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CHAPTER 24 - MADISON. WISCONSIN FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 1989

Edited by: Leonard Charles

Articles Welcome!! Send them to: Chapter 24 Newsletter 5714 Modernaire St. Madison. WI 53711 (hard copy or text files on 360K disk)

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**MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT** 

DATE: Tue - Feb 7, 1989

ALEXANDERS of Madison 5614 Schroeder Road Across from Vitense mini colf

Dinner: 5:45pm Meeting: 7:00pm Program: Follows meeting

Program: The Biddle Time Domain Reflectometer (TDR) for cable and transmission line analysis.

By: Eric Roberts of the Kenneth W. Meyers Company.

#### 

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

Wednesday March 8 Tuesday April 11 Wednesday May 3

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THE LEGALS....info by Doug McDonell

Communications Corporation Skywaye of Madison, WI has been granted a construction permit for a new low

power television station to serve Madison on Channel 54. 716MHZ, Zero offset, ERP 7.74KW, TPO 1.0KW, TL 6121 Odana Road. Trans: Acrodyne Industries TLU/1KACT: ANT: Bogner LPS4; Height 57M; Omnidirectional

### \*

FCC NEWS

The FCC has proposed amending its rules to provide a procedure whereby a licensee or permittee may petition the FCC for an amendment to the FM or TV Table of Allotments, and to modify its license accordingly, without placing its existing authorization at risk, and regardless of whether that change involves a change in transmitter site, a change in class of channel, or both.

The FCC also seeks comment on its initial conclusion that the procedure should only be used if the new community would serve the FCC allotment priorities and policies, and only in those instances where the new allotment would be mutually exclusive with the existing allotment. The FCC has recognized that requiring petitioners to run the gauntlet of one or more comparative hearing processes From Doug McDonell (Cert Chairman) effectively squelches proposals which. if adopted, would further the public interest.

# 

CPR CLASSES....

The dates have been reserved, the deposit has been paid, you are just about out of time to sign up for the Chapter 24 CPR/First Aid classes given by and at the Red Cross, 4860 Sheboygan Avenue. The Monday classes will be held from 5:30 to 10pm on February

6th and 13th. The Tuesday classes will be held from 5:30 to 100m on February 7th and 14th. The cost is \$34.00 and must be paid prior to the classes. Payment must be made to Chapter 24/Dave Gerisch and can be sent to Dave at WMTV, 615 Forward Drive, Madison, 53711. Hats off to Dave for the final organization of this effort. Don't make his life miserable by waiting till the last minute to register. Call now while you are thinking of it.

#### 

TOWER VIDEO....

In appreciation of the Chapter 24 contribution to the project, we received Ta copy of the Denver SBE Chapter Video on Towers. The presentation is designed to cale the natural fear in people over the possibility of a tower being constructed nearby. You may borrow this Video by contacting Andy Murphy at WMSN TV 47. It is on the VHS format.

#### \*

Certification Exams....

Certification Secretary Lynda Whitehead has re-confirmed the dates for the two certification exam periods for this spring. As in the past, exams will be given at the NAB convention in LasVegas. The date will be April 29, 1989 at a place and time to be announced later. The deadline for applying for this exam will be March 10, 1989.

The regular Chapter exam will be held between June 9 and June 19, 1989. As always, the specific date and time will be agreeable to those wishing

to take the exam. The deadline for this exam period is April 14, 1989. In order to be considered for the two exam periods, a completed application (including the application fee) must be in the Indianapolis office by the deadline date. Early application is encouraged. Blank applications are available by calling Doug McDonell at 222-1580 at reasonable hours. There has been a slight change in the fee structure. The regular exam fee of \$30.00 has not been changed. However, there has been a \$5.60 increase in the "re-take fee". This has always been a lower fee for those who wish to re-take any exam that was not successfully completed during a previous exam period. The "re-take fee" is now \$20.00. There will also be a "re-scheduling fee" of \$18.99 for those who apply for an exam period but are unable to take the exam during the scheduled period. With the flexible structure of the Chapter 24 exam period, the "re-scheduling fee" should not be a major concern.

