



The Whitman Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

April 2005

SPECTRUM



The Voice of the Humble Electron

Founded 1962

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: This is **The Bruce N1X** – In April, the Fox hunters were active as usual and four club members have volunteered to help out with the Boston Marathon. Several members were seen attending the Framingham Flea Market and **Mike Marinucci N1FRV** has been heard checking in to the Bridgewater REPEATER from Florida via Echolink. Several members participated in the monthly MEMA Radiogram training session and **Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN** volunteered to be Net Control for the new ARES monthly Net.

Congratulations to club member **Bob Burns K1RB** who has been appointed the ARES Emergency Coordinator for Whitman. The announcement was made by **Carl Aveni N1FY** the ARES District Emergency Coordinator for the South Shore in Eastern Massachusetts.

In response to a request to members and friends of the Whitman Amateur Radio Club to update us on their activities, we heard from **Carl Johngren K1CKK** who runs a packet node in Brewster, Mass. and who just happens to be wintering in Florida. We also heard from club members **Paul Rando WB1COG** of E. Bridgewater who is setting up his camper for mobile operation and **Ed Meehan N1NTZ** of Brockton who is slowly getting his HAM shack back to normal.



[Send WA1NPO an update](#)

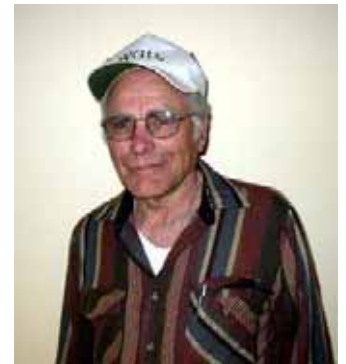
Come to the next meeting, or send me an update, and share your amateur radio activities with the other club members.

NEW MEMBER

Jim O'Rourke WG1L lives in North Weymouth with his wife **Joan**. **Jim "Whiskey Gets One loaded"** has been licensed for 48 years, becoming licensed in 1957 while stationed at a Naval Base in Japan.

In the past, **Jim WG1L** brought his home made keys to a meeting for show and tell and kept us informed about his adventures, bringing his QRP rigs on vacation and setting up a schedule to contact friends back home.

Jim WG1L reports that he is always ready to help any and all new comers to the hobby, that he likes CW and wants to help with code practice. **Jim WG1L** also reports that he likes rag-chewing on both SSB and CW but the best part of HAM radio is helping others.



[Jim O'Rourke WG1L](#)

SECRETARY'S NOTES OF THE MEETING OF April 6, 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: Eighteen members / guests were present, including the four elected officers and one director. A quorum was present.

N1ZZN Jeff Lehmann
KB1CYV Roy Logan
KC1FZ George Davis
KE1KR George Pedro
N1FRE Bill Hayden
N1NTZ Ed Meehan

W1MMM Bob Sikes
KB1ETW Jim Halpin
N1SON Bill Tracy
NI1X Bruce Hayden
GUEST Joe Halpin
N1SOM Jeff Tracy

KA1PJX Don Keene
WG1L Jim O'Rourke
N1VTI Paul Burbine
K1RB Bob Burns
KB1KFF Jim Kenworthy
KB1KVL Ken Kavaljian

TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer's report for March was read by **Jeff N1SOM**. **Ed N1NTZ** made a motion seconded by **Ken KB1KVL** 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 **Bill N1FRE** that the secretary's report be accepted as published in the March Newsletter. The motion was approved.

HEALTH AND WELFARE: **Walter K1BZD** continues his recuperation.

NEW BUSINESS: A motion was made by **Bob K1RB** seconded by **Jim KB1ETW** that **Jim O'Rourke WG1L** be accepted as a new member. Welcome to the WARC, **Jim**. A motion was made by **Paul N1VTI** seconded by **Bob K1RB** that **Jeff N1ZZN** research upgrading the **WA1NPO** web site. The above motions were approved. **Bob K1RB** has been appointed ARES Emergency Coordinator for the town of Whitman. **Jeff N1SOM** reported that a thank you note was received for the donation to the Whitman Hanson Scholarship Fund. **Jim KB1ETW** reported that the Coast Guard Auxiliary at Point Allerton is looking for assistance from amateur radio operators, **Bob K1RB** related the requirements for this position and his experiences.

