



Mike Shy

Official Publication of
Society Radio Operators



Volume 73 Number 7 & 8

July & August 2013

SRO Meeting - Aug 14th at the Edgebrook Field House - 8 PM

Upcoming Events

SRO Regular Meeting -
8 PM Aug 14th at the
Edgebrook Field House

CFMC Regular Meeting
-

8 PM Aug 21st at the
Edgebrook Field House.

Radio Expo 2013 -
Saturday Sep 7th at the
Boone County
Fairgrounds in Belvidere
IL. VEC Testing -
Hourly Prizes - Seminars
- Free Parking. For more
info - Mike Brost
WA9FTS at
mikeb2006@comcast.net
or 708-983-9288.

CFMC Regular Meeting
-

8 PM Sep 18th at the
Edgebrook Field House.



The top-secret world that the government created in response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks has become so enormous, so unwieldy, and so secretive that no one knows how much money it costs, how many people it employs or exactly how many agencies duplicate work being done elsewhere. The result is

that the system put in place to keep the United States safe may be putting us in greater danger. In **TOP SECRET AMERICA**, award-winning reporters Dana Priest and William Arkin uncover the enormous size, shape, mission, and consequences of this invisible universe of over 1,300 government facilities in every state in America; nearly 2,000 outside companies used as contractors; and more than 850,000 people granted "Top Secret" security clearance.

A landmark exposé of a new, secret "Fourth Branch" of American government, **TOP SECRET AMERICA** is a tour de force of investigative reporting-and a book sure to spark national and international alarm.



SRO Notes for June 12, 2013 (or: Rockets on the Docket)

By Jim Hawes AA9DT

TONIGHT'S MEETING begins at 8: \\Hear ye! Hear ye! Oh yes, oh yes, oh yes...//

MEETING BRIEFS. The club is solvent. We're already making plans for the Hanukkah and Christmas party in December. Treasurer Mike Brost WA9FTS has recently paid our insurance tab, which is about \$300 annually. The next meeting presentation will be \\Top-Secret America.//

EUROPA. Space scientists are developing technology for a mission to Europa, Jupiter's fourth-largest moon. Astronomers believe that Europa could include an underground salt sea. Layers of ice cover the water. Perhaps underneath the frost, tidal interactions with Jupiter could heat the mysterious, subterranean sea. Given sufficient heat, the sea might well support some type of life.

The European Space Agency is organizing Europa-flyby missions. Spacecraft could use radar to measure the depth of Europa's ice. The mission JUICE (Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer Mission) launches in 2022 and arrives in 2030. JUICE will explore several Jovian moons.

SMART ROBOTS. Landers are the next logical step. Two years ago, NASA contracted with Stone Aerospace to develop an autonomous submersible, the \\Cryobot.// The Cryobot can penetrate Europa's ice crust and then explore beneath it. Due to its long-lasting nuclear-power cells, this submersible robot can range over the entire moon. Rather than exploring hazardous areas itself, the Cryobot can launch AUVs (Autonomous Underwater Vehicles). Surviving AUVs can test biological samples, possibly by sequencing DNA.

CHALLENGES. Any Europa landing presents very special challenges. There's no atmosphere to slow down a parachute. Europa's crust might shift periodically. Hmmm. The robot asks: \\Now where was that campsite?// The robot must also beware of ice spikes that stud the equator.

VIRGIN GALACTIC, Sir Richard Branson's billion dollar space baby, plans a fleet of tourist spacecraft. These first ships will allow well-heeled Moms and Pops to fly suborbital hops. Such excursions will be like deluxe versions of Alan Shepard's Freedom 7 capsule. Actually Spaceship 2 is closer to the X-15 rocket plane than to Freedom 7: As with the X-15, a mother ship ferries Spaceship 2 up to 46,000 feet. Then Spaceship2's rocket kicks in and flies the craft into space.

IN AN APRIL TEST RUN, the mother ship WhiteKnightTwo (WK2) took off from the Mojave Dessert. WK2 carried Spaceship2 and let it go at altitude. Thereafter, Spaceship2 reached Mach 1.2. The first test flights into space will take place at the end of 2013. Passenger flights will embark in 2014. A ticket costs \$200K. Branson has already sold several in advance. Typical family discussion: \\Son, a liberal arts degree won't get you a job anyway. Mom and I are spending our loot on a rocket jaunt.// Branson's second act will be orbital missions.

TO THE MOON, ALICE. Not to be outdone, the Golden Spike Company plans private moon missions starting in 2020. The fee, originally \$1.5 billion for two people, falls to a mere \$500 million per person. Golden Spike will defray some expenses through major media promotions.

