

# WA4IWL NEWSLETTER

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



February 2011

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



### *President's Message*

With my daughter, Sarah, on my knee to help run the February meeting (while her mom was home with a cold), we navigated our way through a pleasant meeting. We did have another club meeting in the same room, making it difficult to hear each other, but I believe we managed. Numerous visitors turned out for the meeting and our Treasurer quickly welcomed them to join our club.

In addition to the usual committee reports, we addressed a wide range of topics, including: locations of various Field Day equipment and status; participation in a community parade, such as the one for Pioneer Days; repeater status and equipment; suggestions for programs at future meetings; and, the

Charlotte County Hamfest on March 12 (visit [w4dux.net](http://w4dux.net) for details). We want to thank Mr. Kelce for providing the 146.700 repeater a new home, and we also want to thank those who helped move it there. We also remain grateful to the folks at Sea Oats Nursery who graciously hosted the repeater for a number of years.

Be sure to read the Secretary's report to follow the meeting minutes. Additional, there is a strong possibility that an Extra Class training will soon be offered through TARC. Please express your interest in such training pursuant to an invitation that I'm told will be printed in this newsletter.

73,

*Matthew Henry, KE4VEM*



## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Following are the minutes of the 17 February 2011 meeting of the Englewood Amateur Radio Society.

The meeting was opened at 7:40 PM by President Matthew Henry, KE4VEM, with the pledge of allegiance to our flag. Introductions were made around the room. The following guests were recognized: Jim Grimes, KD8DCW, North Ridgeville, Ohio, Ken Grant, K4JKC, Englewood, & West Virginia, Chuck Padgen, Englewood, Jim Broone, KI4ZUS, Englewood, Jim Santuro, K8ZZU, Clarkson, Michigan, Bob Mueller, K8RGM, Milford, Michigan, Walt Kline, WB8WNF, Midland, Michigan and Bill Bruce, NOZV, Loveland, Colorado. There were 19 members and 8 guests in attendance.

Secretary's Report: A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the 29 January 2011 minutes as recorded in the January Newsletter.

Program: None

Treasurer's Report: Treasure John Cerniglia, W4JAC presented his Treasurer's report. As of 17 February, 2011, our last Bank statement shows \$3,704.47 in our checking account, CD of \$2,800.65 for a total of \$6,505.15.

Correspondence: None

Committee Reports:

Sunshine: As of January, Marcia, Fowler, KA1GCU, reported that a sympathy card had been sent to Mrs. Martha Combs in remembrance of husband Dr. John's, W4VMD passing. In addition, a sympathy card was sent Mrs. Edna Spencer in remembrance of her husband Donald Spencer, WA4IWL passing. It was reported that Ron McLeod, K1FTB is recovering from a stroke. He is home and doing very well.

RACES: Matthew reported that the RACES Emergency Communications Training nets are operating on the last Wednesday evenings of the month on 146.745 at 8:00 PM following our EARS net which is on Wednesday evenings on 146.550 at 7:00 PM. Both nets provide excellent opportunities to test our equipment and stay active on the air.

Publicity: In a recent QST Magazine article, it was reported that the FCC was exploring future Amateur Radio frequency changes.

DX: Tom Hawes, WA3PRC reported that he worked just the regulars in Europe, South America and Asia. I did see a TT, but did not check it out. In addition, I worked TJ from Cameroon. And I worked four new entities from the Netherlands Antilles, Bonaire, Saba, St. Eustatus, and Curacao. PJ prefix – 2-4-5-6. I did work the TJ on RTTY and PJZ on RTTY and CW. The Ladies YC Association will be operating from PJZ (Curacao) from 17 March thru 22 March.

Testing: Marty Horowitz, N4FA has reminded our members that VE Exams sessions will be held on the second Saturday of each month at the Vince, FL. If interested please contact Marty Horowitz or Jack Sprout.

Hamfest: Mike Daly, KC2KBR report that and a distinguish contingent of EARS members attended the Orlando HamCation and had a wonderful time. Friday's attendance was only about 60% compare to

past years, but Saturday's crowd looked about normal. The weather was a little cool, but our group was able to sustain themselves and tough it out.

Field Day: There was some discussion regarding location of the equipment and materials from last year's Field Day. It was agreed that the church would continue to be the best site for our Field Day. Vice President, Steve Churchill, N9SUZ, has agreed to Chair the 2011 Field Day and organize the logistics including contacting the church to finalize arrangements.

Old Business: 1) Matthew reminded members to renew their membership ASAP in order to get their names in the EARS Directory.  
2) Ken and Alice Anderson have been awarded "Life Memberships."  
3) The election of Officers and Trustees has been successfully completed.  
4) Our 29 January, 2011 Annual Banquet was enjoyed by all.

