



# The Society of Broadcast Engineers

**Fox Valley Wisconsin SBE Chapter 80**  
**PO Box 1519 Appleton, WI 54912-1519**

**August 2018**

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Like us on FaceBook - [facebook.com/sbe80](https://facebook.com/sbe80)  
Our website [sbe80.org](http://sbe80.org)  
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Our next SBE Chapter 80 meeting will be at Packer Party house across the street from Lambeau Field on Tuesday August 21<sup>st</sup> at noon

Hello fellow broadcast engineers!

It's that time of year...time for our annual Chapter 80 SBE picnic. This year it will be on Tuesday August 21<sup>st</sup> at noon. For the third year in a row Jay Zollar, Mike Nipps and their crew at Channel 11 were generous enough to offer their Packer Party house across the street from Lambeau Field. That place is so comfortable for a group our size, has everything we need to make serving lunch easy and has covered space just in case the weather doesn't cooperate.

The address is 1249 Shadow Lane which parallels, but is one block north of, Lombardi Ave in Green Bay.

Again, the picnic will be on Tuesday, August 21st at noon. ***Let me know if you can make it so that we know how much food to bring and bring a guest if you want to.*** Our SBE chapter provides the meat and other necessities and recoups most of that cost through a \$5 donation per person on the day of the picnic.

Let me know if you can bring a side dish like baked beans, a salad or dessert.

Channel 11 is supplying the tables and chairs for this event so all we need to bring is the grill, the food and ourselves. Please add this to your August calendar and I'm sure it will be a fun time for everyone.

John Pfankuch  
SBE Chapter 80 Program Coordinator

## **Upcoming events**

2018 Broadcasters Clinic October 16-18 at the Madison Marriott West0

SBE annual election Due August 22. Don't forget to vote for Steve! (see below)

## CHAPTER 80 ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICERS

Chairman	Steve Brown	WHBY WAPL WKSZ WZOR	920-733-6639	sbrown@wcinet.com
Vice Chairman	Bill Moede	Cumulus	920-230-0809	Bill.Moede@cumulus.com
Imm Past Chair	Mark Hoenecke	WPT	715-845-1319	Mark.Hoenecke@ecb.org
Secretary	Bill Hubbard	UW Green Bay	920-465-2510	hubbardw@uwgb.edu
Treasurer	Mark Hoenecke	WPT	715-845-1319	Mark.Hoenecke@ecb.org
Program Chairman	John Pfankuch	Heartland Video Systems	920-893-4204	jpfankuch@hvs-inc.com
Membership Chairman	Mark Friedman	Retired	920-336-3541	m48dat@yahoo.com
Sustaining Membership	Stu Muck	Muck Broadcast services	920-960-0045	<a href="mailto:MBSFDL@yahoo.com">MBSFDL@yahoo.com</a>
Frequency Coord. < 1 GHz	Tim Laes	WGEE WIXX WNCY WROE	920-435-3771	tlaes@new.rr.com
Frequency Coord. > 1 GHz	Bill Hubbard	UW Green Bay	920-465-2510	hubbardw@uwgb.edu
Newsletter Editor	Dave Driessen	WGBA WACY	920-490-2688	dave.dr99@gmail.com
Certification Chairman	Jim Sams	Retired	920-822-5951	jsams@netnet.net
Chapter 80 Webmaster	Mike Steele	WHBY	920-831-5605	msteele@wcinet.com
EAS Coordinator	Steve Konopka	Broadcast Field Services	(920) 788-7435	flashgun99@yahoo.com
Board of Dirs/SBE Liaison	Mike Hendrickson			<a href="mailto:mhendrickson@sbe.org">mhendrickson@sbe.org</a>

### SBE Begins ATSC 3.0/Next Gen TV Webinar Series



On Sept. 12, the SBE will hold the first of a multi-part webinar series on [ATSC 3.0/Next Gen TV](#). Part 1 will provide an overview of the ATSC 3.0 system capabilities including physical layer, signaling, audio, video, captions, interactivity and advanced emergency messaging. You will receive an introduction to the suite of Standards and Recommended Practices documents and an overview of the SBE ATSC 3.0 Specialist Certification.

Madeleine Noland, chair of Technology Group 3 of ATSC (TG3), will be the presenter. Noland is a consultant with LG Electronics. The webinar will be presented live from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. ET.

The cost is \$59 for SBE members and \$89 for non-members. SBE MemberPlus members participate in the webinar for *FREE*. [Click here to register](#). Completion of this SBE webinar qualifies for one credit, identified under Category I of the Recertification Schedule for SBE Certifications.

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**The FCC will have a DIRS exercise for broadcasters** on August 23-24, 2018. The purpose of this exercise is to help users become familiar with the system and be ready to file DIRS reports when a real disaster strikes.

