The Whitman Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

December 2003



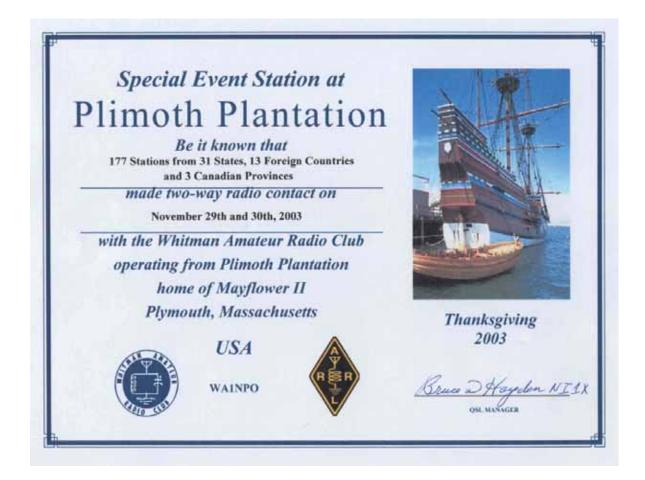
# SPECTRUM



**PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**: This is **The Bruce NI1X** – The Whitman Amateur Radio Club had a very successful Plimoth Plantation Special Event this year, on the weekend following Thanksgiving. We had 14 area amateur radio operators "HAMs" set up four HF Base Stations along with a 2-Meter Base Station and portable antennas at the re-creation of the 17<sup>th</sup> century Pilgrim Settlement and Indian Home Site and exchanged contacts with 177 other amateur radio operators in 31 States, 13 foreign countries and 3 Canadian Provinces.

At the December meeting we watched a great video, promoting amateur radio, that was made by **Bob** "**Whitey" Doherty K1VV** during the Nov. 2003 Simulated Emergency Test that turned into the real thing when the Gas Company broke a high pressure gas main near the State College in Bridgewater, MA. In the video area HAM **Carl Aveni N1FY** talked us through the whole event – way to go **Carl N1FY**. In December volunteer members participated in formal training through the Bridgewater and Taunton Emergency Management Agency, reported having to make storm related repairs to outside antennas, participated as Volunteer Examiners and of course the Fox Hunters were active as usual.

I hope you and your families have a great Christmas and a Happy New Year. Come to the next meeting and share your HAM related activities with the other club members and for those who have been good. Hi Hi - bring those HAM radio goodies left under the tree by Santa for show and tell.



#### SECRETARY'S NOTES OF THE MEETING OF December 3, 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 6:50 P.M. with a roll call.

**ATTENDANCE:** Ten members were present, including all four elected officers. A quorum was present.

N1FRE Bill Hayden

N1VQZ Charlet Sherman

KB1CYV Roy Logan

N1X Bruce Hayden

N1VQZ Charlet Sherman

N1WWI Chris Tilden

KC1FZ George Davis

KB1KMA Dave Gilbert

KB1KFF Jim Kenworthy

N1SOM Jeff Tracy

N1ZZN Jeff Lehmann

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The treasurer's report was read by **Jeff N1SOM**. **Bill N1FRE** made a motion seconded by **Charlet N1VQZ** that the Treasurer's report be accepted as read. The motion was approved.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** A motion was made by **Chris N1WWI** seconded by **Jim KB1KFF** that the secretary's report be accepted as published in the November Newsletter. The motion was approved.

**HEALTH & WELFARE: Bob K1RB, Walt K1BZD and George KE1KR** are all on the road to recovery. Best wishes to all from the WARC.

**OLD BUSINESS: Bruce NI1X** distributed copies of the news release sent following the Plimoth Plantation special event, along with photos of participants. **Bruce NI1X** also volunteered to act as QSL manager for the event. **Bill N1FRE** reported excellent results with the slingshot and fishing reel combination he had built for erecting antennas at Plimoth. **Bruce NI1X** attended the monthly message training session at the Taunton EOC and also reports that the City of Taunton has qualified as a Storm Ready Community.

