

EAST BAY BANJO CLUB

SINCE 1963



March/April 2013

Membership Newsletter

Volume 8 Issue 2

Upcoming Play Out Schedule

April 25

San Ramon Community Center,
San Ramon, 5:00 pm-6:00 pm

May 11

Delta Hawaii Mobile Park, P
ittsburg, 7:30 pm-9:00 pm

May 24

Walnut Creek Senior Center,
Walnut Creek, 12:15 pm-1:00 pm

May 27

Montecito Senior Living,
Concord, 11:30am-12:30pm

June 15

Merrill Gardens, Vallejo,
1:00 pm - 2:30pm

June 16

Quail Lodge, Antioch,
1:00 pm -2:00 pm

June 28

Stoneman Village, Pittsburg, 2:00
pm - 3:00 pm


East Bay Banjo Club Meets
 Every
Tuesday
7:00 pm- 9:00 pm
Bambino's Pizza
1895 Farm Bureau Rd.
Concord, CA

For the most current play-out
information visit:
www.eastbaybanjo.org
or Contact
Phil Myers, Booking Agent at
plmyershome@att.net
or
Call 925-932-3489

Presidents Message:

This is a very difficult message for me to compose. So much has been written about Bill Cooper that I don't need to repeat it. I will just say how deeply I will miss him and his direction, both as a musician and as a Board of Directors member.

There will be a lot of changes that will be made within the next few months. We don't need to worry about changing things quickly and we must have continuity by maintaining protocol. We want to make certain that we have a good fit with the Club's philosophy. Betty David is our Interim Music Director and Jack Convery and Larry Risner will step up and help when they are available.

I thank the Board of Directors and Committee Chairs for their support at this difficult time. Everyone has been wonderfully supportive and helpful. Change is very stressful and we all need to be receptive to the changes that will be made as we make our way through these difficult times.

The Memorial Wake for Bill was very well attended and I know he enjoyed hearing the oral and musical tributes that were paid to him.

BanjoRama was very well attended and our presentation of Beatles songs was well received. The Sacramento Banjo Band presented us with a beautiful certificate of appreciation in recognition of our 50th Anniversary as a club.

We have a lot of gigs booked for this year. Please try and attend as many as you can. If you need new blue polo shirts (or shirts of any color), let me know.

Individual and couple photos will be taken on Tuesday, May 21, 2013. A professional photographer will be at Bambino's beginning at 6pm. More information to follow.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be at Bambino's on May 14, 2013 beginning at 5pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Keep Strummin'
Sheila





In Memoriam

William Charles Cooper

1950 – 2013

Contributors: Karen Hefter, Sue Horn, Terry Horner, Kit and Bob Nelson, Bud Pearce, Phil and Linda Myers

We bid a very sad farewell to our beloved music director, Bill Cooper. Bill was a talented musician, passionate conversationalist, and the heart and soul of the East Bay Banjo Club. He passed away unexpectedly at his home, the Flying Pig Ranch, in Martinez, CA, on April 4, 2013. Our club is heartbroken and will endeavor to keep the club going in his memory.

Bill's passion for the banjo and traditional jazz music inspired many, many others to learn and then promote the joys and happiness the banjo brings to the world. He raised the spirits of countless numbers of people while leading the club on stage and during practice. Bill was always professional, in front of audiences both large and small, and he made every group he performed with into a class act. He accepted and encouraged banjo players of all skill levels to practice and perform the music he and the audiences loved. Bill was not only a highly accomplished banjo player, but arranged all the music for the club. His rich collection of arrangements will be played to the delight of audiences for years to come.

Bill was a lifelong resident of Martinez, CA. He took up the plectrum banjo at age 12 and never put it down. He accepted the post of Music Director of the East Bay Banjo Club in 1978 and has been its enthusiastic Music Director and lead player ever since. Bill also performed with the Toot Sweet Jazz Band, and they, too, will miss him terribly.

Bill spent several years practicing law and the remainder of his career was spent as a creative and patient teacher of special education students, until he retired in 2009. He touched the lives of everyone who knew him with his excitement, joy, kindness, and encouragement, as well as with his sense of humor.

Please feel free to post your thoughts on Bill's passing on our memorial web page, <http://www.eastbaybanjo.org/2013/04/16/bill-cooper>.



SIRs (Sons In Retirement), Diablo Branch No. 8

Hilton Hotel, Concord, CA

April 8, 2013

By: Bob Nelson

This was our first gig since Bill Cooper’s unexpected death. Bill always took care of everything, so, to make sure that all the bases were covered, we had an early morning setup crew that met at 9:30 AM. Thanks to Guy Black’s technical knowledge of our sound system, everything was tweaked to perfection, and as they slid the room divider back, “there we were in perfect tune,” led by Betty David.

