



EAST BAY BANJO CLUB

SINCE 1963



November/December 2013

Membership Newsletter

Editor: Karen Hefter

Volume 8 Issue 6

Upcoming Play Out Schedule

January 25

Oakland Masonic Center
6:30 pm—8:30 pm

February 28

Orinda Masonic Center
7:00 pm—8:00 pm

Volunteer Needed!!

If you are able to be the Telephone Tree Chairperson, please contact Larry Risner, rhythmbanjo@sbcglobal.net.



East Bay Banjo Club Meets
Every Tuesday
7:00 pm- 9:00 pm
Luigi's #1 Deli
537 Main St. at Castro St.
Martinez, CA

Be sure to check our website,
www.eastbaybanjo.org,
for current event information and a
blog about past performances.

For bookings, Contact
Phil Myers, Booking Agent at
plmyers@jps.net
or
Call 925-932-3489

President's Message:

Another year gone already! The time certainly does go by quickly when we are busy.

I am so proud of my 2013 Board of Directors. We have pulled ourselves out of our financial bind. We have booked many more gigs and done more play outs than in the previous year.

It is due to the hard work and cooperation of everyone on the Board of Directors and all of the Committee Chairs that we have been so successful.

The attendance at our Tuesday practices does vary, due to the nature of everyone's busy life styles. We have had as few as 10 (a lot of cruisers in our group) and as many as 31 players at our Tuesday night sessions.

I am pleased that we are successful after 50 years. We are one of a very few banjo groups who have been around that long. It is because of your attendance and love of the banjo that we are still thriving.

This past year has been a very stressful one for everyone. However I think we have done Bill Cooper proud. It is very difficult to re-coup after a loss like ours. The Music Director is a key position in any banjo club and Betty David stepped up to the challenge without question. Thank you so much, Betty.

By the time you read this, the 2014 Board will have been elected. It is my hope that everyone will support this new board by helping in any way that they can. It takes a lot of participation to keep a large club like ours functioning. Please volunteer to be a Committee Chair or become a member of a committee if asked. Hauling equipment is also a necessary task and we could use volunteers!

I hope that everyone enjoyed the Holiday Party. The Holiday Party is the Club's gift to all its members.

Keep on Strummin',

Sheila Welt





Smith Family Farm Playout

October 26, 2013

By: Sheila Welt

Photos by: Linda Myers

What a WONDERFUL venue! It was very festive, and centered on family participation. We played in a small gazebo that cozily held about 10 of our 15 players. Those that played this gig were: Music Director **Betty David** and banjo players **Phil Myers, Linda Myers, Tom Brunetti, Bob Malucelli, Ardie Jarrett, Kermit Collins, and Tracy Woodard.** **Jesse DeTorres, Chris Lardge, Bud Pearce, Gerald Reeves, and Sheila Welt** all sang and played their banjos. **Don Granberg** played the banjo and washboard and **Guy Black** played the bass banjo. Our loyal “groupies” were: **Georgette DeTorres, Robin Reeves, Yvette Lardge, and Bernadette Espejo.**

We played songs written from 1900s to the present. The gazebo was in the picnic area so the audience joined us when they wanted to eat or just sit and enjoy. They joined in when they knew the songs. Some people clapped along and some of the children bounced and swayed to our music.

There were two little boys off to the side that decided to play in the dirt (remember those days?). I believe that all of the players enjoyed this gig. I know that I did and I certainly hope that we are invited back again. The Smith Family Farm turned out to be a really nice setting. A video of the EBBC playing “Bye Bye Blues” and “Carolina In The Morning” can be seen at www.eastbaybanjo.org.





Salem Lutheran Home Payout

October 27, 2013

By: Karen Hefter

Photos by: Karen Hefter and Linda Myers

When we arrived at the Salem Lutheran Home in Oakland, we were expecting to play “background music,” as chartered. However, it turned out that we were the main event for a completely filled room for our 2 hour performance! It was a groundbreaking performance for the EBBC because neither our bass player nor our gutbucket player could make it to this gig, so Don Granberg turned in his banjo and washboard and played the piano with us. This was a first (as far as I know) for the EBBC. The piano sounded wonderful with the banjos!

