



# E A R S

President Jon Pellant, W1JP  
VP Jim Nelson, W4AII  
Secretary Herman Hoffman, WA9LFQ  
Treasurer Bob McAlister, KN4RKE

Englewood Florida  
[www.earsradioclub.org](http://www.earsradioclub.org)  
Facebook: Englewood Amateur Radio Society



## Supporting and Practicing Ham Radio in Englewood

May 2021

### MEETING REPORTS AND NOTES

#### NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be: Tuesday, June 8th at the COC in Englewood, unless otherwise notified. Check the FB page , and groups.io for last minute updates

#### CLUB NEWS

##### **May 11, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Open the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.  
(19:06) Led by James Nelson VP.

Secretary's Report Accepted– Motion to accept by Bob McAllister

2<sup>nd</sup> by Jon Blincoe, accepted as submitted by H. Hoffman, Secretary.

Treasurer's Report Accepted – Motion by Stephen Froggatt, 2<sup>nd</sup> by James Nelson. \$5,418.04 in account on April 20 statement, Current \$5444.41

T Shirt Sales \$ 30.00, Petty Cash \$53.00 on May 11, 2021. Move by Steve Froggatt, 2cnd by Jon Blincoe to accept.

**Correspondence:** - No meaningful correspondence

Members Present: Jon Pellant W1JP/ President (Meet Failure & Illness caused absence), Jim Nelson W4AII /Vice President, Robert McAlister KN4RKE Treasurer, Jon Blincoe N0COC, Paul Needham KB3YXS, Doug Frasier KE5ODR, Steve Froggatt KN4NFX, Doug Vanderlaan K8RFT, John Hodgdon KN4PHQ, and Herman Hoffman WA9LFQ,

Did I miss any members or Mangle Call-Signs?  
\*\*\*\* Meeting in person at Englewood Chamber of Commerce. Google Meet no member with 10 in person members on board, thank you all.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Sunshine** – Victor Emmelcamp, K4VHX Update

**ARES** – (Formerly RACES) – Emergency Repeater equipment in place at Doug Frasier QTH operat-

ing on 433.00 Mhz. Cert Members completed Technician Class Training and testing success. Congratulation to KE5ODR and his partners, Testing took place on April 24<sup>th</sup> with 100% SUCCESS. Doug, KE5ODR also completed 6 meter antenna prototype. *Our thanks to Doug and his contributions to EARS.*

**Publicity** – Ken Blackshaw, W1NQT, ARRL Field Day on June 26<sup>th</sup> needs information for local publicity. Secretary to send info. *Huge TNX to Ken for his efforts on behalf of EARS*

**DX** – Band conditions are improving, measurably with sunspot activity with 40 Meter Band skip on occasion.. Actual activity is rising on 20/40 and an occasional rare conversation on 80 meters.

**Training & Testing** – see Doug Frasier at ARES news.

**Technology** – W4XE Repeater is back on the air after a short outage.

**Ham-Fests** – ARRL Pinelo West Central Florida and Dayton activity discussion.

**Repeater** –Repeater site at the tower located at Home Depot and McCall Rd. discussion. Nothing definite.

**OLD BUSINESS:** ARRL Summer Field became responsibility of yours truly, WA9LFQ, who firmly believes the ARRL Summer Field Day needs to have membership and ham participation. At this time Bob McAlister and Herman Hoffman will set up a single station at Ann Dever County Park at 6791 San Cosa Drive with the EARS Club radio

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*Minutes continued.....*

## **Field Day is June 26th**

All ham radio people understand what a Field Day event is, right? We all get our Sunday going to meeting clothing and head out for a good day of fun, comradery, perhaps some ingenuity, physically strenuous totting, lot'sa atta boys, and ham magic with contacts anywhere the skip leads us.

**It is another opportunity to show our fellow earthlings that we can deal with emergencies and disasters with technical fixes, fancy gadgets, and just-plain know how & spirit. Many of us have been involved in Field Day since the days of 811's and 6146's. RTTY and SSB notwithstanding. Oh, the joy of it all and a Public Service besides. This event and others like it show the Public what we do and how we do it.**

**Estimates say that well over 42,000 folks that have a call sign following their name on FCC records will be out, about, and saying "CQ Field Day" for a while on June 26 & 27. It brings together public service, community outreach, disaster preparation, and ham skills in an annual celebration display that takes place the last full weekend of June and has been for nearly 90 years.**

**This year's Field Day will begin at 1400 EST on, Saturday, June 26 thru Sunday, June 27. This years location will operate from Ann & Chuck Dever Reginal Park on San Casa Drive, Englewood. Dever Park is East of 775 approximately 1.5 Miles.**

**While plans are not fixed in cement, yet we plan on three operating stations with flexibility for band operations that needs to follow the generally improving sunspot activity. I am hoping for all bands from 6M to 80M but that de-**

**pends on participation and Mother Nature.**

**Anybody that can help with setup, teardown, clean up, operations, food?, planning, materials, hardware, rigs, or any other essential please get in touch with fellow members and we will organize appropriately. This is the kind of activity that takes a village. I appreciate your participation in advance. Email here is [WA9LFQ@yahoo.com](mailto:WA9LFQ@yahoo.com) or contact any officer or member and let us know what you can donate. WA9LFQ Herman**

### **2 Meter Chat Net:**

The club conducts a two meter chat net every Tuesday evening on K8ONV, 146.865 136.5HZ tone, -600 transmit. On Tuesdays that the club holds its meeting, no net.