New Business: 1) Program for next month will be presented by Steve Churchill, N9USZ. He will demonstrate "Computer Programming of the WOUXUN Dual Board HT."  
2) The Lambifest will be held in Punta Gorda, on 11 March, Saturday. It's a small tailgate and well attended.  
3) We need to consider participating in the forthcoming Annual Pioneer Parade, perhaps with a float with Ham Radio equipment on and operating. Mike Stopak, KJ4WXE has agreed to pursue the logistics re: the Pioneer Parade to determine feasibility for EARS participation.  
4) Thanks to Marty Horowitz, Dave Kelce, KODGF, Mike Daly, and Gene Reilly for their efforts to get our 146.700 EARS Repeater up and operating.  
5) Mike Daly raised a question regarding our club's tax status. Matthew stated that he understood that the club is a nontaxable nonprofit organization.  
6) Frank Maren, W4VV, reported that the EARS Repeater 146.865 new location was approved by the Florida Repeater Council. And the audio issue has been cleared up.

Meeting Adjourned - 8:15 PM  
Respectfully submitted,  
Gene Reilly, KI4FJJ, Secretary

# Orlando Hamfest Photos



Lot of hams, lot of stuff, lot of fun! Next year is scheduled for same time. Plan to attend.  
[www.hamcation.com](http://www.hamcation.com)

## Amateur Extra Candidates

### From Jack Sproat W4JS

Last year, Tamiami ARC member Andy Durette-KB1HIP developed and presented training sessions for General class hams interested in upgrading to Extra class. These were weekly sessions that ran about 6 or 8 weeks. Of the eight trainees in those classes every one that subsequently took the Extra exam passed it. So, it appears that Andy did a great job getting the material across to the trainees.

### From Andy Durette-KB1HIP

Hi Guys,

I am making final preparation for the Extra Class Prep Course. I suggest that we meet once a week on Monday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00PM starting March 7. I was able to find a suitable place to hold the course through Jim Murdock's help. The meeting place is: First Christian Church 1100 Center Road Venice, FL 34292. This location is a short distance going east on Center Road from Jacaranda Blvd near Peaches Restaurant. The last time I gave the Extra Class prep course it took 12 weeks to complete the material. We are flexible here so if we need more or less time we can modify the schedule accordingly. I need to order License Manuals if you don't have one already. The ARRL manual is \$15.38 (list price 24.95) from Amazon. Free shipping for more than one manual. There is a new Revision 9 which includes a CD with random practice exams on it. It is not yet available from Amazon. You can order it directly from ARRL for \$29.95 plus shipping.. The other option is Gordon West's manual for \$ 24.95 plus shipping. The ARRL manual has more detailed information and is more difficult to use although I plan to extract the important information from it for the class. Gordon's manual focuses directly on the questions in the Extra Class Exam and can be used as a supplement to the material that I will hand out. As an instructor I can get a small discount if I order more than 5 Gordon West's manuals. (Total cost \$23/ea) Please advise.

73

Andy  
KB1HIP  
af\_durette@hotmail.com

## Local Happenings:

**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 14.293 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.  
TARC 146.580 - Tuesday 7:30 p.m.  
TARC 146.805 - Thursday 7:30 p.m.  
PRRA 146.255 - Sunday 8:00 p.m.  
NICE 146.430 - Daily 8:30 p.m.

## LOCAL AREA HAMFESTS

### 03/12/2011 | Charlotte County HamFest

Location: Punta Gorda, FL  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Peace River Radio Association  
Website: <http://www.w4dux.net>

FOR GPS OPERATORS, ENTER 28272  
PASADENA DRIVE, PUNTA GORDA FLORIDA  
33955

### 03/26/2011 | [Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Club Hamfest](#)

Location: New Port Richey, FL  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Club  
Website: <http://www.gulfcoastarc.org>

## Next meeting is March 17th at the EUMC at 7:30 pm.

Program - Steve Churchill,  
N9USZ, will demonstrate  
“Computer Programming of the  
WOXUN Dual Board HT”.

Letters to the editor should be emailed to:  
[K4MWD@arrl.net](mailto:K4MWD@arrl.net) Put Editor in the subject  
line. Please observe common rules of civility  
in your comments.

Visit our website  
[www.earsradioclub.org](http://www.earsradioclub.org)

If you are not yet an ARRL  
member add your  
support and join **now**.



**Got extra equipment? Consider  
donating it to the club.**

Next issue will be early April. Still time to  
submit an Operator's Profile.

Editor  
Mike Daly K4MWD