



SPECTRUM



The Voice of the Humble Electron

Founded 1962

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: This is **John KB1SVY** – We were saddened to hear that **Walter Dolson K1BZD** became a Silent Key (SK) on December 26, 2011. Our condolences to **Walter's K1BZD SK** wife **Edith** and his family and friends.

HAVING FUN: **Gary Cumiskey W1GRC** volunteered to be the Fox on Saturday, January 7, 2012 and reported 9 Fox Hunters participating.

At the February meeting **Carl Aveni N1FY** will talk on SKYWARN and ARES participation. The presentation will include some SKYWARN videos of last year's severe weather in this area.



John Duprey
KB1SVY

SILENT KEY -- WALTER DOLSON K1BZD

Walter Dolson K1BZD became a Silent Key (SK) on December 26, 2011 at age 90.

Walter K1BZD SK was our Traffic Manager and was instrumental in teaching Net Control and Traffic handling to the members of the Whitman Amateur Radio Club by promoting the Whitman Amateur Radio Public Service Net (WARPSN). **Walter K1BZD SK** started the WARPSN Net at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings so that he could take traffic to the New England Traffic Net at 9 a.m.

Walter K1BZD joined the Army Air Force in 1942 at the age of 21, then passed his amateur radio license and joined the Military Affiliate Radio Service (MARS) shortly after he got out of the Military Service in 1946. The MARS Net meets 7 days a week to pass routine traffic from military personnel to their friends and family back home. **Walter K1BZD SK** was a life member of MARS having qualified with over 50 years of service. **Walter K1BZD SK** was active in several other Nets on a regular basis over the years.



Walter Dolson K1BZD SK

Walter K1BZD SK will be missed by his wife **Edith** and all his family and friends.

SECRETARY'S NOTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 4, 2012 de KB1UBX

OPENING: The meeting was called to order by President **John KB1SVY** at 7:00 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Whitman, MA.

ATTENDANCE: 48 members / guests were present, including the 4 elected officers and 2 directors. A quorum was present



Karen Trask
KB1UBX

KB1MTW	Paul Moss	KB1WLX	Bill Robinson/ Guest		
KB1UBX	Karen Trask	N1LNH	Chuck Ochs/ Guest		
N1SOM	Jeff Tracy	W1EKG	Ross Hochstrasser		
KB1SVY	John Duprey	KB1REQ	Jeremy Breef-Pilz		
W1JT	Jim Tovet	WA1MFW	Larry Leblanc		
KB1IKH	Elayne Tovet	KB1TEH	Richard Metcalf		
KB1PFL	Jim Madden	KB1VGN	Stan Rydell	N1EZH	Barry Kennedy
KB1RXQ	Dino Casieri	KA1JBE	Joe Casieri	N1JCW	Jim Wolf
N1IQI	Loren Pimentel	NI1X	Bruce Hayden	KB1OEQ	Ron Stundze
K1WGU	Bob Bass	KB1MOC	Kevin Dykes	K1VU	Bob Johnson
N1LQK	David Kaplan	KB1ODS	John Chase	N1SON	Bill Tracy
N1LG	Ron McKim	WA1GMH	Fred Reader	KA1KIJ	Bob Azanow
WA1YKF	Warren Dickie	W1ICU	Tom Wilson	KA1PJX	Don Keene
WG1L	Jim O'Rourke	W1AY	Brad Wilson	KB1CYV	Roy Logan
KB1OAY	Daniel Noyes	KB1WAM	Mike Kotarba	KB1PHN	John Murphy
K1AWB	Steven Laroe	SWL	Colben Laroe	KC1JET	Jim Tynan
N1FRE	Bill Hayden	KB1NAX	Joan Smith	N1PXX	Ron Smith
KB1OAW	Greg Noyes	W1BON	Bump Studley	KB1WKB	Jeff Ayres

TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer's report for December was read by **Jeff N1SOM**. **Bruce NI1X** made a motion seconded by **Jim KC1JET** that the treasurer's report be accepted as read. The motion was approved.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: A motion was made by **Jim W1JT** seconded by **Barry N1EZH** 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 get well cards were sent to **Ed Meehan N1NTZ**, **Jim Ward N1LKJ**, who is home recovering from complications from a test, **Steve Rudin W1WSN**, who is home recovering from surgery. A sympathy card was sent to the family of **Walter Dolson K1BZD- Silent Key**.

