Chapter 38 of the Society of Broadcast Engineers
SBE
EL PASO - LAS CRUCES - JUAREZ

APRIL 2010

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# NEWS

## DTV ON VHF ANXIOUS FOR IMPROVEMENT

It's been nine months since TV broadcasting completed its transition from analog to digital, but approximately 500 stations on VHF channels are still concerned about duplicating the coverage and reception they enjoyed in analog.

"Low VHF [chs. 2-6], no matter what you do, is not going to accommodate digital television very well," said David Donovan, president of the Association for Maximum Service Television==Donovan estimated that about 40 full-power stations nationwide are stuck in the low VHF band where signals do not penetrate buildings well and interference from electrical devices (impulse noise) can totally disrupt reception.==The 442 stations in the high VHF band [chs. 7-13] are doing better, but not nearly as well as the remaining 1,200 or so stations that wound up in the UHF band (chs. 14-51), he said. ==In digital, UHF is the place to be.=Even though only 10% of the average station's audience is watching off the air, VHF broadcasters are concerned about the reach and quality of their signals and many are trying to do something about it.==They don't want to lose any viewers and they want to make sure that they can deliver adequate signals throughout their markets if and when they choose to offer mobile DTV service.==With transmission equipment built to the ATSC mobile DTV standard, broadcasters can broadcast low-res video to handheld devices or receivers in vehicles using small portions of their digital channels.=="You have 800 to 900 broadcasters who are part of the Open Mobile Video Coalition initiative (including Fox and NBC) supporting mobile," said NAB spokesman Dennis Wharton. =="To get live local TV on cell phones and on laptops is going to revolutionize the business."==The FCC's National Broadband Plan is adding another layer of urgency to resolving broadcast reception issues. ==Having determined that UHF spectrum would be better used for wireless broadband access, the NBP is proposing transferring up to 120 MHz (20 channels) from broadcast to broadband.==According to Donovan, taking away 120 MHz would directly affect about 700 stations operating in chs. 31 to 51, including some of the country's largest network affiliates.==To overcome inherent reception problems, VHF broadcasters are seeking more power, looking to move to vacant UHF channels and considering distributed transmission systems and other schemes for filling gaps in coverage.==To reach viewers in their homes, the broadcasters are also telling them to dump their rabbit ears and get out the ladder. .==Indoor reception is problematic for stations on any channel as William Meintel, a partner in Meintel, Sgrignoli & Wallace, discovered when his consulting firm was hired to tackle reception problems for VHF stations in Chicago, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Houston and a UHF signal in Milwaukee.="We found most all of these problems were with indoor reception," Meintel said."A lot of these antennas that people have for indoor use are pretty much worthless."=Impulse noise has also plagued VHF reception, he said. Any number of electrical devices, including, ironically, flat-screen TVs, can cause picture dropouts, blocking and pixelization, he said."=We even had some problems with amplified antennas where the amplifier was doing more harm than good," he said.=Indoor reception problems should have been anticipated, Meintel said.=After all, the FCC assigned digital channels to stations based on the assumption that viewers would be tuning in with antennas 30 feet above the ground.==To avoid reception problems, broadcasters must first look at their own plants, said Joe Snelson, VP and director of engineering for Meredith Broadcasting, whose Portland, Ore., station ended up on ch. 12 after the transition."=Are you operating at a full power level or could you maximize today through increased power?= What's the shape of your transmission system? =You have to start in your own backyard to see if your transmission system and everything involved are in good shape and start to

**NEWS CONTINUES IN PAGE 2**

**OUR SUTAINING MEMBERS:**

KTSM-TV

KVIA-TV

KRWG-TV

KBNA-AM/FM & KAMA-AM

KHEY-AM/FM, KPRR-FM & KTSM-AM/FM

KLAQ-FM, KISS-FM & KROD-AM

KPAS-FM-
ALGIE A. FELDER CSBE

BURST COMMUNICATIONS INC.- THOM JOHNSON

GIESLER BROADCASTING SUPPLY INC.
DAN GEISLER

ENTRAVISION COMMUNICATIONS

PETER W.DAWL CO.