REFERENCES

Europa: Incredible Technology: How to Explore Jupiter's Moon Europa by Miriam Kramer, Staff Writer (See... <http://www.space.com/22146-robotic-exploration-europa-incredible-tech.html?cupid=51463010238434>)

Upcoming SRO Events

October 9th - Regular Meeting - Fall Auction

October 30th - Board Meeting

December 11th - Holiday Party

Foxhunt Report

by Mike WA9FTS



CFAR Hunt - July 6, 2013 by Mike WA9FTS with Tom N9IHZ

The weatherman said it would be a dry weekend and he was correct. The temp was comfortable and the hunters gathered for the hunt. Matt KC9SEM and Patty N9PLS asked me to hid for them. Tom and I looked for a place that was used decades ago by Don K9VGJ and Chuck KA9KZO. At that time Don

and I were hunting and won the hunt. We found them at the top of the Mannheim bridge over the north edge of the BNSF railroad yard and just east of I-294. We picked the exact same spot. Several years ago the bridge was completely redone. Before there was two barriers and they separated pedestrian traffic from the motor traffic. This is no longer the case although it was still very safe for us to use We found a clean piece of cardboard on the walkway and it was large enough for us to both sit down on. We let them know this was not a drive-up hunt and that they could not break any rules of the road to score as it would not count. This meant they could not stop on the bridge to score as stopping was against the law.

We started the hunt about two minutes after 8PM. I was using a Yaesu VX-6 and a rubber duck running rW. I brought up CFAR although, according to the hunters later at the restaurant, not as clear as I could be. The first hunter to be seen was Tony AA9CC and Joan KC9QQY at 8:23 driving north on Mannheim. They drove to Irving Park and turned around and parked just north of us. As 8:32, Tony ran up from the north to secure the win. Ten minutes later, John WD9EXW came from the same direction to get the 2nd place card. I took a picture of Don's W9RA van driving below us so I knew he would score soon. A mere three minutes later, Marty KB9SMR and Bill showed up for 3rd. Don showed up 5 minutes later to end the hunt. The restaurant chosen was Mama Maria's in Bensenville. Results:

1. Tony AA9CC, Joan KC9QQY 8:32 PM
2. John WD9EW, Tom N9CBA, Janet, Matt 8:42 PM
3. Marty KB9SMR, Bill 8:45 PM
4. Don W9RA 8:50 PM



We found the spot. Now the hunters have to find us.



Tony AA9CC ready to capture his 8th win overall of the year.



The hunters are enjoying their food.



Tom N9IHZ only ate half.
He brought the other half home.

Foxhunt Report

by Mike WA9FTS



CFAR Hunt - Aug 3, 2013 by Tony AA9CC

Well it must have been a pretty good hide; we had 2 DNFs, a mangled 4 element antenna and mast, a hunter pulled over by the cops, and one ready to punch me out. We hid on the brand new bike trail spur along the Will-Du Page county line, on the east side of 355 between Bluff Road and International Parkway.

Only the building walls were up. 40 minutes into the hunt we saw flashlights on the walls - a total of 4. Hunters spent a long time there - 15 to 30 minutes. There were many reflections and hiding spots inside. Marty and Bill drove up the bike trail to us, by sheer luck they got a level 6 to the east while speeding south on I355, exited on 127th street, drove around to Davey, drove through the grass at the dead end, hit an oak tree and mangled the antenna. A cop saw that and pulled them over. They talked their way out of a ticket and proceeded to win the hunt. Marty showed me the new trail was already shown on Google Maps, though marked as "planned", on his iPhone! Second place - N9CBA followed them in, John crossed under the bridge, and walked up the grass on the wrong side of the fence from the warehouse. N9JPG and gang, on foot, were passed by the cars going around then on the side of the trail just a 100 feet from the fox. KC9SEM said he was throwing in the towel. Don W9RA was a DNF. We kept transmitting for WA9FTS, who, unbeknown to us was sitting at munchies. I went to get the car and when returned, found Matt had rejoined the hunt. He drove up around 9:35. Munchies were at Baker's Square on 75th at I355. Results:

- 1 Marty KB9SMR & Bill
- 2 Tom N9CBA, John WD9EXW, Janet & Matt
- 3 Kevin N9JPG, Sheryl, Colin, Mason, Abbey & Sonja
- 4 Matt KC9SEM, Patty N9JPG, Jacob & Mackenzie
- DNF Don W9RA
- DNF Mike WA9FTS



Editor's Note

First 2 places came in and drove on the bike path that was not marked on Industrial Rd. It was clearly marked on Bluff Rd.



