



June 2010

Society of Broadcast Engineers Chapter 24 Newsletter

Madison, Wisconsin

Next Meeting

Thursday, June 17

ANNUAL CHAPTER 24 PICNIC

The Chapter will supply burgers and brats, condiments, buns, plates, cups and utensils. The grill will be started at 5:00pm.

Bring a dish to pass, an alternate entrée if desired and your preferred beverage. (We have an alcohol permit.)

Please sign-up on the chapter web site (<http://www.sbe24.org>)

There is a playground for the kids and we have an amplified music permit for the evening's music provided by Trailing Edge Entertainment.

Come for the food and company, stay for the relaxing atmosphere!



5:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Badger Prairie Park, Shelter #1
Verona, Wisconsin

No Park Admission is required.

There will be a brief business meeting about 7 PM to introduce our newly elected officers

Visitors & guests are welcome at all Chapter 24 events!

From the Chair...

>>> by Fred Sperry

Thank you to everyone who participated in the recent officer elections. I am honored to be serving another term as Chair. I believe I can speak for my fellow officers that they feel the same. I look forward to working with Bill Hamilton, Mike Norton and Kevin Trueblood once again during the coming year.

We recently had an officers meeting to look ahead to the coming year. We have a number of items in the works including updating the Chapter by-laws as this hasn't been done in some time. There are items in the by-laws that are out-of-date and articles that need to be added. These updates will take place in the coming months, and when completed we will vote on the changes at an upcoming meeting. More information on this will be reported on in the newsletter.

Several of the committee officers were able to attend this meeting as well. I'm pleased to report that it appears that all program committee officers have agreed to continue in their roles on their respective committees. A lot of the behind the scenes work that is done to keep Chapter 24 moving forward is due to the work of these committee members.

We are currently looking for one additional person to be on the Program Committee. If you have an interest in being on this committee, please contact either Steve Paugh or myself.

You may have forgotten about the Certification Drive Chapter 24 is sponsoring. This is the program

where the Chapter will pay half of the application fee for new certifications obtained by active Chapter 24 members. Guidelines and the application form can be found on the Chapter 24 website. Just click on the "Certification Drive" button on the web page. Thanks for Leonard Charles for adding these documents to the web site.

As the recent weather has proved, we are approaching summer in Wisconsin. This also means it is time for the annual Chapter 24 picnic. Once again the picnic will take place at Badger Prairie Park in Verona which is a great location for a picnic. Please join us for the picnic on Thursday June 17th. A big thank you to Steve Paugh who does a lot of work to make this picnic happen. Hope to see you there!



Coming Up

- Tues., July 13 **Tektronix – Ancillary Data Analysis**
- Weds., Aug. 18 **Linear Acoustic – Hear Factor Tour**
- Thurs., Sept. 16 **Loudspeakers, Part 4**



In this Issue

Meeting Minutes.....	2
FCC Rulemakings.....	3
Amateur Radio News.....	4
WBA Summer Workshop.....	5
Certification News.....	6
Wireless Microphones.....	7
Birds and Towers.....	7



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Meeting Minutes

from the May 2010 Business Meeting

Chapter 24 of the Society of Broadcast Engineers held their monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 12, 2010 at the Wisconsin Public Broadcasting Center in Madison, WI. There were 15 members present, 13 who were certified, and one guest.

The Chapter brought in pizza and soda for everyone to enjoy before the evening meeting and program. Chairman Fred Sperry called the meeting to order at 7:03pm, and everyone offered quick introductions. The April meeting minutes, as published in the newsletter, were approved on a motion by Pete Deets and seconded by Kevin Ruppert. Treasurer Kevin Trueblood reported that the chapter accounts were in the black.

Newsletter editor Paul Stoffel reminded everyone that the deadline for newsletter items was June 1st, and that articles are always welcomed. Reporting as Sustaining Membership Chair, Fred Sperry mentioned that the chapter has 20 current sustaining members and that Roscor recently renewed their support.

Program Committee Chair Steve Paugh announced the next upcoming meetings dates and programs. On Thursday, June 17th Chapter 24 will hold its annual picnic at Badger Prairie Park in Verona. The Chapter will provide the brats and burgers. Tektronix will present information on Ancillary Data (ANC) in digital video at the July program. The August 18th meeting will feature "The Hearfactor Tour" by Linear Acoustics.

