

# Chicagoland Foxhunters Report

*Publication of the Saturday Night 2M Fox Hunts of the Chicagoland Foxhunters*

April 2012

Volume 1 Issue 4

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 SRO's 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, the output of ACL, CMFC and the simplex hunt on 34 with no club sponsorship.



April CFAR Foxhunt  
April 7th, 2012  
by Matt KC9SEM

Patty And I scoped out our hiding spot early that afternoon. 41.828458, -88.171675. There were reports of possible rain in the area but turned out to be an idle threat. My signal was real weak at the start point. I started out with 5 watts and before I could run it all the way to 75 watts I had already lost one hunter for the evening. KB9DIM dropped out before the hunt but was gracious enough to explain he wanted a short hunt. This was more my fault then anything, turns out that I was lower in altitude and also pointed more North then I had expected. The hunt began at 8:16pm . First in the area was AA9CC. After searching in the thick brush for a few transmissions tony had scored first place at 9:07 pm. Second place was KB9SMR at 9:25 pm and after their patient battle with mother nature N9CBA & WD9EXW scored third at 10:04pm. K9TOW announced over the radio that he knew where I was and that it was time to eat, ending the CFAR hunt for April 2012. Once again congrats to Tony (AA9CC) for winning. Munchies was at chilies on the North West corner of Naperville and Butterfield Rd.

- 1.) AA9CC 9:07 pm
- 2.) KB9SMR 9:25 pm
- 3.) N9CBA & WD9EXW 10:04
- 4.) K9TOW DNF
- 5.) KB9DIM DNF

ACL Hunt report, April 14 2011

I found this spot on Google maps, to my surprise there was photos of the railway underpass. Antenna was a 2 wavelength V beam from 300 ohm twin lead in the trees. Polarization was vertical at the start. First contact

was made with the 3 tape measure beam. 4/4 with 5 watts. The area is a swamp, but due to the dry spring the ground was only moist - only 2 mosquito bites. WD9EXW found me first, followed by WA9FTS seconds later (no pun). KC9SEM was third because he drove the long way around on Gary ave. W9RA gave up, not wanting to climb down the railroad embankment.

- 1 John WD9EXW, Tom N9CBA, Janet
- 2 Mike WA9FTS, Paul N9LXF
- 3 Matt KC9SEM, Patty & Jacob
- DNF Don W9RA

Fox: AA9CC



CFMC 2M Foxhunt  
 April 21st, 2012  
 by John WD9EXW

I was hiding alone tonight, my usual partner, Tom, had other stuff to take care of. I had previously scouted the area, and was saving for future use.

Seemed like a good day to be out, no rain, few bugs.

Google says 10 miles away. <http://maps.google.com/maps?saddr=Centennial+Dr&daddr=St+Charles+Rd&hl=en&ll=41.91296,-88.168652&spn=0.006723,0.011426&sll=41.91296,-88.170701&sspn=0.006723,0.015514&geocode=FWEEgAId0sPA-g%3BFd6IfwIdi5i--g&t=h&mra=me&mrsp=1,0&sz=17&z=17>

We looked at a couple spots, finally settled on a construction zone between the school and church across the street. But then noticed the fallen Oak tree. I was unprepared, didn't have a ladder, but it was just possible to step up on a nearby sapling, getting about 18' up inside the hollow tree. I committed to it, as time was running out, and hauled up the gear.

All the hunters at the start heard me, vertical tape measure beam out on a branch pointed NE running 5 watts. Started @ 8:08

It wasn't comfortable, so I made the first couple transmissions out on the branch, but then jumped in and covered up. I saw Mike's car go by first, a couple minutes later Tony was there on foot. Patty & Matt drove up and jumped out. Hunters were zigzagging under me, and Patty noticed a glint off the antenna (need to paint that thing) for #1, followed closely by Tony. They hung out in the parking lot to watch the others come in. All were in rapidly. Don reported he could hear my voice as he scoured the ground (I thought I was whispering)

- #1 Matt & Patty KC9SEM @ 8:44
- #2 Tony & Joanie AA9CC
- #3 Don W9RA
- #4 Mike & Paul WA9FTS
- #5 Marty KB9SMR
- #6 Troy K9TOW

Sorry for the off timing. Boxer timer bumps off way too easy, I will have to think of a way to modify it's workings.

Munched at Portillo's on North Ave.



