



SPECTRUM



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: This is **Paul N1VTI** – It has been cold. **The Bruce N1IX** reported (– 5) degrees in Raynham on January 16, 2009.



There was an Ice storm on December 12, 2008 in Fitchburg and surrounding area. **Paul Moss KB1MTW**, **Phil McNamara N1XTB** and **Joe Serrilla W1JOE** responded, on short notice, to an Amateur Radio Emergency Service deployment request to Gardner, Massachusetts. HAMS are always ready to lend a helping hand.



Paul Burbine
N1VTI

In January there was the usual MEMA monthly RADIOGRAM training and the Whitman CERT team was active. **John Murphy KB1PHN** reported that he participated in "Kids Day". **Steve Rudin W1WSN** submitted an article on "Overcoming Antenna Restrictions" to the ARRL that was published in the November issue of QST. Copies are available. Come to the next meeting and share your radioactive projects with the members present.

73 - From: Paul N1VTI



Carl Aveni N1FY giving a SKYWARN / ARES presentation at the January meeting

The January meeting was a joint meeting with the Whitman and Massasoit Club members. At the meeting, **Carl Aveni N1FY**, the newly appointed ARRL Eastern Massachusetts Assistant Section Manager, gave a presentation on SKYWARN and Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES).

The Whitman Library meeting room was packed and the presentation was followed by a short video showing some of the best pictures of severe storm damage that were forwarded to the National Weather Service in Taunton by the SKYWARN Spotters during the year 2008.

SECRETARY'S NOTES OF THE MEETING OF January 7th, 2009 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: Twenty-six members and guests were present, including three elected Officers and three Directors. A quorum was present.



Jeff Lehmann
N1ZZN

K1AWB	Steve Laroe	K1XRB	Peter George		
KB1ETW	Jim Halpin	KB1KVL	Ken Kavaljian		
KB1MTW	Paul Moss	KB1ODS	John Chase		
KB1ODU	Ray Bolduc	KB1OEQ	Ron Stundze		
KB1PHN	John Murphy	KB1QMX	Dave Beauvais		
KC1FZ	George Davis	KC1ML	Mark Loring		
KC1JET	Jim Tynan	K1REL	Bob Loring		
N1FRE	Bill Hayden	NI1X	Bruce Hayden	N1JFU	Steve Meuse
N1NO	Dave Hammond	N1SOM	Jeff Tracy	N1NVV	Pete Curley
N1VTI	Paul Burbine	N1ZZN	Jeff Lehmann	N1EZH	Barry Kennedy
W1EKG	Ross Hochstrasser	W1IRK	Bruce McKim (guest)	N1FY	Carl Aveni

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's report for December was read by **Jeff N1SOM**. **Paul KB1MTW** made a motion, seconded by **Ken KB1KVL**, that the Treasurer's report be accepted as read. The motion was approved.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: A motion was made by **Bill N1FRE**, seconded by **Bruce NI1X**, that the December Secretary's report be accepted as published in the newsletter. The motion was approved.

HEALTH & WELFARE: **Jim KB1ETW** reported that **Don Keene KA1PJX** is recovering after having his gallbladder removed, and also having trouble with his eye.

OLD BUSINESS: **Bruce NI1X** reported that he was first hunter in during last month's Fox Hunt and volunteered to be the Fox next time. A date for the next Fox Hunt was not set. **Bruce NI1X** also reported that he has responded to the first 20 QSL / Certificate requests for the Plimoth Plantation Special Event. **Jeff N1ZZN** reported that he has drafted a letter to be sent to the Plimoth Plantation officials thanking them once again. **Paul KB1MTW** reported that he has found a good deal on cases for some of our more valuable radios and analyzer. **Paul KB1MTW** made a motion that the club purchase 2 of the cases on sale at Harbor Freight. **Ken KB1KVL** seconded the motion and it was approved. **Paul KB1MTW** reported that the electrical system upgrades at the clubhouse are complete.

NEW BUSINESS: **Ray KB1ODU** reported that he is looking for someone to temporarily house the EchoLink computer and radio for the repeater. **Paul N1VTI** volunteered to keep it at his house. **Jeff N1ZZN** reported that members of the Whitman Amateur Radio Club are invited to attend the Massasoit Amateur Radio Association dinner at the Fireside Grill in Middleboro on January 20th. Please contact **Phil N1XTB** if you are interested in attending. **Jeff N1ZZN** reported that he recently picked up the new Yaesu VX-8R HT, which includes 6, 2, 220, and 440 MHz, as well as APRS capabilities.

