



The Communicator

January 2020

***Contra
Costa
Communications
Club, Inc.***

Repeater ID: WA6KQB
Repeaters: 145.110 MHz (-), PL 82.5
224.300 MHz (-), PL 82.5
444.275 MHz (+), PL 82.5
Simplex: 146.505 MHz
Packet "Node" CC4CC 145.05 "Mail Box" WA6KQB-1
Web 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

Regular Club Meeting: **January 12, 2020**
[Denny's – 11344 San Pablo Ave \(at Potrero Ave.\), El Cerrito, CA 94530](#)
Breakfast at 7:15 a.m. ✳ Club meeting at 8 a.m.

Next Regular Club Meeting: **February 9, 2020**



The Communicator January 2020

Contra Costa
Communications Club, Inc.
An ARRL-Affiliated Repeater
Club – Dedicated to Service



From the Editor



“Yeah, I guess I can help.”

That was a year ago when I answered the call to edit *The Communicator* Club Newsletter. It was a logical extension to my informal

photo-takings at all the meetings – regular and joint events with East Bay Amateur Radio Club (EBARC). I had the big shoes left by then-Editor **Michael, K6CUG** to fill, I hope that I did right by y'all. I added fascinating articles as provided by other Club members, updates on Technical Committee projects, and tidbits of interests. I enjoyed reading and editing the Member Highlight columns, including one that was timelier than others – miss you **Jim, AC5QI (SK)**. I tried to keep minimum font size at 12 for all articles, while I battled with section breaks, page breaks, columns, page orientation, and photo anchoring. I could not have done this without the help of the Club Officers, Member Highlight contributors, but most importantly, my intrepid "Copy Editor" **Audrey, W6BBQ**. Thank you very much!

Looking at other well-featured ham radio clubs' newsletters, including EBARC's *The Blown Fuse* newsletter (edited by **Sharon, AA6XZ**), I wished I could have done more. Alas, my full-time job, my commitments elsewhere, my needs

to clean house, and my desire to get another professional licensure before my brains fail to remember will take precedent for now.

Thank you for all your support and tolerance of late deliveries of *The Communicator* Newsletter.

73, Wing, K6YDE

President's Corner

Hello everyone!! I hope you had a nice New Year!! It was quiet around here.

I was voted to be the next incoming president for CCCC. I am very excited regarding my new position.

I look forward to an exciting new year and working with everyone.

Please feel free to contact me if you need to or have suggestions. My phone number is in our phone directory.

I look forward to seeing you all. I invite you to come to our meetings the second Sunday of the month. There are a few months that we do not meet, but that will be announced.

Happy New Year to all! May you have a safe and happy New Year!

73, Burgie, KE6MSF



Newsletter Editor Wanted

The Contra Costa Communications Club is looking for a new Editor of *The Communicator* Newsletter.

Help uphold the Club traditions! No experience needed. The Club Board will help develop them.

Please contact any Club Board Officers if interested.

Joint CCC-EBARC Holiday Party – December 7, 2019



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Membership Report

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you. It was great visiting with you at our Holiday Party. A big THANK YOU to Burgie for once more arranging everything and shopping for gifts for everyone.

Congratulations to our new club president, **Burgie Jones, KE6MSF**, and to our new board member, **Alvin Todd, KK6UQX**. Service to the club is greatly appreciated by all!

It’s that time of year again for paying your club dues. So far, thirteen members have paid. Dues are \$30.00 for regular member, \$20.00 for Retired members, and \$20.00 for a second family member.

Please be sure to let me know if there are changes such as upgrades, address, phone numbers, call sign, or e-mail changes. Forms can be found on the Website, <http://www.WA6KQB.org/>, but if you are renewing and there are no changes, it’s OK to send a check with a notation of your call sign.

Please mail checks to:

Contra Costa Communications Club
PO Box 20661
El Sobrante, CA 94820-0661

Net check-ins are slowly increasing, but there could be more participation. So please try to check in at least occasionally, just to keep in touch, or even to test your radios!

Best wishes for a prosperous New Year!

