

WA4IWL NEWSLETTER

www.earsradioclub.org



October 15, 2015

SECRETARY'S REPORT



Secretary Marcia Fowler KA1GCV

SEPTEMBER EARS MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Summary

Opening:

The regular meeting of the Englewood Amateur Radio Society was called to order on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 at 7:00 PM in the Englewood Coast Guard Auxiliary Building meeting room. Six members attended. Club Trustee, Matthew Henry KE4VEM, conducted the business meeting, following the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sunshine Report:

No information concerning health and welfare of our club members was presented.

Matthew Henry KE4VEM, did share that his

grandmother Loretta Henry fell and broke her hip on Saturday evening, had hip replacement surgery at Englewood Community Hospital on Sunday afternoon, and was moved to the rehabilitation center on Drury Lane in Englewood on Tuesday afternoon. Matthew reported that she is doing quite well for a 92-year-old woman, and she has to be reminded to not try doing too much too soon.

ARES/RACES Report:

Tactical Location Drills. Dates, times, and frequency for nets and drills are published in the EARS newsletter, regularly. Pam Eggleton K1UEG reported that she has operated from ARES/RACES facility in the front office area at L.A. Ainger Middle School. Pam stated that the school staff has responded positively to her operations there. Pam did note the lack of a convenient or secure place for storage of the radio equipment. Mel Rathbun W9BSM and Pam also stated that the school administrators have pointed out that any shelter activities likely would be located in the cafeteria in a separate building from the front office and those buildings are on separate power grids. Further, the school officials would have to use their walkie talkies to relay messages from the cafeteria to the hams in the office, if there were an emergency situation. It would be a similar situation at Lemon Bay High School, as well.

DX Report:

Ray Magsby KK4LGF reported that Aruba is on the air but he has not had much luck getting through the pile ups. He heard stations from Mexico, Spain, and all over calling for the Aruba station. Ray says you may work many of the states, including western states like Iowa.

Tom Hawes WA3PRC reports that there has been a lot of solar flare activity over the past month or so. Tom says when tries he listening to some people in Pennsylvania the signal goes in and out. The present solar flare activity is not conducive to long conversations or consistent signal quality.

Hamfests:

Tom Hawes WA3PRC reported that he and Vic Emmelkamp K4VHX went to Lambiefest. Tom said it was the nice little local get together that they typically expected. They socialized a bit but didn't stay long. EARS did not have a table, as there was no club equipment to sell.

Testing:

Testing dates are published in the newsletter each month.

Old Business:

Tom Hawes reported that the club's vertical antenna tested poorly on the antenna analyzer from its installation point at the CGA site. The antenna was taken down for further testing and the readings fluctuated. Visual inspection of the box and its guts did not reveal the problem, so further testing of the individual capacitors may yet be done.

New antenna options were also researched, and Tom suggested a Hustler four band (10/15/20/40M) vertical for \$159 plus S&H from DX Engineering because of the shorter length/height and the price, rather than other higher gain antennas that could go up to \$500 in price and require a bit more effort to mount and maintain.

New Business:

Facilities – Access and Storage. EARS did not actually conduct any last-minute Labor Day weekend operations for Englewood's Pioneer Days Celebration, partially due to lack of availability of operators and mostly due to lack of a working antenna in place. However, it was reported that we would not have been permitted to operate on such short notice anyway because such activity at the Coast Guard Auxiliary building requires prior approval of requests submitted to the Coast Guard Auxiliary Commander. EARS members in attendance at the September meeting were not aware of that protocol until informed of such at the meeting. While it is understandable that EARS would not want to impact other uses of the CGA building or otherwise have a scheduling conflict, this news did come as a surprise. One selling point presented to the EARS membership when debating the change of locations from EUMC to CGA was the ability to have a club station in a radio room at the CGA. EARS members who lacked equipment at home could operate club equipment at leisure in the permanent radio facility, which is partially why the club is currently seeking a good antenna to place there (not just for Field Day).