Tuesday, 5/4/2021

This is WINQT for the EARS K8ONV Net. I will now take checkins.

1. k1lov - Steve - PC - Best wishes - hot and humid! May 4 (Star wars Day)and 5 Cinco!!
2. kn4rke - Bob - Week in TN and in Atlanta, missed breakfast.
3. kn4jen - Allen - mobile remote head IC-208. Banks of the Myakka.
4. k8rft - Doug - Tricky programming HT. And FT8.
5. w4aii - Jim - Next week meeting! QRP interest.
6. ke5odr - Doug - Yardwork - Placida, nice sunset.
7. kn4nfx - Steve - Rotonda W - Not an earlybird! Lovebugs.
8. kn4phq - John - 73s to all and CU at the meeting
9. k2gqg - John - Ham radio camping weekend. Digital introduction - monsoon up there.
10. k1ueg - Pam - Antenna in the tree. Meeting is Google meets in the weekly notice. SK equipment.

Check for NCS next week (actually in two weeks).

EARS meetings are held every second Tuesday of the month at 7 PM at Englewood Chamber of Commerce, or virtually on N4EAR.

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## Minutes continued from page 1

and Bob's home brew SPYDER antenna on Saturday June 26<sup>th</sup> for the activity. Herman will bring other club paraphernalia to the site awaiting installers and operators. All are **WELCOME**, FD starts at 2PM. Water, sunscreen, snacks, hats, et all will be needed to stay safe. Come early to setup and stay late to operate.

Motion to move club checking account to Englewood Bank & Trust made by Jon Blincoe and seconded by Steve Froggatt. Unanimous approval.

**No New Business-ADJOURNMENT-** called by Steve Froggatt, 2nd by Jim Nelson at 19:52. June 8<sup>th</sup> 7 Pm Next Meeting at Chamber of Commerce

**IMPORTANT MINUTES ANNOUNCEMENT: Due to Government intervention, introduction of Hurricane Season and Summer has occurred. Therefore, ECHO-LINK service may be interrupted by storms, internet outages, power interruptions, and unforeseen difficulties.**

Doug Vanderlann, K8RFT, provided an after meeting in service review regarding BaoFeng antenna counterpoise compromises and do & don't. Remarkably interesting discussion followed. *Thank you, Doug V. K8RFT*

## **SAFE TRAVELS TO OUR SNOW BIRD MEMBERS & FRIENDS!**

**Tnx & 73's We look forward to your early return!**

*2 Meter Chat New continued from page 2.....*

EARS members and friends meet every week on Tuesdays at 7:30 AM at Denny's on Indiana in Englewood.

Information on EARS can be found at QRZ.com at N4EAR, or on website [earsradioclub.org](http://earsradioclub.org), or [ears.group.io](http://ears.group.io).

Closed net at 7:27 pm and the repeater is back to its normal open operation.

**May 25, 2021**

Net opened at 7 pm by **KN4RKE**

### **Early Checkin:**

**KN4LFC**, Ray. Had a conflict, wanted to be "in the book". All good

### **ECHO Link checkin:**

**K2GQG John in Caneseo, NY—dry and hot up north** Echo link connection sounded good!

### **Local Checkin**

**K1LOV** Steve in Port Charlotte, good signal into repeater

**WA9LFQ** Herman, Gulf Cove, heading up Field Day Ann Deaver Park on Sand Casa

**W4AII** Jim (VP of EARS) on Manasota Key. Club meeting June 11 at COC. Check for key pick up

**KN4NFX** Steve in Rotonda West

**KN4PHQ**, John in Rotonda West.. Close to heading North!

**K8RFT** Doug, breakfast at Denny's was good this morning. Show and tell items

**W8JJV**, Duwayne in Murdock dry

**KA8PBA**, Jim in Englewood

Net closed at 7:20pm. 11 operators on the net this evening!

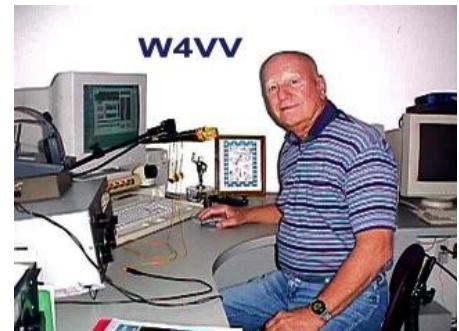
### **Breakfast at Denny's**



The club continues to have breakfast at Denny's every Tuesday at 7:30am. For the last few weeks the group has had between 6 and 10 people! The food is good, the prices are right, ,the, service is great, and the fellowship is priceless! Plan on attending Tuesday mornings if you can! Denny's is located just south of Placida Rd on 776.

