



The Whitman Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

December 2006

SPECTRUM



The Voice of the Humble Electron

Founded 1962

PLIMOTH PLANTATION SPECIAL ISSUE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: This is **The Bruce NI1X** – The Plimoth Plantation Special Event was a great success.

There were 26 Whitman Club members and 4 area amateur radio operators "HAMS" who helped set up and operate three HF Base Stations and two 2-Meter Base Stations along with portable antennas at the re-creation of the 17th century Pilgrim settlement and Wampanoag Indian homesite. The crew exchanged contacts with 243 other amateur radio operators in 35 states, 6 foreign countries and 2 Canadian provinces.



Of special interest – of the 30 HAMS participating – 12 held Technician class licenses and the General and Extra class Control Operators were seen helping them make HF contacts. We made 120 contacts on 40-Meter and found the 40-Meter band HAM operators friendly and eager to encourage the new HAMS to learn the Morse code and keep studying in order to upgrade to General Class.

Special Event Station at **Plimoth Plantation**

Be it known that
243 Stations from 35 States, 6 Foreign Countries
and 2 Canadian Province

made two-way radio contact on

November 25th and 26th, 2006

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



Thanksgiving
2006



USA

WAINPO



Bruce D Hayden NI1X
QSL MANAGER

THE PLIMOTH PLANTATION SPECIAL EVENT ANTENNA CREW



THE FRIDAY ANTENNA CREW

The weather was beautiful on Friday morning as the antenna crew installed **Bill Hayden's N1FRE** all band off center fed Windom antenna and **Jeff Lehmann's N1ZZN** 2-Meter / 440 MHz vertical at the Hornblower House, The club's Cushcraft R-6 vertical and **Bruce Hayden's NI1X** 2-Meter beam at the Reception Center and **Paul Burbine's N1VTI** 20-Meter folded dipole and Cushcraft R-5 vertical at the Administration Building.

Shown on the steps of the Hornblower House after the antennas were installed are - top row L. to R. **Dave Gurney WA1YZH**, **Pete Carlson N1POO**, **Bill Hayden N1FRE**, **Roy Logan KB1CYV** and **Al Drollett W1SM**. Middle row **George Davis KC1FZ**, **John Coombs WQ1L**, **Paul Burbine N1VTI**, **Dan Noyes KB1OAY**, **Greg Noyes KB1OAW** and **Paul Moss KB1MTW**. Bottom row L. to R. **Bruce Hayden NI1X**, **Jim O'Rourke WG1L**, **Jim Halpin KB1ETW** and **Don Keene KA1PJX**.

THE PATRTICIPATION WAS GREAT: – The 26 club members who were able to participate as part of the antenna crew or with the Special Event operation were:

N1SOM	Jeff Tracy	N1SOM	Bill Tracy	WA1YZH	Dave Gurney
KB1KVL	Ken Kavaljian	N1POO	Pete Carlson	KB1CYV	Roy Logan
W1GRC	Gary Cumiskey	N1FRE	Bill Hayden	KB1MTW	Paul Moss
W1SM	Al Drollett Jr.	KC1FZ	George Davis	WQ1L	John Coombs
N1VTI	Paul Burbine	KB1OAY	Dan Noyes	KB1OAW	Greg Noyes
NI1X	Bruce Hayden	WG1L	Jim O'Rourke	KB1ETW	Jim Halpin
KB1PJX	Don Keene	W1DFS	Dave Souza	KB1LXI	Rudy Burer
KB1LXH	Don Burke	K1WGU	Bob Bass	N1ZZN	Jeff Lehmann
N1WIG	Sam Webber	N1PXX	Ron Smith		

AREA HAMS PARTICIPATING: The four (4) area HAMS who participated were:

KB1OEQ	Ron Stundze	of Whitman	N1UMJ	John Miller	of Taunton
KB1LXL	Neil Harrington	of Rehoboth	KB1ODU	Ray Bolduc	of Abington

Club Members who were not able to participate but were able to check in via 2-Meters were: **N1OQW Bernie Snow**, **W1WSN Steve Rudin** via Echolink from Florida, **N1FRV Mike Marinucci** via Echolink from Florida, **N1OIU Jim Wolf**, **W1SF Stu Forman**, **KB1MOC Kevin Dykes** and **N1OGP Frank Hayes**.



