



The Whitman Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

July 2011

SPECTRUM



The Voice of the Humble Electron

Founded 1962

FIELD DAY 2011 SPECIAL ISSUE NEWSLETTER

The Whitman Amateur Radio Club participated in a national emergency preparedness exercise called Field Day 2011 over the weekend of June 25TH and 26TH. A total of 28 Whitman Club members and 9 area amateur radio operators (HAMs) from 20 area towns, mobilized at the Old Colony YMCA Camp Satucket property in East Bridgewater to set up portable antennas, radios, generators, and tents.



The object of the exercise was to see how many other amateur radio stations could be contacted in a given 24 hour period that started at 2 p.m. on Saturday afternoon and ended at 2 p.m. on Sunday afternoon. **John Duprey KB1SVY**, president of the Whitman Amateur Radio Club, reports that the exercise was a great success as the team was able to set up six independent base stations and made a total of 585 contacts with amateur radio operators in 39 states, 4 Canadian provinces and 1 foreign country over the 24 hour period using phone, digital and Morse code.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON -- READY TO PUT W1N ON-THE-AIR



On Saturday afternoon – 5 minutes before the start of the Field Day 2011 operations – the members and guests present were gathered for a group photo to prove that it really happened. Seen standing L. to R. are **Marcia Forde KW1U, Tom Wilson W1ICU, Jack Bowles N1OTC, Brad Wilson W1AY, Al Drollett W1SM, Jim Tovet W1JT, John Murphy KB1PHN, Joe Casieri KA1JBE, Dino Casieri KB1RXQ, Gary Cumiskey W1GRC, Roy Logan KB1CYV, Lou Stone KB1VIY, John O'Neill KB1QEM, Loren Pimentel N1IQI and Bruce Hayden NI1X.** Seen kneeling in front L. to R. are **Paul Burbine N1VTI, Jim Ford NM1F, Paul Moss KB1MTW and Karen Trask KB1UBX.**

THE PARTICIPATION WAS FANTASTIC

The 28 Whitman Club members who were able to attend the Whitman Club Field Day 2011 site activities were:

NI1X	Bruce Hayden	KB1MTW	Paul Moss	KB1PHN	John Murphy
W1GRC	Gary Cumiskey	KB1CYV	Roy Logan	NM1F	Jim Ford
W1SM	Al Drollett	W1JT	Jim Tovet	N1VTI	Paul Burbine
KB1UBX	Karen Trask	W1ICU	Tom Wilson	KB1QEM	John O'Neill
N1IQI	Loren Pimentel	KA1JBE	Joe Casieri	KB1RXQ	Dino Casieri
KB1SVY	John Duprey	KC1FZ	George Davis	N1SON	Bill Tracy
K1VU	Bob Johnson	N1FRE	Bill Hayden	N1OGP	Frank Hayes
KB1PFL	Jim Madden	KB1ODS	John Chase	KB1IKH	Elayne Tovet
N1POO	Pete Carlson	WA1YZH	Dave Gurney	W1AY	Brad Wilson
KB1REQ	Jeremy Breef-Pilz				

The 9 area HAMS who participated in the Whitman Club Field Day 2011 activities were:

KB1VIY	Lou Stone	of Halifax	N1KQZ	Doug Cugini	of Taunton
KB1LXI	Rudy Burer	of Taunton	KW1U	Marcia Forde	of Concord
N1OTC	Jack Bowles	of Carver	N1JCK	Diane Kennedy	of Taunton
KC1HO	Steve Johnson	of Plymouth	N1EZH	Barry Kennedy	of Taunton
KA1BBU	Bob Egles	of Holbrook			

Some of the non-HAM Short Wave Listener (SWL) guests that were logged in were **George Davis's KC1FZ** son **Gary Davis SWL** visiting from the state of Washington, **Jeremy Breef-Pilz's KB1REQ** father **Bruce SWL**, mother **Nancy SWL** and sister **Charlotte SWL** of Mansfield and **Frank Hayes's N1OGP** grandson **Michael Butler SWL** of West Bridgewater.

WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB -- FIELD DAY STATISTICS

<u>Year</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
<u># of Base Stations</u>	6A	4A	5A	4A	7A	4A	6E	6A	6A	5A	6A
<u># of contacts made</u>	690	383	325	257	259	319	424	519	665	627	585
<u># of participants</u>	20	24	22	23	22	18	26	49	31	34	37



The East Bridgewater YMCA once again let the Whitman Club members hold Field Day on their property. The open fields and wooded area behind the YMCA building provided a great location for Field Day activities. The tall pine trees are excellent for wire antennas and the area is open to the public.



