



April 2016

 **Next Meeting**

Tuesday, April 12

**FCC SATELLITE
UPLINK ID
MANDATE**

& Elections

Andrew Kennedy of WISC-TV will describe a new FCC ruling that will affect all operators of fixed and portable satellite uplink systems, topics to be covered are:

- A brief history of the original analog ATIS standard
- Explanation of the FCC mandate
- Comparison between NIT-CID (the current digital uplink ID system) and the new DVB-CID
- Technical overview of DVB-CID, including explanation of the digital coding and modulation techniques used
- Guide to compliance, including available options for continuing the use of non-compliant hardware

Remember to cast your ballot on-line for election of officers at sbe24.org!

Dutch Treat Dinner at 5:30 PM
Jason's Deli
7349 Mineral Point Road
Madison, WI

Meeting and Program at 7:00 PM
WISC Conference Room B
7025 Raymond Road
Madison, WI

Park in front parking lot;
enter via front lobby entrance.

Visitors & Guests are welcome
to join us!

Cast Your Ballot!

>>> by *Steve Paugh,*
Nominations Chair

We now have on-line voting for your convenience! To cast your ballot on-line simply visit www.sbe24.org and follow the links to on-line voting. You simply enter your last name and your SBE Membership number.

The official ballot for the SBE Chapter 24, 2016 election of officers is also being published in this month's newsletter. If you prefer to mail in your ballot you can print out the ballot and mail it to:

Steve Paugh
Ballot
1602 Golden Oak Lane
Madison, WI 53711

Please indicate "Ballot" on the envelope and we will hold your ballot unopened until the official counting process. Your ballot must be in our possession before we begin the counting on April 20th. Remember that your membership must be current to be eligible to vote. Your membership number must be entered on the printed ballot for it to be valid, on-line voting will automatically verify your membership number.

The deadline for getting your ballot to the nomination chair or completing the on-line ballot is at noon on Wednesday, April 20, 2016. The nominations committee will count and certify the ballots on the afternoon of Wednesday, April 20, 2016.

Thanks to Leonard Charles for writing the program that allows on-line balloting, to Mike Kulis for serving on the nominations committee and to all the members of SBE Chapter 24 who have volunteered their services to Chapter 24.

**Run Like a Deere in
White Spaces**

>>> by *Tom Smith*

The FCC issued a waiver (http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2016/db0324/DA-16-307A1.pdf) on March 31 for white space equipment made by Koos Technical Services, Inc. and installed in John Deere farm equipment. The waiver will allow TV white space systems to operate on off-the-road farm equipment as mobile systems with transmission power limits of 4 watts ERP. These levels are allowed by the rules to be used for fixed TV white space transmitters only, but are being allowed in this application for reliable transmission over the large areas that these farm vehicles operate on. Other restrictions under the wavier include allowing the white space system to use the external GPS system on the Deere farm equipment instead of an internal GPS receiver in the white space device and that the mobile white space device in the farm vehicle must check and re-register the whitespace data base for open channels after moving 50 meters for the last location that it

DEERE >>> continued on page 2

 **Coming Up**

- Wed., May 25 NAB Wrap-Up
- Thur., June 16 SBE Summer Picnic
- Tues., July 12 WVMO LPFM Studio Tour

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program committee!*

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Meeting Minutes

from the March 2016 Business Meeting

The monthly meeting of Chapter 24 of the Society of Broadcast Engineers was held Wednesday March 24, 2016, at Full Compass Systems in Madison, WI.

There were 10 members present and 8 members were certified.

Chair Kevin Ruppert called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

A motion to approve the minutes as published in the newsletter was approved.

Treasurer Leonard Charles reported there has been no financial activity since the last meeting and the chapter's bank balance is in the black.

There was no membership or newsletter report.

Recent sustaining membership renewals: AVI Systems and Alpha Wire. There are 16 sustaining members.

Program Committee Chair Steve Paugh reported the next meeting will be April 12 with chapter elections and an update on FCC requirements for SNG ID'ing. We now have a full slate of candidates with the nomination of Mike Norton for secretary. The May meeting will be at the NAB Wrap-up at WMTV and June 16 will be our annual summer picnic.

