

GARS MOUTH

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WWW.GARS.NET

*Welcome to the Gainesville Amateur Radio Society's
Newsletter*

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Presidents Corner, April 2014

Welcome to all, as the spring season is in full bloom, and those of us with allergies enjoy the annual battle with the pollen.

We have several ham radio adventures to carry us through the pollen season. First, for our April General Meeting on Wednesday, April 16th, we have scheduled the candidates for the North Florida Section Manager's position to speak to the membership. The candidates are each scheduled to speak for 10 minutes, followed by a 3 minute question and answer session for each candidate.

At the April meeting we will also be making final preparations for the Hamfest on April 26th at the Waldo First Baptist Church on State Route 24, in Waldo. Tickets are \$5.00 each for entry and tailgate space. Please come and help support our annual fund raising event for the club, and enjoy the camaraderie of other hams in our community.

For those members traveling to the Dayton Hamvention, May 16-18, 2014 we wish you safe travels and happy shopping.

73,

Pete Winters

W4GHP

GARS President

GARSPresident14@gmail.com

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page 1	Executive Staff and Board Members
Page 2	President's Corner, Club Happenings
Page 3	VE, GARS Minutes, Finances
Page 4	Upcoming Events
Page 5	ARRL Elections, Shack, What's This?
Page 6	What's this cont, Club Happenings
Page 7	From Space
Page 8	Did you know, Link of Month, Technical
Page 8	Credits, Sell it or she will

Send edits, comments, articles to garseditor@gmail.com

FAMOUS WORDS

"Only two things are infinite, the universe and human stupidity, and I'm not sure about the former."

Albert Einstein

CLUB HAPPENINGS

Not sure if you all know this but GARS is having a Hamfest at the end of this month April 26 in Waldo at the Waldo Baptist Church at 7Am. Need Volunteers and bring your wallet for a great find that you cannot live without buying.

Also don't forget that Field Day is coming up soon, really soon, need all the helping hands possible. Operators wanted and needed for all shifts and don't forget that this is not a contest. Really this is not a contest it is a demonstration of our abilities to act upon a disaster when needed with all our capabilities, so come out and show the public what you're able to do, and make some points at the same time.

Did you know we have a new Facebook Page?

Like Us on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/GainesvilleAmateurRadioSociety>

VE REPORT

At the end of March, one new ARES member completed the EmComm Level I exam after a review with Jeff Capehart W4UFL, and Susan Halbert KG4VWI. On Saturday, April 5th, three people earned new Technician licenses, including two who plan to use them for radio controlled aircraft and first-person view flying. Two other people upgraded to Amateur Extra. The next regularly scheduled ARRL license test session will be at Santa Fe College on Saturday, June 7th, 2014. The test will begin at 1:00pm in room P-160. For information on the test, registration or questions contact Allan West by email <wa4jd@cookie.org> or call 352-328-2359.

There will be a one-day Technician review and test at the Tioga Community Center on Saturday, April 26th, 2014. The review will run from 9:00am - 3:00pm, and a test will follow at 3:00pm. The review is free, and open to anyone in the community.

For information on the one-day review, registration or questions contact

Gary Liljegren by email at <gary@w4gal.net>

GARS MEETING MINUTES

GARS Minutes March 19, 2014

Jeff Capehart, Vice President, acting President Susan Tipton, Treasurer, acting Secretary Call to order at 6:34 pm

Pledge

Introductions

Sickness and Health

Gary's daughter - KI4GIJ had thyroid cancer surgery and is doing well.

Ed Sills sent email and is doing better.

Walt is doing better after his surgery and is back on the air.

Deputy Cary Gallop spoke on Identity Theft.

Officer's and Chairmen Reports

Treasurer's report – Gary Hunt made a motion to accept Feb, Carol Chesney seconded

Shannon – repeater report, lots of sanding painting and fixing. Talked to WUFT.

EMCOMM review and class – week from Saturday

ARRL Section Manager elections coming up. Susan passed out the one candidate's email and Jeff told club he wanted to attend our next meeting.

