

March 2021 Foxhunt

The March foxhunt was held Saturday March 6th. Jeff, WB7RFY, Keith, KI7GTX, and I were the foxes.

There were only two teams for this hunt, which was not normal for a Saturday hunt. WA6FBA and WB6ODR did not hunt due to getting COVID-19 shots:

Pete, K6VVR, and Jerry, KF7FPD
Don, KI7IOM, Sherwin, WB7NFX, and Richard, KG6TRD

The results of the hunt were:

Finish	Team	Time
1	K6VVR and KF7FPD	35 min.*
DNF	KI7IOM, WB7NFX and KG6TRD	--

- * The 35 minute time did not include six minutes when the transmitter was not transmitting due to dead batteries.

We hid the transmitters on and below the old railroad bridge downtown Prescott adjacent to and connected to the new Hilton Garden Inn. I had picked out this location. WB7FRY and I had hidden them there several years ago and it is an interesting area and I wanted to see what the hotel had done with the bridge. It was a beautiful day and there were quite a few people walking on the bridge, many from the hotel.

K6VVR and KF7FPD showed up rather quickly. However, they parked about half a block from the bridge. The transmitter died, so they called us on the radio to inform us and we changed the batteries. They were close enough to us to be heard if we shouted. They never looked up to where we were parked by the bridge and drove off hunting.

A while later they returned and realized the primary transmitter was likely on the bridge. I had put my mag mount antenna on the bridge railing as a decoy antenna. It worked as K6VVR saw it and, with his equipment, thought it was the primary transmitter. It only took him a few minutes to find the transmitter a little ways away on the bridge. When he and KF7FPD started hunting the secondary transmitter, they spent considerable time looking on a trail doing down the hill at the end of the bridge we were at. KI7GTX finally gave them a hint to go all the way down and into the street. When they did that, they were able to find the secondary transmitter. With the reflections from all the metal, bridge and fences, it made the hunt challenging.

The other team did not find the transmitter in the time allotted. However, they were close enough to receive the signal of the secondary transmitter, so it would not have taken them too long to find us.

You can see pictures I took of the hunt here:

<https://tinyurl.com/YARCFoxhunt-March2021>

Due to coronavirus concerns, we did not go anywhere for socializing after the hunt.

We invite anyone interested in foxhunting, especially anyone who has not done it before, to join us. Those new to the hobby can ride with an experienced hunter. We always have a good time, win, lose or draw.

73,

John, WB9VGJ