



Chapter 24 needs you... See pages 6 and 7



February 2017

Society of Broadcast Engineers Chapter 24 Newsletter Madison, Wisconsin

Next Meeting

Wednesday, February 22

RASPBERRY Pi BASED CCTV CAMERA & SERVER SYSTEM & First Call for Nominations

Phil Mikalofsky will give us a technical presentation on the Raspberry Pi single board computer and MotionEye OS software he used to build a CCTV security system. The presentation will include overviews of the Raspberry Pi single board computer and MotionEye OS software, an explanation and demonstration of a remote online test platform and a hands-on demonstration of a basic system.

This CCTV server system offers the following proven capabilities:

- sends motion-activated emails with pictures and video attached
- sends pictures and video to cloud storage
- streams live camera video
- multiple cameras are viewable on one screen
- generate time-lapse video files
- works with both PC and Android mobile devices

The hands-on demonstration will include a basic equipment package overview and offer basic instructions with a skills inventory checklist, so you can get started with your own system.

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

Visitors & Guests are welcome at all Chapter 24 events!

FCC Reduces Public File Paperwork

>>> by Tom Smith

On January 31, the FCC adopted and release a rulemaking (http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2017/db0131/FCC-17-3A1.pdf) that removed the requirement that TV and radio stations retain, in their public file, letters and e-mails from the public to the station. Stations will no longer be required to retain the letters and e-mails. This will allow stations to have all of their public file information on the FCC public file website. Stations were required to retain letters and e-mails in paper files due to privacy concerns to the writers when posting to the Internet and to the difficulty in uploading all the existing files to the FCC public file website. This rulemaking will free stations from having to allow people into the station who have no other business other than to look at the public file. Stations had to let people in who wanted to look at the public file and were limited in getting information on who they are, which caused security concerns. Also for larger stations, keeping the letters caused large amounts of staff time and used a large amount of file space. Finally most stations never saw anyone come in to look at the public file. For the cable industry, the FCC removed the requirement that cable systems post the location of their head-end in their public file. Cable systems will only be required to provide the location to the FCC, TV stations to determine cable carriage and to the local government franchisers of their systems.

The rules become final when published in the Federal Register, so station probably should wait until then before disposing the letters and e-mails.

Incentive Auction Nearing End

>>> by Tom Smith

On December 5, stage 3 of the Incentive Auction ended after one round of the "forward auction" part of the auction. The wireless providers bids did not meet the amount that the FCC needed to cover the amount that the FCC proposed to buyout broadcasters in the reverse auction which was \$40,313,164,425 or the \$1.25 per pop per megahertz minimum in large markets. The wireless providers offered \$19,676,240,520 which was half of what was offered to broadcasters. The FCC then started the fourth stage of the incentive auction. The FCC is seeking 84 megahertz of spectrum from the broadcasters with the wireless industry getting access to 70 megahertz after guard bands were subtracted. The 70 Megahertz is to be divided into seven 10 megahertz blocks with two 5 megahertz channels, with one for uplink and one for downlink. The new 84 megahertz wireless band will start at TV channel 38 using reserved TV channel 37 as the dividing line between TV and wireless services. The remaining TV band would end at channel 36 giving 35 channels for TV use. With the limited use of channel 6 in order to protect the FM band from interference and the limited use of channel 14 in order to protect the 450 to 470 megahertz land mobile band from interference, there are really only 33 channels available.

The reverse auction part of the fourth stage of the incentive auction started on December 13 and ended on January 13 with a break for the holidays. The FCC's final offer to the broadcasters was \$10,054,676,822 which is \$78 billion less than what broadcasters

>>> **Auction** continued on page 2



Coming Up

- Thurs., Mar. 23 LAWO on Virtual Radio Broadcasting & nominations
- Tues., Apr. 18 TBD & elections
- Wed., May 24 NAB Wrap-up



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Meeting Minutes

from the January 2017 Business Meeting

Chapter 24 of the Society of Broadcast Engineers held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at the Wisconsin Public Broadcasting Center. There were 12 members present, 9 who were certified, and 1 guest. The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by chapter Chair Kevin Ruppert. After quick introductions, the secretary's report of the December meeting minutes were approved as published in the January Newsletter.

