



The Whitman Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

September 2006

SPECTRUM



The Voice of the Humble Electron

Founded 1962

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: This is **The Bruce N1IX** – It has been a busy summer. In August, 21 Whitman club members helped man the Amateur Radio Exhibit Booth and Special Event Station NN1MF for 10 days at the Marshfield Fair and at least 11 Whitman Club members reported in that they had attended the ARRL New England Convention in Boxboro.

This was followed by a successful Saftler's Parking lot fund raiser flea market held on Labor Day where 25 members and 5 area HAMS gathered to help coordinate the event and sell items at the Club table.

As usual, 11 Whitman Club members attended the once a month Radiogram Training Session conducted by the Mass. Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and held at both the Whitman and Taunton Emergency Operations Center.

Great news - Technician classes have started in Whitman and are sponsored by the Whitman Amateur Radio Club and the Whitman Emergency Management Agency. **Bill Hayden N1FRE** is the instructor and the classes are being held on Wednesday nights at the Whitman Fire / Rescue Station on Rt. 27 near the center of Town. The course will last about 8 weeks.

At the September meeting **Bill Hayden N1FRE**, as seen in the photo, conducted a hands-on training session where the members present made up and soldered connectors on to coax cables for future club use. A great Technical Topic, especially for the new members – remember - practice makes perfect. Come to the next meeting and share your radioactive adventures or talents with the other club members.

September

Meeting

Technical Topics

Coax Connector

Workshop



SECRETARY'S NOTES OF THE MEETING OF September 6, 2006 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 6:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Twenty-two members / guests were present, including the four elected officers and three directors. A quorum was present

N1NTZ	Ed Meehan	WQ1L	John Coombs	N1ZZN	Jeff Lehmann
KB1CYV	Roy Logan	K1WGU	Bob Bass	N1VTI	Paul Burbine
K1BAR	Bob Barbour	KB1MTW	Paul Moss	NM1F	Jim Ford
N1JXS	Al Molin	KA1PJX	Don Keene	WG1L	Jim O'Rourke
N1WIG	Sam Webber	KB1ETW	Jim Halpin	KC1FZ	George Davis
WA1UMT	Dave Darois	N1OGP	Frank Hayes	N1FRE	Bill Hayden
NI1X	Bruce Hayden	N1SOM	Jeff Tracy	KB1NPH	Bill Anstead
N1EY	Bill O'Hara				

TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer's report for August was read by **Jeff N1SOM**. **Ed N1NTZ** made a motion seconded by **John WQ1L** 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 **John WQ1L** that the secretary's report be accepted as published in the August newsletter.

HEALTH & WELFARE: Best wishes to **Bruce Weir N1XZD** who is recuperating from recent medical problems.

OLD BUSINESS: **Bill N1FRE** has Morse CDs and tapes available. **Bruce NI1X** has published the Marshfield Fair Special Edition of the Newsletter and reported that the Saftler's Labor Day Flea Market was a success despite being rained out on Sunday. At least eleven club members attended the Boxboro Flea Market. **Jeff N1ZZN** reported that testing of the new repeater is complete and that autopatch numbers have been assigned. Further information will be forthcoming.

NEW BUSINESS: **Bill N1FRE** will be conducting Technician license classes at the Whitman EOC starting September 13th. Pre-registration figures indicate we can look forward to several new HAMs joining the hobby.

CLUB ANTENNA ANALYZER LOCATION: Pine Street Clubhouse

TECHNICAL TOPICS: **Bill N1FRE** conducted an excellent seminar on creating connector cables and soldering techniques. This hands-on practice session was enjoyed by all.

NET CONTROLS: 9/3 **Paul N1VTI** 9/10 **Bruce NI1X** 9/17 **Jeff N1SOM** 9/24 **Bill N1FRE**
Experienced net control operators will gladly assist anyone interested in running a net.

CLOSE: Following the training session **President Bruce NI1X** closed the meeting at 7:55PM following a motion to close by **Roy KB1CYV** seconded by **Bill N1FRE**.

