

# MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER



# EAST BAY BANJO CLUB

SINCE 1963



WINTER 2005

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 6

## Play-out

## Schedule

### ⇒ Fri, July 1

Aegjs  
Concord  
3:30PM

### ⇒ Mon, July 4

City of Orinda  
Parade and Concert  
10:00AM

### ⇒ Mon, July 4

Valley View Lodge  
Walnut Creek  
2:00PM

### ⇒ Sun, July 10

Community Park  
Pleasant Hill  
12:30PM

### ⇒ Sept 8 - Sept 14

European Music Festival  
Tabor Czech Republic  
Scheduled Appearances  
TBD

### ⇒ Sun, Sept 18

Banjo Jubilee  
Palo Alto  
12:00N

### ⇒ Sat, Sept 24

Mobil Home Park  
Fremont  
6:00PM

No gigs scheduled for May  
or June yet. Please stay  
tuned!

## The President's Words



Bob Nelson — President

Hard work, dedication and involvement is what's happening at EBBC. The full speed ahead knob has been cranked up to max effort by all to get us to the European Music Festival in Tabor, Czech Republic in September of this year. Lots of great suggestions and ideas have come forth to assist us in our fund raising. Garry Kerr has developed a great Demo Disc of our music with voice over tones describing our history and ways to hire or book us for events, Ruth-Anne Bray has donated a beautiful embroidered quilt with a musical theme, we are selling chances and as of this writing our sales are over \$1,700.00. CD sales have increased, goal is \$1,000.00 by September, Round Table now gives us 15% of their sales on every Tuesday from 6:30-9:30 PM, Gary Dietz has donation jars at two local music stores, John & June Rosploch have created a new Web site for us and special thanks to all of you for your participation in the increased play out schedule, 3-4 times a month is the norm. Kudos to Jack Starr for keeping us so busy with play outs. We must thank Bobbie Landers and The Orinda Sister City Foundation for their support and dedication and especially Cathy Knowles of Round Table Pizza who is the main driving force in the major corporate fund raising effort. Finally, thanks to Eric Phillips, past President of EBBC, for generously donating two banjos to be auctioned at one of our weekly meeting with the proceeds going to the Czech trip. I'm very fearful that I have over looked someone, but you should all know how much your efforts are appreciated.

From The Oval Office of EBBC

## East Bay Banjo Club now online

The EBBC is now on the Web because of the outstanding efforts of **June and John Rosploch**. For those of you with Internet access, point your browser to the following URL:

**<http://www.eastbaybanjo.org/>**

Don't forget to bookmark this site, because there is current information about our play out schedule. That way, if you misplace the "GIG" sheet that is available during our meetings, you can go on line and find out when and where we are playing. It also lists what you are suppose to wear for each gig.

Tell your friends and relatives about the site. It's a great way to learn about the club. Information about our meeting time and place along with how people can contact us is available at this site. The site has a brief history of the club, and a photo gallery that dates back to 2001 and shows more recent photos of our great Christmas Party in December 2004.

# Busy Play-out Season for the EBBC

Our club has played twelve gigs in the months from January to April! A special thanks to **Jack Starr** for his efforts to book all these play-outs, and to all those who participated to make them all very successful. It could be the most active four months of play-outs in club history!

### Gigs Performed January to April 2005

<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>
W.C. Presbyterian Church	Jan 8	Banjourama Sacramento	Feb 27
Masonic Lodge Oakland	Jan 22	Rossmoor W.C.	Mar 10
Valley View Lodge W.C.	Jan 29	Gold Country-Westlake Vallejo	Mar 18
Richmond Auditorium	Feb 11	Rossmoor W. C.	Mar 26
Community Center P.H.	Feb 12	We Care Center Concord	April 14
Gonzalez Restaurant Richmond	Feb 16	Castle Rock Park W.C.	Apr 23

## EBBC Banjos ring out at the Banjourama

Some twenty one members performed at the annual "Banjourama" sponsored by the Sacramento Banjo Band in Carmichael Ca. The Banjourama is one of the biggest events of the year for banjo players in Northern California and other parts of the country. It was an excellent opportunity to tell the banjo community of our pending trip to the Czech Republic to perform at the European Music Festival in Tabor. We were also able to raise funds for the trip by selling CDs and offering chances for the raffle of the hand-made quilt, graciously donated by **Ruth-Anne Bray**. The quilt is especially attractive to jazz banjo aficionados because every square has banjos and other musical items associated with jazz. It drew a lot of interest and raffle ticket sales. A special thanks to **Bob and Kit Nelson** and others, who set up our booth and sold tickets. According to Bob, **Kaitlyn Vaught** had an extraordinary "close" rate on her raffle ticket sales and deserves exceptional thanks and praise for her efforts. We need more Kaitlyns to reach our ticket sales goal!