Chapter treasurer Leonard Charles reported there were three recent deposits from sustaining membership renewals, totaling \$150. Payments totaling \$122.40 were made for supplies, post cards, and postage, as well as \$10 to renew the Chapter incorporation. The Chapter account had been switched by the bank to one which incurred a monthly fee, but has since been changed to back to a fee-free account. The Chapter account continues with a positive balance. The annual treasurer's report for 2016 was reviewed, with income of \$900 and expenses of \$747.44. Any member in good standing can request a copy of the full report by sending an email to Leonard Charles.

For Sustaining Membership, Fred Sperry had forwarded a message that WMSN, WISC, WKOW, Full Compass Systems, and Clark Wire and Cable had recently renewed. There were no Certification/Education, Newsletter, or Frequency Coordination reports.

Program Committee chair Steve Paugh announced the February program will be about a Raspberry Pi-based CCTV system. The program topics for the March and April meetings are currently open. Steve then reviewed the process for the upcoming Chapter elections. Term limits have been reached for some of the officer positions, and nominations will be needed for Vice Chair and Treasurer. If you are interesting in serving, please contact Steve or any of the current officers.

With the SBE National report, Leonard Charles mentioned the next Webinar titled RF 101, Module 1, Intro to RF, is scheduled for January 26th. It will be presented by Chapter 24 member Dennis Baldrige, and more details are available at the SBE National website at www.sbe.org.

Kevin Ruppert brought forth a suggestion about Chapter 24 making partial payment for members who participate in some of the SBE educational webinars. A discussion followed, and a vote was taken to pursue this idea; more detailed information on the proposal is expected at a future meeting.

There was no old business to review. In new business, Steve Paugh was seeking input and discussion on discontinuing the summer picnic, due to diminished attendance. The picnic typically is in June, and possible alternative events are being sought. You can email Steve, or bring you ideas to the next meeting.

In general announcements, Pete Deets mentioned issues that WMTV had feeding an ASI stream to AT&T U-verse. Recent equipment changes required a non-standard inverted output to make the system work. As a professional announcement, Leonard Charles stated that WISC has added a third service to their broadcast with the ION network on channel 3-3.

The meeting adjourned at 7:23pm. Steve Paugh introduced Jeff Clarine from Jampro Antennas. Jeff talked briefly about the changes many TV stations may be facing with the impending channel repack. Ben Crease from Jampro then gave a presentation on wideband TV antennas and RF filters, with examples from various projects.

Submitted by Mike Norton, Secretary

>>> **Auction** continued from page 1

were offered in the first stage of the auction. On January 18, the forward auction begun with the bidding opening at \$17.7 billion. On the second round, the bidding meet the FCC criteria for minimum bids for the large markets, which meant that stage four would be the final stage of the auction. The forward auction continues until there are no more bids for spectrum in any market. As of the end of the day on February 3, the total amount bid after round 31 was \$19,227,253,461. After the forward auction ends, there will be another auction in which the winners will make bids for specific pairs of channels from the winning

spectrum. After that auction ends, the FCC will release the final TV channel allotment table and the repacking process will begin.

On January 27, the FCC released two notices outlining the repacking process. One of the notices covers the procedures or steps of the repacking process and the second notice covers the timetable for the repacking process. The procedures notice (http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2017/db0127/DA-17-106A1.pdf) covers such things as: filing for the construction permit; modifications to the construction permit, payments to stations that participated in

>>> **Auction** continued on page 5



Amateur Radio News

compiled by Tom Weeden, WJ9H

• Just 10 days after being introduced in the 115th Congress, the 2017 Amateur Radio Parity Act legislation, H.R. 555, passed the US House of Representatives on unanimous consent under a suspension of House rules. The bill's language is identical to that of the 2015 measure, H.R. 1301, which won House approval late last summer after attracting 126 cosponsors, but failed to clear the US Senate last fall as the 114th Congress wound down. The new bill, again sponsored by Rep. Adam Kinzinger (R-IL), was launched on January 13 with initial co-sponsorship by Rep. Joe Courtney (D-CT) and Rep. Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR), who chairs the influential House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

"The grassroots effort of Amateur Radio operators across this nation in support of the Amateur Radio Parity Act has been remarkable, nothing like we have ever seen before," American Radio Relay League President Rick Roderick, K5UR, said. The bill arrives in the US Senate with ample time in which to garner its approval through an education campaign.

H.R. 555 calls on the FCC to establish rules prohibiting the application of deed restrictions that preclude Amateur Radio communications on their face or as applied. Deed restrictions would have to impose the minimum practicable restriction on Amateur Radio communications to accomplish the lawful purposes of homeowners associations seeking to enforce the restriction.

