



April 2010

Society of Broadcast Engineers Chapter 24 Newsletter

Madison, Wisconsin

Next Meeting

Tuesday, April 20



KALTMAN RF ANALYZER TRAINING & Chapter Elections

Mark Kaltman of Kaltman Creations LLC will give us a tutorial on the use of his PC-Based RF Spectrum Analyzers. These low cost systems are available in various degrees of capability ranging from the non-engineering "roadie" selecting wireless mic frequencies at a concert venue to full engineering RF analysis.

The evening's presentation will be preceded by pizza served in the Full Compass cafeteria.

We will also be collecting ballots for the election of officers; blank ballots will be available at the meeting.

Complimentary Pizza
at 6:00 PM

Meeting and Program at
7:00PM

Full Compass Systems
9770 Silicon Prairie Parkway
Madison, WI

(see map on page 9)

From the Chair...

>>> by Fred Sperry

Please be sure to join us for our next meeting Tuesday April 20th for elections and Kaltman RF Analyzer Training at Full Compass. Kevin Peckham from Full Compass has been gracious enough to open their cafeteria to us for dinner. Pizza will be provided and the cost of the meal will be picked up by Chapter 24.

Please also note that we will be voting at this meeting on a proposal that has been presented to the Chapter Officers. The proposal requests that the chapter considers reimbursing part of the travel expenses for any member who gets elected to the National Board in the future. I expect this subject to generate some discussion as it would affect the chapter's checkbook balance, but at the same time it could be considered the type of endeavor the chapter's funds should be used for. Besides needing a quorum of Chapter 24 members at the meeting to vote on this proposal, I would appreciate as much input from the chapter's membership-at-large as possible in order to ensure our membership is being represented in this vote.

I had an opportunity to meet recently with SBE National Executive Director John Poray, Linda Baun of the WBA, Mark Heller from the SBE National Board and Chapter 80 and Leonard Charles, Broadcast Clinic Program Chair, at the Marriott Madison West to finalize plans for the National Meeting that will take place along with the Broadcaster's Clinic

>>> continued on page 3

Vote

See pages
6, 10 & 11



BROADBAND PLAN RELEASED, TV SPECTRUM TARGETED

>>> by Tom Smith

On March 16th, the FCC released their plan (www.Broadband.gov/plan) for the future growth of broadband service in the United States. The report was 356 pages covering all aspects of the future of broadband. The chapter of the report that is of the most interest for broadcasters, particularly those in television, is Chapter 5 which covers spectrum issues. Chapter 5 is 32 pages long and includes 7 pages of footnotes. The footnotes do give some information that may give a greater insight to the report's writers' thoughts on the

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Coming Up

Weds., May 12 Utah Scientific
Thur., June 17 SBE Summer
Picnic
Tues., July 13 Tektronix



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Meeting Minutes

from the March 2010 Business Meeting

The March meeting of SBE Chapter 24 took place on Tuesday, March 16, 2010 at the Wisconsin Public Radio studios at Vilas Hall on the UW-Madison campus.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05PM by Chair Fred Sperry.

There were 9 members present. All were certified.

Mike Norton was unable to attend and Kevin Trueblood substituted as Secretary.

The previous meeting minutes were approved by Kevin Trueblood, seconded by Tom Smith.

Treasurer Kevin Trueblood reported a healthy balance in the group's bank account.

Paul Stoffel had no new business to report on the newsletter.

In sustaining membership, Fred Sperry reported that membership is holding at 21 members and no renewals to report this month.

In programming, Steve Paugh announced next month's meeting would be held at Full Compass Systems on April 20th, with dinner included in their cafeteria.

Jim Hermanson in certification reported the next testing date would be in April during the NAB conference. He also reported there are new logos available from the National for use for those who are certified.

In frequency coordination, Tom Smith reported that Tom Weeden of WNWC needed an RPU frequency and was working to coordinate with stations in Madison. Also, over 300 comments were filed regarding the new wireless mic rules. The NAB filed a formal comment, wanting licenses required. Owners of future white space devices did not want licensing.

The FCC also announced their new broadband plan, which would start auctioning parts of the TV spectrum for use in wireless broadband devices. Proposals include revising the table of

allocations and compacting the spectrum to gain space. Details of the plan are available at broadband.gov

In the national report, Fred gave the report for Chuck in his absence. Senate Bill 2881 and the accompanying House Bill would provide authorizations for the FCC to hire a licensed Engineer to be on staff for each Commissioner. Also, for those attending the NAB conference, the national meeting is Tuesday April 13th. The national SBE booth will be located at the meeting site as well. Fred also mentioned that SBE Executive Director John Poray would be in Madison on March 18th to meet with Leonard Charles, representatives of the WBA and Chapter 24 and staff of the Marriott West to finalize plans for the SBE National Meeting taking place along with the Broadcaster's Clinic at the end of October.

