



# EARS

ENGLEWOOD AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY



President Bill Reed K7WWR, VP Steve Bishop,  
KM4GX Secretary Bernie Schmelz, KO4ZQL  
Treasurer Bob McAlister, KN4RKE  
Trustees: M. Henry KE4VEM, H. Hoffman, WA9LFQ,  
Jon Pellant W1JP

Englewood Florida

[www.earsradioclub.org](http://www.earsradioclub.org) email: [info@earsradioclub.org](mailto:info@earsradioclub.org)

Facebook: Englewood Amateur Radio Society

## Supporting and Practicing Ham Radio in Englewood

May 2024

### MEETING REPORTS AND NOTES

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be: **Tuesday, June 11, 2024 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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The treasurer’s report was published in the newsletter. There being no changes, motion to Approve: Steve Froggatt, seconded by Mike Reid. Vote all in favor.

DX Comms: Steve Bishop stated that the bands had been very quiet due to the high amount of CME activity, particularly the previous weekend. That being said, he made contact with Easter Island. There was some activity on 10 12 15 and 17 meter bands. Bill Reed said he made a contact in Mozambique. There was continuing discussion about the solar flares and the visibility of the Aurora Borealis on Saturday night. Steve Bishop was able to capture a picture of it.

CCFLARES – Jim Nelson reported on the Celebration of Life for Bob Bowes which was held at the EOC on Friday afternoon. There were approximately 40 people in attendance, all speaking very fondly about Bob.

Bernie Schmelz reminded everyone about the upcoming meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> and also the upcoming drill on the 30<sup>th</sup>. The drill will continue to test communications capabilities by all modes and various tactical locations throughout the area. Kelly Combes discussed the ability to utilize WINLINK with a cell phone using a “DIGIRIG”. Many members were interested and Kelly will do a full presentation at a future meeting.

**Continued on pg 2...**



#### **MEETING MINUTES** Minutes – May 14, 2024

Members convened at 1900 hours,

Members in Attendance **K1BES** Bernie Schmelz, **K7WWR** Bill Reed, **KM4GX** Steve Bishop, **W4RFY** Tony Levenson, **KQ4PSG** Clive Towndrow, **KN4NFX** Steve Froggatt, **KN4PHQ** John Hodgdon, **KA8PBA** Jim Porter, **KK8WN** Mark Thurston, **W4AII** Jim Nelson, **KN4YIV** Steve Malone, **KN4YIU** Shirley Duke, **WA9LFQ** Herman Hoffman , **N3MR** Michael Reid, **W2CWL** Bill Dolan , **KN4RKE** Bob McAlister, **WINQT** Ken Blackshaw, **N9KWB** Roger Mattila , **WO4KAC** Kelly Combes, **KD8KII** Charlie Lane, **KE4VEM** Matthew Henry

Members reconvened at 1915 hours. President Bill Reed offered the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the meeting.

Bob McAlister showed a video about “Fox Hunting” and afterwards answered questions regarding the upcoming foxhunt on May 18<sup>th</sup> from 1200 – 1600 hours beginning at Tringali Library.

The secretary’s report was published in the newsletter. There being no changes, motion to Approve: Steve Froggatt, seconded by Bill Dolan. Vote all in favor.

## *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. This summer we average about 8 club

Fun and fellowship at Junior and Rosie's

members every Tuesday. Thanks to Jon Blincoe, **N1COC**, for arriving early and setting up the tables for our group.

## Upcoming Club Activities

**June 29-30**—Summer Field Day; SGC Community Clubhouse. Set up 9 am Saturday.

**July 1** beginning 0000UTC—EARS 2nd Annual DX Contest;

**August 17-18**—Lighthouse Lightship weekend at Boca Grande Lighthouse.

## 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! Thanks in advance!

## EARS Foxhunt conducted May 18th:



On May 18th, the third Foxhunt conducted by EARS began at Tringali Library. Participating were Kelly Combes, **W04KAC**, Doug Frazier, **KE5ODR**, Bernie Schmelz, **K1BES**, Ken Blackshaw, **W1NQT**, Bill Dolan, **W2CWL**, Tony Levenson, **W4RFV**, Jim Nelson, **W4AI**, Bill Reed, **K7WWR**, and Steve Bishop, **KM4GX**. Armed with maps, compasses, directional antennas, the group competed to be the first to find the hidden transmitter.



In a mere 38 minutes, the team of **KM4GX** and **W1NQT** located the transmitter hidden in the Rotonda Lakes Community Park.

Before the afternoon was complete, all participants found the "Fox". The club will conduct more Foxhunts during the current year. Stand by for more information!

## For Sale:



Pigtail and adapter for ICOM NXDN HT's. Used to connect to an external antenna. **Contact Bernie Schmelz** if you would like one. Provided at cost for CCFLARES/EARS members.



## 2 Meter Chat Net:



The club conducts a two meter chat net every **Tuesday evening on N4EAR**, 146.865 136.5HZ tone, -600 transmit.at **7:15 PM**. On Tuesdays that the club holds its meeting, no net. If you are using echo link to check in, **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.**



## **Continued.....**

**SUNSHINE** – Ken Blackshaw reported that he had sent a card out to Bob Bowes’ family. Sunshine is active and Ken reminded everyone to let him know if there’s a need for sunshine.

