



May 2015

Society of Broadcast Engineers Chapter 24 Newsletter Madison, Wisconsin

Next Meeting

Wednesday, May 6

NAB WRAP-UP

SBE members in attendance at the annual six-day National Association of Broadcasters Convention in Las Vegas will condense the event into a series of short presentations.

There will be plenty of slides and photos of the interesting high points and general review of the mood and future direction of broadcasting.

Tom reminds us we are not to park in the reserved spaces normally occupied by the news vehicles.

Dutch Treat Dinner at 5:30 PM

Babe's Bar & Grill 5614 Schroeder Road Madison, WI

Meeting and Program at 7:00PM WMTV Studios 615 Forward Drive Madison, WI

FCC NEWS BITS

>>> by Tom Smith

FCC To Meet Broadcasters in Milwaukee

On April 21st, the FCC announced (http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2015/db0421/DA-15-484A1.pdf) that they would hold sessions with TV broadcasters in eight cities including two in the Midwest regarding the upcoming Incentive Auction. They will hold a session on June 8th in Chicago and on the next day, June 9th, they will hold a session in Milwaukee. The sessions are to provide TV broadcasters information on the auction process and the UHF band repacking. These sessions are in part a follow up to the Greenhill Report (http://wireless.fcc.gov/incentiveauctions/learn-program/Incentive_Auction_Opportunities_Book_Information_Sessions_2_13_15.pdf) that was released in February. The FCC will be conducting both a general session for all those in attendance and one-on-one sessions with individual broadcasters. Because of the nature of the information and the need for confidentiality for those who may wish to participate in the auction, attendance will be limited TV broadcasters and their representatives.

Auction Survey Form Gets OK

On April 13th, the FCC announced in the Federal Register, (http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-04-13/pdf/2015-08178.pdf) that the Office of Management and Budget had approved FCC Form 2100 Schedule 381. Form 2100 is the new TV broadcast station application form. Schedule 381 is a form named Pre-auction Technical Certification Form which the FCC is using to gather information

>>> News Bits continued on page 3

Election Results

>>> submitted by Steve Paugh, Elections Chair

The Chapter 24 election ballots were counted and certified on April 22, 2015. There are 51 voting members in Chapter 24. A total of 12 ballots were cast 11 electronically and we received one paper ballot. We thank everyone who took part in the election process.

Congratulations to all of our newly elected officers.

- Chairperson- Kevin Ruppert Vice Chair- Richard Wood Secretary- Pete Deets Treasurer- Leonard Charles

The nomination committee members were Steve Paugh, Mike Kulis and Leonard Charles.

Coming Up

- Thur., June 11 SBE Summer Picnic Tues., July 14 Klover Products Sports Mics Wed., Aug. 12 Ensemble Designs Multi-Format Router / Switcher

In this Issue

Meeting Minutes..... 2 FCC Rulemakings..... 3 Amateur Radio News..... 4 RF Safety Webinar..... 5 Certification News..... 6



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Meeting Minutes

from the April 8, 2015 Business Meeting

Chapter 24 of the Society of Broadcast Engineers met at the ECB in Madison. Chair Kevin Trueblood called the meeting together at 7pm.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter. Treasurer, Leonard Charles, reported that there were 4 Sustaining Member checks deposited since last meeting. The Chapter also paid an expense for Park Shelter rental for the upcoming Chapter Summer Picnic in June. The Chapter balance remains in the black.

Newsletter Editor Paul Stoffel advised the article deadline for the May newsletter is midnight May 3rd. Paul had nothing to report as the Membership Chair.

Fred Sperry, the Sustaining Member Chair, reported our Sustaining Member total remains at 16. The latest renewal is Sound Devices.

Program Committee Chair Steve Paugh reported that next month we'll have our annual NAB Wrap Up so anyone going to NAB is asked to take pictures and notes and report on the experience at the May meeting. The meeting will be in the main studio of WMTV, weather permitting (if bad weather the studio will be needed for coverage). The Summer Chapter Picnic is scheduled for June 11th.

Certification Chair Jim Hermanson said there was no local activity since the last meeting. The next exam application deadline has been extended to April 20th for the June 5th through 15th test period. The next exams after that will be August 7th thru 17th with the application deadline June 5th.

