



Happy New Year to all



President's Message

by Chris Doan

And a New Year it is. Our first Board meeting with the 2025 Leadership Team was very encouraging in kicking off our focus for the year. Specifically, we discussed **two major goals for the year**, one being to **grow our club membership (more banjos!)** and the other to **increase our playout opportunities**.

Ardie Jarrett has taken on the role of Membership Chair and will be the focal point for the first goal. But we do not intend to leave the important effort of growing membership to one person ... that really needs to be an effort we all take on, to recruit, encourage, and support new members for the club.

Paul Mack is our new Event Coordinator, and like Ardie, will be the focal point for the effort of booking more events with all our help. Paul led a great discussion at the meeting about expanding our outreach beyond the typical retirement organizations that we currently play for to trying new groups such as local festivals, community senior centers, fundraisers, and maybe even Wineries. If you have some good ideas or good contacts, please communicate that with Paul as we work on our outreach in the area.

The first practice of the new year followed the Board Meeting and we had a packed room at Mountain Mike's Pizza with 18 club members present. Great turnout but if you were not there, we missed you and look forward to your joining us in the next few weeks.

Scheduled Playouts

January 23 – The Reutlinger Community · 4000 Camino Tassajara. Danville, CA 94506. Plan on arriving by 1:00 pm for a one hour playout starting at 2:00 pm. The uniform will be gold vests and accompanying pieces. Come to the January 21st practice for a rehearsal of the playlist.

EBBC Membership 2025

Annual Club Membership dues were reduced to \$10 from \$20 during the pandemic. The Board of Directors has determined that it is time to reset dues to the \$20 level starting in 2025.

Ardie Jarrett is the new Membership Chair for 2025 so please see Ardie to take care of this obligation for the year with check or cash (no credit cards). Ardie's contact information is on the Club Roster.

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EBBC Practice Sessions

Practice sessions are scheduled on the 2nd through the 5th Tuesday of each month from 7:00-8:30 pm at Mountain Mike's Pizza, 30 Golf Club Road in Pleasant Hill.

THE KENSINGTON AT WALNUT CREEK

In its last playout of 2024 on December 20, the East Bay Banjo Club played to a standing room only crowd at The Kensington. The playlist included a mix of our year-round crowd favorites and a medley of Christmas songs. The Kensington audience were not hesitant to join us in song with the old favorites. Paul Mack did the honors as an emcee introducing the club and providing a brief background to each song played.



We were thirteen banjos strong for the playout including, from left to right, Dorothy Becker, Rich Combs (Music Director and Conductor), Ardi Jarrett, Deb Hodson, Chris Doan, Bud Pearce, John Greitzer (Bass), Slavka Ruzicka, Don Granberg (piano, washboard and banjo), Zennie Bohn, Paul Mack (MC), Yvonne Whitchurch and Tom Brunetti.

Club Leadership 2025

- PresidentChris Doan
- Vice President Bob Malucelli
- SecretaryDiane Malucelli
- Membership Ardi Jarrett
- Treasurer & Music Director.....Rich Combs
- Event CoordinatorPaul Mack
- Digital Librarian Karen Hefter
- Communication Coord Sheila Welt
- Webmaster Bud Pearse