



THE COMMUNICATOR
JUNE 2006

Contra Costa Communications Club, Inc
An ARRL Affiliated Repeater Group
Dedicated to Service



General Meeting Minutes 4-9-06

Meeting was called to order at 8 a.m. by our President Ed Caine. Introductions were made around the room.

The previous minutes were approved as published in The Communicator.

Treasurers Report: CD: \$3,531.07

Savings: \$1,746.32:

Checking: \$2,240.84.

Repeater Fund: \$43.00.

Technical Report: The gentlemen are waiting for the rain to stop before they can get to the repeater to make an assessment of what needs to be done.

Editors Report: Please send your favorite food recipes to the editor for publication. We are going to start printing recipes in The Communicator each month. We would love to hear from all of you.

Membership Report: Our membership roster will probably be available for our June meeting, since we will not have a meeting in May. As some of you may already know, Bakers Square has closed in Concord. The restaurant where our Christmas parties have been held for several years in the past. However, this year, thanks to Barbara, KD6OKJ, has found a new place and has already reserved our Christmas party. We will be having our Christmas party at Marie Calendars in Concord. More information will be coming.

220 net: Ed Caine reports there are 10 - 12 people checking in on Tuesday nights.

Unfinished business: Please be sure to add your tip to your breakfast bill whether paying by cash or credit card. Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 a.m.

World Radio: Meredith Lee, wife of Lloyd W6DLT.

Free Breakfast: Don Spurlock, WB6BMW.

Progressive Raffle: Lester Haynes, KD6HJA, who was not present. The next raffle will be held in June for \$20.

Submitted by: Burgie Jones KE6MSF

Board Meeting 4-9-06

The board meeting was called to order by our President Ed Caine.

Those present were: Ed Caine, KA6OFR Natalie Mealer, WA6QVM Robby Robinson, N6MNL Don Hamma, KE6ZFP Victoria Thompson, KE6FSU Burgie Jones KE6MSF

There was nothing new to report.

Submitted by: Burgie Jones KE6MSF

Remember your recipes are needed for the next newsletter, Send your recipes to Victoria by e-mail, or hard copies can be sent to the club address or to Victoria at P.O. Box 1365, Martinez, CA 94553-7365.

Thank you, your Editor KE6FSU

SUNSHINE OPPORTUNITIES

John, WD6GGC

Roland, WA6NVX

Gabe, WA6KQB

Hello Everyone!!!!

I hope you are all doing well.

If you know of someone who we can add to the Sunshine

Committee, please let me

know. I don't want to leave

anyone out. You can email

me @

burgie0001@yahoo.com

Thank you and good health to all!!!!

NOTE RE: JULY ISSUE

There may a delay in the Snail Mail Newsletter for July. I

haven't worked out an alter-

native yet. If anyone uses

Publisher and could help with

copying and mailing the July

paper addition please contact

me. Victoria, KE6FSU

Contra Costa Communications Club, Inc publishes the Communicator monthly for the benefit of club members. Editor – Victoria, KE6FSU 510-724-4966 or KE6FSU@sbcglobal.net

Deadline for July 2006 issue:

2006 CONTRA COSTA COMMUNICATIONS CLUB, INC.

DAILY AND WEEKLY NETS

DAYS	NET CONTROLLER	REPEATER/NET NAME/TIME
MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY	DAN – KF6HQO (Backup CHET – WA6PAC) BURGIE-KE6MSF, JAN-N6UYE [ROTATE] BOB-W6WTJ GARY – KG6RJA BOB – AB4AL ALTERNATE STAN-KB6SEI	145.110 OVER-THE-HILL 7:10 AM
WEEKLY - TUESDAY	ED-KA6OFR ALTERNATE ROBBY - N6MNL	224.300 QRM NET 7:30 PM
WEEKLY – WEDNESDAY		
WEEKLY - THURSDAY	ROTATE	145.110 WEST CONTRA COSTA CTY ARES/RACES 6:45 PM
WEEKLY - THURSDAY	ROTATE THURSDAY NIGHTS IN ORDER ROBBY-N6MNL, ANDREW-KM6VT, ALTERNATE: FRED-KC6VLL, BARBARA-KD6OKJ BOB – AB4AL, DAN – KF6HQO	145.110 CLUB NET 7:30 PM
WEEKLY - THURSDAY	BOB – AB4AL	145.110 TECHNICAL NET 8:00 PM
WEEKLY – SATURDAY & SUNDAY	JOE LEE, W6DOB	145.110 ARRL TRAFFIC NET 7:30 PM

