Your Municipal Communications Resource

Connecting Your Town to Your Residents



Newsletter

JANUARY 2023 VOLUME 10, ISSUE 1

Trustees 2023

Bob Duthaler Pres. – 2023
Doug Seidel VP – 2024
Anthony Pagliuco
Recording Sec. – 2025
Linda Besink Treasurer – 2023
Stephanie Gibbons
Corresponding Sec. – 2025
Dave Garb – 2024
George Fairfield – 2023
Don Smith – 2025
Rick Gearhart – 2024

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General Meeting Schedule 2023-24

Jan. 25, 2023- Hybrid
REORGANIZATION
Presentation- DeSisti
at Piscataway TV or via Zoom
Feb. 22- Hybrid
Presentation- TelVue
at Bloomfield TV or via Zoom
Mar. 31- TBD

Presentation- TBA
Apr. 26- ZOOM
Presentation- RUSI

Presentation- RUSHWORKS

Jun. 28- TBD No Presentation Sept. 27- TBD Presentation –TBA

Oct. 26- Hybrid

Presentation – Varto Technologies at Varto Technologies or via Zoom

Dec. 6- ZOOM Presentation- TBD

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President's Message

Bob Duthaler

New Year, New Board Members and More



We are a couple of weeks into the new year of 2023 and it has already been a busy one for JAG, myself and, if I am guessing correctly, for you as well. You know what they say, "No rest for the weary". But I think for all those involved in our industry, we thrive on this fast-paced environment and the lack of sleep as well!

We held our general elections in December 2022, and the JAG Board of Trustees held their reorganization meeting in January 2023. Here are the results of the board's elections:

Chair/President of JAG: Bob Duthaler

Vice-Chair: Doug Seidel Treasurer: Linda Besink

Recording Secretary: Anthony Pagliuco Corresponding Secretary: Stephanie Gibbons

Trustees: George Fairfield, Dave Garb, Rick Gearhart, and Don Smith

During the JAG Board of Trustee's Re-organization meeting the trustees did the following:

- Reviewed Trustee Policies and Procedures for meetings and annual calendar
- Reviewed Trustee Policies and Procedures for JAG Officers and Committees
- Discussed Trustee Policies and Procedures for JAG Direction for 2023
- Reviewed Finances, Funding and Budget for 2023. In addition, the BOT voted to approve the 2023 budget as presented by the Finance Committee and sent it to Executive Board for approval.
- Reviewed staffing for JAG, job evaluations and goals for 2023
- Reviewed Policies and Procedures, and the structure for handling complaints
- Set the tone for 2023 and will meet again in August during the Annual Board Retreat.

Following the adjournment of the JAG Board of Trustee's Meeting, JAG's Executive Board met. Members are listed below:

Bob Duthaler – President (Chair of Conference Committee)
Doug Seidel – VP (Chair of Leadership Development Committee)
Linda Besink – Treasurer (Chair of Finance Committee)
Anthony Pagliuco – Recording Secretary (VC of Production)

Stephanie Gibbons – Corresponding Secretary (Chair of Membership)
Geoffrey Belinfante – Chair, External Relations
Lee Beckerman – Chair, Production Committee
Dave Garb – Chair, Legislative Committee
Don Smith, Co-Chair of Conference Committee
Rick Gearhart – Conference Committee Member
George Fairfield, Chair of JAG Awards

During the Executive Board Meeting the following items were discussed:

- Recruitment of new committee members from the general membership getting new people involved with JAG
- Updates from the following committees: Legislative, Membership, Leadership Development, Conference and JAG Awards.
- Executive Committee discussed the following:
 - General Meeting Dates for 2023
 - o Manager's Round Table Topics: First one is to be Thursday, February 9th @ 2pm
 - o Future Webinars no dates set yet
 - Commitment of Committees to contribute articles for newsletter
- Finance Committee
 - o Update on JAG 2022 Filing
 - 2023 billing underway
 - Reviewed 2022 Finances, Budget and Spending (All Under Budget!!)
 - o Reviewed 2023 Proposed Budget
- Production Committee
 - Discussed JAG Marketing Videos
 - Discussed JAG YouTube Account and JAG Streaming Channel
 - o Discussed Future Projects Training Videos
- External Relations Committee
 - Reviewed JAG Website and Membership Only Area
 - Reviewed Vendor Presentations at upcoming meetings
 - Discussed the NJLM Conference Review and Planning for 2023
 - Discussed Newsletter
- The Executive Board reviewed, voted on and approved the 2023 budget and sent it for First Reading at the January 25th General Membership Meeting.

