

Whitman Amateur Radio Club Meeting 11/04/15



Paul Moss KB1MTW
V.President

Larry Kenney K1LJK
Secretary

Jeff Tracy N1SOM
Treasurer

Photo by Jeff WK1D

ATTENDANCE: 39 members and guests were present including 3 elected officers

KB1MTW Paul Moss
KB1OEQ Ron Stundze
K1WGU Bob Banks
WK1D Jeff Ayres
AG1B Richard Metcalf
N1OYH Carl Davis
N1EZH Barry Kennedy
K1JMA Joe Amorelli
WA1MAD Mike Davis
K1UFO Billy Robinson
W1EKG Ross Hochstrasser
W1JGR John Ruppel
KC1EFF Randy Mills

K1LJK Larry Kenney
KB1IKH Elayne Tovet
WD1L John Nelson
N1IQI Loren Pimentel
KB1CYV Roy Logan
KC1FZ George Davis
NM1F Jim Ford
KC1ACF Mark Vess
N1CFB Chris Babbitt
KC1ACG Fred Birtwell
KA1KIJ Bob Azanow
KB1MOC Kevin Dykes
SWL Leo Mills

N1SOM Jeff Tracy
W1JT Jim Tovet
W1OD Steve Cohn
N1FRE Bill Hayden
KA1CQD Fred Sanford
KC1DWY John Ginsberg
N1LQK Dave Kaplan
KC1PFL Jim Madden
KB1OEP Mike Supple
KC1WNX Steve Lyons
WA1YKF Warren Dickie
KC1EFJ Allen Hiltz
SWL Scott Mitchell

Secretary's Report:

Vice President **Paul Moss KB1MTW** called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, 11/04/15.
A quorum was present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by the attendance roll call.

Treasurer, **Jeff N1SOM** read the October 2015 treasurers report. Motion to accept the report as read made by **Jeff WK1D** with a second by **John WD1L**. Motion passed quorum vote.

Motion to accept the October 2015 Secretary report as published on the Whitman club website made by **Bill N1FRE** with a second by **Steve W1OD**. Motion passed quorum vote.

Health & Welfare report by **Elayne KB1IKH**:

A Dish Garden was sent to (SK) **Mike Petrou W1MSP's** family on behalf of the Whitman Amateur Radio Club.



NET CONROL for November 2015:

- **November 8th** : **Richard AG1B**
- **November 15th** : **Jeff WK1D**
- **November 22nd** : **Jeff N1SOM**
- **November 29th** : **Larry K1LJK, 10am from Plimouth Plantation**

Old Business:

- **Paul KB1MTW** updated everyone on the recent NEAR-FEST club table activity and sales (as reflected in the treasurer's report). Paul also mentioned the newly purchased large canopy worked out very well. A general discussion took place on the need for a large duffel bag (possibly a hockey bag) able to store the canopy and it's parts (including the approx 40-42 inch long supports). **John KC1DWY** offered to purchase and donate a military duffel bag for this purpose (Thanks John!)
- **Ross W1EKG** updated everyone on the ongoing Technician class being held at the Whitman Police station. The class has approx 13 students who will test at a VE session being planned for Dec 3rd at the Police Station.

New Business:

- **Richard AG1B** informed everyone of an upcoming FoxHunt using his automated FoxBox system on Saturday and Sunday November 7th and 8th in the Halifax area. Richard provided another demo for the club members with instructions on it's use for Fox Hunting. (see section later in this document regarding the Fox Hunt results)
- **Mark KC1ACF** provided an update on the clubs potential use of the Plymouth County/Hanson municipal tower as a new home for the clubs repeater. Mark indicated

the normal process is being followed whereby public notice of our proposal is in place for a period of time (In newspapers for example). A general discussion took place on use of the building and coax/hardline that remains at the site. **Kevin KB1MOC** provided an update on the lack of structural integrity in the building. Use of a Connex secure storage unit onsite was discussed. **Mark KC1ACF** indicated he has fencing available for use onsite if necessary. Also mentioned, **Jeff N1ZZN** and **Garry AB1CQ** would be evaluating the coax left onsite for possible club use. (important note: the tower also requires replacement of a broken guy wire).

