



# EARS

ENGLEWOOD AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY



President Bill Reed K7WWR, VP Steve Bishop, KM4GX Secretary Bernie Schmelz, K1BES Treasurer Bob McAlister, KN4RKE Trustees: M. Henry KE4VEM, H. Hoffman, WA9LFB, Jon Pellant W1JP

Englewood Florida  
Sunshine@ears.groups.io  
www.earsradioclub.org email: info@earsradioclub.org  
Facebook: Englewood Amateur Radio Society

## Supporting and Practicing Ham Radio in Englewood

## January 2025

### MEETING REPORTS AND NOTES

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be: **Tuesday, February 11th, 2025 at the COC in Englewood at 19:00, unless otherwise notified. Check the FB page, and groups.io for last minute updates**

### CLUB NEWS

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been tested and will be programmed with the latest code plug. Also, the next CCFLARES meeting will be on the third Monday of the month at Perkins in Port Charlotte. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**Sunshine** – Ken Blackshaw reported that “sunshine” has been sent to John Hodgedon, Jim Porter and Bill Dolan.

**Events** – Bob McAlister reported that there will be a “foxhunt/walkabout” during winter field day.

Winter Field Day will be on January 25<sup>th</sup> at Ann Deaver Park. Included will be a chili cookoff as well as lots of DXing. Set up will be at 0900, field day begins at 1100.

**Old Business** – Echo Link – The officers continue to move forward with the plans to co-locate the Echo Link node at the repeater site utilized by CCFLARES and the County.

**New Business** – The Board has proposed that new licensee members will be awarded a new HT Radio. This encourages new licensees to continue their HAM Radio hobby and get them going immediately as soon as they are licensed.

Also, an additional award category – Member of the Year. This award recognizes a club member that has provided extensive support to the club by volunteering, taking on additional tasks, and providing continual support to the Club and its members.

This year’s nominee has volunteered for countless tasks, given countless hours to the club and never says no when asked to take on an additional task. This year’s Member of the Year is **SHIRLEY DUKE**.

**Activities Committee** – Club members attended a morning at the range. Also, there is a social breakfast at Junior and Rosie’s each Tuesday at 0700. Junior and Rosie’s has opened a new location in East Englewood which is larger and gives an opportunity for member to sit together rather than at several tables. Several members have proposed that the Club give the new location a try. After much discussion it was agreed that the new location will be given a try during February and will be discussed at the next meeting.

It has been proposed that if any club member knows of someone in need of “sunshine” they can send an email to [sunshine@ears.groups.io](mailto:sunshine@ears.groups.io). This is a confidential email and all suggestions/notifications will remain private.

HAMCATION is on February 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>. TARC will have a bus going. Contact TARC through its web site.

Minutes continued on page 2.....



#### MEETING MINUTES, JANUARY 14, 2025

The meeting came was called to order at 1905 hours.

**MEMEBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** K1BES – Bernie Schmelz, KN4RKE – Bob McAlister, N9USZ – Steve Church, N3MR – Mike Reid, W2CWL – Bill Dolan, K2GQG – John S Babbitt, WA9LFB – Herman Hoffman, KD8OCW – Jim Grimes, KE5ODR – Doug Frazier, W1NQT – Ken Blackshaw, KG4PSG Clive Towndrow W4All – Jim Nelson, KN4NFX – Steve Froggatt, KE4VEM – Matt Henry, Sarah Henry, K7WWR – Bill Reed, KM4GX – Steve Bishop, KN4YIU – Shirley Duke, KN4YIV – Steve Malone, W4RFV – Tony Levenson.

**Guests in attendance:** KA9SZX – Mark Garrett, Donna Materly.

The first order of business for the meeting is the election of officers. The Election Committee consisting of Shirley Duke and Mike Reid presented a slate of candidates consisting of: Bill Reed – for President, Steve Bishop – for Vice-President, Bernie Schmelz – for Secretary, Bob McAlister – for Treasurer. As Trustees the following were nominated – Matt Henry and Herman Hoffman. Immediate Past-President – Jon Pellant. Result of the Election was: Bill Reed – President, Steve Bishop – Vice-President, Bernie Schmelz – Secretary, Bob McAlister – Treasurer. As Trustees – Matt Henry and Herman Hoffman. Immediate Past-President – Jon Pellant.