ANNUAL ELECTION: A first round of nominations was made and approved by the members in attendance. Nominations were as follows:

Paul N1VTI - Nominated for the Board of Directors by **Bob K1RB** seconded by **Roy KB1CYV**.

Ron N1PXX - Nominated for the Board of Directors by **Ken KB1KVL** seconded by **Bob W1MMM**.

The current slate of officers - Nominated for re-election by **Jeff N1ZZN** seconded by **Paul N1VTI**. Final nominations will be accepted at the May 4th club meeting.

TECHNICAL TOPICS: **Paul N1VTI** discussed a 285' horizontal triangle loop antenna that he has erected at his QTH, resonant on 160-10 meters. **Paul N1VTI** also demonstrated an extended slingshot he has constructed which has allowed him increased elevation of his antenna.

NET CONTROLS: 4/3 Roy KB1CYV 4/10 Bruce NI1X 4/17 Jeff N1SOM 4/24 Bill N1FRE

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to close the meeting was made by **Ed N1NTZ** seconded by **Bob K1RB** and **President Bruce NI1X** closed the meeting at 7:55 P.M.

MEET CARL JOHNGREN K1CKK OF BREWSTER WHO IS WINTERING IN FLORIDA

Hi **Bruce N1IX**, this is **Carl K1CKK**, well here is a view of what I have to work with here in Florida as far as antennas are concerned and a cramped "shack". The first picture is of my "closet" ham shack. On the computer screen I monitor the APRS screen for the Tampa Bay area, as I am always pushing APRS.

Where I live, they do not allow antennas ! So I use various Mobile Mark Heliwhips on the HF bands. The mount is a regular 3/8" base mount on a pipe in the ground. On the plus side, it is only about 15 feet to St Josephs Sound on the Gulf of Mexico. As you can see in the second picture, it is "planted" in a bed of Snake plants.

The last picture is of my home brew 2- meter vertically polarized dipole. This I can use for various 2-meter frequencies and is actually inside the condo mounted on the ham shack door

Since I have my KamPlus TNC along, I can run packet with the WinPack program, APRS with UiView and various HF digital modes with the HostMaster program. This year I did not BRING bring my Kenwood 570 along and must rely on my old Kenwood 520 for HF.

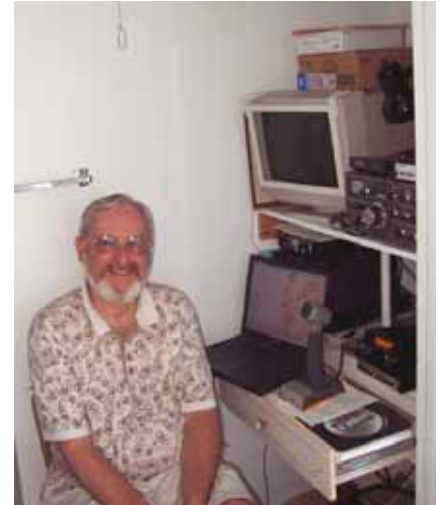
Of interest to all is how I have been getting into the packet system on the Cape from here in Florida. I have been connecting to **Rick Waterfield's N1YHR** internet site on Cape Cod and that connects me into the RF packet system, either on 145.010 MHz or 145.090 MHz. I also used the same type of Internet connection through **Phil Mc Namara N1XTB** of the Massasoit Club in Middleboro. That gives me packet capability here in Florida.

