



Newsletter

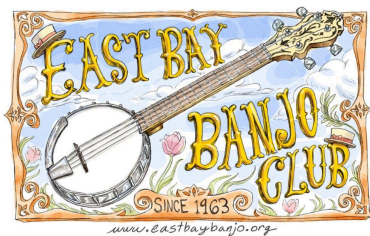
President's Message

by Chris Doan

Happy Thanksgiving to all. 2025 is already winding down which means that holiday preparations are underway. And the Club has planned its annual family Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 9 starting at 6:30 pm at Mountain Mikes Pizza in Pleasant Hill. Please plan on joining us. The Club will pick up the tab for the food and drink for you and a guest. Please RSVP to Bob Malucelli (dmalucelli@att.net) so we have an accurate head count for the gathering.

We will have a very short business meeting at 6:30 just before the party gets underway to elect Club officers for 2026. Paul Mack is soliciting nominations for the various positions so please respond directly to him with your input.

Wear something festive if you dare and bring your banjo!!



EBBC Practice Sessions

Practice sessions are scheduled on the 2nd through the 5th Tuesday of each month from 7:00-8:30 pm at Mountain Mike's Pizza, 30 Golf Club Road in Pleasant Hill.

There will be **NO** Practice on December 23, 30 or January 6 due to the busy holidays.

Military Songs

by Paul Mack



Veterans' Day is held annually on November 11. The Banjo Club honors the military veterans by performing the five service songs. Here is some information on each branch.

Marines' Hymn

The music originates from an 1867 work by Jacques Offenbach. It is the oldest official song in the U.S. Armed Forces. The line "to the shores of Tripoli" refers to an 1805 battle led by the Marines in Derna, Cyrenacia which is now Libya.

Semper Paratus

Semper Paratus, "Always Ready," is the official song of the Coast Guard, responsible for protecting the ports and waterways. It was composed by Captain Francis Saltus Van Boskenck in 1927. The version we sing is the song's chorus.

The Army Song

The full title is "The Army Goes Rolling Along." The original version was written in 1906 by Edmund Gruber and called "The Caissons Go Rolling Along." A caisson is a two wheeled cart designed to carry artillery ammunition.

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The Air Force Song

Music and lyrics by Robert MacArthur Crawford.

A talented musician, he learned to fly airplanes and flew himself to his concert appearances. The Army Air Corp needed an official song and a contest was created. Crawford entered and his song was chosen. In 1947, when the Air Force became a separate service, it was retitled to "The U.S. Air Force."

Anchors Aweigh

Composed in 1906 by Charles A. Zimmerman with lyrics by Alfred Hart Miles. Miles used the term "Anchors Aweigh" signifying that a ship's voyage is beginning as the anchor is being hoisted. Our version was revised in 1926 by George D. Lottman.

Mary Poppins Medley

From Karen Hefter

A new video by the International Banjo Orchestra (IBO) is now available and you will recognize several players from the East Bay Banjo Club. Check out the link and enjoy their latest.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jzjb3eVYmi0&authuser=0>



New Tenor Banjo Cases

From Karen Hefter

I have a couple of B&D Silver Bell tenor banjos that are nearly 100 years old and they are still in their original cases. I had a case fail recently and nearly lost a banjo. It's time to replace a case.

There are a number of 5-string/plectrum banjo cases on the market, but new tenor cases are hard to find. Years ago, I had one custom made for one of my banjos and it was huge, heavy, and I never liked it. (I was happy to sell both the banjo and the case). This time around, I found Crossrock cases. Their website lists cases for a variety of banjos...except tenors with resonators. However, they recently developed a tenor case in conjunction with an Irish tenor banjo manufacturer and the case isn't on the website yet. They are not inexpensive, but they are moderately priced when compared to some of the high end cases. I bought one and it fits my banjos, though it is a bit heavier and bulkier than the original cases, and lighter and less bulky than the TKL cases, which are the only other tenor cases I've come across. Plus they come in colors!

The link is for one of the 5-string versions - you need to email about the tenor cases.

<https://crossrockcase.com/product/crf2023bj/>

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Playouts for your Calendar

Thanksgiving/Christmas break - nothing for the calendar until the new year.

Club Member Handbook

As a Club Member, you probably have an old paper copy of the EBBC Member Handbook tucked away in a file someplace. The Handbook has been updated with a copy now posted on the Club website (www.eastbaybanjo.org) under the "Club Info" tab. The Handbook is filled with information about the club ... take a look!

Club Leadership 2025

President	Chris Doan
Vice President	Bob Malucelli
Secretary	Diane Malucelli
Membership	Ardi Jarrett
Treasurer & Music Director...	Rich Combs
Event Coordinator	Paul Mack
Digital Librarian	Karen Heffer
Communication Coord	Sheila Welt
Webmaster	Bud Pearce

