

Edited by: Leonard Charles

Articles Welcome!! Send them to:
Chapter 24 Newsletter
5714 Modernaire St.
Madison, WI 53711
(608)-274-0041
(608)-271-4321

((hard copy or text files on 360K disk))

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

DATE: Jan 18 1990
ALEXANDERS of Madison
5614 Schroeder Road
Across from Vitense mini golf

DINNER: 5:45
Meeting/Program: 7:15pm

Jim Engeseth of Dane County's emergency Management office will give us an update on the county communications RF web, EBS, and 911. (re-scheduled)

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

Feb 20 - Tuesday
Mar 21 - Wednesday Lunch
Oct 4-7 - SBE National


YOUR OFFICERS....

Chairman: Andy Murphy (WMSN TV)
Vice Chair: Steve Zimmerman (WKOW TV)
Secretary: Jim Hermanson (WTSO/WZEE)
Treasurer: Dave Gerisch (WMTV TV)

FROM THE OFFICERS....

The vote on our Chapter 24 position dealing with the handling of our

membership list which was to have taken place at last months meeting was postponed until this months meeting. The

 Richardson Electronics, Ltd.	
R. T. (Dick) Thomas District Sales Manager Midwest Area	40W267 Keslinger Road LaFox, IL 60147 USA
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proposed policy statement was published in last month's newsletter. If you need to review, it's available in the SBE files area of "The Communications Exchange" computer bulletin board at 274-7776.

THE LEGALS....

info by Doug McDonell

TRI-M Communications of Janesville has applied for a modification of their Construction Permit for Channel 57 in Janesville. Changes include the location of transmitter to 424436 Lat and 884604 Long and a Power increase to 2510 KW at a height of 317 M.

CERTIFICATION....

excerpt from the new Certification Program / Ennes Educational Foundation newsletter by Jim Wulliman.

IMPORTANT--The Certification Committee, at its meeting in KC voted to change the 20 year Professional Broadcast Engineer level of Certification to become only an upgrade from Senior level, after a reasonable grace period. This means that anyone who applies for the 20 year level after January 1, 1991 must already be certified at the Senior level. This provides a one year grace

period for those who wish to apply under the current provisions which do not require an examination. All of the current requirements will continue with the added requirement that the applicant must hold a valid Senior Broadcast Engineer certificate to be eligible for the 20 year level after January 1, 1991. The intent of this change is to require that everyone who is certified at some future date will have taken a certification exam. This is consistent with our original "Grandfathering" provision which required recertification either through examination or by earning credits in at least four different categories of continuing education or service to our industry.


FCC NEWS....

info by Doug Smith

According to an aide, FCC Chair Al Sikes is reviewing microwave channel regulations, looking for a way to promote wireless cable. A rulemaking proposal should take place in April.

The British government has proposed a major overhaul of its broadcasting regulations. Among many other changes, the overhaul would create a fifth national TV network, make the Channel Four network independent from the ITV network, start three new national radio networks, and issue 200-300 new local radio stations.

Congress has raised the filing fees charged by the Commission. The basic

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filing fee has jumped from \$20 to \$35, with most other fees rising about 13%.

Rep. Matthew Rinaldo (R-NJ) has introduced an AM improvement bill. The "Broadcast Radio Quality Improvements Act of 1989" would do the following:

1) The FCC would be prohibited not to adopt any rule or policy that would generally increase interference (AM or FM) and, where feasible, adopt rules & policies that would reduce interference.

2) "Daytimer homesteading" would be mandated, giving existing daytime AM stations preference for reassignment to the new 1605-1705KHz band.

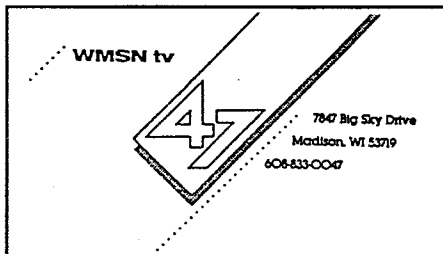
3) The Commission would be required to submit a report to Congress on interference to AM from non-broadcast devices.

4) All radios sold in the U.S. would be required to receive both AM and FM. Also, radios having FM stereo would be required to include AM stereo.

House Telecommunications Subcommittee chair Edward Markey didn't fully endorse the Rinaldo bill, but he did say that he's "confident" that an AM improvement bill will pass.

A Notice of Inquiry has been issued into the evolution of the cable market since the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984. The inquiry will look into rates, ownership concentration, franchising, and lack of competition.