Bill Hayden N1FRE & Bob Bass K1WGU at the reception Center Exhibit Booth



Neal KB1LXL, John N1UMJ, Dan KB1OAY Bill N1FRE & Greg KB1OAW

17-METER BASE STATION: Bill Hayden N1FRE set up a 17-Meter Base Station using his ICOM IC-746 HF transceiver and a 2-Meter Base Station using **Walter Dolson's K1BZD** 2-Meter transceiver at the Reception Center where the visitors to the plantation were introduced to amateur radio. 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.

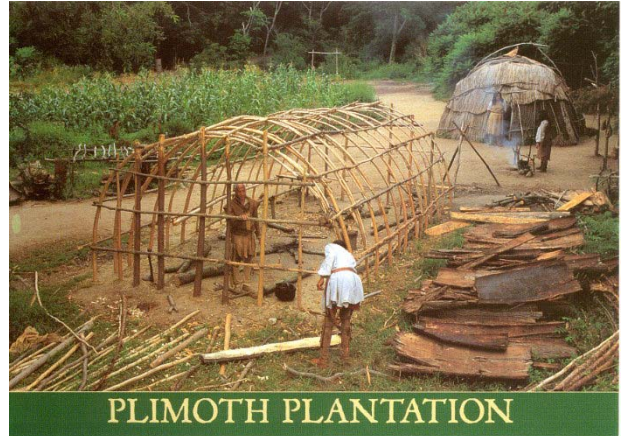
The adults visiting the Plantation were encouraged to send a radiogram message free of charge to friends and relatives via amateur radio. We were able to explain how amateur radio operators practice sending routine messages, via radio to amateur radio operators in the local neighborhood who pick up the phone and 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.

PLIMOTH PLANTATION IS A LIVING MUSEUM

A VISIT TO THE WAMPANOAG INDIAN VILLAGE by: Don Burke KB1LXH

Don Burke KB1LXH reports that his two boys **Riley** 4 and **Noah** 8 were exploring the inside of a "Wetus" a Wampanoag Indian house.

The boys found out that these homes have two fire pits in the center of them that are used during the winter months. A Wetus can get as warm as 90 degrees F when both fires are going and the flap (door) is closed. They sleep about 11 people on wood beds covered with five or six deerskins each. The beds are laid out in a horseshoe shape on three sides of the Wetus with the fires in the center.



Long poles are bent to form the roof and walls with smaller poles inter-woven. The outside is then shingled with tree bark. Inside there are two wooden flaps in the roof, they allow the smoke to escape. The Wampanoags hang woven grass matting along the bedding area walls to block out the cold winter air.

During the summer months the Wampanoag people make a similar home of reeds and grass. The reeds are woven like a grass skirt, and are hung like shingles over long bent poles. These homes are smaller and sleep about 4 on wooden beds lined with a few deerskins. One fire pit in the center and open doorways is all you will need for a comfortable nights sleep.



Noah & Riley Burke



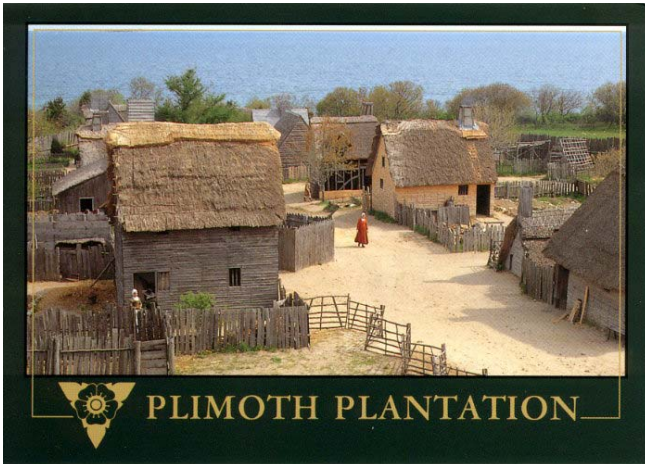
Don Burke KB1LXH, Noah & Riley
Sam Webber N1WIG
Roy Logan KB1CYV

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.

Don KB1LXH and the other 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 and trained to speak in the language of the time and who did not acknowledge the existence of any of our modern technical wonders as they explained about the harsh reality of early Pilgrim life.