#### \*

THE FIELD IS SET....

Here is the latest list of those applications in the races for the two FM frequency allotments in markets adjacent to Madison.

VERONA, WI: 105.5 MHZ

- Heller Broadcasting Group L.P. P.O. Box 59 Mischicot, WI 54228
- 2) Soncomm Inc.
  P.O. Box 8788
  Madison, WI 53708
  (Chapter 24 members Stan Scharch and Tom Weeden are two of the Principals of Soncomm Inc.)

 Janice and Ronald Fedler 6P 7842 Big Timber Trail Middleton, WI 53562

- 4) Cynthia K. Waldbillig 692 Tamarack Way Verona, WI 53593
- 5) Skywave Communications Corp.
  P.O. Box 4366
  Madison, WI 53711
  (Dan Dobrowolski of WOSBD is the principal)
- 6) Verona Parque Broadcasting 619 So 20th Ave. Minneapolis, MN 55454
- 7) Roger Kluge 6691 Highland Drive Winsor, WI 53598
- 8) Key Communications Corp. 5080 Rosecrest Drive Pittsburgh, PA 15201
- 9) Knight Radio Inc. 63 Bay State Road Boston, MA \$2215
- 10) Wis B/cast Communication Madison, WI

WAUNAKEE, WI: 105.1

- 1) Dale A. Ganske 1819 Mitchell Ave. EauClaire, WI 54701
- 2) Roger Kluge 6691 Highland Drive Winsor, WI 53598
- 3) WIBU Inc. 175 Spring Lane Winnetka, IL 60093
- 4) Waunakee Parque Broadcasting Co. 14600 40th Place North Plymouth, MN 55446

5) Betty Lynn Whirry 5709 Heapstead Rd. Madison, NI 53711

\*

ON THE BOARD....

Chapter 24 Frequency Coordinator Chris Cain has uploaded, in text form, the latest Chapter 24 ascending frequency list complete with bearing and distance from those stations which provided the information. You may dewnload it from the SBE area of Dave Willow's Board. 274-7776 8N1

\*

Channel 54....

Dan Dobrowolski appeared before the Dane County Telecommunications Commission at the January meeting to state that he is still interested in space on the city owned tarken Street tower. He plans to operate LPTV Channel 54 of which he has a construction permit under his latest corporate name of Skywave Communications Corp. The transmitter will operate at 1869 Watts while the station ERP will be 7746 Watts.

According to a different source, a transmitter operating on Channel 5 will be used as an STL from the station's Odana Road studio location to the Larken Street Transmitter Site.

Dobrowolski said Channel 54 should begin broadcast in early February. Station programming is now on Madison's Complete Channel Cable service although not yet on the air.

\*

OOPS!!!....

WRLS FM in Hayward WI was fined by the FCC for Broadcasting Lottery Information. \$7500.00 Forfeiture.

#### 

SBE TOWN MEETING.... (from the editor)

On Sunday night January 15, using a receiver borrowed from Chapter 24 member Doug Smith, I tuned in on 14.295MHZ to listen and record the SBE town meeting scheduled for that evening. Unfortunately, there was an appreciable from a user in Ohio and one in Little Rock. Enduring that interference for most of the next hour, I was able to record a few good quality passages of discussion concerning a previously held SBE executive meeting. As you may have quessed, the majority of the talk centered around the subject of State regulating of Broadcast Engineers. It appears that the concern of the States involved (and there are only 5 so far) is not with the employee of a Broadcast Station but rather with the person who offers his services to the general public as a "Professional" Broadcast Engineer. Contract Engineers are not very vulnerable to this point in time but the Consultant Engineer seems to be the type of Engineer of interest to States. The SBE Executive Committee is concerned about the certification level entitled "Professional Engineer. There was much discussion during the town meeting on what to change that title to such that the level of certification would still honor the achievement without using the word Professional. It was also suggested that the words "Professional" and "Registered" be left out of the description of your career to help guard against State licensing review. Near the end of my reception, it was suggested that a different band be used for the February town meeting scheduled for 6pm February 12th. I have a cassette tape of what I was able to receive available for anyone to borrow. Contact me at 271-4321 if interested.

