



# SPECTRUM



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**PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:** This is “**The Bruce**” **N1X** – We certainly had snow in February with an appropriately named Winter Emergency Communication Exercise designed to test simplex communication and relay capabilities with REPEATERS out of service. Several members reported on experimenting with a new mode of Amateur Radio that uses the Internet called Echolink.

It was sadly noted that **Bill Ward W1ULJ** became a silent key. **Bill W1ULJ** was a well known local HAM and founding member of the Massasoit Club, who will be missed by all.

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**NEW MEMBER:** **Stu Forman "Stuart A. Forman"** thus the **WA1SAF** call sign change from **KB1JAJ** which itself had a nice ring to it though. I live and work in Randolph and chat with **Bill KB1IUB** and **Bill WAINYC** and a few others on the Whitman repeater.

I am a Technician licensee and have also recently passed the general written exam but I am feverishly practicing Morse code so that I may upgrade to HF. I am currently using a Kenwood HT, the model TH-F6 tribander which I transport (so heavy) just a joke, from my home QTH to my work QTH.

At both my home and work locations I have installed 2 meter MFJ ground plane antennas on the roof so that I can extend the reach on the HT. I use a Kenwood TM-261A mobile transceiver in my pick up truck with a glass mount antenna. Hope to meet all the other members of the club soon.



**Stu Forman WA1SAF**

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**THEY'RE BAAACK:** The club welcomes two former members who rejoined this year. **Bill Mc Inerney N1KBV** is living in Buzzards Bay and on a good day can reach the Whitman REPEATER. **Bruce Weir N1XZD** is in the process of relocating to a new QTH in Whitman.



**Bill Mc Inerney N1KBV**



**Bruce Weir N1XZD**

## SECRETARY'S NOTES OF THE MEETING OF February 5, 2003 de KB1CYV

**OPENING:** The members started gathering at the Whitman Public Library, Whitman, MA around 6:15 P.M. President **Bruce NI1X** opened the meeting at 6:40 P.M. with a roll call.

**ATTENDANCE:** Fifteen members were present, including all of the elected officers and three of the directors.

<b>KB1CYV</b>	<b>Roy Logan</b>	<b>N1FRE</b>	<b>Bill Hayden</b>	<b>NI1X</b>	<b>Bruce Hayden</b>
<b>KC1FZ</b>	<b>George Davis</b>	<b>W5IRW</b>	<b>Jim Gilbert</b>	<b>KB1IUB</b>	<b>Bill O'Hara III</b>
<b>WQ1L</b>	<b>John Coombs</b>	<b>N1VTI</b>	<b>Paul Burbine</b>	<b>N1WWI</b>	<b>Chris Tilden</b>
<b>N1SOM</b>	<b>Jeff Tracy</b>	<b>N1OIU</b>	<b>Jim Wolf</b>	<b>N1FRV</b>	<b>Mike Marinucci</b>
<b>N1KQZ</b>	<b>Doug Cugini</b>	<b>N1NTZ</b>	<b>Ed Meehan</b>	<b>N1VQZ</b>	<b>Charlet Sherman</b>

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The Treasurer's report was read by **Jeff N1SOM**. A motion was made by **Bill KB1IUB** and seconded by **Paul N1VTI** that the Treasurer's report be accepted as read. The motion was approved, as was a donation to the Whitman-Hanson Citizen Scholarship Fund. **Jeff N1SOM** also reported that the annual report has been filed with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** A motion was made by **Paul N1VTI** seconded by **Bill KB1IUB** that the Secretary's report be accepted as published in the January Newsletter. The motion was approved.

**HEALTH & WELFARE:** **Bruce NI1X** reported that **Bill Ward W1ULJ**, one of the founders of the MARA club has become a silent key. The WARC sends condolences to **Bill's W1ULJ** family. **Walt K1BZD** is helping his wife Edie with her recuperation from recent surgery.

**OLD BUSINESS:** **Bruce NI1X** has been sending certificates for the Plimoth Plantation Special Event in response to requests.

**NEW BUSINESS:** The WARC welcomes new member **Stu Forman WA1SAF** and reinstated former members **Bill Mc Inerney N1KBV** and **Bruce Weir N1XZD** whose memberships were approved by the group.

Skywarn training sessions will be held in several locations this spring. Contact **Bruce NI1X** or **Roy KB1CYV** for dates and locations.

Technician classes are being offered by the Norwood club starting February 26<sup>th</sup>. Contact **Jeff N1SOM** for details.