FIRST CAME THE ANTENNA SET UP

Paul Moss KB1MTW headed to the Club house to pick up Club equipment and then rendezvoused at 9 a.m. with the rest of the Saturday morning Field Day set up crew at the E. Bridgewater YMCA property. The members brought personal equipment from home (radios, tents, antennas, etc.) and some had volunteered to pick up miscellaneous supplies, with **Karen KB1UBX** picking up the food, **The Bruce NI1X** picking up the gas, **Jeff Tracy N1SOM** making up the log books and dupe sheets and copies of the Field Day rules for each band. **John KB1PHN** and **Bill N1SON** volunteering to pick up the grill that was stored at **Roy's KB1CYV** house, **Bill Tracy N1SON** bringing the club generator - to name a few.

The first task at hand was the installation of antennas. Both **Paul Burbine N1VTI** and **Tom Wilson W1ICU** brought their modified spud gun launchers and helped put the antenna lines over the tallest pine trees.

Two Cushcraft R-5 (5 band) vertical antennas were installed along with a G5-RV, an 80-Meter dipole, a 40-Meter Delta loop, a 6-Meter dipole and **Paul's KB1MTW** portable 2-Meter vertical with tripod mount.



Paul Burbine N1VTI
with spud gun launcher



Jim Ford NM1F
John Duprey KB1SVY
Paul Moss KB1MTW



Paul KB1MTW Al W1SM
John KB1PHN

Roy KB1CYV

EXTRA CLASS QUESTION: How do you get the tennis ball, that is shot out of the modified spud gun launcher, to travel the extra few feet ?? **John KB1SVY** had the answer – soap it up.

Tom Wilson W1ICU is shown holding his modified spud gun launcher, used to install the 80-Meter dipole and 6-Meter dipole, while **Jim Tivet W1JT** looks on.

One object of Field Day is to work together in an organized effort under adverse conditions and installing antennas is one of the first steps. It's easy when we enjoy our hobby and it looks like the spud gun launchers are having fun at the same time.



Tom Wilson W1ICU
Jim Tivet W1JT

ARRL EASTERN MASS, TRAFFIC MANAGER MARCIA FORDE KW1U
VISITS THE WHITMAN FIELD DAY SITE WITH JACK BOWLES N1OTC



John Duprey KB1SVY
WARC Pres.

Marcia Forde KW1U
Traffic Manager

Loren Pimentel N1IQI
Traffic handler

Jack Bowles N1OTC
Traffic Handler

One of our guests - **Marcia Forde KW1U** - the ARRL Eastern Mass. (EMA) Section Traffic Manager from Concord, MA along with **Jack Bowles N1OTC** a traffic handler from Carver, stopped by to check out the Whitman Club Field Day site and to encourage us to practice sending RADIOGRAM messages on a routine basis to keep up our skills.

Not if, but when, a hurricane hits Southeastern Massachusetts – **Marsha KW1U** wants the National Traffic System (NTS) volunteers to be ready to spring into action delivering the many Health & Welfare messages that would be generated along with emergency and priority traffic.



Karen Trask KB1UBX

Karen Trask KB1UBX is shown sending the Whitman Club President's RADIOGRAM message from the Field Day site to **Loren Pimentel N1IQI** in Bryantville, MA. From there it was sent through the NTS system for delivery to **Phil Temples K9HI** our ARRL EMA Section Manager.

INVITED GUEST -- Rudy Burer KB1LXI

Rudy Burer KB1LXI – the Assistant Director of the Taunton Emergency Management Agency responded to an invitation to visit the Whitman Amateur Radio Club Field Day site. **Rudy KB1LXI** is seen making one of several HF contacts under the supervision of higher class Control Operator **Bruce Hayden NI1X**. **Rudy KB1LXI** also formatted a routine RADIOGRAM message that was sent from the Field Day site via **John's KB1SVY** packet station, saw **Jeremy's KB1REQ** digital (RTTY) mode of operation and **Jim's NM1F** Morse code mode of operation. **The Bruce NI1X** is a RACES Operator for the City of Taunton.



Rudy Burer KB1LXI
Bruce Hayden NI1X

RADIOTELETYPE -- RTTY -- A DIGITAL MODE OF OPERATION

Radioteletype has come a long way – The World War II era version, used by the news services, is remembered as two or more electromechanical teleprinters connected by wires.

