MARSHFIELD FAIR -- 2008 -- SPECIAL ISSUE

The Whitman Amateur Radio Club members manned an Amateur Radio Exhibit Booth and Special Event Station NN1MF at the Marshfield Fair again this year. This radioactive adventure was a great success with 25 Whitman Club members and 4 area HAMs helping to staff 96 shift positions over the 10-day period between August 15th and August 24th 2008. The crew made 195 contacts with 30 States, 13 foreign countries and 1 Canadian Province.

Shown at the Amateur Radio Exhibit Booth and radio room are standing L. to R. Bob Loring K1REL and Jeff Tracy N1SOM. Also seen seated L. to R. are Barbara Rice K1MRH on one of the 2-Meter radios and Sam Webber N1WIG on the HF radio.

THE SOUND OF MORSE CODE WAS A GREAT ATTRACTION

Our youngest volunteer was Colben Laroe SWL – (Short Wave Listener). During Colben’s SWL shift he helped attract youngsters to the Amateur Radio Exhibit Booth where they were taught how to send their name in Morse code.

Colben SWL has a set of the new ICOM amateur radio comic books “The adventures of Zack & Max” and is learning all about amateur radio from his father Chris KB1QKW and his grandfather Steve K1AWB. At the end of the fair, Ross Hochstrasser W1EKG gave Colben SWL a code practice oscillator to take home.
FIRST CAME THE COORDINATION

The Whitman Amateur Radio Club was, once again, invited to set up an Amateur Radio Exhibit Booth at the 141st annual Marshfield Fair by Bridget Burns - a Marshfield Fair Director and daughter of the late Whitman club member Robert Burns K1RB (SK).

Bill Hayden N1FRE worked directly with Bridget, behind the scene, to coordinate the location of the amateur radio exhibit, make arrangements for volunteers to get passes to the fair and to ensure that the 24 different shifts each had at least four operators over the 10 day period. We had fantastic support with three, four or five people on each shift. Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN submitted the advance notice of the Special Event that was published in QST.

Bridget is shown holding the Heil Studio Micphone that she had presented to the Whitman Amateur Radio Club for use as a club station microphone in her father’s memory.

THEN CAME THE ANTENNA AND SET UP CREW

Pi Pugh K1RV

Pi K1RV stopped by to drop off some HamTestOnLine handouts and he volunteered to take the picture of the antenna and set up crew.

ANTENNA and SET-UP CREW

On Thursday – The day before the fair started, a crew of volunteers was assembled to set up the Amateur Radio Exhibit Booth and they installed Bill’s N1FRE all band off center fed Windom all band antenna (135 feet long and strung between buildings) along with Sam’s N1WIG Cushcraft R-5 Vertical, the club’s 2-Meter / 440 MHz / 6-Meter vertical, The Bruce’s N1IX diamond 2-Meter / 440 MHz vertical and the club’s home made 2-Meter / 440MHz antenna, in a PVC pipe, that was made by Paul Moss KB1MTW. Shown standing L. to R. are John Coombs WQ1L, Al Drollett W1SM, Jim Havens W1GQN, Kevin Dykes KB1MOC, Chris Laroe KB1QKW and Steve Laroe K1AWB. Shown seated L. to R. are Paul Moss KB1MTW, Bill Hayden N1FRE and Ron Stundze KB1OEQ.
SHIFT CHANGE (4 on / 4 off) -- AMATEUR RADIO EXHIBIT BOOTH

Shown at the Marshfield Fair Amateur Radio Exhibit Booth, during a shift change, are a few of the 29 volunteers that helped man the exhibit booth. There were 96 individual shift positions that were filled over the 10 day period between August 15th and August 24th 2008. Shown L. to R. are Ed Meehan N1NTZ, Bruce Hayden N1X, George Manning K1CG, Bill Hayden N1FRE, with Jim Havens W1GQN seated, then Ray Bolduc KB1ODU, Kevin Dykes KB1MOC and Ron Smith N1PXX – Vice President WARC.

