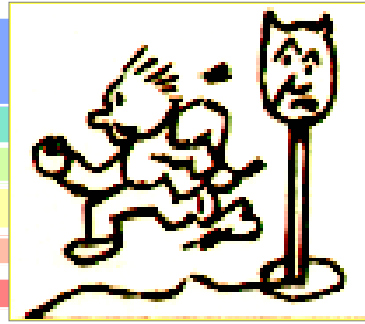




# Mike Shy

Official Publication of  
Society Radio Operators



Volume 69 Number 2-5

February-May 2009



Memorial Day  
May 25th

## Spring Auction Edgebrook Field House

6100 N Central Ave - Chicago  
May 13th 7:30 PM

### Upcoming Events

CFMC Spring Auction  
May 20th at the Edgebrook  
Field House. Time - 7:30  
PM with a short business  
meeting and then the  
auction. Rules are the same  
as the SRO auction. Bring  
something and bring a  
friend.

#### Upcoming Hamfests

June 7 Starved Rock Radio Club  
Bureau Co Fairgrounds  
Princeton IL

June 21 Six Meter Club  
DuPage Co Fairgrounds  
Wheaton IL

July 12th Fox River Radio  
League - Aurora Central Catholic  
HS Aurora IL

July 19th KARFEST Kanakee  
Area Radio Society - Will Co  
Fairgrounds - Peotone IL

Detailed info on above hamfest  
can be found on the SRO web  
site several weeks before event.

**Here is a chance to experience an exciting SRO Spring Auction. The business meeting starting at 7:30 PM will be very short and the auction will commence right away. Bring stuff that you have not used - someone probably will want it all for their very own. There should be a lot of good stuff to bid on and bargains to boot! Bring a friend and talk it up on the air. As in the past, the SRO cut of the action is 10% up to a maximum of \$5.00. I hope see many of you there.**





# Meeting Minutes

by Jim AA9DT

## Mike Shy



### SRO Holiday Party Dec 10th at the Edgebrook Field House

#### SRO Notes, Dinner, and What the Punch Didn't Say on December 10, 2008

By Jim Hawes, AA9DT

**DECEMBER MEETING.** The sun has set and so has our table. Load up a plate, dine with buddies or family, and mug for the candid camera. Ah, the ham radio life is good.

**LOOK OUT!** Here comes Mike Brost WA9FTS. He's clutching the dues envelope! Word of caution: Be sure to turn in your payment before you drink Mike's secret punch. Mike doesn't return checks with extra zeros at the end. Awhile back, one former member financed all SRO operations for the year. We board honchos even enjoyed a nice retreat. And you wondered how we could afford to remodel the Edgebrook Field House? Electric blinds, indeed. Next year, Mike plans to add another wing. (And I don't mean the kind that grows on a Brown's Chicken.) In the bottom of the dues envelope, Mike has a set of blueprints.

**BIG PLANS FOR 2009.** But why stop with a wing? We have loftier plans for your dues. As you know, our party promises change! Give us a fiver, and we'll give you change. Sometime. Or how about next time? Or when we think of it. Whatever. Because we have big plans for 2009. Our past, present and future president Mike Leibovitz WA9EVF is endowing his presidential library. On second thought, never mind what I said about the punch. Have all you want. By the way, is that a checkbook in your pocket? Have we given you an SRO club pen? Funny thing about these pens: They only write on safety paper. Here, I'll give you a hand. Let's try one out...

**OFFICER SLATE.** Speaking of party politics, long-time SRO member Rod Blagojevich W9FIX can't make it tonight. He has a late meeting with his lawyer. The alleged idea of allegedly selling offices might be very

lucrative. Allegedly. Our own board has discussed such possibilities. Unfortunately, we can't sell the SRO board officers' positions. For love or money. Or a gallon of Mike's punch. Ah, but we have the SRO treasury. Could we pay some of you members to be officers? Would you accept an IOU? Could Mike email you a check? You say that you're on a cash-only basis, and you don't like the kind that tinkles? Okay, fine. We have a printing press, and we know how to use it. Get yours before hyperinflation sets in.

**NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS.** Got your DTV box? The deadline is midnight, February 17, not too far off. (February comment: The new date, June 12, still isn't very distant. If you must change the roof antenna, please wait until after the April showers.) The day after the change, sets without a box will get snow. Period. Most of us are ready. Now for the next federal boondoggle: Send in now for your \$4,000 Gas Guzzler Converter coupons. Don't forget: That old gas-guzzler becomes obsolete on February 17, 2010.

