



The Whitman Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

December 2004

# SPECTRUM



The Voice of the Humble Electron

Founded 1962

**PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:** This is “The Bruce” NI1X – In December, under the direction of **Bob Burns K1RB**, several Club members provided communication support for the Town of Whitman during their Winterfest activities. Frosty, shown here, was one of the ice sculptures.



Frosty

**Jim Gilbert W5IRW** and his wife **Jane** fired up their motor home and left town ahead of the cold weather. They checked in via e-mail from the Clinton Library in Arkansas on their way to winter in Livingston, Texas. You can follow their adventures by logging on to their web page at [www.thegilbertstravels.com](http://www.thegilbertstravels.com)

**Carlos Wharton WP4US** is finishing up a second Amateur Radio Technician Class in Taunton and reports that his students are scheduled to take a January 8<sup>th</sup> V-E session in Dartmouth.

I hope you and your families had a happy holiday season and have happy and healthy New Year. SKYWARN spotters reported we had plenty of snow (10 – ½ inches in Raynham) between Christmas and New Years and a few power outages. A winter wonderland that, relatively speaking, was no hardship at all when compared to Mother Nature’s Tsunami flooding along the Pacific “Ring of Fire” or the uncertainties our servicemen and women are facing away from home and in harms way especially at this time of year. I wholeheartedly join all the other members who have expressed their wishes for the safe and swift return of our servicemen and women.

Come to the next meeting and let us know if Santa left any radioactive goodies under your Christmas tree. Better yet - bring in a new rig or one of your latest projects to the meeting for a technical topic, show and tell, presentation.

## WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO PUBLIC SERVICE NET

**Walter Dolson K1BZD** is our traffic manager and has been instrumental in teaching NET Control and traffic handling to the members of the Whitman Amateur Radio Club by promoting the **WARPSN**. This NET meets every Sunday morning at 8:30 A.M. on the Whitman REPEATER 147.225 MHz. Come join in and share your amateur radio related activities with the other area HAMS and short-wave listeners as well.



Walter Dolson K1BZD

In November we had four sessions with an average of 10 area HAMS checking in each week and 8 messages were sent.

**SECRETARY'S NOTES OF THE MEETING OF December 1, 2004, de KB1CYV**

**OPENING:** The members started gathering at the Whitman Public Library, Whitman, MA around 6:15 P.M. Vice President Bill N1FRE opened the meeting with a roll call at 6:40 P.M.

**ATTENDANCE:** Nine members / guests were present, including three elected officers and one director. A quorum was not present.

**N1FRE** Bill Hayden  
**K1RB** Bob Burns  
**KB1KFF** Jim Kenworthy

**N1ZZN** Jeff Lehmann  
**KB1KZV** George Pereira  
**K1XRB** Peter George

**KB1CYV** Roy Logan  
**KC1FZ** George Davis  
**N1SOM** Jeff Tracy

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The treasurer's report for November was read by **Jeff N1SOM**. **Jeff N1ZZN** made a motion seconded by **Bob K1RB** that the Treasurer's report be accepted as read. The motion was approved.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** A motion was made by **Jim KB1KFF** seconded by **Bob K1RB** that the secretary's report be accepted as published in the November Newsletter. The motion was approved.

**HEALTH AND WELFARE:** **Bill N1FRE** reported that **The Bruce N1X** is recovering from bypass surgery. Best wishes for a speedy recovery from the WARC membership, **Bruce**.

**OLD BUSINESS:** **Bill N1FRE** reported that new management of Plimoth Plantation has been announced and that he will solicit restoration of the WARC Thanksgiving special event.

**NEW BUSINESS:** **Bob K1RB** updated the group on Whitman EMA activities. **Bob K1RB** and **Bill N1FRE** will head up the Whitman RACES communications services for the Winterfest being held on December 5th.

**TECHNICALTOPICS:** **George Pereira KB1KZV** gave an informative presentation on his experiences with FEMA in Florida following the devastating hurricanes earlier this year. **George KB1KZV** is a member of the Taunton EMA CERT team and responded to the call for volunteers.

**NET CONTROLS:** 12/5 **Bill N1FRE** 12/12 **Roy KB1CYV** 12/19 **Jeff N1SOM** 12/26 **Bruce N1X**

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to close was made by **Jim KB1KFF** seconded by **Jeff N1SOM** and Vice President **Bill N1FRE** closed the meeting at 7:40 P.M.

