



# SPECTRUM



The Voice of the Humble Electron

Founded 1962

**PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:** This is “**The Bruce**” **NI1X** – In March we saw the return of good weather and the completion of Technician classes in the City of Taunton where 16 out of 19 students graduated with a Technician Class License. I have been told that the other three students just need another few weeks and plan to retake the exam in April. The Fox hunters were active as usual and the Volunteer Examiners (V-E’s) reported helping out at the Braintree testing session.

At the next meeting **Jim O’Rourke WG1L** plans to bring his home made keyers and tell us about his experiences bringing his QRP rig on vacation. Come join us at the next meeting and share your amateur related projects and adventures with the other members.

## FOX HUNTING

On March 12<sup>th</sup> the weather was beautiful and the South Shore Fox Hunters were soon circling the Monponsett Ponds where **Roy Logan KB1CYV** and **George Davis KC1FZ** were hiding on a boat ramp off Rt 58. Shown in the group photo are L. to R. **Bruce Hayden NI1X**, **Roy Logan KB1CYV**, **George Davis KC1FZ**, **Gil Follett W1GMF**, **Walter MacNeil W1WMN**, **Loren Pimentel N1IQI**, **Walt Fitzgerald N1LHD**, and last but not least **Jennifer** with **Mike Marinucci N1FRV** who were just back from sunny Florida.



The Fox Hunting Crew



Walter MacNeil W1WMN

First to find the Fox was **Walter MacNeil W1WMN**. **Walter W1WMN** has a ICOM IC W32A handheld transceiver and a 2-Meter / 440 MHz beam antenna complete with attenuator for Fox Hunting.

**Walter W1WMN** reports that he has been checking out the various amateur radio clubs and activities in the greater Boston area and on February 28<sup>th</sup> he decided to participate, for the first time, in the Saturday morning Fox Hunt sponsored by the South Shore Fox Hunters. **Walter W1WMN** was soon found circling the Foxboro Company parking lot along with **Roy KB1CYV**, **George KC1FZ** and **Bill KB1IUB** in search for the elusive Fox. **Walter W1WMN** and the Fox Hunting crew finally found the Fox, who was **Gil Follett W1GMF** and **The Bruce NI1X** who had found the Fox first, hiding off a dirt road, in the woods, behind the Foxboro Company. Two weeks later he comes in first place !! The Fox Hunters with 6 and 7 years of experience were seen scratching their heads and heard mumbling something about beginners luck. Great fun – Great challenge - Just wait until next week.

SECRETARY'S NOTES OF THE MEETING OF March 3, 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 6:45P.M. with a roll call.

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

<b>KB1CYV</b>	<b>Roy Logan</b>	<b>NI1X</b>	<b>Bruce Hayden</b>	<b>N1FRV</b>	<b>Mike Marinucci</b>
<b>W1MMM</b>	<b>Bob Sikes</b>	<b>KB1KFF</b>	<b>Jim Kenworthy</b>	<b>K1REL</b>	<b>Bob Loring</b>
<b>K1MRH</b>	<b>Barbara Rice</b>	<b>KC1FZ</b>	<b>George Davis</b>	<b>KB1IUB</b>	<b>Bill O'Hara III</b>
<b>WQ1L</b>	<b>John Coombs</b>	<b>N1NTZ</b>	<b>Ed Meehan</b>	<b>W1WMN</b>	<b>Walter MacNeil</b>
<b>N1VQZ</b>	<b>Charlet Sherman</b>	<b>N1WWI</b>	<b>Chris Tilden</b>	<b>N1FRE</b>	<b>Bill Hayden</b>
<b>K1XRB</b>	<b>Peter George</b>	<b>N1ZZN</b>	<b>Jeff Lehmann</b>	<b>N1SOM</b>	<b>Jeff Tracy</b>
		<b>N1OGP</b>	<b>Frank Hayes</b>		

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The treasurer's report was read by **Jeff N1SOM**. **Bill KB1IUB** made a motion seconded by **Ed N1NTZ** that the Treasurer's report be accepted as read. The motion was approved.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** A motion was made by **Ed N1NTZ** seconded by **Jim KB1KFF** that the secretary's report be accepted as published in the February Newsletter. The motion was approved.