**EXEMPTION.** Those with electric cars, hybrids or horses are exempt from the guzzler program. You must clean up after your horse, though. Uncle Sam recommends horse diapers. (You can use old income tax forms.) The government figures that most people already converted to Toyota Priapuses. Those who haven't can buy a converter that will run your car off a battery. You can buy your converter at Radio Snack. But we haven't yet spotted any converters in stores. The converter coupons expire in 90 days. The government has a fund to cover these converters. Sale of gas stations and dealerships will cover the converter cost. Washington, DC dreams are Technicolor dreams!

**GUNS.** Isn't the TV converter box idea useful? Voting and free markets cause so many difficulties. We've seen how well the DTV program adapts to gas-guzzlers. The government tried to follow the same pattern with guns: Obsolete 'em. Then give each owner a coupon for a soldering gun, a staple gun or a heat gun. With great promise, the pilot program began down in Tennessee. Then one day, it was over for good. A shotgun-toting old-timer and a pack of hound dogs ran the government wonks off his farm. A posse of good ol' boys rode the apparatchiks to the border and dropped them off in the woods.

**TREASURER'S REPORT.** According to Guest Treasurer and long-time SRO member Bernie Madoff W0PNZI, last month, we had money. Tonight, happy holidays: What you see on the table is what we have. The rest is well, sort of in a Swiss bank account. Eat hearty. Bernie has to leave suddenly. He asks members to email inquiries about the disposition of their dues to [easypickins@sol.com](mailto:easypickins@sol.com)



## SRO Regular Meeting - Jan 14th at the Edgebrook Field House



### SRO Notes for January 14, 2008, and a Buck for Your Old Flivver

By Jim Hawes, AA9DT

**JANUARY MEETING.** The Virtually Varnished, Honorable, Heptagonal Mike Leibovitz, WA9EVF, PhD, DVM, IEEE formally redacts our fuselage. With this garrulous garnishment, he unwraps, unpacks, defibrillates and opens our meeting at approximately 8:01:02:02 pm. Addressing the post-prepositional presidium, Mr. L. then duly instigates, investigates, and completely instagulates the officers. In fact, I consider myself instagulated to the perplexing point of profuse, preternatural discombobulation. I stand beside myself, both of us speaking this solo in complete unison. Translation: Hi there. I'm your secretary again. You get to read my column for another year.

**GAS-GUZZLERS (AGAIN).** Last month, I guffawed upon gas-guzzler coupons. I based my satire on the TV converter box coupons and accompanying federal boondoggle. In my fantasy, the government obsoletes gas-guzzlers and issues coupons. The coupons help drivers to purchase eco-friendly replacement vehicles. Here's proof that sometimes the most absurd ideas come true: Senator Thomas Harkin (D, Iowa) must have tapped into my computer. A few months ago, he proposed my gas-guzzler coupons to the congress. Hey, senator, I was joking!

**SPREAD THE WEALTH.** In my story, I guessed that the coupon face value would be \$4,000. Close. In early drafts, Harkin's idea would kick back \$4,500. Later drafts actually raised the amount to \$10,000! Why not? Taxpayers have plenty of money to spread around. Why not subsidize your neighbors' foolish purchases? (We already do. GM shares, anyone?)

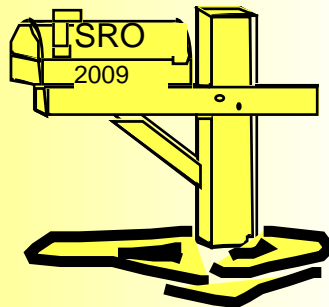
**GET YOURS.** Want to spend your own tax dollars? (How old-fashioned.) Pick out a Humvee today! You won't be sorry. Own the car that owns the road. And don't forget the manufacturer, the company that now owns a stake in your federal treasury. Enough, that is, to buy half a dozen Central American countries. (And that might be a more prudent use of the money.) Fortunately, congress

removed gas-guzzler coupons from the mammoth porkulus package. But gas-guzzler coupons are too absurd to keep down. We'll see them again. When we do, count on me to lampoon them. Meanwhile, you can sell that eight-banger to your friend Senator Harkin.

**TONIGHT'S PROGRAM** is about new military hardware and weaponry. I brought a Popular Mechanics DVD on advances in military technology for ground, sea and air troops. Our group votes to see the section on air power. Some of you are familiar with this technology because you have it in your cars. Cruise missiles are expensive, but they sure clear bogies out of the lane ahead. And radar detectors help, but lets face it: Aftermarket stealth fenders from Pep Boys are a much more effective way to deal with radar. Then you can kick in the afterburners, go supersonic and get to work in reasonable time. I assume that your local gas station carries aero fuel.