**Jim W5IRW** reported that he would be relocating to Texas this spring. Field Day just won't be the same, Jim.

**George KC1FZ** reported that information on the Hinternet may be found on the ARRL home page.

**Jim N1OIU** discussed how he has been active on Echolink at home after making contacts at the Marconi event.

<b>NET CONTROLS:</b>	<b>Feb. 2</b>	<b>Bill N1FRE</b>	<b>Feb. 9</b>	<b>Bruce NI1X</b>
	<b>Feb. 16</b>	<b>Chris N1WWI</b>	<b>Feb. 23</b>	<b>Charlet N1VQZ</b>

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to adjourn was made by **Paul N1VTI** seconded by **John WQ1L** and the meeting closed at 7:40 PM.

## WINTER EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION EXERCISE

The area HAMS that participated at the Taunton Emergency Operations Center (EOC) during the February 8<sup>th</sup> Winter Emergency Communication Exercise are shown in the photo. Seated L. to R. are **Bruce Hayden NI1X**, **John Miller N1UMJ**, and **Bill Hayden N1FRE**. Seen standing is **Ken Wayne KB1INN**.

The participants were initially contacted on the local repeaters and directed to the Taunton EOC.

Shortly after the crew at the Taunton EOC logged in with net control at the MEMA Area II Headquarters, which is located at the Bridgewater State Prison grounds, the scenario called for the local repeaters to go down and SIMPLEX operations was thoroughly tested by MEMA Area II and by the National Weather Service - Taunton.



Volunteers at the Taunton EOC

The Taunton EOC was able to establish simplex contact with MEMA Area II Headquarters, Attleboro EOC, Fall River EOC, Bridgewater EOC, Plainville EOC, Mansfield EOC and the National Weather Service - Taunton office and several individual relay stations in the greater Brockton area. The area EOC's that could not be heard or contacted via simplex operation were also logged. The Operators at the Taunton EOC had no problem receiving or passing messages via Simplex Operation.

The Taunton participants were testing a revised "go kit" that consists of a 50 watt mobile 2-meter transceiver, a 12 amp power supply and a vertical mounted antenna on a 10 foot portable mast. This allowed the Taunton EOC to continuously monitor the Taunton 2-meter Repeater for priority incoming calls while they passed messages to the National Weather Service – Taunton office and other area EOC's on other frequencies using the Taunton EOC 2-meter Base Station.

During the drill, the participating operators passed three (3) Radiogram messages and received one (1) Radiogram message using the 2-meter equipment. The National Traffic System Radiogram format was used. The use of the HF equipment was not attempted from the Taunton EOC during the exercise. The HF equipment still needs to be checked out as to the antenna system condition and capabilities. The plan is to test the existing HF antenna with an antenna analyzer in the near future.

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**FUTURE TRAINING:** MEMA Area II tests their equipment and message forwarding techniques once a month by sending about four (4) Radiogram messages to the Directors of the area Emergency Management Agencies. **Ken KB1INN** and **Bruce NI1X** have volunteered to take the messages going to **Rick Ferreira** the Director of the Taunton Emergency Management Agency.

We plan to use this opportunity to further train the Whitman Club public service amateur radio volunteers by holding a class on the first Monday of the Month at 7:30 PM at some mutually agreeable meeting place where the messages can be copied by everyone present and the proper procedure for sending messages can be reviewed. All interested members and area Hams will be welcome.

## MEET THE NEW LOCAL AREA “EMERGENCY COORDINATOR”

**Carl Aveni N1FY** has been appointed the local area **Emergency Coordinator (EC)** as part of the Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) which is sponsored by the Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL). **Carl N1FY** is shown in the photo with **Herb Lemmon KC1ZW** the Director of the Town of Bridgewater Emergency Management Agency at the Bridgewater Emergency Operations Center (EOC).



**Carl N1FY and Herb KC1ZW**

**Carl N1FY** also reports that ARES has added a new Field Day category (Class F) this year to promote Field Day operations from the local Emergency Operation Centers like Bridgewater and Taunton. The Class F - EOC operation must take place in cooperation with the EOC staff.

If you think you might be interested in joining ARES, see our newly appointed Emergency Coordinator **Carl N1FY** or **The Bruce N1IX**. Both have ARES membership application forms. To learn more about ARES see the web site at [www.emaares.com](http://www.emaares.com)

During the Feb 8<sup>th</sup> Emergency Communication Exercise at the Bridgewater EOC, **Herb KC1ZW** and **Carl N1FY** were assisted by **George Pedro KE1KR** and **John Mahon N1PYN** (an observer from the Brockton Emergency Management Agency). Check-ins during the drill who were testing their capability as relay stations were **Joe Serrilla W1JOE**, **Ed Meehan N1NTZ**, **Bob Burns K1RB** and **Gil Follett W1GMF**.

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## SKYWARN AND NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TAUNTON

**Rob Macedo KD1CY** is the New Bedford Area Emergency Coordinator and the ARES SKYWARN Coordinator operating out of the National Weather Service in Taunton where he used the Feb 8<sup>th</sup> Winter Emergency Communication Drill to help in the development of methods to relay SKYWARN reports from the Cape area to National Weather Taunton via simplex operation.