Old Business

Trailer sold. Thanks to Carol & Vann for their work.

March of Dimes this Saturday. Lots of volunteers.

Hamfest coming up. David, Pete, Shannon – co-chairs. \$5 admission which includes tailgate space. Will be in QST. Sign up sheet passed around. David & Pete have laid out traffic flow. Need volunteers to man two areas or we will not make money.

Dental Tower construction put off a week to March 27. Tower repositioning scheduled for then.

New Business

Field Day is coming up June 29th. At Gethesame.

8:01 move to adjourn (many shouting out and seconding)

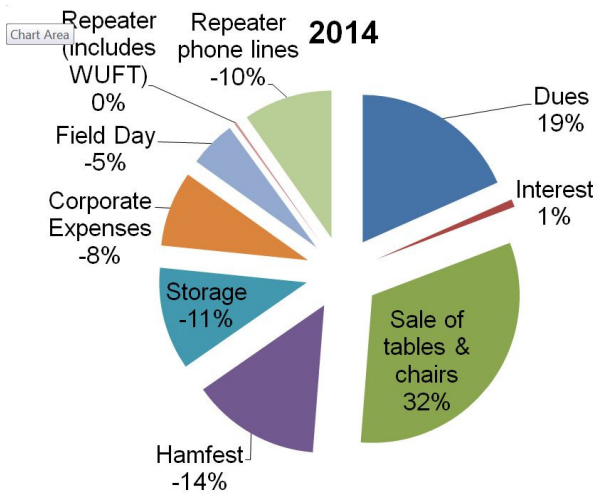
GARS FINANCES

Your membership dues are due as of January 1, and you will be out of membership if you laps after March 31, so please renew and support your club.

\$\$\$

To be able to provide activities such as the club picnic, Christmas party, the club "repeaters", food and materials for Field Day, Hamfest, etc. it takes \$\$\$\$. Support GARS by paying your dues, the dues are due January 1 of every year, and so see Susan Tipton at the January GARS general meeting before the meeting starts. Even give a little more for the activities that make GARS and active association. A small note that even the donut money at the meetings, supports the GARS, so have a cup and a bit of sugar and spice and some camaraderie and top off that donation cup.

GARS financial report will be provided at the general meeting and will not be published in the GARS Mouth.



UPCOMING EVENTS

GARS Hamfest Waldo Baptist Church April 26, 2014 7Am.

www.gars.net/tailgate.htm

Hamfests as listed in ARRL

04/19/2014 | [FLAMINGO NET / UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI ARC FREE FLEA](#)

Location: Coral Gables, FL
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Flamingo Net ARC / University of Miami ARC
Website: <http://www.flamingonet.8m.net>

04/19/2014 | [TARCFEST XXXI](#)

Location: Tampa, FL
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Tampa Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://www.hamclub.org>

04/26/2014 | [GARS 2014 HAMFEST AND TAILGATE EVENT](#)

Location: Waldo, FL
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Gainesville Amateur Radio Society
Website: <http://www.gars.net>

05/24/2014 | [WORMFEST 2014](#)

Location: Pinellas Park, FL
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: The Glorious Society of the Wormhole
Website: <http://www.TheWormholeSociety.org>

07/11/2014 | [MILTON ARC'S 19TH ANNUAL HAMFEST](#)

Location: Milton, FL
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Milton Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://www.miltonarc.org>

08/23/2014 | [TARCFEST XXXII](#)

Location: Tampa, FL
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Tampa Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://www.hamclub.org>

10/04/2014 | [OPARC HAMFEST TAILGATE](#)

Location: Jacksonville, FL
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Orange Park Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://oparc.net/hamfest>

10/10/2014 | [FLORIDA STATE CONVENTION \(MELBOURNE HAMFEST\)](#)

Location: Melbourne, FL
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society
Website: <http://www.pcars.org>

11/08/2014 | [SPARCFEST](#)

Location: Pinellas Park, FL
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: St. Petersburg Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://www.sparc-club.org>

