



The Whitman Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

February 2004

# SPECTRUM



The Voice of the Humble Electron

Founded 1962

**PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:** This is **The Bruce NI1X** – we had a great presentation at the February meeting, thanks to arrangements made by **George Davis KC1FZ**, on what can be expected of amateur radio emergency communication volunteers. The presentation was given by our guest speaker **Mark Duff KB1EKN** – Director of the Town of Hingham Emergency Management Agency. Among many interesting topics **Mark KB1EKN** shared his “lessons learned” during his three deployments to New York City following the Sept. 11, 2001 attack.

**Carlos Wharton WP4US** continues to teach the Technician Classes in the City of Taunton, thanks to **Rick Ferreira** – Director of Emergency Management Agency for the City of Taunton who requested the classes, recruited the students and made arrangements to provide the facilities. Next on the addenda is SKYWARN training that is currently being scheduled in Taunton for May or June.

We heard some new voices as Net Control on the Whitman Amateur Radio Public Service Net this month, thanks to **Jim Kenworthy KB1KFF** and **Stu Forman W1SF** who bit the bullet and jumped in feet first. A great job and a great example for others to follow. As usual - the Fox Hunters were active in spite of the extreme cold weather.

At the February meeting the club members authorized the purchase of a DVD player for the Whitman Public Library and continued in a long tradition of community involvement by making another donation to the Whitman - Hanson “Citizen’s Scholarship Foundation” Scholarship Fund. The Club started donating to this scholarship fund in 1991.

We are all interested in hearing about your radioactive projects. Come to the next meeting and share your amateur radio activities with the other members.

**NEW MEMBER:** **Carlos Wharton WP4US** lives in Taunton with his wife **Ines** and they have 4 kids and 2 grandchildren. **Carlos WP4US** reports that he was first licensed in 1977 in Puerto Rico and that he is now retired and has come back to this wonderful hobby.

**Carlos WP4US** also reports that he is involved with issues that benefit the Hispanic community in the State where he is an advocate of social justice and also teaches kids about Ham Radio and the world of communication as a means to make friends from all over the world. **Carlos WP4US** reports that he is also involved as an advocate for his fellow veterans who proudly serve the greatest country in the world. **Carlos WP4US** says that explains his special call sign.

**Carlos WP4US** has a great “can do” attitude and is currently teaching a Technician Class in the City of Taunton with over 20 students who will be ready to pass their license exams in mid March.



**Carlos Wharton WP4US**

## SECRETARY'S NOTES OF THE MEETING OF February 4, 2004 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 6:40P.M. with a roll call.

**ATTENDANCE:** Twenty-one members / guests were present, including all four elected officers and one director. A quorum was present.

**KB1CYV Roy Logan**  
**KB1KMA Dave Gilbert**  
**KB1EKN Mark Duff**  
**N1WWI Chris Tilden**  
**N1ZZN Jeff Lehmann**  
**NI1X Bruce Hayden**  
**N1FRE Bill Hayden**

**WQ1L John Coombs**  
**N1IQI Loren Pimental**  
**WG1L Jim O'Rourke**  
**N1VQZ Charlet Sherman**  
**KB1KFF Jim Kenworthy**  
**W1MMM Bob Sikes**  
**N1MJU Danny Gomez**

**KE1KR George Pedro**  
**KC1FZ George Davis**  
**KA1PJX Don Keene**  
**N1OIU Jim Wolf**  
**WA1NYC Bill O'Hara Jr.**  
**N1SOM Jeff Tracy**  
**KB1ETW Jim Halpin**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The treasurer's report was read by **Jeff N1SOM**. **Dave KB1KMA** made a motion seconded by **John WQ1L** that the Treasurer's report be accepted as read. A motion to renew the Bank CD was made by **Bill N1FRE** seconded by **Roy KB1CYV**. Both motions were 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 January Newsletter. The motion was approved.

**HEALTH & WELFARE:** **Bob K1RB** has been receiving the second round in a preventative chemo program at Mass. General. **Bruce N1XZD** is undergoing tests at St. Elizabeth's in Brighton. Best wishes go out to both.

