



SPECTRUM



The Voice of the Humble Electron

Founded 1962

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: This is Paul N1VTI – ARE WE HAVING FUN YET?

On the Public Service side of Amateur Radio - we have over 20 members who regularly report on their Public Service activities. They are very active and dedicated volunteers especially when it comes to SKYWARN activations, Hurricane Drills and the Plymouth Nuclear Power Plant Evacuation Drills that are held in this area. Some members have signed up with their local City or Town - Emergency Management Agency and participate in monthly RADIOGRAM training sessions that test equipment and teach basic message handling techniques using the National Traffic System format and internationally accepted phonetics. Other members practice their communication skills by helping to provide communication support for local road races or the Boston Marathon. Some members like to participate in NETs and volunteer to pass traffic messages for the National Traffic System or the Military Amateur Radio Service (MARS) program. During the first 72 hours of an emergency HAMS have repeatedly demonstrated their ability to establish communication when all else fails – that is what we do best.



Paul N1VTI

ARE WE HAVING FUN YET: On the fun side of amateur radio – we need to hear more about your radioactive activities like building radio kits, building antennas, helping others with antenna projects, making your one contact a day, operating QRP, operating CW (Morse code) and experimenting with digital modes like EchoLink, APRS, Packet, D-Star, Winlink & Airmail or PSK-31. We need to hear about your participation in Special Events, V-E sessions, portable operations and your involvement with Boy Scouts, fox hunts, flea markets, restoration projects and tours. Come to the next meeting and share your radioactive adventures with the other members present or send us an update that we can use in the newsletter.

73 From: Paul N1VTI

FEBRUARY MEETING **A FULL HOUSE**

Jim O'Rourke WG1L
showing the members
some of his radio kits



SECRETARY'S NOTES OF THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 6, 2008 de N1ZZN

OPENING: The members started gathering at the Whitman Public Library, Whitman, MA around 6:15 p.m. President **Paul N1VTI** opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Thirty members / guests were present, including the four elected Officers and three Directors. A quorum was present.

K1BAR	Bob Barbour	K1XRB	Peter George	KA1PJX	Don Keene
KB1CYV	Roy Logan	KB1ETW	Jim Halpin	WG1L	Jim O'Rourke
WQ1L	John Coombs	KB1MJL	Al Marshall	KB1MTW	Paul Moss
KB1NAX	Joan Smith	KB1OAW	Greg Noyes	KB1OAY	Dan Noyes
KB1ODS	John Chase	KB1ODU	Ray Bolduc	KB1OEP	Mike Supple
KB1OEQ	Ron Stundze	KB1OSV	Matt Paine	KB1PFL	Jim Madden
KB1PHN	John Murphy	KC1FZ	George Davis	W1GRC	Gary Cumiskey
N1FRE	Bill Hayden	N1PXX	Ron Smith	N1SOM	Jeff Tracy
N1VTI	Paul Burbine	N1WIG	Sam Webber	N1ZZN	Jeff Lehmann
NI1X	Bruce Hayden	N1EY	Bill O'Hara (Guest)		
W1EKG	Ross Hochstrasser				

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's report for January was read by **Jeff N1SOM**. **Roy KB1CYV** made a motion seconded by **Bruce NI1X** that the treasurer's report be accepted as read. The motion was approved.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: A motion was made by **Paul KB1MTW** seconded by **Roy KB1CYV** that the January Secretary's report be accepted as published in the Newsletter. The motion was approved.

HEALTH & WELFARE: **Bruce Weir N1XZD** is in the hospital after suffering chest pains. **Bob "Q" W1QWT** of Scituate is home resting after undergoing quadruple bypass surgery. **Joan KB1NAX** will send cards wishing them well from the club

OLD BUSINESS: **Gary W1GRC** reported that he has approached the owner of a tower in Whitman about moving the club repeater there and that he has agreed to the idea. **Bill N1FRE** suggested that the club draft a letter of thank you to send to the owner. It was discussed that the club would need to purchase a new high quality repeater antenna, and to allot money to pay a professional to install it. **Bill N1FRE** made a motion that \$1000.00 be allotted for these purposes. **Paul KB1MTW** seconded the motion and it was approved. **Bill N1FRE** reported that he presented **Walter Dolson K1BZD** with a certificate for being an Honorary Member of the club. **Walter K1BZD** is in a nursing home in Rockland and greatly appreciated being honored. **Bruce NI1X** also mailed Honorary Member certificates to **Bob Schillinger KR6EC** in California and **Paul Swartz N1FWD** in Florida. **Ken KB1KVL** and **Joan KB1NAX** have been working on designing certificates for the different club events, and for special EchoLink contacts. **Paul KB1MTW** reported that he is in the process of gathering the necessary materials to upgrade the electrical system in the clubhouse.

