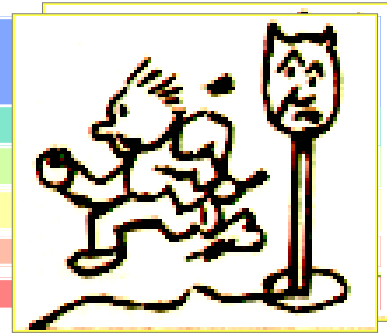




Mike Shy

Official Publication of
Society Radio Operators



Volume 72 Number 9 - 10

September-October 2012

Chicago and Northwestern Railroad



Edgebrook Field House

Oct 10th 8PM



This video, part of the Classic Railroad Series, starts with 11 minutes of non-stop steam and early diesel locomotive action featuring the heavy weights from the Chicago & Northwestern rail system.

Upcoming Events

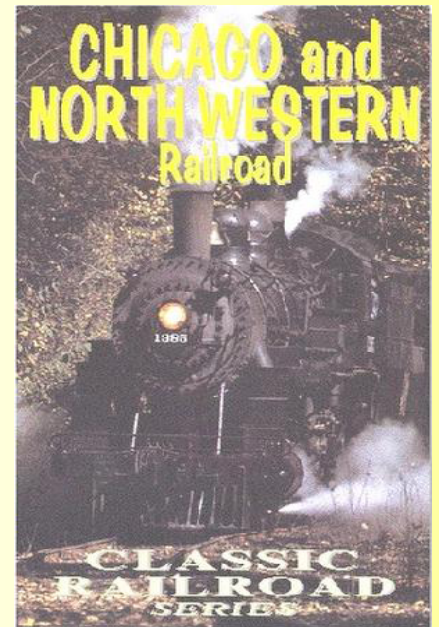
Chicago FM Club regular meeting - Oct 17 at 8PM at the Edgebrook Field House

SRO Board Meeting - Oct 31 at 7:30PM at BQS Realty - 6023 N Cicero Av in Chicago

Chicago FM Club regular meeting - Nov 21 at 8 PM at the Edgebrook Field House

Experience a look back in time as the film shows the beginning of the railroad, and the

first "Pioneer" engine. This collectible train video includes lots of great shots of sleeping and dining cars, leading to the Pullman trains. Next, take a tour of the railroad in the 1950's and witness a freight repair yard, with plenty of switching and freight footage for every train buff.





Meeting Minutes

by Jim AA9DT

Mike Shy



SRO Notes for

une 6, 2012

(or: Warp 9, Mr. Sulu)

By Jim Hawes AA9DT

TONIGHT'S MEETING

opens at eight o'clock with a bang! We've resurrected cannons from the old, Quaker Puffed Rice commercials. Cue Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture! In succession, our two Mikes soar across the Field House and land in a net. Ta daaa! President Mike Leibovitz WA9EVF removes his crash helmet and opens the meeting. The group showers him with Puffed Rice.

TONIGHT'S PROGRAM is "Making Stuff", a PBS show with host David Pogue. The show features a new substance for use in improved shock absorbers. This amazing stuff varies its viscosity. Another material, when applied to the exterior of gas tanks, heals itself after bullet strikes. David also demonstrates gloves that mimic the adhesive properties of ginkgo feet. Later, he interviews scientists who are making surfaces invisible to radar and possibly someday, light.

AT THE BOARD MEETING on Wednesday, August 29, we discussed our upcoming December dinner. We decided to stay with Brown's catering service. Our order will duplicate last year's.

STAR TREK IS COMING TRUE. IBM's supercomputer Watson has won Jeopardy: Now we have a contender for the USS Enterprise's main system. The next step is to graft on Majel Barrett-Roddenberry's irritable computer voice. Smart, handheld communicators have arrived as iPhones. Engineers are still working on tricorders. Today, we have effective sensors for many quanta of energy and

matter. Next, we must contend with a tricorder's immense data-storage capacity. Yet as sprightly, solid memories become more common, can tricorders be far off? How about the high-def, widescreen main viewer on the bridge? Visit any TV showroom!

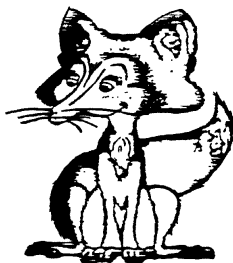
Certainly, Star Trek presents more difficult technologies: Warp drives, for instance. But NASA's skunk works is indeed experimenting with potential warp drives. For their experiments, scientists at Johnson Space Center use the White-Juday Field Interferometer. With this special type of laser interferometer, the scientists are attempting to produce tiny space-time warps. If successful, these tabletop experiments will perturb space-time by one part in 10 million.

