

Trustees 2015-16

- Jeff Arban 2015
- Lee Beckerman-2015
- Bob Duthaler-2016
- Dave Garb-2015
- Stephanie Gibbons-2016
- Debbe Gist-2015
- Victoria Timpanaro 2016

Your Municipal Communication Resource
Connecting Your Town to Your Residents
Going, Going, Gone (Well Not Really)

So where do I begin after 10 years of being the President of a great organization? I simply start by saying THANK YOU! They are two simple words, but they have the power to say so much and mean so much. JAG has meant so much to me as I hope over the years, it has meant a lot to you as well.

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I have loved watching JAG grow over the course of my ten years at the helm. I have never taken it lightly the trust the board and members have given me over those years to steer the organization in various directions and have greatly appreciated the support of both over the years as well. What was once a small group of stations gathering to share equipment and ideas monthly, has grown in to a large group of access stations supporting their communities, providing educational opportunities to both student and volunteers alike who are interested in this industry, a voice and advocate on both the state and national level for PEG Access while still at its core, never forgetting it's a group of stations gathering monthly to share ideas, networking and equipment/crews as needed.

General Meeting Schedule

- Jan. 27- Reorganization Meeting: TBD
Presentation- Castus
- Feb. 24- TBD
Presentation- Telvue
- Mar. 24- Shadowstone
Presentation-by our host
- Apr. 27- TBD
Presentation- HB Communications
- Sept. 28- TBD
Presentation-
- Oct. 26- TBD
Presentation-
- Nov. 30- TBD
Presentation-
- Dec. 7- Annual Meeting
JAG Recognition Dinner
JAM Awards

JAG has never forgotten its core values and will continue to do so no matter who is at the helm of this organization provided we have active members to continue to support this group and our common needs. I urge you, as I will continue to do, stay active in JAG. Make plans to attend our monthly meetings, make the most out of our annual conference by not only attending the trade show, but the valuable workshops and sessions as well. Make JAG a priority in your operation of your access station. Get involved in the various committees, plan to run for a trustee position and work your way on to the executive board.

So let me end where I began by saying thank you. Thank you for your friendship, thank you for your loyalty, thank you for your activism, thank you for your support and thank you for your patience. A BIG THANK YOU to the executive board and committees, plus the generous support of our organization members for always being there for both me and the entire JAG organization and for throwing me a great sendoff party and "trip down memory lane". That night was very special for me and meant a great deal and will be something I will always remember. Thank you again to Jesse Lerman of Telvue for his kind words and pictures, your friendship has meant a lot to me. Thank you to Paul Distefano of Shadowstone for his kind words (and they really were) and his support and friendship as well. It meant a lot to me that you guys were there. Plus, a thank you to Cindy O'Connor for coming back to JAG to present me with a tremendous plaque that I proudly display in my living room. As the title of this article states, I may be going out of the office of presidency, I am not gone from the JAG organization. I look forward to many great things to come, continued friendships, new acquaintances and more good times.

Thank You!
Bob

JAG RECOGNITION DINNER

Rich Desimone

This year JAG recognized Bob Duthaler's 10 years as chair of the Jersey Access Group. Joining us were Cindy O'Conner, JAG's first President who presented Bob with a plaque. Also attending were representatives from a number of JAG's organizational members: Jesse Lerman, Mark Steele, and Paul Andrews, TelVue, Paul Distefano, Shadowstone, Varto Kashishian, Varto Technologies, Brian Murphy, HB Communications, and Ken Freed, JVC.



Dave Garb, JAG Vice President, hosted the event and provided insight into JAG's development. Dave kept the event moving. He invited a number of speakers to provide comments about their relationship with Bob.

Rich Desimone, Chair of External Relations, put together a slide presentation of pictures of Bob at work and at play over the past 10 years. Bruce Springsteen's Badlands provided the musical accompaniment.



Jesse Lerman, CEO TelVue, spoke about his history with Bob. On the lighter side TelVue had launched a campaign back in 2006 that depicted the problems of the station manager through the eyes of Poor Steve. He surprised everyone when he left the room briefly and returned with the full size cut out of Bob as Poor Steve.

Paul Distefano, VP Business Development, Shadowstone, captured everyone's attention when he promised all that he was not going to look for laughs but would speak of Bob's value to JAG and his relationship with many vendors. His kind words reinforced Bob's impact on everyone he met. In closing he did finally make good on a door prize that Bob had won many years ago but never received.



