



E A R S
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, WA9LFQ,
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

December 2025

MEETING REPORTS AND NOTES

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be: **Tuesday, January 13th, 2026** at the COC in Englewood at 19:00, unless otherwise notified. Check the FB page , and groups.io for last minute updates

Contents:

Minutes.....	pg 1, 2
2 Meter Chat Net.....	pg 2
Upcoming Club Activities	pg 2
General News.....	pg 3
Membership Application.....	pg 4



**MEETING
MINUTES**

MINUTES ENGLEWOOD AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

December 9, 2025

The meeting was called to order at
1915 hours.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: K7WWR Bill Reed,
KN4RKE Bob McAlister, KM4GX Steve Bishop,
W2CWL Bill Dolan, W4RFY Tony Levenson,
KN4NFX Steve Froggatt, N3MR Mike Reid,
N1COC Jon Blincoe, KE4VEM Matt Henry, W9LFQ
Hermann Hoffman, W4AI Jim Nelson, KN4YIU
Shirley Duke, KN4YIV Steve Malone, WO4KAC
Kelly Combes, KQ4SSQ Hector Mena, Mark Gar-
ret, KA9SZK

K7WWR made a presentation on “Demystifying
SWR ” , using a YouTube video which was very in-
formative and generated discussion after the
presentation.

The Secretary’s report was published in the news-
letter – Motion to approve the minutes as published
was made by Bob McAlister and seconded by Ste-
ve Froggatt. Vote: All in Favor.

The Treasurer’s report was presented by Bob
McAlister – Motion to approve the report as pub-

lished was made by Mike Reid, seconded by Steve
Froggatt. Vote: All in favor.

SUNSHINE: Bill, K7WWR read the sunshine report
provided by Ken, W1NQT.

CCFLARES : Steve Bishop reported that activities
were slowed down by the Christmas Holiday, but all
the scheduled nets were a go. Equipment for emer-
gency communications has been installed at the
Hospital, and is ready to go.

Election Committee – Club Elections will be held in
January. Shirley Duke and Mike Reid are chairing
the elections committee and said that there is a
need for a candidate for CLUB SECRETARY.
There are candidates for the other club positions –
President, Vice-President and Treasurer. Anyone
interested in serving as an officer should contact
Shirley Duke.

DX COMMS: Kelly, W04KAC worked Austria and
Germany, while Bill K7WWR worked various SA
Countries and Islands.

EVENTS: The antenna shoot out has been post-
poned to January.

Mark, KA9SZK gave an update on the February PI-
CO Balloon Launch event and passed around
some transponders to view. He also provided info
on tracking sites on the Internet. Bill Brown will be
visiting to help our club successfully set up launch
the balloon

See page two.....

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 are averaging 8 participants!



Upcoming Club Activities

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

Winter Field Day January 24-25 2026

Contact **K7WWR** for details and sign ups for set up/take down/operations. We will hold 2nd annual **Chili Cook-off**, and a walk about Foxhunt!

PICO Balloon Launch - Launch scheduled for February 2026.

Hamcation—get your tickets on line before 12/31. Sign up for the TARC bus, \$60 no fuss round trip!

Antenna Shoot Out rescheduled for January 2026

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 from pg 1.....

Mark, KA9SZK gave an update on the February PICO Balloon Launch event and passed around some transponders to view. He also provided info on tracking sites on the Internet. Bill Brown will be visiting to help our club successfully set up launch the balloon

POTA/IOTA – The club had three boats converge on Cao Costa setting up three stations (three vertical antennas). Nine operators had a great day, making 95 contacts. Thirty-six were made by KQ4SSQ! Good work Hector!

WINTER FIELD DAY will be on January 24th at Ann Deaver Park – set up begins at 0900. Please contact K7WWR if you would like to operate or otherwise help with set up and tare down. Remember, we will have a **Chili Cook-off!** Bring a pot of chili, or at least an appetite!

Holiday Meals – Last Year EARS Sponsored holiday meals for 4 families in our area. This year club members stepped up with \$366 dollars' worth of donations! Thanks to all who donated and made Thanksgiving and Christmas a happier event for our fellow Englewood residents!

There being no further business – Motion to adjourn was made by Steve Froggatt, seconded by Jon Blincoe. The meeting was adjourned at 2035 hours.

TIME TO RENEW YOUR 2026 MEMBERSHIP!