NEW BUSINESS: **Bruce NI1X** suggested having a possible kit building night for the club. **Jim WG1L** displayed several possible kits that we could consider building. One possible kit was a QRP transmitter built in a tuna fish can. **Bruce NI1X** mentioned that back in the 70s, club members had a contest where they tried to work as many club members on 6 meters as possible. **Jeff N1ZZN** suggested that we think about having another such contest, to work club members on all bands. **Bruce NI1X** reported that he is compiling a list of all the club activities that take place during the year. When this list is complete, **Jeff N1ZZN** will post it on the club web site.

SECRETARY'S NOTES OF THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 6, 2008 de N1ZZN

NEW BUSINESS Cont: Paul N1VTI suggested having another club fox hunt as we approach spring. It was decided to hold the hunt on March 29th at 10:00 a.m. once again in Whitman. The Fox frequency is 146.565 MHz. Discussion took place on where to hold Field Day this year. **Bill N1FRE** reported that the bathrooms at Ames Nowell State Park may be reopened this year. Other possible locations suggested were the East Bridgewater YMCA, if the MARA club holds theirs at the EOC again, and the state forest in Plymouth. Generators were also discussed, including the need to get back the club generator from a former club member. **Gary W1GRC, Matt KB1OSV** and **Ray KB1ODU** also mentioned that they may be able to supply generators if needed. **Ron N1PXX** reported that the Plymouth repeater (146.685 MHz - pl 82.5) has been replaced and is working very well.

CLUB ANTENNA ANALYZER LOCATION: Paul's KB1MTW QTH

NET CONTROLS: 2/10: Mike KB1OEP 2/17: Roy KB1CYV
 2/24: Bruce NI1X 3/2: Jeff N1SOM

CLOSE: President **Paul N1VTI** closed the business meeting at 7:45 p.m. on a motion by **Bill N1FRE** seconded by **Ron KB1OEQ**. The motion was approved.

RADIOGRAM TRAINING - FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH

Shown at the Taunton Emergency Operations Center just after the February RADIOGRAM training session are L. to R. **Rudy Burer KB1LXI** – Assistant Director – Taunton Emergency Management Agency (TEMA), **Bob Barbour K1BAR** (NET Control for the night) **Neal Harrington KB1LXL** and **Bruce Hayden NI1X**. Two messages were sent from MEMA Region II Headquarters located at the Bridgewater State Prison emergency communications bunker.



Taunton RACES Volunteers

Participating at the Whitman Emergency Operations Center were **Bill Hayden N1FRE, Mike Supple KB1OEP, Bob Schmitt KB1MTY** – Director – Whitman Emergency Management Agency, **Jeff Tracy N1SOM** (NET Control for the night) and **Jim Madden KB1PFL**. **Bob Loring K1REL** reports that he was participating at the Brockton EOC with **John Mahon N1PYN**. **Ray Bolduc KB1ODU** reports that he was taking messages for Weymouth. Listen in on the Norwell REPEATER 145.250 pl 77 at 8:00 p.m. and copy along.

AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE (ARES) NET: **Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN** – acting as Net Control – called up the ARES NET on the MMRA Linked REPEATERS following the RADIOGRAM training at about 8:45 p.m. **Bruce Hayden NI1X** and **Ray Bolduc KB1ODU** checked in via the Norwell REPEATER 145.250 MHz pl 77.

