

# The Parasitic Emission

Volume 36—Number 11  
November 2010

**Supporting Amateur Radio  
Club Activities**

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***It's Hunting Season —  
Amateur Radio Style***

**O**CTOBER WAS a busy month. First, there was the Pennsylvania QSO Party. It's always an enjoyable activity, and certainly lives up to its claim of being "The Friendly QSO Party."

Also in October, local clubs put together some enjoyable social activities. The Quad-County ARC hosted a nostalgic evening of swapping stories with current and former members in conjunction with the October meeting. It was good to chat with some people I haven't seen for many years and relive the good old days.

Indiana County ARC hosted a Multi-County Breakfast, which was very well attended by over 30 hams from 8 counties! It was an enjoyable opportunity to share some Amateur Radio fellowship (and good eats!) and to meet a number of new friends.

Those are just a few examples of the activities we can enjoy as part of our favorite hobby. Seeing the good time everyone has at amateur radio activities got me thinking... What makes people keep coming back to our meetings? Why has attendance at some club meetings been dropping to record low numbers?

What does your club do together that will attract new hams to the hobby? What does your club have to offer the prospective ham that he or she cannot find elsewhere? Certainly, the newcomer will have an interest in radios and electronics, but how much of that do we offer on a recurring basis?

Think back to when you got started—would you have come back to a second meeting if the first was a boring "business" meeting followed by coffee and donuts? What was it that made you "come back for more?" I'll bet that an interesting, amateur radio related program is just the thing that will capture the enthusiasm of new and prospective hams (and old timers, too!)

### Resources for Club Programs

- ARRL markets DVD videos on a number of Amateur Radio subjects. Visit <http://www.arrl.org/shop/Videos/>
- ARVN Amateur Radio News Service offers a number of DVD videos geared toward club meeting programs. Check the list often for updates at <http://www.arvideonews.com/>

I remember the very well-attended Quad-County ARC meetings in the seventies and eighties. It was not at all unusual to have thirty or more members at our monthly meetings, representing 7 or 8 counties—and this was at virtually every meeting!

What was responsible?

Was the coffee that good? Was there something "special" in the donuts?

What I believe made those meetings successful was a commitment to having an interesting and entertaining program at each and every meeting. Art Kunst, W3WM was the Program Coordinator for many years, and he did an amazing job. The list of guest speakers reads like a *Who's Who* of East Coast active hams. Tim Duffy, K3LR showed us how he does contesting. ARRL WPA Section Managers and Atlantic Division Directors were frequent guest speakers at meetings and banquets. Art made sure that we had a good program at each and every meeting, be it a local speaker or a film or video about amateur radio and related activities.

Other good programs included CPR training and certification, homebrew night, tweak 'n' peak night for tuning up the two meter rigs,

radio swap night... and many more interesting and inspirational programs.

Coming up with interesting programs is not always easy—especially if the onus falls upon one or two people. Fortunately, there is help. The ARRL and other groups offer a number of DVD programs of interest to hams that are just the thing to perk up your club's meetings.

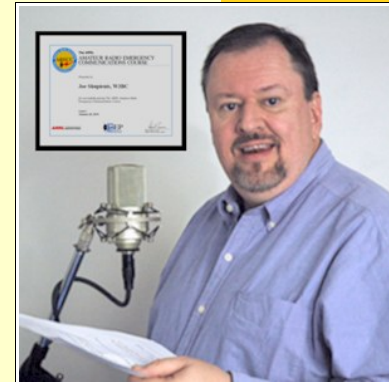
Even better, there are many active hams within the clubs participating in this publication who have stories to tell. Often, you can read about their activities in these pages. It's a special treat if you can go to a meeting and talk to them in person! Even better yet, they can take their show on the road and give their interesting presentations at other clubs' meetings as well.

Ensuring good programs at your club's meetings will go a long way toward better attended meetings. Instead of missing the meeting because "Nothing ever goes on," members will make the effort to attend because "Something *is* going on."

I would suggest that each club appoint a "Program Coordinator" or a "Program Committee" to take on this important task. If you can help, please offer your services. It's a great way to make a big contribution to Amateur Radio in your local community, and help your local club. The goal should be: A quality program at every meeting.

This is a great idea, and I would like to volunteer these pages to help publicize your programs and activities to more than 300 hams in 15 counties. I also offer a challenge: Every ham has a story. Tell us yours!