CLUB ANTENNA ANALYZER LOCATION: Pine Street Clubhouse.

CLUB FT-817 LOCATION: Jim WG1L brought it with him to San Diego on vacation.

SECRETARY'S NOTES OF THE MEETING OF January 7th, 2009 de N1ZZN

NET CONTROLS: 1/11: Bill N1FRE 1/18: Jeff N1SOM 1/25: Bruce NI1X 2/1: Ron N1PXX

CLOSE: President **Paul N1VTI** closed the business meeting at 6:50 p.m. on a motion by **Bruce NI1X** seconded by **Paul KB1MTW**. The motion was approved.

ARES / SKYWARN Presentation: **Carl N1FY** led a presentation and discussion about all aspects of ARES and SKYWARN.

HEALTH & WELFARE – FOLLOW UP: After the meeting, **The Bruce NI1X** learned that **Dave Beauvais KB1QMX** was recovering from a broken leg and that **Ray Bolduc KB1ODU** was scheduled for surgery January 30, 2009. We wish them both a speedy recovery.

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. We need your updates for the newsletter.

As part of our training, we encourage everyone to practice sending routine RADIOGRAM messages. In December we had 4 sessions with an average of 14 area HAMs checking in each week and 6 messages were sent. Make up an NTS traffic message and send one to a friend.



**Sending NI1X
an update**

ANTIQUA RADIO FLEA MARKET - FEB. 15, 2009 - WESTFORD, MASS.

RADIO XL – an indoor Old Radio Flea Market - will be held at the Westford Regency Inn in Westford, Mass on Sunday, February 15, 2009. Take Rt. 495 to exit 32 then follow the “to Rt. 225” sign – at traffic lights go west on Rt. 110 for 0.4 miles. Time is 8 a.m. to noon. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. Admission is \$11.00. This is the biggest show on the East Coast. Last year there were 600 attendees, 62 Exhibitors and 93 tables. Sponsored by The Greater Boston Antique Radio Collectors.

MARLBORO AARC FLEA MARKET FEB. 14, 2009

The Algonquin Amateur Radio Club (AARC) will host the Marlboro Flea Market on Saturday, February 14, 2009. The location is the Marlboro Intermediate Elementary School (Marlboro Middle School) located on Thresher Drive (off Union Street) or off Bolton Street (Rt. 85) in Marlboro, Mass. Time is 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. General admission \$5.00 - VE Exams at 9:00 a.m. - Talk in on 147.27 (PL 146.2) See www.qsl.net/n1em for detailed map.

BOSTON MARATHON - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Robert DeMattia K1IW has put out a call for volunteers to help provide amateur radio communication at the 2009 Boston Marathon. The Boston Marathon will be held on Monday, April 20, 2009. Please visit the Marathon Amateur Radio Communication (MARC) web site at <http://marc.mmra.org> to sign up. Generally, at least, a 2-Meter / 440 MHz handheld is required with batteries to last the entire day. If you have any concerns or questions you can reach **Bob W1IW** at 508-393-4148.

OVERCOMING ANTENNA RESTRICTIONS

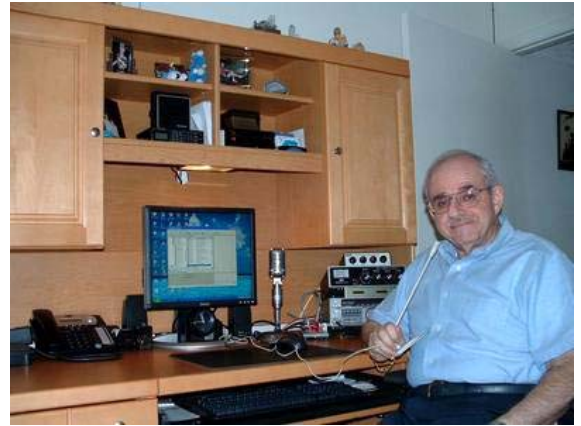
Steve Rudin W1WSN submitted an article on “Overcoming Antenna Restrictions” that was published in the November 2008 issue of QST magazine.

Steve W1WSN and his wife **Marsha** had moved from their home in Stoughton to a condominium in Florida where antennas were not permitted.