Audrey Nieman, W6BBQ, Membership Chair

Treasurer’s Report

November 2019

Checking Account:\$3,300.75

Deposits:

12/24/2019:

Membership dues\$190.00

Deposits Total:\$190.00

Disbursement:

12/07/2019: Check #1602:

Burgie Jones for Xmas party expense\$240.72

12/24/2019: Check #1603:

Audrey Nieman reimburse for NARCC dues **\$20.00**

Checking Balance Forward.....\$3,230.03

Savings Account:\$606.57

Savings Balance Forward\$606.57

Audrey Nieman, W6BBQ, Treasurer

Member Survey - December 2018

As part of the membership renewal of 2019, the Club sent a members survey. Due to the wide spectrum of responses but limited survey returns, meaningful analysis or trend prediction is next to impossible. Therefore, the summarized raw responses are presented below. Note that since the Survey was conducted, members of the Technical Committee and other volunteers have labored to improve the repeaters

Are you still using your ham radios?
Yes (21); not much but will get on in 2019; sometimes; a little; yes when I can get out; somewhat, no
Which bands do you use regularly?
HF: 160m; 80m; 60m; 40m; 20m; 17m; 10m; VHF and UHF: 2m; 1.25 m; 70cm; will use HF band when sunspots return
What time of day and what days are most convenient for you to be on the radio and to participate in club nets?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anytime/flexible; mornings, evenings and weekends; weekdays and evenings; evenings • evenings after 6:30; 5 AM, 7:30 PM; early am/pm Monday-Sunday; noon; early mornings weekdays • Mon-Sat; Wed & Thurs; 9AM-3PM; AM & late afternoon; PM • except Thursdays; weekday evenings except Thursday • Not very active, I monitor

<p>Is the club meeting on Sunday morning convenient for you? Do you prefer the pizza night meetings? Do you have another meeting time preference?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Probably convenient, but I haven't made it, no other preference.; No preference; • I like Sunday mornings and pizza night; it's hard to have a meeting at pizza night, but I like the time; • Other times for variety; Pizza night works well; nights from 6-7 would be easier; • Sunday mornings yes, pizza night no; • No on Sunday; suggest/prefer Saturday noon; Saturday noon; Sunday is bad, prefer pizza night; Sunday I go to church, prefer pizza night; • Not interested in attending, other priorities; I'm not usually a meeting kind of guy; • Sundays are difficult because I work Saturdays until late; Sunday meeting is too early; between increased bridge toll and gas prices • Prefer evenings and weekends; prefer evening pizza night;
<p>Are you interested in digital radio (digital communications protocol) such as FLDigi and EchoLink?</p> <p>Yes (11), No (7); I need a class and a radio; I use FT8 regularly on the HF bands; interested in DMR; Echolink and packet;</p>
<p>Which radios do you use?</p> <p>Alinco DJ-580T; Baofeng UV-5R, BTech 25X2, 50X2; Icom IC-202, IC-207, IC-706, IC-208H, IC-706 MKIIG, IC-9100, IC-7300; Kenwood TH-F6A, TR-7930; Yaesu FT-270, FT-1900R, FT-7900, VX-6; FT-60; Various Baofeng, TYT, Linton, Midlands, Radio Shack, Wouxun; Repurpose commercial radios</p>
<p>When was your most recent check-in to a net?</p> <p>Every weekday morning, Thursday night, Sat morning; weekly with Marin RACES; West County EmComm, KARO ECHO EmComm, ORCA EmComm; last year but will try to check into morning Over The Hill net, just have not been inspired lately; several years ago; I live in Concord and can't reach the repeater</p>
<p>What would you like to see the club do as a public service project?</p> <p>Help on bike rides, Fun runs; classes in FLDigi and Echolink; East Bay Hills Fire Watch 4th of July/extreme fire weather; more education, outreach; volunteer radio assistance for community events; open house at repeater site to promote interest in CCCC and funding; promote our CCCC tower and antenna; fundraiser to upgrade to solar and buy stronger battery; 3 repeaters; preparedness events, many cities have community events, solar and increased battery power for the repeater (would volunteer/donate parts/labor); provide repeater for those projects as in the past, members themselves can join the project as in the past; little too far for me; most of the members live in the East Bay.</p>
<p>Are you a member of ARRL, CERT, EmComm, RACES, ARES?</p> <p>ARRL (19); CERT (11); EmComm (9); ARES (2); RACES (5)</p>
<p>Do you have any questions, comments, suggestions?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank you for your inquiries; Keep up the good work; Although I haven't used my radios in years, I enjoy keeping up with club news through the email newsletter. • Thanks to Jay Fenton and the group for the tower repair; We need to earthquake "harden" the repeater site: anchor the shed, radios, battery, etc. to survive the big one; We need to purchase a 2nd battery; • Willing to work with DJ and others in marketing 4C's to a larger population; Work with other clubs and join their public service events. • Morning preamble and postamble is way too long; When a mobile check in, talk to him or her; then they will move out of range. Remember they check in when traffic allows, and when they can hit the repeater; Once you set a format, try to stick with it. Switching around doesn't help the club. • Have the Christmas party at a different location.