Certification Chair Jim Hermanson reported that there was one exam and one recertification. The next local exam session will be June 3-13 with a registration deadline of April 15. The following exam session will be August 5 through the 15 with a registration deadline of June 3. Members present discussed the idea of developing mentoring/tutoring within the chapter for those getting ready for certification exams.

Frequency Coordination Chair Tom Smith had nothing to report.

National Liaison report: National Nominations Committee chair, Robert Russel, is looking for members interested in running for National SBE Office or Board positions.

Nominees must be members in good standing and hold at least an engineering level certification. His e-mail is rjrusse@sbe.org. Membership renewals are due at the National Office by April 1. The SBE Membership drive is in progress until May 31. This year's theme is The Road to Success and you can earn \$5 off your membership for each new recruit. You can also win a trip to the National Meeting this October in Ohio for recruiting enough members.

There was no new or old business.

Professional announcements: Paul Terpstra of Klover Products, Inc. is looking for a station to test their parabolic microphone products both in studio and in the field. Studio application would be as an emergency backup guarding against loss of a talent mic. Field use would be as a replacement of a camera mounted shotgun. His e-mail is pterpstra@kloverproducts.com.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,
M.L. Deets, Sec'y

DEERE >>> continued from page 1

registered at. The FCC is limiting the use of 300 units for the first 12 months of the wavier period. Part of the reason the FCC allowed the wavier was due to the fact that this farm equipment operates in rural areas with less interference potential. The systems will be used to send telemetry information to a server at a fixed base station or between farm vehicles. This information could be soil information, yield information or other information to allow for better decisions, such as more precise application of fertilizer, irrigation or other field applications.



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Amateur Radio News

compiled by Tom Weeden, WJ9H

- The American Radio Relay League has asked the Commission not to adopt “an overbroad” requirement for notification of utilities in advance of intended Amateur Radio operation on the pending 2200 (135.7-137.8 kHz) and 630 meter (472-479 kHz) bands. The ex parte statement, filed March 10 with the FCC in ET Dockets 12-338 and 15-99, supplemented the League’s earlier comments in the proceeding. The FCC was expected to provide Amateur Radio with access to both bands and to spell out service rules and operational requirements sometime within the first quarter of 2016. Regulatory provisions under consideration have included a possible notification requirement by some radio amateurs to utilities that operate Power Line Control (PLC) systems in that region of the spectrum, prior to operating on either new band. Utilities use unlicensed, mostly low-frequency PLC systems to control parts of the electrical power grid.

“ARRL does not object to such a notification requirement, provided that it is appropriately circumscribed, not overbroad in its applicability, and not overly burdensome for radio amateurs to comply with,” the League’s statement asserted. The statement further pointed out that PLC systems operating between 9 and 490 kHz are not subject to protection from licensed services.

Any sort of blanket notification requirement prior to transmitting on 2200 or 630 meters “would be clear regulatory overkill,” the ARRL concluded.

- Radio amateurs could be beneficiaries if the FCC acts on a recent Society of Broadcast Engineers filing. The SBE has told the FCC that the regulatory agency needs to take another tack in its efforts to tackle AM broadcast band revitalization. If the FCC takes the SBE’s advice, the result could be less noise in the MF and HF Amateur Radio bands. In comments the SBE filed in response to an FCC Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Notice of Inquiry (MB 13-249) proposing ways to enhance the viability of the AM broadcast service, the SBE said the Commission must “commit to a regulatory plan which, over time, will reduce the levels of man-made noise in the MF bands, and more broadly in the bands

below 30 MHz.” In comments it filed earlier in the proceeding, the SBE pointed out that “AM radio in particular is susceptible to interference from electronic devices of all types,” and that ambient noise on the AM band is only bound to get worse with further proliferation of noise-generating electronic devices, including certain lighting devices regulated under FCC Part 15 and Part 18 rules.

“[T]he only source of regulatory reform that has a meaningful chance to positively affect the noise floor over time are regulations that create obligations on manufacturers and importers and dealers, prior to the point that the consumer or user of the device or system comes into possession of it, and before it is deployed,” the SBE said. The SBE said that while the FCC has strongly supported unlicensed low-power RF devices over the years, it “apparently does not have a clear understanding of the aggregate effects” of these devices on the MF noise environment. In addition, the power grid has expanded, imposing its own family of electrical noises on the radio spectrum.