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**SCUTTLEBUTT:** **Jeff Tracy N1SOM** reports that in November he volunteered to help out, for the first time, on board the USS Salem **K1USN** and had an enjoyable time introducing scouts and kids from Middle schools to amateur radio. The way they have it set up, every half hour a different group of kids will arrive and **Jeff N1SOM** and the other volunteers showed them the radio room and demonstrated HF, CW and IRLP. The Internet Radio Linking Project (IRLP) was a big hit as they talked with people in Southern California. Afterwards **Jeff N1SOM** got a ships tour and a spaghetti dinner and reports that he looks forward to doing it again. The USS Salem is always looking for volunteers. If you would like to help contact J.C. W1AI at [w1ai@hamtestonline.com](mailto:w1ai@hamtestonline.com)

## TOWN OF WHITMAN - WINTERFEST - By: Bob Burns K1RB

**Bob Burns K1RB** assembled a Whitman Emergency Management Agency - RACES team, that provided communication support during the 2004 Whitman Winterfest. Radio communications on the Whitman (MA) Repeater (147.225 Mhz - FM) was established with the Control Center in the Whitman Emergency Management Agency Room on the 2nd Floor of the Whitman Fire-Rescue Station in downtown Whitman.



Those participating are shown at the Fire Station Control Center and include L. to R.

**Walter Dolson K1BZD, Frank Hayes N1OGP, Bob Burns K1RB, Bill Hayden N1FRE and Jeff Tracy N1SOM.** Not available when the picture was taken but also participating was **Paul Burbine N1VTI.**



**Bob K1RB** and **Frank N1OGP** were the primary Control Center Operators. The call sign used was **WC1WH**, issued last August by the FCC to the Whitman Emergency Management Agency RACES Club. **Bill N1FRE, Walter K1BZD, Jeff N1SOM** and **Paul N1VTI** were portable units in the downtown area. Our primary mission was to provide additional pairs of eyes and ears in case of emergencies. The Fire-Rescue Chief, **Tim Travers**, provided us with a telephone so we could call



**Jeff Tracy N1SOM**

the Fire Dispatcher downstairs. In the Control Center we also monitored both the Whitman Fire and Police Frequencies.



**Ice Carving Exhibit**

The good news was we had no emergencies even though thousands of people crowded the downtown area. **Walter K1BZD** and **Bill N1FRE** assisted at the Ben & Jerry's truck handing out over 4000 free ice creams. **Jeff N1SOM** was our primary person in the Center of Town and at the Tree Lighting activity. **Paul N1VTI** was in the area of the Town Park, Senior Center and Police Station where he also could keep a eye on the hay rides.



**Wood Carving Exhibit**

Activities started about 12:30 PM Sunday, December 5th, and ran just past 6:30 PM.



## TOWN OF WHITMAN - WINTERFEST Cont.

Visitors to the WEMA Control (Command) Center included **Carl Aveni N1FY** and his wife, **Rob Macedo KD1CY** and Whitman Fire Chief **Tim Travers**. From time to time Firefighters stopped by to say hello and make sure we had everything we needed.

**Carl N1FY**, is the new ARRL District Emergency Coordinator (DEC) and the Town of Bridgewater Radio Officer. **Rob KD1CY**, is our SKYWARN Coordinator (Taunton NWS) and will be the new ARRL Eastern Massachusetts Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC) starting January 1st, 2005. Whitman offered facilities for 2005 Skywarn Training if a location in the area is needed.



**Bill Hayden N1FRE**

**Bob K1RB** reported that the Whitman EMA will be purchasing amateur VHF/UHF equipment for the Control Center at the Fire-Rescue Station. Plans are to purchase a FT-8800R, Power Supply, Fiberglass gain antenna and coaxial cable. The Control Center will also have a radio on the new Whitman Emergency Management Agency frequency at 484.250 MHZ. The town has a new Public Safety repeater on 484.250 Mhz primarily for communications among various town departments - Fire, Police, Emergency Management, School Dept and DPW. The repeater is located at the Whitman Town Hall.

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## FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY - REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS



**George Davis KC1FZ**  
Taking the group picture



Shown in the group picture, taken at the December meeting, are L. to R. **Jim Kenworthy KB1KFF**, **Pete George K1XRB**, **Roy Logan KB1CYV**, Guest speaker **George Pereira KB1KZV**, **Bill Hayden N1FRE**, **Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN** and **Jeff Tracy N1SOM**.

