

# WA4IWL NEWSLETTER

[www.earsradioclub.org](http://www.earsradioclub.org)



March 2012

## **PRESIDENT**



Steve Churchill N9USZ

## **Charlotte County Hamfest is this Saturday.**

for details go here:

<http://www.w4dux.net/Pages/default.aspx>

## **Secretary's Report**



### **EARS meeting February 16, 2012**

Steve N9USZ called the meeting to order at 7:28 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 20 members and 2 guests: Rich Emmelkamp and Walt Kline WB8WNF.

We began today with our program on Circular Polarization Antennas, presented by Ed Allen. It was a most interesting and informative program on new developments for the benefit of the amateur community. Vic K4VHX gave Ed a token of our appreciation, followed by a "thank you" e-mail. After a bit of cookies and coffee, we continued with our regular meeting.

The Secretary's report, the first by Marcia KA1GCV, was accepted as published in the newsletter.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Vic K4VHX as follows:

Checking account.....	\$4,656.96
Investment account.....	2,804.15
Total amount.....	7,461.11

A motion was made and seconded to accept the treasurer's report. The vote was all in favor.

Correspondence: Mail received from Dennis Babcock K4NF was read. He and his wife Suzie will not be returning to Englewood and will not be renewing his EARS membership. They have moved into their new home and have their motorhome for sale. Pictures are available on his picture site, <http://denshaw.smugmug.com>. They hope to come down for a visit in the future.

## Committee Reports:

**Sunshine:** All are as well as can be expected.

**RACES:** Mel W9BSM reported on the Skywarn training, which will be offered on March 14 at Englewood Community Hospital. It will begin promptly at 1 pm-2pm for beginners, then a half hour break, then continuation with the second half of the program. All are encouraged to attend and get certified. Recertification is required every 3 years. There will be a demonstration setup before the training begins.

**Publicity:** Skywarn training program appeared in the Sun newspapers in Englewood and Port Charlotte.

**Testing:** John reported that 2 ninth graders passed tech. They have a class in Sarasota studying for testing and would like to be tested by us when they are ready in either March or April. Testing is always on the second Saturday of the month at 10 am in the Venice library. There is a \$15 fee.

**DX:** Tom WA3PRC reported that the bands are open. Please see his detailed report.

**Hamfests:** A group went up to the Orlando hamfest; didn't buy or sell anything, but enjoyed sitting under a tent and drinking beer.

**Other:** A cropwalk will be held on Saturday, February 25th.

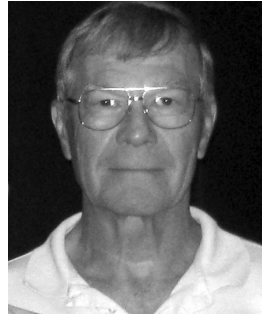
**Old Business:** Mike K4MWD reported that the Audit Committee reviewed Vic's papers and deemed all is well and correct.

**New Business:** Should we purchase a dipole or two?? After some discussion, this was tabled to the next meeting after we talk to Fred.

**Announcements:** Nothing yet from the Scholarship Committee.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marcia Fowler KA1GCV, Secretary



## DX REPORT

DX REPORT,,, MY OBSERVATIONS SINCE THE JANUARY MEETING....

THE SOUTH PACIFIC HAS BEEN ON AND NOW GONE

NIUE ISLAND AND WALLIS ISLAND HAVE BEEN ON THE AIR,, NIUE FOR 3 WEEKS AND WALLIS FOR 1 WEEK,, I WAS ABLE TO WORK NIUE SEVERAL TIMES BUT NOT WALLIS ISLAND

THEN I SPOTTED GUANTANAMO BAY ON 15M AND 20M ALONG WITH THE ISLAND OF GRENADA,,, I DID LISTEN TO THE TWO STATIONS BUT DID NOT WORK THEM

