



The Society of Broadcast Engineers

Fox Valley Wisconsin SBE Chapter 80

PO Box 1519 Appleton, WI 54912-1519

October 2026

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

Chairman's Corner

As summer turns to fall and the leaves turn from green to all the warm colors we associate with the changing of the seasons, I've found myself stopping now and then to really appreciate where I'm at and what I'm doing. It was never my plan to be in this place at this time, but I haven't been much for long-term plans in my life. Instead, I focus on enjoying where I am. There's beauty all around, and I believe that it's important for us to stop and soak it in for a bit. And the best part is, beauty is defined by the beholder. We all get a say in what motivates and inspires us, which means we can all pursue it in our own ways. But please, take the time to appreciate what you have. I've never regretted stopping to smell the roses, and I'm not sure that's even possible.

Also GO BREWERS!

Craig Pilgram Chairman

SBE Chapter 80

Program for our next meeting

Our program for October 20th will be a presentation by Bill Hubbard and Matt Converse on the National Football League frequency coordination program. They will review the process of submitting a request and illustrate how that request is reviewed and how the frequency is assigned. Bill will also share some details about his experience working the NFL Draft in Green Bay and last year's Super Bowl in San Francisco.

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

Topic: SBE Chapter 80's October Zoom Meeting

Time: Oct 20, 2026 12:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86458364845?pwd=9Q1KW961AU77HzeGRxyc0y8mTvVyLc.1>

Meeting chat link

<https://us06web.zoom.us/jc/86458364845>

Meeting ID: 864 5836 4845

Passcode: 39891

2026 Broadcaster's Clinic & SBE National Meeting

Thanks to SBE Chapters 24, 28, 80 and 112 in Wisconsin and Chapter 17 in Minnesota for contributing to the booth at this year's Midwest Broadcaster's Clinic.

On Display at the booth were:

RCA / Vitro / Nems Clark WX-2E FIM's (production model and prototype model), RCA remote amplifier, and glass AM tubes from Steve Brown, Chapter 80

Gates BiaMote remote amplifier (restored and working), Zenith Trans-Oceanic Radio, and Miratech Conelrad alert monitor from Mark Persons, Chapter 17

General Radio 1602 bridge and antique wood carrying case from Jon Blomstrand, Chapter 17

Ennes TV reference book set, quad video tapes and audio cartridge, and the booth PowerPoint presentation from Bill Hubbard, Chapter 80

Ice damaged Coax sample and burnt-out AM J Plug sample from Matt Converse, Chapter 80



The Booth Photo Display



Steve & Tim Wright from Cumulus



Nems Clarke & RCA FIM's.



Remote Equipment & Classic Ennes Books



GenRad 1602 Old School VNA



The SBE National Booth Out Front



Upcoming Webinars by SBE

HDR Systems for Television – Part 2: Dolby Vision and HDR for Post-Produced Content

November 12, 2026 | 2 p.m. ET

This session takes a deep dive into how ‘post produced’ content is being created and delivered in HDR – glass to glass, with a specific focus on Dolby Vision (the premium format and ‘hero’ deliverable for all the major studios and streamers). Whether it’s a blockbuster feature film for cinema, an episodic drama or reality/doc for an OTT streamer or an indie project for social platforms, there are some key learning opportunities we will discuss and share to deliver the best HDR and SDR finished content with the least amount of friction and or problem

From AI Experimentation to Reliable Broadcast Engineering Workflows

December 17, 2026 | 2 p.m. ET

Broadcast engineers are increasingly experimenting with AI for documentation, troubleshooting, planning, and other technical workflows, but reliable adoption requires more than access to the tools. This webinar shows how engineers and technical leaders can use AI productively while preserving engineering judgment, reliability, and professional standards.

FCC Sets National EAS Test for November 17, 2026

The FCC released a public notice announcing a National EAS Test will be held on November 17, 2026. With that, there are deadlines for stations to file Forms One, Two and Three relating to that test. FEMA will transmit the nationwide test of the EAS at 2:20 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) on November 17, 2026, using the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS). If conditions on that date require the rescheduling of the test, it will be conducted on December 3, 2026

More details at: <https://sbe.org/national-eas-test-2026/>



Upcoming Certification Exams

Exam Dates	Location	Application Deadline
February 5-15, 2027	Local Chapters	January 4, 2027
June 4-14, 2027	Local Chapters	April 12, 2027

HISTORY IN AN OBJECT

BY ALLISON MARSH

Past Forward

Invented in 1799, Alessandro Volta's "artificial electric organ" was the first battery. He presented this one to Michael Faraday in 1814.



The First Battery

The Italian physicist

Alessandro Volta disagreed with the Italian physicist Luigi Galvani about a frog, and their ensuing debate changed the course of electrical history.

In the 1780s, Galvani demonstrated that he could make the legs of a dissected frog twitch as if it were still alive. He attributed the movement to an innate electrical force within the animal. Volta, though, thought the frog was immaterial and proposed instead that the electrical current came from the metal probes Galvani had connected to the specimen.

To prove his point, Volta showed that he could replace the frog with a stack of alternating discs of copper and zinc separated by cardboard, blotting paper, or cloth soaked in brine. His "artificial electric organ," later known as the voltaic pile, became the first battery that could provide a continuous electric current. ■

FOR MORE ON VOLTAIC PILES, see spectrum.ieee.org/pastforward-sep2026

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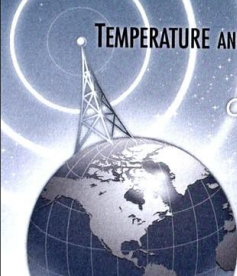
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