



# Society of Broadcast Engineers Chapter 24 Newsletter Madison, Wisconsin

April 2013



## Next Meeting

**TUESDAY, APRIL 16**

### **FIREWALLS – HOW TO PROTECT YOUR FACILITY AND YOURSELF & Elections!**

Rob Roush of WORT-FM will discuss Computer Firewalls both in general and with specific suggestions on how to implement one. With the security breach of the EAS system and a major denial of service attack on Spamhaus, understanding network security is more important than ever.

Remember to cast your ballot for election of officers on-line at [sbe24.org](http://sbe24.org)!

Dutch Treat Dinner 5:30 PM  
Culvers Frozen Custard  
2102 W. Beltline (north frontage road)  
Madison, WI  
(no reservation - just gather together)

Meeting and Program at 7:00PM  
Wisconsin Public Broadcasting Center  
3319 W. Beltline Hwy  
Madison, WI

Visitors & Guests are welcome at all Chapter 24 events!

## White Spaces Opened

>>> by Tom Smith

On March 1st, The FCC issued a notice ([http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2013/db0301/DA-13-324A1.pdf](http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2013/db0301/DA-13-324A1.pdf)) that allowed for the operation of unlicensed TV broadband devices anywhere in the United States. This follows a period when the Commission allowed limited operation of TV broadband devices in a number of Eastern seaboard states. The opening up of the TV white spaces to unlicensed TV broadband devices was made by authorizing database providers to provide service to all locations in the U.S.

There are currently two approved providers of database information, Spectrum Bridge, Inc. and Telcordia Technologies, Inc., both who can supply information on open TV channels in which these TV broadband devices can operate on. Google is currently testing their database system and the FCC authorized Key Bridge Global, LLC ([http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2013/db0304/DA-13-328A1.pdf](http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2013/db0304/DA-13-328A1.pdf)) to begin their 45 days of database testing on March 11th.

There are six other companies authorized to provide databases for TV broadband device operators, but they have not been approved to begin tests at this time. All TV broadband devices must check one of these databases every 24 hours to find an open TV broadcast channel to operate on in order to avoid interference with licensed TV broadcasters, cable TV receive sites and licensed and registered wireless microphones and cueing devices.

There are a limited number of devices that have been approved for operation at this time and how fast of a roll out of white space TV broadband devices

depends on the approval and the start of the marketing of these devices. The notice authorizing nationwide operation of TV broadband devices also provides a short explanation of the authorizing of TV broadband devices.

In another white space device action, Spectrum Bridge, Inc. asked ([http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2013/db0325/DA-13-546A1.pdf](http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2013/db0325/DA-13-546A1.pdf)) for the Commission to wave the prohibition of operation of fixed TV broadband devices on the adjacent channel of a licensed TV station in order to allow a device by Mead Technologies, Inc (MeadTech) to operate on these channels. MeadTech has an approved device that transmits a TV signal to sets in locations such as big box stores and other venues. It operates at 40 milliwatts, the same as portable TV broadband devices which are allowed to operate on adjunct channels to licensed TV stations. Because it is rack mounted, it does not qualify as a portable device.

Spectrum Bridge, Inc. has said that the device would operate above channel 20 as portable devices are required and would check with a whitespace database every 30 minutes. The request was filed on February 25th, the notice issued on March 25th, with comments due April 25th and replies due on May 10th.



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## Coming Up

Wed., May 15	NAB Wrap-Up
Thur., June 13	SBE Summer Picnic
Tues., July 16	TBA



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### Chapter Leadership

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*Volunteer for the  
program committee!*

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# Meeting Minutes

from the March 2013 Business Meeting

The March SBE meeting was held on Thursday, March 14, 2013 at the studio of Full Compass Systems. Current Secretary Kevin Ruppert chaired the meeting as both the current Chair and the Vice-chair were unable to make the meeting. Steve Paugh was appointed acting Secretary. Kevin called the meeting to order at approximately 7 PM.

After introductions of those present, the minutes of the February meeting were approved as published in the March newsletter. In attendance were 17 members of which 12 were certified. There were 5 guests.