Frequency Coordinator, Tom Smith, had nothing to report this month.

National Liaison Chair, Leonard Charles, invited any member going to NAB to attend the Membership Meeting followed by a Reception in room S228 of the LVCC starting at 6pm on Tuesday. The SBE booth this year is again in the South Hall second floor lobby. The SBE is also discussing the matter of implementation of the "audible crawl" of text only emergency messages and the possibility of an implementation delay. Watch for more on this soon.

In old business the membership was urged to cast their election ballot on line on the Chapter's web site. The votes will be tallied on Wednesday April 22nd so you must have voted by then to be included in the results.

In professional announcements Kevin Trueblood announced this is his last meeting with Chapter 24. Kevin is resigning Chair as of May 1st because he is moving to Fort Myers, FL where he took a job as Director of Engineering for Public Media, TV and Radio, in that market. Vice Chair Kevin Ruppert will take over running next month's meeting. The Chapter thanked Kevin for his service and wished him well on his new job. WPT will miss his participation on pledge drives. Kevin said there will be a position opening at WPR very shortly.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:09pm at which time Jim Leinweber, IS Specialist at the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene, gave an in depth presentation on IPv6.

By Leonard Charles, Secretary



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WISC-TV
MADISON 5



FINAL RULEMAKING

On April 17th, the Commission adopted rules (http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2015/db0421/FCC-15-47A1.pdf) allowing for the commercial use of the 3550-3700 MHz band. Currently the 3500-3650 MHz band is used by the Department of Defense (DOD) for radar systems which will remain protected. The C-Band satellite service starts at 3700 MHz, which could be of concern to broadcasters using services in the 3700-4200 MHz band. The satellite band will be given protection. The new service will be called the Citizens Broadband Radio Service and will have two types of licenses. There will be a license called a Priority Access License (PAL) which will operate in the 3550-3650 portion of the band and a General Authorized Access (GAA) License which will operate over both the 3550-3650 and 3650-3700 MHz bands. The General Authorized Access systems must protect the Priority Access License stations. Each PAL will have 10 MHz of bandwidth with a limit of seven PAL's in a license area. A license area will consist of one census track which can be as small as part of a county or a much larger area in sparsely populated areas. The bands that the users will operate on will be managed by a Spectrum Access System (SAS) similar to that used for TV White Spaces devices. The protected DOD areas will be in the database as well as satellite earth stations that register.

Priority Access License terms will be for three years and are subject to auction if there is more than one applicant. A PAL may hold up to four licenses in a license area and a total of seven licenses will be granted in an area. A license may not be renewed-- requiring an operator to reapply every three years. If there is only one applicant for an area, the auction will be canceled and only GAA licenses will be allowed operation. GAA licenses must protect PAL systems and operate with other GAA systems on a shared bases and

may share spectrum with PAL systems when they are not in operation. The Spectrum Access System will authorize such operation. GAA systems will operate under license by rule similar to CB and Family Radio Service and must register with a SAS. Both types of licenses must communicate with the Spectrum Access System at all times and with all end user devices. These systems will operate in a similar matter as a cell phone system, with SAS controlling the base stations operating channel, and the base stations of each licensee controlling the operation of the end user or customers' device.

>>> **News Bits** continued from page 1

on full-power and Class A stations that either relinquished their channel or will be repacked. It asks for information on a station's transmission facilities. The information will be used to verify station facilities with the FCC databases and, from the nature of the questions, be used to estimate the reimbursement that a station would require to change channels when repacked. The form can be found on the Office of Management and Budget website at: (http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAViewIC?ref_nbr=201502-3060-008&icID=214897).

End of DTV Transition Delayed

On April 24th, the FCC issued a notice (http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2015/db0424/DA-15-486A1.pdf) that suspended the September 1, 2015 deadline for all LPTV stations and TV translators to cease analog operations and begin transmitting in digital if not already doing so. Class A LPTV stations which operate under most rules that are applicable to full-power stations will still be required to start operations in digital or cease operation until the changes to digital are completed. All other LPTV stations and translators will not be required to begin digital operations until the conclusion of the auction and repacking process. This action was taken in response to the potential impact on these stations from the Incentive Auction and repacking of the UHF band including

loss of spectrum and possibility of having to incur the cost of having to convert their transmission facilities twice.

