



The Whitman Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

January 2005

SPECTRUM



The Voice of the Humble Electron

Founded 1962

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE: This is **The Bruce NI1X** – In January it was cold as you can see by the photo. We survived the blizzard of 2005 with 2 feet of snow in my driveway and drifts reported over 5 feet by other club members. I was lucky and experienced only a 2-1/2 hour outage at my QTH.



Bob Burns K1RB and **Bill Hayden N1FRE** were heard manning the Whitman Emergency Operations Center (EOC) during part of the blizzard. Other Club members, who are Skywarn Observers, were heard giving storm reports to **Carl Aveni N1FY** and **Joe Serrilla W1JOE** who were heard manning the Bridgewater EOC.

January 22, 2005

Also in January **Paul Burbine N1VTI** and **Ed Meehan N1NTZ** helped out as Volunteer Examiners (V-E's) in Braintree and **Carlos Wharton WP4US** reported four of his students passed their Technician class license. I attended an antique radio flea market in Nashua, NH. Several members reported on their successful efforts to bring their Echolink amateur radio computer program back on line. Come to the next meeting and let us know how well your amateur radio equipment operated during the blizzard of 2005. Once again my New Years Resolution is to try to make "one contact a day" – How about you ??

FOX HUNTING

The Fox Hunters were out in January despite a little rain and cold weather. Shown in the photo taken at the Home Depot parking lot in Weymouth at the Rockland line is L. to R. **Ed Meehan N1NTZ**, **George Davis KC1FZ** who was the Fox for the day along with **Roy Logan KB1CYV** who found the fox first in just about one hour and **Bruce Hayden NI1X** who found the Fox in about one hour and 20 minutes.



The Fox Hunting Crew

The Fox will transmit on 146.565 MHz for about 30 seconds every 5 minutes between 10:00 AM and Noon, every Saturday morning, weather permitting. The Fox Hunters coordinate their activities on the Bridgewater REPEATER 147.180 MHz. The Fox will be hiding in a public place within the boundaries of Rt. 44 on the south, Rt. 138 on the West, Rt, 128 on the North and Rt. 3 on the East. Listen in from your home QTH or if you are out mobile and check in with the Fox Hunters at 10:00 AM at the start of the hunt to report if you can hear the Fox or not. You never know when the Fox will be hiding in your back yard.

V-E Exams are held on the 2nd Saturday of the month at St. Claire's Church, in Braintree.

SECRETARY'S NOTES OF THE MEETING OF January 5, 2005 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 with a roll call at 6:40 P.M.

ATTENDANCE: Thirteen members / guests were present, including the four elected officers. A quorum was present.

NI1X	Bruce Hayden	KB1KVL	Ken Kavaljian	KB1CYV	Roy Logan
N1ZZN	Jeff Lehmann	K1XRB	Peter George	N1VTI	Paul Burbine
K1RB	Bob Burns	K1VU	Bob Johnson	K1BZD	Walter Dolson
N1NTZ	Ed Meehan	KB1KFF	Jim Kenworthy	N1FRE	Bill Hayden
N1SOM	Jeff Tracy				

TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer's report for December 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 **ED N1NTZ** seconded by **Bill N1FRE** that the Secretary's report be accepted as published in the December Newsletter. The motion was approved.

HEALTH AND WELFARE: The WARC welcomes **Bruce NI1X** back after his recent surgery. **Ken KB1KVL** reported that **Ron's N1PXX** wife, **Joan**, has been ill. Hope this finds you feeling better.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no outstanding old business.

NEW BUSINESS: **Paul N1VTI** reminded the group that Field Day plans should be made shortly and volunteered his QTH as a potential site, should Ames Nowell be unavailable. Other possible sites were discussed. Several members expressed an interest in putting a lighthouse "On-The-Air" as a Special Event. **Bob K1RB** pointed out that the Club needs to secure an "Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society" (ARLHS) number first. **Bruce NI1X** volunteered to obtain an ARLHS number for the club. At the close of the meeting **Bruce NI1X** made a motion that the graduates of **Carlos Wharton's WP4US** current technician classes be granted one year free admission to the Whitman Amateur Radio Club if they apply. The motion was seconded by **Walter K1BZD** and approved.

