



SPECTRUM



The Voice of the Humble Electron

Founded 1962



Our first Annual Whitman Club Holiday dinner party on Dec16th at Jamie's restaurant in Whitman. Club president **Joe K1JMA** organized the event and plans to continue the tradition again next year.

(Left table, L-R: **Kurt KC1EUJ**, **Steve N1STV** and xyl **Sherry**, **Ross W1EKG** and xyl **Joyce**, **Mike WA1MAD**.)

(Right table, L-R: **Fred K1FAB**, **Paul KB1MTW**, **Jeff N1SOM**, **Joe K1JMA**, **Elayne KB1IKH**, **Jim W1JT**, **John WD1L** and myself (taking the pictures) **Larry K1LJK**)

Last December, **Jim WG1L** suggested this lyric for our newsletter. It seemed appropriate to run this again for all to enjoy.

Happy Holidays from the Whitman Amateur Radio Club

Suggested lyric by **Jim WG1L**:

'Twas the night before Christmas,
And all through two-meters,
Not a signal was keying up
Any repeaters.

The antennas reached up
From the tower, quite high,
To catch the weak signals
That bounced from the sky.

The children, Technicians,
Took their HT's to bed,
And dreamed of the day
They'd be Extras, instead.

Mom put on her headphones,
I plugged in the key,
And we tuned 40 meters
For that rare ZK3.

When the meter was pegged
By a signal with power.
It smoked a small diode,
And, I swear, shook the tower.

Mom yanked off her phones,
And with all she could muster
Logged a spot of the signal
On the DX PacketCluster,
While I ran to the window
And peered up at the sky,
To see what could generate
RF that high.

It was way in the distance,
But the moon made it gleam -
A flying sleigh,
With an eight element beam,

And a little old driver
Who looked slightly mean,
So I thought for a moment
That it might be Wayne Green.

But no, it was Santa,
The Santa of Hams,
On a mission this Christmas
To clean up the bands.

He circled the tower,
Then stopped in his track,
And he slid down the coax
Right into the shack.

While Mom and I hid
Behind stacks of CQ,
This Santa of hamming
Knew just what to do.

He cleared off the shack desk
Of paper and parts,
And filled out all my late
QSLs, for a start.

He ran copper braid,
Took a steel rod and pounded
It into the earth
Till the station was grounded.

He tightened loose fittings,
Resoldered connections,
Cranked down modulation,
Installed lightning protection.

He neutralized tubes
In my linear amp...
(Never worked right before –
Now it works like a champ).

A new low-pass filter
Cleaned up the TV.
He corrected the settings
In my TNC.

He repaired the computer
That wouldn't compute,
And he backed up the hard
drive
And got it to boot.

Then, he reached really deep
In the bag that he brought,
And he pulled out a big box.
"A new rig?" I thought!

"A new Kenwood? An Icom?
A Yaesu, for me?
An Elecraft, TEN-TEC
Or Flex, could it be!"
(If he thought I'd been bad
It might be QRP!)

Yes! The Ultimate station!
How could I deserve this?
Could it be all those
weekends

I worked Public Service?

He hooked it all up
And in record time, quickly
Worked 100 countries,
All down on 160.

I should have been happy.
It was my call he sent.
But the cards and the postage
Will cost a month's rent!

He made final adjustments,
And left a card by the key:
"To Gary, from Santa Claus.
Seventy-Three."

Then he grabbed his HT,
Looked me straight in the eye,
Punched a code on the pad,
And was gone - no good bye.

I ran back to the station,
And the pile up was big.
But a card from St. Nick
Would be worth my new rig.

Oh, too late, for his final
Came over the air.
It was copied all over.
It was heard everywhere.
The Ham's Santa exclaimed
What an old ham expects:
"Merry Christmas to all,
And to all, good DX."

