



Society of Cable  
Telecommunications  
Engineers



The Spectrum  
Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Chapter

<http://www.scte-rockymountain.org/>

**February 2011**

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a fun and safe celebration.

Thank you for your support! A record number of you “SCTE members affiliated with Rocky Mountain Chapter” returned ballots for this important election for the 2011 Board of Director seats. The ballots were tallied, and of the 13 candidates running, the top 5 vote-getters are listed below. Please note: there were four open seats for this election, however, upon receiving an honorable resignation from one of our existing RMC Directors, the Board followed our By-laws and filled the opening with the current election runner up. Special thanks to Steve Brown for his many contributions in the past! We wish you good luck with your work in California.



**David  
Krook**  
Technetix



**Frank C.  
Wimler III**  
Charter  
Communications



**Jorge D.  
Salinger**  
Comcast Cable  
Communications



**Steve  
Murphy**  
Comcast Cable  
Communications



**Thomas J.  
Gorman**  
Charter  
Communications

I offer my congratulations to these highly qualified industry leaders who have all served the Society and Rocky Mountain Chapter substantially in past years. Please join me in welcoming each to the 2011 Board of Directors in which they are positioned to best support you. David, Frank, Jorge, Steve and Tom will join the four remaining Board of Directors in 2011 who are fulfilling their second year obligation; Lane Johnson, Rex Kohart, Hugh Long, and Nick Segura.

Please send us your ideas for Seminar Events. Any and all responses are welcome.  
Thank you to everyone for your past contributions, for your future considerations, and for joining the RMC team in one way or another.

Nick Segura  
SCTE RMC President

## SCTE update from Tom Gorman

As has been previously discussed, the National Board of Directors convened on the 18th of January to work through an important re-structuring. In the end, the board approved a reduction in board size, from 19 to 15 members. In addition, the makeup of the board will be 8 of the national board members will be Elected by the membership. There are 13 regional representatives who will be elected ( 1/2 are up for election each year). Those regional representatives will then select 8 who will serve on the National Board. The remaining 7 board seats will be filled by appointment. It is a great structure that will ensure the SCTE continues to serve its members and the industry, and positions us to be the leader in engineering, recommended practices and standards. The Rocky Mountain Chapter is well represented with Frank Eichenlaub and me serving on the board. Frank is the Chairman of the Membership committee and I serve as Chair of the Planning Committee.

Also, we have created a Rocky Mountain Chapter Facebook Page:  
<http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/SCTE-Rocky-Mountain-Chapter/158166457563716>. If you use Facebook, click the "Like" button and you'll be sure to get any late breaking updates on Facebook.

Tom

## About your SCTE Chapter

The Rocky Mountain Chapter of the SCTE provides local networking, professional development, and SCTE certification opportunities to current members and prospective workers throughout Colorado and New Mexico. Sister chapters extend SCTE's reach to over 70 locations across the globe. SCTE's Chapter members are the most active in the Society and are dedicated to educating broadband technicians and engineers on the latest technologies and leadership skills necessary to be successful.

All SCTE members are invited and encouraged to participate in every chapter event. In addition to educational seminars, your Rocky Mountain Chapter also offers:

- Testing opportunities for SCTE Certifications
- Vendor interaction through the RMC Symposium
- Competitive broadband competitions including a national competition Cable-Tec Games
- Leadership opportunities through participation as an Officer of the Board
- Networking opportunities with local cable and broadband engineers

You can find past RMC presentations here: <http://www.scte-rmc.org/page15.html>

# January 13th Seminar Commercial Installations & Applications

We would like to thank our speakers listed below for the great seminar on January 13<sup>th</sup>. It was well attended and we had excellent feedback regarding the value:

- **Neil Serafin**, Adjunct Professor Telecom – Denver Univ. & A.C.C., CabTel  
Subject matter: Commercial Services - Cable Competition and Your Skills
- **Frank Wimler**, Adv. Video Engineer, Charter Communications  
Subject matter: Commercial Video: Customer Needs / Trends
- **Martha Tate**, VP of Enterprise Services, Comcast – West Division  
Subject matter: Ethernet Services – Designed to Meet Enterprise Needs
- **Derek Herider**, Sr. Manager Tech Ops Bus Services  
Subject matter: Commercial Business Installations

We've identified that although Commercial Services is one of the biggest growth areas for cable, we have very little training focused in this area. Cable Operators continually place residential trained installers into commercial environments and expect them to succeed.