I'll be seeing you... *On the Air!*



*I offer a challenge to every ham: Tell us your story!*





# The Quad-County Amateur Radio Club

Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson Counties

## Meeting Notices

November 19, 2010

**November Meeting:** 7:30 pm, Friday  
November 19, Clearfield County 911 Center,  
911 Leonard Street, Clearfield.

**November Breakfast:** 9:30 am, Saturday,  
November 13, Sid's Sub Shop, Old Town  
Road, Clearfield

## Minutes: October 2010

by Jeff Rowles, KA3FHV

**T**HE MEETING WAS called to order at 7:33 PM by Doug, W3DWR. There were three guests in attendance: Kim Snyder, Rick Hummel N3IYZ, and Becky Hummel N3IZA.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved after a minor correction. A motion to approve the treasurer's report was approved.

## Old Business

Nominations for officers and board members were open. With no additional nominations made a motion to close nominations was made by KB3LES and seconded by KA3FHV. Since there were no contested positions, the secretary was directed to cast a unanimous ballot. The Christmas Dinner will be at Ethan's Café the 11th of December at 6:00 PM.

## New Business

Joe, W3BC, provided basic information on the

November Sweepstakes. Individual club members' scores can be reported as one QCARC entry. CW operations will be the weekend of the 6th and 7th. SSB will be the weekend of the 27th and 28th. Additional information will be in the November newsletter.

A motion to adjourn was made by KA3FHV and seconded by KB3TAP at 7:48 PM.

## Attendance

KA3FHV, W3BC, KB3TAP, KB3LES, SM7FYW, KA3YCB, Kim Snyder, K3QEQ, W3DWR, K3JE, N3PUQ, N3IYZ and N3IZA.

Coffee and doughnuts followed the meeting as well as several stories of past QCARC happenings: from shortcake on the wall to the building of the .39 site to GAF's car crash in Houtzdale.

## Behind the Gavel

by Doug Rowles, W3DWR

**Q**CARC ELECTIONS took place at the October meeting. We have some new faces in the leadership positions of the club for the new year. Herb Murray, KB3TAP, from Falls Creek will be serving as Vice President. He is a relatively new ham, but he hit the ground running, and already has an extra class license. His station is set up with a tower and beams for UHF, VHF and a tri-band for the rest. A number of diploes completes the setup. The other officers were retained from last year: President - W3DWR, Secretary - KA3FHV, Treasurer - N3PUQ.

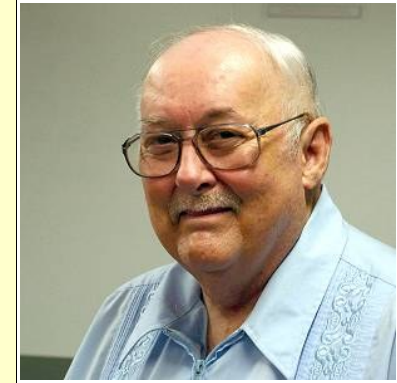
The Board of Directors is made up of Don, KB3LES, Bryan, WA3UFN, Lars, SM7FYW, Joe, W3BC, and Ed, K3JE. Ed is also the trustee for the N3QC repeater on 147.315 with a pl® of 173.8.

The turnout for the "Reunion Meeting" wasn't

as large as hoped for, but what we lacked in quantity was more than made up for in quality. This is something we may want to schedule as a yearly event.

Any member wishing to help with the Sunday night net is welcome to contact me at w3dwr@hotmail.com. You can try it for a week or two, or sign up for a month. It seems I have been doing it since God was a teenager.

Dues for 2011 are payable now. There is a membership form on the QCARC.com website, and there was one included with the newsletter last month. Auto patch is no longer available due to the club's financial situation.



## QCARC Information

<b>President</b>	Doug Rowles, W3DWR <a href="mailto:w3dwr@hotmail.com">w3dwr@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Vice President</b>	Herb Murray, KB3TAP <a href="mailto:kb3tap@hotmail.com">kb3tap@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Jeff Rowles, KA3FHV <a href="mailto:jrowles@earthlink.net">jrowles@earthlink.net</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Dorothy Morrison, N3PUQ <a href="mailto:edmo1@atlanticbb.net">edmo1@atlanticbb.net</a>
<b>Executive Board</b>	Don Jewell, KB3LES Lars Kvant, SM7FYW Ed Morrison, K3JE Joe Shupienis, W3BC Bryan Simanic, WA3UFN
<b>Repeaters</b>	N3QC 147.315+ [173.8] K3EDD 444.625+ [173.8] N3IZE 444.900+ [173.8]C1fd local
<b>Nets</b>	Sunday @ 1900 147.315 (Club)
<b>Web</b>	<a href="http://www.qcarc.com">www.qcarc.com</a>





