

# THE COMMUNICATOR

November 2018

**CAST YOUR BALLOT  
ON NOVEMBER 6**



**Every  
Vote  
Counts**



**Contra  
Costa  
Communications  
Club, Inc.**

Repeater ID: WA6KQB 145.110, 224.300, 444.275 PL 82.5  
Simplex 146.505

Packet "Node" CC4CC 145.05 Packet "Mail Box"  
WA6KQB-1 Home Page: <http://www.wa6kqb.org>

Club Address: CCCC, Inc.

P.O. Box 20661,

El Sobrante, CA 94820-0661

***A NON-PROFIT CLUB DEDICATED TO SERVICE***



Contra Costa Communications Club, Inc.

P.O. Box 20661

El Sobrante, CA 94820-0661

**POSTMASTER: ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

**Next Meeting:** Sunday November 11 at the usual place: 7a.m. at Denny's  
11334 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito. Arrival, sit down, coffee, talk, etc.  
Breakfast then the monthly meeting.



*The Communicator*  
*November 2018*

**Mark your Calendars!**

**CCCC & EBARC Annual Christmas Party**

Our annual Christmas party will be held on Saturday, December 8 at Denny's in El Cerrito. The same Denny's that we hold our CCCC meetings. The party will be from 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. We can order our meals from the regular menu and pay as we leave. The same way we do at our monthly meetings.

Our ham radio Santa will be there giving gifts as our ticket numbers are called.

Our seating in the banquet room is limited to **35** people. Please RSVP @ [burgie0001@yahoo.com](mailto:burgie0001@yahoo.com) or you can call and leave a message @ 510-964-1476 and let me know how many will be in your party. We will not be able to take more than **35** people so please RSVP ASAP.

Sincerely,  
Burgie Jones, KE6MSF

**PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

Hello everyone, As another year winds down I am winding up for the new year. Here are some of the items on the "to do" list. I want to begin a twice weekly, daytime net for 4C's members and others that happens

Contra Costa Communications  
Club, Inc.

An ARRL Affiliated Repeater Group  
Dedicated to Service



around the Noon hour. Not an emcomm net, just a member net to keep people connected with their radios. Congratulations to the latest CERT grads including our own, **W6BBQ**, Audrey. It's a wealth of information for anyone wishing to increase their disaster preparedness. I am creating a communication plan for emergencies that includes use of the 4C's repeaters. We are the only repeaters in West Contra Costa County and may be pressed into service during an incident. I will be testing around WCCC in the coming months. I hope you have made your reservations for the annual holiday party at Denny's in El Cerrito. If not, get an email or call to Burgie. Time to check antenna and other outdoor connections before the weather gets too inclement for doing so. Our VP, Wing Lok has become an Extra Class. Good going, Wing. Work continues on the 220 repeater. Peter and Carol are moved to Santa Rosa. I'm still trying to make Echolink work in my shack. I'm still trying to get a group of digital trained hams for emcomm. Time will fall backward in a week or two. The holidays will be upon us. Two weeks ago I saw Christmas lights and decorations next to the Halloween decorations. Oh, and have a Happy Thanksgiving.

73, dj, **KJ6dj**

2018 CONTRA COSTA COMMUNICATIONS CLUB, INC. DAILY AND WEEKLY NETS		
DAYS	NET CONTROLLER	REPEATER/NET NAME//TIME
MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY	<b>CAROL</b> KK6OLL <b>JAN</b> AC5RB <b>GARY</b> KG6RJA <b>BOB</b> W6WTJ <b>ALVIN</b> KK6UQX	145.110 OVER-THE-HILL NET 7:10 AM
WEEKLY: MONDAY <i>By arrangement</i>	<b>DJ KJ6DJ</b> – Contact DJ for NET confirmation	444.275 DIGITAL NET 7:00 P.M. <b>FLDIGI NET BY ARRANGEMENT</b>
WEEKLY:TUESDAY	NET CONTROL ROTATES	224.300 OPEN NET 7:30 PM
WEEKLY - THURSDAY	MEMBERS ROTATE	145.110 WEST CONTRA COSTA COUNTY EMCOMM 6:45pm
WEEKLY - THURSDAY	First week: <b>ROBBY</b> N6MNL Second week: Third Week: <b>JAN</b> AC5RB Fourth week: <b>JEFF</b> KJ6RHF Fifth week:	145.110 CLUB NET 7:30 PM

