

# **SPECTRUM**



The Voice of the Humble Electron

**Founded 1962** 

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:** This is **Paul N1VTI** – We finished the year with the blizzard of December 2010 and started the new year with another blizzard in January 2011. Each storm brought a foot or more of heavy blowing snow with antennas down, broken branches and many power outages. A good test of our battery operated backup and emergency generator systems.



We just learned that **Al Molin N1JXS** became a Silent Key in January. **Al N1JXS SK** will be missed by all.

Paul Burbine N1VTI

**HAVING FUN: John Duprey KB1SVY** volunteered to be the Fox on Saturday, January 15, 2011 and reported 5 Fox Hunters participating.

CHRISTMAS MAGIC: Jim Tovet W1JT reported that he, along with Paul Moss KB1MTW, Joan Cooper-Zack KB1UBZ and area HAMs Bob Keaney KB1UCA and John Barbuto K1BBM teamed up to make some Christmas Magic at the South Shore Hospital via amateur radio. Bob Kearney KB1UCA was Santa and Paul KB1MTW was an Elf in a remote location (the HAM shack in the Simulation Lab) — 440 MHz worked where 2-Meters did not. Jim Tovet W1JT was on the floor with Joan Cooper-Zack KB1UBZ and helped some children talk with Santa. Great fun.



Santa Magic

PUBLIC SERVICE: Mike Supple KB10EP, Ron Stundze KB10EQ and Paul Moss KB1MTW reported that they helped staff the Whitman / Hanson emergency shelter during the two blizzards.

PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING: Bruce Hayden NI1X reported that he, along with Mike Supple KB10EP, Karen Trask KB1UBX, John Duprey KB1SVY, Paul Moss KB1MTW and Kevin Dykes KB1MOC participated in first Monday of the month RADIOGRAM Training.

Jim O'Rourke WG1L and I (N1VTI) were Volunteer Examiners in January in Braintree when Ken Desruisseau N1LWK upgraded to Extra Class. Bill Wennerberg KB1UYW reported that he upgraded to General Class in December. Come to the next meeting and share your radioactive adventures with the other members.

73 From: Paul N1VTI

<u>SILENT KEY:</u> Al Molin N1JXS of Stoughton became a Silent Key on January 8, 2011 at age 68.

Al N1JXS SK shared our interest in amateur radio and faithfully joined us at the Saftler's Flea Markets (where this picture was taken). Our condolences to Al's N1JXS wife Bonnie and to the rest of his family and friends. Al N1JXS will be missed by all.



Al Molin N1JXS Silent Key

## SECRETARY'S NOTES OF THE MEETING OF January 5, 2011 de N1ZZN

**OPENING:** The members started gathering at the Whitman Public Library, Whitman, MA around 6:10 p.m. President Paul N1VTI opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE:** Thirty-seven members / guests were present, including the four elected Officers and two Directors. A guorum was present.

K1AWB	Steve Laroe	KB1REQ	Jeremy Breef-Pilz		
K1WGU	Bob Bass	W1EKG	Ross Hochstrasse	er	
KA1JBE	Joe Casieri	N1LWK	Ken Desruisseau		<u>Jeff Lehmann</u>
KA1PJX	Don Keene	KB1TEH	Richard Metcalf		N1ZZN
KB1MTW	Paul Moss	KB1NAX	Joan Smith		
KB10DS	John Chase	KB10EP	Mike Supple	KB10EQ	Ron Stundze
KB1PHN	John Murphy	KB1QEM	John O'Neill	KB1QKV	Mike Anderson
KB1RXQ	Dino Casieri	WG1L	Jim O'Rourke	KB1SVY	John Duprey
KB1UBX	Karen Trask	KB1UTA	Laura Valler	KC1JET	Jim Tynan
N1AMX	Tony Carlozzi	SWL	Susan Carlozzi	N1JBG	Doug Hart
N1LQK	Dave Kaplan	N1PXX	Ron Smith	N1SOM	Jeff Tracy
N1SON	Bill Tracy	N1VTI	Paul Burbine	N1ZZN	Jeff Lehmann
NI1X	Bruce Hayden	W1AXB	Matt Paine	W1GRC	<b>Gary Cumiskey</b>
W1JT	Jim Tovet	<b>WA1ZKK</b>	Al Craddock	WA1UMT	Dave Darois

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The treasurer's report for December was read by **Jeff N1SOM**. Bruce NI1X made a motion seconded by John KB1SVY that the treasurer's report be accepted as read. The motion was approved.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: A motion was made by Bruce NI1X seconded by Jim KC1JET that the December secretary's report be accepted as published in the newsletter. The motion was approved.