**Rob KD1CY** has encouraged all area HAMS to participate in SKYWARN. The next SKYWARN training will be held at the Falmouth Town Hall on April 3<sup>rd</sup> then at Sturdy Memorial Hospital in Attleboro on April 29<sup>th</sup> and then at the Plymouth Community Intermediate School on May 7<sup>th</sup>. This is a three-hour highly intense SKYWARN spotter training session.

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**AMATEUR RADIO CLASSES:** **Jeff Tracy N1SOM** reports that the Norwood Amateur Radio Club is offering Technician Classes starting Feb 26<sup>th</sup> through May 14<sup>th</sup>, with VE exams on May 14<sup>th</sup> at the Norwood Civic Center at 165 Nahatan St. in Norwood. **Jeff N1SOM** is one of the teachers. Code and General classes are scheduled to be held after the technician classes – probably in the early fall. More info to follow – see **Jeff N1SOM** for details.

## TAUNTON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY - RECOGNITION NIGHT

Taunton Mayor **Ted Strojny** and **Richard (Rick) Ferreira** the Director of the Taunton Emergency Management Agency presented a Certificate of Appreciation "In recognition of your professional and outstanding support and dedication to the Taunton Emergency Management Agency and the City of Taunton" to the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) volunteers at the City Council meeting of February 25th. The team members were then personally thanked by all the City of Taunton Council members.



The RACES volunteers present when the certificates were handed out shown in the photo. Seen standing L. to R. **Bruce Hayden N1IX**, **Paul Burbine N1VTI**, **Ken Waine KB1INN**, **Ed Meehan N1NTZ**, **John Coombs WQ1L**, and **Rick Ferreira** Director of the Taunton Emergency Management Agency. Seen seated L. to R. are **Walter Dolson K1BZD**, **Bill Hayden N1FRE**, and **John Miller N1UMJ**. Not able to attend but members of the team are **Jim Gilbert W5IRW**, **Bob Loring K1REL** and **Rick Tucker** Assistant Director of the Taunton Emergency Management Agency.

### MORE ABOUT AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION

A communication emergency exists when a critical communication system failure puts the public at risk. You are not in charge – you are there to temporarily fulfill the needs of an agency whose communication system is unable to do the job. They tell you what they need and you do your best to comply. This is a situation where a professional and helpful attitude is a must if you are to become part of the solution and avoid becoming part of the problem.

You will be expected to be familiar with the use of standard Radiogram message forms. The one exception is the use of special message forms required during Plymouth Nuclear Evacuation Drills. Security / Privacy is a major concern - avoid giving confidential information out over the air – you do not know who is listening. Do not speculate – use plain language and standard Phonetics.

Go Kits are a fascinating topic in itself and will depend on whether you are needed locally or at a remote location and whether the emergency is for a short or long duration. You must have a rig ready to go and you must know your equipment – better yet keep an operating manual with your rig. Batteries must be charged. NiCd batteries self discharge at approx. 1% of their capacity per day – plan on using every battery pack at least once every month. Pre-installed antennas are best - a higher gain antenna is better than higher power.

Above all, the safety and well being of the volunteers is more important than the mission. Emergency Coordinators like **Carl N1FY** would be expected to know the capabilities and limitations of his volunteers and call on them accordingly. If you think you might be interested in joining the Whitman Club members who have volunteered their services to help the Taunton Emergency Management Agency or the Bridgewater Emergency Management Agency, see **The Bruce N1IX** or **Carl N1FY** for details.

## MORE ABOUT GO KITS

**Paul Burbine N1VTI** is shown with his 50 watt mobile VHF rig attached to a gel cell battery with antenna mounting for a portable 5/8 wave telescoping antenna, a mike hook and handle all ready to pick up and go. This Go Kit also has standard power connectors - special quick disconnects between the rig and the battery for reconnecting to his AC power supply.

While handheld radios will work in Bridgewater and Taunton, this Go Kit configuration is highly recommended by ARES for public service deployment. Dual band rigs are even better and portable antennas like the J-pole that do not require a ground plane and that can be mounted outside, as high as possible, really compliment the Go Kit.

The rig could be run from a car battery but AC power located at the deployment site, connected to a power supply, would normally be used to conserve battery power. It has been recommended by ARES that everyone standardize with the 30 amp "Anderson Power Pole" connector – to promote uniform interchangeability between rigs, battery packs and power supplies.



**Paul Burbine N1VTI**

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## HAM RADIO AND THE INTERNET = ECHOLINK

**Jim Wolf N1OIU** has been active on the Echolink ever since his introduction to this new mode of amateur radio operation at the Marconi Special event station.

The Echolink software program turns your computer into an amateur radio station that uses the internet instead of the wireless airwaves to contact other amateur radio licensed Echolink users all over the world.