The club members enjoyed the afternoon as much as the residents did! We didn’t bring our sound equipment, but used a karaoke system for the announcements and for the singers. It worked great and didn’t involve a lot of equipment hauling and setup. None of the banjos were amplified. Bud Pearce, Sheila Welt, Jesse de Torres, and Herb Moore were our singers. Jesse and Don did a piano/voice duet, which was really nice. Our players were: **Betty David, Jesse De Torres, Don Granberg, Karen Hefter, Deb Hodson, Ardie Jarrett, Herb Moore, Linda Myers, Phil Myers, Bud Pearce, and Sheila Welt.** Club member **Georgette De Torres** was an enthusiastic audience member. In honor of Halloween next week, Ardie sported a convict costume and Phil and Linda kept us all guessing with rubber snakes climbing over their music, a rubber tarantula that climbed up their music stand, and various pieces of costume headgear that appeared on their heads from time to time.

A great time was had by all and the club members appreciated the fabulous snacks that were provided for us during our break. We look forward to a repeat performance in December.



Halloween Costume Contest Winners

- Scariest: David Hefter
- Funniest: Bud Pearce
- Best: Jesse De Torres
- Most Original: Danielle Torres

Photos of our other participants are on our website.





Erich Bansner's 95th Birthday Playout, Bayside Park

November 3, 2013

By: Kit Nelson

Photos by: Bob Nelson and Linda Myers

It was a bright, sunny Sunday afternoon - a perfect day to celebrate a birthday. Erich Bansner celebrated his 95th birthday, along with his family and friends, in the Bayside Park adult community in Emeryville. Our banjo club was delighted to be asked to play at his birthday party.

The dancing began immediately and the guest of honor hardly left the dance floor during the entire hour we performed. The huge smile crossing Erich Bansner's face as he danced was priceless. Betty David, our director, did a wonderful job of selecting music with just the right tempo for dancing. The dance floor (lobby) was quite full and the joy and laughter the banjos brought to the residents of this senior home could be felt by everyone. Good job, East Banjo Club!

Banjo and gut bucket players who attended and made this a special day were: **Tom Brunetti, Kermit Collins, Betty David, Don Granberg, Karen Hefter, Deb Hodson, Terry Horner, Bob Malucelli, Kit Nelson, Bud Pearce, Linda Myers, Phil Myers, and Sheila Welt.** Hopefully, we will all be asked to play next year at Erich's 96th birthday party!





EBBC Holiday Party

December 10, 2013

By: Karen Hefter

Photos by: Karen Hefter, Linda Myers, Bill Sullivan

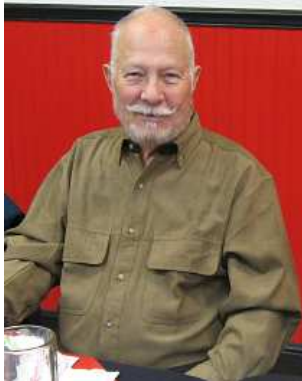
On a cold winter evening, the members of the East Bay Banjo Club were joined by family and friends for a holiday party at Luigi's Deli in Martinez. Many members were dressed in extremely festive holiday attire, which can be seen in the photos from this event. After some social time, everyone thoroughly enjoyed a wonderful meal made by Luigi and his family. He served salad, mixed vegetables, potatoes, chicken, and bread. The food was fabulous, fresh, and very tasty. For dessert, there were chocolate and vanilla cakes decorated to commemorate the EBBC's 50th anniversary.