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Whitman Amateur Radio Club Meeting 12/07/16



Paul Moss KB1MTW **Lary Kenney K1LJK** **Jeff Tracy N1SOM** **Joe Amorelli K1JMA**
V.President Secretary Treasurer President

ATTENDANCE: 39 members and guests were present including 4 elected officers

K1JMA Joe Amorelli
KB1MTW Paul Moss
W1OD Steve Cohn
WG1L Jim O'Rourke
KC1JET Jim Tynan
W1JDG John D. Ginsberg
KC1EUJ Kurt Sundwall
N1LQK Dave Kaplan
W1MBH Scott Mitchell
KC1JRA Gary Silvia
KB1MOC Kevin Dykes
K1FAB Fred Birtwell
KC1FZH Marty Nugent

N1SOM Jeff Tracy
KB1OEQ Ron Stundze
WK1D Jeff Ayres
N1IQI Loren Pimentel
W1JGR John Ruppel
W1AEM Matt Kane
N1OYH Carl Davis
KC1FZ George Davis
W1AKN Jack Buckley
N1STV Steve Cote
K1UFO Billy Robinson
WA1MAD Mike Davis
WA1BEE Allen Hiltz

K1LJK Larry Kenney
AG1B Richard Metcalf
KB1MJL Elvin (Al) Marshall
N1ZZN Jeff Lehmann
KC1DDF Derek Ashbridge
KB1CHU Steve Black
W1EKG Ross Hochstrasser
KC1FZI Joseph F. D'Antonio
K1WGU Bob Bass
KC1ACF Mark Vess
WD1L John Nelson
N1CFB Chris Babbitt
KD1X Ryan Merck



Secretary's Report:

President **Joe Amorelli K1JMA** called the meeting to order at 7:02pm 12/07/16.
A quorum was present.

A moment of silence was held in memory for all who were lost on December 7th, 1941
(Pearl Harbor Day)

The Pledge of Allegence was recited, followed by an attendance roll call.

Treasurer **Jeff N1SOM** read the November 2016 treasurers report. Motion to accept the report as read made by **Jim KC1JET** with a second by **Jeff WK1D**. Motion passed quorum vote.

Secretary **Larry K1LJK** indicated the November meeting notes were published in the November 2016 Spectrum newsletter available on the club website. Motion to accept the November 2016 meeting notes as published made by **Jeff N1ZZN** with a second by **Jim KC1JET**. Motion passed quorum vote.

Health & Welfare report by **Elayne KB1IKH**:

Joe K1JMA and **Larry K1LJK** circulated 2 get well cards to Elayne for club members to sign.

Paul KB1MTW provided a health update regarding 86 year old **John Coombs WQ1L** (aka "Marshfield John"). Paul circulated a get well card for club members to sign for John. Additional cards/letters can be sent to John's PO box listed in the club member roster. Johns home address can also be provided on request if members wish to send card & letters there.

Jim KC1JET also noted **Dave KA1DTA** would appreciate a get well card also.

Net Control for Novermer 2016

- December 11th : **Ryan KD1X**
- December 18th : **Jeff N1SOM**
- December 25th : **Mike WA1MAD**
- January 1st : **John W1JDG (@9am)**

New Members:

- **Jeff N1SOM** and **Joe K1JMA** presented a new member application in good standing to the club membership:
 - **KC1DDF Derek Ashbridge**
- Motion to accept this new member application made by **Jeff WK1D** with a second by **John WD1L**. Motion passed quorum vote.
Welcome to the Whitman club Derek!

Old Business:

- **Joe K1JMA** reviewed management communications and club operations at the recent Plimoth Plantation special event held during the Thanksgiving weekend and thanked everyone who participated in this event. **Paul KB1MTW** reminded everyone of both the Plymouth England contact and the contact made with a US amateur for the 35th year in a row!

New Business:

