

Chicagoland Foxhunters Report

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

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Volume 1 Issue 3

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.



CFAR Foxhunt Report - Mar 3, 2012 by John WD9EXW

We had discussed several spots, and settled on Berwyn area, seemed like it's been a while since we went that direction.

We were here at about 30th & East St, school baseball field, 3rd base dugout.

<http://maps.google.com/maps?saddr=Unknown+road&daddr=S.+East+Ave.+N&hl=en&ll=41.837679,-87.788127&spn=0.003365,0.005713&sll=41.837707,-87.788674&sspn=0.003365,0.005713&geocode=FSw0fwIdNNPB-g%3BFdhlfgIdvHXE-g&mra=dme&mrsp=1&sz=18&t=h&z=18>

Yaesu 2900 at 10 watts, 1/4 wave mag mount.

Master Tony AA9CC called about 7:55. Our first test, we were good in the repeater, but weak on the input. We made an antenna adjustment, raising it about 8', horizontal on a fence post.

Every one heard our second test, & we released about 8:05

1-Matt KC9SEM, Patty & Jacob - 8:39 2-Tony AA9CC & Joan KC9QQY - 8:41 Troy 3-K9TOW - 8:50 4-Don W9RA - 8:55 5-Mike WA9FTS & Paul N9LXF



2nd Sat Foxhunt Report - March 10, 2012 by Mike WA9FTS

Spring certainly was here as the hunters assembled for the 2nd Sat hunt. There were 5 official hunters and Charlie KB9DIM who started from home in Berwyn. The hunters were released by Tony AA9CC shortly after 7PM. Paul N9LXF and I found a spot about 6 miles from the starting point at Harper College. We took our fiberglass pole, J-Pole antenna and HT (5w) to a walking trail that ran east and west over I-290. It was accessed from Rohlwing Rd which was north of Biesterfield Rd. The entrance to the trail was very hard to see from the road. We set up on the

northeast side of the overpass. The J-Pole was about 50 ft above average terrain and about 935 ft east of Rohlwing Rd. All the hunters had a strong signal to start off with.

The first hunter spotted was Matt KC9SEM who got off at Biesterfield Rd and headed east and then back west. We lost him after that. Shortly Tony AA9CC walked in from the west to take 1st. Two minutes later John WD9EXW arrived for 2nd. Don W9RA came from the same direction 10 minutes later with Matt finally arriving 6 minutes after Don. Tom, who was let out of the van east of us, walked in after a 2000 ft walk. Troy K9TOW was close by and called to call it quits. Charlie KB9DIM, on the other hand, was not going to quit as he got more transmissions to help in his quest. At 8:08, Charlie arrived also from the east with his friend Dino to end the hunt.

We met at the Chipotle Mexican Grill in Elk Grove Ville for food and gathering. Results:

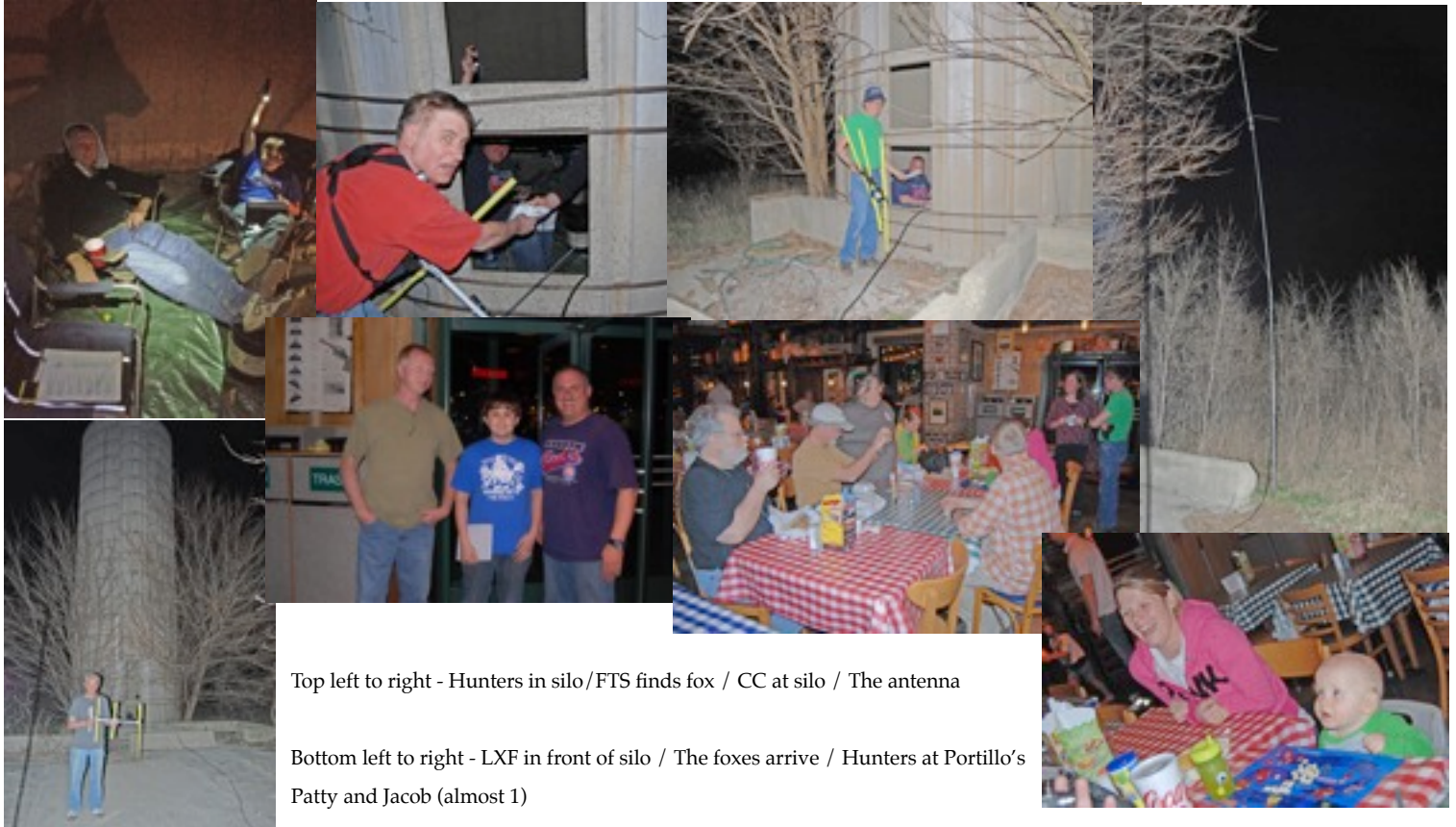
1. Tony AA9CC, Joan KC9QQY 7:23PM
2. John WD9EXW, Tom N9CBA, Janet 7:25PM
3. Don W9RA 7:35PM
4. Matt KC9SEM, Patty, Jacob 7:41PM
DNF Troy K9TOW
- 5 - Unoff – Charlie KB9DIM, Dino, Alexis N9VRA 8:08PM

CFMC Foxhunt Report - March 17, 2012 by Marty KB9SMR

March 17th was an unseasonably warm and pleasant day for the CFMC fox hunt. I wasn't sure I would be ready to hide as the fox since I had shoulder surgery just a week prior. I decided to keep the location local for me which allowed me to check the site for radio transmissions prior to the hunt. I chose an old abandoned silo located on the intersection of Rt 30 and Heggs Road in unincorporated Oswego IL. The coordinates were Lat 41°41'11.23"N Long 88°15'9.68"W. The original plan was to hoist a 1/2 wave omni to the top which is about 40' above ground. Once I played with my Yaesu VX-7R, I realized I was able to trip the repeater with just 1 watt with the antenna atop 20' of 3/4" conduit being fed by 75' of RG-8 coax. The National Weather Service was issuing a severe storm warning about 20 min prior to the start of the hunt. So it was necessary to setup a location that we could easily abandon and take shelter in the truck if necessary, hence the added footage of coax.

The hunters were released at exactly 8:04PM with confirmation of receiving the input transmission. We anxiously awaited their arrival while basking in the luxury of camp chairs, a propane lantern, Giordano's pizza, and a cooler of iced water bottles. Surprisingly the first to arrive was Tom N9CBA with an amazing 8:50PM time. Soon to follow was Mike WA9FTS at 8:55PM immediately followed by Matt KC9SEM at 8:56PM. Tony AA9CC rolled in at exactly 9:00PM leaving Don as

the last Mohican. He had requested a couple extra transmissions as he kept driving past the location on Rt 30. Seeing flashes of light (thinking it was Don's flashlight) I soon realized it was lightning and started to get more aggressive with my transmissions. Don finally rolled up on the scene at 9:17PM. We quickly broke down the site and met up with the rest of the gang at Portillo's on Ogden Ave in Oswego. Another fun night had by all.