The HAMS have replaced the teleprinters with personal computers that run software to emulate the teleprinters and the system is connected by amateur radios instead of wires. The principal of converting letters, numbers, and a few punctuation marks into data bits is still the same. The speed is about 60 words per minute.

Jeremy Breef-Pilz KB1REQ set up a digital station using the RTTY mode of operation and made 77 contacts on 20-Meters. He connected the Club's laptop computer to the Club's HF transceiver through a Signalink (Integrated USB Sound Card) and loaded his RTTY software program into the computer.



Jeremy Breef-Pilz KB1REQ

OUTGOING TRANSMISSIONS: The RTTY software program converts the keyboard letters and numbers into binary (ones and zeros) digital format. Next the Signalink sound card converts the binary digital signals (ones and zeros) into sounds that can be sent over HF.

INCOMING TRANSMISSIONS: the Signalink sound card converts the incoming digital sounds heard back into binary format and the RTTY program converts the binary signals back into letters and numbers that appear on the computer screen.

Jeremy KB1REQ was part of the overnight crew. Shown Sunday afternoon when they came to pick **Jeremy KB1REQ** up were his father **Bruce SWL**, Mother **Nancy SWL** and sister **Charlotte SWL**.



Charlotte SWL
Bruce SWL
Nancy SWL

Tricks of the trade: To save on typing - **Jeremy KB1REQ** had created three memory Macros that made this mode of operation almost hands free.

Macro 1.	CQ FD CQ FD W1N W1N FD K	repeated every 5 seconds
Macro 2.	(Call Sign) Pls Cpy 6A EMA	type in (call sign) of the station answering
Macro 3.	(Call Sign) QSL 73 Enjoy Field Day	end of contact

This Field Day 2011 emergency communication drill was both a fun and learning experience. **Tom Wilson W1ICU** and **Paul Burbine N1VTI** introduced some of the Club members to their modified spud gun launchers. **Jeremy Breef-Pilz KB1REQ** introduced some of the Club members to the RTTY mode of digital operation. **John Duprey KB1SVY** introduced some of the Club members to packet radio. **Bob Johnson K1VU** introduced some of the Club members to the DX Sherlock program that showed a map of the current 6-Meter propagation. We put some Technician Class operators on HF under the supervision of a higher class Control Operator. For some new HAMS Field Day operation is their first introduction to the HF bands and the contest mode of operation.

THE FACILITIES WERE FANTASTIC AND THE FOOD WAS DELICIOUS



Gary W1GRC & Karen KB1UBX



Dave Gurney WA1YZH



Karen Trask KB1UBX

Karen Trask KB1UBX did a great job of taking charge and doing most of the shopping for our gourmet BBQ and **Gary Cumiskey W1GRC** made a great cook. **Roy Logan KB1CYV** brought his famous baked beans. **Michelle Duprey SWL** brought the salads and **Paul Moss KB1MTW** picked up the ice. A special thanks to all who brought food and supplies. We are grateful for the use of the outdoor pavilion with open sides and a roof over our heads and picnic tables to operate from.

MORSE CODE (CW) IS ALIVE AND WELL

40 - METER CW BASE STATION: **Jim Ford NM1F** set up a 40-Meter CW Base Station using a 40-Meter delta loop antenna and his Kenwood TS-690 transceiver.

Jim NM1F was the only person working CW this year and made 154 contacts over the 24 hour period. **Jim NM1F** was part of the overnight crew.

Jim Ford NM1F →



MASSASOIT CLUB MEMBERS WERE INVITED TO JOIN US

40 - METER (SSB) BASE STATION: **The Bruce NI1X** set up his ICOM IC-706 as a 40-Meter Base Station and connected it to the Club's G5-RV antenna .

The Massasoit Club members were extended a special invitation to join the Whitman Club members in East Bridgewater when they decided not to hold a Field Day 2011 at the Bridgewater Emergency Operations Center as they have in the past.

Barry Kennedy N1EZH – Vice President of the Massasoit Club – was an active participant in the Field Day 2011 activities. **Barry N1EZH** was joined by his wife **Diane N1JCK** who is seen making contacts at the 40-Meter Base Station.

