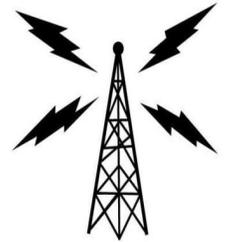




DFARG Signal



Incorporating Palmetto Amateur Radio Club

Volume 3, Issue 7

July 14, 2021

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Release the Hounds!

Fox-hunting, transmitter hunting, t-hunting, all describe the same Ham radio activity, using a receiver to locate a hidden transmitter, usually operating on the 2 meter band. At its most basic, the fox hunt takes place on foot in a small to medium sized park, usually involving a single transmitter. The transmitter sends out signals intermittently, and the goal of the hunters (hounds) is to locate it, using any combination of direction finding skills.

Mobile hunts sends the "fox into the woods" in a vehicle while the "hounds" look for it in their vehicles. In the United States, this generally involves a single transmitter and hounds must employ a map and compass exercise as well their RDF skills. Suc-

cessful hunters, (usually a team of two), pay careful attention to their own location and the bearing to the fox at all times, plotting them on maps. They know that if they miss a fox bearing, they must wait a few minutes to hear the fox again. They also must obey traffic laws, since exceeding the speed limit or other violations means potential fines, money, that could be used on radios. In addition the hounds must keep an eye on time and distance.

Common in Europe and Asia, and growing in popularity in the States is Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF). This is a multi-transmitter hunt usually in an area of 500 to several thousand acres and is completely on foot. ARDF/ Radio"O" (orienteering) is a combination of land navigation, map and compass reading as well as a test of RDF skills. Unlike in classic fox hunting where a single mobile transmitter is used, in Radio"O" you may be searching for as many as 5 transmitters, transmitting in sequence for one minute at a time. Successful hunters

pay careful attention to their own location and the bearings to all foxes at all times, plotting them on detailed orienteering maps. They know that if they miss a fox bearing, they must wait four minutes to hear that fox again. They also must monitor the time, since exceeding the time limit (typically two hours) means disqualification

In any of these formats, an FCC license is not required, since the hounds are receiving and not transmitting.

For small, on foot fox hunts, directional antennas may be used, but are not required. All you need need to get started quickly and find foxes successfully is a VHF/UHF HT The most elementary technique is the "body fade" or "body shield." Hold your HT tight against your chest and turn around slowly, looking for the direction at which your body blocks the signal most effectively (the signal null). At this point, the signal is coming from behind you. Walk in the direction of the null, taking bearings at regular intervals, and observe the signal strength get stronger.

When the signal is so strong that you can't find the null, tune 5 or 10 KHz off frequency to put

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Hardy Plemmons and Jim Lamb were the lucky winners of the DFARG Field Day drawing. Hardy won the Shealy's BBQ certificate and Jim won the DX Engineering certificate,

Upcoming Regional Hamfests and Conventions

<p>07/24/2021 - Waynesville (WCARS) Hamfest Location: Waynesville, NC, NC</p>	<p>08/07/2021 - <u>C.A.R.E.S. Tailgate - Chester, SC</u> Location: chester, SC Sponsor: W4CHR C.A.R.E.S Club</p>	<p>08/14/2021 - <u>Fort Pierce Hamfest</u> Location: Fort Pierce, FL Sponsor: Fort Pierce Amateur Radio Club Website: http://FPARC.ORG</p>
<p>07/31/2021 - Greater Nashville & Middle TN HamQuest Location: Lebanon, TN</p> <p>Website: https://midtnhamquest.com/</p>	<p>08/07/2021 - <u>RVARC HamFest</u> Location: Roanoke, VA Sponsor: Roanoke Valley Amateur Radio Club Website: http://w4ca.com</p>	<p>08/14/2021 - <u>Georgia State ARES Meeting & Convention, an ARRL Specialty Convention</u> Location: Forsyth, GA Sponsor: Georgia ARES</p>
<p>08/01/2021 - <u>70th Annual Berryville Hamfest</u> Location: Berryville, VA Sponsor: The Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club Website: http://svarc.us/hamfest</p>	<p>08/14/2021 - <u>22nd Annual Cape Fear Amateur Radio Swapfest</u> Location: Fayetteville, NC Sponsor: CapeFear Amateur Radio Society Website: http://www.cfarsnc.org</p>	<p>08/21/2021 - 08/22/2021 <u>Huntsville Hamfest, ARRL Southeastern Division Convention</u> Location: Huntsville, AL Sponsor: Huntsville Hamfest Inc Website: https://hamfest.org</p>

