# Your Municipal Communications Resource

Connecting Your Town to Your Residents



# Newsletter

**VOLUME 8, ISSUE 11** 

#### **Trustees 2021**

**Bob Duthaler Pres.- 2023** Dave Garb VP - 2021 **Dave Ambrosy Recording Sec.- 2021** Linda Besink Treasurer- 2023 **Stephanie Gibbons Corresponding Sec. – 2022 Anthony Pagliuco - 2022** Darryl Love- 2021 **George Fairfield-2022** Open Seat- 2021

## **Inside This Issue**

**Meeting Agenda** pg3 **Vendor Presentation: Municipal** Captioning pg4 **Spotlight: Fanwood TV** pg5 **Social Media Update** pg6 Volunteers pg7 **Bits & Bites** pg8 **Committees Corner: Standing** pg9 Committees Corner: Ad Hoc

# **General Meeting** Schedule 2021

Dec. 1- Virtual **Presentation- Municipal Captioning** Jan. 26, 2022- Virtual REORGANIZATION Presentation-JVC Feb. 23- Virtual Presentation-TelVue Mar. 31- Virtual **Presentation-Cablecast** Apr. 28- Virtual **Presentation-RUSHWORKS** May 27- Virtual No Presentation Jun. 24- Virtual **No Presentation** Sept. 28-TBD **Presentation -Varto Technologies** Oct. 27- Virtual **Presentation- DeSisti** 

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# **President's Message Bob Duthaler**

# Faces for Board of Trustees: Thank You To The Past and **Hello To The New**



To quote a Billy Joel song (with some slight "JAGish" changes) "So many faces in and out of our lives, some will last, some will just be now and then..." so goes some of the people on our board. Happily, these "faces" that are leaving our board currently have played an important role in the growth and development of the organization and more importantly they lasted! I would like to take the opportunity to thank them for their time and efforts for their years of service. Additionally, I would ask that you reach out to them personally and thank them for their service. Although they may be stepping away from the board, I know that they will continue to be a part of JAG and help in any way possible. Join me in thanking: Dave Ambrosy (EBTV), Jeff Arban (RUTV) and Darryl Love (Scotch Plains). I would also like to point out that current JAG VP, Dave Garb has committed to running for another term.

I am happy to report out to the membership that a couple of our members have stepped up and decided to throw their hat in to the ring to run as Board of Trustee Members for JAG. If I was a butcher, I would tell you that the board has "Fresh Meat"! But since I am not, I will just say that we are lucky to have new people stepping up, sharing their experiences, and helping to continue to make JAG a great organization. I have included their brief bios below for your review. The vote for Board of Trustees is at our next general membership meeting, Wednesday, December 1st. Even though those running will be unopposed due to the number of seats open, it should be noted that they have stepped up and are willing to put in the work necessary. Here is a list of the board candidates:

**Bob Nicholson** is the station manager and coordinator at WM77 in West Milford. He also serves as co-chair on the Passaic County Film Commission and President of Access 23 TV in Port Jervis, NY. His background is in music, publishing, and production for the past 50 years as both performer and engineer. Video has been an active interest since the late 80's when the home video explosion ignited the consumer market. A person of many job functions over the years, Bob has acquired vast experience and knowledge of the music, video, retail trades and the legal aspects. Always eager to expand his knowledge, Bob desires to learn something new every day.

**Doug Seidel** is an Emmy nominated producer and award-winning filmmaker. Doug has won best marketing twice at the Project Twenty1 film festival for his use of social media to promote his films. Along with his position at Piscataway Community TV, Doug runs the social media accounts for Jersey Access Group and Eastern Video Expo. Doug was also the technical producer for the Eastern Video Expo and JAG Awards by running the entire Zoom experience for the conference.

Rick Gearhart is currently the Station Manager for TV34, Montclair. He graduated with a degree in Creative Arts & Technology from Bloomfield College in 2010. He is 34 years old and started his television career when he was 21 - in 2009, working for WBMA-TV in Bloomfield, filming, and editing local events & meetings. It was here that he learned the importance of not only keeping residents informed of the events in town, but also the importance of preserving township history through video, by covering ceremonies, honor events, etc. Community Television has been the bulk of his television career, having worked for several different towns as a camera operator and editor, including Scotch Plains and Princeton, before being hired as the Station Manager for Montclair TV34. He has been at this position since December 2016.