AN EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE - A STORY OF TWO CULTURES

A VISIT TO THE PILGRIM VILLAGE by: Don Burke KB1LXH



The homes of a 1627 Pilgrim Village are very rustic. Each has a fenced in yard with gates and gardens, many had herbs and a few vegetables growing. Doorways open onto the main street. These quaint little homes are made from timber, straw and clay. A heavy thatched roof and a single hearth cooking fire with smoke bellowing from wide chimneys. These homes are mostly single rooms with one bed, a table, one to four chairs with silver plates and cups hung on shelves. In some cases there are wood plank floors but mostly the homes have dirt floors. Many of the beds are your typical twin size with high post that holds bed linen to keep out the drafts. In other homes we found what looks like bunk beds, these too had bed linen hanging from the entryway to fend off the chill.

High on the hill is the largest building in the village – the main fort building. From this all-wooden structure you can see Plymouth Harbor and all of the Pilgrim Village. Inside is a meetinghouse, with a pulpit and benches. Upstairs are several cannons, ready to fend off intruders.

Chickens can be found everywhere. Bulls walking with their owners can be found coming and going from field to pen. We watched one boy pluck feathers from a goose, right on the main street as the wind took the feathers from in front of his house. He had just shot the bird himself and had the chore of preparing it for that days meal.

Wood and lots of it. This round stack of cut wood must only be for cooking fires or heating homes. Unlike anything we have ever seen, the round stack was most impressive and is just a small amount of wood necessary to heat the entire village for the winter.



Noah & Riley Burke
Got wood ??

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. They will also receive a Special Event QSL card along with a copy of the Whitman Club Plimoth Plantation Special Event newsletter and a Plimoth Plantation handout.

THE 20-METER BASE STATION

Paul Burbine N1VTI set up the 20-Meter Base Station in the Administrative Building and used both his Cushcraft R-5 Vertical and his 20-Meter horizontal folded dipole antenna. **Paul N1VTI** had brought along an amplifier this year to enhance the performance of this HF Base Station.



**Ron Smith N1PXX &
Ken Kavaljian KB1KVL**



Paul Burbine N1VTI

Ron Smith N1PXX and **Ken Kavaljian KB1KVL** are seen taking a turn at the 20-Meter Base Station. **Paul N1VTI** made a special contact with **John Coombs WQ1L** who was operating mobile from his truck.

THE 40-METER BASE STATION

Roy Logan KB1CYV brought his ICOM IC-735 and set up a 40-Meter Base Station using **Bill's N1FRE** all band off center fed horizontal dipole. Contacts were made as far south as Florida, as far west as Illinois and Michigan and as far north as Ontario and Quebec. The 40-Meter Base Station made the most contacts.

The Crew was also monitoring the Bridgewater 2-Meter REPEATER for local check-ins. One special scheduled check-in was with **Mike M0TOA** via Echolink from Taunton, England. Mike was operating from the Taunton, England Club Station **G3XZW**. **Mike M0TOA** has been making regular contact with HAMS from the Taunton Area Communication Group via **Ray Wall's N1KXJ-L** Echolink connection with the Bridgewater REPEATER.



**Roy Logan KB1CYV
Gary Cumiskey W1GRC
Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN**

Bill Hayden N1FRE ran the Sunday morning Whitman Amateur Radio Public Service Net WARPSN from the Plimoth Plantation and after checking in with **Carl Aveni N1FY** – President of the Massasoit Club - switched to the Bridgewater REPEATER because, for some unknown reason, the Whitman REPEATER could not be accessed directly from the Plimoth Plantation Special Event site.

THE TECHNICIAN CLASS OPERATORS GET “ON- THE-AIR”

The **Bruce NI1X** and **Roy KB1CYV** made every effort to put the 12 Technician Class operators “On-The-Air” at the 40-Meter Base Station.



Rudy Burer KB1LXI
Ray Bolduc KB1ODU



David Souza W1DFS
Jonathan Souza SWL
Neal Harrington KB1LXL



Greg Noyes KB1OAW
Dan Noyes KB1OAY



Ron Stundze KB1OEQ

ANOTHER KV5R HOMEMADE ANTENNA

Paul Moss KB1MTW is shown checking out another homemade antenna with **Dan Noyes KB1OAY** and **Greg Noyes KB1OAW**. The **Noyes** team had built a **KV5R** 2-Meter / 440 MHz off center fed vertical dipole out of aluminum tape wrapped around a section of PVC pipe and had brought it to Plimoth Plantation to check the SWR with the Club's MFJ - SWR analyzer.



