

# NFARC/NF4AC Clubs

## MINUTES

**October 9, 2019**

Meeting held at Gainesville Red Cross, 6<sup>th</sup> Ave NW and 16<sup>th</sup> St

Attendance: 15

Gordon Gibby  
Jeff Capehart  
COL David Huckstep  
Chris Carr  
Wendell Wright  
Judith Rosemary Jones  
Leland Gallup  
Earl McDow  
Susan Halbert  
Mike Shaffer  
Vann Chesney  
Bob Guertin  
Tommy Boyle  
John Trites  
Reid Tillery K9RFP

Meeting called to order at 1901  
Minutes for September 2019 Meeting approved.

### Introductions

1. **Background and badges.** County had meeting October 4 to go for a county-wide volunteer badging protocol and badge. This will be for all volunteers....ARES/CERT, etc. We volunteers suggested having the expiration date of the badges correspond with background checks, and to collect badges from those no longer active volunteers. No date for making this happen. Secretary note: since this meeting, the badging schedule and vetted volunteers list has been released. Badging to take place the following week.
2. **Status of Mike Ridlon.** In jail for molestation of child younger than 12. Bit of background by Susan Halbert on the offense. Ridlon teaches students and probably won't be allowed to continue. High bail. Jail account is the way to get toothbrushes, etc. Only gov't postcards with a government stamp. Halbert bought a hundred of these. Write to address Susan provided. They will only take that sort of postcard and no envelopes. Snacks, etc., come from the commissary and need the account. Secretary note: since the meeting it has become known that Mike R has been released on own recognizance.
3. **Extra class.** Wendell Wright congratulations! Tommy Boyle made General class. Congratulations!

4. **SET for October 19.** Section SET information will be released Monday coming. KX4Z showed the 201 for Alachua ARES. The KX4Z SET plan was for a power outage. The Section has actually used a 201 for this, which is a great step....201, 205, 208, etc. Great step for Karl Martin. GARS site is where it will be done for us. Boy Scouts will also be there. Jeff will assign ARES people to tasks KX4Z used the GA SET as an example/scenario, which used a power outage because of too hot. KX4Z went through the ICS201 and examples of bulletins and status reports, again using the GA SET as an example. Showed 205. Most operators could probably do the stuff from home before going to the GARS picnic. No injects. No resources needed other than one's own gears. Frequencies shown from the 205. More to follow when NFL SEC releases 201 for the SET.
5. **Emergency conference.** Feb 29, March 1. KX4Z hopes the SFARS can get up to co-sponsor. He has had contact with several at Santa Fe about the conference. As an aside, KX4Z also discussed the training materials he prepared for the FL Baptist group. Also trying to get the Baptists to come to the conference with their trailer/tower. The Baptists do ministry (food, etc.). If Santa Fe College can't be used, then KX4Z has thought about backup venue. KX4Z showed the tentative program. Entry track and leadership track. The latter is for EC's and AEC's etc. Went over the agenda and the two tracks, as well as the second day exercise. Assigned tasks to various ARES members in tonight's meeting. Motion to have Baptists cosponsor, which was approved.
6. **Bob Guertin. W1GLV.** Showed his IC-7100 with Pactor modem, tuner, package. Described how he used KX4Z to send a message, and was able to connect then with a station in Nova Scotia at 4800bps! Got the modem off ebay Pactor 3 capable. Bob's intent is to set up a second RMS gateway for Winlink here in Alachua County. Discussion of Winlink and various methods such as Winmor, radio only, Peer to peer, and reading messages over the air live.
7. **Operation Santa Delivery.** December 7, Saturday. Over near Santa Fe on the intersection of 39ths and 92d. Santa lands by helicopter. Kids come by. People from different organizations will appear; we will be there with a popup canopy. Vendors to set up at 0800 to help set up and to have folks during the day to work the various radios, and others to help with helicopter landings. Need volunteers to talk with kids. Will ask kids if they want to talk with Santa on the radio. Someone else to be Santa. When Santa is actually there, the kids will talk with Mrs. Santa. Sign up sheet passed around.
8. **Raspberry Pi Pactor system.** KX4Z said that Dr Rappaport made a presentation yesterday to the FCC that makes no sense to him. KX4Z demonstrated his cheap Raspberry Pi and the system for reading Pactor and Winlink in real time. LZHuff rewritten by Peter so that the compression systems can be read on the fly. The way Peter rewrote you don't need to get the whole package before the decoding. You can use a Signalink to spy on Pactor without a Pactor modem. But you can't send....for that you need a PACTOR modem. KX4Z described how he's working with Peter to do this. Signalink is not great, but the concept has been demonstrated. John Trites has also written a Python code package to "spy" on a Pactor/Winlink transmission.
9. **Printed Circuit board and amplifier for the EOC.** KX4Z said that we'll need an amplifier and a tuner that can handle the power, as well as balun that can handle. We will add SHARES to the amplifier. No wattage limit on SHARES station. KX4Z then showed how to make a circuit board....knowing how to build circuit boards is really cool; KX4Z's sound card is being made by a vendor....who is out of stock. Showed Diptrace which is free up to 300 connections. This is a follow on to the presentation at the September meeting.
10. **SARNET update.** Power supply for the FDOT connection to the SARNET is not working; Mike Sherril says he will try to replace it this week. The SARNET is dead at the EOC as of today noon. Secretary note: in the week following the 9 October meeting, the Secretary received information that the SARNET power supply was put in and that the SARNET from

Gainesville was functioning....and only a day later received another update that the connection was once again inoperable.

11. **ARRL Southeaster director/Vice position** KX4Z said that Mr. Serratt is supportive of Winlink and emcomm. The other candidate, Mickey Baker, has made some incorrect statements about Winlink. Mickey called KX4Z to learn more about Winlink, and was very glad to have Gordon educate him. Gordon is not sure he's director material, but he's not an enemy. If anyone wants to write one of the candidates, then Gordon will pass along the traffic on

Meeting adjourned at 20:39.