



# EAST BAY BANJO CLUB



Since 1963

July/August 2014

## Membership Newsletter

Editor: Karen Hefter

Volume 9 Issue 4

### Upcoming Play Out Schedule

#### August 23rd

Club Picnic, Landers Landing  
11:00 am - 5:00 pm

#### November 10th

Montecito Oakmont Senior Living,  
Concord  
3:00 am - 4:00 pm

#### November 11th

The Kensington, Walnut Creek  
TBD

#### December 4th

Walnut Creek Civic Arts  
10:00 am - 11:00 am

### Monthly Board Meetings

2nd Tuesdays, 7pm

Sheila Welt's House

Next Meeting: Sept. 9th

East Bay Banjo Club Meets

Every Wednesday

7:00 pm- 9:00 pm

The Greenery Restaurant  
1551 Marchbanks Drive,  
Walnut Creek, CA

Be sure to check our website,  
[www.eastbaybanjo.org](http://www.eastbaybanjo.org),  
for current event information and a  
blog about past performances.

For bookings, Contact  
Phil Myers, Booking Agent at  
[bookingagent@eastbaybanjo.org](mailto:bookingagent@eastbaybanjo.org)  
or  
Call 925-932-3489

## President's Message:

On behalf of the East Bay Banjo Club, I'd like to give a hearty thank you to Luigi for being so generous in hosting our club meetings at his deli for the last year. Luigi extended his business hours to accommodate our Tuesday evening meetings and we really appreciate all he has done for the Club. I'd also like to thank all of our other friends at Luigi's.

**Effective immediately, the day and location of club meetings has been changed to:**

**Wednesday evenings from 7-9pm  
The Greenery Restaurant,  
1551 Marchbanks Drive, Walnut Creek**



The reason for this move is that our meeting time is during the Greenery's normal business hours, so there is no charge to the club. Plus, it is more conveniently located for most of our members. After the first meeting there last week, members reported that the food, service, and acoustics are excellent. You might consider arriving early and enjoying a meal. The room is a bit darker than we are used to, so people who use paper music books may want to bring a reading light. Users of iPads/tablets will have no problem. Parking is easy in a large, open lot. As usual, players of any age and experience level (including new beginners), as well as listeners, are welcome to attend our meetings.

This is yet another major change for the club and everyone's patience is greatly appreciated. I would like to recognize Jesse DeTorres for all of the time and effort and time he put forth to locate a new venue and arrange for our club to meet at this new location.

The board meeting in August was cancelled because of the move. Board meetings will resume in September.

Important reminders for all band players:

- Try to play in support of the entire group, not just for yourself.
- Play every tune as if there is a vocalist singing it (hold the volume down).
- Keep in mind that the banjo is much louder to those out in front of you.
- Just because someone else is playing loudly, don't play loudly also.
- If you can't hear the melody, everyone is playing too loudly.
- Listen to and follow the tempo set by the bass.

Larry Risner  
EBBC President



**Front View of Bob's Banjo**



**Back View of Bob's Banjo**

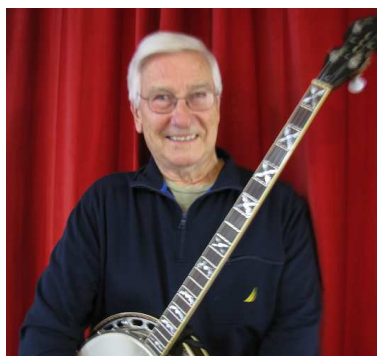
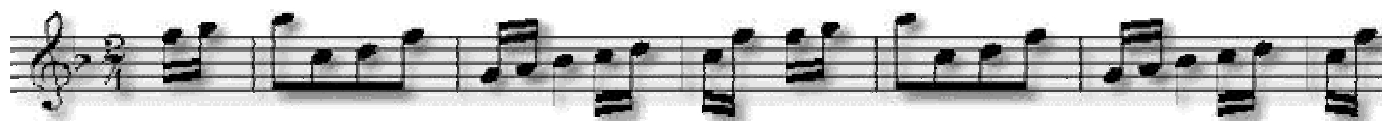
**My Homemade Tahitian Banjo**

By: Bob Malucelli  
Photos by: Karen Hefter

I wanted to build a Tahitian banjo, so I went on the internet to learn about making musical instruments. I found some ideas and instructions there. The following website, [www.tahitiukulele.com/](http://www.tahitiukulele.com/), has some beautiful Tahitian ukuleles in turtle, manta ray, pineapple, and other shapes. This was my inspiration: I purchased the following supplies:

- Oak wood
- Birch wood
- 6 tuning pegs
- 30 lb fishing line
- Frets

I made the fret board out of the birch wood and attached the frets to it. Making the banjo required a lot of cutting and sanding. It took about 20 hours and about \$75 to build this instrument.



