

**Trustees 2016-17**

- Dave Ambrosy- 2017
- Jeff Arban- 2017
- Linda Besink- 2018
- Ed Cologna- 2018
- Bob Duthaler- 2018
- Dave Garb- 2017
- Stephanie Gibbons- 2018
- Debbe Gist- 2017
- OPEN- 2018

*Your Municipal Communication Resource*

**Connecting Your Town to Your Residents**

*For me, conferences are like little mental vacations: a chance to go visit an interesting place for a couple of days, and come back rested and refreshed with new ideas and perspectives.*



Erin McKean

Last month, I along with many of our fellow JAG Members, had the pleasure of representing our group down in Atlantic City at the New Jersey League of Municipalities Annual Convention.

This yearly undertaking is one of JAG’s biggest marketing events and I would like to thank those members who helped at this year’s event. Since 2009, we have promoted our importance and knowledge to hundreds of conference attendees. Many of whom have become a member of JAG because of this endeavor. Not only did we communicate our group’s value to those on the trade show floor, but JAG has also conducted workshops to demonstrate our constant awareness of the happenings in our field. As was the case for us this year.

JAG conducted two outstanding workshops. The first “What is 5G and how will it change our communities?” – gave attendees a glimpse as to what this new technology is all about, how it will alter the landscape, and its impact on our communities and residents.

The second, “Community Content Designed for your Town to Inform Your Citizens” - communicated how to find different avenues of Community Content, that is designed specifically to engage and inform each municipality’s citizens.

Each workshop was well received and as an Affiliate of the League, demonstrated our worth to them. The most important factor though was JAG being represented at the trade show. We obtained contact information from many potential members and spread the importance of the Jersey Access Group.

\*\*\*\*\*

Remember, JAG continues to function successfully, due to the constant volunteerism of its membership. Please, take an active role in the operations of JAG.

Committees are still in need of new members. Please check out the various committees in the newsletter. It is your input and efforts that will help drive JAG into the future.

*David Garb*

*President, JAG-The Jersey Access Group*  
davegarb@paps.net  
(732) 376-6030 Ext. 23538

**Inside This Issue**

- Feature: A Farewell Message pg2
- Elections: pg3
- Volunteers: pg3
- Bits & Bites: pg4
- Photo Gallery: NJLOM pg5
- Community Corner: pg6

**General Meeting Schedule 2017-2018**

- Dec. 13 East Brunswick**  
No Vendor Presentation
- Jan. 31- TBD**  
Presentation- JVC
- Feb. 28 Princeton**  
Presentation- TelVue
- Mar. 28- TBD**  
Presentation-TBD
- Apr. 25- TBD**  
No Vendor Presentation
- May TBD**  
JAG Conference  
Hyatt, Morristown, NJ
- Jun. 13- West Milford**  
No Vendor Presentation
- Sept. 27- Varto Technologies**  
in East Rutherford  
Presentation-by Varto
- Oct. 31- TBD**  
Presentation- TBD
- Nov. 20, Tuesday- TBD**  
Presentation- TBD

## A Farewell Message

By Steve Traylor, former ED, NATOA

Feature

2017 will soon be coming to a close, and so will my career with NATOA. So, when I was asked to write something for this month's JAG newsletter, I took some time and sat back and started contemplating what words of wisdom I might share to sum up my tenure as the association's Executive Director. I kicked around a few ideas, and finally decided to talk about something that's been on my mind for some time. I had a good friend take a look at a first draft and she thought it was a little dark – a bit too humbug for this time of the year. But with the death of net neutrality on our doorsteps, an ever-widening digital divide, and daily invasions of our privacy, how bad could it be?



For years, NATOA has been advocating for increased broadband deployment and adoption, constantly beating the drum that all Americans must be connected in order to take advantage of the many benefits of high-speed broadband. But now, as I step away from NATOA, I can't help but wonder if we have somehow been caught up in the glitz and glamour of the next best thing, while failing to fully appreciate the dark side of connectivity. For all the promises of economic growth, increased civil and social engagement, and improved educational and medical services that advanced communications services may bring to our communities, are there drawbacks that we are now just starting to appreciate?