After experimenting with a few nighttime stealth antennas – mounted on the second floor balcony railing – **Steve W1WSN** reports that he started to research this challenging antenna problem.

I have summarized **Steve’s W1WSN** two page, step by step approach by listing the title of the steps only. Please make every effort to read **Steve’s W1WSN** full article as published in the November issue of QST Pg. 54 and 55. Copies are available.

Step 1. – Become affiliated with the active repeater group in the area that provides a public service to the community, especially during times of hurricanes. **Step 2.** - Using the ARRL and State Web sites to research applicable antenna laws. **Step 3.** - Pick a low profile antenna – The Tarheel II “screwdriver” antenna for 80-10-Meters and a dual band whip for VHF/UHF. **Step 4.** - Prepare a written proposal for the Board of Directors of the Condominium Association. **Step 5.** - Make a presentation to the Board and show them the actual antennas and applicable State laws. **Step 6.** - With Board approval, **Steve W1WSN** worked with a licensed electrician to work up a detailed proposal that was approved. The finished product is shown in the two pictures.



Steve Rudin W1WSN
in Margate, Florida

STEPHEN RUDIN, W1WSN

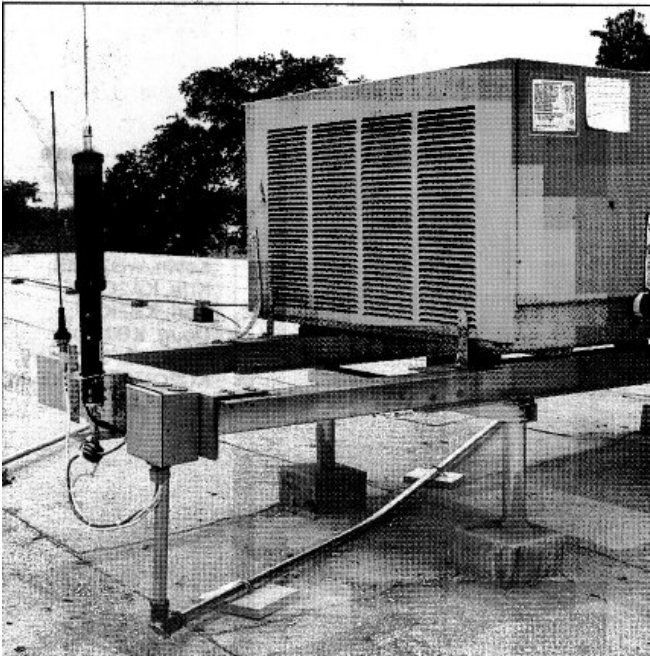


Figure 1 — The aluminum angle extension from the air conditioning mount, holding the antennas and weatherproof box for conduit entry. The view from the roof can also be seen in the background.

STEPHEN RUDIN, W1WSN

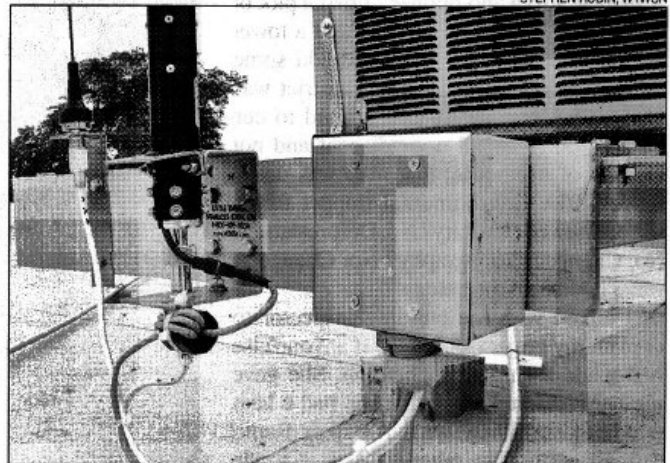


Figure 2 — Close-up of the antenna mounts, cables and the ferrite choke on the antenna control cable.

Steve W1WSN reports that he has worked more than 40 countries on CW and almost as many on phone – mostly on 20-Meters. **Steve’s W1WSN** positive approach yielded a positive result.

MY CALIFORNIA VACATION By: Jim O'Rourke WG1L



Jim O'Rourke WG1L
in San Diego, California



Bob KR6EC & Ethel Schillinger
in San Diego, California

Jim WG1L reports: "I flew out to San Diego on the 5th of January to spend some time with my two sons. I will be out here until the 30th of January and then will return to the cold Northeast ! ! ! ! Current weather is 46 at night and 73 degrees today with a high so far of 83 degrees.