Certification and Education Chair Jim Hermanson told the group that the next SBE certification exam opportunity would be August 6 – 16th, and that the deadline for applications was June 4th. Frequency Coordinator Tom Smith reminded everyone that wireless microphones in the 700MHz band must be turned off by June 12th. He also suggested that any replacement wireless mics be licenced with FCC Form 601.

National Liaison Leonard Charles

reported that Terry Baun received the SBE Lifetime Achievement Award at the NAB show. Also, the new CertPreview program can be purchased and downloaded online to help prepare for SBE certification. Leonard also mentioned the RF Safety Course as now available on-demand from SBE, and that the Leadership Development Course will be held August 3 – 5th in Atlanta, GA.

Chair Fred Sperry had the December financial statement from the SBE National office, and passed it around for those interested to view. For old business Fred Sperry plans to send nominations for Best Chapter Newsletter, Best Regional Conference, and Best Website for the National Awards info on June 1st.

In new business, Leonard Charles updated everyone on the WBA/SBE Summer Engineering Workshop coming up on June 23rd. The afternoon sessions will be all about Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) and Next Generation EAS, and that there will be five vendors represented—updates will be sent out via email. He also mentioned that CAP is coming, and that FEMA is expected to start the 180 day countdown sometime this fall.

In professional announcements, Leonard Charles mentioned that a local TV station is looking for a contract engineer for 8 hours a week; contact Leonard for more information. In an additional professional announcement, Paul Stoffel announced that Jim Hermanson has been selected as the WHA-TV transmitter and maintenance supervisor.

There were no Tech Tips or other announcements, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:17pm. Steve Paugh introduced Tom Siebenaller from Roscor, and Jacob Kinsey from Cobalt Digital who presented the program and demonstration on digital video color correctors.

Submitted by Mike Norton, Secretary



NOTICE OF INQUIRY

MB Docket No. 09-182

2010 Quadrennial Regulatory Review-Review of the Commission's Broadcast Ownership Rules and Other Rules Adopted Pursuant to Section 202 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996

The FCC is going through the every four-year task of reviewing the broadcast ownership rules. The action is a requirement of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The review usually results in some changes in the ownership rules though not as drastic as the rule changes in the 1996 Act itself, which led to the huge consolidation of the radio stations and the creation of giant groups such as Clear Channel and Cumulus.

In this inquiry (http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-10-92A1.pdf), the Commission is focusing on the local ownership rules, some of which have been challenged in court and sent back to the FCC for further review. The Commission is asking for information on changes to both the local TV and radio ownership rules, the newspaper/broadcast cross ownership rules, the radio/TV cross ownership rules and the dual network rules.

Currently, with TV ownership rules, one can only own one station in a market unless there are eight or more TV station owners in a market. So if there are 9 stations in a market, one owner could own 2 TV stations, 10 stations in the market, 2 owners could have 2 stations with the number of multiple stations owners increasing with additional stations in

the market. No owner can own any two of the largest viewed stations in the market, which are normally the ABC, CBS, FOX or NBC stations. The Commission is asking if duopolies should be allowed in smaller markets and if they should include those between the four major networks. In some markets one of the four highest viewed stations could be a Spanish language station.

The radio ownership rules currently have a sliding ownership rule. The more stations in a market, the more stations one can own with the top limit being 8 stations in a market with 45 or more stations. In the smallest markets, one can be limited to an AM and a FM station.

The newspaper/broadcast cross ownership rules allow for the cross ownership of a newspaper and a broadcast station in the top twenty markets only. In smaller markets it is not allowed unless a newspaper or broadcast station is in financial difficulty. A newspaper and broadcast station may merge in those markets with a waiver of the rule by the FCC.

The TV/radio cross ownership rule restricts an owner to up to 2 TV stations and 6 radio stations in markets with 20 broadcast owners, 2 TV and 4 radio stations in markets with 10 broadcast owners and one TV and one radio station in all markets with a 2nd TV station allowed in those markets that meet the rules for TV duopolies. All other TV duopolies in the larger markets must meet the TV duopoly rules.

The final ownership group that the inquiry addresses is allowing the big four broadcast networks to merge. Currently ABC, CBS, FOX or NBC cannot merge with each other. They can merge with other networks as NBC has done with the Spanish language network Telemundo.

In each of the groups, the FCC is asking if they should allow for more common ownership among between TV, radio and newspapers. They are

also asking if the networks should be able to merge. They ask if it should be by numerical limits or case by case or a combination of number limits and specific cases. They also ask if they should take a broad approach and consider other media including the Internet and mobile services to wireless devices. Questions on the effects of the National Broadband Plan and its effect on traditional media are also addressed in the inquiry.