Club Officers FOR 2006

President: Ed Caine, KA6OFR (2007) 707-996-0962
 V. Pres: Don Hamma, KE6ZFP (2006) 510-526-6823
 Secretary: Burgie Jones KE6MSF (2006) 510-964-1476
 Treasurer: V. Thompson, KE6FSU (2008) 510-724-4966
 Trustee: Robby Robinson, N6MNL (2014) 510-222-4990
 Director: Natalie Mealer, WA6QVM (2008) 209-365-9942
 Director: Robert Gregory, AB4AL (2007) 707-552-1403

Emergency Coordinator ARES/RACES West County -
 Stephen Adams-KF6WNH 510-236-9770

Repeater Controller's
 [Call & Report any Problems/Concerns]
 Robby.....N6MNL.....510-222-4990
 Ed.....KA6OFR.....707-996-0962
 Red.....N6UMG.....510-223-6269
 Ken.....KA6TUX.....510-758-8681
 Gabe.....WA6KQB.....510-222-1523
 Howard...KE6PTT.....925-798-7208
 Eric.....KE6YNI.....510-741-1917
 Bob..... AB4AL..... 707-552-1403

Committee Chairperson

Membership:
 Barbara Grazer, KD6OKJ 510-222-4990
 Technical:
 Robert Gregory, AB4AL 707-552-1403
 Assist. Technical:
 Howard Burk, KE6PTT 925-798-7208
 Packet:
 Robby Robinson, N6MNL 510-222-4990
 NARCC:
 Robby Robinson, N6MNL 510-222-4990
 Picnic:
 Fred Neiman, KC6VLL 510-223-1748
 Christmas:
 Barbara Grazer, KD6OKJ 510-222-4990

TECHNICAL REPORT

This past winter there has been a lot of problems with communications in the VH and UHF bands. These problems were manifest in loss of communications between out-stations and the repeater. At any one time, various out-stations suffered loss of communication, but not all stations did.

The reason for this is a result of the refracting of the radio wave within the atmosphere. In the VHF and UHF region and for the purpose of repeater operation signals are not affected by the ionosphere, but are greatly affected by moisture and temperature in the atmosphere.

Along the signal path from your transceiver to the repeater various layers of atmospheric disturbances act upon the signal. The greater the moisture content within the layer, the greater the bending of the signal path. The path can be bent so greatly it simply misses the repeater.

It was interesting to note that during some of the worst conditions, I observed signals tumbling in polarity, rotating from vertical to horizontal several times within a minute.

FM communications is almost always of the vertical polarity. A rotation to horizontal in relation to the vertical polarity of the repeater causes an automatic huge loss of 20db!

This summer we will be upgrading the equipment. This upgrade will not solve any problems concerning atmospheric. It is just not possible to construct a system that can reach left, right or up or down to "catch" you bent signal that missed by miles. The bending is not your fault, nor is it the fault of the repeater.

The upgrades are to keep the equipment working within current communications standards.

Before any frills can be added, it is the responsibility of the repeater owner to keep the systems fit for service. Then, within the budget more bells and whistles can added.

A problem we are having is access to the site. This is due to the geological instability of the region. Though we have had no rain for a few weeks, the region has had several slides. You have seen reports of slides in Pinole on the news. Consideration for the safety of our technical people has delayed upgrades that are waiting to be implemented.

Words from President ED—All members: please try to each get a new member this year. Only \$25 for working people, \$15 for retirees. We need more members to properly support our 3 repeaters for all to use. This is a MEMBER SUPPORTED SYSTEM. Edward Eliot Caine, President

Lemon Bread (2 loaves)

2 cups sugar

1 cup butter or margarine

4 eggs, separated

3 1/4 cups unsifted flour

1 tsp. Salt

2 tsp baking powder

1 1/4 cups milk

1 cup chopped nuts

Grated peel of 2 lemons

Juice of 2 lemons

1/2 sugar

Cream sugar and shortening, add beaten yolks, add flour, salt, baking powder alternately with milk.

Add nuts and lemon peel.

Fold in stiffly beaten egg whites.

Bake in greased loaf pans at 350° for 50 to 60 minutes.

As soon as bread has come from the oven, pour lemon juice mixed with the 1/2 cup of sugar over bread.

Leave in pans 1 hour.

Can be frozen.

Snippets from the ARRL - Letters, Pacific Division, and East Bay Section.

ARRL "HELLO" CAMPAIGN VIDEO NOW AVAILABLE

A 30-second video public service announcement (PSA) to promote the ARRL's "Hello" campaign--"Celebrating 100 Years of Voice over Radio Worldwide"--has been released. A radio spot has been available since March. Hello's architect, ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, says the spot is available on disk in either DVD format--which plays on standard players--or in two larger broadcast-quality DV formats.

"We want to celebrate 100 years of people talking over the radio but not just look backward," he said. "In just 30 seconds, this video takes us on a rollercoaster through time and electronics, into today, when we find friendly people still ready to say 'Hello' all over the world."

