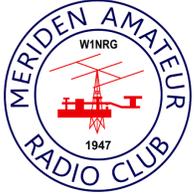




KEY *QRP* KLIX



SEPTEMBER 2020

MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

1947 - 2020



2020

The Year of the

Masked

AKA THE UNSANCTIONED FOXHUNT



Fox



Hunt

ALL MEETINGS ARE **NORMALLY** AT THE
EOC HOPE HILL FIREHOUSE
143 HOPE HILL ROAD, WALLINGFORD
**HOWEVER THEY ARE SUSPENDED
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

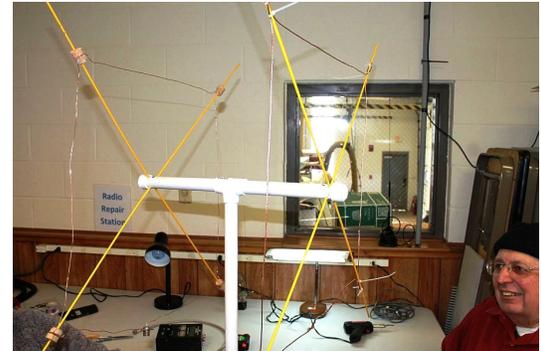
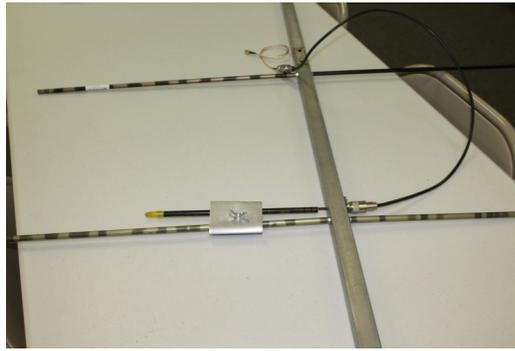
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First we experiment and build the antennas at the EOC

The initial talk of foxhunts came up in discussions of possible activities that the club could participate in. It was a fact that the MARC did have active foxhunts many moons ago but they have long been silent till now. We can thank Dave Tipping NZ1J in his Saturday mornings project sessions for migrating from huge and heavy vacuum tube QRP rigs to two-meter QRP transmitters and of course two meter antennas that were hand held for tracking purposes. That was the theme for a good part of the cold winter months at the Saturday EOC sessions as seen below in the early designs of Quads, yagi's and the Fox himself..... The cold winter days could not hold back the enthusiasm and fervor that was building and on a rather cold and brisk day in March as a group of MARC members would start the first of 27(and counting) foxhunts each weekend.





March 28, 2020, MARC Foxhunt Inauguration Day.....

Fox Hunting

The club will be starting a series of Fox Hunts when we get a break from winter weather, probably in March. Bob, WB1GYZ, and I will be parked somewhere in Wallingford and operating on 2 meters for the first hunt. Fox Hunts can be fun and they can be challenging. The first hunt will have an emphasis on fun, but the challenge part just can't be completely avoided. You MIGHT find us with a handi-talkie, a rubber duck antenna, and an almost dead battery. But, you'll likely do better with some more specialized equipment and some experience using the equipment. I'll be at the club just about every Saturday between now and the first hunt. We can brainstorm ideas, form teams (not for competition, but for camaraderie and pooling of resources and talent), build antennas, test equipment, and get practice in the art of hunting for a hidden transmitter. Also, one of our Wednesday Tech Nets in January will be devoted to Fox Hunting.

Good Hunting,
Dave NZ1J

HOW TO CATCH A FOX (without really trying).

I set out on Saturday morning (28 March) for the foxhunt set up by Dave, NZ1J. He was nice enough to provide a map of the 4 square mile area that he'd be working in. This was described by a circle on a map of Wallingford.

Being new to foxhunting and not having had much time to test my antenna, I decided that the best way to proceed was to start in the middle of the circle thus cutting my search area down to a 2 mile radius.

Seeing that Choate Rosemary School was just about at the center, I set my GPS for that location to begin my search. I arrived there about 14 minutes before the 11AM start time only to find Dave (the fox) at the side of the road! He was afraid that some of the participants wouldn't receive any signal at all if too far out so he moved to the center.

While I suppose that I can claim the (very unofficial) title of "first to find the fox" it was not what we had in mind. In order to salvage the morning I set out to distance myself from the area and use it as an opportunity to test my antenna in the field. I went from getting a good signal/good direction to nothing at all (although that may have been during the low power transmission).

Meeting back at Choate while maintaining social distancing, we all checked in and are looking forward to doing this again. Thanks to Dave, NZ1J, for giving us this release from cabin fever in these trying times!

73,
Ted KC1DOY

THE FOX HUNTERS

FIRST FOX HUNTER MAP



BOB WB1GYZ



JOHN KC1KQH



DAVE NZ1J THE FOX



JOHN KB1MFU



JOHN K1LYP



MATT KC1IHK & SCOTT KC1IIL



JEFF N1AKN



JEFF KC1HDB



ERIC KB1JL



JOHN WA1JKR



JOHN K1LYP



JEFF N1AKN AUBREY & JIM N1ZN



K1LYP'S CREATION



BART N1BRL



**N1KSY DON, NANCY TIPPING KC1NS,
& DON'S XYL
DON IS NANCY'S BROTHER,
HER SON IN LAW IS DYLAN W1DJB..**



**ROD N1RUU & XYL
FROM ENFIELD**



**DAVE NZ1J AT BILL W1KKFS
QTH WITH THE FOX**



MARK KE1IU OF OLD LYME WITH JR-OP'S PALMER KC1LXO & PAYTON KC1IVR



CHUCK NA1CN FROM NORWICH



JOE N1LES & SON

THE ERA OF THE FOX SELFIE



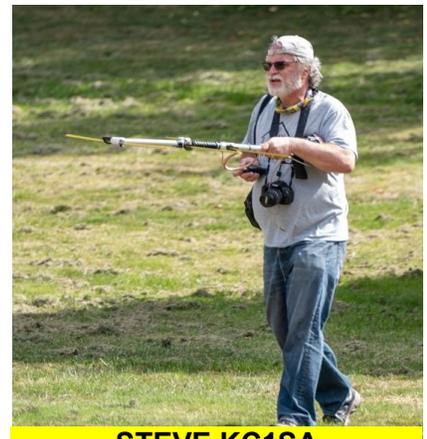
JOE K1JCF



BOB KE1AU



TED KC1DOY



STEVE KC1SA



BART N1BRL



DAVE NZ1J



KRISTIN KC1ISI & ERIC KB1JL



JEFF N1AKN JIM NZIN JOHN N1GNV