



EARS
ENGLEWOOD MATUER RADIO SOCIETY

President Bill Reed K7WWR, VP Steve Bishop,
KM4GX Secretary Leslie Rankin, KR4HST
Treasurer Bob McAlister, KN4RKE
Trustees: M. Henry KE4VEM, H. Hoffman, WA9LFQ,
Jon Pelant, W1JP

Englewood Florida

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Supporting and Practicing Ham Radio in Englewood

August 2026

MEETING REPORTS AND NOTES

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be: **Tuesday, September 8th, 2026** at the COC in Englewood at 19:00, unless otherwise notified. Check the FB page, and groups.io for last minute updates

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MEETING MINUTES

August 11, 2026

Attendees:

K7WWR, KM4GX, KN4RKE, N3GCA, WA9LFQ, W2CWL
N3MR, WA2SRA, W4RFV, WO4KAC, KE4VEM, KA8PBA,
KQ4PSG, KN4NFX, W1NGT, W3UR, KN4YIU, KN4KIV

The meeting was called to order at 1915 hours by President Bill Reed, who offered the Pledge of Allegiance.

Introduction

Introduction of guest and potential new member, Bernie McClenny W3UR from Maryland. Moment of silence observed for club member John Babbit K2GQG who passed away in NY. Flowers were sent to his funeral service by the club.

A presentation on the Ocean Drift Buoy project was given by Bill Reed K7WWR. A large buoy and many related components were donated by NOAA and shipped to the EARS club. Bill gave a side-by-side cost break down for the donated equipment vs having to outright purchase each of the items. No club money

has been spent on this project as of yet and until we know the complete costs and logistics of launching the buoy the club will not spend any money. We are still waiting to hear from the ARRL on whether or not the club will be awarded any grant monies towards our projects. There are some questions still remaining on the launch location & logistics.

Bill Reed gave an update on our participation in the Sky Academy school schedule. EARS members will be teaching some of the same lessons and projects as last school year for the STEM program such as:

Crystal radio project

PICO balloon launch

Alien Hunt

CW demonstration

Antenna propagation

Don Day weather guy

Introduction to DMR

Basic aviation principles

Motion: Matthew Henry, 2nd: Roger Mattila.

Vote: All in Favor.

Secretary's Report – Secretary's Report posted and approved. Motion by Bob M. Second by Mike Reid.

See page 2.....

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 on Tuesdays for food and fun.



Upcoming Club Activities

Club meeting September 8 at COC

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

Englewood Beach WaterFest, October 8 –10. Volunteers will be needed

Pioneer Day Parade Labor Day, volunteers needed

Fall Picnic : November 7th at Lemon Bay Park.

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: KM4GX

Week 5 (if needed) : Open

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

Minutes continued from pg 1.....

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer report read and approved. Motion by Steve Froggatt, second Tony Levenson.

DX Communications Report

CCFlares Updates – Report by Steve Bishop

Discussion on the Pioneer Day Parade for Sept 7th 0700. Need volunteers to help out. We will also have a booth for the event.

Discussion on Water Fest Oct 8-11; Radio Security

Sign up on Water Fest web site Ambassador program, radio operator

Sunshine & Media – Sunshine report was given by Ken B.

Membership Committee – Nothing to report.

Upcoming Events & Notices

Lighthouse & Lightship weekend is August 15th at Boca Grande Lighthouse. Set-up at 0900 underneath the lighthouse. Bob McAllister & Ken Blackshaw in charge of event.

Pioneer Day Parade: The Chamber would like EARS support again for monitoring parade route and parking. Labor Day, 7:30am staging, We NEED people!

Englewood Beach Waterfest: Friday-Sunday October 8-10, EARS will provide support, if you can participate, keep the dates in mind. We'll discuss at a later meeting.

Jesse Tremaine will be back in a week (Sky Academy).

Buoy discussion at a later meeting.

Fall Picnic planned for **November 7th!** To be held same location as last year (Lemon Bay Park). Reservation fee of \$240.79 was paid to reserve the park site.

*****There will be several work groups established for the Buoy Project : Construction, Communications, Electrical, and Media. Looking for volunteers to help on all of these groups!*****

There being no further business – Bill Reid called the meeting. Motion to adjourn: Steven Froggatt, second by Bill Dolan. The meeting was adjourned.

2026 International Lighthouse Lightship Radio Event:



We arrived Saturday morning, and although we found the restrooms unlocked, entrance into the lighthouse area was locked. At about 10:30, one of the lighthouse museum personnel arrived and opened the lock for us. We quickly set up equipment and enjoyed a wonderful day of ham radio operations. The club set up two HF rigs using a 20/15 meter fan dipole and a 20 meter vertical. The bands were a bit up and down but we did connect with two American lighthouses, one on Lake Michigan, in Wisconsin, and one in New York State. Both contacts were entered into the N4EAR QRZ log book. Thanks to KN4YIU and WA2SRA for their persistence in getting those contacts!

At about 3:00pm Park Ranger Amanda stopped by to chat with us. She stated she would be working a bit late and we could stay a bit later than our original expected departure time if we desired. At about 4:00pm our weather app maps showed numerous lightning strikes approaching the lighthouse location. When they entered into the ten-mile circle, we decided to take our



antennas down and pack up. We left the lighthouse shortly after. We did a thorough inspection, and I believe we left the area with no trash left behind, or any damage to the environment or structure. Many thanks to the club members who came early to assist in setting

up and operate the "POTA/IOTA/ILLW event! Thanks to KA8PBA and KN4YIU/KN4YIV for the doughnuts!



Also thanks to KE4VEM for the photos!

Newsletter Editor Needed:

Interested in exploring your creative talents? After six years of fun, I will be "retiring" as newsletter editor at the end of the year. Please think about becoming the next Editor. I am willing to help the next Editor get started or answer any questions about publishing the newsletter. If interested, please let me, or any Officer know. 73!



Englewood Amateur Radio Society

Treasurer Report



	Beginning Balance			4395.64		
	Expenses			Income		
August 2026						
8/17/2026	\$80.00	Check	1026	\$0.00	Flowers for K2GQG passing - Sunshine	Blackshaw
8/11/2026	\$0.00	Cash		\$45.00	\$25 +\$20 donated back by K7WWR	Reed
8/11/2026	\$240.79	check	1025	\$0.00	2026 Fall Picnic Space Rental Fee	Duke
Sum	\$320.79			\$45.00	Balance	4119.85

Petty Cash

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

Robert W. McAlister

Robert McAlister, Treasurer

Saturday, August 29, 2026



Englewood Amateur Radio Society

First Name

Last Name

Call Sign

Licence Class

ARRL
MEMBER ☐

Address

City

Zip Code

Local Phone

Mobile Phone

Email Address

Secondary Address

Secondary City

ST

Zip

Spouse

Please check Activity Interests:

☐

Field Day

☐

Contesting

☐

RFL/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