- **Joe K1JMA** is organizing a holiday dinner at Jamie's on Rt.18 in Whitman for Friday December 16th at 7pm. All members & their spouses are invited. Please let Joe know if you can attend. He will be confirming the reservation w/Jamie's asap. (see pictures from the event in this newsletter). Reminder emails will be sent out as the event gets closer.
- **Chris N1CFB** provided an update on the Winterfest 2017 HamFest.
 - 2 tables are paid for with another 6 to 8 tables requested to be reserved.
 - Chris also confirmed the table price (\$15) includes admission to the event.
 - **Jack W1AKN** noted this event was listed in the ARRL South East section news.
 - **Jeff N1ZZN** asked about purchasing tickets used for the door prizes & the door prizes in general. **Jeff N1SOM** will acquire a ticket roll.
 - **Jeff N1ZZN** also suggested a hand-stamp be used for each person coming into the event. It was agreed the stamp used at the Marshfield Fair can be used.
 - **Steve W1OD** asked what time should VE Exams be scheduled for? A general discussion took place with the decision being 10am. Also a discussion if walk-ins are allowed with the answer being yes. If folks are only there for the exam, they will not be charged the \$5 admission. Steve indicated he will update the ARRL with this VE test session info.
- **Jeff N1ZZN** provided a repeater update:
 - The club's 2meter antenna at the Ridder CC (former repeater location) has been taken down and stored at Pine St. Installation of this antenna at our new repeater site might be sometime this spring (estimated by **Jeff N1ZZN** and **Kevin KB1MOC**)
 - The 900 Mhz antenna from Taunton has been installed at the Ridder CC repeater location. Next will be moving the repeater from **KA1DTA Dave's** home in Taunton up to the Ridder site. Jeff notes the MSF5000 repeaters are very heavy so help will be needed for the move. Jeff will send out an email blast when volunteers to help move the repeater are needed.

- **Paul KB1MTW** noted a discussion he had with the wife of recent silent key **Ed Meehan, N1NTZ**. She contacted Paul in regards to someone (Steve?) contacting her asking to buy Ed's radio equipment.
 - Paul agreed to evaluate the remaining equipment not sold to this person.
 - **Jeff N1ZZN** suggests starting this equipment purchasing process earlier in the future. A general discussion took place regarding this.
 - **Jim WG1L** and **Jeff N1SOM** also noted recent contacts from folks wanting to purchase equipment shortly after SK details are published.
 - **Ross W1EKG** noted an example of a recent SK where the family paid to have equipment removed in dumpsters when in fact the equipment was likely valued at several thousand dollars at least.
 - **Mike WA1MAD** suggests one of the elected club officers should take on the task of contacting the families of recent SK operators. **Paul KB1MTW** indicated he will continue doing this.
 - **Steve W1OD** suggests adding a note in the newsletter that our club can help with equipment removal & potential reselling in SK situations.
- **Mark KC1ACF** updated everyone on his involvement with the 3rd annual Hanson Christmas Tree lighting event at the town hall on December 17th from 5pm-7:30pm. Mark indicated free food, fireworks, a bonfire and a Santa visit will be taking place. Mark will be making 2 Meter contacts on the Whitman repeater during this time and requests some folks be available on the repeater during this time if possible.
- **Ross W1EKG** informed everyone he recently acquired a tower climbing harness, a 20' gin pole, some antenna clamps and various small parts from Bob Pratt (neighbor). He brought these items to the meeting.
- **Ross W1EKG** provided an update on the current training classes. The technician class met last Thursday and the VE exam session will be taking place tomorrow night (December 8th) at the Canton Fire Department. Also the Extra class will be concluding with a VE Test session at the Whitman PD training room on December 20th.
- **Ross W1EKG** reminded everyone of the club outreach program discussed on a recent MOTA meeting still needs a coordinator to run/organize this effort.
- **Joe K1JMA** announced the Genesis Amateur Radio Society will be providing beginner level computer training classes starting in January 2017 on the first and third Saturdays from 9am-12pm at the Middleboro public library. **Jack W1AKN** commented that both Windows and Linux will be covered.
- **Mike WA1MAD** mentioned club member **Al Roberts K1AAR** is selling an FT450D with a hand mic, switching power supply and an antenna for \$450. Contact Al is interested.

- **Paul KB1MTW** was contacted by someone from **K1USN** looking for Rohn tower sections (25 or 45). **Mark KC1ACF** didn't think the tower he has in storage was what this person is looking for. Paul will also reach out to **Pete N1POO** to see what tower sections he has in storage. A discussion took place on the need to inventory the tower sections the club has in storage so these questions can be answered quickly/easily in the future. **Paul KB1MTW** will be doing this. **Ross W1EKG** reminded everyone that **Bob Pratt** has a 70 foot tower he would still like taken down.
- **Jeff N1ZZN** reminded folks to check their license expirations. He knows of a few hams in Whitman with licenses soon to expire. There is a 2 year grace period after expiration where renewal is possible. **Paul KB1MTW** indicated he would be contacting the folks with expiring licenses.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by **Steve W1OD** with a second by **Ryan KD1X**. Motion passed a quorum vote.

