Englewood Amateur Radio Society

Practicing and Supporting Ham Radio in Englewood

September 2026

MEETING REPORTS AND NOTES

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be: *Tuesday, November 10th, 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

October 13th, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The club welcomed John Meyer, noted as a new member from Ohio. Hector and Nina Camacho were recognized as new members who had recently passed their amateur radio examinations.

Old Business

A draft proposal to ARRL concerning a buoy-related grant was being resubmitted. The discussion emphasized the STEM component and continuing the project.

Members discussed lessons learned from the recent Water Fest, including equipment and antenna limitations. Special thanks were extended to Steve and Shirley for their work. They have agreed to serve as the 2027 Water Fest liaisons and have already been invited to the February introductory meeting.

Secretarys Report

The previous meeting minutes had been published in the newsletter. Shirley Duke moved to accept the minutes as posted;

Steve Froggatt seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported September funds, including a recent ARRL grant deposit of $1,022.94. Liability insurance was identified as the club's largest business expense.

DX Communications Report

Contacts and activity discussed included Norfolk Island, Indonesia, Turkey, Australia, Cayman Islands and Iceland, along with activity on 20 meters. Members also discussed a mesh network and related amateur radio activity.

Bernie Schmelz was noted as writing DX publications.

Bob McAlister discussed the need for members to help maintain the club's ARRL affiliation (a single membership costs approximately $54 annually) and the benefit of access to ARRL archives.

Steve Froggatt made a motion, seconded by Tony Levenson; the motion carried unanimously.

CCFLARES Updates

The monthly exercise was held, with work continuing to get the trailer operational. Members discussed pending coordination with the Charlotte County EOC. West Florida and Central Florida repeaters are now linked, providing good coverage along the Gulf Coast. The system remains open unless needed for an emergency. An Eagle Net at 8:30 p.m. was mentioned.

Sunshine & Media

Ken Blackshaw presented information about the 2020 Field event. The club acknowledged the passing of Freeman Cosby (W1NPR), a 95-year-old honorary member. Ken also visited Victor, age 90, and planned another visit on October 14.

Membership Committee

Officer elections are approaching. Members planning to run should have their dues paid and submit their names by December for the January election.

- **Minutes continued from page 1…**

Membership Committee

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December for the January election.

Upcoming Events & Notices

November 7: Fall Picnic at Lemon Bay Park off Old Englewood Road. Members were asked to RSVP and coordinate a dish.
The club plans to provide burgers and possibly chicken.
Members discussed a proposed Thanksgiving charitable contribution of approximately $300 to a local Helping Hands
organization, with the possibility of asking members to contribute at Thanksgiving and Christmas.
STEM / Buoy Project Discussion
Plans for the Sky Academy STEM class include demonstrating high-frequency radio concepts and transmitting information
into the classroom. Students will learn how signals convey information.
The group discussed the anatomy of a buoy, including barometric pressure, water temperature, drogue, velocity sensor and
other instruments. Two buoys were described, with one funded through NOAA. Students may download and share collected
data with NOAA and other agencies.
Members discussed a possible after-school buoy club, approximately one hour on Wednesdays, and an antenna committee
to help determine mounting arrangements. A cable and antenna were reported as donated by a member.

Other Business

Members discussed liability and equipment insurance,particularly coverage for lightning strikes affecting repeaters, controllers, amplifiers and other club radio equipment. Replacement cost and deductibles were discussed. Members noted that coverage would require ARRL membership and further clarification of policy terms. The repeater timeout and courtesy beep were discussed. The notes indicate a timeout of approximately three minutes and a beep to signal that the repeater is available after a transmission.

50/50 Drawing and Adjournment

A total of $59 was collected for the 50/50 drawing. Hector won approximately $30.

