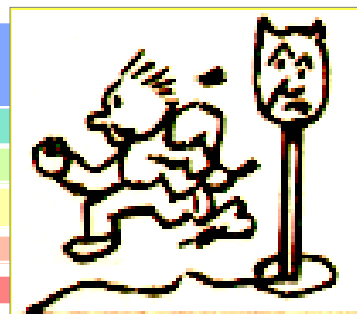




# Mike Shy

Official Publication of  
Society Radio Operators



Volume 70 Number 1

January - February 2010

## Upcoming Events

CFMC Regular Meeting  
Feb 17th at the Edgebrook  
Field House.  
Robert Goolsby K5NAK will  
present a program right after  
the business meeting.  
Robert's topic of discussion  
will be - Python Prop  
working in conjunction with  
"Vocap" and along with  
different antenna  
configurations.

Sterling-Rock Falls Hamfest  
March 7th at the Challand  
Middle School in Sterling IL.  
See web site for more info.

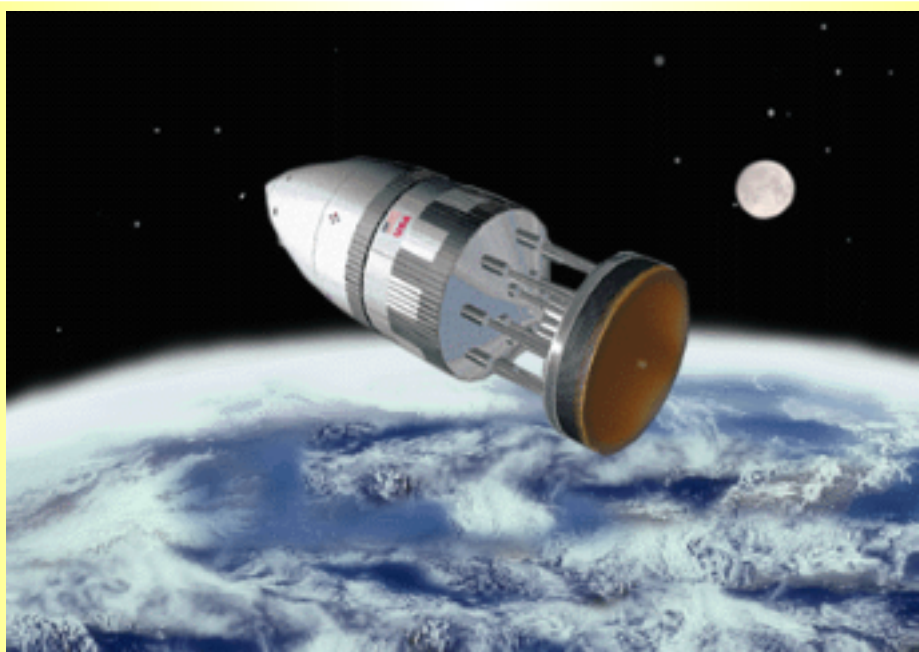
Remember  
the ones  
you love  
Feb 14th



IF YOU MOVE LET  
THE EDITOR  
KNOW YOUR NEW  
MAILING & EMAIL  
ADDRESS - IT IS  
YOUR WAY OF  
KEEPING MIKE  
SHY IN YOUR  
MAILBOX EACH  
MONTH

# Project Orion

Edgebrook Field House  
6100 N Central Ave - Chicago  
Feb 10th 8 PM



Orion is one of the great "what ifs" of the twentieth century. Today, nuclear powered spacecraft seem like more than laughable naive 1950's science fiction, but it might have been otherwise...and still could be. Orion was a project aimed at discovering the feasibility of spaceships driven by nuclear bombs.

The initial plan called for manned missions to Mars by 1965 and Saturn by 1970. After seven years of work, the project's technical challenges seemed surmountable, but political obstacles brought the effort to a halt.



