



# CHAPTER 24

## SOCIETY OF BROADCAST ENGINEERS AN AWARD WINNING NEWSLETTER

MADISON, WISCONSIN

JULY 1991

### BORN ON THE 4TH THANKS TO YOU!

*Jim Hermanson,  
Chapter 24 Chairman*

In late April I was asked to oversee the engineering work and construction of Verona's new FM radio station. Knowing that I had some free time over the summer, I agreed. The owners and management of the new station had set a date of July 4th as it's target sign on—a date that was held firm from day one.

Realistically, I kept telling myself that there was no way that a complete station could be built in this much time, especially since there was not even so much as one single tape cartridge to their name. Perhaps as July 4th grew nearer, the owners would realize that the sign on would have to be moved into late July or August. Who wants to be the bearer of bad news? July 4th? Right!

Equipment prices were studied, prices were negotiated, and orders were placed—some as late as mid June! Boxes started arriving. Custom furniture was built locally by one of our SBE members! Electrical wiring was installed. It was now June 24th and time to get down to work, yet time was running out. We still didn't have our FM broadcast antennas. July 4th? Right!

Miraculously, the antennas arrived a few days later. With someone above on our side to help with good weather, the help of a hard working tower crew, and the help of many area broadcast engi-

neers, we were able to fire up the transmitter and do tests a day or so before the 4th. July 4th? Well, maybe!

Numerous broadcast engineers from the area offered their help in any way that they could. Some worked all night, into the late early morning hours of the 4th. Without the unselfish help and generosity of these engineers, the station would not have reached it's target sign on date.

WMMM-FM signed on the air at 1:05 p.m. on July 4th. The owners and management of the station were very pleased and impressed with the hard work and cooperation of the broadcast engineers of Madison.

I have never been more impressed and proud to work with my colleagues and fellow SBE members, and I am thankful to be in a community such as ours in which such a cooperative spirit prevails. Madison truly has an outstanding group of quality broadcast engineering people. Many thanks go to all who helped with the start of WMMM-FM. Let me know how I can return the favor.

### JULY MEETING

DATE: July 23, 1991

DINNER: 5:30 P.M.

AT: WILSON STREET GRILL

217 S. Hamilton

(Enter the underground parking lot on Wilson Street and take the elevator to the restaurant)

PROGRAM: 7:00 P.M.

AT: CELLULAR ONE

131 West Wilson St.

This month's program is a tour of Cellular One's operations center. In order to fit the tour into Cellular's schedule, we would like to start the program as close to 7:00 p.m. as possible. Please try to attend.

### UPCOMING MEETING

August 21

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PLUS:  
National Convention Banquet  
Guest Speaker

## JUNE 1991 MINUTES

Chapter 24 of the Society of Broadcast Engineers met on Thursday, June 20, 1991 for a luncheon meeting at Alexander's Restaurant in Madison. The attendance of the June meeting was 18. All 18 were SBE members and 14 of these were SBE certified.

Chairman Jim Hermanson called the meeting to order at 12:50 p.m..

Secretary Fred Sperry read the minutes of the May meeting. The minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer Paul Stoffel reported the chapter's account balance.

Sustaining Membership Chairman Stan Sarch announced that he finished developing new sustaining membership forms and they are available to anyone needing them. Stan also announced Fuji Photo Film U.S.A., Inc. as a new sustaining member.

Newsletter Editor Deanna Morris announced the deadline for items submitted for the July newsletter as July 6th. Deanna also mentioned that she is looking for a volunteer to take over the "FCC News" column of the newsletter. Anyone interested should contact her.

Certification and Education Chairman Doug McDonell reported that ten people took the June 8th exam. No results from this exam have been received. He said that due to the high number of exam applicants this year, it would likely be a month from the exam date before test results would be received.

Frequency Coordination Chairman Chris Cain reported that a STL frequency had been coordinated with a new radio station in Verona. This link will be from Odana Road to the TDS tower near Verona. Chris also announced that the FCC is still holding off on its ruling of STL antenna upgrades. He also mentioned that the NAB has a new station operator handbook available.