SCMS, INC.- BOB CAUTHEN

HARRIS BROADCAST
DAN SESSLER

TNT BROADCAST AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS CONTRACTORS,INC.-
PAUL TERRY

KSCE-TV

CONTINENTAL ELECTRONICS.
STEVE H. SCHOTT

KCOS-TV

TIME WARNER CABLE

KELP-AM
ARNOLD McCLATCHEY

move outwards from there," he said.==Some broadcast engineers believe distributed transmission systems (DTS) are the key to resolving spotty coverage. DTS substitutes multiple, strategically placed low-power transmitters for the one high-power transmitter of conventional broadcasting. All the transmitters would operate on the same channel.==But Meintel said that DTS is expensive, at least for conventional fixed broadcasting. "You will not see very many distributed transmission systems unless mobile starts to take off."==DTS isn't a panacea, said Donovan. "It's a wonderful system as a gap filler. If you have a big stick and you can't get over the mountain and there's not enough spectrum to get channels deeper, DTS is great. But a short DTS transmitter won't solve a fundamental co-channel problem."==Work on improving DTS and variations of it is on-going.==Ktech Telecom, for instance, has devised an alternative DTS method that uses an 8-VSB signal rather than GPS as a reference to synchronize transmitters using the same channel. The result is "better coverage and better reception," said President Steve Kuh.==The Ktech system, which has not been deployed, uses base-slot techniques and "innovative data alignment techniques to make all the translator signals appear as though they are coming from the same channel," Kuh said.=="Traditionally you wouldn't be able to do this between the translators if they were in the same channel," he said. "I don't know if it's necessarily the answer, but this is a very viable alternative."

Kuh is scheduled to present a paper on the technology at the Broadcast Engineering Conference at the NAB Show next month.

Wharton said that broadcasters are determined to lay down the best possible signal, to better serve the public and to ward off attempts by the FCC to shift broadcast spectrum to broadband.==Wharton said the widely cited estimate that 10% of homes receive broadcasting off air is probably low and that "anecdotal" evidence suggests that broadcasters are actually gaining viewers thanks to digital.=="The reality is even if it were only 10%, the vast majority of those 10% are folks who are disadvantaged in society; and to dismiss those folks is disenfranchising people who can't afford cable, Donovan also said that over-the-air signals are also critical for delivering signals to cable and satellite.=="The vast majority of cable headends and the overwhelming majority of satellite local receive sites take a broadcast signal over-the-air," he said.

By Jim Barthold

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Marvin Haney

# EL PASO,TX CHAPTER 38 MEETING MINUTE

DATE 3/9/2010 LOCATION: CLEARCHANNEL

***MEETING CALLED TO ORDER***: 7:24 PM, BY ANTONIO CASTRO, THERE WERE 15 MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE.

***REPORT OF THE SECRETARY***: MINUTES ACCEPTED AS POSTED IN THE NEWSLETER BY WARREN REEVES AND DAVID HALPERING

***REPORT OF THE TREASURER***: CURRENT BALANCE OF $ 9,954.79 AFTER BANK INTEREST AND RECONCILIATION

***REPORT OF THE CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE:*** DAVID HAPERIN IS NOW IN COMMUNICATIONS WITH MEGAN CLAPPE, SBE NAT'L

***REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE***: NO REPORT, LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEER

***REPORT OF THE FREQUENCY COORDINATOR COMMITTEE:*** NOTHING TO REPORT

***REPORT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE:*** NOTHING TO REPORT.

***REPORT OF THE WEB SITE COMMITTEE*** : NORBERT MILES WILL LINK FROM HIS KINT98 SITE AS HOST. RON HANEY STILL CONTACTING DAVE (SBE) FOR THE DOMAIN NAME RE-ACTIVATION.

***REPORT OF THE EAS CHAIRMAN*** : NOTHING TO REPORT.

***REPORT OF THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE***: ROHDE & SCHWARZ PRESENTATION TO FOLLOW THIS MEETING.

***UNFINISHED BUSINESS***: NONE

***NEW BUSINESS OR ANY ITEMS FOR THE CHAPTER INTEREST:*** ENNES WORKSHOP IS COMING TO EL PASO, ON MAY 21, 2010. WE WILL HOST THIS GREAT EVENT. SBE NATIONAL IS WORKING IN THE DETAILS

***NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION***: APRIL 13, NOON @ GRAND CHINA BUFFET, SUNLAND PARK, EL PASO.

