

August Meeting
Tuesday, August 25th, 1998
12:00 Noon
Rosie's Rib Joint
8125 E. 49th Street
Tulsa, OK

August Chairmans Report

By Don Dobbs

Pardon me for a moment while I stand on my soap box. The field of broadcast engineering is continually changing. In general, broadcast equipment today will become obsolete before it wears out. Equipment is more reliable and is becoming more software based. Also the manufacturing processes makes component level replacement very difficult. Board exchanges have become more common and done more to increase maintenance budgets than anything. This makes the customer support from manufacturers more important than ever.

One change that we have all seen is in the area of manufacturers customer support. I have never felt that I should pay for good customer service. Paying an supplemental fee to have the privilege of talking to someone who is knowledgeable about the equipment doesn't seem right. Also, the idea of paying good money for a software revision that fixes what was wrong in the old software has never set well either. I understand that the customer support area is a big investment for manufacturers, but we need to realize that good customer support makes more return sales than anything else. Good customer service should just be good business.

Internship Program Report

By Don Dobbs

Our SBE chapter's summer internship program was a big success. Six students from the Spartan Communications Technologies Program applied to work as interns in the SBE program for a period of 6 weeks. Tim Martin was selected to participate in our first internship program. Tim was placed at KOTV, KTUL, and TCI cable. Thanks to these stations that participated this summer. The fall school session begins soon and again we plan to select student to participate in the program. I would like to see more students selected and those students spend more time in those stations. Other stations are encouraged to host interns. Please give me a call if you wish to support our chapter internship program.

Pathlight Technology presents the August SBE Program

This month's SBE Luncheon will feature a presentation by Ed Bacom with Pathlight Technology.

Mr. Bacom will discuss the latest in computer networking technology. Pathlight builds equipment that supports Serial Storage Technology (SSA).

SSA supports data rates that are fast enough for non-linear editing media networks and all types of storage solutions that now use SCSI. Most Digital Video and Audio systems can take advantage of this kind of economical networking technology.

The technology was first developed by IBM in Havant, England by Said Kezhra Rahmani. IBM uses SSA in main frame computers but did not develop the technology for smaller computers. Said formed Pathlight Technology to make this SSA work with Personal Computers and Macintosh Computers. Randy Hood, former president of ImMix and Scitex is the president of Pathlight.

White papers will be handed out and the technology will be discussed. There is no question that this kind of networking will be implemented in radio and television facilities in the near future.

CONSUMER AWARENESS AND INTEREST IN HDTV INCREASING

Recent Consumer Research Provides Insight on DTV Consumer, Factors Likely to Influence DTV Sales ARLINGTON, VA., Aug. 3, 1998 - The Consumer Electronics Manufacturers Association (CEMA) today released the final results of a recent consumer survey on the digital television (DTV) transition.

The results show that consumer awareness of high definition television has increased dramatically in the last 12 months, and this familiarity has led to increased levels of interest in DTV.

Conducted in July, the research identifies characteristics and categories of DTV consumers, and outlines factors likely to be critical in DTV purchase decisions. "We are pleased to see that the industry's efforts to educate retailers and consumers about digital television have been successful - the research shows that consumer awareness has nearly doubled since April 1997.

This increased awareness coincides with increased interest in DTV and consumer demand for first- and second-generation product," said Gary Shapiro, *cont'd page 6*

www.broadcast.net/~sbe56

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Meeting Information

Chapter meetings are held at 12:00noon on the fourth Tuesday of each month, except December, at Rosie's Rib Joint, 8125 E. 49th Street, Tulsa OK

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SBE Jobline Information

If you have a job opening you wish to place on the SBE JobLine, please fax, e-mail, or mail the job description, along with the contact information, to Teresa Randsell at the SBE National Office in Indianapolis at transdell@sbe.org or fax at (317) 253-0418.

