

January 2020 Foxhunt

The monthly foxhunt was held Sunday, January 5th. Robert, WA6FBA, was the fox.

There were two teams for this hunt:

Jeff, WB7RFY, Keith, KJ7GTX, and I, WB9VGJ
Pete, K6VVR, and Diane, KE7ODP

The results of the hunt were:

Finish	Team	Time
1	K6VVR and KE7ODP	23 min.
2	WB7RFY, WB9VGJ and KI7GTX	38 min.

Robert hid the transmitters on a parking spot off of Granite Basin Rd. north of Iron Springs Rd. west of Prescott.

At the beginning of the hunt, we were unable to hear the transmitter. Robert made a few adjustments and after a few tries, we got a good signal. It turns out that we didn't hear the signal until he connected the antenna to the transmitter. He also had difficulty hearing us on the club repeater. It turns out that, as he was using a beam on his pickup, it was a few inches from the vertical antenna mounted on the truck for his mobile rig. When the foxhunt transmitter was transmitting, it overwhelmed his mobile rig so he could not copy us.

I again used the SigTrax app on my cellphone as usual and it seemed to be a real help. You can see a screen shot of the bearings I entered into it in the pictures I took, link below. The bearing were helpful to locate the transmitter.

However, using the SigTrax didn't keep K6VVR and KE7ODP from winning the hunt. It was most interesting that, at the start of the hunt, Diane said, "May the best woman win." It turns out that was the result. We passed Granite Basin Rd. and went further west to get another bearing. We determined we had passed the transmitter site and headed back east and drove south toward Highland Pines. I took the third bearing there and that is when we determined the transmitter was most likely somewhere on Granite Basin Rd. As we were getting ready to turn north on Granite Basin Rd., K6VVR and KE7ODP were coming from the east and turned onto the road and we ended up following right behind them.

It was a quick hunt with the winning team taking only 23 minutes to find the transmitter. Once again, it was a fun hunt and the weather was great. Everyone had a good time.

You can see pictures of the hunt here.

<https://tinyurl.com/YARCFoxhuntJan2020>

The participants had the usual after hunt socializing session at Prescott Junction. We would encourage more folks to get involved in the hidden transmitter hunts. They are really fun and help develop direction-finding skills.

73,

John, WB9VGJ