



Whitman Amateur Radio Club Meeting Mar 4, 2026

Tom Kirkaldy KC1KIT Treasurer **Chris Babbitt N1CFB** Vice President **Bob Azanow WA1Q** Secretary **Jeff Ayres WK1D** President

ATTENDANCE: 32

Members at the K of C and on Zoom including 3 elected officers. Members and guests attended in person and via ZOOM. Photo by OWL. Thank you **Ross W1EKG** for running ZOOM!!

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|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| KB1OEP Mike Supple | KC1DD Dennis Diver | WA1MAD Mike Davis |
| WK1D Jeff Ayres | W1MBH Scott Mitchell | W1EKG Ross Hochstrasser |
| W1TGM Larry Genovisi | AG1B Richard Metcalf | N1BSO John Laiosa |
| N1CFB Chris Babbitt | KB1MTW Paul Moss | KC1YKI Danielle Longacre |
| KC1LKB Ernie Bazzinotti | KC1JRL John DeMasi III | W1GTX Paul Delory |
| WA1Q Bob Azanow | KC1YKI Danielle Longacre | W1MWF Larry LeBlanc |
| KM1TWL Jim Ashley | KB1QMX Dave Beauvais | KC1VYL Sal DiMare |
| W6TOM Tom Murphy | N1SOM Jeff Tracy | KB1FBA Bob Mahoney |
| N1QE Jack Foley | SWL Joe Scriven | KB1PFL Jim Madden |
| KC1PIF Gary Davis | N1IQI Loren Pimentel | KC1SJS Allen Lipkind |
| KC1TNH Adam Faxon | KC1WQZ Jason Thomson | |

Note: 6 members and friends participated via Zoom.

**** SWL = Short Wave Listener *** = New members**

* Any missing folks or errors in this report please notify the Secretary to update.

** New Hams & New Callsigns, address, phone or email changes: Please Notify the secretary.

Thank You to all for attending the meeting and all new members and guests!!

A moment of silence was held to think of **Fred KB1FAB** who is having health issues. A moment of silence was held for **Dave WB1EVP** who passed away on Thanksgiving weekend after a move to Florida. Rest in Peace Dave, we will miss you.

Secretary & Treasurer Reports:

President **Jeff Ayres** called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM 3/04/26.

A quorum was present in person and on Zoom with the 4 elected officers.

Bob WA1Q posted the Jan and Feb **meeting notes** on the club website Motion made by WB1MBH Scott and second by Joe Scriven. Motion passed with a quorum vote.

The Dec 2025 & Jan 2026 & Feb **Treasurer's Reports** were delayed. They were read tonight by our interim Treasurer **Gary KC1PIF**. We will send it out a PDF copy as soon as they are ready. Tr Reports were accepted after a motion from Dave KB1QMX and second by Joe Scriven. Motion passed a quorum vote. There will some editing for the final copies.

Health & Welfare: Our new H & W volunteer **Danielle KC1YKI** Thank you, Danielle, for taking care of the H & W.

Weekly Public Service Net Control volunteers for Mar. 01, 2026 to Mar 29, 2026:

- Mar 01st: **Mike KB1OEP**
- Mar 08th: **Jeff WK1D**
- Mar 15th: **Allen KC1SJS**
- Mar 22nd: **Bob WA1Q**
- Mar 29th: **Jeff N1SOM** ☺ Thank you to the folks doing the nets. ☺

***New Members and Call sign updates:

Last Month we had no new members:

Committee updates:

Training Committee: Ross W1EKG Update

Ross W1EKG confirmed the next class is a Tech class. Ross also reported he had no response from the Cranland Airport folks. Doing the class there is on the back burner. Ross has confirmed a starting date of Tuesday March 17th at the Whitman PD station and will run 4 weeks.

Remember the training email address: bavarianradio@comcast.net and please CC copy to Warc.Training@gmail.com to sign up for classes. We will update the website with the training dates as they become available.

Repeater Committee:

John N1BSO reported the Kenwood repeater is working well. A big **Thank You** as always to **Jeff AJ1L** and **John N1BSO** for all they do for the club and other club's repeaters in the area that they maintain. Also thank you to **Steve "Ho" KC1HO** for all you do as well to keep the area repeaters happy. Jeff and John will investigate a digital interface that could give us Fusion. Echo-Link and IRLP connections are working fine as well.