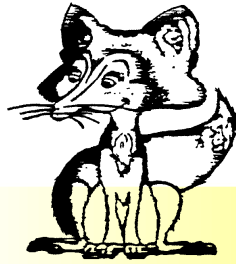
**MY PROJECT.** Here's my theme on \\what I did over the winter break.// My most recent client, a Chicago-area bank, told me that it might have future work for me. With the economy as it is, I can only hope that the work becomes a reality. Right now, life isn't easy for small businesses like mine. As I prospect for new opportunities, I've just composed an e-commerce Web site for a small, start-up business. An old friend from grad school started this business last summer. My friend sells a natural biodiesel fuel additive that his refinery derives from soybeans. The additive is a pollution-reducing engine cleanser, performance enhancer and lubricant. You add the product to regular diesel fuel, mixing in up to 20 percent additive. My friend sells the additive in a rental container that includes an electric pump. He uses his green biodiesel fuel in his own engine. His product is available for worldwide shipping over the Internet. Some of you might be interested in the site that I built. See [www.greendieselincorporated.com](http://www.greendieselincorporated.com).

**ON THE SITE,** all the content and design are my work. I also coded the site from scratch. I started with just the company press release and brochure. Later, I added data from interviews by email. Because the company is in Michigan, I usually can't conduct interviews in person. This has been a wonderful project. I hope that the company prospers.



**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**

# Foxhunt Report



Mike Shy

CFAR Foxhunt  
Jan 3rd, 2009  
by Mike WA9FTS

The info on the hunt was supplied by Tom N9CBA who hid. Tom found a parking lot at the Danada Square shopping center north of Butterfield Rd and east of Naperville Rd. Most of the hunters overshot but recovered to find Tom. Larry KA9KDC and xyl Carol joined the hunters at Red Robin.

1. Charlie KB9DIM, Alexis N9VRA
2. Tony AA9CC, Joan
3. Don W9RA

CFAR Foxhunt  
Feb 7th, 2009  
by Charlie KB9DIM

It was a warm evening, caused by a rare February warm front. The fox Charlie KB9DIM chose a hiding spot along side Harlem Avenue in the town of Argo. There was a hard to see, access road that led back under an overpass that allows Harlem Ave. traffic to go over a busy rail line. Using a Yaesu FT-2800M mobile radio set on high power (65 Watts), feeding an M2 2M4 4 element beam, that has a 7.5 dBd gain rating, vertically polarized, and mounted 15 feet above the ground. The antenna was fed with 50 feet of RG-8 coax.

With a distance of 11.6 miles from the starting point, all the hunters reported hearing the signal. During the hunt, there were a large number of trains moving in and out of the rail yard that the fox was near, using tracks that were 200 feet to the east of the hiding spot. These trains could have affected any hunters that tried to approach from the east.

At 8:50 pm the first hunters were spotted running toward the fox, from the north. Knowing that other hunters were in the area, the fox continued to provide transmissions. Ten minutes after first place had finished, a vehicle was spotted driving toward the fox, but it turned out to be a Beltway Railroad police vehicle. The officer informed the fox, that the access road was railroad property and inquired what was happening. After being told that we

were conducting a foxhunt, he seemed to be satisfied, and returned to his vehicle. But after a few minutes, he once again came up to the fox and said that the railroad supervisors, wanted the fox to leave. The fox pointed out that there were no signs posted saying it was private property, or that trespassing was not allowed, but this fell on deaf ears. After packing the antenna up, the fox drove out, and was spotted by a hunter right away. Relocating to Argo High School, that was just across Harlem Ave. from the original hiding spot the fox once again began providing transmissions.

1st Mike WA9FTS and Paul N9LXF

2nd Don W9RA

3rd DNF

We retired to Portillo's / Barneli's at Archer and Harlem Avenues, in Summit Illinois.

