



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, WA9LFO,
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

APRIL 2025

MEETING REPORTS AND NOTES

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be: **Tuesday, May 13th, 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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ENGLEWOOD AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY MEETING MINUTES, APRIL 8, 2025



The meeting came was called to order at 1918 hours.

MEMEBERS IN ATTENDANCE: K1BES – Bernie Schmelz, KN4RKE – Bob McAlister, N3MR – Mike Reid, W2CWL – Bill Dolan, WA9LFB –

Herman Hoffman, W1NQT – Ken Blackshaw, W4AI – 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, N1COC – John Blincoe, KN4PHQ – John Hodgedon, WIJP – Jon Pellant, KQ4DGX – Larry VanSice, WO4KAC – Kelly Combes, KD8KII – Charles Lane, K8ZZU – Jim Sanford, KD8OCW – Jim Grimes, N0PRW – Dan Williams.

Bill Reed made a presentation regarding static build up on the coax sheath leading into a shack. The presentation was in response to a static buildup event at a friend of his shack which he was able to document. Static is a result of ionization at the antenna and then feeding in through the sheath of the coax. The video clearly showed arcing inside the shack.

Jon Pellant explained how the charge is built up during a thunderstorm, where the ground plane is charged. In order to reduce or eliminate the risk one should use ground/shorting caps, connect grounding plate to ground rods (at least 3), use exothermic bonding connectors where grounding lines connect to the ground rods.

Bill suggested that LightingMaps.org has great resource maps which show real-time lightning activity.

Ionization potential can be extremely high, therefore really dangerous – in dry air the potential for static charge is 2000 v/cm in dry air. There were many questions and lots of discussion on this topic – it highlights the importance of proper grounding of one's station as well as disconnecting your antenna leads in the event of thunderstorms. It is important to remember that lightning can travel as far as 20 miles in dry air.

Secretaries' report – Approved as published. Motion to approve by Steve Froggatt, second Bill Reed – vote All in Favor, Jon Pellant abstain.

Treasurer's report – Approved as published. Motion to approve by Jon Pellant, second Tony Levenson. Vote – All in favor.

DX Reports – Steve Bishop made contact with Pitcairn Island

Bill Reed now has more than 500 DX contacts

CC Flares – New NXDN code plug has been published v 7.4.1 – everyone should get their radios updated

Tom Chance has available a number of used NXDN radios, they are all tested and programmed with the latest code plug. Contact Bernie K1BES if you are interested in buying one.

Sunshine – Ken Blackshaw reported on the latest sunshine activities

Old Business – Winlink – Raspberry Pi has been installed and operational. Klaus and Tom Chance worked hard at getting the node set up and stabilized. Doug Frazier sent out an updated membership roster – Thank you Doug!!

Fifty States – Please let Bob McAlister know which states you are working so that he can properly log the information.

New Business – Summer Field Day will be June 28-29 at South Gulf Cove Community Association Building. EARS July DX contest will begin at 00:00:00 UTC July 1st. DigitalFT8, JS8, SSB Phone. There will be a special 10 Meter group for Technicians, 100 W max power.

The EARS Club is approaching the anniversary of its founding. Is a celebration in order?? How about a special Club DX event??

Other possible events could include a fall picnic, end of Hurricane Season event?

Meeting adjourned at 2040. Motion to adjourn Jon Blincoe, second Steve Froggatt.

April 12th, 2025 Fox Hunt Winners:

The weather was great, and the April 12 Fox was hidden



near the tenth hole at the Ann Dever frisbee golf course! Registration was at 9:00ma at Tringali Park and the Fox turned on at 9:30. Twenty Four minutes later, there was a race down the 9th hole to find the final resting place of the Fox. The team of KM4GX and KC1IWF beat out the pack and found the fox!

The next planned Fox Hunt will be in May 24. More details to follow

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 still have a good size crowd there!



Upcoming Club Activities

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

Foxhunt—May 24, registration at Tringali Park
Contact KN4RKE for info.

Summer Field Day June 28/29 at SGC Community Center. Inside and Airconditioned. Fellowship, food, and Ham Radio

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 if you would like to participate

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. The meeting agenda has been adjusted to have social time and presentations first, 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!

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.

EARS Simplex Emergency Network (ESEN):

The club conducted an ESEN drill after the March 18 2-meter chat net.. Communications went well, Net participants provided information regarding their preparedness for the upcoming hurricane season. It appears all have plans and materials/food/water/communications considered. If you are not a member of the network, please contact a club officer. The network is intended to support our members when needed due to emergency/weather events, and provide an alternative “chat” capability when needed.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL:

Many 2024 members have not renewed yet!

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 option. You don't need a paypal account to join!

Paypal or Credit Card Single Year Membership - \$25.00

Add to Cart

Family Membership - \$30.00

Add to Cart

[Use the](#)

Englewood Amateur Radio Society

Treasurer Report



		Beginning Balance		4171.25	
	Expenses			Income	
April 2025					
4/8/2025	\$0.00	Cash		\$36.00	50/50
Sum	\$0.00			\$36.00	
					Balance Duke 4207.25

Petty Cash

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

Robert W. McAlister

Robert McAlister, Treasurer

Tuesday, May 6, 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

Sponse

Please check Activity Interests:

Field Day

Contesting

RFI/TVI

VE Testing

Training

Technical

Computers

Packet

Publicity

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