**Welcome to our  
NEW MEMBERS!**

**Bob Ehrhorn and Red Higgins**





## Aegis Senior Living Playout

June 19, 2014

By: Karen Hefter

Photos by: Bob Nelson

The EBBC had an amazing turnout of 18 players and 2 supporting members at this playout! We performed in a beautiful, shaded courtyard in front of a gurgling fountain while the audience members lounged in chairs around the perimeter of the courtyard. They were served drinks and hors d'oeuvres by staff members during our performance. The EBBC was invited to join the residents for a light buffet following the show.

We performed a number of singalong and dance favorites and audience members clapped as we played. Towards the end, many of them rose to their feet and danced to "Five Foot Two" and our closing number, "When The Saints Go Marching In." Our youngest member, Danielle Torres, sang several songs, to the delight of the audience. Don Granberg, Kit Nelson, Red Higgins, Bud Pearce, and Chris Lardge also entertained the audience with their vocals. Our performers were: **Guy Black, Tom Brunetti, Kermit Collins, Betty David, Don Granberg, Karen Hefter, Harry Higgins, Red Higgins, Ardie Jarrett, Chris Lardge, Bob Malucelli, Diane Malucelli, Linda Myers, Phil Myers, Kit Nelson, Bud Pearce, Larry Risner, and Danielle Torres.** Club members **Bob Nelson** and **Jim Abele** were present in the audience, along with EBBC alumnus **Jack Hicks**.





## Stoneman Village Playout

July 3, 2014

By: Diane Malucelli

Photos by: Bob Nelson

We had an enjoyable playout at Stoneman Village in Pittsburg. We were going to play in their outdoor patio, but we were moved into their recreation room because it was too warm outside. We were very happy to be in the air conditioning!

The members who played were **Betty David, Guy Black, Kit Nelson, Don Granberg, Linda Myers, Phil Myers, Jim Blankenship, Bob Malucelli, and Diane Malucelli.** Since it was right before the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Betty led us in a state themed program, including songs like "Missouri Waltz" and "Alabama Jubilee." We played all 5 of the military songs. Betty acknowledged each branch of the military individually and asked the veterans to stand when their branch's song was played. Kit Nelson sang and led the group in the military songs. Don Granberg played several songs on the piano, which really added a special touch to our music. We ended with "God Bless America."

We had about forty people in the audience and I want to highlight two special residents who were present in the audience. Mac Coates, the president of the Pittsburg Lions Club, was in the front of the room and he loved every song. He really inspired us with his enthusiasm as he cheered us on. The other person I would like to mention is Joe Morales, an Army veteran. He was drafted in World War II, reenlisted four times, and fought in the Battle of the Bulge. He took a photo with **Bob Nelson**, our own Marine veteran.





## Orinda Parade

July 4, 2014

By: Karen Hefter

Photos by: Karen Hefter, Edward Hefter, Linda Myers, and Gloria Pearce

We couldn't have picked a nicer day for a parade! Spirits were high as we rode down the streets of Orinda on our festive float. We decorated the flatbed truck with bales of straw, bunting, and plenty of American flags. Betty David led us in our parade songs, which we played to the cheers of the audience. Many people smiled at us and air strummed imaginary banjos as we went by. We were told that it was much easier to hear us this year, as compared to last year, which is good! The parade was really well attended this year and it is a real treat to be part of this slice of Americana. Diane and Bob Malucelli coordinated this event for us and even brought coffee and doughnuts for us to enjoy as we decorated the float! Be sure to check out a video clip of this event at [www.eastbaybanjo.org](http://www.eastbaybanjo.org).

We would like to thank our wonderful sponsors, **Alex and Alice Gailas** of A.G. Realty (and their dog Apollo) for sponsoring our float again and for riding with us. We would also like to thank club member **Bobbie Landers** for arranging the logistics of the straw bales for us this year. Our performers were: **Guy Black, Betty David, Don Granberg, Brian Green, Marco Green, Karen Hefter, Harry Higgins, Red Higgins, Deb Hodson, Bob Malucelli, Diane Malucelli, Linda Myers, Phil Myers, and Bud Pearce.**





## Relay For Life Payout

July 12, 2014

By: Kit Nelson

Photos by: Bob Nelson and Edward Hefter

Todos De Santos park in Concord, CA was the scene of a “Relay For Life” walk to support the American Cancer Society. It is a 24-hour walk-a-thon for a cure and all proceeds go to the American Cancer Society. We were delighted to be a part of their day and we thank the American Cancer Society for the opportunity to play at this event.

We had a wonderful turnout of 23 performers from the East Bay Banjo Club. Our performers were: **Betty David, Guy Black, Tom Brunetti, Jesse De Torres, Marco and Brian Green, Harry and Red Higgins, Don Granberg, Terry Horner, Karen Hefter, Ardie Jarrett, Chris Lardge, Bob and Diane Malucelli, Dina Melamed, Phil and Linda Myers, Kit Nelson, Bud Pearce, Larry Risner, Sheila Welt, and Ken Williamson.** Other club members who attended were **Jim Abele, Georgette De Torres, Clyde Dedmon, and Bob Nelson.**

A “Try A Banjo” area was set up adjacent to the stage and staffed by Karen and Linda. People could stop by and learn more about banjos, ukuleles, and the East Bay Banjo Club. Karen and Linda let people try the banjos and ukes we had on display and taught the visitors to play a 2-chord song (The Hokey Pokey).