Debbe Gist, JAG treasurer, read a note that Steve Traylor, Executive of NATOA sent which captured another side of Bob. Steve wrote: *One of the best things about JAG becoming a NATOA Chapter – a NATOA Chapter of the Year, by the way - was the opportunity to meet and get to know Bob Duthaler. For the past several years, I would spend a few days at JAG's annual conference, watching Bob with envy, wondering "Why does he always look so happy?" The guy always had a smile on his face. That is definitely something no one would ever accuse me of. Just ask Rick and Stephanie – they know. But then this past year, I finally found out Bob's secret – drink heavily – and often.*

Seriously, Bob's secret was pretty simple – he loved what he was doing. And it showed. As JAG's president, Bob was in his element. He was surrounded by his fellow compatriots – dedicated public servants who strived every day to bring a little of their community into the homes of their neighbors. But his happiness didn't come just from his work or as president of JAG.

This past November, Bob and I were in Atlantic City for the New Jersey State League of Municipalities meeting. We were driving back from dinner when Bob got a call. It was from his daughter. And she asked her dad if he was traveling again. He said yes. And she asked him to bring her something home. And when he asked what she wanted, she replied "Anything but a flash drive." We all laughed because Bob was obviously going to too many conferences and picking up way too much swag. But it was also obvious he dearly loved his family – and that, I learned, was truly the source of that smile on his face.

Bob will surely be missed as president of the Jersey Access Group. But hopefully he'll have more time to spend with that family he loves - and maybe stop bringing home so many flash drives. It is my pleasure to congratulate Bob for a job well done – and it is an honor to call him my friend.



JAG first president, Cindy O'Conner provided comments that were both informative and emotional. She then called Bob up and presented him with a plaque which read: *Bob Duthaler, President of the Jersey Access Group, 2006-2015: with our deep appreciation. Your visionary guidance has provided leadership for JAG's transition from a municipal television consortium to New Jersey's premier professional advisory organization for content delivery on multi-communication platforms. Your unwavering leadership has resulted in JAG being recognized as The New Jersey Chapter of the National Association of Telecommunication Officers and Advisors and an Affiliate of the New Jersey League of Municipalities.*

Stephanie Gibbons and Victoria Timpanaro, Executive Board Members made a special presentation of the Duke's cape and crown that Bob wore at the JAG awards in 2013.

The event was well orchestrated and painted a picture of Bob's ten years of work as President. Clearly JAG is now a major organization in New Jersey in no small part to the drive and determination of Bob Duthaler.



JAM AWARDS 2015

Congratulations to All



The following list represents videos that were chosen for their video excellence. One was chosen in each category as the outstanding video of 2015. In some cases there was only one video that was recognized in a specific category for video excellence and was therefore received the *Outstanding Video* award.

✚ Arts, Entertainment, or Music and Performance

Outstanding Video

Papermill Playhouse: Meet the Cast (Hometowne TV)

Video Excellence

- City of Poets (Essex County College)
- Divorce Diary (Mendham TV)
- Military Tattoo Fundraiser (WMTV77)
- Performing Arts Showcase (Essex County College)

✚ Diversity Programming

Outstanding Video:

Old Ways in NJ, St. Peter & Paul Russian Orthodox (EBTV)

Video Excellence

- MLK Day Ceremony (WBMA-TV)
- Paint the Town Scarlet – Cultural Heritage Day (RUTV)

✚ Documentary Profile or Event

Outstanding Video

STEM & Coding & Robots! Oh My! (ESN-TV)

Video Excellence

- Ice Rescue (Mendham TV)
- Shakespeare NJ (Hometowne TV)

✚ Instructional & Training

Outstanding Video

Lucy's Big Beautiful World of Painting (EBTV)

Video Excellence

- Cook for the Health of It (Princeton Community TV)

✚ Issues & Political Process

Outstanding Video

Metuchen Election Night 2014 (Metuchen TV)

Video Excellence

- Bloomfield Municipal Budget Forum (WBMA-TV)
- Peggy Fitzpatrick Health Advisory (WMTV77)

✚ Live Event

Outstanding Video

20th Annual Papermill Playhouse Rising Stars Awards (Hometowne TV)

Video Excellence

- Metuchen Winter Festival (Metuchen TV)

✚ Local Events

Outstanding Video

Metuchen Halloween Parade (Metuchen TV)

Video Excellence

- Paint the Town Scarlet – Cook Community Day (RUTV)

- Veteran's Day Ceremony (WBMA-TV)