***MEEETING ADJOURNED***: 7:40 PM ACCEPTED BY ENRIQUE LOPEZ

LOOK AT PAGE 5 FOR THE NEW SECTION :

**THE PROFILER**

**SBE NATIONAL MEMBER # 1632**

**NAME: ALGIE A. FELDER CSBE**

# APRIL PROGRAM

SORRY, AL PRESENTERS ARE NAB BUSSY, BUT.....

THE ENNES WORKSHOP IS AROUND THE CORNER AND WE NEED TO BE PREPARED AS HOST AND PARTICIPANTS.
PLEASE WE NEED YOUR INPUT AS HOW WE CAN REACH AND INVITE AS WELL AS ADVERTISE IN OUR LOCAL MEDIA. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME HERE IN EL PASO AND POSSIBLE THE BEGINNING OF OUR EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR THE ENGINEERS THAT CAN'T MAKE IT TO LAS VEGAS

WHEN: APRIL 13, 2010
WHERE: GRAND CHINA BUFFET
SUNLAND PARK
EL PASO, TX.
TIME: AT 12:00 PM

BRING SOME IDEAS AND.....
SEE YOU THERE IN THE GRILL !!





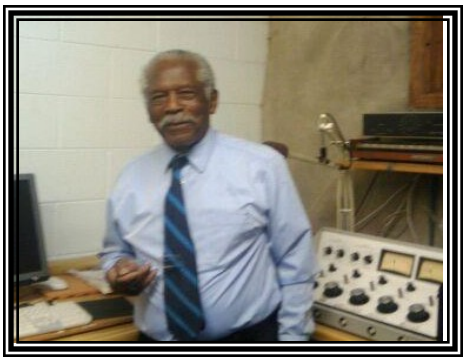
ATTENTION

OUR WEBSITE IS NOW TEMPORARY HOSTED BY

.....WWW.KINT98.COM.....
AND IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION BY NORBERT MILES.

PLEASE ACCESS THIS SITE AND FOLLOW THE LINK

IN THIS NEW SECTION, WE ARE GOING TO HONOR ALL THE NATIONAL MEMBERS OF THE SBE CHAPTER 38 AND WE START THIS MONTH WITH THE FOUNDER OF THIS CHAPTER. AND NOW, HERE IS ….THE PROFILER.



NAME : ALGIE ANDERSON FELDER
RESIDENCE: 8564 NORTH LOOP RD., EL PASO, TEXAS 79907
DATE OF BIRTH: JUNE 3, 1928
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

ATTENDED PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND GRADUATED FROM THE A.H. PARKER HIGH SCHOOL AND RECEIVED TECHNICAL EXPOSURE TO RADIO TECHNOLOGY.

SERVED IN THE U.S. ARMY AS A MILITARY POLICE AND RADIO REPAIR MAN FOR 3 YEARS. UPON COMPLETION, HE ATTENDED MILES COLEGE, DANIEL PAINE COLLEGE AND LATER DEBRY TECHNICAL INSTITUTE IN CHICAGO,IL. WHERE HE GRADUATED AND RECEIVED THE DIPLOMA OF RADIO COMMUNICATIONS.

AFTER HIS RETURN TO BIRMINGHAM, HE OWNED AND OPERATED A TWO-WAY RADIO AND TV REPAIR SHOP.

HE WAS RECRUITED BY U.S. CIVIL SERVICE AS A TRAINING SPECIALIST DURING 1953, WHERE HE SERVED AS AN ASSISTANT INSTRUCTOR RADIO REPAIR, U.S. ARMY SIGNAL SCHOOL, FORT GORDON, GA.

WHILE TEACHING AS SUPERVISORY INSTRUCTOR, HE ACHIEVED ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL EXPERTISE THROUGH BOTH ON THE JOB AND CIVILIAN EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONAL PURSUITS.,

HE RECEIVED THE DIPLOMA OF TELEVISION ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY AS WELL AS A DIPLOMA IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING. EARLY IN HIS CAREER HE WAS ACCEPTED AS A MEMBER OF THE INSTITUTE OF RADIO ENGINEERS , AS WELL AS A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS.