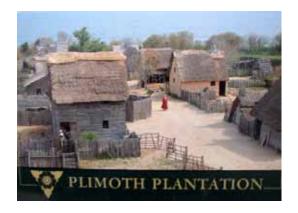
**NEW BUSINESS:** A motion was made by **Bruce NIIX** seconded by **Chris NIWWI** that **Dave Gilbert KB1KMA** be accepted as a new member. The motion was approved. **Dave's KB1KMA** first contact with the WARC was at Plimoth Plantation. Welcome to the group, **Dave. George KC1FZ** has arranged for **Mark Duff KB1EKN**, Metropolitan Area RACES Manager, to speak at the February meeting. **Bruce NI1X** has his 80-meter dipole up at his QTH. Looks like you just beat the bad weather, **Bruce. Jeff N1SOM** reported plans to be at the U.S.S. Salem on December 6<sup>th</sup> (weather permitting) to help 11 cub scouts work on their communicator badges. **George KC1FZ** showed a low-cost digital/web camera that he had purchased. **Jeff N1ZZN** showed us his new YAESU VX-2R a 2 watt, 2 Meter / 70CM handheld transceiver and explained the special features.

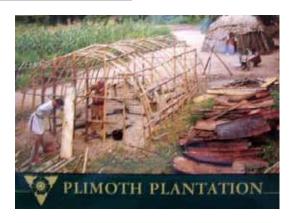
NET CONTROLS: 12/7 Chris N1WWI 12/14 Bruce NI1X 12/21 Bill N1FRE 12/28 Charlet N1VQZ

**TECHNICAL TOPICS:** The group enjoyed viewing the latest effort from **Whitey K1VV** which was of the Simulated Emergency Test (SET) drill held in November at the Bridgewater EOC and National Weather in Taunton. The drill in Bridgewater was suspended when an actual emergency developed with a gas line in Bridgewater being ruptured.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to adjourn was made by **Roy KB1CYV** seconded by **Jeff N1SOM** and the meeting closed at 7:50 PM.

#### PLIMOTH PLANTATION SPECIAL EVENT





CQ CQ CQ - This is the WA1NPO Special Event Station operating from the Historic Plimoth Plantation – Located in Plymouth, Massachusetts, overlooking Cape Cod Bay.

The Plimoth Plantation is a living museum where you step back in time to 1627 and visit a Pilgrim Settlement and a Wampanog Indian Home Site where you are free to walk among the Pilgrims and Indians to encounter first hand what life was like in early America. The actors will freely talk about their lives and daily tasks, speaking in the dialect of the time and know nothing of such things as electricity, telephones, televisions, radios or computers. Another part of the museum is the Mayflower II, located in Plymouth Harbor, which is an accurate reproduction of the type of ship which transported the 102 Pilgrims to the new world.

First came the publicity in the December issue of QST Magazine Pg 85.

Antenna Crew Plymouth, MA: Whitman Amateur Radio Club, WA1NPO. 1400Z Nov 29-2000Z Nov 30. The first Pilgrim Landing at Plymouth, Massachusetts. 28.360 14.270 7.250 3.890. Certificate. Whitman ARC, PO Box 48, Whitman, MA 02382.

Then came the antenna crew who braved a few sprinkles to install **Bruce's NI1X** Cushcraft R-5 vertical and 2-Meter beam on the observation deck of the Registration Building along with **Bill's N1FRE** all band off center fed Carolina Windom dipole antenna at the Executive Building and **Paul's N1VTI** home made 20-Meter folded dipole antenna at the Administration Building. All antennas were far enough apart so that there was little or no inter modulation.