Please be reminded that three of the Trustee positions are for a three-year term and one is for a one-year term. The person with the lowest vote total will be given the one-year term. When voting, you are allowed to vote for up to four board members, although you can vote for less. Please be on the lookout for the absentee ballot for those who cannot make the meeting or the live meeting dates for those who will vote in person. Please take the time to vote and show your support for those who have taken their time to be a part of this board.



JAG Sessions at The New Jersey League of Municipalities 2021

November 17 @ 1:30pm, Room 404

# Broadband Deployment in the National Infrastructure Bill. A JAG Joint Session with the NJ League.

Mayors and Administrators are always looking for funds to help stretch their limited budgets. Although NJ sits between two communications hubs -- NYC & Philly -- there are many areas in the state, both rural (northeastern forests and southern farmland) and urban who lack access to broadband which hurts business and communities. This panel will explore the challenges facing municipalities that are trying to improve broadband access, and what funding might be available to facilitate those improvements. Panelists: Ken Fellman, Esq., Of Counsel, Helmer, Conley, and Kasselman, P.A.; Robert Boyle, CEO, Planet Networks; Chris Michell, Director, Community Broadband Networks Initiative; Presiding: Mayor Brian Wahler

November 18 @ 10:45am Room 409

## Post Pandemic Tools That Can Help You Reach Your Citizens

Discussion on ways you can continue to reach your community after the lockdown and social distancing. Now that you have given the public access to their local government meetings and other events in their homes, can you go back to business as usual? Reaching your municipal community through a traditional cable channel is not the only game in town. We'll look at new ways to engage your residents with over the top (OTT) devices and applications like Roku, AppleTV and web-based and mobile devices. Panelists: Bob Duthaler, President, Jersey Access Group; Geoffrey Belinfante, TV Commissioner, West Milford; and George Fairfield, Station Manager, Piscataway.

The sessions will be recorded and posted to the Members Only section of the JAG web site.



P.O. Box 164, Metuchen, New Jersey 08840
Web Site: www.jagonline.org \* E-mail: JAGinfo@jagonline.org
NJ Chapter of NATOA & Affiliate of the NJ League of Municipalities

# **GENERAL REORGANIZATION MEETING AGENDA – 12:12pm Start Time**

Wednesday, December 1st, 2021

Join the online meeting: To be sent to members

12:12-12:20p.m. \*Welcome\*

- ➤ Call to Order & Additions to Agenda [Chair or vice chair if chair not available].
- Approve minutes of September 2021 meeting [JAG Secretary or as designated by the president].
- ➤ Member Introductions [Roll-Call by Chair]
- ➤ Welcome new members [Membership Chair]
- 12:20p.m.- 12:50p.m. \*Discussion\*- Wish Lists: Budgets, Purchasing, and Technology
  - > Future Topic Ideas
- 12:50-1:40pm \*Presentation\*- Closed Captioning: Lots of Options
  - > Daniell Krawczyk, Owner, Municipal Captioning
- 1:40pm-1:50pm \*Committee Reports\* Attached
  - ➤ Committee Reports
  - Standing Committee Reports
    - Executive [Bob Duthaler Chair, Dave Garb Vice Chair]
      - Report Highlights and Questions
    - Finance [Linda Besink Chair, Jeff Arban Vice Chair]
      - Report Highlights and Questions
    - Production [Lee Beckerman Chair, Anthony Pagliuco, Vice Chair]
      - Report Highlights and Questions
    - External Relations [Geoffrey Belinfante Chair, Dustin Dumas Vice Chair]
      - Report Highlights and Questions

- Ad Hoc Committee Reports
  - Membership [Stephanie Gibbons Chair, George Fairfield Vice Chair]
    - Report Highlights and Questions
  - Legislative [Dave Garb Chair, Linda Besink Vice Chair]
    - Report Highlights and Questions
  - JAG Awards [George Fairfield Chair Ronni Garrett Vice Chair]
    - Report Highlights and Questions
  - Leadership Development [Dave Garb Chair, Doug Seidel Vice Chair]
    - Report Highlights and Questions
  - Conference [Bob Duthaler & Geoffrey Belinfante Co-Chairs, George Fairfield Vice Chair,]
    - Report Highlights and Questions