I want to thank everyone for their time and commitment to the JAG Board of Trustees and JAG Executive Board. I am aware of the time and commitment involved in your duties, between board meetings, general membership meetings and the multiple committees that most of you are all on as well. This does not go unnoticed by me or the general membership as well. For anyone who is interested in being part of the many JAG Committees, please reach out to me and I will help you get more involved: bduthaler@jagonline.org

I would like to send thanks again to Dave Ambrosy who after 40 years in this industry retired at the end of 2022. Dave leaves East Brunswick after serving as its station manager. In addition, Dave was a JAG Trustee and Executive Board Member, serving on both the Production and Conference Committees. Dave took on handling entertainment for the conference and even played with his band during one of JAG's event. The board and I wish him a happy and healthy retirement and thank him for his dedication to JAG.



NOW OPEN Closing February 28, 2023 ONE FREE ENTRY for JAG Members

Categories

- **101. Documentary**: A non-fiction program intended to profile a true-to-life reality; people, places, or organizations, (not an event) primarily for the purpose of instruction, education, or historical record through multiple interviews & mainly on location. Enter Here
- **201. Instructional & Training**: Programming of a "how-to" (step by step) nature with informational and skill-building features (often hands-on) to help viewers accomplish a goal. **Enter Here**
- **301. News Magazine**: A single program or series that provides a more in depth understanding of topics and/or events through multiple self-contained edited segments utilizing on-location interviews & footage. Enter Here
- **401. Talk Show**: A topic based program recorded in one location with one or more on-cameras. Participants discussing opinions or conducting an interview to generate interest and/or educate the public. (Long-Form: Live/Live To Tape) Enter Here
- **501. PSA**: Public Service Announcement: a short scripted production or announcement informing the public about a nonprofit organization, event, or movement. (3 minutes or less) Enter Here
- **601. Promotion**: A short publicity or advertisement video about a nonprofit organization, event, or movement; i.e. station ID, promoting a show, or promoting an event. (3 minutes or less) Enter Here
- **701. Sports Programming / Single-Camera**: Coverage of a sporting competition with only one camera. (Long-Form: Live/Live To Tape, Non-promo) <a href="Entertailer: Entertailer: Entertaile
- **801. Sports Programming/Multi-Camera**: Coverage of a sporting competition mixing between two or more cameras. (Long-Form: Live/Live To Tape, Non-promo) Enter Here

- **901. Public Meetings/Single Camera**: Coverage of an open to the public meeting, i.e. town hall meeting, board of education meeting with only one camera, etc. (Long-Form: Live/Live To Tape) Enter Here
- **1000. Public Meeting/Multi-Camera:** Coverage of an open to the public meeting mixing between two or more cameras, i.e. town hall meeting, board of education meeting, etc. (Long-Form: Live/Live To Tape) Enter Here
- **1100.** Public Ceremony/ Single Camera: A formal public occasion or observance celebrating or honoring a particular event, anniversary, or group with only one camera, i.e. Veteran's Day, Memorial Day, graduation (Long-Form: Live/Live To Tape, Non-Concert, Non-Concert) Enter Here
- **1200.** Public Ceremony/Multi-Camera: A formal public occasion or observance celebrating or honoring a particular event, anniversary, or group mixing between two or more cameras, i.e. Veteran's Day, Memorial Day, graduation (Long-Form: Live/Live To Tape, Non-Concert, Non-Parade) Enter Here
- **1300.** Public Parade/Single Camera: Coverage of a public procession in celebration of a special day, event, or group typically including marching bands, floats, and dignitaries with only one camera, i.e. Memorial Day Parade, Veterans Day Parade, St. Patrick's Day Parade. (Long-Form: Live/Live To Tape, Non-Concert) Enter Here
- **1400. Public Parade/Multi-Camera**: A public procession in celebration of a special day, event, or group typically including marching bands, floats, and dignitaries mixing between two or more cameras, i.e. Memorial Day Parade, Veterans Day Parade, St. Patrick's Day Parade. (Long-Form: Live/Live To Tape, Non-Concert) <a href="Enter-E
- **1500. Concert/Single Camera**: Coverage of a musical type event with only one camera, i.e. summer concert series, jazz in the park, holiday concerts, etc. (Long-Form: Live/Live To Tape, Non-Parade) Enter Here
- **1600. Concert/Multi-Camera:** Coverage of a musical type of event mixing between two or more cameras, i.e. summer concert series, jazz in the park, holiday concerts, etc. (Long-Form: Live/Live To Tape, Non-Parade) Enter Here
- **1700. Community Holiday Event:** Events where individuals come together to celebrate a commonly recognized holiday and create a stronger more connected community, i.e. tree lighting, menorah lighting. (Non-Concert, Non-Parade) Enter Here
- **1800.** Community Development Event: Events where individuals come together to promote a positive involvement and create a stronger more connected community, i.e. holiday giveaways, food drive. (Non-Concert, Non-Parade) Enter Here
- **1900.** Community Ground Breaking/Ribbon Cutting/Dedication: Events celebrating the beginning of new construction, the completion of construction, or the opening of a new business or town amenity, i.e. ribbon cutting, grand opening type events in your community. (Non-Concert, Non-Parade) Enter Here
- **2000. Community Festival/Fair Event:** Events in your community like a county fair, street fair, car show, or national night out where the community come together to create a stronger more connected community. (Non-Concert, Non-Parade) <u>Enter Here</u>
- **2100. Community Award Presentation:** Coverage of an organization's program or event, such as governments, fraternal organizations, non-profits, presenting typical awards such as trophies and/or certificates. (Long-Form: Live/Live To Tape, Non-Concert, Non-Parade) Enter Here