ABC has sued the U.S. Treasury Department. The network has offered a bid of \$8.7 million for the rights to cover the 1991 Pan American Games in Havana, Cuba. It's believed 75% of that fee would be paid to the Cuban government, with the remainder going to the Pan American Sports Organization. The Treasury Department feels that payment of this fee would violate the



Trading With the Enemy Act, which restricts the transfer of currency to certain foreign countries. ABC's position is that an amendment to this act, which restricted the ability of the President to restrict the import/export of "publications, films, or other informational materials", should permit the transfer.

A delegation including several broadcasters and Rep. Al Swift (D-Wash.) traveled to Havana the week of Dec. 18th, hoping to start a dialogue to reduce Cuban interference to U.S. AM broadcast stations.

The FCC has ruled that the marriage of Ronald Nelson (senior VP, Paramount) to

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Joyce Fields (treasurer, Times Mirror Co.) does not constitute a cross-interest between their respective companies. Had the Commission ruled differently, Paramount and Times Mirror would have been in violation of various cross-ownership rules in 4 cities.

Secretary of Health and Human Services Louis Sullivan has called for "some form of restrictions" on advertising of alcoholic beverages.

In an attempt to clear a 2,400 application backlog for new FM stations, the Commission has transferred processing of FM station sales to the TV division.

The FCC's Office of Science and Technology has released a study showing the percentage of TV stations which could be given additional spectrum for HDTV under various proposed HDTV systems. Percentages ranged from 20% (when stations needed augmented spectrum in the same band and a co-channel distance separation of 300km was required) to 100% (when stations could be augmented on different bands and the co-channel distance separation was reduced to 160km).

RADIO....

by Stan Scharch, N9HMA

The new 1605 to 1705 khz broadcast band opens July 1. The FCC is under pressure for channel preference from a variety of

Your News Station

3

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interests including minorities, public stations and daytimers. At the same time receiver makers are gearing up for the expanded band. Delco and Panasonic have announced expanded band capability on some radios by July 1. Delco says all of its radios will include full coverage by the year 1992.

The FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology has stated its position regarding the controversial ModMinder (TM). In a letter to Modulation Sciences, Inc., OET states that measurement equipment meeting the FCC's pre-1983 technical requirements would be

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expected to produce valid readings of FM modulation. OET says that "equipment meeting the pre-1983 requirements is satisfactory for determining compliance with the current FM modulation requirements."

US marshals and FCC staff seized equipment belonging to a pirate radio station in Brooklyn, New York on November 9. "WJPL" operating without station authorization on 91.9 MHz, is only one of several North East pirate shut down by the commission in 1989.

(Excerpts from Radio World)

AMATEUR RADIO NEWS....

by Tom Weeden, WJ9H

The FCC has issued a Notice of Proposed Rule Making for the use of 220 to 222

News Timer Plus now locks to...

ABC CBS WWV

maney_logic

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Time Remain	Time Out
10:28	28:57

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MHz by the Private Land Mobile Service. Service rules must be adopted before land mobile operation in the band can begin (and amateur operation must end).

The state of New Jersey has recently enacted legislation requiring anyone using any type of shortwave radio in a car, including amateur radio gear, to first obtain police permission. Several states and municipalities have attempted to prohibit use of certain types of radio gear that can monitor or transmit on police or other public safety frequencies.

The American Radio Relay League wants the FCC to preempt state statutes and local ordinances which restrict operation of such radios by licensed amateurs. (Most late model VHF amateur



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gear provides incidental capability to receive frequencies outside the amateur bands.) The ARRL's request is expected to get widespread support from other public service oriented groups such as the Civil Air Patrol and search and rescue teams. Opposition is expected from states and municipalities which want more control over radio

communications in their geographic areas.

A spokesman for the Veterans Administration amateur radio station in Los Angeles says that the FCC refused to assist in removing interfering stations from the air while the VA station and others were attempting to provide emergency communications following the California earthquake. Frank Collins, N6TAF, said malicious interference had plagued disaster communications for nearly a month. He said the Cerritos FCC field office telephone was constantly busy, and when he finally got through, he got an answering machine. The FCC's Personal Radio Branch chief allegedly told Collins that the Washington office could not be of any help.

Collins intends to bring the issue of the FCC's alleged negligence to the attention of President Bush. He feels that the power of White House intervention "might be the only method of getting FCC enforcement off its

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backside and onto the trail of those who are willing to risk lives for their own amusement."

(From January "Badger State Smoke Signals," "The Westlink Report," and January "QST" Magazine.)