**Society of Broadcast Engineers Chapter 56, Inc.
July Meeting Minutes**

A regular meeting of SBE Chapter 56 was held on Tuesday, July 27, 1998 at Rosie's Rib Joint in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The meeting was called to order at noon by Don Dobbs, chairman.

Minutes Read

The minutes of last month's meeting were read approved by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report

Jim Hicks, treasurer, reported a \$240 increase in the chapter checking account.

Frequency Coordination Report

Larry Miller reported on this month's coordination activity.

Newsletter

Bill Lee reported, he needs articles, also, \$150 is required to print and mail the newsletters. If you can receive the newsletter by E-Mail, please send Bill your address at willilee@ORU.EDU. The newsletter is now available at the chapter web page, www.broadcast.net/~sbe56.

Internship Committee Report

Don Dobbs reported that six students from Spartan School applied and were interviewed. Tim Martin was selected as the first candidate and has now had two weeks at KOTV. Tim told of his experiences there and arrangements were made for intern time at additional facilities.

Meeting Location

Open discussion was held and six locations were suggested: Rosie's Rib Joint, Harvest Buffet, The Fountains, Don Landry's, Black Eyed Pea and Delta Cafe. A vote was held for next month's location. Rosie's won By a one vote margin.

Today's Program

Vibrant Technologies presented their standards-based video server built upon MPEG2 4:2:2 Video Image Processor, Windows NT operating system and standard "off the shelf" PC hardware digital technology.

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SBE ANNOUNCES AWARD WINNERS

The Society of Broadcast Engineers (SBE) has announced winners of its annual awards program. Leonard Charles, CPBE has been named "Broadcast Engineer of the Year" by the Society. He is the information services administrator for Television Wisconsin, Inc. in Madison, Wisconsin. Charles has served on a number of SBE Chapter 24 committees as well as having held the offices of Vice Chair and Chair. On the national level, Charles is completing his second two-year term as a member of the SBE Board of Directors. He is the current chairman of the National SBE EAS Committee and has led SBE's effort to help the FCC create a meaningful and effective EAS system.

Richard A. Farquhar, CPBE has been named "Educator of the Year" for his efforts as educational director of the Ennes Educational Foundation Trust Education Committee. He has planned and presented a number of Ennes Workshops including those at NAB '97 in Las Vegas, Nevada; Louisville, Kentucky; Syracuse, New York; and Birmingham and Montgomery, Alabama. The one-day workshops focus on current issues facing broadcast engineers and ways to implement new broadcasting technology.

Farquhar has served as the educational director for three years and is a former two-term SBE National President. He is the president of RAF Associates, Inc. in Canal Winchester, Ohio.

Winners of the following awards were also announced:

- Best Regional Convention or Conference; 20th Annual Electronic Media Expo '97, Seattle, WA ;Sponsored by SBE Chapter 16
- Best SBE Chapter Newsletter; Chapter 16, Seattle, Washington; Editor: John Forbes
- Best SBE Chapter Frequency Coordination Effort Chapter 24, Madison, Wisconsin; Frequency Coordinator: Tom Smith
- Best Article, Paper or Program by a Student Member "Total Quality Management in the Education of Broadcasting" by Jeffrey Giesberg of Dumont, New Jersey
- Best Technical Article or Program; Introduction to DTV RF by Douglas W. Garlinger of Westfield, Indiana
- Most Certified SBE Chapter; Recognizing the chapter with the greatest percentage of members certified by SBE Chapter 126, Saipan; Chapter Chairman: David Morais, CBRE
- Highest Member Attendance at SBE Chapter Meetings Recognizing the chapter with the highest average percentage of members in attendance at chapter meeting; Chapter 126, Saipan; Chapter Chairman: David Morais, CBRE
- SBE Chapter with the Greatest Growth in New Members; Recognizing the chapter with the greatest percentage growth of new members during the *cont'd page 5*

I have been thinking about shipping my old transceiver back to the factory for a check up and lubricating of the dial mechanism. I no longer have the test equipment or the source from where I can borrow the desired test gear. A glance at the new gear tells me I don't want to pay out the price of a down payment on a new car to acquire a new transceiver. A good friend did that and shelled out \$2,000 for one although he thought it was worth while to replace a 950 that he had with this new FT-1000MP.

