



# GARS Mouth

Volume 51, Number 12

December 2006

www.Gars.net

## Calendar of Events

GARS Meeting  
December 20, 2006  
7:30 PM—Shands at UF  
Physicians Dining Room  
Gainesville

Ham Radio Exams  
January 6—1:00 PM  
SFCC Rm. P-144

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## Omnibus R&O Released – Big Changes

*Warren Croke*

The FCC's wide-ranging 'Omnibus' Amateur Radio Report and Order lives up to its dictionary definition: "...relating to, or providing for many things at once." It does everything from expanding phone segments in several bands to eliminating the old Novice CW band segments and allowing you to "will" your call sign to a radio club. And it all becomes effective December 15<sup>th</sup>.

There are significant changes to Amateur operating privileges, especially on 80 meters.

- The top end of the 80 m CW/RTTY/Digital band will now be 3600 kHz. 3600 kHz to 4 MHz is the new 80 m phone

segment for Extras, 3700 kHz to 4 MHz for Advanced and 3800 to 4 MHz for Generals. However, this gain in phone spectra actually *reduces* General, Advanced and Extra RTTY/Data privileges

- Novice/T+/T-HF can now operate CW in the *same* 3525-3600 kHz segments as Generals and Advanced. This will give them a much better shot at DX and other amateur ops in general.

The old 80 m Novice/T+/T-HF CW segment from 3675 to 3725 kHz is no more.

There are changes to the band segments in 40 meters as well.

- The top end of the 40 m CW/RTTY/Data band will now be 7125 kHz, a *loss* of 25 kHz. The 40 m phone segment now starts at 7125 kHz for Extras and Advanced, and 7125 kHz for Generals.

- Novice/T+/T-HF can now operate CW in the General and Advanced band segment from 7025 to 7125 kHz.

The old 40 m Novice/T+/T-HF CW segment from 7100 to 7150 kHz has been eliminated.

The 20 meter band segments remain unchanged as do the WARC bands, 30, 17 and 12 meters.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## GARS Holiday Dinner Party

**What:** GARS December Dinner Party

**When:** Wed. Dec 20th, 6:00 pm - 9:30 pm

**Cost:** \$15 per person

**Where:** Shands at UF - Physician's Dining Room

First floor near cafeteria/atrium (<http://www.afn.org/~afn26752/GARS/Physicians%20Dining%20Room%20Map-5.htm>)

**IMPORTANT!!** If you have not yet RSVPed and you want to attend, call Susan, K9PDL, at 375-4386. Make sure that you specify exactly how many people will be in your party. The caterer will accept a count change until 8:00 AM December 19th.

### Where can I park?

Make your choice between quick, close, and free. Public parking garages are available at both the east end by the Emergency Room and the west end by the Dental Tower. There is no charge to park when you come in, but you will pay \$3 on exit if you LEAVE BEFORE 9:30 pm.

Everyone is invited to stay until 9:15 pm and tour the GARC W4DFU radio station at the Dental Tower. If you leave at 9:30pm or later, PARKING IS FREE.

Valet parking is available for \$5. Parking on other areas of cam-

pus is free and does not require a decal after 5pm, but may require a walk of a quarter mile.

### Where is this Physician's Dining Room? Is it the same as the cafeteria?

No, it is a private dining room, but it is NEAR the cafeteria on the first floor.

What's on the menu?

salad bar, roast turkey and baked ham, all the trimmings, iced tea, coffee bar, cheese cake.

### Can I bring a guest?

Yes, just tell us how many are coming when you RSVP.

## FCC Omnibus Bill Report

(Continued from page 1)

The 15 meter changes essentially mirror the alterations to 80 and 40 meters.

- The General class phone band was moved down to 21.275 MHz from 21.300
- The phone segments for Extra and Advanced remain the same at 21.200 and 21.225 MHz, respectively. Novice/T+/T-HF now have the same CW privileges as General and Advanced, 21.025 to 21.200 MHz.