HEALTH & WELFARE: Barbara K1MRH reported via email that a card was sent to Bob KR6EC who is recovering after cardiac surgery.

OLD BUSINESS: Jeff N1ZZN and Gary W1GRC volunteered to be the fox for the next fox hunt on 1/15. Bruce NI1X reported that he is looking into what it takes for the club to be Handiham affiliated. John KB1QEM reported that there is still interest in General Class license classes at the South Shore Hospital. Also at the hospital, several members participated in a Santa activity before Christmas, where children talked to Santa over the radio. Bruce NI1X reported that Plimoth Plantation Special Event certificates and QSL cards had been sent out to those who requested them, and the certificates for the members who had made contacts were available at the meeting. More discussion was held about getting rid of items in the clubhouse, with one possibility of having an entire trailer of free stuff displayed at the flea market.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Paul N1VTI reported that Phil K9HI is looking for a representative from the Club to attend the New England Division ARRL meeting in Springfield. There was discussion held about looking for a new location to hold our Flea Markets once Saftler's leaves the property. A committee was formed with Ross W1EKG, John KB1SVY, Jim W1JT and Doug N1JBG to research new locations. Bruce NI1X received an email from Paul Whipperman K1MTM that a tower / antenna is available for free for whoever will take it down in Norton, MA. Ron N1PXX reported that the Plymouth 146.685 MHz REPEATER antenna had been replaced and coverage reports would be appreciated

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### SECRETARY'S NOTES OF THE MEETING OF January 5, 2011 Cont: de N1ZZN

**NEW BUSINESS Cont:** Ron N1PXX also reported that the Genesis club is starting a 10 meter Net on Friday nights at 8 p.m. on 28.485 MHz. **Paul N1VTI** reported that there would be a VE Session at the **K1USN** club in Braintree on Saturday 1/8. **Jim KC1JET** reported that his new IDAS digital repeater is on the air in Swansea on 145.320, with Icom IDAS or Kenwood NXDN commercial radios required to access it. There are also IDAS repeaters in Taunton and Plymouth, and coming soon in Norwell. **John KB1QEM** reported that the South Shore Hospital group would be holding a simplex test on Sunday 1/9 at 9:30 AM on 146.535 to see how far they are able to reach directly from the hospital. **Jim KC1JET** reported that there will be a SKYWARN training session at the Morton Hospital in Taunton on May 16<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. Contact **Jim KC1JET** for more info. **Ross W1EKG** reported that he's heard from **Mike W1RC** that they are looking for a big turnout at NEARFest this spring, and if there is, that there will be a special surprise at the fall NEARFest.

NET CONTROLS: 1/9: John KB1SVY, 1/16: Jeff N1SOM, 1/23: Ross W1EKG, 1/30: Karen KB1UBX

**CLOSE:** President **Paul N1VTI** closed the business meeting at 7:20 p.m. on a motion by **Jim WG1L** seconded by **John KB1SVY**. The motion was approved.

## AMATEUR RADIO RUNS IN THE FAMILY - By: Ken Desruisseau N1LWK

**Ken Desruisseau N1LWK** reports: "I received some good news. My youngest Grand Niece, **Tabitha Belknap KJ4ZQU** (age 10) passed her Technician exam on December 22, 2010. **Tabitha KJ4ZQU** lives with her family in Simpsonville, South Carolina.

To back up a little - I was corresponding with **Tabitha's KJ4ZQU** brother **Stephen**, now **KJ4RXY** and I was instrumental in introducing him and, through him, the rest of the family, to the fascinating world of amateur radio. The kids are home schooled and, I must say, are all very smart. **Stephen KJ4RXY** and his father **Glen KJ4RXX** were the first to get licensed last February and, as they say, - the rest is history.