Chapter Liaison Paul Meyer re-

ported that he has not yet received a newsletter from the Minneapolis/St. Paul Chapter. The Rockford Chapter, which does not have a newsletter at this time, will fax their upcoming program information to Paul.

Chapter Vice Chairman Leonard Charles reported that he has not received any applications for the chapter scholarship to send a Chapter 24 member to the SBE National Convention. Chuck reviewed the application guidelines and said that application should be sent to him at Channel 3.

(cont'd pg. 3, col. 1)

**TODD** COMMUNICATIONS

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## CHAPTER 24 OFFICERS

### CHAIRMAN:

Jim Hermanson (WTSO/WZEE/  
WKOW TV)

W - 274-1234  
H - 231-2005

### VICE CHAIRMAN:

Leonard Charles (WISC TV)

W - 271-4321  
H - 274-0041

### SECRETARY:

Fred Sperry (WI Public TV/TOC)

W - 273-5500  
H - 833-6074

### TREASURER:

Paul Stoffel (WI Public TV)

W - 263-2121  
H - 241-4621

## CHAPTER 24 COMMITTEE APPOINTEES

Past Chairman - Steve Zimmerman

Membership - John Beck

Sustaining Membership - Stan

Sarch

Strategic Plan - Denny Behr (Chair)

Newsletter - Deanna Morris

Program Chairman - Dave Willow

Special Events - Kevin Ruppert

Cert/Ed - Doug McDonell/Tim

Trendt

Frequency Coord - Chris Cain

Chapter Liaison - Paul Meyer



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## MINUTES

(cont'd from pg. 2)

There was no old business to report.

In new business, Jim Crooks announced a part time engineering opening at WNBC. Anyone interested in this position should contact Greg Walters at WNBC.

In professional announcements, Steve Zimmerman announced the promotion of Bob Goessling to Production Supervisor and Deanna Morris to Engineering Operations and Maintenance Supervisor at WKOW-TV. Both individuals are members of Chapter 24.

Chapter Chairman Jim Hermanson announced Saturday July 27th as the date of this year's fish fry at Doug McDonell's. Doug has a flyer made up which will appear in the July newsletter. Jim also announced that the deadline for chapters to submit items for this year's SBE National awards is July 1st. He also indicated that our chapter was working at preparing some items for submission.

Finally Chapter Chairman Jim Hermanson put to a vote whether the annual rebate check received by the chapter from the National Office should be returned. The vote was overwhelmingly in favor of returning the check to the National.

At this time the meeting was adjourned.

Fred Sperry, Secretary



## RITTER TO SPEAK AT SBE NATIONAL

U.S. Congressman Don Ritter, representing Pennsylvania's 15th Congressional District, will speak at the SBE banquet on Saturday night, October 5th at the SBE National Convention.

Ritter is one of only a few members of the House with a technological background. Ritter has his Master's and Doctoral degrees in Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

SBE Executive Director Steve Ingram said, "Congressman Ritter's gracious acceptance of our invitation is greatly appreciated by the SBE. Because of his engineering background, he will be able to bring important broadcast policy and technical issues to the podium for our audience."

The SBE National Convention will be held in Houston, Texas from October 2-5, 1991.

BURT YOUNG  
Regional Sales Manager

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JOHN CROOKS  
Vice President



## LOCAL LEGALS

Info by Doug McDonell

The FCC has granted a transfer of control in the application for an AM broadcast station by Baraboo Broadcasting Corp. for WRPQ 740 Khz in Baraboo, Wisconsin. Control will be transferred from Robert A. Jones and Patricia A. Kranz Jones to Jeffrey A. Smith.

The Commission has received a request for modification of a construction permit from Skywave Communications Corp. in Madison, Wisconsin. The request is for an ERP change to 0.0188 Kw for a VHF low power TV translator at the Concourse Hotel.

An application has been accepted for filing from commercial TV broadcast station WMTV Channel 15 to transfer control of Forward Television Corporation II from Adams Communication Corp. to Adams Holding Corp.

The Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin, Madison have filed to extend their completion date under the construction permit for their educational TV broadcast application already accepted for filing.