Steve Froggatt moved to adjourn, and Ken Blackshaw seconded. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:25 p.m.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

KN4YIU Shirley Duke	KN4YIV Steve Malone
W4RFV Tony Levenson	W3UR Bernie McClenny
KB8DVU John Meyer	W1NQT Ken Blackshaw
KQ4PSR Clive Townsend	KA8PBA Jim Porter
KO4WPN Jack Hawkins	KR4MLO Hector Camacho
KR4MLP Nina Camacho	KQ4SSQ Hector Mena
KN4NFX Steve Froggatt	W2CWL Bill Dolan
KN4RKE Bob McAlister	N3MR Michael Reid
KN4PHQ John Hodgdon	KR4HST Leslie Rankin
KE4VEM Matthew Henry	KM4GX Steve Bishop
WR9LFQ Hermann Hoffman	N3GOA Paul Apollonia

End of minutes

TIME TO RENEW 2027 MEMBERSHIP DUES:

To vote during the January 2027 meeting your dues must be current. That means you should pay your 2027 member dues before 12/31/2026! You can renew by Paypal (on the club webpage), mail (POBOX 572, Englewood, 34295), or by giving cash or a check to any club Officer.

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: KN4JEN

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



Breakfast at Junior and Rosie's
Neighborhood Cafe & Grille
3754 N Access Rd, Englewood, FL 34224

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 7am for food and fun. Come join the fun and fellowship!



Lunch at The End Zone
every Wednesday 12 noon
2440 S McCall Rd, Englewood, FL 34224
Someone sends out a reminder on Groups.io

<u>Upcoming Club Activities</u> (see minutes)
N4EAR worked all states event. We want to get a worked all states certificate for the club station.
STEM EVENTS:
- **PICO Balloon Launch –** Working with SKY Academy for a confirmed date.
- **ALIEN HUNT** see KM4GX, KN4YIV to offer assistance
- **Morse Code Intro** see K7WWT or KN4RKE to offer assistance

FALL Picnic see KN4YIU/V

<u>ELECTION OF 2027 CLUB OFFICERS:</u>

At the **January 2027** meeting, current members will vote for the 2027 Officers. If you are interested in serving the club, do 2 things: make sure your 2027 dues are paid, and see N3MR (Mike Reid) or KN4YIU (Shirley Malone) to let them know you would like to be on the ballot. There will be at least one vacancy that has to be filled.

<u>CLUB CONTACT INFO:</u>

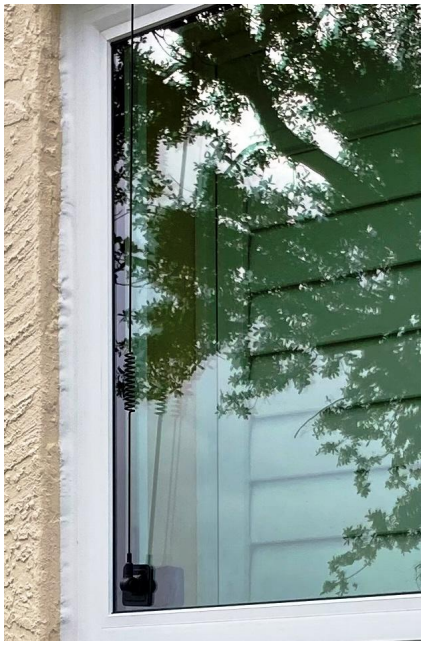
Current Club Officers:
President: K7WWR
Vice President: KM4GX
Treasurer: KN4RKE
Secretary: KR4HST
Trustees:
W1JP, WA9LFQ, KE4VEM
Sunshine:
W1NQT
Sunshine@ears.groups.io
Webpage:
Earsradioclub.org
Email: info@earsradioclub.org
Groups.io info:
W4AII
main@ears.groups.io | Home
FACEBOOK PAGE: (20+) Englewood Amateur Radio Society | Facebook

Thank you to Ken W1NQT and Bob KN4RKE for getting Vic Emmelkamp K4VHX. Back on the air. Vic is 90 years old and a charter member of EARS. We donated a baofeng and thru the glass antenna to get Vic past the HOA restrictions in his community. He now can hear 3 three repeaters and participate in their chat nets! Part of Ken's Sunshine activities!