✚ News & Magazine Format

Outstanding Video

Elementary Fitness (ESN-TV)

Video Excellence

- This Week in East Brunswick (EBTV)

✚ Program Opening

Outstanding Video

Wake Up Rutgers Opening (RUTV)

✚ Promo/PSA

Outstanding Video

Essex TV Promo (Essex County College)

Video Excellence

- Senior Olympics Promo (WMTV77)

✚ Sports Programming

Outstanding Video

Essex Soccer 2014-2015 (Essex County College)

✚ Sports Programming; Games

Outstanding Video

Paul Finn Memorial Wrestling Tournament (Hometowne TV)

Video Excellence

- Mendham Little League (Mendham TV)
- Volleyball: Bloomfield vs Livingston (WBMA-TV)

✚ Talk Show: Entertainment

Outstanding Video

Eye on Piscataway (Piscataway Community TV)

✚ Talk Show: Informational

Outstanding Video

Wellness Spotlight (EBTV)

Video Excellence

- Talking with Tim Roetman (WMTV77)
- The Pulse (Essex County College)

✚ College Student: Talk Show

Outstanding Video

Keeping Up With Cool (Lenore Luca)



Why Does Tech Support Always Ask Me To Reboot My Computer?

by Steve McGrath, HB Communications

We are going to look into a problem that everyone reading this has had....you call tech support and they ask you to reboot. Application crashing you laptop? Try rebooting. Cell phone not working right? Try rebooting. Cable TV and modem not working? Try rebooting. It seems that you take that time to call tech support and the first thing they always ask is "Did you try rebooting?" At first this may seem like a blow-off answer or in some cases, the tech support agent is just buying time to find out what the *real* fix to your problem is. But the reality is, rebooting is actually really useful and the default first action of troubleshooting any computer problem. This month in Tech Edge, we are going to give you the real answer to the age old question, "Why does tech support always ask me to reboot my computer?"

When you power any computing device on and off, it may seem like there is nothing really going on, but there is so much going on behind those scenes that most people aren't aware of. When you install an application (or App) on any computer or smart device, that application will take up resources that your computer is using such as the ram or the processors. It will also have background actions, also known as services that are supposed to start up automatically with it.

Services are parts of applications that run independent if you actually launch the application.

For example, if you install Spotify to listen to music, Spotify will start up every time you start up your computer. If you install something simple like QuickTime, it will look for software updates every time you start up your computer. Most of your software will automatically look for updates from your top tiered media creation software down to your web browsers. You multiply this by all the applications on your computer or smart device; you can see how this adds up very quickly.

The problem is that these services take up computer resources such as memory or processing power. Under normal circumstances, your computer can easily handle it. But there are circumstances where the companies that write applications sometimes make mistakes (famously known as "bugs"). The most common bug is a memory leak. This is where an application will request memory from your computer and then forget it received it. It will then request memory again, and your computer is very reasonable, so it will give it. And this happens over and over again until your computer dehydrates itself of its own memory causing it to lock up. A very noble action, but not very practical.

When you reboot your computer, every application and service also gets restarted and your memory is restored. There is no way to avoid memory leaks. There is no amount of preparation that you can offer your computer or smart device. The problem lies entirely in the companies that are writing your application. The best applications and the worst applications all have memory leaks. Memory leaks have always existed. These problems are usually fixed (or sometimes just alleviated) in software updates.

We know that there is no way to *prevent* memory leaks, but there are ways to prove that there is a memory leak to see what the culprit is for your computing problems. For Mac users, you can monitor memory usage by going to Applications/Utilities/Activity Monitor. This application is the virtual security camera of your Mac. It will give you a great read on everything going on behind the scenes. It's amazing to see what is going on behind the scenes as your computer sits idly with a blank desktop. You can filter and sort applications by how much resources they are using. So it gives you an instant read on what is hogging resources on your computer. Windows users can access the same information by launching Resource Monitor. Both applications are installed by default in your operating system.

Memory leaks aren't the only reason why rebooting helps. Sometimes networking settings get corrupted, sometimes applications crash and in doing so maintain ownership of vital operating system folders, it can be any number of things.

So when you call tech support and they ask you to reboot, cooperate with them. They have no idea how many applications you have installed on your computing device. If you give them a clean slate to work with, they can better diagnose what your problem is. When my customers will sometimes question why we reboot, I will always say "You wouldn't eat a bunch of Oreos before going to the dentist to find a cavity. I need that same clean slate that you would give your dentist."