Note: The same program may be entered into more than one category but for each time it is entered, the program must have a separate entry form and fee. Enter Here

Click to Register



Lighting..... The Easiest Part of Creating an Alternative Media Space **Technology** Paul Distefano, Northeast Regional Sales Manager, I Light USA Corp - DeSisti & Coemar USA

A few years ago, while still with a lighting system integration company, my boss introduced a new term to me..... the "Alternative Media Space". Basically, this was a place.... an office, a lobby, a conference room, a newsroom, a foyer..... anyplace that could be lit and used to record media. These were rarely permanent installations. Crews could come in, set up a couple of chairs, one or two cameras, shoot an interview or some other content, and leave.... closer to an ENG shoot than a studio production. Given the choice, the one thing that our



customers wanted to be somewhat permanent was the lighting. This made sense. If there were no need for stands and cabling, the overhead lighting was clean, efficient, and would allow a crew to come in and shoot on battery power and leave without even unspooling a cable.



Mini-LEDko Fresnel

I always thought this would be a great time saver for the PEG community. If a space such as this could be set up in your municipal building, or other appropriate locations, would it make it easier to record announcements or interviews with your town's administrators in a central location, rather than needing them to come to the studio or setting up and breaking down a remote? I know that some of your studio facilities are in the municipal building, but I know that some are in a different location..... and some may not even have a studio!

Also, in the past, I had been asked about providing entertainment-type fixtures to record outdoor events. More often than not, these took place regularly, and in a single location..... such as a park, in something like a band shell or gazebo. Outdoor venues were always a challenge. There were usually limited power sources requiring lots of cabling, creating trip hazards. Lighting stands on uneven ground are always risky, especially tethered to power cables. Add to this the crowds of people, especially children, and there are plenty of things to worry about on top of the quality of your production!



Mini LEDko Spot



Mini LEDko Profile

Our Coemar line debuted some great solutions in November at the Lighting Dimensions show in Las Vegas. Our new line of Mini-LEDkos provide great output at very low wattages, and are available in many configurations, including track-mount. A variety of control options are available, such as on/off, on-board dimmer pot, DALI, Bluetooth, DMX and (soon) wireless DMX. Inexpensive Smart Track can be easily and, unobtrusively, installed anywhere. Fixtures can then be mounted anywhere along these tracks and provided with power and control. These fixtures can be left there,

or taken down after the shoot. We even provide them in white, or in custom colors, to make them more architecturally pleasing. If more power is needed, the DeSisti 3", 4.7" Fresnel, as well as our SoftLED1 & 2 can also be track mounted.

For those outdoor venues, we now offer a small, 50W, IP65 rated ellipsoidal, the LEDko EXT-M. This provides gobo projection, framing shutters, and a zoom optics in a compact, weather resistant housing in a much smaller, and less expensive package, than the full sized LEDko EXT. All these new fixtures are available in various color temperatures from 2700° - 5000° K and in variable white from 2800° - 6000° K.



