

Gary Combs was elected Mayor of Shalimar on March 13, 1999 for a two-year term and he has run unopposed for each term since. Gary began his Shalimar government experience after being elected Police Commissioner in March 1997. He and his wife, Nancy, live on Gardner Drive overlooking beautiful Garnier's Bayou. Gary was born in Connersville, Indiana and grew up in Hopkinsville, Kentucky. He still has family in Hopkinsville and visits the city often. In May 2013, Gary retired from his civilian lead electrical engineering position with the 53rd Wing, Eglin A.F.B. Following his Air Force retirement, Gary continued to be an integral team member and senior engineer in charge of producing and maintaining a passive radar database for the worldwide E-3 AWACS fleet.



Gary joined the Air Force in 1972 and retired from his military position after 23 years of service. In 1985, he received his BS degree in Electrical Engineering from Tennessee State University. In 1992, he earned his masters' degree in Public Administration from the University of West Florida. Besides being Mayor, Gary serves as a board member on the Executive Board of The [Okaloosa County League of Cities](#) (OCLOC).

Since retiring, Gary has pursued formal training to become a Horologist – specifically learning techniques to repair and restore antique clocks. As clock enthusiasts and collectors, Gary and Nancy travel throughout the US to attend annual National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors (NAWCC) events. Gary and Nancy are also very active boaters and spend some of their free time on the water. Gary is an active member of the Eglin Yacht Club and the NAWCC organization. They have been married since 1969 and have one daughter, Sherry, and one grandson, Joseph - both reside in the Town.