



E A R S

INGLEWOOD AMATUER RADIO SOCIETY

President Bill Reed K7WWR, VP Steve Bishop, KM4GX Secretary Bernie Schmelz, K1BES Treasurer Bob McAlister, KN4RKE Trustees: M. Henry KE4VEM, H. Hoffman, WA9LFQ, Jon Pellatt W1JP

Englewood Florida
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Facebook: Englewood Amateur Radio Society



Supporting and Practicing Ham Radio in Englewood

July 2025

MEETING REPORTS AND NOTES

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be: Tuesday, August 12th, 2025 at the COC in Englewood at 19:00, unless otherwise notified. Check the FB page , and groups.io for last minute updates

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MINUTES ENGLEWOOD AMATUER RADIO SOCIETY July 8, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 1916 hours.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: K1BES Bernie Schmelz, KN4RKE Bob McAlister, KM4GX Steve Bishop, W2CWL Bill Dolan, W4RFY Tony Levenson, W1NQT Ken Blackshaw, KN4NFX Steve Froggett, N3MR Mike Reid, N1COC Jon Blincoe, KE4VEM Matt Henry, W9LFQ Hermann Hoffman, KR4DGO Craig Stadelbauer, W4RJVN Ernie Mack, W4AII Jim Nelson, K2SDA David Lynch, KN4YIU Shirley Duke, KN4YIV Steve Malone, KQ4SSQ Hector Mena

Bob McAlister presented a mini repeater that he has assembled utilizing a FUMEI Duplexer and two Baofeng HT's. He has built this as a prototype because later in the summer the Club will be assisting with several events in the Dearborn Street area and a mini repeater would be extremely useful for those events. There will be a comms protocol established for those events with assigned frequency pairs.

The Secretary's report was published in the newsletter – Motion to approve the minutes as published was made by Shirley Duke and seconded by Mike Reid. Vote: All in Favor.

The Treasurer's report was published in the newsletter – Motion to approve the report as published was made by Tony Levenson, seconded by Ken Blackshaw. Vote: All in favor.

SUNSHINE: Ken Blackshaw reported that he sent sunshine to Herman Hoffman, Bill Reed and Kelly Combes.

MENTORSHIP: Bill Dolan reported that more club members need to volunteer as members. We are getting more new

members in the club that are new to Ham Radio and they can use assistance. Please call Bill to help.

DX COMMS: The bands have been on-off recently, however Tony Levenson reported contact with San Marino.

EVENTS: Bob McAlister reported that Field Day was very successful with several stations set up and many contacts being made. The weather cooperated this year with no thunderstorms flaring up.

Bernie Schmelz reported on the Eagle Scout Event. The event was well attended with approximately 30 people stopping by the EARS booth and asking questions about Ham Radio and the role it plays during emergencies. Bernie explained EARS' role and how it is also part of the CCFLARES network.

Bob McAlister also said that there will be a FOX Hunt on July 19th at 0930 with a starting point at the Tringali Library. All participants should gather by 0900.

Lighthouse Weekend will be on August 16-17 at the Boca Grande Lighthouse. This will be a POTA style event. The club will have a couple of pop-up shelters set up. Refreshments will be available.

Pioneer Days will take place on Labor Day weekend – the Club will be providing radio communications/coordination and radio security.

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WATERFEST – Waterfest is scheduled for Columbus Day weekend. EARS again will be providing Radio services for security during the event. Previous volunteers should have received an email from the Waterfest committee regarding sign-ups for that. Also, EARS will have a booth where members can discuss HAM RADIO with the general public – we NEED volunteers for the booth.

Continued on page 2.....

Breakfast at Junior and Rosie's

Breakfast at J&R's continues to be a popular club event. The prices are right, the food is good, and the ham radio fellowship is great! The group meets between 7 and 7:30 am for food and fun. Although it's now summer, we are averaging 8 participants!



Upcoming Club Activities

N4EAR worked all states event. We want to get a worked all states certificate for the club station. Time **NOW:**

Foxhunt— August, registration at Tringali Park Contact KN4RKE for info.

July DX Contest whole month of July. Phone, data, CW plus special Tech Division. Contact any club officer for info

Lighthouse/Lightship Radio Weekend August 16 and 17 POTA style event at Boca Lighthouse. Contact KN4RKE for info

Waterfest, October, on Englewood Beach. Contact **W4AII** or **K1BES** if you would like to participate

2 Meter Chat Net:



The club conducts a two meter chat net every **Tuesday evening on N4EAR**, 146.865 136.5HZ tone, -600 offset at **7:15 pm**. On Tuesdays that the club holds its meeting, no net. If you are using echo link to check in, use the **N4EAR** node. **The club is always looking for net control operators. If you would like to participate as a net controller, please let a club officer know!**

The current monthly rotation is:
Week 1: KN4NFX
Week 2: Club meeting, net not held
Week 3: W1NQT
Week 4: KM4GX
Week 5 (if needed) : Open

If you can not commit to full rotation, please volunteer for "substitution" rotation.

Hello All - Here are my notes from tonight (7/15) . A bit thin due to lightning in the area. 73's - Ken

The question for the night is - What's favorite restaurant to eat out for dinner?
 (PAUSE)

Net Control acknowledges (call sign)

1. kn4nfx - Steve - Rotonda West - Bob Chin's crabhouse in Wheeling, IL! - Big Bamboo El JoBean.
2. kn4rke - Bob - Englewood - Pueblo - Mexican - Venice! - Foxhunt this Saturday! Farlow's on the water.
3. kq4ssq - Hector - Northport - Anna Maria Oyster Bar - Rt 41 -

4. k7wwr - Bill - Greenland - Kaqortoq Greenland. Now ten foot seas! Pink Elephant BG!

