

# Kent Parsons

As special part of the Road Show at this and several other venues, Kent Parsons will be giving a presentation on the technology relating his work with digital translators. Kent is so well respected in the industry that he is or did (depending on when you read this) a tutorial for the Federal Communications Commission. Information about Kent, the meeting with the FCC and some figures about total licensed broadcast facilities is included.

## **Tutorial on DTV Translator Field Studies**

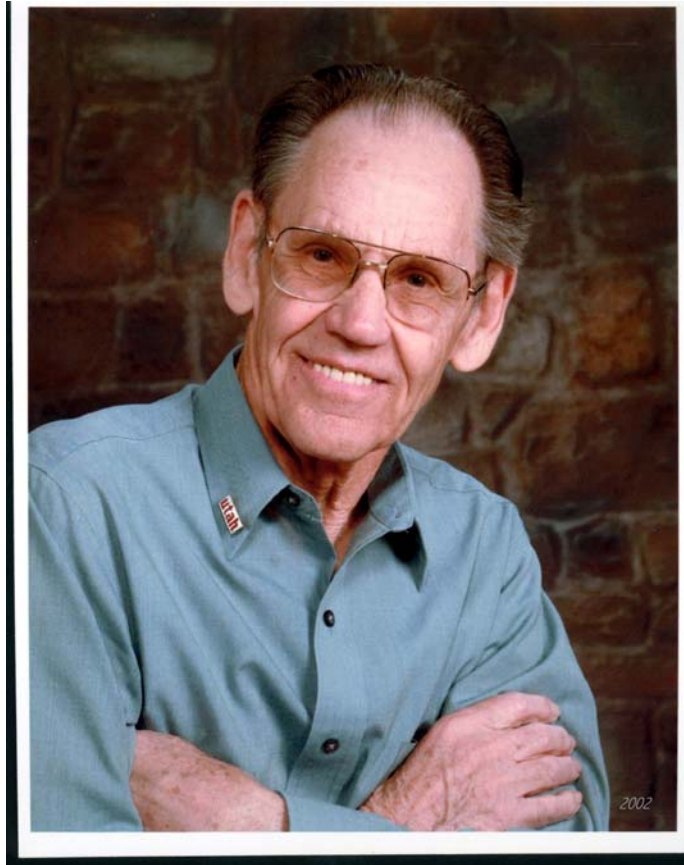
The FCC will be presenting a tutorial on Monday, March 22, that should interest anyone considering using DTV translators. The tutorial will be presented by R. Kent Parsons, vice president of the National Translator Association (NTA) and will cover topics including:

- 1) Coverage achieved with very low power TV translators. Such low power operation will provide cost savings to translator operators and open the door for potential conversion of existing analog TV translators to digital TV operation;
- 2) Transport of 8-VSB signals using fixed microwave stations, UHF translator relays, and on-channel boosters;
- 3) Retransmission of 8-VSB translator signals on a small local cable distribution system;
- 4) Adjacent channel operation using a combination of digital-to-digital and digital-to-analog channels. Such adjacent channel operations are likely to be a key factor in facilitating the availability of the additional channels needed for digital translators.

Dr. Byron W. St. Clair, president of the NTA and Gary Sgrignoli, principal engineer for research and development at Zenith Corp., will also be presenting.

Reservations are not required for the tutorial, which will be held in the Commission Meeting Room at 445 12th St., S.W., in Washington, D.C. The tutorial will also be broadcast live on the Internet. Visit [www.fcc.gov/realaudio](http://www.fcc.gov/realaudio) for links to the RealAudio web cast. More information can be found in the FCC Notice [DA 04-586 - Tutorial on Field Studies of Digital Television Translators](#).

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**R. Kent Parsons**  
**Born May 10, 1932 and has Been a Life Time Resident**  
**Of**  
**Monroe, Utah**

**Was a full time staff employee of the University of Utah from 1966 until his  
retirement from the U of U on March 31, 2004**

**His Title Was:**  
**“TV & FM Translator Field Systems Engineer/Specialist”**

**Kent began experimenting with on-channel boosters in 1957 and then to translators in 1959. He has continually engineered and maintained translator sites for over 45 years and has also worked on translator stations in nine different states. He has been Vice-President of the National Translator Association for the past 25 years and has worked closely with the FCC to help provide free-over-the-air television to rural viewers throughout the nation**

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# FCC COMPILED DATA

March 2004

## BROADCAST STATION TOTALS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2003

### 26,613 Licensed Stations

<u>FCC Station Category Name</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>% Total</u>	<u>Comments</u>
AM STATIONS		4,794		
FM COMMERCIAL	6,217			
FM EDUCATIONAL	2,552			
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>13,563</b>	
UHF COMMERCIAL TV		767		
VHF COMMERCIAL TV		585		
UHF EDUCATIONAL TV	254			
VHF EDUCATIONAL TV	127			
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1,733</b>	

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### L O W P O W E R M A R K E T

LPTV CLASS A UHF STATIONS	494			
LPTV CLASS A VHF STATIONS	111			
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>605</b>	
	Market			
LPTV UHF STATIONS (non Class A)	1,604			
LPTV VHF STATIONS (non Class A)	525			
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>2,129</b>	
UHF TRANSLATORS	2,663			
VHF TRANSLATORS	2,086			
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>4,749</b>	
FM TRANSLATORS & BOOSTERS	3,834			
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>3,834</b>	
<b>TOTAL LOW POWER TV &amp; FM</b>			<b>11,317</b>	

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