11/15/2014 | [FREE FLEA](#)

Location: Coral Gables, FL
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Flamingo Net ARC / University of Miami ARC
Website: <http://www.flamingonet.8m.net>

12/12/2014 | [WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA SECTION CONVENTION \(TAMPA BAY HAMFEST\)](#)

Location: Plant City, FL
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: Florida Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Council
Website: <http://tampabayhamfest.org>

To become an Amateur Radio operator, check out this website link. <http://www.arrl.org/what-is-ham-radio>

ARRL NFL SECTION ELECTIONS

Steve Szabo WB4OMM Gary Alberstadt KA3FZO



You can view both these gentlemen's bio's and campaign information at these two links.

Gary KA3FZO http://arrl-nfl.org/wp/?page_id=1594

Steve WB4OMM http://arrl-nfl.org/wp/?page_id=1589

Both are candidates for ARRL Northern Florida Section Manager and both will speak at the GARS general meeting.

Did you get your ballot in the mail, you might want to check if you have not received it.

SHACK OF THE MONTH



ARRL W1AW Primary Station

WHAT IS THIS?

You might just make this item. More of these schematics will be on GARS website under the Technical Resources webpage.

Credit is given to K0FF for most of this design.

We have added modifications that proved useful in the design.

The mods will be presented under modifications in the design instructions. Special thanks to **W6ARQ** and, **KC5BBP** for their input on this Antenna.

2 Meter Square Dipole by K0FF

Here is the parts list and dim. sheet for the 2 meter square dipole, made of copper water pipe.

Parts List

1/2 Inch Copper Water Pipe
 Long Sides 9 1/2 inches
 Open Ends 3 1/4
 2 Short Pieces on each side of "T" 4 7/16
 4-90 Degree Elbows
 2-Copper Caps
 1 Copper Tee
 Brass Plate for SO239
 Gamma Tube 4 3/4 of 3/8 Copper Tubing
 RG8 is 5 1/2 inches long
 Copper or Brass Gamma Tube Bracket
 SO239

Modification Parts (DO NOT USE STAINLESS STEEL)

6 Brass Nuts-Note Any size
 2 Brass Screws at least 1 1/2" long

Instructions: The mounting array to be affixed to a standard mobile mast that presents 3/8 X 24 threads.

Run coaxial cable right to the antenna and connect it to the built in SO-239.

There are two adjustments on the Antenna to match the coax Imp.

Adjust the Gamma Match Tube for Lowest SWR, then the tuneable stubs move in or out for lower swr.

Do not use Stainless Steel Screws, Soldering them to the end caps is almost impossible.

The 2 meter square loop is a folded Dipole around itself.

The shape is 11" X 11".

Solder the antenna parts together using 90 degree elbows at the corner open ends and mind the gap.

All measurements are critical. The brass plate to hold them form an "L" 1-3/4" tall with a 1/2" lip.

A 5/8" hole is provided 1-1/4 inch from the bend, and attached using stainless steel or brass hardware.

Two small holes are drilled in the lip and mounted to the copper TEE with #6 self tapping screws.
 Solder the 5 1/2 inch piece of RG8 to the SO-239.
 When using the RG8 discard the outer shield and use only the Dielectric. Slip the RG8 inside the 4-3/4 Gamma Tube.
 The Gamma bracket should be at least 1 1/2" long brass or copper.
 Secure with stainless steel screws right before the 90 degree elbow.
 Either side doesn't matter.
 The Gap between the Open Ends is 2-3/8".
 Adjustments to the gap in or out can be made with the modification
 of installing the brass screws on the end caps.

The Antenna is more or less Omni Directional and horizontally polarized.
 It presents a high takeoff angle and is intended for use in the 144.200mhz area.
 The Antenna can handle 100 Watts and has proved useful in working some satellites such as AO-27.
 The Antenna provides excellent SSB results while mobile and have talked with other stations 200 miles with similarly equipped Antennas.

For further Information on assembly or instruction details Email

the following hams below.

