



# SPECTRUM



The Voice of the Humble Electron

Founded 1962

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:** This is **Paul N1VTI** – good news - I participated in a V-E session, in Braintree, in March, along with **Stu Forman W1SF** and I am happy to announce that Whitman Club member **John Murphy KB1PHN** upgraded to General. Congratulations **John KB1PHN**.

**Bruce N1IX** reported that several Whitman club members participated in a dry run of the Plymouth Evacuation Plan with the City of Taunton and the Towns of Carver, Bridgewater and Plymouth. They included **Bruce N1IX** along with **Rudy Burer KB1LXI**, **Don Burke KB1LXH**, **Neal Harrington KB1LXL**, **Bob Barbour K1BAR**, **Roy Logan KB1CYV**, **Bob Loring K1REL**, **Bob Bass K1WGU**, **Joe Serrilla W1JOE**, **Gil Follett W1GMF**, **Phil McNamara N1XTB**, **Loren Pimentel N1IQI**, and **Mark Loring KC1ML**.



Paul Burbine  
N1VTI

**Bruce N1IX** also reported that several Whitman club members participated in the first Monday of the month RADIOGRAM training at the various local City or Town Emergency Operations Centers. They included **Bruce N1IX** along with **Bill Hayden N1FRE**, **Jeff Tracy N1SOM**, **Don Burke KB1LXH**, **Neal Harrington KB1LXL**, **Rudy Burer KB1LXI**, **Bob Barbour K1BAR**, **Ray Bolduc KB1ODU**, **Barbara Anderson KB1NMG**, along with her husband **Mike SWL**, and **Bob Loring K1REL**.

I am assembling another “Go-Kit” – great fun. Other Whitman Club members reporting on some of their fun activities this month were **Jim O'Rourke WG1L**, **Ray Bolduc KB1ODU**, **Bob Barbour K1BAR**, **Bruce Hayden N1IX**, **Matt Paine KB1OSV** and **Phil McNamara N1XTB**. Come to the next meeting and share your radioactive adventures with the other members present.

Next we are going to have a Fox Hunt on Saturday, March 29, 2008. I will be the Fox and I will be hiding somewhere in Whitman. As the Fox, I will transmit every 5 minutes between 10:00 a.m. and 12 Noon on the Fox Frequency of 146.565 MHz and saying, “come and find me”. Come join the fun.

73 – From: Paul N1VTI

NEW MEMBER: **John Coombs Jr. KB1CHW** lives in Marshfield.

**John KB1CHW** reports that he has a YAESU FT-900 HF radio with an SGC 237 automatic antenna tuner and that his next project is to set up an HF antenna at his apartment.

**John KB1CHW** also reports that he has an ICOM dual band handheld. As you may know - **John KB1CHW** comes from a radioactive family – his father is **John WQ1L**.



John Coombs Jr.  
KB1CHW

## SECRETARY'S NOTES OF THE MEETING OF MARCH 5, 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-three members / guests were present, including the four elected Officers and two Directors. A quorum was present.