**Cellular One**  
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Christina Roth  
Account Executive  
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1702 West Beltline Highway  
Madison, WI 53713

Office: (608) 263-0010

## POSITION AVAILABLE

WNWC Radio, Madison, Wisconsin 50kW FM needs part-time engineer; flexible hours per week, plus emergencies; knowledge of studio and transmitter operation necessary. Inquire by calling (608) 271-1025, or send resume to WNWC, 5606 Medical Circle, Madison, WI 53719

**27 WKOW TV**  
MADISON

## PROFESSIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Paul Stoffel has been promoted to Media Supervisor 2, Wisconsin Public Television, Vilas Hall. Paul has been with Wisconsin Public Television for 11 years.

Todd Hausser is now working as an engineer at V-Tip Inc. in Rockford, Illinois. V-Tip Inc. is a Panasonic dealer and service center that works with industrial-grade equipment.

# AMATEUR RADIO NEWS

(Take Note: Hams can talk to other SBE members on the second Sunday of every month on 14.205 MHz USB at 0000 Zulu—7 p.m. CDT)

by Tom Weedon, WJ9H

Applications for the recently-reallocated 220-222 MHz band for land mobile service have flooded the FCC, causing the Commission to announce that no new applications will be accepted.

As of May 24, over 50,000 license applications had been received. The 220-222 MHz band will cease to be an amateur radio allocation on August 27.

In the meantime, the American Radio Relay League has petitioned the FCC to allow secondary amateur access to the 216-220 MHz band.

The FCC on June 24 assigned the petition RM-7747. Proposed amateur operation would be limited to fixed, point-to-point circuits, and would be coordinated so as to avoid interference to primary occupants, especially nearby television channel 13 (210-216 MHz). The deadline to file comments in RM-7747 is July 24.

Senators Albert Gore, Carl Levin, and Joseph Lieberman have introduced S1372, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 1991. The text is virtually identical with that of HR73, the bill introduced by Representative Jim Cooper on January 3. There are now 115 co-sponsors of HR73 in the US House of Representatives.

The FCC's Field Operations Bureau has released its data obtained during the "Amateur Power Project" conducted in February. In its release, the Bureau stated:

- \* "Most amateurs do not operate at the minimum (power) required by the rules;
- \* Operating powers of 100 watts or less can cause interference;
- \* Simply reducing the transmitter power does not alleviate interference in most cases."

The ARRL commented that the definition of "interference" was regarded as any disruption of home electronic entertainment equipment, regardless of technical fault (either the amateur's transmissions or poor consumer electronics design).

(Excerpts from July 1991 "QST" magazine and WIAW packet-radio bulletins)

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**KEITH EMMONS**

## FCC NEWS

(Editors note: The Chapter 24 newsletter is still looking for a new FCC News columnist. If you are interested, please contact the editor.)

by Leonard Charles

An experimental license has been granted to WorldSpace Corporation to construct, launch and operate the first Radio Broadcast Satellite designed to deliver FM quality audio to handheld digital receivers.

The first bird is to be launched in 1993 and will orbit above Africa and the Middle East. Receivers will be priced under \$100.00 and will receive 36 channels including the capability to receive paging, Email, and faxes.

WorldSpace is Washington based but most of the Venture capital for the project is Tokyo based.

The FCC has waived the one-to-market rule and granted transfer of WUHQ-TV of Battle Creek, Michigan to Northstar Television of Battle Creek. Northstar's parent owns WZZM-TV of Grand Rapids, only 50 miles north of WUHQ-TV and plans to operate the station as a satellite.

Following an appeals court decision striking down the FCC's indecency ban and orders that the Commission come up with permissible times for airing indecent pro-

gramming without penalty, the FCC will file a petition for re-hearing in the US Court of Appeals.

The FCC voted to assert its sole authority to determine violations of its lowest unit charge rules. The action is in response to an Alabama court case in which television stations are being sued by political candidates for alleged overcharges of political ads.

The Office of Plans and Policy (OPP) of the FCC has released Working Paper No. 26, "Broadcast Television in a Multichannel Marketplace," by Florence Setzer and Jonathan Levy.

The paper examines changes in the competitive situation of the television broadcasting industry from 1975 to 1990 and presents some predictions for the next decade. Copies are available from the Downtown Copy Center, 1114 21st St. NW, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 452-1422.