TECHNICAL TOPICS: **Bruce NI1X** led a roundtable discussion of recent amateur radio activities including **Jim KB1KFF's** HF contacts with his new Gap Titan antenna, and **Bruce's NI1X** experiences installing EchoLink at his QTH.

NET CONTROLS: **Jan 2 - Roy KB1CYV** **Jan 9 - Bill N1FRE** **Jan 16 - Bruce NI1X**
 Jan 23 - Walter K1BZD **Jan 30 - Jim KB1KFF**

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to close was made by **Jeff N1SOM** seconded by **Ed N1NTZ** and **President Bruce NI1X** closed the meeting at 7:40 P.M.

SKYWARN NET: The South Shore Skywarn Net is held every Saturday evening at 8 PM local time on the Bridgewater REPEATER 147.180 MHz and is open to all.

RADIOGRAM TRAINING:

Radiogram training takes place on the first Monday of the month at 7:30 PM on the Taunton REPEATER 147.135 MHz tone 67 Hz for Bristol county or at 8:00 PM on the Norwell REPEATER 145.250 MHz tone 77 Hz for Plymouth county. Three messages were sent by the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency Region II headquarters to all the Emergency Management Directors in the local Cities and Towns in January.



Taunton Radiogram Training Crew

Representing the City of Taunton RACES team and shown at the Taunton Emergency Operations Center in January are L. to R. **Carlos Wharton WP4US**, **George Pereira KB1KZV** who served as Net Control, and **Bruce Hayden NI1X**. **Bill Hayden N1FRE** was copying from home and representing the Town of Whitman RACES team.

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. In December we had 4 sessions with an average of 9 area HAMS checking in each week and 11 messages were sent.



Walter Dolson K1BZD

ANTIQUe RADIO FLEA MARKET - February 20, 2005

The biggest antique radio flea market in this area, an annual event – **Radio XXXVI**, will be held on February 20, 2005 indoors at the Westford Regency Inn between 8 AM – 12 Noon. In years past there were reported 75 vendors spread over 100 tables and over 700 of the greater Boston Antique Radio Collectors in attendance who were all looking for real radios that glow in the dark.

While there are a few antique radio keys offered for sale, there are very few (one or two) antique HAM radios (boat anchors) for sale. **The Bruce NI1X** has been collecting antique radios and

I have always said I plan to restore old radios when I retire. I just have not had time yet. **The Bruce NI1X** is seen with a Jesse French Jr. Tombstone radio on the left and an Atwater Kent Cathedral radio on the right.



The Bruce NI1X

SCUTTLEBUTT: **Bob Johnson K1VU** reports that he is working on the ARRL “Log of the world” project. **Jeff Tracy N1SOM** reports that he received a desk mike for his 706 from Santa. **Bob Burns K1RB** is experimenting with a 20 meter folded dipole strung between his QTH and a tree.

MIKE MARINUCCI N1FRV CHECKS IN FROM HIS NEW QTH IN FLORIDA VIA ECHOLINK

Mike Marinucci N1FRV reports that he and **Jennifer** are adjusting to the warm weather of Northern Florida and says “come on down”. **Mike N1FRV** got his Echolink program working and made contact with **The Bruce N1IX** in January.

Mike N1FRV also reports that he has joined the local Sky-High Amateur Radio Club and plans to be on line (on Echolink) on Tuesday nights, about 8 pm, after his local Club NET, looking for contacts with his friends from the Whitman Amateur Radio Club.



Jennifer & Mike N1FRV



Mike Marinucci N1FRV

Mike N1FRV reports that he is experimenting with a HAM stick vertical that he lashed to his swimming pool ladder and that has a good SWR on both 20 and 40 meters. He is also looking into a stealth “Flagpole Antenna” for his new QTH.



STOP THE PRESSES – THE GAP TITAN IS IN THE AIR Pi K1RV can stop asking when it is going on line

Jim Kenworthy KB1KFF reported that he had help from **Al Drollett W1SM** in installing a Gap Titan vertical antenna on the rear of his shed. This got **Jim KB1KFF** “On-The-Air” with his HF equipment. If you look closely, the vertical antenna has four large horizontal elements that just clear the top of the shed roof and has several attached elements that tune to various bands. **Jim KB1KFF** reports that he made several DX contacts – one to Ireland on the first day of operation. Since then he has made several contacts as far south as Florida and as far west as California with others in Ohio and Texas on the way.