Society of Broadcast Engineers



The Association of Broadcast and Multimedia Technical Professionals

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Amateur Radio News

compiled by Tom Weeden, WJ9H

- In the wake of the devastating April 25 earthquake, hams in Nepal, already in limited supply, have been turning out to help in the ongoing recovery. The Nepalese government also is reported to be cutting some of the red tape that has prevented hams from outside the country from operating within Nepal. Several hams from India are among those who have arrived in Nepal to help facilitate communication. Word earlier via Amateur Radio Society of India President Gopal Madhavan, VU2GMN, was that visiting hams would not be permitted to operate in Nepal, unless they were part of a government team. On the other hand, getting needed Amateur Radio equipment into Nepal has been problematic.

The American Radio Relay League “is working closely with amateurs in Nepal to identify equipment needed for the relief effort,” said ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, N1IU. “We are preparing a shipment from the Ham Aid inventory, but like other NGOs (Non-Governmental Organizations), we are facing transportation challenges. We hope to have transportation arrangements in place soon.” Unconfirmed reports said another group was having problems getting a repeater into Nepal.

While parts of the telecommunication infrastructure remain in operation, power is out, preventing users from re-charging their cell phones. Ham radio remains a reliable link at this stage of the recovery effort. A major focus of rescue teams has been attempting to locate the missing, as well as to recover quake victims buried beneath debris. More than 5,000 people now are reported dead as a result of the earthquake and subsequent aftershocks. The disaster also has stranded many people, as roads were cut off by landslides and damage.

“In spite of the conditions, ham radio operation is in progress, and the Nepal government has started issuing licenses to visiting hams, with 9N7 prefixes,” said Jayu Bhide, VU2JAU. Bhide, who is the Amateur Radio Society of India’s National

Coordinator for Disaster Communication, said these stations have been asked to help provide communication to more of the devastated region. Ham radio groups are being asked to spread out in terms of operating frequencies as well. Bhide said a lot of the Amateur Radio traffic has consisted of health-and-welfare inquiries.

At least two groups of hams from Gujarat, India, were planning to travel to Nepal and set up stations “at critical places,” Bhide said, adding that he, Ananda Majumdar, VU2AGJ, and Sandip Baruah, VU2MUE, were planning to set up HF and VHF stations at Gorakhpur, on the India-Nepal border.

Amateur Radio HF nets have been one link between Nepal and the outside world, as Internet service continues to be spotty. Nepalese hams also are active locally on VHF/UHF.

The earthquake — said to be the worst in Nepal in 80 years — hit an area between the capital city of Kathmandu and the city of Pokhara.

- April 25 was International Marconi Day (IMD), organized by the Cornish Radio Amateur Club in Cornwall, UK. IMD recognizes the anniversary of the birth of wireless pioneer Guglielmo Marconi, born on April 25, 1874. Participating stations were offered an opportunity to contact historic Marconi-related radio sites around the world on HF.

Among stations planning to be on the air was VP8VPC in the Falkland Islands. The VPC suffix recalls the call sign of the Marconi spark transmitters in Stanley. The 150 kW transmitter built in 1915 fed seven 305-foot masts and operated on 60-70 kHz. It was the most remote and most powerful station in the Royal Navy’s First World War network of stations. After the war, VPC handled commercial message traffic to South America.

- A foil, party-type balloon carrying a ham radio payload has circumnavigated the globe. Launched on April 6 by Australian radio amateur Andy Nguyen, VK3YT, of Kensington, Victoria, Australia, the balloon, designated PS-41, completed its round-the-world journey on April 16. It remained aloft until April 22, when Nguyen reported that it had gone down near South America. Along the way, it has been tracked by a network of Amateur Radio operators. Nguyen has been trying since early last year to have one of his launches go full circle.

“PS-41 crossed the starting longitude of 144.903 at 11:20 AM AEST (0120 UTC) this morning, completing the first PicoSpace around-the-world trip,” Nguyen posted on April 16. “Thanks to everyone for assistance with tracking and providing encouragement for the project; the trip would not have been possible without you.” In January, Nguyen’s PS-30 balloon went down in suspected poor weather off the east coast of Africa near Madagascar.