The SBE urged the FCC to better enforce some existing regulations and develop new ones to address ambient noise in the existing AM band. “It is obvious that any interference management plan... has to be based on rules which limit RF noise before it becomes an issue, not post hoc, and those rules have to be enforced,” the SBE said.

- Two more astronaut-hams are on board the International Space Station. After launching on March 18 in a Soyuz TMA-20M vehicle from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan, the Expedition 47/48 crew increment of Astronaut Jeff Williams, KD5TVQ, and Cosmonauts Oleg Skripochka, RN3FU, and Alexey Ovchinin is settling in on board the ISS.

“During their 6-month mission, the expedition crew members will facilitate approximately 250 research investigations and technology demonstrations not possible on Earth,” NASA said. “Science conducted also will enable future long-duration human and robotic exploration into deep space and on the agency’s journey to Mars.”

Williams, Skripochka, and Ovchinin joined Expedition 47 Commander Tim

Kopra, KE5UDN, European Space Agency astronaut Tim Peake, KG5BVI/GB1SS, and cosmonaut Yuri Malenchenko, RK3DUP, on the ISS. Williams will take command of the station on June 4 for Expedition 48.

This mission marks the fourth spaceflight for the 58-year-old Williams, and it will be his third long-duration stay on the orbiting laboratory — a first for an American. It’s also his first time back to the ISS since its completion in 2011. When his duty tour is over, Williams will become the new American record holder for cumulative days in space — 534 — surpassing Expedition 46 Commander Scott Kelly, who wrapped up his 1-year mission on March 1.

Skripochka has the distinction of having flown on both the maiden and final voyages of the “old” Soyuz spacecraft. Russia’s Energia is set to debut a new Soyuz model, the MS.

(Excerpts from the American Radio Relay League’s <arrl.org> web site)



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FCC Acts On Multi-Language EAS Petition

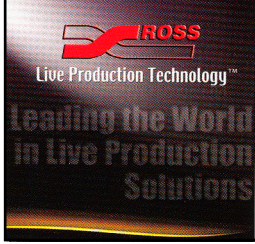
>>> by Tom Smith

On March 23, the FCC issued an order (http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2016/db0330/FCC-16-32A1.pdf) denying a petition by various groups to add additional capability to the EAS system to carry warning messages in Spanish and other languages as needed in a community. The petitioners had requested that all national EAS messages be broadcast in both English and Spanish, that there be an separate Spanish LP station in every local EAS area, an multi-language LP station in areas where there are large populations that speak other languages, have a station in every market that would monitor one of these stations and repeat any EAS messages, have a station that would provide Spanish or multi-language EAS origination should the designated Spanish or multi-language station is unable to. All of these proposals were denied. The FCC did order the state EAS committees to create a plan for issuing EAS messages in Spanish and other languages. Also, participating stations must file with the state committee information on what, if any actions they may have taken to reach persons with languages other than English within a year of when this order becomes effective. Stations will also have to file any changes regarding use of non-English warnings within 60 days of a change with both their state committee and the FCC's Safety and Homeland Security Bureau.

New Video Description Rules Proposed

>>> by Tom Smith

On March 31, the FCC adopted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that would expand the amount of programming that would be required to have video descriptions in the secondary audio channel. The FCC is proposing that the top five broadcast networks, instead of the current top four, would have to provide video description service, and that the top ten, instead of the current top five, non-broadcast networks (cable) would be required to provide video description services. The proposed rules would also require that once a network is required to provide video description service they must continue to provide the service even if the network drops from being one of the top five broadcast or top ten non-broadcast networks. The amount of programming that each of the networks is required to provide video description would increase from 50 hours per quarter to 87.5 hours per quarter. The networks will also have to provide contact information for complaints and file for any FCC exemptions electronically. The FCC has only issued a press release (http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2016/db0331/DOC-338677A1.pdf) as of this writing. The full notice should be out in early of April.



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May 2016 Chapter 24
Newsletter Deadline:
Tuesday, May 3, midnight
paul.stoffel@wpt.org
edited using Adobe InDesign CC

Thanks to Leonard Charles
for maintaining the Chapter 24
web site and to Steve Paugh
for mailing the meeting
reminder postcards.



