



The Society of Broadcast Engineers

**Fox Valley Wisconsin SBE Chapter 80 PO Box 1519
Appleton, WI 54912-1519**

September 2017

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Our website sbe80.org

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Our next SBE Chapter 80 meeting will be at The Out o Town Club Tuesday September 19th at noon. Our speaker will be Les Kutasi from Kathrein Broadcast Group

Chapter 80 Members and Friends,

Our Summer season feels like it's rushing Fall with the cool weather these past few days. I hope that you did have an enjoyable summer and were able to take some time off for a little fun!

We have Les Kutasi from Kathrein Broadcast Group scheduled to present **KATHREIN** at our September meeting. Kathrein/Scala/Sira antenna, filter and combiner products will be highlighted, with a focus on the differences between broadband and narrow band antenna. It is sure to be an informative presentation, so please do plan to attend! Les plans to buy lunch for everyone!

The Society thanks all who voted in the recent SBE national election; over 1,100 members cast ballots.

The final part of the SBE RF101 webinar series is scheduled for September 21 at 14:00 EDT; register on the SBE website.

The recent SBE compensation survey results were released in early July and are available to members on the SBE website. More than 600 members participated in the survey.

We are reminded to keep those in the Gulf Coast region in our thoughts and prayers as they continue to recover from hurricane Harvey. Approximately 150 SBE members live and work in the region, keeping stations on the air despite the challenges. The FCC releases daily updates on communications status in the area:

http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2017/db0905/DOC-346499A1.pdf transition.fcc.gov Also note that the gulf states are preparing for the potential impact that hurricane Irma may bring to the area.

Please consider attending the Broadcasters Clinic in Madison next month. We are fortunate to have this always excellent event is right in our own backyard. Although "early bird" registration has ended, one may still register up until the same day at the door. More information is here: <http://www.wi-broadcasters.org/events/broadcasters-clinic/> [wi-broadcasters.org](http://www.wi-broadcasters.org)

And finally, we received the latest Chapter 80 roster from SBE national headquarters last month – we have 40 members, with 13 certified.

Looking forward to seeing you at our September 19 meeting at the Out o' Town Club in Kaukauna!

Mark Hoenecke

Upcoming Programs:

October 10-12, 2017 At Broadcasters Clinic in Madison

CHAPTER 80 ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICERS

Chairman	Mark Hoenecke	WPT	715-845-1319	Mark.Hoenecke@ecb.org
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Past Chairman	Steve Konopka	WPNE TV/FM	920-336-3541	skonopka@ecb.orgn
Treasurer	Steve Brown	WHBY WAPL WKSZ WZOR	920-733-6639	sbrown@wcinet.com
Secretary	Bill Moede			bmoedereplay@gmail.com
Program Chairman	John Pfankuch	Heartland Video Systems	920-893-0204	jpfankuch@hvs-inc.com
Membership Chairman	Mark Friedman	WPNE TV/FM	920-336-3541	mfriedman@ecb.org
Sustaining Membership	Stu Muck	Muck Broadcast services	920-960-0045	MBSFDL@yahoo.com
Frequency Coord. < 1 GHz	Tim Laes	WGEE WIXX WNCY WROE	920-435-3771	tlaes@new.rr.com
Frequency Coord. > 1 GHz	Bill Hubbard	UW Green Bay	920-465-2510	hubbardw@uwgb.edu
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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
EAS Coordinator	Steve Konopka	WPNE TV/FM	920-336-3541	skonopka@ecb.org
Board of Dirs/SBE Liaison	Mike Hendrickson			mhendrickson@sbe.org



A group of suspicious persons hanging around the 2017 Chapter 80 picnic. The burgers are being recounted

Regulatory Update

Aug 25, 2017

Transition Begins for Broadcasters Leaving 600 MHz Band

The SBE has noted recently that users of wireless microphones and UHF low-power auxiliary devices at the close of FCC Auctions 1001/1002 have significant options for continued access to the UHF television band. Among these options is the continued availability of the 600 MHz band (614-698 MHz, above TV Channel 37) during the 39-month transition period that is scheduled to end on July 13, 2020. At the end of this transition period, all television stations that participated in the auction will have cleared the spectrum between 614 MHz and 698 MHz.

During the 39-month transition period, wireless microphones, intercoms and other low power broadcast auxiliary devices can continue to operate normally in the entire 614-698 MHz band. However, it will be necessary during this entire period to protect any broadband systems that acquired the spectrum in the auction that begin operations during the transition period.