1:40pm-1:50pm \*Continuing Business\*

Vote for JAG Board Trustees

1:50p.m.-2:10p.m. \*New Business\*

- Discussion & Assistance: Who needs help?
- Other New Business
- 2:10p.m. \*Announcements/next meeting.... Adjournment\*

Register for the JAG website by sending an email to bduthaler@jagonline.org

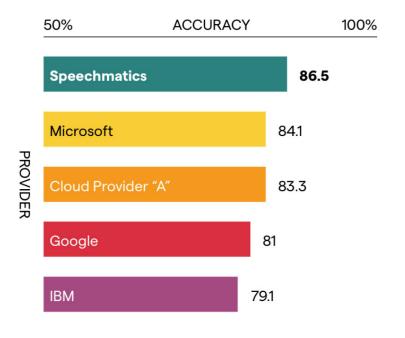
Look For Webinars and Ongoing Virtual Social Hang/Happy Hour Sessions throughout the year.

The next meeting is Wednesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>.

Details can be found in upcoming JAG Newsletter.

Buy a new car in 2022 and the engine is going to be reliable enough no matter what you buy, but in the early days of automobiles the reliability and quality of the prebuilt engines which "coach manufacturers" built their autos upon varied greatly, and you needed to be aware of which vehicles had a top-tier engine and which had a bottom-tier engine.



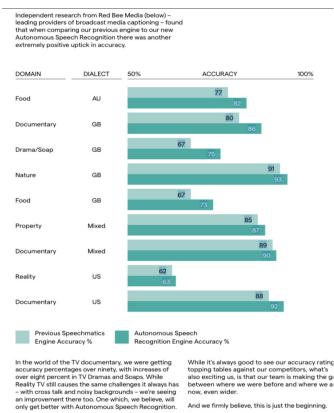




Southern African (South Africa, Zimbabwe, Namibia African Irish English, Scottish English, Welsh English Celtic British English North America United States English, Canadian English Oceanic Australian English, New Zealand English South Asian India and South Asia (India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka) Southeast Asian Filipino, Hong Kong English, Malaysian English, Singaporean English West Indies West Indies and Bermuda (Bahamas, Bermuda, Jamaica, Trinidad)

Similarly, today server manufacturers are adding captioning inside their products and to lower their own costs they tend to build on the lowest-tier engines (IBM Watson, AWS, Microsoft), but the accuracy results from systems built using the more expensive mid-tier (VoiceInteraction) and top-tier engines (Speechmatics) are substantially better. Especially when it comes to a mix of regional and global accents, audio with crosstalk and background noise, and non-perfectly mic'd speakers.

Learn how to compare 3rd party and playback server captioning options, so you know ahead of time what you are sacrificing for quality if you select a system built on a bottom-tier engine over a product built on a mid or top-tier engine. Municipal Captioning sells products with ALL levels of captioning quality -- from the low-budget solutions which trade quality for cost to the highest-quality solutions -- and can give you quotes for all options so you can make an informed decision for your community.



And we firmly believe, this is just the beginning

# Dealing with the Pandemic By Eddy Cologna, Fanwood Television

I have been working with the Borough of Fanwood for several years. Towards the end of 2019 when China was in lockdown and we in America weren't even dreaming of such a thing, the Borough was upgrading their sound system in the Council Chambers and looking into a multiple camera remote system. The purchase has been moving slowly due to the pandemic.



Fast forward a few months to February 2020, the Mayor of Fanwood, Colleen Mahr, and some health officials had a 4 camera shoot about the dangers of Covid, and what could happen. All this was shot in person, with some social distancing but no masks because the information was confusing, even for health officials. Not long after that, the lockdown occurs. Masks were required, social distancing enforced and only essential personnel were allowed to physically come to work in borough hall.

Fanwood regularly programed the TV station and was constantly updating the community bulletin board with updated information such as how many residents had Covid, how many fatalities, proper hand washing procedures, and other safety protocols to follow at home. They needed to physically go to the TV Station to post and schedule content. I shot the video coverage of the Mayor's periodic updates. I did all my work in the field and in person and during that time I didn't get Covid. I recorded the Mayor by herself in the Council Chambers utilizing masks and social distancing. It was new to us and we were all extra cautious when it came to the use of sanitizers, wiping down of equipment, hand washing, etc.

