

Meeting Notice

Thursday, May 10, Zarda BBQ Lenexa
11931 W. 87th Street, Lenexa, KS 66215

For Direction please visits our web site and click on the map.

<http://www.broadcast.net/~sbe59/>

Roscor and Media will bring a presentation.

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



Certification Exam Dates		
Exam Date	Location	App. Deadline
June 1-11, 2007	Local Chapters	Close
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 **April** meeting of Chapter 59 of the **Society of Broadcast Engineers** was held April 12, 2007 at Don Chilitos Restaurant, 7017 Johnson Drive, Mission, Kansas. There were 8 in attendance. Chriss Scherer, national SBE president, called the business meeting to order at 12:10 PM.

Ben read the minutes of the March meeting. The motion to approve the minutes was by Kirk Chestnut and the second by Chris Castro, Passed.

Chapter program chairman, Mike Rogers, stated that the May meeting would be hosted by Roscor Media & Information Technologies. Mike also commented that the June meeting would be a video conference with John Gray of V-Soft and would utilize the video conference facilities of Penton publishing.

Kirk Chestnut, Kansas City Metro EAS chairman, commented that everything was quiet on the EAS front.

Chris Castro, chapter frequency coordination chairman, stated that he expects the upcoming NASCAR racing season to avoid the interference problems some of us have experienced to our RPU channels in the past. He has been working with the local FCC field office and believes that we will be receiving cooperation from the Kansas Speedway to avoid a repeat of the interference this summer.

Chris also remarked that he has obtained the services of John Gray to help him update the chapter's web site. Regarding the editing of the chapter newsletter; Chriss Scherer offered to help Chris with the process.

There was a lengthy discussion about last month's election of officers. Chriss Scherer remarked that Matt Kinnan, chairman, wanted to step down from his position. Also, vice chairman, Ken Cox is unable to continue in his position. Chriss made the motion to place in nomination Robin Cross for chairman and Dave Buell for vice chairman to be voted upon at the May meeting. The second was by Kirk, passed.

Finally, Chriss mentioned that local certification exams would be given June 1-11 but registration has closed. The exams will be given again August 10-20 and the deadline for registration is June 8th.

The motion to adjourn was by Mike Rogers and the second by Kirk Chestnut.

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Something Positive from a Tragedy

By Chriss Scherer, CPBE CBNT

The shootings at Virginia Tech in April were covered by every news media outlet, and while the details of that tragedy are being discovered, there is one happier story that has surfaced. Kevin Sterne, the student engineer at the campus radio station, WUVT, was wounded during the shooting. He was able to use an electrical cord as a tourniquet to stop the bleeding from his leg, which saved his life. He underwent surgery and is currently recovering in the hospital, but he's doing well. Images of Sterne being carried away by four men in informs were part of the new coverage.

Attention from the event created an outpouring of interest to provide support for the victims. In Sterne's case, his dedication to radio caught the attention of many broadcasters. Very soon after the shootings, the SBE contacted the campus radio station to determine the assistance that could be provided to Sterne. The response was that donations and well wishes could be made to the station in Sterne's name. But there's more to the story.

It turns out that Sterne's five-year pet project has been to relocate the station's transmitter. The current transmitter location is in an elevator penthouse on top of a dorm building. The transmitter room does not have air conditioning. In January, the station had some equipment trouble and was operating at about half power through April.

As the SBE and then Clear Channel inquired into the situation, more information came to light, including the school's and the station's plan to relocate the transmitter facility.

The station was able to repair its transmitter and return to full power, and Clear Channel has loaned the station a 3.5kW transmitter to use a back-up for the time being.

Some plans had already been put together to relocate the transmitter to a tower on nearby Price Mountain. The station has been raising money to fund this project. The land on Price Mountain is owned by the school, and the tower is owned by Cumulus.

Now the SBE, Clear Channel, Cumulus and other companies are working together to help the station obtain the authorization needed to relocate the transmitter. Some companies are also preparing to donate equipment if it is needed. In addition, financial donations to the station are being accepted. Donations should be noted as being for "Kevin" or "transmitter." Mail donations and items to:

WUVT
att: "Kevin" or "Transmitter"
350 Squires Student Center
Blacksburg, VA 24061-0506

There is also a secure donation space online at www.wuvt.vt.edu. Select DONATE from the menu. In the space for "Show/DJ/Time Slot to Credit" enter "Kevin" or "transmitter."