Quite a variety of musical talents were displayed that day by our members. The audience enjoyed the list of songs that Betty, our Music Director, chose to play. The EBBC did a wonderful service to our community by volunteering to provide music to people who are “fighting for the cure.” Everyone in the club can feel proud to have made their own personal contribution to the American Cancer Society. We hope we are invited back next year.





## Forest Home Farm Ice Cream Social

August 9, 2014

By: Bob Nelson

Photos by: Bob Nelson

This was our second performance at Forest Home Farm this year. It's always fun and there's never a dull moment. There are plenty of interesting things for kids and adults to do, including tractor rides, dog herding demonstrations, and a display of farm tools from the 1800s to the early 1900s. There was also a display of children's toys from the same era. Kids had the opportunity to step back in time and try tossing bean bags and jumping rope. It turns out that these games are not as easy as they look!

The East Bay Banjo Club was the highlight of the afternoon and we performed in the old Walnut Drying Barn. Music Director **Betty David** had a great selection of songs and she was supported by musicians **Guy Black, Tom Brunetti, Clyde Dedmon, Jesse De Torres, Bob Ehrhorn, Ardie Jarrett, Gary Kerr, Chris Lardge, Bob Malucelli, Dina Melamed, Phil Myers** and **Kit Nelson**. Other members attending in support were **Mary Black, Georgette De Torres**, and Georgette's grandson. Also attending was Diane Malucelli's mother, Irene Macario.

**Diane Malucelli, Linda Myers, and Ardie Jarrett** were the demonstration team that headed up the "Try A Banjo" booth. Thank you ladies - this is such a great idea and it generates a lot of interest in the banjo.





*Celebrating Our Upcoming Birthdays...*

**September**

- 06 - Ardie Jarrett
- 12 - Garry May
- 24 - Buddy Burke
- 25 - Red Higgins



**October**

- 13 - Barbara Findlay
- 13 - Bob Ehrhorn
- 14 - Fred "Mickey" Finn
- 18 - Ken Williamson
- 25 - Marco Green
- 26 - Herb Moore
- 27 - Bob Nelson
- 30 - Karen DeWeese



2014 EBBC Board	
<b>President</b> <a href="mailto:rhythmbanjo@sbcglobal.net">rhythmbanjo@sbcglobal.net</a>	Larry Risner
<b>Vice President</b> <a href="mailto:dmalucelli@att.net">dmalucelli@att.net</a>	Bob Malucelli
<b>Secretary</b> <a href="mailto:jarjohn@msn.com">jarjohn@msn.com</a>	Ardie Jarrett
<b>Treasurer</b> <a href="mailto:plmyershome@att.net">plmyershome@att.net</a>	Linda Myers
<b>Music Director</b> 925-938-0126	Betty David
<b>Immediate Past President</b> <a href="mailto:weltbear@sbcglobal.net">weltbear@sbcglobal.net</a>	Sheila Welt
<b>Booking Agent</b> <a href="mailto:plmyershome@att.net">plmyershome@att.net</a>	Phil Myers

2014 Non-Board Positions	
<b>Assistant Music Director</b> <a href="mailto:entline@msn.com">entline@msn.com</a>	Jack Convery
<b>Assistant Music Director</b> <a href="mailto:rhythmbanjo@sbcglobal.net">rhythmbanjo@sbcglobal.net</a>	Larry Risner
<b>Hospitality</b> <a href="mailto:weltbear@sbcglobal.net">weltbear@sbcglobal.net</a>	Sheila Welt
<b>Librarian</b> <a href="mailto:jplankenship@att.net">jplankenship@att.net</a>	Jim Blankenship
<b>Membership</b> <a href="mailto:plmyershome@att.net">plmyershome@att.net</a>	Linda Myers
<b>Newsletter Editor/Publisher</b> <a href="mailto:editor@eastbaybanjo.org">editor@eastbaybanjo.org</a>	Karen Hefter
<b>Telephone Tree</b> <a href="mailto:dmalucelli@att.net">dmalucelli@att.net</a>	Diane Malucelli
<b>Uniforms</b> Gold Vest 925-685-0673 Polo Shirts <a href="mailto:jarjohn@msn.com">jarjohn@msn.com</a>	Robin Reeves  Ardie Jarrett
<b>Web Master</b> <a href="mailto:bud.pearce@pearcechriss.com">bud.pearce@pearcechriss.com</a>	Bud Pearce

**Education Corner**



For the scientists in the group: The secret of the Banjo's twang was revealed by a Nobel Prize winning Physicist.

<https://medium.com/the-physics-arxiv-blog/the-secret-of-the-banjos-sound-revealed-d45f811ddf3d>





Concord, CA 94524

P.O. Box 5414

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



# East Bay Banjo Club

**Meets every Wednesday**

**From 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM**

At

**The Greenery Restaurant**

**1551 Marchbanks Drive,**

**Walnut Creek, CA 94598**