Although it took him some time to learn how all the controls worked. I would like to replace mine with a new Ten Tec but that \$2,565 price tag scares me away. I remembered an evaluation of equipment in the low band DXing book by John Devoldere, ON4UN where most popular equipment is listed. After reviewing that information I came to the conclusion that my old OMNI D rated right up with most of the new gear and better then some of the equipment that is on the market today.

Other then the pride of owning a new piece of gear which does not rate that high with me. I didn't think I would gain that much. Of course I don't spend all my spare time at the rig these days. Speaking of books that book by John Devoldere is an interesting book. I only wish I could still climb towers and test out new antennas.

The testing part I can do but not the climbing. I do plan on getting someone to do some climbing as I intend to try out a new 160 meter antenna this fall. We had so much interference on the cable TV system that I began to fear they would blame me as I am the only guy with a tower and beam antennas in this area. The good news was they found the problem that was caused by the new cable that was installed for the updating of their system.

Another bit of good news the power company called and reported some of the line noise I have been complaining about is due to a lighting arrester in the area

"I only wish I could still climb towers and test out new antennas."

which had been hit and was not working properly and would be repaired as soon as a work crew would be free. With all the wind damage to trees and power lines around here in June, who knows how long that will be.

While cleaning out the garage getting ready for a garage sale I decided to clean out a lot of issues of older magazines. Just for fun I included all the issues I still had of QST and CQ in the sale. Not much of a surprise but not one issue of the ham magazines were sold while all the issues of True West and Wild West were sold the first day. Even an old bug and a JT30 crystal mike went too. I have heard since that the old JT30 mikes are selling for as much as \$50 to collectors. Mine had seen a lot of hard use since I bought it in about 1947. I put out a National HRO dial the kind that were on the old HRO receivers.

FCC ADOPTS RULES FOR LICENSING LARGEST BLOCK OF PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO SPECTRUM EVER ALLOCATED
(WT DOCKET 96-86)

Today the Commission adopted rules for licensing the largest block of spectrum ever allocated at one time for public safety services. In a document that includes both a First Report and Order (First Report) and a Third Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Third Notice), the Commission establishes service rules for licensing 24 megahertz (MHz) of spectrum in the 764-806 MHz band (referred to as the 700 MHz band), establishes a band plan for use of this spectrum, seeks comment on how to license the remaining portion of the public safety spectrum (8.8 MHz) and on additional proposals to implement effective public safety nationwide interoperability.

The First Report also announces the Commission's plan to establish a National Coordination Committee that will seek accreditation from the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and be charged with, among other things, developing national standards for operation and use of the spectrum allocated for nationwide interoperability.

This 24 MHz of spectrum, recently reallocated for public safety use from TV Channels 63, 64, 68 and 69 in the broadcast service, doubles the amount of spectrum available nationally for state and local public safety communications. By this action, the Commission addresses an urgent need for additional public safety radio spectrum, and also designates spectrum to support nationwide interoperability among local, state, and federal entities.

Entities eligible for licensing in this new public safety spectrum in the 700 MHz band include state and local governments and non-governmental organizations specifically authorized by appropriate state or local agencies. In compliance with statutory requirements, federal entities will not be eligible to be licensed in this spectrum, but will have access to the nationwide interoperability channels.

In the rules adopted in the First Report, this spectrum is channelized into narrowband and wideband channels that will accommodate voice, data, image, high speed data and video transmissions. From the 24 MHz of spectrum in the 700 MHz band, the Commission designates 12.6 MHz for general use and 2.6 MHz for nationwide interoperability purposes among all public safety agencies.