Joe K1JMA adjourned the meeting at **8:01** pm, 12/07/16

End Secretary's Report



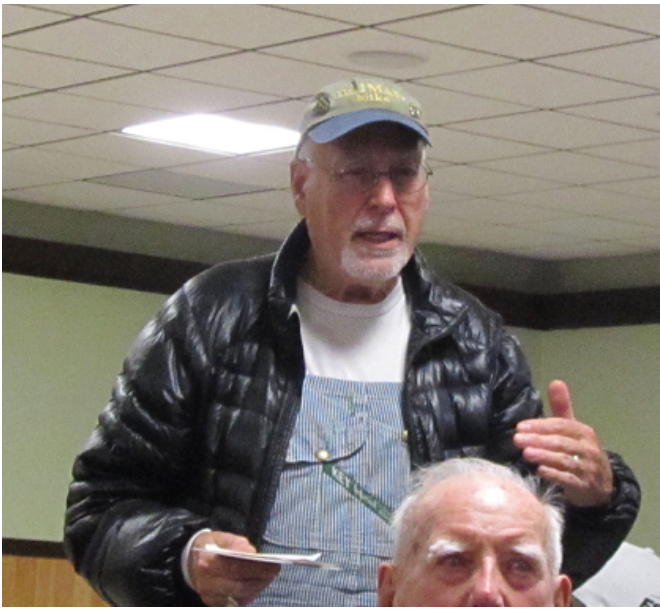
Whitman club meeting

December 7th 2016

Photos by Jeff WK1D







Whitman Club Holiday dinner

December 16th 2016

Photos by Larry K1LJK



Whitman Club Holiday dinner

December 16th 2016

Photos by Joe K1JMA







The VE exam session concluded the first Extra class taught by **Ross W1EKG** and **Freddy WA1IMD**. Congratulations to the class members who passed the exam: **Mary Beth KA1ALE** and **Bob KA1BBU**. Also attending the VE session was Whitman club member **John W1JGR** who had studied on his own and passed the exam in this session. **Jeff N1ZZN** also attended the session but had taken and passed the exam a few weeks prior.

Thanks very much to the Canton VE team for coming to the Waltham PD station and providing the test session for the class members.

Ross W1EKG indicated he has some changes in mind for the next Extra class training session but in the mean time, he'll be starting a General level class January 5th 2017, again at the Whitman PD