Betty had a great selection of songs, starting off with *Bill Bailey*. This song was able to set the mood for the afternoon; we now had the 250+ member audience in our hands. Interim Music Director Betty David also had great support, thanks to Jack Convery, Ardie Jarrett, Bob Malucelli, Bud Pearce, Don Granberg, Diane Malucelli, Dina Melamed, Garry Kerr, Guy Black, Herb Moore, Kit Nelson, Linda Myers, Phil Myers, Mickie McDonald, President Sheila Welt, Terry Horner, and Tom Brunetti.

Betty’s music selection was perfect for the SIRs group and the nice comments during and after the show were appreciated.

The SIRs group requested the last song to be “God Bless America” and they wanted it to be sung by everyone in attendance. It was beautifully sung by 250+ SIRs, 19 EBBC members, and the Hilton’s wait staff, and was accompanied by 15 banjos. It doesn’t get better than that.



Sacramento BanjoRama

April 12-14, 2013

By: Karen Hefter

Photos By: Linda Myers and Bob Nelson

It was with heavy hearts that our club performed at BanjoRama. Last fall, our director, Bill Cooper, chose “The Beatles” as the theme for our club’s BanjoRama performance this year. He arranged a number of songs for the club and we practiced them for months. Bill passed away less than two weeks before BanjoRama and our club decided to go ahead and perform our Beatles arrangements as planned, in his honor. The East Bay Banjo Club is very grateful to Jack Convery for masterfully leading us at BanjoRama and we would like to give him our sincere appreciation. We’d also like to thank our singers Jack Convery, Kit Nelson, Jesse DeTorres, and our wonderful 9 year old singer, Danielle Torres, for their performances.

East Bay Banjo Club members on stage were: Guy Black, Jim Blankenship, Tom Brunetti, Jack Convery, Betty David, Jesse DeTorres, Bill Dowling, Don Granberg, Karen Hefter, Harry Higgins, Terry Horner, Ardie Jarrett, Bob Malucelli, Diane Malucelli, Mickie McDonald, Dina Melamed, Herb Moore, Linda Myers, Philip Myers, Kit Nelson, Bud Pearce, Danielle Torres, and Sheila Welt, along with EBBC audience members Mary Black, Angelina Blankenship, Dorothy Cahill, Clyde Dedmon, Georgette DeTorres, Garry Kerr, Bob Nelson, and Tim Perry for a total of 31 members supporting our club at BanjoRama 2013. We would also like to give a special thanks to all of the audience members who supported our band.

The East Bay Banjo Club would like to thank our hosts, the Sacramento Banjo Band, for all of the effort it took to put on such a wonderful event at the Clarion Inn in Sacramento. The Sacramento Banjo Band kindly presented our club with a lovely plaque commemorating the East Bay Banjo Club’s 50th anniversary this year. The East Bay Banjo Club was invited to the very first BanjoRama in 1967 and has attended BanjoRama every year since (46 years). BanjoRama was a busy weekend, packed with workshops, jam sessions, performances by a number of banjo bands, and performances by many wonderful banjo players, including Johnny Baier, Linda Lehmann, Bill Lowery, Bill Dendle, Eddie Erikson, Shelly Burns, Bill Martin, and Igor Glenn.





Ambrose Recreation Center, Bay Point

April 18, 2013

By: Karen Hefter

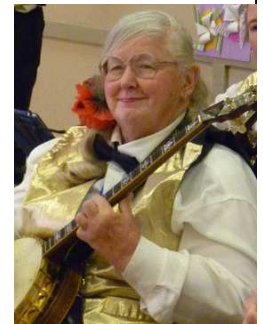
Photos By: Bob Nelson



The payout at the Ambrose Recreation Center senior luncheon was very well received. Betty David did a great job giving the audience a little history of the banjo and leading us throughout the performance. Some audience members (and volunteer serving staff) were moved to dance to *Just Because* and *Five Foot Two!* We played for half an hour, joined the seniors for lunch, and played for another half hour. The seniors enjoyed this festive occasion and one of the volunteer servers even hand crafted a variety of paper flowers to decorate the tables.



Club members performing were: Guy Black, Jim Blankenship, Betty David, Karen Hefter, Terry Horner, Bob Malucelli, Diane Malucelli, Mickie McDonald, Linda Myers, Phil Myers, Kit Nelson, and Bud Pearce, as well as guest Debra Hodson. Club member Bob Nelson also attended and we always greatly appreciate his ongoing efforts in setup, take down, photography, etc.