<b>KA1PJX</b>	<b>Don Keene</b>	<b>KB1CYV</b>	<b>Roy Logan</b>	<b>KB1ETW</b>	<b>Jim Halpin</b>
<b>WQ1L</b>	<b>John Coombs</b>	<b>N1VTI</b>	<b>Paul Burbine</b>	<b>W1GRC</b>	<b>Gary Cumiskey</b>
<b>KB1CHW</b>	<b>John Coombs Jr.</b>	<b>KB1KVL</b>	<b>Ken Kavaljian</b>	<b>NM1F</b>	<b>Jim Ford</b>
<b>KB1NAX</b>	<b>Joan Smith</b>	<b>KB1ODS</b>	<b>John Chase</b>	<b>KB1ODU</b>	<b>Ray Bolduc</b>
<b>KB1OEP</b>	<b>Mike Supple</b>	<b>KB1OEQ</b>	<b>Ron Stundze</b>	<b>KB1OSV</b>	<b>Matt Paine</b>
<b>KB1PFU</b>	<b>Dan Chase</b>	<b>KB1PHN</b>	<b>John Murphy</b>	<b>K1MRH</b>	<b>Barbara Rice</b>
<b>K1REL</b>	<b>Bob Loring</b>	<b>KC1FZ</b>	<b>George Davis</b>	<b>KC1ML</b>	<b>Mark Loring</b>
<b>N1FRE</b>	<b>Bill Hayden</b>	<b>N1NTZ</b>	<b>Ed Meehan</b>	<b>N1OGP</b>	<b>Frank Hayes</b>
<b>KB1BTW</b>	<b>Priscilla Imhoff</b>	<b>N1PXX</b>	<b>Ron Smith</b>	<b>N1SOM</b>	<b>Jeff Tracy</b>
<b>SWL</b>	<b>Eva Imhoff (Guest)</b>	<b>N1WIG</b>	<b>Sam Webber</b>	<b>N1ZZN</b>	<b>Jeff Lehmann</b>
<b>SWL</b>	<b>Roger Imhoff (Guest)</b>	<b>W1EKG</b>	<b>Ross Hochstrasser</b>	<b>N1OYH</b>	<b>Carl Davis</b>

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The treasurer's report for February 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 **Mike KB1OEP** seconded by **Ed N1NTZ** that the February secretary's report be accepted as published in the Newsletter. The motion was approved.

**HEALTH & WELFARE:** **Joan KB1NAX** reported that cards were sent to those who were mentioned at last month's meeting.

**NEW MEMBER:** **John Coombs Jr. KB1CHW** applied to become a new member. **Bill N1FRE** made a motion that he be accepted as a new member, and **Ken KB1KVL** seconded. The motion was approved. Welcome to the club **John!**

**OLD BUSINESS:** **Jeff N1ZZN** reported that the club is now officially affiliated with the ARRL once again. He also suggested that we should possibly consider applying to become a "Special Service Club" because of the many activities we are involved with. Various members discussed possible field day sites. The East Bridgewater YMCA is available if we wish to use it. **Ron N1PXX** reported that the walk for hunger is coming up on May 4<sup>th</sup> and that they are looking for volunteers for radio communications. **Jeff N1ZZN** reported that the Boston Marathon on April 21<sup>st</sup> is also looking for volunteers. **Ray KB1ODU** reported that the EchoLink will soon be up and running full time on the repeater. **Paul N1VTI** reported that the Fox Hunt is scheduled for Saturday March 29<sup>th</sup>, at 10 AM. The fox frequency will be 146.565 with a backup of 146.535 if the main fox frequency is in use.

**NEW BUSINESS:** **Paul N1VTI** reported that he attended a Boston Amateur Radio Club meeting with **Phil N1XTB**. They suggested that the clubs exchange newsletters to stay informed what each other is doing. **Jeff N1SOM** reminded the club that it's time to send Whitman Hanson High School our donation for their "Dollars for Scholars" program. **Bill N1FRE** made a motion that we donate the same amount of money as we have in the past. **John WQ1L** seconded the motion, and it was approved.

## SECRETARY'S NOTES OF THE MEETING OF MARCH 5, 2008 Cont: de N1ZZN

**NEW BUSINESS – Cont:** The Saftler's flea market will once again be held on Memorial Day weekend. **Bill N1FRE** suggested that we shop around for a better price for the portable toilet. **Paul N1VTI** reported that NEARFest is coming up on Friday May 2<sup>nd</sup> and Saturday May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**CLUB ANTENNA ANALYZER LOCATION:** Paul KB1MTW's QTH

**NET CONTROLS:** 3/9: Ray KB1ODU 3/16: Jeff N1SOM 3/23: Mike KB1OEP 3/30: Ron N1PXX

**CLOSE:** President **Paul N1VTI** closed the business meeting at 7:15 PM on a motion by **Ed N1NTZ** seconded by **Ray KB1ODU**. The motion was approved.