Now let's drop in on Dr. McCoy. Across from the infirmary door is McCoy's famous scanner. How are we doing on inventing that peregrine artifact? Fine, thank you! As I write this, the University of Saskatchewan has just announced that development is proceeding. The university has demonstrated a non-operating mockup of a compact MRI body scanner. Working models already exist. Such a compact scanner could function safely on the International Space Station.

To trim the power requirements of an MRI, a permanent magnet replaces the field coils. The exotic Halbach permanent magnet radiates no magnetic fields. Otherwise, such fields might hinder guidance systems. The Halbach is also far lighter than the superconducting electromagnet that it replaces. In fact, the entire compact MRI weighs about a ton. That's less than a tenth the weight of the MRI at your hospital. The price tag for the compact version, \$200,000, is a tenth of what hospital models cost. Yet there are more challenges. A hospital scanner uses gradient coils that demand huge amounts of energy. Fortunately, the compact MRI requires no gradient coils. Instead, its radio frequency coil employs TRASE (Transmit Array Spatial Encoding) to record images. Live long and prosper!

Foxhunt Report

by Mike WA9FTS



Mike Shy

CFAR Foxhunt - Sept 1st, 2012 by Mike WA9FTS

Don K9VGJ stopped by to say hi before the hunt. Tony AA9CC gave us a weak but good test transmission. The signal was to the S / SE. The release transmission was not so good as he dropped out of the repeater most of the time. John & Tom headed south on I-83

as I did. I got a reasonably strong signal around Roosevelt Rd. As I headed south the next several transmissions were missed and not heard in the repeater. Somehow I kept on going to I-55 and then turned around. I got back to Roosevelt and Cermak from I-83 and then drove past the Oak Brook Mall. Tony was there but I kept going indicating I was quitting and going home. Later I found out John and Tom also drove down to I-55 and back north. They did not find the fox when I gave up. Charlie earlier gave up due to a lack of a signal to home in on. What follows is info I got from Tom.

Tony used a handheld talkie with a 1/4 wave skinny flex antenna. I don't know power.

We headed to the adjacent parking garage. From top level (5) signal appeared to be from the skybridge on level 4 and then went to 4. The signal seemed to be from skybridge. We followed the signal, though I had doubts about walking into what I thought was indoors. We walked into skybridge, and Tony and Joanie were on bench maybe about 30 feet from skybridge. It was an open air part of the

mall. Don reported he suspected Tony was in a different parking structure, so he walked across the skybridge intending to walk through en route to that parking structure. He spotted Tony and Joanie for 2nd. Tony had permission from the Security Guards to hide there.

<http://maps.google.com/maps?q=41.85156,-87.95195&hl=en&ll=41.851558,-87.951951&spn=0.0005,0.000877&sll=41.851558,-87.951897&sspn=0.0005,0.000877&t=h&z=20>

Munchies were at Giordano's on 22nd St west of I-83. Since I was not there, no more pictures were taken. Results:

1. John WD9EXW, Tom N9CBA, Janet
2. Don W9RA DNF Charlie KB9DIM
DNF Mike WA9FTS



Treasurer's Report

by Mike WA9FTS

Balance as of 1/1/12	\$2851.06
Membership Dues	\$260.00
Auction	\$6.59
Misc	\$3.00
Total Income	\$269.59
Annual Report	\$10.00
Bank Charges	\$20.00
IRA Dues	\$12.00
Postage	\$8.80
Refreshments	\$28.57
SRO Insurance	\$320.00
Web Page - 2 yrs	\$289.97
Total Expenses	\$689.34
Balance as of 10/10/12	\$2431.31

Mike Shy

5 Minute Management Course

Lesson 1:

A priest offered a Nun a lift. She got in and crossed her legs, forcing her gown to reveal a leg. The priest nearly had an accident. After controlling the car, he stealthily slid his hand up her leg... The nun said, 'Father, remember Psalm 129?' The priest removed his hand. But, changing gears, he let his hand slide up her leg again. The nun once again said, 'Father, remember Psalm 129?' The priest apologized 'Sorry sister but the flesh is weak.' Arriving at the convent, the nun sighed heavily and went on her way. On his arrival at the church, the priest rushed to look up Psalm 129. It said, 'Go forth and seek, further up, you will find glory.'

Moral of the story:

If you are not well informed in your job, you might miss a great opportunity.

Lesson 2:

A sales rep, an administration clerk, and the manager are walking to lunch when they find an antique oil lamp. They rub it and a Genie comes out. The Genie says, 'I'll give each of you just one wish.' 'Me first! Me first!' says the admin clerk.. 'I want to be in the Bahamas, driving a speedboat, without a care in the world.' Poof! She's gone. 'Me next! Me next!' says the sales rep. 'I want to be in Hawaii, relaxing on the beach with my personal masseuse, an endless supply of Pina Coladas, and the love of my life.' Poof! He's gone. 'OK, you're up,' the Genie says to the manager. The manager says, 'I want those two back in the office after lunch.'

