



The Whitman Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

December 2005

SPECTRUM



The Voice of the Humble Electron

Founded 1962

PLIMOTH PLANTATION SPECIAL ISSUE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: This is **The Bruce NI1X** – Once again the Whitman Amateur Radio Club had a very successful Plimoth Plantation Special Event and Message Center on the weekend following Thanksgiving.

We had 22 area HAMS and 3 guests who helped set up and operate five HF Base Stations, two 2-Meter Base Stations and eight portable antennas at the recreation of the 17th century Pilgrim Settlement and Wampanoag Indian Home Site. We exchanged contacts with 154 other amateur radio operators in 29 States, 8 Foreign Countries and 1 Canadian Province.

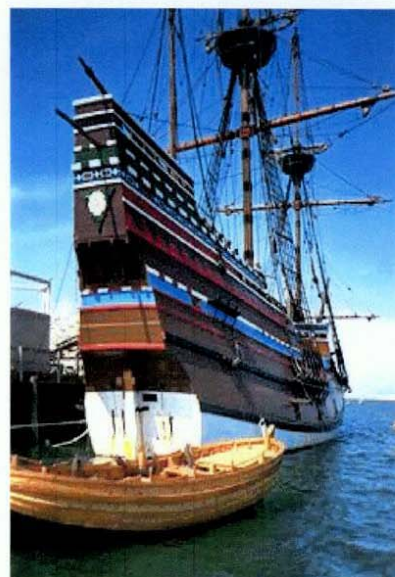
Special Event Station at **Plimoth Plantation**

Be it known that
154 Stations from 29 States, 8 Foreign Countries
and 1 Canadian Province

made two-way radio contact on

November 26th and 27th, 2005

with the Whitman Amateur Radio Club
operating from Plimoth Plantation
home of Mayflower II
Plymouth, Massachusetts



Thanksgiving
2005



USA

WA1NPO



Bruce D Hayden NI1X
QSL MANAGER

PLIMOTH PLANTATION SPECIAL EVENT

ANTENNA PARTY – FRIDAY 10 a.m. to noon: The temperature was up to 31 degrees by the time we left the Plantation but the wind chill made my feet and **John's WQ1L** hands cold. The antenna crew took a little over two hours to install five antennas on Friday.

Shown L. to R. are **Gary Davis SWL** visiting from the State of Washington, **George Davis KC1FZ**, **Bruce Hayden N1IX**, **Dave Gurney WA1YZH**, **Bill Hayden N1FRE**, **Paul Burbine N1VTI**, **Don Keene KA1PJX**, **John Coombs WQ1L**, **Jim O'Rourke WG1L**, **Al Drollett Jr. W1SM** and **Jim Halpin KB1ETW**.



The Antenna Crew

THE PORTABLE TOWER AND BEAM ANTENNA

Jim Wolf N1OIU fabricated a hinged support that was attached to the trailer hitch on his truck, and transported a 20 foot aluminum tower to the Plimoth Plantation Special Event site. This was a sight to be seen driving into the Plimoth Plantation parking lot.



John Coombs WQ1L & Jim Wolf N1OIU



Al W1SM, Jim N1OIU & Judy



John Coombs WQ1L is shown helping **Jim N1OIU** assemble the 10 / 15 / 20 Meter beam before raising the tower on Saturday morning. **Jim N1OIU** made his first contact with **Bob Johnson K1VU** of W. Bridgewater on 10-Meters but found that band dead.

Jim N1OIU notified security and left the tower erected overnight in the parking lot and is shown on Sunday morning with **Al Drollett Jr. W1SM** (who brought the coffee – thank you **Al W1SM**) and his wife **Judy** who had just dropped him off. **Jim N1OIU** spent his time operating on 15-Meters.

WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO PUBLIC SERVICE NET (WARPSN)

Bill Hayden N1FRE operated the Sunday morning WARPSN Net from the Plimoth Plantation. The WARPSN Net meets every Sunday morning at 8:30 a.m. The purpose of this net is to establish a 2-Meter frequency in the event of an emergency and to share information of interest with area HAMs and shortwave listeners as well. In November there was an average of 11 area HAMs checking in each week and 20 messages were sent.



