

# WA4IWL NEWSLETTER

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



September 2012

## PRESIDENT



Steve Churchill N9USZ

Hello fellow EARS members. Its August and things have slowed down here in Englewood. I'm waiting for the weather to cool down a bit so I can work on some antenna projects.

Anyway on to the Pioneer Day Parade. Victor once again let us use his truck in the parade and I set up a 20 meter mobile station and we made contacts into Montana, the YL net controller south of San Antonio, TX and my good friend Bruce NK5W in Rio Rancho, NM. Signal reports were good but noise on our end killed reception. Thanks go out to Vic and Liz, Matthew and Sarah, Ken, Fred and Chico who as usual stole the show with all the kids.

Like I said..”I'm looking forward to cool weather,”

and our friends and fellow members coming down this winter. See you all at the next meeting.

73

Steve N9USZ



## EARS meeting August 16, 2012

Steve N9USZ called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 18 members and no guests or visitors present.

The Secretary’s report by Marcia KA1GCV was accepted as published in the newsletter.

The Treasurer’s report was given by Vic K4VHX: as of 8/15/2012 the EARS

checking account had a balance of: \$2544.41

Savings account had a balance of : 2804.85

For a total of.....: \$5349.26

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer’s report as given.

## Correspondence:

We received more “Ham Radio Saves Lives” bumper stickers, some pens and stickers for the Pioneer Days parade from Harold “Pi” Pugh. He gives the support for HamTestOnline.com for helping Hams to study for the upgrade exams. They also have a new feature, The Practice Exam with Memory, which is the “premier way to study for the amateur radio written exams even better.”

## Committee Reports:

Sunshine: All are alive and well at this time.

**RACES:** Mel W9BSM reported there will be a drill on August 29 and 30; and a general call. There have been many improvements and changes. We are going by both the hospital rules and our own rules....everyone must wear an ID badge.

**Publicity:** An article was published in the paper about Mel and Maryann's volunteering in the community...Mel with EARS and Maryann with Englewood hospital. Volunteers were at their house one early morning to power wash and paint their home, wash their windows, and landscape the yard. Mel and Maryann watched from their living room window with big smiles and are very thankful.

Testing is offered at Venice library on the second Saturdays of each month.

**DX:** DXing has been undesirable to the U.S. Please see Tom's full report.

Hamfest: Lambifest is on September 15th; Tampa is coming up soon.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** Vic K4VHX attended a kick-off meeting for "Revolution 3", a nationwide triathlon event. It will include Venice, Englewood, and North Port areas. It will begin with a 1.2 mile swim around Sharky's Pier, followed by biking 56 miles, then running 13.1 miles. They are very interested in having amateur radio help during the racing. Vic will get in touch with other radio clubs to see how much help we can get for this Half Iron Man race. The date is set for Sunday, October 28th.

Discussions were held on the Pioneer Days parade on Labor Day. This year's theme is "Hats off to Englewood". Vic will offer his truck with a Top Hat on the cap; members will have HF equipment set up to make some contacts in the back; handouts to the crowd include spinning tops, pens, bumper stickers, Boca Grande QSL cards. We are hoping that some members will walk the parade route...if not able....at least YELL a lot as the EARS truck goes by!!!

We have been registered to be at the lighthouse on August 18+19; but Fort Myers' club will be there instead.

More discussion on having 1-2 handheld or mobile radios available in the club for back-up during emergencies, marathons, field days, etc.

Gerry K4JWE brought up the subject of having a QR code on our website for information on EARS. This sounds like a good idea for fishing for new members!

Adjournment:

A motion was made and seconded by the group. Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm. Our next meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marcia Fowler KA1GCV  
Secretary



**Tom Hawes WA3PRC**

## **DX REPORT**

Again I have a short report due to inactivity on my part and just lousy conditions.. Such as now, I am listening on 20M for an S21 Bangladesh contact but have no copy to that part of the world.

The past month I have noted various stations on the DX Cluster but no copy here at this QTH. Several times I have checked 20M and heard nothing but static

The stations I have worked are as follows: CY9M Sable Island, 2O12L Olympic station, D64K

Comoros, and just the past few days NH8S Swain Island with 4 contacts so far.

You have all received the DX info that was sent out. This gives you the dates that these entities will be operating. But remember to check the cluster as some new ones do pop up on occasion just like the S21 which would be a good catch. And remember too that 3D2C Conway Reef will QRV Sept. 24th

Hopefully the bands will get better as well as my operating habits..

73S Tom wa3prc

Next meeting September 20, 2012

7:30 PM

Englewood United Methodist Church

#### LOCAL:



Hi All,

I contacted Sharon of the Barrier Island Parks Society about operating at the lighthouse. She was more than happy to allow myself and/or club members to come out and hook up to their electric and put up an antenna. I decided to do a trial run out there yesterday to check things out. They have painted the entire underside of the lighthouse and re-wired everything. There are also no picnic tables under the

lighthouse anymore. I strung a G5RV Jr between the lighthouse building and the keepers quarters, hooked up to their electric and set up my radio on the tailgate of the truck. I operated on 20 meters and made 40 contacts in a few hours. I used my call sign and gave out the island number. I was chased off the island by the weather but had a good time while it lasted. I thanked Sharon for allowing me to come out and operate. I'm hoping some of the club members may be interested in operating for a day sometime either as an activated island or to activate our own lighthouse event since we have lost our lighthouse weekend out there.

73,  
Pam  
K1UEG



*Two old Englewood ham radio operators ( W1NQT and N4FA)got together for lunch at the Lock n' Key and found some common cents!*

*73's - Ken*

#### HAMFESTS/CONVENTIONS

**09/22/2012 | Pasco County HamFest**

Location: Odessa, FL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Suncoast Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sarcmail>

Letters to the editor should be emailed to:  
[K4MWD@arrl.net](mailto:K4MWD@arrl.net) Put Editor in the subject line.



Mike Daly K4MWD  
Editor

**VE Exam Sessions:**

7:00 p.m. on the Third Wednesday of the month at the Century Link Building at the corner of Harbor and S Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte, FL.

Bring 2 forms of ID, your current license if upgrading and \$15

Contact Gino at 941-629-7933 for more info.

Click here for the next scheduled session.

[http://www.arrl.org/exam\\_sessions/port-charlotte-fl-33952-9999-18](http://www.arrl.org/exam_sessions/port-charlotte-fl-33952-9999-18)

**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 14.317 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.

**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 444.100 – Tuesday 7:30 p.m.

TARC 146.805 - Thursday 7:30 p.m.

TARC 146.805 – Wednesday 8:00 p.m. DX net

TARC's website is at: <http://tamiamiarc.org/>

PRRA 146.255 - Sunday 8:00 p.m.

NICE 146.430 - Daily 8:30 p.m.