The 25 Whitman club members who participated by manning the Amateur Radio Exhibit Booth for one or more 4 hour shifts were:

N1FRE  Bill Hayden  N1WIG  Sam Webber  N1ZZN  Jeff Lehmann
N1X     Bruce Hayden  WQ1L  John Coombs  KB1MTW  Paul Moss
W1SM    Al Drollett  KB1PHN  John Murphy  N1VTI  Paul Burbine
KB1ODU  Ray Bolduc  KB1MOC  Kevin Dykes  N1SOM  Jeff Tracy
K1REL   Bob Loring  K1MRH  Barbara Rice  N1OGP  Frank Hayes
KB1PFL  Jim Madden  N1PXX  Ron Smith  K1AWB  Steve Laroe
N1POO   Pete Carlson  N1NTZ  Ed Meehan  KB1QKW  Chris Laroe
KB1CYV  Roy Logan  KB1QMX  Dave Beauvais  SWL  Colben Laroe
WG1L    Jim O’Rourke  W1EKG  Ross Hochstrasser

The 4 area HAMs who participated by manning the Amateur Radio Exhibit Booth were:

N1EA    Dave Ring of Green Harbor  K1CG  George Manning of Pembroke
W1GQN   Jim Havens of E. Bridgewater  N1COP  Bob Woodbury of Halifax

Also stopping by were Whitman club members Al Molin N1JXS, Jim Tynan KC1JET and John Coombs Jr. KB1CHW.
Bill Hayden N1FRE operated the August 17th and 24th Sunday Morning Whitman Amateur Radio Public Service Net (WARPSN) from the Marshfield Fair.

Ray Bolduc KB1ODU set up his Yaesu FT-1802 2-Meter radio that was used to monitor the Whitman REPEATER.

Bill N1FRE set up his Standard Twin-bander 2-Meter radio that was used to monitor the Bridgewater REPEATER.

Once again, the crew set up Walter’s K1BZD Yaesu FT-2400 2-Meter as one of the three 2-Meter Base Stations that was used to Monitor other local REPEATERS.

Over the 10 day period - the 15 Whitman club members who were not able to make it to the Marshfield Fair but who were able to check in with NN1MF were:

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<th>Call Sign</th>
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<td>KC1ML</td>
<td>Mark Loring</td>
<td>W1GRC</td>
<td>Gary Cumiskey</td>
<td>K1CWS</td>
<td>Bruce Billings</td>
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<td>WA1YZH</td>
<td>Dave Gurney</td>
<td>W5iRW</td>
<td>Jim Gilbert</td>
<td>KB1EUI</td>
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<td>N2DEC</td>
<td>Don Cahill</td>
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<td>Ken Kavaljian</td>
<td>KB10EP</td>
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<td>W1GMF</td>
<td>Gil Follett</td>
<td>N1IQI</td>
<td>Loren Pimentel</td>
<td>WA1TSL</td>
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<td>KB1TOM</td>
<td>Tom Wilson</td>
<td>KB1LXI</td>
<td>Rudy Burer</td>
<td>KB1NAX</td>
<td>Joan Smith</td>
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**JOB WELL DONE**: In all we logged in 47 Whitman Club members. With a little over 92 members in the club, that’s a 50% participation. Matt KB1OSV was heard trying to log in via EchoLink.

**AREA HAMS MADE THEMSELVES KNOW AT THE EXHIBIT BOOTH**

There were over two dozen area HAMs who stopped by the Amateur Radio Exhibit Booth and made themselves known and I am sure we missed a few.

**GOING TO THE MARSHFIELD FAIR IS A GREAT TRADITION**
A GOOD PLACE TO BRING FAMILY AND FRIENDS -- ESPECIALLY THE KIDS

The 141st annual Marshfield Fair is a great family fair. The little kids seem thrilled to see the animals, the teenagers are screaming at the thrill rides and the adults are fascinated by the crafts and shows. Of course everyone likes the food with Ed N1NTZ and John WQ1L checking out the sausages and The Bruce Ni1X checking out the pizza and blooming onions.

Jim Tynan KC1JET arrived at the Marshfield Fair with his wife’s two cousins - Marybeth KA1LEE to his left with her two kids Donald and Debra and Ann Marie to his right. It turns out that Marybeth KA1LEE comes from a radioactive family – her mother is Ann KA1ALE.

