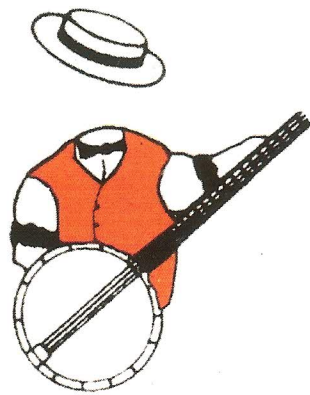


EAST BAY BANJO CLUB
35 YEARS



1963 - 1998

A SCRAPBOOK

EAST BAY BANJO CLUB

MEETING MARCH 13, 1963

The second meeting of the East Bay Banjo Club was held at the home of Charles Posey in Martinez. In attendance were 10 banjo players and 18 interested listeners.

Elected as President was Earl Collins and Secretary-Treasurer was Jeanne Posey.

Voted and passed that the initiation fee for charter membership be \$2 as a temporary measure to cover initial bills. All ten members present paid initiation fee.

There was a motion made and passed unanimously that the charter be kept open through the next four meetings.

Members present:

- A. J. (Pete) Meyers
- J. E. (Woody) Underwood
- Charles Posey
- Jeanne Posey
- Stan Hendricks
- Earl Collins
- George Herman
- Sidney Steele
- Sig Lassen
- Ward Hendricks

Minutes from the 2nd board meeting, March 13, 1963. Members present were considered to be the first "Charter Members".

DO you like to "pick" on the ol' banjo? IF so, call MRS. CHARLES POSEY at 228-3953 (or write her at Route Three (Franklin Canyon Road, Martinez) . . . SEEMS that a group from Martinez, Lafayette, Concord, Richmond, Vallejo and Napa have gotten together to establish a Banjo Club. They practice each Wednesday evening at Eckley's Resort at Crockett, beginning at 7:30 p.m. This GROUP is also available to liven up any club, lodge or organizational meeting. They have decided that any fees collected for their performances will be donated to the Crippled Children's Association. Mrs. Posey is secretary and Earl Collins of Vallejo, president. Some 27 members are now strummin' away on the banjo and new members are cordially invited to join.

The ad that started it all off!



FRONT ROW: SIG LASSEN, CLARA UNDERWOOD, EARL COLLINS, JEANNE POSEY, CHUCK POSEY, SID STEELE,
 MIDDLE ROW: RED MARCH, H. C. PONZO, DENNY BACHARD, LARRY COLLINS, MIKE UCES, DON BLACK, FRANK BOYD, ALLEN POSEY
 BACK ROW: STAN HENDRICKS, HAL GIRVAN, WARD HENDRICKS, BILL SCHENBRI, LARRY RISNER, CLIFFORD SCHENBRI,
 WOODY UNDERWOOD, CHECK BELT.

East Bay Banjo Club and The Sacramento Banjo Band
 First combined meeting - Sometime in 1963

March 20th meeting held at Eckley Resort. Secty absent, no minutes.

April 3rd. Meeting of banjo club held at Eckleys . In attendance were 15 charter members and 2 visitors. No motions made so meeting was adjourned to play banjos.

April 17 and 24 secty absent no minutes.

May 1st. Meeting held at Eckley Resort. President suggested that all who could attend Red's Pizza in Vjo on Sun May 5th as the Sac. banjo band was to play there. Also he mention the JUMPing Frog contest at Angels Camp; the Sac. Banjo Club is to be featured and we are invited to join in. The dates for this are May 18 & 19. Next meeting to be held at Poseys. Two new members taken in- Frank Helms and Jim Harvey.

Minutes from the March, April and May Club meetings in 1963

June 27, 1963

Dear Ernie,

SI. 201. 4001

Hope you like the banjo! About 31 of we Bay area plunkers have formed a club and would feel it an honor if you would accept an honorary membership in our "Banjos Wall to Wall", "East Bay Banjo Club". We formed our club just 4 short months ago with the idea that anyone could join so long as they loved the banjo. We have quite a few beginners (our youngest is 8) and a number of pros who can really strum a mean "Tiger Rag"!

Our club meets every Wednesday at 7:30 on an old Ferry Boat near Crockett, Calif. called "Eckley's Resort". We would be pleased if you would pass the word along to any interested parties to grab their banjos and join us for an evening.

Anytime you might need banjos wall to wall for any gharity doings don't hesitate to call on us because we number quite a few and we can certainly make noise! We would like very much to help any and all charities, especially crippled children.

We are all proud to say that we belong to the "East Bay Banjo Club" and hope you will be too!

Sincerely,

Jeanne Posey, Secty.



