

General Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2017

President Peter Winters W4GHP called the September General Meeting of the Gainesville Amateur Radio Society to order at 6:40 PM. He then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. After a moment of silence, Pete started introductions.

Sickness/Health and Welfare: Nick Koenigstein K4NIK is home from the hospital and having physical therapy at home and is getting better. Jim Dubois of FBCW went to the hospital with chest pains and as of the date of this meeting was still waiting for test results.

Secretary's report: Secretary Gregory Sporer KM4OCZ had nothing to report.

Treasurer's report: Treasurer Susan Tipton K9PDL informed us that the August balance was correct. September which is not over yet, she has paid bills and will give the full report next meeting.

A Motion to accept the budget as correct was put before the General membership it was seconded and approved.

Webmaster's report: Bob Guertin W1GLV said everything is still working.

ARES report: Jeff Capehart W4UFL said that hurricane Irma was massive and they never had to mobilize so many volunteers. He said this was the largest mutual aid emergency we've ever had at the EOC. Alachua County Sheriff Sadie Darnell thanked all the volunteers and the rest of us who are ready to take over communications if the sheriffs communications broke down. Jeff also added a big thank you for all the volunteers who showed up to work at the EOC and at the 18 shelters that were opened in Alachua County.

Repeater Trustee/VP: Shannon Boal K4GLM said all our repeaters worked well during the hurricane. He also told us that WUFT channel 5 helped with antennas and auxiliary power and he wanted to thank them.

President's report: Pete also wanted to thank everyone for a job well done.

Old business: the annual GARS fall picnic/JOTA event. The event date is October 21, 2017. The event will be held at the city of Gainesville, San Felasco Park on NW. 43rd Way. This is the city park immediately north of WCJB TV 20s facility on North W. 43rd St., Boy Scout troops 125 and 454 have been invited to participate this year.

The ARRL has approved the GARS request to hold the annual GARS Hamfest on Saturday, April 21, 2018. The event will be held at the Waldo first Baptist Church Larry Rovak, WB2SVB, is the chairman for the event.

Please save this date; annual GARS Christmas banquet/awards dinner will be held on December 19, 2017 (the third Tuesday of the month.) The banquet will be held here at Trinity United Methodist church. Further details on the menu will be forthcoming.

The club will be participating in the annual "Operation Santa Delivery" again this year, the event is at Santa Fe college. The event date is December 16, 2017, as confirmed by Life Self, the event organizer. Further details will be forthcoming.

New business: the club will be participating in the annual Veterans Day event on Saturday, November 11, 2017 at Kanapaha Veterans Memorial Park on SW. 75th St.

This month's program was presented by Gregory Sporer, KM4OCZ. The program was a show and tell involving the building and use of a "Homebrew" APU (Auxiliary Power Unit) to power two CPAP (Continuous Positive Airway Pressure) breathing assist system. The program was well received and the membership contributed numerous questions and subsequent suggestions for the development of a future system modeled after Gregory's prototype.

Afterthoughts: We on the Executive Board hope that you withstood the wrath of Irma. And that you and yours are in good health and spirits. If you need anything feel free to contact any of us on the board and we will certainly help if possible.

There were 25 members at this meeting.

A Motion was put to the members of the club to adjourn the meeting it was seconded and approved at 7:55 PM.

Gregory C Sporer, Secretary.

