

Meeting Notice

Thursday, April 14, Gates and KCUR-FM

Lunch and meeting at Gates Barbecue

1325 East Emanuel Cleaver Blvd.
 Kansas City, MO 64110
 816-531-7522

Meet at 11:30 a.m.

Program at KCUR-FM
 University of Missouri - Kansas City
 4825 Troost Ave. Suite 202
 Kansas City, MO 64110
 816-235-2880

Leave for KCUR just after noon



Facility Tour. Gather for lunch and the meeting at Gates. We will then go to KCUR for the tour.

This month's meeting brings us the great opportunity to tour one of our local FM radio stations. KCUR signed on the air Oct. 21, 1957. KCUR, which broadcasts 20 hours of news each weekday, is a 100kW station that covers a 90-mile radius in Northwestern Missouri and Northeastern Kansas. More than 150,000 people listen to KCUR each month. Approximately 55 percent of the audience is in Missouri; 45 percent in Kansas.

KCUR has fully integrated and automated many of its regular operations. Many programs are delivered via satellite, where they are recorded and time-shifted for later broadcast. The news department make extensive use of field recorders, then brings the content back to the station to be edited before use on air. We will learn how the station handles network relations with the University, and how it deals with file interchange. Mike Douthat will be our tour guide.

Parking is limited at the studio and will cost 75 cents an hour. If you will only attend the tour, plan to meet at Gates around noon. ☺

Certification Exam Dates		
Exam Date	Location	App. Deadline
Jun 3-13	Local Chapter	Apr 22
Aug 12 - 22	Local Chapter	Jun 10
Nov 11 - 21	Local Chapter	Sep 23

Last Month's Meeting

By Ben Weiss

The March 10 meeting was held at the studios of Taketwo Productions in Kansas City, MO. There were 29 in attendance. Steve Epstein, chapter chairman, presided over the business meeting. The event was hosted by Matt Kinnan.

Bob Schneider, chapter frequency coordinator, stated that it doesn't look like Kansas City is in the tier one roll-out for the Nextel 2GHz BAS transition. The Nextel website will provide updates on the process.

Schneider noted that frequency coordination can now be done online through the National SBE website. Click on the coordination link. Contacts for area coordination are listed by Zip Code, and requests for coordination will be e-mailed directly to the responsible area coordinators.

Kirk Chestnut, Kansas City Area EAS chairman, commented on the new metro computer system indicating that

it is up and running but still is under test. He also related that severe weather training seminars are now being held in several locations around the area. The National SBE website has posted local area EAS plans for a number of metropolitan cities. Finally, Kirk told us that KCSP missed relaying the EAS RMT for the month of February.

Lloyd Collins, Missouri state EAS chairman, reported that every radio station in Missouri should have received one of the Dayton low-band FM monitor receivers to receive EAS alerts as initiated by the Missouri Highway Patrol troop headquarters. These receivers should be installed as soon as possible so stations can receive AMBER alerts and other EAS alerts as initiated by the Missouri Highway Patrol. Collins said that consideration is being given to designating the Highway Patrol as a new LP-1 source, which might initiate EAS RMTs by midyear.

Matt Kinnan previewed that the April meeting would be a tour of the facilities of KCUR. Programs for other meetings will be announced later.

Chriss Scherer remarked that local certification exams will be given the second week in June and the deadline for registration is April 23. He also mentioned that nominations for SBE national officers and board members are open now.

The annual election of officers for chapter 59 was held.

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Nominations were as follows:

For chairman: Chriss Scherer nominated Bob Schneider. He declined. Scherer nominated Matt Kinnan. He was elected by unanimous voice vote.

For vice chairman: Kirk Chestnut nominated Ken Cox. Scherer nominated Dave Buell, who declined the nomination pending Cox's acceptance. Ken Cox was elected by unanimous voice vote.

For secretary/treasurer: Scherer nominated Ben Weiss, who was elected by unanimous voice vote.

There was no formal program, but the engineer appreciation lunch was provided by Chris Krieger and John Sims of RF Specialties. Sims prepared his home-made barbecued spare ribs, brisket and turkey breast, accompanied by barbecue beans, cheesy corn casserole, cole slaw, drinks and dessert.

RF Specialties also provided lots of door prizes that were awarded in random drawings.