Shown in the antenna crew photo are: Top row L. to R. - Paul Burbine N1VTI, Jim O'Rourke WG1L, Bill Hayden N1FRE and Don Keene KA1PJX. Front row: L. to R. John Coombs WQ1L, Chris Tilden N1WWI, Jim Gilbert W5IRW and Bruce Hayden N11X. Also participating over the weekend were Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN, Roy Logan KB1CYV, Jim Kenworthy KB1KFF, George Pedro KE1KR, John Wittey N1PRK and Dave Gilbert KB1KMA

The **SURE SHOT:** Now you know how we got those antennas high up in the trees. **Bill N1FRE** reports that you can erect your next wire antenna easily with the amazing Sure Shot – a complete system that includes the original sure shot with detachable reel and six fluorescent orange weights. The system includes welded construction with reel support for easy storage and is capable of launching a fishing line over 75 foot trees. See **Bill N1FRE** if you would like more details.



The Sure Shot

<u>Cushcraft R-5 Vertical – minor repairs needed:</u> The control box on the R-5 Vertical was taken apart and the coax connector was found to be twisted and poorly secured (a poor design on earlier models) – the coax was tightened and the SWR of the R-5 Vertical was given a final test by **Paul N1VTI, Don KA1PJX** and **Jim WG1L** before the antenna crew left the area.



Antenna Crew <<<<<



Checking SWR

Seen hauling the equipment to the observation deck are Chris Tilden N1WWI, Bruce Hayden N11X and Paul Burbine N1VTI.

10 METER BASE STATION: Roy Logan KB1CYV set up his ICOM IC-735 transceiver, power supply and antenna tuner as a 10 Meter Base Station at the Executive Building using Bill's N1FRE all band off center fed dipole antenna that was orientated in a North - South direction. The 10-Meter band was dead on Saturday but about 50 contacts were made on 10-Meters on Sunday. Bob Schillinger KR6EC reported that he could hear WA1NPO and knew the operator was Bruce but could not recognize the voice or make contact from California. The pace was relaxed with one contacts with Hal DL5MC of Germany lasting 20 minutes. Also Bill N5UMH called in from Norman, Oklahoma and told The Bruce NI1X that he had made contact with us in 1999 and was pleased to make another contact.



Roy Logan KB1CYV



Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN

Jim Gilbert W5IRW and his wife Jane set up a ICOM IC-756 Pro as a 40– Meter Base Station inside their Winnebago Hilton that was located in the Plimoth Plantation parking lot. Jim W5IRW was

Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN is shown helping Chris Tilden N1WWI (a mere whisper in the background noise) make a contact with WA1NPO on 10-Meters and then talked Dave Gilbert KB1KMA, a new HAM from Plymouth, into the site for his first visit to the Plimoth Plantation Special Event.



Winnebago Hilton



Jim W5IRW & Jane

perfecting his outside 30 Foot long vertical wire antenna that is connected to an SG-237 automatic antenna tuner. The antenna wire is held up by a collapsible 30 foot fishing pole / mast. One contact **Jim W5IRW** made was with **Jim O'Rourke WG1L** who called in on 40-Meters from No. Weymouth.

17-METER BASE STATION: Bill Hayden N1FRE set up his ICOM IC-756 transceiver that was connected to Bruce's NI1X Cushcraft R-5 vertical that was lashed to the observation deck overlooking Cape Cod Bay. This 17-Meter Base Station was set up in the Reqistration Building where the visitors to the Plantation could hear conversations with HAM's from all over the world. Jim Kenworthy KB1KFF reported that he made his first HF contacts as a new HAM from Plimoth Plantation this year.





## The Bruce NI1X

#### **Bill N1FRE & Jim KB1KFF**

The Bruce NI1X can be seen talking with Ron W9XS who was bicycle mobile near Chicago Illinois and followed up by showing the visitors RADIOGRAM messages that were being sent from the plantation to friends and relatives all over the United States. One message originated at the Plimoth Plantation was actually sent the next day and it was reported that the RADIOGRAM was delivered to the recipient in St. Petersburg,

Florida that evening. **Bruce NI1X** was able to explain to the visitors to the plantation how we practice sending routine messages, via radio, to amateur radio operators in the local neighborhood who pick up the phone and deliver the message free of charge. **Bruce NI1X** also explained how these routine messages could quickly change to priority or emergency messages in times of National emergencies.