Bill Hayden N1FRE

THE PARTICIPATION WAS FANTASTIC

Friday Nov. 25th Antenna Crew

Bruce Hayden N11X
Dave Gurney WA1YZH
Paul Burbine N1VTI
John Coombs WQ1L
Bill Hayden N1FRE
Don Keene KA1PJX
Jim Halpin KB1ETW
Al Drollett Jr. W1SM

Jim O'Rourke WG1L
Ed Meehan N1NTZ
George Davis KC1FZ
& son Gary SWL

Saturday Nov. 26th Operations

Bruce N11X
Dave WA1YZH
Paul N1VTI
John WQ1L
Bill N1FRE
Don KA1PJX
Jim KB1ETW

Roy Logan KB1CYV
Jim Wolf N1OIU
Don Burke KB1LXH

Jeff Tracy N1SOM
Paul Moss KB1MTW
Jim Kenworthy KB1KFF
Bob Barbour K1BAR
& son Eric SWL

Sunday Nov. 27th Operations & Take Down Crew

Bruce N11X
Dave WA1YZH
Paul N1VTI
John WQ1L
Bill N1FRE
& Granddaughter Ashley SWL

Al W1SM
Roy KB1CYV
Jim N1OIU
Don KB1LXH

Ken Kavaljian KB1KVL
Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN
Al Marshall KB1MJL
Cathy Phelps KB1JKA

MONTIORING THE 2-METER REPEATERS FOR CHECKINS



Don Burke KB1LXH



Roy Logan KB1CYV at the mike
and the Royal Blue Gang



Jim Kenworthy KB1KFF
Jeff Tracy N1SOM

The Special Event crew made every effort to monitor the Whitman & Bridgewater 2-Meter REPEATERS for check-ins and **Jim Kenworthy KB1KFF** made an effort to log in area HAMs on the other local REPEATERS. Club members not able to participate but who were able to check in with **WA1NPO** were:

Frank Hayes N1OGP
Mike Marinucci N1FRV
Carlos Wharton WP4US

Mike Canney Jr. N1MRG
Phil McNamara N1XTB
Bob Johnson K1VU

Ron Smith N1PXX
Bernie Snow N1OQW
Gary Cumiskey W1GRC

With 21 club members able to attend the Special Event and 9 more club members able to check in, that is a 40% participation. Good job.

AMATEUR RADIO EXHIBIT IN THE REGISTRATION BUILDING

17 METER & 2 METER BASE STATION

Bill N1FRE set up the 17-Meter Base Station using his ICOM IC-756 HF transceiver and the Club's Cushcraft R-6 vertical antenna that was mounted on the observation deck at the Plantation. **Bill N1FRE** operated from the Registration Building where he set up the Whitman Amateur Radio Club exhibit table that was accessible to all the visitors to the Plimoth Plantation.

Bill N1FRE also set up a 2-Meter Base Station to monitor the Whitman REPEATER using his 2-Meter Alinco DR-590 transceiver and **Bruce's N1IX** 2-Meter beam antenna mounted a short distance away and about 10 feet off the ground.



Bill Hayden N1FRE
Ken Kavaljian KB1KVL

AMATEUR RADIO MESSAGE CENTER & MORSE CODE DEMONSTRATION

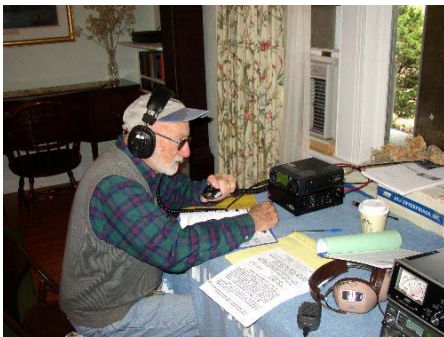
Along with listening to one of the conventional voice stations, the children visiting the Plantation were encouraged to learn how to send their name in Morse code on a code practice oscillator and were shown a collection of QSL post cards that were received from all over the world and confirmed previous contacts with Whitman Club members.

The adults visiting the Plantation were encouraged to send a RADIOGRAM message free of charge to friends and relatives via amateur radio. We were able to explain how amateur radio operators practice sending routine messages via radio to amateur radio operators in the local neighborhood who pick up the phone or deliver the message free of charge. We also explained how these routine messages could quickly change to priority or emergency messages in times of national emergencies.



