



Grand Rapids, MI
Venue Report #51
Friday

September 5, 2008



I couldn't have asked for more from the folks in Grand Rapids. The local folks went all out and we had a great turnout for our event with 31 in attendance (this figure was arrived at based on the business cards we got for the door prize drawing and the SBE sign-in sheet). This was only my second time coming to Grand Rapids and I was blown away at the attendance. Grand Rapids is part of the Grand Rapids – Kalamazoo – Battle Creek television market and is ranked as the 39th largest in the US. Our host, SBE Chapter 102 boasts a list of some 31 members, 18 of which are certified.

WGUV was a great place to have our meeting. One could not have asked for more cooperative folks and a really great situation all around. The great success can be attributed to the efforts of David Senzig, SBE Chapter 102 Chair and maintenance engineer at WOOD-TV. He did a herculean job putting the event together, tracking down the location. David's efforts were also evidenced in his culinary prowess; he prepared all the food and had it laid out as if we were in a five star restaurant with both hot and cold hors d'oeuvre, sandwiches and other delights. Although I signed the check for the goodies, David got the stuff and prepared it for us all. I didn't see anyone go away hungry.

I also appreciate and thank the good folks at WGUV-TV for hosting us at their facility. I also want to thank the WGUV folks who were there to greet us and who remained after to help us get on our way. I also want to thank Jim Skupien of Omneon for being present to help out and answer additional questions from those who were interested in their server technology. He was able to field the question about Omneon servers having an FTP port.

Have to say that I was truly impressed with the interaction that took place. It is always a pleasure when those present can boast about my sponsor's technology. One facility had a Compix Media Graphics installation they were very pleased with as well as others having ESE master GPS and NTP clock systems. Audemat was well lauded when we got into their Golden Eagle HD monitor and the folks at WGUV spoke of their positive experiences with their three IO-HD units from AJA. There were questions about the MX fiber optic connector: who makes it? Several oops and aahs were heard when we showed the Telecast Fiber Rattler device and the fact that it can be powered with a small USB power supply.

Even though we only had a few radio folks present, I was very happy to have been able to include more radio technology this year than in the past. Radio sponsors have always been difficult to recruit.

If you are interested in who won what door prizes and pictures of this event, you can see them on our website at: www.tech-notes.tv/2008/53-Grand_Rapids.htm.

If we were asked once, we were asked a couple a dozen times to come back next year. I also appreciate all the folks at WGVU who pitched in to both help us set up and pack our things when we were done. Both Shawn and I really appreciate it. It's always difficult when putting together a list of folks to thank without unintentionally leaving some off: if I have, I'm sorry and I owe you.

The following comments were received since our last report from folks who attended our presentations. These e-mails are unedited except as noted. The "To" line has been deleted when it is our address as well as sender's physical address and phone numbers. Anything in italics has been added for clarification.



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#118

Subject: Taste of NAB

From: Nancy Kelly Nancyk@wkar.org

Date: Fri, 05 Sep 2008 16:03:16 -0400

Thanks to you and Shawn for a great demonstration of new equipment. I enjoyed working with both of you during the set up & tear down. I don't know how you manage to keep the demanding schedule you have!

The narrative during the presentation was very useful and informative. It was nice to be in a setting where prices were not discussed, just function.

Thanks again, to both of you, and happy trails as you finish out your schedule!

Nancy Kelly

WKAR-TV/DT

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#117

Subject: Taste of NAB in Tulsa

From: Leonard Youngblood lyoungbl@sbgnet.com

Date: Fri, 05 Sep 2008 09:16:41 -0500

CC: Ray Bagby ray@wrightwradio.com

Good Morning Larry,

We will promote the Taste of NAB in Tulsa on our web-site. Hopefully, some people in Oklahoma City will visit your event in Tulsa.

Thank You,

Leonard Youngblood-CTO
SBE Chapter 85 Chair (*Oklahoma City*)
On-Air Operations Supervisor
On-Air Operations
Sinclair Broadcast Group
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#116
Subject: The NAB road
From: walter eger wseger@sbcglobal.net
Date: Fri, 5 Sep 2008 05:39:12 -0700 (PDT)

Thank for the outstanding presentation Thur Night in Niles MI. The new equipment capabilities was far beyond what I thought. I still consult with churches and small groups which all seem to follow the new technologies from far off. Your update will allow me to answer their questions with More knowledge and understanding. I also had a great time helping pack things up and getting a better look at the equipment. Keep up the good work

Walt Eger South Bend IN
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#115
Subject:
From: Bob Bracken b.bracken@tv20detroit.com
Date: Thu, 4 Sep 2008 13:53:01 -0400

Larry, I just wanted to say thank you on behalf of SBE chapter 82 for the fine presentation. It was very informative and we are looking forward to seeing your show next year. GOOD JOB!!!

Bob Bracken
Chairman SBE chapter 82
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#114
Subject: Thanks
From: Joseph M. Huk josephhuk@aol.com
Date: Wed, 3 Sep 2008 18:06:16 -0400

Hi Larry,

I really enjoyed the event this year. I now always look forward to it. A couple of suggestions for the next presentation are to have a small 10 minute break about 1.5 hours into the 3 hour presentation and more radio products reviewed. Otherwise, I really enjoyed it.

All my best,

Joseph M. Huk, Jr, P.E.
Fast Track Enterprises, Inc.
FTE Engineering
(KA8UUV)

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#113
Subject: Thanks
From: Richard Kent rakent@UAKRON.EDU
Date: Wed, 3 Sep 2008 14:49:53 -0400

Thank you for coming to our area. I have never been to NAB. some day I would like to go. I have looked at some web info on a couple of items seen at the road show. Keep up the good work.

TNX AGN

Rick Kent UA/WZIP WD8AJG K2 5296(radio you saw)
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#112
Subject: Great 2008 show in Detroit
From: Day, Ron (R.L.) rday5@ford.com
Date: Wed, 3 Sep 2008 13:14:23 -0400

Hi Larry,

Thanks so much for bringing the Road show back again. I did not get to attend the NAB this year so consider your show a "must see" event. Great and pertinent info.

Sincerely,
Ronald L. Day
Engineering Manager FCS
Ford Communication Services
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END