PLYMOUTH NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

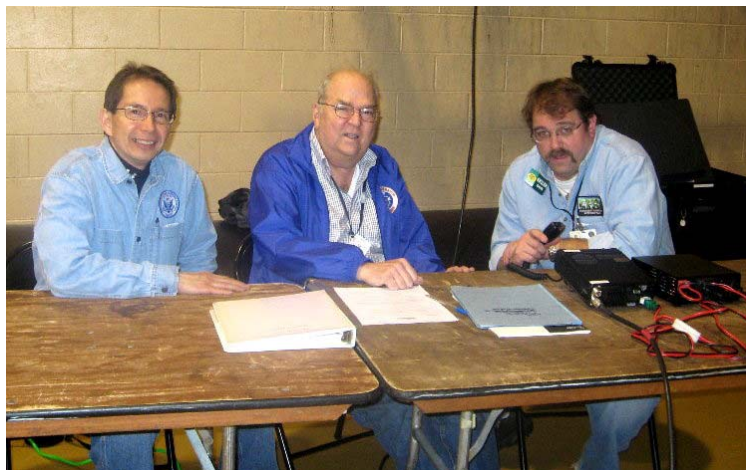
EVACUATION DRILL PREPARATIONS by: The Bruce NI1X

The City of Taunton, along with the Town of Bridgewater and the Town of Braintree, is one of the three “Host Communities” that are included in the Plymouth Nuclear Power Plant Evacuation Plan. This year there will be Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) graded exercises for the Reception Center and Emergency Operations Center in Taunton in April. There will be several practice drills run in February and March and you may hear “THIS IS A DRILL” on the Taunton, Norwell and other local 2-Meter REPEATERS.

One part of “The Evacuation Plan” requires that there will be backup amateur radio communication between the Emergency Operations Centers in the Host Communities and the designated Reception Centers, the designated Transportation Staging Areas and the designated host schools.

It is interesting to note that over 20 Whitman club members are signed up and registered as volunteer amateur radio operators helping out at the local Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Taunton, Bridgewater, Whitman, Carver, Pembroke, Plymouth, Brockton and Weymouth. These are dedicated volunteers who are able to actively support their local community’s emergency preparedness efforts at this time. This article describes the Plymouth Evacuation Plan preparations from a City of Taunton perspective because Taunton is where I have been an active member of their Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) team since April of 2002. I expect to hear from the other Whitman Club members, participating in the other communities, for the March and April Whitman Club newsletter. Remember if I don’t get a picture it did not happen.

**Taunton High School
Reception Center Drill**



Rudy Burer KB1LXI – Asst. Director of TEMA
Bruce Hayden NI1X
Don Burke KB1LXH

**Taunton City Hall
Emergency Operations Center Drill**



Bob Barbour K1BAR
Rick Ferreira KB1KWF
Rudy Burer KB1LXI

PLYMOUTH NUCLEAR POWER PLANT – EVACUATION PLAN Cont:

If a serious emergency started to develop at the Plymouth nuclear power plant, the public living within a 10 mile radius of the plant will be alerted by **siren** to listen to radio advisories. As a precaution, if it happens during a school day, State officials could start moving students to host schools in Taunton, Bridgewater and Braintree and the Reception Centers in each of the three host communities would be made operational. As part of the plan, a core group of amateur radio volunteers (TEMA RACES Operators) would be activated and staffing ramped up as the Emergency Operations Center, the Reception Center and the Transportation Staging Area are made operational and as the host schools are cleared (local students sent home) to make room for Plymouth students. If a GENERAL EMERGENCY is declared, residents living within a 10 mile radius of the plant would be told to either shelter in place or evacuate to a safer location.

John Viveiros, a MEMA Region II staff trainer, reminded us that the important thing is that we have a plan in place and that we will have to work around all the unknown events like a vehicle accident that blocks a main highway or our equipment that decides to fail at the wrong time. **John** explained that as we improvise and work around these unexpected problems, it will probably take us a little longer to get the job done. I say - HAMS are use to that – it's called Murphy's Law.

MORE ABOUT AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE (ARES)

Rob Macedo KD1CY – the ARES Eastern Massachusetts Section Emergency Coordinator & SKYWARN coordinator – is shown with some of his staff at the February planning meeting for the Eastern Massachusetts Section of ARES. At the meeting **Rob KD1CY** set the agenda for 2008 and reviewed ongoing projects.

The February meeting was held at the Bridgewater Emergency Operations Center which also serves as the ARES Command Center in this area.