John in his lair



Hunters gather after the hunt



K9TOW Antenna Mount

34 2M Foxhunt

Saturday 4-28-12 Foxhunt on 146.340 simplex started promptly at 8:03PM

We the fox (KB9SMR and Bill were parked in the SE corner of the parking lot behind Beggars Pizza in New Lenox ( 41°30'59.97"N 87°58'54.69"W ).

Fox:

KB9SMR Marty/Bill

Hunters:

AA9CC/KC9QQY Tony/Joanie 1st place 8:53P

N9CBA/WD9EXW Tom/John/Janet 2nd place 9:04P

W9RA Don 3rd place 9:06P

KC9SEM Matt/Patti/Jacob 4th place 9:07P

WA9FTS Mike 5th place 9:15P

KB9DIM Charlie dropped at 9:19P

K9TOW/WD9BBE Troy/Bob dropped at 9:20P

We chose this location since even though it was long haul from the start point, it was straight South and we had a good elevation. Regardless of the terrain, we tried several attempts to contact AA9CC using a 4 element beam pointed at the start location. We finally had to kick our wattage to 75 and were heard by all hunters. We maintained an extremely accurate interval using an interval timer app on the iphone. Tony made several passes along Rt 30 but due to the high Tx power we were using, he had all attenuation switched in and thought he was right on top of us but still had to do some sniffing. Although we anticipated arrivals to come in from Rt 30, the majority of the hunters bush wacked from the south from a bike trail through a corn field. We watched as LED flashlights danced around some several hundred yards out along a tree line. I guess Tony has trained everyone to sniff in the rough. By 9:30 we all entered Beggar's Pizza right on the premise and enjoyed some great pizza, except for Mike who had to wait for his pizza to be re-made with "pepperoni on the outside".



Charlie is ready



Hunters discuss things before the hunt.



Tony has secured the winning card.



Maarty and Bill wait for the last hunter.

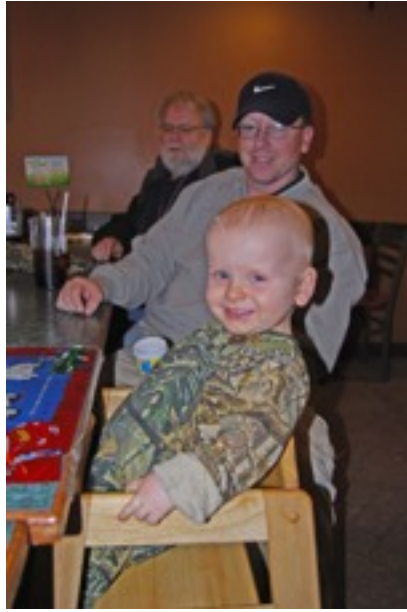


The foxes and hunters at the main table.





The rest of the hunters.



Dad and little Jacob.



Mom, Great Grandfather Matthew with Jacob.

| Saturday | Start Time          | Starting Location  | Foxhunt Frequency         |
|----------|---------------------|--|---------------------------|
| 1st      | 8 PM                | Rt 83 north of St. Charles Rd, Elmhurst across from KMart                              | 147.750 MHz<br>CFAR input |
| 2nd      | 7 PM CST / 8 PM CDT | Harper Jr. College, Roselle Rd & Euclid, Palatine, Lot 2                               | 146.985 MHz               |
| 3rd      | 8 PM                | Centennial Park, Addison 0.4 miles south of Lake St                                    | 146.160 MHz<br>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<br>Next hunt - Mar 31, 2012   | TBD by the fox            |

## Foxhunt Results for the year

| Hunter                   | Wins | 2nds | Fox |
|--------------------------|------|------|-----|
| Tony AA9CC & Joan KC9QQY | 7    | 2    | 5   |
| Matt KC9SEM              | 2    | 4    | 3   |
| Don W9RA                 | 0    | 1    | 1   |
| Mike WA9FTS & Paul N9LXF | 1    | 5    | 2   |
| Tom N9CBA & John WD9EXW  | 4    | 3    | 3   |
| Marty KC9SMR             | 2    | 1    | 2   |
|                          |      |      |     |

### VK3YNG Sniffer

All of our hunter use the VK3YNG Sniffer when we have to get out on foot to find the fox. WA9FTS uses one in the vehicle also and W9RA uses his

