



























AND THE STAR OF THE SHOW THE FOX IN A BOX























Many in the club enjoy chasing the fox along with the newer Fox in a Box. Some days the chase is more challenging than others for some of us but the activity is rewarding. It was announced that this week's fox in a box would be deployed at 5:30Pm on Tuesday and be available until 7:30pm the following day. I couldn't go out for it on Tuesday evening and was eager to get at it on Wednesday. Turns out this one was a bit more difficult to locate than previous ones because its location caused the signal to be weaker in many parts of town. Our clues were it would be in the south east part of Wallingford near a tree with an orange ribbon on it.

I began by selecting a location with high unobstructed views of that part of town in hopes of being able to active it and take a bearing. That part went as expected and I was able to activate the fox in a box and take a bearing. After plotting that on my map I looked to see where would be a good place to get the next bearing. Off I went only to discover that try as I might I couldn't activate the fox box from the next location. I continue to drive into even less familiar parts of Wallingford until I found a quiet spot to see if I could activate the fox yet. What luck! This time I bring the fox up and begin to take a bearing but I'm to slow and need to reactivate the fox box. Only problem now is that I don't know where I am so plotting a vector is impossible. Finally an older gentleman comes up to me to see if I'm lost and can he help. I explain to him who I am and what I'm doing but here I am lost. Shortly he is able to locate me on my map. I thank him for his assistance, hop back into my car and off I go in the direction of the fox.

Doesn't take long and I come to an intersection, is it left or right. What the heck I jump out to take another bearing. About this time Eric, KB1JL comes on the radio to say he found it already (he started 45 minutes after I did) and ask where I am? I respond and he tells me I'm close and to trust my bearings. Now while I'm still sitting there looking at my map (remember I don't know where anything is in Wallingford) Eric comes back on the radio and we talk a bit and then he tells me I getting closer. At this time I explain that I haven't moved yet, hi hi. I turn right to follow my 'plan' to get to where I think the fox will be and in about a ¼ mile I run into a road closed sign with a giant fence across the road. I utter a few expletives and reverse course to go the other way. Doesn't take long until I realize that this is only taking me much farther away from my destination and into the next town. Best idea from here is to go back several miles to where I can understand where I am and devise a new route to get to the fox.

While driving back to civilization the thought occurs to me that maybe I should just pass this one over but no there is no rush and I will press on. Eventually I recognize a familiar spot so I pull over to consult my map. Again Eric , KB1JL, comes to my rescue on the radio. I tell him where I am and he says wait there for him. He arrives shortly and I show him my map and bearings. He probably gets a good laugh when he explains that the road I was on had been closed for decades and not only that the road I was trying to get to more or less doesn't exist. He is very gracious and explains how I can get around my obstacle without giving away the location of the fox in a box. He assures me I will find it. I thank him and set off again.

If you think this is long drawn out and boring just wait. Like any bad infomercial it gets even better. I make a couple turns and now I'm on my own again. I pause once for a bearing and yes I'm doing ok. Every once in a while I actually see places I recognize but I never put the big picture together in my head to know that I can get to one place from another. I'm riding down a nice road watching for a good place to take another bearing to confirm I'm not off track again when I pass the entrance to a parking lot that I know. Oh that will be a good place off the road in the clear to get a bearing so I back up and pull into the lot. The lot is empty except for a small town trash compactor truck off to one side. I make a turn and stop sort of in the middle of the lot. I get out of my car to walk around to the other side to get the Doppler antenna out and as I go around behind my car I happen to look up and see a tree with an orange ribbon on it in the woods? No, that can't be 'the' tree for the fox. I can't just stumble onto it, right? Oh well I walk over to the edge of the parking lot and peek into the woods but I don't see any fox in a box. Back to the car and get out the antenna.