Rob Macedo KD1CY in the center

Shown attending the meeting are standing L. to R. **Bruce Hayden N1IX** – Taunton Emergency Coordinator, **Phil McNamara N1XTB** - MARS Liaison Emergency Coordinator, **Steve Telsey N1BDA** – Middlesex County District Emergency Coordinator, **Jim Palmer KB1KQW** - North Shore Assistant District Emergency Coordinator / EC, **Blake Haskell K1BTH** - Metro Boston District Emergency Coordinator, **Mike Neilsen W1MPN** - Past Eastern Mass Section Manager. Shown seated L. to R. is **Carl Aveni N1FY** – South Shore District Emergency Coordinator, **Rob Macedo KD1CY** - Eastern Mass Section Emergency Coordinator and SKYWARN coordinator and **Mark Duff KB1EKN** - ARES Special Projects. Not present but an active member of the committee is **Frank O'Laughlin WQ1O** - Cape and Islands District Emergency Coordinator.

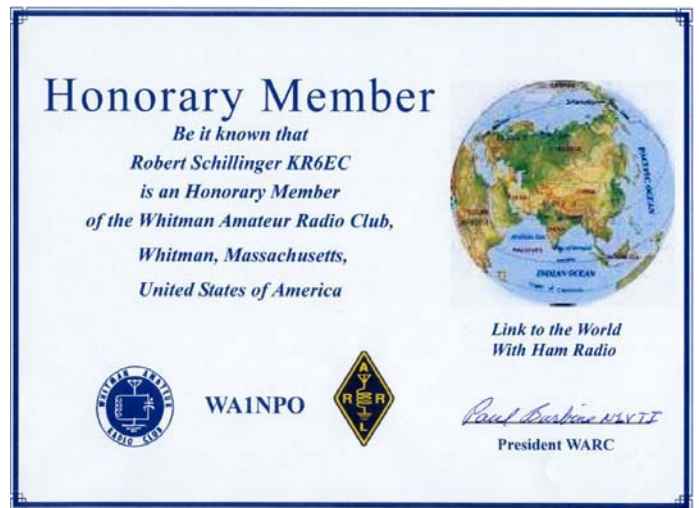
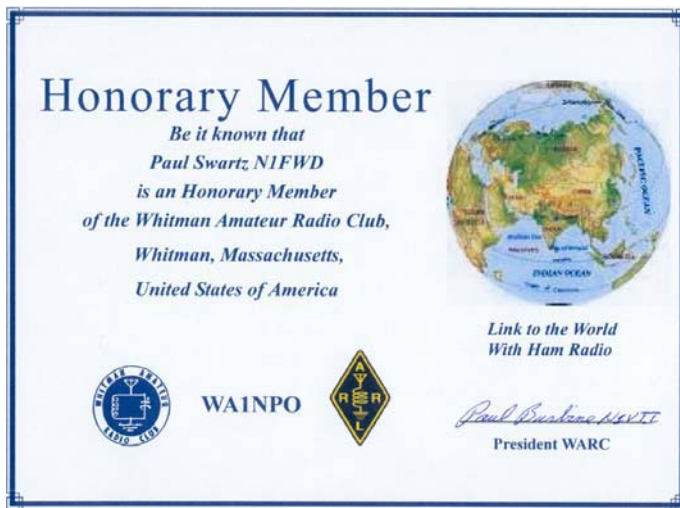
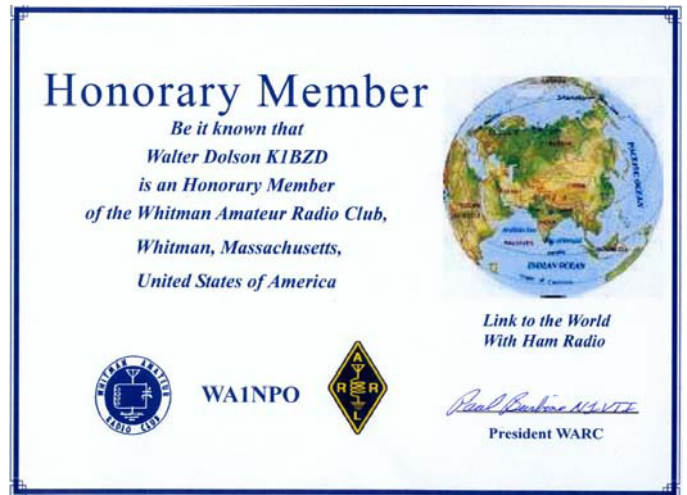
There is a growing need for Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) backup emergency communication in this area. **Phil N1XTB** maintains an ARES database that contains over 400 names of HAMS in the South Eastern Mass. area who have volunteered to be part of ARES. If you are interested - sign up with ARES at <http://ares.ema.arrl.org> – then under - EMa Policies – click on – join us - and after registering you will be put in touch with your local Emergency Coordinator. **Pg. 5**

HONORARY MEMBER CERTIFICATES

Bill Hayden N1FRE presented an Honorary Member Certificate to **Walter Dolson K1BZD** and reported that it was greatly appreciated by both **Walter K1BZD** and his wife **Edie**.