GEORGETTE TWAIN

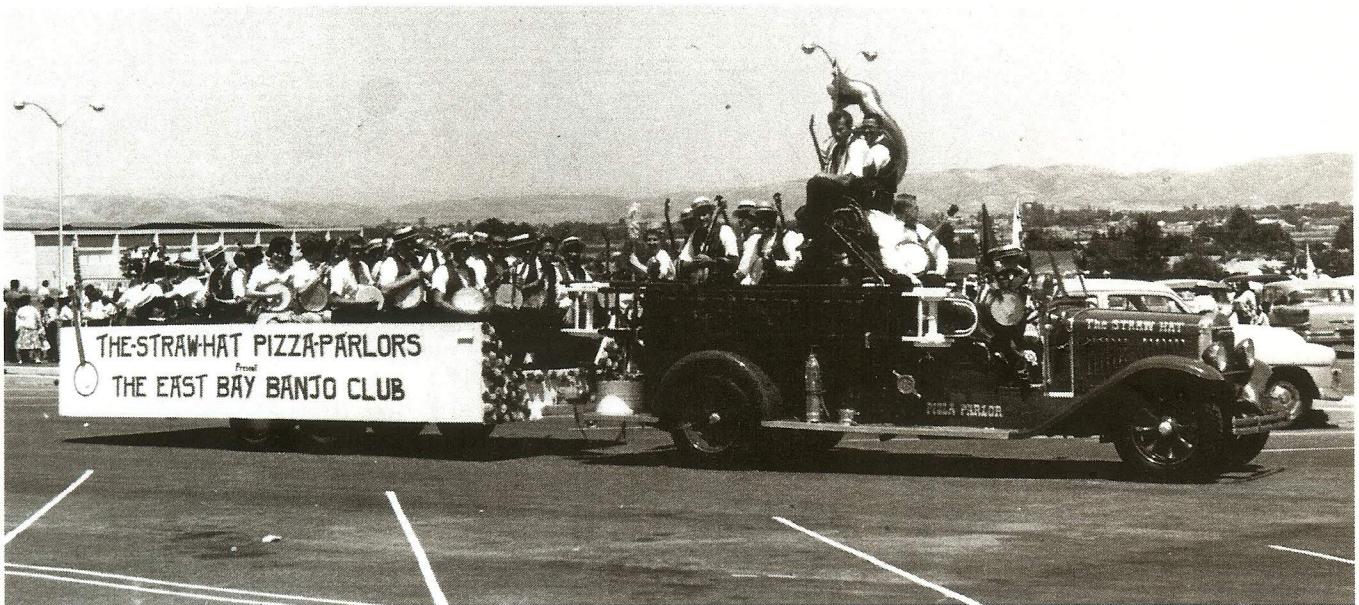
Signed "To East Bay Banjo Band to which many of my friends belong - Keep up the good work"

Always,

Georgette Twain (1964)



Playout - Untitled - sometime in 1964



Parade in Pleasant Hill - 1964 There were about 30 members in the Club



Earl Collins receiving the President's Award from Woody Underwood. Yes, that is Bill Cooper watching the presentation from the background



By TOM DOOLEY

Visitors to the Straw Hat Pizza Parlor in Pleasant Hill don't have to worry about pumping coins into the juke box on Tuesday nights.

Not when you have 70 live banjo players.

And when they all get together for the weekly meeting of the East Bay Banjo Club the strumming of strings overwhelms any recorded sounds which might emerge from a juke box.

THEY ALL PLAY at the same time.

The club meeting starts about 7:30 p.m. and the next two hours are filled with unified (usually) renditions of old and new tunes.

The banjo club was formed in March of 1963 with 14 members. They first held meetings at Eckley's old ferry boat near Port Costa, according to club members.

Today there are 67 members and interested persons are joining the group each week.

THERE ARE NO age limitations connected with joining the club.

Sixteen teenagers are presently members of the banjo club and an 8-year-old has recently joined the organization.

They join to learn more about playing the banjo. They enjoy learning.

Some of the older, more experienced banjo players serve as teachers during the weekly sessions.

Members have numbered music sheets, which show chord changes.

"Let's try number 14," says Carl Collins, club president.

SECONDS LATER the club members have number 14 in front of them and away they go.

Be it "Shanty Town" or "Hello Dolly," they all strum together.

They make a lot of noise. Most of it sounds good, as the ever growing audience will affirm.

The club is a non-profit organization. It was planned to be such.

Any donation the club receives or any money earned from participation in parades or other events goes to charity.

SINCE THE CLUB was formed it has donated all proceeds to crippled children and the March of Dimes.