**4C's Website:** <http://wa6kqb.org>

***Club Officers For 2018***

**President:** DJ Djovida, **KJ6DJ** (2018) 1 510-237-4342  
**V. Pres:** Wing Lok, **KJ6YDF** (2019) 1 510-508-8810  
**Secretary:** Jan Kuhl, **AC5RB** (2019) 1-510-846-3829  
**Treasurer:** Audrey Nieman, **W6BBQ** (2018)  
 1-510-682-7938 Cell  
**Director:** Robby Robinson, **N6MNL** (2018)  
 1-510-222-4990  
**Director:** Burgie Jones, **KE6MSF** (2018)  
 1-510-964-1476  
**Trustee:** Roger Nelums, **KE6SZG** (2018)  
 1-510-964-1476  
**EMCOMM Contra Costa County:**  
 Kathy Branstetter **K6TZE**  
 1-415 215 6658 Cell.

**Committee Chairs**

**MEMBERSHIP:** Audrey Nieman, **W6BBQ**  
 1-510-682-7938 Cell WA6KQB@comcast.net

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:**  
 Alan Alsing (Chair), **KJ6JIS**  
 1-510-334-9933  
 Roger Nelums, **KE6SZG**  
 1-510-964-1476

**PACKET:** packet node CC4CC 145.05  
**Mail Box:** WA6KQB-1  
 Roger Nelums, (Chair) **KE6SZG**  
 1-510-964-1476

**NARCC:** Roger Nelums, **KE6SZG**  
 1-510-964-1476

**PICNIC:** Roger Nelums, **KE6SZG**  
 1-510-964-1476

**CHRISTMAS:** Burgie Jones, **KE6MSF**  
 1-510-964-1476

**NEWSLETTER:** P. Michael Nicholson, **K6CUG**  
**Newsletter submissions or corrections always welcome. Send to <K6CUG@arrl.net>**

**Join us for the OGERs Lunch:**

First Wednesday of every month

11:00a.m. Sukie's Country Kitchen  
 2400 El Portal Dr., San Pablo



## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

**November 2018**

Congratulations to Wing Lok **KJ6YDE** on attaining Extra Class. I just completed CERT training and recommend this class to everyone. It really has helped me to prepare for any disaster. The classes are taught in Richmond, San Pablo, El Cerrito and in other communities. DJ, **KJ6DJ**; Jeff Miller, **KJ6RHF**; and Wing Lok, **KJ6YDE** are all very knowledgeable about CERT training if you want more information.

It's almost time for dues to be paid for 2019. It's time for all the holiday festivities and then it'll be a New Year before you know it.

The FCC has approved of my call sign change to Fred's call sign, **W6BBQ**. I feel honored to use his sign now to remind me of his dedication to service through Ham Radio.

Audrey Nieman, **W6BBQ** former **KF6MVH**  
Membership Chairman

### **CCCC Corrected Minutes**

Correction/addition from August minutes. First part accidentally omitted.

The meeting was brought to order at 8:08 by President DJ, **KJ6DJ**. There were 11 present. Introductions were made around. We welcomed guest Joe Fisher **K5EJL** to the meeting. It was moved by Audrey **KF6MVH** (now **W6BBQ**) and seconded by Jay **KJ6WSS** to accept the July minutes as posted in the communicator.

October minutes

**October minutes**

The meeting was brought to order at 8:00 by President DJ, **KJ6DJ**. There were 12 present. Introductions were made around. DJ asked for moments of silence for two of our SK members: Jim **KK6NDG** and Sandy **KK6MPL**. There were several members that attended Jim's memorial and Sandy's memorial will be the day after Thanksgiving.

The minutes were approved with the addition of the first paragraph that will be in the next communicator.

