



The Whitman Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

August 2005

SPECTRUM



The Voice of the Humble Electron

Founded 1962

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE: This is **The Bruce NI1X** – During the first week in August I had a great radioactive vacation on Bailey Island located in Casco Bay in the State of Maine where I set up and operated a portable HF station. **Ron Smith N1PXX** volunteered to be Net Control of the Whitman Amateur Radio Public Service NET for the first time and was heard encouraging others to try their hand at NET Control. Several members attended RADIOGRAM training at the Taunton Emergency Operations Center. Other members have been active with SKYWARN.

The USS Salem Radio Club members successfully resolved a bitter dispute and retrieved their impounded equipment. This ended a great program that had introduced thousands of Boy Scouts to amateur radio over the years. The take down crew each made one last contact with the **K1USN** USS Salem Radio Club before pulling the plug and leaving the ship for the last time. I have heard that this dedicated group may rise again as the **K1USN** Radio Club promoting US Naval and Maritime History.

Bill Hayden N1FRE has volunteered to coordinate the shift schedule for the upcoming Marshfield Fair Special Event - August 19th – 28th and has organized an antenna party for Wednesday August 17th. The members of the Whitman Amateur Radio club will be coordinating the event and all area HAMS are encouraged to participate.

The Whitman Club Labor Day weekend Saftler's fund raising Flea Market will follow on September 4th and 5th – Come on down and plan on helping out at the club table, setting up a table of your own or donating goodies to be sold at the club table. **Walter Dolson K1BZD** has volunteered his HF rig to be used as a Club Station so we can put **WA1NPO** On The Air.



This is a busy time of year. Come to the next meeting or send me an update and share your radioactive adventures with the other members.

**Send WA1NPO
an update**

WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO PUBLIC SERVICE NET - WARPSN

Walter Dolson K1BZD has been instrumental in teaching NET Control and traffic handling to the members of the Whitman Amateur Radio Club by promoting the **WARPSN**. **Walter K1BZD** is currently recuperating from recent medical problems and we wish him well.

The **WARPSN** NET meets every Sunday morning at 8:30 A.M. on the Whitman REPEATER 147.225 MHz PL 67. Come join in and share your amateur radio related activities with the other area HAMS and short-wave listeners as well. In July we had five (5) sessions with an average of 9 area HAMS checking in each week and 9 messages were sent.



Walter Dolson K1BZD

SECRETARY'S NOTES OF THE MEETING OF August 3, 2005 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: Fifteen members were present, including three elected officers and two directors. A quorum was present.

N1FRE Bill Hayden
N1PXX Ron Smith
K1XRB Peter George
KA1PJX Don Keene
N1SOM Jeff Tracy

N1NTZ Ed Meehan
KB1KVL Ken Kavaljian
KB1ETW Jim Halpin
KC1FZ George Davis
N1VTI Paul Burbine

KB1CYV Roy Logan
N1ZZN Jeff Lehmann
WG1L Jim O'Rourke
KB1KFF Jim Kenworthy
N1OGP Frank Hayes

TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer's report for July was read by **Jeff N1SOM**. **Ron N1PXX** made a motion seconded by **Jeff N1ZZN** 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 July Newsletter. The motion was approved.

HEALTH AND WELFARE: **Bill N1FRE** reported that **Walter K1BZD** and **Carlos WP4US** are continuing their recuperation.

OLD BUSINESS: **Jeff N1ZZN** reported that progress was being made in resolving the issues relative to the U.S.S. Salem,

NEW BUSINESS: **Bill N1FRE** reported that there are opportunities to participate in the Marshfield Fair Special Event and that an antenna crew is needed for Wednesday, August 17th. **Paul N1VTI** would appreciate any information on computer logging programs and in de-bugging his packet station. Plans for the Labor Day flea market at Saftler's were discussed, and yes it is that time again. Summer continues to fly.

TECHNICAL TOPICS: **Jeff N1ZZN** and **Peter K1XRB** gave an informative presentation on FM and TV DXing. An inexpensive antenna was demonstrated and recordings of several low power broadcast stations were played for the group. A wide variety of collectible items were shown of this fascinating aspect of our hobby.