Jim Tynan KC1JET & Crew

John Coombs Jr. KB1CHW with Sandra

Ginger Bosari Edith Proffetty Bruce Hayden Ni1X

Our youngest guest was 8-week old Michael Thomas Madden – who was a Field Day baby.

Dave Beauvais KB1QMX with wife Gloria

830 POUND PUMPKIN

FERRIS WHEEL

CLYDESDALE HORSES

Electric Trains

THE SOUND OF MORSE CODE BROUGHT THE PEOPLE OVER

Pg. 5
The kids were fascinated by the sound of Morse code (the secret language) as they were taught how to send their name in Morse code. Our hope is to fire up their imaginations and inspire a new generation of radio amateurs.

**Paul Moss KB1MTW** had mounted an antique telephone type generator on a block of wood and connected it to a light bulb. This was quite an attraction as the kids cranked the generator and made the bulb light up.

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**2 - METER BASE STATION and ECHOLINK CONTACTS**

Kevin Dykes KB1MOC  
Paul Moss KB1MTW  
Frank Hayes N1OGP

The crew at the Marshfield Fair logged in 46 Whitman Club members and 57 local HAMs and made a few EchoLink and IRLP contacts as well. With **Paul KB1MTW** as the control operator, some young ladies were heard talking with **Bill N1FRE** while he was mobile.

We heard from **Mike Marinucci N1FRV** from Hernando Florida via the 2-Meter EchoLink connection to the Whitman REPEATER. **Ray Bolduc KB1ODU** has set up his EchoLink connection to read **KB1ODU – WAT1NPC**. A special EchoLink preamble invited EchoLink users to call **NN1MF** at the Marshfield Fair Special Event.
Bill Hayden N1FRE set up his ICOM IC-756 transceiver as a HF Base Station and the Special Event crew made contacts as far south as Florida, as far west as California and as far north as Ontario, Canada. The crew also made contacts in Europe with France, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Italy, Canary Islands, Spain, Ukraine, England and Oman.

John Murphy KB1PHN reported that he made contact with Lauro IK4GRO in Italy who was his first HF contact after he received his general class license.

COMPUTER LOGGING PROGRAM

Ray Bolduc KB1ODU set up a computer logging program, called XM-Log, for the Marshfield Fair Special Event Station on one of the club computers. Ray KB1ODU is showing Jim Havens W1GON how it works as they input contacts from the existing paper logs.

The club had been given some computers by Dave Beauvais KB1QMX that will be used to set up logging programs for Special Events. Showing us their logging programs have been Jeff N1ZZN at Plimoth Plantation, Paul N1VTI at the August meeting and Ray KB1ODU at Marshfield Fair.
Dave Ring N1EA

Dave Ring N1EA is the Trustee for the NN1MF Marshfield Fair Radio Club call sign and is shown operating Morse code – his favorite mode of operation. Dave N1EA made a special contact with Alex A45WD who was operating from the country of Oman.

The Bruce NI1X made a CW contact with Jim K4AXF in Strasburg, VA. and a second CW contact with John Alley W1DMD in Raynham, MA. George Manning K1CG stopped by to help out and made a few CW contacts as a guest operator. Morse code is alive and well at the Whitman Amateur Radio Club.

A “BUG” WAS BROUGHT IN FOR SHOW AND TELL

Jim Havens W1GQN brought in his recently purchased and reconditioned VIBROPLEX Morse code key (a Bug) for show and tell.

The trademark of the Vibroplex Company of New York is a picture of a Bug.

EXTRA CLASS QUESTION

Who is the HAM that does not have a Whitman club name tag yet and who stopped by the Marshfield Fair tattoo tent for what we hope is a temporary and not permanent solution to his dilemma?? The tattoo reads KB1MOC

Jeff Tracy N1SOM is ordering nametags now. Contact Jeff N1SOM at E-mail: jtn1som@verizon.net Or you can pick one up from our supplier (with the Whitman Amateur Radio Club logo) at NEARFest in October.

PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL GOOD WILL

Koos Scheffer GU0GUX
Martyn Medcalf G1EFL
Linking England with Marshfield, Massachusetts
Tyler Crager SWL with Bruce Hayden NI1X (Control Op.)
Paul Moss KB1MTW set up a schedule with Martyn Medcalf G1EFL in Chelmsford, England and Koos Scheffer GU0GUX from Guernsey in the Channel Islands, to call in via EchoLink and talk with the HAM operators at the Marshfield Fair Special Event Station. Their English accent was a great attraction. On hand during one of the contacts with Martyn G1EFL and Koos GU0GUX was The Bruce NI1X along with two young men - Tyler SWL of Whitman and Jeff SWL of Bridgewater.

Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN purchased one of the Motorola MSF-5000 900 MHz REPEATERS, that were made surplus by a New Jersey Utility, and installed it in Marshfield. It is linked to a 900 MHz REPEATER in Hopkinton, MA by the Internet Radio Linking Project (IRLP). Jeff N1ZZN has a Motorola MTX 9000 handheld radio with a full keyboard. Dave KB1QMX and Jim KB1PFL have Motorola MTX-9000 handhelds with half keyboards.

Dave KB1QMX talked to the Hopkinton 900 MHz REPEATER owner Randy N3HFK via this linked REPEATER system from the Marshfield Fair. A 900 MHZ contact was also made from the Marshfield Fair with Jim Madden KB1PFL of Pembroke.

Free RADIOGRAM messages were sent from patrons of the Marshfield Fair to family and friends all over the country. Some were sent by Morse Code. This gave us an opportunity to explain how we practice sending routine messages and can switch to sending priority messages in times of national emergencies.

Both Ron Smith N1PXX and Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN first connecting to the Scituate 2-Meter REPEATER from the Marshfield Fair. They then activated the Scituate Internet Radio Linking Project (IRLP) system, linking them to HAMs all over the world.

Jeff N1ZZN made one contact with Richard KL1DA in Alaska that was loud and clear for everyone to hear. Ron N1PXX made contact with HAMs in Tennessee, Texas, England and Sweden. A great way to show the public amateur radio in action.
6-METER CONTACT

Jim Madden KB1PFL brought in a working military model AN / PRC–77 man-pack radio that tunes between 30 and 76 MHz. Jim KB1PFL set it on 51.5 MHz and made a 6 meter contact with The Bruce NI1X while they were both at the Marshfield Fair. At least one fair patron said he had lugged one of those man-packs around in the service.

ANTIQUE RADIO DISPLAY

Ross Hochstrasser W1EKG brought in two working antique radios for show and tell.

The radio on the left is a Hammarlund Model SP-600 1954 AM receiver with 19 tubes originally priced $975.00 that tunes from the AM band thru 54 MHz. The radio on the right is a Hallicrafter SX-73 AM Receiver that also tunes from the AM bands thru 54 MHz also. It originally sold for $975.00 in 1954. These radios were for both military and civilian use.

With an antenna wire strung in the rafters the radios were fired up and they both worked great. At one point Ross W1EKG tuned in the NN1MF Special Event Station and the sound of Morse code was heard coming out of the speakers.

QSL CARDS ARE ARRIVING ALREADY

QSL Card from Martyn Metcalf G1ELF

QSL Card from
The QSL card requests are already starting to arrive. Jeff Tracy N1SOM volunteered to be the QSL manager for the Marshfield Fair Special Event Station NN1MF.

MORE MARSHFIELD FAIR PICTURES

Jim Wolf N1JCW and his wife Judy

Wayne Galvin N1MAG (right) and his father Don SWL

Skyla SWL
Elaine Thompson W1EHT
Dave Hill N1GXV
Justice SWL

Ed Meehan N1NTZ commenting on the nice job our little friend is doing sending updates for the newsletter – hint hint

And then - with the help of the take down crew – The Marshfield Fair was over.

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.

CLUB OFFICERS

President   Paul   N1VTI
V. President Ron   N1PXX
Secretary   Jeff   N1ZZN
Treasurer   Jeff   N1SOM
Director   Barbara   K1MRH
Director   Paul   KB1MTW
Director   Roy   KB1CYV
WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
A Non-Profit Corporation Serving the Public in Time of Emergency

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Whitman, MA 02382

Telephone: (781) 447-1655
ARRL Club #0082
Club Call Sign: WAINPO

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Club Repeater Station: 147.225 MHz (CTSS 67 Hz) 449.875 MHz (CTSS 88.5 Hz)

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