



The Whitman Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

August 2006

SPECTRUM



The Voice of the Humble Electron

Founded 1962

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: This is **The Bruce N1IX** – In August I spent a week in Maine on a radioactive vacation to Bailey Island where I brought along my portable HF rig and made 14 HF contacts. Also in August, Whitman club members reported participating in the first Monday of the month RADIOGRAM training at both the Taunton and Whitman Emergency Operations Centers.

Six (6) Whitman club members and nine (9) area HAMS participated in a Lost Person Search and Rescue Exercise in the Norton Town Forest as part of ongoing Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training. A new wave of introductory level amateur radio operators appear to be coming from Emergency Management Agency volunteers. Amateur radio has its roots in serving the public in times of emergencies and these new volunteers appreciate amateur radio as a valuable tool in this effort.

Bill Hayden N1FRE is coordinating the Labor Day weekend Flea Market with Saftler's and reports all systems are go for Sunday September 3rd and Monday September 4th. Start rounding up goodies to be sold at the club table and plan on stopping by to help man the club table and help put **WA1NPO** On-The-Air.

NEXT ON THE AGENDA IS THE MARSHFIELD FAIR AMATEUR RADIO EXHIBIT BOOTH AND NN1MF SPECIAL EVENT STATION - AUGUST 18TH THRU AUGUST 27TH

Bill Hayden N1FRE is coordinating the Amateur Radio Exhibit Booth and Special Event Station **NN1MF** at the Marshfield Fair through Bridget Burns and the Marshfield Fair Officials and has secured passes for the volunteers who have signed up for a four-hour shift.

A preliminary schedule is included. Please contact **Bill N1FRE** at 781-447-1655 or E-mail at wf.hayden@verizon.net with your availability. The hours are basically 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. weekends and 12 noon to 10 p.m. weekdays. In the past we have started to pack up at 8 p.m. when the Fair show starts.



NN1MF Special Event QSL card

Finally, under Technical Topics, **Paul Burbine N1VTI** brought his latest projects to the August meeting for show and tell. One was a Spud-Gun antenna launching system and the other was a homemade 2-Meter / 440 MHz antenna built from details on page 50 of the August 2006 issue of QST magazine. Come to the next meeting and share your radioactive adventures with the other club members.

SECRETARY'S NOTES OF THE MEETING OF August 2, 2006 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: Eighteen members were present, including three elected officers and one director. A quorum was present

N1PXX	Ron Smith	KB1NAX	Joan Smith	KB1CYV	Roy Logan
KB1NMG	Barbara Anderson	KB1MTW	Paul Moss	K1BAR	Bob Barbour
N1JXS	Al Molin	N1WIG	Sam Webber	KB1MJL	Al Marshall
KB1ETW	Jim Halpin	KA1PJX	Don Keene	N1NTZ	Ed Meehan
N1VTI	Paul Burbine	N1SOM	Jeff Tracy	WG1L	Jim O'Rourke
KB1BTS	Priscilla Imhoff	W5IRW	Jim Gilbert	N1FRE	Bill Hayden

TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer's report for July was read by **Jeff N1SOM**. **ED N1NTZ** made a motion seconded by **Paul N1VTI** 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 **Paul KB1MTW** that the secretary's report be accepted as published in the July Newsletter. The motion was approved.

HEALTH & WELFARE: A card was received from **Jim's KB1KFF** family thanking the WARC for the donation to "Homes For Our Troops" made in **Jim's KB1KFF** memory. Later **Bruce NI1X** reported that a card was received from **John Coombs WQ1L** and his brother's family thanking the Whitman Club members for their kindness expressed when **John's WQ1L** brother passed away.

OLD BUSINESS: **Bill N1FRE** reported that plans for the Marshfield Fair Special Event are progressing and that an antenna party is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, August 12th at 9:00 a.m. Leave a message on the club answering machine 781-447-1655 if you plan to attend or wish to operate from the club station. **Jeff N1SOM** has received the MFJ Noise Blanker recently purchased.

NEW BUSINESS: **Bill N1FRE** announced that the Fall Flea Market at Saftler's is a go. Let's hope we have as good weather as in the spring. **Jim WG1L** turned over a FIST code CD to **Bill N1FRE** for testing. Plans are to provide club members wishing to upgrade their licenses or improve their skills with copies if requested.