The solar-powered, helium-filled PS-41 balloon carried an HF payload, sending telemetry on 10 and 14 MHz from a 25 mW transmitter. The high-altitude PS-41 took a path over Tasmania, then south of New Zealand, the southern tip of South America, directly over the South Georgia and South Sandwich islands, well south of Africa, and back across to Australia.



A map depicting PS-41’s trip around the world in 10 days. The dark green icons indicate where the balloon’s transmissions were heard.

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



RF Safety Webinar scheduled for May 6

The SBE RF Safety webinar will be presented on Wednesday, May 6 from noon - 3:30 pm CT by RF safety expert Richard Strickland of RF Safety Solutions. The course provides an overview of RF radiation issues and practices for broadcasters. Course content is updated regularly.



The SBE RF Safety Course is designed for chief and assistant chief engineers, transmitter site engineers, ENG and SNG maintenance personnel and management that need to have an understanding of RF safety issues and regulations. A certificate of completion is also available to students who complete the webinar, providing evidence of safety awareness training.

Strickland holds an MBA from the University of Massachusetts and a B.A. in Physics from Bridgewater College. He's had more than 50 articles published on RF safety, high-power amplifiers and radomes and has conducted more than 400 public and in-house training courses on RF safety and measurement.

The completion of this SBE webinar qualifies for one credit, identified under Category I of the Recertification Schedule for SBE Certifications. Fee for SBE Members is \$95. Fee for non-members is \$150. Register online at the SBE website. Direct questions to Kristin Owens by phone at 317-846-9000.



http://www.sbe.org/sections/cert_index.php



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

JOB NOTICE

Broadcast Engineer, Automation Specialist

Location: Madison, WI

Wisconsin Public Radio is seeking a broadcast engineer "automation specialist" to manage our computer-based broadcast and production systems. This person will provide a full range of technical services in support of WPR activities. S/He will install, support, service, maintain, repair, and build broadcast equipment with special emphasis on computer-based broadcast automation systems.

For this position, candidates must have a bachelor's degree or equivalent education, as well as 5 years' experience in a computerized broadcast environment, a track record of success and growth in operation and administration of radio automation, and proven ability to properly install and use broadcast, recording and test equipment. Candidates with experience in public radio, familiar with the AudioVault system, or SBE certification are favored.

Details and application instructions can be found at:

<http://www.wpr.org/broadcast-engineer-automation-specialist>

Questions about this job may be directed to Steve Johnston at 262-5584, steve.johnston@wpr.org.

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Certification Exam Schedule

Exam Dates	Location	Application Deadline
June 5-15, 2015	Local Chapters	CLOSED
August 7-17, 2015	Local Chapters	June 5, 2015
November 6-16, 2015	Local Chapters	October 2, 2015

When you are ready to take an SBE exam, please fill out the appropriate application and send it into the SBE National office (see address below). You will be notified once your application has been approved. Approximately 3 weeks before the exam time, your local certification chairman will receive a list of applicants in his/her area. He/she will then contact those applicants to schedule a date, time and place for the exams. The exams will be mailed back to the National office for grading. The pass/fail grades will then be mailed directly to the applicants.

You may mail, email or fax your applications to:

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CHAPTER 24 SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Thanks to all our Sustaining Members:

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PRO AUDIO VIDEO A/V LIGHTING

May 2015 Chapter 24
 Newsletter Deadline:
 Sunday, May 3, midnight
 paul.stoffel@wpt.org

edited using Adobe InDesign 2014

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



ENGINEERING DAY

JUNE 17, 2015

KALAHARI RESORT, WISCONSIN DELLS

8:40 AM - 4:30 PM: WBA ENGINEERING DAY SESSIONS LOCATION: BANYAN

8:45 AM SESSION: AM DIRECTIONAL REBUILD, A CASE STUDY

KSJB IN NORTH DAKOTA BUILT A NEW AM ARRAY ON THE SAME SITE AS THE OLD ARRAY WHILE NOT LOSING ANY AIRTIME. THIS SESSION WILL SHOW US HOW THAT WAS ACCOMPLISHED.