The difficulty for broadcasters and video production entities in the use of wireless microphones and low-power auxiliary devices in the 614-698 MHz band during the transition is that we have no way of knowing precisely when a particular auction winner plans to light up in a given area. T-Mobile, which was one of the larger successful bidders at the auction, has been in close touch with the broadcast community on this subject. We have not heard from other auction winners about their scheduled deployment in the 600 MHz band.

T-Mobile helpfully has [released a list of counties](#) in which they intend to commence operations before the end of November 2017. The list comprises counties in which, generally speaking, there are no television stations subject to rebanding. There are numerous western areas that are largely rural on this list. T-Mobile will release subsequent lists as its rollout plans develop. If you plan to deploy wireless mics in any of the listed counties in the 614-698 MHz band (other than in the guard band or the duplex gap) subsequent to November 2016, you are obligated to ensure that no use of the band by auction winners has actually commenced by that time. (*SBE News & Headlines*)

[More >](#)

T-Mobile list of counties in WI in which they intend to commence operations before the end of November 2017

County	t	T-Mobile Market	o	T-Mobile Owned blocks
Wood	M	Milwaukee, WI	nt	BCDE
Lincoln	M	Milwaukee, WI	nt	BCDE
Marathon	M	Milwaukee, WI	nt	BCDE
Sauk	M	Milwaukee, WI	nt	BCDE
Taylor	M	Milwaukee, WI	nt	BCDE
Clark	M	Milwaukee, WI	nt	BCDE
Florence	M	Milwaukee, WI	nt	BCDE
Vilas	M	Milwaukee, WI	nt	BCDE
Langlade	M	Milwaukee, WI	nt	BCDE
Oneida	M	Milwaukee, WI	nt	BCDE
Forest	M	Milwaukee, WI	nt	BCDE
Ashland	M	Minneapolis, MN	nt	BCDE
Ashland	M	Minneapolis, MN	nt	BCDE
Price	M	Minneapolis, MN	nt	BCDE
Bayfield	M	Minneapolis, MN	nt	BCDE
Shawano	M	Milwaukee, WI	nt	BCDE
Marinette	M	Milwaukee, WI	nt	BCDE
Richland	M	Milwaukee, WI	nt	BCDE
Iron	M	Milwaukee, WI	nt	BCDE
Clark	M	Milwaukee, WI	nt	BCDE
Bayfield	M	Minneapolis, MN	nt	BCDE

Broadcasters Clinic 2017

The program committee has worked very hard to put together another session line up that is reflective of the technology that we all work with or hear about every day. Our goal, and why the Clinic exists, is to give you the tools to help you do the best job you can for yourself and the stations under your care.

Let me tell you a little about the committee. It is made up of a cross section of Radio and TV engineers from across the upper Midwest representing all four Wisconsin SBE Chapters and beyond. Their volunteerism toward this task is humbling to me as their leader. Planning meetings are spent dissecting our industry and profession to insure we are covering the subjects of most value to you as an attendee. We take pride in what we do because we take pride in what you do. We truly are all in this together.

One thing is for sure, broadcast technology doesn't stand still, and neither can you. It is our hope that you will find the time in your busy schedule to attend the Clinic this year. I am confident that you will return recharged and ready to make the future happen. Linda Baun and the amazing staff at the WBA stand ready to accept your registration and save a seat for you at the 2017 Broadcasters Clinic. Once you have browsed the brochure please make the commitment to join us. We'll be glad to see you in October.

(Leonard Charles SBE24)

RF101: Broadcast Terrestrial Transmission Systems Course Continues Thursday, August 24 Module 8: FCC Regulations

The final module in the eight-part series RF101: Broadcast Terrestrial Transmission Systems is Thursday, September 21 at 2 p.m. Join us for Module 8: FCC Regulations

This introduction to FCC regulations will explore the rules commonly applicable to broadcast facilities, which all engineers are called on to understand and apply. A sample of topics include: Regulations: Friend or Foe?, Navigating the Maze, About the FCC, Checklists, Rules Common to All Services, AM specific, FM specific and DTV specific.

This webinar continues the eight-part series that is targeted to those with minimal or no background in RF and/or are relatively new to the field. This multi-module course will present an overview of RF needed to understand the basics and make informed decisions.

It's not too late to take advantage of the entire series! Modules 1 through 7 are now available on demand. All modules are available on demand after the LIVE presentation. The cost is \$57 for members or SBE and \$87 for non-members.