CLUB ANTENNA ANALYZER LOCATION: **Bill N1FRE**

TECHNICAL TOPICS: **Paul N1VTI** made a presentation on two recently completed projects. One being a "Spud-gun" which he hopes to use in erecting an antenna at Plimoth Plantation. The other a 2-Meter / 440MHz antenna from plans found in QST, which he has added to his go-kit.

NET CONTROLS: 8/6 **Bill N1FRE** 8/13 **Jeff N1SOM** 8/20 **Roy KB1CYV** 8/27 **Bruce NI1X**
Experienced net control operators will gladly assist anyone interested in running a net.

CLOSE: After a round table discussion of radioactive activities **Vice President Bill N1FRE** closed the meeting at 7:30 p.m. following a motion to close by **Ed N1NTZ** seconded by **Paul N1VTI**.

Marshfield Fair <> 2006 <> Amateur Radio Exhibit Roster

Pass	Friday - August 18 Afternoon 12:00 to 16:30 BRUCE HAYDEN <> N11X >15:00 JOHN COOMBS <> WQ1L ED MEEHAN <> N1NTZ PAUL MOSS <> KB1MTW	Pass	Friday - August 18 Evening 16:30 to 21:00 15:00< BILL HAYDEN <> N1FRE BOB BASS <> K1WGU	Pass	Saturday - August 19 Morning 10:00 to 14:00 BRUCE HAYDEN <> N11X >15:00 JOHN COOMBS <> WQ1L ED MEEHAN <> N1NTZ	Pass	Saturday - August 19 Afternoon 14:00 to 18:00 15:00< BILL HAYDEN <> N1FRE BOB BASS <> K1WGU PAUL MOSS <> KB1MTW
Pass	Saturday - August 19 Evening 18:00 to 21:00 BILL HAYDEN <> N1FRE	Pass	SUNDAY - August 20 10:00 to 14:00 Morning BRUCE HAYDEN <> N11X >15:00 JOHN COOMBS <> WQ1L PAUL MOSS <> KB1MTW	Pass	Sunday - August 20 Afternoon 14:00 to 18:00 15:00< BILL HAYDEN <> N1FRE BRUCE HAYDEN <> N11X DAVID RING <> N1EA	Pass	Sunday - August 20 Evening 18:00 to 21:00 BILL HAYDEN <> N1FRE BILL TRACY <> N1SON
Pass	Monday - August 21 Afternoon 12:00 to 16:30 BILL HAYDEN <> N1FRE JOHN COOMBS <> WQ1L FRANK HAYES <> N1OGP DAVID RING <> N1EA	Pass	Monday - August 21 Evening 16:30 to 21:00 BRUCE HAYDEN <> N11X PAUL MOSS <> KB1MTW PETE CARLSON <> N1POO	Pass	Tuesday - August 22 Afternoon 12:00 to 16:30 BILL HAYDEN <> N1FRE JOHN COOMBS <> WQ1L FRANK HAYES <> N1OGP DAVID RING <> N1EA	Pass	Tuesday - August 22 Evening 16:30 to 21:00 BRUCE HAYDEN <> N11X PAUL MOSS <> KB1MTW
Pass	Wednesday - August 23 Afternoon 12:00 to 16:30 BILL HAYDEN <> N1FRE JOHN COOMBS <> WQ1L FRANK HAYES <> N1OGP DAVID RING <> N1EA	Pass	Wednesday - August 23 Afternoon 16:30 to 21:00 BRUCE HAYDEN <> N11X JEFF TRACY <> N1SOM PAUL MOSS <> KB1MTW	Pass	Thursday - August 24 Afternoon 12:00 to 16:30 BILL HAYDEN <> N1FRE JOHN COOMBS <> WQ1L DAVID RING <> N1EA	Pass	Thursday - August 24 Afternoon 16:30 to 21:00 BRUCE HAYDEN <> N11X JEFF TRACY <> N1SOM PAUL MOSS <> KB1MTW
Pass	Friday - August 25 Afternoon 12:00 to 16:30 BRUCE HAYDEN <> N11X JOHN COOMBS <> WQ1L	Pass	Friday - August 25 Afternoon 16:30 to 21:00 BILL HAYDEN <> N1FRE PAUL MOSS <> KB1MTW JEFF TRACY <> N1SOM	Pass	Saturday - August 26 Morning 10:00 to 14:00 BRUCE HAYDEN <> N11X JOHN COOMBS <> WQ1L	Pass	Saturday - August 26 Afternoon 14:00 to 18:00 BILL HAYDEN <> N1FRE RON SMITH <> N1PXX
Pass	Saturday - August 26 Afternoon 16:00 to 21:00 BILL HAYDEN <> N1FRE FRANK HAYES <> N1OGP JEFF TRACY <> N1SOM	Pass	Sunday - August 27 Morning 10:00 to 14:00 BILL HAYDEN <> N1FRE JOHN COOMBS <> WQ1L PAUL MOSS <> KB1MTW	Pass	Sunday - August 27 Afternoon 14:00 to 18:00 BILL HAYDEN <> N11X BRUCE HAYDEN <> N1FRE JEFF TRACY <> N1SOM RON SMITH <> N1PXX	Pass	Sunday - August 27 Afternoon 16:00 to 21:00 BRUCE HAYDEN <> N11X JEFF TRACY <> N1SON BILL TRACY <> N1SON

