

Chicagoland Foxhunters Report

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Two meter foxhunting in Chicago started in the early 1960s. One of the first hunts started on 147.30 MHz. The starting point was in Des Plaines near the Centel Building. With the introduction of 2 meter repeaters, it moved to the CFAR repeater. There were hunts on the WAFAR, ACL and CFMC repeaters with a simplex hunt sponsored by the RAMS on 146.34 MHz. Now the lineup is on CFAR, CMFC and two simplex hunts.



CFAR 2M Foxhunt - June 5th, 2021 by Pete K9PW

On a warm summer evening, seven teams of hunters assembled at the starting point in Elmhurst. In addition, Don (W9RA) hunted unofficially by starting from home. Most hunters heard the fox at the starting point. Although some had bad bearings. The hunters were released at 8:06pm.

The fox was using a repeater again. The same hardware as fox #5 of the previous week. It was placed under a tree, adjacent to a walkway near the Salt Creek. Output power was 10 Watts. Later in the hunt, it was increased to 50 Watts to help those that had strayed.

The fox transmitter was being controlled from Pete's car more than 600' away. Two groups found Pete in this car very quickly, but were disappointed to find out that the fox was being remotely controlled.

Not wasting time, those hunters quickly exited their cars to finish the hunt on foot. Soon, additional hunters arrived. Many hunters had 7, 8 or even 9 on their sniffers & still were searching in the brush & grass for the fox. All did finish.

Munch was indoors again! This time at Jason's Deli.

Fox location: N41.84968 W87.93400
(3.4 miles from the starting point.)



Place	Team	In Area	Finished
1	Matt KC9SEM, Patty N9PLS, Jacob & Mac	8:21	8:25
2	Marty N9LTE, Bill	8:19	8:26
3	Mike WA9FTS	8:27	8:31
4	John K9JK	8:23	8:32
5	John WD9EXW, Janet		8:42
6	Tony AA9CC		8:46
7	Tom N9CBA, David AC9VW		9:10
Unofficial	Don W9RA		



2nd 2M Foxhunt - June 12th, 2021 by Pete K9PW

For the third week in a row, the fox was a repeater. How many more times will Pete K9PW use a repeater? This time, the repeater was no longer in its familiar white metal box. Instead, the components were bungeed together and were hidden

under a traffic cone! Just about every hunter walked past it several times without noticing it. Some hunters walked past it several times! The repeater was set at 35 Watts to a quarter-wave antenna connected to the rear of the radio. The signal strength was a one on most sniffers at the starting point in Downers Grove. With all hunters hearing the fox, the hounds were released at 8:05pm.

Minimum drive time would have gotten the hunters to Janes Avenue Skatepark by 8:18pm. Just a few minutes after that, Mike WA9FTS was the first one there. He had a seven on his sniffer (in the correct direction) from in his car in the parking lot. But without portable equipment, the remainder of the evening would prove to be difficult for him. Minutes later, David (AC9VW) with new hunter Tim (KC9YFI) arrived and walked past the fox to search the usual bushes and other typical hiding locations. Matt and team arrived next, ran up to Pete to realize they needed to find a repeater again. By then, Patty had taken their vehicle with all of their portable gear to the other end of the parking lot. A minute later, John arrived. Now four teams of hunters were in the park, none had

found the fox! Three teams were standing within 200' when the next transmission started. As the three hunters realized the location of the fox simultaneously, it became a foot race to the cone. Matt lifted the cone first. Dave was just 2-3 steps behind for second place. John got there just a few seconds later for third. This was perhaps the closest first through third place finishes ever.

While the hunters paused to chat at the park, the kids enjoyed the playground.

The munch was at Papa's Pizza Place where pizza, sandwiches & salads were enjoyed by the hunters. Dining was outdoors on a perfectly comfortable evening.

Place	Team	In area	Finish
1	Matt KC9SEM, Patty N9PLS, Jacob & Mac	8:31	8:34
2	David AC9VW, Tim KC9YFI	8:27	8:34
3	John WD9EXW, Janet	8:32	8:34
4	Mike WA9FTS	8:24	8:41
5	Tony AA9CC		8:54
	Don W9RA		DNF





CFMC 2M Foxhunt - June 19th, 2021 by Mike WA9FTS - Fox - John WD9EXW

Another great weather night for a hunt. Unfortunately, before the hunt started, David, Jacob and Mac were playing tag. David tripped and fell down on his face. Blood came pouring out and Tom took David to the DuPage Hospital. After that the hunt started out without incident. It was a weak signal to the SW. A number of the hunters took 53 south and then west and SW. Tony was taking a similar route appearing and then off to appear again. I was close by Matt's team as we got to Mill and Sherman Rd. I made a right with Matt waiting for a transmission. I got a strong 8 indicating John was right off the road in the weeds. Matt went into the park with me right behind. It was a foot race with Matt and Jacob finding Grandpa seconds before me for the win. Several minutes later Tony arrive to capture 3rd. Tom drove up after dropping David off at the hospital and went in the weed next to Mill Rd to find John. Pete arrived and went in off West St into the weeds to John. Don gave up and John W9JK gave up in frustration. We went to Red Robin off Diehl Rd for food. Results:

