



Repeater ID: WA6KQB

Frequencies 145.110, 224.300, 444.275 PL 82.5

WA6KQB - Home Page: <http://www.wa6kqb.org>

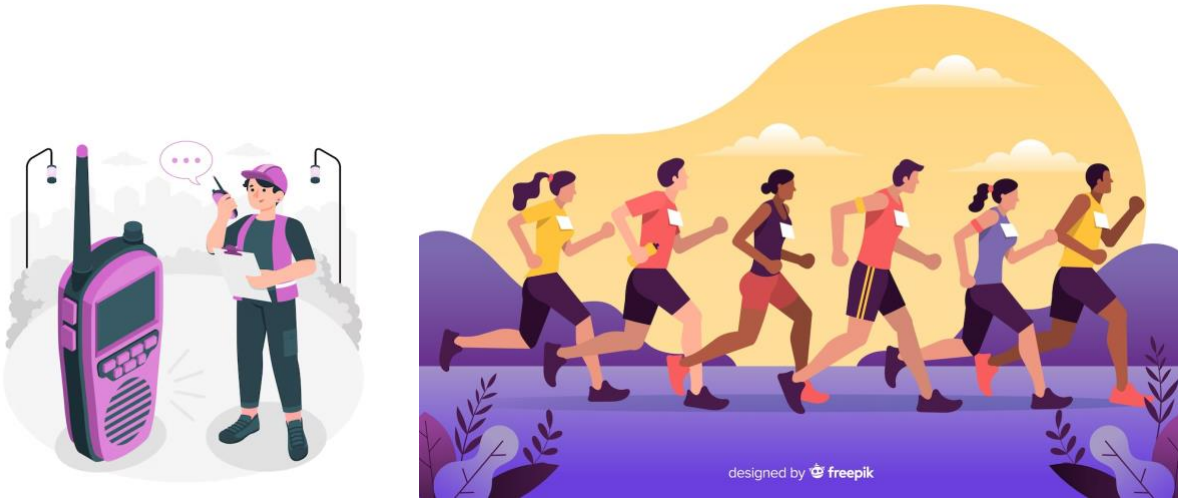
### **Ham Radio in Public Service – Beyond EmComm**

Amateur radio operators get involved in the art and science of radio for a variety of reasons: an interest in electronics, a desire to communicate beyond our immediate circle of friends and family, an interest in emergency communications, or just because it sounds like fun! But there is, of course, another function of ham radio operators: to be of service to the communities in which we live.

One of our primary service goals is to be prepared to serve as an emergency communications resource for the general public and first responders if first line methods such as cellular and landline phones fail. That's why we have our Saturday Em Comm nets, and why some of us participate in events such as the biannual Simulated Emergency Tests (SETs) organized by the KARO ECHO Ham Radio Association.

Another way we can be of service is to provide communications for planned, nonemergency community events, such as marathons, Scouting events, bike rides, or festivals. A typical race or ride or festival covers a large area, with different stops or booths or checkpoints for its participants. Stationing an amateur radio operator at these

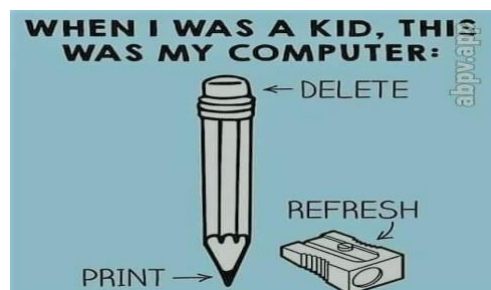
spots can help the event organizers keep track of problems in any specific zone, and allows for a quick dispatch of help from the main hub if first aid or additional supplies are needed.



Not only does this kind of public service build goodwill between the club and the larger community, it also functions as a sort of “free advertising” to encourage interest in the club and ham radio in general.

To be effective in this area of public service, we would need at least a modicum of organization – namely, a member who is willing to serve as the liaison between the club and the organizers of community events, and who could recruit other members to participate in the events. There’s no need to reinvent the wheel: other local clubs that have public service coordinators or committees could be great resources for a CCCC liaison, to help get the position “off the ground.”