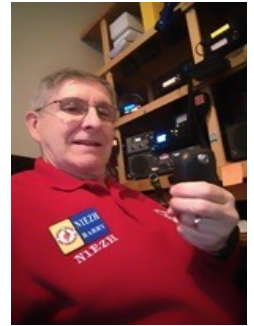


N1EZH COMET-CX-333 ANTENNA PROJECT

OCT TO NOV, 2016

by Barry N1EZH

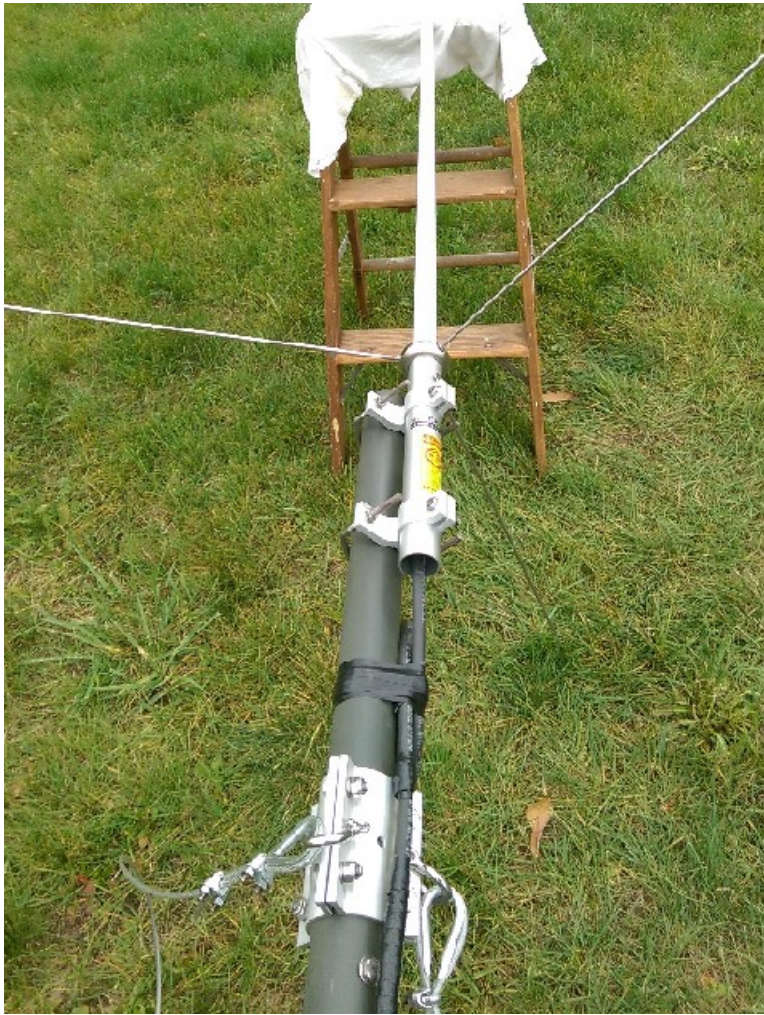
The below are photos from My Comet CX-333 Antenna project from October to November 2016. The Comet CX-333 Antenna is a Triband Vertical Antenna about 10 feet in Length and covers the 2 Meter, 220 MHZ, and 440 MHz bands. I mounted it on Aluminum Military mast sections about 27 feet in height along with the 9-10 foot height of the Antenna, and have used it on several of our nets on 2 Meters and have some great reports both on transmission and reception!



In the photos (below) are: Top Left: Part of my Military Mast Section in a Deck Post Cement Block with a 18" square Patio Block under it to keep the Mast from sinking into the dirt underneath. Top Center: Dirt and Grass put back in place over the patio block.

Top Right: I used a 2' x 6" Pressure Treated Wood block with 2 – 1-1/2" EMT Conduit Clamps for support about 9' up from the ground. (next page) Left: The Comet CX-333 Mounted at the top of the Mast along with a Penninger Radio MC-178 Mast Clamp I used for the Guy Wires for support at the top. (next page) Right: My Comet CX-333 Antenna up in place with the 2 Guy Wires for support.







Note: new addition: The NorthEast Cracker Barrel net, daily 7pm on 3921 Khz

HAM RADIO LOCAL AREA NETS

If you know of a Ham Radio Local Area Net that is not listed here, a typo on the information, or a Net listed which is no longer active, please contact Barry – N1EZH at: N1EZH@comcast.net, so this list can be updated. All Frequencies are in MHz and 6 Meters (50.0 MHz and up.), are FM Mode unless otherwise noted. Thanks!

