

## **NATIONAL SBE IS LISTENING**

*by Paul Stoffel*

"I will answer every question to the best of my ability," said SBE President Richard Farquhar at the Chapter Chair Meeting held on April 14 in conjunction with SBE Day at the NAB Convention in Las Vegas.

"We are trying to improve communication through CompuServ, SBE Newsletters and letters to chapters' (chairpersons). I have opened up my phone to take calls for any questions you might have pertaining to policy."

For nearly four hours, Chapter Chairs and the SBE officers and board DID communicate. Many issues, such as the dues increase, cost accounting, the bylaws change and last year's Houston Convention, were discussed lively.

Aside from all the big and much publicized issues is the question asked by a lot of members: "What is the National SBE doing for me?" Farquhar offered this answer: "certification, education and frequency coordination."

Others suggested adding "communication" and "representation for the individual broadcast engineer to the industry" to the list of benefits.

"I feel very strong about an educational commitment to our 6,000 members," said Farquhar. The SBE Board also showed their commitment toward education by offering these proposals:

•Paul Montoya, SBE Board of Directors, added:

"The membership committee is

*(cont'd on pg. 4, col. 1)*

## **MAY MEETING**

**DATE:** May 20, 1992  
**AT:** BRAT & BRAU  
6654 Mineral Pt. Rd.  
(Corner of Grand Canyon Dr.)  
**DINNER:** 5:30 p.m.  
**MEETING & PROGRAM:** 7:00 p.m.

This month's program will be a tour of Pro Video, WOLX and Bob Abella studios. After dinner at Brat & Brau, we will reconvene at Pro Video for the tours, after which the business meeting will be held. SBE Board Member Terry Baun will be on hand to discuss National business.

## **APRIL MINUTES**

Chapter 24 of the Society of Broadcast Engineers met on Tuesday April 21, 1992 at the Brat & Brau restaurant on Madison's Westside for its regular monthly meeting. The attendance of the April meeting included 17 SBE members, 13 who were certified, and one guest for a total attendance of 18.

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Chairman Jim Hermanson. Secretary Fred Sperry read the minutes of the March meeting. The minutes were approved as read.

There was no treasurer's report available.

Sustaining Membership Chairman Stan Scharch reported that Electronic Industries and Maney Logic were two recent renewals. Stan also announced a potential new sustaining member, Radio Research.

Strategic Planning Committee Chairman Dennis Behr mentioned that there were other vendors inter-

*(cont'd on pg. 2, col. 1)*

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

June 18  
July 21  
August 19

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## MINUTES

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ested in sponsoring a social breakfast such as that sponsored by BTS in February. He inquired as to whether the Chapter was interested in planning this event once again in the near future. After some discussion, it was decided that another social breakfast should be planned for this summer.

Chairman Jim Hermanson then announced that Newsletter Editor Deanna Morris had returned and would once again be taking over the newsletter duties.

Special Events Chairman Kevin Ruppert mentioned that he would like some feedback from the Chapter on their preferences on meeting places and whether the meeting place should remain the same or whether it should be changed periodically. Kevin said that one item that was raised at the National SBE meeting at this year's NAB was their desire to publish upcoming local meetings in the National Newsletter. For this reason it would help to keep the meeting place consistent since they need this information several months ahead of time.

In frequency coordination, Jim mentioned that Frequency Coordinator Chris Cain would be working with a new station in town, WYZZ, to establish a new STL frequency.

In old business, discussion arose on the position Chapter 24 should take on the issues that have recently plagued the National regarding the dues increase along with changes to the by-laws. Vice Chairman Leonard Charles suggested that we supply the National with constructive ideas on what we want from the National for our money.

Chris Cain then mentioned that possible changes to the by-laws were being proposed by the National. There was also some concern expressed about the location of recent and future SBE conferences.

In new business, Steve Peck mentioned the upcoming Desktop Video Seminar being sponsored by the ITVA

on June 5th. More information on this seminar can be obtained from Rosemary Bodolay at 256-0063.

Chris Cain then announced that the program for this year's WBA on July 15th in Wisconsin Dells has been formalized. Registration information will be arriving in the mail shortly. Call Chris Cain for further details.

In personal announcements, Chairman Jim Hermanson announced that he had recently become a licensed ham operator.

In professional announcements, Chris Cain mentioned that apparently a contract has not yet been signed between the State and Motorola on the candelabra project. Chris mentioned that Motorola had recently visited their facility (WISC-TV) to obtain information related to the project and appeared optimistic that a contract would be signed in the near future.

Chairman Jim Hermanson then mentioned that he had come across a BBS in a recent issue of Radio Guide which provided a variety of useful broadcast information, including FCC rules and regulations. The number of this BBS is 804-468-4957.