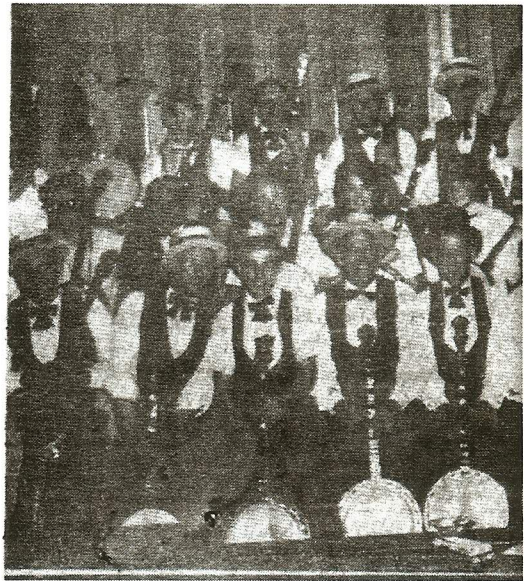
The club has participated in several events in the East Bay area including an appearance in the 1963 Walnut Creek Festival where the group's float was awarded a second place in the commercial division.

A red fire truck (seen frequently in front of the Straw Hat) will serve as a float for the banjo club when they appear May 23 in the La Fiesta del Diablo parade in Pleasant Hill. Banjo club members will ride the fire wagon. Armed with their banjos, the delegation promises to add another touch of color to the gala La Fiesta del Diablo celebration.

"All a person needs to join us is a banjo and a desire to play," Collins said.

Club members come from Vallejo, Napa, Sacramento, Martinez, Concord, Walnut Creek, Pittsburg, Pleasant Hill, Antioch, Oakland, Orinda, Lafayette, El Cerrito, Dublin, San Leandro and Richmond.

THE CLUB WELCOMES new members and interested



Newspaper Article - 1965

persons are invited to sit in on one of the weekly sessions at the Straw Hat Pizza Parlor, 1428 Contra Costa Boulevard, Pleasant Hill.

Club members maintain that banjos rank second in the nation's sale of musical instruments (they say guitars are the biggest sellers).

And with the enthusiasm and enjoyment expressed by members of the East Bay Banjo Club, it's easy to see why banjo sales are again booming.



Club Portrait - 1966



Red March at Straw Hat Pizza - 1966

Banjo Club Open House Entertainers

A feature of the open house to be held at John F. Kennedy University Sunday, May 21, will be performance by the East Bay Banjo Club.

The concert is scheduled for 3 p.m. in the park adjacent to the university's Charter Hall, according to Alvin Burton, general chairman of the University Day celebration.

Organized only about four years ago, the East Bay Banjo Club has grown from a membership of 12 to approximately 190 at the present time, according to Forrest "Red" March of Walnut Creek, president of the organization. Members range in age from youngsters to retired persons. March learned to play the banjo nearly 40 years ago and has been playing professionally for the past eight years. The group meets Tuesday evenings at the Pleasant Hill Straw Hat Pizza.

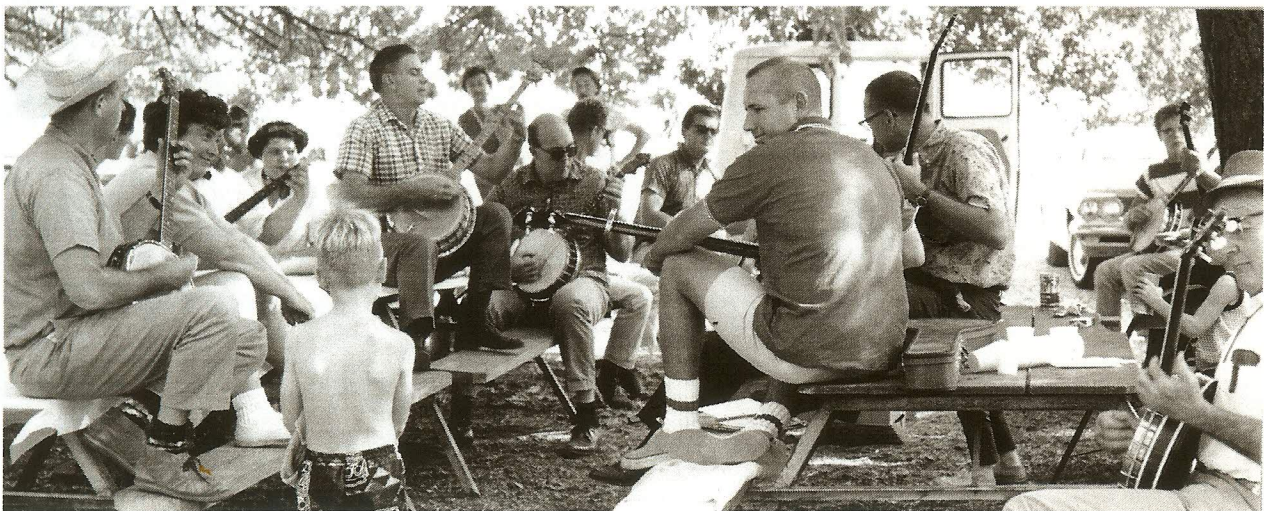
Other events planned for the university's open house include an art exhibit and tours of the school's campus at 1124 Perry Street, Martinez. Burton said the public is invited to become acquainted with Kennedy University by visiting the school during the open house, 2 to 5 p.m.