Now for APRS, from here, I send an RF signal to a station in Hudson, Florida, about 17 miles from here, and his station connects to the internet and sends my signal to **W2DAN-15** in RI. There my signal is sent out over RF and picked up by **N1YHR-15** and then **N1YHR-5** at **Rick's N1YHR** residence on Cape Cod. I can send messages over APRS... like packet.

Back home on Cape Cod I set up the **BREW1** as a packet node on 145.090 as a way of connecting to the off Cape world of packet. The equipment, which is a Kenwood TM- 241 and a KamPlus TNC is located at the Brewster Fire Department. The antenna is on a tower and gives **BREW1** a good coverage area. For example through **BREW1** I can usually connect to your packet station in Raynham directly. It is in operation 24/7. I am pleased that **Rick N1YHR**, has been watching **BREW1** for me while I winter in Florida.

See **Gill's W1GMF** Web site for more news about the Eastern Mass. and Cape Cod Packet System. <http://www.powersrvcs.org/emapacket/>

Maureen and I plan to head back north in late April.
Take care - see you later. 73 From: **Carl K1CKK**



Carl Johngren K1CKK



HF antenna



2-Meter antenna

HELLO FROM PAUL RANDO WB1COG IN E. BRIDGEWATER

I have been asked by "The Bruce N1IX" to give an update of my radio activity, well here goes.

I have completed installation of my mobile station in our new coach. My mobile equipment consists of a Kenwood TS-50, a Henry SS750 amplifier, and a High Sierra screw driver antenna.

In the photo I am showing my friend **Carleton Davis N1OYH** my Motorhome operating equipment (housed in a box) that has a 20 foot umbilical cord that enables me to relocate the transceiver and controls from the bedroom to the living room table. The box contains the remote controls for both the High Sierra Antenna and the power amplifier. Presently I power the amplifier only from shore power using an Astron RS-70A power supply, I wanted to be careful about the current draw, up to 80 amps, but eventually will be running it from the coach batteries or the coach's 7500 watt generator.

My home station consists of an ICOM 756 PROII, an Alpha 99 amplifier, a Mosley Classic 33 tri band beam, and a dipole. For vhf and uhf, I have an ICOM 910H, with Ringo Rangers for 2mtrs. and 440.

I am remodeling my shack in an attempt to gain some additional useful space. Most of my operating is on HF. I am currently a Net Control station for two Nets, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Net, and the Family Motor Coach Association Amateur Radio Chapter Net.

That's all for now – 73 to all – From: **Paul WB1COG**



Paul Rando WB1COG & Carleton Davis N1OYH



Paul WB1COG & the High Sierra

WALK FOR HUNGER – MAY 1, 2005

By **Bruce Pigott KC1US** – Do you have a two meter handheld radio and six hours of time ?? On Sunday May 1st we can use your help to support the 40,000 walkers participating in the Walk for Hunger. Project Bread will be depending on the skills of HAMs to tie together the walk coordinators, volunteers and managers. The twenty mile route starts in Boston, goes out over Newton, continues through Watertown and then back to Boston Common. This is a major fund raising event for Project Bread which provides assistance to nearly 400 feeding agencies across Massachusetts. Last year just over \$3 million was raised thanks in part to our efforts.

Assignments include both stationary and mobile positions. You can sign up on line at the Crocker Public Service Group web page <http://cpsg.amateur-radio.net/> for more information call **Bruce Pigott KC1US** at 781-275-3704, or send a message to wfh2005@amateur-radio.net

Thank you and 73 – **Bruce Pigott KC1US**

V-E Exams will be held on the 2nd Saturday in May at ST. Claire's Church in Braintree.

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 March we had four (4) sessions with an average of 12 area HAMS checking in each week and 8 messages were sent.

FOX HUNTING – EVERY SATURDAY MORNINGS 10:00 AM TO NOON

George Davis KC1FZ is showing **Roy Logan KB1CYV** his secret weapon, an offset attenuator with a stubby antenna that is housed in a home made vee shaped aluminum shield fabricated from aluminum roof flashing and mounted on a board. The handheld radio is normally mounted on the backside of the board for easy reading. **George KC1FZ** has made several offset attenuators, one from a kit and others from parts purchased locally. See **George KC1FZ** for the design details.