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There were about 45 volunteers attending a Lost Person Search & Rescue Exercise sponsored by **Jack Ready**, the Operations Officer for the Norton Emergency Management Agency and their Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers. The Exercise was held at the Norton Town Forrest on July 26, 2006 and the crew, shown in the group picture, consisted mostly of CERT volunteers from Norton, Mansfield, Rehoboth and Taunton.



Can you spot the six (6) Whitman Club members ? They are **Bruce Hayden NI1X**, **Don Burke KB1LXH**, **Bob Barbour K1BAR**, **Peter Ferreira KB1LXG**, **Greg Glynn KB1NLX**, and **Carlos Wharton WP4US**.

Can you spot any of the nine (9) other area HAMs participating ? They are **Alan Cox K1VQ**, **Barbara Foster KB1KZX**, **Steve Foster KB1KZW**, **Neal Harrington KB1LXL**, **George Pereira KB1KZV**, **Rick Ferreira KB1KWF** and **Rick Cantin AA1TI**. Not present when the group picture was taken but also participating were **Doug Cugini N1KQZ** and **Nancy Cugini KB1KDI** who are shown in the photo pacing off 100 meters on a measured course.



THE INSTRUCTORS: **Curt Rudge** is a Chief Park Ranger with the Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation and he brought his air-scenting search dog **Maggie** along for show and tell. **T.J** is a Police Lieutenant with the Franklin Police Department and reports that there is a 90-officer search team that is ready to go on 45 minutes notice in our area.

LOST PERSON SEARCH & RESCUE – AN OUTDOOR CLASSROOM:



Bruce NI1X & Bob K1BAR

A review of lost person characteristics and tactics for children 1-3 years old, 3-6 years old, 7-9 years old and 13-15 years old along with senior Alzheimer patients were discussed. It was very interesting to learn about the way these individual groups think and respond differently to their situation. **The Bruce NI1X** and **Bob Barbour K1BAR** are shown in the outdoor classroom setting taking notes, and keeping a lookout for mosquitoes, ants, poison ivy, ticks and other creepy crawlers.

MAGGIE PUT ON A FANTASTIC DEMONSTRATION:

Maggie, an air-scenting dog, could find any person or persons in her range of ¼ mile by airborne scent alone. **T.J.** hid in the woods and when **Maggie** was turned loose she went down the dirt road and then headed into the woods – found **T.J.** – gave him a kiss – then came back out and jumped on her trainer who immediately followed Maggie as she led him back into the woods to **T.J.**'s location. Good job **Maggie**.