**Secretary’s report** – Motion to accept as published – Steve Froggatt, seconded by Steve Malone. Vote – all in favor.

**Treasurer’s report** - Motion to accept as published – Mike Reid, seconded by Joh Babbitt. Vote- all in favor.

**DX Reports** – Tony Levenson – contact in Namibia on 20m; Steve Bishop – lots of activity on 12m, propagation has been exceedingly good.

**CCFLARES** – Steve Bishop and Bernie Schmelz reported that Tom Chance acquired a batch of used NXDN radios that are available for purchase by EARS members. They have

## 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. Eleven Club members at the last breakfast.

**NOTICE:** *The club voted to meet at Junior and Rosie's new restaurant, formerly "Charlie's Good Times", on the 776 Access Road just out of town near Winchester. Hope to see you there at 7:00 am or so Tuesday February 4th.*

### Upcoming Club Activities

**February-** N4EAR worked all states event  
We want to get a worked all states certificate for the club station.  
Time **TBD**  
Foxhunt—TBD

### 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, next door to the Fire Station in Englewood.. The meeting starts at 7pm. After the meeting, we like to have a speaker to present interesting technical, operational, or otherwise ham radio oriented topics. If you have a new rig, antenna, ham radio software, or tips about ham radio operation, please contact a club officer to schedule a time to share your info with the club members!

### Sunshine Email Established:

The club has established a groups.io address for any Sunshine suggestions. Simply send an email

to: [sunshine@ears.groups.io](mailto:sunshine@ears.groups.io)

The info you send will reach W1NQT and KN4RKE to be followed up on.



### 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: W4AII/KM4GX**

**Week 5 (if needed) : Open**

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

### Simplex Emergency Network:

If you have not participated in the simplex net, and are interested in being added to the list, please let a club officer know. We are hoping to have an alternative/back up to the club repeater for emergency and non emergency communications. The frequency used is 144.200 Mhz. (Simplex). The frequency may change in the near future. The club is developing a spreadsheet to note point-to-point capabilities and relay stations.

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The Editor is always looking for articles and pictures for future newsletter printings. Send pictures of your shack, antenna farms and equipment!

### Minutes from page 1....

There has been a request to re-instate a Club Directory. Members agreed to go ahead. Doug Frazier volunteered to put the information together and submit it to the Board for review.

Shirley Duke has information on Club Shirts and will re-post the information. Members can order directly from the supplier.

The meeting adjourned at 2050.

This is the list I have of members in good standing through 12/31/2025. Thanks,

Membership renewal can be accomplished by sending the form on the next page to EARS, or by logging on to the clubs website, [www.earsradioclub.org](http://www.earsradioclub.org) and using the **Paypal** option. You don't need a paypal account to join! Go to the club website to renew via paypal

**[Please advise me of any corrections or new additions](#)**

**Bob KN4RKE, Treasurer, [lobanker@hotmail.com](mailto:lobanker@hotmail.com).**

**[Use the PAYPAL buttons on our webpage to renew your membership!](#)**

**Paypal or Credit Card Single Year Membership - \$25.00**

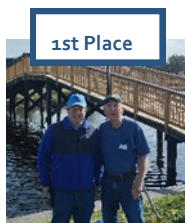
[Add to Cart](#)

