



The Society of Broadcast Engineers

Fox Valley Wisconsin SBE Chapter 80

PO Box 1519 Appleton, WI 54912-1519

December 2023

Like us on Facebook facebook.com/sbe80

Our website sbe80.org

Twitter: @sbechapter80

Monthly Meeting for December

Our December program will take place a week earlier than usual on *Tuesday, December 12th at the Out-O-Town Supper Club in Kaukauna at noon*. It will feature Chris Tarr, Chief Engineer at Magnum Media and the FCC SECC Chair talking about all things EAS and possibly other broadcast topics. If you can't make it in person, please feel free to attend via [Zoom](#).

Chairman's Corner

First, I'd like to take a moment to thank the members of SBE Fox Valley Chapter 80 for awarding me the opportunity to serve as chairman for the next year. I am looking forward to leading our organization and hopefully I'll be able to adequately fill the rather large shoes that Marty left, and Bill Hubbard left before him.

Also, I'd like to thank Marty for all his time and dedication as our previous chairman, Marty did a fantastic job steering our chapter through some turbulent waters over the last 3 terms and we appreciate all the time and effort he has put forth for our chapter.

One of my first orders of business will be to address some of our appointed positions as we have some that will be opening and possibly some new positions to fill. First, I would like to separate social media responsibilities from our webmaster position. I feel for us to continue to prosper this is an area that we need to be more active and engaged in. More activity on social media will hopefully assist us in reaching more prospective SBE members and additionally will provide a platform to educate people about the SBE and by extension, our chapter. This person would also work in conjunction with our Membership Chairman in identifying and recruiting new members to our chapter.

Also, it has been suggested that we add a chapter Trustee as an appointed position. This person would help advise the current officers as needed or requested and provide an honest, neutral, and well-considered opinion to the Executive Committee. We will have discussion on these proposed positions during the new business portion of our meeting.

Moreover, John Pfankuch has tendered his resignation to me as our Program Chairman. John has done a great job in the role for many years and has provided our chapter with many outstanding programs. I'd like to say a great big THANK YOU to John for all he has done in this position over the years. With John stepping down, we will need someone to fill this vacancy. If you are interested in doing so, please reach out to me.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, December 19th 1pm CT – Free SBE Webinar: 2023 Workbench Tips with John Bisset

Spend an hour and pick up some tips that will help you perform your job more efficiently and maybe even help you earn a raise. Telos' John Bisset will be presenting an hour-long webinar based on his popular *Radio World Workbench* column on December 19. In addition to providing Workbench Tips, John will discuss strategies to inform management of the crucial role you play at your stations.

Tuesday, January 16th 5:30pm CT – SBE Chapter 80 Holiday Social, Out-O-Town Club

Join us for the annual chapter holiday social and dinner event at our usual meeting place in Kaukauna. The event starts at 5:30pm with dinner starting at 6:30pm.

Thursday, January 18th 1pm CT – Webinar: Applied RF Basics Module 3: VHF/UHF Television systems

The four-part Applied RF Series continues with Module 3 – *VHF/UHF Television Systems*. Session three moves into the television spectrum to look at VHF/UHF broadcast. There will also be significant discussion on ATSC 3.0 – but there are already plenty of courses about that topic, therefore, this webinar will focus more on the RF aspect such as generating the signal, broadcasting the signal, and what can be done to optimize coverage.

Thursday, January 25th 1pm CT – Webinar: Spectrum Analysis and the Use of the Spectrum Analyzer in Radio Broadcasting

This presentation uncovers the various uses and applications of the spectrum analyzer as it relates to radio broadcast engineering. The fundamentals of spectrum analysis and troubleshooting of systems will be covered. Other topics included in the discussion include time domain v. frequency domain, proper use and handling of a spectrum analyzer, applications of spectrum analysis in radio broadcasting, and more. Whether the engineer performs the measurements themselves or utilizes an outside contractor, understanding the information that can be unlocked through spectrum analysis is fundamental to engineering staff in today's broadcast environment and industry.

For more information, visit the [SBE website](#).

Finally, I'd like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy, safe, and healthy New Year!

New Guidelines Incoming

The SBE is completing its work to publish new, updated Broadcast Station Self-Inspection Guidelines. The FCC published a series of checklists many years ago, but they have not been updated in decades.

Broadcast stations use the Alternative Broadcast Inspection Program to ensure compliance with FCC Rules. The former FCC checklists provided a guide for stations to follow. Since the FCC-published lists have lost their relevance because of rule changes and technology advances, broadcasters have sought a replacement.