The Bruce N1IX mailed Honorary Member Certificates to **Bob Schillinger KR6EC** in California and **Paul Swartz N1FWD** in Florida, along with their January newsletters.

A special thanks to **Joan Smith KB1NAX** and **Ken Kavaljian KB1KVL** for collaborating on the original design of an EchoLink Certificate and to **Ken KB1KVL** who modified it to become the Honorary Member Certificate that was presented to **Arnie Seamans KJ1X** last month.

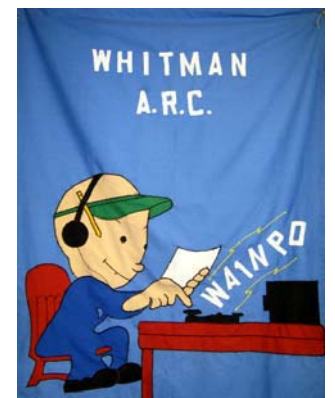


WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO PUBLIC SERVICE NET (WARPSN)

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.

As part of our training, we encourage everyone to practice sending routine RADIOGRAM messages. In January we had 4 sessions with an average of 12 area HAMS checking in each week and 7 messages were sent.

Ray Bolduc KB1ODU has set up an EchoLink connection to the Whitman REPEATER. We have heard **Matt KB1OSV** from Mansfield, **Dan KB1PFU** from Dartmouth, **Jim WG1L** from N. Weymouth and **Nick KA1BQ** from Braintree check in via EchoLink. You can join in via Echolink by connecting to **KB1ODU-L**.



**Sending WAINPO
an update**

Greater Boston Antique Radio Collectors – Radio XXXIX
Real radios glow in the dark



Helen & Mark Vess

Bruce Hayden NI1X



Ross Hochstrasser W1EKG

Sam Webber N1WIG

It is time to start attending Flea Markets. **Sam Webber N1WIG** and **The Bruce NI1X** attended the Greater Boston Antique Radio Collectors – Radio XXXIX - Flea Market in February. They met **Ross Hochstrasser W1EKG** and **Mark and Helen Vess**. **Ron N1PXX**, **Ken KB1KVL** and **Jeff N1ZZN** reported that they attended the Marlboro Flea Market.

SCUTTLEBUTT – SCUTTLEBUTT – SCUTTLEBUTT

Ken Kavaljian KB1KVL reports he picked up another HF amplifier.

Ray Bolduc KB1ODU reports he has been given a HF rig, has ordered an HF long wire antenna and hopes to get on the air soon.

Jim O'Rourke WG1L reports that he will bring a portable EchoLink on vacation down south and will try to get back to us.

Jim Wolf N1JCW reports that he has refurbished the club Generator – It is ready for Field Day.



Ron Smith N1PXX
at Marlboro

LET'S BUILD A KIT

At the February meeting **Jim O'Rourke WG1L** brought in his classic Tuna Tin 2 QRP rig – a transmitter built in a tuna fish can. This QRP rig design has been around for 30 years.

Whitey K1VV brought it to our attention that a company in Maine is now selling the complete kit, including the tuna fish can, for \$25.00 plus \$5.00 shipping. Go to: <http://www.qrpme.com> and check out their kits.

The Bruce NI1X proposed that the club members have a kit building day. If you know of any fun kits that are currently available – bring the information to the next meeting or send me an update at bhayden@tmlp.com





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
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, Mar 5th at 6:30 p.m.
Whitman Public Library

CLUB OFFICERS

President	Paul	N1VTI
V. President	Ron	N1PXX
Secretary	Jeff	N1ZZN
Treasurer	Jeff	N1SOM
Director	Mike	KB1OEP
Director	Ken	KB1KVL
Director	Paul	KB1MTW
Director	Bruce	NI1X

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

Web Master Jeff N1ZZN

Web Site: <http://www.wa1npo.org>

Club Repeater Station: 147.225 MHz (PL 67 Hz)

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