The annual meeting was held and the new board was voted in. Our new board will consist of: **President - Larry Risner, Vice President - Bob Malucelli, Secretary - Ardie Jarrett, Treasurer - Linda Myers, and Music Director - Betty David.** A big thanks goes to our outgoing board, who succeeded in keeping the club together after the death of our longtime Music Director, Bill Cooper, and in pulling us out of our financial situation and putting us back on a good footing. Our outgoing board is: **President - Sheila Welt, Vice President - Bob Malucelli, Secretary - Ardie Jarrett, Treasurer - Bob Nelson, and Music Director - Betty David.** A special thanks goes to our Booking Agent, **Phil Myers**, who booked an extraordinary number of gigs for us this year, so that we could correct our financial situation.

After the meeting, our Music Director, Betty David, was presented with a gift and a raffle was held. Raffle winners won either hand towels embroidered with the EBBC or banjo straps. Next, everyone got out their banjos and we played "Black and Blue" and "His Eye Is On The Sparrow" to honor our late Music Director, Bill Cooper. We concluded with holiday favorites like "Walking in a Winter Wonderland" and "Silent Night." A video of the EBBC playing "Just A Closer Walk With Thee" can be seen on our website: www.eastbaybanjo.org.



EBBC Holiday Party, continued



Celebrating Our Upcoming Birthdays...

January

February



- 01—Don Granberg
- 01—Pat Wheaton
- 10—Tim Perry
- 10—Patti Patton
- 16—Gerry Reeves
- 18—Clyde Dedmon
- 26—Mary Black
- 27—Sheila Welt
- 27—Alex Daberdaku

- 08—Bud Pearce
- 16—Georgette De Torres
- 21—Guy Black



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
Music Director 925-938-0126	Betty David
Immediate Past President	Open
Booking Agent plmyers@jps.net	Phil Myers

2013 Non-Board Positions	
Web Master bud.pearce@pearcechriss.com	Bud Pearce
Newsletter Editor/Publisher editor@eastbaybanjo.org	Karen Hefter
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 jplblankenship@att.net	Jim Blankenship

East Bay Banjo Club Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**Date:** Tuesday, October 1, 2013**Place:** Luigi's #1 Deli, 537 Main Street, Martinez, CA**Board Members Present:** Sheila Welt, President; Bob Malucelli, Vice President; Ardie Jarrett, Secretary; Bob Nelson, Treasurer; Betty David, Interim Music Director.**Absent Board of Director:** Phil Myers, Booking Agent.**Committee Chairs Present:** Mickie McDonald, Hospitality.**Absent Committee Chairs:** Karen Hefter, Newsletter Editor; Jim Blankenship, Librarian; Linda Myers, Membership; Dorothy Cahill, Phone Tree; Bud Pearce, Web Master.**Guest Present:** Guy Black.**Call to Order:** 5:04 PM by Sheila Welt, President.**BOD OFFICERS REPORTS:****Secretary:** Sept. Minutes were approved as presented, 5/0/0.**Treasurer:** Bob Nelson- The treasurer gave his report and it will be filed for audit.**Vice President:** Bob Malucelli – Bob Malucelli will check out new pizza parlor near Sun Valley but we don't anticipate moving in the near future.**Interim Music Director:** Betty David – All is still going well. We will be using military melodies for upcoming Veteran's Day gigs.**Booking Agent:** Phil Myers - Absent**COMMITTEE REPORTS:****Hospitality:** Mickie McDonald – All is O.K.**Membership:** Linda Myers – Absent**Librarian:** Jim Blankenship - Absent**Web Master:** Bud Pearce – Absent**Telephone Tree:** Dorothy Cahill – Absent**Editor:** Karen Hefter - Absent**50th Celebration:** Sheila Welt – This will be held Dec. 10th at Luigi's Deli #1 in conjunction with the Holiday Party & Annual Meeting. Bill Cooper's favorite songs will be featured.**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:****4th of July Parade:** Bobbie Landers will work more closely with us in the future on this gig.**Polo Shirts:** Club Polo's and 50th Logo shirts can still be ordered through Ardie Jarrett.**Change in Uniform:** The board voted to retain the winter and summer uniforms.**NEW BUSINESS:****Nominating Committee:** Jim Blankenship, Dorothy Cahill, and Chris Lardge were appointed to this committee.**Sound System and Acoustics:** Guy Black – Guy likes to have Sheila Welt get members to play more softly when someone is singing or music director is talking. He likes the new little system.**Cordless Mics:** Sheila Welt – Vocal Pro Rechargeable wireless mic system: Leave this up to the new board.**New Practice Location:** Armando's was suggested. The owner was thanked but we declined his offer.**FROM THE FLOOR: (EBBC MEMBERS)** Mickie McDonald will send a special invitation to Bill Cooper's wife to attend the Annual Holiday Party/annual meeting.**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting was adjourned at 6:05 PM until the November 5th meeting by Sheila Welt.**Respectfully Submitted,**
Ardie Jarrett