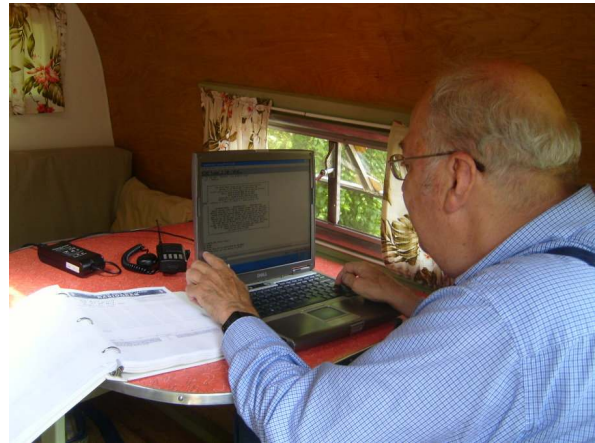


Barry Kennedy N1EZH
Diane Kennedy N1JCK

2 - METER PACKET BASE STATION: John Duprey KB1SVY set up a 2-Meter packet station at the Field Day 2011 site in East Bridgewater and RADIOGRAM messages were relayed through Club member Loren Pimentel N1IQI in Bryantville. John KB1SVY is using a Kantronics KAM - All Mode - Terminal Node Controller (TNC) along with his YAESU FT-2200 transceiver, a mag. mount antenna, and a laptop computer.



John's KB1SVY packet set up



Bruce Hayden NI1X

The Bruce NI1X sent 10 RADIOGRAM messages from the Field Day 2011 site. This was a chance for some hands-on packet training as Rudy Burer KB1LXI got to send his first packet RADIOGRAM message on John Duprey's KB1SVY packet station.



Banjo



Riley

John KB1SVY and Michelle SWL stayed overnight in their camper along with our guard dogs Banjo and Riley.

PORTABLE PACKET: Paul Burbine N1VTI is building a portable packet Go-Kit system and brought it to Field Day 2011 for show and tell.

Seen mounted on a plexiglass base is a power supply on the left, a Kantronics KRP-3 Terminal Node Control (TNC), a YAESU FT-1500M 2-Meter transceiver in the middle, and Paul N1VTI is in the process of figuring out how to incorporate two 12 volt 7 amp hour gellcell batteries, that are seen on the right.

The whole packet station, including a laptop computer, less the batteries, fits into a small light weight aluminum suitcase for transportation and can be set up within a few minutes of arriving at a shelter or designated location.



Paul Burbine N1VTI

6 - METER BASE STATION: The Bruce N1IX had made up a 6-Meter dipole and the antenna crew installed it in an inverted V configuration by pulling the center up into a tall pine tree. The 6-Meter antenna was connected to the Club's ICOM IC-756 Pro transceiver.

Bob Johnson K1VU had his iPad with the DX Sherlock program that showed a map of the current 6-Meter contacts. The 6-Meter band was open and **Bob K1VU** made 14 contacts as far south as Georgia and as far west as Arkansas – about 1500 miles.

WHAT'S BURNING ?? The smell of burning powder floated over the Field Day 2011 site on Saturday night about 9:30 p.m. following the Fireworks display in the neighboring towns.



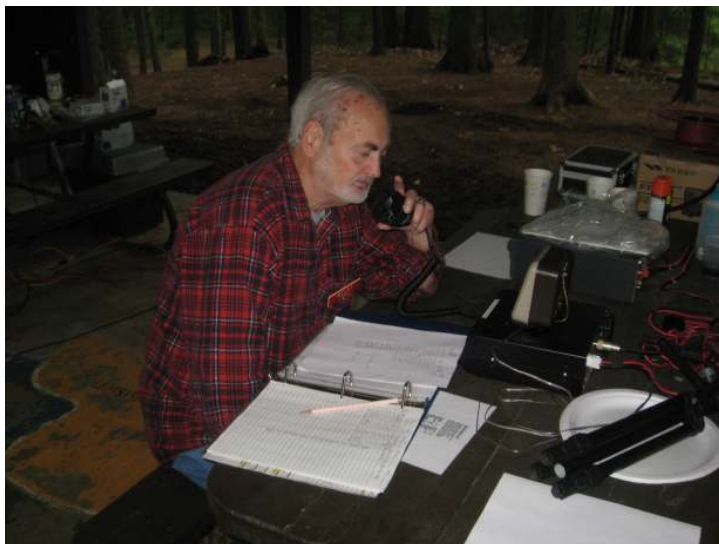
Bob Johnson K1VU

80 - METER BASE STATION: The Bruce N1IX brought an 80-Meter dipole and it was connected to the Club's YAESU FT-450 transceiver.