For this reason, the Rocky Mountain Chapter hosted a training seminar that focused not only on the commercial applications being deployed, but also commercial installation best practices and on how to act, dress, speak and work in commercial environments.

Our four presenters focused on different aspects of the commercial (personal behavior, competition, best practices, data, phone and video applications), and skillfully combined and intertwined their presentations to offer a holistic view of what the required state of readiness has to be in our networks to support commercial services.

The presentations were staggered so that the audience was never lulled by any one topic. **Neil Serafin** an adjunct professor with Denver University and Arapahoe Community College, was our first presenter and spoke to commercial completion, then shifted to how to dress, behave, speak and work within a commercial environment.

**Martha Tate**, Comcast VP of Enterprise Services, spoke next on commercial data and phone products being deployed by Comcast.

**Frank Wimler**, Charter Communication's Adv. Video Engineering, then presented on Commercial video to commercial locations, DRM requirements for HD services and



different means for delivery. Frank also provided a demonstration of a commercial video solution he is personally developing in the Charter Communications, Advanced Video Laboratories. **Derek Herider**, Comcast's Technical Operations Business Services, presented on best practices for installing in commercial environments. The experience and diversity of our speakers kept the audience engaged through their comments and ability to completely answer questions about their topics.

The Comcast Denver theater venue, in which the seminars where held, is superb, no matter where you sit it is possible to hear the presenters, and the raised stage allows the audience to see demonstrations clearly.



## 2011 Chapter Events v1.0\*

*Pre-seminar openers (10 to 15 minutes) are planned before each event and subjects will include:*

<i>Telecom Industry current Events</i>	<i>Professional Development, Benefits of Certification</i>	<i>Take-a-ways "Getting that one thing out of this seminar"</i>
<i>Membership benefits</i>	<i>Safety tie-in to seminar topic</i>	<i>Scholarship opportunities</i>

Date	Location	Subject	Speaker	Organizer
**(Completed) January 13, 2011	Comcast 8000 E. Iliff Denver, CO	Commercial Installations & Applications	Martha Tate – Comcast; Derek Herider – Comcast Neil Serafin – DU &ACC	Frank Wilmer and Hugh Long
April 2011 <b>2 locations!</b>	- Comcast 8000 E. Iliff <b>Denver, CO</b>  - 4611 Montbell Place N.E. <b>Albuquerque, NM</b>	Drop Hardening (web Interface – Jorge Salinger)	Nick Segura – Charter Communications	Rex Kohart, Dave K, and Nick Segura
May 2011	Cable Labs Louisville, CO	Engineering (Pre) in an IP World	TBD	Lane Johnson and Jorge Salinger
June 14 <sup>th</sup> & 15 <sup>th</sup>	Inverness Hotel & Golf Club Englewood, CO	morning session- Alternative Energy applied to the Telecomm. World ( Stephanie Trotter)	TBD	All Hands On – Steve Murphy and Dave Krook – Co - Chairs
July 2011 <b>3 Locations!</b>	- Comcast Mineral <b>Littleton, CO</b>  - Bresnan <b>Grand Junction, CO</b>  - Montbell Place N.E. <b>Albuquerque, NM</b>	Digital Testing and Measurement – Hands On	Al Silva - JDSU	Dave K., Rex Gerhardt, and Rex Kohart
Late Sept.	Comcast - 183 Inverness Englewood, CO*	MoCa – Whole Home DVR, Home Networking	TBD	Jorge S., Dave K, and Nick Segura
October 13th	Comcast - Iliff Denver, CO * (proposed)	Did you know? – What's Happening all Digital World	Ron Hranac - Cisco	Tom Gorman and Joe Thomas
February 2012	Charter Communications Greenwood Village, CO	Business Services	TBD	Frank Wilmer and Nick Segura

\*Dates, topics and locations are subject to change

# Scholarship Opportunity

By Joe Thomas

In these hard times job loss is collateral damage to the effects of the credit, housing, and energy issues affecting our country. The Rocky Mountain Chapter is proud to be in the position to offer its members a way of providing some security or opportunity in these times. We believe that through a scholarship program we can assist members wanting to differentiate themselves from their peers through education and certification.

## **Why does the RMC support a Scholarship Program for its Members?**

We make it easy on our members to enroll, test, and certify for SCTE certifications covering a wide range of job classifications and skills. Certificates range from residential installation practices to digital video engineering and all points in-between. Visit our web site at <http://www.scte-rmc.org/page10.html> to get more details. Our scholarship application should take you less than 15 minutes to complete and you'll just need to add two letters of recommendation before sending to us.