George Pedro KE1KR talks with Ron KC8VRZ in Arlington Texas while his wife Maureen looks on. We are all glad to see that George KE1KR is on the road to recovery after taking a fall and breaking his foot and tearing up his knee. John Wittey N1PRK of Berkley stopped by to help out at the Plimoth Plantation Special Event.

John Wittey N1PRK

#### George KE1KR & Maureen



**Paul Burbine N1VTI** set up his ICOM IC-706 Mark II transceiver as a 20-Meter Base Station at the Administration Building and connected it to a home made 20-Meter folded dipole wire antenna that was installed in a North / South orientation. The 20-Meter Base Station made the most number of contacts.

**Bruce NI1X** had set up a 2-Meter Base Station which included an Alinco DR-1200 transceiver, a 100 watt amplifier and a 2-Meter beam antenna that was installed high above the observation deck. Murphy's Law prevailed and contact could not be made with the

Whitman REPEATER. The amplifier and the 225 foot run of mini-8 coax were the prime suspects. Roy Logan KB1CYV came to the rescue with a handheld transceiver, a radio Shack 30 watt amplifier with a mag mount antenna set up on the hill on the porch of the Executive Building with a short antenna lead in wire. Those members who were not able to participate but who were able to check in with WA1NPO via 2 Meters were George Davis KC1FZ, Ed Meehan N1NTZ, Bill Tracey N1SON, Ron Smith N1PXX, Dave Gurney WA1YZH, Bernie Snow N1OWQ, Jeff Tracey N1SOM, Doug Cugini N1KQZ, Walter Dolson K1BZD, Charlet Sherman N1VQZ and Bill Mc Inerney N1KBV.

#### **VOLUNTEER UPDATE**

**RADIOGRAM TRAINING: The Bruce NI1X** and **Carlos Wharton WP4US** are shown at the Taunton Emergency Operations Center in December where they participated in the monthly RADIOGRAM training session. **Carlos WP4US** lives in Taunton and is the newest volunteer at the Taunton Emergency Management Agency.

**TECHNICIAN CLASSES: Carlos WP4US** has volunteered to teach a Technician Class and plans are progressing to hold the classes, possibly at the Taunton Emergency Operations Center, starting sometime in January after the Holidays.



**Bruce NI1X & Carlos WP4US** 

#### STORM READY COMMUNITY PRESENTATION

**Rick Ferreira** Director (shown holding the sign) and **Rick Tucker** Assistant Director of the Taunton Emergency Management Agency are shown receiving the Storm Ready Community certification from **Glenn** 

**Field KB1GHX** and **Hayden Frank** of the National Weather Service Taunton during a December presentation. As we know **Glenn KB1GHX** has taught formal Skywarn training in this area for years.

As part of the application it was pointed out that five of the Taunton Emergency Management Agency volunteers have received formal Skywarn training which we know include club members **Bruce NIIX**, **Bill N1FRE**, **Walter K1BZD**, **Ken KB1INN** and **Ed N1NTZ**. The City of Taunton has demonstrated their ability to have monitoring equipment in place and are able to alert the local community via direct links to schools, Police, Fire, and the Silver City Galleria Mall along with residential alerts via the local Cable TV channel. Another goal of the Skywarn program



**City of Taunton Presentation** 

to open the local Emergency Operations Centers during Skywarn activation. In addition The City of Taunton has volunteered to hold an area wide Skywarn training session at its facilities in the future.