Instructing the SBE RF101 course is Dennis Baldridge, CPBE, 8-VSB, AMD, DRB, CBNT, a veteran of the broadcast engineering field for more than 30 years. Baldridge 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 an M.A.E. and teaches science courses for Upper Iowa University. As owner of Baldridge Communications, LLC, he works as a contract engineer and has also authored articles for Radio Guide. Baldridge serves as an inspector for the FCC Alternate Inspection Program of the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association.



Take advantage of the complete eight-part series of the SBE RF101 Webinar Series Course Modules:

1. Introduction to Radio Frequency (RF) - On Demand
2. Transmission Lines - On Demand
3. Towers, Antennas, and Transmission Systems - On Demand
4. Antenna Gain - Feed-line Loss - On Demand
5. Modulation Fundamentals - On Demand
6. AM, FM, TV RF Propagation - On Demand
7. RF Test and Measurement- August 24, 2017, On Demand
- 8. FCC Regulations - September 21, 2017, 2 p.m.**

[Click here to register](#) for **Module 8, FCC Regulations THURSDAY September 21.**

If you have questions regarding this webinar, contact Education Director [Cathy Orosz](#) or by phone at 317-846-9000.

Preparing For the September 2017 National EAS Test

The SBE EAS Advisory Group, chaired by Larry Wilkins, CPBE, notes that all engineers should be aware that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has scheduled the [2017 national EAS test](#) for Wednesday, Sept.



27, at 2:20 p.m. ET. This test will be originated and distributed via IPAWS only; the same manner as the 2016 National Test. The test will be sent with the event code NPT for National Periodic Test. All stations are expected to receive the NPT message from IPAWS or off-air and then to relay the NPT message on-air using their normal studio EAS equipment. The message will be sent with both English and Spanish language text and audio.

[More](#) >

SBE Webinar RF101: Module 8 - FCC Regulations, is Tuesday, Sept. 21

This introduction to FCC regulations will explore the rules commonly applicable to broadcast facilities, which all engineers are called on to understand and apply. A sample of topics include: Regulations: Friend or Foe?, Navigating the Maze, About the FCC, Checklists, Rules Common to All Services, AM specific, FM specific and DTV specific.

Instructing is Dennis Baldrige, CPBE, 8-VSB, AMD, DRB, CBNT, a veteran of the broadcast engineering field for more than 30 years, and the owner of Baldrige Communications, LLC. Baldrige serves as an inspector for the FCC Alternate Inspection Program of the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association. [Click here to register](#) for RF101: Module 8, FCC Regulations. More information about [RF101: Module 8 - FCC Regulations](#) is available at the SBE website.



[More](#) >

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

November 3-13, 2017	Local Chapters	September 25, 2017
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If you have any questions regarding SBE certifications, please contact the Certification Director, [Megan Clappe](#).

2017 RF Safety Course - RESCHEDULED for November 9

Mark your calendar and plan on participating in **The 2017 SBE RF Safety Course NOW RESCHEDULED for Thursday, November 9 starting at**

1 p.m. ET. This course is approximately three and a half hours long and provides an updated overview of RF radiation issues and practices for broadcasters, including:

- Proving compliance at a broadcast site
- Biological effects of RF radiation and the distinct differences between RF radiation and ionizing radiation
- FCC and OSHA regulations - what they are and what you need to do to comply
- Workplace hazards
- Transmitter sites
- SNG and ENG trucks
- Remote operations (where news personnel can find problems such as on rooftops)
- The unique issues at AM stations
- RF hazard protection equipment - you may not need it but your contractors probably will
- Signs - what they mean and what you need

The course is designed for broadcast station personnel, including chief and assistant chief engineers, transmitter site engineers, ENG and SNG maintenance personnel and management who need to have an understanding of RF safety issues and regulations. Noted RF safety expert, Richard Strickland of RF Safety Solutions, instructs the course. Strickland founded RF Safety Solutions in 2001 after 10 years as Director of Business Development for Narda Safety Test Solutions, the world's leading supplier of RF safety measurement and monitoring products.


It is recommended that persons taking the SBE RF Safety Course have at least a basic knowledge of electronics and understand the concept of frequency. The cost is \$95 for SBE members and \$150 for non-members. The completion of this course qualifies the participant for one credit identified under Category I of the Recertification Schedule for SBE Certifications.

Space is Limited. **[Click here](#) to make your reservation TODAY!**

Need more information, contact Cathy Orosz, Education Director at 317-846-9000 or at corosz@sbe.org.
(*sbe.org*)

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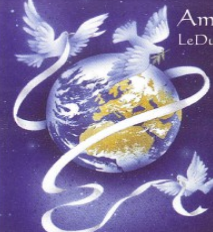
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