**Welcome to our
NEW MEMBERS!**



Diane Malucelli

Education Corner



Below is a link to a video of a mandolin player teaching how to achieve a fast, clean, and measured tremolo. The instructor breaks it down very clearly.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XxvD4lasKCY>

The East Bay Banjo Club enjoys having visitors join us in our rehearsals at Bambino's. In April, we were visited by Bill Gnuse from the St. Louis Banjo Club.

Photo By: Garry Kerr



Newsletters From Other Banjo Clubs

The East Bay Banjo Club receives newsletters from several other banjo clubs. If you are interested in being emailed a copy of newsletters from other clubs, please give your email address to Karen Hefter, editor@eastbaybanjo.org

Have you paid your 2013 Membership dues? If not, please do so!



East Bay Banjo Club
2013 Membership Form



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

Name: _____

Street or Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ Cell number optional: _____

Email Address: _____

Birthday Month and Day: _____

Please make \$20/member checks payable to: East Bay Banjo Club. Money can be sent to EBBC, P.O. Box 5414, Concord, CA 94524 or personally given to Linda Myers, Membership Chairperson.

Celebrating Our Birthdays...



March

- 01 - Dick Neuman
- 03 - Chris Lardge
- 14 - Dina Melamed
- 15 - Jim Blankenship
- Gary Kerr

April

- 18- Jim Abele
- 28 - Harry Higgins
- Bobbie Landers

2013 EBBC Board	
President weltbear@sbcglobal.net	Sheila Welt
Vice President dmalucelli@att.net	Bob Malucelli
Secretary jarjohn@msn.com	Ardie Jarrett
Treasurer bobsovaloffice@comcast.net	Bob Nelson
Interim Music Director 925-938-0126	Betty David
Immediate Past President banjojune@gmail.com	June Rosploch
Booking Agent plmyershome@att.net	Phil Myers

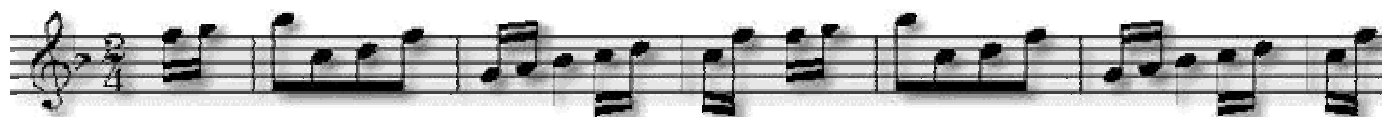
Non-Board Positions	
Web Master bud.pearce@pearcechriss.com	Bud Pearce
Newsletter Editor/Publisher editor@eastbaybanjo.org	Karen Heffer
Membership plmyershome@att.net	Linda Myers
Hospitality 925-831-6922	Mickie McDonald
Telephone Tree dorothy_cahill@comcast.net	Dorothy Cahill
Uniforms Gold Vest 925-685-0673 Polo Shirts weltbear@sbcglobal.net	Robin Reeves Sheila Welt
Librarian jblankenship@att.net	Jim Blankenship



East Bay Banjo Club Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**Date:** Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2013**Place:** Bambino's Restaurant, Farm Bureau Rd., Concord, CA**Board Members Present:** Sheila Welt, President; Bob Malucelli, Vice President; Ardie Jarrett, Secretary; Bob Nelson, Treasurer; June Rosploch, Past President (present for a very short time); Bill Cooper, Music Director.**Absent Board of Directors:** Phil Myers, Booking agent.**Appointed Chairs Present:** Mickie McDonald, Hospitality; Dorothy Cahill, Telephone Tree; Jim Blankenship, Librarian.**Absent Appointed Officers:** John Rosploch, Web Master; Linda Myers, Membership; Kasey Torres, Newsletter Editor;**Call to Order:** 5:01 PM by Sheila Welt, President.**Correspondent:** Letters from Meals on Wheels and June Rosploch were shared.**BOD OFFICERS REPORTS:****Secretary:** January Minutes were approved as presented 4/0/1**Treasurer:** Bob Nelson- The treasurer gave his report and it will be filed for audit.**Vice President:** Bob Malucelli – no report**Past President:** June Rosploch explained that her letter was not a letter of resignation and didn't want the position of Parliamentarian.**Booking Agent:** Absent**Music Director:** Bill Cooper – He is still looking into the Belometer.**COMMITTEE REPORTS:****Hospitality:** Mickie McDonald – No report**Membership:** Linda Myer – absent**Web Master:** John Rosploch – Absent. A motion to remove John Rosploch from the Web Master position and be replaced by Bud Pearce was passed 5/0/0 Bud Pearce was given the Boards authority to secure the domain name of East Bay Banjo.com and to register it. This motion passed 5/0/0**Scholarship:** No report**Summer Picnic Event:** Bob Malucelli – No report**50th Celebration:** Larry Risner & Bill Cooper – No report**UNFINISHED OLD BUSINESS:****Proposed Operating Procedures** continues to be a work in Progress**Old East Bay Banjo Club Files:** These files are and will continue to be stored at Bill Coopers' home.**NEW BUSINESS:****Gifts for Club Members:** This is still being looked into.**Need Song Books for a Sing A-long Gig in April.****Proposed Amended By-Law:** A motion that the interpretation of Roberts Rules of Order be determined by the Chair was passed 5/0/0**Payments of Entry Fees by Members:** A motion passed that the proposed change of payments be made by the treasurer where an entry fee is needed by members. Passed 5/0/0**Meeting was adjourned at 6:17 PM by Sheila Welt.****Respectfully Submitted,**
Ardie Jarrett