270 Members in
1967



BENEFIT PERFORMANCE—
The East Bay Banjo Club (left) will be playing Dixieland, blues and old standard music this Sun., at the P.H. Straw Hat Pizza Parlor starting at 3 p.m. Public invited to this free show benefiting CCC Retarded Children. Pres of the group is Red March and Directors are Earl Collins and Charles Possy. Group has played for different charities, in Sparks, Nev., Vallejo and in the East Bay. Total membership is 230 with an active membership between 70 and 75. Members come from all over the area and range in age from 8 to 80.

Newspaper article - 1967



Club Members at the Annual Picnic - 1967



Georgette Twain's all female band - 1967
All are members of the East Bay Banjo Club



A combined meeting, of the Sacramento Banjo Band and the East Bay Banjo Club - 1967

PAGE 12—Vallejo Times-Herald, Friday, April 26, 1968



EASTBAY BANJO CLUB PLAYS CHARITY EVENT HERE

Pictured are members of the Eastbay Banjo Club who will play a benefit Sunday night at Red's Pizza Pub, with proceeds to be used to help the Solano Council for

Mentally Retarded Children. About 50 members of the club are expected to strum their banjos in the fund-raising event. The group's appearance here is sanctioned by

Vallejo Local 367, American Federation of Musicians. The public is invited to see and hear this novel group and proceeds will be used for the council.

This was a novel alliance with the Musician's Local Union #367. At this time the union was threatening to picket the places where the East Bay Banjo Club played.



Napa Parade (before the float was built) - 1968



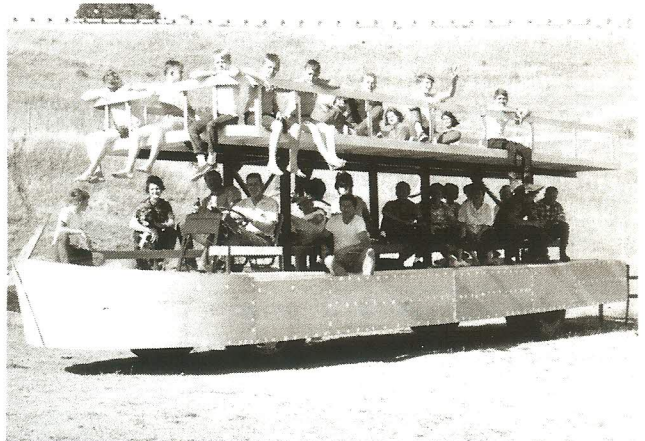
Building the float - The welders at work. Just starting March 1968