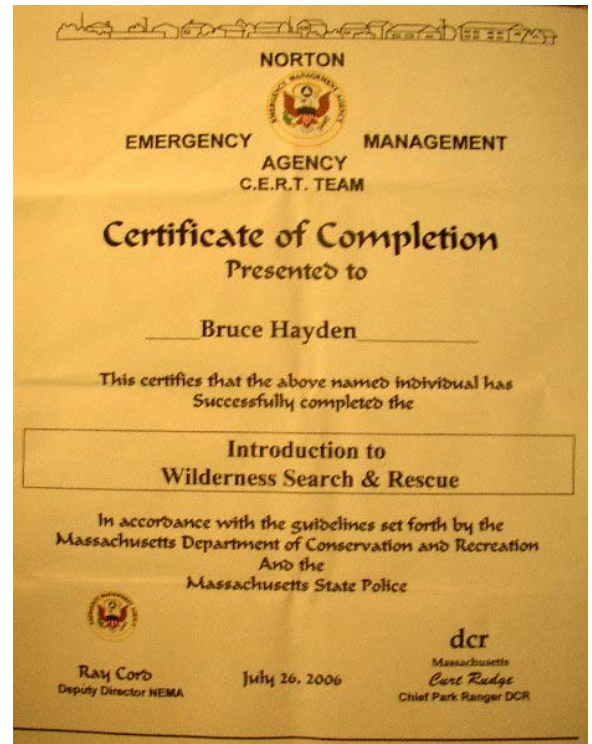
Curt Rudge & Maggie

Curt explained that his dog **Maggie** tracks by airborne scent alone where a bloodhound tracks by scent left deposited on the ground. **Maggie** does not care if there is one, two or three people in the woods – she will find them all.

HANDS ON TRAINING – A WALK IN THE WOODS:

The 100 meter grid square line search was a challenge walking in a straight line through the woods with a team member within sight on your left and on your right, searching for clues (criminal evidence at a crime scene) which, in this case, were hidden potatoes. First we had to learn how many steps it took to travel 100 meters. Each team requires one navigator and one communicator. It was explained that the number of team members needed for a 100-meter line search depends on a critical separation criteria. Basically this means each line search team member pair must be able to see common ground between them in order to help insure a 50% probability of detection.

Our team leader was **Don Burke KB1LXH** and our amateur radio team members were heard communicating with each other via handheld transceivers on 147.480 MHz simplex. Amateur radio made this exercise a little more fun as we spread out over a 100-Meter wide search line and were heard enthusiastically reporting potatoes as found. – Our team found 9 out of 14 potatoes in our grid square and we didn't have to send in **Maggie** to find any lost searchers.

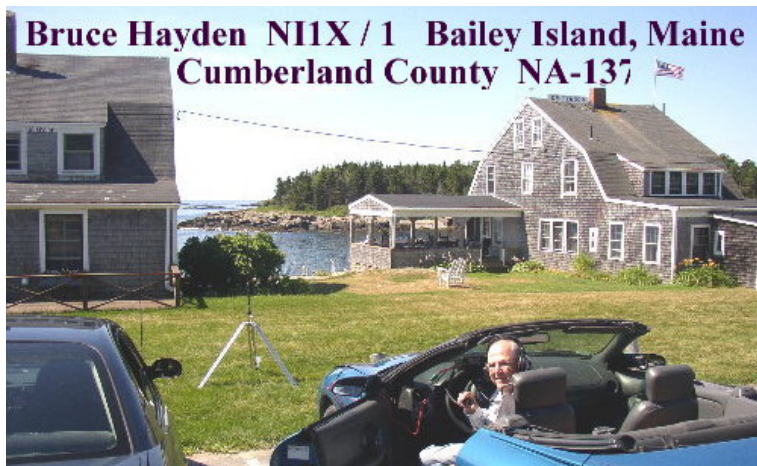


It was getting dark by the time we quit the search and flashlights were needed to find our way out of the Town Forest by the end of the 9 p.m. graduation ceremony. This training exercise left us all with a better appreciation of the complexity of a well organized, evidence gathering, wilderness search and rescue operation. We saw first hand how communication plays an important part in any search and rescue operation and once again we saw how amateur radio is a valuable tool that goes a long way towards providing interoperability among responders.