In old news, the subject of awards was brought up. After doing some research, Fred found out that the time period for National Award nomination consideration has changed from being the previous year to now being considered from July 1st of the previous year to May 31st of the current year. Steve Paugh gave an election update and announced that he had made an error and listed Kevin Trueblood as chapter Secretary and Mike Norton as Treasurer on the election ballots. Steve also announced there was an opening in the Programming Committee.

There was no new business or professional/general announcements.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37PM.

The program for the evening was presented by Steve Johnson, Director of Engineering and Operations for Wisconsin Public Radio, and was a preview of a paper he will be presenting at NAB on indoor RF noise and reception of digital broadcast signals.

*Submitted by Kevin Trueblood,
acting secretary*

From the Chair

>>>continued from page 1

October 26-28, 2010. It appears that we are well on our way to a successful event. Please mark these dates on your calendar and plan on joining us for this year's conference.

At our March meeting, I mentioned there being some confusion as to the time period being considered for the 2010 National Awards nominations. In the past, award nominations were considered for the previous year but this has changed. I did confirm with the National Office that the dates for current award nominations are for activities from the June 1, 2009 until May 31, 2010 time period. I also recently received an e-mail from Megan Clappe at the National Office that the deadline for submissions has been extended from May 31st to June 15th.

I am in the process of compiling the material to submit nominations for the chapter awards. Nominations are also being accepted for individual awards. The list of categories and the form for individual nominations can be found on the National SBE website at http://www.sbe.org/documents/IndividualAwardsfillable_000.pdf. Please make note of the supporting documentation that is required for each category.

If you make a nomination for yourself or a fellow Chapter 24 member, I would ask that you please take the responsibility of compiling the necessary submission material as noted on the awards form. My plan at this time is to send the awards material to the National Office on June 1st, so I will be glad to include any individual nominations along with the chapter awards nominations if they are ready by this date. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding these awards.

Again, I hope to see many of you at the April 20th meeting. For those of you attending the NAB this year, have a great trip and a productive show.



CHAPTER 24 SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Recent Renewals

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Thanks to all our Sustaining Members

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Belden, Inc.

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Token Creek Productions

WISC-TV 3

WMTV-TV 15

WKOW-TV 27

WMSN-TV 47

Wisconsin Public Television

May 2010 Chapter 24
Newsletter Deadline:
Saturday, May 1
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edited using Adobe InDesign CS4

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Thanks to Leonard Charles
for maintaining the Chapter 24
web site and to Steve Paugh for
mailing the meeting reminder
postcards.

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Amateur Radio News

compiled by Tom Weeden, WJ9H

Proposed Rule Makings Released in March

On March 24, the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) proposing to amend Amateur Radio Service rules “with respect to Amateur Radio operations during government-sponsored emergency preparedness and disaster readiness drills and tests.” While current rules provide for Amateur Radio use during emergencies, the rules prohibit communications where the station licensee or control operator has a pecuniary interest, including communications on behalf of an employer. In October 2009, the FCC released a Public Notice clarifying the Commission’s rules relating to the use of Amateur Radio by licensed amateurs participating in drills and exercises on behalf of their employers. To date, the FCC has granted several dozen waivers under this new policy.

The FCC notes that while there are some exceptions to this prohibition, “there is none that would permit amateur station control operators who are employees of public safety agencies and other entities, such as hospitals, to participate in drills and tests in preparation for such emergency situations and transmit messages on behalf of their employers during such drills and tests.” Based on that, the Commission proposes to amend the rules to provide that, under certain limited conditions, Amateur Radio operators may transmit messages during emergency and disaster preparedness drills, regardless of whether the operators are employees of entities participating in the drill.

Earlier, another NPRM was released on March 16, proposing to facilitate the use of spread spectrum communications technologies by eliminating the requirement that amateur stations use automatic power control (APC) to reduce transmitter power when the station transmits a spread spectrum (SS) emission and reducing the maximum transmitter power output when transmitting a SS emission.

