to Sunday event

Meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

The official minutes were submitted by June Rosploch for Lynne Deutscher, Secretary



East Bay Banjo Club Condensed EBBC BOD May 2011 Minutes**Date: May 4, 2011**

BOD Members Present: June Rosploch, Resident; Betty David, Vice President; Robin Reeves, Treasurer; Lynne Deutscher, Secretary; John Rosploch, Booking Agent.

BOD Member Absent: Jack Convery, Past President, Bill Cooper, Music Director.

Guest Present: Mickie McDonald (Hospitality), Bob Malucelli, Kit Nelson, Ardie Jarrett (Newsletter Editor), Sheila Welt (Membership Chairman), Bob Nelson.

Reports:

Secretary—Lynne Deutscher read the minutes from the April 5th meeting. The motion to approve the minutes was made by John Rosploch and seconded by Betty David. In favor 3-0-0

Treasurer—Robin Reeves stated that the club had \$5,180 as of the end of March.

April Expenses was a total of \$1,376.92.

April Income was a total of \$3,090.50

A filing fee of \$20 for corporate status for the state was paid.

The motion to approve the treasurer's report made by John Rosploch and seconded by Betty David.

In favor 4-0-0

Booking Agent—John Rosploch reported we have 9 new gigs. Two this month are Moraga Community Fair, 2 we are Donating our time to raise interest for our Summer Festival, and another for "Make a Wish Foundation" at St. Mary's College.

Moraga Community Fair gig needs a bass player. Betty agreed to do this.

The motion to accept the booking agent's report was made by Betty David and seconded by Lynne Deutscher In favor 4-0-0.

EBBC Summer Jazz Festival—John Rosploch reported Ads are ready to go in, tickets are selling, rooms are taken care of, etc. Tim Perry is working on the show. The programs are way behind and all info needs to get to Deborah Black. The print company has a sale every month but we missed the deadline, so we will have to pay 20% more. We need some bios and pictures from other clubs. Sales and promotion are way behind schedule. There is a deadline for bands to sign up and a deadline for meals.

The motion to accept the Jazz Festival report was made by Lynne Deutscher and seconded by Robin Reeves. In favor 4-0-0

Membership—Sheila Welt reported the club membership is holding at 66.

Hospitality—Mickie McDonald will bring receipts for the cards that she buys and will be reimbursed \$20 for year to date.

Audit: The annual audit for 2010 was completed by Marilyn Young and Pat Wheaton. The books are in order. A copy was given to the secretary, Lynne Deutscher to file.

Newsletter: Ardie Jarrett reported the newsletter is complete and all went well. Volunteer reporters for gigs are not coming freely; however, what is working is if I approach attendees individually.

Bylaws and Legislative Committee — The Bylaws and Legislature needs to be done and voted on as they are outdated. This will be started after the Jazz Festival. Sheila Welt will chair the committee. June Rosploch and Ardie Jarrett will help. John suggested that we look at other clubs to see how they have done theirs.

The meeting was adjourned by 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Lynne Deutscher, Secretary



FIGA2011, Oklahoma City -
Hosted by the America Banjo



Museum

July 13 – 16, 2011 - Sheraton Oklahoma City

The Fretted Instrument Guild of America – also known as FIGA – is a nonprofit musical organization with a worldwide membership. FIGA members – ranging from internationally recognized performing artists to enthusiastic beginners – all share the organization’s mission to preserve and promote the music of fretted instruments around the world.

In 2011, the annual FIGA convention will be held in Oklahoma City at the Sheraton Hotel in Bricktown from July 13th – 16th. During the three days of FIGA 2011 OKC, the music of over 300 banjo, mandolin, guitar and ukulele players from around the work – all attending and performing as volunteers – will be shared with the general public in both formal concerts as well as informal performances and jam sessions taking place at venues throughout Bricktown and other OKC locations.

For more information visit: <http://www.figa2011okc.com/>

For the next 4 months, I will be traveling in the RV...crossing the U.S. to Nova Scotia and back. I will continue to be publishing the East Bay Banjo Newsletter while on the road, so please bare with me, and give me lots of latitude. Many people will be in charge of the camera getting photos and assigning reporters. I am thanking you in advance, as this will be a very interesting challenge. Ardie

P.S. Newsletters will probably become shorter in length.

Our 3rd Annual Summer Jazz Banjo Festival Coverage, Reporting, and Pictures will be in our next issue. Way too much to cover in this short time.

2011 EBBC Board	
President president@eastbaybanjo.org	June Rosploch
Vice President vicepresident@eastbaybanjo.org	Betty David
Secretary secretary@eastbaybanjo.org	Lynne Deutscher
Treasurer 925-685-0673	Robin Reeves
Music Director wcooper2480@comcast.net	Bill Coope
Immediate Past President entline@mac.com	Jack Convery
Booking Agent bookingagent@eastbaybanjo.org 925-864-3692	John Rosploch

Non-Board Positions	
Assistant Music Directors vicepresident@eastbaybanjo.org entline@mac.com	Betty David Jack Convery
Web Master webmaster@eastbaybanjo.org	John Rosploch
Newsletter Editor/Publisher editor@eastbaybanjp.org	Ardie Jarrett
Membership membership@eastbaybanjo.org	Sheila Welt
Hospitality 925-831-6922	Mickie McDonald
Librarian jplankenship@att.net	Jim Blankenship
Summer Jazz Banjo Festival Chair bookingagent@eastbaybanjo.org 925-864-3692	John Rosploch

Concord, CA 94524

P.O. Box 5414



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