*Top: The Indiana County ARC Multi-County Breakfast on October 23*

*Left: Visiting with friends, old and new*

*Right: The foxhunting transmitter is explained to a newcomer*

*Below: Scenes from the Quad-County ARC Reunion Meeting*

*On the Cover: Craig KB3LBU demonstrates his DF technique as Marcia KD4ITP, Greg KB3VDD, and Dick, KA3IYT supervise*







# Punxsutawney Area Amateur Radio Club

*Punxsutawney and Jefferson County*

## Meeting Notice

**November 9, 2010**

**November Meeting:** 7 pm, Tuesday, November 9, Presbyterian Church, Findley Street, Punxsutawney.

## Minutes

**September 2010**

The September Meeting of the PAARC on Sept 14, 2010 was called to order by Mike N3HBH

Sham reported \$401.90 in the treasury and with a motion by Delbert and a second by Parker. Motion carried

Steve reported the minutes were available from the July and August meetings.

Breakfast changed to Amish Restaurant on 310

It was reported that the Butler hamfest there

PAARC Information		
<b>President</b>	Mike Miller, N3HBH <a href="mailto:n3hbh@comcast.net">n3hbh@comcast.net</a>	
<b>Vice President</b>	Jim Byrne, KA3WSX <a href="mailto:jimwsx@windstream.net">jimwsx@windstream.net</a>	
<b>Secretary</b>	Steve Waltman, KB3FPN <a href="mailto:kb3fpn@windstream.net">kb3fpn@windstream.net</a>	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Sham Hollopeter, W3QOS	
<b>Repeaters</b>	N5NWC 146.715- [173.8] Punxs'y N5NWC 443.475+ Punxs'y KE3DR 147.390+ [173.8] Rockton N3HAO 53.07- (-1MHz) Rockton N3JGT 147.105+ [173.8] Sigel N3GPM 444.275+ Brookv1	
<b>Nets</b>	Monday @ 1930 147.390 (Club) Monday @ 2000 147.105 (ARES)	
<b>Web</b>	<a href="http://www.qsl.net/k3hwj/">www.qsl.net/k3hwj/</a>	

were 100 or more showed up with only a few vendors

Shack Night September had 5 showed up - seems if we advertise food more show up and the next shack night is Oct 7 -

The next meeting October 14 here - and start thinking about groundhog day special event - we have to know 2 months ahead of the time for QST (December). We should look at frequencies to use as 7240 is busy on Saturday 14240 should be checked also. Possibly next shack night in october

There was no 50/50 tonight - lacking tickets

October 16 there will be a test session. It will be 15 bucks and have a rubber gut - good food available at the DuBois Diner. Contact Joe W3BC for more information or write to ve@parisiticemission.com.

Sham move to adjourn - didn't catch the second. . . .on to donuts and coffee!

Attending the meeting were: KB3ERA, Carole, N3HBH, Mike, K3RCW, Ron, W3HT, Don, KA3WSX, Jim, KB3KTO, Delbert, KB3NMK, Parker, KB3LES, Don, W3QOS, Sham, KB3OUG, John, KB3FPN, Steve, KB3TOY, Tom, KA3YCB, Kevin, W3BC, Joe.



## Philipsburg Amateur Radio Association

*Philipsburg and Clearfield County*

## Meeting Notice

**November 9, 2010**

The November meeting of the Philipsburg Amateur Radio Association will be held on Saturday, November 9 at 3:00 pm at Bock's Dining & Tea Room, 429 North Centre Street, Philipsburg.

## PARA Minutes

**October 2010**

PARA again held it regular monthly meeting at Bock's Tea Room restaurant, Philipsburg, PA at 3pm, 10/9/10 It meets there the second saturday of the month. listed below are highlights of that meeting...

Attendees: Lou-WB3AAI, Mark-K3ITG & Elaine, John-N3SPW, Filip-AB3HK, Jim-N3ONE, Joe-KB3CBN

VE Testing session report given by Joe,KB3CBN. Next ARRL VE test session is scheduled for after the next Month's PARA meeting in Bock's Tea Room restaurant 11/13/10. all interested candidates are encouraged to contact Joe for registration.