Spread spectrum techniques are methods by which the information signal of a particular bandwidth is intentionally spread in the frequency domain. At any point of bandwidth the SS emission occupies, either the power spectral density of the transmitted signal is reduced to a comparatively low level or the duration of a transmission on any frequency in the frequency segment is very brief. Consequently, stations in the same area can transmit SS signals without causing harmful interference to or experiencing harmful interference from each other or a station transmitting a non-SS signal over the same spectrum segment.

In 1985, the FCC authorized Amateur Radio stations to transmit SS emissions with a maximum transmitter power limit of 100 W peak envelope power. To emphasize the experimental nature of spread spectrum as well as some of the potential benefits associated with it, the Commission authorized such transmissions on a secondary basis to other amateur service communications. Fourteen years later, the FCC eliminated restrictions on spreading techniques “to allow amateur stations greater flexibility and permit them to use

the SS techniques used in other communications services.” The Commission also required stations transmitting SS communications with a transmitter power greater than 1 W to utilize APC to limit the transmitter power.

In 2006, the American Radio Relay League petitioned the FCC, requesting that the APC requirement be eliminated, asserting that the APC provision has proven to be “virtually impossible” as it requires the operators of the transmitting stations to determine the transmitter power received at distant receivers and that this requirement has proven to be “something of a barrier to SS experimentation.”

Amateur

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Amateur

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In the NPRM, the FCC agreed with the ARRL that the APC requirement “may be unnecessarily impeding Amateur Radio operators in advancing the radio art,” but the Commission does not propose to simply eliminate the APC requirement. Noting that the purpose of the APC requirement is to limit interference to other stations, the FCC pointed out that commercial broadband Internet service providers operating in the 900 MHz and 2.4 GHz ISM bands argue that the APC requirement should be maintained in order to prevent interference to other users. They also referred to suggestions maintaining that if the APC requirement is eliminated, the FCC should lower the maximum power limit on amateur stations transmitting SS emissions so that interference is minimized.

Given these concerns, the FCC proposes to eliminate the APC requirement and reduce the maximum transmitter power output amateur stations may use when transmitting SS communications from 100 W to a peak of 10 W. “We believe that this approach is consistent with both the ARRL’s request that we eliminate a requirement that may be impossible to implement and the intent of the APC requirement to limit interference to other stations,” the FCC stated in

the NPRM. “We also believe that the proposed rule change would (1) encourage individuals who can contribute to the advancement of the radio art to more fully utilize SS technologies in experimentation, (2) balance the interests of all users in mixed-mode and mixed-service frequency bands until sharing protocols are sufficiently developed to avoid interference and (3) promote more efficient use of the radio spectrum currently allocated to the Amateur Service.” The Commission is seeking comments on this proposal.

(Excerpts from the American Radio Relay League’s <arrl.org> web site)



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Certification Exam Session Dates

For more information about SBE Certification, contact Jim Hermanson, services@jimhermanson.com, Chapter 24 Certification Chair, or contact Megan Clappe, Certification Director at the SBE National Office at (317) 846-9000, or mclappe@sbe.org.

Exam Dates	Location Application	Application Deadline
June 4-14, 2010	Local Chapters	April 16, 2010
August 6-16, 2010	Local Chapters	June 4, 2010
Nov. 5-15, 2010	Local Chapters	September 17, 2010

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Cast Your Ballot!

>>> *by Steve Paugh*
Nominations Chair

The candidates' biographies and official ballot for the SBE Chapter 24 2010 election of officers can be found on pages 10 & 11 of this newsletter.

The deadline for getting your ballot to the nomination chair is at noon on Wednesday, April 28th, 2010.

The nominations committee will count the ballots on the afternoon of Wednesday, April 28th, 2010 at WISC-TV.



You may turn in your ballot in person during the April 20th, 2010 chapter meeting. I will have additional ballots available at the April 20h business meeting. If you are unable to attend the April meeting, you may mail your ballot directly to me at:

Steve Paugh- c/o WISC-TV
Ballot
7025 Raymond Road
Madison, WI 53719

Please indicate "Ballot" on the envelope and we will hold your ballot unopened until the official counting process. Your ballot must be in our possession before we begin the counting on April 28th. Remember that your membership must be current to be eligible to vote. Your membership number must be entered on the ballot for it to be valid. Thanks to the nomination committee members Mike Kulis and Leonard Charles.



The 2010 WBA-SBE Summer Engineering Workshop is set for June 23rd at the Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells.