## **Why should I certify with the SCTE?**

The SCTE is the leading source of certification specific to our industry. There are over 15,000 worldwide members and more than 3,000 members enrolled in SCTE certification programs. It is the most comprehensive and widely recognized program in the industry.

In this competitive job market any edge you can give yourself will help you rise above the masses when being considered for a promotion or a new job. Believe me when I say, that experience and "time in the trenches" is invaluable to our employers and it has let many of us earn a great living in a great industry.

However, there are large numbers of people out there looking for job that have time and work experience on their side. Unemployment is regular and competition more fierce. How will you secure your current position or prepare yourself for the next promotion opportunity? Today you need something else to demonstrate your commitment to expanding your work knowledge and skills. Otherwise your resume looks just like the two dozen other ones sitting on a hiring manager's desk.

College classes are another avenue for motivated individuals. A college degree is a fantastic goal and the SCTE Foundation has funds available for grant to help you here as well. Consult the [www.SCTE.org](http://www.SCTE.org) web site for more details. But College is not for everyone and the time, family responsibilities, and other constraints are endless. SCTE certification allows you to simply test at a local seminar after home studying for as long as you wish. There is no set class schedule or deadlines. The RMC offers testing at about every seminar. Certification is a viable route for many whom have full time jobs but yet want to advance and demonstrate their knowledge. The Rocky Mountain Scholarship program covers membership cost, testing fees, and peer recognition. The details of how to apply for a scholarship from the RMC is available on our web site: [www.scte.org](http://www.scte.org)

## 2011 Elected Board of Directors

Name	email	Company	Position	Phone Number
Frank Eichenlaub	<a href="mailto:eichenf@cisco.com">eichenf@cisco.com</a>	Cisco Systems	Board, Web Master, Region II Director	303-790-6659
Tom Gorman	<a href="mailto:Tom.Gorman@chartercom.com">Tom.Gorman@chartercom.com</a>	Charter Comm.	Board, Ntl At Large Dir and past Chair	303-323-1482
Lane Johnson	<a href="mailto:ljohnson@cablelabs.com">ljohnson@cablelabs.com</a>	CableLabs	Board, Treasury Committee	303-717-5123
Rex Kohart	<a href="mailto:Rex_Kohart@cable.comcast.com">Rex_Kohart@cable.comcast.com</a>	Comcast	Board	303-603-5639
Dave Krook	<a href="mailto:David.Krook@technetix.com">David.Krook@technetix.com</a>	Technetix	Vice President	303-408-4116
Hugh Long	<a href="mailto:hlong222@comcast.net">hlong222@comcast.net</a>	Charter Comm.	Secretary	303-323-6034
Steve Murphy	<a href="mailto:Steve_Murphy@cable.comcast.com">Steve_Murphy@cable.comcast.com</a>	Comcast	Treasurer	720-267-3038
Jorge Salinger	<a href="mailto:Jorge_Salinger@cable.comcast.com">Jorge_Salinger@cable.comcast.com</a>	Comcast	Board	
Nick Segura	<a href="mailto:Nick.Segura@chartercom.com">Nick.Segura@chartercom.com</a>	Charter Comm.	President	303-669-3705
Frank Wimler	<a href="mailto:Frank.Wimler@Chartercom.com">Frank.Wimler@Chartercom.com</a>	Charter Comm.	Board	720-250-7917

## Supporting Friends of the Board 2011

Definition: Somebody who supports the functions of the local chapter by participating in meetings provides input that helps drive board decisions, volunteers, speaks supportive, and generally those who make an impact through their involvement.

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Steve Brown	<a href="mailto:Steve80134@comcast.net">Steve80134@comcast.net</a>	InterMtn. Consult.	Board Associate	303-898-1027
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Judy Donavan	<a href="mailto:jdon589029@aol.com">jdon589029@aol.com</a>	Donavan Consulting	Board Associate	720-870-2821
Dave Robinson	<a href="mailto:drobinson@ipitresources.com">drobinson@ipitresources.com</a>	IPIT Resources, Inc.	Board Associate & Newsletter editor	303-537-5678
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Robert Kostelny	<a href="mailto:rob.kostelny@comcast.net">rob.kostelny@comcast.net</a>		Board Associate	303-995-6689