# Meeting Minutes

by Jim AA9DT

Mike Shy

SRO Holiday Party - Dec 9 at the Edgebrook Field House



## SRO Notes for December 9 2009: By and by as the Snow Flies

By Jim Hawes, AA9DT

**DECEMBER MEETING.** This is the one meeting of the year when I don't have to worry about losing my notes. After all, tonight's meeting is a dinner. The program is sitting across from you. Introduce yourself: Hey there. How do you do? I'm your program for tonight! Etc. There are no notes, unless I scrawled something on the tablecloth. And that's exactly why I avoid Mike WA9FTS Brost's top-secret (nudge, nudge, wink, wink) punch. Although I'm usually incoherent when sober, I might accidentally compose something cogent. How embarrassing!

**ON OUR MENU TONIGHT** are rare delicacies that only the SRO kitchen could provide, and only for this special occasion: Seasonal pine cones, smothered in red ketchup and garnished with green sprigs of holly. Festive tossed mistletoe salad. Our classic draft Dreidel beer. (Spin it and it foams!) And a sprig of fake fir, complete with shiny ornaments, for each of our guests.

**FLASH FORWARD ONE MONTH.** We're huddling by the furnace, trying to ward off 13 degrees of "global warming." Outside, we've just had two days of very flaky snow. I spent a half hour blowing it off the driveway and

sidewalk. I use the "loft" setting on the 82,000-horse diesel wind turbine that Jean bought me. The twin Pratt and Whitney, aircraft-grade motors do the job. Tonight, I had to tighten down the spoiler and trim the canards. The whole rig almost took off for Morton Grove. This time the equipment cooperated, though. Now all the neighbors' roofs have a foot more of white on them. Hey, it's insulation. Besides, Santa needs to set his sleigh down on snow. And shingles are bad for reindeer hooves. Every time the snow flies, I gladly perform this humble public service.

**WATCH THAT FLAKE.** Hmm. Did I mention global warming? Maybe some of our snow is really dry ice flakes, because those come from CO<sub>2</sub>. That's not such a weird idea. Mars has layers of CO<sub>2</sub> snow, right on top of its water-base snow. I just read that on the NASA Web site. But actually no, my snow couldn't be CO<sub>2</sub>, because then my taxes would go up. Just in case, I'm wearing my knitted cap. (...and trade. Get it?)

**INHALING.** I wanted to clean off the apron behind my garage. But the blower's tire just went flat and then my hands froze. After applying the hands to the garage space heater, I can finally feel the insides of my gloves. This is the space heater with the broken heat exchanger. Jean and I have a family policy on the space heater: We won't inhale around the heater until we can earn enough to buy a new one.

**EXHALING.** Actually, we try not to exhale either. Exhaling means that we have the whole carbon dioxide thing to contend with again. Exhale too much carbon dioxide in the winter, and CO<sub>2</sub> snow could fall on you. Should that happen, then your friendly government can't help but notice the evidence. And there you go, Citizen Kraputkin: Congratulations on the new tax bracket that you'll willingly document in another schedule of your rapidly growing 1040

form!

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS. Tonight, the club made history. We actually signed up three new members! In this day of declining ham radio memberships, we celebrate a record month. Guys, thanks for humoring us and joining up. Now that Treasurer Mike Brost WA9FTS has collected your dues, I can reveal the SRO secret: We don't really have a party like this every month. Despite that fact, I warmly welcome Pete Pfister N9VKY, Marc Jens AB9OP and Tin Odrowski KC9CMO. May you live long! May you prosper! May you run for office and relieve those of us who are otherwise serving lifelong terms!

NEXT TIME, I'm bringing a show about the Orion Program, a space project from 1958. Although this project has the same name as NASA's new spacecraft, there's no connection. The original Orion Program would have allowed a rocket the size of a 12-story building to tour the solar system. The nuclear-powered craft would have included its own farm.