The morning sessions will cover a wide range of IP topics. We will investigate communicating with, controlling and monitoring your transmitter site from anywhere in an IP world. Then we'll build on last year's popular networking security session. This year we'll investigate elevated IP security risks both inside and outside your IP network.

Morning Session Speakers:

- 8:00am: Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 8:40am: Welcome and Opening Remarks
- 8:45am: Tony Peterle, Technical Support Manager, WorldCast Systems Inc.
- 9:30am: Steve Dinkel, Director of North American Sales, Burk Technology
- 10:15am: Break
- 10:30am: David Kieper, Manager of Network and Infrastructure Services, UW-Green Bay
- 11:15am: Peter Kretche, Senior Network Systems Administrator, UW-Green Bay
- 12:00pm: Lunch

After Lunch we will delve into the evolution of CAP and Next Generation EAS, in particular to the State of Wisconsin. Our State Emergency Communications Committee has been working on CAP distribution in our State and its time to get you involved in that process. In addition we will hear from EAS equipment manufacturers on their philosophy of incorporating CAP into our EAS systems. There will also be Next Generation EAS equipment demonstrations to help you determine how your station will get there.

Afternoon Session Speakers:

- 1:00pm: Gary Timm, Broadcast Chair, Wisconsin EAS Committee
- 1:45pm: Harold Price, President, SAGE Alerting Systems
- 2:30pm: Break
- 2:45pm: Jim Gorman, Owner, Gorman Redlich
- 3:30pm: Adam Jones, Applications Engineer, Trilithic
- 4:15pm: Jim Heminway, VP and GM of Monroe Electronics (DASDEC)
- 5:00pm: Exhibits and Reception

Contact the WBA at 800-236-1922 for registration and Summer Conference details.

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Broadband

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issues discussed. In the report, the Commission is proposing to reallocate 120 megahertz of UHF-TV spectrum (20 channels) for wireless claiming they need to find 500 MHz over the next ten years, including 300 MHz in the next five years for wireless because of the web-enabled wireless devices, such as smart phones and electronic tablets. They also targeted other spectrum groups. The spectrum that they are looking at is mainly in the 225 MHz to 3.7 GHz range. In the other bands, they are looking at 20 MHz in the 2.3 GHz Wireless Communication Service band, 10 MHz in the 700 MHz "D" block which is part of the public safety band and which they were unable to auction previously because of the need to share the band in emergencies with public safety providers. Other bands include 60 MHz in the Advanced Wireless Services (AWS), including 20 MHz from Federal use. The last non-broadcast band they are looking at is 90 MHz from the Mobile Satellite Service (MSS).

Broadcasters are getting hit in two areas: the first is the desire by the Commission to reallocate 120 MHz of the UHF TV band to wireless; the second is to allow for sharing of the Part 74 bands, along with Cable's Part 78 bands which they mainly share with broadcast and the Part 101 bands used by point to point microwave. They want these bands to be shared by the wireless industry for backhaul of the wireless traffic from their towers to the switching centers.

In the TV bands, the Commission is proposing that rules on TV service areas and distance separations be updated and the Table of Allotments be revised. They wish to establish a framework for the licensing of two stations in one 6 MHz channel, determine rules for auctions of TV spectrum reclaimed through repacking

and channel sharing, explore alternatives if repacking and channel sharing do not yield the amount of spectrum desired for wireless, including changes in transmission architecture, conducting an overlay license auction or require more extensive channel sharing (three to six SD stations in 6 MHz). And finally take additional measures to increase efficiency of spectrum in the TV bands.

In their discussion they placed the value of TV spectrum at \$0.11-0.15 per MHz per pop or \$0.66 to \$0.90 for your channel per person in a station's coverage area. For wireless they use the average price of \$1.28 per MHz per pop for wireless spectrum. The price for wireless spectrum is based on auction results, and for TV it is based on estimated value of stations multiplied by the 15% of viewers that watch exclusively off-the-air. The Commission ignores value of a station's cable and satellite viewers in these methods. A good account of the method that the FCC used in their analysis of the report on TV broadcasters is on the blog, www.broadcastlawblog.com. These figures are used to justify the reallocation of the spectrum from TV to wireless. In the report, the Commission noted that broadcasters using the airwaves did provide a number of important services including being an alternative to cable for those who cannot afford it, and providing various types of programming including news, political coverage and emergency information. They also mention the opportunities for datacasting and mobile TV and the advantage of relative efficiencies of point-to-multipoint and point-to-point architectures. But in the end, they claimed the social value of TV broadcasting did not outweigh the financial value of the spectrum for wireless.