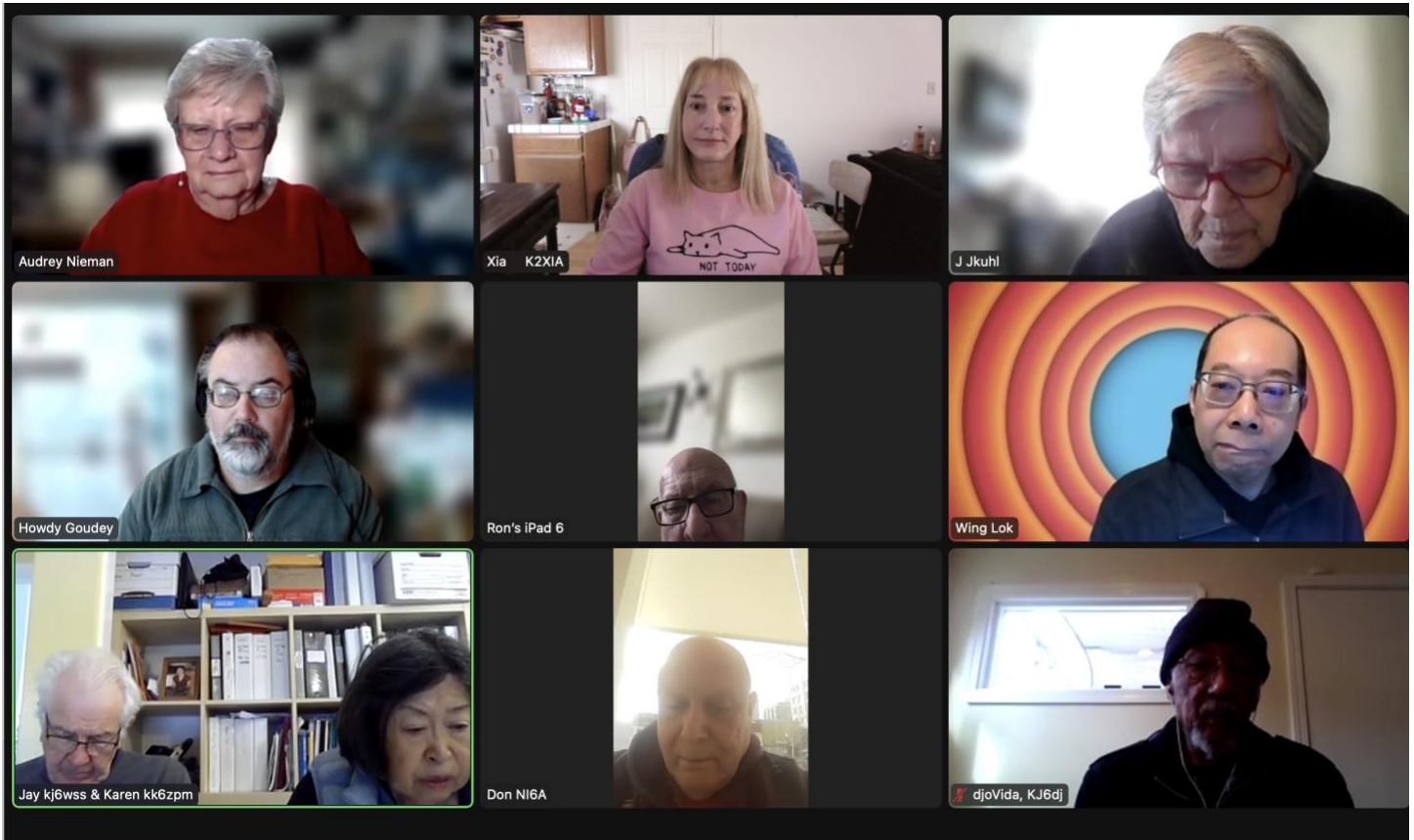
This would be a great opportunity for a new ham, or an experienced ham who is looking for a new challenge! So...are you interested? Reach out to any of the board members (listed at the end of the newsletter) and let us know! Thank you to Don Simon, NI6A, for the idea and context for this article.



## CCCC Monthly Zoom Meeting Minutes, March 10, 2024

Jan, AC5RB, Secretary

The monthly Zoom meeting was brought to order by President Wing K6YDE, at 10:05 AM. Present were Audrey W6BBQ, Howdy KE6BEE, Jan AC5RB, Ron KE6RS, Karen KK6ZPM, Jay KJ6WSS, Karen KK6ZPM, Xia K2XIA, Don NI6A, and DJ KJ6DJ.



Wing thanked everyone for their support and adjusting to the time change. He said the new editor, Xia, did a fantastic job on our newsletter, the Communicator.

**MINUTES:** Audrey moved that the minutes of the February 2024 meeting be accepted; seconded by Karen. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MEMBERSHIP:** Audrey said there was no change in the membership since last report. She has sent out self-addressed envelopes to those members that hadn't renewed yet and will be putting together the 2024 roster.

**TREASURER REPORT:** The report by Audrey will be found in the Communicator

**TRIVIA:** Jan said after tallying 46 questions, there were 26 different participants, 21 questions everyone got correct and there was none that stumped everyone. She thanked everyone for their participation.

NET CONTROLS: Xia said she was enjoying the trivia, wished that there were more than 4-6 participants, and sometimes there were 10-12. That was consensus from other Net Controls.