Dennis Behr then mentioned that there was a position open at the TOC in the engineering department and that application materials could be obtained through ECB personnel. Dennis then announced that Chapter 24 member Van Steiner had recently joined the ECB staff in the radio department.

At this time, Chairman Jim Hermanson turned the meeting over to Steve Zimmerman and the nominating committee for officers elections. Following the elections, there was some discussion regarding the appointed committee positions. It was suggested and then decided that ballots would be sent out to members to give them the opportunity to volunteer for the appointed positions.

At this time, Special Events Chairman Kevin Ruppert began the

CHAPTER 24  
OFFICERS

## CHAIRMAN:

Jim Hermanson (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 Scharch  
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 Liason - Paul Meyer

evening's program, which was a discussion of this year's NAB by those present at the meeting that attended this year's conference, including Steve Zimmerman, Chris Cain, Herb Van Driel, Steve Peck and Kevin Ruppert.

*Fred Sperry, Secretary*

# RADIO

By Stan Scharch

## Ownership Rules

In a 4-0 vote the FCC has ruled that a single licensee can now own up to 30 AM and 30 FM stations. Key congressional leaders have vowed to reinstate the old limits of 12 AM and 12 FM stations.

## NAB Opposes RDS Standard

The NAB said it will oppose any action to approve a national Radio Data Systems (RDS) standard unless the standard includes AM broadcasting. Currently there is no technology that allows RDS on AM. The NRSC standards process on RDS is nearly complete and may now be delayed.

## AM Freeze Lifted

The AM freeze was lifted on April 19. The new AM Improvement rules have also gone into effect. The FCC says a filing window is yet to be announced for the added 1610 to 1700 band.

## Senate Bill on AM Stereo Standard

The Senate is considering legislation that would require the FCC to select an AM stereo standard. SB 1101 would require the standard process to begin within 60 days.

*Excerpts from Radio World*

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Sales Representative

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Our latest renewal is:  
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Electronic Industries  
Maney Logic  
WMTV 15  
WKOW TV 27  
Anixter

The Tape Company  
Emmons Associates  
Panasonic Broadcast  
Communication Technologies Inc.  
WMMM-FM  
3M Professional Audio/Video  
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# TV NEWS

By Kevin Ruppert

In April, the FCC proposed offering every TV broadcaster an additional channel for the development of HDTV.

Under the plan, broadcasters would have two years in which they could apply for the reserved spectrum space, up to 1,700 new channels. The broadcaster would have five years, beginning in 1993, to begin high-definition TV broadcasts, and would have to give the extra channel space back to the FCC by the year 2008.

By then, the transition to an HDTV system is expected to be complete. However, after the new channels are up and running, broadcasters will have four years in which they could program both channels separately.

Some critics have called this plan a "grand-scale giveaway" of channels, but broadcasters have generally greeted the plan with a warm response. They claim that they need access to the new spectrum to ensure their survival in the new, high tech world of HDTV.

*Excerpts from  
Electronic Media*



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KEITH EMMONS

# NATIONAL IS LISTENING

(cont'd from pg. 1)

(preliminarily) proposing to develop a national videotape library that would be available to any chapter, possibly (via) satellite distribution. We have the technology, the personnel and expertise out at the local chapters to produce this." Also, there is thought of starting a National bookstore. The National needs your suggestions and input.

• A national computer bulletin board service (BBS) was proposed as a way of making available to members broadcast related programs and information. Better and more timely communications between the National SBE office and all of its members would also result. New working committees have been formed, such as the chapter liaison committee, membership committee and the international committee.

• There was much discussion about the necessity of an SBE sponsored National Convention and whether the convention's number one purpose should be to raise money.

"The idea is to have money to do greater things for SBE membership," said Jim Wulliman, chairman of SBE's Ennes Foundation. "One of which was to reinforce the regional shows. Income from the national convention can reinforce the regional shows and brings more education into the areas where the people are. That's the reason to make some money on the convention. It is a great disappointment to me that we don't have the money to do more of that, because I think that's what our major

role is: helping to train people who are our members."

The following are additional highlights from the Chapter Chair meeting:

• Jerry Whitaker, SBE Vice-President and a member of the organizing committee talking about the San Jose convention:

"We will not lose money. It will be a successful convention if everybody works at it. We are in our seventh year now. We lost money one year (Houston). (Booth) sales were off. Booths pay for any show. We got a good deal in San Jose, and we have a good start on it. I don't think we should do the convention if we can't make money."