**PUBLICITY** – Ken has contacted the Englewood Review to have the EARS meetings included in its published monthly calendar, and also the possibility of having a feature article included at some time in the future.

**ECHO LINK** – Herman Hoffman discussed how the repeater works and the equipment that is associated with operating the EARS Echo Link node – which includes a Yaesu 2600, with RS9 connector to an IRLP card. The node is hosted through a separate internet site. Bill Reed asked if Jim Nelson would chair a committee to look into the echo link situation, particularly the question of moving the local host location, as well as determining equipment needs, cost, logistics. Kelly Combes and Roger Mattila volunteered to work with Jim on this.

**NEW BUSINESS** – At the April meeting there was discussion of having to increase discretionary spending in the budget from \$50 to \$250 in order to cover certain expenses for POTA’s, etc. Right now some of the members are personally absorbing the costs of some club activities. The officers believe that if the activity is a club sponsored activity that the club should fund those costs.

The following motion was offered by Steve Froggatt: Change the by-laws as follows:

## Section 2-Disperse Funds

Membership approval by a two-thirds vote of members present at the budget meeting shall constitute authority for the Treasurer to disburse funds up to the amount approved in the Budget per line item. Disbursement for items not in the approved budget and totaling \$250.00 or less during the budget year shall require approval of at least 3 officers. Disbursement for items not in the approved budget and totaling more than \$250 during the budget year shall require approval of the officers and membership by a two-thirds vote at a meeting announced at least 30 days in advance to all members.

Seconded by Mike Reid. Vote: All in Favor.

There being no further business – the meeting adjourned at 2034 Hours.

## **N3MR NEW HAM RADIO SHACK:**



Thanks to Mike Reid, N3MR for sharing a picture of his new shack! After a bit of delay Mike finally got into his new home and found a nice place to set up his HF station! Well done!





This is the list I have of members in good standing through 12/31/2024. Thanks, Bob KN4RKE, Treasurer, lobanker@hotmail.com.

Paid Dues Query F Name	L Name	Call Sign
JoAnn	Adamy	KC4WJ
John	Babbitt	K2GQG
Sue	Babbitt	KD2AQR
Brendon	Bertancourt	KB3FUH
Steve	Bishop	KM4GX
Ken	Blackshaw	W1NQT
Jonathan	Blincoe	N1COC
Brett	Boone	KJ7BQQ
Joyce	Bourque	N1RUZ
David	Bourque	WB1FLD
Kelly	Combes	WO4KAC
Freeman	Crosby	W1NPR
Bill	Dolan	W2CWL
Shirley	Duke	KN4YIU
Vic	Emmelkamp	K4VHX
Cliff	Evans	KC3F
Doug	Frazier	KE5ODR
Steve	Froggatt	KN4NFX
Jim	Grimes	KD8OCW
August (Gus)	Hawkins	AA4
Matthew	Henry	KE4VEM
Michael	Henry	KF4KDI
John	Hodgdon	KN4PHQ
Herman	Hoffman	WA9LFQ
Stephen	Johnson	K1LOV
Karl	Kaukis	K0CIE

Paid Dues Query F Name	L Name	Call Sign
Walt	Kline	WB8WNF
Charles	Lane	KD8KII
Tony	Levenson	W4RFV
David	Lynch	K2SDA
Steve	Malone	KN4YIV
Roger	Mattila	N9KWB
Robert	McAlister	KN4RKE
John (Bernadette)	McEnerney	KQ4ELH
Jerry	Meckenberg	K4JWE
Luis	Napoles	KN4ITK
Jim	Nelson	W4AII
Kermit	Noles	KQ4ELK
Charlotte	O Conner	WD8RIM
Doc	O'Connor	K8DO
Kyra	Pellant	
Jon	Pellant	W1JP
Jim	Porter	KA8PBA
Bill	Reed	K7WWR
Michael	Reid	N3MR
Jim	Sanford	K8ZZU
Bernard	Schmelz	K1BES
James & Mary	Stillwagon	Not yet licensed
Mark	Thurston	KB8WXI
Daniel	Williams	N0DRW
Douglas & Jayne	Young	KM4LKC

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

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!

# Englewood Amateur Radio Society

## Treasurer Report

Treasurer Report May 2024

		Beginning Balance		\$3994.82	
May 2024		Expenses		Income	
5/14/2024	\$0.00	Cash		\$60.00	50/50 proceeds from March and April
4/15/2024	\$28.89	check	1006	\$0.00	member badges
5/14/2024	\$0.00	Check	236	\$117.80	merch sales paid to KN4YIU
5/14/2024	\$0.00	Check	163	\$30.00	payment for merch
				0	
5/14/2024	\$0.00	Cash	\$40.00	cash from KN4YIU for merch sales	
5/14/2024	\$0.00	Cash	\$60.00	50/50 drawings from April and	

\$4273.73 Ending Balance

### Petty Cash

\$33.31



Robert McAlister, Treasurer



## Englewood Amateur Radio Society

<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Call Sign</b>	<b>License Class</b>	<b>ARRL 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