**HEALTH & WELFARE:** **Bob Burns K1RB** has received the second round in a preventative chemo program at Mass. General. **Bruce N1XZD** is recuperating at the Embassy House in Brockton. Best wishes go out to both.

**OLD BUSINESS:** **Bruce NI1X** reported that the Newsletter archives at the clubhouse are up to date. Several members brought books for the Operation Paperback program to be sent overseas to the troops.

**NEW BUSINESS:** **Bruce NI1X** reported that **Ron N1PXX** has donated a substantial number of QST magazines for the club library. Some of these date back to 1932 and should make for fascinating reading! **Bruce NI1X** discussed the upcoming Skywarn training sessions to be presented by the National Weather Service in the City of Taunton on May 20, 2004. Contact **Bruce NI1X** or **Roy KB1CYV** for other dates and locations.

A motion was made by **Ed N1NTZ**, seconded by **Mike N1FRV**, that **Walt MacNeil W1WMN** and **Bob Sikes W1MMM** be accepted as new members. A motion was made by **Ed N1NTZ**, seconded by **Mike N1FRV**, that **Rick Ferreira KB1KWF** and **Jim Bardwell KB1KVM** be granted full membership with dues waived for the remainder of the year because of their participation in the Technician classes being held at the Taunton EOC. The motions were approved. Welcome to the WARC gentlemen!

**TECHNICAL TOPICS:** **George KC1FZ** gave an informative presentation and demonstration of his preparations for emergency radio communications. **George KC1FZ** has assembled a go-kit consisting of a battery-powered 2-meter radio with several antenna configurations. These are quite portable and have been used for Foxhunting as well when the fox has hidden away from the vehicle.

**NET CONTROLS:** 3/7 **Bill N1FRE** 3/14 **Jim KB1KFF** 3/21 **Bill N1SON** 3/28 **Charlet N1VQZ**

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to adjourn was made by **Ed N1NTZ**, seconded by **Charlet N1VQZ** and President **Bruce NI1X** closed the meeting at 8:40 P.M.

**NEW MEMBER:** **Jim Bardwell KB1KVM** of Taunton successfully completed the Technician Classes, conducted by **Carlos Wharton WP4US**, in the record time of 4 weeks. **Jim KB1KVM** is CEO of his own Information Technology business "Professional Technologies" in Taunton that specializes in Systems, Web Design, Hosting and Dialup Sales and Service.



**Jim KB1KVM** is a volunteer for The City of Taunton and has purchased an ICOM IC-T90A (6-Meter, 2-Meter and 440 MHz) handheld transceiver with which he has been heard checking in on the local REPEATERS.

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**NEW MEMBER:** **Richard Ferreira KB1KWF** of Taunton successfully completed the Technician Classes, conducted by **Carlos Wharton WP4US**, in the record time of 5 weeks. **Richard KB1KWF** is the Director of Emergency Management in the City of Taunton and is in charge of an Emergency Operations Center that is just full of amateur radio equipment and has started monitoring the MEMA RADIOGRAM Training Nets that are held on the first Monday of the month. Just imagine having a full HAM shack complete with antenna tower, available the day you get your license.

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**NEW MEMBER:** **Bob Sikes W1MMM** of Stoughton, Ma was first licensed in 1998, passed the 20 wpm Morse Code and passed the Extra class license shortly thereafter. **Bob W1MMM** is shown in his shack doing one of his favorite activities – contesting.

**Bob W1MMM** reports - I don't score high, but I enjoy seeing how far I can send my signal. I love DX and have my DXCC award mounted above the large world map behind me with pins stuck in all the countries I have worked. In 2004, my main HAM resolution is to get better at CW so I have sworn off SSB, excluding phone contests of course, to focus on my fist. If you hear my call sign, a couple of dits with lots of dahs, please call me back. I'm slow, I make plenty of errors, but I do like to make those CW QSO's. Hope to get you in my log this year.



**Bob W1MMM** reports that while he is still very busy with the day job (Professor at Northeastern University) he can normally be found on the 2 Meter band in the early evenings, especially on the Paxton, MA Repeater (146.970) at 7:30 each night for the friendliest net on the air – George's Old Timers Net. This is where **Bob W1MMM** met **Jim Kenworthy KB1KFF** who invited him to start attending Whitman Club meeting. Finally, **Bob W1MMM** says come join the Paxton net – all amateurs are welcome. 73 and good DX to all.