**Chairman's Chat
 New Opportunities**

By Matt Kinnan, CEV CBNT

It gives me great pleasure to have been nominated and then chosen for the chairmen position of our SBE chapter. Coming from a video production background my knowledge of broadcasting for radio and television is somewhat limited, however since joining the SBE I have learned from you that this is truly a great profession.

Let me give a brief overview of who I am and how I got here. My name is Matt Kinnan and I am the director of technology for Taketwo here in Kansas City. After I graduated from Kutztown University in Pennsylvania with a BS in telecommunications, I moved to Colorado Springs to work for the ABC affiliate KRDO. Spending most of my time helping out and learning the business, I was then quickly offered a better-paying position as a video tape operator at a Colorado production company and within a year I was part of the engineering department.

I was soon promoted to the assistant engineer position where I was put to the test: replacing VTR heads, pulling wires and shading cameras. After getting comfortable with the daily routine of engineering for video post-production, I was ready to move on. I was lucky enough to find a position with Taketwo, and after a few years I joined our SBE chapter as a way to meet others in the business. Sure enough, it has turned out to be a great learning ex-

perience and a good way to keep on top of our ever-changing industry.

I'd like to say thank you for giving me the opportunity to lead our SBE chapter into the next year. I'm hoping that I can bring a new light to our chapter, and to keep a good balance between television and radio. The SBE has been a terrific learning experience and I encourage all to join and become certified.

Tornado Warning Test a Success

By Kirk Chestnut

Mike Hudson, Warning Coordination Meteorologist with the National Weather Service office in Pleasant Hill gives the Kansas City EAS system a clean bill of health. We are ready for severe weather season. Time Warner Cable had to make a slight time adjustment to its equipment, but other than that, there were no reported problems arising from the mock tornado drill on March 15.

This is a good time to check the clock on your EAS unit. If you do not have an in-house GPS clock system, try calling the Naval Observatory for a time check. The number is 202-762-1401. Be sure to set the clock for UTC time +6 hours with the Daylight Saving Time function enabled.

SBE Spring Membership Meeting at NAB2005

Highlighting the NAB convention week for the SBE will be the annual spring Membership Meeting, held on Tuesday, April 19 from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. in room N110 of the Las Vegas Convention Center. The SBE will present its Lifetime Achievement Award to a veteran member with a long and distinguished career in broadcast engineering. It will be a surprise to the recipient. Also, a number of local chapter certification chairmen will be recognized for their continuing service.

Door prizes will be awarded, including one Magellan GPS and an SBE pocket-level tool to the first 100 members.

FCC Looks to Get Tough on Content

TV and radio stations should prepare to face new attacks for sex, violence and profanity in programming. Congress and the FCC are on the lookout, says the *New York Times*. Congressmen and new FCC Chairman Kevin Martin have proposed a broad expansion of indecency rules, which were significantly toughened last year. They are also looking for significant fine increases and new procedures that could jeopardize the licenses of stations that repeatedly violate the rules.

Martin, along with some senior lawmakers, including Commerce Committee Senator leader Ted Stevens (R-AK),



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have suggested it may be time to extend the indecency and profanity rules to cable and satellite TV providers. Organizations opposing what they consider indecent programming have joined forces with consumer groups that have been trying to tighten regulation over the cable industry and force it to offer consumers less expensive a la carte services.

Some of the anti-indecency groups see a la carte services as a way of helping consumers block programming they consider indecent. Martin and Commissioner Michael Copps have consistently been among the most aggressive members of the agency on indecency issues. Lawyers for cable companies told the *Times* that any effort to impose indecency standards on paid programming would violate the First Amendment.

Meanwhile, broadcasters have been slow to respond to the new climate. The TV networks and affiliates have filed papers with the commission seeking a rehearing on three major indecency cases: the Janet Jackson incident at the Super Bowl; Bono's use of a profanity at the Golden Globe Awards; and a racy episode of Fox's "Married by America." The CFF has sat on those appeals, and may not issue rulings anytime soon. As a practical matter, the inaction by the Commission has prevented the networks from tak-

ing the matter to court. For now, the courts are widely viewed as the last hope for broadcasters.

SBE Meetings and Events at NAB2005

The SBE booth is officially designated Lobby Booth 17, which is in the hallway between the North and Central exhibit halls. The booth is near the entrance to the NAB Broadcast Engineering Conference rooms N110 and N112. The SBE booth will be open on Sunday from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The following SBE events will be held at the convention.

