

Chicagoland Foxhunters Report

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

January 2013

Volume 2 Issue 1

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, CMFC and two simplex hunts.



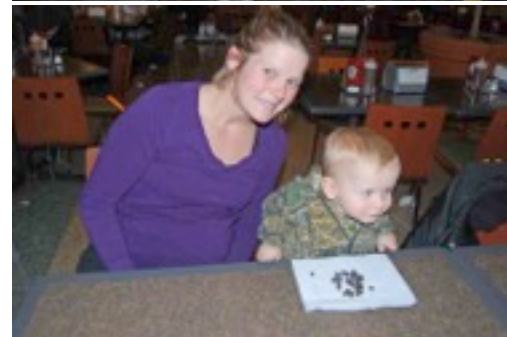
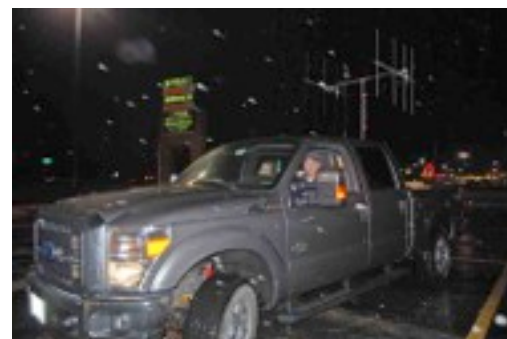
CFAR 2M Foxhunt - Jan 5th, 2013 - by Mike WA9FTS

We continue to have mild winter weather as 6 hunt teams gathered to find Don W9RA. Don had a weak signal at the beginning with only Matt KC9SEM hearing him. Don adjusted things and several minutes later all the hunters heard. Four of the teams got a south reading and headed down Rt 83. The EXW/CBA team got a SE reading a took St Charles Rd east to 294 and south past I55 only to come back in the correct area. I also got a SE reading and went north to North Av east to 295 and chose I55 west getting off at Rt 83. The other 4 hunt teams were closing in on Don. Matt parked at the Hinsdale South school and was off on foot checking out the baseball dugouts - no luck. Meanwhile, there was a foot race with Bill falling down letting Tony get to Don for the win. Don was sitting in the woods on top of a plastic bucket. Shortly Matt arrived for third and then Charlie for 4th. John arrived to secure 5th as I found Don to end the hunt. For food we went to the Patio a very short distance away. Results:

1. Tony AA9CC, Joan KC9QQY
2. Marty KB9SMR, Bill
3. Matt KC9SEM, Patty, Jacob
4. Charlie KB9DIM
5. John WD9EXW, Tom N9CBA, Janet
6. Mike WA9FTS



<http://maps.google.com/maps?q=high+school+near+Hinsdale,+IL&hl=en&ll=41.753175,-87.94794&spn=0.000506,0.000727&sll=39.739318,-89.266507&sspn=8.546764,11.90918&oq=hinsdale+high+schoo&hq=high+school&hnear=Hinsdale,+DuPage,+Illinois&t=h&fl=41.753213,-87.947727&fspn=0.000506,0.000727&z=20>



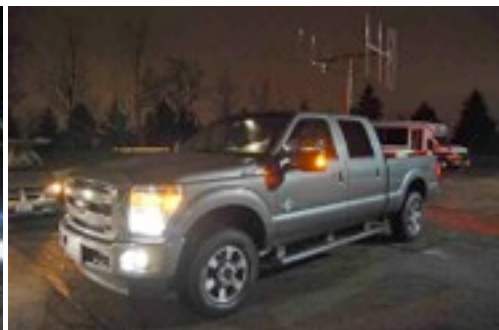
2nd Sat 2M Foxhunt - January 12th, 2013 - by Mike WA9FTS

Winter was threatening to finally make its appearance. Freezing rain was the forecast for the hunt. Don W9RA was the fox and his initial signals were weak. He made some corrections and we were ready to go. Don wanted it to be a quick hunt so he told us the restaurant - Pilot Pete's. Don emphasized he was not at the restaurant. Four of the six hunt teams headed west on Ogden to get on I355. I took Finley Rd to Butterfield and then on I355 since the GPS said it was the fastest way. It was as I go on going north. A minute later was passed by 4 hunt vehicles. Matt KC9SEM took I88 west to Rt 59 and then north. Tony AA9CC and Marty KB9SMR got there first with Tony driving past and Marty and Bill hanging behind in a parking lot. Don was in his van but he was not talking. He had a automated device with his voice - saying the same thing over and over. Marty and Bill just beat Tony for the win and drove off. I got there and saw Don in his van right away. Don said, "I'm not the Fox". John arrive and the hunt was on in earnest. John went around a building and I roamed around in the parking lot. I saw a white bucket but ignored it. I had a "9" on the Australian box. It had to be right here - but where. Finally I found it - in the bucket - and scored for third - took pictures and left. Tom arrived for fourth. Matt showed up not happy with his overshoot to Rt 59. Kevin arrived to end the hunt. Don was using an MP3 player feeding a proprietary(secret) box to control his Motorola radio running 25w to a mag mount about 5 ft off the ground on an electrical box next to a building all of us were running around. Results:

1. Marty KB9SMR, Bill
2. Tony AA9CC, Joan KC9QQY
3. Mike WA9FTS
4. Tom N9CBA, John WD9EXW, Janet
5. Matt KC9SEM, Patty, Jacob
6. Kevin N9GPJ, Dave, Colin, Mason

