

Meeting Notice**Thursday, September 11, *Don Chilito's Restaurant***

7017 Johnson Drive; Mission, KS; 913-432-4615

Gather at 11:30 a.m.; meeting at 12:00 noon



Predicting FM Radiation Patterns with NEC-2. Richard Fry, who is now retired and was previously an FM applications engineer with Harris, will demonstrate the use of NEC-2 to calculate radiation patterns of FM antennas including the effects of the tower. He has written NEC models for common ERI, Dielectric, Jampro and Shively elements and will show how their patterns typically evolve from a single bay, free-space shape to the final az/el patterns of an array on a tower. Fry will be able to use some actual local data, although a complete system cannot be run because of the time involved.

A map to the restaurant is available at the SBE59 website. When you arrive, go through the line and order your lunch, then bring it to the banquet room on the east side of the building. ☺

Certification Dates		
Exam Date	Location	App. Deadline
Nov. 7-17, 2003	Local Chapter	Sept. 26, 2003
Feb 6-16, 2004	Local Chapter	Dec. 31, 2003
April 20, 2004	NAB	March 2, 2004

Last Month's Meetings

We met twice in August. Our first meeting was a social gathering at Lake Jacomo for the SBE59 annual picnic. It was a hot evening, but those attending were treated to burgers and hot dogs from the grill. Chef duties were handled by Kirk Chestnut.

Our second meeting was held at the studio of KSMO-TV in Kansas City, KS. The Orban Mobile Lab Tour made a stop with its RV and trailer. The 33-foot Orban/CRL Mobile Broadcast Laboratory (MBL) provides tests and demonstrations of Orban and CRL products, and provides comparisons with other products. This vehicle is making stops around the country through the end of the year. The demonstrations covered the basics of processing on-air audio and allowed attendees to better understand the nuances of audio processing.

Madison Hosts SBE National Meeting

The SBE National Meeting will be held at the Madison Marriott West Hotel in Madison, WI, on October 14 and 15. SBE chapter 24 and the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association are the local hosts. The National Meeting is being held in conjunction with the Broadcasters Clinic, an annual educational and trade show event for broadcast engineers. To register for the Broadcasters Clinic, contact the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association at 608-255-2600 or visit the SBE24 website at www.sbe24.org.

SBE to Develop Frequency Coordination Software

Intended for use by its volunteer frequency coordinators, the SBE will develop new frequency coordination software. The new software will replace software that was developed in 1989 by member Gerry Dalton of chapter 67 in Dallas. The existing software has seen widespread use and has been a useful tool, but its capabilities are limited.

The new software will be utilize a run-time version of Filemaker Pro and will be operable on Windows, Mac or Unix platforms. AppleSauce Productions, of Grand Rapids, MN, will be the developer. It is expected to be ready for use by spring of 2004.

Bos-con Features Ennes Workshop

SBE11 in Boston will hold its second Bos-con SBE Regional Convention, October 28 and 29. Bos-Con's first day will feature an SBE Ennes Workshop. Included on the program will be a special presentation on AMBER Alert and EAS in the New England region and a session titled *The Migration Path to HD Radio*. Day two will be a broadcast trade show featuring more than 100 booths. The trade show is free to attend. To register for the Ennes workshop, contact the SBE National Office at 317-846-9000 or lbaun@sbe.org.

SBE FCC Filings Update

The SBE is still awaiting a final answer from the FCC regarding its request for an emergency waiver of fees. The SBE requested the waiver following its successful request to the FCC to stay the new Part 74 coordination requirements for six months. The waiver would allow licensees the opportunity to provide missing information on the FCC's ULS without paying a fee, since the missing information is not the fault of licensees or the FCC. The SBE has received two replies to its waiver request from the FCC but only that they are still reviewing the matter.

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BROADCAST AUDIO, VIDEO & DATA MEDIA DISTRIBUTORS

The SBE also filed comments with the FCC against an STA application submitted by the Safety Cast Corporation. Safety Cast has developed a device to be used in emergency vehicles that would broadcast an alert to vehicles in their path. The device emits a low power signal that interrupts broadcasts of FM and potentially AM radio stations being received in cars (and homes and offices) within approximately 1,000 feet of the on-coming emergency vehicles. A copy of the SBE's filing is available on the SBE website. The FCC denied Safety Cast's application but there is concern that Safety Cast or one of several other companies with similar products may reapply to the FCC at later date.

Certification Congratulations

Congratulations to Jay Thouvenell, CSRE, for obtaining SBE certification as a Certified Broadcast Networking Technologist. Jay took his exam in August. Also Steve Epstein has recertified as a CPBE.

EAS Required Monthly Test September 30

The EAS RMT is sent on the last Tuesday of the month.

National Awards Recognize Best Of 2002

The SBE has announced the 2002 winners of its annual awards program, which will be presented during the National Awards Dinner, held during the SBE National Meeting on Oct. 15 in Madison, WI. Following are highlights of the award recipients.