Treasurer Matt Glissendorf reported that the chapter finances were in the black. Certification Chair Jim Hermanson reported that the next certification exam will be held at the NAB Convention on April 9 and the deadline for application is March 22. The next local exam will occur on June 7-17 with the deadline for application April 12.

Frequency Coordination Chair Tom Smith reported that the deadline to register your 7 GHz receive sites on the FCC database is April 1, 2013. The FCC has also approved the white space data base and it is now active nationwide. Because of the white space activity, licensed wireless microphones need to be in the CH 36-39 space for white space protection. The CTIA wireless trade organization wrote a letter to the FCC on March 13th asking the FCC to allocate the top 15 MHz of the 2 GHz TV remote pickup band for wireless use, affecting all of CH 7 and half of CH 6. Tom also reported that incentive auction replies have been received and the final rules may be out at the end of this year.

National Liaison Leonard Charles reported that there will be a National SBE meeting during the Las Vegas NAB convention. Nominations Chair Steve Paugh announced that elections will be in in April and will once again have on-line voting. The list of candidates and bios will be published in the April chapter newsletter.

There was no Old Business and in New Business, acting Chair Kevin Ruppert made a request for additional Program Committee members to help the current Program Chair who is currently working alone. In the professional and general announcements portion of the meeting an item was brought up by Treasurer Matt Glissendorf who reported that our current bank wants us to go to electronic based web banking or pay a monthly \$3 fee. A brief discussion ensued as how easy would it be to transfer web access when a new treasurer is elected and what email address to use for the bank statements. Matt will check into this and report back at the next chapter meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:30 PM and program Chair Steve Paugh introduced Jon Tatoes of Sound Devices who gave a presentation on their latest line of file based video recorder.

*Submitted by temporary secretary Steve Paugh with additional items by  
Secretary Kevin Ruppert.*



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## FCC Approves TV Mega Moves

>>> by Tom Smith

On March 18th, the FCC approved the change of the city of license for two TV stations. What is different about these changes of cities of license is that the new cities of license are all the way across the country. The FCC approved this change of the cities of license under order of the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. PCPM TV, LLC owner of KVVV (TV) Channel 3, Ely, Nevada and KJWY (TV) Channel 2, Jackson, Wyoming wished to move the stations from Ely to Middleton Township, New Jersey ([http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2013/db0318/DA-13-448A1.pdf](http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2013/db0318/DA-13-448A1.pdf)) and Jackson to Wilmington, Delaware ([http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2013/db0329/DA-13-450A1.pdf](http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2013/db0329/DA-13-450A1.pdf)).

They requested these moves under a law that required at least one VHF station in every state. After the DTV transition, both states VHF stations began operation in the UHF band. The FCC rejected the long distance move and instead allocated a VHF station for each of states which have been applied for and granted. PCPM TV, LLC went to court and was able to force the FCC to grant the move. The FCC allotted the channels to Middleton Township and Wilmington and canceled the allocations to ELY and Jackson. The allocations were one of two for each city.

## GAO Looks at Receivers

>>> by Tom Smith

The Government Account Office has issued a 58-page paper (<http://www.gao.gov/assets/660/652284.pdf>) examining the effects of receivers on the efficiency of spectrum usage. This paper was the result of an order by Congress that was included in the Middle Class Tax Relief and Jobs Act of 2012. This order was included in the bill because of the issues that arose when Lightsquare, LLC proposed to use spectrum adjacent to the spectrum used by GPS for a terrestrial broadband service. The spectrum was originally assigned for two-way satellite transmission from

portable devices. Manufacturers and users of GPS equipment objected due to the possible interference to GPS receivers from land-based transmitters located on the adjacent spectrum to the GPS band.

The GAO concluded that better receivers would be subject to less possible interference from nearby users of other spectrum bands which would lead to better use of spectrum. The GAO noted that most receiver standards were voluntary and that were not adhered to by many receiver manufacturers as there was no cost benefit for them. Consumers had to live with interference issues as part of nature of using the receiver. Providers that provide a subscription service such as a cell phone and satellite TV providers can specify standards for their equipment and avoid some of the interference issues that plague devices that are aimed for a consumer to receive a signal such as GPS or broadcast radio and TV or provide a two-way closed transmission such as WI-FI or two-way radios. The GAO did give some case studies of interference between various subscription service bands in the paper besides noting the issues with general consumer receivers.