The FCC's new chairman, Ajit Pai, praised US House action on H.R. 555 and other telecommunications-related legislation that cleared the chamber the previous day.

"I want to commend the US House of Representatives for passing a number of important, bipartisan telecom bills yesterday," Pai said on Tuesday. "These bills will help bring greater efficiency to the Commission, provide consumers with greater protections, improve rural call completion, help Amateur Radio operators, and take several steps to

promote public safety," he continued, adding, "I look forward to working with Congress on these and other important issues as Chairman of the FCC."

President Donald Trump named the 44-year-old telecommunications attorney — who has served on the Commission since 2012 and is its senior member — to succeed Chairman Tom Wheeler, who stepped down on Inauguration Day, January 20.

A Republican, Pai was nominated to the FCC by former President Barack Obama and was confirmed unanimously by the US Senate in 2012. Pai has said the Commission needs to eliminate "outdated and unnecessary regulations," as he proposed in a December speech. "The regulatory underbrush at the FCC is thick," he said. "We need to fire up the weed whacker and remove those rules that are holding back investment, innovation, and job creation."

The son of immigrants from India, the Harvard Law graduate and respected telecommunications attorney grew up in Parsons, Kansas.

• In what it calls an "extremely urgent complaint" to the FCC, ARRL has targeted the interference potential of a series of audio/video transmitters used on unmanned aircraft and marketed as Amateur Radio equipment. In a January 10 letter to the FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division, ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, said the transmitters use frequencies intended for navigational aids, air traffic control radar, air route surveillance radars, and global positioning systems.

"This is, in ARRL's view, a potentially very serious interference problem, and it is respectfully requested that the products

referenced...be investigated and removed from the marketplace immediately and that the importers be subjected to normal sanctions," ARRL's letter said. Some of the transmitters operate on frequencies between 1,010 and 1,280 MHz. "These video transmitters are being marketed ostensibly as Amateur Radio equipment," the League said, "but of the listed frequencies on which the devices operate, only one, 1,280 MHz, would be within the Amateur Radio allocation at 1,240-1,300 MHz." Even then, ARRL said, operation there would conflict with a channel used for radio location.

ARRL said the use of 1,040 and 1,080 MHz, which would directly conflict with air traffic control transponder frequencies, represented the greatest threat to the safety of flight. The use of 1,010 MHz, employed for aeronautical guidance, could also be problematic. ARRL cited the Lawmate transmitter and companion 6 watt amplifier as examples of problematic devices being marketed in the US. Each costs less than \$100 via the Internet. The device carries no FCC identification number.

The League said it's obvious that the devices at issue lack proper FCC equipment authorization under FCC Part 15 rules, which require such low-power intentional radiators to be certified. "Of most concern is the capability of the devices to cripple the operation of the [air traffic control] secondary target/transponder systems," ARRL said. "These illegal transmitters represent a significant hazard to public safety in general and the safety of flight specifically."

The surge in sales of drones has been dramatic. The FAA has predicted that combined commercial and hobby sales will increase from 2.5 million in 2016 to 7 million by 2020.

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



FCC Chairman Ajit Pai



Module 2 of RF 101: Broadcast Terrestrial Transmission Systems, March 2 at 1:00pm CST

This 2nd live SBE webinar, **Transmission Lines**, will discuss the following topics: definition and types of transmission lines, impedance and its importance to applications, losses associated with coax, wavelength considerations which impact the broadcast facility, return losses (including VSWR and standing waves), and power considerations of both coax and connectors. Upon completion of this webinar, participants will be able to describe different types of transmission lines, antennas, and their characteristics. The remaining six modules will be presented over the coming months. Watch for further announcements. The instructor is Dennis Baldrige, CPBE, 8-VSB, AMD, DRB, CBNT and a veteran of the broadcast engineering field for more than 30 years

RF101: Broadcast Terrestrial Transmission Systems Course Modules:

1. Introduction to Radio Frequency (RF) (January 26, 2017)
2. Transmission Lines, module scheduled for March 2, 2017
3. Towers, Antennas, and Transmission Systems
4. Antenna Gain - Feed-line Loss
5. Modulation Fundamentals
6. AM, FM, TV RF Propagation
7. RF Transmitter Measurements
8. FCC Regulations



Upon completion of the entire course, attendees will be able to

- 1) Understand the basic characteristics of RF and electromagnetic radiation;
- 2) Describe different types of transmission lines, antennas, and their characteristics;
- 3) Understand the fundamentals of RF propagation;
- 4) Understand modulation and different modern modulation methods;
- 5) Describe various components used in RF communications systems;
- 6) Explain the basic characteristics of RF transceiver systems;
- 7) Define common terms used to characterize RF systems;
- 8) Understand how to perform a range of basic RF measurements;
- 9) FCC regulations pertinent to maintaining a broadcast facility.