→**PRINT THIS PAGE FOR REFERENCE**←

2019 Contra Costa Communications Club, Inc. – Daily and Weekly Nets		
Days	Net Controller	Repeater/Net Name//Time
Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday	DJ, KJ6DJ (Temp for CAROL, KK6OLL) JAN, AC5RB GARY, KG6RJA BOB, W6WTJ ALVIN, KK6UQX	145.110 MHz ※ Over-The-Hill Net 7:10 a.m.
Weekly – Monday By Arrangement	DJ, KJ6DJ Contact DJ for confirmation	444.275 MHz ※ Digital Net – 7 p.m. FLDigi Net by Arrangement
Weekly – Tuesday	Net Control Rotates	224.300 MHz ※ Open Net – 7:30 p.m.
Weekly – Thursday	Members Rotate	145.110 MHz ※ West Contra Costa County EmComm Net – 6:45 p.m.
Weekly - Thursday	First week: KAREN, KK6ZPM Second week: AUDREY, W6BBQ Third Week: JAN, AC5RB Fourth week: JEFF, KJ6RHF Fifth week: DJ, KJ6DJ	145.110 MHz ※ Club Net 7:30 p.m.
Saturday	DJ, KJ6DJ	145.110 MHz ※ Bay Shores Net – 9 a.m.
Saturday	DJ, KJ6DJ	444.275 MHz ※ CERT EmComm Net – 9:30 a.m.

4C's Website: <http://www.WA6KQB.org>

Committee Chairs

Club Officers For 2020

Membership: Audrey Nieman, **W6BBQ**

510-682-7938 Cell | WA6KQB@comcast.net

Technical Committee:

Alan Alsing (Chair), **W6ELS**

510-334-9933

Roger Nelums, **KE6SZG**

510-964-1476

Jay Fenton, **KJ6WSS**

510-701-7443

Howdy Goudey, **KE6BEE**

510-684-9097

Packet: packet node **CC4CC** ※ **145.05 MHz**

Mail Box: **WA6KQB-1**

Roger Nelums, (Chair) **KE6SZG**

510-964-1476

NARCC: Roger Nelums, **KE6SZG**

510-964-1476

Picnic: Roger Nelums, **KE6SZG**

510-964-1476

Christmas: Burgie Jones, **KE6MSF**

510-964-1476

Newsletter: Wing Lok, **K6YDE**

510-508-8810 Cell

President: Burgie Jones, **KE6MSF** (2019)
510-964-1476

V. Pres: Wing Lok, **KJ6YDE** (2020)
510-508-8810 Cell

Secretary: Jan Kuhl, **AC5RB** (2020)
510-846-3829

Treasurer: Audrey Nieman, **W6BBQ** (2020)
510-682-7938 Cell

Director: Alan Alsing, **W6ELS** (2021)
510-334-9933

Director: Alvin Todd, **KK6UQX** (2021)
510-XXX-YYYY

Trustee: Roger Nelums, **KE6SZG**
510-964-1476

EmComm West Contra Costa County:
DJ Djovida, **KJ6DJ**
510-237-4342

Repeater ID: WA6KQB

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Simplex: 146.505 MHz



OGER's Lunch

First Wednesday of every month ※ 11 a.m.

Sukie's Country Kitchen ※ 2400 El Portal Dr., San Pablo

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IC-7200
HF Transceiver



IC-7100
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VHF/UHF D-STAR Portable

KENWOOD



TS-590SG
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TM-D710G
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2M/440 DualBand



TM-281A
2 Mtr Mobile



TH-D74A
2M/220/440 HT

YAESU
The radio



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