The changes in the service areas, channel separations and revising

the tables would allow repacking of stations in less spectrum. This would be done by decreasing separation distances between stations and allowing for more adjacent channel operation. This would reduce coverage of existing stations. The Commission figures that they can make the allotments more efficient by moving some stations to different channels in the lower part of the TV bands, they could free up 36 MHz of spectrum. They have plans to reduce the TV band down to channels 2-45 just by moving stations around some. This would mean more stations moving back to the VHF bands also.

In the channel sharing proposal, they stated, based on some trials by a few broadcasters, it was possible to broadcast two HD signal on one 6 MHz channel thus allowing for two broadcasters to share a channel. They said that the stations were claiming to provide two signals of "spectacular" quality. They did note that multicasting and mobile TV would figure into the possibility of stations sharing a channel. This proposal would apply mainly to stations offering one program stream only.

One of the most important proposals to broadcasters is the auctioning of broadcast spectrum. One of the proposals is having some stations voluntarily give up their channel for auction and sharing in the proceeds of the auctioning of that channel. This is called an incentive auction. The station giving up the channel could either cease operation or share a channel with another station. If their channel is in the new repacked part of the TV band, a station in the part of the band to be used for wireless usage would have to move to the newly opened lower channel. They would be reimbursed for their costs for moving to a new channel. All of this would require the approval of

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Broadband

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Congress.

One of the actions the Commission would like to see is stations weighing the options of either having their channel auctioned and receiving part of the proceeds or doing more with their channel to gain more value, such as multicasting and mobile TV. This could also force stations to choose to either do HD or SD with their primary video signal as they would have to determine how much bandwidth would be needed for other services.

If the FCC is not permitted to conduct the incentive auctions or if not enough stations participate, the Commission would seek other alternatives. This could include transitioning television broadcasting to cellular type architectures. This would include signal frequency networks or multi frequency networks. They did note that there would be a high cost to implement and operate, and they do not know if there would be that great of a payoff in the freeing of new spectrum. Other options would be more stations sharing a 6 MHz channel and the use of overlay auctions in which the winner would bid on a spectrum band (several TV channels) and then negotiate with the current occupants of the band to clear their channels. In these scenarios, stations would be reimbursed for any costs for relocating to a lower channel only.

Additional measures to free TV spectrum could include full-power TV spectrum fees, which could probably increase over time. They also are proposing to set a deadline of 2015 for all LPTV stations to convert to digital and allow them to participate in incentive auctions. On March 25th, the FCC (http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-10-496A1.pdf) set a deadline of May 24th for all LPTV applicants with pending applications filed for a new analog LPTV station to refile,

specifying digital operation. They will be subject to a new application fee also. Another issue the FCC would address is reception issues in the VHF bands including increasing the power limits for stations or the adoption of enhanced antenna and receiver standards. Without fixing the VHF reception issues, more VHF stations could continue to ask to move to UHF channels making it more difficult to free spectrum for wireless broadband. The FCC plans to start rulemakings on these proposals no later than 2011 and start auctioning the incentive auctions in 2012 with the auction of reallocated spectrum in 2013. They want the entire reallocated spectrum cleared by 2015.

Other spectrum issues that were addressed were a proposal to create a national contiguous 10 MHz wide unlicensed band; move to finish the TV White Space proceeding; and create opportunities for the development of new technologies to find and use open spectrum with the use of spectrum agile radios. These radios would find open spectrum either by sensing which frequencies are in use or searching a database listing frequencies currently in use. These radios would be designed to work on a number of different bands.

The plan calls for the FCC and the National Telecommunication and Information Agency (NTIA), which manages the spectrum allotted to the Federal Government, to develop a plan to identify what spectrum is allotted to the government that could be used for wireless broadband. They set a deadline of October 1, 2010. This could mean some Federal government services may have to share spectrum with non-government users.

There have been lots of comments on this report. From the broadcast community, most of the comments have been negative as to be expected. And even some of the FCC Commissioners have some

reservations about the spectrum proposals for TV. Commissioner Mignon Clyburn warned about taking broadcast spectrum without first understanding its impact on news and information and on small market and minority broadcasters. Commissioner Robert McDowell suggested that, before moving broadcasters off their spectrum, a more efficient use of spectrum by wireless users be investigated, along with TV white spaces using more under-used government spectrum, and encouraging broadcasters to lease their spectrum. Commissioner Michael Copps also expressed concern about the changes in the TV bands affecting localism and diversity in the media. These issues were addressed in the Broadband Plan mostly in passing. There was not any in depth discussion on these subjects. Some have expressed concern that these issues were not addressed more as the FCC has held a number of inquiries in the past few years on localism, the changes in the media and how it affects news reporting and other information gathering and distribution. Diversity of ownership and ownership limits has also been high on the FCC agenda.