I look forward to demonstrating these great new lights to you at the January JAG meeting. My goal is to offer a solution you may not have considered before. Let's put our heads together and think outside the box...... Or in this case, outside the studio!

<u>Federal Communications Commission Nominee –</u> Take 2





President Joseph Biden has renominated Gigi Sohn to serve as 5th FCC Commissioner.

Sohn, who was first nominated in October of 2021, had been opposed by certain corporate Democrats targeted by telecom lobbyists who pushed them to oppose her from joining the regulatory panel. and thus, Sohn did not have enough support the first time around.

After the President's re-appointment, digital and consumer rights advocates called on the U.S. Senate to swiftly confirm Sohn, a lawyer, public advocate, and longtime net neutrality defender to the Federal Communications Commission.



With the current 2-2 FCC makeup, the panel has been unable to vote on the protections. This has undermined the agency's ability to effectively address the Biden administration's telecommunications priorities. Sohn's confirmation

would give Democrats a 3-2 majority at the FCC, allowing them to challenge issues, such as reinstating the net neutrality rules, that the Republican-led FCC voted to repeal in 2017.

CHAIRWOMAN ROSENWORCEL STATEMENT ON NOMINATION

WASHINGTON, January 3, 2023—Federal Communications Commission



Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel made the following statement at the start of the 118th Congress as President Biden nominated Gigi Sohn to serve as a Commissioner at the agency:

"I'm proud of the work the Commission has accomplished in the last two years. Closing the Homework Gap, broadband access and affordability, telehealth, mapping, and network security are top priorities and we've acted accordingly. Gigi is a knowledgeable nominee with a long record of commitment to the issues before the FCC and I congratulate her on nomination as a Commissioner at the agency. I look forward to the

day we have a full complement of five commissioners."

STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER GEOFFREY STARKS ON NOMINATION

WASHINGTON, January 4, 2023—FCC Commissioner Geoffrey Starks issued the following statement on President Biden's nomination of Gigi Sohn to serve as Commissioner:

"As I said during the last Congress, Gigi Sohn is an accomplished leader whose talent, expertise, and experience will invigorate our work at the FCC. I continue to hold that view. Whether we're protecting consumers, securing our networks, or bringing the promise of new technologies.

Sohn's confirmation to the agency would help to push one of the campaign pledges made by the President: to reinstate the rules requiring that internet service providers treat all online traffic equally.

Update on the Protecting Community Television Act

The Protecting Community Television Act did not get acted on during the last Congress even though it had the support of large contingent of Congressional members on both the Senate and the House sides.

This important legislation would have ensured that community television operations would have continued to receive the resources they needed to inform and educate their viewers in all the cities and municipalities where they operate.



Currently, as part of cable franchise agreements, local governments are permitted to require cable companies to meet community needs by providing in-kind contributions that benefit public, educational, and government channels (PEG), as well as schools and public safety buildings.

However, the FCC voted in August of 2019 to permit cable companies to assign a value to these contributions and then subtract that amount from the franchise fees they pay.

As a result, local governments were forced to make a hard decision between supporting their PEG stations in cable franchise agreements or supporting other important services.

Since its beginnings, community television has been a critical part of our local lives. It has given a voice to artists, governments, nonprofits, and other community members who otherwise would have a difficult task in being heard.

The Protecting Community Television Act would have clarified that the franchise fees that cable companies provided to local governments would have only included monetary assessments and not in-kind contributions.

It will now have to be reintroduced in the new Congress and be re-sponsored in order for it to be bought up for action to have it voted on.



Broadband Assessment Project

Visit the link below to participate in our broadband assessment survey:

https://www.broadband-nj.com/





By taking this survey, you are helping the Broadband Assessment Project gather data related to internet availability in your community, and therefore are instrumental in achieving 100% access to high -speed internet service state-wide.

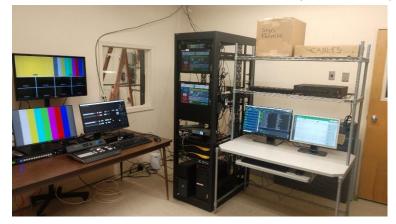
Manager of Broadband Access New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

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Once upon a time, on the banks of Raritan Bay in Central New Jersey, South Amboy Televison (SATV) was created to keep the residents of the City informed about what was happening in town. The Government channel was a side-of-the-desk task assigned to Senior Services / Recreation. Initially a bulletin board comprising of white words on a blue background - pretty much the default screen configuration of a Videonics Titlemaker 3000 – and recordings of events such as the City's well-known St. Patrick's Day Parade and other events produced by volunteers using personal equipment started to appear sporadically. The ebb and flow of municipal funding allowed for the progression to more sophisticated equipment. Over twenty or so years ago, the station was automated using a Leightronics Mini-T-Net connected to VCRs and DVD players. That system required much manual manipulation, such as frequent visits to the station location to change tapes and disks.