One DTV transition issue is addressed which is the consideration of overlapping contours. In the analog TV world, some stations under common ownership could have grade "B" overlap, but not grade "A" overlap. With digital, there is no grade A or B contours, so the Commission is asking for guidance on determining acceptable overlap.

Finally, the Commission asks for comments on the effect on local programming, diversity of ownership and the effect on competition in the advertising market place if ownership among stations is decreased by further consolidation.

The two main rules that are under the most pressure to be changed is the newspaper/broadcast cross ownership rules and the TV duopoly rules. With the continuing loss of newspaper subscribers and loss of TV viewers, owners are looking to combine

Rulemakings

>>> continued on page 8

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

July 2010 Chapter 24
Newsletter Deadline:

Thursday, July 1
paul.stoffel@wpt.org

edited using Adobe InDesign CS4



Amateur Radio News

compiled by Tom Weeden, WJ9H

- The 2010 “Dayton Hamvention” featured FCC staffer and ham radio operator Bill Cross, W3TN, who spoke on behalf of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau’s Mobility Division. Cross spoke on emergency communications and FCC proceedings including vanity and club call signs, 60 meters and power limits for spread-spectrum users, as well as the FCC’s National Broadband Plan (NBP). The Mobility Division handles the day-to-day administration of the Amateur Service, along with some of the rulemaking activities that affect Amateur Radio. The Division has staff members in Washington, DC and Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The Gettysburg staff deals with most of the Amateur Radio applications and licensing matters, as well as the Universal Licensing System (ULS).

The Commission’s National Broadband Plan (NBP) was formally released on May 19. The NBP calls for re-allocating 500 MHz of spectrum to mobile broadband over the next 10 years. Cross said that this means moving spectrum from one service to another. “As part of this process, an inventory of spectrum, both federal and non-federal, appears to be in the works,” he said. “Bills mandating this inventory have been introduced in Congress. The goal is to find spectrum that can be used for the NBP. 300 MHz is sought in the next 5 years. What is being looked for is primarily under 3 GHz and in large blocks. The plan is to auction it off and it would be used for a commercial service, probably something similar to the cellular service today, but at greater bandwidths. Broadcasters have already said, ‘Not us.’ Federal

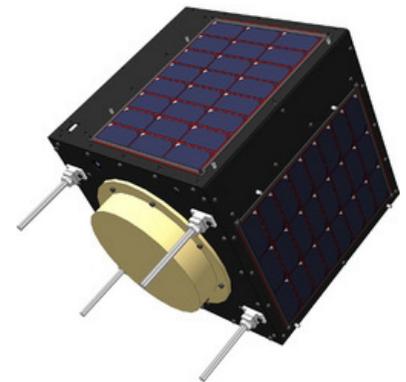
agencies are examining their spectrum to see if it is being used as efficiently as possible.”

Cross pointed out that the amateur bands below 225 MHz do not appear to be of much interest for the NBP “because they are narrow — 4 MHz or less — and the propagation is ‘too long.’ 902-928 has a lot of consumer devices in it that may cause interference to mobile devices, particularly hand-held devices. But you have other bands that may be of use for the NBP: The 9 cm band (3.4 GHz) is 200 MHz wide. The 13 cm band (2.3-2.4 GHz), although split, covers 150 MHz. The 5 cm band (5.8 GHz) is 275 MHz wide. These bands are possibilities, especially if paired with other spectrum.”

Amateurs also have commercial interests, particularly the land mobile community, looking for an additional 30 MHz of spectrum, Cross explained. “Land mobile already is allocated 450-470 MHz,” he said. “You have 420-450 MHz on a secondary basis — 30 MHz right next to an existing land mobile band. Although not ‘pure’ due to government radars like the PAVE PAWS systems and other uses, I would not be surprised if the land mobile community says we can make more efficient use of that spectrum than the hams do, and our use will create jobs. Stay tuned.”

- An informal network of ham radio experimenters, scientists and CW (Morse Code) enthusiasts called FlyVenusCom — a nonprofit, cross-cultural effort — has been created to support communication efforts by Japanese scientists with its CubeSat Venus probe, UNITEC-1. This CubeSat was developed by 20

universities of the University Space Engineering Consortium (UNISEC), the Japanese community developing nano-satellites. The Japanese UNITEC-1 team has called for ham radio assistance worldwide in improving and testing two areas of the CubeSat’s mission. What makes this mission of particular interest to amateurs is the fact that the UNITEC engineers have added a 15 Watt, 5 GHz Amateur Radio beacon to the spacecraft and they are encouraging hams to attempt to receive it.