Bits & Bytes

- Jan. 13 — Board of Trustees Meeting– Election of officers for 2016
Executive Board Meeting- Set the meeting schedule and agenda for 2016
- Jan. 27 — Reorganization meeting – Presentation of the 2016 Board officers. Discussion and vote on the 2016 budget. Presentation by Castus, www.castus.tv Castus provides flexible software scheduling systems and video playout servers.

Thank you to everyone that made it out to this year's JAG Recognition Dinner & 5th Annual JAM Awards Ceremony! We packed the room with our talented members, vendors, family and friends. Once our formal meeting was completed, the night got going with a heartfelt and fun tribute to our fearless leader, Bob Duthaler, in honor of his tenth and final year as President of JAG. After that we shared in the opportunity to celebrate the talent and hard work of our members as we watched clips of the nominated videos. As the awards and certificates were handed out, you could see the proud faces as their work was honored by their peers. It was a great night and a wonderful tradition to help us remember that all of us are doing our best at our stations. Victoria Timpanaro, JAM Awards Chair



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COMMITTEES CORNER

JAG Annual Conference



May 25-27, 2016
Hyatt Morristown, NJ

Save the Date

NJ League of Municipalities



Nov. 15-17, 2016
Atlantic City, NJ

Save the Date

JAG Recognition & Annual JAM Video Awards Dinner



Dec. 7, 2016

6-10pm

Spain Inn

Piscataway, NJ

EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE: *Rich Desimone, Chair*

JAG organizational members are continuing to sign up for presentations and submitting articles for his newsletter. To join the committee, contact Rich Desimone at rjdesimone@verizon.net.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: *Debbe Gist, Chair*

The 2016 budget has been presented to the Executive board and introduced to the membership.

If you are interested in joining the Finance Committee please contact Debbe Gist:

dgist@piscatawaynj.org, or call 732-562-2305.

PRODUCTION COMMITTEE: *Peter Namen, Chair*

Access New Jersey has been discontinued. Join the committee, contact me at

pnamen@piscatawaynj.org.

AD HOC COMMITTEES

Legislation Committee: *Dave Garb, Chair*

I am eagerly seeking members to join the Legislative Committee. Our eyes and ears are needed to protect the interest of our PEG communities. If you are interested in being a watchdog, please contact David Garb at davegarb@paps.net.

Membership Committee: *Stephanie Gibbons, Chair*

JAG membership will end 2015 with 59 paid municipal/educational members and 8 organizational members for a total of 67 members.

The survey the committee sent out received 37 responses, which is incredible! I want to thank everyone who participated: Asbury Park, Bloomfield, Brookdale Com. College, Chatham, C-Net, East Brunswick, Edison Twp., Edison Public Schools, Essex Cnty College, Franklin Twp., Galloway, Hometown TV, Jersey City Schools, JVC, Long Branch, Long Hill, Manalapan, Manasquan, Metuchen Montclair, North Brunswick, Oradell, Park Ridge, Perth Amboy, Piscataway, Ramsey, Rutgers, Shadowstone, Somerville, South Orange, South River, Telvue, Tightrope, Ventnor City, Verona Twp., West Milford and Woodbridge. A report on the results will come out soon.

We have 25 potential member leads from the NJ League of Municipalities that I will follow up with after the holidays. I also want to thank Bob Duthaler and Debbe Gist for their help with updates to the contact list and member list serve. The membership committee is looking for help in reaching out to current members and potential members. An idea for your 2016 New Year's resolution, get more involved with JAG and join a committee!

Conference Committee: *Rich Desimone, Chair*

The conference has launched its marketing campaign with the distribution of the first monthly newsletter. The committee meets monthly now through May 2016. If you are interested contact Rich Desimone at rjdesimone@verizon.net

JAM Awards Committee: *Victoria Timpanaro & Jeff Arban, Co-Chairs*

This year's JAM Awards combined with recognition of Bob Duthaler's 10 years of service was a great event. The committee will have a final meeting to wrap up its work and then adjourn until next year.

Marketing Committee: *Victoria Timpanaro, Chair*

The concept of having an annual recognition dinner that would include the JAM awards and JAG's annual business meeting was well received. We will continue to look at ways to make this a great annual event. Things are moving right along with our Facebook and Twitter presence, but the committee is looking for members that can really help us get the word out about JAG! If you would like to help with social media, graphics or designs please get in touch with me at vtimpana@essex.edu.

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

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