On 10 meters, Novice/T +/T-HF will have the same CW privileges as Extras, General and Advanced classes, 28.0 to

28.3 MHz.

Other changes of general interest include:

- You can now use an "Auxiliary Station" (such as the Kenwood "Sky Command") on 2 meters
- You can operate spread spectrum on 222 to 225 MHz in the 1.25 m band.
- You can "will" your call sign to a club on your passing as an *in memoriam* option. However, the club is *not* required to accept the call. So, you better see if the club wants it before you go to all the trouble.
- VEs no longer have to

publicize test sessions in advance.

Proof of an *expired* General, Advanced or Extra class license may be used for Element 1 credit.

For the full test of the Omnibus Report and Order go to the FCC website:

[http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/FCC-06-149A1.doc](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-06-149A1.doc)

For an abbreviated version go to:

<http://www2.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt04-140/faq.html>

## End of An Era: FCC Drops Code for All License Classes



### Is it Time to Introduce a New Ham to Morse Code?

In an historic move, the FCC has acted to drop the Morse code requirement for *all* Amateur Radio license classes. The Commission adopted, but hasn't yet released, the long-awaited *Report and Order (R&O)* in WT Docket 05-235, the "Morse code" proceeding. The FCC also has adopted an *Order on Reconsideration* in WT Docket 04-140 -- the "omnibus" proceeding -- modifying the Amateur Radio rules in response to an ARRL request to accommodate automatically controlled narrow-band digital stations on 80 meters in the wake of rule changes that became effective December 15. The Commission designated the 3585 to 3600 kHz frequency segment for such operations, although the segment will remain available for CW, RTTY and data as it has been. So far, the FCC has only issued a [public notice](#) and *not* the actual orders de-

tailoring the rule changes. *The effective date of both orders is not yet known*, but it appears likely at this point that it will be sometime in February. Currently, Amateur Radio applicants must pass a 5 WPM Morse code test to operate on HF. The FCC's action will eliminate that requirement all around.

"This change eliminates an unnecessary regulatory burden that may discourage current Amateur Radio operators from advancing their skills and participating more fully in the benefits of Amateur Radio," the FCC said. The ARRL had asked the FCC to retain the 5 WPM for Amateur Extra class applicants only. The FCC proposed earlier to drop the requirement across the board, however, and it held to that decision.

A list of frequently asked questions ([FAQs](#)) on both orders is posted on the ARRL Web site.

The FCC's action in WT Docket 05-235 will grant limited HF privileges to all Technician licensees, whether or not they've passed a Morse code examination. Once the *R&O* goes into effect, all Technician class license holders will be able to enjoy current "Tech Plus" HF privileges in addition to their current VHF/UHF privileges. The FCC said the *R&O* in the Morse code docket would eliminate a disparity in the operating privileges for the Technician and Technician Plus class licensees -- something the ARRL also has asked the Commission to correct following the release of its July 2005 *Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM)* in WT Docket 05-235. "With today's elimination of the Morse code exam requirements, the FCC concluded that the disparity between the operating privileges of Technician class licensees and Technician

(Continued on page 3)

## End of an Era

(Continued from page 2)

Plus class licensees should not be retained," the FCC public notice said. "Therefore, the FCC, in today's action, afforded Technician and Technician Plus licensees identical operating privileges."

Technician licensees *without* Element 1 credit currently have operating privileges on all amateur frequencies above 30 MHz. Technicians with Element 1 credit (ie, "Tech Plus" licensees) have limited HF privileges on 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters. Under the Part 97 rules the Commission proposed last year in its *NPRM* in WT Docket 05-235, current Technicians lacking Morse credit after the new rules went into effect would have had to upgrade to General to earn any HF privileges. Privileges will remain the same for Novice, General,

Advanced and Amateur Extra class licensees.

Typically, the effective date of a FCC order comes 30 days after its publication in the *Federal Register*. If that's the case, the new exam requirement and the revised 80-meter segment for automatically controlled digital stations would likely not go into effect until sometime in February 2007. At the time the rule changes adopted in the *R&O* are published in the *Federal Register*, the effective date also will become known (it is included in the *Federal Register* summary). In any event, the new rules will *not* go into effect anytime *before* they show up in the *Federal Register*.