The GAO described a number of methods for improving receiver standards, from setting voluntary standards with the FCC, issue notices of which units either meet or fail the standards, to the setting mandatory standards and approving the marketing of the receivers. They also proposed that manufacturers or users of receivers not meeting the standards would not be able to claim interference protection. The final conclusion of the report is that better receiver standards could reduce interference issues and allow for better usage of spectrum.

## WBA-SBE Summer Engineering Workshop Wednesday June 19th

This year's Workshop will be held in conjunction with the WBA Summer Conference at the Osthoff Resort in Elkhart Lake, WI. While Managers golf, Engineers will be in session having just as much fun. The day starts at 8:45am and ends at 4:30pm followed by the Exhibit Reception, Dinner, and the infamous S'mores campfire by the lake, all covered by your low-cost, single-day registration.

The program committee has established the topics for the day and is working on booking speakers. A full agenda will be released soon. This one-day Workshop always includes lively audience discussions of timely subjects, so you'll want to save the date and make plans to attend. Rumor is it will actually be warm in Wisconsin by then. We'll see.



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# Amateur Radio News

compiled by Tom Weeden, WJ9H

## FCC Grants ARRL's Request for Temporary Waiver for TDMA Systems

Acting upon a request by the American Radio Relay League, the FCC issued an Order (WT Docket No. 12-283) on March 25, granting a temporary waiver to transmit communications on amateur service channels above 30 MHz using single time-slot Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA) systems. The temporary waiver was granted pending the resolution of a related rulemaking proceeding (RM-11625).

Currently, amateur stations are authorized to transmit messages using telephony and data emissions. The ARRL noted in its request that Amateur Radio Service licensees have recently established numerous narrowband repeater facilities using multiple time-slot TDMA repeaters and single-slot TDMA handheld digital transceivers in the 70 centimeter (420-450 MHz) band, but Part 97 rules do not permit single-slot TDMA emissions.

The FCC stated in its Order that the purpose of specifying emission designators for the Amateur Radio Service "is to relegate the transmission of certain inharmonious emission types to different segments of the frequency bands, while still allowing great flexibility in the types of emissions that may be transmitted by amateur stations." In granting the temporary waiver, the FCC agreed with the ARRL, noting that the digital systems that radio amateurs have recently implemented are "compatible with existing amateur repeater channelization plans."

Emission types FXE and F7E (phone) and FXD (data) are employed by some land-mobile equipment manufacturers such as Motorola's MOTOTRBO, which are sometimes used by amateurs repurposing commercial radio gear.

## Ham Radio at the NAB Show

The ARRL will be promoting Amateur Radio at the annual convention of the National Association of Broadcasters' NAB Show scheduled for April 6-11 at the Las Vegas Convention Center. Members of the Las Vegas Radio Amateurs Club (LVRAC) will staff the ARRL booth at NAB, providing attendees with information about Amateur Radio. The booth also serves as a meeting place for radio amateurs attending the convention where they can talk with local leaders, as well as ARRL Pacific Division Director Bob Vallio, W6RGG. Arrangements for the ARRL booth are being provided by NAB Science & Technology Vice President John Marino, KR1O.

"We encourage all radio amateurs who will be attending NAB Show to bring a handheld transceiver, as they may use the 146.940 MHz repeater located in the Las Vegas Hotel and Casino," said LVRAC President Jerry Sobel, K0MBB. "Several people at the booth usually monitor this machine for 'talk-in,' providing directions to exhibits and general information."

LVRAC will also host a special monthly meeting and program on April 9 at a local restaurant. "NAB hams are invited to come by and visit," Sobel said. "Please RSVP at the ARRL booth, as space might be limited. Depending on availability, LVRAC members will be providing transportation." Directions to the restaurant are available on the LVRAC website.

The convention will also feature a special Amateur Radio "drop-in" session -- hosted by Bob Heil, K9EID -- from 6-8 PM on Wednesday, April 10 at the LVH Hotel in Las Vegas. This will be the eighth year that Heil has hosted this event, which draws hundreds of hams.

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



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## Cast Your Ballot!

