

# General Meeting Minutes

## October 17, 2017

President Peter Winters called the October General Membership meeting of the Gainesville Amateur Radio Society to order at 6:33 PM. He then led us in the pledge of allegiance, and then started the introductions.

Sickness/Health and Welfare: Bill Gilbreath, K4ALF is back in the hospital as of the meeting date. He said he will keep in touch.

A moment of silence was observed.

Secretary's report: Nothing to report.

Treasurer's report: the September budget was shown and explained to the General Membership and was found to be balanced.

A Motion was put to the floor to accept the Treasurer's report. It was seconded and approved by the General Membership.

The Treasurer, Susan Tipton, brought up a proposal to fine any members who pay their yearly dues after the April 1 deadline. The Executive Board will discuss this at their next meeting.

Webmaster's report: all is well on the web.

ARES report: Operation Steinhatchie Storm went well. Many of the GARS members participated and we thank you for that. The after-action reports on Operation Steinhatchie Storm and hurricane Irma are on the ARES club website.

ARES meeting: will be held at the Red Cross Ctr. on November 8, 2017 social hour starts at 6 PM and the meeting starts at 7 PM. The topic will be power supplies, controllers, power pole connectors, and installation of such.

The University of Florida's Amateur Radio Club, GARC, will be holding a Technician day. On October 21, 2017 at UF's Larson Hall. This is a class to learn how to become a Technician and be prepared to pass your Technician test. This will be a free event.

Another Technician day will be held November 4th and 5th 2017 at Santa Fe College. It will be run by Allen West, WA4JD, and sponsored by the Santa Fe Ham Club. It will be in S 29 – 30 and then move to H – 29. It will start at 8 AM and run through 7 PM on Saturday and 1 PM through 7 PM on Sunday. The cost is \$45 and includes everything you need to get up and running including taking the Technician test.

The 50 Amateur Radio volunteers that went into Puerto Rico after hurricane Irma extensively damaged their country has been asked to extend their stay to help with communications for the local hospitals. We do make a difference.

Repeater Trustee/VP: reports that the repeaters are working fine. The VP reports, HR 555, known as the Ham Radio Bill, still needs our support. Show your support by getting in touch with Congressman Ted Yoho's office and Senator Bill Nelson's office. Let them know how you support HR 555, and the companion US Senate Resolution.

President's report: The President had nothing to report. He then went into Old business. The annual GARS fall picnic/JOTA event is too held this last Saturday, October 21, 2017 from 10 AM until 2 PM. The club will furnish hamburgers, frankfurters, chips, and drinks. Carry in side dishes, and desserts are welcome to be bought by club members. The event will held at the City of Gainesville's San Felasco Park. Boy Scouts from troops 125 and 454 have been invited to participate this year.

The club will be participating in the annual Veterans Day event on Saturday, November 11, 2017. The event starts at 10 AM and closes at approximately 12:30 PM. Set up will need to be completed prior to 9 AM due to traffic issues. It is held at Kanapaha Veterans Memorial Park on SW. 75<sup>th</sup> St., (Tower Road). GARS representatives have spoken with Ms. Kim Davis, the Alachua County Veterans Service Representative. She said she is looking forward to our participation.

The club will be participating in the annual Life South event, Operation Santa Delivery, at Santa Fe College. The event date is December 16, 2017. Set up is no later than 9 AM the event runs from 10 AM till 12:30 PM – 1 PM. This is the event where we let the young children talk via radio to Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus.

Please save the date. The annual GARS Christmas Banquet/Awards dinner will be held on December 19, 2017, the third Tuesday of the month. The banquet will be held at Our Meeting place, Trinity United Methodist Church, in the atrium. The menu, as of this time, will be completely furnished by Trinity's kitchen staff, so that club members may enjoy the festivities without being overtaxed with dinner details for the event. The Executive Board approved a cost of \$15 per individual. Reservations are required and will close one week prior to the event on December 12, 2017. This is a great price for not having to cook and clean!

New business:

November is the month that GARS elects Officers and Executive Board members, for the 2018 calendar year. Everyone, who is a current up to date member, is eligible to seek election, if you are so inclined. You may also nominate others that you feel would be an asset to our club.

School/Youth Outreach Program is about getting volunteers out to the schools to give a program to the students about things you know or are passionate about, not necessarily amateur radio topics. If you are willing you can get a hold of Carol Chesney, KG4FEX.

Program:

This month's program is about the Macintosh Hi-Fi Company. It was presented by the grandson of the creator of this company, Bruce McIntosh, WA4UF, who is a member of our radio club, He talked about how his grandfather, "Mr. Mac", couldn't find an amplifier that was powerful enough not to distort

at high volumes. So, he decided to make his own, and the rest is history. The business still exists in Binghamton, New York. Thank you very much Bruce for a wonderful presentation.

**A Motion was put to the floor to adjourn our meeting, it was seconded and approved at 7:50 PM.**

Gregory C Sporer,

Secretary GARS

**May God bless you and God bless America.**