

## MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER



# EAST BAY BANJO CLUB

## SINCE 1963



SUMMER 2006

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 10

### Play-out

#### Schedule

- ⇒ **Fri, Aug 25**  
Concord Senior Club  
Concord  
6:45P.M. to 7:45P.M.
- ⇒ **Thurs, Aug 31**  
Aegis of Moraga  
Family Bar-B-Q  
Moraga  
12:00 N to 1:00 P.M.
- ⇒ **Mon, Sept 11**  
Valley View Lodge  
Walnut Creek  
6:15 P.M. to 7:15 P.M.
- ⇒ **Wed, Sept 13**  
Piedmont H.S. Reunion  
Rossmoor/Dollar Club House  
Walnut Creek  
7:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.
- ⇒ **Sun, Sept 17**  
Banjo Jubilee  
San Jose  
12:00 P.M. to 12:25 P.M.
- ⇒ **Sat, Oct 14**  
Orchard Nursery  
Lafayette  
2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.
- ⇒ **Sat, Oct 21**  
California State Club  
Del Valle Club House  
Rossmoor  
Walnut Creek  
1:00 P.M. to 2:00 P.M.

### What's Strummin'?



This year started very slowly. In our last newsletter, we had no gigs scheduled. Today, we have eleven gigs scheduled to the end of the year! A special thanks to Bob Nelson, who has been working hard to fill our "dance card" with lots of opportunities to play our music for folks to enjoy. Hopefully, all of our active members will sign up for as many of these gigs as possible. We need great participation to make them all fun and successful.

The big news is our planned trip on "The EBBC Train to Fun and Fame" this coming February. We currently have about 30 people committed to a train ride to Reno and a two night stay at Harrah's. The "fun" part is we will have our own car on the train especially equipped for jam sessions on the way up and back. We also have a ballroom reserved at Harrah for jam sessions in Reno. The fame part is we are all looking forward to having the opportunity to play with Georgette Twain who has been nominated for the Banjo Hall of Fame. Georgette will be joining us from Gardnerville, NV, and the experience of hearing her play will definitely be memorable for all. We will know before this trip if she is going to be inducted this coming May. Of course, we are all hopeful that she will be inducted so that we can all say we once played with a member of the Banjo Hall of Fame.

- ⇒ **Sat, Oct 28**  
Carnoween  
Costume Gig  
Pleasant Hill  
11:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.
- ⇒ **Sun, Nov 12**  
Benicia Library  
Benicia  
3:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.
- ⇒ **Sat, Dec 16**  
Masonic Christmas Party  
Antioch  
5:00 P.M. to 6:30 P.M.
- ⇒ **Sun, Dec 31**  
New Years Eve  
Walnut Creek Manor  
Walnut Creek  
5:00 P.M. to 6:30 P.M.

### Up Coming Events

- ⇒ **Tues, Dec 5, 2006**  
Annual meeting and Christmas Party  
Round Table Pizza  
5:30 PM to 9:30PM
- ⇒ **Feb 6 to Feb 8, 2007**  
"Train to Fun & Fame"  
Jammin' on the train between Bay Area and Reno, NV  
Strummin' with Georgette Twain at Harrah's  
Contact Jack Convery entline@msn.com for more details

### Former member Alice Wilson dies

Alice was a past President of the East Bay Banjo Club, and believed to be the first woman to hold that position. She was a well known entertainer in the Bay Area, and formed her own band called Banjos USA in 1976. Rich Boss remembers her fondly as his "side kick" when they played together in Hayward. She died at her home in Oceanside, CA, Aug 15, 2006.

## In memory of Bob Shaw

By Terry Horner



Bob Shaw was born in San Francisco in 1923. He attended San Francisco schools, graduating from Galileo High School, and then UC Berkeley where he got Bachelors, Masters, and PhD degrees in metallurgy. He spent his entire career doing plastics and metal research for Shell Development in Emeryville and then Houston. He wrote many technical papers and invented the Shaw Hardness Tester for testing the strength of oil pipes in the field. He met his wife, Diane, at Cal. They were married in 1950 and had two children. There are now five grandchildren. The family camped every summer since 1964 on their wooded 25 acres near Occidental, including their many family friends. Bob began playing the guitar in college but never learned to read music. A fraternity brother and member of the East Bay Banjo Club, Eric Phillips, gave Bob some banjo lessons and encouraged him to join the Club. Bob really enjoyed playing the banjo and going on the play outs. He was also a skilled, published, and passionate artist, always taking lessons and creating sketches, sculpture, acrylic paintings, collage and especially water colors. Visual loss in his late years caused Bob to create new avenues in both art and music, including a "tactile" approach to art work. Bob died this spring after a short illness and is greatly missed..

## Kensington Place opens 2006 play outs

Aside from our yearly play out in Sacramento at the Banjorama in January, our first play out of 2006 was in Walnut Creek at the Kensington Place Senior Center on May 10. A large number of residents found their way to the main lounge to hear the EBBC "strut their stuff". Led by **Bill Cooper**, performers included, **Guy Black, Chuck Cook, Betty David, Lynne Deutscher, Terry Horner, Ken Fogarty, Garry Kerr, Mickie McDonald, Dina Melamed, Bud Pearce, Tim Perry, and Kit Nelson.** **Bob Nelson** was there promoting our CD sales and taking pictures of the performers. A great kick-off performance for a great year.