Candidates for General or Amateur Extra testing between now and the effective

date of the new rules will still have to pass Element 1 (5 WPM Morse code) to obtain new privileges. Those earning Element 3 or Element 4 credit between now and the effective date of the new rules will receive a CSCE from the VE team. Once the new rules are in place, anyone holding a valid CSCE may apply for an upgrade at an exam session and pay the fee, if any.

*Try a New  
Operating  
Mode in  
2007!*

## Regularly Scheduled Nets

GARS Sunday evening rag-chew net  
Sundays, 8:30 PM. K4GNV Repeater 146.22/82  
Nick, K4NIK; Ken, KE4SLK; Ray, W4YTC.

Alachua County Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) net  
Thursdays, 8:00 PM. K4GNV Repeater 146.22/82  
Jeff, W4UFL; Melissa, KE4WBO; Susan, KG4VWI are net control.

## How Did the HOGs Do in Field Day?

The good news is the HOGs (Hams Of Gainesville) are still in the top ten nationwide in Class 5A. The not-so-good-news is the 2006 K4EAC Field Day effort fell short of its 2005 score, slipping from 7<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> place out of 74 stations entered in class 5A.

The HOGs' finest showing

was in 2004 when they took third place nationally.

However the Gainesville team remains the champion 5A station in Florida by a wide margin. The closest Florida 5A team was W4TA, the St. Pete ARC Med Wireless Society in 14<sup>th</sup> place, followed by Highlands County ARC, K4W, in

21<sup>st</sup>, Lake Monroe ARS, N4EH, in 34<sup>th</sup> and ARA of SW Florida, K4YHB, in 64<sup>th</sup>.

But, since Field Day isn't a contest all of the above really doesn't matter, right?



## Tech Topics

*Warren Croke*

### The Wondrous Wall Wart

One of the most common pieces of equipment in the ham shack is the ubiquitous "wall wart" transformer power supply. To learn more about these oft-used, little-investigated accessories, download "A Dummies' Guide to Working with Wall Warts" by John Bryant. (<http://tinyurl.com/unmk9>) *Contest Rate Sheet 11-15-06*

### 10-step PL259 installation K3LR style

To begin with, use only silver-plated connectors that say "Made in USA" on the shell.

Take a fully assembled (shell + body) connector and measure the connector against the RG8 (or similar) coax.

Take the outer covering of the coax off with a sharp knife. Pull

the braid back all the way by fanning it out.

Wrap 3 to 4 turns of Scotch 88 black tape around the center conductor.

Trim the dielectric up against the fanned out braid.

Use wire strippers and remove the remaining dielectric from the center conductor.

Install the fully assembled PL259 (meaning WITH the shell on the connector body - Ed.) onto the center conductor and over the tape. The back of the PL259 body should rest on the fanned out shield.

Solder the center conductor.

Trim the exposed shield to 1/4" long and fold over the back of the PL259.

Solder the shield all the way around the back of the PL259 body.

While the back is still hot wrap 2 turns of 88 tape around the soldered shield to seal it well. The shield is well soldered for 360 degrees around the connector with no chance that the dielectric is melted." *Contest Rate Sheet 15 Nov 06.*

### Holiday Gift Ideas

Need a couple of interesting and affordable **gift ideas** for the Ham who has everything? Check out [http://www.oz5e.com/html/the\\_ham\\_band.html](http://www.oz5e.com/html/the_ham_band.html). Another potential Xmas goodie is Black and Decker's back-pocket tool pouch (<http://tinyurl.com/y6732>). Just be careful where you sit down.

## Area Repeaters

Bell (Gilchrist Co. ARES)	147.285+	PL 123.0
Chiefland	147.390+	PL 123.0
Ft. McCoy	147.360+	PL 123.0
Gainesville (GARS)	146.820-	PL 123.0
Gainesville (GARS)	146.985-	
Gainesville (GARC - UF)	146.910-	
KB4HF Repeater	147.375+	
K4EAC Memorial Sta. (SFCC)	146.790-	
High Springs	145.470-	
Keystone Hgts (KF4EHP/KF4DRU)	145.130-	
Lake City	145.490-	
Lake City	146.940+	PL 123.0
Ocala	147.330+	PL 123.0
Ocala	146.970-	PL 123.0
Ocala	145.170+	PL 123.0
Starke (ARC-BA)	145.150-	
Gainesville (GARS)	224.160-	
Gainesville (GARS)	444.925+	

