



CHAPTER TWENTY NEWS

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Chairman's Corner

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"The Line is Drawn, The Future is Here." That's the theme of the SBE Expo this October 12th. A large crack divides the Analog side from the Digital side. This, of course, refers to the shutdown of analog NTSC broadcast television transmissions in the United States. This NTSC termination has been mandated by congress. The shutdown date is Feb. 17, 2009. The day of Digital and High Definition is now on the horizon.

In late 2008, consumer NTSC television equipment will carry a sticker that indicates the end of NTSC broadcasting and the implications if you buy it. As we know, cable and DBS set-top boxes will still have NTSC outputs. But the end of NTSC terrestrial broadcasting is here.

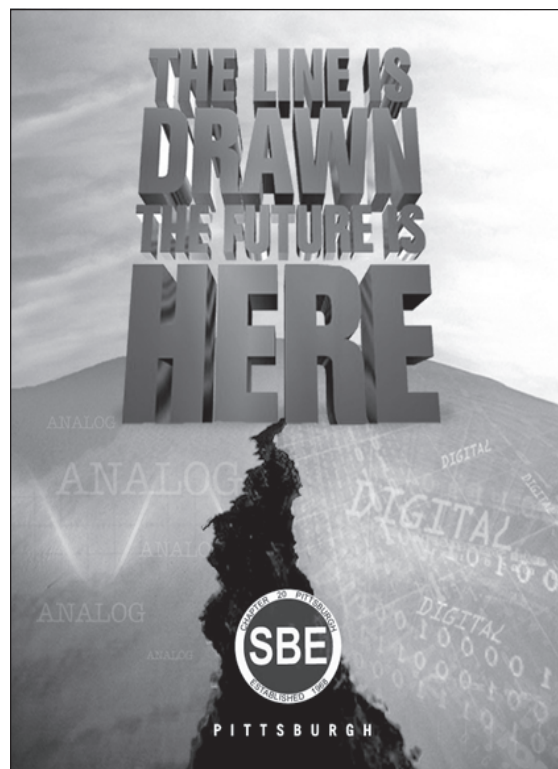
Even before the NAB, but certainly afterward, the move to digital and high definition Master Control, News, Production and Post Production has reached a fever pitch. Even digital SD is ho-hum, today. Much of this activity is due to the low cost of high definition equipment. Most HD equipment costs no more than SD and in many cases it costs a lot less. That's why you really should make this month's NAB Wrap-up meeting.

The pace of change is faster and faster. Don't get left behind. Many new products are evolutionary, but some are truly revolutionary. The first step was the conversion from analog to digital. The final step is the conversion of video to digital data (as in PC data). Standard IT technology is everywhere. It works and it's cheap. Oops, I mean inexpensive.

Annette and I will present the best of the NAB 2006, but this should be an interactive discussion. If you were at the NAB, tell us what impressed you. If not, enjoy this easy trip to Las Vegas and the NAB. We won't have gambling, but we will have a nice dinner! This month, the SBE dinner meeting will bring all the NAB highlights to you right here in Pittsburgh.

Please try to make the NAB Wrap-up dinner meeting, May 18th at 7:00 PM. I promise it will be an interesting NAB review. I look forward to a bigger and better SBE for 2006.

Chapter 20 SBE Expo



Save the Date:

ExpoMart in Monroeville, October 12, 2006

Next Meeting

Thursday, May 18

7:00 P.M.

Come early and shoot the breeze

NAB Review

John Humphrey, Azcar

Annette Parks-Taylor, WPXI

Dinner Fee: \$10

Location: Gaetano's

Details on page 2

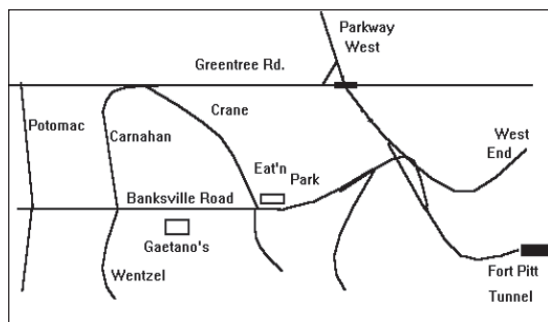
Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Thursday evening May 18 at Gaetano's restaurant on Banksville Rd.

The program will be what we hope will be an annual event. John Humphrey and Annette Parks-Taylor will be doing a review of the recent NAB convention.

John did an excellent job last year, and we are confident that the evening will be well worth your time.

Gaetano's is at 1617 Banksville Road. Use Rte. 19 South (Banksville Rd.) Exit when coming from Pittsburgh. Use the Greentree Exit when coming toward Pittsburgh.



2006 SBE Membership Drive Inspire Someone to Greatness ...

Invite someone to join the Society of Broadcast Engineers. If you recruit a new member during the 2006 Membership Drive, March 1– May 31, your name will be entered into a prize drawing with more than 60 prizes.

Your name goes into the drawing once for each approved new Regular or Associate member – five times for a new Sustaining member.

You'll also receive \$5 off your 2007 membership renewal for each new member that you recruit, up to \$25.

Check your SBE Membership Drive postcard or www.sbe.org for more details.

Opportunities

KDKA-TV has an immediate opening for an Electronic Maintenance Technician.

Must have 5 years maintenance experience and a thorough knowledge of broadcast technical systems and electronics used in a state of the art TV station. Candidate must have a minimum of an Associates Degree in Electronic Technology.

This position requires the understanding and ability to use state of the art test equipment and troubleshoot, at the component level, the electronics and mechanics of digital and analog cartridge video tape machines, news cameras, editing control, video servers, microwave relay, mobile earth station systems, digital electronics, misc. video, audio comm. Equipment, along with a high level of versatility with computer networks. Good communication skills with the ability to interact with photographers, editors, operating techs, and equipment manufacturers. FCC General Class license and/or SBE certification is desirable.

Candidate must remain contemporary as equipment and processes change. Duty times vary.

SEND RESUME TO: Robert Jordan, Engineering Manager, KDKA-TV, One Gateway Center, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

WPXI-TV, Inc. is seeking a Maintenance Technician in our Engineering department. Must have demonstrable skills in the following areas: (1) Analogue and digital video and audio, (2) Routing, production control and master control switchers, (3) Broadcast system automation, (4) Cameras, video tape machines, audio consoles, and (5) Server based audio & video systems.

In addition, the successful candidate: (1) Must have strong background in computers and networks. Installs software, updates, performs backups and experience providing Engineering and IT support to broadcast operations, (2) Significant hands-on experience with VHF & UHF transmitters, microwave, and satellite systems, (3) Must be able to trouble shoot electronic equipment to a system level, including repairing, aligning, installing, maintaining and relocating equipment, and (4) Must be competent in the use of electronic test equipment (i.e. waveform monitors, vector scopes, oscilloscopes, DVM, signal generators and spectrum analyzers) and possess knowledge of applicable FCC Rules & Regulations.

Electronics degree; equivalent education or experience in an associated field. MS and SBE certification a plus. Must be self-motivated, team player able to work well with others. Please submit cover and resume to: Frank Bobro, Engineering Manager, 11 Television Hill, Pittsburgh, PA 15214 or fbobro@wpxi.com.

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