• Paul Montoya, SBE Board of Directors:

"What we propose to the membership committee, based on either illness, forced retirement or loss of

job, is to look at each issue that comes to us on a letter by letter basis, and we will abate the dues for whatever given period is required. This did require a by-law change. This is a situation where we (the board) wanted to act on something quickly, that was a minor maintenance detail to the bylaws."

• Fred Baumgartner, SBE Board of Directors:

"The Board was looking for a way to give the appropriate power back to the members. We came up with a set of three resolutions. Resolutions are standing operating orders from the board.

1) The SBE annually publish a financial statement explaining any significant profits or losses;

2) The SBE publish the first practical national newsletter at the conclusion of each board meeting, a summary of proposals and the actions taken;

3) The SBE board meeting shall be open to any member."

"There is one amendment (or provision): The bylaws may be amended by majority vote of the membership at large.

A full membership vote shall be held within 120 days following the first board of directors meeting after five percent of all chapter chairpersons representing the majority of their members in good standing, submit a proposed amendment addition or deletion, and petition for a full membership vote.

The Board of Directors shall then have the option of voting on the proposed amendments, and, if af-

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Stan Scharch

# NATIONAL

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firmed in their entirety, render the full membership vote unnecessary.

SBE council shall be available to assist chapters to prepare such amendments.

This answers 90 percent of the problems I have personally with the by-laws (changes) that came through the last time."

(From the Milwaukee, SBE Chapter 28 May newsletter:

"We understand that Sandra Woodruff's SOS movement was going to use that provision to place her proposed bylaws changes before the Board, and then possibly before the membership, depending upon the Board's vote on the matter.

Those proposals are chiefly concerned with initiating the regional election of SBE national directors, as well as placing increased authority in the hands of the chapter chairs."

Woodruff, Los Angeles Chapter 47 Chair, is also planning to use this provision to rollback the SBE's current \$55 membership dues to \$40. SOS stands for Save Our Society.)

•Farquhar speaking about the first SBE day at NAB:

"This is a point that brought the SBE up to a national level."

•Bill Hubbard, Chair of SBE Chapter 80, Fox Valley:

"In closing, were mistakes made? Yes. Have the problems been solved? No, not yet. But, is there a genuine attempt to show improvement? Absolutely, no question. Let's keep busy, moving forward, and let's try and make it a unified effort. It is worth working on it, as a team."

# ELECTION RESULTS

Congratulations to Chapter 24's new slate of officers:

- Chairman—  
Jim Hermanson
- Vice-Chairman—  
Leonard Charles
- Secretary—  
Fred Sperry
- Treasurer—  
Paul Stoffel



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## CHAPTER 24 NEWSLETTER

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

Edited by: Deanna Morris

Contributors this month: Chris Cain, Leonard Charles, Jim Hermanson, Kevin Ruppert, Stan Sarch,  
Fred Sperry, Paul Stoffel.

Articles Welcome!! Send correspondence to:

Chapter 24 Newsletter

50 Schroeder Ct. #108

Madison, WI 53711

or call 608-271-3347 (home) 608-274-1234 (work)

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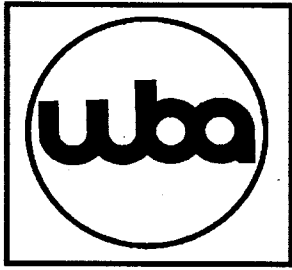
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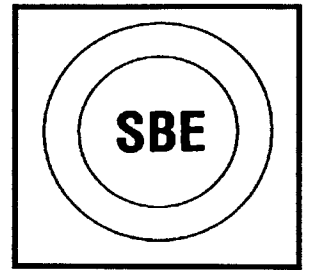
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PRESENTING THE FOURTH ANNUAL  
WISCONSIN BROADCASTERS ASSOCIATION  
SUMMER ENGINEERING SEMINAR  
AND STATEWIDE SBE MEETING



WEDNESDAY, JULY 15th, 1992  
AT  
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SBE BOARD MEMBER AND DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING,  
WBNS, COLUMBUS, OHIO SPEAKING ON  
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Registration for the full conference is just \$40, which includes the full day of technical sessions, the SBE Lunch with Marvin Born, Exhibits, Reception, and the WBA Opening Banquet. Or, if you prefer, attend only the conference sessions and the SBE luncheon for \$25.  
Same Price as Last Year!

To register, send your check for \$40 or \$25 per attendee before June 30, 1992 to:

Wisconsin Broadcasters Association  
44 East Mifflin Street, Suite 205 Madison, WI 53703

Note: On-site registration will also be available between 8:00A-8:30A on Wednesday, July 15th, but please call WBA to reserve your place (608) 255-2600

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