PAST MEMBER UPDATE....

by Jim Hermanson

Al Johnson, past Secretary and member of Chapter 24, moved with his family to Seattle, Washington to pursue personal interests in late October. He was a member of the SBE since 1984, and was SBE certified as a Broadcast Engineer. Having met Clif Groth at WTN in Watertown, he became employed by Goetz Engineering as a Broadcast Engineer in February, 1982. In June, 1985 he was hired by Beaver Dam Broadcasting and was

named their Director of Engineering. In the nearly five and one-half years in



Beaver Dam, he was known as a very dependable Engineer and served numerous radio stations including WBEV/WXRQ in Beaver Dam, WCWC in Ripon, WTN in Watertown, WNO in Wisconsin Dells, and WSUM in Whitewater.

Besides being an active Broadcast Engineer, he holds an Extra Class Amateur Radio license. In Wisconsin, and now in Washington, he works the 2 meter band regularly.

He reports that Broadcast Engineering is a bit different in the Seattle area. There is a large amount of intermod on FM stations due to the nearby mountains. Lightning only occurs about once each year, and there is no snow, except in the mountains where many of the transmitters are located.

Al plans to join Tacoma's SBE Chapter 18 and he resides south of Seattle at the following address:

Meridian Heights
Apt. F-203
13101 Southeast 240th Street
Kent, Washington 98031
(206) 631-1499

STATE LICENSING....

After a year's wait, the General

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Broadcast Sales Division

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Service Center (312) 773-6037
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Accounting Office's study on state licensing requirements for Broadcast Engineers is due out this month. The report will show the current status and extent of states charges against telecommunications engineers and will assist lawmakers in determining whether Federal legislation is needed to protect engineers.

SPECTRUM INQUIRY....

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), the advisory board to the president on telecommunications policy, has released a notice of inquiry into the use of spectrum in the US into the 21st Century. Comments are sought on:

- 1) should databases of frequency assignments and equipment



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characteristics be kept and made accessible to the public

- 2) how internal agency deliberations could be made more accessible

- 3) how US participation in international spectrum conferences could be made more effective

- 4) the role of private groups and companies in spectrum management.

The NTIA report is due out by the end of 1990 with possible implementation of policy in the first term of the Bush administration.

NO ULTIMATE YET....

The long awaited and touted NAB "Ultimate Radio" with continuous tuning, and AM Stereo/FM Stereo/FMX is in a holding pattern now as it awaits a company to manufacture it. One

prototype has been built with removable circuit boards to accommodate C-QUAM AM Stereo, ISB AM Stereo, and one containing both. The Radio was originally introduced at 'Radio 88' but




some of the features were not working on the displayed unit. The project has thus far cost the NAB \$50,000.

SUPER NTSC....

Faroudja Research Enterprises announced that nine major companies with interests in broadcasting, engineering and cable television have agreed to fund field testing of the SuperNTSC enhanced TV system. The system involves processing at both transmission and reception and operates on a standard 6 MHz channel bandwidth with no additional subcarrier. The system includes image enhancement, noise reduction and line doubling and is said to provide quality approaching 35mm film. It is designed to be fully compatible with current NTSC satellite, cable and terrestrial transmission and reception.

TWO YEARS AGO....

In the January 88 Chapter 24 newsletter, the monthly meeting at Corby's featured Dynatech Newstar's Mark Ross with a program entitled "Interface Technology". In a SBE Convention Review by Tom Smith, the hot topics at the 1987 SBE



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Convention in St. Louis were HDTV and AM NRSC. The FCC forum included talk on FM 80-90 allocations and LPTV applicants. Not in the equipment hall was the demo of the Sony R-DAT recorder.

ONE YEAR AGO....

In the January 89 Chapter 24 newsletter, the monthly meeting was a lunch with the final plans for a trip to the Andrew plant in Chicago on the agenda. Seven applicants were published for the new FM frequency opened up for Verona and three applicants were listed for the new Waunakee FM frequency. The FCC news included comments on NRSC, the Class A FM upgrade to 6KW, and the adoption of directional FM antenna for short spacing. LPTV Channel 5's move to 54 was revealed and an editorial on State's licensing of Broadcast engineers was published.

SUSTAINING MEMBER NEWS..

Broadcast Communications recently contracted to have a new tower



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 Verona, WI 53593
 608-845-6755

JOHN CROOKS
 Vice President

construction system built to increase its safety in the field and result in faster turnkey projects for broadcast stations. TOWERMASTER I was designed as a portable crane and winch system, consisting of hydrostatics, air actuated braking systems and seven winches. The system, powered by a super-charged Detroit diesel, is capable of setting a 500' tower in as little as 12 hours.

Broadcast Communications is a long-time Chapter 24 Sustaining Member and can be reached at 608-845-6755.

The deadline for entries in the February 1990 Chapter 24 newsletter is Friday February 9, 1990.