Top left to right - Hunters in silo/FTS finds fox / CC at silo / The antenna
 Bottom left to right - LXF in front of silo / The foxes arrive / Hunters at Portillo's
 Patty and Jacob (almost 1)

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34th Foxhunt Report - March 24th > Foxes N9CBA Tom & WD9EXW John
 by John WD9EXW

We had a couple places in mind, but they checked out 'closed at dusk'.

So we selected another, a bit farther away than we planned. We were in Wheaton near here:

[http://maps.google.com/maps?
 daddr=41.870559,-88.12093&hl=en&ll=41.870016,-88.118516&spn=0.006727,0.011426&sll=41.86
 9393,-88.120383&sspn=0.006727,0.011426&t=h&mra=mift&mrsp=1&sz=17&z=17](http://maps.google.com/maps?daddr=41.870559,-88.12093&hl=en&ll=41.870016,-88.118516&spn=0.006727,0.011426&sll=41.869393,-88.120383&sspn=0.006727,0.011426&t=h&mra=mift&mrsp=1&sz=17&z=17)

The hunt started at 8:10. Drive time should have been about 30-35 minutes. But the spot must have been trickier than we thought.

It was a bit of a crowd in the Field, folks were north and south of us. KC9SEM Matt's sister Carol, husband Brad and 2 boys were bracketing the grassy area south.

Several folks got wet, didn't need to, but they chose the 'direct' route.

#1 K9SMR Marty, Bill @ 9:12

#2 N9LXF Paul, Mike WA9FTS @ 9:12

#3 W9RA Don @ 9:13

#4 KA9SEM Matt, Patty, Carole, Brad, Nolan, Chase @ 9:25

#5 K9TOW Troy

Marty won with one hand tied behind his back! We found out later that his route included exiting 355 @ Butterfeild and zigging west. He overshot, but recovered OK.

We munched at Portillo's

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5th Saturday 3/31/12 146.340 Hunt

by John WD9EXW

It was a unusual hunt - not too many 5th Saturday's per year. Next one is June.

It was cool & dry, but not windy. 40f.

Tom and I were mulling a few spots earlier in the day, and decided it had been awhile since we went north.

We went up to Palatine road, en route to check some likely ideas, and happened upon a boarded up house. We stopped to look, and liked the area. Google maps says 15 mi from starting point.

The house had an in ground tank in back, that might have been a root cellar, or well. it was a neat spot, but upon closer examination, we decided it could also be a septic tank. Although it was unused for perhaps years, and dry, we could not talk ourselves into jumping in. We chose a spot with good cover in the brush, where we disturbed a deer.

We were here:

<http://maps.google.com/maps?saddr=Sivert+Dr&daddr=W+Palatine+Rd&hl=en&ll=42.069175,-87.928047&spn=0.214593,0.365639&sll=42.105594,-87.9356&sspn=0.013404,0.022852&geocode=FVSMgAIdcIvB-g%3BFcWKggIdrivC-g&t=m&mra=me&mrsp=1,0&sz=16&z=12>

The hunters waited 5 or 10 min for Charlie to gas up. We had trouble hearing the starting point, and they us. So we changed to a mag mount, which necessitated a hide change too. (The tank likely wouldn't have worked either by now). Mag mount on the Napa store dumpster, with we ran the co-ax through the fence. 10 watts. Better signal, and we started at 8:20

We saw Charlie come in, pause, then leave. But he was back on the next transmission to score first.

#1 - KB9DIM Charlie @ 9pm

#2 - KC9SEM Matt on foot @ 9:22

#3 - Mike WA9FTS and Tony popped through a hole in the fence, Tony saw us but tripped on a log, and Mike, being a bit closer, scored 3rd @ 9:25

#4 - Tony AA9CC @ 9:25

#5 - W9RA



Jacob is now 1 yr. old and has been on over 40 hunts. We celebrated at Steak & Shake with cupcakes and brownies that Gramma Janet baked. There were presents and a great time was had by all including the proud parents, Matt KC9SEM and Patty.

Saturday	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	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 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 31, 2012	TBD by the fox

Foxhunt Results for the year

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

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