#### **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TRAINING**

Whitman club members participated in formal Emergency Preparedness training either with the Town of Bridgewater or the City of Taunton in support of the Radiological Emergency Response Plan for the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant. The Taunton crew as seen in the photo include L. to R. Carlos Wharton WP4US, and club members Bill Hayden N1FRE, Ed Meehan N1NTZ, Ken Waine KB1INN and Bruce Hayden NI1X.

**Roy Logan KB1CYV** reports that the Whitman Club members taking part in the Bridgewater training were **Roy KB1CYV**, **Joe Serrilla W1JOE** and **Chris Tilden N1WWI**.



**City of Taunton RACES Volunteers** 

#### HINGHAM EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT MEETING By: George KC1FZ

**Mark Duff KB1EKN** is the Emergency Management Director for Hingham and is also Deputy Chief of the Hingham Fire Dept., former President of the Boston Radio Club and presently on the Executive Committee, and ARES District Emergency Coordinator for Metro-Boston. Twelve attended the meeting.

Some of the equipment **Mark KB1EKN** has purchased for Emergency Management use is: (2) Icom 2100's 2 Meters, Icom 2720 2m/70CM, Yeasu 897 HF, Cushcraft R8, G5RV antennas, (3) Honda Quiet Run Generators, plus support equipment necessary for use in the field. The equipment is stored at both the EOC (at the Town Hall) and at the Central Fire Station. Most of it stored in "Go Kits", for use if necessary in the field. The intent of the "Go Kits" is to have equipment available so the operators would not have to worry about what equipment of their own would be necessary for them to bring.

During an Emergency Incident within Hingham, radio operators would be stationed at the EOC, Hingham High School and at the Hingham Middle School. All these locations have Emergency Generators. **Mark KB1EKN** would like the Amateurs to become involved in RACES for necessary training. A training session is being planned for March. It will be held in Hingham. An all day meeting on a Saturday is intended for all interested Amateurs of Plymouth and Norfolk counties. Any other interested Amateurs are welcome. **Mark KB1EKN** will be displaying his "Go Kit" and discussing RACES at the Whitman Club February meeting.



George KC1FZ & Mark Duff KB1EKN

#### THE WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO PUBLIC SERVICE NET

The Whitman Amateur Radio Public Service Net (WARPSN) meets every Sunday morning at 8:30 AM Come join in and share your amateur radio related experiences with the other area HAMs and short wave listeners as well. In November we had an average of 11 check-ins per week (QNI = 55 / 5 sessions = 11) and a total of 13 messages were sent (QTC = 13).

### WA1NPO Traffic Messages

Featuring our Traffic Manager, Walt K1BZD Submitted by Charlet N1VQZ

#### **November 2003 Traffic**

Date	Date   Prec   HX   Station of Original		igin	Check	Loca	<b>Location of Orig</b>		Date		
11/30/03	R		K1BZD		11	WH	WHITMAN, MA 1		1/30/03 08:55 est.	
Message Body										
WARPSN		N	NOVEMBER		REPOR	T	SESSIONS		5	
QNI			55		QTC		13		73	
Signature: WALT K1BZD										
Rec'd From: K1BZD			On	11.	/30/03				On:	



#### WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

A Non-Profit Corporation Serving the Public in Time of Emergency



Post Office Box 48 Pine Street Whitman, MA 02382 Telephone: (781) 447-1655 ARRL Club #0082 Club Call Sign: WAINPO

## MEETING SCHEDULE Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month.

The next meeting will be held at the Whitman Public Library which is located at 100 Webster Street in Whitman, Mass.

Next Meeting
Wednesday, Jan. 7th at 6:30 PM
Whitman Public Library

#### **CLUB OFFICERS:**

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

Editor Bruce NI1X E-mail articles to: <a href="mailto:ni1x@arrl.net">ni1x@arrl.net</a>

Web Master Jeff N1ZZN

Web Site: <a href="http://www.qsl.net/wa1npo">http://www.qsl.net/wa1npo</a>

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

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