Af4ar6077@aol.com

W6arg@charter.net

[Kc5bbp](#) lives too far back in the hills of Tennessee to get daylight...much less email!!!!

PLEASE DON'T EMAIL HAM UNIVERSE.COM FOR QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO THIS ANTENNA..GO TO THE EXPERTS ABOVE!!



<http://www.hamuniverse.com/loop.html>

CLUB HAPPENINGS CONT.

GARS at March Of Dimes 2014

GARS supported the 2014 March for Babies walk on Saturday, March 22nd. Amateurs provided

communications at the individual water stations and at Westwood Middle School, where the walk began and ended. Twenty-three radio operators worked the event across 13 water stations, net control and event liaison positions, contributing about 90 hours of public service time.

A BIG THANKS TO ALL THAT PARTICIPATED IN THE EVENT, WITHOUT YOU IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE.



Michael Robinett, W4UAV, brought a six-rotor helicopter drone and filmed the walk's beginning and some of the returning participants.



Video is available on his YouTube channel:

March For Babies 2014 Gainesville, FL Aerial Footage
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DRyDydqa4kY>

Near the beginning of the walk, a ShandsCair helicopter buzzed the field and the drone helicopter, to the surprise of both helicopter pilots.

Thanks,

Allan West

WA4JD@cookie.org



Here are Jeff's pictures and video.

<https://plus.google.com/u/0/photos/106823171847664989306/albums/5994363117839655889>

FROM SPACE

Radio Amateurs Receive Rosetta Spacecraft Signals from Deep Space

01/31/2014

James Miller, G3RUH, was among a small handful of Amateur Radio operators to receive the X band signal January 21 from the European Space Agency's Rosetta spacecraft, some 500 million miles from Earth. Miller used the 20 meter dish at the Bochum Amateur Radio facility in Germany, run by AMSAT-DL and IUZ Bochum Observatory. In an AMSAT-BB post, Miller noted the frequency at the spacecraft was 8421.786900 MHz, and the signal was 14 dB below that of the STEREO A/B spacecraft. Perhaps more astonishing, Bertrand Pinel, F5PL, was able to track Rosetta 65 kilometers from Toulouse using his "home-rigged" 3.5 meter dish and receiver. Viljo Allik, ES5PC, a member of Estonian Student Satellite Program team reported his group was able to detect the satellite's signal using a slightly smaller dish.

"We have recently established our own small ground station for mostly educational purposes to get more interested students into space technology," Allik said in a reply to Pinel's European Space Agency blog post. The Estonian group used a 3 meter dish. Allik said the signal-to-noise ratio was in the range of 3 to 5 dB in a 1 Hz bandwidth. "So it was really exciting to see the signal from such large distance with our

very simple receiving station. The elevation of the Rosetta spacecraft at our location was only about 4° during the reception."

The equipment used was "a kind of amateur design," he said. "We detected signals from other spacecraft like Gaia and STEREO A/B too, but the signal from Rosetta is the most-distant signal we have detected so far."

Launched in 2004, Rosetta will both orbit and land on a comet, which it will reach this August, and send data back to Earth. The spacecraft consists of the Rosetta space probe and the Philae robotic lander.


WHAT'S THE SECRET CODE, DO I NEED A DECODING RING?

I am pleased to announce that Jeff Capehart W4UFL and Shannon Boal K4GLM decoded the January clues, and Van decoded February's clues.

Please try and be creative when decoding, we know Google can do it all but imagination is everything.

May will have a decoding cryptic message, look for it.

From the early 40s to Y2K there were radio and television shows that provided clues and puzzles to resolve, some of them included badges like Capt. Midnight and Special

Decoder Rings like in Jonny Quest from PF Flyers. 