SPEAKER: RICHARD WOOD, RESONANT RESULTS

9:30 AM SESSION: BROADCAST AND LTE COEXISTENCE

IT'S HAPPENING TO RADIO AND TELEVISION ALIKE. WHEN THE FCC TELLS YOU THAT YOUR SIGNAL IS INTERFERING WITH A NEARBY CELL PHONE BROADBAND INSTALLATION, WHAT HAPPENS NEXT? THIS SESSION WILL TAKE US THROUGH ONE CASE STEP BY STEP.

SPEAKERS: BILL HAMILTON, WBUW-TV AND TOM SMITH

10:15 AM: BREAK

10:30 AM SESSION: SPECTRUM CHALLENGES OF WIRELESS MICS

THE ANSWER TO WHAT HAPPENS WITH SPECTRUM WE ALL USE FOR OUR WIRELESS MICS AND APPLIANCES IS A MOVING TARGET. THIS SESSION WILL BRING US UP TO DATE AND LOOK AT NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN TECHNOLOGY TO HELP US THROUGH THE SPECTRUM FUTURE.

SPEAKER: SENNHEISER

11:15 AM SESSION: DESIGN AND TROUBLESHOOTING AN AOIP NETWORK

THE WORLD, AND YOUR STUDIO, IS MOVING TO ALL AUDIO OVER IP. THIS SESSION WILL DISCUSS THE GRASS ROOTS ISSUES WITH THIS CONVERSION AND INCLUDE TOOLS TO MAKING IT WORK AS EFFICIENTLY AS IT CAN AND SHOULD.

SPEAKERS: GREG DAHL, SECOND OPINION COMMUNICATIONS AND JASON MIELKE, WCLO/WJVL

12:00 PM: LUNCH LOCATION: BAMBOO ROOM

1:30 PM SESSION: MODERN SURGE SUPPRESSION TECHNOLOGY

HOW MUCH POWER PROTECTION IS ENOUGH? HOW MUCH IS TOO MUCH? THERE'S NEW TECHNOLOGY IN SURGE SUPPRESSION THAT WILL BE EXPLORED IN THIS SESSION.

SPEAKER: ERIC MARSHALL, EMMERSON NETWORK POWER

2:15 PM SESSION: ASK A MANAGER (PANEL DISCUSSION)

DID YOU EVER WONDER WHAT GOES ON IN YOUR COMPANY'S EXECUTIVE OFFICE AND THE AFFECT THAT HAS ON ENGINEERING RESOURCES? DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT HOW FINANCES AND BUDGETING ARE ACCOMPLISHED AND HOW THAT AFFECTS WHAT THE COMPANY PURCHASES? BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND, THIS SESSION WILL HAVE A PANEL OF BROADCAST MANAGEMENT WHO WILL FIELD QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE.

PANELIST: GREG BELL, WOODWARD COMMUNICATIONS; TOM KOSER, KOSER RADIO GROUP; TOM LANGMYER, E.W. SCRIPPS COMPANY AND DON VESELY, WMTV-TV

3:15 PM: BREAK

3:30 PM ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

THIS SESSION WILL SPLIT THE ATTENDEES INTO SMALLER GROUPS TO DISCUSS AT LENGTH RELEVANT TOPICS TO THE BROADCAST INDUSTRY. THESE SUBJECTS WILL BE DISCUSSED:

**TABLE 1
POTS DEMISE**

**TABLE 2
TEXT TO SAP**

**TABLE 3
EXPANDED RDS**

**TABLE 4
NETWORK SECURITY**

FOLLOWING THE GROUP DISCUSSIONS A REPRESENTATIVE OF EACH GROUP WILL DELIVER THE HIGHLIGHTS OF AND CONCLUSIONS TO EACH SUBJECT.

5:00 PM - 7:30 PM: EXHIBIT RECEPTION LOCATION: GUAVA, TAMAR, PORT., WIST

7:30 PM - 10:00 PM: DINNER LOCATION: D/E CONVENTION CENTER

**SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 2015 BROADCASTERS CLINIC:
OCTOBER 13 - 15, 2015**

**THE WBA AND THE WISCONSIN SBE CHAPTERS ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT
THE SBE NATIONAL MEETING WILL JOIN THE 2015 BROADCASTERS CLINIC.**