THE BRUCE NI1X OPERATES FROM BAILEY ISLAND IN MAINE ONCE AGAIN

For the second year in a row, I brought my HF rig on vacation to Bailey Island in the State of Maine. I was able to make 14 contacts on 17 & 20 meters using my ICOM IC-706MKIIG, which was putting out 100 watts using my car battery. I was using an OUTBACKER vertical antenna, which was mounted on a commercial aluminum tripod stand on the grass.

This is the front of my QSL card.



This is The Bruce NI1X / 1 calling CQ CQ CQ

FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH RADIOGRAM TRAINING

Shown at the Taunton Emergency Operations Center following the August RADIOGRAM Training session are L. to R. **Peter Ferreira KB1LXG**, **Brandon Hoderny SWL**, **Carlos Wharton WP4US**, **Bob Barbour K1BAR**, **Greg Glynn KB1LXN** (the Net Control for the night), **Neal Harrington KB1LXL**, **Bruce Hayden NI1X**, **Rudy Burer KB1LXI** and **George Pereira KB1KZV**.



The Taunton RACES volunteers

John Miller N1UMJ was sending the four messages to the local Emergency Management Agency Directors from the MEMA Region II headquarters located at the Bridgewater State Prison Bunker facilities. The next RADIOGRAM training session will be September 11th due to the holiday. Listen in at 7:30 p.m. on the Taunton REPEATER 147.135 MHz PL 67 or at 8:00 p.m. on the Norwell REPEATER 145.250MHz pl 77 and copy the messages from home.

Shown at the Whitman Emergency Operations Center following the August RADIOGRAM Training session are L. to R. **Paul Moss KB1MTW** (the Net Control for the night), **Jeff Tracy N1SOM**, **Cathy Costello KB1MTX** and **Erika LaFlamme KB1MTV** with **Bill Hayden N1FRE** shown seated. Come on down - all are invited to join in and copy the four RADIOGRAM messages in a classroom setting – no pressure.



The Whitman RACES volunteers

TECHNICAL TOPICS - THE SPUD-GUN ANTENNA LAUNCHER By: Paul Burbine N1VTI

Paul Burbine N1VTI is modifying a Spud-Gun potato launcher to fire a string over tall pine trees. Shown in the Photo are L.To R. **Bruce Hayden N11X**, **John Coombs WQ1L**, **Paul Burbine N1VTI** - holding the Spud-Gun, **Vic Kairis N10EH** and **Ron Smith N1PXX**.

The Spud-Gun potato launcher includes a section of 3-inch PVC pipe that you jam a potato into. The other end has a larger PVC chamber section that includes a threaded PVC plug and a metal spark gap connected to the wire leads coming from a standard barbeque lighter ignition switch. **Paul N1VTI** reports that he can launch potatoes and is now working on the details of how to launch a string along with the potato.



Paul N1VTI showing his Spud-Gun launcher

SKYWARN UPDATE: Numerous SKYWARN activations at the National Weather Service Taunton along with recent Red Cross amateur radio deployments on the North Shore have really brought Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) volunteers to the attention of the Mass Emergency Management Agency and the public.

Ever since **Rob Macedo KD1CY** and his team of Skywarn Observers came along, the local interest and fascination with severe weather has just grown and grown. The amateur radio operators and the public now have a better idea of what an important role SKYWARN spotters play in keeping their communities aware and safe.



Here is a new SKYWARN word: A “derecho” is a long-lived windstorm with a band of thunderstorms. **Rob KD1CY** reports that the derecho observed in August was the first in 11 years in this area.

AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICES (ARES) UPDATE:

The ARES staff encourages all amateur radio operators to log on to the ARES database and register with ARES. Go to <http://ares.ema.arrrl.org> and under the heading EMa Policies – click on – Join us.

Following the long power outages throughout the country in July and the devastating effect of hurricane Katrina and the thought of a pandemic flue outbreak, **Frank O’Laughlin WQ1O**, the ARES District Emergency Coordinator for the Cape and Islands told **The Bruce N11X** that he is personally recommending a 10 day emergency supply of food, water and essential supplies, instead of the 72 hour emergency supply currently recommended by government authorities. As some of you know - **Frank WQ1O** is our resident expert on Go Kits.





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

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, Sept. 6th 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:	ni1x@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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