Regional Net Schedule

All Times in Eastern Time Zone

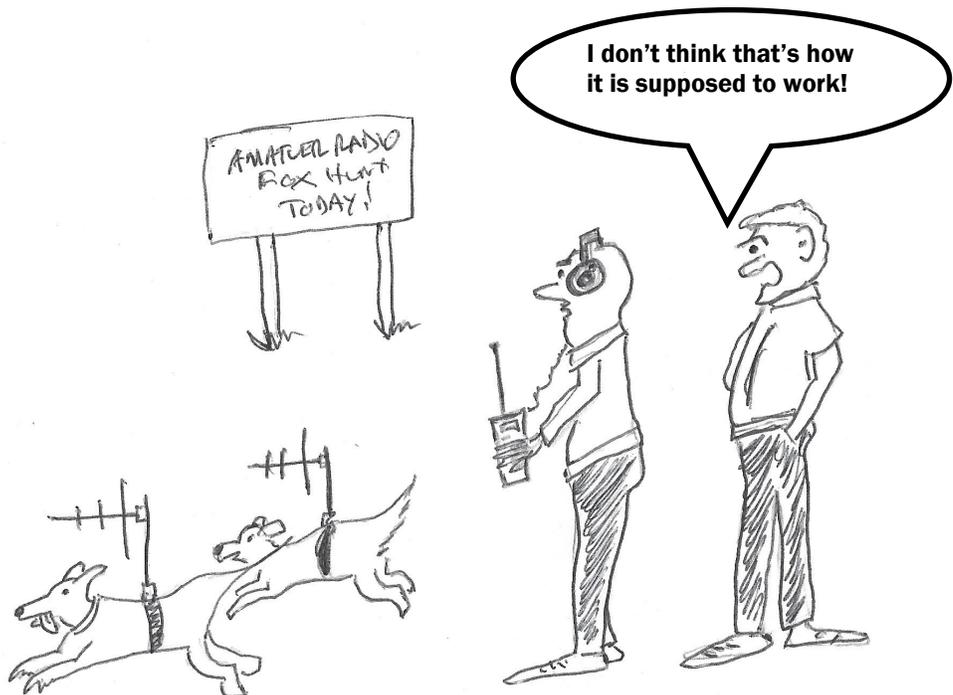
	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	South Carolina SSB Net 1900 3.915						
	Coastal Carolina Emergency Net 1900 3.907						
	South Coast Amateur Radio Service 0800-1100 7.251						
	Intercontinental Amateur Traffic Net 0700-1100 14.300						
	Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network 1100 14.265						
	7240 Club 1000-1200 7.240						
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1930		Little Mountain 147.210 + T156.7					
2000		Kershaw ARC 146.775 - T156.7	Sandlapper SSB 50.250		Calhoun ARES 146.670 - T 156.7		
2030	Columbia ARC 147.33 + T 156.7		Lexington ARES 147.000 + T123.0	Columbia ARC 147.33 + T 156.7			
2100	Ridge ARC 146.550 Simplex				Greenwood ARS 147.165 + T 107.2		Ridge ARC First Saturday 3.959
	Ridge ARC 147.255 + T123.0 after simplex						

Upcoming DXpeditions:

Start	End	DXCC	Call	Info
Jul04	Jul17	British Virgin Is	VP2V/K3TRM	Tortola; 40-6m; SSB RTTY FT8 + satellite
Jul07	Jul12	Alaska	KL7RRC	Kiska I (IOTA NA-070); 40-6m; CW SSB FT8 (f/h)
Jul07	Jul14	Aruba	P4/ND7J P4/N4IQ	
Jul14	Jul16	Alaska	KL7RRC	Adak I (IOTA NA-039); 40-6m; CW SSB FT8 (f/h)
Jul14	Jul21	Bahamas	C6AHA	Bimini I (IOTA NA-048); HF FT8 SSB CW
Jul23	Aug03	St Vincent	J88PI	alm I (IOTA NA-025, FK92ho); 40-6m; SSB FT8
Jul21	Jul26	Svalbard	JW0W	Prins Karls Forland I (IOTA EU-063); 40 30 20m
Jul25	Sep04	Azores	CT8/W6PQL	FT8 on all bands; 20m SSB

For more information go to <https://www.ng3k.com/>

Ham Humor



June 2021 Minutes

Members in attendance:
 John Miller K4IG,
 Maria Ducharme KN4KHK,
 Hardy Plemmons W4ABI,
 Smitty K4OIW,
 Al Bucholz WB4YYX,
 Charlie Brown KD4CB,
 Powell Way W4OPW,
 Steve Brumagin KI4VGA,
 Jim Lamb W4JUS,
 Jim Walters WB4FF,
 Doug Welborn K4FI,
 Mel Raab K4XMR,
 Paul Judson K4IRT,
 John Seibels K4AXV

The monthly DFARG meeting commenced at 1900 Hours June 17th, 2021. John Miller started the meeting by welcoming all attending members. All attending members participated in club role call.

John Seibels read the treasury report and made note that the insurance on club equipment had been paid.

The training topic continuation on the Raspberry Pi had to be delayed till July's meeting due to computer problems.

The old backup generator has been removed and discussions continue as to a suitable replacement. LPG fueled generator was brought up as a replacement.

In the May minutes it stated that the club auction would be held on Field Day. That was incorrect. The auction was held during the June meeting. (The club secretary misunderstood). Money obtained by the equipment auction will be spent on repairs to the HF antenna.

The 2021 Field Day, June 26 and 27. All members are welcome to attend and participate at the DFARG club house.

Upcoming Contests

July		August
17	<u>Russian Radio Team Championship</u>	7-8
	<u>YOTA Contest</u>	
17-18	<u>North American QSOP RTTY</u>	14
	<u>CQ Worldwide VHF</u>	14-15
24-25	<u>RSGB IOTA Contest</u>	21-22
31-1	<u>Russian Worldwide Multi Mode</u>	
	<u>MO QSO Party</u>	

Batavia FT8
NA QSOP CW
KY Parks on the Air
MD DC QSOP
NA QSOP SSB

Cont'd. from page 1

In last month's club minutes, it was stated that "antenna repairs so far have been successful". This was also incorrect. (The club secretary again misunderstood). The antennas are operable but are in need of maintenance and possibly replacement. (The club secretary may need to be fired).

The attending members welcomed new member Melvin C. Raab Jr as a new member. Call sign K4XMR.

May 2021 club meeting minutes were accepted by the attending members and seconded.

The club equipment auction was conducted with much success.

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 2034 Hour with all in favor of adjournment.

the signal into the skirts of the receiver's IF passband. If your hand-held is dual-band (144/440 MHz) and you are hunting on two meters, you can try tuning to the much weaker third harmonic of the signal in the 70 cm band while performing the "body shield."
 Disconnecting the HT's "rubber duck" antenna will knock down the signal even more. Hearing the signal with antenna off usually means you're pretty close! The body fade null is already pretty shallow, and can be filled in by signal reflections. When using this method, stay away from large buildings, chain-link fences, and metal signs. You'll get much more accurate bearings, plus more sensitivity when hunting weak signals, if you use an antenna with forward gain and directivity such as a yagi. The technique is simple, just point the antenna toward the horizon and turn your body in a 360-degree circle to find the direction in which the signal is strongest. When signal strength is greatest, the high-gain antenna is "pointing" toward the signal source..

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.W4DFG.ORG