The SBE Government Relations Committee (GRC), chaired by Charles “Ched” Keiler, CPBE, 8-VSB, ATSC3, CBNE, formed a working group of SBE members in April 2022 to develop an updated set of guidelines. That group includes Steve Campbell, Entronics; Jeff Juniet, CBTE, Cox Media Group/WFTV; Jason Ornellas, CBRE, Bonneville International Media; David Ratener, CPBE, CBNT, Salem Media; Tom Ray, CPBE, AMD, DRB, Tom Ray Broadcast Consulting, LLP; and Shane Toven, CPBE, DRB, CBNE, Educational Media Foundation. The SBE also worked with the NAB and the FCC to develop the Guidelines.

The first Guidelines will cover the major broadcast services: AM, FM, and digital television. SBE GRC Chair Ched Keiler said, “It’s important that broadcasters, as a self-regulating body, adhere to common codified standards: the FCC Rules and Regulations. These documents have been developed to assist broadcast station management and engineers in conducting a self-inspection of their station, providing an opportunity for the broadcaster to review and correct any deficiencies associated with the operation of a station without an actual, on-scene visit by the FCC.”

SBE President Andrea Cummis, CBT, CTO, added “The SBE is committed to improving licensee’s compliance with the broadcast regulations contained within the FCC Rules and Regulations. This is an educational effort that many within the SBE and the broadcast industry support.”

The SBE has considered this issue for several years and will release updated guidelines in early 2024.

Chapter 80 Elected & Appointed Officers

Chairman	Matt Converse	Chief Engineer, WRG	920-831-5685	matt.converse@wcinet.com
Vice Chairman	Craig Pilgram	Cumulus Media	920-621-4571	craig.pilgram@cumulus .com
Imm. Past Chair	Marty Jury	Relevant Radio	920-265-2684	starboardmarty@yahoo.com
Secretary	Eric Papenfuss	WPR	608-406-4252	eric.papenfuss@wpr.org
Treasurer	Steve Brown	WHBY WAPL WKSZ WZOR	920-733-6639	sbrown@wcinet.com
Program Chairman				
Membership Chairman	Dave Duca	WOCO	920-883-7474	acrodrome@gmail.com
Sustaining Membership	Stu Muck	Muck Broadcast services	920-960-0045	mbsfdl@yahoo.com
Frequency Coord. < 2 GHz	Tim Laes	WGEE WIXX WNCY WROE	920-435-3771	tlaes@new.rr.com
Frequency Coord. > 2 GHz	Bill Hubbard	Retired	920-619-9651	bhubbardgb@gmail.com
Chapter Liaison	Mark Heller	Meto North Communications	920-629-1680	mheller@sbe.org
Newsletter Editor	Andrew Hansen	Public Media Engineering	715-338-0013	andrew@pmeworks.com
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	Broadcast Field Services	920-788-7435	flashgun99@yahoo.com

Support the companies that support Chapter 80!

SBE Sustaining Members would like your business! Please consider them first when making purchasing decisions.



Steve Brown, CPBE, CBNT
Director of Broadcast Engineering
W9APL Amateur Call Sign

Direct 920.831.5659
Fax 920.739.0494 • sbrown@wcinet.com
PO Box 1519 • Appleton, WI 54912-1519





**EVANS
ENGINEERING
SOLUTIONS**

524 Alta Loma Drive
Thiensville, WI 53092-1406
www.evansengsolutions.com

PROBLEM SOLVING BEYOND EXPECTATIONS

Ben Evans
President & Senior Technical Consultant

Ph. (262) 518-0178 • Cell (414) 530-8234
Email: ben@evansengsolutions.com

RENEWABLE ENERGY • WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS • BROADCAST



Mark Bartolotta
Regional Sales Manager

Heartland Video Systems, Inc.
1311 Pilgrim Road
Plymouth, WI 53073
Dir: (920) 893-6743
Tel: (800) 332-7088
Cell: (920) 912-1054
Fax: (920) 893-3106
EMAIL: mbart@hvs-inc.com
www.hvs-inc.com

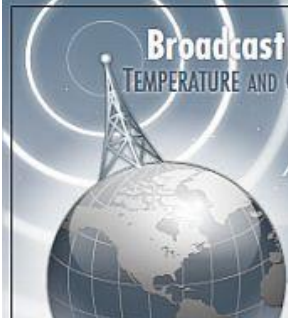
Broadcast & Professional Solutions
CONVERSION • STORAGE • COMPRESSION • TRANSMISSION
AUTOMATION • ROUTING • MONITORING • INTEGRATION



Kelly Radandt
General Manager

Direct 920.831.5655
Cell 920.740.2085 • kradandt@wcinet.com
PO Box 1519 • Appleton, WI 54912-1519





Broadcast Communications
TEMPERATURE AND CLIMATE CONTROL SOLUTIONS

FOUR DECADES
AND COUNTING...

Edward A. Rousseau
(920) 621-1204
V35B@New.RR.com

Mike Veith
Controller

608.837.9050
mveith@wave-com.com
FAX: 608.825.9050