Marty
KB9SMR
took the
pix
of Tony





Treasurer's Report

by Mike WA9FTS

Jan 1, 2013 to
Aug 14, 2013

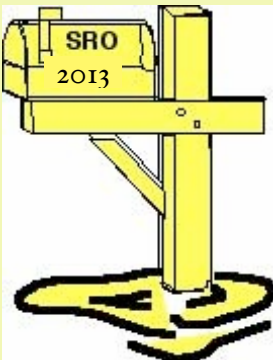
| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| Starting Balance | \$2095.79 |
| Income | \$2479.89 |
| Auction Inc | \$37.25 |
| Membership Dues | \$725.00 |
| Misc Inc | \$150.00 |
| Transfer Inc | \$1567.64 |
| Expenses | \$464.04 |
| Annual Report | \$10.00 |
| Auction Exp | \$16.31 |
| Donation | \$50.00 |
| IRA Dues | \$12.00 |
| Misc Exp | \$13.50 |
| Mike Shy-Postage | \$13.80 |
| Refreshments | \$28.43 |
| SRO Insurance | \$320.00 |
| Ending Balance | \$4111.64 |

Meeting Attendance



Edgebrook Field House June 12th, 2013

| | |
|-------------|--------------|
| Mike WA9EVF | Cathy KA9ZWZ |
| Jean KB9FXL | Vern K9VRT |
| Jim AA9DT | Pete WV9P |
| Mike WA9FTS | Tom N9IHZ |
| Ken KA9TRG | |



If you move, let the Editor know your new mailing and email addresses. It is our way of getting Mike Shy to you each time.

Hubble finds new Neptune moon

The moon is the smallest known satellite in the neptunian system.

By NASA Headquarters, Washington, D.C. —
Published: July 15, 2013

NASA's Hubble Space Telescope has discovered a new moon orbiting the distant blue-green planet Neptune, the 14th known to be circling the giant planet.

The moon, designated S/2004 N 1, is estimated to be no more than 12 miles (19 kilometers) across, making it the smallest known moon in the neptunian system. It is so small and dim that it is roughly 100 million times fainter than the faintest star that can be seen with the naked eye. It even escaped detection by NASA's Voyager 2 spacecraft, which flew past Neptune in 1989 and surveyed the planet's system of moons and rings.

Mark Showalter of the SETI Institute in Mountain View, California, found the moon July 1 while studying the faint arcs, or segments of rings, around Neptune. "The moons and arcs orbit very quickly, so we had to devise a way to follow their motion in order to bring out the details of the system," he said. "It's the same reason a sports photographer tracks a running athlete — the athlete stays in focus, but the background blurs."

The method involved tracking the movement of a white dot that appears over and over again in more than 150 archival Neptune photographs taken by Hubble from 2004 to 2009.

On a whim, Showalter looked far beyond the ring segments and noticed the white dot about 65,400 miles (105,300km) from Neptune, located between the orbits of the Neptunian moons Larissa and Proteus. The dot is S/2004 N 1. Showalter plotted a circular orbit for the moon, which completes one revolution around Neptune every 23 hours.

Virgin Galactic Spaceship2



Following the historic first rocket-powered flight of its SpaceShipTwo vehicle, Virgin Galactic plans to build a fleet of spaceships and begin ferrying hundreds of tourists into space in 2014. And then? A whole new kind of spacecraft, Sir Richard Branson said.

“We’ll be building orbital spaceships after that,” Branson told Fox News Tuesday.

‘Now we can start testing at 2,000 miles an hour, 3,000 miles an hour, 4,000 miles an hour...’
- Sir Richard Branson

On Monday morning, Virgin Galactic's SpaceShipTwo space plane fired its rocket engines for the first time in a test flight out of California's Mojave Air and Spaceport. After being hoisted into the air aboard the “mothership” craft WhiteKnightTwo, it was released at an altitude of about 46,000 feet before firing its rocket for 16 seconds and racing to a speed of Mach 1.2, fast enough to beat the speed of sound.

It was a huge leap for Virgin Galactic, taking the company much closer to its goal of space tourism, Branson said.

“It was the biggest milestone in this program, and it’s taken us eight and a half years to get there. Now we know it can break the sound barrier safely. Now we can start testing at 2,000 miles an hour, 3,000 miles an hour, 4,000 miles an hour -- and then by the end of the year, be ready to do flights into space,” Branson said.

“It was a historic day, and great fun,” he added.

