THE COMMUNICATOR
APRIL 2015

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

Sunshine Committee

Hello everyone:

I hope this little slice of love finds you all safe and healthy. We think about you often. Know that you are all in our prayers and thoughts.

Sincerely, Burgie, KE6MSF

FOR SALE

TS-570D Kenwood HF Radio

100 watt SSB CW FSK CW

10m thru 160 m

11in W x 4.2in H x 12.4 in D

Make offer See Fred

In This Edition

Mountain Mike's Pizza night

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

1516 Fitzgerald Dr. Pinole, CA.

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

$7.49 + drink for adults
$5.50 + drink for kids 10 years and under.

President's Blog

Well, if you forgot to get up for the last club meeting, you missed it. We were talking about the 440 repeater not being able to work anymore and wondering what to do. Part of the talk was the dream of a new Kenwood repeater. Barbara made a motion to buy the repeater. A brand new member, Emmett Zediker, KK6MOG, said, "I will throw in $500.00 to buy it," and then Bergie said they would match it and another party threw in another $100.00. In a matter of 1 minute we had the money. As soon as I could pick up my jaw off the floor, I thanked everyone. Monday at 8:00 I called the supplier and ordered it. Saturday, Roger , Alan, and Doug Shusher installed the repeater while I watched. It doesn't take us long to spend if we have the money. I saw Ron Smith at a VE session during the week and he asked as he has always done during 4 years it was down, "When is the 440 going to be back?" I told him next weekend and he just smiled like he had heard that before and said OK. He was one of the first to test it Saturday night. In case you have forgotten, the 440 is on 444.275 PL 82.5 + offset. Speaking about things we have not had for a while, we are almost ready to fire up the packet station again, and by the time you read this it may be up. You might want to look around and see you can find your old TNC so you will be

DAYS	NET CONTROLLER	REPEATER/NET NAME/TIME
MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY	MICHAEL K6CUG BOB AB4AL BOB W6WTJ ALT: STAN KB6SEI GARY KG6RJA	145.110 OVER-THE-HILL 7:10 AM
WEEKLY - TUESDAY QRM	ROBBY N6MNL BOB AB4AL JEFF KL6RHF MICHAEL K6CUG RICH KO6FR	224.300 CLUB 220 NET 7:30 PM
WEEKLY - WEDNESDAY	JEFF KJ6RHF	145.110 OPEN NET 8:00 PM
WEEKLY - THURSDAY	MEMBERS ROTATE	145.110 WEST CONTRA COSTA CTY RACES 6:45 PM
WEEKLY - THURSDAY	ROBBY N6MNL FRED W6BBQ JEFF KJ6RHF BOB AB4AL MICHAEL K6CUG	145.110 CLUB NET 7:30 PM
WEEKLY - THURSDAY	OPEN NET	145.110 TECHNICAL NET 8:00 PM

Club Officers For 2015

President: Fred Nieman   W6BBQ   (2017) 1 510-223-1748
V. Pres: Don Hamma   KE6ZFP   (2016) 2 510-526-6823
Secretary: Burgie Jones   KE6MSF (2016) 2 510-964-1476
Treasurer: V. Thompson   KE6FSU (2015) 2 510-326-2361

Trustee: Fred Nieman   W6BBQ   (2021) 510-223-1748
Director: Robby Robinson N6MNL (2015) 1
Director: Mike Nicholson K6CUG (2017) 2 510-245-7012
Director: Robert Seymour   KI6KOU (2016) 2 510-237-6089

RACES Contra Costa County Mike McMillan K6MCM
510-223-3052

Repeater Controllers
 Call to report any problems or concerns
Robby.   N6MNL
Fred   W6BBQ   510-223-1748
Bob   AB4AL   707-552-1403
Jeff   KJ6RHF   510-499-5606
Roger   KE6SZG   510-964-1476

Committee Chairperson
Membership:
      Audrey Nieman, KF6MVH 510-223-1748
           WA6KQB@comcast.net
Technical Committee:
(Chair) Robert Gregory   AB4AL   707-552-1403
      Paul Henson   KF6FMX   510-758-4548
      Fred Nieman,   W6BBQ   510-223-1748
      Alen Alsing   KJ6JIS   510-334-9933
      Jeff Miller   KJ6RHF   510-499-5606
      Roger Nelums   KE6SZG 510-964-1476
Packet:
      Robby Robinson N6MNL
NARCC:
       Fred Nieman   W6BBQ   510-223-1748
Picnic:
      Fred Nieman,   W6BBQ   510-223-1748
Christmas:
      Barbara Robinson KD6OKJ
Newsletter:
      Victoria Thompson KE6FSU 510-326-2361

2

ready. Those who don't know what packet is, it is a way to send messages by radio to another party. You go keyboard to keyboard or drop the message in a mailbox to be read later. It is very much like E-Mail but by ham radio.