Net control W1NQT is now closing the EARS Net at 7:20 pm and returning this repeater to normal amateur use.

Minutes continued from page 1.....

CCFLARES – Data links are being updated in order to provide a more robust network – this has included changing internet carriers. Last month's exercise was changed up to a hurricane event in order to test all participants capabilities and response. There will be a TECH class during July with testing on August 7th. On June 24th CCLARES as well as EARS members participated in a Mass Casualty exercise at Englewood Hospital and other HCA facilities (Fawcett Hospital and Emergency Clinic at Wellen Park) – this was organized chaos for approximately 45 minutes with much activity. Additionally, the Englewood Fire District participated in this drill and they found it very gratifying to have the EARS radio operators on site as well as Steve Bishop (a former fire Captain) who was immediately recruited to act as dispatch for the exercise.

Pico Balloon launch – the club is looking to work with one of the local schools to do a balloon launch late this year or early next year. Volunteers are needed to help with this.

Fall Picnic – there was discussion of a fall social picnic – probably in November. Shirley Duke volunteered to coordinate this activity.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion was initiated on the purchase of either an additional Club Banner or a table runner with the Club Logo on it. The discussion centered on the need and options.

Bernie offered a motion that the Club purchase up to both a New Banner and a Table Runner at a cost not to exceed \$500. The motion was seconded by Ken Blackshaw. Vote: all in favor.

Mobile repeater system – Bob McAlister will investigate and determine the cost of a mobile repeater system, push-up antenna and required cabling. Bob will report at the next meeting.

There being no further business – Motion to adjourn was made by Steve Froggatt, seconded by Jon Blincoe. The meeting was adjourned at 2030 hours.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL:

Membership renewal can be accomplished by sending the form on the LAST page to EARS, or by logging on to the clubs website, www.earsradioclub.org and using the [PAYPAL buttons on our webpage to renew your membership!](#)

Paypal or Credit Card Single Year Membership - \$25.00

[Add to Cart](#)

Family Membership - \$30.00

[Add to Cart](#)

EARS SHIRT AND HAT ORDER INFO:

If you want to order a new EARS hat or shirt, Place your order at: hamthreads.com

You'll need to enter the code N4EAR In the special instructions:

Monthly Meetings at COC

As mentioned in the header of the newsletter, the club meets the second Tuesday of the month at the Englewood Chamber of Commerce. The meeting starts at 7pm.

N4EAR WAS (WORKED ALL STATES) UPDATE (as of July 31):

The QRZ log associated with our Club Station (N4EAR) shows the following QSO's:

Confirmed:

Alabama
Hawaii
Idaho
Indiana
Kentucky
Louisiana
Michigan
Mississippi
North Carolina
New Jersey
New York
Ohio
Oklahoma
Pennsylvania
South Carolina
Tennessee
Virginia

Unconfirmed:

Arkansas, Arizona
California, Colorado
Delaware
Florida
Georgia
Massachusetts
Maryland
Maine
Minnesota
New Hampshire, Oregon
Rhode Island
Texas
Washington, Wisconsin
West Virginia
Wyoming

As you can see, 35 states total, we have a good start! Please join in and let's get all 50 confirmed! Send your N4EAR logs to **KN4RKE**.

TIPS FOR REPEATER USE:

Avoid '*kerchunking*!' All too often while monitoring N4EAR, I hear a carrier pop on there, and then drop off with no ID. The correct way to do this is to say 'this is – your callsign – listening.' Unidentified transmissions are an FCC rule violation!

I know, it seems like the repeater is idle most of the time, but sometimes three or more stations want to be on at once. The key is to allow a few seconds between transmissions. Don't just start talking the moment the other station drops the mike. Listen for other stations!

If you have more than two stations in a conversation, hand the mike to one of them – else you end up with doubling and frustration. Remember to listen for other stations, possibly even one needing to make an important call.

To start out, just give your call sign and say 'listening.' Avoid '*Kerchunking*.' That is bringing up the repeater without ID-ing.

And last – check out - <https://www.qsl.net/w9mar/repeateretiquette.htm>. **W1NQT**

JULY 19 FOXHUNT:



Participants in the Fox Hunt included W2CWL, KN4YIV, KN4YIU, W4AII, KN4BAR, KE4VEM (and Sarah), KM4GX, KQ4YMQ, and KQ4SSQ. The hunt kicked off at 9:30 am. Because reception was not very good at Tringali Park, hunters were advised to head toward Placida Road and take a reading. Approximately 35 minutes later, KE4VEM and daughter Sarah found the fox in GC Derring Park, located off Cape Haze Road south of Rotonda! Within the next 45 minutes, all the teams located the fox. Details regarding the next Fox Hunt are being formulated and will take place in August.

Englewood Amateur Radio Society

Treasurer Report



	Beginning Balance		4288.53		
	Expenses		Income		
July 2025					
7/8/2025	\$0.00	CASH	\$48.00	W1NQT winner and donated to club	Duke
Sum	\$0.00		\$48.00		Balance 4336.53

Petty Cash

\$111.50	\$68.19	Balance	\$43.31
Amount Received	Amount Paid		

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert W McAlister".

Robert McAlister, Treasurer

Friday, August 1, 2025



Englewood Amateur Radio Sociey

ARRL
MBR

First Name

Last Name

Call Sign

License Class

Address

City

Zip Code

Local Phone

Mobile Phone

Email Address

Secondary Address

Secondary City

ST

Zip

Spouse

Please check Activity Interests:

Field Day

Technical

Contesting

Computers

RFI/TVI

Packet

VE Testing

Publicity

Training

Special Events

Yearly Membership Dues \$25

Family Membership Dues \$30

Bring form and Check to Meeting, or mail form and check to:

E.A.R.S.
P.O. Box 572
Englewood, FL. 34295