In comments on the C-Span program, *The Communicators*, Martin Cooper, one of the developers of cell phone technology for Motorola, in comments on the March 4th program said that more spectrum would not solve the future traffic issues for the wireless industry. He said the only way to solve the problems is to do more frequency reuse by making individual cell coverage smaller to create more cells and to use small cell repeaters within buildings to handle calls from within buildings. He stated the bulk of the wireless traffic was from within buildings and those calls could be handled by femtosites

Broadband >>> cont. on page 9

Broadband

>>> cont. from page 8

within the buildings freeing cell towers for outside traffic. On page 79 of the report, the Commission said that without more spectrum, network providers would have to seek alternatives including cell splitting “often with diminishing returns.” This is the opposite of the thoughts of Mr. Cooper and the whole idea of the cellular concept of frequency reuse.

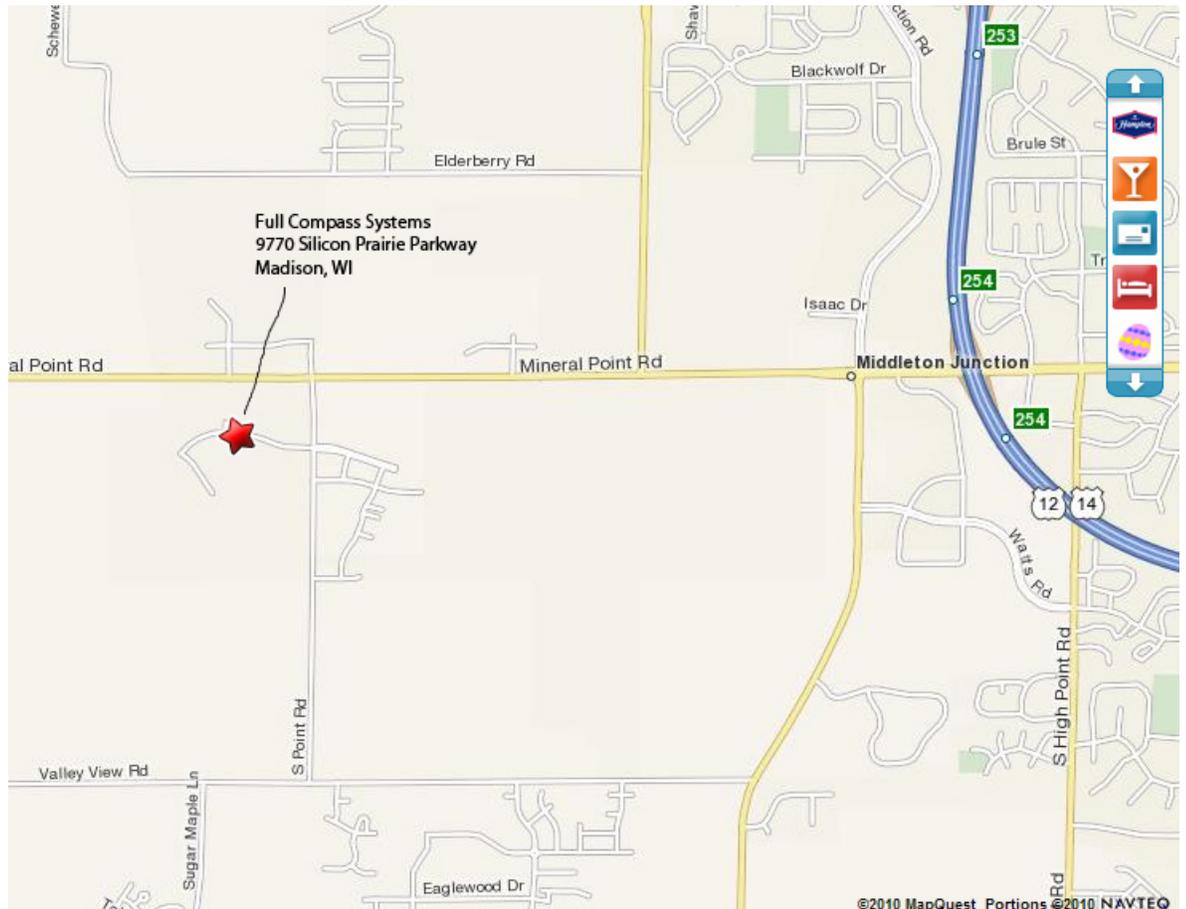
The House Communications Committee met on March 25th and had all five Commissioners before them to discuss the Broadband plan. Chairman Rick Boucher (D-VA) said that a voluntary approach was the correct approach to reclaim TV spectrum. Former Chair John Dingall (D-MI) stated that after returning 33% of spectrum back to the government, any further surrender of spectrum would put diversity and localism at risk. Former Chair Fred Upton (R-MI) echoed Dingell’s remarks and noted that broadcasters had made a large investment in digital allowing them to increase services. Anna Eshoo (D-CA) expressed concern about the possible loss of spectrum from public TV stations. A Senate Committee was to meet with the Commissioners on March 23, but that meeting was move to mid-April due to the Health Bill debate. Senator Olympia Snowe (R-ME)