Bruce NI1X reported that **Gill W1GMF** is back in the hospital but is hopefully expected to be out soon.

OLD BUSINESS: **Bruce NI1X** suggested a Fox Hunt for this Saturday at 10:00 a.m. and was looking for a volunteer to be the fox. Update-**Gary W1GRC** has offered to be the fox.

NEW BUSINESS: **Barry N1EZH** notes that the Massasoit Amateur Radio Club will be holding a pot luck dinner in Middleboro at the Eastern Bank building on Tuesday, January 17th at 7:00 p.m. and invited the Whitman Club members. **Bruce NI1X** offered to send the complete invitation to club members via email. An RSVP is requested for a head count.

SECRETARY'S NOTES OF THE MEETING OF JAN. 4, 2012 Cont: de KB1UBX

NEW BUSINESS Cont: Paul KB1MTW notes that there was a nice write up in the ARES newsletter regarding the South Shore Hospital W1SSH Santa event for the pediatric patients.

Bruce N1X reports that **Jeff N1ZZN** has replaced the clock on the repeater as well as a few components on a computer.

NET CONTROLS: 1/8 **Steve K1AWB** 1/15 **Jeff N1SOM**
1/22 **Roy KB1CYV** 1/29 **John KB1SVY**

CLOSE: President **John KB1SVY** closed the meeting at 7:25 p.m. on a motion made by **John KB1PHN** seconded by **Stan KB1VGN**. The motion was approved. The meeting was briefly reopened on a motion by **Bruce N1X** to request that the following members be reinstated following the collection of dues-**Jim N1JCW**, **Daniel KB1OAY**, and **Greg KB1OAW**. The motion was seconded by **Bill N1FRE**. The motion was approved.

Following the meeting our guest speaker **Bump Studley W1BON** gave a presentation on: An inexpensive, high performance, 50 ohm Balun AKA: "The Ugly Balun"



Dan Noyes KB1OAY **Greg Noyes KB1OAW**

Greg KB1OAW reports that he just got on EchoLink

REINSTATED

FORMER MEMBERS



Jim Wolf N1JCW

Jim N1JCW reports that he received a Yaesu FT-450 transceiver for Christmas.

FOR SALE -- VIBROPLEX IAMBIC KEYER -- By: Jim O'Rourke WG1L

I have just upgraded to a Vibrokeyer. The Vibrokeyer was given to me as a gift in memory of a close friend **Walter J. Manning K6VI Silent Key**. of Anza, CA. I had it refurbished by Vibroplex.



I would like to sell my Vibroplex Iambic Keyer – shown in the photos. The Iambic Keyer is like new and I have been using it up until now. The Iambic Keyer sells for about \$160.00 new and I am asking \$100.00. I will bring it to the next meeting for a closer look.

TECHNICAL TOPICS -- THE UGLY BALUN - By: Bump Studley W1BON

Bump Studley W1BON introduced the Whitman Club members to the “Ugly Balun”

The Ugly Balun is not actually a Balun. Another name for it is an air choke. The function is to help eliminate RF current from flowing on the outside of coaxial cable using the principle of choke action.

Bump W1BON explained that he has a Windom off-center-fed dipole (10-160-Meters). **Bump W1BON** reported that he had added 10 feet on one end and 16 feet on the other end of a 10-80-Meter Windom so that he could tune up on 160-Meters.

Bump W1BON reported that initially there were signs of RF in the shack in the form of feedback in an external speaker. Upon a closer look by **Jack Buckley W1AKN** of Middleboro, with a field strength meter, we found significant RF coming in the shack on my coax feedline. **Jack W1AKN** did some research and found we could suppress the RF with an inline RF choke called the Ugly Balun.