## Gainesville Amateur Radio Society

President	Shannon Boal	K4GLM	kingsautomotive1@alltel.net
Vice-President	Randy Kerr	KD4KHO	kd4kho@arrl.net
Secretary	Susan Tipton	K9PDL	k9pdl@arrl.net
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Director	Jeff Capehart	W4UFL	w4ufl@arrl.net
Director	David Birge	WB9UYK	davidbirge@bellsouth.net
Director	Jerry Stewart	KR4E	kr4e@arrl.net

### MEETING SCHEDULE

GARS regular meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM local time at the AvMed Building, 4300 NW 89<sup>th</sup> Blvd., Gainesville. All interested in Amateur Radio are welcome to attend the meetings.

### COPY DEADLINE

Two weeks prior to the meeting date. Editor may accept, reject, edit, delete or add to any copy submitted. Opinions & views expressed in this newsletter are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect opinions or policies of GARS or its members.

### ARRL & QST

When members join ARRL via the club treasury at regular rates, GARS receives a discount bonus for its treasury. All ARRL members receive QST as part of their membership.

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS, ROSTERS, CORRECTIONS

Susan Tipton, K9PDL, 3206 NW 56th Pl., Gainesville, FL 32606  
e-mail: k9pdl@arrl.net  
Telephone (352) 375-4386

### MATERIAL FOR GARS MOUTH

Curt Franklin, KG4GWA, 1713 NW 71st ST, Gainesville, FL 32605-3115  
e-mail: kg4gwa@arrl.net  
Telephone: (352) 331-6788

Mary Stewart, KI4CVH, 7803 NE 49th Terrace, Gainesville, FL 32609-1135  
e-mail: ki4cvh@arrl.net  
Telephone: (352) 262-8064

### TESTING. UPGRADING. LICENSING

Jerry Stewart, KR4E, 7803 NE 49th Terrace, Gainesville, FL 32609-1135  
E-mail: kr4e@arrl.net  
Telephone: (352) 262-8065

## From the Volunteer Examining Team

*Jerry Stewart*

### December VE Report

Happy Holidays from the VE team,

Our December exam session was a successful session with 100% passing. The successful candidates are: Wesley Evans/KI4SNI, Sean Szopinski/KI4SNJ and Robert Williams/KI4SNK as Technicians. One upgrade, Maritza Banos/KI4NDJ to General.

Thanks to VE's **Shannon Boal/K4GLM, Herb Kleinman/K4HMK, Laura Kleinman/K4LRK, Ed Miller/AI4HN, Bob Lightner/W4GJ, Warren Croke/NW4C and Mary Stewart/KI4CVH** for their help in administering the exams.

The next scheduled exam session will be on Saturday, January 6 at 1:00 pm at Santa

Fe Community College in room P-144, building P. For more information or to register for an exam contact **Jerry Stewart** at 352-336-8065 or [kr4e@arrl.net](mailto:kr4e@arrl.net)

**Jerry Stewart, KR4E**

*Make  
Amateur  
Radio part of  
your New  
Years  
Resolutions!*

## Minutes of the December Executive Board Meeting

GARS Board Meeting  
December 7, 2006

No board members absent.

19:15 - Call to order with reminder about restrictions on motions and voting.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Sickness and Health:**  
Bill, KE4NIS, had a four way bypass. He is at AGH.  
Mike's, N4UAV's, wife had a baby.

### OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Treasurer:** Kerry, KG4LQK, is collecting money for the dinner and for 2007 dues.

**Secretary:** Susan, K9PDL, thanked Jeff, W4UFL, for taking excellent minutes at the November meeting when she was out of town. **Motion passed:** To accept the board minutes as published in the GARS Mouth.

**Hamfest:** Ray, W4YTC, says that it looks like we will be able to use the old fairgrounds at least one more year.

**Education & Testing:** Jerry, KR4E, said that everyone at the last testing session passed. The plan is to have a general class start the Thursday after the Orlando hamfest to end just before the Poor Man's Hamfest.

