

# East Bay Banjo Club

Since 1963

November / December 2018

Volume 13, Issue 6

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## Events Calendar

**We're off 'til next year!**

**Happy holidays and  
we'll see you.....**

**Tuesday, January 8, 2019**  
(1<sup>st</sup> weekly practice of 2019)

Round Table Pizza  
1938 Oak Park Boulevard,  
Pleasant Hill – 7 p.m.

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[www.eastbaybanjo.org](http://www.eastbaybanjo.org)

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*To book the East Bay Banjo  
Club to play at your event,  
please contact our booking  
agent, Don Granberg, at  
[grany@astound.net](mailto:grany@astound.net).*

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## President's Message

By Bob Malucelli

I hope everyone had a good Christmas and New Year. I want to thank everyone who played in the playouts during 2018. We always had 16 to 22 members at all the playouts throughout the year, which is a very good turnout. Unfortunately, our Christmas party at Round Table was cancelled due to a plumbing problem at the restaurant. We will have a New Year's party when we have a chance to pick a date.

Meanwhile, Vice President Paul Mack and Treasurer Rich Combs are working on ways to get new banjo players – hopefully younger ones than most of us -- to learn how to play the banjo.



Diane and I are joining Terry and Chris Horner on a Jazz Sea Cruise to play banjos. If anyone is interested, the Holland America cruise is March 23-30, 2019. It leaves out of Fort Lauderdale and goes to the Caribbean. If you are interested, call Kelly Haverlandt at World Unleashed Travel, at 406-862-8989.

Our next weekly practice at Round Table will be on Tuesday, January 8, 2019, starting at our usual time of 7 p.m. I hope to see you there.

As always, thanks to everyone who attends the playouts and our weekly practices for your good and enthusiastic participation.

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### Inside:

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# EBBC Plays Atria Walnut Creek

By Paul Mack

Photos by Bob Nelson

We played a fun gig on Friday October 26 at Atria Walnut Creek. We were situated in the dining room, and although it was a tight fit, we made room for all 25 of us. Our group included **Red Higgins, Sheila Welt, Ardie Jarrett, Doug Johnson, Paul Mack, Dina Melamed, Clyde Dedmon, Debbie Hodson, Karen Hefter, Don Granberg, Chris Lardge, Linda Myers, Phil Myers, Garry Kerr, Kit Nelson, Bob Malucelli, Diane Malucelli, Rich Combs, Jan Ruzicka, Slavka Ruzicka, Tom Brunetti, Bob Ehrhorn, Betty David, Larry Risner and Guy Black. Bob Nelson** was busy taking photos.

It was very exciting to have both Karen and Betty performing with us again. In addition to their participation, the audience was looking forward to hearing their very own resident, Red Higgins. She wowed the crowd when she sang “The Crawdad Song.” Toward the middle of the program Red and Kit performed “Bill Bailey” and had the crowd singing and clapping along. Later on Bob Ehrhorn and Red did a wonderful job with “Darktown Strutter’s Ball.”

We ended with Sheila and Debbie parading through the audience while Don sang our traditional closing number, “When The Saints Go Marching In.” As we were packing up afterwards, a number of people told us how much they enjoyed the show. As the staff was busy getting the room ready for dinner, I looked at the menu and the entrees were Grilled Chicken, Lamb Chop or Salmon Piccata. Yum, yum.



Paul Mack introduces the next song.....



.....and Bob Ehrhorn sings it.



Two Bobs are better than one, as proven by Mssrs. Nelson (l) and Malucelli.



From left, Garry Kerr (banjo), Guy Black (bass) and Ardie Jarrett (banjo) hold down the back line.

# Veterans Day Payout A Success At Kensington Walnut Creek

By Don Granberg

Photos by Bob Nelson

EBBC celebrated Veterans Day by playing at the Kensington Assisted Living Facility in Walnut Creek. The residents enjoyed our singing and playing. Our great singers were **Sheila Welt, Kit Nelson, Don Granberg** and **Red Higgins**. Intros were played by **Larry Risner** and **Betty David**, and by Don Granberg on the piano. **Doug Johnson** helped carry the melody playing his saxophone, **Terry Horner** kept the beat with his magnificent gutbucket bass, and Don doubled on washboard.

**Slavka** and **Jan Ruzicka** treated us to the song “Tancuj Tancuj” with Slavka handling the vocals in Czech and Jan playing guitar. **Ardie Jarrett** did a good job of keeping the rhythm along with **Dina Melamed** (washboard) and **Clyde Dedmon** (guitar). It was nice to have **Linda** and **Phil Myers** playing along too. Also attending were **Bernadette Granberg, Dianne Risner** and **Mimi Johnson**.

**Paul Mack** did a wonderful job announcing and giving the history of each song. Thanks go to **Bob Nelson** for taking pictures of the event. **Bob** and **Diane Malucelli** did their usual great job of setting up the sound system. It was a great payout that went fast and very well. EBBC appreciates the chance to play at the Kensington and we hope return soon.