The Borough of Fanwood hired a consulting firm who set up and ran their virtual council meetings allowing the public to participate remotely. I would take the feed of the virtual meetings and simulcast it to Facebook Live, using a Live-U unit I purchased from Varto Technologies, and a cellular hotspot together with wired ethernet connection for backup, just in case there was a problem with the wireless connection. Months later, to reduce costs, the clerk's office took on the duty of managing the meetings but to this day, I still take the zoom feed on my end and simulcast it.





A quick note, now the administrator initiates the zoom meeting and I rebroadcast it to Facebook. However, if there is a problem with Facebook in any way, it could disrupt the flow of the meeting. So we keep the computer originating the Zoom separate from the computer feeding Facebook Live. In this way, if there is a technical issue with the feed during the meeting there is another person with a second computer who can troubleshoot any potential problem that might occur without disrupting the meeting. This is a much safer way to manage the Facebook live feed. Since Facebook has proven to be unreliable, the Borough has announced that the Facebook simulcast is only offered as a courtesy, but participation by the public

must take place via zoom. However people continue to post questions to Facebook and they are read to the Borough Council.

While there are multiple solutions to having a virtual meeting like GoTo Meeting, Google and Microsoft Teams, we have chosen to use the combination of Zoom and Facebook Live. It has proven to be cost effective and overall, pretty reliable. Prior to the pandemic, work sessions were not broadcast on TV nor Facebook. Now all Council meeting are covered and broadcast. This is one positive effect of the pandemic.

As of this writing in November 2021, Fanwood still doesn't have in person meetings, but are now looking into resuming them in January 2022 using a hybrid solution that will combine virtual and in-person participation.

In conclusion, the PEG stations became an invaluable asset during the pandemic, providing important hyper localized content during uncertain times. It's a good reminder that, although the number of cable subscriptions is decreasing and over the air broadcast stations are losing viewers to steaming services, it is still essential that municipalities use their cable channels and social media to reach their citizens, particularly seniors who still used to traditional viewing methods to get information on matters of local interest.

The knowledge most PEG operators have in using audio visual equipment only can enhance the quality of these virtual meetings. I suggest PEG personnel work more closely with their OIT colleagues to find solutions to improve hybrid meetings because together, they can better serve their constituents.!

If you didn't hear the big announcement, the Eastern Video Expo will be back in May of next year! And even bigger news, our trade show will be in person! This means there will be announcements from now until May with new vendors joining the expo. Do you know the best place to find out who will be there in person with new products to show off? That's right, on our social media! Be sure to follow the links below to find out who will be there and all other important information on the upcoming expo.

Also after the success of our virtual conference, our workshops will all be virtual this next conference. Now is the time to chime in and let us know if there is something you want to see next year. All that attended last year's conference can still watch the recorded sessions on www.easternvideoexpo.com but these videos will go away to make room for the 2022 expo, so be sure to login and watch before they are gone.

Reach	(i)
1,597-	

Audience	(i)
461-	



#### **JERSEY ACCESS GROUP**

facebook.com/pegtv linkedin.com/company/jersey-access-group instagram.com/jersey access group

## **EASTERN VIDEO EXPO**

facebook.com/Easternvideoexpo instagram.com/easternvideox/

Do not forget to check out our YouTube channel Have something you want on our YouTube channel? Send a link to dseidel@piscatawaynj.org for review.

New Content: Light Up Montclair Diwali Celebration- Montclair 34 Aging Insights 121 – NJAAW

**NEW CONTENT ON WEBSITE**- We have now posted 24 programs from the Eastern Video Expo events to the members only section of our website. *To view the video content links below, you need a members only password.* 

Email <u>lbesink@gmail.com</u> for the password.

JAG has recorded our two sessions at the NJ League of Municipalities and be adding them to the Members Only session of our website next month.

Broadband Deployment in the National Infrastructure Bill. A JAG Joint Session with the NJ League.

And

Post Pandemic Tools That Can Help You Reach Your Citizens

Share the value of Jag's newsletter with your elected officials, cable committee, station volunteers, associates, and friends. Send this invitation:

https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/B7EMU1R/JAGnewsletter



All committees presented their Year End Reports at the JAG Executive Board Retreat. Committees had a very successful year and have set their Action Plan for 2021-2022, and they will need help. The chairs will be reaching out to members to join their committees.