- **Paul KB1MTW** reminded everyone that the Gurney (SK) tower is at the Pine St location. Also mentioned was possible use of **Bill N1FRE**'s tower at Pine St. A general discussion took place on which tower should be designated for use at Pine St and which should be sold. It was suggested an antenna/tower committee be formed who will evaluate all options and present these to the club membership. This led to a discussion concerning the need for physical repairs/upgrades to the Pine St building itself and the need for a contractor to spec the work. **Paul KB1MTW** suggests **John KB1SVY** may be available. **John KC1DWY** mentioned he knows of a contractor as well. The volunteers for the resulting committee were: **Fred KC1ACG**, **Billy K1UFO**, **Mark KC1ACF** and **John G. KC1DWY**. It was further suggested the committee evaluate which of the beam antennas the club now has should be used at Pine St. **Jim W1JT** suggested the committee should catalog all club equipment as a first step. Jim also suggested allowing club members to pay for club equipment (beam antennas for example) over a period of time, rather than all at once. To this end, these tasks were suggested:
 - **John G. KC1DWY** to speak w/**Pete N1POO** to record beam antenna parts, etc in his possession along w/their physical dimensions and also photograph each part.
 - **Mark KC1ACF** along with **Jim KC1PFL** will record parts, physical dimensions and photograph the beam & tower parts he is holding for the club.
 - **Paul KB1MTW** will record parts, physical dimensions and photograph the Gurney tower at Pine St.
- **Joe K1JMA** provided an update on the use of the Plimouth Plantation over the upcoming Thanksgiving weekend for our special event operations. Joe tells us he has worked out all the details w/the Plantation management for an antenna setup on Friday morning, 11/27 and operations over the weekend on Saturday November 28th and Sunday 29th. We will be able to use the same locations for station setup as we've used in the past (visitor center, admin building and (optionally) the HornBlower house)
- **Mark KC1ACF** informed the membership of this years Hanson Christmas tree lighting event on December 12th from 5:30-8pm at the town hall. Mark is asking for volunteers to stand by on the Whitman repeater during this event for help w/communication demonstrations.
- **Chris N1CFB** and **Mike WA1MAD** informed everyone of the offer to operate at the K1USN club during the Veteran's Day holiday.

- **Paul KB1MTW** reminded everyone of the upcoming FARA-Fest flea market in Bourne on Saturday November 14th at the Upper Cape Regional Technical School.

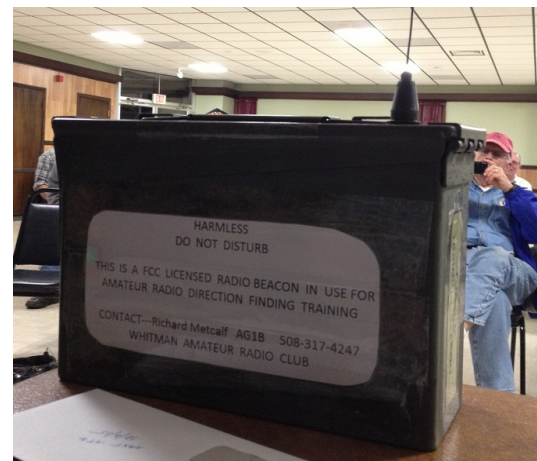
Motion to adjourn the meeting made by **Steve W1OD**, with a second by **Jeff WK1D**. Motion passed quorum vote.

John WI1G adjourned the meeting at 8:21 pm, 11/04/15

End Secretary's Report

Fox Hunt Report for November 2015

by Richard AG1B



Richard AG1B reviewing the Fox Box operation during the Nov 4th 2015 club meeting prior to the Nov 7th /8th Fox Hunt.

Email commications from **Richard AG1B** regarding the Fox Hunt:
Sat Nov 7, 2015

Members,

I checked the 146.535 Mh Fox Box at 7:30AM, Saturday (Nov 7th), and met **Jim KB1PFL** who had just located the FoxBox on his way home from work. Congratulations to Jim ! Jim reports that he could hear the Fox Box from 3-4 miles away. The signal is strong at the parking area so use the VFO on your HT and move off frequency a step or two in order to attenuate the signal for body shielding method. The Fox Box is off the trail but within 300 feet of the Kiosk. The sign-in list is in a ziplock at the base of a tree marked with flagging tape and ribbons. The Fox Box is camouflaged for security.

Location-Striar Conservancy Woodlands on Rt 105 Halifax, about 2 miles south of Rt 106 intersection.

Fox Box- 146.535 Mh activate by transmitting DTMF 2 for two seconds .

73 , **Richard, AG1B**

Wed Nov 11th

Members,

The hidden transmitter Fox Box was removed from the Striar Woodlands Trust Rt 105 Halifax after 72 hours of operation.

Congratulations go to **Jim Madden KB1PFL**, who was the only person to sign in at the flagged tree near the Fox Box.

Several foxhunters have shared their experiences with me about this hunt.

I would appreciate hearing from anyone who went too find the Fox Box.

Please send an email to rjmetcalf@comcast.net .

73, **Richard AG1B**



Hidden Fox Box somewhere near the flagging ribbon and call log book below



Jim KB1PFL w/fox hunting equipment in hand. Congratulations to Jim on finding the Fox Box!

