

FOX HUNT, Saturday, February 6, 2010

This morning after the Hams & Eggs Breakfast a number of members of the Broken Arrow Amateur Radio Club (BAARC) and other local Amateur Radio Enthusiasts braved cool weather to participate in a hidden transmitter location exercise, AKA FOX HUNT. Mike Manring KE5YOO had been the first to locate the hidden transmitter during the last exercise and thus had the honor of being the "FOX" for the days event. Mike was assisted by Daughter Emily.

The exercise was slated to begin at 10:00 AM local time. This was approximately 1 hour after the end of the Hams & Eggs breakfast. Mike and Emily disappeared and apparently did a good job of shaking any "tails" on the way to their final position because it was a real job to locate their transmitter.

A number of mobile teams deployed in pursuit of the FOX and early indications were that the transmitter was located in South Tulsa. After this early general placement the trail became much more difficult to follow. Mike did an excellent job of using his location, background area and equipment to make the chase interesting.

After a little more than an hour of listening to comments from the "hounds" that were scurrying about chasing the (seemingly) vaporous signals from the FOX, Mike began to give a few hints regarding the location of the transmitter.

After about an hour and a half of dedicated signal chasing, plotting and checking, Scott Haley KD5NJR and shotgun rider Gerry Paschal KC5JKU located the FOX. Within a few minutes Robert Easterly KK5J drove up solo to claim second place. Jon Down KD5QLM and Kevin Magnes WB2HET were visiting from the Dallas area and came in third place.

Within about 20 minutes there were ten vehicles at the site. Mike had chosen a paved parking area behind (to the South of) a Reasor's Grocery Store off 71st Street. This location was clearly visible from Hunter's Park. The characteristics of the large steel reinforced wall of the adjacent grocery building resulted in reflection of signals that made the final transmitter location a real challenge.

Mobile participants included (but not limited to) the following:

Mike Manring	KE5YOO	"The FOX"
Emily Manring		
Scott Haley	KD5NJR	President of BAARC
Ron Lancaster	KB5VDB	
Laci		
Dakota		
Gerry Paschal	KC5JKU	Vice-President of BAARC
Earl Stutzman	WB5UUW	Repeater Trustee of BAARC
Jon Down	KD5QLM	visitor, Dallas
Kevin Magnes	WB2HET	visitor, Dallas
Ray Truitt	KC5WSI	
Shannon Swatzell	KC5RBG	
Angel		
Wade Harris	KF5IF	

Randy Rowell
Bryan Mark

KF5COA
K5BBM



My apologies to those participants whose names I left out, mis-spelled, incorrect call signs, etc... Gerry Paschal