>>> Submitted by Steve Paugh,  
Nominations Chair

This year you may cast your ballot on-line! To cast your ballot on-line simply visit [www.sbe24.org](http://www.sbe24.org) and follow the links to on-line voting. You simply enter your last name and your SBE Membership number. The official ballot for the SBE Chapter 24, 2013 election of officers is also being published in this month's newsletter. If you prefer to mail in your ballot you can print out the ballot and mail it to:

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 24th. Remember that your membership must be current to be eligible to vote. Your membership number must be entered on the printed ballot for it to be valid, on-line voting will automatically verify your membership number.

The deadline for getting your ballot to the nomination chair or completing the on-line ballot is at noon on Wednesday, April 24h, 2013. The nominations committee will count and certify the ballots on the afternoon of Wednesday, April 24th, 2013 at WISC-TV.

You may turn in your ballot in person during the April 16th, 2013 chapter meeting. I will have additional ballots available at the April 16th business meeting. A big thanks goes to Leonard Charles for writing the program that allows on-line balloting, to Mike Kulis for serving on the nominations committee and to all the members of SBE Chapter 24 who have volunteered their services to Chapter 24.

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## Planning the Next Generation of DTV

>>> by Tom Smith

The Advanced Television Standards Committee has issued a call for proposals (<http://www.atsc.org/cms/standards/ATSC-3-PHY-CFP.pdf>) for developing the next generation of digital broadcast television. The first call for proposals is for the ATSC 3.0 physical layer. The physical layer is the transport stream which makes up the transmitted RF signal. It is likely to be incompatible with the current digital transmission system and will hopefully attempt to correct issues with the current system.

Among the standards that the Committee wishes to be addressed includes multiple levels of coding with bits rates per hertz of the occupied bandwidth from .5 to 10 bits, a 30% increase of data rate above the 19.38 limit of the current system, increased robustness including better coverage with indoor antennas and in rough terrain and the ability to be received in moving vehicles and with handheld devices, support signal frequency transmission network operation, and the ability for further extensions of the transmission system. The call for proposals can be found on the ATSC website. In Baltimore, Sinclair Broadcasting has started testing of COFDM transmission as part of their research on future transmission systems and the results will be submitted as part of this of this call for proposals.

## Chairman to Leave

>>> by Tom Smith

On March 22nd, FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski announced ([http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2013/db0322/DOC-319730A1.pdf](http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2013/db0322/DOC-319730A1.pdf)) that he would be stepping down in the coming weeks. He set no particular date when he would leave the Commission. In his announcement, he noted actions by the Commission while he was Chairman to expand broadband services, spectrum policies including the incentive auction proposal, consumer actions and Internet openness.

The announcement included a link to a document ([http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2013/db0322/DOC-319728A1.pdf](http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2013/db0322/DOC-319728A1.pdf)) that further described the actions of the Commission during his tenure. Two days earlier, Commissioner Robert McDowell announced ([http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2013/db0320/DOC-319686A1.pdf](http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2013/db0320/DOC-319686A1.pdf)) that he was leaving the Commission also.

Chairman Genachowski was appointed by President Obama in 2009 to fill a Democratic seat on the Commission and to become Chairman. He was a Harvard classmate of the President. Commissioner McDowell was appointed to a Republican seat by President Bush and reappointed to a second term by President Obama.

## Reinstate lapsed certification through the Jubilee Project

The SBE Certification Committee has announced a special opportunity for individuals who have allowed their SBE certification to lapse, to regain it with no exam required. The Jubilee Project, named for the SBE 50th anniversary that takes place in 2014, is for those who previously held an SBE certification that expired from January 1999 through January 2012.

All SBE certifications are included in the re-instatement program. For details, see the article on page six in the April issue of The Signal.

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Thanks to Leonard Charles  
for maintaining the Chapter 24  
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for mailing the meeting  
reminder postcards.