A license "upgrade" class was suggested by Joe as a side issue which would give existing techs a chance for "General" upgrade. Upgrade class material will be coordinated by Joe. Contact him if interested. Anybody interested in helping Joe with teaching the class should contact him so he can get the required materials from ARRL. The upgrade class proposed to be held in Jan or Feb of

PARA Information		
<b>President</b>	John Szwarc, N3SPW <a href="mailto:jsszwarc@yahoo.com">jsszwarc@yahoo.com</a>	
<b>Vice President</b>	Dave Runk, AA3EJ <a href="mailto:aa3ej@yahoo.com">aa3ej@yahoo.com</a>	
<b>Secretary</b>	Dave Runk, AA3EJ <a href="mailto:aa3ej@yahoo.com">aa3ej@yahoo.com</a>	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jim Warg, N3ONE	
<b>Liaison</b>	Filip Cerny AB3HK, ARRL Liaison Dick Thompson, K3BIE Interclub Liaison	
<b>Repeaters</b>	W3PHB 146.430+ [173.8] Rtlsnk Mt W3PHB 146.640- [173.8] Philipsbg W3PHB C 147.255+ [DSTAR] Under Const W3PHB 444.750+ [173.8] Philipsbg	
<b>Nets</b>	Saturday @ 2100 147.430+ [173.8]	
<b>Web</b>	<a href="http://www.philipsburg-ara.org">www.philipsburg-ara.org</a>	

next year, possibly in the new "Holt memorial public library" conference room. details will be forthcoming...

Treasury report given by Jim-N3ONE with \$363.99 in the acct at present

Christmas Banquet plans and report given by John-N3SPW with this year's location being the same as last year, in the Philipsburg Bowladrome private dining room. Dec 18, 2010, 6pm, drinks, 7pm dinner served. A catered buffet style dinner is planned with drinks in the bar before. Details to be sent out by John-N3SPW..

"Ham of the year" award will be given out at the Banquet, All ballots will be forwarded to Jim-N3ONE, for tallying. Info will be sent out via "snail-mail-email" by John-N3SPW

Repeater reports given by Fiip-AB3HK with all repeaters operating great. The .64 has had the PL tone on to limit the noise from opening the squelch. It has been operating flawlessly as monitored by Dave-AA3EJ during the day.

The APRS repeater has been installed at the .75 site and has been operating great.

The echo link on .43 repeater has been dropping out after being connected, tech problem is being investigated by the repeater group.

A new D-Star repeater is being configured by John-N3SPW with several sites under consideration. The freq will be 147.255 +. The duplexer is being tuned by Scott, our repeater builder vendor and will be available in the near future for use. Other tx/Rx gear is being coordinated by the repeater group. More details will be forthcoming when available by John-N3SPW...

SET (Simulated Emergency Test) is being coordinated by Paul-w3PRL and he has all the details. He is looking for volunteers to help

make this event a success. See Paul for details

reminder: Each Saturday eve on the 146.43 repeater at 9:00pm local, is the weekly net for check-in and general comments and PARA net news. Don't forget to check into this community PARA net

PARA hats (\$10.00) are still available from the treasurer. See Jim-N3ONE if interested..

PARA January meeting will be "Election" of officers. Please plan to attend as the PARA can only be successful if there is enough interest.

GOODBYE LOU - Our RESIDENT SNO-BIRD is Lou-WB3AAI and his XYL are packing up and will be shortly returning to their home in Florida!, for 6 months! YOU can contact him on HF CW on 80m, 40m, or 30m CW (the real mode of choice - for "real" hams!!) ...73's Lou, we'll be in touch as usual -aa3ej



## Headwaters Amateur Radio Club

*Coudersport and Potter County*

### Meeting Notice

**November 4, 2010**

November Meeting: 7 pm, Thursday, November 4 at the Charles Cole Memorial Hospital, Coudersport. Park in Section A and enter Door A, then the first room on the right.

### Local Net Schedules

*by Joe Shupienis, W3BC*

QCARC	1900	Sunday	147.315	T	173.8
ECARA	2000	Sunday	147.000	T	173.8
PAARC	1930	Monday	147.390	T	173.8
Jeff Co ARES	2000	Monday	147.105	T	173.8
Clfd Co ARES	2100	Wednesday	147.315	T	173.8
PARA	2100	Saturday	146.430	T	173.8
Headwaters ARC	1900	Monday	146.685	T	173.8

### Headwaters ARC Information

<b>President</b>	<a href="#">Jason Layton, K2BYL</a>				
<b>Vice President</b>	<a href="#">James Centanni, W2IMK</a>				
<b>Secretary</b>	<a href="#">Charles Scott Sharpe, KB3JVD</a>				
<b>Treasurer</b>	<a href="#">Wayne Stahler, II, WS3PC</a>				
<b>Repeaters</b>	N3PC	146.685-	[173.8]	Coudersport	
	K3CC	146.880-	[173.8]	Coudersport	
	KB3EAR	444.300+		Coudersport	
<b>Nets</b>	Monday @ 1900	146.685-	[173.8]		
	Monday @ 1930	28.360	[USB]		
	Monday @ 1945	1.980	[USB]		
<b>Web</b>	<a href="http://www.n3pc.com">www.n3pc.com</a>				



## Elk County Amateur Radio Association

*Elk and Cameron Counties*

### Meeting Notice

**November 21, 2010**

November Meeting: 1:30 pm, Sunday, November 21 at the Elk County EOC, US 219 South of Ridgway.