*Photo's by **Richard AG1B***

Go Kits

by Chris N1CFB and Mike WA1MAD

Chris N1CFB and **Mike WA1MAD** showcased their Go Kits at the Nov 4th club meeting,

Chris provided this description of his Go Kit:

Pelican 1520 case with rail kit to support the cutting board deck. I'm running the Icom IC-703+ HF/6 meter 10 watts or the Icom IC-706MKII HF/6/2 100 Watts depending on available power. Because they are the same size, they're interchangeable. For 2 meters and digital I'm using the Icom IC-2200H 65 watts. On the back of the lid is a Dell Latitude ST tablet for logging or digital programs. The power section includes a Low Loss Power Gate in the blue case which switches from the power supply to the battery when the power goes out. It also float charges the battery when under power supply. Next is the Solar Panel Controller in the clear case which charges the battery from a solar panel and monitors the battery health using LED blinking codes. In the black case is the backup solar controller which includes a voltage and amp meter, 2 USB ports and 2 12 volt accessory ports. Next to the black controller is the 2 SO-239's for HF/6 and 2 meter and ground connection. I'm still in the process of adding some lighting and a speaker for the HF rig.



Photo's by **Steve KC1WNX**






Photo's by Jeff WK1D

Mike WA1MAD showing us his FT450 Go Kit



Plimoth Plantation Special Event November 28th and 29th 2015

Special Event Station at
Plimoth Plantation
Be it known that
made two-way radio contact on
November 28th and 29th
with the Whitman Amateur Radio Club
operating from Plimoth Plantation
home of Mayflower II
Plymouth, Massachusetts



Thanksgiving
2015

USA
N1IX
WA1NPO



QSL Manager



Antenna & Station setup team, Friday Nov 27th at Plimoth Plantation
(L to R) **Joe K1JMA** (event coordinator), **Barry N1EZH**, **Roy KB1CYV**, **Paul KB1MTW** (club VP and Equipment Mgr), **Mark KC1ACF**, **John W11G** (club president), **John WD1L** and **Richard AG1B**. Not pictured, **Larry K1LJK**.
(Photo's by **Richard AG1B**)



Gathering in the Plantations lower parking lot at 10am Friday and unloading antennas/equipment for use at the Plantations Visitor Center.





Assembling the R5 vertical behind the visitors center.
Roy KB1CYV, Barry N1EZH, John W1IG, Richard AG1B and Paul KB1MTW





Raising the R5 and securing it in place



We also assembled a 2 Meter beam atop a 30' painters pole and secured it in place

Photo by **Barry N1EZH**

Joe K1JMA and **Larry K1LJK** checking coax entry at the double doors of the Visitors Center



Setup at the Administration Building:



Roy KB1CYV, John WI1G, John WD1L and Barry N1EZH



Antenna assembly- Joe K1JMA and Paul KB1MTW



Paul KB1MTW shooting a line over a tree for the Windom antenna

Installing a 2Meter vertical
Larry K1LJK and Barry N1EZH





The 40M Window and the 2M vertical at the Admin building



Station Operations



Roy KB1CYV and Paul KB1MTW working on 20Meters at the Visitors Center station.



At the Admin building, **Mark KC1ACF** using his Kenwood TS-930S after an unsuccessful struggle to bring the clubs Icom 756Pro online for 40Meter operation.



Chris N1CFB and Mike WA1MAD visited the Admin building after operating at the Visitors Center.





Visiting operators **Rob N1RTS** and **Denise KC1CFO** took over on 40Meters for a while on Sunday. **Jim KB1PFL** acted as the control operator during their visit as well as operating on 40Meters himself.





We moved the 2Meter station into the adjacent alcove at the top of the stairs this year rather than having it right beside the 40Meter station. This helped each operator as it kept the room noise level lower.

We felt like choking the 2Meter antenna when we lost communications w/the club repeater during the Sunday morning public service net. Others (not all) had the problem also – which disappeared as quickly as it came (about 11:30am the repeater was working normally again)



Special Event announced

by Rick KB1TEE

KB1TEE will be on the **USS Wisconsin** December 5, 2015 from 1000-1600 operating as **N4WIS**. We will be on the air commemorating the (dastardly attack December 7th 1941 by the Empire of Japan FDR) Pearl Harbor air raid the ships group operates from the 03 level or Admirals bridge armored room. We usually have three stations working 40 and 20 meters along with a CW station

Rick Emord KB1TEE
Middleborough Fire Department
Search Dogs Northeast
RACES / ARES / SKYWARN
MARA, LARK, N4WIS, K1USN, TACG, W1NAS