

THE COMMUNICATOR
March 2010



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



FROM THE PRES --- -- .- . . .-

They told me before I retired that if you think you're busy now just wait. I just said, "Yeah, right." Sure enough, they were right. I keep finding myself feeling like I am running a race and losing. I got a little hint that the editor was working on the newsletter this week, and I said, "Good for her," but did I wake up to the fact that she was nicely asking for my part, until about a week later, so here is another attempt at putting my thoughts on paper.

We keep having nets, and we keep wondering where everyone is. I think that maybe we sometimes forget that this is a hobby. It should be fun and entertaining. When we hit the PTT button we should not be standing on our soapboxes. Your soapbox might not be my soapbox. If it is something that later you might laugh at, then that is one thing, but if it about tearing down someone or something, then I feel it is out of bounds for a fun net.

Be the way, don't be late for the next meeting as Daylight Savings Time begins the 14th and the old 6 A.M. will be 7 A.M. Speaking about the meeting, the front table (or the back table, depending on where you usually sit) is looking a little empty lately, which means that we have a chair with your name on it, and you should come sit in it. You never know, that maybe your meal might be free, or better yet, you might win the progressive drawing.

See 'ya at the meeting.

Fred, W6BBQ



Sunshine Committee

Hello Everyone!!!

I hope this box of Sun Shine putsd a smile on your face. Let's all keep Dan Kelley, KF6HQO, in our prayers and our thoughts. We hope you are ding better Dan and look forward to seeing you soon.

May good health stay with us !!!

Burgie, KE6MSF

DAY LIGHT SAVINGS TIME

MARCH 14 @ 2:00 AM

Spring your clocks forward!

**Before bed or
When you got up or
even at 2:00 AM**

Contra Costa Communications Club,
publishes *The Communicator* monthly for the benefit of club
members. No Personal information is to be reprinted without
permission.

Editor – Victoria, KE6FSU Phone 510-724-4966 or
e-mail at KE6FSU@sbcglobal.net

Deadline for submissions: The 25th of each mo.

2010 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) BOB – AB4AL BOB-W6WTJ GARY – KG6RJA ALTERNATE: BARBARA-KD6OKJ STAN-KB6SEI	145.110 OVER-THE-HILL 7:10 AM
WEEKLY - TUESDAY QRM	DAN – KF6HQO BOB – AB4AL ROBBY-N6MNL JIM— KI6YXW RICH KO6FR	224.300 CLUB 220 NET 7:30 PM
WEEKLY - THURSDAY	MEMBERS ROTATE	145.110 WEST CONTRA COSTA CTY ARES/RACES 6:45 PM
WEEKLY - THURSDAY	ROBBY-N6MNL ANDREW KM6VT ALTERNATE : FRED W6BBQ 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 2010

President: Fred Neiman W6BBQ (2011)
 V. Pres: Barbara Robinson KD6OKJ (2011)
 Secretary: Raplh Hall W6EFD (2012)
 Treasurer: V. Thompson KE6FSU (2012)
 Trustee: Robby Robinson, N6MNL (2014)
 Director:
 Director: Ed Caine, KA6OFR (2010)
 Director: Ken Miller KA6TUX (2010)

Committee Chairperson

Membership:

Barbara Robinson KD6OKJ

Technical Committee:

(Chair) Robert Gregory AB4AL

Paul Mason WA6EUZ

Paul Henson KF6FMX

Packet:

Robby Robinson N6MNL

NARCC:

Robby Robinson N6MNL

Picnic:

Fred Neiman, W6BBQ

Christmas:

Barbara Robinson KD6OKJ

Newsletter:

Victoria Thompson KE6FSU

Emergency Coordinator ARES/RACES West County -
 Mike McMillan K6MCM

Repeater Controller's Call to report any problems or
 Robby.....N6MNL.....concerns
 Ed.....KA6OFR.....
 Red.....N6UMG.....
 Ken.....KA6TUX.....
 Gabe.....WA6KQB.....
 Fred ...W6BBQ
 Bob..... AB4AL.....

General Meeting Minutes February 14, 2010

The meeting was called to order by President Fred, W6BBQ @ 8:00 a.m. Introductions were made around the room.

Net Controllers: Please try to check in to the morning net. And don't forget the 220 net @ 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday night. We look forward to hearing from you!

Repeater Fund: \$30.00. Thank you all for your contribution.

Fred, W6BBQ, reported that ARES is a nongovernmental agency. RACES is a government operation and you will need to sign up again for a new card and to be fingerprinted with a background check completed. If you need an application or have any questions, please contact Fred.