A second selling point for the club's relocation was the ability to store club equipment at a central, semi-climate-controlled, secured location, rather than having equipment scattered among different members. Yet, another announcement was made that

we need to get a crew together to remove club items from under the table in the CGA rear office area. While some items may be moved to the outside shed, there are some documents, photographs, and other items that will not fair too well in the heat of the shed.

Members at the meeting recognized that we have been pleased with the CGA location up to this point and we want to continue to be good tenants, but there are some concerns about changing conditions.

Membership & Attendance. Some discussion was held over low turnout at meetings and dwindling membership. Pam Eggleton K1UEG suggested it might be a good idea to reach out to former members and current members we have not seen in awhile to inquire what we can do to bring them back into our ham community. Some people just stop coming and we never learn the reason. It was noted that having a club station for members who cannot afford their own

-- SOME DX TO BE LOOKING FOR --

FIGI, 3D2. 3D2YA by JA1NLX 23-28 Sept fm Yangeta Is; 40m-10m; CW, RTTY, SSB.

TANZANIA, 5H. 5H3DX by NK8O 04-28 Sept fm Zinga; 20-6m; spare time; 100w.

W. MALAYSIA, 9M2. SE station 9M10CSB is QRV until 31 October 31. Activity on 80m to 6m using CW, SSB and digital modes.

SABLE IS., CY0. Aaron is QRV as CY0/VA1AXC until 23 September. Activity is mainly SSB on 20 meters around 2300z.

S. COOK ISLANDS, E5. Milan-OK1DWC is QRV as E51DWC until sometime in September. CW and SSB on 160m to 10m.

FRENCH POLYNESIA, FO. By DF1YP as FO/DF1YP fm Moorea 05 Sept to 01 Oct.

ALAND ISLANDS, OH0. Stefan-DL3SEM is QRV as OH0/DL3SEM until 06 September.

SLOVAK REPUBLIC, OM. SE station OM2015TITANIC is QRV from Bratislava during the Titanic exhibition until the end of the year.

DODECANESE, SV5. Volker-DL1ZB is QRV as SV5/DL1ZB from Kos until the end of September. SSB, RTTY, SSTV and PSK63 on 20 to 6 meters.

TUVALU, T2. LZ1GC and OM5ZW as T2GC from Funafuti 24 Sept-14 Oct; 160m-6m; CW, SSB, RTTY.

PALAU, T8. T88KH by JP1RIW 12-16 Sept fm Koror I (OC-009, PJ77fi); 80-6m.

PALAU, T8. T88QB by JF2SQB 20-22 Sept. VIETNAM, XV. VK6LC as XV2VTC and 3W2HCM from 24 Sept to 23 Oct. CW and SSB on 20m, 17m, 15m.

VANUATU, YJ. YJ0NH by JA0JHQ fm Port Vila, Efate Is, 03-07 Sept; 80-6m; CW SSB

(From NG3K Contest/DX Page and ARLD033 DX news. 20 August 2015)

equipment could be an asset to draw in members, both old and new. Matthew Henry KE4VEM expressed a desire to revitalize programs at club meetings to provide information and/or entertainment as a welcome addition to the business meeting. Members were concerned over possible embarrassment from lining up outside speakers for presentations and then have an unexpected low turnout. Matthew suggested that even small show-and-tell presentations by our own members, similar to what we had last month, might be a good way to start.

Announcements:

None.

Adjournment:

The meeting was closed at approximately 8:15 PM. As an additional note, the air conditioner was pleasantly cooling the meeting room before we arrived. However, the remote control that was typically attached to the wall was absent when went to turn the unit off before leaving. Tom and Matthew figured out how to turn off the air conditioner manually on the unit, without the remote control.