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New Specialist Certification

By Chriss Scherer, CPBE CBNT

SBE to Offer New Specialist Certification The National Certification Committee of the SBE has announced its next specialist certification: Digital Radio Broadcast (DRB). This specialist certification will qualify an individual's knowledge of digital radio broadcasting including audio processing, studio-to-transmitter links and transmission of multi-channel digital program streams. The official roll-out of this specialist certification will be during the SBE National Meeting, held in conjunction with SBE Chapter 20's, Pittsburgh Regional Convention, October 10-11, 2007, in Monroeville, PA.

The specialist will include knowledge of importers, exporters, the various methods of combining analog and digital transmitters to antenna systems, delivery of digital audio signals and data to transmitter sites, transmitter emission mask measurements, AM and FM FCC rules, monitoring of digital signals and bandwidth requirements for AM antenna systems.

DRB specialist applicants must currently hold SBE certification at the Broadcast Engineer, Senior Broadcast Engineer, or Professional Broadcast Engineer certification level. The exam will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions and one essay question. Following the roll-out of the specialist certification, the SBE will release an update to its CertPreview software of practice tests. To obtain an application for the Digital Radio Broadcast specialist certification, go to www.sbe.org/Specialist_Cert.php or contact the SBE National Office.

Next EAS Required Monthly Test:

**May 29
1:45 to 2:00pm
KCSP-AM**

The RMT is sent on the last Tuesday of the month

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NFL loosens sideline limits on affiliates TV cameras

Chris Castro,CBT

The NFL has reversed course on its decision to significantly restrict TV cameras on sidelines, an initiative that last season sparked a firestorm of criticism and even threats of lawsuits from the lobby for network affiliate stations.

The league's broadcast committee told owners last week at their annual meeting that up to 10 affiliate TV cameras are now allowed to film game footage from the sidelines. However, to make room for the cameras, there may be restrictions on the number of still photographers on the field.

When the league announced the new policy last year, banning TV cameras that were not part of the live game coverage, some viewed the move as the sport's latest step to restrict any slice of its content to only paying outlets. The league defended the move, arguing the sidelines were dangerous places because of camera clutter, a position with which Banner agreed.

That position did not assuage the National Association of Broadcasters, which represents network affiliate stations. The group last year sent a protest letter to the league, suggesting the policy could violate open-access rules in government-funded stadiums.

Wharton said he was surprised the NFL maintained there was not a total camera ban. Instead, the league last season allowed up to two affiliate cameras per team, so four a game, said NFL spokesman Greg Aiello. Those cameras functioned in a pool system. Previously, there had been no limits.

The new policy increases from two to five the number of affiliate cameras allowed per club. If a visiting team does not bring five affiliates, the home club can make up the difference.

Local affiliates have said that the footage they filmed in previous years highly distinguished their evening news reports' sports highlight shows. Last year's restrictions, the stations argued, hurt the telecasts.

Restrictions on still photographers will be no different than those that have been in place, Aiello said, with teams being able to decide which ones get on the field. Others, however, including Banner, indicated the new policy might give clubs more leeway than before. It was not immediately clear what additional steps would be taken to clarify these effects of the new policy.

There was no decision at last week's meetings on possible further restrictions in another media area. The NFL is considering limiting Internet dissemination of weekly coaches' press conferences and player practice interviews to only approved outlets.



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Frequency Corner

Chris Castro, CBT

As the article in the previous page indicates, the NFL has favorably revised its sideline policy broadening access to game coverage by local television stations. Team owners agreed to change a 2006 rule banning local station video cameras from the sidelines during games. The new rules will allow up to 10 video crews, **five from the local market** of each competing team, to cover games from the field. Participating stations would be expected to provide pool coverage and those details would be worked out between teams and local stations that cover them.

With this new policy, we will follow the same guide line in frequency coordination. All local TV station will only have one frequency allowed during the game.

Future Events

May 10th Meeting

Zarda BBQ on 87th with Roscor, Media And Information Technologies

June 14th Meeting

V-Soft, with John Gray, at Penton publishing the former Prism Media Conference Room. Pizza will be served.

July 12th Meeting

NIC, Network Integration Services, with Obie Dixon & Reid Graham at their site on 11374 Strang Line RD. Jack Stack will be catered.

September 13th Meeting

AEQ visits to talk about networked audio, codec technology and other aspects of the company's products with host Gerardo Vargas conducting the program. No Venue has been set.

SBE59 Officers

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Upcoming Meeting and Events

May 10

Zarda BBQ

Upcoming Meeting dates

Mark your calendar now

June 14

July 12

August 9

September 13

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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