Tabitha Belknap KJ4ZQU 10 yrs. old

When **Stephen KJ4RXY** upgraded to General, his mother **Laura** took the Tech and General to become **KJ4UHE**. **Sharon** is 17 and was next to

become **KJ4UQD**. Next was **Daniel** who became **KJ4WZM** just before he started his freshman year at public High School. **Daniel KJ4WZM** has started the school's first HAM Radio Club. And now we have more good news - I just learned that **Thomas** passed his license exam on Saturday, January 15, 2011 so that now all 6 family members have their license. The youngest being **Tabitha KJ4ZQU**.

The oldest daughter **Sharon KJ4UQD** has been doing Net Control 1 night each week now. From what I hear, when I get on EchoLink to listen, is that the nearby Greenville, S.C. HAM community is very active and she usually has around 75 to 80 check-ins".

"Ok for now and have a Happy New Year".

73 From Ken N1LWK

## SCUTTLEBUTT -- SCUTTLEBUTT -- SCUTTLEBUTT

**Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN** reports he put his Christmas green stamps towards an upgraded new VX-8DR handheld after his VX8R handheld took a swim in Lake Winisquam last summer.

## SOUTH SHORE HOSPITAL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB UPDATE By: Bruce NI1X

The South Shore Hospital in Weymouth, MA. has come a long way in the past year in setting up an amateur radio communication volunteer organization to provide backup emergency communication for the hospital. The driving force that got this program started was South Shore Hospital employee **John O'Neill KB1QEM**. I talked with **John KB1QEM** and he reports the following.

Amateur Radio Emergency Service ARES representative **Carl Aveni N1FY** was brought in to talk with **Joan Cooper-Zack KB1UBZ RN** Emergency Preparedness Manager about services available using amateur radio.

**John KB1QEM** helped the hospital define the equipment that would be purchased and included in a hospital "Go Kit" with the help of a Homeland Security Grant which **Joan KB1UBZ** was able to secure.

Arrangements were made to hold amateur radio Technician Classes, sponsored by both the South Shore Hospital and the local Whitman Amateur Radio Club, that were available to hospital employees and area volunteers. Classes were taught on two Saturdays using hospital classroom facilities.



John O'Neill KB1QEM using Hospital Go Kit

Radio equipment was purchased that included a Yaesu FT-8800 VHF/UHF transceiver, a Yaesu FT-450 AT HF transceiver, a Kantronics KAM XL TNC, a 35 amp Samlex power supply and a Yaesu FT-60R handheld. All housed in a case with a removable platform ready to be used as a base station. Also purchased were a dual band 2-Meter / 70 cm antenna and an HF antenna for base station use. Both 2-Meter and HF antennas were installed on the hospital roof and coax lines terminated inside the hospital.

The Technician classes resulted in 6 new HAMs that were South Shore Hospital employees bringing the total number of in house HAMs up to 8. Several orientation sessions were held to educate the volunteer HAMs to the South Shore Hospital volunteer program, policies, and culture.

**John KB1QEM** formed the South Shore Hospital Amateur Radio Club (SSHARC) and has secured the Club Call Sign **W1SSH**. There are currently 22 HAMs who are part of the SSHARC.

At the first meeting of the South Shore Hospital Amateur Radio Club volunteers, held on December 11<sup>th</sup>, there were 18 volunteers present and photo ID volunteer badges were processed. **Jim Tovet W1JT** gave a presentation on Packet radio and demonstrated how it was now possible for amateur radio operators at the South Shore Hospital to send and receive text messages — via amateur radio — with other Packet terminals and Bulletin Boards outside the area. **Jim W1JT** demonstrated how they could connect to a special Packet Winlink terminal that is connected to the internet and through which you can send a text message via the internet E-Mail system to any location. In this case the VP of Nursing received an E-Mail that originated as a Packet message that was sent by amateur radio.