**George KB1KZV** shed some light on what its like to be a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) volunteer in a disaster zone. First and foremost are you physically able and mentally prepared to be a volunteer. **George KB1KZV** was – he has relatives in Florida, is trained and physically fit and was eager to help the hurricane victims in any way he could. The 11-man FEMA team **George KB1KZV** was part of was headed by the Fire Chief of Beverly, MA. Unlike Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) deployment, where you are asked to provide communication support when normal communication lines are out of service, – FEMA volunteers are assigned various tasks that in this case involved door to door visitations to alert victims to the emergency services available to them. **George KB1KZV** is Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) trained and a registered volunteer for the City of Taunton Emergency Management Agency. Having his amateur radio license is just another tool in his toolbox – ready to be used if needed.

## AMATEUR RADIO LIGHTHOUSE SOCIETY (ARLHS)

Contributed by **Bob Doherty K1VV** and **Don Tanguay N1DT**

**Bob Doherty K1VV** reports that he and **Don Tanguay N1DT** were at Palmer Island Light USA 578 and New Bedford Lightship USA 535 from 7:30 Am to 1:30 Pm on Saturday, December 11, 2004. We used the **W1AA** Marconi Club call sign and had a total of 94 Qs ...on 40 & 20 Phone and CW ... 28 were on CW by **Don N1DT** .... We worked a half dozen Europeans ... band and WX conditions were poor ....We worked 36 ARLHS members .. a record for us! We even worked Harold K4PVZ (ARLHS # 1000) ... the highlight of our activation ....!!!



**Bob Doherty K1VV**  
**(ARLHS # 957)**

**Bob K1VV** reports that they took digital photos of the lighthouses they activate so you can be sure of promptly receiving an individual distinctive QSL card for the confirmation ....It was REALLY great to see how many ARHLS members were on the bands and active.



**Don Tanguay N1DT**  
**(ARLHS #962)**

Did you know that there are 10 lighthouses and lightships within 30 minutes of our QTH ... there are 64 Lights in Massachusetts ... some are gone ...and 841 in the United States ... over 10,000 in the world .... operating from near these lights is a fun event for a group or a club ....look at The Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society web page ... <http://arlhs.com/>

**Bob K1VV** reports that they plan to be activating as many as 10 more lighthouses over the next few weeks through Xmas. From what we can determine, some of these have never been activated before. Weather permitting .... no major snow storms or sub zero temps ....Thanks again to all for being there and working us during this activation. Being there is what encourages both of us the make these activations .....

**Whitman Amateur Radio Club History Lesson:** Did you know that **Don Tanguay N1DT** was Vice President of the Whitman Amateur Radio Club in the 1982/83 fiscal year and President of the Whitman Amateur Radio Club for four (4) years from the 1983/84 fiscal year to the 1986/87 fiscal year.

**Bob K1VV** reports that this is the Lighthouse setup in the truck ... we have a 1/4 wave 20 meter electrical conduit vertical on the back of the truck ... there is a 40 meter Hustler coil on the top for 40 .. no tuner is needed... We made up a UN-UN balun 50-50 ohms we have at the feed point to eliminate RF in the truck .... we also have a Packet station with a lap top ... we have a 20 foot PVC mast which mounts on a stand in the bed of the truck .. it has a vertical wire dipole at the top ... we connect through the Falmouth cluster node K1RK ...we can spot ourselves on the DX cluster ...It takes us less than 5 minutes to be set up and operating ...masts just slip together by gravity ... no bolts or nuts to tighten .... we have two spare car batteries in parallel with the truck battery ... so we do not have to run the engine all the time ... we ran the 706 off the batteries for 4 hours before we started the truck to refresh all the batteries .....





# 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. 5th at 6:30 PM  
Whitman Public Library

## CLUB OFFICERS

President	Bruce	N1IX
V. President	Bill	N1FRE
Secretary	Roy	KB1CYV
Treasurer	Jeff	N1SOM
Director	Jim	W5IRW
Director	Steve	W1WSN
Director	George	KC1FZ
Director	Chris	N1WWI

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Editor	Bruce	N1IX
E-mail articles to:	<a href="mailto:ni1x@arrl.net">ni1x@arrl.net</a>	

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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*