Artist’s rendering of UNITEC-1 CubeSat

The launch took place on Thursday, May 20 at 23:05 UT from the Tanegashima Launch Centre in Japan. On May 21, Japanese ground stations reported receiving the CW and FSK beacons (call sign JQ1ZUN) at a distance of about 30,000 km. They measured the beacon frequency at 5839.91 MHz. Even though the latest reports say that the signal has been lost, the UNITEC team is trying to re-establish contact with the satellite. UNITEC-1 was the first Amateur Radio spacecraft to head to another planet.

(Excerpts from the American Radio Relay League’s <www.arrl.org> and Southgate Amateur Radio Club’s <<http://www.southgatearc.org>> web sites)





2010 WBA-SBE Summer Engineering Workshop June 23rd at 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
- 1:35pm: Harold Price, President, SAGE Alerting Systems
- 2:10pm: Jim Gorman, Owner, Gorman Redlich
- 2:45pm: Break
- 3:00pm: Art Leisey, Director of EAS, Trilithic
- 3:35pm: Jim Heminway, VP and GM of Monroe Electronics (DASDEC)
- 4:10pm: Patrick Gannon, President & COO, Warning Systems, Inc.
- 4:45pm: End of Sessions
- 5:00pm: Exhibits and Reception

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

<http://www.wi-broadcasters.org/wba/index.php/events/summer-conference/>

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Certification News

The newest version of SBE CertPreview™ is available as an instant download or as a CD that will be mailed to you to install onto your computer. The SBE CertPreview™ sample test software will give users an idea of what to expect on SBE certification exams. Each certification level on the software will have approximately 100-150 sample questions that users can take as a 50 multiple choice question sample exam. Users will be able to check their answers before scoring their SBE CertPreview™ exam. Scoring will provide a breakdown of categories contained within the exam and a percentage of questions answered correctly within those categories. After scoring, users can revisit their answers before retaking the sample exam again. Purchase the new SBE CertPreview™ and instantly download it onto your computer, or order a copy of the CD to install later.

Download: \$29 per exam; CD: \$33 per exam (S & H: \$3 per CD)

<http://www.sbe.org/CertPreview.php>



An “SBE Certified” logo debuted at Las Vegas. This logo came from a suggestion by a Tuscon, AZ member who was looking for a way to advertise his certification on a business card. The logo may be used in conjunction with your certification letters if you would like it to appear on business cards or resumes. A list of guidelines for its use will be available on the SBE Website before the debut.



The 2009 Year End Certification Report was presented to the SBE Executive Committee at its meeting in Orlando, FL on January 23rd. This year the Certification Committee did a full review of the question database. The committee is in the process of rewriting questions to replace the outdated questions. Some end-of-year National summaries from the report are as follows.

New Certification Total:	464
Recertification Total:	290
Life Certification Total:	44
Exam Failure Total:	150
Exam No Show Total:	19
CertPreview Total Purchases:	359
Employer Letters:	49
New SBE Members From Certification:	48

Certification Publications Purchases

Television Operators Handbooks 6th Edition:	1
Television Operators Handbooks 7th Edition:	279
Radio Operators Handbooks:	125

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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
Nov. 5-15, 2010	Local Chapters	September 17, 2010
February 4-14, 2011	Local Chapters	December 31, 2010



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FCC ISSUES WIRELESS MICROPHONE NOTICES

>>> by Tom Smith

On May 26th, the FCC issued a reminder (http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-10-969A1.pdf) to manufacturers, and sellers of wireless microphones that the sale of wireless microphones in the 700 MHz band is prohibited and that they must notify users of the limitations of wireless microphone use. In order to inform the public about their use, they must place on packaging and on displays and their websites the following notice:

Most users do not need a license to operate this wireless microphone system. Nevertheless, operating this microphone system without a license is subject to certain restrictions: the system may not cause harmful interference; it must operate at a low power level (not in excess of 50 milliwatts); and it has no protection from interference received from any other device. Purchasers should also be aware that the FCC is currently evaluating use of wireless microphone systems, and these rules are subject to change. For more information, call the FCC at 1-888-CALL-FCC (TTY: 1-888-TELL-FCC) or visit the FCC's wireless microphone website at www.fcc.gov/cgb/wirelessmicrophones.