For example, in 2017, it is forecast that more than 6,700 brick-and-mortar stores will close in the US, the victims of click-and-order giants such as Amazon and E-Bay. This beats the previous store closure record of 6,163 set during the height of the 2008 financial meltdown. Indeed, book, video, and music stores are all but extinct. And with all these closings come lost local jobs, empty storefronts on main streets across the nation, and declining tax revenues. Go ahead and call me old-fashioned, but I still like to hold printed books in my hands, try on my clothes before buying them, and supporting local merchants who find it harder and harder to keep their doors open.

But no one can seriously question the value of technology in the classroom. Or can they? With answers readily available with a click of a button, some experts are blaming the Internet for a decline in critical thinking – can you say cut and paste? – and a lack of focus by students. Spelling skills have taken a big hit with autocorrect and spell check. So, is the Internet the panacea to our educational problems that we've been lead to believe? One federal study found little difference between students who used reading and mathematics software in the classroom and those who did not. The Internet is not going away, so we better learn how to integrate technology with tradition learning techniques or else our students will not be able to compete on the world stage.

And don't even get me started on civil and social engagement! More like uncivil and antisocial disengagement. Cyberbullying. Phubbing (the habit of snubbing someone in favor of one's mobile phone). Emojis. Memes. Texts. Tweets. What happened to good old phone calls or in-person conversations? Journalism is no longer about being accurate, but being first. Politics is no longer about bipartisanship and compromise, but branding your opponents with taglines like Crooked Hillary or Rocket Man. Is this the level of civil and social engagement we were hoping the Internet would usher in?

Don't get me wrong. I think the Internet is great. We just have to be a little more careful in how we use it.

# Elections:

by Rich Desimone, Managing Director

## Board of Trustees Election 2017

Below are five candidates for the 2 year positions on the Board of Trustees. You will have option to vote for between one and four of the candidates.

**NOTE: Ada's name is spelled incorrectly on the ballot it should read Ada Erik.**

Dave Ambrosy is the Station Manager for EBTV, East Brunswick and has worked in local television for 35 years. His work has received many Awards for Excellence from the Hometown Video Festival, NJ CAPE and JAM Awards. EBTV is a founding member of JAG and Dave is the current JAG Secretary serving on the Executive Board for the past two years.

Jeff Arban - No bio submitted

Ada Erik's involvement with JAG goes back several years when I stumbled into their booth at the League of Municipalities conference. At the time I was a council woman in West Milford trying to launch a Public Access channel and the folks at JAG provided us with were some very valuable insight on the policies and procedures necessary to run a successful Public Access channel. They also introduced us to some suppliers who helped us get the channel on the air. This counsel is one of the benefits JAG offers to communities throughout the state, and I can attest to the value of the information provided.

While many JAG members are involved in the day to day technical operation of their channels, I feel I can bring a different perspective to the board. I know nothing about cameras, switchers and lights, but after serving as a council woman, I know how administrators and politicians in towns think. I feel my background will bring a different point of view to JAG's board of trustees. I think this perspective will be helpful as we face a changing communications landscape that will likely affect the way we produce and distribute our Public Access programming in the future.

I look forward to serving on the JAG's board of Trustees with a different outlook. I hope it will be helpful as the organization continues to grow and represent the needs of Public Access channel in our ever changing world.

David Garb has been an active member of the Jersey Access Group for the last 16 years'. He has served in many capacities as a member and Trustee, including President, Vice President and Legislative Committee Chairperson.

For over 30 years', I have been producing and/or directing live single and multi-camera formats of sports, news, talk, magazine, documentaries, and other original programming for cable television.

Since 2001, I have been a Video Production Specialist at Perth Amboy Television and oversee the operation of PATV-Perth Amboy Television; I am one of the advisors to a very active video club and provide support and training to the video classes within the high school.