On stage this year we had banjo players: **Bill Cooper, Larry Risner, Ed Rossman, (S.F.) Jack Burrous, Jack Starr, Diana Starr, Gary Dietz, Karen DeWeese Dietz, Marilyn Young, Pat Wheaton, Garry Kerr, Chris Horner, Tim Perry, Bud Pearce, Kit Nelson, Christina Gross, and Bill Dowling**. Accompanying the banjos, we had **Chuck Cook** on tuba, **Terry Horner** on gutbucket and washboard, **Kaitlyn Vaught** on gutbucket, and **Dina Melamed** on washboard.



Christina Gross and "San Francisco" Jack Burrous tune up



Garry Kerr and Ed Rossman perform from the front line



Bill Dowling "styling" on stag



Kaitlyn Vaught sings "Grand Old Flag"

## Warm reception at Valley View Lodge

East Bay strummers received lots of applause when they played and sang many of the old tunes from the '20s and '30s at the Valley View Lodge in Walnut Creek. **Bill Cooper** was the leader of the group who included: **Betty David, Garry Kerr, Karen DeWeese Dietz, Gary Dietz, Larry Risner, Jack Starr, Diana Starr, Tim Perry, Bud Pearce,** and **Kit Nelson** on the banjo, and **Kaitlyn Vaught** on the gutbucket with **Dina Melamed** on the washboard.



Tim Perry sings "Marge" as Jack Starr and Garry Kerr accompany



Bud Pearce sings "Toot, Toot, Tootsie"

## A special treat for some special kids

Everyone had a great time at the annual "Special Kids Day" sponsored by the Lion's Club at Castle Rock Park in Walnut Creek. The EBBC performers stayed dry while performing under the "Big Top" when it rained outside. The happy and upbeat music attracted young and old alike to the colorful tent where people were tapping their feet and clapping their hands to the beat. The EBBC performers also provided some comic banter that added to the merriment. It was a special treat to perform for some special people and their families. On the banjo, EBBC featured **Bill Cooper, Betty David, Pat Wheaton, Marilyn Young, Bud Pearce, Tim Perry, Kit Nelson, Karen DeWeese Dietz, and Jack Starr.** **Chuck Cook** and **Terry Horner** provided bass on the tuba and gutbucket respectively, and **Dina Melamed** added rhythm with the washboard.



EBBC performers bring merriment to "Special Kids Day"



Dina Melamed and Terry Horner featured on the washboard

# New Year Kicked-off at Presbyterian Church Concert

**Ed Rossman** led a group of 17 club members during the first performance of 2005. Both Ed and the crowd were so eager to enjoy the music, the concert started early! Among the banjoists were: **Ed Rossman, Larry Risner, Diana Starr, Jack Starr, Marilyn Young, Pat Wheaton, Ruth-Anne Bray, Kit Nelson, Garry Kerr, Betty David, Tim Perry, and Bud Pearce**. Providing bass, we had **Chuck Cook** on the tuba, **Guy Black** on the bass guitar, and **Kaitlyn Vaught and Terry Horner** on the gutbucket. For rhythm, **Dina Melamed and Terry Horner** played the washboard. The concert culminated with a parade of the entire audience marching to "When the Saints Go Marching In", being led by our inspirational **Pat Wheaton** through the isles and pews of the church. Even Billy Graham would have been envious!



"Fast Eddy" Rossman leads EBBC strummers at concert

## New Board Members

During the annual Christmas party/Annual meeting we elected a new Secretary. Congratulations and best wishes to **Ruth-Anne Bray** for becoming our newest Secretary! All other offices remained the same as last year. We also modified the club By-Laws to elevate the position of Booking Agent to the Board. Amended copies were available at our meeting, but if you would like a copy, please contact Bob Nelson based on the contact information on the membership list. Bob will be happy to oblige your request.

EBBC Board Members	
President	Bob Nelson
Vice President	Ed Rossman
Secretary	Ruth-Anne Bray
Treasurer	Pat Wheaton
Music Director	Bill Cooper
Member at Large	Kit Nelson
Booking Agent	Jack Starr



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