The Field Day crew made 91 contacts on the 80-Meter Base Station. The contacts were as far south as Washington D.C., as far west as western Pennsylvania and as far north as Quebec, Canada. Most contacts were within a distance of about 600 miles.



Paul Moss KB1MTW



Loren Pimentel N1IQI



Dave Gurney
WA1YZH

Brad Wilson
W1AY

Setting up in the field is similar to being assigned to provide communication support for a Red Cross shelter and finding no facilities when you arrive. With a properly assembled Go Kit, HAMS can be up and running within a short time of arriving at their assigned location. Digital modes of operation will provide a somewhat secure line of communication that will help protect the privacy of client privileged information.

10 - METER BASE STATION: Paul Moss KB1MTW brought his YAESU FT-450 transceiver and connected it to one of the Club's Cushcraft R-5 vertical antennas.

John Murphy KB1PHN is seen taking a shift at the 10-Meter Base Station. Contacts were made as far south as Florida and as far west as Wisconsin and as far north as Ontario. A distance of about 1500 miles

Frank Hayes N1OGP brought his grandson Michael Butler SWL to Field Day 2011 and Bill Tracy N1SON is seen as the Control Operator helping Michael SWL make a 10-Meter contact.



John Murphy KB1PHN



Michael Butler SWL & Gary Davis SWL
Frank Hayes N1OGP & George Davis KC1FZ



Bill Tracy N1SON
Michael Butler SWL

20 - METER BASE STATION: The Club's Kenwood TS-680 transceiver was set up as a 20-Meter Base Station and connected to one of the Club's Cushcraft R-5 vertical antennas.



Jeremy Breef-Pilz KB1REQ



Roy Logan KB1CYV
John Murphy KB1PHN

The crew made 42 phone contacts on 20-Meters with stations as far south as Florida and as far west as Colorado. A distance of about 1800 miles

EMERGENCY POWER: Paul Moss KB1MTW is shown getting ready to fill the Club 2000 Watt generator which is very quiet and ran for 24 hours with no problems. Both Paul Burbine N1VTI and Jim O'Rourke WG1L had backup generators at home, ready to go, in the case of a breakdown of the Club generator.

80-Meter Base Station	SSB	91
40-Meter Base Station	SSB	143
40-Meter Base Station	CW	154
20-Meter Base Station	SSB	42
20-Meter Base Station	RTTY	77
15-Meter Base Station	SSB	12
10-Meter Base Station	SSB	52
6-Meter Base Station	SSB	14

Total contacts 585

Packet Station RADIOGRAMs 10



Paul Moss KB1MTW
Club generator

15 - METER BASE STATION: The crew switched between 6-Meters and 15-Meters with the Club's ICOM IC-756 Pro transceiver.

The crew made 12 contacts on 15-Meters with stations as far south as Florida and as far west as Illinois. A distance of about 1100 miles.

The Club has a series of band pass filters, one for each band, that are used to prevent intermod (one station interfering with another) that can happen when you install two or more base station antennas in close proximity to each other. Also ear phones are a must in a noisy environment. There was also plenty of bug spray available to ward off the mosquitoes.



Bill Tracy N1SON
John O'Neill KB1QEM



Once again there were baby birds living in the rafters of the pavilion that keep an eye on our Field Day activities.

WAY BACK WHEN: The Bruce NI1X attended Field Day for the first time in about 1987 when everyone set up in tents with card tables and yellow bug lamps at the Ames Nowell State Park in Abington. The rig was a borrowed Drake TR-4 with tubes that glowed in the dark and had to be retuned (peaked) as you changed frequency, going from one end of the band to the other. The Club motor / generator was home made with an old gasoline engine that had a hand crank on the front end and retrofitted with a jury rigged starter that was connected to a pulley with a detachable fan belt that was removed (flew off) once the motor was started. I remember using a voltage variac to protect the rig from high or low voltage. Mike Marinucci N1FRV (SK) came across the Whitman Club Field Day site while fishing at Ames Nowell State Park with his son, took an interest, got his license, and was a member for over 20 years.

WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO PUBLIC SERVICE NET (WARPSN)

Paul Burbine N1VTI was the Net Control for the Sunday morning WARPSN 2-Meter Net and operated from the Field Day 2011 site.

This NET meets every Sunday morning at 0830 hours on the 147.225 MHz PL 67 Whitman REPEATER. The purpose of this NET is to establish a 2-Meter frequency in the event of an emergency and to share information of interest with amateurs and all other listeners as well. Members are also encouraged to send routine RADIOGRAM messages as part of our training.