NET CONTROLS: 8/7 **Bill N1FRE**
8/28 **Ron N1PXX**

8/14 **Roy KB1CYV**
9/4 **Paul N1VTI**

8/21 **Jeff N1SOM**

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to close was made by **Ed N1NTZ** seconded by **Frank N1OGP** and **Vice President Bill N1FRE** closed the meeting at 7:50 P.M.

COMING EVENTS: (1) MARSHFIELD FAIR AUGUST 19TH – 28TH
(2) SAFTLER'S FLEA MARKET SEPTEMBER 4TH & 5TH

A RADIOACTIVE VACATION TO BAILEY ISLAND, MAINE by: The Bruce NI1X

This was my fourth summer vacationing at the Driftwood Inn on Bailey Island in Casco Bay in Maine and the first time my amateur radio equipment was brought along.

I was able to make 62 contacts with 18 different States, 19 Foreign Countries and 2 Canadian Provinces. This is my QSL card >>>

The rig was an ICOM IC-706 Mark II G putting out 100 watts from my car battery and feeding into a vertical OUTBACKER antenna mounted on its aluminum tripod stand located on the grass a few feet from the ocean.



CQ CQ CQ This is The Bruce NI1X / 1 operating portable from Bailey Island in the state of Maine calling CQ and looking for any contact

Contacts were made on 17 and 20 Meters as far East as Greece, Romania, Poland and Finland, as far South as Florida, as far West as California and as far North as Quebec and Ontario. Because of the vertical antenna, the closest contacts were with Pennsylvania. One helpful over the air suggestions to improve performance was “wet the lawn”

The Driftwood Inn, one of Maine’s best kept secrets, just celebrated its 100 anniversary and has been owned by three generation of the Conrad family of Middleboro starting in 1931. This quaint Inn has 4 houses and 6 cabins and a dining room that seats about 50 people where they serve breakfast and dinner with lunch on your own.



Amateur Radio in the morning: I had at least an hour after breakfast to play amateur radio while the rest of the crew gathered on the open porch to play cribbage, watch the local lobstermen pull their traps 100 yards away and decide where they would go exploring each day. The dozen members and friends of the Shurtleff family of Middleboro / Lakeville, who were able to meet once again this year at the Driftwood Inn (this family gathering has been going on for over 40 years) would then saddle up and move out to visits places like L L Bean, Booth Bay Harbor and the Bath Maritime Museum or go on boat rides, go lighthouse hunting, or go lobster hunting at places like MiddleBay Lobster or Allen’s dockside seafood takeout shack.

Amateur Radio in the afternoon: After exploring the scenic highways and byways of Maine, it was back to the Driftwood Inn in the heart of Casco Bay where the temperature is 20 degrees cooler than inland. I had about an hour in the late afternoon each day to play amateur radio, after the crew returned and before the dinner bell rang at 6 pm. I decided to pass up a dip in the outside pool, full of cold salt water, that the kids seemed to enjoy – no problem. After dinner it was attitude adjustment hour (strictly for medicinal purposes only – just to settle my stomach) while we played cribbage, cribbage and more cribbage and watched the beautiful pink sunsets. A good time was had by all.

RADIOGRAM TRAINING – AT THE TAUNTON EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER



Taunton Emergency Management Agency Volunteers

The area Hams that attended the RADIOGRAM training session in August at the Taunton Emergency Operations Center are shown in the photo. With **The Bruce N1IX** on vacation - the Taunton Radiogram training crew hung a picture of **The Bruce N1IX** on the wall so that he would be there in spirit. Seen L. to R. are **George Pereira KB1KZV**, **Rudy Burer KB1LXI**, **Jason Legrow KB1KVD**, **Carlos Wharton WP4US**, **Neal Harrington KB1LXL**, **Don Burke KB1LXH** – the NET Control for the night, **John Miller N1UMJ**, **Bob Barbour K1BAR**, and **Steve Foster KB1KZW**. Four of the Taunton area HAMS shown are Whitman club members.

