

September 18, 2018 General Meeting Minutes

Call to order.

Welcome by Pete Winters (W4GHP). Pledge of Allegiance. Introductions.

Don Furlong (KM4EOY) is at North Florida. He will transfer soon to Palm Garden. He has CHF, but is in good spirits.

Larry Rovak's (WB2SVB) son has stage 4 kidney cancer. Larry will frequently be in New Jersey and not available to be Hamfest chair.

Bob Gay's (K8RAG) wife Dee (N8DEE) is doing OK. She had a stroke about a year ago.

Moment of Silence

The secretary, Gregory Sporer (KM4OCZ), was not present so there was no report.

The treasurer, Susan Tipton (K9PDL), presented the treasurer's report, which the club accepted. She offered our new patches for sale at a cost of \$5 each.

The GARS Webmaster, Bob Guertin, (W1GLV) has nothing to report.

The ARES EC, Jeff Capehart (W4UFL), reported that the ARRL has hams working the Florence disaster; the strategic plan is being reviewed; ARES connect is being beta tested; the next ARES meeting is 10/10/2018; the EOC had new antennas and a utility pole for additional antennas installed.

The Repeater Trustee/Vice President, Shannon Boal (K4GLM), reported that the repeaters are working; Boy Scout Jamboree is coming up; Winter Field Day planning is beginning.

The President, Pete Winters (W4GHP), reported that our new section manager would speak to the club at the January general meeting; GARS will be supporting the 2018 Veteran's Day celebration with a information booth and not with a radio demo.

Pete Winters (W4GHP) reviewed GARS Professional Liability Policy. Based on cost and support GARS will stay with our current insurance carrier (Mercer). He suggested that the board review the policy each year in February prior to our April renewal.

This year the GARS Fall Picnic and Scouts of America Jamboree on the Air will be on Saturday, October 20, 2018. We expect that BSA troupe 125 will participate with 12-15 boys attempting the radio merit badge and 20-25 scouts attending. The picnic will be at the city of Gainesville San Felasco Park off NW 43rd Street. There will be two stations (one digital, one voice). As always, we will need volunteers to be at the park early (dawn) in order to ensure we have a picnic shelter.

The Annual Awards Dinner and Christmas party is scheduled for Tuesday, December 18, 2018 in Trinity's Atrium. The cost is the same as last year, \$15.00 per person.

A POW/MIA recognition event is Saturday, September 22, 2018 at the Alachua County Veterans Memorial Park off SW 75th Street. The county is sponsoring it and has asked us to assist. The event starts at 10:00 AM with helicopters and skydivers. Jim Carr (KC4MHH) will be the landing zone coordinator. He needs volunteers to assist him to arrive at 8:00 AM. The event will be similar to the Veteran's Day celebration. For further information, contact Jim at carr@fireline.org

GARS and ARES (NF4RC) will be co-sponsoring the SET (Simulated Emergency Test) Exercise on October 13, 2018 starting at 9:00 AM. Leland Gallup (AA3YB) and Susan Halbert (KG4VWI) will be coordinating the event. They are asking GARS members to both work the event and/or to be actors in the event. Volunteers can work from their own home. All that is needed is the ability to access a local repeater. The SET will take three hours. The SET will be at three primary locations: Santa Fe University, Alachua County EOC, Gainesville Senior Center. Contact Leland (AA3YB) at gallupleland@gmail.com if you can help.

The Neighborhood Ham Radio Watch Program was presented by Gordon Gibby (KX4Z).

Elections are coming up (November 20, 2018 general meeting) for the club. Blank ballots were distributed. The ballots can be returned to Pete (W4GHP) or anonymously mailed to the club PO Box. Pete (W4GHP) will not be running for President again. Other officers and board members would like to step down.

Adjourn

Minutes taken by Treasurer, Susan Tipton (K9PDL) in the absence of the Secretary.