Slavka Ruzicka on autoharp, Jan Ruzicka on guitar, Don Granberg at the piano, and in the background at left Garry Kerr on banjo and Doug Johnson on sax.



The club lays out some sweet sounds, in full showboat regalia.

# East Bay Banjo Club Makes Year-End Contributions

By John Greitzer and Rich Combs

The East Bay Banjo Club often makes year-end contributions to non-profits who provide services to the community and to music-related organizations and events.

This year the club has provided \$500 to **All Frets**, and another \$500 to the **American Banjo Museum** in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

**All Frets**, established in 1957 as the Fretted Instrument Guild of America (FIGA), is an international nonprofit for fretted-instrument enthusiasts. Membership includes banjo, ukulele, mandolin, and guitar players and devotees from around the world. Each year the organization stages the national All Frets convention featuring concerts, jam sessions, educational workshops and social activities. The location changes from year to year. All Frets 2018 was held in Buffalo, New York; the 2019 event will be held July 10-13 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Springfield, Illinois. The group also publishes *All Frets* magazine six times per year.

EBBC Treasurer Rich Combs sent All Frets a check of \$500 to assist them in carrying out their mission. In his letter accompanying the check, Rich wrote that “we welcome the opportunity to support an institution that works to keep alive the excitement of our unique instruments, and encourages their growth in our culture. Our members look forward to an opportunity to attend the All Frets Convention and join in some jamming!”

The **American Banjo Museum** in Oklahoma City is dedicated to preserving the heritage of the four-string banjo, from its roots in American slave communities to its role in traditional American popular music and dance bands from the late 1800s and early 1900s. The museum was founded in 1998 in Guthrie, Oklahoma, and later moved to Oklahoma City.

EBBC welcomed the opportunity to contribute to the museum’s efforts to preserve and expand the four-string banjo’s presence in our culture. Some of our club members have visited the museum and had great things to say about it. The rest of us hope we can get there some day soon.

Along with these charitable contributions, EBBC also is one of the contributing co-sponsors of **Banjo-Rama 2019**, which will be staged as a cooperative effort with the cost shared among the participating banjo clubs. We contributed \$1,000 for the event, which is scheduled for Friday May 17 through Sunday May 19. The venue will be the Lions Gate Hotel, 3410 Westover Street, Sacramento (see next page). We hope to see you there.

**From The Banjo-Rama folks...**

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**West Coast Banjo-Rama:  
An Acoustic Music Festival**

Come join the fun playing and listening to great music  
from the 1920's, 30's, 40's and beyond.

**May 17-19, 2019**

**Lion's Gate Hotel**

3410 Westover Street, McClellan Park, CA 95652  
(the former McClellan Air Force Base in Sacramento)

**Three full days are on tap for jamming, workshops,  
concerts, music vendors, and performances**

Bring your unamplified acoustic guitar, mandolin, banjo, fiddle, uke, string bass,  
mandola, cavaquinho, lute, or other stringed instrument and come have fun.

**More information will be available soon at [Banjo-Rama.com](http://Banjo-Rama.com)**

All styles of playing will be featured, including jazz, standards,  
country, folk, ragtime, bluegrass, and novelty

**Presented by:**

Sacramento Banjo Band  
Peninsula Banjo Band  
East Bay Banjo Band  
Wineland Banjo Band

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## 2018 EBBC Playout Participation

Playouts for 2018: twelve (through December 31, 2018)

|                 |    |
|-----------------|----|
| Guy Black       | 5  |
| Tom Brunetti    | 9  |
| Rich Combs      | 8  |
| Betty David     | 3  |
| Clyde Dedmon    | 6  |
| Bob Ehrhorn     | 8  |
| Barbara Findlay | 2  |
| Don Granberg    | 11 |
| John Greitzer   | 3  |
| Karen Hefter    | 5  |
| Red Higgins     | 4  |
| Deb Hodson      | 3  |
| Terry Horner    | 6  |
| Garry Kerr      | 7  |
| Ardie Jarrett   | 9  |
| Doug Johnson    | 7  |
| Chris Lardge    | 7  |
| Annie Lem       | 2  |
| Paul Mack       | 12 |
| Bob Malucelli   | 10 |
| Diane Malucelli | 6  |
| Lary McGrew     | 2  |
| Dina Melamed    | 6  |
| Linda Myers     | 6  |
| Phil Myers      | 6  |
| Kit Nelson      | 9  |
| Bud Pearce      | 9  |
| Larry Risner    | 4  |
| Jan Ruzicka     | 10 |
| Slavka Ruzicka  | 11 |
| Sheila Welt     | 8  |