Following those increasingly fast and long rocket-powered tests, Branson said the company will begin flights into space, as soon as the end of the year. To reach that goal, he has greenlit new spacecraft, he told Fox News.

“We’ve already given the go-ahead to start building more spaceships, more motherships, more satellite launchers ... it really is the start of a whole new era of space travel.”

Only 500 people or so have travelled into space so far. Branson aims to send another 500 into space in 2014 alone, at which point they’ll be able to officially call themselves astronauts.

“They’re the pioneers. They’ve enabled us to begin this program. And they’ll be able to go into space next year,” Branson said.

And Branson has plans for the future of the company: far longer trips into space, potentially lasting for days or even longer.

“We’ll be building orbital spaceships after that,” Branson said, “so that people who want to go for a week or two can.”

Read more: <http://www.foxnews.com/science/2013/04/30/sir-richard-branson-plans-orbital-spaceships/#ixzz2bEiMgH8X>

Repeater Etiquette

- If you have questions about the use of the repeaters, please ask. FCC Part 97 rules apply AT ALL TIMES.
- Listen for at least 10 seconds before transmitting to be sure the repeater is not already in use or ask "Is the repeater in use?".
- The repeater does not have a timer. However, long transmissions are not recommended. Keep them short - one to two minutes at the longest. Give someone a chance to check in or respond to what you said. WAIT for the repeater to drop before transmitting.
- If you wish to join a conversation in progress, wait until the end of a transmission and give your call sign promptly. There is a short delay between the end of a transmission and the repeater drop. Stations already in conversation wait for the repeater to drop before transmitting.
- If you need access to the repeater for an emergency transmission, say "EMERGENCY" and give your call sign when you break into an ongoing conversation.
- Do not use "break" or "break break" since they have special meaning for most operators and usage varies around the U.S. Use "EMERGENCY" or your call sign.
- **Always allow a breaking station to transmit immediately.** Allow a station an opportunity to report emergencies or ask for directions or other assistance. This is particularly important during commuting periods and periods of bad weather when the need for emergency assistance calls are most likely.
- Avoid business talk (FCC Part 97 rules). When in doubt, DON'T.
- Remember Amateur frequencies are not private lines - what you say on the repeater can and will be heard by many people (including the FCC). Always assume you have an audience.
- Do not say things that may offend others who may be listening. Be circumspect in discussing private personal family affairs on the repeater. Do not "advertise" your house will be unoccupied during vacations, etc.
- The repeater gives its own ID. You must also identify your station by giving your call sign every 10 minutes during a conversation and at the end of your participation. You do not have to identify the other stations nor do you have to identify yourself with every transmission.
- Monitor the repeater. Members or visitors may call for assistance. Visitors may just want a friendly conversation on the way through the Chicago area.
- If you hear what you believe to be deliberate interference, do not attempt to communicate with the interfering station. Switch to the repeater input frequency and, if you can hear the signal, record the following information for use in locating the source:
 1. signal strength
 2. your location
 3. date and time
 4. your antenna and receiver
 5. and characteristics of the RF, audio or voice that might help in identification
 6. direction if it can be determined

Report the information to a member of the Board of Directors or the Club Officers.

- Do not discuss interference incidents on the air.
- While the repeater pairs are exclusive in this area, there may be times when other repeaters may be heard. Propagation conditions are occasionally such that we will hear output signals from other repeaters. The input signals from stations in other repeater service areas will sometimes bring up our repeater. Our use of the minimum power necessary to access our repeater will help minimize interference with our neighbors. Be tolerant of the annoyances resulting from these unusual conditions.

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

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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 Meeting Place

Edgebrook Field House second
Wednesday of even months 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 2013
Christmas / Hanukkah Party -
WA9EVF
Webmaster - WA9FTS

SRO Web Site

www.w9sro.org
Mike Brost - WA9FTS

SRO Repeaters

| | In | Out |
|-------------------|---------|---------|
| CFAR (107.2) PL | 147.750 | 147.150 |
| TOOFAR (110.2) PL | 223.260 | 224.860 |

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

Regular meetings

- Edgebrook
Field House - 6100 N Central Av
Chicago IL
Board Meetings - Every 5th Wed -
7:30 PM - BQS Realty - 6023 N
Cicero Av Chicago IL

Mike Shy

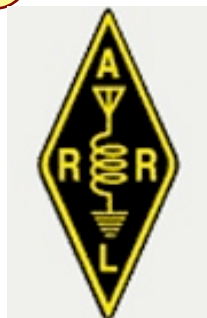
Mike Brost - WA9FTS - Editor

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First Class Mail



SRO Meeting
Aug 14th at the
Edgebrook Field
House