

Meeting Notice**Thursday, February 8, Don Chilitos**

7017 Johnson Drive, Mission, KS 66202

There will be no program so meeting will be open for discussion.

Lunch begins promptly at 11:30. Meeting will follow.

For map please visit the web site at <http://www.broadcast.net/~sbe59/>

**Certification Exam Dates**

<i>Exam Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>App. Deadline</i>
April 17, 2007	NAB - Las Vegas	March 2, 2007
June 1-11, 2007	Local Chapters	April 20, 2007
August 10-20, 2007	Local Chapters	June 8, 2007
November 9-19, 2007	Local Chapters	September 21, 2007

Last Month's Meeting

By Ben Weiss, CPBE

The September meeting of Chapter 59 of the Society of Broadcast Engineers was held January 11, 2007 at Don Chilitos Restaurant, 7017 Johnson Drive, Mission, Kansas. There were 10 in attendance. Ben Weiss, chapter secretary/treasurer, called the business meeting to order at 12:16 PM.

Ben read the minutes of the December meeting. The motion to approve the minutes was by Mike Rogers and the second by John Beck, Passed.

Chapter program chairman, Mike Rogers, stated that the February meeting would be the annual RF Specialties appreciation barbeque lunch. Last month, Mike Cooney had indicated that he would host the lunch at the new Entercom broadcast center. Additionally, the program planned for March will be a videoconference presented by V-Soft at the offices of Prism Media.

There were no EAS, certification, or frequency coordination reports due to the absence of the respective committee chairman.

The motion to adjourn was by John Beck and the second by Darrell Nickolaus.

Chairman's Chat**Equipment**

By Matt Kinnan, CEV CBNT

When it comes time to shut off an older piece of equipment that is being replaced by a newer, faster and cheaper digital model, it's hard to believe you would ever use the older equipment again.

So don't throw it away too fast, because you might find a new use for it one day.

Recently we started to add high definition editing systems and videotape machines to our facility. Tri-Level sync was needed in various frame rates and system frequencies. Some edit suites needed 23.98/1080i sync, while others needed 59.94/720p. We were changing the sync to the systems daily. The Problem: how do we get Tri-Level sync in any frame rate or system frequency available to any machine or edit suite in the facility at any time? Well first you need a sync generator that will deliver all the flavors of sync at the same time, luckily they do make them. After that you need some sort of router to deliver the signals. Who would of thought, in this world of digital video we still need analog equipment? Tri-Level Sync is an analog signal, so that old analog router works perfectly in the new digital facility. It's so nice to find new uses for older equipment.

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Malone to Take Over DirecTV

New York -- John Malone's Liberty Media reached a deal with News Corp. that will result in Liberty taking control of News Corp.'s 39% stake in DirecTV.

Rupert Murdoch's News Corp. would sell Liberty's stake in DirecTV in exchange for the 39% stake in News Corp., cash and other assets valued at \$11 billion, the Times said, citing unnamed sources.

Liberty CEO Greg Maffei offered no news Wednesday on a possible time frame for swapping its interest in News Corp. voting stock for News Corp.'s stake in DirecTV Group, but he did provide some insight at an industry conference here on why Liberty is interested in the satellite giant.

Talks have been going on for months between Liberty and News Corp. regarding swapping Liberty's 19% voting interest in News Corp. stock for DirecTV. Earlier this week at the Credit Suisse Media & Telecom Week conference, News Corp. chief operating officer Peter Chernin said talks between the parties continue.

While Maffei almost confirmed Chernin's comment -- he said he would "let Peter do the talking for everybody: That seems to be News Corp.'s specialty" -- the Liberty chief added that gaining access to a strong distributor is one of the motivations for its interest in the direct-broadcast satellite giant.

Liberty was originally formed as the programming arm of TCI, once the largest cable operators in the country with about 14 million subscribers. Malone sold TCI in 1999 to AT&T, retaining control of Liberty. AT&T sold its cable unit, AT&T Broadband, to Comcast in 2002.

DirecTV, with about 15 million customers, is the largest DBS service provider in the country. News Corp. owns a 39% controlling stake in the company.

"[DirecTV] adds value potentially to the other elements in the Liberty portfolio," Maffei said at the conference. "Today we have a host of content assets that don't have the distribution muscle we used to have. Obviously, Liberty got created on the back of TCI's distribution muscle. John Malone was smart enough to see that having that distribution asset would be a great way to have a front-and-center seat in the construction of content assets and a way to make sure your content assets had good and strong distribution. Since the sale of TCI, we have tried to protect those assets as much as possible, but we really haven't had the ability to have an ongoing distribution arm to help do that. DirecTV could help in that process."