**PRESENTATIONS:** **Paul N1VTI** presented his new go-kit he is building inside a rolling toolbox. **Matt KB1OSV** presented the high quality straight key from China that he recently purchased.

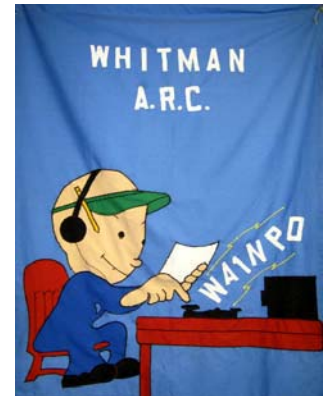
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### WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO PUBLIC SERVICE NET (WARPSN)

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 February we had 4 sessions with an average of 13 area HAMS checking in each week and 7 messages were sent.

**Ray Bolduc KB1ODU** has set up an EchoLink connection to the Whitman REPEATER. This month we heard from **Jim O'Rourke WG1L** who checked in via EchoLink from sunny Florida. You can join in via EchoLink by connecting to **KB1ODU-L**.



**Sending WA1NPO**  
**an update**

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### Phil McNamara N1XTB TAKES HIS WinLink 2000 PRESENTATION ON THE ROAD

**Phil McNamara N1XTB** was asked to give his WinLink 2000 power point presentation at the Boston Amateur Radio Club meeting in February. **Paul Burbine N1VTI** joined him and took the picture.

**Bob Salow WA1IDA**, President of the Boston Amateur Radio Club, sent **Phil N1XTB** his thanks for the presentation and commented on the number of questions during and after the talk which indicated that the audience wanted to learn more - and stayed awake to get it.



**Phil McNamara N1XTB**  
**at the Boston ARC meeting**

**Bob WA1IDA** says: "You did a fine job".

## ARE WE HAVING FUN YET?

### HELLO FROM SUNNY FLORIDA By: Jim O'Rourke WG1L

**Jim WG1L** reports: "My wife **Joan** and I took a leisurely 6 days to travel 1400 miles from snow covered Massachusetts to sunny Silver Springs, Florida where we have rented a house for three months and have parked the camper in the back yard. I plan to use the camper as my HAM shack. Temperature ranging from 70 to 85 degrees".



Jim O'Rourke WG1L

**Jim O'Rourke WG1L** reports that he is able to dial up Verizon to get his E-mails and to put his EchoLink on line from Florida. **Jim WG1L** checked in with the Sunday morning WARPSN Net and has been checking in on the Bridgewater and Whitman REPEATERS during the day.

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### Ray Bolduc KB1ODU PUTS HIS HF STATION "ON-THE-AIR"

The fun all started when **Ray KB1ODU** upgraded to General Class in January. Then **Bob Bass K1WGU** supplied **Ray KB1ODU** with a Tempo (Uniden) 20-20 XM HF transceiver as a starter set. **Ray KB1ODU** ordered a Cobra Jr. HF long wire antenna that tunes up on 10 thru 80-Meters.

**Ray KB1ODU** reports that he is "On-The-Air" and that his first contact was on 80-Meters with **W1ZZG** in South Hadley, Mass. **Ray KB1ODU** reports that he followed up with 80-Meter contacts with HAMs in New Jersey and England and that he is using a computer logging program from the get go.