Jim Tovet W1JT demonstrating Packet Radio at the SSHARC Dec. meeting

## SOUTH SHORE HOSPITAL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB UPDATE Cont: By: Bruce NI1X

A January meeting is planned to include a presentation on National Traffic System RADIOGRAM format as part of an ongoing training program. An area wide SIMPLEX test was conducted in January and it appears there is a desense issue anytime the paging system at the hospital transmits.

The formation and implementation of the program at South Shore Hospital as has been such a success **Joan KB1UBZ** and **John KB1QEM** have been approached by other local health care institutions interested in developing their own programs.

**John KB1QEM** states "There are several parts of the country where HAMs have joined their resources together to form radio networks for area hospitals. It would be a tremendous asset for area institutions to be able to communicate with each other on a predefined network of simplex frequencies and repeaters. I have my sites set for the creation of a system along those lines as we and other hospitals in the area get our groups established".

#### TWO BLIZZARDS IN TWO WEEKS

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT) ACTIVATION: Mike Supple KB10EP, Ron Stundze KB10EQ and Paul Moss KB1MTW reported they were called to man a Whitman / Hanson emergency shelter that was housing people whose homes were without power.

**SKYWARN OPERATION: Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN** and **Phil McNamara N1XTB** were heard during the December storm as Net Control on the Bridgewater REPEATER SKYWARN Net. There were lots of tree branches and wires down with a foot or more of snow and many power outages during both storms.



**Bruce's NI1X R-8 almost Vertical** 

<u>LIGHTS OUT --</u> <u>DECEMBER 27, 2010</u>: Reporting lights out were **Jim Tynan KC1JET** for 1-1/2 hours in Taunton, **John Coombs WQ1L** for 4 hours in Marshfield, **Loren Pimentel N1IQI** for 6 hours in Bryantville, **Phil McNamara N1XTB** for 20 hours in Middleboro and **Al Craddock WA1ZKK** for 36 hours in Bridgewater.

<u>LIGHTS OUT -- JANUARY 12, 2011:</u> Reporting lights out were **John Coombs WQ1L** and **John O'Neill KB1QEM** for 5 hours in Marshfield, **Roy Logan KB1CYV** for 8 hours in Bridgewater, **Paul Burbine N1VTI** for 8 hours in East Bridgewater, **Bill Hayden N1FRE** for 11 hours in Whitman, **Al Craddock WA1ZKK** for 14 hours in Bridgewater and **Laura Valler KB1UTA** for 24 hours in Whitman,

#### TAUNTON AREA COMMUNICATION GROUP -- CHRISTMAS PARTY

Jim Tynan KC1JET, Neal Harrington KB1LXL and Bruce Hayden NI1X attended the TACGroup Christmas party at the Home Plate restaurant in Taunton.

The Officers for next year were voted in. They are **Greg Glynn W1VFB** President, **Jim Tynan KC1JET** Vice President, **Don Burke KB1LXH** Secretary, **Neal Harrington KB1LXL** Treasurer and **Barry Kennedy N1EZH** is the new Club Call Sign Trustee.



## FOX HUNT -- SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 2011

John Duprey KB1SVY and his wife Michelle SWL volunteered to be the Fox on Saturday, January 15, 2011. John KB1SVY got off to a slow start when he locked his keys in his running truck in his yard. John KB1SVY bounced back and was found hiding behind a metal truck (with a J B Hunt sign on it — could not resist the change) and snow bank on the East side of the Westgate Mall, behind Lowe's.

First in was the Team of Joe KA1JBE, Dino KB1RXQ and Laura KB1UTA in a time of I hour and 17 minutes. Second place goes to Bruce NI1X in a time of 1 hour and 23 minutes. Making the top two teams possible was Richard KB1TEH in a time of I hour and 33 minutes.

Now if **Ed Meehan N1NTZ** had checked the Fox Frequency after the 10:30 a.m. start like **Jim Havens W1GQN** and **Brad Wilson W1AY** had done, he would have found the Fox a stone's throw from his own back yard.



Bruce Hayden NI1X

Michelle Duprey SWL

John Duprey KB1SVY

Laura Valler KB1UTA

Joe Casieri KA1JBE

Dino Casieri KB1RXQ

Richard Metcalf KB1TEH

# 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 shortwave listeners as well. We need your updates for the newsletter.

