



The Whitman Amateur Radio Club, Inc. February 2005

SPECTRUM



The Voice of the Humble Electron

Founded 1962

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE: This is **The Bruce N1X** – In February the big news is that **Carlos's WP4US** students all received their Technician Class licenses. The Fox Hunters were active but need additional hunters. Contact was made with **Mike N1FRV** in Florida via Echolink. **Paul Burbine N1VTI** attended the HAMConvention in Florida. Other members attended the Antique Radio Flea Market in Westford. Because 17 Meters has been open, I have been able to maintain my "one contact a day". How about you? Come to the next meeting and share your radio activities with the other members.

GREAT NEWS - IT'S A CLEAN SWEEP – EVERYBODY PASSED

Carlos Wharton WP4US (the teacher) is shown seated and his students are shown with their ARRL Certificates of Completion, received upon finishing the latest Technician Class license course given in Taunton, Mass.

The certificates were presented on February 7th at the Taunton Emergency Management Agency – Emergency Operations Center (EOC), where most of the classes were held.

The new HAMs are **Peter Ferreira KB1LXG** (who is the Assistant Director of the Taunton Emergency Management Agency) followed by **Rudy Burer KB1LXI** and **Don Burke KB1LXH** of Taunton and **Neal Harrington KB1LXL** of Rehoboth, who are all Community Emergency Response Trained (CERT) Volunteers.

Photo by **George Pereira KB1KZV**



Carlos WP4US and his happy students

Because of his job - **Peter KB1LXG** has a whole room full of VHF and UHF Base Station transceivers to play with at the Taunton EOC and the Taunton Emergency Management Agency has purchased additional VHF and UHF handheld and mobile rigs for use by the staff and volunteers in the field.

EXTRA - EXTRA - EXTRA

Good news - while teaching the Technician Classes in Taunton, **Carlos WP4US** was also studying for the Extra Class license and he reported that he was able to upgrade to Extra Class in January. More good news - **Carlos WP4US** also reports that he received a ICOM IC-2100H mobile transceiver, good for 2 meters and 440 MHz under the Christmas Tree along with a computer control interface for his FT-840. You should hear **Carlos WP4US** on the air soon as the IC-2100 will become a home Base Station as soon as a power supply is secured and an outside antenna is installed.

SECRETARY'S NOTES OF THE MEETING OF February 2, 2005 de KB1CYV

OPENING: The members started gathering at the Whitman Public Library, Whitman, MA around 6:15 P.M. **President Bruce N11X** opened the meeting with a roll call at 6:37 P.M.

ATTENDANCE: Fifteen members / guests were present, including the four elected officers and one director. A quorum was present.

N11X	Bruce Hayden	N1FRE	Bill Hayden	KB1CYV	Roy Logan
K1RB	Bob Burns	N1ZZN	Jeff Lehmann	KB1ETW	Jim Halpin
KA1PJX	Don Keene	WG1L	Jim O'Rourke	KB1KFF	Jim Kenworthy
W1SM	Al Drollett	N1VTI	Paul Burbine	KB1KVL	Ken Kavaljian
N1SOM	Jeff Tracy	N1NTZ	Ed Meehan	KC1FZ	George Davis

TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer's report for January was read by **Jeff N1SOM**. **Ed N1NTZ** made a motion seconded by **Paul N1VTI** that the treasurer's report be accepted as read. **Paul N1VTI** made a motion seconded by **Ed N1NTZ** that **Jeff N1SOM** investigates the availability of higher CD interest rates. **Jeff N1SOM** made a motion seconded by **Ken KB1KVL** that the annual WARC donation to the Whitman Hanson High School Citizen's Scholarship Fund be made. All motions were approved.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: A motion was made by **Ken KB1KVL** seconded by **Paul N1VTI** that the secretary's report be accepted as published in the January Newsletter. The motion was approved.

HEALTH AND WELFARE: Best wishes for a speedy recuperation from recent medical problems is extended to **Walter K1BZD** and **Ron's N1PXX wife, Joan**.

OLD BUSINESS: **Bill N1FRE** reported that the Whitman Public Library's QST subscription problem has been resolved with ARRL. Nice to know that it was missed.

NEW BUSINESS: **Paul N1VTI** reported that he would be attending the Orlando HamCation and Computer Show being held February 11-13 in Orlando, Florida. **Bruce N11X** says that he has heard from **Mike N1FRV** who also plans to attend. **Jeff N1ZZN** hopes to drive to Dayton for the Hamvention. **Jim WG1L** suggests that the Boy Scouts attending the U.S.S. Salem program would appreciate your copies of QST.

TECHNICAL TOPICS: **Bruce N11X** led a roundtable discussion of recent amateur radio activities. **Jim WG1L** reported on the "Mystery Antenna" which is an inexpensive multiband wire antenna. For more information visit <http://www.w5qi.com>.

