

SBE 141 Meeting Report and Newsletter

February 2007

by Chapter Chair, Rick Carrara

February Chapter 141 Luncheon Meeting

We held our February meeting of the year on February 15th at the Hungry Woodsman's "Saw Shop" room. There were 20 engineers attending the meeting.

Here's my report on the meeting proceedings:

Old Business

2007 Chapter Officer Elections

According to our chapter by-laws, this year's election will be held at our October 11th meeting. Our first election deadline is July 11th – when the Nominations Committee needs to prepare and disseminate to all members a slate of proposed officers.

Nominations and Election Committees

As chapter Chair I need to appoint two committees: a Nominations Committee with at least three members; and an Elections Committee with three members. Thanks to Mike Gary for volunteering at last month's meeting. The committee duties are really not cumbersome, so please let me know if you are willing to help out on one of these committees. At this month's meeting Allan Steinberg volunteered and David Rose indicated interest depending on the scope of the committee duties. Thanks to all who have stepped up to the plate. We still need volunteers for the elections committee, so please speak up if you would be willing to help.

Memberships

We have a total of 16 Members and 7 of those are certified by the SBE. We are aware of three additional membership applications that are about to be submitted. When those are approved we will have increased our membership from 12 last year to 19 this year!

That's very positive growth for our fledgling chapter.

SBE Chapter 141 members:

Mike Bach – Kathrein / Scala Division

Matt Boughton – SOPTV

Rick Carrara – KDRV

Jon Clark – Dielectric

Billy Cunningham, (CPBE)

John Cyr

Ellis Feinstein – Kathrein / Scala Division

Mike Gary – KMOV

Mike Johnson – Kathrein / Scala Division

Keane Laguatan (CBT) – KDRV

Rem Roberti (CBT) – KDRV

David Rose (CPBE) – JPR – recently upgraded from CSRE

Ludwell Sibley (CSBE)

Allan Steinberg (CBT) – KDRV

Joe Torsitano (CBRE) – KAJO/KLDR

Tom Werner – SOPTV

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TV Digital commercial distribution formats

TV broadcasters and Cable operators are facing an evolution in the way commercials are distributed from clients and agencies. I had hoped to find the time to contact the TV and Cable engineers last month to arrange a brief telephone conference on the topic. Time ran out so I'll renew my efforts this month.

New Business

Daylight Savings Time Starts March 11

For better or worse, Daylight Savings Time starts 3 weeks earlier this year – at 2:00am on Sunday, March 11th. It also ends a week later – at 2:00am on Sunday, November 4th. There are a number of clock systems at any technical facility including those integrated in Microsoft Windows XP and Outlook. There are time change patches available for Windows XP and Outlook 2003 on the web at Microsoft.com/dst2007.

Attendee contact info

We would like to collect email addresses for all attendees so we can send out meeting reports, notification of upcoming programs and other chapter related communications. For your convenience there is a link on the middle of the right hand bar entitled “SBE141 Mailing List” that will take you to a form that you can subscribe to or unsubscribe from our all@sbe141.org mailing list. This list is for chapter communications only – we promise not to give out the names and emails on the list to anyone.

KISS/KZZE STL Interference Resolved

We did use the email list to send a request for information regarding an interference issue the first of this month. The KISS and KZZE STLs were receiving intermittent interference for several weeks. The culprit was a transmitter used for controlling gates around the airport perimeter. Jim Sute and Russ Jump can give you the bloody details if you are interested.

Web Site Additions

Plans are ongoing for some additions to the SBE141.ORG website that will make it an even more valuable asset to our membership. Thanks to our secretary Rem for the work he has put into developing the site for us. Coming this month is a calendar that will list meetings, election schedules and other Chapter related events.

Programs

We continue to invite meeting attendees (not just SBE members) to make recommendations for program topics and vendors. Please give your suggestions to any of the Chapter Officers or you can email your ideas to secretary@sbe141.org.

Chapter Member Business

There was no other chapter business to discuss so we moved on to the program for this month.

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Program

I introduced Dr. Samuel Lee, the Director of Sales and Marketing for LP Technologies, Inc., out of Wichita, Kansas. Dr. Lee gave a very interesting presentation on a full band spectrum analyzer for the Sprint/Nextel 2GHz Relocation Project.

After the program we thanked Dr. Lee for his presentation and thanked LP Technologies for providing lunch.

Special thanks to Jim and Bryce of Clear Channel for the loan of the projector for our meeting. Also, thanks to Karl of COBI for loaning their projector screen for the meeting at the last minute.

March Meeting

I announced that our next meeting will be held in the “Saw Shop” room on March 15th. Our program will be presented by Audemat-Aztec, the topic will be: Radio Encoding, Metering & Monitoring Equipment. When we last asked Audemat-Aztec, they indicated that they would cover the cost of lunch.

A note on the cost of meeting lunches: Many of the vendors that make presentations at our meetings will cover the cost of our lunches – but please come prepared to pay for your own. At the Hungry Woodsman, lunch costs \$11 including entrée with side, coffee, ice tea or hot tea and gratuity. When we have a commitment from the vendor we will publish the fact that lunch will be provided.

Spread the Word

Please let any of your colleagues that might be interested in our meetings and programs know that they are welcome to attend. You do not have to be an SBE member to attend. More information is available on the local chapter’s web site at www.sbe141.org.

Thanks to everyone who attended the February meeting – we hope to see you at noon on March 15th.