George Davis KC1FZ &
Roy Logan KB1CYV

With the good weather finally here, the Fox Hunters hope you can join them some Saturday morning between 10 am and Noon.

The Fox transmits on 146.565 MHz for 30 seconds every 5 minutes.

The Fox Hunters coordinate the start of the hunt on the Bridgewater REPEATER 147.180 MHz. Listen in from your home QTH and let the Fox Hunters know if the Fox is in your back yard.

CLUB HISTORY – The Founding Fathers

Bob Burns K1RB reports that he has secured a list of HAMS that we can call the Whitman Amateur Radio Club Founding Fathers. The list was in the Whitman Fire Department records of **Bob Schmitt** who is the Town of Whitman Emergency Management Director. The list was a sign up sheet taken at the first meeting of the amateur radio operators who participated in a planning meeting in 1962 at the Whitman Fire Department. At the time, the Whitman Club members were trying to recruit amateur radio operators for Civil Defense and originally met at the Fire Station that was the Civil Defense Headquarters.

Along with **Bob Schmitt's** and **Bob Burn's K1RB** name, the list of Whitman Amateur Radio Club "Founding Fathers" include:

Henry Dion K1CHC
Harvey Willis K1UMI
Arthur Brown W1FCF
Melvin Cobbett K1WRC
Milton Sault K1VLY

Harvey Cole W1ZGX
Clifford Drysdale K1TZC
Kenneth Cook Sr. K1THI
Carl White K1YAJ
Ralph Drysdale K1YJF

Thomas Marzilli W1HLE
Harry Holmes Jr. K1IRE
Ray Hoffes K1UMP later W1TC
William McGuire K1YOD
Harry Blakeman 3rd K1WYS

Not present - but became a member was **Martin Jenness W1AYN**

RED CROSS SHELTER MANAGEMENT COURSE

A group of Taunton volunteers took a three-night Red Cross course in March that included Introduction to Disaster Services, Mass Care – an overview and Shelter Management.

The classes were held in Taunton and sponsored by **Rick Ferreira KB1KWF** the Director of the City of Taunton Emergency Management Agency. The courses were conducted by **Dawn Snow** of the Red Cross.



Red Cross Shelter Management Course in Taunton

Six Whitman Club members were in attendance. Seen standing in the rear L. to R. are club members **Peter Ferreira KB1LZG**, **Bruce Hayden NI1X** and **Carlos Wharton WP4US**. Shown seated in the red shirt is Club member **Neal Harrington KB1LXL** and in the green shirt is **Don Burke KB1LXH** with **Rick Ferreira KB1KWF** hiding beside and behind **Barbara KB1KZX** who is also dressed in red. Several of the other people attending were area HAMs as well. They are **Rudy Burer KB1LXI**, **George Pereira KB1KZV**, **Barbara Foster KB1KZX** and **Steven Foster KB1KZW**.

Of special interest to the HAMs present was the subject of providing backup, emergency communication utilizing the Taunton (TEMA) Emergency Operations Center (EOC) when a Shelter is activated in Taunton.

Backup or supplemental communication for the Red Cross by HAMs in the United States is covered by a letter of understanding with the ARRL and administered by the local Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) team.

A large scale Emergency Exercise "TOPOFF 3" (the largest disaster exercise in the history of the United States) was conducted in Connecticut and New Jersey in April and drew praise from the American Red Cross for which the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) provides virtually all radio communication. The Red Cross representatives said that the Red Cross does not have to worry if today's fancy telecommunications devices fail because ARES will be there to provide the needed support. ARES provides communication between all of the Red Cross emergency response vehicles, mobile canteens, kitchens, headquarters and other sites that the organization needs to stay in touch with. A judge in the exercise even ordered the local REPEATER shut down during the exercise forcing amateur radio operators to go simplex and relay messages as necessary – no problem. An ARES representative in Connecticut reported that Amateur radio is making a major contribution to the nation that has not gone unnoticed in the Department of Homeland Security.