CHILI CAME ON WITH THREE DIFFERENT PREFIX'S, XR,3G3 AND XQ7.. THIS IS FOR THOSE WHO COLLECT PREFIX'S

SURINAME SHOWED UP AND THEY ARE ALWAYS A GOOD CATCH AS THEY ARE NOT ON THE AIR OFTEN

THE OTHER STATIONS OF INTEREST HAVE BEEN FALKLAND ISLES, SENEGAL, SOMALIA, SWAZILAND, CHGOS ISLAND AND EQUATORIAL GUINEA

THE SOLAR INDEX HAS BEEN LOW WHICH MEANS LOSUSY RECEPTION AND THE BANDS HAVE BEEN NOISY AND WEAK

TO CHECK THE SOLAR NUMBERS GO TO QRZ.COM

TOM WA3PRC

Next meeting March 15, 2012

7:30 PM

Englewood United Methodist  
Church

**Dues are due**

Just a reminder from your Treasurer; it is time to renew your membership. Individual memberships are \$15 per year and family memberships are \$18.50. Don't miss out on this coming year's meetings and activities! Our by-laws require that you be a paid up member by the end of February to retain your voting rights and be included in the membership directory.

**Make checks payable to: E.A.R.S.**

Mail your dues today to:

Victor Emmelkamp – K4VHX  
1181 Manor Rd  
Englewood, FL 34223

Thank you and 73 from the Club Officers.

**03/10/2012 | [East Pasco Tailgater](#)**

**Location:** Zephyrhills, FL

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** East Pasco ARS & Zephyrhills Area ARC

**Website:** <http://www.eparsonline.org>

**03/17/2012 | [Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Club Hamfest](#)**

**Location:** New Port Richey, FL

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Club

**04/14/2012 | [Mini Hamfest Tailgate](#)**

**Location:** Orlando, FL

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** AES Orlando

**VE Exam Sessions:** The exams are given at 10:00 A.M. the 2nd Saturday of each month in the conference room of the Venice public library, 300 South Nokomis Avenue, Venice, FL. The exam cost is \$15.00. Contact Jack Sproat-W4JS, [w4js@juno.com](mailto:w4js@juno.com), 475-1929.

**RACES:** Communications Training Nets are held on the last Wednesday and Thursday of each month. The Wednesday night Emergency Communications Information Net begins at 8 PM on 146.745(-)MHZ with a PL of 136.5

**QCWA Chapter 53 Meeting:**

11:30 A.M., 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at Denny's on Bee Ridge Rd., Sarasota, October through May, and the Panda Pavilion in Venice June through September.

**Snowbird Net:** Net is twice daily; first on 14.317 MHz at 10:00AM and on 7.233+- MHz at 7:00 P.M.

**Connecticut Connection Net:** Net is twice daily at 8:00 A.M. on 14.343+- MHz and at 6:40 P.M. on 7.184+- MHz.

**Two Meter Nets**

EARS 146.550 - Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

NPARC 147.120 Tuesday 8:00 p.m.

CARS 146.745 - Daily 8:30 a.m.

## LOCAL:

## HAMFESTS/CONVENTIONS

**03/10/2012 | [Charlotte County Hamfest](#)**

**Location:** Punta Gorda, FL

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Peace River Radio Association

**Website:** <http://www.w4dux.net>

TARC 444.100 – Tuesday 7:30 p.m.  
TARC 146.805 - Thursday 7:30 p.m.  
TARC 146.805 – Wednesday 8:00 p.m. DX net  
TARC's website is at: <http://tamiamiarc.org/>

PRRA 146.255 - Sunday 8:00 p.m.  
NICE 146.430 - Daily 8:30 p.m.

**Subject: We will have Skywarn (weather) training in Englewood.**

Place: Suncoast Auditorium at Englewood Community Hospital  
Date: March 14, 2012  
Time: 1:00 pm SHARP  
Talk-in: 146.865, PL 136.5, Englewood Repeater  
Presenter: Mr. Daniel Noah  
Courses to be covered: Beginner and Advanced Skywarn training  
For Reservation: Send e-mail to Mel Rathbun at [w9bsmfl@comcast.net](mailto:w9bsmfl@comcast.net) -, containing your name and current observer ID if you have one.



**Gerry K4WEG**

**New Skyline**

Here are a few pics of Gerry Meckenberg's new tower and antenna arrays. Expect an article in another newsletter.



**Tom N4XJQ**

Letters to the editor should be emailed to: [K4MWD@arrl.net](mailto:K4MWD@arrl.net) Put Editor in the subject line.



**Mike Daly K4MWD  
Editor**