Saturday, April 16

Ennes Workshop

Building the Next Generation Master Control — Radio and TV

9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., room N110 LVCC

Sunday, April 17

SBE Board of Directors Meeting

8:30 a.m. to noon, Grand/Royal Salon, Las Vegas Hilton

Monday, April 18

SBE/NFL Game Day Coordinators Meeting

9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Conference Rooms 4 and 5, Las Vegas Hilton

SBE EAS Meeting

2 p.m. to 4 p.m., room N236 LVCC

Tuesday, April 19

SBE Certification Exams

9 a.m. to noon, Grand/Royal Salon, Las Vegas Hilton

SBE Frequency Coordinators Meeting

10 a.m. to noon, Conference Rooms 4 and 5, LV Hilton

SBE Membership Meeting

5 p.m. to 6 p.m., rooms N109 and 110 LVCC

Partnership for Public Warning to be Dissolved

The Board of Trustees of the Partnership for Public Warning has announced that the corporation is being dissolved. The PPW was created in December 2001 by representatives from federal, state and local government, emergency managers, private industry and academia who recognized

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Next EAS Required Monthly Test: April 26
The RMT is sent on the last Tuesday of the month

an opportunity for the United States to develop a more effective way to warn and communicate with citizens during times of emergency. The PPW was created as a non-profit consortium where government, private industry and the public could work together to identify the major challenges to improving the nation's public warning capability and reach consensus on effective solutions and strategies. Participants in this unique partnership included state and local emergency managers, private sector industry executives, non-profit organizations, representatives of academia and of special needs constituencies such as the deaf and hard-of-hearing, members of the public and federal agencies.

The PPW saw several accomplishments during its existence. It established the only national collaborative, public-private partnership where government, industry and the public could work together on public warning issues. It focused national attention on the need to improve the United States' public warning capability by educating senior government executives and the public on the key issues and opportunities.

The PPW hosted two national summits on public warning and the first tradeshow dedicated to public warning technologies and issues. In addition, the group developed and promoted the standard message format for public warning — the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP), which was approved by the OASIS XML group as the first warning standard.

Craig Fugate, chairman of the PPW Board of Trustees and director of the Florida Division of Emergency Management said, "While there is still a vital need for public-private partnerships in [emergency warning], we expect that other organizations will step forward and build upon the work done by the PPW."

SBE Creates New National Committee

The SBE has established a standing national committee, called the Regional Convention Strategies Committee. SBE President Ray Benedict, CPBE, has appointed SBE board member Vinny Lopez, CEV CBNT, of Syracuse, NY, to chair the committee. The purpose of the committee is to encourage growth, foster development and exchange of ideas among the many regional conventions sponsored by SBE chapters throughout the country.

Chapter Newsletter Help Needed

Submit a story, provide a news item, forward some station news. Take an active part in creating your chapter newsletter. All submissions qualify for SBE recertification points.

A Blast from the Past

The Kansas City Radio and TV website at kcradio.tripod.com posted a link to an audio clip promoting a stop in Kansas City for Led Zeppelin in 1970. Access the file at this link: kcradio.tripod.com/ledzep.mp3.

The band played at Municipal Auditorium on Aug. 19, 1970. Tickets were available at all Bernstein Applebee stores. The spot begins by calling the band the "ultimate super group."

Needless to say, production values have improved in 35 years. The tape echo on the audio is a nice touch. ☺



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Upcoming Meetings and Events

March 10 - Taketwo Productions
 Engineer Appreciation Lunch w/ RF Specialties

April 14 - KCUR-FM
 Facility Tour

May 12 - Measuring Digital Signals
 Morrow Technologies

June 21-24 - Location TBA
 Orban/CRL Mobile Broadcast Lab Tour

Upcoming meeting dates
 Mark your calendar now
June 9
July 14

Be an All-star: Recruit a new SBE Member

The SBE 2005 Membership Drive is underway. The goal is to increase awareness and SBE membership. All current SBE members can participate, and are eligible to win part of the \$7,000 worth of prizes. In addition, for each member you recruit, you will earn \$5 off your 2006 membership dues (up to \$25). New members will also be entered into a drawing for the New Member Prize.

To earn credit for recruiting a new member, be sure the member applicant includes your name on his membership application on the "sponsor's name" line. A Membership Application is available on the SBE website.



Eligible applications must be received at the SBE National Office by April 31, 2005.



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