ECHOLINK UPDATE: **Ray Wall N1KXJ** was authorized by the Massasoit Amateur Radio Club to link his Echolink / 2-Meter transceiver (**N1KXJ-L**) to the Bridgewater REPEATER frequency. This enables amateur radio operators from all over the world to link into the Bridgewater REPEATER. **Mike Marinucci N1FRV**, **Robert Clark N1KMK** and **Carl Johngren K1CKK** have been heard checking in from Florida.

FRAMINGHAM FLEA - SUNDAY APRIL 3, 2005



John Coombs WQ1L
John Jr. KB1CHW



Ed Meehan N1NTZ
Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN

The rainy weather cleared up and **The Bruce N1IX** saw three other Whitman Club members at the Framingham Flea on the first weekend in April. They were **Ed Meehan N1NTZ**, **John Coombs WQ1L** and **Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN**. Other area HAMS seen were **John's WQ1L** son **John Jr. KB1CHW**, **Brad Wilson W1AY**, **Mark Duff KB1EKN** and **Henry Brown K1WCC**. The bargain-hunting award goes to **John WQ1L** who picked up a regulated power supply for next to nothing. **Ed N1NTZ** found a coax switch he was looking for and **The Bruce N1IX** picked up some hard to find heavy duty (45 A) Anderson Power Pole connectors and a few other goodies for the HAM shack.

HELLO FROM ED MEEHAN N1NTZ IN BROCKTON

This is **Ed N1NTZ** - as you can see the "Penthouse HAM Shack" has been completely refinished and now has both heat and air conditioning. My new HF rig is an ICOM IC-746 pro with 2-Meters built in which means that I can be on HF or 2-Meters but not both at the same time. I have a 2-Meter J-Pole hanging alongside the chimney and I get good reports using the Whitman and Bridgewater REPEATERS.

With **John's WQ1L** help I replaced a slinky antenna with a 17-Meter dipole mounted horizontally in a Zig Zag - Zee shape that is working OK. One report from England - "don't change anything" - had me smiling.



Ed Meehan N1NTZ

I have a ICOM IC-706 MK II G that I now plan to use as a 2-Meter scanner while I am in the Shack, but it will eventually become a mobile rig. I also have a Vectronics HFT-1500 tuner.

I picked up a QRP rig to experiment with. It is an Atlas RX-110 receiver with a separate TX-110 transmitter.

Finally I am transferring my old original water soaked logs to a new log book and that project is nearly complete.

Talk with you further down the log. From: **Ed N1NTZ**

RADIOGRAM TRAINING – TAUNTON EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

Radiogram training is held on the first Monday of the month. In April, a Radiogram training session was held at the Taunton Emergency Operations Center where four messages sent from the MEMA Region II Headquarters in Bridgewater to the local Emergency Management Directors. The Taunton Crew took the four messages going to **Rick Ferreira KB1KWF** – the Director of the Taunton Emergency Management Agency.



The Taunton Radiogram Training Crew

The Taunton RACES volunteers participating at the Taunton EOC are shown in the photo. Seen standing L. to R is **Bruce Hayden NI1X**, **Peter Ferreira KB1LZG**, **Neal Harrington KB1LXL**, **Steven Foster KB1KZW** and **Jason Legrow KB1KVD**. Shown seated is **Carlos Wharton WP4US** and **Barbara Foster KB1KZX**.

Barbara KB1KZX served as Net Control at the Taunton EOC and logged in the Taunton crew with the MEMA Region II Net Control. **George Pereira KB1KZV**, a member of the Taunton RACES Volunteers, had offered to help out at MEMA Region II Headquarters. **George KB1KZV** talked to **Barbara KB1KZX** after his first training session as a MEMA Region II Net Control Operator and reported that Taunton had the largest group of Radiogram Training participants checking in.