has also expressed concern about the reallocation of broadcast spectrum. Some members of Congress have said that any reallocation of spectrum should wait until the spectrum inventory that they ordered the FCC and the NTIA to conduct is complete. That inventory could take several years, as both agencies will have to comb their databases to identify all users.

While the FCC may be able to start rulemakings on many of the actions, the auctions are subject to action by Congress and Congress would no doubt want to have a say to any FCC action that makes any changes to broadcasting since Congress relies on local stations for exposure. In some markets that are along the Canadian or Mexican borders, agreements will have to be negotiated and signed.

To aid in the identifying the use of spectrum, the FCC has started a website that identifies users of spectrum by band, county, use or user. The site is <http://reboot.fcc.gov/reform/systems/spectrum-dashboard/>. There is another private site, www.unwantedemissions.com that breaks down the use of spectrum by frequency, band and use. The tables on this site are based on the FCC allocation table and show how much spectrum is used by each service and on what frequency bands.

Additional information from www.broadcastingcable.com; www.tvnewscheck.com; www.broadcastengineering.com; Radio Business Report (www.rbr.com); and www.cnet.com.



Map for April’s SBE Meeting

CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES

Fred Sperry – Candidate for Chairperson

I have been in the broadcasting business since graduating from the Milwaukee Area Technical College with an Associate Degree in Broadcast Communications in 1984. I worked for radio stations in Platteville and Fort Atkinson before going to work with my current employer, the Educational Communications Board (ECB)/Wisconsin Public Broadcasting in 1986.

I was involved in the original construction of the ECB's Telecommunications Operations Center in 1988 and was involved in the operations and maintenance of this facility. The ECB moved into a new "digital" Operations Center in 2006 where I continue my role in the operations and maintenance of this facility as part of the technical support staff.

I have been a member of SBE Chapter 24 since arriving in Madison in 1988. I'm certified as a Professional Broadcast Engineer. I have held all the officer positions within Chapter 24 at various times throughout the years, and I'm currently nearing completion of my first year serving in my second term as Chapter Chair. I would be honored to serve Chapter 24 for another year as Chair.

Bill Hamilton – Candidate for Vice Chair

Bill Hamilton is the Technology Manager of WisconsinEye, an all digital HD television station that is a privately funded "State Span" for the State of Wisconsin. He started his career nearly 30 years ago as a 2nd generation broadcaster in the St. Louis, Missouri television market. There he worked for television stations; KDNL, KTVI and KETC, cable companies, in post production and in corporate video. While there he held a variety of positions from operations to Engineer in Charge and Chief Engineer. He also worked on several broadcast installation projects, including the design and installation of a 3 edit suite production house. Since moving to Wisconsin in 2005, he has worked for SignaSys, in San Jose, CA as an instrumental part of the team assembled to create and present training to broadcasters in the use of digital ENG equipment, required by the FCC mandated BAS relocation. This included creating the course curriculum and designing the supporting hardware system. Following that he was at AZCAR in Pittsburgh to work on restating the BAS relocation/digital ENG training program, where he managed the construction and commissioning of the technology used. He also assisted with the development of the trainers and training materials.

Bill holds a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering degree from Southern Illinois University. He has an FCC General Class RadioTelephone License and a SBE CBT certification. He is a member of SBE, IEEE and SMPTE. He received a local Emmy nomination for editing and his animation work was showcased by Adobe at NAB.