Now some wood-work - About April 1968



The lid goes on about April 1968



A "load" test about May 1968



Almost finished May 1968



The Christening May 1968

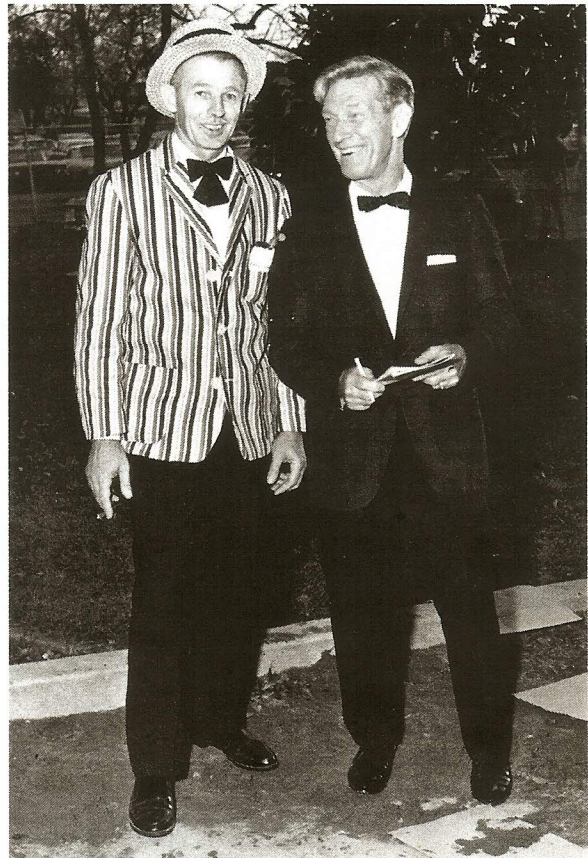


The finished product - ready to be driven June 1968



LOVE A PARADE AND STRAW HAT PIZZA, TOO

ONE OF THE most lively and colorful floats of the recent Pleasant Hill Fiesta parade was this unique float containing members of the East Bay Banjo Club. The club meets weekly at the Straw Hat Pizza in Pleasant Hill. Straw Hat Pizzas sponsored this prize winning float which drew much applause. A visit to any of the local Straw Hat Pizza parlors is a lively and congenial experience and, as an extra bonus, there's the world's finest pizza and greatest selection of beer and soft drinks. May we suggest you join the ever growing parade to Straw Hat Pizza parlors. Presently Straw Hat Pizza Parlors are to be found on Clayton Rd. in Concord, Mt. Diablo Blvd. in Lafayette, Contra Costa Blvd. in Pleasant Hill and nearby Dublin in the southern extreme of Contra Costa County . . . in all there are 15 locations in Northern California and more to come—namely, in the NEW County East Shopping Center right here in our fair city of Antioch.



Earl Collins and Eddy Peabody at the 1968 Banjorama in Sacramento

One of the first playouts with the new float - 1968



Red March with his "Red March Red Hots" - 1968



Visit to Cupertino Banjos in 1968



Just before playing in the 1968 Walnut Festival Parade



1968 Banjorama - Eddy Peabody and some of the younger members of various Banjo Bands. That is Bill Cooper just to the left of Eddy.



The East Bay Banjo Club is cloned - see the article below

LA PUENTE VALLEY JOURNAL
 WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 1969

**NEWLY FORMED
 BANJO GROUP
 GETS CHARTER**

The world's largest banjo club, The East Bay Banjo Club of Northern California, which boasts a membership of almost 400 members, recently issued its first charter to a newly formed group in Hacienda Heights.

The new club will be known as the East Bay Banjo Club of Southern California. Chapter founders are Neil MacLean, his wife Pinkie and their son, Lance. The MacLeans are charter members of the parent club which was formed in 1963. The Southern California Chapter epitomizes their slogan "Banjos Wall to Wall" as the weekly meetings are held at their Hacienda Heights home.

The East Bay Banjo Club is a non-profit group which was formed to create interest in the banjo. Donations from play-outs are turned over to the group's favorite charity, the Retarded Children's Association.

The MacLeans invite all banjo players to join them, there is no age limit and beginners are as welcome as professionals. The club meets each Tuesday to play Gay 90's tunes, at 14433 Frankton Ave., Hacienda Heights, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Further information for play-outs and membership may be secured by calling 333-0773.

12—ENTERTAINMENT, OCT. 11, 1969
 Reno Evening Gazette and Nevada State Journal



**Georgette
 Twain**

The "Queen of the Banjo" is featured in the Les Parker Show headlining the Sky Room of the Mapes Hotel.



Club Members 1971



The 1971 Board



The Float loaded up and ready for another Parade - 1971

Eddie Peabody Rites Tuesday

COVINGTON (Ky.) — (UPI) — Funeral services will be Tuesday in Tucson, Ariz., for Eddie Peabody, known as "King of the Banjo" for more than half a century.

Peabody died yesterday in St. Elizabeth Hospital, eight hours after he collapsed during an appearance at a northern Kentucky nightspot. He was 69.

Peabody's body was flown to Tucson yesterday afternoon. The arrangements were handled by the Linne-man Funeral Home at Erlanger, Ky.

A spokesman at the Look-out House said Peabody broke the head of his banjo before appearing on stage Friday night and went back to his dressing room to make repairs.

The spokesman said Peabody was extremely disturbed at keeping the crowd waiting.

"When he came out in the first act of his Friday night appearance, he collapsed on stage," the spokesman said.

A physician and a nurse in the audience administered first aid and Peabody was taken to the hospital.

He died eight hours later. The Kenton County coroner's office said he suffered a stroke.

Peabody's popularity survived two world wars, vaudeville and the depression.

During World War II he was a morale officer in the Army and performed in more than 6000 shows at bases throughout the Pacific.