I was a Stage Manager with Plays-In-the-Park in Edison, NJ, for over 16 years, working on numerous musical productions throughout their summer season. In the more recent years, I have been actively involved in the Perth Amboy High School stage productions.

Debbie Gist - No bio submitted

---

Below is one candidates for the 1 year positions on the Board of Trustees.

Anthony Pagliuco has worked at EBTV since January of 2011. He was born in Charleston, WV, but moved to New Jersey before the age of 2 and grew up in East Brunswick. He received a Bachelor of Sciences degree in Television Journalism from the P.I. Reed School of Journalism at West Virginia University, a sort of homecoming to the Mountain State. He got his first taste of TV production work as part of the award winning team behind the student produced newscast "WVU News," and continues to learn and grow as a Producer at EBTV. Anthony enjoys the thrill of live productions, particularly sports and concerts, and hopes to see EBTV take advantage of emerging technologies in regards to live streaming. He looks forward to being more involved with JAG and continuing to build and foster relationships with members and vendors alike. When not behind the camera, Anthony is an avid baseball fan, amateur disc golfer, and a lousy musician.

# Three new members take leadership roles

**Rich Desimone, Managing Director**

# Volunteerism

External Relations Committee welcomes three new members, George Burmiller, Vivian Gaspar, and Mariam Rosenberg. The JAG Awards Committee welcomes Lee Beckerman and David Brandfield. Contact Bob at [bduthaler@wbmatv.com](mailto:bduthaler@wbmatv.com). The newly formed Grants/Scholarships Committee is looking for members interested in joining the committee. Contact Ed at [edvideogod@gmail.com](mailto:edvideogod@gmail.com). The Marketing Committee is still in need of a chair. The Conference is looking for assistance on the Workshop and Student Symposium sub-committees. Contact Cindy at [chahn@cnet1.org](mailto:chahn@cnet1.org) or Stephanie at [stgibbons@verizon.net](mailto:stgibbons@verizon.net).



Executive- <b>Next Meeting Jan. 3</b>	Production- <b>No Meeting Scheduled</b>	Membership- <b>Next Meeting Dec. 7</b>
Dave Garb, President-2017	Peter Namen (Chair)	Stephanie Gibbons (Co-chair): Annual survey
OPEN, V.P.-2017	TBD: (Secretary)	Cindy Hahn: (Co-chair): Outreach
Debbe Gist, Treasurer-2017	Dave Ambrosy: Producer	Linda Besink: (Secretary) Data Management
Dave Ambrosy, Secretary-2017	Nick Besink:	Bob Duthaler: List Serve
Jeff Arban, Corresponding Secretary-2017	Brian Belzer: Editor/Camera	George Bumiller: Outreach
Stephanie Gibbons, Trustee	Anthony Pagliuco: Editor/Camera	TBD: Managing Delinquent Accounts
Bob Duthaler, Trustee		
Linda Besink, Acting Treasurer	Legislation- <b>No Meeting Scheduled</b>	JAG Awards- <b>Next Meeting Dec. 8</b>
Ed Cologna, Trustee	Dave Grab (Chair): NATOA	Bob Duthaler (Chair):
Peter Namen, Production	TBD: (Secretary)	various members: (Secretary)
Geoffrey Belinfante, External Relations	Rich Desimone: NJLOM/NATOA	<b>Lee Beckerman</b>
Finance- <b>No Meeting Scheduled</b>	Ada Erik: NJ Legislation	<b>David Brandfield</b>
Debbe Gist (Chair)		<b>Looking For Members</b>
Linda Besink: (Acting Chair)		
TBD: (Secretary)	Sub Committee Marketing	Conference- <b>Next Meeting Dec. 11</b>
Herbert Hall: Budget Review	<b>NEEDS CHAIR NOW</b>	Stephanie Gibbons: (Co-chair) Registration, Municipal Outreach
Bob Duthaler: Budget Review	TBD: (Secretary)	Cindy Hahn: (Co-chair) Program, Marketing, Newsletter
Allan Rosen: Budget Review	Dave Garb: JAG Web Site	various members: (Secretary)
Stephanie Gibbons: Budget Review	Cindy Hahn: JAG Newsletter, Writer/Editor	Linda Besink: Treasurer, Registration
Outside Contract: Bookkeeper	Bob Duthaler: JAG Web Site	Geoffrey Belinfante: Workshops
<b>Outside Contract: CPA</b>	Peter Namen: Videos	J Robertson: Affinity Lunch & topics
External Relations- <b>Next Meeting Dec. 12</b>	Linda Besink: Interviews	Bob Duthaler: Marketing
Geoffrey Belinfante (Chair)	Rich Desimone: Managing Director JAG Newsletter Editor	Ed Cologna: Trade Show Announcer/Meet & Greet
Stephanie Gibbons (Secretary): Members	Outside Contract: Social Media	Dave Ambrosy: Entertainment, Tec Support
Dave Garb: NJLOM Join Session, JAG Session, Booth Staffing and rooms		Rich Desimone: Managing Director Conference Coordinator
Cindy Hahn: Writer/Editor		Outside Contract: Web Site- Dan Remollino
<b>George Burmiller</b>		Outside Contract: Marketing (TBD)
<b>Vivian Gaspar</b>		
<b>Mariam Rosenberg</b>		Student Symposium Sub-Committee Dave Garb: Chair
Rich Desimone: Managing Director Rep. to NJLOM and NATOA		<b>Looking For Members</b>
Grants/Scholarships <b>No Meeting Scheduled</b>		Workshop Sub-Committee Geoffrey Belinfante- Chair
Ed Cologna Chair		Technology- Bob Duthaler/ Geoffrey Belinfante
TBD: (Secretary)		Production- Dave Ambrosy/ Ind. Producer
		Legislation- Dave G
Outside Contract: Grant Writer		Operations- Ed Cologna
<b>Looking For Members</b>		