East Bay Banjo Club Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**Date:** Tuesday, March 5, 2013**Place:** Bambino's Restaurant, Farm Bureau Rd., Concord, CA**Board Members Present:** Sheila Welt, President; Bob Malucelli, Vice President; Ardie Jarrett, Secretary; Bob Nelson, Treasurer; Bill Cooper, Music Director; Phil Myers, Booking agent.**Absent Board of Director:** June Rosploch, Past President**Appointed Chairs Present:** Mickie McDonald, Hospitality; Jim Blankenship, Librarian; Linda Myers, Membership; Bud Pearce, Web Master.**Absent Appointed Officers:** Kasey Torres, Newsletter Editor; Dorothy Cahill, Telephone Tree**Call to Order:** 5:01 PM by Sheila Welt, President.**Correspondence:** Mutually agreed to move deadline for Banjo Rama to March 26th.**BOD OFFICERS REPORTS:****Secretary:** February Minutes were approved as presented 6/0/0**Treasurer:** Bob Nelson- The treasurer gave his report and it will be filed for audit.**Vice President:** Bob Malucelli asked where the club banner is and does it need repairs. Sheila Welt moved to have Jim Blankenship look into the banner & its needs. Motion passed 6/0/0. Also discussed submitting an article to the Resonator concerning our 50th celebration.**Past President:** Absent**Booking Agent:** Phil Myers reported on acquired gigs for the year, which basically is two gigs per month. We need users name & password for CD Baby account.**Music Director:** Bill Cooper – no report other than we need to start thinking about changing the sound system.**COMMITTEE REPORTS:****Hospitality:** Mickie McDonald – No report**Membership:** Linda Myer – 35 paid members, 32 who haven't paid as of yet, and 3 who have dropped.**Web Master:** Bud Pearce – we have the domain name but all content was destroyed. Bud can make business cards for each officer if they need them.**Scholarship:** No report**Summer Picnic Event:** Bob Malucelli – No report**50th Celebration:** Larry Risner & Bill Cooper – No report**UNFINISHED OLD BUSINESS:****Proposed Operating Procedures** continues to be a work in Progress.**NEW BUSINESS:****Logo for 50th Anniversary:** It was moved to accept Garry Kerr's design (with 2 minor changes) & passed 6/0/0. It was discussed that we create a 50th EBBC Booklet and give to our members as a "end of the year" gift. Having T-shirts available for sale with the 50th logo was also discussed. Both need to be researched further.**By-Law:** Sheila Welt – It was determined that the proposed change in Article IV, Number 7 would be changed from: Roberts Rules: All meetings shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order. The change will now read: **7). The interpretation of Robert's Rules of Order shall be determined by the chair, with Board of Directors approval at the next scheduled Board Meeting.** This change will be presented on April 16th, 2013 for a vote of all current members who are present.**ANNOUNCEMENT:**

Gerry Reeves is in Byron Park on Tice Valley and he would love to have visitors. Bring your banjo and he can have a fun jam session.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM by Sheila Welt.**Respectfully Submitted,**
Ardie Jarrett

Concord, CA 94524

P.O. Box 5414



EAST BAY BANJO CLUB

Meets every Tuesday

From 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

At

Bambino's Pizza

1895 Farm Bureau Road.

Concord, CA