Left to Right: Adrienne Hanawalt - Secretary, Don Hanawalt - President, and Millie Jones - Treasurer - 1971 EBBC Officers



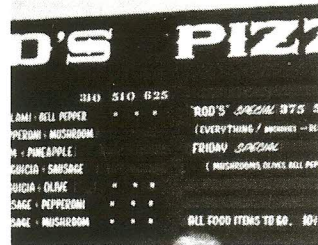
A nite at Shakey's Pizza - 1971



Another view the same nite at Shakey's - 1971



Jack Hicks at a playout - 1971
Is there something wrong with this picture?



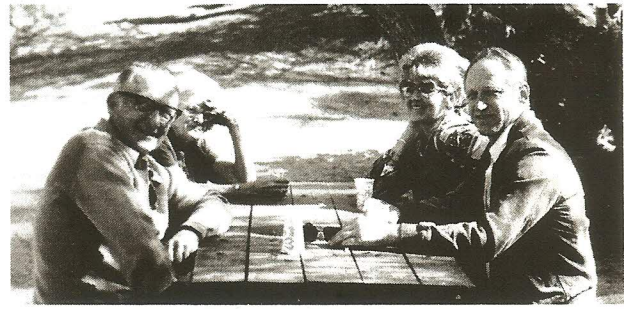
Barbara Findlay 1972



Finally, after problems with Shakey's, the EBBC moved to Rod's Pizza in 1972



Earl Duncan?, Phil Hakola, and Garry Kerr - 1974



Bill Walker, ?, Alice Wilson and Brice Wilson
1976 Payout



Rod's Pizza about 1975

Dick Dybevik tossing darts at
the EBBC annual picnic at
Barbara Findlay's on Bethel
Island - 1977



Left to Right: Earl Duncan, Jim Morgan, Georgette Twain, Bill Hemphill, Rudy Bradshaw,
Dick Dybevic, and Ed Stevens - 1977



Ed Stevens, John Canfield, Lynn O'Brien, Bill Hemphill, Garry Kerr, and Betty Purchase - 1976



