

SBE 70 MINUTES

Kent State TeleProductions
1325 Theater Drive
Kent State University 44242

Gather at 7:00pm
Meeting at 7:30pm

February 2015
Vol. XXIII Number 2

February 10 Meeting Info

First up big thanks to all the folks at NASA Glenn for having us in for the tour last month! We all had a great time and learned a lot about the SCanTestbed system on the Space Station. Our next meeting on Tuesday Feb. 10th will be back at the Kent State University - TeleProductions Department in the Center for the Performing Arts building (formerly Music and Speech Center) at 1325 Theater Dr., Kent, OH 44242. Just for reference previous meetings there were 'the one with no program due to diesel trucks not working on regular gas' and the SSL Truck tour. Our hosts will be Allen Fenner Video Engineer and Dan Tonelli Engineering and Operations Manager. Park in the tiered parking lot in front of the building. Parking is free after 5pm.

Enter the building from the entrance pictured on page 2. Walk past Stump Theatre and turn right at the first hallway, TeleProductions' Main Office (Room C-105) is first on the right

Our program will be from Ken Dillard Regional Sales Manager, Central U.S for Dejero Labs Inc. His presentation focuses on bonded cellular news gathering technology, it's pros and cons, and how it can be lever

(Continued on page 2)



CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

by John Hovanec

Greetings all! I started out by not having much to submit for this month's newsletter, but then we received additional content. Thanks to Blake Thompson for providing the

Spotter Training Article. If any of you have something interesting to share, let us know. It's great to have an informative monthly Chapter newsletter with member's contributions. I'll kick it off ...

Ron Bartlebaugh Retiring after 25 years at WKSU

As many of you know, Ron Bartlebaugh has retired from Kent State's WKSU-FM after serving as Director of Engineering for the past 25 years. Ron has also served as a past SBE Chapter 70 Chairman and Vice Chairman. We wish Ron the best in his retirement endeavors, and hope he won't be a stranger to SBE Chapter 70 and our future meetings. There is a saying that goes something like 'Broadcast Engineers don't retire, they just get to a point where they can forget about their cell phone if they like'. Congratulations to Chuck Poulton, who has been promoted to Director of Engineering at WKSU.

(Continued on page 3)

SBE CHAPTER 70 - CLEVELAND/AKRON

(Meeting Info - continued from page 1)

aged to either enhance or replace current ENG workflows. Ken has been with Dejero since August and is a 20+ year veteran of the broadcast industry beginning as a radio engineer with companies like Great American, Citicasters, Jacor, Saga Communications, Heritage Media, and Clear Channel. He's spent time at Harris, Statmon Technologies, Avid, and now where he is responsible for the "central" U.S. stretching from North Dakota south to Kansas and east to the Virginia coast.



Our usual times apply again gather at 7:00pm with our business meeting at 7:30, and the program to follow that.

Blake Thompson CBNT
Director of Engineering, WZIP-FM / Z-TV
The University of Akron

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(Chairman's Chat - continued from page 1)

Many of you know Chuck from our past SBE Meetings and presentations at WKSU, and we also welcome Chuck as an SBE Chapter 70 Member.

NASA SCaN Testbed Tour last Month

Our thanks to host David Irimies, SCaN Testbed Project Manager, for our tour of the NASA Glenn International Space Station Payload Operations Center, where we had a very informative tour of the ground station components, as well as models and photos of the Space Communications and Navigation (SCaN) Testbed. In a nutshell, one of the Mission Objectives of SCaN is to advance communications, networking, and navigation technology for the benefit of future NASA missions by using and conducting experiments with a new generation of Software Defined Radios (SDR's) located on the International Space Station.

You can read more about it at this link, as a short paragraph won't do justice to what it is all about: <http://spaceflightsystems.grc.nasa.gov/SOPO/SCO/SCaNTestbed/>

Also included are photos of the tour in this newsletter. Very fascinating to see the facility and what they are doing!

Do You Have a Plan in Place Should Disaster Strike?