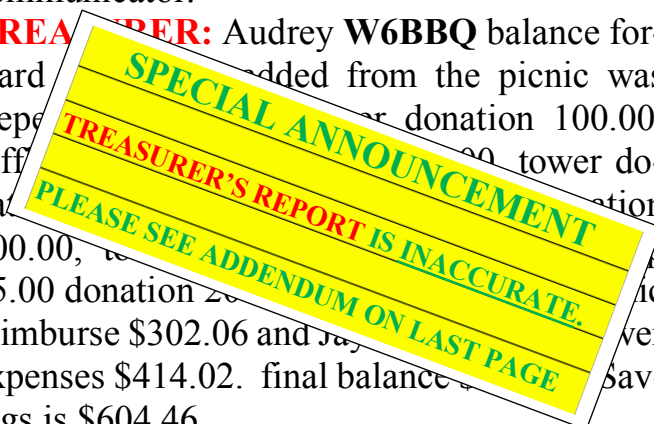
**TREASURER:** Audrey **W6BBQ** balance forwarded from the picnic was \$100.00, donation 100.00, raffish tower donation 100.00, 15.00 donation to reimburse \$302.06 and Jay's expenses \$414.02. final balance savings is \$604.46.

**MEMBERSHIP:** New member Howdy Goudey **KK6BEE**. Welcome.

NET CONTROLSs need more participants.

**OLD BUSINESS** Christmas party will be at Denny's where we usually meet. There is room for 35, so far 20 signed up. There will be another notice in the bulletin, please let Burgie **KE6MSF** know. It will be held second Saturday of December (12/8) 11:30-2:30.

DJ thanked those that worked on the tower. Right now the 220 is down and the 440 needs work. There are more ongoing projects that need to be done. Roger **KE6SZG** said the Trustees information needed to be updated, That will be looked into. There is also some interference coming through our 440 repeater, the Monterey station has a different PL than ours. Jay **KJ6WSS** has put together a video on the re-installation of our tower on our Website.





## NEW BUSINESS

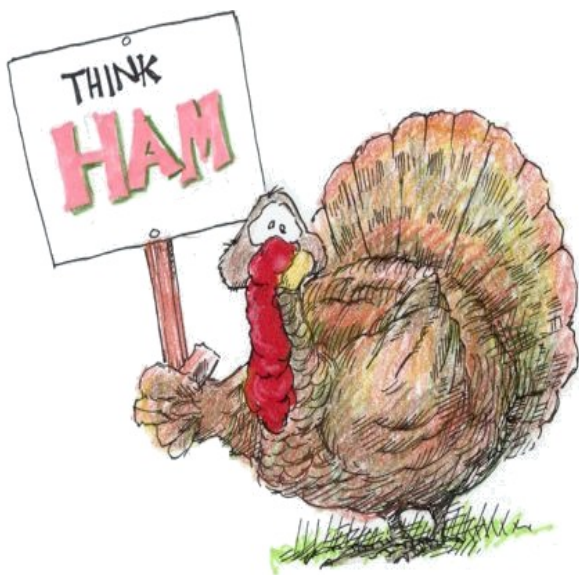
DJ mentioned that we have 65 members, but our Sunday attendance much lower. Same as our nets. We are Service Communications Club and maybe we should set up some sort of training at a meeting. A questionnaire was discussed asking about time, place, and programs. It was suggested that it be mailed out with return postage envelope. What kind of training, commitment, ARRL articles, exercise training, CARO-ECHO and EMMCOM keep up the training, be ready for emergency. We are the only repeater in West County: Perhaps we should set up a training net to get more people involved. Routines are all set up East County. Here in West County, the Richmond CERTS use 146.145 simplex. Maybe reach out to El Cerrito? There is no communication plan at Richmond City Hall.

Meeting adjourned 8:55

Repeater fund: \$39. Free breakfast: DJ **KJ6DJ**. Club drawing: **W6EZY** Farrell Hammel was not in attendance so next month's drawing is \$15.00.