**OLD BUSINESS:** **Bruce NI1X** reported that all QSL cards for Plimoth Plantation have been mailed.

**NEW BUSINESS:** **Bill N1FRE** distributed copies of the club roster, which now includes e-mail addresses. Any updates should be directed to **Bill N1FRE**. **Jeff N1SOM** reported receiving information on the Dollars for Scholars program at Whitman/Hanson high school. A motion was made by **Bruce NI1X** seconded by **John WQ1L** to increase our contribution to \$200.00 this year. The motion was approved. An application for membership received from **Carlos Wharton WP4US** was submitted by **Bruce NI1X** and seconded by **Dave KB1KMA**. The application was accepted. Congratulations, and welcome to the WARC. **Carlos WP4US** has been conducting a Technician Class at the Taunton EOC. A motion to offer graduates of this class a free introductory membership for the balance of the year was made by **Bruce NI1X** seconded by **Jeff N1ZZN**. The motion was approved. **Bruce NI1X** will explore holding a code class locally, similar to that which **Bill KB1IUB** attended in Norwood. A motion was made by **Bruce NI1X** seconded by **Bill N1FRE** to purchase a DVD player for the Whitman library. The motion was approved for a \$100.00 expenditure. **Roy KB1CYV** reported on "Operation Paperback", a program to provide paperback books to our troops overseas. **Dave KB1KMA** offered to assist in this project. Books in good condition may be brought to the March meeting. Further information is available on the web at <http://operationpaperback.usmilitarysupport.org/>. **Bruce NI1X** closed the business meeting at 7:00 P.M and turned the meeting over to **Mark Duff KB1EKN**.

**EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PRESENTATION:** **Mark Duff KB1EKN** gave a talk on the Town of Hingham's Emergency Operations Center activities. The meeting adjourned at 8 PM.

### **NET CONTROLS:**

**2/1 Chris N1WWI, 2/8 Jim KB1KFF, 2/15 Stu W1SF, 2/22 Bill KB1IUB, 2/29 Charlet N1VQZ**

## Jim Gilbert W5IRW & wife Jane – DXpedition Update

**Jim Gilbert W5IRW** is traveling the country in his Winnebago Hilton with his wife **Jane**. They reported in February 3<sup>rd</sup> as being stationary mobile in Palacios, Texas over looking the Gulf of Mexico where it is sunny, windy and 65 degrees. The picture was taken of **Jim W5IRW** and his wife **Jane** and their two constant companions on Christmas day in Livingston Texas. In the background is a map of the United States with the 20 States they have visited since last June marked in colors. Besides traveling between Mass and Texas **Jim W5IRW** reports they followed the Louis and Clark trail to the Northwest.



**Jim W5IRW** reports: "The timing for the extended vacation we're taking couldn't have been better. We had frost three mornings in December (tsk, tsk). Other than that, we are starting to look like snow birds. Tans and smiles are the order of the day along with fond memories of our friends who still endure the New England winters. I am starting to get more active on HF and have started to check in on the RV service Nets about once a week. The old Good Sam RV Service Net is now the WBCCI Net and meets M-F 12-1 EST on 14.307.5 MHz and the FMCA RV Net which meets 1900 UTC daily on 14.263 MHz. My set-up doesn't like 40 meters, unless I pull out the OUTBACKER and set it up. More experiments continue as we start looking forward to our Alaska adventure. More on that later."

Necessity is the mother of invention and as you can see by the jumper lead between the SGC automatic antenna tuner and the ladder on his Winnebago, **Jim W5IRW** has been experimenting with unconventional stealth antennas.



---

## FOX HUNTING

The sun came out on Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> and so did the Fox Hunters. Shown in the photo are (L. to R.) **Bruce Hayden N1IX**, **Gil Follett W1GMF**, **Walt Fitzgerald N1LHD**, **George Davis KC1FZ**, **Ed Meehan N1NTZ**, **Mike Marinucci N1FRV** with **Jennifer**, and finally **Roy Logan KB1CYV**.



**Fox Hunting Crew - February 14th**

The Fox Hunters are out every Saturday from 10 am to 12 noon. The Fox transmits for at least 30 seconds on 146.565 MHz every 5 minutes and the Fox Hunters coordinate their efforts on the Bridgewater REPEATER 147.180 MHz. Come listen in at 10 am and see if you can hear the Fox in your back yard.