### Elk County ARA Information

<b>President</b>	<a href="#">Scott Logue, N3LVG</a>				
<b>Vice President</b>	<a href="#">Rick Wehler, N3RJH</a>				
<b>Secretary</b>	<a href="#">Jerry Robinson, N3RYG</a>				
<b>Treasurer</b>	<a href="#">Mary Lewis, N3UDN</a>				
<b>ARES EC</b>	<a href="#">Bob Devilling, N3SGY</a>				
<b>Repeaters</b>	N3NIA	147.000+	[173.8]	Bootjack	
	N3NWL	147.285+		Ridgway	
	N3RZL	442.200+		Ridgway	
	N3RZL	442.350+		Boone Mtn	
	WA8RZR	443.675+		St Marys	
	N3FYD	146.805-		Emporium	
	WA3WPS	147.180+		Emporium	
<b>Nets</b>	Sunday @ 2000	147.000+	[173.8]		
<b>Web</b>	<a href="http://www.n3nia.com">www.n3nia.com</a>				



# Shorts

**I**F YOU ARE planning to take part in the **ARRL November Sweepstakes**, there's a way to multiply your competitive advantage. I'm suggesting that you and other members of your club indicate your club affiliation when you send in your logs.

You must be a member in good standing of your club, which must be an ARRL Affiliated Club, and have sent in its annual report to the League within the past 24 months. Additionally, a club officer must send in a list of those members who participated in the contest.

Let's see which of our local clubs gains the highest "Club Aggregate" score for CW, SSB and overall.

## Amateur Radio GPS Mystery Tour

**E**VERY MONTH, we present a set of GPS coordinates that are somehow related to amateur radio. Last month's coordinates were 41° 11' 08" N, 78° 08' 40" W. This was the location of the Piper Aircraft facility in the Quehanna Wilderness. During WW II, research on jet and rocket engines was carried out here. Do any of our readers have photos or stories we could publish in these pages?

This month, we will visit a location which really gets excellent satellite reception. It's worth a visit, and if you bring a copy of your amateur radio license, you may receive a tour with a licensed ham as a guide, if their scheduling permits.

**November ARGMT Coordinates:**  
**38° 25' 58" N, 79° 50' 22" W**

Just remember to leave your radios, cell phones and digital cameras turned off and in your car. Film cameras are OK.

# My PA QSO Party Experience

By Bryan Simanic, WA3UFN

**T**HIS YEAR'S PA QSO Party has come and gone. I gained a new and interesting perspective on the contest because I was running a different radio. I had the pleasure of viewing a band scope on the radio that provided a nice visual of the signals across the band. This year's contest using the band scope caused me to have a mental picture of a horse race. I could envision stations lined up like the horses in the starting gate and when the clock struck the opening time, the gates opened and they were off, as was indicated on the band scope by all of the peaks displayed across the band. The scope filled up rather quickly with stations squeezing in, virtually atop one another, attempting to gain contacts with as many counties in PA as they could.

I operated about 20.5 hours out of the possible 22 hours allotted for the contest. It was rather surprising how quickly I became totally engrossed in the contest. I could hardly pry myself away to grab a bite to eat! If you haven't participated in a contest of this nature it may be difficult to understand how and why someone could become so involved in operating. I suppose it is just the competitive nature that tends to come into play once things kick into gear.

Last year I achieved first place for single operator in Clearfield County so my primary goal this year was to top last year's score with a secondary goal of doubling it! I easily topped last year's score and almost doubled it. I guess I have my goals already in place for next year; With the goal of doubling this year's score, it's getting to be a tall order, but we'll see.

One of the highlights of operating in this contest, that purports to be the "Friendly

Contest", is the chance that you may contact a friend that you have not talked to or seen for a few years. This year that proved to be true for me as I contacted two hams that I haven't talked to or saw for a number of years! The "friendly" part of the contest is that you can actually take the time from the competition to have a brief chat and the other operators, who might want a contact point from either or both of the stations, just take it in stride as that is what one of the aspects of the contest is about.