## Bits & Bytes

- Dec. 7 — Membership Committee meeting: New contacts from NJLOM and reaching out to past members.
- Dec. 8 — JAG Awards Committee meeting: Determine the categories.
- Dec. 11 — Conference Committee meeting: Selecting workshops.
- Dec. 12 — External Relations Committee meeting:
- Dec. 13 — General Membership meeting: Board of Trustee Election, Budget introduction, Annual reports by the President and all committee chairs.
- Jan. 8 — Conference Committee meeting: Finalize plan to launch new web site.
- Jan. 9 — External Relations Committee meeting:
- Jan. 10 — Executive Board meeting: Discuss status of 2017-18 JAG Action Plan
- Jan. 31 — Trustees meeting: Election of Officers
- Jan. 31 — General Membership meeting: JVC will provide a presentation.
- Feb. 7 — Executive Board meeting:
- Feb. 12 — Conference Committee meeting: Open Registration
- Feb. 28 — General Membership meeting: TelVue will provide a presentation.



## MARK YOUR CALENDER May 30 – June 1 Hyatt Morristown

- New Name
- Expanded Trade Show Space
- 3X Larger Vendor Booths
- Separate Presentation Area
- New Web Site (coming soon)
- Open to all video producers and distributors
- Discounts for JAG Members



CASTUS



HELMER, CONLEY & KASSELMAN, P.A.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW



## COMMITTEES CORNER

May 30-June 1



- MEET & GREET
- TRADE SHOW
- PRESENTATIONS
- STUDENT SYMPOSIUM
- AFFINITY LUNCH
- AWARDS DINNER
- NETWORKING BREAKFAST
- WORKSHOPS
- KEYNOTE LUNCH

PRESENTED BY  
**JAG**  
Jersey Access Group

### **EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE: *Geoffrey Belinfante, Chair***

With the help of members of the external relations committee, JAG had a very successful presence at the New Jersey League of Municipalities Conference. We were able to generate over 50 leads for new members.