Over the years - some Fox Hunters have been known to experiment with close-in directional finding with smaller 440 MHz beam equipment. Did you know that 439.695 MHz is the third harmonic of the Fox Frequency 146.565 MHz ?? - and that 2-Meter transmitters give out weak harmonic signals – the third harmonic being the strongest.



## EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION PRESENTATION



Seen attending the Emergency Preparedness Presentation were back row L. to R. **Jeff Tracy N1SOM**, **Don Keene KA1PJX**, **Jim Kenworthy KB1KFF**, **Bob Sikes W1MMM**, **Jim Wolf N1OIU**, **Jim Halpin KB1ETW**, **Jim O'Rourke WG1L** and **Bruce Hayden NI1X**. Seen in the middle row L. to R. is **Mark Duff KB1EKN** (guest speaker), **Roy Logan KB1CYV**, **George Pedro KE1KR**, **Bill Hayden N1FRE**, **John Coombs WQ1L**, **Charlet Sherman N1VQZ**, **Chris Tilden N1WWI** and **Bill O'Hara WA1NYC**. Seen in the front row L. to R. **George Davis KC1FZ**, **Dave Gilbert KB1KMA**, **Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN** and **Loren Pimental N1IQI**. Also attending but not present when the picture was taken was **Danny Gomez N1MJU**.

**Mark Duff KB1EKN** the Emergency Management Director for the Town of Hingham, who is also the Deputy Chief of the Hingham Fire Department, gave a talk on emergency communication. **Mark KB1EKN** explained how he had made three deployments to New York City following the September 11, 2001 attack to provide amateur radio emergency communication at emergency shelters for the Red Cross and brought back valuable "lessons learned" that he is implementing in the Town of Hingham's emergency response plan. The Town of Hingham is a host community along with Quincy, Salem and Lynn for a partial evacuation of the city of Boston. **Mark's KB1EKN** reports that his wife **Geraldine KB1ISG** is also a HAM.

He stressed that getting introduced to Town employees especially the Police Chief and Fire Chief before something happens and that one must have a positive and professional attitude to insure that you are part of the solution and do not become part of the problem. He has an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in the Town Hall and a back up EOC in the Fire Station.

He pointed out that you are not there to take over. You are invited there to provide communication where normal communications have failed or are not set up, as in temporary emergency shelters. Many times the telephone system has crashed simply due to overload.

## EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION PRESENTATION Cont.

**Mark KB1EKN** stressed that you are there to offer assistance in your primary area of expertise which is to provide communication back to the Emergency Operations Center although requests for help in other areas that you are capable of handling may be requested and in some cases may be great help, until the appropriate personnel arrive.

He distributed and briefly discussed his list of 69 "Go Kit" items that he would need for a three days deployment and showed the "Go Kit" radios he is assembling for the Town of Hingham that would be assigned to a shelter. With a dedicated mobile radio, antenna and power supply "Go-Kit" he will not be dependent on HAM's to bring their own equipment or who would want to take their own equipment with them when they are released after a 12 hour shift, as he saw in New York City.

Follow-up reading material suggested was "Are You Ready" that is available free from FEMA and the Amateur Radio Emergency Services "ARES Field Resource Manual". He also recommended taking the ARES Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level I and Level II courses. Also recommended is SKYWARN training and Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) along with training in message handling though participation in local Nets and downloading the wealth of information available from groups like ARES and FEMA.



**Mark Duff KB1EKN**

**Mark KB1EKN** is looking for area HAMs to volunteer their services in Hingham and club member **George Davis KC1FZ**, who has attended one introductory session in Hingham, reports that he will keep us informed of upcoming training sessions.