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**NEW MEMBER:** **Walter Mac Neil W1WMN** of Quincy, MA received his Technician Class license in December 2003 and immediately applied for and received a call sign that included his initials. At his home QTH he is experimenting with a Kenwood D-700 mobile rig as a base station while he learns about the built in TNC for packet radio and APRS system for tracking the mobile position. **Walter W1WMN** reports he has an Information Technology background and comes from a large family that includes brothers **Clinton VE3CMN**, **Ken VE1KBM** and **Norman VA3NMN** – with **Clinton VE3CMN** encouraging him to get into amateur radio.

## RACES VOLUNTEER UPDATE

In March, members of the Whitman and Massasoit Club's volunteered their help to the City of Taunton and the Town of Bridgewater by participating in a drill that involved some aspects of the simulated emergency evacuation of residents in the vicinity of the Plymouth Nuclear Power Plant. The Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) volunteers provide backup radio communication between the Reception Center, Transportation Staging Area and individual shelters in Bridgewater and Taunton back to the local Emergency Operations Center's (EOC's).

### CITY OF TAUNTON – PLYMOUTH NUCLEAR PLANT EVACUATION DRILL

Whitman club members participating in the City of Taunton were **Bruce Hayden N1IX**, **Bill Hayden N1FRE** and **Ken Waine KB1INN** along with Taunton HAM **John Miller N1UMJ**.

Club member **Ken Waine KB1INN** (shown in front of the photo to the right) is the radio communication officer and **Steve Foster** (shown in rear), a Technician Class Student and now **KB1KZW**, was training as his backup.



Club member **Bruce Hayden N1IX** (shown in the middle of the photo seen below) is the RACES Coordinator and **Bill Hayden N1FRE** (in front) is designated RACES Coordinator 2 and was training as his backup. Area HAM **John Miller N1UMJ** of Taunton (in rear) was participating as a RACES communicator (operator).



The radio room also included three representatives manning the Police Dept., Fire Dept. and Dept. of Public Works radios. The radio room was a full house – earphones would be required in a full emergency. Between the two adjoining rooms of the Emergency Operations Center there were about two dozen people all talking on radios or telephones and all within earshot of each other.

The scenario started about 8:30 am with an ALERT from the Plymouth Nuclear Power Plant that initiated a call-out notification plan. The RACES volunteers called up responded to the City of Taunton Emergency Operations Center and went through their checklist of establishing communication with MEMA Area II headquarters in Bridgewater and performing radio checks with area EOC's such as the Town of Bridgewater and the Town of Plymouth.

As the conditions at the Nuclear Power plant deteriorated in the scenario, a Site Area Emergency was declared and additional RACES volunteers were simulated to be put on alert. As the scenario progressed, the conditions at the Nuclear Power Plant further deteriorated and a General Emergency with simulated evacuation of schools and residents to the south and west of the plant. Additional (simulated) RACES volunteers were instructed to report to host schools in the City of Taunton that are involved in the evacuation plan.

Team players were communicating via telephone and fax while simulated messages were sent via amateur radio to reach people who were in the field and unable to be reached by normal communications. In this scenario the plant was stabilized at about 1:30 pm and the drill terminated at 2 pm. The 2-Meter amateur radio communication system was tested and worked OK.

## TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER – PLYMOUTH NUCLEAR PLANT EVACUATION DRILL

The Town of Bridgewater - Plymouth Nuclear Power Plant evacuation plan - is supported by the Massasoit Amateur Radio Club membership. There were three Whitman club members, who are also members of the Massasoit Club, who were participating in the Town of Bridgewater Drill. They were **Roy Logan KB1CYV**, **George Pedro KE1KR** and **Joe Serrilla W1JOE** who are all part of the core team of Massasoit Club member RACES volunteers helping **Carl Aveni N1FY**, who is the Town of Bridgewater RACES Coordinator and the ARES Emergency Coordinator for this area. **Roy KB1CYV** reported there were four other Massasoit Club members participating in the Town of Bridgewater drill. They were **Gil Follett W1GMF**, **Bob Mandeville N1EDM**, **Harry Ketler W1DGD** and **Phil MacNamara N1XTB**.