Jack Hicks and Earl Duncan - 1979



Lynn O'Brien, Dick Dybevik, Red Marsh, and Julie O'Brien



Bill Cooper, Rick Winer, and Garry Kerr - 1979





Dorothy Walker, Bill Walker, and ? at Lone Hotel



St Patrick's Parade, San Francisco - 1981

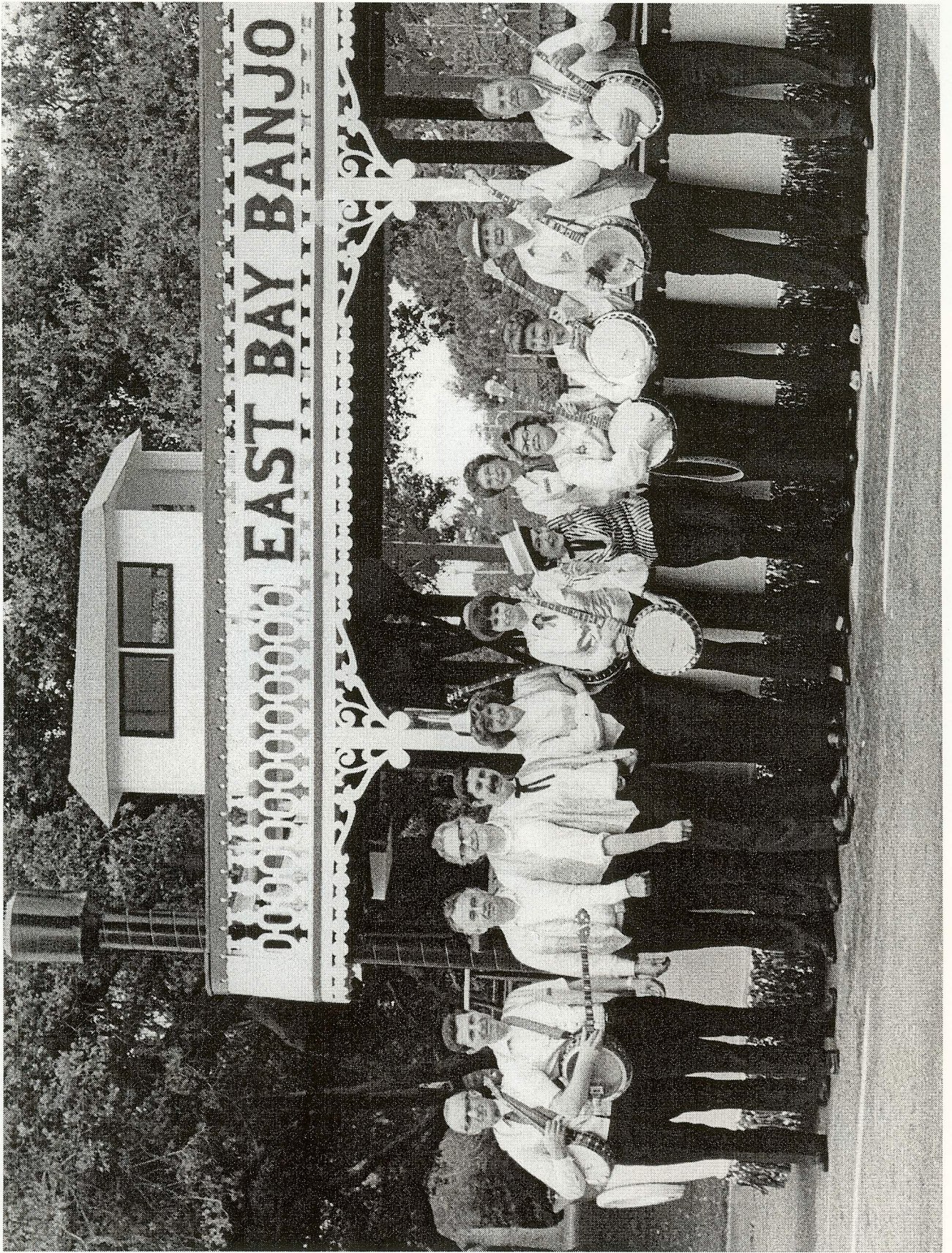


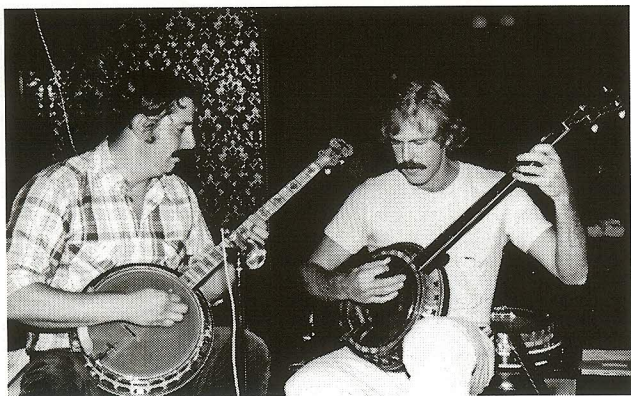
Cherry Blossom Festival - San Francisco - 1981

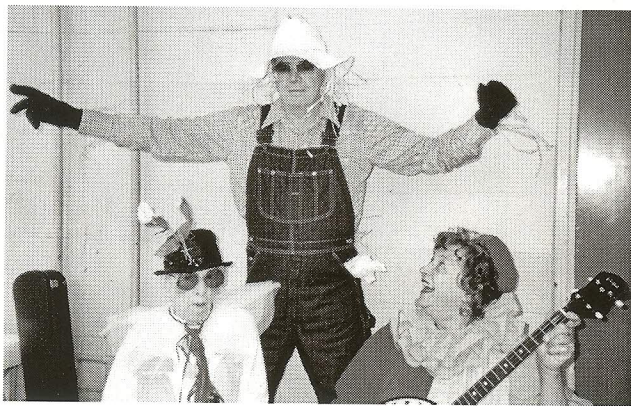
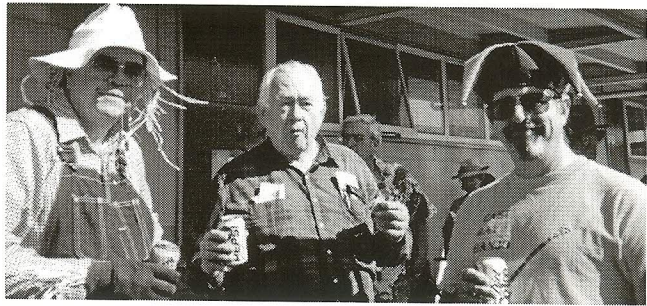














Tim Allan, Buddy Wachter, & Dave Marty - FIGA - July 24, 1997

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

THE EAST BAY BANJO CLUB SCRAPBOOK

Jeanne Posey
Who kept the book up to
date from 1963 - 1972.
Don Tompkins
Club Photographer

PLUS

All the nameless people
who contributed newspaper articles,
mementos, autographs, and
banjomania items.