After the April meeting we must have a board meeting. If you are a board member, and you can't get the blanket off your back at 6:30 to be there for the regular meeting, get them off by 8:00 and come to the board meeting.

As you know, we do not have a regular meeting in May because it is Mother's Day but I understand that Bergie has arranged to hold a pizza night on May 13th at the new Mountain Mikes next to Lucky's on Fitzgerald Dr. The cost is $7.49 per adult and $5.50 for under 10.

Talk to me on the repeaters. Every time you push the PTT, thank Roger, Alan and Doug for the long hours it took to get on the air.

Fred W6BBQ

General Meeting Minutes
March 8 , 2015

The meeting was called to order by President Fred Nieman, W6BBQ at 0800.
Introductions were made around the room.
There was no Treasurers Report.

Membership reports that we have 8 ham radio operators that have not yet renewed their membership for this year.

The 220 is being worked on and hopes for being completed soon.
Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, is looking for operators to help in the Grisly Peak Bike Run. It is Sunday, May 3rd. If you are able to help, please call Randy. You can also look up on the EBARC WEB site.

We had two members who donated $500.00 each for the purchase of a new 440 radio.

Barbara, KD6OKJ, made a motion that when the 440 is purchased, it be put into place within one month. The motion was seconded by Burgie, KE6MSF. All agreed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 a.m.

Free Breakfast: Barbara Robinson KD6OKJ
Progressive Raffle: KF6WII
Next month will be $10.

Submitted by: **Burgie Jones, KE6MSF**

Board Meeting
March 2015

There was no board meeting this month.

Membership

Welcome to our newest member:

Emmett Zediker, KK6MOG.

Emmett, who attended the last CCCC meeting with Felix Hunziker, KK6ENW, and his wife, Audrey, was immediately an enthusiastic supporter of the repeater fund, pledging a generous donation. Emmett is an electrician. Emmett can be reached at Zedkeelectric@yahoo.com or at (510) 410-1977, and lives at 998 30th Street, Richmond, CA 94804.

Letters of invitation were mailed to two new hams.
The new CCCC roster was recently sent out by email with a total of 69 members, a net increase of 4 members! Thanks to Victoria Thompson, KE6FSU, for putting it all together.

Audrey Nieman, KF6MVH

Membership chairman

increase of 4 members! Thanks to Victoria Thompson, KE6FSU, for putting it all together.

Audrey Nieman, KF6MVH

Membership chairman

CC4CC Packet Station

Hello Everyone,

I sincerely hope this finds you all well and in the very best of spirit.

As you already know

KF6AKU DOUGLAS SLUSHER, AB4AL ROBERT GREGORY,
KJ6JIS ALAN ALSING, W6BBQ FRED NIEMAN and myself,
KE6SZG NELUMS ROGER have all been working very hard to get the CC4CC repeater system back up and going to full speed. First and most importantly I would like to express my deepest gratitude for all their help. Quite frankly without them we would not be up and running today. They all have sacrificed time and money, as well as time with their families and friends to complete this job for not themselves but for the sake of our club and its members. I for one appreciate them more than words can express. Thank you, Thank you and God bless you for your unselfish dedication to this project.

With that said Alan and I have added a new packet station running off a Kantronics KPC3+ version 9.1 An Alnico data radio and some antenna I found at amazon. There are three ways to connect. (1) Of course being WA6KQB for key board to key board. (2) WA6KQB-1 which is a personal mail box that can be used for messages, suggestions, etc…
(3) CC4CC which is the node to get to another node. All of these can be done with a terminal node controller computer and some kind of packet program, such as pack ratt, XPware, pk gold or ka gold depending on the tnc you are using and of course computer and Operating system. For example, I'm running the packet system off a Raspberry pi with a program called minicom for Linux. Most of the packet programs run on XP, Dos win 95, 98. So if you can find an old computer and old operating system and few dollars for a tnc which I'm sure you can find at swap meets, EBay, MFJ, Kantronics and even a home brew j-pole you can be up and running in no time.

My point is that it's another useful tool which can be used in an emergency or just to communicate with or simply see how many nodes you can hop to. There are some BBS systems out there which have info and can pass messages on to another country. There is a lot out there to explore and research. If memory serves me right I think there are programs which will allow you to track satellites and even talk to a space station I think??? Or maybe not.
With that Enjoy and 73's

Roger KE6SZG

2015 First Quarter Treasurer's Report

Income		Expenses	
Meeting donations	$106	Repeater Parts	$99.44
Memberships	$580	UHF Repeater	$1100.00
440 Repeater	$ 97	Liability INS	$300.00
Repeater fund	$405	Total	$1499.44
Total	$ 1186		

Thank you to the follow for their donations.

Wing Lok	**$10.00**
Peter & Carol Lucic	**$20.00**
Anonymous	**$97.00**
Ron Bunch	**$275.00**
Randy Jenkins	**$100.00**

5

THE COMMUNICATOR
APRIL 2015

**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" TBD
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

Next Regular Club Meeting: **March 8, 2015**

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