Karen said she has been encouraging GMRS users to listen to our nets, especially the Saturday morning nets where we have 2 meter, 440 and 220 and FL-digi . The GMRSers do not have the license to talk on ham frequencies. She does a first Wednesday net for the GMRS people and is getting good participation.

Howdy said the 25 foot mast has been mounted. He keeps checking and working to keep things going. Our 440 frequency is close to the GMRS radio frequencies so they can monitor. He is getting everything set up to switch channels programmed. Wing thanked him for setting up opportunities that would be helpful in emergency. Wing also reminded us that anyone can listen to our transmissions, so be careful of personal information over the air.

DJ has been handling Alvin KK6UQX's nets while he is not able to connect. He noted that all our nets are doing by Board members and encourages others to help out, even if not on regular basis. Good experience also in case of emergency. So far no one has responded. Xia suggested maybe individuals could be encouraged to volunteer to do net control duty as a one-off, just to try it out; DJ would like to see volunteers on a rotation like our Thursday evening nets.

TECH REPORT: Howdy has been working on good stewardship of our site. He proposes to build a retaining wall to deal with erosions around the transformer box for access. He proposed it would take a small volunteer work party and a small amount of materials, maybe \$70.00 worth, to solve that situation. It is not enough to have the gravel and take care of the weeds. The whole project would include a retaining wall about 18 inches high on two adjoining sides, one 6 foot long, the other 4 foot long. Audrey made a motion to approve up to \$100 for the project; Jan seconded. MOTION CARRIED

Howdy said this project could be done within next couple of weeks. He also said it could be combined with a second project for the right hand container, which leans now, due to time and the wet weather. The supports are rusting out and the weight of building is a serious concern. Jay suggested a solution to put in concrete footing and add five piers to support it. Also, a plywood box is deteriorating, and should be dismantled and removed. Jay was concerned the plywood is combustible and should have been taken out. A work party to establish access and removal would run around \$400.00. To do those projects including wall would be \$500.00. Audrey moved that we approve these projects; Jan seconded. MOTION CARRIED.

In discussion, there were questions about ownership and who responsible for various upkeep. There are different agencies involved. Howdy has tried to contact ones involved. no responses. Wing said to be sure to document everything with pictures. It would be good will for us to take care of it. Jay said that the Mt. Diablo club has to pay \$500 a month for its repeater station; we have a very low cost and our good will could avoid problems ahead. The City of Richmond has a repeater up in our area also.

Howdy showed a sample of the aluminum sign to post to identify our area. It would be about 12x18 inches. There was discussion about adding more information about our frequencies and services we provide like Mesh, WinLink, Packet as well as public service, website, and contact information. He estimated the cost to be around \$50.00. The issue has been deferred for more input.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

REMINDER: There is no Zoom meeting for May; a pizza night was suggested, to be discussed later.



Meeting adjourned 11:37

## Membership Report

Audrey W6BBQ

Thank you to those members who have paid your dues (24)! Thank you also to Life Members (15)!

There are still 18 members who have not yet paid, and I am mailing them a reminder note this week. We value every member and don't want to lose any members. The support of all our CCCC members is critical to keep the club going and to support the repeaters.

Also, please submit roster changes if you have new addresses, phone numbers, or upgrades, even if you have already sent in your dues payment.

### Dues:

Working Members - \$30

Retired Members - \$20

Second member in household of paying member - \$20

### Pay to:

Contra Costa Communications Club

PO Box 20661

El Sobrante, CA 94820



## Treasurer's Report

Audrey W6BBQ, Treasurer

March 19, 2024

### Checking Account

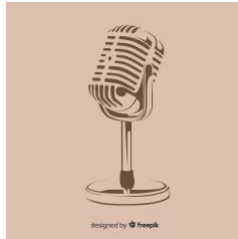
Balance Forward:		\$6,307.72
Income		
	Dues	\$20.00
	Total Income	\$20.00
Expenses		
TurboTax (cost split with EBARC)		\$77.10
Equipment Insurance		\$190.00
Liability Insurance		\$300.00
	Total Expenses	\$567.10
	<b>New Balance</b>	<b>\$5,760.62</b>

### Savings Account

Balance Forward:		\$631.95
	Interest	\$0.01
	<b>New Balance</b>	<b>\$631.96</b>
	<b>Total funds:</b>	<b>\$6,392.58</b>

## More ways to make your voice heard

Net Control Station: Try it – you might like it! Taking a turn at Net Control is a good way to get a little more involved in the club. Have you wondered what it might be like to be Net Control Station? We have good news for you: you can try it out in a very low risk way – be a “guest host” for one Net! Reach out to any of the Net Controllers, either on the air or at our email addresses below, and we’d be glad to have you fill in on one of the weekday morning or Thursday evening nets! We’ll give you the script, and you can try your hand (and voice) at it. It’s usually only about 10-15 minutes and you’re done. If you decide that you like it, we would love to fit you into the rotation!