On January 9, 2011 **John Duprey KB1SVY** ran the WARPSN NET from the South Shore Hospital radio room using the hospital "Go Kit".

As part of our training, we encourage everyone to practice sending routine RADIOGRAM messages. Make up an NTS traffic message and send it to a friend.



John Duprey KB1SVY operating from the South Shore Hospital

We also encourage everyone to try your hand at Net Control. Contact **Bill N1FRE** or **Bruce NI1X** for a Net Control handout.

In December we had 4 sessions with an average of 18 area HAMs checking in each week and 7 messages were sent. **Dan Chase KB1SPB** has been checking in from Rockport, MA. via EchoLink. **John O'Neill KB1QEM** reported in from San Antonio, Texas via EchoLink where his was visiting family.

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### MASSACHUSETTS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY - RADIOGRAM TRAINING

The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) conducts RADIOGRAM Training on the first Monday of the month. In this area, the messages originate from the Region II Headquarters located on the State Prison facilities grounds in Bridgewater from a shelter commonly called the bunker. **Doug Forbes Jr.** is the Region II Local Coordinator.

On Monday, January 3, 2011 two messages were sent to the local city and town Emergency Management Agency Directors. This is a test of equipment and a chance to practice sending messages using NTS paper format. It is expected that the messages will be delivered within 24 hours.



Doug Forbes Jr.

In this area you can listen in on the Norwell 145.250 MHz PL 77 REPEATER and copy along. Next month's RADIOGRAM Training session will be held on Monday, Feb. 7, 2011 at 8 p.m.

## MEMA REGION II RADIO AMATEUR CIVIL EMERGENCY SERVICE (RACES) VOLUNTEERS







Bruce Hayden NI1X

John Miller N1UMJ

Mike Leger N1YLQ

**Mike "Sparkey" Leger N1YLQ** has been selected as the "Acting" Region II RACES Radio Officer replacing outgoing Region II Radio Officer **Bob Mims WA10EZ.** 

Heard participating from the town of Whitman Emergency Operation Center (EOC) were **Mike Supple KB10EP**, **Karen Trask KB1UBX**, **John Duprey KB1SVY** and **Paul Moss KB1MTW**. Also heard participating was **Kevin Dykes KB1MOC** from the town of Hanson EOC.



Mike "Sparkey" Leger N1YLQ

### ARRL OUTGOING QSL SERVICE -- NEW RATE SCHEDULE

Effective January 17, 2011 the cost to send QSL cards through the ARRL Outgoing Bureau will be:



\$3.00 for 11 - 20 cards.

75 cents per ounce for packages of 21 or more cards.

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For example a package containing 1.5 pounds or 24 ounces (about 225 cards) will cost (24 X \$0.75) = \$18.00. Not bad considering it would cost (\$0.98 x 225) = \$220.50 to send all 225 cards individually direct.

#### QSL CARD OF THE MONTH -- HELLO FROM WEST MALAYSIA





Chin 9M2CW/p has been checking in with the Whitman REPEATER via EchoLink at about 4:30 p.m. our time while he is out jogging at 5:30 a.m. his time. Chin 9M2CW is very interested in holding Fox Hunts in his area and has started to assemble some of the Fox Hunting equipment.

P. K. Chin 9M2CW
Youngest daughter Evonne Chin 9W2CY
Wife Catherine Chin SWL
Daughter Elaine Chin 9W2CX
Son H. P. Chin SWL

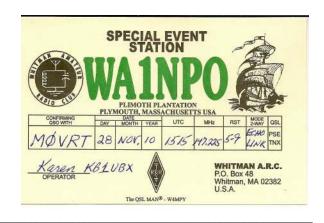
#### PLIMOTH PLANTATION SPECIAL EVENT

# QSL MANAGER'S REPORT By: The Bruce NI1X

Plimoth QSL Certificates and QSL cards sent.