East Bay Banjo Club Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**Date:** Tuesday, November 5th, 2013**Place:** Luigi's #1 Deli, 537 Main Street, Martinez, CA**Board Members Present:** Sheila Welt, President; Bob Malucelli, Vice President; Ardie Jarrett, Secretary; Bob Nelson, Treasurer; Betty David, Music Director; Phil Myers, Booking Agent.**Absent Board of Director:** None**Committee Chairs Present:** Mickie McDonald, Hospitality; Jim Blankenship, Librarian; Bud Pearce, Web Master.**Absent Committee Chairs:** Karen Hefter, Newsletter Editor; Linda Myers, Membership; Dorothy Cahill, Phone Tree.**Call to Order:** 5:05 PM by Sheila Welt, President.**BOD OFFICERS REPORTS:****Secretary:** October Minutes were approved as presented, 6/0/0.**Treasurer:** Bob Nelson- The treasurer gave his report and it will be filed for audit. It was suggested to look into finding a bank that doesn't charge fees.**Vice President:** Bob Malucelli – Bob couldn't find the previously discussed Pizza Parlor.**Interim Music Director:** Betty David – Need to find a bass back-up player. We need more people to help set up sound system. Play-out without sound system worked out fine. Jack Convery accepted being listed as assistant Music Director.**Booking Agent:** Phil Myers: we have 3 bookings for remainder of the year. Phil suggested we cut back to 18 gigs next year, as 26 for this year is too many.**CORRESPONDENCE:** Received newsletters from We Care & Meals On Wheels. Both would like donations.**COMMITTEE REPORTS:****Hospitality:** Mickie McDonald – All is O.K. She will submit receipts next month.**Membership:** Linda Myers – 58 paid members, which include 11 new members. We have 69 members when Life members, honorary and youth memberships are included.**Librarian:** Jim Blankenship – we have 3 new songs & he has copies for everyone.**Web Master:** Bud Pearce – Things are working well. Booking Agent is able to update booking information and Editor can make additions. He is thinking of establishing a "Members Only" page.**Telephone Tree:** Dorothy Cahill – Absent**Editor:** Karen Hefter - Absent**50th Celebration:** Sheila Welt – This will be held Dec. 10th at Luigi's Deli #1 in conjunction with Holiday Party & Annual Meeting. Bill Cooper's favorite songs will be featured. Members will be free, guests to pay \$15.**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Had a discussion on possibly raising the dues, but decided to leave this up to the new board.

NEW BUSINESS:**Nominating Committee:** This committee will be Chris Lardge & Sheila Welt. Other appointed members weren't available to work on the committee. The proposed nomination list was presented. Bud Pearce discussed his thinking if he were elected President.**Sign-up Sheet for Holiday Party/50th Celebration:** Sheila Welt & Mickie McDonald are in charge of this. Stickers will be put on members as they arrive and guests as they pay.**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting was adjourned at 6:21 PM until the December 3rd meeting by Sheila Welt.**Respectfully Submitted,**
Ardie Jarrett

Concord, CA 94524

P.O. Box 5414



EAST BAY BANJO CLUB
WWW.EASTBAYBANJO.ORG



EAST BAY BANJO CLUB

Meets every Tuesday

From 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

At

Luigi's #1 Deli and Market

537 Main Street @ Castro Street

Martinez, CA