# **Board members and appointed officers for 2018**

## **Board Members**

President: Bob Malucelli.....dmalucelli@att.net  
Vice President: Paul Mack.....Anthony.Mack55@gmail.com  
Secretary: Sheila Welt .....weltbear@sbcglobal.net  
Treasurer: Rich Combs.....combsrichard@sbcglobal.net  
Past President: John Greitzer ... ..johngreitzer@outlook.com  
Booking Agent: Don Granberg.....grany@astound.net

## **Non-Board Officers**

Assistant Music Director: Jack Convery.....entline@msn.com  
Assistant Music Director: Betty David.....(925) 938-0126  
Assistant Music Director: Larry Risner.....rhythmbanjo@sbcglobal.net  
Assistant Music Director and Webmaster: Bud Pearce.....bud.pearce@pearcechris.com  
Digital Librarian: Karen Hefter.....karenhefter@gmail.com  
Hard-Copy Librarian: Don Granberg..... [grany@astound.net](mailto:grany@astound.net)  
Hospitality: Sheila Welt.....weltbear@sbcglobal.net  
Membership: Chris Lardge.....chrislardge@aol.com  
Newsletter Editor/Publisher: John Greitzer ..... johngreitzer@outlook.com  
Telephone Tree: Diane Malucelli.....dmalucelli@att.net  
Uniforms (Gold Vest & Polos): Ardie Jarrett..... jarjohn@msn.com

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## **About our newsletter**

The ***East Bay Banjo Club Newsletter*** is published six times per year, in February, April, June, August, October, and December. The newsletter is available on the EBBC website at [www.eastbaybanjo.org](http://www.eastbaybanjo.org) (click on “Newsletters”). All articles are written by the editor unless otherwise noted.

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## **Upcoming birthdays**



### ***Happy birthday to all!***

|                      |                            |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Don Granberg—Jan. 1  | Bud Pearce—Feb. 8          |
| Patti Patton—Jan. 10 | Trent Jones—Feb. 11        |
| Clyde Dedmon—Jan. 18 | Susan Lober—Feb. 14        |
| Mary Black—Jan. 26   | Georgette DeTorres—Feb. 16 |
| Sheila Welt—Jan. 27  | Guy Black—Feb. 21          |

**EAST BAY BANJO CLUB**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**  
11 September 2018  
**ROUND TABLE PIZZA PLEASANT HILL**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by President Bob Malucelli at 5:40 PM

**ROLL CALL BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Present- President, Bob Malucelli  
Present- Vice President, Paul Mack  
On Leave- Music Director, Karen Hefter  
Absent- Secretary, Sheila Welt  
Present- Booking Agent, Don Granberg+  
Present-Past President, John Greitzer  
Present- Treasurer, Rich Combs

**ROLL CALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Absent- Assistant Music Director, Larry Risner  
Present- Assistant Music Director, Bud Pearce  
On Leave- Digital Librarian, Karen Hefter  
Present-Editor, John Greitzer  
Present- Equipment, Bob Malucelli  
Absent- Hospitality, Sheila Welt  
Present- Membership Chris Lardge  
Present-Don Granberg  
Present- Telephone Tree, Diane Malucelli  
Present- Uniforms, Ardie Jarrett  
Present- Web Master, Bud Pearce

**VISITORS:**

Guy Black

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Malucelli at 5:40 pm. A motion to accept the August 7, 2018 minutes was approved.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Regarding our charity donations, we had a discussion on developing ways to offer banjo lessons to younger students. Rich reported that he is still in contact with the owner of music studios in Livermore and Benicia. Rich emailed Joan Miller of the Mt. Diablo Music Education Foundation but had not yet heard back from her. Jack Convery is still interested in teaching banjo.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Our Running Balance is \$11,734.25

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Bob Malucelli informed us that due to a conflict he will not be able to attend any meetings on the first Tuesday of the month.



**ACTION ITEMS:**

Rich gave us a "Save the Date" flyer for Banjo-Rama. This year it will be held at the Lion's Gate Hotel 3410 Westover St. McClellan Park (the former McClellan AFB in Sacramento) May 17-19, 2019. Rich also showed us a number of flyers from various music festivals.

We had a discussion on getting a permanent music director and another assistant music director. Bud currently is an assistant music director and will stay in that position. Rich proposed that we hire a band director. This would be a professional musician (not necessarily a banjo player). Once a month, for about an hour, this person would assist us by expanding and enhancing the depth of our rehearsals.

Bud reported that the minutes of the Board of Directors are now up on our website. Bud also reported that ours is a secure website.

We had a discussion on adding new songs. John will bring in some new songs for the next Board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Paul Mack for Sheila Welt

**East Bay Banjo Club**  
P.O. Box 5414  
Concord, CA 94524

**The East Bay Banjo Club**

**Meets on Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m.**

**Round Table Pizza**

**1938 Oak Park Boulevard, Pleasant Hill**

**[www.eastbaybanjoclub.org](http://www.eastbaybanjoclub.org)**