Moral of the story:

Always let your boss have the first say.

Lesson 3:

An eagle was sitting on a tree resting, doing nothing. A small rabbit saw the eagle and asked him, 'Can I also sit like you and do nothing?' The eagle answered: 'Sure, why not.' So, the rabbit sat on the ground below the eagle and rested. All of a sudden, a fox appeared, jumped on the rabbit and ate it.

Moral of the story:

To be sitting and doing nothing, you must be sitting very, very high up.

Lesson 4:

A turkey was chatting with a bull. 'I would love to be able to get to the top of that tree' sighed the turkey, 'but I haven't got the energy.' 'Well, why don't you nibble on some of my droppings?' replied the bull. 'It's full of nutrients.' The turkey pecked at a lump of dung, and found it actually gave him enough strength to reach the lowest branch of the tree. The next day, after eating some more dung, he reached the second branch.. Finally after a fourth night, the turkey was proudly perched at the top of the tree. He was promptly spotted by a farmer, who shot him out of the tree.

Moral of the story:

Bull Shit might get you to the top, but it won't keep you there...

Lesson 5:

A little bird was flying south for the winter. It was so cold the bird froze and fell to the ground into a large field. While he was lying there, a cow came by and dropped some dung on him. As the frozen bird lay there in the pile of cow dung, he began to realize how warm he was. The dung was actually thawing him out!

He lay there all warm and happy, and soon began to sing for joy. A passing cat heard the bird singing and came to investigate. Following the sound, the cat discovered the bird under the pile of cow dung, and promptly dug him out and ate him.

Moral of the story:

(1) Not everyone who shits on you is your enemy.

(2) Not everyone who gets you out of shit is your friend.

(3) And when you're in deep shit, it's best to keep your mouth shut!

Mike Shy

NASA Starts Work on Real Life *Star Trek* Warp Drive

by Jesus Diaz

"Perhaps a Star Trek experience within our lifetime is not such a remote possibility." These are the words of Dr. Harold "Sonny" White,



<<http://www.icarusinterstellar.org/daydreaming-beyond-the-solar-system-with-warp-field-mechanics/>> the Advanced Propulsion Theme Lead for the NASA Engineering Directorate. Dr. White and his colleagues don't just believe a real life warp drive is theoretically possible; they've already started the work to create one.

Yes. A real warp drive, Scotty.

When it comes to space exploration, we are still cavemen. We got to the Moon <<http://gizmodo.com/5318744/the-apollo-11-moon-landing-liveblog>> and sent some badass robot to Mars <<http://gizmodo.com/5932039/the-mars-curiosity-rover-has-landed--live-coverage-from-jpl>> . We also have those automatic doors that swoosh wide open when you get near them, but that's about it. It's cool, but we are far from being the space civilization we'll need to become to survive for millennia.

With our current propulsion technologies, interstellar flight is impossible. Even with experimental technology, like ion thrusters or a spaceship's aft pooping freaking nuclear explosions, it would require staggering amounts of fuel and mass to get to any nearby star. And worse: it will require decades—centuries, even—to get there. The trip will be meaningless for those left behind. Only the ones going forward in search for a new star system would enjoy the result of the colossal effort. It's just not practical. So we need an alternative. One that would allow us to travel extremely fast without breaking the laws of physics. Or as Dr. White puts it: "we want to go, really fast, while observing the 11th commandment: *Thou shall not exceed the speed of light.*"

Searching for warp bubbles

The answer lies precisely in those laws of physics. Dr. White and other physicists have found loopholes in some mathematical equations—loopholes that indicate that warping the space-time fabric is indeed possible.

Working at NASA Eagleworks <<http://ntrs.nasa.gov/search.jsp?R=20110023492>> —a skunkworks operation deep at NASA's Johnson Space Center—Dr. White's team is trying to find proof of those loopholes. They have "initiated an interferometer test bed that will try to generate and detect a microscopic instance of a little warp bubble" using an instrument called the White-Juday Warp Field Interferometer.

It may sound like a small thing now, but the implications of the research huge. In his own words:

Although this is just a tiny instance of the phenomena, it will be existence proof for the [even-cat-sht-is-made-of-starstuff](#)> . idea of perturbing space time—a "Chicago pile" moment, as it were. Recall that December of 1942 saw the first demonstration of a

Mike Shy

controlled nuclear reaction that generated a whopping half watt. This existence proof was followed by the activation of a ~ four megawatt reactor in November of 1943. Existence proof for the practical application of a scientific idea can be a tipping point for technology development.