So there are all these C.W. messages in the whole newsletter and I'm sure you all are asking what does this all mean. Well to keep your interest in the entire newsletter, there will be a message spaced out throughout the paper for you to put together. Rules: If you put together the message correctly, you will receive a PL259, if you put together the message and tell me what book, yes I said book that the message is in by name, date, chapter and page (You must include all four), you will receive an item, parts, or even a copy of the book that will represent the topic of interest. This will only happen every quarter, and you only can win once a year, so that everyone has a chance to win. So happy decoding. Email garseditor@gmail.com the answer to win, or present to the President of GARS incase I'm not present. KE4PWE

LET ME CHECK MY CALENDER

HAMFEST HAMFEST HAMFEST

This weekend Saturday don't miss it.

DID YOU KNOW

That FADCA, that is Florida Amateur Digital Communications Association in Orlando decided to petition to either disband or find a new mission due to technology surpassing the existing digital systems of today and the coordination of digital frequencies being handled by FRC? Fortunately the Palm's West Group has an interest in using HSMM and suggested incorporating their digital modes into promotion of all modes across Florida. Stay tune for more news as it come about with this new development.

LINK'S OF THE MONTH

Morse Code Practice

<http://aa9pw.com/morsecode/>

TECHNICAL CORNER

Very cute robot, but takes some time and imagination to do it.

<http://www.instructables.com/id/Arduino-V-Twin-Flux-Capacitor/>

TRADE IT OR SHE WILL TRADE YOU

If you have anything that you would like to sell, trade, donate or give away, email garseditor@gmail.com and we will put the item in here. Please understand that this will be restricted to only Amateur Radio related items only, no property, vehicles or other large items that would have radio attached, just use common sense.

This item belongs to KI4CVI, Everett Scroggie Jr. He license expired in Nov '13, and due to age and health issues he does not want to renew his license.

Everett's e-mail is scroggie36@fastmail.fm, Everett prefers that one contact him at the e-mail address to discuss sale, etc. Yeasu FT-5100 with Base Antenna \$150.00 10 years old



CREDITS

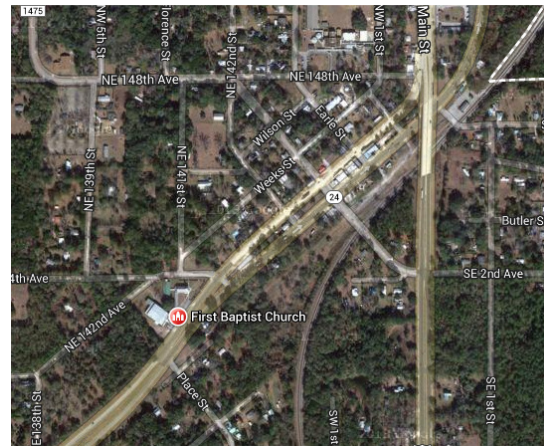
ARRL, Hamuniverse, Space News, Allan and Jeff, Brainyquotes, AA9PW, Instructables

REMINDERS

Don't forget the GARS Hamfest

Gainesville Amateur Radio Society every year puts on a Hamfest and a Tailgate Event and this year will be no different. We use to call it the poorman's hamfest because it was inexpensive and you had a lot of fun doing it. We are bringing that back. \$5.00 is all you need to be either inside the building or outside tailgating. Bring your own tables and chairs, there might be some provided but bring your own just in-case. Food and drinks are extra. The event starts at 7AM and ends around 1:30PM. **Volunteers needed**, Contact Shannon Boal or Pete Winters.

14370 Kennard St.(SR-24), Waldo, FL, 32694 Maps on GARS website www.gars.net/tailgate.htm Look in your closet, look in your shed, look in your attic.



This GARS Newsletter was brought to you in part by Carnation Condensed Milk, George Burns, and Gracie Allen.

Producers: Neutralized Triode

Editors: Phil KE4PWE and Lilly No Call Just Yet

Stage Hands: Cap Resistor

Mike Grip: "D" One O'Four

Set and Lighting Manager: Tom Foolery

Script and Controller: Frequent Followers Consortium

No Bits and Bytes were abused in the writing of this Newsletter and all zero's and one's are able to be recycled under the Clean Air Act. Hope you enjoyed it and we will see you next month. 73 and 88