Executive 2021 (as of 10.13.21)	Production 2021 (as of 3.8.21)	External Relations 2021 (as of 2.5.21)
Meeting second Wednesday 12:00PM		Meeting first Thursday 12:30pm
	Meeting first Monday 11AM Lee Beckerman (Chair) 2021-2023	
Bob Duthaler, President 2021-2024	·	Geoffrey Belinfante (Chair) 2021-2023
Dave Garb, Vice-President-2019-2021	Anthony Pagliuco (Vice Chair) 2020-2022	Dustin Dumas (Vice Chair) 2020-2022
Linda Besink, Treasurer-2021-2024	Dave Ambrosy: (Secretary) 2021-2023	Stephanie Gibbons (Co-Secretary) 2021-2023
Dave Ambrosy, Secretary-2019-2021 Leaving the board	Nick Besink	Dustin Dumas (Co-Secretary) 2021-2023
Stephanie Gibbons, Corresponding Sec 2021-2023	Dave Garb	Doug Seidel-Social Media
Anthony Pagliuco, Trustee 2021-2023	Robert Horvath	Bob Duthaler: NJLOM Join Session, JAG Session, Booth Staffing and rooms, Web Site
Darryl Love, Trustee 2019-2021 Leaving the board	Geoffrey Belinfante: Access NJ	Rich Desimone: JAG Newsletter Editor
George Fairfield, Trustee 2021-2023	Doug Seidel: YouTube Channel	Dave Garb
OPEN, Trustee 2019-2021 Left the board	Bob Duthaler	George Bumiller
Lee Beckerman, Production Chair 2021-2023		Robert Horvath—Web design and Social Media
Geoffrey Belinfante, External Relations Chair 2021-2023		
Rich Desimone: Managing Director Action Plan/Policies & Procedures/Bylaws		
Finance 2020 (see \$40.42.24)	Larialation 2021 (sa af 2 F 24)	Conference 2021 (as of 10.18.21)
Finance 2020 (as of 10.13.21)	Legislation 2021 (as of 2.5.21)	, ,
Meeting second Tuesday 11AM	Meeting first Tuesday 11AM	Meeting second Monday 2PM
Linda Besink: (Chair) APPOINTED	Dave Garb (Chair) 2020-2022	Bob Duthaler (Co-chair) 2021-2022
OPEN (Vice Chair) 2020-2022	Linda Besink (Vice Chair) 2020-2022	Geoffrey Belinfante (Co-chair) 2021-2022
Geoffrey Belinfante (Secretary) 2021-2023	Linda Besink (Secretary) 2020-2022	George Fairfield (Vice Chair) 2021-2022
Bob Duthaler: President	Bob Duthaler: NJLM	Doug Seidel (Secretary) 2021-2022
Dave Garb: Vice President	Ada Erik: NJ Legislation	Linda Besink: (Treasurer) APPOINTED
Lee Beckerman, Production Chair	Nick Besink	Rick Gearhart
		Anthony Pagliuco
		J Robertson
		Rich Desimone: Managing Director
Leadership Development 2020 (as of 10.12.20)	Membership 2021 (as of 1.7.21)	JAG Awards (as of 2.12.21)
Meeting second Monday 11AM	Meeting first Tuesday 1PM	Meeting third Monday 11am
Dave Garb (Chair) Legislative Rep APPOINTED	Stephanie Gibbons (Chair) ELECTED 2021-2023	George Fairfield (Chair) 2020-2022
Doug Seidel: (Vice Chair) 2020-2022 Linda Besink: Finance Rep (Secretary) 2020-2022	Darryl Love (Vice Chairs) 2020-2022	Ronni Garrett (Vice Chair) 2022
Linua besilik. Filiance kep (Secretary) 2020-2022	Linda Besink: (Secretary) Data Management ELECTED 2021-2023	Valerie Stevens: (Secretary) 2020-2022
Stephanie Gibbons: Membership Rep	Bob Duthaler: List Serve	Dave Garb
Anthony Pagliuco: Production Rep	Dave Garb	
Dustin Dumas: External Relations Rep	George Fairfield	
George Fairfield: JAG Awards Rep	Geoffrey Belinfante	
Geoffrey Belinfante: Conference Rep	George Bumiller	