- Sunday:** **WA1NPO – WARPSN Net, 8:30 AM, Whitman ARC Rptr, 147.225 +, PL 67.0**
6 Mtr AM Net, 5:00 PM, 50.400.0 AM, Scituate
NE Cracker Barrel Net, **7:00 PM Daily** (Matt – W1AEM, NCO on Sun), 3.921.00 MHz LSB
Pilgrim Amateur Wireless Assoc. 10 Meter Net, 7:00 PM, 28.375.0 USB
Cape & Island Traffic Net, Every Night at 7:30 PM, Falmouth N1YHS Rptr, 147.375 + PL 110.9
Genesis ARC CW Training Net, 7:00 PM, Plymouth N1ZIZ Rptr, 146.685 – PL 82.5
Eastern MA 2 Mtr Traffic Net, Every Night at 8:00 PM, Boston W1BOS Rptr, 145.230 – PL 88.5
Norfolk County Radio Association Net, 8:00 PM, Walpole Rptr, 146.895 – PL 123.0
- Monday:** Cape and Islands Weather Net, 6:00 AM, Mon – Sat, Dennis K1PBO Rptr, 146.955 – PL 88.5
Fairhaven Weather Net, 8:00 PM, SEMARA Rptr, 147.000 + PL 67.0
Norfolk County Emergency Preparedness Net, 8:00 PM, Walpole Rptr, 146.895 – PL 123.0
Falmouth ARA Net, 7:30 PM, Falmouth K1RK Rptr, 146.655 – PL 88.5
Boston ARC Rag Chew Net, 9:00 PM, Boston W1BOS Rptr, 145.230 – PL 88.5
- Tuesday:** Massasoit ARA Net, 8:00 PM, Bridgewater W1MV Rptr, 147.180 + PL 67.0 (**Except 3rd Tue!**)
Genesis ARC 2 Mtr Rag-Chew Net, 7:30 PM, Plymouth N1ZIZ Rptr, 146.685 – PL 82.5
Fairhaven Weather Net, 8:00 PM, SEMARA Rptr, 147.000 + PL 67.0
Norwood Amateur Radio Club Net, 8:00 PM, Norwood Rptr, 147.210 + PL 100.0
220 MHz Day! Try to find a 220 Repeater near you and give a call out!
- Wednesday:** Taunton ACG, KC1TAC, 2 Mtr Simplex Net, 8:30 PM, 145.770
Whitman ARC 10 Meter Rag-Chew Net, 8:00 PM, 28.333.0 USB (**Except 1st Wed!**)
Blackstone Valley ARC, 2 Mtr Simplex Net, 7:00 PM, 146.565
Fairhaven Weather Net, 8:00 PM, SEMARA Rptr, 147.000 + PL 67.0
Cape and Islands ARES Net, 8:00 PM, Dennis K1PBO Rptr, 146.955 – PL 88.5
Waltham Wranglers Swap Net. 9:00 PM, Waltham W1MHL Rptr, 146.64 – PL 136.5
- Thursday:** Fairhaven Weather Net, 8:00 PM, SEMARA Rptr, 147.000 + PL 67.0
Genesis ARC CW Training Net, 7:00 PM, Plymouth N1ZIZ Rptr, 146.685 – PL 82.5
10 Mtr General Class Rag-Chew Net, 8:00 PM, 29.470.0 FM
Sturdy Mem. Hosp. ARC ARES Practice Net, 8:30 PM, K1SMH Rptr, 147.195 + PL 127.3
900 MHz Day! Try to find a 900 Repeater near you and give a call out!
- Friday:** Fairhaven Weather Net, 8:00 PM, SEMARA Rptr, 147.000 + PL 67.0
- Saturday:** South Shore Skywarn Net, 8:00 PM, Bridgewater W1MV Rptr, 147.180 + PL 67.0
VKEMCOMM Echolink Conference node: 270177/IRLP 9508 (due to *WX-TALK* Echolink conference node: 7203/IRLP 9219 outage) Refer to: <http://www.voipwx.net/>



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** for a Net Control handout or visit our website at:

www.wa1npo.com and follow the link for the Sunday Public Service Net



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, January 4th 2017
Whitman Knights of Columbus

NEXT MOTA/Repeater MEETING

Wednesday, January 18th at 7:00 p.m.
on the Whitman 147.225 repeater

Club REPEATER 147.225 MHz PL 67

Club IRLP Node 8691

Club EchoLink: WA1NPO-R Whitman MA USA

Club EchoLink Node 484193

CLUB OFFICERS

<u>President</u>	<u>Joe Amorelli</u>	<u>K1JMA</u>
<u>V. President</u>	<u>Paul Moss</u>	<u>KB1MTW</u>
<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Larry Kenney</u>	<u>K1LJK</u>
<u>Treasurer</u>	<u>Jeff Tracy</u>	<u>N1SOM</u>
<u>Director</u>	<u>John Nelson</u>	<u>WD1L</u>
<u>Director</u>	<u>Ron Stundze</u>	<u>KB1OEO</u>
<u>Director</u>	<u>Richard Metcalf</u>	<u>AG1B</u>
<u>Director/</u>		
<u>Past President</u>	<u>John Murphy</u>	<u>WI1G</u>
<u>Health/Welfare</u>	<u>Elayne Tovet</u>	<u>KB1IKH</u>

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