Respectfully submitted

Jan Kuhl **AC5RB** secretary



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF SACRAMENTO ARRL

## The following article is part of an article from the Arizona Repeater Association and is something the Club may want to consider

### ARA Repeater Conduct and Policies

We tend to assume that everyone knows the generally accepted rules. But, activities that may be an irritation or even a flagrant violation to one person might not be an issue at all to another. Some rules are specific to ARA repeaters, and as such can be enforced by the FCC, per part 97. We understand that everyone slips once in a very great while, no matter how hard they try. But, we expect all users of ARA repeaters to do their very best to follow these few simple and obvious rules of repeater conduct.

#### 1. Always identify according to the regulations.

Correct operating procedure is a distinct characteristic of Amateur Radio. It's important that you convey to the public and to new hams the image that Amateur Radio operators really know what they are doing. A friendly style is great, but takes pains to operate professionally. Don't become sloppy. Amateur Radio regulations are largely self-enforced and we all need to work together towards these goals.

#### 2. Do not engage in political soap boxing.

Soapboxing, which goes hand-in-hand with overly long conversations, is when people carry on a conversation on the repeater that is a thinly disguised broadcast. The subject is generally to "put down" an institution, group, or an individual for as wide as possible an audience. This is very objectionable to other repeater users and listeners.

Using any repeaters as a platform for soap boxing is unacceptable. Conversations on the repeater should be friendly ones. Do not make them negative commentaries on institutions, groups, or people. Avoid discussions on inappropriate subjects including politics, sex and religion! Don't use the repeaters to "put people down." Amateur Radio is not a broadcast medium – 97.113(5)(b). Are we talking about censorship? No, not exactly. A person may have the right to stand on the street and say bad things about someone. They don't have the same right when they are a guest in that person's house. When using the repeaters, you are a guest operator of that station. No one has any right to use the repeaters in ways that the repeater trustee feels are objectionable.

### **3. Do not routinely circumvent the time-out timer.**

The repeater's time-out timer serves two purposes. The first purpose is to satisfy regulation 97.213(b) requiring us to limit repeater transmissions to a maximum of three minutes under automatic control. Like many repeater owners, we also use the time-out timer as a way to encourage users to limit the length of individual transmissions. This gives everyone a chance to speak. Under normal conditions, it is rude to get around the time-out timer by momentarily dropping carrier to reset the timer or saying "Stand by, let me reset" and continuing. Always remember there may be an emergency, someone may need the repeater. Please listen for the beep, wait a few seconds then continue! Resetting the time-out timer should only be done as absolutely required and infrequently. Learn to speak concisely and limit the length of your individual transmissions.

### **4. Always yield the frequency to a breaking station**

This applies to calling or breaking stations you never know if they have an emergency or not.

### **5. Our repeater is "G-Rated" 24 hours a day.**

You never know who may be listening. Even late at night, there are generally people listening to the repeater, including non-hams. This is important to understand for several reasons. Our repeaters serve many purposes. One of the most important is the exposure it gives the hobby to the community. Any scanner can be used to listen to our repeaters. That's good – It's actually the most visible aspect of our clubs. It's one of our most effective forms of publicity. We want non-hams to know that Amateur Radio is an interesting hobby and a good group of people to get to know - something clean and educational - something they would want their kids to get involved in. Kids may or may not listen late at night, but their parents do. Let's all do our part to give Amateur Radio a positive image. We want any ham that listens to us to think of us as good operators, not idiots. Any time we talk on the repeater, we are ambassadors for the hobby. Have you ever noticed how you like to listen to some repeaters, but sometimes you find a repeater that makes you roll your eyes and twist the knob? We lose good people because of what they hear on our repeaters.

Our rule is simple: **absolutely no obscene, indecent or profane language or meaning at any time.**

## **6. Dealing with interference.**

DO NOT ACKNOWLEDGE INTERFERENCE OR THE INTERFERER. Do not talk to him or about him. If he is unlicensed, talking to him is against the law. If possible continue your QSO as if the interference didn't exist. If that is not possible, move to another freq or tell the other person you've got things to do and will contact him/her later. Do NOT let the interferer know you have even noticed him. If his audience goes away, so will he. Please refer to **Dealing with Interference** for more information and suggestions.