Respectfully submitted,
Matthew Henry KE4VEM

TREASURER'S REPORT



Treasurer Mike K4MWD

Current account:

ENGLEWOOD AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY INC
99 W WENTWORTH ST
ENGLEWOOD, FL 34223-2948

Your Business Fundamentals Checking

for September 1, 2015 to September 30, 2015

ENGLEWOOD AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY INC

Account summary

Beginning balance on September 1, 2015	\$6,493.42
Deposits and other credits	0.00
Withdrawals and other debits	-0.00
Checks	-0.00
Service fees	-0.00
Ending balance on September 30, 2015	\$6,493.42

income: 00
 expenses: 00
 balance: \$6493.42
 Respectfully submitted
 Mike Daly – treasurer

Next Meeting

Tuesday October 20th

7:00 pm

Coast Guard Auxiliary Station

DX



Ray Magsby KK4LGF

For a listing of current DX activity click on this link:
<http://www.ng3k.com/misc/adxod.html>

LOCAL

ARRL NEWS

When your ticket is up for renewal or upgrade:

September 24, 2015

ARRL VEC Reminds License Applicants: The FCC is Now Paperless!

The ARRL VEC is reminding Amateur Radio license applicants that the FCC no longer routinely prints or mails license documents. In an effort to streamline its procedures and save money, the FCC went "paperless" in February 2015.

"Customer contact with the VEC has tripled since this change, as many amateurs have not heard of the change or do not understand the FCC procedures for obtaining a license copy," said ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM. She said the most frequently asked question comes from Universal Licensing System users who have applied for renewal or modification, but then think the transaction was not completed because they did not get a new copy of their license in the mail.

"Once we look up the info, our answer is nearly always that the requested transaction actually was

completed and appears in the FCC database, but they won't be getting a copy of the updated license in the mail," Somma said. Less frequently, her department hears from exam applicants who ask why they did not receive a copy of their license after they passed the test.

To help clarify things, Somma has created a web page, [How to Obtain an Official FCC License Copy](#), devoted to explaining the various ways a licensee can get an official license document from the FCC. An official license displays the FCC logo and the "Official Copy" watermark across each page. A printer-friendly version of the instructions is available on the ARRL website.

Somma said the easiest way for a license holder to obtain a license copy is to call the FCC at (877) 480-3201.

Licensees can also download and print their own official license copy by logging into the Universal Licensing System (ULS) using their FCC Registration Number (FRN) and password, then clicking on "Download Electronic Authorizations" in the menu on the left. The ULS has also added a green informational banner that says, "Change your paper authorization preferences here, or download your official electronic authorizations now." Somma points out that the green banner is only temporary, and it eventually will go away.

At least for now, though, clicking the "here" hyperlink will take you to the Paper Authorization Preferences" page. To continue receiving paper license documents, click "Yes." Clicking the "now" hyperlink will take you to the "Download Authorizations" page.

Click on "Download Electronic Authorizations" in the ULS menu on the left side of your account page to access the "Download Authorizations" page.

On the "Download Authorizations" page, scroll down to the "Filter by Radio Service" box (remember, the ULS is not just for the Amateur Service). First, highlight your call sign and then click "ADD>" to put your call sign into the "Authorizations to Download"

column. Scroll down a little further and click "DOWNLOAD>" to create an official FCC license PDF document that can be saved or printed.

When modifying, renewing, or requesting a duplicate license copy, a licensee who already has an FCC Registration Number (FRN) and provides a valid e-mail address under "Applicant Information" while logged into the ULS system will receive an official ULS-generated electronic authorization via e-mail.

All Amateur Radio exam applicants should include a valid e-mail address on their NCVEC 605 form, in order to receive a copy of their license electronically.

Hamfests

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

11/07/2015 | Peace River Hamfest

Location: Punta Gorda, FL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Peace River Repeater Association

Website: <http://prra.club>

Testing

Please email the contact to confirm dates and times.

Sponsor: SCARE

Date: Third Monday of each month

Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Gino J. Ferranti

(941) 629-7933

Email: ke4tjo@arrl.net

Location: Edgewater Methodist Church, 19190 Cochran Blvd., Port Charlotte, FL.