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**Wisconsin Broadcasters Association
2016 SUMMER CONFERENCE
MTI & ENGINEERING DAY**

The Radisson, La Crosse WI

ENGINEERING DAY - JUNE 22

8:45 AM: Risk Management in a Broadcast Enterprise

Mike Epstein, Sr. Director of Risk Management, Scripps

What are the risks in a broadcast complex and how to address them will be discussed in this session. Mike will also cover business continuity and physical security including active shooter situations.

9:30 AM: Tower Site Security and FAA Lighting Changes

Rich Wood, President, Resonant Results

Out of sight doesn't have to mean less secure. Rich will talk about ways your tower site is threatened and what you can do to make it more secure. Rich will also describe the latest FAA circular and what it means for your tower.

10:15AM: BREAK

10:30 AM:

Information Security: What Are the Hackers Up to Now?

Dave Kieper, Interim Chief Information Officer, UW Green Bay

David will describe the current motivation and methods used by the internet hacker community and discuss defense strategies to mitigate their attacks.

11:15 AM:

An Amber Alert Incident Debrief

Jennifer Price, Director, Special Operations Bureau, CART Commander, WI DOJ-DCI

Michelle DuBois, Coordinator, Wisconsin Clearinghouse for Missing & Exploited Children & Adults

We will dissect an actual child abduction incident that resulted in an Amber Alert in Wisconsin. What were the steps that lead up to the Alert and what process was used to determine an Alert was needed.

12:00 PM: LUNCH

1:30 PM: The Growing Impact of Ambient Noise on Broadcasting

Steve Johnston, Director of Engineering and Operations, Wisconsin Public Radio

Growing levels of unintended "noise" are interfering with reception of RF signals from radio and television stations. This presentation will discuss the problems we face, pinpoint common sources of the noise, and propose possible resolution.

2:15 PM:

Ask the Manager

In this session the audience will have a chance to ask non engineering managers questions about anything. On the panel will be:

HR Manager: Jeff VerVoort, Morgan Murphy Media

Radio Manager: Nancy Douglas, CTJ Communications

Finance Manager: Paul Rahmlow, Midwest Communications, Inc.

TV Manager: Steve Lavin, WBAY TV

3:15 PM: BREAK

3:30 PM: The Round Tables

Everyone's voice is heard in this session. We will split the audience into four subgroups and talk about four timely topics. Then we'll hear a report of each discussion. These are the topics:

Table 1: The Broadcast Sales Tax Exemption, Kevin Ruppert, Chair

Table 2: The FM Translator Buildout, Greg Dahl & Jason Mielke, Co-Chairs

Table 3: X-OIP, Clif Groth & Matt Sperling, Co-Chairs

Table 4: Working with Millennials, Kent Aschenbrenner & Bill Hubbard, Co-Chairs

4:30 PM: Exhibits and Reception

SBE Chapter 24 Certification News, April 2016 Exam Schedule

<u>Exam Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Application Deadline</u>
June 3-13, 2016	Madison Area	April 15, 2016
August 5-15, 2016	Madison Area	June 3, 2016
November 4-20, 2016	Madison Area	September 30, 2016

An idea for consideration... Our chapter has many talented engineers with experience in a variety of specialties — Networking, Radio Engineering and Operation, Television Engineering and Operation, Audio, Video, 8-VSB, AM Directional Systems, and Digital Radio.

To assist those preparing for certification exams, would there be any volunteers to help with a review a week or so before a certification exam? This could help an examinee better understand specific material from experts, and for other individuals to learn as well. There's no formal plan for this: it's just a chance to help share technical information that could be quite helpful for someone studying for an exam.

Please let me know if you might be available, interested, or have any suggestions or questions.

Jim Hermanson, CPBE, CBNT
SBE Chapter 24
Certification Chair
services@jimhermanson.com



WBA Media Technology Institute Scholarships

How would you like to offer an opportunity to a Student to attend the WBA Media Technology Institute June 20-13 at the Radisson in La Crosse? The WBA is offering two scholarships to attend this year's Institute. Scholarships include Hotel and Registration. The WBA provides most meals as well. To apply, contact Linda Baun at lbaun@wi-broadcasters.org. Keep in mind that only two scholarships to this program will be awarded.