The completion of this webinar from Webinars by SBE qualifies for 1 credit, identified under Category I of the Recertification Schedule for SBE Certifications.

Dennis Baldrige, CPBE, 8-VSB, AMD, DRB, CBNT, a veteran of the broadcast engineering field for more than 30 years. Baldrige is a Senior member of the SBE, holds an FCC Lifetime General License (formerly a First Class FCC License) and Amateur Radio Extra Class License (K0DB). He also holds a M.A.E. and teaches science courses for Upper Iowa University. As owner of Baldrige Communications, LLC, he works as a contract engineer and has also authored articles for Radio Guide. Baldrige serves as an inspector for the FCC Alternate Inspection Program of the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association.

Registration for each module will be done separately. Click Register Now below, to register for Module 2.

SBE Members: \$57

Non-Members: \$87 [Register Now](#)

Society of Broadcast Engineers



The Association for Broadcast and
Multimedia Technology Professionals



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CHAPTER 24 SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Recent Renewal:

WKOW-TV 27

Thanks to all our Sustaining Members:

Alpha Video

AVI Systems

Belden, Inc.

Clark Wire and Cable

Full Compass Systems

Heartland Video Systems

Joseph Electronics

Resonant Results, Ltd.

Ross Video

Sound Devices, LLC

Token Creek Productions

WISC-TV 3

WMTV-TV 15

WMSN-TV 47

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FCC Proposes Two Rulemakings To Help Broadcasters

>>> by Tom Smith

On February 2, the FCC released two notices of proposed rulemaking to be taken up at the February 20 meeting. The release of the notices was part of the new openness under the new FCC Chairman Ajit Pai. Under former Chairman Tom Wheeler many notices of proposed rulemaking or notices of final rulemaking were not even released to the other Commissioners until just before the monthly meeting, giving little time to for the documents to be analyzed.

One of the proposed rulemakings (http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2017/db0202/DOC-343304A1.pdf) concerns AM improvement. This rulemaking clarifies the use of FM translators by allowing the one millivolt contour limit for FM translators to within the either the 2 millivolt contour of the AM station or within 25 miles of the AM transmitter whichever is greater. Under the old rules, the FM coverage was limited to whichever was less, the 2 millivolt contour of the AM station or 25 miles from the transmitter.

The second rulemaking (http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2017/db0202/DOC-343305A1.pdf) concerns the allowing of a TV broadcaster to convert to ATSC 3.0 operation. In this rulemaking, the FCC will seek comment on the voluntary

transition to ATSC 3.0 by TV stations, cable carriage, simulcasting or sharing of channels in order to carry both ATSC 1.0 and ATSC 3.0 transmissions, interference and coverage issue, requiring ATSC 3.0 tuners in TV sets and the interplay between the repacking of the UHF-TV band and the transition to ATSC 3.0.

Under the new FCC Chairman Ajit Pai, these proposed rulemakings should be open for comment after the next FCC meeting.

>>> **Auction** continued from page 2

the auction and the steps to be taken for shutting down or for sharing a channel, and reimbursement to stations making channel changes. The second notice (http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2017/db0127/DA-17-107A1.pdf) covers the creation of the timeline for the repacking and possible use of temporary use of another channel, sharing channels, interim facilities, prohibited communications, reimbursement issues and LPTV issues.

With the Incentive Auction near the end, the repacking process will start with a fast and furious timeline, with so many unknowns, it will be a very stressful and confusing time for the remaining TV broadcasting stations.



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SBE Chapter 24 Certification News

Congratulations, Elizabeth Delaquess of WMUU-LPFM, 102.9 FM, Madison, for successfully passing the SBE Certified Radio Operator exam in November 2016!

