



The Whitman Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

July 2006

SPECTRUM



The Voice of the Humble Electron

Founded 1962

FIELD DAY 2006 - SPECIAL ISSUE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: This is **The Bruce NI1X** – You talk about soggy weather conditions – In 20 years I have never seen it rain so hard and for so long over a Field Day weekend. In spite of the adverse conditions, the Whitman Amateur Radio Club crew made 319 contacts with 37 States, 7 Canadian Provinces and 3 foreign countries.



In all, 13 Whitman club members and 6 area HAMs, from 12 area towns, braved the rain and mobilized at the Ames Nowell State Park in Abington to set up antennas, a 10 ft by 20 ft rain canopy, two emergency generators, 5 HF Base Stations and one 2-Meter talk in Base Station. **Jeff Tracy N1SOM** and **Bill Tracy N1SON** stayed over night in their mobile home while **Jim Wolf N1OIU**, **Kevin Dykes KB1MOC** and **Jim Ford NM1F** stayed overnight in **Jim's N1OIU** mobile home. Others operated out of **Bruce Hayden's NI1X** and **Bill Hayden's N1FRE** individual vehicles.



The waterlogged Field Day set-up crew consisted of L. to R. **Bruce Hayden NI1X**, **Bill Hayden N1FRE**, **Paul Moss KB1MTW** (seen ready to hoist the 2-Meter vertical), **Bill Anstead KB1NPH**, **Jim Ford NM1F**, **George Davis KC1FZ**, **Jim Wolf N1OIU** and **Kevin Dykes KB1MOC**.

FIELD DAY 2006 - WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS

The Whitman Amateur Radio Club participated in Field Day 2006, a national emergency preparedness exercise sponsored by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) over the weekend of June 24th and 25th. Considering the rain, the participation was very good. As you can see, **Ken Kavaljian KB1KVL** came dressed for the occasion with his Field Day 2006 Tee Shirt.



The 13 Whitman club members who were able to participate were:

KB1MTW Paul Moss	N1FRE Bill Hayden	<u>Ken KB1KVL</u>
N1SON Bill Tracy	N1SOM Jeff Tracy	
NM1F Jim Ford	KB1MOC Kevin Dykes	N1ZZN Jeff Lehmann
N1OIU Jim Wolf	KC1FZ George Davis	W1GRC Gary Cumiskey
NI1X Bruce Hayden	KB1NPH Bill Anstead	KB1KVL Ken Kavaljian

The 6 area HAMs who stopped by the Field Day site were:

N1EY Bill O'Hara of Abington	KA1BBU Bob Jegles of Holbrook
KC1HO "HO" Johnson of Plymouth	W1BT Ralph Butler of Scituate
NS1N Karl Johnson Sr. of Scituate	K9HI Phil Temples of Watertown

The object of the exercise is to see how many other amateur radio stations can be contacted in a given 24 hour period that starts at 2 p.m. on Saturday afternoon and ends at 2 p.m. on Sunday afternoon.

20-METER BASE STATION



Bruce Hayden NI1X
at his 20-Meter Base Station



Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN
taking a turn at the 20-Meter Base Station

Bruce Hayden NI1X set up a portable 20-Meter Base Station and operated out of his truck using his ICOM IC-706 Mark IIG transceiver. Power to the 20-Meter Base Station was supplied by the emergency generator and the initial antenna was a ground mounted Outbacker vertical antenna on a commercial stand located on the grass a few feet from the truck.

The Bruce NI1X later switched to **Bill 's N1FRE** Fritzel off center fed dipole that was strung high up in the pine trees and made contacts as far away as Florida to the south, California to the west and picked up a few Canadian Provinces along the way. A 20-Meter contact was made with **Bob Johnson K1VU** who was operating from his home QTH. The 20-Meter Base Station recorded 127 contacts.

PUBLIC INFORMATION AREA & 40-METER BASE STATION

Paul Moss KB1MTW supplied the 10 ft by 20 ft rain shield that served as our public information tent. On Saturday, **Bill Hayden N1FRE** set up his ICOM IC-756 as a 40-Meter Base Station under the tarp and frame that looked like a carport.

It was too wet and soggy to set up the normal tents and screen house that we have set up in the past.