In addition, in the Third Notice, the Commission seeks comment on how to license the remaining 8.8 MHz. In the First Report, the Commission announces that it will establish a National Coordination Committee under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) to provide a national structure to establish standards for coordinated spectrum use, particularly for interoperability purposes.

The major responsibilities of this Committee will

be to: (1) formulate a national interoperability plan for Commission review and approval; (2) develop standards pursuant to ANSI guidelines for the interoperability channels, including potentially standards for digital modulation and trunking; (3) provide voluntary assistance in the development of coordinated regional plans; and (4) provide recommendations to the Commission on technical matters that are common to the public safety community as a whole.

Other provisions adopted in the First Report include: (1) continuing to rely on the Regional Planning Committee process for planning use of approximately one half of the 24 MHz, but allowing a degree of flexibility for reformation of Regional Planning Committee boundaries;

(2) giving Regional Planning Committees the responsibility for developing plans for the efficient and effective use of the 12.6 MHz of general use spectrum in this band;

(3) adopting plans for technical standards providing the minimum necessary constraints that meet reasonable goals for nationwide interoperability, spectrum use efficiency and interference protection;

(4) designating the four certified public safety frequency coordinators as eligible to provide frequency coordination in the 700 MHz band in order to provide competition among coordinators and market incentives for lower coordination fees and quality service;

(5) protecting analog TV and DTV stations from harmful interference; and

(6) requiring that licensees authorized to operate within 75 miles of the Canadian and Mexican borders be subject to the condition that no interference is caused to television reception in those countries and that their authorization also be subject to any further conditions imposed by final agreements or treaties concluded between the United States and those countries.

In the Third Notice, the Commission seeks comment on how to license the remaining 8.8 MHz. Specifically the Commission asks whether some or all of the 8.8 MHz should be licensed directly to each state for deployment of statewide systems, or whether it should be given to the Regional Planning Committees along with the 12.6 MHz general use spectrum addressed in the First Report.

The Third Notice also seeks comments on any alternative proposals for use and licensing of the 8.8 MHz.

cont'd page 6

The SBE Chapter 56 Inc. Newsletter is published on the 16th of each month, except December, and mailed to members and other interested parties. A \$15 annual donation is requested to cover publishing costs. Make checked payable to SBE Chapter 56, Inc., PO Box 703155, Tulsa OK 74170-3155. Other SBE Chapters may use excerpts, if attributed to the original author and this newsletter. The deadline for submitting articles is the 15th of each Newsletter month.

It was a conversation piece but I really didn't want to sell it. More people were interested in it and wanted to know where it came from. After the sale was over I went through the six years of ham magazines and found only three issues of QST that had information I decided to keep. Of course both QST and CQ did have much more but all of it was duplicated by the many hand books and other books in my library.

To make a long story short I wonder if this has any thing to due with the low rate of involvement of the rank and file of the licensed hams with the magazines and the ARRL. Is the ARRL and CQ clinging to ideas from yesterday. Surely there is much more interesting material for publication about ham radio then we are seeing today.

In one case there has been much about quarter wave slopers described in recent years using a tower for the other half of the antenna. I have been using such an antenna for years. It started with a half wave antenna with tunes feeders then shortened to a 100 foot antenna and later to a quarter wave sloper.

I can't really say there was much change in results between the antennas except to get rid of many of the wires over the house. I can say with certainty it did please the XYL. Several articles in CQ I found interesting concerned historical happening in our past or how things came to be. I know that is not every bodies interest but I found them interesting. As usual I am looking forward to next months ham magazines!!