To WARC Members 49
To Area HAMs 12
All other QSL card requests 47

Total 108



## MARLBOROUGH FLEA MARKET -- FEBRUARY 19, 2011

The Algonquin Amateur Radio Club will hold its Marlborough Flea Market on February 19, 2011 at the 1Lt. Charles W. Whitcomb School (same location – formally Intermediate / Middle School) located at 25 Union Street – off Bolton St. Rt. 85 in Marlborough, Mass. Time 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. General admission \$5.00 at 9 a.m. For more Info contact **Tim Ikeda KA10S** 1-978-333-0067

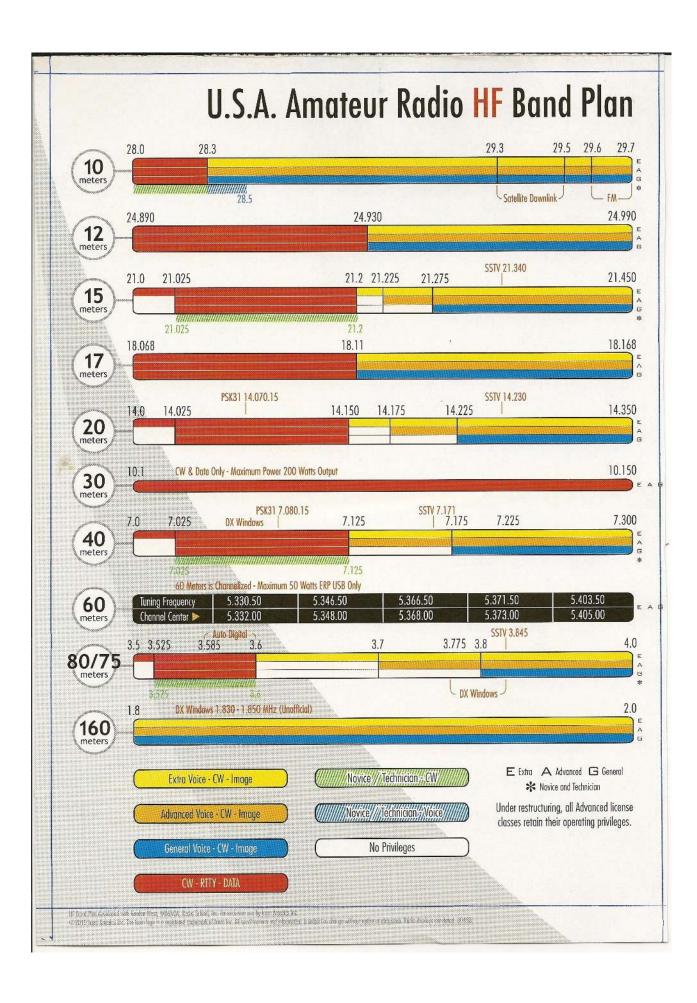
Directions: Rt. 495 to Rt. 290 east to Rt. 85 south to Union Street.

#### ANTIQUE RADIO FLEA MARKET -- RADIO XLII -- FEBRUARY 20, 2011

The Greater Boston Antique Radio Collectors will hold Radio XLII on Sunday, February 20, 2011 between 8:00 a.m. and 12 Noon at the Westford Regency Inn in Westford, Mass. Admission is \$12.00 Last year there were 546 attendees and 53 Exhibitors and 83 tables. For more info see: www.antiqueradio.com

Directions: From I-495 take Exit 32. Follow "To Rt. 225" sign. At traffic light by gas station, turn right onto Rt. 110 - West for 0.4 miles. The Westford Regency is on the right.

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# WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

A Non-Profit Corporation Serving the Public in Time of Emergency



Post Office Box 48 Whitman, MA 02382 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. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Whitman Public Library

Club REPEATER 147.225 MHz PL 67

**Club IRLP Node 8691** 

#### **CLUB OFFICERS**

President	<b>Paul Burbine</b>	N1VTI
V. President	<b>Paul Moss</b>	KB1MTW
Secretary	Jeff Lehmann	N1ZZN
Treasurer	Jeff Tracy	N1SOM
Director 2011	Roy Logan	KB1CYV
Director 2012	Barbara Rice	K1MRH
Director 2013	John Murphy	KB1PHN
<b>Director Past Pres.</b>	Bruce Hayden	NI1X

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Club EchoLink WA1NPO-R Whitman MA USA -- Club EchoLink Node 484193

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