More about the Institute....

Media Technology Institute (MTI) (see next page) offers practical, instructional courses suitable for prospective, beginning, intermediate, and senior

broadcast/media engineers. This four day program is presented by experienced broadcasting professionals. The program consists of three days of instructional content, one additional day of technical seminars and a broadcast equipment exposition as part of the WBA Summer Broadcast Engineering Conference, and concludes with an opportunity to tour a radio/TV technical facility near La Crosse. Underwriting for MTI is provided by the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association and Midwest Communications.



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CHAPTER 24 SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Recent Renewals:

Alpha Video
AVI Systems

Thanks to all our Sustaining Members:

Belden, Inc.
Clark Wire and Cable
Full Compass Systems
GEPCO International, Inc.
Heartland Video Systems
Joseph Electronics
Resonant Results, Ltd.
Ross Video
Sound Devices, LLC
Token Creek Productions
WISC-TV 3
WMTV-TV 15
WKOW-TV 27
WMSN-TV 47

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MEDIA TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE

June 20-23, 2016

Radisson Hotel & Convention Center
La Crosse, Wisconsin



Media Technology Institute (MTI) offers practical, instructional courses suitable for prospective, beginning, intermediate, and senior broadcast/media engineers, in a four day program presented by experienced broadcasting professionals. The program consists of three days of instructional content and one additional day of technical seminars and a broadcast equipment exposition as part of the WBA Summer Broadcast Engineering Conference.

MONDAY, JUNE 20

Location: Illinois Room

10:00 am: Welcome by Michelle Vetterkind, WBA President/CEO, followed by a discussion of the schedule by Terry Baun

10:15 am: "A brief Introduction to the history and challenges of Broadcast/Media Technology" with Terry Baun

10:30 am - 12:00 pm: "Big iron-Antennas, towers, and transmission lines" with Richard Wood

12:00 pm: Lunch

1:30 pm: "Engineering Your Career in a Broadcast Station" with Bill Hubbard

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm: Welcome Reception



TUESDAY, JUNE 21

Location: Illinois Room

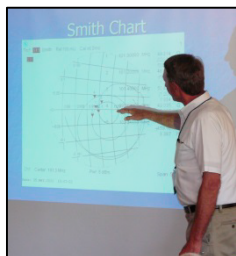
9:00 am: "RF Fundamentals" with Terry Baun

12:00 pm: Lunch

1:30 pm: "Facility Design" with Bill Hubbard

3:30 pm: "Understanding Audio levels and Measurement Standards" with Jim Klas

5:00 pm: Dismiss



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22 - JOIN WBA ENGINEERING DAY

Location: Zielke Suite 1, La Crosse Center

8:45 am: WBA Engineering Day Sessions

12:00 pm: Engineers Luncheon at the WBA Summer Conference

1:30 pm: WBA Engineering Day Sessions Continued

5:00 pm: WBA Equipment Exhibits, Reception and Dinner



THURSDAY, JUNE 23

Location: Illinois Room

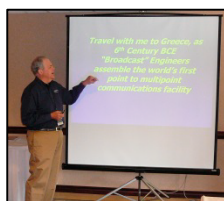
9:00 am: "Engineering on a (no) budget and Site Grounding/Safety issues" with Jeff Welton

11:00 am: "Business Basics for Broadcast Engineers" with Jim Klas

12:00 pm: Lunch

1:30 pm: "The Continuing Confluence of IT and RF Technologies" with Terry Baun

2:00 pm: Field trip to WHLA FM/TV site in Minnesota



The WBA is offering two scholarships to attend this year's Institute. Contact Linda at lbaun@wi-broadcasters.org.



Underwriting for the Media Technology Institute is provided by the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association and Midwest Communications.



CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES

Kevin Ruppert – Candidate for Chairperson

I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Communications Arts (Radio, TV, Film) from the University of Wisconsin. I started my broadcasting career at WNNO radio in Wisconsin Dells where I was a staff announcer, news reporter, and part-time engineer. My job at WISC-TV started as a master control operator. I later became a maintenance engineer there and am now Engineering Maintenance Supervisor.