#### 

HDTV....

The Defense Department will provide up to \$3# Million in funding to private organizations researching and developing new, low cost methods of displaying and processing HDTV pictures. The Pentagon hopes the program will lead amount of "CB" type interference primarily to mass production of low cost, high resolution screens for consumer and defense applications.

#### \*

CBS TV SHOOTS WITH HDTV....

The CBS made-for-television movie "The Littlest Victims" is the first such movie to be shot in High Definition Television (HDTV). Bill Nichols. the director of systems development for CBS, said it was an experiment to gain experience in the use of HDTV for the production of a movie which would normally be shot on 35 mm film. The network conclusions suggest that even with a crew learning the ropes of using HDTV, the 1125/60 standard offers a practical alternative to 35 mm film. The movie was shot "film style" using conventional film dollies, lights, flags and tracks. The hardware included a Sony HDC-100 camera with a Nikon 7:1 Zoos lens. Critical picture elements were kept within a central 4:3 aspect ratio with the remainder of the 16:9 HDTV frame kept free of booms, lights, and other equipment as CBS expects to use both the HDTV version and a converted NTSC version. Some differences in HDTV compared to 35 mm included immediate knowledge of results of a shot, shorter set up time and more takes per day. Some disadvantages were the need for bulky recorders, camera cables, lag and reduced sensitivity.

The shoot took 23 days and went over budget by less than half of one percent. That's about the same as with 35 mm

film. CBS said even with an inexperienced crew, it came in on time and essentially on budget. The network expects increased savings in the future as crews gain experience with the medium and increased HDTV production volume lowers rental and service costs.

(From Television Broadcast Magazine)

# \*

FMX IS CLOSE....

Broadcast Technology Partners, the company that owns FMX technology. says the first FMX stereo FM receivers are ready to go on the shelves at your favorite stereo store. JVC Co. of America will sell its model 5500 car receiver with FMX for \$549.99 and Alpine Electronics will sell its model 1390 tuner for \$200.00. Other manufacturers showing their own models at the Winter Consumer Electronics Show were Blaupunkt and Sansui. FMX boasts of expanded FM stereo coverage and less interference related noise.

#### \*

THE SUPER BOWL....

Did you watch the Super Bowl on January 18th. What you watched was the result of 18 stationary cameras, 3 handheld cameras, a camera in the Met Life Blimp, 19 trucks including the uplink vehicles, and 175 people of which 132 were engineers. Hope you had your 3D classes near for half time.

#### \*

TOWER TROUBLES AT KAMA.... (From Chapter 38, El Paso)

Radio KAMA faced a rather shaky situation to start off the new year according to KAMA / KAMZ chief engineer Cliff Gibson. It seems that someone decided to shoot up the insulator supporting tower #4 of the KAMA directional array.

Having dropped in height about a foot the guy wires supporting the tower became extremely loose allowing the tower to blow in the breeze. Temporary retensioning of the wires was performed by Ed Brown of Francis Drilling and Rigging pending arrival of a new base insulator. KAMA is currently operating at reduced power at night during the hours the #4 tower is normally in use. Restoring the tower requires three "house" jacks to raise the tower, loosening the guy wires, and installing a new insulator at the base.