Membership is valid from **January 1st to December 31st** each year.. If you have not renewed yet, please consider doing it early. Membership is required to vote for new club officers, and to approve the upcoming 2026 budget. These activities are just around the corner!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL:

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 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

EARS SHIRT AND HAT ORDER INFO:

If you want to order a new EARS hat or shirt,
Place your order at: hamthreads.com
You'll need to enter the code N4EAR In the
special instructions.

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.

PICO BALOON LAUNCH UPDATE:

The club is working with Charlotte County
school system to establish a STEM related bal-
loon launch. **Andrew Stancil**, Instructor from
Charlotte County HS STEM program attend-
ed the October 2025 meeting to discuss his stu-
dents interest in HAM radio and the PICO Bal-
loon program. Mike Reid and others are work-
ing out the details. The committee will **NEED**
HELP with this project – please reach out to
Mike to volunteer. We plan on launching in
February, right after **Hamcation**.

N4EAR WAS UPDATE:

As of 12/10/2025

States confirmed (23):

Alabama	Arizona	Georgia	Hawaii
Idaho	Indiana	Kentucky	Louisiana
Maryland	Michigan	Missouri	Mississippi
N Carolina	New Hampshire	New Jersey	New York
Ohio	Oklahoma	Pennsylvania	So Carolina
Tennessee	Texas	Virginia	

States unconfirmed and we need (27):

Alaska	Arkansas	California	Colorado
Connecticut	Delaware	Florida	Iowa
Illinois	Kansas	Massachusetts	Maine
Minnesota	Montana	North Dakota	Nebraska
New Mexico	Nevada	Oregon	Rhode Island
South Dakota	Utah	Vermont	Washington
Wisconsin	West Virginia	Wyoming	

If you can, fire up your HF station and let's get these last states.
Remember to use the club call, **N4EAR** and send your log info to
KN4RKE to enter into the club QRZ logbook. **Any Band or Mode**
is acceptable!

Below are the Members who are on record for
2026 Dues paid. Last name alphabetical. If you
paid and are not listed, contact **KN4RKE** either
groups.io or **lobanker@hotmail.com**

Paid Dues Query F Name	L Name	Call Sign
Paul	Apollonia	N3GCA
Robert	Baldwin	KB1RRI
Steve	Bishop	KM4GX
Jonathan	Blincoe	N1COC
Brett	Boone	KJ7BQQ
Jeffery	Cohen	KC1JSN
Kelly	Combes	WO4KAC
Freeman	Crosby	W1NPR
Sherri and spouse Gary	Davis	KR4FXF
Bill	Dolan	W2CWL
Shirley	Duke	KN4YIU
Vic	Emmelkamp	K4VHX
Ron	Havelaar	PA3RON
Matthew	Henry	KE4VEM
Sarah	Henry	
Michael	Henry	KF4KDI
Herman	Hoffman	WA9LFQ
William	Hopewell	KQ4YMQ
Ed	Kinsey	
Tony	Levenson	W4RFV
Steve	Malone	KN4YIV
Robert	McAlister	KN4RKE
Hector	Mena	KQ4SSQ
Luis	Napoles	KN4ITK
Jim	Nelson	W4AII
Kyra	Pellant	
Jim	Porter	KA8PBA
Leslie	Rankin	KR4HST
Bill	Reed	K7WWR
Michael	Reid	N3MR
Bernard	Schmelz	K1BES
Craig	Stadelbauer	KR4DGO
Mark	Thurston	KB8WXI
Mark	Willoughby	W1EKU

Pay at the next meeting, by USPS mail, or Paypal but-
ton on our webpage.

Paypal or Credit Card Single Year Membership - \$25.00

[Add to Cart](#)

Family Membership - \$30.00

[Add to Cart](#)

CAO COSTA POTA/IOTA ADVENTURE:

On December 12th an EARS Armada hit the high seas of Lemon Bay and navigated to Cao Costa State Park for a morning radio adventure. Four sea-worthy vessels, captained by Bill Reed, Steve Malone, Mark Thurston, and Mark Willoughby made their way to the state park docks on the key. Rounding out the crew were Steve Bishop, Mike Reid, Bill Dolan, Shirley Duke, and Hector Mena.



W2CWL and KM4GX



N3MR and K7WWR

By the time the afternoon adventure was over, the group made ninety-six contacts. Thirty-six were made by Hector Mena, KQ4SSQ! The trip was so delightful that all agreed another outing would be in the works!



KN4YIV, KN4YIU and W1EKU

The weather was very co-operative as the group deployed three HF stations, setting up three vertical antennas on the beach. By using appropriate filters, the group worked multiple bands simultaneously.





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

Spouse

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