## **7. No rebroadcasting of material, recorded or direct over the repeaters.**

You cannot record then replay any material, even ham conversations over the repeater without permission from all parties involved including the repeater owner. The exception to this is the "Newline" Ham Radio news broadcast, but even that needs repeater owner approval.

## **8. No crossband or remote base connections without prior permission from the repeater owner.**

This rule insures the system will not be compromised by connections we have no way to control. Such connections can cause massive interference, even though it seems it is working good.

## **9. What gives the trustee the right to tell someone how to operate?**

All repeaters have rules. These rules often go beyond Part 97. And, users who refuse to comply with the repeater's rules can be told to stop using the repeater. This is entirely at the judgment of the repeater trustees. Rule 97.205(e) says, "...Limiting the use of a repeater to only certain user stations is permissible." There are no qualifications – ifs, ands, or buts – to this rule. This isn't just the right to close a repeater. In fact, the ARRL says, "...a repeater does not have to be listed as being "closed" in The ARRL Repeater Directory in order to have a limited access." (Source: The ARRL's FCC Rule Book) The terms "open" and "closed" don't appear in the regulations at all! Listing a repeater as "open" means you don't have to be a member in order to use it, but, you still must follow the rules of the repeater owner. The FCC supports a trustee's right to control the use of their repeaters...

...The ARRL says it clearest of all. "A repeater is not a public utility - you don't have a "right" to use it! When you are using someone else's repeater you are, in effect, a visitor in the owner's station. So, you should conduct yourself accordingly. If you use that station in a manner that the owner finds objectionable, that person has every right to revoke your privilege of using it!" (Source: The ARRL's FCC Rule Book)

To use our repeater you must follow our rules. There are repeaters with more lenient rules than ours are and some which are much more restrictive. Beyond the FCC minimum requirements, it's up to each repeater owner to set their own operating rules. A repeater user needs to try to fit in. If the rules for any repeaters are uncomfortable for you and do not suit your personal needs or style, we encourage you to try other repeaters or even try talking on simplex. We wish for everyone willing to abide by these simple rules to freely use our repeater. We welcome you and hope you have many enjoyable conversations on the repeaters.

Complete article at: <http://www.w7ara.org/z/Conduct.aspx>

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**KENWOOD**



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*HF/50MHz Transceiver*



**TM-D710G**  
*2M/440 Dualband*



**TM-V71A**  
*2M/440 DualBand*



**TM-281A**  
*2 Mtr Mobile*



**TH-D74A**  
*2M/220/440 HT*

**YAESU**  
*The radio*



**FT-991A**  
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## **DISASTER PREPAREDNESS**

**Editorial:** I want to take a moment to mention disasters...of ANY kind. Some of them will require us to “shelter in place” and others may require us to evacuate hearth and home. We only need to look at the victims of the recent fires, floods, hurricanes, tornados, plus we haven’t had a major Earthquake in almost 30 years.

CERT training, RACES/ARES/Salvation Army/Red Cross volunteer work will not only be needed, but it’s in our realm of operations. I spoke with a Red Cross official who told me that not only will we be needed (and possibly not radio related) but if we are an active volunteer at an evacuation center...Red Cross, at least, will feed, shelter, and provide for us. Hmmm, something to consider. Here’s a link to the Red Cross disaster checklist from their Denver “Mile High” Chapter:

[https://www.redcross.org/content/dam/redcross/atg/Chapters/Division\\_1\\_-\\_Media/Denver/Denver\\_-\\_PDFs/EmergencyPreparednessChecklist.pdf](https://www.redcross.org/content/dam/redcross/atg/Chapters/Division_1_-_Media/Denver/Denver_-_PDFs/EmergencyPreparednessChecklist.pdf)

You also need to be prepared with the FEMA courses (with documentation) and have your Radio “Go-Bag” set-up with a copy of your HAM radio license, plus your own personal “Go-Bag.” If you haven’t already, it’s time to collect ALL your important paperwork and extras for a “shelter-in-place” or evacuation scenario.