Another issue that you can hear while tuning around is someone advising another that they are a "dupe", in other words they already contacted each other. There a number of operators that may actually take the time to help you find the error in your log and get it corrected. I came across this issue where I considered the other station a "dupe" and we were able to go back in his log and find the errors. The errors were a dropped letter from the call sign and the wrong county entered. That made it rather nice in that the other station would not loose points for an incorrect logging entry. This really demonstrates the "friendly" aspect of the contest.

So if you are inclined to take a step into the contesting facet of ham radio, consider the "PA QSO Party, the Friendly Contest." I am sure you will enjoy it while gaining valuable operating skills that will be of use in other contests as well as emergency services communications.



*I envisioned stations lined up like race horses in the starting gates*

# A Lightweight, Portable Yagi

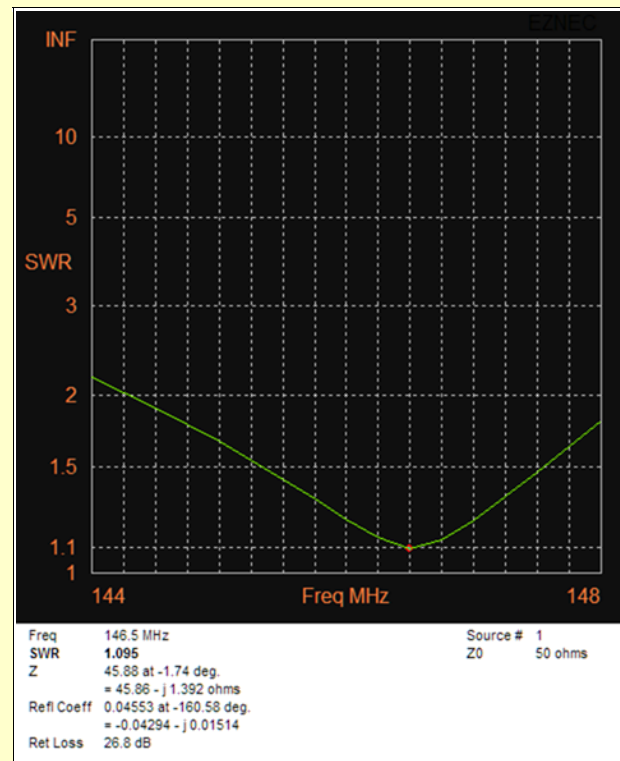
by Joe Shupienis

**A** COUPLE YEARS ago, I went through a PVC pipe “phase” and homebrewed several antennas using the “adult Tinkertoy®” style of design. Most of them worked pretty well, but a few proved to be too heavy or cumbersome and suffered embarrassing mechanical failures.

One of the antennas that worked surprisingly well was a three element, 2-meter yagi constructed of ½ inch “Class 200” PVC pipe and a Dollar Store ¾ inch, 12 foot steel tape measure. I designed it for rover use, so it needed to develop a good pattern and gain at a low height of 10-15 feet above ground.

My design uses an unusual feed system: the driven element is a “half-folded dipole.” The 150 ohm feedpoint impedance is lowered significantly by close-spacing the elements, so

the dimensions may appear to be somewhat unusual compared to more conventional, gamma-matched designs. Nevertheless, the compromises caused by the unique design only cost about ½ dB of gain compared to a conventional yagi at the same height above ground.



Perfect for foxhunting, this ultra-portable antenna really “measures up!” With an SWR of less than 2:1 across the entire band, and 1.1:1 at 146.52 MHz, the measured gain is over 6 dBi in the forward lobe, and exhibits a 20 dB front to back ratio. Its low price, light weight, simple construction and easy portability combine to seal the deal.

## Let's start building



First, use the tape measure to mark a two-foot, ½”, Class 200 (thinwall) PVC pipe at 6 and at 12 inches. Cut the pipe into two 6 inch pieces and one 12 inch piece. Assemble these into three 4-way ½” cross couplers, with a 6” piece at one end, then a cross, then another 6” piece, another cross, the 12 “ piece and finally another cross. You can glue them with PVC cement if you want—just be sure everything is straight and parallel.



Remove all the tape from the tape measure, and discard the case and spring. Stretch the tape out and with a magic marker, make a mark at the 2 inch line. Make another mark at 60 inches (or 5 feet.) There's no excuse for measuring wrong here!