Englewood Amateur Radio Society

Treasurer Report

			Begining Balance	$	5238.77	
	Expenses			Income		
October 2026						
9/12/2026	$12.82	check	1043	$0.00	alligator clips xtal radio kit arrl	McAlister
9/12/2026	$1.04	check	1043	$0.00	hook up wire 60 ft arrl xtal radio kit	McAlister
10/27/2026	$0.00	paypal		$28.46	W3UR 2027 dues	McClenny, JR
9/12/2026	$23.40	check	1043	$0.00	xtal radio pcb's arrl grant	McAlister
9/12/2026	$190.36	check	1043	$0.00	xtal radio earphones 60 ea	McAlister
9/12/2026	$27.78	check	1043	$0.00	xtal radio magnet wire ARRL project	McAlister
9/12/2026	$16.99	check	1043	$0.00	bus bar wire xtal radio arrl project	McAlister
9/12/2026	$8.55	check	1043	$0.00	1N34 diodes xtal radio project arrl	McAlister
9/12/2026	$14.78	check	1043		arrl amp kit 60 220 ohm resistors	McAlister
9/12/2026	$155.08	check	1043	$0.00	xtal radio variable capacitors 60 ea	McAlister
9/12/2026	$34.68	check	1043	$0.00	arrl amp kit potentiometers	McAlister
9/12/2026	$4.19	check	1043	$0.00	arrl amp kit 330 pfd caps	McAlister
9/12/2026	$3.59	check	1043	$0.00	arrl amp kit 60 470 k ohm resistors	McAlister
9/12/2026	$2.75	check	1043	$0.00	arrl amp kit 60 1 meg ohm resistors	McAlister
9/12/2026	$2.57	check		$0.00	arrl amp kit 60 .1ufd caps	McAlister
7/14/2026	$120.00	check	1024	$0.00	semi-annual payment for repeater co	McAlister
9/12/2026	$17.34	check	1043	$0.00	arrl amp kit pcbs	McAlister
9/12/2026	$3.20	check	1043	$0.00	arrl amp kit 60 pcb mount power swit	McAlister
9/30/2026	$0.00	check		$25.00	2027 dues new member	Mitchell
10/13/2026	$0.00	cash		$25.00	Rankin 2027 dues	Rankin
10/13/2026	$0.00	check		$30.00	2027 KN4YIU/V Family dues	Duke
10/14/2026	$0.00	cash		$29.00	50 50 deposit KQ4SSQ won $30.00	Duke
10/2/2026	$134.01	debit card		$0.00	equipment insurance ARRL	Bishop
10/13/2026	$0.00	cash		$25.00	2027 dues KN4NFX	Froggatt
9/12/2026	$32.04	check	1043	$0.00	arrl amp kit 120 100ufd caps	McAlister
10/13/2026	$0.00	cash		$30.00	Family dues KE4VEM and brother and	Henry
9/12/2026	$4.79	check	1043	$0.00	arrl amp kit 60 TL431 semiconductors	McAlister
9/12/2026	$1.04	check	1043	$0.00	arrl amp kit 60 ft hook up wire	McAlister
9/12/2026	$19.24	check	1043	$0.00	arrl amp kit 180 alligator clips	McAlister
10/12/2026	$89.89	check	1043	$0.00	arrl amp kit 20 hemostats for assembl	McAlister
10/12/2026	$17.97	check	1043	$0.00	arrl amp kit 60 battery connectors	McAlister
9/12/2026	$47.73	check	1043	$0.00	arrl amp kit 60 9 volt batteries	McAlister
9/12/2026	$52.36	check	1043	$0.00	arrl amp kit 60 speakers	McAlister
10/13/2026	$0.00	cash		$10.00	Thanksgiving donation KE4VEM	Henry
Sum	$1,038.19			$202.46	Balance	**$4,403.04**

Robert W McAlister

Robert McAlister, Treasurer

Saturday, October 31, 2026



Englewood Amateur Radio Sociey

First Name | Last Name | Call Sign | License Class | ARRL MBR

Address | City | Zip Code

Local Phone | Mobile Phone | Email Address

Secondary Address | Secondary City | ST | Zip

Spouse

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

10/2020 rev1