NET CONTROLS: 2/6 Roy KB1CYV 2/13 Bruce N11X 2/20 Bill N1FRE 2/27 Jeff N1SOM

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to close was made by **Ed N1NTZ** seconded by **Ken KB1KVL** and **President Bruce N11X** closed the meeting at 7:50 P.M.

RADIO REPAIR: **Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN** reports that he has had a good experience dealing with **Bernie N1IMO** (one of nine (9) HAMS working at Beltronics, located at 19 Proctor Hill Rd. in Hollis, New Hampshire where he has some radio work done. See their web page at - www.beltronics.net/amateur.htm

SKYWARN: Area HAM **Glen Field KB1GHX** the “Warning Coordination Meteorologist” for the National Weather Service in Taunton was given a nice write-up in the Brockton Enterprise for a job well done following the Blizzard of 2005. **Glen KB1GHX** and his team were able to give the public notice of the pending storm two days before the Blizzard of 2005 hit the area.

The newspaper article reported that **Glen’s KB1GHX** duties include training, overseeing and coordinating the 4300 volunteer weather spotters across southern New England – About one third of those spotters are HAM radio operators who play a critical role in weather forecasting and warnings. **Glen KB1GHX** also reported that eighty percent (80%) of the severe storm verification is from ham radio operators. Many Whitman Club members are Skywarn Observers.



Glen KB1GHX



Newspaper photo

If you are a new member are not yet a trained and registered Skywarn Observer, I would strongly recommend taking this three-hour, extremely interesting and professional training session, the next time it is offered in this area.

WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO PUBLIC SERVICE NET (WARPSN)

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 January we had five sessions with an average of 10 area HAMS checking in each week and 10 messages were sent.

FOX HUNTING – SATURDAY MORNINGS

The group of Fox Hunters has dwindled down to just three diehards this winter. Shown in the photo in February are **Bruce Hayden NI1X**, **George Davis KC1FZ** and **Roy Logan KB1CYV**.

If you can get free on a Saturday morning - give the Fox Hunters a call on the Bridgewater Repeater 147.180 MHz and come join in the hunt. The Fox transmits on 146.565 MHz for 30 seconds every five (5) minutes between 10 am and noon.



The Fox Hunting Crew

USS SALEM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS: **Pi Pugh K1RV** reports that there will be a total of at least 2656 scouts who will be onboard the USS Salem between March and July 2005. Volunteers are needed between 3 and 6 pm on Saturday afternoons. If you can help out contact **Pi K1RV** at his e-mail k1rv@verizon.net

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION - RADIOGRAM TRAINING

More and more hams are becoming active in emergency communication since 9/11/01. Radiogram training by the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency takes place on the First Monday of the month at 7:30 pm on the Taunton REPEATER and at 8:00 pm on the Norwell REPEATER and is directed to Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) volunteers but is open to all Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) volunteers and individual HAMs as well.

In February **Bill Hayden N1FRE** reported that he copied the four messages for the Town of Whitman from his home QTH. **Carlos WP4US** reported that he along with his students and **George Pereira KB1KZV** copied the February messages for the City of Taunton from the Taunton Emergency Operations Center. In Taunton, this is turning into a once a month RACES volunteer club meeting. Shown at the Taunton EOC are standing L. to R. **George Pereira KB1KZV**, **Peter Ferreira KB1LXG**, **Neal Harrington KB1LXL**, and **Rudy Burer KB1LXI**. Seated L. to R. is **Don Burke KB1LXH** and **Carlos Wharton WP4US**.



The Taunton Crew

Bill Hayden N1FRE reports that the Town of Whitman is contemplating a second Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) course in the near future. By taking advantage of these free emergency and disaster training courses you increase your ability to help your local City of Town recover from an unexpected disaster. Amateur radio has been described as a great leisure-time activity that offers lifelong opportunities for both learning and public service. Come join the fun.

AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE (ARES) UPDATE



Mike W1MPN

Mike Neilson W1MPN of Hudson, MA., our new ARRL Section Manager (SM) for Eastern Massachusetts (EMA) has appointed **Mark Duff KB1EKN** of Hingham as the Assistant Section Manager for Eastern Massachusetts. **Rob Macedo KD1CY** of New Bedford will replace **Mike W1MPN** as the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) - Eastern Massachusetts (EMA) - Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC). **Carl Aveni N1FY** of Brockton has been named the ARRL District Emergency Coordinator (DEC) for the South Shore, which covers Braintree to the Cape Cod Canal.



Mark KB1EKN

The Whitman Club members involved with emergency communication are very familiar with **Mike W1MPN**, **Carl N1FY**, **Rob KD1CY** and **Mark KB1EKN**.