In addition, this month, I was very pleased to find that, at the last meeting, several new people agreed to help me in my new position as External Relations Committee chair. George Bumiller of Ramsey has offered to come on board and from the independent producer community, Vivian Gaspar and Miriam Rosenberg have also offered to help. I hope, with their involvement, we can reach out to new members from the independent production community, and I also hope to provide some new and interesting suppliers and topics for our monthly meeting, so stay tuned.. To join the committee, contact Geoffrey Belinfante at [geoffbel512@gmail.com](mailto:geoffbel512@gmail.com).

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE: *Linda Besink, Acting Chair***

The Finance Committee needs people with financial experience and/or expertise. We don't meet as often as other Committees so there isn't a great time commitment, but the conference-call meetings we do have are important. If you're willing and able serve on the Finance Committee, please email me at [lbесink@gmail.com](mailto:lbесink@gmail.com) or call me at 201-650-0116.

### **PRODUCTION COMMITTEE: *Peter Namen, Chair***

We have been getting updates to new programming available now on the TelVue Connect. Princeton TV has been adding Riverwatch on a regular basis, if you haven't checked it out do so. It's very good with news about what is happening in our region with respect to the environment. Also Miss Miriam has released a new show. She has 8 shows up on the connect. So if you haven't checked her show out do so. It's great programming for the younger crowd, something we always need for those morning slots. As always we are constantly looking for more of you to join up with the Production Committee. Contact me at [pnamen@jagonline.org](mailto:pnamen@jagonline.org).

### **AD HOC COMMITTEES**

#### **Legislation Committee: *Dave Garb, Chair***

Members Still Being Sought. The Legislative Committee is looking to our members to join this ever active team. Many issues affecting community television are creeping up on us. The newest matter that needs your eyes and ears is on the possible dismantling of "Net Neutrality". If interested, please contact me at: [davegarb@paps.net](mailto:davegarb@paps.net). or call 732-376-6030 x23538.

#### **Membership Committee: *Stephanie Gibbons & Cindy Hahn, Co-Chairs***

Following the New Jersey League of Municipalities conference the membership committee will be reaching out to those potential members who visited our booth or came to one of our workshop sessions. We thank all the members who worked at the booth greeting attendees; we have over fifty potential member leads. If you have any changes to your contact information please contact Stephanie Gibbons at [stgibbons@verizon.net](mailto:stgibbons@verizon.net)

#### **Conference Committee: *Stephanie Gibbons & Cindy Hahn, Co-Chairs***

The committee met last Monday, the conference is changing its name to: The Eastern Video Expo. Many more changes to be announced next month. The structure of the committee has changed, Rich is the conference coordinator, and Stephanie G & Cindy H are the committee co-chairs. The committee is smaller with a number of sub-committees: Marketing, Workshops, Affinity Topics, Technical Support, Event Management, Decorations, Student Symposium, and Attendee Support. We are in need people to help out on these sub committees. Anyone interested in serving on a sub committees please contact Cindy Hahn at [chahn@cnet1.org](mailto:chahn@cnet1.org) or Stephanie Gibbons at [stgibbons@verizon.net](mailto:stgibbons@verizon.net)

#### **JAG Video Awards Committee: *Bob Duthaler, Chair***

No report provided. If you are interested in being part of the committee please reach out to me at [bduthaler@jagonline.org](mailto:bduthaler@jagonline.org). JAG Awards entry information, categories and Award Show date will be made available in the upcoming months. PLEASE STAY TUNED!!

#### **Grants/Scholarship Committee: *Ed Cologna, Chairs***

No report provided. To join email [ecologna@edisonnj.org](mailto:ecologna@edisonnj.org)

Jersey Access Group, PO Box 772, Woodbridge, New Jersey 07095

732-877-8581 [www.jagonline.org](http://www.jagonline.org) [info@jagonline.org](mailto:info@jagonline.org)

New Jersey Chapter of NATOA and New Jersey League of Municipalities Affiliate

Editor: Rich Desimone, Managing Director, Staff: Cindy Hahn, Stephanie Gibbons, Linda Besink--Marketing Committee