- *Broadcast Engineer of the Year* - Douglas W. Garlinger, CPBE, CBNT, Noblesville, IN
- *Educator of the Year* - Terrence M. Baun, CPBE, CBNT, Westfield, IN
- *Technology Award* - Thales Broadcast & Multimedia for its DCX Paragon MSDC-IOT high-power digital transmitter
- *Best Technical Article by an SBE Member* - John H. Battison, P.E., CPBE, Loudonville, OH; "New Tower Standards," published in *Radio* magazine
- *Best Regional Convention or Conference* - Chapter 22, Central New York - 30th Annual SBE Chapter 22 Convention
- *Best Chapter Newsletter (Class B)* - Chapter 24, Madison, WI
- *Most Interactive Chapter* - Chapter 73, HAMnet Chapter of the Air
- *Best Chapter Frequency Coordination Effort (Class B)* - Chapter 9, Phoenix, AZ
- *Best Chapter Website* - Chapter 53, South Florida
- *Most Certified Chapter (Class A)* - Chapter 117, Palouse-Clearwater, ID
- *Most Certified Chapter (Class B)* - Chapter 118,

Montgomery, AL

- *Highest Member Attendance at Chapter Meetings (Class A)* - Chapter 136, Rio Grande Valley, TX
- *Highest Member Attendance at Chapter Meetings (Class B)* - Chapter 113, Knoxville, TN
- *Greatest Growth in New Members (Class A)* - Chapter 133, Buffalo, NY
- *Greatest Growth in New Members (Class B)* - Chapter 56, Tulsa, OK

Note: Class A indicates chapters with less than the median membership. Class B chapters are those with more than the median membership.

SBE Files Against Safety Cast STA

The SBE has filed comments with the FCC against an STA application submitted by the Safety Cast Corporation. Safety Cast has developed a device to be used in emergency vehicles that would broadcast an alert to vehicles in their path. The device emits a low-power signal that interrupts broadcasts of FM and potentially AM radio stations being received in cars, homes and offices within approximately 1,000 feet of the oncoming emergency vehicles. A copy of the SBE's filing can be found on the SBE website.

Final National Candidate Slate Announced

The slate of candidates for the 2003 SBE National election has been finalized. Ballots were mailed to each voting member on August 8. These ballots must be returned by September 11.

FCC Considers DTV Issues for LPTV

The Federal Communications Commission, seeks a regulatory framework that will provide flexible and affordable opportunities for extending digital television opportunities to rural communities and to other communities served by LPTV stations.

In a *Notice of Proposed Rule Making*, the FCC seeks comment on a wide range of legal, technical and policy issues related to the digital conversion and new authorization of stations in the LPTV Service. The NPRM proposes making channels 2 through 59 available for digital LPTV and TV translator stations. It seeks comment on whether TV channels 60 through 69 should also be made available for digital low-power service during the transition.

New Receptionist at the National Office

The National Office welcomes Debi Johnson to the staff. Debi is the new certification assistant and receptionist and fills the position vacated by Pam Majors, who left to pursue new career opportunities. ☺



Belden Electronics Division
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Sales Representative

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Facsimilie: 816 524 6295
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 TDM Broadcast Services, LLC
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 Sunfish Lake, MN 55077 Cell: (651) 295-7121
 e-mail: mtroje@tdmbroadcast.com

SBE59 Officers

Chairman Kirk Chestnut, CSRE Entercom Kansas City (913) 677-6462 kchestnut@entercom.com
Vice-Chairman Chris Castro KSHB-TV41 (816) 436-8139 castro@kshb.com
Secretary/Treasurer Ben Weiss, CPBE KM XV-FM/KSRC-FM (816) 931-5506 x546 benw@cbsradiokc.com
Past Chairman Chriss Scherer, CSRE CBNT ... *Radio* magazine (913) 967-7201 chriss@broadcast.net

SBE59 Committees

Programs Michael Douthat KCUR-FM (816) 235-2880 douthatm@umkc.edu
EAS K.C. Operational Area .. Kirk Chestnut, CSRE Entercom Kansas City (913) 677-6462 kchestnut@entercom.com
Certification Chriss Scherer, CSRE CBNT ... *Radio* magazine (913) 967-7201 chriss@broadcast.net
Frequency Coordination Bob Schneider KSMO-TV62 (913) 621-6262 bschneid@ksmo.sbgnet.com
Newsletter, Website Chriss Scherer, CSRE CBNT ... *Radio* magazine (913) 967-7201 chriss@broadcast.net

Chapter 59 e-mail: sbe59@broadcast.net

Chapter 59 list server: sbe-kc@broadcast.net



SBE Chapter 59
c/o Radio magazine (Scherer)
 9800 Metcalf
 Overland Park, KS 66212

Upcoming Meetings and Events

September 11 *FM Radiation Patterns Using NEC-2*
Late September *Kansas City Speedway and the MRN*
October 9 *Belden Electronics*
December 11 *RF Specialties and Wheatstone*