73'S W5INU



year. Chapter 127, Southwest Florida; Chapter Chairman: G. Wayne Phillips, CPBE

Awards will be presented during the 1998 Electronic Media Expo and SBE National Meeting on October 28, 1998 in Bellevue, Washington.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The annual SBE Membership Drive, "One New Member," prize winners were drawn July 11, during the SBE Summer Executive Committee Meeting in Indianapolis. Winning the Grand Prize, a trip to Seattle for the SBE National Meeting and Electronic Media Expo was Mike Kemmerling, CBTE of El Paso, Texas. The second Prize winner of \$250 cash was J. Robert Keeler, CSBE of Hixson, Tennessee. More than 40 prizes were awarded in all. Look for the complete list of winners in the August/September issue of the SBE SIGNAL.

VOTING MEMBERS RECEIVE ELECTION BALLOTS IN AUGUST

All voting members of SBE will receive a ballot for the National Election of Officers and Board Members, during the second week of August. The ballots are mailed First Class to the address of record. To be counted, ballots must be returned by mail (no facsimiles can be accepted) by 5:00 p.m., September 17, using the return envelope supplied. At 6:00 p.m., the volunteer Board of Tellers will

open the envelopes and begin the ballot count. Every year we get a few that arrive after the count is over, so please get them in early. There is one candidate for each of the four officer positions and 11 candidates for six available seats on the Board. Please read the candidate's statements and voting record carefully before making your choices.

YOUTH PROGRAM BEGINS AUGUST 1

SBE's new program targeting high school age students officially begins August 1. High school students interested in the technical aspects of broadcasting are invited to become Youth Members. They will receive a special newsletter three times during the school year containing information on school operated stations, post secondary institutions offering broadcast engineering related courses, scholarship information and age appropriate technical articles. Youth Members will also receive other SBE member benefits including discounts on technical books and seminars and access to the SBE Job Line. Annual dues will be just \$10. For an application, contact the Membership Department at the SBE National Office.

ENNES TRUST NAMES SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The Ennes Educational Foundation Trust has awarded two broadcast engineering scholarships named in honor of Harold E. Ennes and Robert D. Greenberg.

Receiving the \$3,000 Harold E. Ennes Scholarship is Alex Roman of Goleta, California. Roman is a sophomore and will be transferring from Santa Barbara City College to the University of California. He is currently employed at KVEN/KHAY/KBBY in Ventura, California and also works with stations KHTY and KMGQ. Roman intends to work full time as a radio station engineer.

Awarded the \$3,000 Robert D. Greenberg Scholarship is Skeet Skaalen, of Brookings, South Dakota. Skaalen attends South Dakota State University and is enrolled in the electronics engineering technology program. He is currently employed at KJJQ and KKQQ as chief engineer, and began his career at KCGN FM in Mulbank, SD. Skaalen's future plans include a full-time career in broadcast engineering.

The Harold E. Ennes scholarship fund was originated by SBE Chapter 25 in Indianapolis and later given to the National SBE to administer. The fund memorializes the life of SBE member, Harold E. Ennes who was dedicated to the importance of continuing education and authored numerous broadcast operations and engineering textbooks.

1999 SBE LEADER-SKILLS SEMINAR DATES SET

SBE will present Leader-Skills Seminar #31 for Broadcast Engineers, June 7-11, 1999. It will be the third seminar sponsored by SBE and will be presented once again by Richard Cupka. The seminar will be held in an Indianapolis area hotel. The cost will be \$675, which covers all instruction, materials and refreshment breaks.

Travel, meals and lodging are additional.

The Leader-Skills Seminar for Broadcast Engineers teaches management techniques and skills. Those *cont'd page 6*

Consumer awareness Cont'd from page 1 president of CEMA. According to the survey, 58 percent of consumers are aware of the terms "high definition television" and "HDTV", up from less than 30 percent in April 1997. About 42 percent of U.S. adults feel they know at least somewhat more about digital TV than they did this time last year.

Increased familiarity has produced increased levels of interest. More than half of those who say they've become more familiar with the DTV transition during the last year are also much more interested in buying a digital

"Retailers can expect consumers to flood their stores to see DTV demonstrations this fall."