### GO KIT - check off list handout - What would you add ???

<input type="checkbox"/> GPS	<input type="checkbox"/> Ex Bat	<input type="checkbox"/> Dry Cell Battery Pack	<input type="checkbox"/> Double AA Bat.	<input type="checkbox"/> Long Wire Ant/s
<input type="checkbox"/> HT Radio Instr.	<input type="checkbox"/> 50' coax	<input type="checkbox"/> Speaker Mikes	<input type="checkbox"/> Headphones	<input type="checkbox"/> Spare HT
<input type="checkbox"/> Spare HT Bat.	<input type="checkbox"/> Pencils	<input type="checkbox"/> HT Bat Charger	<input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping Bag	<input type="checkbox"/> Electrical Tape
<input type="checkbox"/> Spare Fuses	<input type="checkbox"/> Maps	<input type="checkbox"/> ARES Manual	<input type="checkbox"/> Sun Glasses	<input type="checkbox"/> Emg. Com. Hat
<input type="checkbox"/> Event info	<input type="checkbox"/> Food	<input type="checkbox"/> Repeater Guide	<input type="checkbox"/> Proper Cloths	<input type="checkbox"/> Rain gear
<input type="checkbox"/> Mag. Mt. Stand	<input type="checkbox"/> Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Paper/clip board	<input type="checkbox"/> Flash Light	<input type="checkbox"/> ID's / Tags
<input type="checkbox"/> Extra Cloths	<input type="checkbox"/> License	<input type="checkbox"/> Cell Phone Charger	<input type="checkbox"/> Cell phone	<input type="checkbox"/> Wet Naps
<input type="checkbox"/> Latex gloves	<input type="checkbox"/> Gloves	<input type="checkbox"/> Port Scanner/charger	<input type="checkbox"/> Hand Sanitizer	<input type="checkbox"/> Sun Screen
<input type="checkbox"/> Power Supply	<input type="checkbox"/> Tool Kit	<input type="checkbox"/> neck strap for ID's	<input type="checkbox"/> Change for Tel	<input type="checkbox"/> Wire cutters
<input type="checkbox"/> Elec tape	<input type="checkbox"/> Certs	<input type="checkbox"/> Mag Mount & Adapter	<input type="checkbox"/> Insect Repellent	<input type="checkbox"/> UTC Clock
<input type="checkbox"/> HT Radio	<input type="checkbox"/> Tri pod	<input type="checkbox"/> Printed Wx Report	<input type="checkbox"/> Grd Plane ant	<input type="checkbox"/> 50' ext cord
<input type="checkbox"/> Power strip	<input type="checkbox"/> Reg Hat	<input type="checkbox"/> Port mast & lanyards	<input type="checkbox"/> Connector kit	<input type="checkbox"/> Wire ties
<input type="checkbox"/> Wrench set	<input type="checkbox"/> Meter	<input type="checkbox"/> Allen wrenches	<input type="checkbox"/> 50 watt mobile	<input type="checkbox"/> Air way
<input type="checkbox"/> Screwdrivers	<input type="checkbox"/> Chair	<input type="checkbox"/> Leatherman Tool	<input type="checkbox"/> MFJ analyzer	<input type="checkbox"/>

---

**SCUTTLEBUTT: Stu Forman** (formally **W1SAF**) has a new call sign **W1SF**.

**FUTURE MORSE CODE CLASSES:** **Bill O'Hara KB1IUB** reports that he is currently exploring possibilities to hold Morse Code Classes in the Whitman / Abington area and looking for a few volunteer students to help the Whitman Club members work out the bugs of starting-up a code course. We look forward to future upgrades. If you are interested, give **Bill KB1IUB** a call or e-mail him at [ohara@aaahawk.com](mailto:ohara@aaahawk.com)

## WHY AN AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR IS CALLED A HAM

**Rick Ferreira** – Director of the Taunton Emergency Management Agency found this story on the internet while researching the word HAM. The story was found by **KB7LYM** and goes like this:

The word HAM was applied in 1908 and was the call letters of one of the first amateur radio wireless stations operated by some members of the Harvard Radio Club. They were **Albert S. Hyman, Bob Almy** and **Peggie Murray**.

At first they called station Hyman-Almy-Murray. Tapping this out on code called for a revision and they changed the name to **HYALMU** using the first two letters of each name. Early in 1909, some confusion resulted between signals from amateurs wireless **HYALMU** and some Mexican ship named **HYALMO** so they decided to use only the first letters of each name and the call became **HAM**.