### OLD BUSINESS:

**Christmas Party:** Shannon, K4GLM, thinks that we should invite Dr. Reyes as our guest. That invitation would also extend to a guest of Dr. Reyes as well.

### NEW BUSINESS:

**Winter Field Day:** Shannon, K4GLM, is setting up a winter field with Jerry, KR4E. The event would on January 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>.

19:42 Adjourn

## GARS Mouth Classifieds

Anne Warne has amateur radio equipment available for sale. If you're interested in anything listed here, please contact her via telephone (her number is on the GARS membership list) or e-mail at warnead@gru.net.

Alinco DJ-280T 222 MHz HT  
BMI Nitelogger II Controller  
Dow-Key # 4 6-Antenna Switch  
RS TCR-200 Recorder (2)  
RS Minisette-12 Recorder  
RS Pro 60 HT Scanner  
RS 21-542 DSP Unit  
Simpson Model 260-8P Multimeter  
Western Electric Speaker (2)  
Yaesu FP-1030A 25A Power Supply

Ameritron AL-811 600 Watt Amplifier  
MFJ 873 SWR/Watt Meter  
MFJ 802B Field-Strength Meter  
RS CTR-120 Recorder  
RS Pro 46/Pro 2026 Scanner Combo  
RS 22-401 & 22-402 DC Ammeter  
RCA 930/935 IR Remote Extender  
West Mountain Nomic Interface  
Whistler Portable Power Station  
Yaesu FRG-9600 60-905 MHz Receiver

## Minutes of the November GARS Meeting

GARS Monthly Meeting  
November 15, 2006

Jeff, W4UFL, will be acting as secretary in the absence of Susan, K9PDL.

19:30 - Call to order with a reminder that cell phones, pagers, and hand helds should be turned off or placed in a silent mode during the meeting. Please sign the sign-in sheet passing around.

PLEDGE.  
INTRODUCTIONS.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Shannon, K4GLM, announces interest in a "Winter Field Day".  
Curt, KG4GWA, announces K4KAM's ham radio equipment sale on Saturday, November 16, 2006 at 9:30am - noon, but drop her an email if you are interested in specific items.

Happy November birthdays to GARS members:

Carole, KD4PPS  
Kelly, KI4HPU  
Warren, NW4C  
James, KI0X  
Earl, KI4OXD  
Jerry, KR4E

Nominations are being accepted for the 2007 Ham of the Year.

### Board Member Election:

Motion, by Gary Hunt, KF4QEX approved: To approve the Board's appointment of Ed, KE6HNN, to fill the vacancy on the GARS Board.

### OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer: Kerry, KG4LQK, presented the treasury report. Motion, by Walt W4TKE approved: To accept the treasurer's report.

Motion, by Curt KG4GWA, approved: To accept the minutes as published in the GARS Mouth.

**Instruction & Testing:** Jerry, KR4E gave testing report. Warren, NW4C, is organizing an 8-week General license instruction course after Jan 1, 2007 with target test date of April hamfest. Possible location at AVMED or SFCC.

**ARES/RACES:** Jeff, W4UFL

### OLD BUSINESS:

**Christmas Party:** The celebration will be on Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. Susan, K9PDL, will email out directions, maps, menus, and payment information to the QTH list. If you are receiving the GARS Mouth via email, then you will receive the directions. If you have not received an email GARS Mouth, you may call her at (352) 375-4386 for the information.

### NEW BUSINESS:

**White Dove Toy Drive:** Phil, KE4PWE, announces this years White Dove program. GARS donated \$100 for 16-18 toys which are sent to a central location and distributed at a critical needs area. This year's drop zone will be determined after Thanksgiving. **Motion by Earl, KI4OXD approved:** To donate \$200 to the White Dove Toy Drive.

### ELECTIONS:

Reminder that only GARS members in good standing can hold office or vote in elections. The printed sign-in sheet is a list of members in good standing.