#### \*

ATTACK OF THE ROBOT CAMERAS.... (From Electronic Media)

MPIX-TV in San Francisco is testino robotic cameras for use in local newscasts in an experiment that could lead to all five Group-W TV stations employing that technology. For the experiment. KPIX is utilizing robotic equipment supplied by Vinten Equipment Company of New York. It is reported that a switch to an all-robotic system, using three new Sony CCD cameras, could cost about a guarter of a million dollars. According to station officials, no operations positions would be lost in making the switch, since camera operators would be reassigned The people who placed these ads are to editing or other tasks. (From Electronic Media)

#### \*

BITS OF HUMOR.... (From Chapter 56, Oklahoma)

FOOD BANDIT ON THE GRAVY TRAIN: A systerious food bandit had been raiding the refrigerator of KOTV. Apparently the poacher thought anything edible and in the ice box was fair game. After Programming Secretary Maxine Smith's lunch disappeared, she devised a plan for revenge. Maxine made a sandwich consisting of Alpo between two pieces of bread. She placed the bait in the refrig and waited. A day later the sandwich was missing. Maxine then posted a sign in the lunch room saying, "I hope you enjoyed the Alpo sandwich! Ha. Ha. Ha." The thief could not be located for comment. however it is assumed he had a dog day afternoon.

WORST TECHNICAL TIP: If you spread horse manure around the base of your tower, the steel structure will grow an extra foot in height each year.

WE. THE UNWILLING, LED BY THE UNKNOWING, ARE DOING THE IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE UNGRATE-FUL.

I'D QUIT MY JOB, BUT IT'S THE ONLY PLACE I CAN GET ANY SLEEP!

# 

IN RESPONSE TO A CLASSIFIED.... (From Chapter 75, Little Rock)

Sounds great! So you jump up, grab your resume file and ... Wait a minute. in broadcasting, remember? Their business is advertising, and they are advertising for something THEY Want. Perhaps you should look a little closer. Let's take a look at some of the commonly used "catch phrases" in the average broadcast engineering help wanted ad...

NEEDED IMMEDIATELY: Either (a) the FCC field inspector told the owner in no uncertain terms to get a competent engineer, or (b) the last of the three guys down at the TV repair shop told the owner what he could with his radio station.

MUST HAVE GOOD MAINTENANCE BACKGROUND: Nothing works at the studio.

AND SOLID RF EXPERIENCE: Nothing works at the transmitter, either.

THOROUGH KNOWLEDGE OF FCC RULES: The FCC is breathing down the owner's neck. You'll be responsible for bailing him out.

DA EXPERIENCE: Several variations to watch for on this one...

"DA Experience": They have a Directional antenna.

"Considerable DA experience required": They have a DA and the base currents. monitor points, and phase monitor readings have been out of limits for a year.

"Intensive DA experience required": They have a DA, all the readings are out, and nothing anybody does can fix it.

\*Intensive FIELD experience with DA required\*: Nobody remembers where the monitor points are, but they were out a couple of years ago (or: "We have monitor points?")

BUDGETARY EXPERIENCE: Does not laugh or cry when told quite seriously after a major transmitter fire, "Fix it by tomorrow. Don't spend any money". Or alternately, Can fix a transmitter with a blown final, shorted screen supply and fried control circuitry with \$2.00's worth of parts from Radio Shack (your money).

ABILITY TO WORK WITH OTHERS: Self explanatory. Think of someone you have worked with.

NEW FACILITIES ON THE WAY: You'll be remodeling the SM/Owner's office, or you'll be trying to connect the 1955 RCA control board that the owner oot at Uncle Jeb's discount electronics (on trade).

MAJOR SROUP OWNER: The quy also owns

two flower shops and a used car lot. "Ground floor" agans he hasn't paid off any of his debt on the station.

SALARY COMMENSURATE W/ EXPERIENCE: This is supposed to be a FUNNY piece.

So next time you take a look at the

trade magazines to find the perfect job, take along a copy of this article to help read between the lines. Oh, and one more thing: "No phone calls, please" means that the telephone company has disconnected the station's phone. Happy hunting!

CLASSIFIED....

Jack Vandezande is seeking a position as an operating engineer in television. Jack graduated from UW Oshkosh with a Radio-TV-File Degree and has 9 years experience in Radio. 414-346-2954

\*

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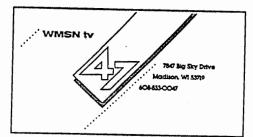


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