**The following is part of an article from AARP:**

<https://www.aarp.org/health/healthy-living/info-2017/packing-your-emergency-preparedness-kit-fd.html>

“Recent natural catastrophes, from **hurricanes** to western wildfires, are a fresh reminder that disaster can strike at any time. And no area of the country is immune, when you factor in the threat of tornadoes, earthquakes and human disasters like toxic spills. While the circumstances may differ, there’s one tip that every person needs to take from all these situations: how to pack a “go bag.”

A go bag is a packed case that you grab on your way out the door, and that will help keep you safe and comfortable in the coming hours and days. Stopping to hunt for your medications or other important needs can cost you critical seconds in an evacuation. Pack a separate go bag for yourself and every member of your household, and keep them stored in the same location.

I’ve interviewed hundreds of disaster victims, and compiled their recommendations below.

### **Basic electronics**

Pack an extra phone charger in case you’re fortunate enough to have electricity, and a portable battery pack in case you’re not. Also stash a long-lasting LED flashlight. Pack a small hand-cranked or battery-operated AM/FM radio (with extra batteries).

## **Personal needs**

While getting ready for a typical day, list every toiletry you use, then buy a **travel-size version** of each. Pack backup eyeglasses, as well as a first-aid kit, baby wipes and a multipurpose tool with a knife and can opener.

## **Clothing**

Pack a few days' worth. Include layers you can add or remove, plus lightweight rain gear and waterproof boots.

## **Your meds**

Pack about three days' worth of each of your **prescriptions**, which should last until you can get to a pharmacy that's open. If you need larger items, such as an oxygen tank, make sure you have a portable version.

## **The perfect bag**

Think small and portable. A backpack is ideal, but a lightweight suitcase with wheels will also do. Just remember, you may literally be running with it.

## **Paperwork**

Fill a zip-top waterproof bag with photocopies of your birth certificate; driver's license; Social Security and Medicare cards; power of attorney and will; any marriage, adoption or naturalization certificates; proof of address; insurance, medical and immunization records; and information about your credit and ATM cards.

## **Food and drink**

Bottled water is essential. Granola or energy bars are great because they are small and filling, and they come in a variety of flavors.

## **Cash**

In addition to enough money for a few days, include small bills and a roll of quarters. If you need to buy something out of a vending machine, you don't want to start asking equally desperate strangers for change."

*Jeff Rossen is NBC News' national investigative correspondent and the author of the new survival and fraud-fighting book [Rossen to the Rescue](#).*

## **My personal thoughts about a few extras to add:**

- Have a notebook & pen/pencil to track any volunteer work and/or as a diary
- All bank routing numbers and your credit cards (or, at least, the numbers) for when the banking system is up and running
- Scan copies of important papers and put on thumb drive as a back-up
- A small solar charger for electronics (HAM radio included)
- A few rolls of Toilet Paper (until you get to a shelter)
- House/car keys & photos of your personal items in their locations at home
- Don't forget items for your pets! Food/Water Dish/ Name of Vet/ Meds/ Vaccination Record/ Pet Carry... Basically everything you need for yourself



4Cs November 2018 Communicator newsletter  
**CORRECTION – CORRECTION -CORRECTION**

**Gremlins in the Kremlin!**

However it happened, the Treasurer's Report is inaccurate in the November 2018 newsletter. Ever vigilant Audrey, **W6BBQ**, informed me this morning of the error. Please disregard the newsletter account and replace it with this report.

K6CUG, editor

October 14, 2018

CHECKING Account

Balance Forward: \$6996.61

Receipts:

8/17 Repeater Fund 26.00; Tower donation 100.00	\$126.00
9/10 Raffles \$260.00	\$260.00
9/10 Silent Auction \$50, Tower donation 100.00	\$150.00
9/10 Picnic receipts 215.00	\$215.00
9/11 Tower donation 100.00	\$100.00
9/22 Tower donation 500.00	\$500.00
9/28 Membership 15.00, Donation 200.00	\$215.00

Disbursements:

9/11 Ck 1589 Audrey Nieman reimburse picnic	\$302.06
9/28 ck 1590 Jay Fenton Tower expenses	\$4147.02

Balance 10/14/18 \$4413.59

**Savings Account:** \$604.46