CFAR Foxhunt  
March 7th, 2009  
Info from Paul N9LXF

Paul N9LXF hid in a parking lot in an industrial area off American Rd just east of Plum Grove Rd and south of Rt 58 in Schaumburg. The hunt started at 8:06 PM. Paul was using a Comet 801 vertical attached to a dumpster. Tony AA9CC guessed Paul was around WoodDale and found him in 18 min for the win. Don W9RA came in 2nd 21 min later. They met at Portillo's west off Rt 58 for the munch. Results:

1. Tony AA9CC 8:24
2. Don W9RA 8:45
3. Tom N9CBA 8:50
4. Charlie KB9DIM, Alexis N9VRA 9:24

CFAR Foxhunt  
April 4th, 2009

Info from Tony AA9CC

We found a good spot, but the joke was on us as Charlie had used it last summer on a hunt we didn't attend. The hunters had no problem navigating the foot path where Rt 171 bridges the Des Plaines River, except for Tom, who didn't find the way in the first time. We were on a treed hill with a 32 foot mast and were level 1 at the start with 5 watts.

## Foxhunt Report From Page 3

- 1 Charlie KB9DIM, Alexis N9VRA 8:47
- 2 Don W9RA 8:49
- 3 Mike WA9FTS, Paul N9LXF 9:15
- 4 Tom N9CBA DNF

Comments from Mike WA9FTS - Tony and Joan found a very good spot that required a lot of effort to figure out how to get there. Once there, the path through the woods was difficult and quite long - around a half km. This was a well-thought-out and run hunt.

CFAR Foxhunt  
May 2nd, 2009  
by Charlie KB9DIM

A warm spring evening was the setting for the May 2009 CFAR foxhunt. The Fox, Charlie KB9DIM, along with his daughter Alexis N9VRA, chose a hiding spot in Hoffman Estates alongside the tollway. Using a Yaesu FT-2800M radio feeding 8.5 Watts (measured using a Bird Model 43 Watt meter S/N 98885 into a Bird model 8085 50 Watt dummy load S/N 27401), to 25 feet of RG-214/U coax, connected to a vertically polarized M2 2M4 Yagi antenna mounted 8 feet up in a tree, pointed toward the starting point. The Starting point was 13.8 miles to the Southeast of the hiding spot. The hunters were released shortly after 8:00pm CDT, with all hunters reporting having a heading. 35 minutes into the hunt, the first hunter was spotted driving into the parking lot of the school that was located near the Fox. Shortly thereafter, flashlights were seen as the hunter mad his way toward the Fox. Another hunter was heard searching the area near a small creek that was located just west of the Fox. First and Second place came in, within a few minutes of each other.

- 1st Tom N9CBA
- 2nd Don W9RA
- DNF Mike WA9FTS & Paul N9LXF

We went to a nearby Max & Erma's restaurant, where we were joined by Bob WA8USR.

## Meeting Attendance



**Jan 14th  
at the Edgebrook Field House**

**Mike WA9EVF  
Jean KB9FXL  
Jim AA9DT**

**Mike WA9FTS  
Paul N9LXF  
Pete N9VKY**

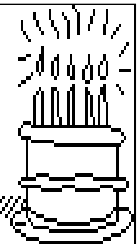


## Treasurer's Report

by Mike WA9FTS

Start 1/1/09	\$1001.49
Receipts	\$715.00
Membership Dues	\$430.00
CFAR Cntributions	\$285.00
Disbursements	\$10.00
Annual Report	\$10.00
End 5/13/09	\$1706.49

## Birthdays



For the months of May-July

<b>KC9BLH</b>	<b>Curtis Newton</b>	<b>May 22nd</b>
<b>N9CBE</b>	<b>Lynne Bosnyak</b>	<b>July 12th</b>
<b>AA9DT</b>	<b>Jim Hawes</b>	<b>June 15th</b>
<b>K9GDI</b>	<b>Leo Hunter</b>	<b>May 13th</b>
<b>WB9YAE</b>	<b>Harvey Burr</b>	<b>Jun 20th</b>
<b>K9YSE</b>	<b>Dan Galarde</b>	<b>May 10th</b>

**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**

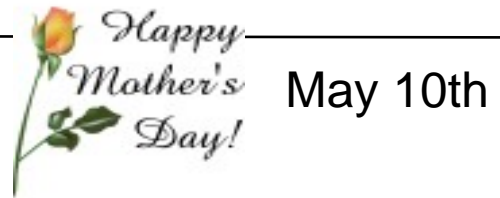
	In	Out
CFAR (107.2) PL	147.75	147.15
TOOFAR	223.26	224.86

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



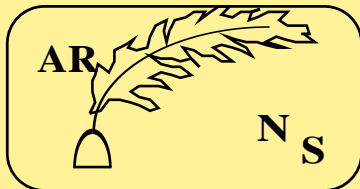
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1st  
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Spring Auction May 13th  
Edgebrook Field House