Sponsor: Tamiami ARC

Date: Second Saturday each month

Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: John R. Sproat

(941) 475-1929

Email: w4js@juno.com

Location: Venice Public Library Conference Room

300 Nokomis Ave S
Reservations Appreciated!
tamiamiarc.org
Venice FL 34285-2416

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:

Chapter 53 now has its summer lunches the first Wednesday of each month, June through September, around 11:15 AM at the Hibachi Grill Buffet in the Bird Bay Plaza shopping center on US 41 Bypass, Venice.

Snowbird Net: Net is twice daily; first on 14.317 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.

PA/Florida Connection Net: Net is twice daily at 8:00 -9:00A.M. on 14.340 MHz and at 6:30-7:00 P.M. on 7.233 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's website is at: <http://tamiamiarc.org/>

PRRA 146.255 - Sunday 8:00 p.m.

NI4CE 145.430 - Daily 8:30 p.m WCF ARRL Traffic net

LOCAL REPEATERS

MHz (-) Tone

145.130 (-) N4SER Laurel/SERC

145.430 100 NI4CE Verna/Big Stick

146.570 N4XJQ Punta Gorda

146.5900 W0AC 136.5 North Port

146.700 77 N4EAR Englewood/EARS

146.730 100 N4SER Sarasota/SERC

146.745 136.5 WX4E Charlotte County/ARC

146.775 77 K0DGF Englewood

146.805 100T W4AC Venice/TARC

146.865 K8ONV Port Charlotte/EARS.

146.910 W4IE Sarasota/ARA (A)
146.925 N4ZNU Port Charlotte
147.015 KS4ST Port Charlotte
147.120 136.5 K4NPT North Port/NPARC
147.255 136.5 W4DUX Port Charlotte/PRRA
442.050 100 KB2WVY Placida/Stewart
442.100. 136.5 KA9RIX North Port
442.700 136.5 N4FOB Port Charlotte
442.925 136.5 W4DUX Port Charlotte/PRRA
442.950 100 K4WCF Big Stick
444.625 77T K0DGF Englewood
444.975 136.5 KS4ST Punta Gorda/CARS

Miscellaneous Charlotte County Amateur Radio Activity

All local repeaters use PL Tone of 136.5 Mhz Except the Englewood 146.865 Mhz or the Gator 147.015 Mhz Repeaters

Sunshine Net Everyday at 8:30 Am on 146.745 Mhz and 444.975 Mhz.

SW Florida Traffic Net Everyday except Sunday at 10:00 AM on 147.345 Mhz and 146.685 Mhz.
PRRA Sunday Night Net Sunday at 8:00 PM on 147.255 MHz and 442.925 Mhz

North Port Net Tuesday at 8:00 PM on 147.120 Mhz.

Sky Warn Net Tuesday 9:00 PM Big Stick (NI4CE repeater sys) 145.430 PL 100 and 442.950 PL 100

Voip and Tech Net (Naples) Tues 7:30 PM Naples 146.670 PL136.5, Arcdia 147.180 PL 100 and Venice 442.050 PL 100. also on Echolink at nodes 451949, 389568, 213895, and 205293

Windmill Net Sunday at 9:00 Pm on 28.475 Mhz SSB

75 Meter Vintage Equip Net Tuesday at 5:00 PM on 3.810 Mhz

EARS Simplex Net Wed at 7:30 on 146.550 Mhz

Food and Fellowship

Punta Gorda ELKS lodge, Shore Drive in Punta Gorda, 11:00 AM Every Friday.

Denny's Restaurant, corner of RT 41 and RT 776 in Murdock, 7:30 AM Every Saturday

IHOP Punta Gorda, diagonally across RT 41 from the Police and Fire Station and directly across Grace St. from the Golden Corral. 1145 Am Wednesday.

Denny's – Englewood, SR 776 and Placida Rd (next to Bay Harbor Ford) : 7:00 AM every Tuesday

FROM THE EDITOR



Mike K4MWD

Looking forward to seeing you at Tuesday's meeting.