Shown in the public information area is **Phil Temples K9HI**, an Assistant Director in the New England ARRL Division and ARRL Affiliated Club Coordinator. **Phil K9HI** was heard discussing the importance of this ARES training exercise and the changes in Field Day participation over the years with **Paul Moss KB1MTW** and **Bill Hayden N1FRE**.



Phil Temples K9HI
Paul Moss KB1MTW
Bill Hayden N1FRE



Paul Moss KB1MTW
Bill Hayden N1FRE

On Sunday **Bill Hayden N1FRE** operated the 40-Meter Base Station out of his vehicle using his ICOM IC-706 Mark IIG mobile rig and the Outbacker antenna mounted on his vehicle. The Club Cushcraft R-6 vertical was showing a slightly high SWR in the rain and was taken out of service. By Sunday afternoon **Bill N1FRE** had recorded 4.5 inches of rain in Whitman.

The 40-Meter Base Station recorded 18 contacts, which included a contact with the well-known **KB2JKJ** The Radio Club of Junior High School 22 in New York City that has been bringing communication to education since 1980. Make contact with **KB2JKJ** and they will ask you to donate your radio or radio related gear to their worthy cause.

2-METER BASE STATION AND SKYHOOK ANTENNA: With the help of **Bill's N1FRE** sling-shot – the antenna crew installed a line over a tall tree branch and suspended the 2-Meter vertical antenna high above the Public Information Tent. **The Bruce N11X** used his ICOM IC-207 transceiver as a 2-Meter talk in Base Station and operated simplex to send traffic messages. **Loren Pimentel N1IQI** helped out by taking traffic messages from the Field Day site and putting them into the national traffic system.

Field Day is an Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) training exercise. The Field Day crew were testing the effectiveness of their "Go-Kits" which basically consists of the equipment and supplies you would take with you if you were assigned to provide emergency communication at a shelter. The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) is a nationwide organization of radio amateurs who have registered their qualifications and equipment for public service communication support with their local ARRL - ARES - District Emergency Coordinator. All area HAMS are encouraged to sign up for ARES. To sign up just log on to the ARES home page at <http://ares.ema.arrrl.org> and under the heading – EMa Policies – click on – Join us.

THE ROTATABLE BEAM ANTENNA



Bill O'Hara N1EY, Jim Ford NM1F
& Jim Wolf N1OIU - Look - its turning !



The rotatable beam antenna

Jim Wolf N1OIU and Kevin Dykes KB1MOC demonstrated their ingenuity at Field Day by turning a 40 foot aerial lift "cherry-picker" into a rotatable antenna tower support by mounting a 10 foot antenna tower top section in the Man Lift basket and then installing a 10-15-20 Meter beam antenna on a 10 foot mast on the tower top section. They then raised the beam antenna about 55 feet in the air. The entire basket and arm rotated giving them the ability to point the beam in any direction.

8000 watt - Field Day Generator

Jim Wolf N1OIU, Carl Johnson NS1N



Bob Jegles KA1BBU & Ho Johnson KC1HO

10-Meter and 15-Meter HAM Shack

Jim Wolf N1OIU, Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN

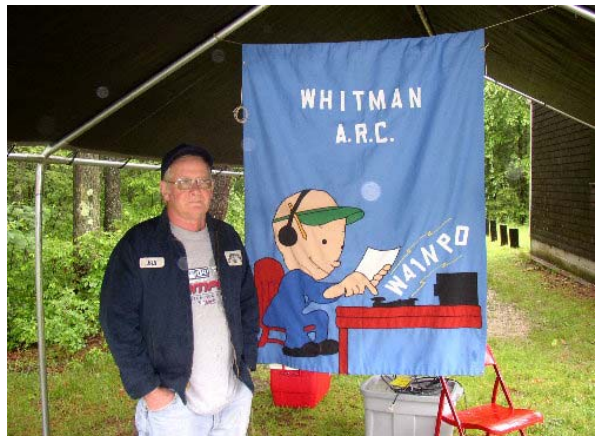


Jim Ford NM1F & Kevin Dykes KB1MOC

10-METER & 15-METER BASE STATION: Jim N1OIU brought his "Wildcat" motor home for overnight operation and set up his Kenwood TS 430B transceiver as a 10-Meter Base Station and his YAESU FT-890 Transceiver as a 15-Meter Base Station. A vertical antenna tied to the motor home would not tune and was later replaced by **The Bruce's N1IX** Cushcraft R-5 Vertical. The 10-Meter Base Station recorded 32 contacts and the 15-Meter Base Station recorded 64 contacts. The "Wildcat Hilton" overnight crew switched to 20-Meter overnight and helped the 20-Meter Base Station log in the most contacts. **Jim N1OIU** also supplied a Lincoln 8000 watt generator / welder that was used to power most of the Field Day site.