**Make a Suggestion:** Is there something you think the club could do differently? Would you like to comment on how we handle the nets, or technical issues? Do you have an idea for an event, or some other question or suggestion? Please let us know! You can contact any of the board members by email with your comments. If you’d prefer to put pen to paper, you can use the U.S. Mail and send your feedback to the club at: Contra Costa Communications Club, PO Box 20661, El Sobrante, CA 94820





## Contra Costa Communication Club Inc -- Net Schedule

Day	Time		Net Controller	Net Name/Repeater
<b>Monday</b> morning	7:10am		Audrey W6BBQ	Over the Hill Net 144.110/444.275 MHz
<b>Tuesday</b> morning	7:10am		Jan AC5RB	Over the Hill Net 144.110/444.275 MHz
<b>Tuesday</b> evening	7:30pm		DJ KJ6DJ	220 Net 224.300 MHz
<b>Wednesday</b> morning	7:10am		Howdy KE6BEE	Over the Hill Net 144.110/444.275 MHz
<b>Thursday</b> morning	7:10am		Xia K2XIA	Over the Hill Net 144.110/444.275 MHz
<b>Thursday</b> evening	7:30pm	Wk 1	Audrey W6BBQ	Club Net
		Wk 2	Audrey W6BBQ	144.110/444.275 MHz
		Wk 3	Jan AC5RB	
		Wk 4	Xia K2XIA	
		Wk 5	DJ KJ6DJ	
<b>Friday</b> morning	7:10am		Alvin KK6UQX	Over the Hill Net 144.110/444.275 MHz
<b>Saturday</b> morning	9:00am		Alvin KK6UQX	Bay Shores EmComm 145.110 MHz
	9:15am		Alvin KK6UQX	EmComm 440 Net 444.275 MHz
	9:30am		Alvin KK6UQX	EmComm 220 Net 224.300 MHz
	9:40am		DJ KJ6DJ	FL Digi Training Net 444.275 MHz

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## **Club Officers**

**President:** Wing Lok, K6YDE [Winglok@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Winglok@dot.ca.gov)

**Treasurer:** Audrey Nieman, W6BBQ [Audrey.nieman@gmail.com](mailto:Audrey.nieman@gmail.com) 510-682-7938

**Secretary:** Jan Kuhl, AC5RB [Jkuhl1313@yahoo.com](mailto:Jkuhl1313@yahoo.com) 510-846-3829

**Membership:** Audrey Nieman [Wa6kqb@comcast.net](mailto:Wa6kqb@comcast.net) 510-682-7938

## **Board of Directors**

Wing Lok, K6YDE [Winglok@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Winglok@dot.ca.gov)

DJovida, DJ, KJ6DJ [Djovida@gmail.com](mailto:Djovida@gmail.com) 510-237-4332

Alvin Todd, KK6UQX [Amchibi9@gmail.com](mailto:Amchibi9@gmail.com) 510-426-2574

Xia Horowitz, K2XIA [Xiahorowitz@gmail.com](mailto:Xiahorowitz@gmail.com) 925-323-6665

Jan Kuhl, AC5RB [Jkuhl1313@yahoo.com](mailto:Jkuhl1313@yahoo.com) 510-846-3829

Audrey Nieman [audrey.nieman@gmail.com](mailto:audrey.nieman@gmail.com) 510-682-7938

Howdy Goudey [Howdy.goudey@gmail.com](mailto:Howdy.goudey@gmail.com) 510-684-9097

## **Technical Committee**

Howdy Goudey, (Chair), KE6BEE (2023) [Howdy.goudey@gmail.com](mailto:Howdy.goudey@gmail.com) 510-684-9097

Jay Fenton, KE6WSS (2023) [Jayfenton@gmail.com](mailto:Jayfenton@gmail.com) 510-236-8460

Djovida, KJ6DJ (2023) [Djovida@gmail.com](mailto:Djovida@gmail.com) 510-237-4332

## **Trustee**

Howdy Goudey, KE6BEE (2023) [Howdy.goudey@gmail.com](mailto:Howdy.goudey@gmail.com) 510-684-9097

## **EMCOMM Contra Costa County**

Alvin Todd, KK6UQX [Amchibi9@gmail.com](mailto:Amchibi9@gmail.com) 510-426-2574

## **PACKET**

Howdy Goudey, KE6BEE [Howdy.goudey@gmail.com](mailto:Howdy.goudey@gmail.com) 510-684-9097

Packet Node CC4CC 145.05 Mail Box: WA6KQB-!:

## **NARCC**

Howdy Goudey, KE6BEE [Howdy.goudey@gmail.com](mailto:Howdy.goudey@gmail.com) 510-684-9097

## **Newsletter**

Xia Horowitz, K2XIA [Xiahorowitz@gmail.com](mailto:Xiahorowitz@gmail.com) 925-323-6665