Paul N1VTI is shown here when he came back to the Field Day site Saturday night and operated from 10 p.m. through midnight.



Paul Burbine N1VTI

We were trying to keep an ear out for checkins on the Whitman REPEATER, that was being used as a talk in frequency for the Field Day 2011 Site. With Six Base station in close proximity, and at least one not using ear phones at any given time, the background noise was high and that is the reason no one was logging in local contacts on the 2-Meter REPEATER.

Whitman Club members are engaged in public service on a regular basis providing communication support at local events and in the SKYWARN program, reporting severe weather conditions from their home or vehicles directly to the National Weather Service in Taunton via amateur radio. When thunder roars – get indoors – safety first. Over the years the Whitman Amateur Radio Club members have become more and more involved in emergency communication training with the Emergency Management Agencies in their local city or town. Amateur radio is a fascinating hobby and a national resource that has been integrated into the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency hurricane planning.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON TAKE DOWN CREW



Michael Butler SWL

A special thanks to all who stopped by Sunday afternoon at 2 p.m. to help take down antennas and pack up.

SUPERMAN: After three people, all pulling together, could not pull one of the ground rods straight out of the ground and there was talk about pounding them below ground level and burying them for safety, **Michael Butler SWL** did his superman magic and the next thing we knew all three ground rods were going home with us. Don't you just love a story with a happy ending?



No Problem

The Bruce NI1X submitted a Field Day 2011 Press Release to the local papers that included all the names of the participants but they were not included with the article. The participants Included: **Dave Gurney WA1YZH** and **Bill Tracy N1SON** of Abington; **Pete Carlson N1POO**, **Gary Cumiskey W1GRC** and **Roy Logan KB1CYV** of Bridgewater; **Dino Casieri KB1RXQ** of Brockton; **Al Drollett W1SM** and **Jack Bowles N1OTC** of Carver; **Marcia Forde KW1U** of Concord; **Paul Burbine N1VTI** and **Joe Casieri KA1JBE** of East Bridgewater; **Lou Stone KB1VIY** of Halifax; **John Murphy KB1PHN** of Hanson; **George Davis KC1FZ** and **Karen Trask KB1UBX** of Hingham; **Bob Egles KA1BBU**, **Jim Tovet W1JT** and **Elayne Tovet KB1IKH** of Holbrook; **Jeremy Breef-Pilz KB1REQ** of Mansfield; **John O'Neill KB1QEM** of Marshfield; **Brad Wilson W1AY** of Norwell; **John Chase KB1ODS**, **Jim Madden KB1PFL** and **Loren Pimentel N1IQI** of Pembroke; **Jim Ford NM1F** and **Steve Johnson KC1HO** of Plymouth; **Tom Wilson W1ICU** of Quincy; **Bruce Hayden NI1X** of Raynham; **Rudy Burer KB1LXI**, **Doug Cugini N1KQZ**, **Barry Kennedy N1EZH** and **Diane Kennedy N1JCK** of Taunton; **Bob Johnson K1VU** of West Bridgewater; **John Duprey KB1SVY**, **Frank Hayes N1OGP**, **Bill Hayden N1FRE** and **Paul Moss KB1MTW** of Whitman .

ENTERPRISENEWS.COM ■ TUESDAY, JULY 5, 2011

CHATTER

Life's little moments served up in short order



ON THE SAME WAVELENGTH

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Members of the Whitman Amateur Radio Club held a preparedness exercise at Camp Satucket in East Bridgewater June 25-26.

Radio club holds emergency exercise

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or vehicles directly to the National Weather Service in Taunton via amateur radio. Over the years the Whitman Amateur Radio Club members have become more and more involved in emergency communication training with the Emergency Management Agencies in their local city or towns. Amateur radio is a fascinating hobby and a national resource that has been integrated into the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency hurricane planning.



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, Aug. 3rd at 6:30 p.m.
Whitman Public Library

Club REPEATER 147.225 MHz PL 67

Club IRLP Node 8691

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

*Whitman Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 48
Whitman, Ma 02382*

CLUB OFFICERS

President	John Duprey	KB1SVY
V. President	Paul Moss	KB1MTW
Secretary	Karen Trask	KB1UBX
Treasurer	Jeff Tracy	N1SOM
Director 2012	Barbara Rice	K1MRH
Director 2013	John Murphy	KB1PHN
Director 2014	Roy Logan	KB1CYV
Director - Past Pres.	Paul Burbine	N1VTI

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