**NOTE:** A quorum of 25 members in good standing is only needed if the board votes to remove a

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## Static Crashes

### Static Crashes Dec 2006

**New Q signal needed?** During a recent exam session **VE Kerry/KI4LQK's** stomach started growling in the middle of the CW test. The noise prompted a discussion afterwards between **VEs Gary/W4GAL** and **Bob/W4GJ** as to whether the rumble should be classified as **QRN** or **QRM**. The candidate—who was successful in spite of the racket—said he wanted to laugh but was afraid he might miss a code character or two.

**Technical trivia...** That new **THP** (Tokyo Hi-Power) **HF-6m amp** featured in the latest *Ham Radio Outlet* catalog (<http://www.hamradio.com/>) had its specs certified for the FCC by **Timco Engineering** in Newberry. Area hams associated with Timco include GARS members **Frank/W3KT** and **Mario/N4TSV**, and **Richard/KG4CHW**, Newberry and **Joe/KA4WJB**, Ocala.

**Ingenuity tri-umphs...** Chickens were disappearing from **Mike/KI4MWM's** chicken coop in High Springs despite its being surrounded by an eight-foot fence. **Mike** remembered he had an old baby-monitoring unit stored in a closet—you know, the kind with a small camera and a TV monitor so you could watch your child in the crib. He set the rig up in the hen house and on the first night caught a large raccoon scaling the fence carrying one of his chickens!

**Speaking of ingenuity**, get **Walt/W4TKE** to show you the diagram of his scheme to run 6 antennas off two coax cables using **tri-plexers** in-

stead of switches. When assembled he'll have antennas 6, 2, 1.25 meters, two on 70 centimeters and one antenna in the 2 GHz band. The whole array will be on the 90-foot tower that's been standing 'topless' in his back yard for the past two years!

**Where's the beef?** Hard to tell because there was so much **Ham** gathered at the trough on a recent Friday at Sonny's . . . **KR4E, W4GJ, NW4C, KE4YZE** and **KE4ZQW**...

**Dah Dah...** Born to past GARS VP and RC model airplane guru **Mikey/W4UAV** (ex **KE4UVQ**) and **XYL Teresa** on Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> a 7 lb. 13 oz. boy **Joshua**. Congratulations!

**Hanging in there...** **Mr. Bill/KE4NIS** is recovering nicely after undergoing a *quad-ruple* bypass procedure recently at Alachua General. Give him a shout if you hear him. He has a 2 meter handi in his hospital room.

**Shhh...** Have you wondered why 40-meters is so quiet lately? Could be it's because **Ariel/W4RHC** has sold his HF gear and now uses a laptop to make QRM-free distant contacts over the Internet using a program called "eQSO 100". The 'loquacious' one says his HF rig was "just gathering dust" and now he prefers the static-free clarity of his computer program.

**Big Sig...** Speaking of 40 meters, want to hear a really **LOUD** signal? If so, slide down to the CW portion and listen for **S52AW**. You won't miss him if he's on. His antenna is an **8-Element Cubical Quad!!!** For a moment, just imagine the physical size of that thing. Each

## Warren Croke

of the 8 elements is a loop between 139 and 147 feet long! Wonder if all that wire will make it through the Slovenian winter.

**DX comeback?** There may be signs of renewed interest in DX chasing among some GARS members. **Richard/KB4HF** was overheard during the November meeting discussing country totals and what DXpeditions were on the air.

**BTW**, kudos to **Keith/KE4YZE** for snagging **5A7A** on **40 meters bare-foot** with his old Butternut vert, and double atbays to condo commando **John/KS4XN** for nailing the same Libian DXpedition down on **80 SSB**.

**Coverage confirmed...** It's always good to hear **Brian/NY4PD** from Morrilton on the air because he usually gives us an idea how well the **82 repeater** is getting out. Recently, he was heard making a number of full-quieting QSOs as he drove from Chiefland south on US19 to 326, then east to Morrilton. And a surprise, food recipes and meeting someplace to eat were never mentioned.

**It works...** That strong new signal you may have heard from over Williston way is coming from a new 4-element beam belonging to **David/KI4EAD**. He says "it seems to be working", an assessment shared also by those who've worked/heard him recently.