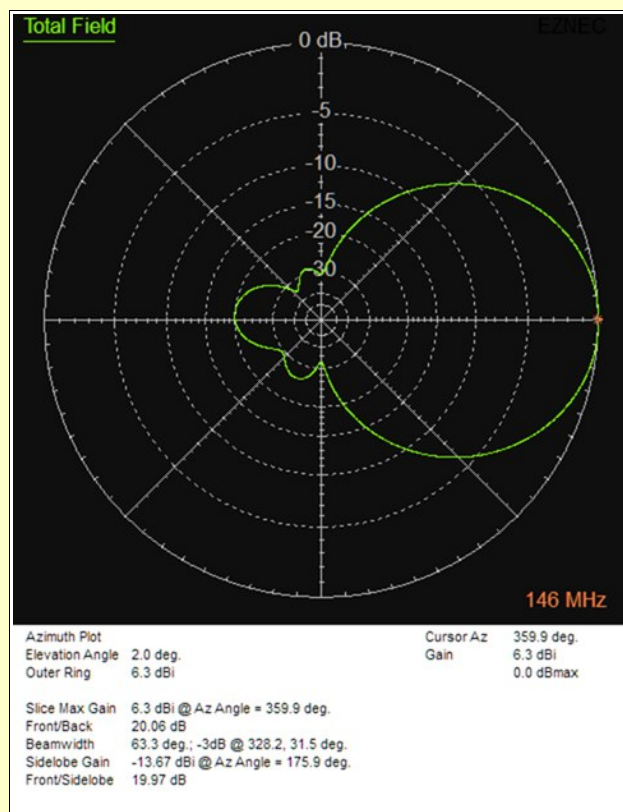
Using your XYL's best sewing scissors... Well maybe using an old pair of scissors, cut the tape at the 2 inch and 60 inch marks and set this piece of tape aside. Now make a mark at 101 inches (8 feet, 5 inches.) Cut along this line as well. Finally, mark and cut at the 136 inch (11 feet, 4 inch) point. For safety's sake, round off all the sharp corners at each end.

For easy centering, make a mark on the back of each element as follows:

- Reflector: 80 ½ “
- Driven Element: 41”
- Director: 119”

Using a utility knife or coarse sandpaper, remove enough paint from the back of the driven element at the 2” end and at the 41” mark to allow you to solder the coax to it. Use a large iron or a soldering gun to attach the center conductor to the 2” end and the braided shield to the 41” position.

Slide the PVC boom through the “hairpin” and line up the soldered points with the center of



*Perfect for  
foxhunting,  
this ultra-  
portable  
antenna really  
“measures up!”*



the middle cross-piece. Secure the tape on each side of the crosspiece with nylon wire-ties or thick rubber bands. Some designers use small, stainless steel hose clamps for this purpose. Use whatever you have on hand—there isn't a lot of weight to support.

Attach the reflector on the cross-piece closest to the driven element, and the director on the other cross-piece in a similar fashion.

For even more safety to innocent bystanders when you are excitedly closing in on the transmitter, cover the sharp ends of the elements with soft plastic tab covers or several layers of electrical tape. Safety Orange is the preferred color, but any protection is better than none.

### Putting it to work

Connect the free end of the coax to your handheld, dial up a local repeater, and watch the S-meter as you point the antenna in different directions. You should see an increase in signal strength when pointed in the direction of the repeater, and a sizable drop of at least 3 S-units when pointed away from it.

You can enhance this further, by adding another 6-inch “handle” connected to the boom with a 45° ½” PVC elbow. This gives a more comfortable grip, especially if you slide a foam or molded bicycle handlebar grip onto it. (Pink streamers are optional...)

### Parts List

10' 1/2" Class 200 PVC pipe	1.67
3 ea, 1/2" PVC cross (@ .88)	2.64
12' 3/4" steel tape measure	2.99
6' RG-58 coax assy' w/ BNC	7.49
Duct Tape as “needed”	

## Foxhunting in Indiana County

by Dave Dzelsky N3DZ

Members of the Indiana County Amateur Radio Club held a hidden transmitter foxhunt in September. On the front cover, you can see Craig's "operating position" through the moonroof as I drove.

We got lots of strange looks and quite a few questions when we stopped on the side of the roads. When scheduled, no one picked up on the fact that that the Fox Hunt date was 9-11-10.

We were asked if we were with Homeland Security and one person thought we were tracking black bears! *Note-to-self: next time have handouts explaining what we are doing.*

Ten hams from the Indiana County Amateur Radio Club (I.C.A.R.C.) participated that Saturday afternoon.

The first to find the Fox, taking less than an hour and a half, was Greg Kerr N3PHF who used just the mobile whip on his truck to do it. He will get to hide the fox next time.

For some of us, it was the first attempt at Foxhunting and boy did we have fun and great stories to relate afterward. I'd recommend this as an activity for all clubs to undertake.