Bump W1BON also reported that after installing the choke and measuring the SWR, stray RF and match across the HF bands, we found many other benefits, not just the elimination of the RF feedback in the shack. The insertion of an RF choke produced better signal reports, easier antenna tuning, less noise on receive, and in a lot of cases the automatic antenna tuner in the radio would now tune most of the bands, where previously the mismatch was too great for the internal tuner to handle. Effectively eliminating the need for an external tuner.

Bump W1BON reported that **Jack Buckley W1AKN** of Middleboro has an Ugly Balun installed on his 10-20-Meter vertical. **Jack W1AKN** did the research and put together a 3 page handout for the presentation entitled “An Inexpensive , High Performance, 50 ohm Balun AKA: “The Ugly Balun” .

A Goggle of “The Ugly Balun” will produce a 21 page article entitled “BUILD AN AIR WOUND 1:1 CHOKE BALUN FOR HF – THE UGLY BALUN”. Credit for the article goes to **AG6K Rick Measures** and was edited from a Pre-Copy version of another article published in QST Feb. 1990.

Some of us have built choke-baluns, without the plastic coil-form, by scramble-winding a few turns of coax and taping it together. The article says “The problem with scramble windings is that the first and last turns of the coax may touch each other. This creates two complications. The distributed-capacitance of the Balun is increased and the RF-lossy vinyl jacket of the coax is subject to high RF-voltage. The single-layer winding on the plastic coil-form construction method solves these problems since it divides the RF-voltage and capacitance evenly across each turn of the Balun”

Bump W1BON explained that the Ugly Balun is made using about one foot of 4 inch PVC pipe with two end caps and 21 feet of RG-213/U coax, two tie wraps and two connectors. Total cost about \$40.00. **Bump W1BON** reports you need more than two hands to assemble the choke coil on the PVC pipe. **Bump W1BON** is already making extra Ugly Baluns for those who need help with the construction.



Bump Studley W1BON
and the Ugly Balun

FOX HUNT SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 2012 By: The Bruce" NI1X



Richard Metcalf KB1TEH

Walter Fitzgerald W1WCF

Roy Logan KB1CYV

Bob Azanow KA1KIJ

Jeff Ayres KB1WKB

Sly The Fox

Gary Cumiskey W1GRC

John Chase KB1ODS

Mary Lou Chase SWL

Bruce Hayden NI1X

It was a beautiful day for a Fox Hunt on Saturday, January 7, 2012. The sun was out and the temperature was 45 degrees and climbing. **Gary W1GRC** had volunteered to be the Fox and was hiding in front of a dumpster in the back of one of the Massasoit College buildings and kept the Fox Hunters at bay for an hour and a half.

The **Bruce NI1X** and **Jeff KB1WKB** and **Roy KB1CYV** started in the K of C parking lot in Whitman and got an initial reading of west towards Brockton. The strong signal had the crew circling the Massasoit College campus parking lots and neighboring shopping center.



Gary W1GRC and Jeff KB1WKB

The team of **Bruce NI1X** and **Jeff KB1WKB** finally figured out where the Fox was hiding and, approaching from the high side, **Jeff KB1WKB** took off across the grass and around a wooden stockade fence to pounce on the Fox first. Great fun.

PLIMOTH PLANTATION SPECIAL EVENT

QSL MANAGER'S REPORT By: The Bruce NI1X

Plimoth QSL Certificates and QSL cards sent.

	Last year	This year
To WARC Members	49	44
To Area HAMS	12	19
All other QSL card requests	47	86
Total	108	149

SPECIAL EVENT STATION

WA1NPO

PLIMOTH PLANTATION
PLYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS USA

CONFIRMING QSO WITH	DATE	TIME	UTC	MHz	RST	MODE	QSL
M0VRT M3KYD	26	NOV	11	1700	147.225	5-9 ECHO LINK	PSE TNX

DANE NAYIA
OPERATOR

WHITMAN A.R.C.
P.O. Box 48
Whitman, MA 02382
U.S.A.

CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER

John Duprey KB1SVY – Upgrade to General Class

All the studying paid off on Saturday, January 15th at the Braintree VE testing session when **John Duprey KB1SVY** passed his General Class license upgrade.

John KB1SVY/AG can be seen with certificate of completion in hand along with **Karen Trask KB1UBX** and several others of the **K1USN** crew in Braintree following the testing session.

Seen behind **John KB1SVY/AG** L. to R. is **Jim Henry KA1UML**, **Steve Cohn N1NQR** (new Extra!) and **Bob Sibbald WA1TPC**.



Some of the crew at the K1USN headquarters

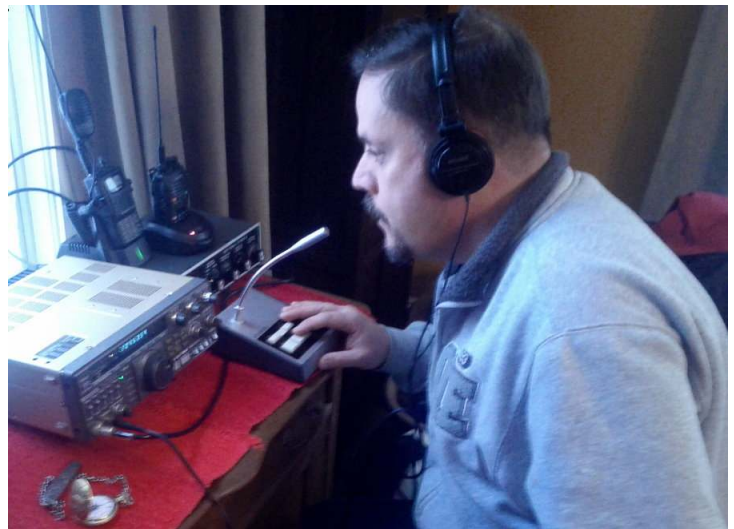
LET THE FUN BEGIN

John KB1SVY/AG reports: “I had purchased a Kenwood TS-430S & MFJ Tuner from **Jim Wolfe N1JCW** and with a lot of help from **Jim Tovet W1JT** I got a dipole antenna up and working on a few bands. I still need to work on a better antenna - but I am up and running on HF. My first HF contact as **KB1SVY/AG** was with **Tom K4SUS** in northern Georgia on 17-Meters”.

The sunspot cycle is on the rise, 10-Meters and 12-Meters are opening up and all HAMS are going to have a great time as the DX stations are heard all over the world.

Technician Class Operators should get set up to take advantage of their 10-Meter privileges, including SSB from 28.300 to 28.500 MHz, while they study for their General Class license upgrade.

The Club may have some equipment that you can borrow until you can get equipment of your own. See **Paul Moss KB1MTW** for your specific needs. The Whitman Club members are always ready to lend a helping hand (antenna party) if you have any problems installing an antenna.



**73 John Duprey KB1SVY
was On-The-Air as KB1SVY/AG**

APRIL 16TH REGISTER NOW FOR THE BOSTON MARATHON:

The Boston Marathon will be held on April 16, 2012. Register now by going to www.mmra.org/marc “Amateur Radio Volunteer Signup”.

FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH RACES NET

The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) conducts a Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) Net on the first Monday of the month. In this area the Norwell 2-Meter REPEATER is used. In January, the MEMA Region II Net Control conducted a SIMPLEX operation test.



Bruce NI1X reported that he heard **Barry Kennedy N1EZH** check in for Taunton and **Jeff Lehmann N1ZZN** check in as a home station during the monthly Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) - Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) Net. After the MEMA RACES Net – **Bruce NI1X** and **Jeff N1ZZN** checked in as home stations and **John O'Neill KB1QEM** checked in for the South Shore Hospital to the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) Net.