We will send out the DIRS 2018 EXERCISE activation letter at 10 AM (EDT) on August 23, 2018. Your first set of reports will be due at 3 PM on August 23. We will also ask you to update your reports by 11 AM on August 24.

The URL for DIRS is <https://www.fcc.gov/nors/disaster/> [fcc.gov].

- If you do not have a login, there is a link on the login page which will allow you to get a User ID and password.
- When you create a new account, under “Reporting Company”, please use your company name instead of station name. By using the company name, you only need one account to input information on multiple stations that your company owns.
- If you have a User ID, but do not remember your password, please use the forgotten password link on the login page.

- If you have a User ID and a password, please use them to log into DIRS and update your contact information.
- There is a User Manual available at the DIRS website.

When DIRS is activated, the information we request from broadcasters includes whether stations are transmitting, the power status and locations of transmitters, whether they are able to transmit from alternate locations, and whether the stations have functioning generators. The DIRS template for broadcast station information is shown below:

**New Broadcast Disaster Report**

Disaster: DIRS 2018 EXERCISE

Company:

Call Sign:  Please put the call sign in the box to the left and hit Tab. The facility ID and latitude/longitude should autopopulate. If they do not, you may look it up: [Look up Call Sign, Facility ID, Latitude and Longitude](#)

Type of Service:

Facility ID:

Status:

Power Status of Transmitter:

Generator Available:

Fuel:

Latitude (nnn.nnnnnn):

Longitude (nnn.nnnnnn):

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Notes:

Reporting in DIRS is easy because DIRS is set up to auto-populate the geographic information. Once you enter the correct call sign, DIRS will look up the information stored in the system and populate the latitude, longitude, city, state, and facility ID for the call sign.

DIRS has drop down menus for “Status”, “Power Status of the Transmitter”, “Generator Available” and “Fuel” – just choose the appropriate entries.

There are two levels of users in DIRS: inputters and coordinators. Inputters can only see the information that they personally input. Coordinators can see all the information that has been input by anyone from their company. Members of the DIRS team at the FCC are the only ones who can upgrade a user’s status from inputter to coordinator.

If you have any problems accessing DIRS, inputting information into DIRS, or need any other type of help, please feel free to contact Julia Tu at 202-418-0731, Michael Caiafa at 202-418-1311, David Ahn at 202-418-0853, or John Healy at 215-847-8094. ([fcc.gov](http://fcc.gov))

## 2018 Broadcasters Clinic

One thing is for sure, broadcast technology doesn’t stand still, and neither can you. Please join us for the **2018 Broadcasters Clinic**. The 2018 Broadcasters Clinic Agenda along with the Early Bird registration is attached for your consideration.

We are all very busy, BUT consider investing your time in YOU and your future. Your ROI in yourself may be the most profitable investment you ever make! I am confident that you will return from the Broadcasters Clinic recharged and ready to make the future happen.

To take advantage of the early bird rate and register for the 2018 Broadcasters Clinic, to be held October 16-18 at the Madison Marriott West, click [here](#).

The early bird registration is open through August 14. After August 14 the registration rate will increase.

On behalf of the Clinic Committee, thank you for your dedication to this industry, and we look forward to seeing you soon.

**Please let me know how I can best be of assistance to you!**

**Linda Baun**

*Vice President*

**Wisconsin Broadcasters Association**

**44 E. Mifflin St. Suite 900**

**Madison WI 53703**

**Direct: (608) 729-1480**

**Toll Free (800) 236-1922 Main Number(608) 255-2600**

**[lbaun@wi-broadcasters.org](mailto:lbaun@wi-broadcasters.org)**

**[www.wi-broadcasters.org](http://www.wi-broadcasters.org)**

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**Look ahead at upcoming opportunities to take a [certification exam](#) in your area with the local chapter.**

If you would like to take an exam but are not able to make it during these sessions, please contact Megan Clappe to ask about special proctoring.

**Certification Exams** The deadline to apply to take the SBE certification exam at your local chapter in June is April 21. Register today at [sbe.org/certification](http://sbe.org/certification).

Below is the upcoming certification exam schedule

<b>Exam Dates</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Application Deadline</b> (to SBE National Office)
November 2-12, 2018	Local Chapters	September 24, 2018

When you are ready to take an SBE exam, please fill out the appropriate application and send it into the SBE National office (see address below). You will be notified once your application has been approved. Approximately 3 weeks before the exam time, your local certification chairman will receive a list of applicants in his/her area. He/she will then contact those applicants to schedule a date, time and place for the exams. The exams will be mailed back to the National office for grading. The pass/fail grades will then be mailed directly to the applicants.