Bob Barbour K1BAR & son Eric SWL

TAKING A SHIFT AT THE 40-METER AND 80-METER BASE STATIONS



Don Keene KA1PJX
40-Meter Base Station



Ed Meehan N1NTZ &
Don Burke KB1LXH
80-Meter Base Station



Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN
40-Meter Base Station

20-METER BASE STATION



Paul Burbine N1VTI

Paul Burbine N1VTI set up a 20-Meter Base Station using his ICOM IC-758 HF mobile rig at the Administrative Building.

Paul N1VTI made contact with Club member **Mike Marinucci N1FRV** who was calling in from Hernando, Florida and with area HAM **Ernie Guimares Jr. KA1VY** who was calling in from Naples, Florida.

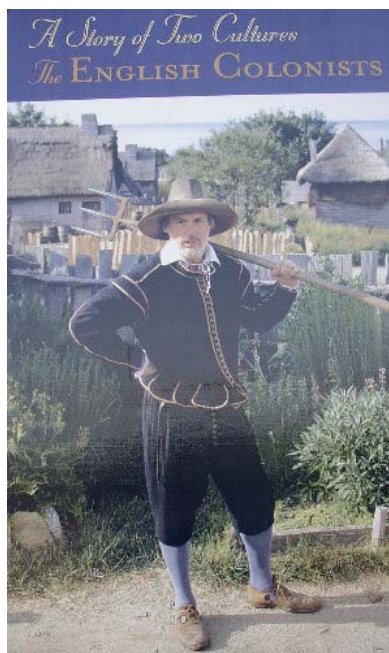


John Coombs WQ1L

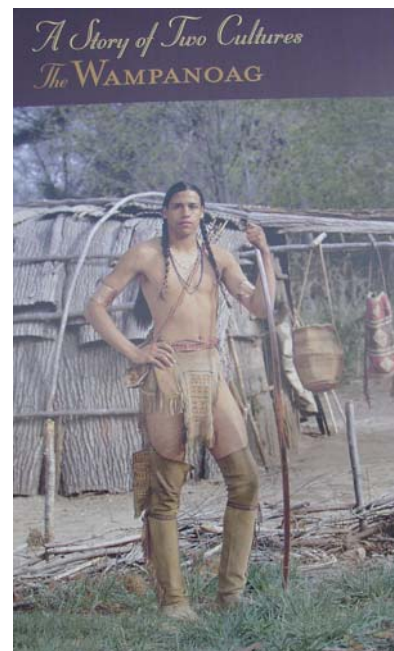
John Coombs WQ1L is shown helping **Paul N1VTI** install his Cushcraft R-5 vertical and a 20-Meter folded dipole that gave **Paul N1VTI** both Vertical and / or horizontal polarization. **Paul N1VTI** reports that the horizontal dipole worked best. **Paul's N1VTI** 20-Meter Base Station made the most contacts.

IT IS AN EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE – A STORY OF TWO CULTURES

John Coombs WQ1L and **Paul Burbine N1VTI** were found talking with a Pilgrim who explained that her Kerry cow was the same breed as the ones brought to the New World in the 17th Century from Ireland. Visiting the Plimoth Plantation is truly an educational experience for young and old alike.



**John WQ1L & Paul N1VTI
meet a Pilgrim and her cow**



The HAM operators spread the word of Plimoth Plantation over the airways, explaining about the living museum and how they found the visitors, especially the children, amazed by the actors dressed as Pilgrims. The actors are trained to speak in the language of the time and do not acknowledge the existence of any of our modern technical wonders as they explain about the harsh reality of early Pilgrim life.

40-METER BASE STATION

Bruce Hayden NI1X set up a 40-Meter Base Station using an ICOM IC-706 transceiver and an outbacker vertical antenna mounted on a portable ground mounted frame at the Hornblower House. **Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN** helped with the 2-Meter programming of this new rig. Contacts were made as far away as Pennsylvania.

The Bruce NI1X sent a Radiogram message that was put into the National Traffic System (NTS) on Monday November 28th with all the other messages generated at the Special Event Message Center. The RADIOGRAM message was delivered to his sister Susan in St. Petersburg, Florida on Tuesday, the next day. The NTS system worked great.