- Wednesday, December 1, 12:12pm General Meeting via virtual video service Topic for Discussion: Wish Lists: Budgets, Purchasing and Technology
  - Presentation: Daniell Krawczyk, Owner, Municipal Captioning
  - Election of Four Trustees
- Thursday, December 2, 12:30pm External Relations Committee Meeting via virtual video service
  - Membership Library: Collecting and management of member documents
  - Vendor Presentation: Scheduling January—April 2022.
  - Organizational Members: Searching for new vendor to join
  - Website Management: Making monthly updates
  - Newsletter Development & Management: Scheduling articles.
  - Social Media Management: Drive JAG YouTube Channel subscribers and content submissions.
- Monday, December 6, 11am Production Committee Meeting via conference call
  - League booth video: Gather content from members
  - JAG You Tube Channel Management: Reviewing submissions requests.
- Tuesday, December 7, 11am Finance Committee Meeting via conference call
  - Managing Member List: Updating contact information
  - Financial Reports: Updates Accounts Payable/Receivables
  - Planning 2022 billing
- Tuesday, December 7, 1pm Membership Committee Meeting via virtual video service
  - Delinquent Membership follow-up
  - Member Outreach Survey: Evaluating results
  - Managing Membership Benefits
- Wednesday, December 8, 12noon Executive Committee Meeting via virtual video service
  - Committee Action Plan review
  - Webinars/Social Hangs: Develop events and topics
  - JAG You Tube Channel Management: Reviewing submissions requests.
- Monday, December 13, 11am Leadership Development Meeting via virtual video service
  - Marketing Plan: Developing strategy for increasing awareness and membership
  - Tool Box Development: Establish list of all related material from P&P and recommend update to Ex. Board
  - Membership Development: To be part of marketing plan.
  - Committee Assistance: Supporting interaction of committees.
- Monday, December 13, 2pm Conference Committee Meeting via virtual video service
  - Structure: May 24-26, 2022 Hybrid: Trade Show Live, Workshops/User Groups Virtual
  - Trade Show location/Budget/Workshop ideas
- Tuesday, December 14, 11am Legislative Committee Meeting via conference call
  - Relationships with state and national legislators: Develop in-district schedule
  - Pandemic: Develop cover letter and push collection of content from members
- Thursday, December 20, 11am JAG Awards Committee Meeting via virtual video service
  - Planning for 2022: To launch Jan. 1, 2022.



# **Organizational Members**

















# **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** Bob Duthaler (Chair) Dave Garb (Vice Chair))

The board is taking a more proactive role in some key areas that JAG will be focusing on over the next year. This will include increasing JAG's relationships with state and national legislators, marketing strategy, membership, and value to our members. The work necessary will be the responsibility of all of JAG's committees and will need to be coordinated through the Leadership Development Committee. This is a large undertaking and is only possible because the committees have shown the ability to take on components of these projects. There is also a need for committees to work internally to increase membership involvement and cultivate leadership.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE: Linda Besink (Chair), OPEN (Vice Chair)

The Finance Committee has begun the 2022 budget process. We look forward to member renewals next year. Invoices for 2022 dues will be sent out shortly as well. The Finance Committee can always use another pair of eyes – no accounting background is required. If you'd like to serve on the Finance Committee, please email Treasurer Linda Besink at <a href="mailto:lbesink@gmail.com">lbesink@gmail.com</a>.

PRODUCTION COMMITTEE: Lee Beckerman (Chair), Anthony Pagliuco (Vice Chair) (No report provided)

# **EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE:** Geoffrey Belinfante (Chair), Dustin Dumas (Vice Chair)

As we continue to grow JAG as an organization, we on the External Relations Committee find ourselves in need of help. As we continue to improve our Newsletter, we are looking for input from you, the members, on ways to make it more valuable. Soon you will receive a survey that will give you a chance to tell us what you like and what you don't like about the Newsletter. Please take the time to complete it because it's the only way we know if we are servicing your needs or providing you with information that you find valuable. Of course, this input is just the beginning. We need people to write articles, submit technical contributions and help with new content from nonprofits and independent producers. If you would like to join the team, please let me know—Geoff Belinfante External Relations Chair at geoffbel512@gmail.com

**SAVE THE DATE** 



Details coming soon.

