



# 70 Minutes

The Monthly Newsletter of Chapter 70  
of the Northeast Ohio Society of  
Broadcast Engineers

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## *Chairman's Chat*

by Blake Thompson



I would like to thank Bob Conrad and the staff of WCLV for hosting the May meeting at their facilities. They had a very nice system with nearly all sources being digital, an interesting combo of stations! Thanks also to Ron Bartlebaugh for presenting the chapter with some copies of his new Radio Operator Handbook, I will be bringing a copy to the meetings for anyone to read.

I am writing this chat just before the historic FCC June 2<sup>nd</sup> vote on media ownership, but there is always something going on there anyway. Let's hope we all will still have jobs after this latest "tsunami" of consolidation hits us. First there is the in fighting between the commissioners and the newly revealed \$ 2.8 million in trips paid for by companies or trade groups over the past 8 years, in addition to the \$ 2 million we paid for with taxes. The largest "contributors" were the NAB, NCTA, & CEMA. The commission also adopted a timeline on penalties for any stations not meeting the deadlines for DTV transition. They will be

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## June Meeting

Tuesday, June 10  
Omnia/Telos  
Gather for refreshments at 7pm

Our June 10th evening meeting will take place at Omnia/Telos, 2101 Superior Avenue in Cleveland. Frank Foti from Omnia/Telos will be our host. Pizza and beverages will be available compliments of Omnia/Telos. Our program for the evening will be a presentation on audio processing for AM/FM IBOC digital broadcasting presented by Foti.

## Summer Meetings

The July 8th meeting will be a return visit to the home of Dr. Larry and Sara Kass in Hinckley. This is the home of the John Milton Williams Radio Museum and the Mighty Wurlitzer Pipe Organ which is heard quarterly on the Mighty Wurlitzer Radio Hour program aired over WCLV-AM and FM. Light refreshments will be available as well as items from the soda fountain.

August 12th will be our annual picnic at a yet-to-be determined location.

Next Meeting  
Tuesday, July 8th

**Chairman's Chat** *(Continued from page 1)*

on a case by case basis but the commission will consider the DTV construction permit to have expired if a station that fails to comply with its DTV construction obligation within a second six month period, or one year from the date of formal admonishment, and could rescind the station's DTV authority. This seems to go along with the CEA / CFA requests I mentioned last month. You can check out the order at [http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/FCC-03-77A1.doc](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-03-77A1.doc)

Please make an effort to attend the June meeting, we will be discussing the possible partnership with the OAB on an engineering conference this summer. They are looking at Columbus being the site this year with others possible for future events. I would like some additional input before any vote is taken.

In other news Dave Bobco has donated an old EV Mic to Dr. Kass & the Williams Microphone Museum, site of the July meeting, and is looking for folks to add to a plaque to go with it. We as a chapter have donated \$20 to the Ennes Scholarship fund and anyone else who would like to be listed needs to make a similar donation. I am going to make my donation before the meeting. Join me in supporting this great fund.

Blake Thompson  
SBE Chapter 70 Chairman



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**Noncommercial webcasters reach royalty settlement**

A new royalty agreement will now allow many college and K-12 webcasters to continue providing music over the Internet, and will allow new services to begin on many campuses. Several groups representing the spectrum of noncommercial webcasters have successfully negotiated an agreement with the Recording Industry of Association of America that provides a royalty scheme alternative to rates previously established by the Librarian of Congress.

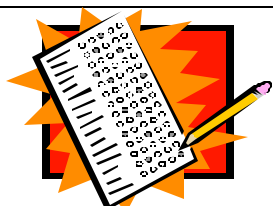
For college webcasters earlier threatened by exorbitant royalty rates and accompanying oppressive recordkeeping

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## Replacing your aural STL?

If anyone has a used but working (& legal) 950 MHz STL composite system that they would like to donate to a very fine yet very poor NE Ohio Educational Broadcast FM station, they would be most interested in talking with you. Any piece of such a system such as antennas, jumpers, filters, feedline, etc., in good condition, would also be of interest. This donation would qualify for a tax deduction and possibly some modest cash as well.

Please contact Bill Weisinger ([wves@Juno.com](mailto:wves@Juno.com); 330-626-2468) or Bob Long (330-626-4906 Ext. 215) with any information.



## 2003 Certification Exam Dates

<u>2003 Exam Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Application Deadline</u>
April 8, 2003	NAB - Las Vegas	Closed
June 6-16, 2003	Local Chapters	Closed
August 15-25, 2003	Local Chapters	June 13, 2003
November 7-17, 2003	Local Chapters	September 26, 2003



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## Society of Broadcast Engineers

### Chapter 70

Visit us at:

[broadcast.net/~sbe70](http://broadcast.net/~sbe70)



# Photos from the May meeting at WCLV

Photos courtesy of Robert Leskovec



1 — Our evening host, Bob Conrad.

2 — President Blake Thompson address the meeting.

3 — The routine business meeting.

4 — Bill Weisinger and Ron Bartlebaugh look on as Bob Conrad demonstrates how board control assignments can be changed.

5 — Jim Merling demonstrates computer-controlled program sequencing.



**Noncommercial royalty settlement** *(Continued from page 2)*

requirements, this agreement means greatly reduced fees dating back to 1998 and continuing forward until the end of the year 2004, and total relief from any potential recordkeeping obligations. Most college radio stations retransmitting their over-the-air programming will see royalty rates cut approximately in half, and Internet-only college stations will benefit from even greater savings. Many college webcasters greatly feared anticipated federal regulations requiring detailed reports of music played over their stations. The negotiated deal totally eliminates the recordkeeping requirements for the length of the agreement.

"We have been working for several years to ensure rates and terms that will allow our member stations to continue to grow and innovate," said Will Robedee, vice-chairman of Collegiate Broadcasters, Inc., who negotiated on behalf of college webcasters. "While these rates and conditions are not everything we had hoped for, this agreement represents a significant step in securing a future for college webcasters."

Along with CBI, this new agreement with the RIAA was negotiated by the American Council on Education and the National Religious Broadcasters Music License Committee, with the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System joining the bargaining team late in the process. The National Federation of Community Broadcasters participated in preliminary discussions, but did not complete the negotiations.

(Source: College Broadcasters Incorporated; <http://collegebroadcasters.org>)



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