In the early pioneer unregulated days of radio, amateurs picked their frequency and call letters. Some had, as now, better signals than some commercial stations. The resulting interference came to the attention of congressional committees in Washington and they gave much time to proposing legislation designed to critically limit amateur activity.

In 1911 **Albert Hyman** chose the controversial wireless regulation bill as the topic for his thesis at Harvard. A copy was sent to Senator **Davis Walsh**, the Senator was so impressed, he sent for **Hyman** to appear before the committee. He was put on the stand and described how the little amateur radio station was built and he almost cried when he told the crowded committee room that if the bill went through, they would have to close up the station because they could not afford the license fee and all the other requirements which were set up in the bill.

The debate started and the little station “**HAM**” became a symbol of all the little amateur stations in the country crying out to be saved from the menace and greed of the big commercial stations who didn’t want them around. Finally, the bill got to the floor of congress and everyone talked about the poor little station “**HAM**”

That’s how it all started. You will find the whole story in the congressional record. Nationwide publicity associated station “**HAM**” with amateurs from that day to this and probably to the end of time, in radio, an amateur is a **HAM**. End of article from: **KB7LYM**

---

## WHITMAN LIBRARY DVD PRESENTATION

The members of the Whitman Amateur Radio Club (WARC) authorized the purchase of a DVD player for the Whitman Public Library.

Seen in the picture taken at the February presentation are **Bill Hayden N1FRE** Vice President WARC, **Bruce Hayden N1IX** President WARC with **Barbara Bryant** Circulation Supervisor of the Whitman Public Library accepting the donation for the library.

**Barbara** thanked all the members of the Whitman Club and assured us the DVD player would be put to good use by the general public using the Whitman Public Library.



**Bill N1FRE, Bruce N1IX**  
**& Barbara Bryant**



## RACES VOLUNTEERS UPDATE

Technician classes continue in the City of Taunton with **Carlos Wharton WP4US** guiding the students through the ARRL's "Now You're Talking" course book. Stop the presses we have great news – **Jim Bardwell** of Taunton slipped out of town, went to Braintree, passed the test and has graduated as head of the class after just four weeks.

**Ken Waine KB1INN** and **The Bruce NI1X** had unpacked a new ICOM IC-2720H mobile 2-Meter 440 MHz transceiver that was purchased by the Taunton Emergency Management Agency and programmed in the Taunton REPEATER frequency. At the February 18<sup>th</sup> class, which was the first class to be held at the Taunton Emergency Operations Center, **The Bruce NI1X** connected the new ICOM IC2720H transceiver to a portable battery pack,



**Bruce NI1X & Rick Ferreira**

temporarily mounted the vertical antenna on a PVC stand in the parking lot, ran the coax through a window and demonstrated the difference between 5 watt handhelds, 50 watt mobile rigs and 100 watt Base Stations to the students, while making contact with **John Miller N1UMJ** of Taunton.



**Carlos WP4US & Students**

One of the next projects at the Taunton EOC is to get the backup antenna permanently mounted on the antenna tower. This new backup rig is required to monitor MEMA Region II communications over the Taunton REPEATER while the 2-Meter Base Station in the Taunton EOC is used to contact RACES Operators in the field and other EOC's in the area.

## 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 January we had an average of 14 check-ins per week (QNI = 55 / 4 sessions = 14) and a total of 9 messages were sent (QTC = 9).

### ***WAINPO Traffic Messages*** **Featuring our Traffic Manager, Walt K1BZD** Submitted by Charlet N1VQZ

#### **January 2004 Traffic**



Date	Prec	HX	Station of Origin	Check	Location of Orig	Date
02/01/04	R		K1BZD	10	WHITMAN, MA	2/1/04 08:47 est.
Message Body						
WARPSN		JANUARY		REPORT	SESSIONS	4
QNI		55		QTC	9	73
Signature: WALT K1BZD						
Rec'd From: K1BZD			On: 2/1/04			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, March 3rd 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: [ni1x@arrrl.net](mailto:ni1x@arrrl.net)

---

Web Master	Jeff	N1ZZN
------------	------	-------

Web Site: <http://www.qsl.net/wa1npo>

---

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*