80- METER BASE STATION

Bill Tracy N1SON and his son **Jeff Tracy N1SOM** set up an 80-Meter Base Station in their Coachman Motor Home using an ICOM IC-706 Mark IIG transceiver and a G5RV HF Dipole antenna. They were electrically independent with their own 4000 watt portable generator. The 80-Meter Base Station recorded 78 contacts



Bill Tracy N1SON
dodging rain drops

Jeff Tracy N1SOM volunteered to make up the log books, one for each band and mode of operation and then volunteered to fill out the paperwork and turn in the dupe sheets to the ARRL at the end of exercise.

WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO PUBLIC SERVICE NET (WARPSN)

On Field Day weekend **Jeff Tracy N1SOM** volunteered to be Net Control for the June 25th Sunday morning WARPSN Net and is shown operating from the Field Day site.

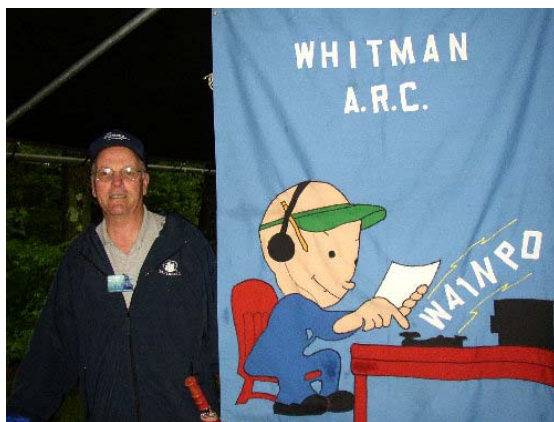
Club members who were not able to make it to the Field Day site but were able to check in with **WA1NPO** were **Roy Logan KB1CYV**, **Loren Pimentel N1IQI**, **Paul Burbine N1VTI** and **Don Burke KB1LXH**. Others club members reporting in via relay from the Massasoit Field Day site were **Gil Follett W1GMF** and **Phil McNamara N1XTB**.



Jeff Tracy N1SOM

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. Members are encouraged to participate as Net Control and to make up and send RADIOGRAM traffic messages for practice. In June we had four (4) sessions with an average of 8 area HAMS checking in each week and 10 messages were sent.



Ralph Butler K1BT



Gary Cumiskey W1GRC
with his new Whitman Club Jacket

LETTERS

Amateur Radio Club will participate in 24-hour event —

Editor, *Whitman Express*:

Members of the Whitman Amateur Radio Club will band together this weekend with other operators from all over the United States and Canada to test their readiness to provide emergency communications in time of need.

Local hams will take part in the 24-hour long exercise starting at 2 p.m. Saturday,

June 24, in Ames Nowell State Park in Abington. Participants will set up their radio stations in tents and shelters, launch wire antennas into treetops and operate from portable generators and battery power.

Plans are to operate both phone and Morse code stations with radios ranging from 45 year-old tube sets to

state of the art transceivers. Some of the operators plan to bring along their computers to provide logging support along with other computer-enhanced communications via ham radio.

The main goal will be to develop operating skills and ensure that equipment and operators are ready in any natural disaster. The opera-

tional area will be open to the public and members will gladly explain how ham radio works and how easy it is for anyone to become involved in this fascinating hobby.

William F. Hayden
Vice President
Whitman Amateur Radio
Club, Inc.

The Enterprise—Friday, June 23, 2006

CLEAR SIGNALS: It could be quite the scene over in Abington on Saturday. Local hams will take part in the 24-hour long exercise starting at 2 p.m. in Ames Nowell State Park. Participants will set up their radio stations in tents and shelters, launch wire antennas into tree tops and operate from portable generators and battery power.