On May 28th, the FCC issued a release (http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-298506A1.pdf) reminding the public that wireless microphone use on the 700 MHz band is prohibited after June 12th. Both these releases go along with the wireless microphone site on the FCC website. There is a link to that site on the FCC home page.

BIRDS AND TOWERS

>>> by Tom Smith

A number of tower industry groups and conservation groups have filed a memorandum of understanding (<http://www.fhhlaw.com/BirdMOU.2010.05.03.pdf>) with the FCC in order to get expedited rulemaking on towers and their effect on birds. The groups include CTIA–The Wireless Association®, the National Association of Broadcasters, PCIA–the Wireless Infrastructure Association, the National Association of Tower Erectors, and the Conservation Groups (“Groups”), consisting of the American Bird Conservancy, Inc., Defenders of Wildlife, and the National Audubon Society.

They have agreed on a number of definitions as to what is considered a change to a tower that would require notification to the FCC and FAA for a change in tower registration. These include changes to the size of certain things placed on the tower or at its base and location changes for replacement towers. Also included are standards for

tower lighting changes.

All towers taller than 450 feet will require a public notice of the tower construction and an avian environmental study. Towers 351–450 feet will require a public notice and may require an avian environmental study. Towers 350 feet or less do not require the avian environmental study and may require a public notice depending on the final rules.



<http://www.sbe.org/SBEUniversity.php>

Courses:

- Computer Networking for Broadcast Engineers
- AM Antenna Systems
- Voice Telco Networks and Studio Interface Systems
- 8-VSB
- AM Antenna Computer Modeling
- FM Transmission Systems
- Matching Networks and Phasing

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Rulemakings

>>> continued from page 3

resources to cut costs. With the TV duopoly rules, stations in smaller markets are looking to combine or add stations to provide multiple network services at lower costs. Some stations in small markets are already using multicasting to carry two of the four major networks where there are only one, two or three stations in a market.

The action was adopted and released on May 25th with comment to end 30 days after publication in the Federal Register and replies due 15 days later.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

WT Docket No. 10-88

2004 and 2006 Biennial Regulatory Reviews-Streamlining and Other Revisions of Parts 1 and 17 of the Commission's Rules Governing the Construction, Marking and Lighting of Antenna Structures RM 11349

Amendments to Modernize and Clarify Part 17 of the Commission's Rules Governing the Construction, Marking and Lighting of Antenna Structures

The FCC has issues a Notice of Rulemaking (http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-10-53A1.pdf) concerning the rules on construction, marking and lighting of towers. Much of the rulemaking concerns the elimination of rules that differ from those of the FAA concerning towers and outdated references to rules that have deleted or otherwise are no longer relevant. The proposed rules would synchronize the FCC rules with the FAA's on the marking and lighting of towers, and on changes to existing towers. Any changes in the height of a tower with a change of one foot or more and a change in location of one second or more would require notification. The FCC is seeking information on determining the accuracy of the location

of a tower including the use of GPS. They also ask for information on proposed FAA rulemakings concerning the inclusion of transmitting frequency and power changes and other additions to a tower's use.

Other proposed rule changes include: requiring all tower owners to renew FAA NOTAMs for lighting failures every 15 days as the FAA automatically deletes them after 15 days unless renewed; ending the requirement for quarterly lighting inspections; and posting the tower registration number at the entrance to the tower site where the public can see it. The sign at the base of the tower would no longer be required. The process for determining if a tower needs painting by an FCC inspector is being looked at as to make the procedure more uniform. Also a tower owner would no longer be required to provide a paper copy of the registration to a tenant, but would have to provide the link to a copy on the FCC website.

The Commission is also seeking comment on prohibiting the registration of towers when registration is not required. Some short towers are registered as part of environmental study requirements.

Comments are due on July 20th with replies due on August 19th. This action was adopted on April 12 and released on April 20th.



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CHAPTER 24 SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Recent Renewals

Roscor Wisconsin

Thanks to all our Sustaining Members

Alpha Video

Belden, Inc.

Clark Wire and Cable

Full Compass Systems

Heartland Video Systems

GEPCO International, Inc.

JVC Professional
Products Company

maney-logic

Midwest Media Group

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Ross Video

Scharch Electronics

Sound Devices, LLC

Token Creek Productions

WISC-TV 3

WMTV-TV 15

WKOW-TV 27

WMSN-TV 47

Wisconsin Public Television

James D. Daniels, Jr. (J.D.)
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