# Birthdays



For the months of Jan-Feb

N9GF	August Fiebig Jr	Jan 22nd
WD9GIX	Wally Panzer	Feb 2nd
W9JUV	Joe Schroeder	Jan 13th
W9RA	Don Moriarty	Feb 15th
N9TAJ	Orville Wattles	Jan 4th

Happy Birthday  
SRO - 70 on  
March 11th



## Treasurer's Report

by Mike WA9FTS

Balance as of 1/1/10	\$1775.44
Income	\$705.00
Membership Dues	\$440.00
CFAR Contributions	\$265.00
Expenses	\$10.00
Annual Report	\$10.00
Total Income/Expenses	\$695.00
Balance as of 2/2/10	\$2470.44

## Meeting Attendance

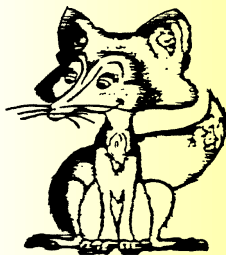


Dec 9th  
at the Edgebrook Field House  
Christmas / Hannukah Party

WA9EVF Mike, KA9ZWZ Cathy & WA9KLF Cal Leibovitz  
KB9FXL Jean Pressel & AA9DT Jim Hawes  
WA9FTS Mike Brost & Carol Sparacio  
K9JQ Jim and Mary Lou Quinn  
K9VO Steve & N9CBE Lynne Bosnyak  
N9VKY Pete & Phillip Pfister  
W9BEA Wally Klinger  
N9LXF Paul Tuttle  
KA9TRG Ken Havlick  
KB9SAR Bob & KC9CMO Tina Odrowski  
AB9OP Marc Jens  
Noreen Lorentz  
Jim Barnard

# Foxhunt Report

CFAR 2M Foxhunt  
Dec 5, 2009  
by Tony AA9CC



If you were standing in this spot Saturday night, before being struck by traffic, you would see a 30 foot antenna mast strapped to the bikeway fence just a few feet this side of the box. The Route 83 bridge connects the blacktopped Centennial Trail and I&M Canal Trails, which run from Willow Springs to Romeoville. South of 135st street the trail becomes crushed limestone and continues to La Salle-Peru, Illinois. From there a 15 mile ride to Bureau Junction and the start of the 105 mile long Hennepin canal trail which ends at the the Mississippi river. When ever I rode across this bridge I would contrive possible ways of making it a hiding spot. Yesterday, it was so cold and windy on the bridge that we decided to park underneath and run the coax 70 feet down to the car. I didn't seem so ominous in the daylight, being familiar to the area.

The CFAR repeater was down for antenna upgrades, so the hunt was held on 147.750 simplex. All hunters had a due south reading after hearing the fox test transmissions on the input frequency. There was some confusion because Mike had called earlier and wanted the hunt on the output. New technology (cell phones) really makes coordination easier than the old days of trying to make contact CFMC if the master is not heard. I tuned the radio to 137.050, the LO frequency of the Vh sniffers, which are now standard issue, and listened between transmissions. To us the spot seemed straight forward, the antenna can be seen hundreds of feet away, a right at the stop light south of the main trestle and follow the service road, that looks like an entrance to a junk yard, around and under the bridge. Well the junk yard decoy kept any hunter from driving down and they all ended up parking north in a pull off access for the bike trial, on the opposite side of the Sanitary and Ship Canal. We heard some heterodyne & then a while later, a full scale

signal. Joanie spotted a flashlight above and felt a jiggle on the coax. Our first snag. It was Tom, who later said it was instinct to go back to the woods across the bridge after checking the antenna & search underneath the bridge for a dug in fox den, was on his way back. The bike connector trail loops around underneath to the east side of 83 and ends at a tee junction with the I&M. With the canal water directly ahead it wasn't obvious that it lead to the fox, so Charlie, who followed Tom by a half hour, returned to east side, jumped the fence and slid down to the service road. The two other hunters, Don & Mike with Paul eventually found their way to us, each separated by a half hour or so. Me, Joanie, Tom, Mike and Paul all squeezed into the Saturn for a ride back across. We dismantled the setup & met at the new Portillos near Route 83 and 75th street. There is now a three way tie again for Fox Hunter of the Year 2009 with 3 hunts left and one hide each for the contestants.