LIVE Trade Show

A Hybrid Event
VIRTUAL Workshops & Vendor user Groups
May 24-26, 2022



# Legislation Committee: Dave Garb (Chair), Linda Besink (Vice Chair)

The Legislative Committee strives to keep up with new and pending legislation on both the federal and state levels. When circumstances warrant, this committee solicits the aid of legislators who we believe can either help to enact laws favorable to PEG or to fight against those that could hurt us and our cause. What usually happens is a lot of quiet, and then it's "crunch time" if/when a bill appears that needs our attention and focus. We keep in touch with all our elected officials in order to remind them of who JAG is and that we are there for them as well. It can be quite rewarding when our efforts are not in vain. We always welcome JAG members on our committee. We meet monthly, with possible additional meetings as the needs sometimes quickly unfold.

# Membership Committee: Stephanie Gibbons (Chair), Darryl Love (Vice Chair)

We want to welcome George Fairfield as the new Vice Chair of this committee and thank him for taking on the position. We would like to welcome our newest independent members MOTL-Laurie Jenseen & Steve Kaiser and want to welcome back the South River.

We want to make sure you are getting the most of your member benefits so please let us know if you are not getting information from the listserv, newsletter, access to the member's only section of the website and access to the Connect server for sharing content. Please contact me at: Stgibbons@verizon.net.

# Leadership Development Committee: Dave Garb (Chair), Doug Seidel (Vice Chair)

One of the objectives of the Leadership Development Committee is to reach out to you, our members, to discuss the importance of joining one of our other very active committees and bringing your experience and skills to help JAG to grow and be the voice and face of New Jersey's PEG community. The Leadership Development Committee also focuses on the development and promotion of JAG by reinventing our marketing strategies and social media platforms. The leadership from JAG's other committees make up this committee, as well as those individuals that are skilled and knowledgeable in areas that are needed to make this committee shine. We aid and work with all of our committees in order for them to achieve their individual goals.

# JAG Awards Committee: George Fairfield (Chairs), Ronni Garrett (Vice Chair)

Have you checked out the new pages for the 2021 JAG Awards on our new website?

No? Then click here: <a href="https://jagonline.org/about-2/">https://jagonline.org/about-2/</a>

In an effort to increase ways JAG "honors excellence in local & regional Public Education Government (PEG) cablecast programming", the JAG Awards Committee has adopted an adjudication process.

Since all of the entries are already judged on specific criteria resulting in a specific score, the committee decided to use this score to award each entry one of the following awards.

1. Award of Excellence (76 to 100% of the maximum score)

Award of Distinction (51 to 75% of the maximum score)
 Award of Recognition (25 to 50% of the maximum score)

Then the highest scoring entry in each of the 15 different categories will be awarded as follows:

High Score of Each Category
 High Score Independent
 High Score Student

Reminder: the JAG AWARDS will open for submissions beginning on January 1st.

# Conference Committee: Bob Duthaler/ Geoffrey Belinfante (Co-Chair) George Fairfield (Vice Chair)

The Conference Committee is pleased to announce that the Eastern Video Expo 2022 will be a hybrid in person and online event. Save the date for Tuesday, May 23- Thursday, May 25, 2022.

We plan on holding a Vendor Trade Show during the day on Wednesday, May 24 and the JAG Awards during the evening. More details including location will be announced in December. Please check the conference website in the upcoming weeks for more information...www.easternvideoexpo.com

On both Tuesday and Thursday surrounding the trade show there will be virtual conference sessions. We believe this hybrid method will allow for the hands-on demonstrations from the vendors we have all come to love, along with the simplicity of attending online workshops from our office that will allow us to continue to learn without having to leave the office or the expense of multiple nights at a hotel.

Wednesday evening will allow JAG members to celebrate each other with our annual awards show, network and enjoy a good meal. This event helps to break up the online learning and allow us to gather. Please mark your calendars now, let your staff & crew know, and make plans to attend the Easter Video Expo 2022: May 23, 24 and 25!

Jersey Access Group, PO Box 164, Metuchen, New Jersey 08840

www.jagonline.org JAGinfo@jagonline.org