The Society of Broadcast Engineers

Fox Valley Wisconsin SBE Chapter 80

PO Box 1519 Appleton, WI 54912-1519

February 2019

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Our next meeting will be on Tuesday February 19th at noon at the Out o Town Club in Kaukauna.

Dear Chapter 80 members and friends:
Thanks to all who attended our Holiday Party last month – the weather did not cooperate (as usual) but we still had a nice group – about 16 people who enjoyed a nice dinner, followed by a brief talk from author / air personality John Maino about some books he wrote about veterans and their experiences. Thanks to Gary Mach for arranging the program and to all who braved the elements to attend.
Last month brought us our annual portion of severe weather, which I know affected a number of you and your facilities. Hopefully that is it for the severe winter weather for the year. We'll see I guess.
Kind of a sad January, with a number of prominent broadcast engineers passing. In our region, two of note were Warren Schulz of WFYR and WLS, and Jeff Nordstrom, most well known for his time with Harris Allied and Westwood One. Both fine gentlemen that will be missed.
We are back to a normal meeting schedule this month. If you can break away, consider attending. I am sure you will feel it is worth it. And I'll have our fund raising gas cards available for sale at the meeting or via mail – just let me know.
Have a great week and hope to see you soon.

Steve Brown
Chairman, Chapter 80

CHAPTER 80 ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICERS

Chairman	Steve Brown	WHBY WAPL WKSZ WZOR	920-733-6639	sbrown@wcinet.com
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Imm Past Chair	Mark Hoenecke	WPT	715-845-1319	Mark.Hoenecke@ecb.org
Secretary	Bill Hubbard	Retired	920-619-9651	w-hubbard@att.net
Treasurer	Mark Hoenecke	WPT	715-845-1319	Mark.Hoenecke@ecb.org
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Membership Chairman	Mark Friedman	Retired	920-336-3541	m48dat@yahoo.com
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Frequency Coord. < 1 GHz	Tim Laes	WGEE WIXX WNCY WROE	920-435-3771	tlaes@new.rr.com
Frequency Coord. > 1 GHz	Bill Hubbard	Retired	920-619-9651	w-hubbard@att.net
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Certification Chairman	Jim Sams	Retired	920-822-5951	jsams@netnet.net
Chapter 80 Webmaster	Mike Steele	WHBY	920-831-5605	msteele@wcinet.com
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Board of Dirs/SBE Liaison	Steve Brown	WHBY WAPL WKSZ WZOR	920-733-6639	sbrown@wcinet.com

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Upcoming New SBE Webinars

RF 201: Module 5, Television Transmitters

On Thursday, Feb. 21 at 2 p.m. ET the SBE Advanced RF webinar series continues with today's television transmitters. The focus will be on digital transmitters with the digital age essentially mature. While many transmitters deployed in the digital conversion were solid state, many were constructed with inductive output tubes (IOT). Several of the IOTs are now being replaced due to repack but several remain in service. We'll cover both solid state and IOT transmitters, their key building blocks and their key items of maintenance. Instructing is Joe Seccia, principal architect for the product management group of TV transmission products area at GatesAir.

SBE Traditional Members $59, SBE MemberPlus members FREE, Non Member $89. Register now.

ATSC 3.0, Module 5: ATSC 3.0 ROUTE Protocol

The SBE ATSC 3.0 webinar series continues on Wednesday, Feb. 27 at 2:00 p.m. ET with Dr. Charles Lo, principal engineer at Qualcomm's Standards and Industry Fora Organization presenting ATSC 3.0 Route Protocol. This webinar provides an overview of ROUTE, or "Real-Time Object Delivery Over Unidirectional Transport."

One of the two application-layer transport protocols specified in ATSC 3.0 standards for the delivery of media services and other data over IP-based broadcast systems, ROUTE is specified in the ATSC A/331 standard. It has broad utility in supporting the delivery of real-time (RT) streaming services (e.g., linear TV) and non-real-time (NRT) content (e.g., file-based services) for end-user consumption as well as signaling, application-related documents, DRM metadata and other types of data for use by receiving devices and application software.

Besides reviewing the content delivery aspects of the ROUTE protocol, this presentation describes the service signal mechanisms defined for ATSC 3.0 that enable the discovery and acquisition of services and contents carried by ROUTE.

SBE Traditional Members $59, SBE MemberPlus members FREE, Non Member $89 Register now.