The W3BMD 2-Meter Foxhunting Transmitter Package

## Legal Notices

*The Parasitic Emission* (ISSN: 2156-0080) is published monthly by **Joe Shupienis, 110 Rosemont Drive, Moon Township, PA 15108**

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Joe Shupienis, W3BC

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[www.parasiticemission.com](http://www.parasiticemission.com)

which also makes available selected back issues, current issues and more.

— . . . —

The current, online, interactive version of the calendar, which contains regional club activities and events in upcoming months may be accessed at

[calendar.parasiticemission.com](http://calendar.parasiticemission.com).

You may use that calendar to enter amateur radio events of interest to local amateurs which are intended for publication, subject to review and approval.

*Boy! Did we have fun and great stories to relate afterward...*

## November 2010 Amateur Radio Club Activities

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>31</b> <b>12:00am» CQWW SSB (cont.)</b> <b>7:00pm» QCARC 2-meter FM Net</b> <b>8:00pm» Elk Co ARA Net</b>	<b>01</b> <b>7:00pm» HARC Nets</b> <b>7:30pm» Punxsutawney ARC 2 Meter Net</b> <b>8:00pm» Jefferson County A.R.E.S. Net</b>	<b>02</b> <b>Election Day</b>	<b>03</b> <b>9:00pm» Clearfield County A.R.E.S. Net</b>	<b>04</b> <b>7:00pm» Headwaters ARC Meeting</b>	<b>05</b>	<b>06</b> <b>5:00pm» ARRL Sweepstakes (CW)</b> <b>9:00pm» Phillipsburg ARA Net</b>
<b>07</b> <b>12:00am» ARRL Sweepstakes (CW) (cont.)</b> <b>2:00am» Set clocks back 1 hour</b> <b>7:00pm» QCARC 2-meter FM Net</b> <b>8:00pm» Elk Co ARA Net</b>	<b>08</b> <b>7:00pm» HARC Nets</b> <b>7:30pm» Punxsutawney ARC 2 Meter Net</b> <b>8:00pm» Jefferson County A.R.E.S. Net</b>	<b>09</b> <b>7:00pm» Punxsutawney Area ARC Meeting</b>	<b>10</b> <b>9:00pm» Clearfield County A.R.E.S. Net</b>	<b>11</b> <b>Veterans' Day</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> <b>9:30am» QCARC Breakfast</b> <b>3:00pm» PARA Meeting</b> <b>9:00pm» Phillipsburg ARA Net</b>
<b>14</b> <b>7:00pm» QCARC 2-meter FM Net</b> <b>8:00pm» Elk Co ARA Net</b>	<b>15</b> <b>7:00pm» HARC Nets</b> <b>7:30pm» Punxsutawney ARC 2 Meter Net</b> <b>8:00pm» Jefferson County A.R.E.S. Net</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <b>9:00pm» Clearfield County A.R.E.S. Net</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <b>7:30pm» QCARC Meeting</b>	<b>20</b> <b>4:00pm» ARRL Sweepstakes (Phone)</b> <b>9:00pm» Phillipsburg ARA Net</b>
<b>21</b> <b>12:00am» ARRL Sweepstakes (Phone) (cont.)</b> <b>1:30pm» Elk County ARA Meeting</b> <b>7:00pm» QCARC 2-meter FM Net</b> <b>8:00pm» Elk Co ARA Net</b>	<b>22</b> <b>Parasitic Emission Submission Deadline</b> <b>7:00pm» HARC Nets</b> <b>7:30pm» Punxsutawney ARC 2 Meter Net</b> <b>8:00pm» Jefferson County A.R.E.S. Net</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>9:00pm» Clearfield County A.R.E.S. Net</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> <b>7:00pm» CQWW CW</b>	<b>27</b> <b>12:00am» CQWW CW (cont.)</b> <b>9:00pm» Phillipsburg ARA Net</b>
<b>28</b> <b>12:00am» CQWW CW (cont.)</b> <b>7:00pm» QCARC 2-meter FM Net</b> <b>8:00pm» Elk Co ARA Net</b>	<b>29</b> <b>7:00pm» HARC Nets</b> <b>7:30pm» Punxsutawney ARC 2 Meter Net</b> <b>8:00pm» Jefferson County A.R.E.S. Net</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>01</b> <b>9:00pm» Clearfield County A.R.E.S. Net</b>	<b>02</b> <b>7:00pm» Headwaters ARC Meeting</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>04</b> <b>9:00pm» Phillipsburg ARA Net</b>