Don's Hiding Spot

<https://maps.google.com/maps?q=high+school+near+Hinsdale,+IL&hl=en&ll=41.98433,-88.09553&spn=0.000506,0.000727&sll=39.739318,-89.266507&sspn=8.546764,11.90918&oq=hinsdale+high+school&hq=high+school&hnear=Hinsdale,+DuPage,+Illinois&t=h&fl=41.753213,-87.947727&fspd=0.000506,0.000727&z=20>



CFMC 2M Foxhunt - January 19th, 2013 - by Matt KC9SEM

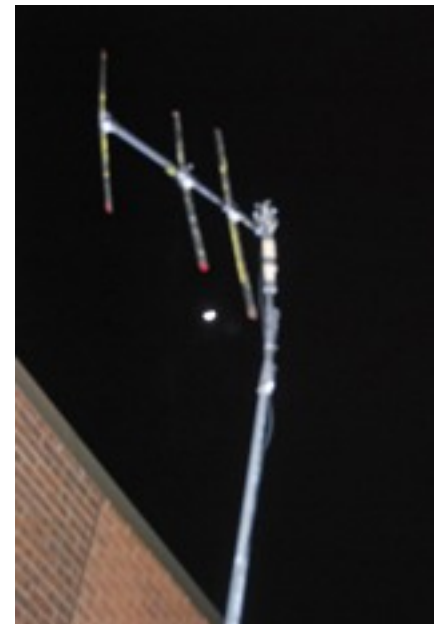
Patty and I had decided to hide down by the river in Saint Charles. I came prepared with all of my outdoor hiding gear including, two fully charged AGM batteries in-case I need to use my 200 watt amp. I did not want to use the amp but with such low elevation at the river I was prepared to have to use some power. After setting up twice and trying to key up CFMC repeater, I was unable to hear a signal back. I knew there was an industrial park east of my position and much higher in elevation. With minutes to spare, we had found an abandoned building for sale and decided to set up behind it (41.911658, -88.272097). Using a 3 element tape measure beam about 15 feet above my truck I returned Charlie's call out for the fox at 50 watts. He reported back that I was very weak into the repeater so I opted to run the 200 watt amp. All of the hunters were able to hear and I released the hounds at 8:09 pm. Patty and I were convinced that this was a drive up hunt and that no one would walk in. First on the scene was Tony, (AA9CC) at 8:34 pm. Tony, Charlie, and Kevin were the only drive up hunters. Every one else opted to fight their way through the very thick brush just north of our position. The hunt ended a 8:52 pm and we had munchies at Portillo's on Rt 64 by Pheasant Run.

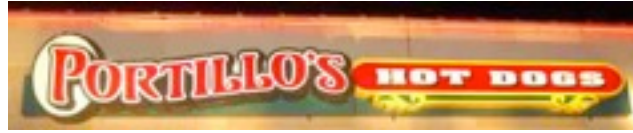
- 1) Tony AA9CC & Joan KC9QQY 8:34 pm
- 2) Marty KB9SMR & Bill 8:41 pm
- 3) John WD9EXW, Tom N9CBA & Janet 8:41 pm
- 4) Mike WA9FTS 8:44 pm
- 5) Don W9RA 8:44 pm
- 6) Charlie KB9DIM 8:47 pm
- 7) Kevin N9JPG & Colin 8:52 pm



Matt's Hiding Spot

<https://maps.google.com/maps/ms?msid=214969627811182387232.0004d4359e938c0750774&msa=0&ll=41.911658,-88.272097&spn=0.011401,0.025792>





34 2M Foxhunt - January 26th, 2013 - by John WD9EXW

It wasn't actually too bad a night for a hunt. Warmer than it was earlier in the week, and dry.

Tom and I got together early, and mulled a couple directions and places. We picked a couple likely spots, took a look at a few, while also considering munch spots.

We chose the north edge of Wheaton, about here:

<http://maps.google.com/maps?saddr=Sivert+Dr&daddr=Easy+St&hl=en&ll=41.895569,-88.102713&spn=0.041784,0.063343&sl=41.895601,-88.11902&sspn=0.010446,0.024011&geocode=FX-MgAId8JLB-g%3BFdBLfwId5me-g&mra=me&mrsp=1,0&sz=16&t=m&z=14>

Ed Note: John and Tom were on the ground at the NW corner of the western-most tower to the west of the building off Easy St.

Google reports 13 mi from the start.

We were under a ConEd tower, with a 5/8 mag mount horizontal on one of the tower legs. We had pulled some brush around our lair, and hunkered down on the ground.

5 of 6 cars heard us, and we released about 8:04

#1 - Tony AA9CC & Joan KC9QQY @ 8:39

#2 - Charlie KB9DIM @ 8:42

#3 - Matt KC9SEM, Patty & Jacob @ 8:49

#4 - Mike WA9FTS @ 8:50

#5 - Kevin N9JPG & Colin @ 8:53

DNF - Don W9RA





	Start Time	Starting Location	Foxhunt Frequency
1st	8 PM	Rt 83 north of St. Charles Rd, Elmhurst across from KMart	147.750 MHz CFAR input
2nd	8 PM	Downers Grove Golf Club 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 Next hunt - Mar 30, 2013	TBD by the fox

Hunter	1st	2nd
Tony AA9CC	3	1
Joan KC9QQY	1	0
Tom N9CBA	0	0
John WD9EXW	0	0
Matt KC9SEM	0	0
Marty KB9SRM	1	2
Mike WA9FTS	0	0
Charlie KB9DIM	0	1
Don W9RA	0	0
	0	0
	0	0

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. WA9FTS uses one in the vehicle also and W9RA uses his from start to finish.