**Family Membership - \$30.00**

[Add to Cart](#)

| Newsletter Paid Dues Query F Name | L Name      | Call Sign |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| Paul                              | Apollonia   | N3GCA     |
| John                              | Babbitt     | K2GQG     |
| Brendon                           | Bertancourt | KB3FUH    |
| Steve                             | Bishop      | KM4GX     |
| Ken                               | Blackshaw   | W1NQT     |
| Joyce                             | Bourque     | N1RUZ     |
| David                             | Bourque     | WB1FLD    |
| Steven                            | Churchill   | N9USZ     |
| Kelly                             | Combes      | WO4KAC    |
| Freeman                           | Crosby      | W1NPR     |
| Bill                              | Dolan       | W2CWL     |
| Shirley                           | Duke        | KN4YIU    |
| Vic                               | Emmelkamp   | K4VHX     |
| Cliff                             | Evans       | KC3F      |
| Sarah                             | Evans       | KB3OWW    |
| Doug                              | Frazier     | KE5ODR    |
| Jim                               | Grimes      | KD8OCW    |
| Matthew                           | Henry       | KE4VEM    |
| Michael                           | Henry       | KF4KDI    |
| Herman                            | Hoffman     | WA9LFQ    |
| William                           | Hopewell    | KQ4YMQ    |
| Allan                             | Huston      | KC1IWF    |
| Karl                              | Kaukis      | K0CIE     |
| Tony                              | Levenson    | W4RFV     |
| Steve                             | Malone      | KN4YIV    |
| Donna                             | Matherly    | None yet  |
| Roger                             | Mattila     | N9KWB     |
| Robert                            | McAlister   | KN4RKE    |
| Luis                              | Napoles     | KN4ITK    |
| Jim                               | Nelson      | W4AII     |
| Kermit                            | Noles       | KQ4ELK    |
| Kyra                              | Pellant     |           |
| Jim                               | Sanford     | K8ZZU     |
| Bernard                           | Schmelz     | K1BES     |
| Scott                             | Van Sice    | KQ4FUN    |
| Larry                             | Van Sice    | KQ4DGX    |
| Mark                              | Willoughby  | W1EKU     |
| Douglas & Jayne                   | Young       | KM4LKC    |

**December 14 Foxhunt Results:**



Seven foxhunt enthusiasts registered for the foxhunt event. The fox was turned on at 9:30am and the participants started taking their bearings at Tringali Park. Twenty- six minutes later the team of Tony Levenson and Matthew Henry showed up at the island across the street from the Rotonda Hills Golf Course! A new record for the quickest time! After an additional twenty minutes, Bill Reed nabbed second place. Coming in third was the Steve Bishop and Ed Godievsky team, with fourth place going to Kelly Combes and Bill Hopewell.

## Encounter with the Past

So – I'm driving along on South McCall Tuesday and notice what looked like a ham plate on the car in the right lane and did a double-take! W1JF!! That's my SK friend, John Fogle's call sign. I'm thinking, could his widow still be alive? I think John passed in 2004. He kept that Connecticut callsign down here.

Later I dug in my old EARS Directories and find him in 2002, but not in 2005.

This is the entry from the 2002 directory

John Fogle-**W1JF**

Wife: Nancy ---

Cape Haze, Fl 33946

697-7946, Rptr. Dial-233 -

[w1jf@ewol.com](mailto:w1jf@ewol.com)

Brought back memories – back then we all had **EWOL** (Englewood On-Line) e-mails.

What the heck – I tried that 697 number and eventually a lady picked up and said 'Hello' in a guarded voice. Nancy?? I said – and then Yeeesss?? Came back – Who is this? She eventually remembered who the hell I was. She is still here – still with license plate that John had – that I saw on McCall yesterday! Glad she picked up the phone from a strange 941 number.

We had a good chat. She also remembered Dr. John Combs, **K9JPC**, later **W4VMD**, another name the old club members would latch onto. He was a veterinary doctor. Lost him in 2010.

In 2011 the Club started listing Silent Keys in the directory. Here are the entries from that year, perhaps to jog some memories. Perhaps the list would be too long now.

## **Silent Keys**

John Combs **W4DVM**, Donald DiBello **KF4WJW**, John Fogle **W1JF**, Jim Halliday **NX2II**, Selwin Kerrigan **WB1CYM**, Frank Kouri **K4KF**, Gabriel Meckenberg **K2GQU**, Warren Nottingham **W4NEL**, James O'Rourke **N1KKE**, Bruce Robideau **K2OY**, Mary Ryden **K8ONV**, Ken Ryden **K8ONG**, Frank Schwab **W8OK**, Ron G. Snowdon **KE4JWB**, Al Stevens **KA9KAZ**, Vince Thereau **KG4IAV**, Joseph Ventura **KB4OCM**, Larry Yacobelli **W4ERN**  
William Williams - **KA1LHO**

There are a lot of former officers on that list, and, certainly – Mary Ryden, whose callsign was used for our repeater until recently.