While I'm pointing the antenna I hear the trash truck rollup alongside of me. The driver says what is that pointing to the antenna. It does look a little unusual for those who haven't seen it and know what it is. Basically it's a large "H" with a 2 meter verticle dipole on each side and 2 printed circuit boards with blinking lights on the supporting framework. A very elegant piece of work designed by Dave, NZ1J. I have been borrowing it for several weeks now, thank you Dave. I explain who I am and what I'm doing. I go on to describe a little about what the fox may look like etc. This is when the driver says, oh we picked up that box and a piece of wood and put them in the trash truck. We did see the name and phone number but it was someone out of town so we put it and the piece of wood on top into the compactor. I'm thinking this has to be a joke right?

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So I ask your pulling my leg right? Oh no it's true. Now I have visions of a completely crushed fox in a box inside the compactor. Horrors! the two men get out of the truck, go around to the back, pull a few levers and the compactors coughs up some trash. This is when they reach in with their long gripper pole and retrieve a brown cardboard box. Now I'm thinking it's a goner for sure. Without hesitation (or gloves) I grab the soggy box and begin g to unfold it and sure enough it has all of Dave's info on it.

I decide I should get on the radio and let someone know there is an issue with the fox in a box. Fortunately I'm able to reach John, K1VDF and Bob, WB1GYZ. Neither of them know what the fox itself looks like and I'm still worried about the wood in the trash compactor which I haven't seen yet. So with that I decide I need to explore the woods closer and see if I missed it earlier. That option is better than sifting a lot more soggy trash. Into the woods I go, ticks be damned. Doesn't take long and there it is safe and securely chained to a tree.

Back out of the woods I talk to the 2 men in the truck about ham radio and thank them. Off they go probably laughing about the nutty guy who wanted to dig through the trash for an empty box, oh well. I call John, K1VDF and explain the fox in a box is safe and secure but the box with Dave's info it a tad soiled and crumpled. I straighten it out the best I can and put it back where the truck guys told me it had been when they found it. Now you thought this infomercial was over but there's more and for only

Now is when we decided that this would be a nice little story for Key Klix but I really need a picture of the guys and the truck to make it right. I load up my stuff and take off in the direction I saw the truck leave hoping to find them for a picture. As I'm driving down the road I see a jogger approaching and I move over a little to give him space when I notice, hey that is Mr Fox himself so time for another break test and I toot the horn a couple times. Dave turns around and comes jogging back. I explain the story and assure him the fox is safe and secure. He returns to his run and I proceed off to find the truck.

After a short while it's clear to me that I'm not going to find the truck or I'm going to get lost again so I decide I've had enough for one day and turn around to go home. As I approach the fox parking lot I see Dave is in there so of course I need another picture. Here is Mr Fox himself, Dave NZ1J. the club member who has provided us with so much unsanctioned activity during the Covid pandemic.

Last segment of this infomercial, I promise. After I got home I decided that little trash truck drives by my house every day sometimes more than once because the garage is at the end of my street. The gate is closed these days so I can't go in there to ask about them so I phoned and talked to someone. Later I got a return call and was told the guys may not want their picture taken while at work and if they agreed they would phone me. No call so no picture.













ERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

OFFICERS OF MARC

PRESIDENT.....W1YSM ED SNYDER VICE PRES.....KB1JL ERIC OLSSON SECT.....K1STM ANNE WEST TRES......K1WJL DAVE SWEDOCK STATION A.M...K1RCT ROB CICHON

MEETINGS: NORMALLY 7:30PM ON THE 2ND & 4TH THURSDAYS OF THE MONTH, UNLESS OTHERWISE POSTED, THE HOPE HILL ROAD FIREHOUSE / EOC 143 HOPE HILL ROAD, WALLINGFORD ALL MEETINGS ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

MAILING ADDRESS: MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB POB 583, MERIDEN CT. 06450