By creating one of these warp bubbles, the spaceship's engine will compress the space ahead and expand the space behind, moving it to another place without actually moving, and carrying none of the adverse effects of other travel methods. According to Dr. White, "by harnessing the physics of cosmic inflation, future spaceships crafted to satisfy the laws of these mathematical equations may actually be able to get somewhere unthinkably fast—and without adverse effects."

He says that, if everything is confirmed in these practical experiments, we would be able to create an engine that will get us to Alpha Centauri "in two weeks as measured by clocks here on Earth." The time will be the same in the spaceship and on Earth, he claims, and there will not be "tidal forces inside the bubble, no undue issues, and the proper acceleration is zero. When you turn the field on, everybody doesn't go slamming against the bulkhead, which would be a very short and sad trip."

The energy problem, solved

There was only one problem with all this: where does the energy come from? While we knew that warp drives were theoretically possible, physicists have always argued that they would require a ball of exotic matter the size of Jupiter to power it. Clearly, that was not practical. But thankfully, Dr. White has found a solution that changes the game completely. The Eagleworks team has discovered that the energy requirements are much lower than previously thought. If they optimize the warp bubble thickness and "oscillate its intensity to reduce the stiffness of space time," they would be able to reduce the amount of fuel to manageable amount: instead of a Jupiter-sized ball of exotic matter, you will only need 500 kilograms to "send a 10-meter bubble (32.8 feet) at an effective velocity of 10c." Ten c! That's ten times the speed of light, people (remember, the ship itself would not go faster than the speed of light. But effectively it will seem like it does). That means that we would be able to visit Gliese 581g <<http://gizmodo.com/5651768/this-may-very-well-be-the-first-new-earth>> —a planet similar to Earth 20 light years away from our planet—in *two years*. Two years is nothing. It took Magellan three years to circumnavigate around our home planet—from August 1519 to September 1522. A four year roundtrip to see a planet like Earth is completely doable. And there are even closer destinations where we can send robots or astronauts. The important thing is that there is now a door open to a different kind of exploration. That, like Dr. White says, "perhaps a Star Trek experience within our lifetime is not such a remote possibility." We may be witnessing the very beginning of a new age of space exploration <<http://gizmodo.com/5247705/why-we-need-to-reach-the-stars-and-we-will>> , one that would finally take us from our pale blue dot <<http://gizmodo.com/5513783/the-world-would-be-better-if-everyone-watched-this-video>> back to where we belong <[September-October 2012](http://gizmodo.com/5605805/everything-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Mike Shy

Meeting Attendance



**Aug 8th
at the Edgebrook Field House**

Upcoming SRO Club Events

SRO Board Meeting - Oct 31st at BQS
Realty 6023 N Cicero Ave
Chicago - 7:30 PM

SRO Holiday Party - Dec 12th at the
Edgebrook Field House - 6:30PM

Weekly 220 MHz Net

CFMC 220 Repeater - 224.10
& 224.18 Sat night 8 PM

Suggestion Box

If you have any ideas or suggestions for club activities or programs, let us know. We are always looking for something new or a new way to do things. It is your club.

Ham Get-Togethers

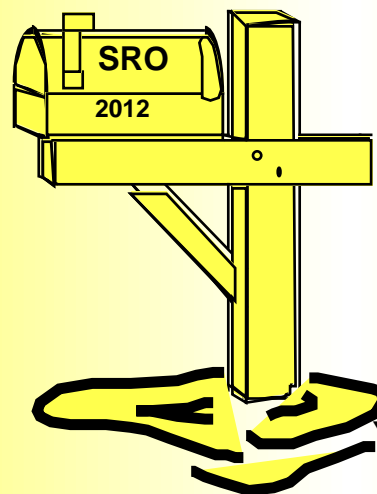
These are not radio club-sponsored but times when & where friends meet.

**Papa Chris' Place
6235 W Touhy Ave Niles IL
773-631-4322 Monday 1:30PM**

**Rose Garden
111 E Higgins Rd Eldk Grove
Village
847-952-1881 Friday 9AM**

**Sally's Pancake House
5454 N Harlem Ave
Chicago IL Saturday 2 - 4 PM**

**New Pinto - 220 MHz Guys
4955 S Pulaski Rd Chicago
773-582-4955 Saturday 8AM-
Noon**



**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**

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Vice President
Jean Pressel - KB9FXL
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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 - AA9DT
Meeting Refresh. - AA9DT
Foxhunting - WA9FTS
Repeater - K9IQF
Field Day - WA9EVF
Education - WA9EVF
Mike Shy - WA9FTS
Picnic - WA9FTS
Dinner/Play - Open for 2012
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
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.

Regular Meetings - Edgebrook Field House - 6100 N Central Ave. Chicago IL

Board Meetings - Every 5th Wed - 7:30 PM - BQS Realty - 6023 N Cicero Ave Chicago IL

Mike Shy

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Norridge IL 60706-3245



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