Mike Norton – Candidate for Secretary

Mike has been working in radio and television broadcasting for the past 16 years. He started as an on-air DJ while attending college. Also while a student, he held the technical operations director and station manager positions at WSUP-FM/Platteville. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree from UW-Platteville, with a Broadcast Technology Management major and graphic arts minor. He worked as an MCO at WISN-TV/Milwaukee, and is currently a staff engineer at the Educational Communications Board Telecommunications Operation Center for Wisconsin Public Broadcasting in Madison. His current duties include electronic maintenance for radio and television equipment, automation, DTV encoding, and satellite uplink systems.

Mike has been an SBE member since 1992, was the SBE Chapter 24 newsletter editor from 1996 through 2006, and is currently certified at the CSTE and CBNT levels.

Kevin Trueblood – Candidate for Treasurer

Though still considered a "pup", Kevin's a veteran on the radio industry. He started at a group of stations in Galesburg, IL while still in high school. While attending Northern Illinois University, Kevin worked for stations in Rockford, DeKalb and Chicago (at the same time!) and was hired to be an OM/PD right after graduation in the cornfields of Iowa. In 2004 he moved to Bloomington, IL to serve as an OM and PD for a group of 4 stations and eventually picked up Engineering duties during that time. In late 2007 he started his first full-time Engineering job as an Assistant Engineer and IT Manager for public station WGLT in Bloomington, putting the station's HD signal on the air with 2 multicast stations in 2008. Kevin came to Madison in late 2008 to work for Mid-West Family Broadcasting before joining Wisconsin Public Radio in February 2010 as a Broadcast Engineer. His current role at WPR is overseeing the network's Audio Vault and production systems in addition to helping maintain the studios around the state. He's been a member of SBE since 2008 and is a CBNT.



2010 SBE Chapter 24 Election Ballot

You must be a current member of SBE Chapter 24 to be eligible to vote.

Please include your SBE member number: _____
Voter names will not be identified.

VOTE FOR ONE FOR EACH OFFICE. MARK AN "X" NEXT TO YOUR SELECTION.

CHAIRPERSON

_____ Fred Sperry

(write-in candidate)

VICE CHAIR

_____ Bill Hamilton

(write-in candidate)

SECRETARY

_____ Mike Norton

(write-in candidate)

TREASURER

_____ Kevin Trueblood

(write-in candidate)

Elections will take place during the April chapter meeting. If you cannot attend that meeting, you may send your completed ballot to the address below. Please vote only once.

Steve Paugh - c/o WISC-TV
Ballot
7025 Raymond Rd.
Madison, WI 53719

All ballots must be received by noon, Wednesday, April 28, 2010.

WMTV replaced its top-mount analog channel 15 antenna with a new ERI circularly-polarized DTV channel 19 antenna in late March at the Forward Drive Tower. Work was performed by Precision Communications, Inc. of Grove, Oklahoma. Combined with a Harris Sigma IOT transmitter, WMTV's power will increase from 56 kW to 155 kW ERP.



2010-03-23 Analog antenna attached to gin pole



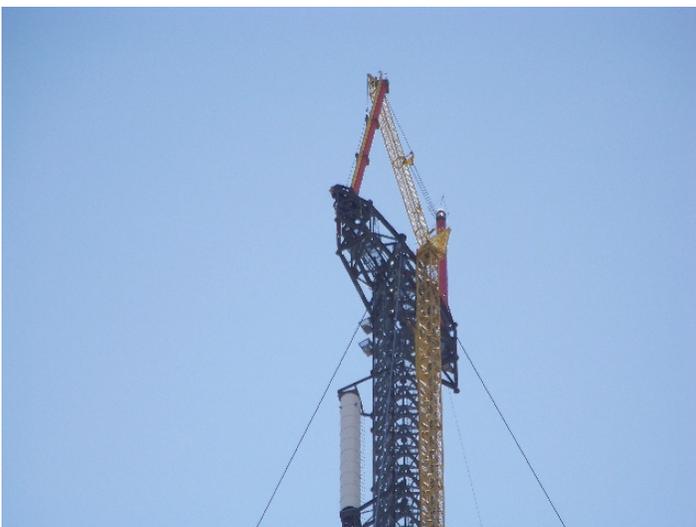
2010-03-24 Analog antenna taken down



2010-03-24 Analog antenna down on the ground



2010-03-26 DTV antenna going up



2010-03-26 DTV antenna lowered into position



2010-03-26 DTV antenna being set