My other experiences in broadcasting include engineering at WORT-FM.

I have served as Chapter 24 Program Chair, Special Events Chair, a previous stint as Chapter Vice-Chair and Chapter Chair.

I am on the Program Committee for the Wisconsin Broadcasters Clinic.

My wife and I have two sons and a granddaughter. We enjoy camping, kayaking and other outdoor activities around the state.

Richard Wood – Candidate for Vice Chair

Rich has been working with antenna systems and towers since 1979. His firsthand experience includes building multiple AM, FM and TV transmitter facilities. Testing and troubleshooting of these type of sites has taken all over the U.S., doing on-site work in 46 of the lower 48 states. Along with broadcast project management and system testing, Rich also does infrared testing of switch gear for many industries.

Mike Norton – Candidate for Secretary

Mike has been working in broadcasting for 23 years, starting as a disc jockey in college. As a student he held positions as technical operations director and station manager at WSUP-FM/Platteville. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University Wisconsin-Platteville, with a major in Broadcast Technology Management and a minor in graphic arts. He worked as a master control operator at WISN-TV/Milwaukee, and is currently a staff engineer at Wisconsin Public Broadcasting for the Educational Communications Board's Telecommunication Operations Center.

His current duties include electronic maintenance of radio and television equipment and satellite uplink systems, along with configuration of encoding systems and IP networks. Mike has been an SBE member since 1992, was the SBE Chapter 24 newsletter editor from 1996 to 2006, and has previously served as SBE Chapter 24 Secretary from 2009 to 2012. He is certified at the CSTE and CBNE levels.

Leonard Charles – Candidate for Treasurer

Leonard has been in Broadcast Engineering for over 40 years and currently holds the position of Director of Engineering for Morgan Murphy Media's Midwest Division. In that capacity he oversees the technical facilities of its TV, Radio, and Multimedia operations in the Upper Midwest.

Leonard currently serves on the NAB TV Technology Committee and its Next Generation Broadcast Platform Committee. He has also served on the former MSTV Engineering Committee, Mobile DTV OTAG Committee, and on numerous FCC EAS related Industry Committees including the National Advisory Committee and the first Communications Security, Reliability & Interoperability Council as a broadcast EAS representative.

As Chairman of the Broadcasters Clinic he works closely with the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association. He was also the Broadcast Engineer Liaison to the WBA DTV transition effort and has represented broadcast technology in discussions with state legislators.

He sits on the State of Wisconsin Emergency Communications Committee, the Wisconsin Amber Alert Committee and the Dane County (WI) EAS Committee.

Leonard is a Society of Broadcast Engineers (SBE) Fellow with Lifetime Certification as a Professional Broadcast Engineer. He has served two terms on the National SBE Board of Directors and was the first National SBE EAS Committee Chair. In that capacity he wrote the SBE EAS Primer. Leonard has won several local and National SBE awards, including a two-time recipient of the Robert W. Flanders SBE Engineer of the Year. He now serves as a Trustee of the SBE Ennes Educational Foundation. In 2013 Leonard was awarded the NAB's Engineering Achievement Award for Service to Broadcast Engineering. Leonard and his wife Judy live in Madison, WI. They are very proud of their two sons and their families, including four grandchildren.

2016 SBE Chapter 24 Election Ballot

(For use by members not using the on-line ballot)

You must be a current member of SBE Chapter 24 to be eligible to vote.

Please include your SBE member number: _____

Voter names will not be identified.

VOTE FOR ONE FOR EACH OFFICE. MARK AN "X" NEXT TO YOUR SELECTION.

CHAIRPERSON

_____ Kevin Ruppert

(write-in candidate)

VICE CHAIR

_____ Richard Wood

(write-in candidate)

SECRETARY

_____ Mike Norton

(write-in candidate)

TREASURER

_____ Leonard Charles

(write-in candidate)

Elections will take place during the April chapter meeting. If you cannot attend that meeting, you may send your completed ballot to the address below. Please vote only once.

Steve Paugh
Ballot
1602 Golden Oak Lane
Madison, WI 53711

All ballots must be received by noon, Wednesday, April 20, 2016.