The goal is to develop operating skills and ensure equipment and operators are ready in any natural disaster. The operational area will be open to the public and members will gladly explain how ham radio works and how easy it is for anyone to become involved in this fascinating hobby. Check it out. ...

Bill Hayden N1FRE volunteered to prepare an article for the local newspapers explaining Field Day and inviting the public to attend and then followed up with an article detailing the results. Thanks to Bill N1FRE the Whitman Club had excellent publicity this year.

In addition, Phil Temples K9HI put the Whitman Club Field Day Enterprise article on the Eastern Massachusetts ARRL Web page.

A review of the prior year records shows that we have been pretty consistent over the past few years. This year we operated as 4A but we actually managed to get a fifth HF Base Stations (5A) in operation after we changed out a bad vertical antenna on Jim's N1OIU motor home.

<u>Year</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
<u>Number of Base Stations</u>	6A	4A	5A	4A	7A	4A
<u>Number of contacts made</u>	690	383	325	257	259	319
<u>Number of participants</u>	20	24	22	23	22	18

They're ready for emergencies

Ham radio enthusiasts show their stuff

By **ALLAN STEIN**
SouthofBoston.com

ABINGTON – Seated at a table under a tarp, William Hayden ignored the rain, manning a ham radio set in a clearing at Ames Nowell State Park in Abington.

Hayden and 13 other ham radio enthusiasts braved the foul weekend weather to conduct a yearly test of their emergency communications readiness.

The 24-hour exercise was part of a large-scale coordinated effort by ham radio operators from across North America.

“The purpose (of the test) is to contact and log as many radio stations as we can over the U.S. and Canada,” said Hayden, president of the Whitman Amateur Radio Club.

The club, formed in 1962, has more than 90 members and conducts yearly ham radio license exams.

The exercise at Ames Nowell

State Park began at 2 p.m. Saturday and ended at 2 p.m. yesterday.

Results of the test will be sent to the American Radio Relay League, the club's umbrella organization, in Newington, Conn.

Club members spent the night in campers and set up a tarp to stay dry as they monitored high-frequency radio stations. The radios were powered by a portable gasoline-powered generator and batteries. A boom antenna provided long-range coverage.

Plans were to operate phone and Morse code stations with radios ranging from 45-year-old tube sets to modern transceivers.

“Some of the operators plan to bring along their computers to provide logging support along with other computer-enhanced communications via ham radio,” Hayden said.

The operational area was open

Please see **RADIO** — Page 12

Ham radio fans test readiness

■ **RADIO**
Continued from Page 11

to the public and members were on hand to explain how ham radio works.

Knowing where and how to contact other ham radio operators would provide a vital emergency response link in the event of a natural disaster if commercial networks failed, Hayden said.

“Basically, this is to test our readiness in a disaster when you wouldn't have commercial power,” he said.

Hayden's cousin, Bruce Hayden of Raynham, also a ham radio operator, described local radio operators as an “integral part of the emergency management plan in the county.”

When called upon, ham radio operators go into action as volunteers working with the American Red Cross and other relief agencies.

“We are there, ready to help,” Hayden said.

THE MASSASOIT CLUB FIELD DAY SITE

The Whitman Club **WA1NPO** Field Day site made a contact with **Paul Burbine N1VTI**, who was operating from the Massasoit Club **W1MV** Field Day site that was located in the Bridgewater Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and operating as one of the new Class F Stations. The Bridgewater EOC is also the local ARES command center where **Carl Aveni N1FY** was acting as a safety officer and was keeping the Field Day sites in the area apprised of the weather situation as reported by National Weather.



Gil Follett W1GMF
Gary Cumiskey W1GRC



Don Benecchi K1DC
Paul Burbine N1VTI



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

CLUB OFFICERS

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, Aug 2nd at 6:30 PM
Whitman Public Library

President	Bruce	N1IX
V. President	Bill	N1FRE
Secretary	Roy	KB1CYV
Treasurer	Jeff	N1SOM
Director	George	KC1FZ
Director	Paul	N1VTI
Director	Jeff	N1ZZN

Editor	Bruce	N1IX
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)
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*Whitman Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
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