



The Society of Broadcast Engineers

Fox Valley Wisconsin SBE Chapter 80

PO Box 1519 Appleton, WI 54912-1519

March 2026

Connect with us at: www.sbe80.org  X.com@sbechapter80  facebook.com/sbe80

Chairman's Corner

This month has been a roller coaster for a number of reasons, not least of which is the weather. From a balmy sunny 60° to sheets of ice on my work truck, and more snow in the future. It's the kind of thing that has you worried about sump pumps and iced antennas in the same week, and cursing your maker for being so fickle. It's times like these I'm glad that I work in an industry and alongside professionals that are adaptable. A broadcast engineer's work is never done, but the up and downs, the hard work and the slow days, all accumulate to create resilient and nimble people. Thanks to various "trial by fire" situations throughout my short career, I've increased my ability to react well when circumstances are stacked against me. It also helps me appreciate the sunny days. So, here's to us! When the going gets tough, the tough call their friends to tackle the problem together. Unless you need me to shovel snow. That's where I draw the line.

Craig Pilgram

Chairman
SBE Chapter 80

Don't Forget!

April 1st is the deadline to renew your SBE membership.



Upcoming Webinars by SBE

Technical Proof of Performance: What Remains Required and What Data Makes Sense to Routinely Collect

March 26, 2026 | 2:00 p.m. ET

The FCC deleted most proof-of-performance requirements in the 1980s and 1990s. Prior to that, complete studio-to-transmitter output proofs were an annual requirement. In this webinar, we discuss the mandatory as well as the best practices data to collect, the required timeframe for collection, and the importance of these records. We cover new transmitter installation data sets, NRSC-AM annual measurements, data pertaining to AM and FM directional arrays, and a host of other related topics.

2026 RF Safety Course

May 14, 2026 | 1:00 p.m. ET

The SBE RF Safety Course provides an updated overview of RF radiation issues and practices for broadcasters. 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.

Cooling Your Transmitter Site

May 21, 2026 | 2:00 p.m. ET

Resolving cooling issues at transmitter sites presents many challenges. While some of the amplifiers of the transmitter are burning up, other modules experience high flange temperatures, challenging the HVAC systems cooling capabilities. Investigating the issue becomes costly to troubleshoot. This webinar discusses a real-life scenario and how it is dissected and resolved



Upcoming Certification Exams

| Exam Dates | Location | Application Deadline |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| June 5-15, 2026 | Local Chapters | April 13, 2026 |
| August 7-17, 2026 | Local Chapters | June 15, 2026 |



Give Back. Become an SBE Mentor.

The SBE Mentor Program provides a means for SBE members to share knowledge and experience. For the seasoned mentor, it's a chance to give something back. For the freshman mentee, it's an ideal way to gain inside knowledge and understanding that can sometime take years to accumulate.

Want to share your knowledge, but don't want to be a regular mentor? Be a Subject Matter Expert. Lend your knowledge and experience in specific areas when the need arises.



Shape the Future

The SBE wants your help in recruiting new members, and you can win rewards for your efforts. Sponsor a new Member, Associate Member or Sustaining Member between March 1 and May 31, 2026, and you will be eligible for the prize drawings. For each approved new member application you sponsor you will earn \$5 off your 2026 membership dues, up to \$25.

More details at: <https://sbe.org/membership/2026-membership-drive/>

SBE Chapter 80 is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: SBE Chapter 80 March Zoom Meeting

Time: Mar 17, 2026 12:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87995020407?pwd=sqhiLWbiBNVC12Gyi4wAZIvhqCCZP9.1>

Meeting ID: 879 9502 0407

Passcode: 908865

This month's meeting will feature a presentation from Gary Adams of Black Magic Designs.

CHAPTER 80 ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICERS

| | | | | |
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