ATSC 3.0: Module 6: Advanced Emergency Information System

Module 6 of the SBE ATSC 3.0 webinar series takes place on Wednesday, March 20 at 2:00 p.m. ET. The ATSC 3.0 Advanced Emergency Information system enables broadcasters to deliver timely, in-depth emergency-related information to their viewers, which can strengthen the connection between the audience

and the station and provide critical information in times of need. The system includes methods for waking up devices in stand-by mode, message targeting, rich media delivery and more. In this webinar, attendees will learn about the elements of the ATSC 3.0 standards that enable advanced emergency messaging, along with methods and examples for implementing the system features.

Instructing is Madeleine Noland, consultant with LG Electronics, Zenith Electronics, and chair of the Technology Group, ATSC 3.0 (TG3).

SBE Traditional Members $59, SBE MemberPlus members FREE, Non Member $89. Register now.

Look ahead at upcoming opportunities to take a certification exam in your area with the local chapter.
If you would like to take an exam but are not able to make it during these sessions, please contact Megan Clappe to ask about special proctoring.

Certification Exams The deadline to apply to take the SBE certification exam at your local chapter in June is April 21. Register today at sbe.org/certification.

Below is the upcoming certification exam schedule

Exam Dates	Location	Application Deadline (to SBE National Office)
April 9, 2019	NAB Show (Las Vegas)	March 1, 2019
Jun 7-17, 2019	Local Chapters	April 19, 2019
August 2-12, 2019	Local Chapters	June 3, 2019
November 1-11, 2019	Local Chapters	September 24, 2019

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

Wisconsin Broadcasters and Cable Operators,

On Friday, January 18, 2019, the Blue Alert EAS Event Code BLU becomes effective in the EAS rules.
It would appear at this time that all of the EAS equipment manufacturers either now have this upgrade available on their websites, or will shortly.

Per FCC rules, the installation of this BLU Event Code into your EAS equipment is VOLUNTARY, not required.
In Wisconsin, our State Department of Justice is responsible for issuing Blue Alerts, and they

have said if they were to issue such an alert, they would NOT use EAS. It would instead be issued through the Wisconsin Crime Alert Network (WCAN) via email, cellphone text, and fax. This is the same method as WI DOJ uses to issue Silver Alerts and Green Alerts in our state, and this same system is used in tandem with the EAS alerts for Amber Alerts - the only alert of this type that uses EAS in Wisconsin. You can sign up for these WCAN email/text/fax alerts at: http://www.wisconsincrimealert.gov/

So the upshot here is that you are NOT required to install this code, and Wisconsin will not be using it anyway.

I did note that some EAS equipment manufacturers are bundling the BLU Event Code upgrade with a new feature often called "triggered CAP polling". With this feature enabled, when your EAS unit receives an over-the-air Legacy EAS message, it immediately goes out to check if there is a duplicate message available via IPAWS, and if so, your EAS unit airs that version. Since the IPAWS alert usually has better audio quality and more descriptive text, TV stations in particular might prefer to air the IPAWS alerts by having this feature enabled.

I noted that at least one EAS equipment manufacturer is charging a fee to upgrade to the software version that offers the BLU Event Code, but that software version also includes the addition of the above "triggered CAP polling" feature, as well as other improvements. So EAS Participants with those EAS units will need to assess whether paying a fee to upgrade is worth the money to them. But again, upgrading to the new BLU Event Code is NOT required and Wisconsin will NOT be using it.

Contact your EAS equipment manufacturer with any unit-specific questions.

Gary Timm, Broadcast Chair
Wisconsin EAS Committee

SBE WEBxtra Begins Pilot Run

The SBE is conducting a trial run of a monthly virtual program for member engineers, technicians and other broadcast professionals, wherever they may be.

Emanating from last year's SBE Strategic Planning Conference, a task group led by Board member Kirk Harnack has launched a three-episode trial of the SBE WEBxtra. The first episode aired live on Jan. 25. (Watch that episode now.) Additional episodes will air on Feb. 18 and in March on the SBE YouTube channel.

The SBE WEBxtra is being developed as an SBE chapter of the web. It's not intended to replace the function and interaction of local chapter meetings, but rather to enhance member participation, especially for those who do not live near a local chapter. For those holding SBE certification, viewing the SBE WEBxtra qualifies for 0.5 points in category G (attendance), just like attending a local chapter meeting.

Following the trial, Harnack and his task group will share the results with the SBE Board of Directors and a make a recommendation on how to continue.

More

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