SOUTH SHORE HOSPITAL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - UPDATE

John O'Neill KB1QEM reports that a 2-Meter test was conducted on Saturday, January 22, 2012 between the crew at the South Shore Hospital and Sturdy Memorial Hospital in Attleboro, MA.

The test this time included the use of the Attleboro REPEATER and SIMPLEX.

Seen at the South Shore Hospital following the test are L. to R. **Karen Trask KB1UBX**, **Stan Rydell KB1VGN**, **John O'Neill KB1QEM** and **John Duprey KB1SVY**. Photo by **John Barbuto K1BBM**

The South Shore Hospital Club members meet on the first Saturday of the month and for special occasions such as this scheduled test .



Some of the SSHARC volunteers

UPCOMING EVENTS -- UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 18TH MARLBORO FLEA MARKET:

The Algonquin Amateur Radio Club will hold an amateur radio Flea Market on Saturday, Feb. 18, 2012 at the Marlborough 1st Lt. Charles W. Whitcomb School (same location – formally Intermediate / Middle School) 25 Union Street or off Bolton St. Rt. 85. in Marlborough, MA. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. General admission \$5.00 Directions: Rt. 495 to Rt. 290 East to Rt. 85 South to Union Street.

FEBRUARY 19TH RADIO XLIII (43) -- AN INDOOR OLD RADIO FLEA MARKET

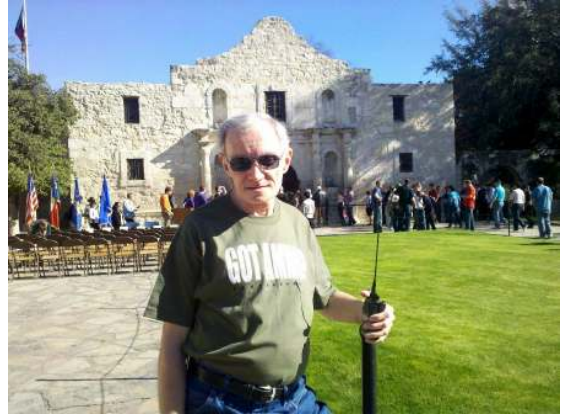
Ross Hochstrasser W1EKG reports that the New England Antique Radio Club will sponsor an Old Radio Flea Market to be held at the Westford Regency Inn and Conference Center, 219 Littleton Road (Rt. 110) in Westford, MA. on Sunday, February 19, 2012 between 8 a.m. to 12 Noon. Admission \$10.00 For more info see www.nearc.net Last year there were over 500 collectors in attendance. 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.



HELLO FROM THE ALAMO IN TEXAS By: John O'Neill KB1QEM

Here is the photo of me in front of the Alamo during my recent visit, portable in hand. It was great spending 3 weeks in Texas with the family for Christmas and New Year.

I was able to get in on a couple of San Antonio area ARES nets via my portable, which are apparently held weekly. Because of their terrain which is relatively flat, communications on several REPEATERS even some 50 miles away in Austin via portable was not difficult. Their nets are run a little differently. They have shared Net Controls. 1 will do the checkins, another will run the Newsline, and a 3rd will do the ARES portion. They start on a pre-defined REPEATER. Then as part of the test they are given instructions to QSY over to other REPEATERS (list is not known in advance) in the area one at a time and another round of checkins is done to see if they lost anyone from the initial roster. Than on to a 3rd and fourth. Checking the roster at each one. They are than given a simplex frequency to QSY to for checkins. Finally, they are directed to return to the original system for comments and reports.



John O'Neill KB1QEM
at the Alamo in Texas

I took along a packet setup hoping to work some packet while there. I was very surprised given the great coverage due to the terrain that packet was not very active in the area. Even after setting up the packet station in various locations around the area I only came up with 4 nodes. Without a doubt we have San Antonio beat when it comes to packet utilization.

While in San Antonio, Texas I made EchoLink contact back home with **The Bruce NI1X**, **Paul Moss KB1MTW** , **John Duprey KB1SVY** and **Ross Hochstrasser W1EKG**.