Maffei added that the structure of the deal -- a cash-rich split-off -- would also lessen Liberty's tax burden. He estimated that Liberty could avoid "literally billions of dollars" in taxes through the tax-rich structure.

"It largely depends on what broadband solution they had," he said. "Are they in some form of partnership with an established player? Are they planning their own build-out? Are they really going to own that two-way distribution asset? Are they looking at other forms of partnerships with other players? I don't think we would want to commit every last dollar, but I think we've got some flexibility."

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Frequency Coordinator Update

Chris Castro, CBT

This year it was a very productive and learning experience for me, taking over as Frequency Coordinator. With the new Lombardi system and minor changes made at the beginning of the season prove to be a strong and reliable system for the coaches and the NFL.

With the Chiefs making the playoffs gave me the opportunity to go see how other GDC coordinate in their stadium. Visiting Indianapolis encourage me and gave me a strong feeling what it means by our brotherhood among other SBE members.

I Look forward to next year and what it presents!

On that note, WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR A BACKUP GDC TO HELP OUT WITH THE GAMES. PLEASE CONTACT ME AT CASTRO@KSHB.COM OR CALL ME AT 816-932-4304.

Next EAS Required Monthly Test:

February 27

12:45 to 1:00 AM

KCMO-FM

The RMT is sent on the last Tuesday of the month

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Opportunities

KCTV-5

Position: Director of Engineering

Job Description: This position is responsible for ensuring that all FCC rules and regulations are observed and that the station is in full technical compliance with them. Personnel under the direction of this position are involved in nearly all revenue producing business of the station and this position is responsible for ensuring that the loss of airtime within the technical departments control is minimized. Position is responsible for smooth, clean operation and maintenance of station technical facilities. Position prepares and administers engineering department capital and operating budgets. Position plans and oversees equipment acquisitions and installations as well as evaluates all plant upgrades to ensure a state-of-the-art and cost efficient operation. Broadcast station technical department supervisory experience and broad based operating and maintenance background. RF experience is preferred.

Deadline: January 20, 2007

Salary: Open

Send cover letter and resume to: Paula Ruiz KCTV-5
4500 Shawnee, Mission Parkway Fairway, KS 66205

Email: pruiz@kctv5.com

KSHB-TV

Position: Broadcast/IT Maintenance Engineer

Salary: Negotiable

Job Description: This list of duties is not exhaustive and duties may be added, deleted, or changed at any time, without notice.

Perform preventative maintenance and upgrades on Video Servers, News Room Computer Systems, Character Generators and Non-Linear editors. Have a working knowledge of broadcast cameras, switchers, routers and miscellaneous studio and broadcast equipment.

Install video, audio, RF, and computer equipment. Document and keep records of equipment repairs. Research part numbers and pricing.

Perform other duties as assigned by supervisor.

Requirements:

EDUCATION - 2 years of college or technical school majoring in an IT or electrical or related field is required. Four-year degree preferred.

EXPERIENCE - 3 years of broadcast TV maintenance preferred.

LICENSE - Valid Driver's License and proof of insurability.

SKILLS/ABILITIES - Flexible schedule required. Must comprehend schematics, mechanical drawings and technical manuals. Must be physically adept to lift and transport equipment up to 50 pounds. Ability to work and communicate with others is required.

Send Resume To: Jay Nix, Director of Engineering

KSHB-TV

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KKFI FM

Position: Basic Engineering Assistance

Job Description: 90.1 FM KKFI is looking for some basic engineering assistance proposals. We are specifically looking for someone to provide 10 to 20 hours per month - on a contract basis - for routine transmitter coverage and needed studio work.

If you are interested, please contact,

Donna Ross, GM/ED, KKFI-FM

816-931-3122 or email donna.ross@kkfi.org.

Sudoku Puzzle

"Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. "

	6		1	4		5	
		8	3		5	6	
2							1
8			4	7			6
		6				3	
7			9	1			4
5							2
		7	2		6	9	
	4		5		8		7

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Upcoming Meeting and Events

February 8

Don Chilitios

Upcoming Meeting dates

Mark your calendar now

March 8

April 12

May 10

June 14

Do you have a suggestion for a program topic?
Please share it with Mike Rogers.

Wanted: Your News and Information

The SBE newsletter, *The Communicator*, is published every month as a service to the members, sponsors and guest of SBE Chapter 59. We are always looking for information on what is happening at stations and facilities around Kansas City. Have you hired someone new? Have you received a promotion? Have you installed some new equipment? Tell us about it and share it with your engineering colleagues. Send any of your stories or ideas to a chapter officer or e-mail them to sbe59@yahoo.com. Articles published in *The Communicator* will qualify for SBE recertification points.



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