Ray Bolduc KB1ODU



Tempo HF Rig and antenna tuner

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## FLEA MARKETS - FLEA MARKETS - FLEA MARKETS

### April 6, 2008 - FRAMINGHAM FLEA MARKET

Keefe Tech School – 750 Winter St. - Framingham, MA.  
Doors open at 9 a.m. Buyer \$5.00

### April 19, 2008 - NEW ENGLAND ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB VINTAGE RADIO SHOW AND SWAP MEET

Manchester Bingo Center – John E. Devine Drive (off South Willow Street)  
Manchester, NH. – 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon Check out [www.nearc.net](http://www.nearc.net)

**FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH - MEMA - REGION II - RADIOGRAM TRAINING**



**Taunton RACES Volunteers**

Shown at the Taunton Emergency Operations Center following the March 3<sup>rd</sup> RADIOGRAM Training session are standing L. to R. - **Bruce Hayden N11X**, **Bob Barbour K1BAR**, **Don Burke KB1LXH** and **Rudy Burer KB1LXI** – Assistant Director of the Taunton Emergency Management Agency. Shown seated L. to R. is **Greg Glynn W1VFB**, **Neal Harrington KB1LXL** and **Carlos Wharton WP4US**. There was only one message sent to the local Emergency Management Directors in March.

Shown at the Whitman Emergency Operations Center following the March 3<sup>rd</sup> RADIOGRAM training session are **Bill Hayden N1FRE** and **Jeff Tracy N1SOM**. Listen in on the Norwell REPEATER 145.250 MHz PL 77 at 8:00 p.m. and copy along.

**Bob Loring K1REL** reported he was taking the message for the City of Brockton along with **Barbara Anderson KB1NMG** and her husband **Mike SWL**. **Ray Bolduc KB1ODU** reported that he was taking the message for the Town of Braintree.

Following the RADIOGRAM training, the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) Net was called up at 8:30 p.m. on the MMRA Linked REPEATER system. **Bruce Hayden N11X**, **Phil McNamara N1XTB**, **Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN** and **Ray Bolduc KB1ODU** were heard checking in.

**Whitman RACES Volunteers**



**Bill Hayden N1FRE**

**Jeff Tracy N1SOM**

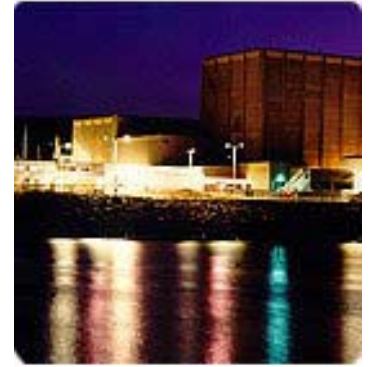
# PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER PLANT - PLYMOUTH EVACUATION DRILL

## PART 2 - THE DRY RUN IN MARCH - By: Bruce Hayden NI1X

### THIS IS A DRILL -- THIS IS A DRILL -- THIS IS A DRILL

On March 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:42 a.m. my telephone rang and a recorded message from the Plymouth County Sheriff's Department instructed me to call the Taunton Emergency Operations Center (EOC). I called and **Rudy Burer KB1LXI** told me to report to the Taunton EOC. I grabbed my Go-Kit and extra ear phones and headed out the door.

**DRY RUN SCENARIO:** – At first events started to move fast. A site area emergency was declared at the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant and as a precaution a decision was made to transport Plymouth students to schools in host communities. Busses were called in and we monitored the progress as students were transported to host schools in Taunton, Bridgewater and Braintree.



**Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant**

**UPDATE FROM THE PLYMOUTH EOC:** **Mark Loring KC1ML** reports that he was participating at the Plymouth EOC along with **Kevin O'Donnell K1KOD** and **Roger Whipple N1NJE**. They had 2-Meter capability linking them with MEMA Region II headquarters and the area Towns. **Mark KC1ML** has been assigned the duties of the communications officer in the Plymouth Evacuation Plan.

**Mark KC1ML** is shown operating the Packet Radio and reports: "The equipment belongs to the town. They have a Kenwood TS-2000 and a DM-700A 2-Meter/440 MHz rig. The EMA Director wanted packet up and running, if possible. What I did was to setup packet to run 24/7 if need be on the 2-Meter side of the HF rig. That freed the 2m/440 dual band radio up strictly for voice transmission. The Packet was monitoring **WC1MAB** for any traffic coming out of the MEMA Region II headquarters, which is located in an underground bunker on Bridgewater State Prison property. Both of the Kenwoods have a built in TNC for APRS and AX.25 packet. I plan to set up WinLink 2000 with Airmail in the future. Right now we're waiting for the HF antenna to be installed. I believe it will be sometime next week, which will be good for Hurricane season".