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**CHAPTER 24  
SUSTAINING  
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**Recent Renewals**

Joseph Electronics

**Thanks to all our  
Sustaining Members:**

- Alpha Video
- AVI Systems
- Belden, Inc.
- Clark Wire and Cable
- Full Compass Systems
- GEPSCO International, Inc.
- Heartland Video Systems
- JVC Professional  
Products Company
- maney-logic
- Midwest Media Group
- Resonant Results, Ltd.
- 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



[http://www.sbe.org/sections/cert\\_exam\\_prep.php](http://www.sbe.org/sections/cert_exam_prep.php)

**Certification Exam Session Dates**

For more information about SBE Certification, contact Jim Hermanson, jim.hermanson@wpt.org, 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 DEADLINE
June 7-17, 2013	Local Chapters	April 12, 2013
August 9-19, 2013	Local Chapters	June 1, 2013
November 1-11, 2013	Local Chapters	September 13, 2013

# CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES

## **Kevin Trueblood – Candidate for Chairperson**

Kevin Trueblood is currently an Engineer with Wisconsin Public Radio. This is Kevin's 16th year working in radio, starting back in high school at a group of stations in his hometown of Galesburg, IL. Along the way, he's been an on-air talent, Intern, Program Director, Operations Manager, and Engineer in cities all over Illinois including Bloomington, Chicago, and Rockford. Kevin considers one of the highlights of his career flipping two formats, installing a new automation system, building two new studios, installing 4 generator systems, recovering from a devastating lightning strike, and getting married...all in the span of 4 months.

At WPR Kevin focuses primarily on the maintenance of the network's Audio Vault automation system and production systems, but also helps maintain the network's studios in Madison and other bureaus around the state. He lives in Madison with his wife and family.

## **Kevin Ruppert – Candidate for Vice Chair**

I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Communications Arts (Radio, TV, Film) from the University of Wisconsin. I started my broadcasting career at WNNO radio in Wisconsin Dells where I was a staff announcer, news reporter, and part time engineer. My job at WISC-TV started as a master control operator. I later became a maintenance engineer there and am now Engineering Maintenance Supervisor.

My other experiences in broadcasting include engineering at WORT-FM.

I have served as Chapter 24 Program Chair, Special Events Chair, a previous stint as Chapter Vice-Chair and Chapter Chair. I am on the Program Committee for the Wisconsin Broadcaster's Clinic.

My wife and I have two sons. We enjoy camping, kayaking and other outdoor activities around the state. I am active in an alumni group dedicated to preserve and promote student radio at the UW.

## **Pete Deets – Candidate for Secretary**

Pete has been in broadcasting since starting part time in 1977 at WSDR Sterling, IL while attending the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. Upon graduation in 1980 he was a radio chief engineer at WATK/WRLO-FM Antigo, KRVR Davenport and then WFRH/WWRW Wisconsin Rapids. In 1991 he took his current staff engineer position at WMTV. He joined SBE in 1982 while working in Iowa and was the treasurer for the Quad Cities Ia/Ill chapter for 3 years.

Along with a BS in Broadcasting with an Engineering Emphasis from UW-P, Pete holds an SBE CBT certification, FCC General Radiotelephone Operator License and Amateur Extra.

To get completely away from electricity in his off hours Pete is qualified as a steam locomotive fireman and holds an FRA Railroad Locomotive Engineer's License through the Mid-Continent Railway Museum in North Freedom. He is also currently president of the Wisconsin Historical Steam Engine Association.

## **Matthew Glissendorf – Candidate for Treasurer**

Matt Glissendorf is a Sr Specialist - Network Support with AT&T where he coordinates SOX audits of AT&T Mobility facilities. He has been working for AT&T for 12 years, working as a Central Office Technician, Loop Electronics Coordinator, and Video Site Operations Manager for U-verse before accepting his current position. Although his new position had taken him out of the television side of the house, he maintains a strong interest and desire to learn more about the industry.

Matt holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Milwaukee School of Engineering and has been a member of SBE since 2009.

# 2013 SBE Chapter 24 Election Ballot

(For use by members not using the on-line 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

\_\_\_\_\_ Kevin Trueblood

\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_  
(write-in candidate)

## VICE CHAIR

\_\_\_\_\_ Kevin Ruppert

\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_  
(write-in candidate)

## SECRETARY

\_\_\_\_\_ Pete Deets

\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_  
(write-in candidate)

## TREASURER

\_\_\_\_\_ Matthew Glissendorf

\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_  
(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 24, 2013.