## **Frank Maren – W4VV – SK at age 93 – by Ken Blackshaw, W1NQT**

My earliest memory of Frank would be the ARRL Field Day club activity in 1997. Back then we set up behind the Methodist Church on Dearborn. Frank was always one of the experts guiding antenna setup – shooting wires over tree tops and then running feed lines into the tents where the actual stations would operate. On Sunday after we shut down Field Day operations, Frank was the chef, grilling hamburgers and hotdogs, and singing a lot of songs. All the XYLs and other family members would show up and we'd have a good feed.



From Tom Hawes, WA3PRC – “I would call Frank the grill-meister,,, Always after our field day we would have a have a picnic and Frank would take over the grill and grill our hamburgers and a good job he did.”

Frank's FD activities continued through 2009 and perhaps longer. He was another of the great old timers who participated, now Silent Keys - including Ken Anderson, W4JQT, Marty Horowitz, N4FA, JR House, K9HUY, and John Fogle, W1JF.

I also remember Frank as the man with a hundred songs – one of my favorites was the Chiquita Banana song which Frank could sing from beginning to end.

Frank was also a DX Star. The ARRL DX Honor Role shows him with 343 Countries (DX ‘entities’) confirmed. He will always stay ahead of our good friend, the late JR House, K9HUY, who finished at 341.

Gene Reilly, KI4FJJ comments, “He was a real asset to EARS in a variety of his contributions. When I first met Frank, I fondly remember how his face would light up when we would talk about baseball and his own baseball career. Then during Frank's last few years, I had a few opportunities to be Tom's substitute driver, chauffeuring Frank to our Tuesday breakfast gatherings. It was rewarding and just fun to exchange our "old war stories" with Frank. God bless Frank and his family.” Gene Reilly

Vic Emmelkamp recalls – “Frank was also heavily involved in the Hurricane Charley recovery effort in 2004. He helped at the LAAinger site and set up the Red Cross operation at Tringali Center. There was also a write up in the Port Charlotte newspaper with pictures of him reinstalling a homeowners TV antenna which was blown down as a result of Hurricane Charley.

Contributions in Frank's memory may be made to **Tidewell Hospice** –

<https://tidewellfoundation.org/donate/>

## CURRENT EARS MEMBERSHIP LIST

JoAnn	Adamy	KC4WJ
John	Babbitt	K2GQG
Sue	Babbitt	KD2AQR
Jerry	Baumgartner	NotYet Tested
Ken	Blackshaw	W1NQT
Jonathan	Blincoe	N1COC
David	Cetola	N1TKN
Steven	Churchill	N9USZ
Freeman	Crosby	W1NPR
Colin	Eggleton	KG4EDG
Pamela	Eggleton	K1UEG
Cliff	Evans	KC3F
Steve	Froggatt	KN4NFX
Jim	Grimes	KD8OCW
Michael	Henry	KF4KDI
Matthew	Henry	KE4VEM
John	Hodgdon	KN4PHQ
Herman	Hoffman	WA9LFQ
Duwain	Hunt	W8JJV
George	Krickovich	W2YJ
Ray	LaBrie	KN4LFC
Ray D.	Magsby	KK4LGF
Robert	McAlister	KN4RKE
Jerry	Meckenberg	K4JWE
Luis	Napoles	KN4ITK
Paul	Needham	KB3YXS
Jim	Nelson	W4AII
Jon	Pellant	W1JP
Jim	Porter	KA8PBA
Jim	Reske	NB3P
Jim	Sanford	K8ZZU
Berrnie	Silverberg	K4KUO
Doug	Vanderlaan	K8RFT
Jay	Wilson	KB1HNE
Douglas and Jayne	Young	KM4LKC
Dennis	Young	KB1ORM

If you are not on the list, please consider renewing your membership for 2021! The more Amateur Radio Operators we have, the better the club will be. If you have paid and I missed your call, please let me know

KN4RKE, Treasurer.



## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

**CUT OFF FOR EARS SUBMISSIONS: 18TH of each month** Please, no articles of a political, religious, controversial or argumentative nature. The Club reserves the right to accept, edit, or reject any submission.. **Bob McAlister KN4RKE Phone: 941-416-2516 (cell) 941-474-4190 (Home) E-Mail: [bob.mcalister@outlook.com](mailto:bob.mcalister@outlook.com)** Please use the email shown..



## Englewood Amateur Radio Sociey

First Name	Last Name	Call Sign	License Class	ARRL MBR	<input type="checkbox"/>
Address		City	Zip Code		
Local Phone	Mobile Phone	Email Address			
Secondary Address		Secondary City	ST	Zip	
Spouse					

### Please check Activity Interests:

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Field Day  | <input type="checkbox"/> Technical      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contesting | <input type="checkbox"/> Computers      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> RFI/TVI    | <input type="checkbox"/> Packet         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> VE Testing | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Training   | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Events |

Yearly Membership Dues \$15

Family Membership Dues \$18.50

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

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

July 2021 (Eastern Time - New York)