Paul KB1MTW, Dan KB1OAY
Greg KB1OAW

MORE PICTURES FROM THE PLIMOTH PLANTATION



Bill Hayden N1FRE
Jeff Tracy N1SOM
Bill Tracy N1SON



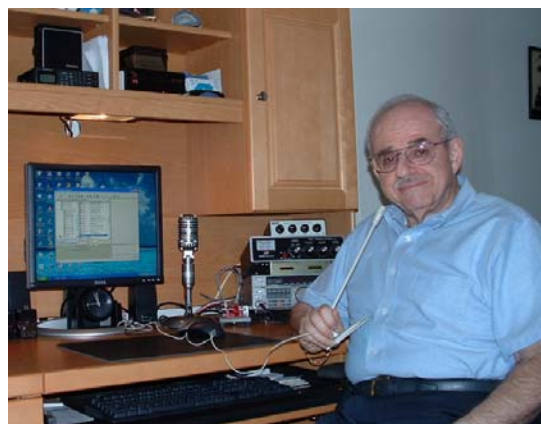
Bruce Hayden NI1X
Jonathan Souza SWL
Morse code lessons



Al Drollett Jr. W1SM

HELLO FROM SUNNY FLORIDA By: Steve Rudin W1WSN

Hi, everyone, and greetings from sunny Florida! It was wonderful checking in to the Sunday morning NET on the Bridgewater repeater and making contact with **WA1NPO** at Plimoth, both on Echolink. It was tough saying goodbye to our friends and family, as well as closing a practice of over 30 years, but it was worth it. The body doesn't ache, there are palm trees outside my office window at Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale where I am Adjunct Professor in the Center for Psychological Studies, and palm trees outside my den window here at home!



Steve Rudin W1WSN

I am on HF mobile with my Icom 706MKII and a Tarheel screwdriver antenna, both of which are doing very well. Our condo is on the second floor of a two story building, so I use Hamstick mobile antennas from the balcony with fair results. As our roof is flat, and our air conditioning units are roof-mounted, I will be installing a Tarheel up topside with radials after the first of the year. We just had a new roof installed, so am waiting until the inspectors finish running around up there. The condo association president gave me his blessing, so I'm very fortunate, and hope to be on HF in the near future.

My e-mail address is: sgrudin@bellsouth.net, and I look forward to hearing from the gang on 147.18 via Echolink, though I'd be really happy to hear that **WA1NPO** had established a node for 147.225! I had to be in Brockton last month, but flew up last-minute and had a rental car with no ham radio (imagine that!) - but I drove by the clubhouse on Pine Street, stopped for a minute or two, and thought of you all.

Stay well, and have the most Joyous Holiday season, and above all, a Healthy and Happy New Year. **Marsha** sends her best to you as well.

Local radio operators promote special event

The Whitman Amateur Radio Club conducted a two-day special event from the Plimoth Plantation over the weekend following Thanksgiving.

Bruce Hayden, President of the Whitman Club reports that 31 area amateur radio operators "HAMS" set up three base stations and portable antennas at the recreation of the 17th century Pilgrim settlement and Wompanoag Indian home site and exchanged contacts with 243 other amateur radio operators in 35 States, 6 foreign countries and 2 Canadian Provinces.

The ham operators spread the word of Plimoth Plantation over the airways,



RADIO OPERATORS AT PLIMOTH PLANTATION: (L to R) Neil Harrington KV1LXL, John Miller N1UMJ, Dan Noyes KB1OAY, Bill Hayden N1FRE, and Greg Noyes KB1OAW. Photo courtesy of Bill Hayden

explaining about the living museum and how they found the visitors, especially the children, amazed by the actors, dressed as Pilgrims and trained to speak in the language of the time and who did not acknowledge the existence of any of our modern technical wonders as they explained about the harsh reality of early Pilgrim life.

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 and the crew found Amateur Radio operators from all over the world waiting to make contact with Plimoth Plantation.

Each amateur who contacts the club station WAINPO 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.

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
Pine Street
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, Jan. 3rd at 6:30 p.m.
Whitman Public Library**

CLUB OFFICERS

President	Bruce	NI1X
V. President	Bill	N1FRE
Secretary	Roy	KB1CYV
Treasurer	Jeff	N1SOM
Director	George	KC1FZ
Director	Paul	N1VTI
Director	Jeff	N1ZZN

Editor	Bruce	NI1X
E-mail articles to: ni1x@arrl.net		

Web Master	Jeff	N1ZZN
Web Site: http://www.wa1np0.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***