George KB1KZV
at MEMA Region II
Headquarters

After the training session **The Bruce NI1X** checked in to the ARES Net through the Norwell REPEATER from the Taunton EOC. Club member **Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN** was Net Control of the area wide ARES Net that was using a series of “Linked REPEATERS”. The ARES Net meets on the first Monday of the month at 8:30 pm after the RACES Net

HOSSTRADERS MAY 6-7, 2005

The **Hosstraders Flea Market** will be held on May 6 & 7 at the Hopkinton State Fair Grounds in Hopkinton, NH. From Rt 89 take exit 7. Go North off the exit about 100 yard and turn right on Warner Street. The Fairgrounds is about 1-1/5 miles down the road on the left.

NEW ENGLAND QSO PARTY (NEQP) May 7th & 8th

The New England QSO Party starts at 4 pm on Saturday and ends that night at 1 am Sunday – then starts again on Sunday where it runs from 9 am to 8 pm The goal is to contact as many New England stations in as many New England Counties as possible on 80-40-20-15-10 meters There are 67 Counties in all. You can help by putting your County on the air. New England Stations report Signal Strength, County and State.

TECHNICAL TOPICS - INSTALLING A 285 ft HORIZONTAL LOOP ANTENNA

Paul Burbine N1VTI has installed his big loop HF antenna at his new home QTH and reports it is working much better than his R-5 vertical.

The horizontal loop is 285 feet in size and is shaped in a horizontal triangle, suspended by three tall trees. It has 300 ohm twin lead from the loop to the house that terminates in a 6/1 balun and then **Paul N1VTI** uses a short coax jumper to his antenna tuner.



Modified Slingshot

Paul N1VTI brought in his modified slingshot for everyone to see. The extended modified grip, seen under the board that the sling shot is mounted on, allows **Paul N1VTI** to draw the slingshot back further. The unmodified slingshot would not clear his tall trees.

THE COAST GUARD AUXILIARY IS LOOKING FOR AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS

Jim Halpin KB1EWT reported that the Coast Guard Auxiliary is looking for Amateur radio operators to become volunteer members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary and take part in various communication programs. This includes operating your station on Government frequencies as authorized facilities, and standing watch at the Coast Guard Stations. All are on a voluntary basis, no pay, and requires you to be a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary. For more info contact **Jim Halpin KB1EWT** or **Bob Burns K1RB**.

SCUTTLEBUTT:

Ken Kavaljian KB1KVL has mounted a diamond “50” 2-Meter / 440 MHz antenna high above his house and reports it is working great.

Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN has finalized plans to go to Dayton with area HAM friends.

Bob Sikes W1MMM is very active coordinating Net Controls for the Paxton Repeater – “Rag Chew Net” and **Jim Kenworthy KB1KFF** is one of his new recruits.

Club members **Bob Burns K1RB**, **Jim O’Rourke WG1L**, **Jim Halpin KB1EWT** and **Neal Harrington KB1LXL** have all volunteered to help out at the Boston Marathon. Other members will be standing by should the Bridgewater Emergency Operations Center (EOC) be activated by **Carl Aveni N1FY** and the Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) crew.

Bill Tracy N1SON and **Jeff Tracy N1SOM** are still repairing antennas damaged by the winter storms.

Jim Kenworthy KB1KFF reports his Gap Titan suffered some winter storm damage and needs to be taken down and refurbished.

Paul Burbine N1VTI reports that the first section of his tower is in the air

The Bruce N1IX reports that two electric lawnmowers were donated to the Club from an estate.

Carl Aveni N1FY reports an ARES drill will be held on May 7th to support the “Operation Atlas Boston Logan Airport Drill”. Assistance has been requested by the Mass. Red Cross Chapter.



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, May. 4th 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	Steve	W1WSN
Director	George	KC1FZ
Director	Chris	N1WWI

Editor	Bruce	NI1X
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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