PHOTOGRAPHS

Betty David
Terry Horner
Garry Kerr
Ed Rossman
Pat Wheaton



COMPILED BY

Ed Rossman



EDITING & PRINTING

Layout: CorelDRAW 7
Color: Lexmark Optra SC 1275
Black & White: Lexmark Optra N

Officers and Board Members of East Bay Banjo Club from 1963 to present. There are a number of gaps and possible errors in this table so if you have any corrections, please let us know

Year	President	Vice President	Treasurer	Secretary	Member at Large	Music Director	Asst. Music Dir.	Sgt. at Arms	Other Bd. Mbers.	Tot. Membership
1976	Phil Hakola	Lynn O'Brien					Earl Collins			
1977	Garry Kerr						Earl Collins	Phil Hakola		
1978	Alice Wilson						Earl Collins	Phil Hakola		
1979	Lynn O'Brien							Phil Hakola		
1980	Lynn O'Brien							Phil Hakola		
1981	Ed Rossmann	Jim Morgan		Flo Hall				Phil Hakola		
1982	Ed Rossmann	Jerry Crabtree		Flo Hall						
1983	Ed Rossmann	Wally Granberg		Flo Hall			Bill Cooper			
1984	Jerry Crabtree	Jim Morgan		Marana Wheeler			Bill Cooper			
1985	Jim Morgan	Chuck Cook		Marana Wheeler	Don Campbell		Bill Cooper			
1986	Betty David	Dorothy Walker		Marana Wheeler			Bill Cooper			
1987	Ed Stevens	Mike Perry	Jack Wood	Barbara Findlay	Dorothy Walker		Bill Cooper			
1988	Jack Wood	Dorothy Walker					Bill Cooper			
1989	Dorothy Walker	Mary Hicks					Bill Cooper			
1990	John Rosploch	Andrew Otto	Betty David	Barbara Findlay	Bob Shaw		Bill Cooper	Eric Phillips		
1991	Chuck Cook	Shirley Schlief	Jim Morgan	Barbara Findlay			Bill Cooper			
1992	Betty David	Shirley Schlief	Jim Morgan	Barbara Findlay			Bill Cooper			
1993	Jack Hanes		Jim Morgan	Barbara Findlay			Bill Cooper			
1994	Jack Hanes	Shirley Schlief	Jim Morgan	Barbara Findlay			Bill Cooper			
1995	Dan Adams	Shirley Schlief	Jim Morgan	Barbara Findlay			Bill Cooper	Betty David		
1996	Bette David	Judy Mullan	Jim Morgan	Barbara Findlay	Pat Wheaton		Bill Cooper	Betty David		
1997	Pat Wheaton	Aryn Morgan	Jim Morgan	Don Granberg	Dorothy Walker		Bill Cooper	Betty David		

Year	President	Vice President	Treasurer	Secretary	Member at Large	Music Director	Asst. Music Dir.	Sgt. at Arms	Other Bd. Mbers.	Tot. Membership
1975	Dick Dybevik	Steve Guhl	Jack Hicks	La Donna Terry		Earl Collins		Phil Hakola		
1974	Ed Stevens	Joe Biggins	Gloria Walker	Helene Duncan		Earl Collins		Phil Hakola		
1973	Bill Hemphill	Joe Bigginsd	Gloria Walker			Earl Collins	Al Posey	Phil Hakola		
1972	Dave Newman	Gene Kirchner	Millie Jones	Pat Touchstone		Earl Collins	Bil Hirt	Phil Hakola		
1971	Don Hanawalt	Scott Jackson	Millie Jones	Adrienne Hanawalt		Earl Collins	Bill Hirt	Phil Hakola		*500+
1970		Janice Freeman				Earl Collins	Chuck Posey	Phil Hakola		495
1969	Stan Freeman	Red March	Jeanne Posey	Renette Tompkins	Adrienne Hanawalt	Earl Collins	Chuck Posey	Phil Hakola		350 - 400
1968	Eldon Jackson	Stan Freeman	Jeanne Posey			Earl Collins	Chuck Posey	Phil Hakola		287
1967	Forest 'Red' March	Don Tompkins	Janice Freeman	Janice Freeman		Earl Collins	Chuck Posey	Phil Hakola		230
1966	Woody Underwood	Red March	Jeanne Posey			Earl Collins	Chuck Posey	Phil Hakola		190
1965						Earl Collins	Chuck Posey			67
1964						Earl Collins	Chuck Posey			
1963	Earl Collins	Chuck Posey	Jeanne Posey	Jeanne Posey		Earl Collins	Chuck Posey			

*In the treasurer's books, there are membership dues entries for the year of 1971 and they certainly total less than 500. It would appear that to achieve a count of 500+ members it would necessarily include, non-active, and non-dues paying members from the previous years.