DURING THE EARLY INTERFACE OF COMPUTERS AND RADAR, HE RECEIVED SPECIALIST TECHNICAL TRAINING ON FREQUENCY SCAN RADAR COMPUTER AND COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEMS. HE WAS TRANSFERRED TO FORT BLISS, TEXAS DURING 1961 AS A SUPERVISORY TRAINING INSTRUCTOR, TEACHING FREQUENCY SCAN RADAR, ADDITIONALY HE WORKED AS A PART TIME TELEVISION ENGINEER FOR STATION WJBF IN AUGUSTA, GEORGIA AND KDBC-TV EL PASO.

WHILE EMPLOYED AS A SUPERVISORY TRAINIG INSTRUCTOR, HE PURSUED ADDITIONAL FORMS OF EDUCATION AT U.T.E.P. RECEIVING A BACHELORS OF SCIENCE IN THE SCIENCES (PHYSICS). HE PURSUED ADDITIONAL GRADUATE STUDIES IN MANAGEMENT AT U.T.E.P.==HE ATTENDED AND COMPLETED OVER 20 TECHNICAL SPECIALIST COURSES COVERING AREAS SUCH AS LOGISTICS MANGEMENT, GRIEVANCE EXAMINING AND E.E.O. COUNSELING, WHICH HE SERVED FOR MORE THAN 25 YEARS AS A CIVIL SERVANT.

DURING 1976, HE CONDUCTED A NEEDS ASSESMENT, AND THE STUDY SHOWED THAT A NEED EXISTED FOR A RADIO STATION TO SERVE FABENS AND THE LOWER VALLEY AND TO PROVIDE AN OUTLET FOR LOCAL CHURCHES TO SERVE THE AREA BY MEANS OF RADIO. AN APPLICATION WAS MADE WITH THE F.C.C. TO CONSTRUCT AN FM STATION. DURING 1978 CONSTRUCTION WAS BEGUN ON KLMF-FM OWNED BY ELGIE AND HIS SISTER, AND OPERATION STARTED DURING DECEMBER 1978.

HE CHOSE TO CHANGE CAREERS AND RETIRED FROM U.S. CIVIL SERVICE, AS A DIVISION SUPERVISORY TRAINING INSTRUCTOR AT THE U.S. ARMY DEFENSE SCHOOL WHERE HE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR AND CONTRIBUTTED OF THE SUCCESFUL SPECIALIST TRAINIG OF OVER ONE HUNDRED THOUSANDS MILITARY AND CIVILIAN STUDENTS DURING A 30 YEAR CARRER. HE IS THE OWNER AND OPERATOR OF RADIO STATION KPAS-FM, PROVIDING INSPIRATIONAL AND GOSPEL PROGRAMS, MUSIC AND A MEDIA OUTLET FOR LOCAL CHURCHES.

HE MARRIED HIS MILES COLLEGE ENGLISH CLASSMATE RUTH MCMURRY, A FARMER'S DAUGHTER.
TOGETHER THEY HAD EIGHT CHILDREN, OF WHICH SEVEN ARE LIVING AND WERE RAISED IN A FARM LIKE ENVIROMENT LEARNING TO LOVE THE TRUE NATURE OF CHRISTIAN LIVING, AND APPRECIATE NATURE AND HITS INHABITANTS.

ALL OF ALGIE AND RUTH'S OFFSPRING HAVE ATTENDED OR GRADUATED FROM COLLEGE.

FROM 1962 TO PRESENT, HE IS A SENIOR MEMBER OF THE INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS AND FROM 1976 TO PRESENT HE IS SENIOR CERTIFIED MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY OF BROADCAST ENGINEERS. HE PARTICIPATE IN A NUMBER OF CLUBS, ASSOCIATIONS AND ADVISORY BOARDS AS WELL AS HOLDING NUMEROUS RECOGNITIONS.

HE IS A VIVID EXAMPLE OF DEDICATION, PASION, COURAGE AND PROFESSIONALISM AMONG MANY OTHER CARACTERISTICS THAT I CAN NOT ENLIST HERE BECAUSE OF THE PAPER SPACE.

IT WAS A REAL HONOR TO MEET ALGIE, HIS WIFE RUTH AND THE PERFECT RADIO STATION IN CLINT, TX.

THE EDITOR.