Bruce Hayden NI1X

2- METER BASE STATION MONITORING THE BRIDGEWATER REPEATER

Al Marshall KB1MJL brought in his ICOM IC-910 2-Meter / 440 MHz transceiver as a backup rig and is showing **Paul Moss KB1MTW** how to program the 2-Meter REPEATER frequencies into the rig. **Al KB1MJL** made his first contact with **Charlet Sherman N1VQZ** and later we heard **Chris Tilden N1WWI** checked in.

After returning home **Al KB1MJL** was heard loud and clear on the Whitman REPEATER from his home QTH in Weymouth.



Paul Moss KB1MTW
Al Marshall KB1MJL

80- METER BASE STATION

Roy Logan KB1CYV is shown operating the 80-Meter Base Station he set up using his ICOM IC-735 transceiver and **Bill's N1FRE** all band off center fed dipole antenna. Local contacts were made with New York, Connecticut, Maine and Massachusetts.

Jim Halpin KB1ETW is shown monitoring the Bridgewater REPEATER frequency with the Club's 2-Meter Base Station that was donated by **Walter Dolson K1BZD**.

Roy KB1CYV also set up a backup 2-Meter Base Station using his Radio Shack handheld transceiver with an amplifier and connected to one of **The Bruce's NI1X** 2-Meter - 440 MHz Diamond 50 Vertical antennas.



Jim Halpin KB1ETW
Roy Logan KB1CYV

PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL GOOD WILL

In preparation of the event, notice of the program was published in the American Radio Relay League's ARRL monthly magazine, which has both national and international distribution. The crew found amateur radio operators from all over the country waiting to make contact with Plimoth Plantation.

ECHOLINK DOES AN OUTSTANDING JOB OF LINKING NORTHERN IRELAND WITH THE PLIMOTH PLANTATION



Bob Abraham Mi3RBM
In Northern Ireland

We talked for an hour with **Bob Abraham Mi3RBM** who lives in Waringstown, near Belfast, Northern Ireland. Next year an Echolink contact between Plymouth, England and the Plimoth Plantation will be pursued.

Thirteen year old **Jessica Reilly** and her 8 year old sister **Sarah** were promoting International Good Will while they had a long chat with **Bob Mi3RBM** of Northern Ireland.



Jessica & Sarah Reilly
at Plimoth Plantation

We found out that **Bob Mi3RBM** was 71 years old, got his HAM license 2 years ago and has 5 grandchildren. We heard him compliment the young ladies on their clear speaking voices.

Cathy Phelps KB1JKA of Manchester, Connecticut was visiting her family in Plymouth and stopped by the Plimoth Plantation where she joined in as a Special Event Operator and is shown taking a turn talking with **Bob Mi3RBM** in Northern Ireland.

Bob Mi3RBM was on Echolink and communicating with the Plimoth Plantation Special Event Station via **Ray Wall's N1KXJ-L** Echolink link to the Bridgewater 2-Meter REPEATER. A special thanks to **Ray N1KXJ** for introducing this new mode of amateur radio operation to this area.



Cathy Phelps KB1JKA
at Plimoth Plantation

Each amateur who contacts the club station **WA1NPO** is entitled to receive a certificate, suitable for framing, which includes a picture of the Mayflower II and confirms the date and time of the contact. A QSL postcard confirming the contact is also included along with a handout from the Plimoth Plantation and a copy of the Whitman Club's Plimoth Plantation Special Issue newsletter. **The Bruce NI1X** is the QSL manager.

Plymouth, Massachusetts and Plimoth Plantation, especially at Thanksgiving time, represents America's Home Town, a place where America's most famous immigrants set foot in 1620. While all American amateur radio operators know about America's first Thanksgiving in Plymouth the foreign amateur radio operators know about Plymouth Massachusetts as the home of the Mayflower II. This is a great Special Event that draws both National and International interest and once again was a great success thanks to the members and friends of the Whitman Amateur Radio Club.



WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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



Post Office Box 48
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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, Dec. 7th at 6:30 PM
Whitman Public Library

CLUB OFFICERS

President	Bruce	N1IX
V. President	Bill	N1FRE
Secretary	Roy	KB1CYV
Treasurer	Jeff	N1SOM
Director	Steve	W1WSN
Director	George	KC1FZ
Director	Paul	N1VTI

Editor	Bruce	N1IX
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E-mail articles to: n1ix@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