A low-resolution version is viewable on the ARRL Public Relations Web Page

<http://www.arrl.org/pio/#pubserviceannouncements> (scroll down to "Video Files"). A special high-definition television (HDTV) version is available if needed. Because copies are individually duplicated depending on the needs of the station and because of the costs of the disks, Pitts asks that "at least initially" requests be voluntarily limited to those who have contacts with a cable, TV or similar broadcast outlet and can get them shown to the public.

To request a disk, e-mail the Hello campaign hello@arrl.org your name, mailing address, the station or location in which you will be placing The video and the video format you

need (DVD, DV or uncompressed-DV).

Hello campaign brochures, bumper stickers pins and other paraphernalia also are available. There's more campaign information on the "Hello" Web site <http://www.hello-radio.org/>.

DXCC Desk approves operation for DXCC credit

The ARRL DXCC Desk has approved this operation for DXCC credit: TT8PK, Chad, March 15 to May 27, 2004, and December 27, 2005, to October 3, 2006. For more information, visit the DXCC Web page . "DXCC Frequently Asked Questions" can answer most questions about the DXCC program. ARRL DX bulletins are available on the W1AW DX Bulletins page <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/dx/>.

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION APPROVES BPL REGULATIONS

Saying that broadband over power line (BPL) will bring Internet access to "underserved communities," the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has adopted regulatory guidelines for electric utilities and companies that wish to develop BPL projects in that state. While the Commission's BPL guidelines include a requirement to maintain the safety and reliability of the electric distribution system, the state agency has no jurisdiction over radio frequency interference, which received no mention in the PUC's news release. ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, points out that the utility industry still must meet another tier of federal regulations that govern permitted BPL signal levels and interfer-

ence issues. (*There is more to this article see ARRL letter dated April; 26. 2006*)

DXCC Desk approves operations for DXCC credit

The ARRL DXCC Desk has approved these operations for DXCC credit: 4W6AAB – Timor-Leste, current operation effective May 22, 2006; ZV0F – Fernando de Noronha, operation March 30-April 4, 2006; 6O0M – Somalia, operation from April 7-24, 2006; S01R – Western Sahara, operation April 11-21, 2006; YI9NS – Iraq, operation January 5-March 28, 2006; YI9HU – Iraq, operation May 18-June 5, 2005; HN0Z – Iraq, operation March 27-28 and May 29-30, 2004; A6/OD5TX – United Arab Emirates, operation October 5-November 5, 2005; TT8WL – Chad, November 19, 1996-March 8, 1997; J5DOT Guinea-Bissau, operation April 25-May 5, 2006. For more information, visit the DXCC Web page.

SOME UP COMING EVENTS

PACIFICON 2006 PACIFICON 2006 will be on October 13, 14, and 15. - At the [San Ramon Marriott - 2600 Bishop Drive San Ramon, CA 94583](http://www.pacificon.org) PACIFICON is the ARRL's Pacific Division convention. ! The Swapmeet has been moved to Sunday morning to help ease the parking situation. Also planning to have many more forums and activities throughout the weekend. For more info go to: <http://www.pacificon.org>

FIELD DAY—June 24 and 25.

Next Meeting July 9

1 2 STORE BUYING POWER



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(Near Washington D.C.)
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Steve, N4SR, Mgr.
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SALEM, NH

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- AF-DSP • Plug and Play Filters - No Soldering
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IC-756 PRO III All mode Transceiver

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- 32 bit IF DSP • SSB/CW Synchronous tuning
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- Selectable IF filter shapes for SSB & CW
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- Advanced CW functions
- 101 alphanumeric memories

The Ultimate Radio!

ALINCO



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- 5 Watt out
- 40 memories
- Alphanumeric display
- CTCSS + DCS built in
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DR-135TP 2M mobile

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- 100 memos • Built-in TNC 1200 & 9600 Baud
- Front Panel GPS in • Rear DB-9 port
- CTCSS/DCS Encode/Decode built in

Low Pricing!



THE COMMUNICATOR
JUNE 2006

Contra
Costa
Communications
Club Inc.

Repeater ID: WD6EZC 145.110, 224.300, 444.275 PL 82.5
Simplex 146.505
Packet "Node" CC4CC 145.05 Packet "Mail Box" WD6EZC -1
Home Page: [http:// www.khmuprog.com/CCCC/](http://www.khmuprog.com/CCCC/)
Club Address:
CCCC,Inc. P.O. Box 20661, El Sobrante, CA 94820-0661

A NON-PROFIT CLUB DEDICATED TO

Contra Costa communications Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 20661
El Sobrante, CA 94820-0661

POSTMASTER: ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Next Meeting: June 11

Denny's on the corner of San Pablo Ave. and Potrero Ave in El Cerrito, CA 94530

Breakfast at 7:15 a.m. Club meeting at 8:00 a.m. Board meeting at 8:45