And last but not least – here is the current holder of John's old callsign. **W1JF USA**, **Alan R Beckwith**, 4 Larkspur Lane, Medfield, MA 02052

73s – Ken, **W1NQT**

## Ham Radio Equipment for Sale:

Item 1. Ameritron AL-82 linear amplifier.  
Asking \$2,000 (they're \$4,000 new)



Item 2. Ameritron ARB-704 Amplifier-to-Transceiver Interface (there are three of these and one cable)

Asking \$60 each (They're asking \$100 on Ebay)



Item 3. MFJ 989D Versatuner V

Asking \$200 (they're asking \$300 on Ebay)



Item 4. Eico 723 60 watt CW transmitter with 8 crystals (7.010, 7.020, 7.025, 7.030, 7.035, 7.110, 7.160, 7.172)

Asking \$120 (they're asking \$175 on Ebay and crystals are between \$15 and \$20. but these are included with the transmitter)



Item 5. Drake TR4C transceiver w/MS-4 speaker cabinet, power supply and Power Supply rebuild kit.

Asking \$375 (I've seen two on Ebay, one asking \$400 and one asking \$600)

Anyone interested can email N#MR (Mike Reid) at [mreid@unm.edu](mailto:mreid@unm.edu) or text to 505-220-6256.

Thanks very much!  
Michael Reid  
N3MR

# Englewood Amateur Radio Society

## Treasurer Report



|                      | Beginning Balance |            |      | 4533.01  |  |  |
|----------------------|-------------------|------------|------|----------|--|--|
|                      | Expenses          |            |      | Income   |  |  |
| <b>December 2024</b> |                   |            |      |          |  |  |
| 12/10/2024           | \$140.00          | check      | 1010 | \$0.00   |  | Christmas Dinners Englewood Methodist Church |
| 11/26/2024           | \$139.98          | Check      | 1009 | \$0.00   |  | 2 Thanksgiving Dinners Publix                |
| 12/10/2024           | \$0.00            | Check      |      | \$30.00  |  | 2025 dues K7WWR                              |
| 12/10/2024           | \$0.00            | Check      |      | \$25.00  |  | N3MR 2025 dues                               |
| 12/10/2024           | \$0.00            | Cash       |      | \$25.00  |  | KB8WXI 2025 dues                             |
| 12/10/2024           | \$0.00            | Cash       |      | \$25.00  |  | 2025 dues Steve Froggate                     |
| 12/10/2024           | \$0.00            | Cash       |      | \$25.00  |  | 2025 dues Clive Towndrow                     |
| 12/12/2024           | \$60.00           | Debit Card |      | \$0.00   |  | \$50 tuned cavity tuning and \$10 petty cash |
| 11/12/2024           | \$69.51           | check      | 1008 | \$0.00   |  | Domain Fees                                  |
| Sum                  | \$409.49          |            |      | \$130.00 |  | Balance <b>4253.52</b>                       |

### Petty Cash

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

*Robert McAlister*

Robert McAlister, Treasurer

Tuesday, January 7, 2025



## Englewood Amateur Radio Society

|                          |                       |                      |                      |                     |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>First Name</b>        | <b>Last Name</b>      | <b>Call Sign</b>     | <b>License Class</b> | <b>ARRL<br/>MBR</b> |
| <b>Address</b>           | <b>City</b>           | <b>Zip Code</b>      |                      |                     |
| <b>Local Phone</b>       | <b>Mobile Phone</b>   | <b>Email Address</b> |                      |                     |
| <b>Secondary Address</b> | <b>Secondary City</b> | <b>ST</b>            | <b>Zip</b>           |                     |
| <b>Spouse</b>            |                       |                      |                      |                     |

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