### THIS IS A DRILL -- THIS IS A DRILL -- THIS IS A DRILL



**Kevin O'Donnell K1KOD**

**Mark Loring KC1ML**



**Plymouth Emergency Operations Center**

**Providing backup amateur radio communication at the Plymouth EOC**

## PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER PLANT - PLYMOUTH EVACUATION DRILL

### PART 2 - THE DRY RUN IN MARCH Cont: By: Bruce Hayden NI1X

**DRY RUN SCENARIO Cont:** - Next a general emergency was declared when small amounts of radiation was reported to have been released by the Pilgrim Plant. The people living within a ten-mile radius of the Pilgrim Plant were alerted by sirens to listen to their radios and during this “Dry Run Scenario” it appeared that those residents living within 5 miles of the plant and south of the plant were instructed to evacuate while all others were instructed to shelter in place. There are detailed evacuation route plans in place in the form of a 2008 Emergency Public Information calendar that is available to Plymouth residents. In this case, residents immediately surrounding the plant and living south of the plant were directed to head to the Taunton Reception Center.

**UPDATE FROM THE BRIDGEWATER EOC: Carl Aveni N1FY** reports: “This training exercise was a dress rehearsal for the FEMA graded exercise which will occur next month. We had six HAMS respond to the Bridgewater EOC for the duration. We only simulated opening the reception center at the college and the staging area at the church (we would have actually sent radio operators to these two locations if they had actually been opened). We received a request from the Taunton EOC for additional radio operators and were able to simulate meeting this request by submitting a mutual aid request through the Amateur Radio Emergency Service - Eastern Mass Section Emergency Coordinator **Rob Macedo KD1CY**.



**Carl Aveni N1FY**

**Carl N1FY** reports: “**Herb Lemon Jr. KC1ZW**, the Bridgewater EOC Director, was pleased at the results of this training exercise, complimenting each of the participants for their dedication and saying that he was sure that we would pass the graded exercise next month with little or no problem”.



**Mike Harris – Highway Department**  
**Gil Follett W1GMF**  
**Joe Serrilla W1JOE**



**Bob Loring**  
**K1REL**



**Bob Bass W1WGU**  
**Roy Logan KB1CYV**

**in the Bridgewater EOC radio room**

**As Roy KB1CYV says – “doing what**  
**we do best - standing by”**

## PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER PLANT - PLYMOUTH EVACUATION DRILL

### PART 2 - THE DRY RUN IN MARCH Cont: By: Bruce Hayden NI1X

**UPDATE FROM THE CARVER EOC:** Phil McNamara N1XTB reports: "The March exercise was a dry run with MEMA and FEMA folks monitoring the drill. I was participating with the Town of Carver along with **Al Drollett Jr. W1SM** and **Loren Pimentel N1IQI**. The Transportation staging area activity was simulated and not staffed during the drill. Communications between the local Emergency Operations Centers was confirmed and logged as part of the Town of Carver communications Standard Operating Procedure. We contacted MEMA Region II at Bridgewater, Plymouth EOC, Town of Bridgewater EOC, Kingston EOC, Marshfield EOC and Taunton EOC. The procedure also included steps to include arranging for relief operators. A tactical message from the Town of Carver to **Carl N1FY** requested Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) support. There were no amateur radio communications problems."

That's all for now. The FEMA graded exercise will be held on Wednesday April 2, 2008. As you can see there is a growing need for Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) backup emergency communication in this area. You can sign up with ARES at <http://ares.ema.arrrl.org>

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### THERE IS GOING TO BE A FOX HUNT -- MARCH 29<sup>TH</sup> IN WHITMAN

The **Bruce NI1X** was invited to give a talk on Fox Hunting at one of **Carlos Wharton's WP4US** Technician classes currently taking place in Taunton.