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### RACES RADIOGRAM TRAINING

Message training is held on the first Monday of the month at 7:30 PM on the Taunton REPETER 147.135 MHz. In March **Bruce Hayden NI1X**, **Carlos Wharton WP4US** and **Jim Bardwell KB1KVM** were at the Taunton Emergency Operations Center and copied four RADIOGRAM messages being sent from MEMA Region II Headquarters, that is located at the Bridgewater State Prison bunker, to the local City and Town Emergency Management Directors. Everyone is encouraged to listen in from your home QTH and copy along – good practice.



**Bruce NI1X**  
**Jim KB1KVM & Carlos WP4US**

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**SKYWARN:** Skywarn now has an email address in the event the spotter telephone line or NET is not functioning that is [skywarnwn9509@peoplepc.com](mailto:skywarnwn9509@peoplepc.com)

**ANTIQUÉ RADIO FLEA MARKET:** **Bruce Hayden NI1X** and **Mike Marinucci N1FRV** attended the annual Massachusetts Antique Radio Flea Market “Radio XXXV” . It was reported that there were over 700 of the Greater Boston Antique Radio Collector in attendance who were all looking for real radios that glow in the dark. The participation looked the same as last year, which was reported as 75 exhibitors spread over 100 tables. We found a few HAM radio keys in the lot and took home a few goodies. The next Antique Radio Flea Market will be held on Saturday April 17<sup>th</sup> in Nashua, NH (7am – 12 noon). Contact **The Bruce NI1X** if you would like more details.

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**OPERATION PAPERBACK:** **Roy Logan KB1CYV** is shown bringing the first of three boxes of books to the Post Office to be sent to the troops in active service with a quick note that read:

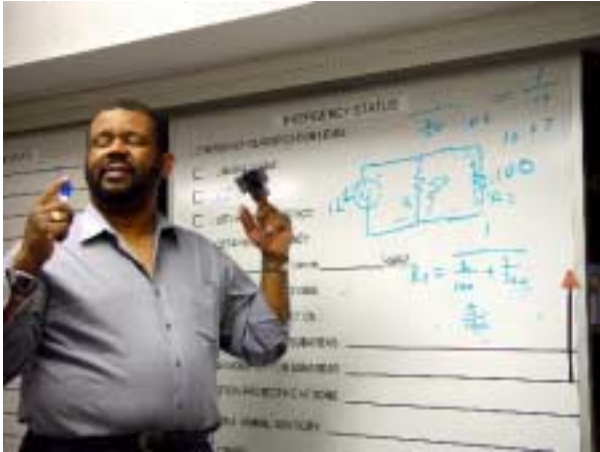
**Greetings Servicemembers – These books are being sent to you from concerned and supportive members of the Whitman Amateur Radio Club. We hope they provide a diversion from the arduous task at hand. Good luck and God speed**

**Roy KB1CYV** is the Operations Paperback coordinator, screening the books for appropriate contents and attaching labels. **Roy KB1CYV** reports that the demand is high for science fiction, spy and mystery books, low for romance. Each box contained 50 books and weighed 25 pounds. Included was a request for a quick note back, in the form of a RADIOGRAM message, that the books arrived OK.



**Roy Logan KB1CYV**

## TECHNICIAN CLASSES A GREAT SUCCESS



The Teacher - Carlos Wharton WP4US



The Students

**Carlos Wharton WP4US** is shown asking questions and explaining electronic circuits to the Technician Class students near the end of the 8 week course. The great news is that everyone hung in there and 16 of the 19 students passed the Technician Class License test by the end of the eight weeks. The **KC1RI** team from the American Red Cross in Providence, RI. set up the Volunteer Examination Testing Session at the Morton Hospital on March 13<sup>th</sup> and it was reported that the other three just need a few more weeks of study and plan to retake the test in April.

The graduates who live in the City of Taunton were: **Richard Ferreira KIB1KWF**, **James Bardwell KB1KVM**, **Joseph Soares KB1KZU**, **Steven Foster KB1KZW**, **Barbara Foster KB1KZX**, **Robert Barbour KB1LAB** and **Michael Cote KB1KZY**.