Free Amateur Radio License Course Offered

The Whitman Emergency Management Agency will co-sponsor along with The Whitman Amateur Radio Club a Technician Radio Operators license course which no longer requires Morse Code.

The classes will run for 8 weeks with a FCC license examination given on the ninth week. Early pre-registration is advised as the classes will begin on Wednesday, September 13, at 7:00 p.m. upstairs at the Whitman Fire/Rescue Station on Temple Street. To register call 781-447-1655, and leave your contact information.

There are no age or special educational requirements,

just a willingness to learn about this fascinating hobby. Basic electronics, radio theory, FCC rules, and safety are some of the study materials covered. Although the course is free, there is a required text book that costs about \$20.

In addition to the 48 trained Citizens Emergency Response Team members, last years class room effort produced five additional licensed radio operators that can legally operate the radio communication equipment at the Whitman EOC, as well as provide supplemental emergency communication assistance in time of need.

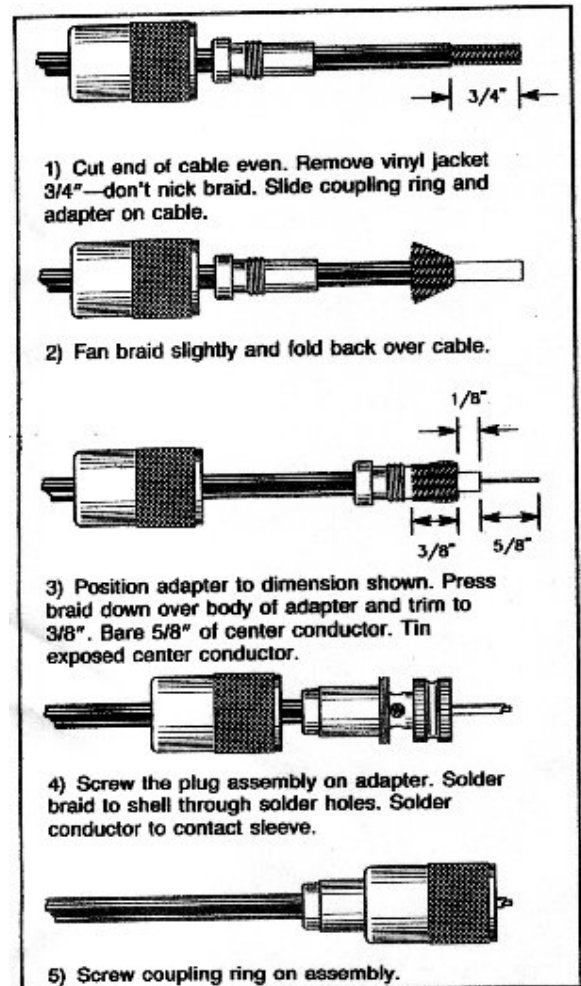


Figure 7-15—If you use RG-58 or RG-59 with a PL-259 connector, you should use an adapter, as shown here. Thanks to Amphenol Electronic Components, RF Division, Bunker Ramo Corp, for this information.

TECHNICAL TOPICS: Bill Hayden N1FRE conducted a workshop presentation on PL-259 connector installation which included tips on successful measuring, cutting, and soldering. An illustration by Amphenol, that details the basic fundamentals for making up a connector on a coax cable, is shown here and was distributed to all present for an easy follow-a-long guide.

The PL-259 or UHF connector is almost universal for amateur HF work. It is also popular for short runs, (50 ft. or less), used in the VHF range. Although several diameters of coaxial cable are available, RG8X, (mini 8), was used for the exercise. It has an outside diameter of about 1/4" .250", with a stranded center conductor, a braided copper outer conductor- shield, and a vinyl outer jacket.

One useful tip was to use the diameter of a nickel, (5 cents), to gage the 3/4 " area of vinyl jacket to be removed. The same nickel (5 cents) can be used on edge as a gage-stop (approx. 1/8") to position the wire stripper for cutting and stripping away the dielectric material from the center conductor.