The Open 2017 Exam Schedule

Exam Dates	Location	Application Deadline (to SBE National Office)
April 25, 2017	NAB Show (Las Vegas)	March 17, 2017
June 2-12, 2017	Local Chapters (Madison Area)	April 21, 2017
August 4-14, 2017	Local Chapters (Madison Area)	June 5, 2017
November 3-13, 2017	Local Chapters (Madison Area)	September 25, 2017

Read about the SBE Chapter 24 **Certification Drive**, where Chapter 24 will reimburse half of the cost of a new certification application fee to any Chapter 24 member in good standing, at www.sbe24.org.

For questions about applying for an exam, please contact Jim Hermanson at services@jimhermanson.com or Megan Clappe at mclappe@sbe.org. Also, see the SBE National Web site at www.sbe.org.

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:

Megan E. Clappe, Certification Director
9102 N. Meridian St. Suite 150
Indianapolis, IN 46260
317-846-9120 Fax
mclappe@sbe.org

We Need You

>>> *The Nominations Committee*

In 2017 Chapter 24 will have a few ballot positions open. This is a great opportunity for you. If you have never served as an officer in our chapter please consider it now. **You** are needed more than ever and **you** will be welcome. It's a great way to develop leadership skills that will carry you through the rest of your career and a great way to give back to the profession. None of the officer positions are difficult, there's great on the job training, about all it will require of you is a small piece of your time.

All officer positions are open to any Chapter 24 member in good standing. Please contact Steve Paugh <spaugh@sbe.org>, our nominations Chair.



March 2017 Chapter 24

Newsletter Deadline:

Friday, March 3, midnight

pgstoffel@gmail.com

edited using Adobe InDesign CC



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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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Notice of Elections

By Steve Paugh, Nominations Chair

In April we will hold elections for Chapter 24 offices of Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer for the 2017-2018 terms. All interested members of Chapter 24 who are current in their dues are eligible to run for elected office. The nominations committee has accepted the following members for nomination. Our current slate of officers for the 2017-2018 term is:

Chair-	Rich Wood	has accepted the nomination
Vice Chair-	vacant	open for nominations
Treasurer-	vacant	open for nominations
Secretary-	Mike Norton	has accepted the nomination

Call For Nominations

During the February 22 meeting, the nominations committee will solicit the members present for additional nominations. If you would like to run for an office, or know someone who wishes to run, please bring it to the attention of the nominations committee. All nominees are requested to submit a short biography for publishing with the ballot. The nominations committee consists of Steve Paugh (Chair), Mike Kulis and Leonard Charles.

Officers & Duties

The Chairperson shall preside at the regular meetings of the Chapter and shall perform all other duties normally associated with that office.

The Vice Chairperson shall assume the duties of the Chairperson in his or her absence or incapacity and shall otherwise assist the Chairperson.

The Secretary shall be responsible for all records and books of account of the Chapter, shall record the minutes of all meetings of the Chapter and the Officers. He or she shall send meeting reports and attendance records to the Society Executive Secretary, and shall keep any other Chapter records as may become necessary.

The Treasurer shall supervise and be responsible for all accounts and moneys of the Chapter and shall establish such accounts as shall be designated by cooperative agreement of the Officers. A checking account shall be established for the Chapter. All records of the Treasurer shall be open to inspection by members in good standing at reasonable times. The Treasurer shall furnish an annual financial report to the Society Executive Treasurer and keep any other Chapter financial records as may become necessary. The Treasurer shall submit an annual audit report to the Chapter Executive Committee after the election of offices.

Appointed Officers

The appointed offices do not fall under the jurisdiction of the nominations committee and are appointed by the Chair of Chapter 24. Traditionally, the existing appointed officers continue for another term automatically. If you are a current appointed officer and would like to step down, please contact the current Chair Kevin Ruppert. If you would like to serve as an appointed officer please make your desire known to the Chair.

The current appointed offices are Program Committee Chair- Steve Paugh, we have two vacancies on the Program Committee, Newsletter Editor- Paul Stoffel (who would like to retire as editor), Membership- Paul Stoffel, Sustaining Membership- Fred Sperry, Certification and Education- Jim Hermanson, Frequency Coordination- Tom Smith, Webmaster- Leonard Charles and National Liaison- Leonard Charles.

Ballots

All balloting will be done on-line using the link provided on the www.sbe24.org chapter web site. You will need your membership ID when you sign in to cast your ballot for authentication. The deadline for nominations and the submission of biographies will be March 31, 2017.