Place	Team	
1	Matt KC9SEM, Patty N9PLS, Jacob, Mac	8:32PM
2	Mike WA9FTS	8:32PM
3	Tony AA9CC	8:37PM
4	Tom N9CBA	8:41PM
5	Pete K9PW	8:41PM
DNF	Don W9RA	
DNF	John K9JK	





34 2M Foxhunt - June 26th, 2021 by Pete K9PW

After significant rainfall during the previous night and into the morning, the clouds broke as the weather improved to mid 70's with a nice breeze. Beautiful conditions for a foxhunt with Pete (K9PW) choosing to hide west in Elgin. He used 50W into a 4 element yagi placed in a small tree at the edge of a field next to busy Randall Rd.



All six hunting teams heard the fox at the start, although not very strongly. Hunters were released at 8:04 and drove a long way west without much signal improvement. In just 28 minutes, hunters were spotted driving past the hiding spot. After another 12 uneventful minutes, four teams simultaneously converged on the fox from different directions. Don got out of his truck at the center of the field and spotted the antenna. Don also noticed John (who had crossed Randall on foot) running towards the antenna. Don proved that he can still run! He out sprinted John by 2-3 steps. Only seconds later, Tony drove across the field for third. Another 20 seconds later, Marty drove up. Four hunters finished in less than 50 seconds.



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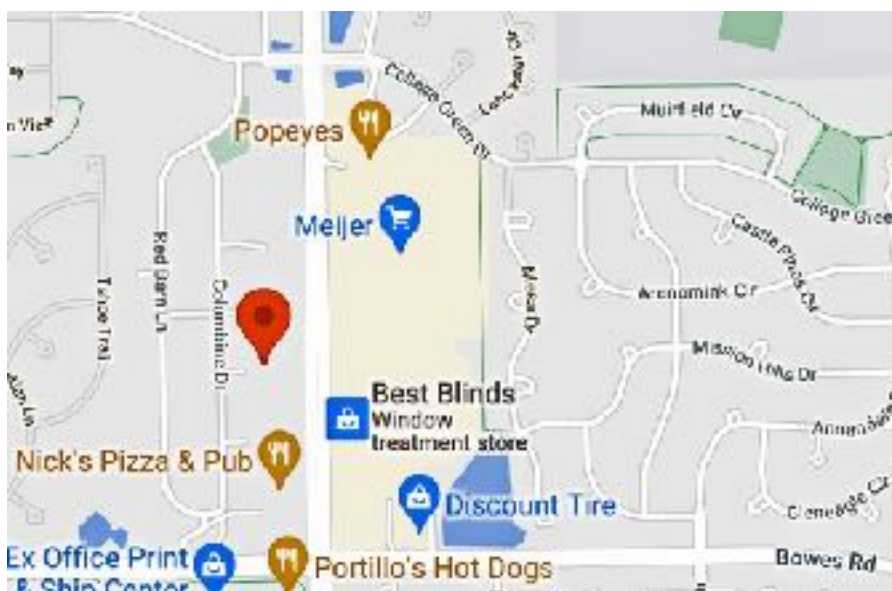
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Munch was adjacent to the field at Nick's Pizza & Pub. Matt's family enjoyed bacon and cheddar fries appetizers. As meals were being delivered to our table, a pizza mishap occurred. The waitress lost control of 2 of the 3 pizzas causing them to flip and drop to the floor! Fortunately, replacement pizzas were quickly made, so nobody went home hungry.

Place Time Team

- 1 8:46 Don W9RA
- 2 8:46 John WD9EXW & Janet
- 3 8:46 Tony AA9CC
- 4 8:46 Marty N9LTE
- 5 8:48 Matt KC9SEM, Patty N9PLS, Jacob & Mac
- 6 8:55 Tom N9CBA

Fox Location: N42.020256 W88.337367 (18.6 miles from start)



	Start Time	Starting Location	Foxhunt Frequency
1st	8 PM	Rt 83 north of St. Charles Rd, Elmhurst across from Whole Foods	147.750 MHz CFAR input
2nd	8 PM	Downers Grove Fitness & Rec Center parking lot off Belmont Rd south of Odgen Av	146.565 MHz
3rd	8 PM	Centennial Park, Addison 0.4 miles south of Lake St	146.160 MHz CFMC input
4th	8 PM	WoodDale Jr HS parking lot, south of Sievert Rd between Thorndale Rd and Irving Pk Rd,	146.340 MHz
5th	8 PM	TBD by the fox KC9SEM Next hunt - July 31st	TBD by the fox

Hunter	1st	2nd
KC9SEM/N9PLS	6/6	3/3
N9LTE	1	5
AA9CC	5	2
WD9EXW	3	7
N9CBA	1	
AC9VW		3
N9CBA/AC9VW	3/3	
W9RA	1	2
K9PW	3	1
KC9YFI		2
5th Saturday hunts are not included in hunt results		

VK3YNG Sniffer

All of our hunter use the VK3YNG Sniffer when we have to get out on foot to find the fox. We all use one in the vehicle also and W9RA uses his from start to finish.