A very essential part of the assembly process is the use of the ohm or continuity meter to assure that there are no short circuits at any time. Soldering technique was also reviewed which took some practice to get just right. Everyone had a chance to refresh their skills and make some repairs to the club coaxial cable collection. Just a reminder - coax wire and connectors are available from the club at cost and experienced members are always ready to lend a helping hand if you need help.

BOXBORO - ARRL NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE AND FLEA MARKET

The Whitman club members reporting that they made the trip to Boxboro were:

NM1F	Jim Ford	N1VTI	Paul Burbine	W1GRC	Gary Cumiskey
KB1MTW	Paul Moss	K1BAR	Bob Barbour	KB1MBW	Dick Sproul
N1SOM	Jeff Tracy	W1MMM	Bob Sikes	N1ZZN	Jeff Lehmann
KB1LXH	Don Burke	KB1NLX	Greg Glynn		



Don Burke KB1LXH Dick Sproul KB1MBW
Greg Glynn KB1NLX Bob Barbour K1BAR

Bob Sikes W1MMM



Paul Burbine N1VTI Jeff Tracy N1SOM
Paul Moss KB1MTW



Gary Cumiskey W1GRC

Jim Ford NM1F and **Gary Cumiskey W1GRC** reported setting up vendor tables at Boxboro. **Jim O'Rourke WG1L** reported he picked up a Heathkit HW-8 QRP transceiver and it tested OK. **Paul Moss KB1MTW** reported that he picked up a mike and earphones for the Whitman Emergency Management Agency. **Jeff Tracy N1SOM** and **Al Molin N1JXS** both reported that they picked up new Yaesu FT-1802M mobile 2-Meter 50 watt transceivers. **Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN** reported that he picked up an Alinco 220 MHz transceiver model DR-235.

MONTHLY RADIOGRAM TRAINING

The Taunton RACES volunteers taking part in the September RADIOGRAM Training are shown at the Taunton Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Standing L. to R. **Greg Glynn KB1NLX**, **Bob Barbour K1BAR** (the Net Control for the night), **Peter Ferreira KB1LXG** – Assistant Director – TEMA, and **Don Burke KB1LXH**. Shown seated L. to R. **Carlos Wharton WP4US**, **Neal Harrington KB1LXL** and **Bruce Hayden NI1X**.



Taunton RACES Volunteers

Listen in at 7:30 p.m. on the Taunton REPEATER 147.135 MHz PL 67 at 8:00 p.m. on Norwell 145.250MHz pl 77 and copy the messages from home. The next session will be Monday October 2nd

The Whitman RACES volunteers, shown at the Whitman EOC following the Sept. RADIOGRAM Testing session are L. to R. **Cathy Costello KB1MTX**, **Erika LA Flamme KB1MTV**, **Paul Moss KB1MTW**, **Bill Anstead KB1NMG** and **Bill Hayden N1FRE** (the Net Control for **WC1WH**).



Whitman RACES Volunteers

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS

1. Sept. 24TH The second annual Brockton D.W. Field Park Triathlon – September 24, 2006 – Race start 9:00 a.m.
2. Sept. / Oct. The Plymouth Nuclear Power Plant will be holding limited evacuation drills in Bridgewater and Taunton in September and October. Local Emergency Management Agency volunteers are involved.
3. Oct. 6th & 7th Hosstraders Flea Market - October 6th and 7th Hopkinton, NH.
4. Oct 7th TEMA amateur radio public information booth at the outdoor Harvest Arts and Air Festival – Boyden Wildlife Refuge 1298 Cohannet Street, Taunton, MA 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Rain date Oct. 8th
5. Oct 15th East Bridgewater YMCA Fall Frolic Road Race is Sunday October 15th . Race starts at 10:30 a.m.

CLUB WIRE FOR SALE AT COST: 9913 @ \$0.40/ft -- RG-8X @ \$0.22/ft -- Flex weave @ \$0.12/ft -- 450 ohm ladder line @ \$0.12/ft.



WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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



Post Office Box 48
Pine Street
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, Oct. 4th at 6:30 PM
Whitman Public Library

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

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