All you need is a computer with sound card, speaker and mike. Then access the Echolink site at [www.echolink.com](http://www.echolink.com) to register your name and amateur radio call sign. After the Echolink system operators verify that you have a valid amateur radio call sign, they will add your name and station to the Echolink database. Then all you do is run the Echolink program and you can see the list of amateur radio operators by call sign and location that are running Echolink at that time. You can connect to any one who is not listed as busy.



**Jim Wolf N1OIU**

**Jim N1OIU** reports that he has talked with HAMS in Japan, the Netherlands, England, Israel, Canada and Australia along with many United States contacts. In addition to **Jim N1OIU**, the other club members who are up and running and experimenting with this new mode of operation are **The Bruce N1IX**, **Jeff N1ZZN**, **Mike N1FRV**, **Roy KB1CYV** and **Gil W1GMF**. Try it – you might like it.

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**Hosstraders Hamfest:** Tentative date is May 3, 2003 at Hopkinton N.H. and will be confirmed soon.

## WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO PUBLIC SERVICE NET - WARPSN

This net meets every Sunday morning at 08:30 hour on the Whitman Repeater 147.225 MHz. The purpose of this NET is to establish a 2-Meter frequency in the event of an emergency and to share information of interest with amateurs and all other listeners as well. **Walter Dolson K1BZD** has been encouraging all members to try their hand at NET control and copy or better yet make up and send a routine Radiogram traffic message – thus practicing emergency preparedness. A QNI of 52 means 52 area HAMs checked in during the month for an average of  $52/4 = 13$  checkins per week. A QTC of 12 means 12 messages were sent during the month.

### *WAINPO Traffic Messages* Featuring our Traffic Manager, Walt K1BZD

Submitted by Charlet N1VQZ

#### January 2003 Traffic



Date	Prec	HX	Station of Origin	Check	Location of Orig	Date	
01/26/03	R		K1BZD	11	WHITMAN, MA	01/26/03 09:06 est	
<b>Message Body</b>							
WARPSN		FEBRUARY		TRAFFIC		REPORT	SESSIONS
4		QNI		52		QTC	12
73							
<b>Signature: WALT K1BZD</b>							
<b>Rec'd From: K1BZD</b>			<b>On: 01/26/03</b>	<b>Sent To:</b>		<b>On:</b>	

#### February 2003 Traffic

Date	Prec	HX	Station of Origin	Check	Location of Orig	Date	
02/23/03	R		K1BZD	11	WHITMAN, MA	02/23/03 08:58 est	
<b>Message Body</b>							
WARPSN		FEBRUARY		TRAFFIC		REPORT	SESSIONS
4		QNI		60		QTC	10
73							
<b>Signature: WALT K1BZD</b>							
<b>Rec'd From: K1BZD</b>			<b>On: 02/23/03</b>	<b>Sent To:</b>		<b>On:</b>	

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### THE USS SALEM NEED A FEW GOOD VOLUNTEERS

Whitman Club member **Don Keene KA1PJX** and local ham **Jim O'Rourke WQ1L** are two more HAMs who have answered the call for help with the scout program. In a typical year **JC Cunningham W1AI** reports that the K1USN Radio Club introduces HAM Radio to between 5000 and 10,000 kids. Volunteers are needed on Saturdays between 3PM and 6:30 PM for 3/1, 3/15, 3/22, and 3/29. Contact **JC Cunningham W1AI** at [w1ai@hamtestonline.com](mailto:w1ai@hamtestonline.com) for details or better yet just show up and you will be put to work.



**WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.**  
*A Non-Profit Corporation Serving the Public in Time of Emergency*



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Whitman, MA 02382

Telephone: (781) 447-1655  
ARRL Club #0082  
Club Call Sign: WAINPO

**CLUB OFFICERS:**

**MEETING SCHEDULE**

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday  
of each month.

***The Winter meetings are held at the  
Whitman Public Library which is  
located at 100 Webster Street  
in Whitman, Mass.***

**Next Meeting  
Wednesday, Mar. 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM  
Whitman Public Library**

President	Bruce	NI1X
V. President	Bill	N1FRE
Secretary	Roy	KB1CYV
Treasurer	Jeff	N1SOM
Director	Jim	W5IRW
Director	Paul	N1VTI
Director	Steve	W1WSN
Director	Chris	N1WWI

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Editor	Bruce	NI1X
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Web Master	Jeff	N1ZZN
Web Site: <a href="http://www.qsl.net/wainpo">http://www.qsl.net/wainpo</a>		

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Club Repeater Station:                      147.225 MHz (CTSS 67 Hz)                      449.875 MHz (CTSS 88.5 Hz)

***Whitman Amateur Radio Club, Inc.  
P.O. Box 48  
Whitman, Ma 02382***