Carl N1FY

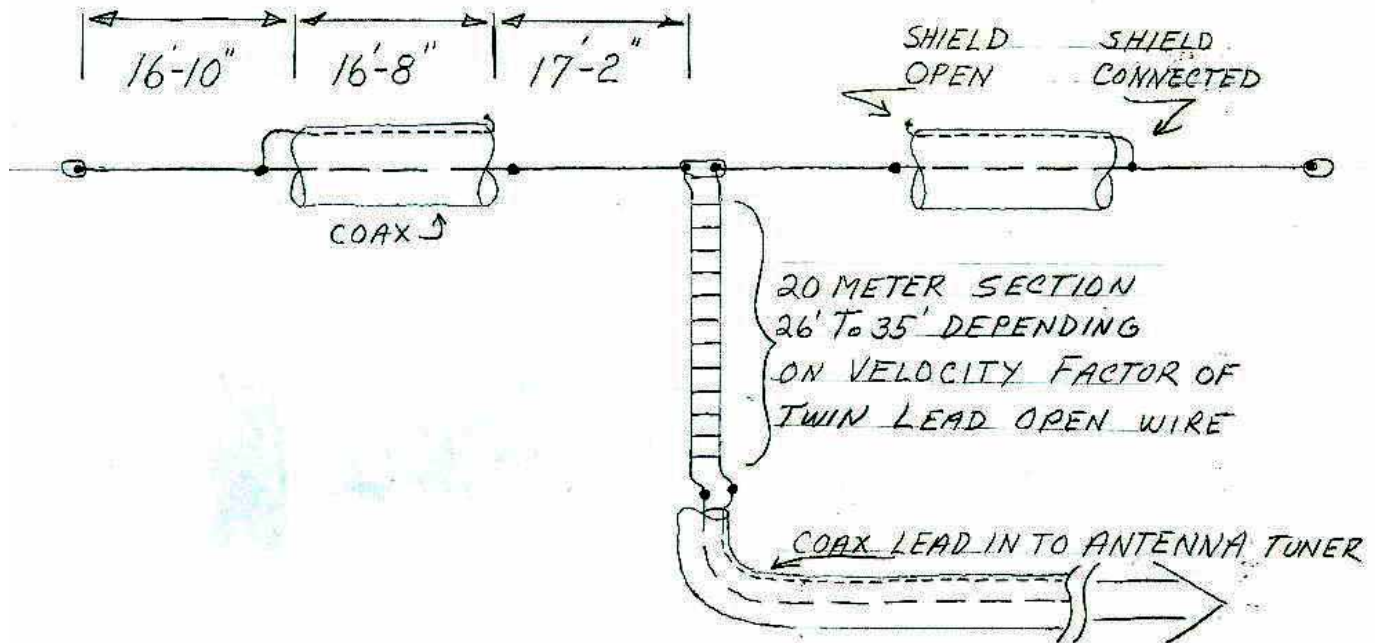
The ARES crew has initiated an ARES Net that meets on the first Monday of the month at 8:30 pm on the linked REPEATERS (Quincy 146.670 MHz being the closest REPEATER to this area). Listen in and keep up to date with the latest in emergency communication in Southeastern Mass.



Rob KD1CY

TECHNICAL TOPICS - THE MULTIBAND MYSTERY ANTENNA

Jim O'Rourke WG1L reported on the **W5GI** Multiband Mystery Antenna that was published in the July 2003 issue of CQ magazine. The article says "In the best amateur radio tradition, **W5GI** has designed a multiband wire antenna that confounds the antenna modeling software, but passes the most important test of all: It works ... well". The mystery part of the antenna comes from the fact that it is difficult if not impossible to model and explain why the antenna works as well as it does.



The developer of this unique antenna is **John Basilotto W5GI** of Austin Texas and the detailed design of the antenna can be found on his web page <http://w5gi.com/mysteryantenna.htm>

John W5GI describes this antenna as a fun project and an excellent performer. The web site article describes the construction details right down to using shrink tubing to cover the exposed coax joints and explains a little about this unique collinear coaxial array. Look up **John W5GI** on QRZ.

ECHOLINK UPDATE: In February both **Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN** and **The Bruce N1IX** made contact with **Mike Marinucci N1FRV**, who now lives in Florida, via Echolink. **Mike N1FRV** will try to be on line on Tuesday nights at 8 pm. Fire up your Echolink and give him a shout.

SCUTTLEBUTT: **Loren Pimentel N1IQI** reports that he is having fun with Packet and NTS traffic. **Paul Burbine N1VTI** reports that he needs to weld his tower back together before it can be installed at his new QTH. **Jim Halpin KB1ETW** has a new IC-718 HF transceiver. **Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN** is looking into the possibility of attending the HAM Convention in Dayton, Ohio this May. **Al Drollett Jr. W1SM** is experimenting with a new 2-meter antenna at his home QTH. **George Davis KC1FZ** and **Roy Logan KB1CYV** both report intermittent trouble with their 735 HF transceivers. **Carl Aveni N1FY** reports that the Boston Marathon is coming up on April 18th and that the Bridgewater Emergency Operation Center (EOC) will be manned all that day to coordinate any emergencies that arise in the south shore outside of the Boston Marathon area.



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, Mar. 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
Whitman, Ma 02382*