I pointed out that all you need is a handheld radio that has an S-Meter readout. I demonstrated how you can enhance the performance of the receiver with a better antenna like the two element 2-Meter beam that I am holding in the photo or decrease the performance of the receiver by replacing the rubber duck antenna with a series of paperclips of various lengths. I also showed how an attenuator in series between the handheld and the antenna lets you stick with one high performance antenna.

Come and join the fun on Saturday March 29, 2008. The Fox will be hiding in Whitman. The Fox will transmit every 5

minutes between 10:00 a.m. and 12 Noon on the Fox Frequency of 146.565 MHz. **The Bruce NI1X** extended an invitation to all the members of the Taunton Area Communication Group (TACGroup) to come and join in the fun. This Fox Hunt is open to all interested HAMs.

### TACGroup Technician Classes in Taunton



Tony Pinheiro - student

Bruce Hayden NI1X – guest speaker

Carlos Wharton WP4US –Instructor

Mike Anderson – student

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### FOR SALE ITEMS

**Frank Hayes N1OGP** reports that **Father Henry Boivin K1DPH** of Braintree has a ICOM IC-746 pro with the ICOM power supply and is asking \$900.00 for both. **Father Boivin's K1DPH** phone number is 781-843-8939.



## LETS BUILD A KIT - THE CLASSIC TUNA TIN 2 - QRP RIG

Let the fun begin - **Bob Barbour K1BAR** is seen soldering a component on to the circuit board of the classic Tuna Tin 2 - a QRP (1/2 watt) transmitter that is built in a tuna fish can.

The \$30.00 kit took about two weeks to arrive. So far the 64 page step by step instructions are clear and the progress seems to be going well. See [www.qrpme.com](http://www.qrpme.com) for kit information and ordering details.

**The Bruce N1IX** and **Bob K1BAR** are building the kits and hope to be ready to report on the success or failure of their "smoke test" (turn the power on and see if it smokes) by the next meeting.



**Bob Barbour K1BAR**

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## CHINESE ARMY KEY – still in production - By: Matt Paine KB1OSV

**Matt Paine KB1OSV** reports that the keys were used to train new Morse Code operators in the Chinese military. They are inexpensive keys, on heavy composite bases, but are well made, fully adjustable and feature a nice touch.

The keys have chrome plating, machined needle bearings for the trunion, hard silver (K4 at \$69.95 ) or copper (K5 at \$49.95) contacts and a felt pad on the base. They weigh about two and a quarter pounds each and are available from Morse Express at: <http://www.mtechnologies.com/pla/>



**Matt KB1OSV** reports that he found the keys cheaper on E-Bay at the QMall store and has already traded in the code practice oscillator that came with the key because his radio has a built in practice mode for CW and he can use the radio and it's external speaker as his code practice oscillator.

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## SCUTTLEBUTT - SCUTTLEBUTT - SCUTTLEBUTT

**Sam N1WIG** reports that he picked up an HF amplifier and a Packratt 232 TNC from a local HAM and is checking out a Cushcraft R-7 vertical antenna.

**Ron Smith N1PXX** reports that he picked up a YAESU 7800 dual band 2-Meter / 440 MHz from a local HAM and reports that he is having trouble with his YAESU 8100.

**The Bruce N1IX** picked up a Kenwood TM -710. It has a packet TNC built in and supports APRS.

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**April 21, 2008 - BOSTON MARATHON:** The Marathon Amateur Radio Communications Consortium is still looking for few more amateur radio operators to help out at the 2008 Boston Marathon. Signup begins at <http://marc.amateur-radio.net> .



# 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, Apr. 2<sup>nd</sup> 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	N1IX

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Web Master	Jeff	N1ZZN
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Web Site: <http://www.wa1npo.org>

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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*