Listen in on the first Monday of the month at 7:30 pm on the Taunton REPEATER 147.135 MHz pl 67 for Bristol County or at 8:00 pm on the Norwell REPEATER 145.250 MHz pl 77 for Plymouth County and copy the four messages going to the local Emergency Management Agency Directors. This is a good way to become familiar with the National Traffic System message format. An ARES Net usually follows at 8:30 pm on the Linked REPEATERS, Norwell being one of them.

A PRESENTATION ON TV & FM DXING By: Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN & Peter George K1XRB

Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN and **Peter George K1XRB** gave a very interesting presentation on TV and FM Dxing at the last meeting. **Peter K1XRB** is shown holding a collection of QSL cards received from TV and Radio stations over the years. **Jeff N1ZZN** brought in his a six-element beam by Radio Shack that is sold for FM Broadcast band reception. Cat # 15-2163

They handed out a copy of the Vhf-Uhf Digest, the official publication of the Worldwide TV-FM DX Association (WTFDA). They also played a CD that had audio clips of stations received during openings on the FM broadcast bands.



Jeff N1ZZN & Peter K1XRB

The distance of the stations received varies depending on the mode of propagation. During Tropospheric ducting **Jeff N1ZZN** reports his farthest catch of an FM station was 98.1 WBRF in Galax, VA at 652 miles. His farthest catch of an FM station on E Skip was 89.5 KVNE in Tyler, TX at 1482 miles. The website for the WTFDA is <http://www.anarc.org/wtfda> where more info can be found.

OUT WITH THE OLD: - The K1USN USS Salem Radio Club - SK

IN WITH THE NEW: - The K1USN Radio Club promoting US Naval and Maritime History



The K1USN USS Salem Radio Club take down crew

Whitman Club member **Jim O'Rourke WG1L** reported that he was part of the take down crew that mobilized onboard the USS Salem on Saturday August 6, 2005 to remove all the impounded USS Salem Radio Club equipment and antennas following resolution of a bitter dispute between the members of USS Salem Radio Club and the USS Salem Museum ship operators. With **Whitey K1VV** up on the deck and the take down crew on the pier, **Jim WG1L** reports that the take down crew all called **Whitey** as **K1USN** one last time for a signal report on 146.52 MHz and qualified for a final QSL card that will incorporate the group photo.

Able to participate that day and shown in the last picture taken in front of the USS Salem were L. to R. **Whitey Doherty K1VV**, **Don Tanguay N1DT**, **Don Mikes AA1V**, **Dennis Hart W1ARO**, **Ralph Butler W1BT**, **Pi Pugh K1RV**, **Warren Dickie WA1YKF**, **Tony Fusco WB1ANL**, **Bob Marchese K1NOK**, **John Laiosa N1BSO**, **George Clisham W1YR**, **J. C. Cunningham W1AI**, **Paul Maciel AK1P**, **Dave Newman WB1EVP**, **Bob "Q" Callahan W1QWT**, **Karl Johnson NS1N**, **Jim O'Rourke WG1L**, and **Steve "Ho" Johnson KC1HO**. Also present but not available when the photo was taken were **Lou Harris N1UEC** and **Barry Devine K1BFD**.

The members of the **K1USN** USS Salem Radio Club introduced thousands of Scouts to amateur radio over the years and coordinated the Museum Ships "On The Air" Special Event issuing certificates for multiple contacts. This dedicated crew can be proud of their accomplishments and are already talking about forming the **K1USN** Radio Club promoting Naval and Maritime History.



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, Sept. 7th at 6:30 PM
Whitman Public Library**

CLUB OFFICERS

President	Bruce	NIIX
V. President	Bill	N1FRE
Secretary	Roy	KB1CYV
Treasurer	Jeff	N1SOM
Director	Steve	W1WSN
Director	George	KC1FZ
Director	Paul	N1VTI

Editor	Bruce	NIIX
E-mail articles to:	niix@arrl.net	

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

Club Repeater Station:

147.225 MHz (CTSS 67 Hz)

449.875 MHz (CTSS 88.5 Hz)

*Whitman Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 48
Whitman, Ma 02382*