Fred received the RACES Volunteer of the Year award. Congratulations Fred!!!

Meeting adjourned @ 8:26 a.m.

Submitted by: Ralph Hall, W6EFD

Board Meeting Minutes February 14, 2010

There was no board meeting.

Submitted by: Ralph Hall, W6EFD

Income and Expense Report

January 1 through February 28

Bank Balances on 2/28

Checking	\$916.15
Savings	5014.03

Income

Contributions:

January : \$28.00

February : \$30.00

Total: \$58.00

Memberships: \$260.00

Total Income \$318.00

Expenses*

Christmas Party \$ 716.21

NARCC \$ 20.00

Equipment/parts \$ 49.46

Newsletter Printing \$ 35.59

2009 Roster \$ 126.43

Telephone \$ 131.25

Total Expense \$1,078.94

*Some expenses were items of reimbursements paid in January for the item which was paid for by the individual board member at the time it was due.

Known expenses for March:

Newsletter Printing @ \$18.00

Taxes

Accountant \$ 150.00

Postage \$ 2.95

Amateur Radio Quiz: Workbench Wisdom

By H. Ward Silver, N0AX
ARRL Contributing Editor
n0ax@arrl.org
March 04, 2010

Even though you might be an inveterate tinkerer and builder, it's occasionally a good idea to put down those hot irons, sweep off the workbench and turn off the test equipment. This quiz is for you!

- 1) An Arduino is a type of _____.
 - a. transistor array
 - b. microprocessor prototyping system
 - c. coax connector
 - d. Italian vacuum tube
- 2) Which is most likely to have a "bat handle?"
 - a. soldering iron
 - b. rack-mount enclosure
 - c. toggle switch
 - d. torque wrench
- 3) Which connector family is most closely associated with parallel data interfaces?
 - a. DB
 - b. USB
 - c. BNC
 - d. Centronics
- 4) What type of holes does a nibbling tool cut?
 - a. circles
 - b. squares
 - c. rectangles
 - d. irregular
- 5) What does DIP stand for?
 - a. Drill In Place
 - b. Dual Interconnection Pins
 - c. Dual In Line Package
 - d. Delta Insertion Point
- 6) What is the name for the solder composition with the lowest melting point?
 - a. Acid core
 - b. Eutectic
 - c. RoHS
 - d. Silver-bearing
- 7) A bipolar switching transistor's fully-saturated collector-to-emitter voltage is _____.
 - a. 0.3 V or less
 - b. 0 V
 - c. 0.7 V
 - d. 5 V, +/- 10 percent
- 8) An op-amp's ability to change output voltage rapidly is called _____.
 - a. beta

- b. CMRR
- c. slew rate
- d. open-loop gain

- 9) What component is used to keep plate voltage out of an amplifier's output matching circuit?
 - a. Plate Choke
 - b. Neutralizing Capacitor
 - c. Bleeder Resistor
 - d. Blocking Capacitor
- 10) Which of these is a Germanium diode?
 - a. 1N28
 - b. 1N34A
 - c. 1N914
 - d. 1N4148
- 11) Which type of logic element's output is *false* when both inputs are *true* or both inputs are *false*?
 - a. NAND
 - b. NOR
 - c. XOR
 - d. D-type Flip-Flop
- 12) Winding parallel wires on a ferrite core is called _____.
 - a. bifilar
 - b. trifilar
 - c. twisted-pair
 - d. scramble-wound

Bonus: An "orange drop" would be what type of component?

Answers

1. b -- www.arduino.cc
2. c -- Miniature toggle switches frequently have handles shaped like a baseball bat.
3. d -- Now mostly known as a "parallel port" connector, it was originally developed as a high-speed data interface by Centronics for its printers.
4. d -- A nibbling tool is used to cut irregularly-shaped holes in sheet metal in a series of small, rectangular bites.
5. c -- This is the most common package for through-hole components.
6. b -- Eutectic refers to the mix of metals that melts at the lowest temperature.
7. a -- The exact voltage depends on the circuit.
8. c -- Slew rate is measured in V/ μ sec.
9. d -- This component passes output RF, but not dc.
10. b -- Germanium is used for its special temperature coefficient and lower forward voltage drop.
11. c -- XOR stands for Exclusive-OR.
12. a -- Bifilar windings are used to balance multiple winding's electrical characteristics.

Bonus: Sprague's "orange drop" film capacitors have been around a long time.

12 STORE BUYING POWER



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THE COMMUNICATOR
March 2010

**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.wd6ezc.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 Regular Club Meeting: March 14, 2010

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