WHITMAN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY RACES TEAM - ON STANDBY FOR BLIZZARD OF 2005

Bob Burns K1RB reported that he received a call from **Robert Schmitt** – Whitman Emergency Management Agency – to inform him that Whitman was planning to open two shelter sites in case they are needed during the Blizzard of 2005. This would require one HAM operator at the Fire Station Emergency Operations Center and one each at the shelters. Both **Bob K1RB** and **Bill Hayden N1FRE** reported to the Fire Station Emergency Operations Center to plan for possible deployment. Hams would be required to bring their own go-kit that includes 2-meter or 440 MHz portable radios and extra batteries. **Bob K1RB** and **Bill N1FRE** were released to standby at home. Transportation could be arranged. **Bob K1RB** is looking for additional HAM volunteers.

WHO SEZ HAMS AREN'T ROMANTIC ?

What a pleasant surprise to see the unique photo of **David Ring N1EA** and wife **Cheryl KB0RQN** that was printed in the newsletter of the FISTS CW Club. In case you are wondering **David's N1EA** wife's name is Cheryl W. Ring **KB0RQN**

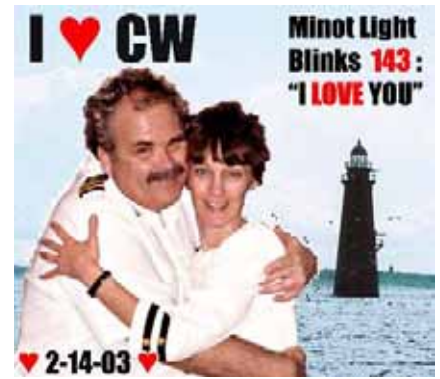
The Whitman Club members first met **David N1EA** at the Marshfield Fair Special Event where **David N1EA** gave us a lesson on Morse code. At the Marshfield Fair Morse code could get through where voice could not.

David N1EA has a wonderful story to share one that he will never forget:

"In 1980, while serving on the USA flagged tanker WILLIAMSBURGH, **Jim Pfister NS1L** and myself answered the SOS from the passenger ship PRINSENDAM, a Holand-America cruiser bound for the Orient which was burning out of control south of Valdez, Alaska. In what many called a miraculous rescue, all 535 passengers and crew of the burning passenger liner were rescued from lifeboats after abandoning ship in the frigid waters of the Gulf of Alaska. The ship's modern high-teck satellite communication and the SSB and VHF-FM distress signals failed to summon aid (the three phase ac mains to the Bridge and Radio Room were lost during the fire), but the dependable 500-KHz Morse Code SOS (operating on battery power) was heard by over 350 stations, including the USA supertanker WILLIAMSBURGH.

The Morse code signals were heard throughout the Pacific Ocean – even as far away as New Zealand. A 35 year veteran at RCA's San Francisco Radio / KPH was kind enough to comment that he had never heard such professional communications in all his years. I am glad that **Jim Pfister NS1L** and myself held up the tradition of our many qualified Radio Officers who have given their skills to save lives at sea. There were over 300 logs kept by these Radio Officers who monitored our communications and stood by to assist us in any way. In 1988 **Jim Pfister NS1L** and I were awarded the "Marconi Gold Medal" for our work during this rescue."

You can read more about **David Ring N1EA** and his wife **Cheryl KB0RQN** by looking them up on the QRZ database and their QRZ web page.



David Ring N1EA
& Wife Cheryl KB0RQN



BOSTON MARATHON - COMMUNICATION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Mike Neilson W1MPN the new ARRL Eastern Massachusetts Section Manager reports that amateur radio operators are needed to participate in the communication efforts for the Boston Marathon on April 18, 2005. Amateurs should have their own two-meter portable with extra batteries. Some locations require extended-range antennas. 440 MHz portables, dual banders, mobile rigs and remote bases are a plus. For more information or to volunteer, please visit the Boston Marathon Amateur Radio Communication Web Site. <http://www.bmarc.info>



WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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



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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, Feb. 2nd 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

Editor	Bruce	N1IX
E-mail articles to:	ni1x@arrl.net	

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

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
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