You may mail, email or fax your applications to:

Megan E. Clappe, Certification Director

9102 N. Meridian St. Suite 150

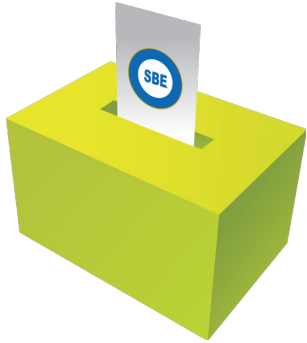
Indianapolis, IN 46260

317-846-9120 Fax

[mclappe@sbe.org](mailto:mclappe@sbe.org)

## Cast Your Vote by August 22

The annual election of SBE officers and directors has been underway for several weeks. The last day ballots may be cast electronically or received through the mail is Wednesday, Aug. 22, not later than 4:30 pm ET. Those SBE voting members eligible to cast their votes via the web and that have not voted yet, received a reminder email on Aug. 14 with a link to their unique e-ballot. Members who have opted out of electronic balloting, or who have not provided their email address to SBE, received their ballot through the mail. A [list of candidates](#) is available at the SBE News & Headlines section of the SBE website.



Our own **Steve Brown** is running for a position on the SBE Board of Directors, so SBE members please watch for that ballot between July 6 and August 22 and put a checkmark next to "Stephen J. Brown, CPBE, CBNT".

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## SBE AM Directional Antenna Systems Webinar is August 30

The SBE Advanced RF webinar series continues with Module 3 on Thursday, Aug. 30, 2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. ET. Tom King, president and CEO of Kintronic Labs will present [AM Directional Antenna Systems](#).

Topics will include: basics of non-directional antenna system design; optional methods of feeding an AM tower; basic theory of directional pattern development; two-tower directional antenna system design; power divider, phase shift network and antenna tuning unit (ATU) design; sample system design; low power tower design considerations; proper trouble shooting of typical directional antenna system problems and HD radio design considerations.

The cost is \$59 for SBE members and \$89 for non-members. SBE MemberPlus members participate in the webinar for *FREE*. [Click here to register](#). Completion of this SBE webinar qualifies for one credit, identified under Category I of the Recertification Schedule for SBE Certifications.



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## EAS Test Reporting System (ETRS)

You will recall that your data in the **EAS Test Reporting System (ETRS)** is required to be updated yearly. The FCC has now opened ETRS to accept these updates, which are due on or before **August 27, 2018**. Note in particular that you must file a separate 2018 ETRS Form One for each EAS Encoder/Decoder that you operate.

<https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-18-708A1.pdf>

This requirement applies to all EAS Participants, including LPFM, Class D NCE FM, and EAS Participants that are silent pursuant to an STA. Certain LPTV, FM booster and translator stations,

and stations that operate as satellites or repeaters of a hub station are exempt from this requirement. See the attached FCC Public Notice for the precise description of exempted stations.

If you have questions, contact Austin Randazzo or Gregory Cooke at the FCC email addresses and phone numbers provided at the end of the Public Notice.

Gary Timm, Broadcast Chair  
Wisconsin EAS Committee

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## Advanced RF 201 Series: Module 4: Transmitter Site Grounding



David Brender of the Copper Development Association (CDA) will present [Transmitter Site Grounding](#), the fourth module of the SBE RF 201 webinar series. The webinar will be held live on Wednesday, September 26, from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm ET.

Module 4 covers the elements of a building's wiring, bonding and grounding (including lightning protection) that pertain to proper operation and improved up-time at communications facilities at little cost. The presentation provides some basic theory and concentrates on actual experiences at broadcast facilities where grounding and lightning protection were of paramount importance in maintaining system availability.

Brender's duties with CDA includes directing and managing their Building Wire and Power Quality Initiatives, research activities, National Electrical Code and IEEE activities, among others.

The cost is \$59 for SBE members and \$89 for non-members. SBE MemberPlus members participate in the webinar for *FREE*. Registration is required. [Click here to register](#).

Completion of this SBE webinar qualifies for one credit, identified under Category I of the Recertification Schedule for SBE Certifications.

### National EAS Test Scheduled for Sept. 20

The Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA) has announced that a National EAS test will be sent on Thursday, Sept. 20, 2018. There is a difference between this test and the two previous tests. At 2:18 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT), FEMA will send a Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) test message to all WEA capable wireless devices throughout the entire United States and territories. Immediately following the WEA nationwide end-to-end test, at 2:20 p.m. EDT, FEMA will conduct a live test of the Emergency Alerting System (EAS). All EAS participants are required to participate in this nationwide test. The EAS message will be disseminated via the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS).

Stations are encouraged to verify that their EAS units are communicating correctly with the IPAWS server. Review your station logs (which should be checked once each week by the chief operator) to ensure you are receiving the Required Weekly Test (RWT) from IPAWS. This RWT is fed every Monday at 11:00 a.m. local time. Contact your equipment representative for details on setting up your EAS decoder to properly receive and relay the National test.