CLUB NETS

6 MTR NET 50.175MHZ **MONDAYS 8PM N1ZN JIM**

TUESDAYS 7:30PM 2 METER NET 147.36 /RPT NO PL K1TDO TODD

10 METER NET 28.375MHZ

TUESDAYS 8PM K1VDF JOHN

10/10 CASTLE CRAIG CHAPTER (CONCURRENTLY WQITH CLUB NET) 28.375MHZ TUESDAYS 8PM N1API AL

2 METER TECH NET Thursdays 7:30PM 147.360+, no PL(on non-MARC meeting nites) **WEEKLY NET MODERATED BY VARIOUS** AMATEURS WITH DIFFERENT TECHNICAL **TOPICS AND Q&A SESSION**

2 METER COFFEE CUP NET SAT 9AM 147.36+ NO PL W1YSM ED (THIS HAS ALSO A SIMULTANEOUS SECONDARY NET OF SORTS THROUGH THE VIDEO TELECONFERENCING W1NRG JITSI SITE)

WEBSITE: (USE LOWERCASE) www.w1nrg.com

FORUM / BBS:

www.w1nrg.com/forum/ or go to website and follow links

CASTLE CRAIG 10-10 WEBSITE: go to www.w1nrg.com

and follow the links

CLUB REPEATER W1KKF/R 147.36MHZ +600 OFFSET NO PL TONE (OPEN REPEATER)

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

	MEME	BER
AB1DQ	James Surprenant	22R
AB1HB	Charlie Dudac	208
AF1HS	Art Fregeau	205
K1IIG	Steve Tripp	208
K1JCF	Joe Farrell	208
K1LHO	Mike Ash	208
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K1MVM	Mike Macri	208
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KB1EHE	Eric Knight	20R
KB1FYL	Bob Carruthers	208
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KB1IFZ	Elsie Mathews	20R
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KB1SIT	Teresa Stephens	205
KB1SSN	Alex Dills	20R
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KB1TMC	Clare O'Lena	20R
KB1YFJ	Glen Couture	20R
KC1DOY	Ted Renzoni	208
KC1GMD	Ralph Ring	20R
KC1HDB	Jeff Martin	28R
KC1HFO	John Stoidis	20R
KC1IIK	Scott Mowerson	20R
KC1IIL	Matt Mowerson	20Y
KC1ISI	Kristin Olsson	20R
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KE1AV	Dave Sanford	20R
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N1API	Al Kaiser	208

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N1BF	Patrick Dionne	21R	
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N1GY	Geoff Haines	215	
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N1LES	Joe Murray	21R	
N1MOB	Dan David	20R	
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N10KR	Frank Ciccone	208	
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N1YLN	Edward O'Lena	20R	
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W1AJK	Andrew Kazimer	20R	
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W1KKF	Bill Wawrzeniak	Liber	
W1KPS	Kevin Shields	20R	
W1LV	Steve Morley	20R	
W1NHS	Fred Ring	208	
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W1POP	Fred Liedke	215	
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WA1JKR	John Rogus	215	
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WA1TRY	Rich Aubin	L	
WA1ZVY	Jim Martin	208	
WB1GGP	Jerry Shepard	205	
WB1GYZ	Bob Biancur	205	
WB8IMY	Steve Ford	20R	
WV2LKM	Steve Waldmann	205	
W3APC	James Cook	215	
W9OTW	Debbie Foss	20R	
ALL BELL	Ron Rogers	205	
MEN	MBERSHIP STATS	1	
TOTAL MEMBERS88**			
REGULAR(UNDER65)41			

CLUB DUES STRUCTURE (JAN-DEC) UP TO 64 YRS OF AGE--\$20/YR SENIOR DISCOUNT 65 & UP--\$15 ANY MEMBER WHO IS A LICENSED HAM, 18 & UNDER WILL BE GIVEN FREE DUES.

KEY KLIX EDITOR DAVE SWEDOCK K1WJL CONTACT DSWEDOCK@GMAIL.COM 203 235-8582



SENIOR(OVER 65).....41 **STUDENT(UNDER 18)......1**