*(Excerpts from Broadcasting Magazine)*

## RADIO

by Stan Sarch

Proposed Rulemaking that seeks comments on increasing the multiple ownership limits for radio stations. The proposal from the commission includes:

1. Raising or removing the cap on AM ownership while retaining the cap for TV and FM.
2. Base ownership rules on audience ranking, i.e. more competitors in a market would mean higher multiple ownership limits and vice versa.
3. Relax the duopoly rule, allowing more TV/AM and FM/AM combinations.
4. Encourage joint ventures.

Several DAB systems will be tested in Boston and Washington on 2 UHF TV channels at 1KW levels. The FCC has ok'd the plan by Strother Communications for tests that will include the Eureka system.

Also, Westwood One Inc., and Golden West Broadcasters will test DAB systems in the L-band (1551 to 1557 mhz) and in the existing FM band on channels in the Los Angeles area.

The FCC has issued a warning to broadcasters not to alter the EBS script for weekly tests. Even a musical rendition or other slight alteration of the text of the script "would undermine the serious nature of the system" the commission says in its warning.

The EIA and NAB have agreed on standards for NRSC radios that will carry the designation "AMax". The new generation of AM receivers will have an audio frequency response of 50 to 7500 hz, and distortion of 2% or less. The channel coverage will include the new 1705 khz band expansion. AM Stereo is not a requirement.

### SONY

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Roscor Wisconsin  
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## CHAPTER 24 SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Our newest sustaining member is:  
Fuji Film I&I

Thanks to our latest renewals:  
Skyline Communications  
Broadcast Communications

Video Images  
Todd Communications  
Roscor Wisconsin  
Electronic Industries  
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Sarch Electronics  
WMSN TV 47  
WKOW TV  
WISC TV  
Cellular One  
Panasonic Broadcast  
BTS  
Emmons Associates  
Sony Broadcast

## CHAPTER 24 NEWSLETTER

(hard copy or ASCII text message on BBS at 608-274-7776)

Edited by: Deanna Morris

Contributors this month: Chris Cain, Leonard Charles, Jim Hermanson,  
Doug McDonell, Kevin Ruppert, Stan Sarch, Paul Stoffel, Tom  
Weeden and Dave Willow.

Articles Welcome!! Send correspondence to:

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### CHAPTER 24 NEWSLETTER

50 SCHROEDER CT. #108  
MADISON, WI 53711



Tom Weeden 1  
6802 Putnam Road  
Madison, WI 53711

1991 SBE CHAPTER 24 FISH FRY

WHEN: July 27, 1991

WHEN: Saturday afternoon and evening

WHERE: West side of beautiful Lake Waubesa.

WHERE: 2830 Waubesa Avenue

WHERE: First house south of the boat landing at Goodland Park

WHERE: Park Street south of the beltline; McCoy Road exit; McCoy Road east to County MM; south one mile on MM to Goodland Park Road; follow signs to Goodland Park; drive south through the park to: 2830 Waubesa Avenue.

MENU: Kentucky Lake Catfish and Crappie; Hush Puppies; Cole Slaw etc.....OR.....

MENU: A couple of Weber style grills will be set up, ready to cook whatever you wish to bring.

DRINKS: Because of liquor liability laws, all alcoholic beverages are BYOB. Ice and a couple of coolers will be available to keep your goodies cold. Please also bring your own soft drinks etc.

BRING: Anyone who wishes to bring a salad or other goodies will be deeply appreciated.

FAMILY: Of course! Goodland Park, with swings, slides, and other toys, is right next door. The swimming beach is 400 feet away.

BOATS: Arrive by water if you wish. Goodland Park is approximately two-thirds of the length of the lake, south of the Yahara River entrance to Lake Waubesa on the west side of the lake.

TIME: Come early if you wish. Grills will be ready to go around 5:00 PM. First fish will be ready to be served around 5:30 PM. Cooking will continue until all are satisfied or the fish is gone.

RAIN: It would not dare to rain. We will play this one by ear.

CALL: In order to know how much fish to prepare, I would appreciate a call at 222-1580 with the number of fish eaters in your group. The machine is on so leave your name and the number of people.