Results: December 5 2009

- 1 Tom N9CBA
  - 2 Charlie KB9DIM and Lex N9VRA
  - 3 Don W9RA
  - 4 Mike WA9FTS with Paul N9LXF
- Fox: Tony AA9CC with Joanie KC9QQY

CFAR 2M Foxhunt  
Jan 2nd, 2010  
by Tom N9CBA

The foxes, Tom N9CBA, John WD9EXW and Janet, hid in the car at n41 degrees 52.065' W88 degrees 7.263'. That is in Wheaton. The temperature was in the mid single digits F.

There was some bridge construction in the area, which complicated some routes. Two of the four teams scored on foot across the railroad tracks. Charlie scored in a very fast time, while the other teams were on the other side of tracks and under-construction bridges for a while.

We munched at the nearby Geno's East in the old firehouse in downtown Wheaton.

1. Charlie KB9DIM and Alexis N9VRA 8:31
2. Tony AA9CC 8:40
3. Mike WA9FTS and Paul N9LSX 8:42 (on foot)
4. Don W9RA (on foot)

**SRO Officers**

President  
Mike Leibovitz - WA9EVF  
Vice President  
Jean Pressel - KB9FXL  
Secretary  
Jim Hawes - AA9DT  
Treasurer  
Mike Brost - WA9FTS

**SRO Directors**

Jim Quinn - K9JQ  
Don Moriarty - W9RA  
Jon Tammen - K9IQF

**Mike Shy Staff**

Editor/Circ. Mgr.  
Mike Brost - WA9FTS  
E-Mail:  
mikeb2006@comcast.net  
708.457.0966 Voice

**Regular Meeting Place**

Edgebrook Field House second  
Wednesday at 8 PM **unless other-  
wise indicated in Mike Shy.**

**Standing Committees**

Membership - K9JQ  
Program - Open  
Meeting Refresh. - AA9DT  
Foxhunting - WA9FTS  
Repeater - K9IQF  
Field Day - Open  
Education - WA9EVF  
Mike Shy - WA9FTS  
Picnic - WA9FTS  
Dinner/Play - Open for 2008  
Christmas / Hanukkah Party -  
WA9EVF

**SRO Web Site**

www.w9sro.org  
Mike Brost - WA9FTS

**SRO Repeaters**

	In	Out
CFAR (107.2) PL	147.75	147.15
TOOFAR	223.26	224.86

**Repeater Personnel**

Trustee - K9JQ  
CFAR Chairman - K9IQF  
CFAR Treasurer - WA9FTS  
Site Maintenance  
K9IQF, W9RA & W9BEA  
Control Operators  
K9IQF, TBD  
NW Maintenance  
WA9FPT  
Northeast Maintenance  
K9IQF & TBD  
Lisle Maintenance  
WA9AEK

W9EJ Exp Date      May 2018

**Mike Shy is published 6 times a year by the Society Radio Operators.  
Deadline is 2 weeks before the meeting.  
Contributions are welcome & should be sent to the Editor.**

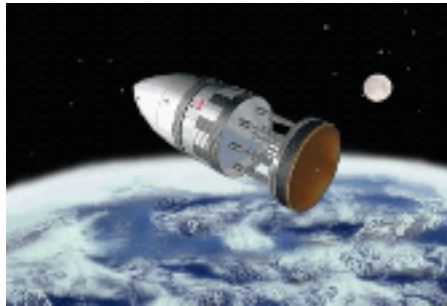
# Mike Shy

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5127 N. Monterey Dr.  
Norridge IL 60706-3245



First Class Mail

# Project Orion



1st  
Class  
Stamp

February 10th  
Edgebrook Field House