Recently, a water pipe burst at one of the transmitter sites we lease space at. The site is unmanned and water could have been running for several days. While there was no damage to our equipment, a phone call from another engineer that came upon the flooding building with over an inch of water set my adrenaline rushing. Thoughts of where to shut the water off, the water/electrical hazard and how long until a main breaker trips, getting the auxiliary site ready to switch to, etc. were all running through my mind. This gets to the point of discussion. A Disaster Recovery (DR) Plan, also known as a Continuity of Business Plan, is the written guide that defines what actions should take place to effectively recover from a catastrophic failure in order to keep or get the station back on the air and maintain business operations. As members of the 'technical staff' at our respective facilities, many of us probably feel we are doing this type of work reactively, any time a piece of equipment malfunctions or our cell phone rings. But a DR plan is more outlined, with 'what if' scenarios typically listed. For example: my organization has a very detailed DR plan that is reviewed and updated on a quarterly basis, with an annual exercise selected to 'test' a specific scenario. While this may all be obvious to some of you that have a similar plan, I've talked to engineers at facilities that don't have any plan in place. If that is you, I would encourage you to get a plan in writing. If you don't work in the capacity to push for a formal organization-wide plan, you can still compile information applicable to your area of responsibility. You will be that much further ahead should disaster strike. It doesn't have to be a fully produced multi page notebook. Start out with making sure you have all contact information for police, fire, utilities, your site location addresses, important utility account info, and other specifics that might be vital; such as Circuit Numbers, Phone numbers, RF frequencies and IP addresses. You can also include information such as switching to backup program paths or transmitters, and don't forget data backup procedures. Then concentrate on plans of action should you lose key items in your broadcast chain or business operation, and relate those to circumstances that could cause such failures (evacuation, fire, flooding, loss of power or air conditioning, etc.). If applicable, share this information and plan with other key management or engineering personal involved with your facility. Review and revise, and add as necessary over time. While it may be impossible to consider every scenario, if the moment strikes you will have some sort of formal plan or resource to refer to. If nothing else, this planning process forces you to think of things such as backup transmission paths, relocation of studio and business operations and what might be required, or overlooked details such as the account number the power company may ask you for from a site that lost power. In this day of smart phones the next logical step is to keep the key information on your phone. You may not have the DR hard copy or thumb drive handy, but if you are like most Engineers and IT people I know, you always have your phone with you! Take the time to get or update vital information and keep it handy. You'll be glad you did!

WKSU's Ron Bartlebaugh Retires



Far Right - Ron Bartlebaugh and longtime friend Ed Miller

Right - Dan Skinner, WKSU Executive Director & General Manager presents Ron with the "On Air" sign from the "old" facilities when Ron joined WKSU. It was 2 years later that WKSU moved into the present studios in its own building.

January Meeting at the NASA Glenn Research Center

(Photos courtesy of Robert Leskovec)



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SBE 2015 Certification Exam Schedule



Exam Dates	Location	Application Deadline
February 6-16	Local Chapters	December 31, 2014
April 14	NAB Convention	March 20, 2015
June 5-15	Local Chapters	April 10, 2015
August 7-17	Local Chapters	June 5, 2015
November 6-16	Local Chapters	October 2, 2015

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For more information or to schedule a demo, contact

Tom Shirilla
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NEW SKYWARN TRAINING FOR 2015 FROM THE CLEVELAND NWS

Reprinted from the Cleveland National Weather Service Office website: http://www.weather.gov/cle/SKYWARN_schedule

Spotter Training

SKYWARN spotter training sessions for Spring 2015 will be held through Webinar (online) training conducted by National Weather Service employees. Groups organized by county Emergency Management agencies will host the online training sessions. Please contact your local emergency management agency to determine which dates they will host training sessions.

Webinar based training will be held on the following dates:

- March 4, Wednesday
- March 9, Monday
- March 18, Wednesday
- March 23, Monday
- March 26, Thursday
- April 1, Wednesday
- April 7, Tuesday
- April 13, Monday



Being a storm spotter not only means dedication, but also training. Each spring the Cleveland office of the National

Weather Service trains members of police & fire departments, emergency management officials and amateur radio operators on spotting techniques. Typically the training is coordinated by a local group (such as an emergency management agency), and a NWS meteorologist serves as the guest instructor. The goal of the training is not just to recognize tornadoes, but to have some understanding of storm structure, which in turn better prepares the spotter for the extreme and unusual circumstances. SKYWARN™ Training is FREE and open to the public. Please attend any of the training sessions listed above. You will be trained and enrolled in the program. You do not need to pre-register.

For additional information contact:

Gary Garnet (Warning Coordination Meteorologist)
National Weather Service
5301 West Hangar Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44135
216-265-2382 EXT 223
e-mail: gary.garnet@noaa.gov

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