

**THE COMMUNICATOR**  
**December 2009**  
**January 2010**



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



**2009 CCCC and EBARC  
Christmas Party**



**Renewal Forms**  
If you need a hard copy  
Call, e-mail or send smoke signals:  
Victoria, KE6FSU  
510-724-4966 (machine picks up after  
7 rings)  
ke6fsu@sbcglobal.net



***Sunshine Committee***

Hello Everyone! Please send good thoughts and best wishes for returning health to:

Dan Kelley, KF6HQO

Howard Trites, KA6CRG

I sincerely hope you gentlemen are doing much better. Our thoughts and prayers are with you always!

*Burgie, KE6MSF*

**Special Thanks to**  
**Mark, WI7YN, Manager**  
**HAM RADIO OUTLET'S Oakland Store**  
**For his continued support!**

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) BARBARA-KD6OKJ , JIM-KI6YXW (Rotate) BOB-W6WTJ GARY – KG6RJA                      ALTERNATE: BOB – AB4AL                              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:

Secretary: Raplh Hall W6EFD (2012)

Treasurer: V. Thompson KE6FSU (2012)

Trustee: Robby Robinson, N6MNL (2014)

Director: Barbara Robinson KD6OKJ (2011)

Director: Ed Caine, KA6OFR (2010)

Director: Ken Miller KA6TUX (2010)

*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.....

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

## **General Meeting Minutes November 8 , 2009**

The meeting was called to order @ 8:00 a.m. by President Burgie, KE6MSF.

Introductions were made around the room.

Treasurers Report: \$32.00 was collected for the repeater fund. Thank you all very much.

Checking: \$212.66: Savings: \$5012.33.

Please check in to the 220 net on Tuesday evenings @ 7:30 p.m. We need your support.

The officers terms are ending in December: Burgie Jones, and Don Hemma. Two candidates for officer for the 2010—2012 term are Ralph Hall, W6EFD and Victoria Thompson, Ke6FSU. There were no nominations from the floor. As candidates were un-opposed they were affirmed to the board. The December Board meeting will be held just prior to the Christmas party and positions for 2010 will be determined at that time.

Free breakfast: John Tim, W6QNT

Progressive Raffle: Al Rentfro, K6CXV who was not in attendance. January's progressive raffle will be \$10.00.

Submitted by Burgie Jones, KE6MSF

## **Board Meeting Minutes November 8 , 2009**

The meeting was called to order by President Burgie, KE6MSF @ 8:20 a.m.

Those in attendance:

Don Hamma, KE6ZFP

Ed Caine, KA6OFR

Fred Neiman, W6BBQ

Robby Robinson, N6MNL

Barbara Robinson, KD6OKJ

Burgie Jones, KE6MSF

When the antenna is installed there will be an expense to reimbursing Paul Mason, W5ANT, for the antenna. Thank you Paul for all your hard work.

Meeting adjourned 8:30 a.m.

Submitted by Burgie Jones, KE6MSF

## **Silent Key Report**

John Billones WD6GCC (Golden Gate Charlie) passed away December 31, 2009.. John was 91 years young. I know so many of you in the 4C's and EBARC have stories to tell about John so let us share them with everyone at the January club meetings and on the different nets.

There will be no service for John. The family wants everyone to know they are thankful for the prayers and cards sent over the last 6+ months.

73 John you will be missed.

Barbara Robinson KD6OKJ

## **Western Historic Radio Museum**

Virginia City, Nevada has its place in history as the site of the fantastic Comstock lode. However, all that glitters in "them thar hills" about twenty-five mile from Carson City is not what remains of the silver. There also, in that wonderfully preserved old-west mining town, one can savor some of radio's early beginnings at the Western Historic Radio Museum, where the gleam of brass and other metals on the lovingly restored radio equipment invitingly waits.

The museum is owned and "curated" by Henry (W7HTR) and Sharon (KK7EI) Rogers in the bottom half of their home at F and Taylor Streets. Notable landmarks are two large churches within one block and only about three blocks from the town's main drag. The museum is open to the public most days 1:00-5:00, but it is best to call ahead. Henry Rogers is especially always on the lookout for new radio equipment and will sometimes be off on his latest treasure hunt.

*(Continued on page 4)*

Both Henry and Sharon are very nice, but Henry is the veritable encyclopedia of knowledge regarding all things radio. He will talk for hours if you are interested (and my wife and I were interested). Henry has been a ham since he was fourteen (when he started collecting), and both he and his wife have now retired from electronic careers. About eight years back, they both received the Doc Herrold Award from the California Historical Radio Society (San Francisco) in acknowledgement of their contributions toward preserving the history of radio.

Their museum is literally stuffed with an eclectic collection of radio gear. Henry is probably what one could call a true-born collector; it seems he was never interested in just one piece of electronics but in how to get more of them. The museum has radios from 1902 (that I saw) and includes a number of transmitters (much rarer). He has several spark transmitters, including M.H. Dodd's 1912 wireless station.

It seems somehow appropriate that the history of Virginia City coincided with some of the early groundwork (or "airwork") laid for radio itself. Virginia City was in full-swing in 1864 when James Clerk Maxwell published his historic theory of radio in the elegant Maxwell's equations. The VC (what the locals call the town) time-scale also includes the famous first transmission of radio waves by Heinrich Hertz in 1887, and the early work of Nikola Tesla, proven to be the true "father of radio." Of course, Charles (Doc or Prof) Herrold is the "father of radio broadcasting." Hence, it is truly fitting that the museum has an honored place in the town.

The Rogers have an excellent web site ([www.radioblvd.com](http://www.radioblvd.com)) which features various articles Henry has written along with a plethora of vintage equipment photos. The articles cover such subjects as "classic shipboard wireless receivers," M.H. Dodd's station (acquired by accident; have Henry tell you the story), and articles on Hammarlund, Hallicrafters, and National Co. equipment.

A very interesting part of the exhibit is the Rogers' ham shack. Apparently, Henry is the only one operating at present and said that he now mainly listens. He asked for me to send an email when I want to contact him, but warned me about one of his "drifty" transmitters (a BC-375); I believe many of his transmitters (yes, these are separate receivers and transmitters) don't have crystal-control, but he indicates that most become quite stable after a reasonable warm-up period. Regarding the BC-375, he says that people tell him all the time how bad its signal sounds, but apparently his contacts do not understand that this is the way the particular unit was designed; by leaving the rig unmodified, Henry is preserving the history of radio not only by the equipment but also in how it sounds and functions. Nevertheless, Henry is proud of the fact that he receives excellent audio reports for most of his gear. Old certainly doesn't necessarily mean bad.

Hence, for anyone interested in vintage radio (and that is probably most hams), a trip to the Western

Historic Radio Museum (or at least to the web site) is a must. I think they could use some more customers, and it would be a real shame to have the museum close due to lack of visitors. However, if you go, please prepare to spend some time and bask in the rich historical information that Henry Rogers can provide. It is a real treat and well worth the nominal \$5.00 entrance fee.

73, Charles Ragsdale, KJ6CCL

Now for some more Christmas Party FUN!



And More Thanks go to  
Santa Roger and his helpers!

Sharon, AA6XZ

Barbara, KD6OKJ

And

Burgie, KE6MSF





***THE COMMUNICATOR***  
***December 2009***  
***January 2010***

**Contra  
Costa  
Communications  
Club Inc.**

Repeater ID: WD6EYC 145.110, 224.300, 444.275 PL 82.5  
Simplex 146.505  
Packet "Node" CC4CC 145.05 Packet "Mail Box" WD6EYC -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: January 10, 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**