**Welcome back . . . Shannon/K4GLM** and **Debbie/KI4CVS** spent their T-day in semi-Arctic Montana celebrating their granddaughter's first birthday. Says Shannon the wind-driven snow came down

## Minutes of the November GARS Meeting

member and the member appeals to the membership. Otherwise the by-laws do not state that a quorum is needed.

President - Susan, K9PDL, (board), new pres for 2007, by paper ballot.

Vice President - David, WB9UYK, (board), new VP for 2007, by paper ballot.

Treasurer - KF4QEX nominates Kerry, KG4LQK, approved by acclamation (KG4GWA)

Secretary - Jeff, W4UFL, (board), approved by vote.

Board Member #1 - Motion by KF4QEX to vote Shannon K4GLM as board member by acclamation. Approved

Board Member #2 - Motion by KF4QEX to vote Walt, W4TKE as board member by acclamation. Approved

Motion by KG4GWA to accept Warren NW4C, Ed KE6HNNm Randy KD4KHO, and Mary KI4CVH as slate for board members. Approved. Election held by paper ballot with following results:

Board Member #3 - Warren NW4C

Board Member #4 - Randy KD4KHO

Board Member #5 - Mary KI4CVH

Adjourn

## Static Crashes

so fast it filled his ears faster than he could top off his car's gas tank!

**Congratulations** to **Mary/KI4CVH** on becoming a certified **Volunteer Examiner** in addition to acting as the Gainesville VE teams' **ARRL Liaison**. Busy lady. **Mary** and OM **Jerry/KR4E** are the second husband-wife duo on the Gainesville team. The other pair is **Laura/K4LRM** and **Herb/K4HMK**.

**Hand Salute...** along with a "Well Done" to ex-submariner and immediate past **GARC president Mitch/KI4CVH**. **Mitch** will reach alumnus status shortly when he graduates from UF with an electrical engineering degree. He and **XYL Denise/KI4HPR** are GARS ham class graduates, CERT members and active emergency communicators.

**UFO...** Despite reported sightings of a bearded, overweight, white-haired guy on **KE4YZE's** roof Santa Claus had not made an early appearance at the Hunt household. Turns out it was only **Warren/NW4C** helping install a platform to hold a new **SteppIR** vertical which **Keith** is expecting shortly.

**Those were the days...** The difference between now and 'back then' is probably expressed best by **Dave/NN4DF** who notes his entire 1970s-era Novice station (**Johnson Viking Valiant AM/CW xmtr, Collins 75A4 rcvr, Heath O'Scope, and Heath SWR- Wattmeter combo**) probably weighed more than the 145 pounds he weighed at the time! Once in place that stuff was meant to stay put.

**Finally**, "A government study has found that the average American car weighs 500 pounds more than it did 10 years ago. However, this is only true if the average American is sitting in the car." (Conan O'Brien) **de NW4C AR SK**

## GARS MOUTH

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### Editor's Note

*Curt Franklin*

We've taken another trip around Old Sol, and it's been quite a year. Thanks to the efforts of our educators and VEs, we've seen a number of folks join the ranks of Gainesville hams this year. We've also lost dear friends. We had a highly successful Field Day, and it's been exciting to hear about the increasing opportunities in emergency communications and search and rescue operations.

I'm looking forward to a great 2007 in amateur radio. I've picked out several areas of activity that I want to be more involved with, and have started studying the material to get started. It's all too easy to

fall into a rut — why not resolve to do something new in your hobby in the coming year?

As we come to the end of the year, I wanted to take a few lines to thank the folks who make it possible for the GARS Mouth to happen each month. First, Mary Stewart has been a marvel, adding her talents and incredible energy to the pages you see. If not for her, the GARS Mouth would be much later each month than it is—I'm very grateful for her help.

The GARS Mouth would be much thinner if not for the work of Warren Croke. In addition to the Static Crashes column,

Warren has been writing many of the articles seen each month in these pages. He's doing super work to support amateur radio in Gainesville, and is a great role model for all of us. If you're an officer or coordinator for an official function, there is always room in the GARS Mouth for reports on your area's activity. If you're "just a member", you still have experience all of us could benefit from. It doesn't take much work, so plan on submitting at least one article in 2007—if every member did this, we'd have the best club newsletter in the country!

Thanks to everyone,  
Curt