I was able to contact **Bob Schillinger KR6EC** and go to his home in the Clairemont area of San Diego for a very nice visit and dinner prepared by **Bob's KR6EC** wife **Ethel**. They are a wonderful couple and we had a great time chatting about subjects from Massachusetts to San Diego and all things in between. I hope to be able to visit with them one more time before leaving this wonderful climate. There is so much to do here and the food is great.

I am on EchoLink most mornings here and sometimes in the afternoon. I have made EchoLink contact with Whitman Club members **Bruce Hayden NI1X**, **Paul Moss KB1MTW** and **Roy Logan KB1CYV** along with other HAM friends in Hull, Rhode Island and Florida.

Bob KR6EC reports in a Christmas card sent to **The Bruce NI1X**: "I had heart surgery in May 2008 and had a speedy recovery. Our local Radio Club dissolved in September due to lack of support. I am not very active since the bands are not open especially my favorite – 10-Meters. I enjoy the Spectrum. What a great newsletter and so many pictures and good coverage of all the activities. Give my regards to all my old friends".

STRAIGHT KEY NIGHT

Jim O'Rourke WG1L, **John Murphy KB1PHN** and **Bill Hayden N1FRE** reported that they started the new year off by participating in straight key night on December 31, 2008 and January 1, 2009.



Jim WG1L reports that he is a member of the FISTS club, enjoys Morse code and made a 40 minute contact with **W9BRE – Brian** in Wisconsin during straight key night.

The good news is that it was reported that solar "Cycle 24" started in January 2008. This means that the 11-year solar sunspot cycle reached it's low point a year ago and has started up. Propagation will get better as the sunspot activities increase.

AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE (ARES) DEPLOYMENT

A request for backup amateur radio emergency communication support came from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) - **Tom Kinahan N1CPE** – Mass. State Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES) Officer to **Rob Macedo KD1CY** Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) Eastern Massachusetts Section Emergency Coordinator.

The request was to relieve HAM operators that were providing backup emergency communication between the Gardner shelters and the Gardner Emergency Operations Center. **Phil McNamara N1XTB** put out the call for support needed in Gardner, MA. and **Paul Moss KB1MTW** and **Joe Serrilla W1JOE** responded on very short notice. The crew left on Sunday, December 14, 2008 at 5 p.m. and returned home on Monday afternoon after a 19-hour shift.



Joe Serrilla
W1JOE



Paul Moss
KB1MTW



Phil McNamara N1XTB
Chris Myers KB1NEK
in Gardner Mass.

Paul Moss KB1MTW reports: "I left Whitman for Gardner at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday Dec.14th. and arrived in Gardner at 8:00 p.m. We went to the temporary Emergency Operations Center (EOC) set-up at the Gardner Police Station main conference room. Met the Assistant Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Director for Gardner and the HAM who was assisting him. **Joe W1JOE** was sent off to shelter #1 at the Gardner Middle School and I was assigned to shelter #2 located at the Gardner National Guard Armory. **Phil N1XTB** served as one of two HAMs at the EOC who assisted / relieved the Assistant EMA Director".

Paul KB1MTW also reports: "I spent the night at shelter #2 (the Armory). The Armory shelter was operating on generator power for most of the time I was there, only gaining their "street power" shortly before 2:00 p.m. Monday the 15th. The situation with the phone communications between the school, EOC, and hospital were complicated by Verizon Phone Co. having a central office situation that was not allowing incoming calls to large PBX systems in Gardner that included schools, hospital, etc. We had to send a HAM who was to be one of our relief people to the hospital to ensure communication there as needed. It was interesting to be a "fly-on-the-wall" as the Guard had major VIPs tour thru their armory on Monday. VIPs included Guard Generals & Gov. Deval Patrick & co. Also had a visit from a news crew from NECN to interview shelter residents. I learned a few lessons on what to do or not do at a shelter concerning operations, etc. All in all, a worthwhile experience, and would do it all again whenever needed".

Phil N1XTB reports: "Duties aren't all amateur radio related. Some of the duties included helping man the two additional phone lines that were added for temporary Emergency Operations Center operations. One was a HOT LINE for Gardner residents to get information and assistance".

AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE (ARES) DEPLOYMENT

Phil N1XTB reported on additional operator duties: “There were a couple of exceptional transportation situations where a shelter resident needed his personal van driven to the shelter due to exhaustion. Another trip was made to the Gardner hospital with a guardsman to pick up medication for a special case.

Phil N1XTB also reports: “One HAM (an LPN) helped provide medical care at one shelter while providing radio support at the same time. During the ice storm there was a developing telephone situation involving incoming phone service at the hospital, Shelter one, City Hall and other buildings” .



The Bruce N1X reports that two of his friends, who live in Fitchburg, were without power for 12 days. They were lucky enough to move in with family in East Bridgewater but went home to frozen pipes. Those less fortunate had to stay in shelters and it was just wonderful that Whitman Club member **Paul Moss KB1MTW** along with **Joe Serrilla W1JOE** and **Phil McNamara N1XTB**, who are members of both the Whitman and Massasoit clubs, were in a position to drop what they were doing, grab their “Go Kits” and volunteer to serve the public in this time of emergency. Once again – HAMs are always ready to lend a helping hand and amateur radio gets through when all else fails.

And finally, Massasoit club member **Carl Aveni N1FY** reports that along with his SKYWARN assignments, he responded to an ARES deployment request to help staff the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) Framingham Headquarters during the ice storm.

FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH RADIOGRAM TRAINING

The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) conducts a RADIOGRAM training session on the first Monday of the month. The purpose is to test equipment and to train Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) volunteers to send and receive messages using the National Traffic System (NTS) format.

Participating at the Taunton Emergency Operations Center (EOC) were **Bruce Hayden N1IX**, Net Control for the night and **Rudy Burer KB1LXI**, Assistant Director of the Taunton Emergency

TAUNTON RACES VOLUNTEERS



Rudy Burer KB1LXI & Bruce Hayden N1IX

Management Agency (TEMA). **Phil McNamara N1XTB** was participating – representing Middleboro & Carver. **Paul Moss KB1MTW**, Net Control for the night and **Jeff Tracy N1SOM** were participating at the Whitman EOC. **Ray Bolduc KB1ODU** was participating for Weymouth. **Jim Madden KB1PFL** and **Ron Smith N1PXX** were participating at the Pembroke EOC.

The next session will be Monday, February 2, 2009. Come to the Whitman EOC located in the Central Fire Station – second floor at 7:45 p.m. and participate in this informal training session or copy along from home by listening in at 8:00 p.m. on the Norwell REPEATER 145.250 (PL 77).

Paul Moss KB1MTW reports that starting in January 2009, the Whitman Emergency Management Agency will be asked to bring the CERT Re-HAB unit to every major fire. **Paul KB1MTW** and **Ron Stundze KB1OEQ** were called out once already.

SKYWARN AND AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE

PRESENTATION By: Carl Aveni N1FY

ARES and SKYWARN, while on paper have distinct definitions, in practice, they are so interrelated as to almost seem as one organization. Many of those with whom I talk on the radio during a SKYWARN activation are cross-trained as ARES members as well.

Rather than to go into a discussion of the definitions of ARES and Skywarn, or to discuss the similarities and differences between the two organizations, I would like to have a more informal discussion of this past year's SKYWARN activities as they relate to ARES.



Carl Aveni N1FY speaking at the joint WARC / MARA meeting

In most respects, this past year was of historic proportions weather wise. In a normal year, we tend to generate approximately 300 plus reports of severe weather (i.e. not the actual number of contact reports from individual spotters, but rather the number of reports that meet "severe" criteria). In 2008, we generated 974 Severe Weather/LSR (Local Storm Report) criteria reports. This shattered all previous records since 1996 (i.e. the second closest number was 450).

- There were 2 tornadoes in the NWS Taunton County Warning Area
- There were 4 waterspouts (one came onto land and became a tornado on 7/23/08)
- Two significant microbursts in Southeastern MA.
- A mini-derecho event on 6/10/08 (with one 83 MPH gust and several 65-70 mph gusts reported)
- Five major severe weather outbreaks with 65 or more reports
- Fifty Skywarn activations occurred in the summer of 2008 alone with two periods of 7 straight days of activations (6/27 - 7/3 and 7/18 - 7/24/08)

In addition we had to deal with tropical storm Hanna, Hurricanes Dolly, Gustav, Ike, Kyle, and Omar.