73's John O'Neill KB1QEM

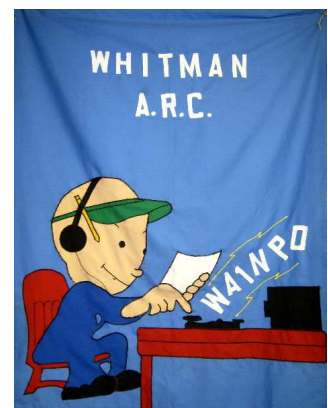
WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO PUBLIC SERVICE NET (WARPSN)

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. Make up a National Traffic System (NTS) traffic message and send it to a friend. 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 17 area HAMs checking in each week and 9 messages were sent.

Matt Paine W1AXB checked in from Mansfield via EchoLink.
Juergen DL1NBR checked in from Germany via EchoLink



Sending NI1X
an update

WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO PUBLIC SERVICE NET

Bill Hayden N1FRE has prepared a handout that includes the Whitman Amateur Radio Public Service Net (WARPSN) preamble - printed below - and a detailed explanation of the WARPSN Traffic report, which will be sent under separate cover. All members are encouraged to take a turn as Net Control.

<> WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO PUBLIC SERVICE NET<> PREAMBLE

NET OPENING: IS THERE ANY OTHER BUSINESS FOR THE REPEATER BEFORE WE BEGIN THIS WEEK'S WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO PUBLIC SERVICE NET ? ... NOTHING HEARD>

THIS IS (**CALL SIGN, NAME**) – CALLING THE WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO PUBLIC SERVICE NET. THIS NET OPERATES EVERY SUNDAY MORNING AT 08:30 hrs. ON THIS FREQUENCY, 147.225 MHz.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS NET IS 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..

ALL STATIONS WISHING TO JOIN, PLEASE DO SO, BY SAYING, **SLOWLY** , THIS IS, UN-KEY AND PAUSE 3 SECONDS TO CHECK FOR DOUBLING AND GIVE ANYONE, WITH AN IMMEDIATE OR URGENT NEED TO USE THE REPEATER, A CHANCE TO BE HEARD. THEN GIVE YOUR **CALL SIGN**, YOUR **NAME** , AND YOUR **QTH** , AND WHETHER YOU HAVE TRAFFIC OR NO TRAFFIC.

THIS IS (**CALL SIGN, NAME**), NET CONTROL STATION FOR THIS WA1NPO REPEATER NOW CALLING FOR STATIONS TO JOIN THIS NET WITH OR WITH OUT TRAFFIC. **OVER.**

NET CLOSING: THIS HAS BEEN A REGULAR SESSION OF THE WHITMAN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB PUBLIC SERVICE NET. WE MEET EVERY SUNDAY MORNING AT 08:30 hrs., ON THIS REPEATER FREQUENCY OF 147.225 MHz.

WE THANK EVERYONE FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION AND ASSISTANCE IN THE NET TODAY, AND THOSE WHO STOOD BY KEEPING THE FREQUENCY CLEAR. THE NEXT SESSION OF THIS WA1NPO NET WILL BE NEXT SUNDAY MORNING AT 08:30 hrs.

THIS IS (**CALL SIGN**) , NOW CLOSING THE NET AT ____hrs. WISHING EVERYONE A PLEASANT GOOD MORNING AND TURNING THIS REPEATER OVER TO ALL REGULAR AMATEUR USE.

<> NET CONTROL OPERATOR <> Standard Operating Procedure <> Log

1. List check in's by call sign, name, & QTH
2. Have those with traffic, list their traffic FIRST
3. Call on any mobile stations SECOND , then call on all others



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 Knights of Columbus, which is
located at 1195 Bedford Street
(Rt. 18) in Whitman, Mass.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, Feb. 1st at 7:00 p.m.
Whitman Knights of Columbus

Club REPEATER 147.225 MHz PL 67

Club IRLP Node 8691

Club EchoLink WAINPO-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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