NEW & Old Business

Reminder by **Mike WA1MAD: Allen KC1SJS**. Allen is running the Thursday night net. Add a little trivia and ham radio discussions. Thank you, Allen.

Sue Warchal KC1OHB gave the AED refresher training last month at the conclusion of the meeting. A big thank you to Sue who has many years' experience working it a hospital ER.

Jeff WK1D mentioned that **Danielle KC1YKI** should be all set with the Debit card and some front money to take care of the Health and Welfare for donations and or flowers etc.

Last month **Jeff WK1D & Chris N1CFB** asked if someone could step up to Help Tom KC1KIT with the treasurer duties while he is out of commission and could lead to them taking over the position. **Gary KC1PIF** has taken over the treasure's duties for now until next election. Thank you, Gary.

Jeff WK1D brought about the **Echolink** connections dropping out on the repeater. **Bob WA1Q** mentioned he was on Echolink also and the issue is most likely an Echolink problem. Maybe servers were busy because the same dropouts were heard directly node to node. The repeater is running fine.

Dave KB1QMX brought the clubs participation in community events for 2026 would be a worthwhile thing to do. Last year we attended the First Responder evening at Silver Lake Regional School, the Whitman Day event at the town field and the Trucks or Treat event in Hanson at the Indian Head School in Nov. The more the merrier. Stay visible in the community.

Ross W1EKG discussed also having an OPEN HOUSE again next year to introduce folks to Amateur Radio. This would be either in the June or Sept dates.

Tech class Date start March 17 at the Whitman Police Station 7 to 9PM. Classes run Tuesdays and Thursdays for 4 weeks with a VE Session on the last night.

An Elmer class was also discussed for new hams. Maybe older ones too 🤔 More to come on that as well.

Ross also mentioned that he will look into Nearfest 2026 advance tickets and let us know. There is a good chance he will not be getting tickets this year. More to come

Gary KC1PIF has an analysis of the Winterfest expenses and gains which he reviewed at the meeting. We had a successful event. We sold 37 tables this year. We had 119 tickets sold for folks coming through the door. A fun time was had by all. A financial review was given.

A lively discussion was also held about Winterfest gifts and even a mention of GMRS to get folks interested in radio as well. More to come.

Ross W1EKG brought up the open house to think about the best time of year to have it. Spring, fall June Sept. etc. Summer is a tough time with so many folks away or on vacation.

Scott W1MBH did a review on costs for flowers and other items for H & W.

Instead of flowers, we will switch to donations up to \$50 for active members and cards and just cards for loss of a relative or illness for example or former members etc.

Also, after Scotts review of the financial situation and with the costs increasing it would be highly recommended to raise the dues for next year by \$5. This was also recommended by our former President and Treasurer Paul W1GTX Making it \$30 yearly.

Not mentioned was the \$5 late fee which is in place to have dues paid by the first meeting of the new year. More to come on this subject.

A motion was made by **Paul W1GTX** and second by **Allen KC1SJS** to make donations of \$250. to the Whitman Police Dept fund and the Dollars for Scholars for the same amount. The motion passed with a quorum vote.

John KC1JRL asked if the use of the Public Works building was brought up again. **Jim KM1TWL** mentioned he will talk to the town administrator to see if there is anything viable there.

Dave KB1QMX asked if anyone is using Meshtastic 900Mhz data transceivers. **Bob WA1Q** mentioned that **Bob WC1N** has a lot of experience using it and they should talk to each other.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by **Paul W1GTX** second by **Dennis KC1DD**. Motion Passed by a quorum vote.

Jeff WK1D adjourned the business meeting about 8:05 PM, **3/04/2026**.

NOTE: The next meeting is scheduled for **Wed April 01st, 2026 at 7 PM** and will be a Hybrid meeting in person and via Zoom.

The **MOTA (Meeting on the Air)** will be **Wed Mar 18th at 8:00PM**.

The **MOTA** Net hosted by **Ross W1EKG** will be followed by the weekly **10 Meter** 28.333mhz Rag Chew Net also led by **Ross** will start about 8PM which except on the first Wed meeting night.

PS Check the WA1NPO.ORG website for a list of nets you can attend. **Bob WA1Q** will be updating the list.