Tim sings as Ken, Terry, Dina, & Chuck accompany



The duet of Lynne & Mickie sing "Your Cheatin' Heart"

## EBBC brings big smiles to Chateau II

The happiness just seem to escalate as the EBBC strummers played on. Some sang, some got up and danced. Even the great-grandchildren got into the act as they danced to "Ain't She Sweet" paraphrased to "Ain't THEY Sweet" for the benefit of some very proud parents and grand parents. Playing the banjo were, **Jim Blankenship, Bill Cooper, Betty David, Bill Dowling, Ken Fogarty, Chris Horner, Kit Nelson, Bud Pearce, Tim Perry, and Pat Wheaton.** Helping out on base were **Guy Black** and **Terry Horner**, and **Dina Melamed** played the washboard on June 11, in Pleasant Hill.



## Lake Park Retirement Community welcomes EBBC

A small group of performers delighted residents of the Lake Park Retirement community in Oakland, June 9. Eight performers did their best to fill the room with the happy sounds from the '20's and 30's. According to our Booking Agent, **Bob Nelson**, these folks gave glowing recommendations to a group attempting to book us for a future gig. **Jack Burrous, Bill Cooper, Don Granberg, Kit Nelson, Bud Pearce, Tim Perry, and Ed Rossman** played the banjo while **Terry Horner** played the gutbucket.



Kit Nelson sings as Jack, Ed, Bud, and Bill play



"SF" Jack has some fun with the duck call

## Standing room only at Aegis of Moraga

By Terry Horner

**Bill Cooper** led the group, brought in and set up the sound equipment, and sang several of the vocals. **Kit Nelson** carried more than her share of the vocal duties, to the delight of the crowd. I think she got at least three marriage proposals on the spot. **Jack Convery** was a real star, with several solos and one entire song entitled "How I Got Started On The Banjo". **Garry Kerr** and Washboard **Don Granberg** completed the front row. They were backed up by **Bill Dowling, Mickie McDonald, Marilyn Young, Pat Wheaton, and Gutbucket Terry Horner**. The audience loved us and the music. There was standing room only. Bob Nelson, everyone's favorite bookie, was roused out of his seat by a groovy granny and had to stand at the back. For those interested in a play list, we played: Bill Bailey, Alabama Bound, America the Beautiful, Bourbon Street, By The Sea, Bye Bye Blues, Coney Island Washboard (Don did a great job), Five Foot Two, Four Leaf Clover, God Bless America, Hard Hearted Hannah, Hello Dolly, How Ya Gonna Keep Em Down On The Farm, In The Good Old Summer Time, Just Because, Ma He's Makin' Eyes At Me, Mood Indigo (with way too much gutbucket), My Wild Irish Rose, Saint Louis Blues, What A Wonderful World, and When The Saints Go Marching In. Give or take a song or two. I think we will be invited back.

## Summer barbeque at Sunrise of Walnut Creek

It was 112°F outside, but inside, EBBC strummers brought fun and joy to the annual summer barbeque at the Senior Sunrise facility in Walnut Creek on July 12. Refreshments were free for the performers, and they were definitely needed to re-hydrate after moving our instruments to and from our cars before and after the performance. The group included **Jim Blankenship, Jack Convery, Bill Cooper, Don Granberg, Terry Horner, Kit Nelson, and Bud Pearce**. Solos by **Jack Convery** were certainly one of the highlights of the show. Vocals by **Kit, Bill, and Bud** added to the variety of the play out. No one left after our intermission, and, in fact, new faces showed up during the second half of this gig. Lucky for us, they moved the barbeque inside!



# 4th of July in Orinda

The float was loaded to the edges with banjo players, gutbucket players, and a tuba player as we rolled down the streets of Orinda during their annual 4th of July parade. Orinda is the perfect place to celebrate the 4th for those that love a "small town" atmosphere where kids decorate their bikes and everyone in the family sits together on the curb to watch an entry by almost every organization in town march by in the parade. The EBBC float received plenty of applause as people recognized the true American music of the banjo. The parade was loads of fun! Afterwards, during our concert in the Community Park, the sound system caused some serious synchronization problems for the performers. As a result, most felt we need to do better next year. The turn out by club members was excellent. Among those participating were; **Jack Burrous, Chuck Cook, Bill Cooper, Betty David, Lynne Deutscher, Karen DeWeese Dietz, Gary Dietz, Ken Fogarty, Don Granberg, Chris & Terry Horner, Jon Jordon, Jeff Lui, Mickie McDonald, Dina Melamed, Kit & Bob Nelson, Bud Pearce, Betty & Ken Purchase, John & June Rosploch, and Ed Rossman.**





# One great picnic on the Delta

Once again, Bobby Landers hosted another terrific, fun filled summer picnic at Lander's Landing on the Delta. We had folks riding in "powered parachutes", cruising the Delta in a power boat, kayaking, eating fantastic food, and, of course, jamming with others on the deck overlooking the river. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed this year's event, and we all owe the Landers Family a huge thanks for sharing all that makes Landers Landing a very special place! **Pat Wheaton** and the **Picnic Committee** deserve special recognition for the great job they did to make this year's picnic a fantastic experience for all!



Bob Nelson and Bill Blankenship our "Chief Cooks"



Rich, Jack, Terry, Bill, and Mike Jammin' on the deck



Garry enjoys ice cream



June, Tim, & Pat jam

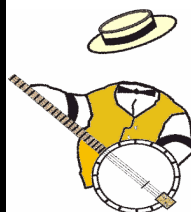


Bill gives up on the banjo!



Anchors away!

EBBC Board Members	
President	Bud Pearce
Vice President	Bob Nelson
Secretary	Tim Perry
Treasurer	Pat Wheaton
Music Director	Bill Cooper
Member at Large	Kit Nelson
Booking Agent	Bob Nelson



Assistant Music Directors	Betty David, Ed Rossman, Larry
Newsletter Editor/Publisher	Bud Pearce
Librarian	Bob Nelson