In December, we had a serious ice storm that wrecked havoc throughout the region, especially in central and eastern Worcester County, necessitating deployment of ARES Mutual Aid Teams to a number of areas for assistance.

Needless to say, those of us who work at NWS Taunton could not have done the kind of job we did without the tremendous support of the individual spotters in the field. On behalf of **Rob Macedo KD1CY**, our Skywarn Coordinator and Section Emergency Coordinator, I want to thank each and every one of you for your help.

Keep on top of things by reading the Skywarn newsletters when they come out. If you don't receive them, you can contact **Rob Macedo KD1CY** to sign up. Also consider joining ARES by contacting me, **Carl Aveni, N1FY** at caave@peoplepc.com. All it takes is a desire to help out.

Thanks – From: Carl Aveni N1FY

SKYWARN UPDATE: Jim Havens W1GQN reports that he has a new La Crosse weather station to compliment his SKYWARN reporting

AMATEUR RADIO KIDS DAY - January 4, 2009 By: John Murphy KB1PHN

John Murphy KB1PHN reports: "My 10 year old nephew, Daniel Murphy SWL, participated in the ARRL Kids Day on January 4, 2009 from my shack".

Danny SWL checked for a clear frequency on 20-meters, then proceeded to call "CQ Kids Day". EI4GYB Roland from Ireland answered him. Danny SWL was hooked after that. He made a total of 15 contacts in one hour before his voice gave out.

Danny SWL can't wait to get back on the air.



The following is a list of **Danny's SWL** contacts. **Daniel Murphy SWL & John Murphy KB1PHN**

EI4GYB Roland of Ireland	KC9LZI Neil of Indiana	KC9MEW Eric of Indiana
NX8QM Doug of Ohio	N9FDE Bill of Wisconsin	WA6TLG Tim of California
K1DBX Roberto of N. Carolina	KA5ROW Doug of Oklahoma	K5LBU Charlie of Texas
KE5LZX Phil of New Mexico	KC9AKK Chuck of Indiana	W8FF Paul of Ohio
KI4NSP Tom of N. Carolina	W4KHC Bill of Tennessee	KD7MER Matt of Arizona

Great Fun - From: John KB1PHN


PLIMOTH PLANTATION - QSL MANAGER'S REPORT

This is **The Bruce NI1X** - I am the Plimoth Plantation **WA1NPO** QSL manager and I have sent out 57 Certificates to date.

There have only been 30 QSL certificate requests from HAMS from other states and foreign countries. Each received a Plimoth Plantation Special Event Certificate, a **WA1NPO** Plimoth Plantation QSL card, a Plimoth Plantation handout and a Whitman Club Plimoth Plantation Special Issue newsletter.

Our first contact was with **Koos GU0GUX** of Guernsey - Channel Islands - in the United Kingdom who made contact with us via EchoLink and the Whitman 2-Meter REPEATER while we were on route to the Plimoth Plantation on Saturday morning.

There were 18 club members participating and another 19 club members who were able to log in with **WA1NPO** while the Whitman Amateur Radio Club members were operating from historic Plimoth Plantation. All received Special Event Certificates and **WA1NPO** Plimoth Plantation Special Event QSL cards. That's (37/99) members = 37% participation.

WAB: WV38		GUERNSEY		LOC IN89QL			
		IOTA EU-114					
GUØGUX							
Member of GARS							
CONFIRMING QSO WITH	DATE			UTC	MHz	RST	MODE 2-WAY
	DAY	MONTH	YEAR				
WAINPO	29	11	08	14.00	145.3375	59	Echo Link
		KOOS SCHEFFER					
		"Keukenhof"					
		Route de Carteret					
		Cobo, Castel					
		Guernsey Channel Islands					
		GY5 7YS				UK	
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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

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, Feb. 4th at 6:30 p.m.
Whitman Public Library

Newsletter Editor Bruce NI1X

E-mail articles to: ni1x@arrl.net

CLUB OFFICERS

President	Paul	NI1VTI
V. President	Ron	N1PXX
Secretary	Jeff	N1ZZN
Treasurer	Jeff	N1SOM
Director	Barbara	K1MRH
Director	Paul	KB1MTW
Director	Roy	KB1CYV
Director	Bruce	NI1X

Web Master Jeff N1ZZN

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

Club REPEATER 147.225 MHz PL 67

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