TV. Seventy percent of consumers surveyed said they would go to retailer stores this fall to see DTV demonstrations. "Retailers can expect consumers to flood their stores to see DTV demonstrations this fall. When they buy DTV will depend on a variety of factors. This survey gives retailers and manufacturers some important information about what these factors are," said Todd Thibodeaux, CEMA vice president for market research.

According to the survey, awareness and interest in DTV vary among different generational groups. For example, baby boomers are slightly more aware of digital TV terms than Generation-X and much more familiar than Seniors. Members of Generation-X have the highest likelihood to buy DTV among the groups. They also have the most positive outlook about the coming of DTV.

Generation-X will also rely more on financing to get DTV. The survey shows that movies and sports will drive sales of digital TV. Movie fans are more familiar with digital TV than fans of sports programming and sitcoms, and accordingly have a higher interest in investing in the new technology. About half of the movie fans surveyed will consider buying a digital TV because of movies.

Research results identified three categories of DTV consumers - purchasers (those most likely to buy DTV early), wannabes (consumers interested in DTV but not likely to be first-generation buyers) and mules (consumers lacking knowledge and interest in DTV). The survey results identify specific demographics and buying characteristics for these categories of consumers. The research was conducted July 6-14 by CEMA via phone to a random national sample of 1,000 adults.

The research is available by contacting CEMA. CEMA is a sector of the Electronic Industries Alliance (EIA), the 74-year-old Arlington, Virginia-based trade organization representing all facets of electronics manufacturing. CEMA represents U.S. manufacturers of audio, video, accessories, mobile electronics, communication, information and multimedia products which are sold through consumer channels. CEMA also sponsors and manages the International Consumer Electronics Show

(CES), the world's largest annual trade event showcasing consumer electronics products.

FCC Radio Rules Cont'd from page 4

In addition, the Third Notice seeks comment on whether to permit each state to administer the nationwide interoperability frequencies (2.6 MHz of spectrum) pursuant to the national interoperability plan to be established by the National Coordination Committee.

Lastly, the Third Notice proposes and seeks comment on: (1) designating five interoperability channels in existing public safety bands below 512 MHz, including the 150-174 and the 450-512 MHz bands;(2) whether channels in the 138-144 MHz bands should be designated for public safety use generally, and interoperability use specifically (a future proceeding will address permanent use of these channels); (3) redesignating three frequency pairs in the 156-162 MHz band for interoperability in 33 Economic Areas that are now available for public safety use; and (4) establishing technical solutions to address possible interference problems to global navigation satellite systems.

Actions by the Commission, August 6, 1998, by First Report and Order and Third Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FCC 98-191). Commissioners

Cont'd from page 5 who have management responsibilities or wish to seek them in the future should consider attending this program. More than 1,000 broadcast engineers have completed the Leader-Skills Seminar for Broadcast Engineers since its inception over 30 years ago. Society of Broadcast Engineers, Inc. 8445 Keystone Crossing, Suite 140 Indianapolis, IN 46240 Office: Fax: Job Line: Home Page: (317) 253-1640 (317) 253-0418 (317) 253-0474 <http://www.sbe.org>

STILL TIME TO REGISTER FOR FALL CERTIFICATION EXAM

SBE Certification provides recognition of your experience and knowledge in the field of broadcast engineering. It also shows others that you have made a serious commitment to stay current with new technology, regulations and practices. Now's the time to register to take an exam in November. For more information about SBE Certification, see your Chapter Certification Chair or contact Linda Godby-Emerick, Certification Director at the SBE National Office at (317) 253-1640 or lgodby@sbe.org.

<u>Exam Date(s)</u>	<u>Location</u>
November 13-23, 1998	Local Chapters
April 20, 1999	NAB Convention
June 11-21	Local Chapters
November 12-22	Local Chapters

Deadline September 25, 1998
Deadline March 22, 1999
Deadline April 30, 1999
Deadline September 30, 1999

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