The graduates from the Town of Rehoboth were: **Vincent Vinniti Jr. KB1KZT**, **David Drowne KB1KYZ**, **Mathew Bomes KB1LAA**, **Alan Larson KB1LAC**, **Carl Larson KB1LAD**, and **Scott Larson KB1LAE**

The graduates from other area Towns were: **Herbert Eddleston KB1KXX** from Fairhaven, **George Pereira KB1KZV** from Norton and **Ernie Breau KB1KZZ** from E. Freetown

During one of the March classes **The Bruce N1IX** brought in **Paul's N1VTI** radio Go-Kit, for show and tell, which included a Radio Shack HTX-252 2-Meter mobile transceiver mounted on a Portable Power Supply. The students were very impressed with Paul's ingenuity and workmanship.

As you can see the transceiver is mounted on the power supply along with a bracket to hold the microphone and one of several brackets to hold an antenna. The latest antenna bracket replaces the rubber duck antenna connector and supports a threaded trunk mount antenna fitting that allows **Paul N1VTI** to attach a 2-Meter 5/8 whip antenna for greater gain. Note the three 18 inch flexible ground radials. **Paul N1VTI** can always attach a mag. mount or external antenna via the coax connector on the back of the radio. The power supply is kept trickle charged by a small plug in power supply. **Paul N1VTI** reports he is ready to sell this unit as he already has plans for a 2-Meter / 440 MHz replacement. Contact **Paul N1VTI** at his email address [n1vti@aol.com](mailto:n1vti@aol.com) if you are interested in acquiring this 2-Meter "Go-Kit".



**FLORIDA HAM FEST:** Paul Burbine N1VTI reported that, on his first trip to Florida to visit his brother, he learned a HAM Fest was in the area and a visit to the "HAMCATION" made his trip even more interesting. Temperatures were in the high 70's and the weather great. Paul N1VTI reports the Flea Market was twice as big as Hosstraders and included much more commercial vender participation. A few small goodies were purchased and taken home. Paul N1VTI has already scheduled his next year visit to coincide with the HAMCATION.



**EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP:** The EMA ARES staff will conduct an emergency Communication Workshop on April 3, 2004 from 9am to 4 pm at the South Shore Educational Collaborative, 90 Industrial Park Road in Hingham, MA. The training will consist of five 1 hour training sessions on topics including Overview of the EMA ARES – RACES – SKYWARN Program, Basic Overview of the Incident Command System (ICS), Net Operations, NTS Traffic Message Handling, Go Kits and Interactive Exercises on Field Operations. For additional information and to preregister for the workshop, please contact Mark Duff KB1EKN at [emgmt@comcast.net](mailto:emgmt@comcast.net) or Mike Neilson W1MPN at [w1mpn@ema.arrl.org](mailto:w1mpn@ema.arrl.org)



**MORSE CODE ENTERS THE CYBER AGE:** It has been proposed that a new character is necessary for transmitting email addresses in CW. Assuming approval by the International Telecommunication Union the new character – the first to be added to the code in many, many years – will be "AC" run together to represent the @ symbol – Think of it as an "a" wrapped in a "C".

**WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO PUBLIC SERVICE NET (WARPSN):** This NET meets every Sunday morning at 8:30 am. Come join in and share your amateur radio related activities with other area HAMs and short wave listeners as well. In February we had an average of 15 check-in per week (QNI = 75 / 5 sessions = 15) and a total of 14 messages were sent (QTC = 14).

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



**February 2004 Traffic**

Date	Prec	HX	Station of Origin	Check	Location of Orig	Date
02/29/04	R		K1BZD	11	WHITMAN, MA	2/29/04 08:47 est.
<b>Message Body</b>						
WARPSN		FEBRUARY		REPORT	SESSIONS	5
QNI		75		QTC	14	73
<b>Signature: WALT K1BZD</b>						
<b>Rec'd From: K1BZD</b>			<b>On: 2/29/04</b>		<b>On:</b>	



# 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, Apr. 7th at 6:30 PM  
Whitman Public Library

## CLUB OFFICERS:

President	Bruce	NIIX
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	NIIX
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E-mail articles to: [nilx@arrl.net](mailto:nilx@arrl.net)

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Web Master	Jeff	N1ZZN
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Web Site: <http://www.qsl.net/wa1npo>

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Club Repeater Station:	147.225 MHz (CTSS 67 Hz)	449.875 MHz (CTSS 88.5 Hz)
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*Whitman Amateur Radio Club, Inc.*  
P.O. Box 48  
Whitman, Ma 02382