EAS participants are reminded that they are required to register with the EAS Test Reporting System (ETRS) and must complete the filing of ETRS Form One on or before Aug. 27, 2018.

Then on or before 11:59 p.m. EDT, Sept. 20, 2018, EAS participants must file the day-of-test information sought by ETRS Form Two. On or before Nov. 5, 2018, EAS participants must file the detailed post-test data sought by ETRS Form Three.

Filers can access ETRS by visiting the ETRS page of the Commission's website at [www.fcc.gov/general/eas-test-reporting-system](http://www.fcc.gov/general/eas-test-reporting-system). Instructional videos regarding registration and completion of the ETRS Forms are available on the ETRS page.

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Below is a memo from NAB regarding a reimbursement opportunity for those who have paid the FCC filing fee for C-band dish registration. The details are below.

Please note that the webinar mentioned in the memo is only available to NAB members.

Have a great day.

Kyle Geissler

Director of Operations and Public Affairs

Wisconsin Broadcasters Association

@WIBroadcasters

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SES, a C-band satellite operator, is offering to reimburse broadcast stations for the cost associated with the FCC filing fee required for C-band dish registration. NAB strongly urges stations to take advantage of this opportunity and register all C-band earth station dishes promptly while funding is available.

As you may know, the FCC is considering allowing new uses of the C-band, such as mobile uses. It is likely that only registered C-band dishes will be protected from service disruption. For more information about the C-band proceeding, please join NAB for **a webinar** on Monday, July 30 at 1 p.m.

NAB encourages members to register all C-band earth station dishes by October 17, 2018 to ensure that they are eligible for protection going forward. You may contact SES directly for further information at

**[FCCregistration@ses.com](mailto:FCCregistration@ses.com)** or by phone at (609) 987-4300. You may also contact Robert Weller at

**[rweller@nab.org](mailto:rweller@nab.org)** or (202) 429-5397, or Patrick McFadden at **[pmcfadden@nab.org](mailto:pmcfadden@nab.org)** or (202) 775-4983 in the NAB Legal and Regulatory Affairs Department with any questions concerning registration.

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## **NEW FM STATION CLASS**

On June 4th, the FCC issued a Notice of Inquiry (FCC-18-69A1) proposing a new class of FM stations and an updating the rules concerning the short spacing of FM stations. The new class of FM stations would be class C4 which would operate at 300 meters with 12 kilowatts. The proposed stations would be allocated in Zone 2 with covers most southern states, northern Michigan and Wisconsin and west of the Mississippi except part of California. They must operate with a power level greater than the Class A power level of 6 kw. Class C3 stations minimum power will be increased greater than 12 kw from 6 kw. There was no discussion of spacing requirements. The second part of the Inquiry was changes in the rules for the short-spacing of FM stations. The proposal is to allow protection to a stations signal contour instead of the standard mileage separation requirement for that stations class of operation. If a station has operated with less than maximum facilities for 10 years or more, then a new proposed allocation could use the existing contour as reference for protection to the existing station. The existing station would be given a 30 day period to propose an upgrading of its facility and than a 180 day deadline to file a application for a construction permit to upgrade. Stations in the reserved band (channels 200-219) already use stations contours for allocation purposes.


### **OLDEST RADIO-TV COMBO SPLITS**

Wisconsin's oldest radio-TV combination is about to be split up. WTMJ radio and TV are about to be split as the owner of the stations Scripps's is selling WTMJ-AM 620 and FM station WKTJ 94.5 to Good Karma Brands for 16 million dollars. They announced in January of this year that they were planning to sell their 34 radio stations that they acquired when they purchased the Journal Group. WTMJ-AM is one of the oldest radio stations in the state of Wisconsin and WTMJ-TV is the oldest TV station in Wisconsin. The two stations have been operated together by the Journal Company and then Scripps's for 70 years. They were the only remaining radio-TV combination in the state. Good Karma Brands operates an AM and a FM station in Beaver Dam which was their first stations in the group. They own a FM in Madison and an AM in the Milwaukee area which form ESPN Wisconsin. They also have an AM station licensed to Columbus, WI and two AM stations in Cleveland, Ohio and two stations in Florida. Here is a link to the Scripps's press [press release](#). (by Tom Smith sbe24.org)



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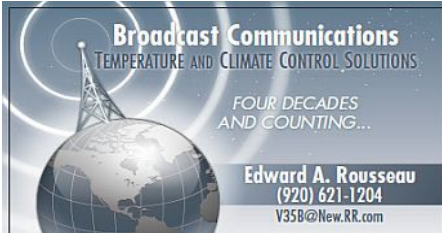




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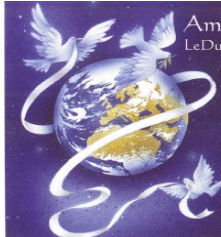
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