A small group of folks offered to tend the station in exchange for use of space at the Senior Center to operate an "Internet radio station," the idea being to offer local students a chance to learn some broadcasting skills. Although intended as more or less a schools-based recreational club, meeting Board of Education requirements presented too much of a challenge at the time. Technology and perspectives changing as they are wont to do, SATV was also faced with the reality of a lack of enthusiasm. They had begun putting much of their own self-produced programming on YouTube, Facebook and the like.

Eventually, the Mini-T-Net outlived its usefulness, and it was replaced with a modest but more modern computerized Tightrope Media Systems Carousel Digital Signage and Cablecast Flex system. SATV had gone digital! This stood the City in good stead when Superstorm Sandy wreaked havoc. Although much of South Amboy was without electricity for as long as eleven days, SATV provided news and official information at various locations powered by generators. For example, residents could simply look at a screen in the lobby of the Senior Center to learn what resources South Amboy had available. The value of SATV as a community asset was amply demonstrated for that brief shining moment.



As the first TRMS system aged out, the Cablecast Flex-Lite 340 and Carousel Digital Signage Player 340 currently in use were purchased. Space has been dedicated to a studio and control room at the Senior Center and a concerted effort has been made to obtain cameras and other equipment so local programs could be produced. SATV has also benefitted from hand-medown equipment as a result of upgrades in the Council Chambers / Municipal Court. Keeping the various technological jimcraws and doodads acquired over the years talking to each other has been interesting, but programming efforts look promising.

Over the course of the years, The Mayor's State of The City addresses have been broadcast, as have countless dedications, groundbreakings, fireworks and festivals. We had always thought about putting recordings of Council and Agency meetings on the channel and it came to pass to some extent during the pandemic as experimental Zoom meetings were broadcast. Of late, the channel is presenting video of popular non-profit organization events such as the Music at St. Mary's Concert Series and the SA Arts Alliance's Acoustic Fridays. A staple of SATV has been Spooky Thriller Mystery Theatre, an admittedly cheesy nod to bygone Saturday matinees cobbled together from public domain short subjects, cartoons, and movies. STMT has been well-received by other PEG channels since SATV joined JAG Online and started distributing it through the Media Exchange. The fifth "season" is currently in production.

As the second Tightrope system nears its end-of-life, changes in the City Administration have South Amboy TV adjusting its perspective in order to better define its capabilities. A small but enthusiastic group of new volunteers is stepping forward. New programming ideas are being encouraged. Renovation of the studio space is proceeding. SATV is still largely a Public Service Bulletin Board, only prettier.

It is hoped that the momentum of the past several decades will propel South Amboy TV on Optimum 15 & Fios 35 toward the viable and useful community service that those involved have always hoped it would grow to be.



JAG General Meeting (Hybrid)
Jan. 25, 2022 @ 12:12pm
Presentation: DeSisti Lighting
LIVE at Piscataway TV or via ZOOM.



For more information and access to the meeting email JAGinfo@jagonline.org

JERSEY ACCESS GROUP

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

New Content on JAG YouTube Channel

https://youtu.be/07HH7-Fazmg

Beyond Cable: New Ways to Communicate with your Citizens - JAG

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RvXrtFuKQgM&list=PL1GODzEKbOu7YPv4dhjna4NA6jbRnWj63&index=1&t=1953s Community Conversations 01/10/23 | C-NET

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 on JAG Members Only Section
The JAG Job Board is currently being populated with opportunities.

New Password as of June 1- contact Linda Besink lbesink@gmail.com for access

New Content on JAG Web Site

List of all of this year's JAG Award recipients. https://jagonline.org/jag-award-winners/

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

Managers Roundtable 2023 Schedule

Thursday, February 9th at 2pm: "Sponsorship Opportunities for your Station"

Thursday, March 9th at 2pm: "In Studio Productions"

Thursday, June 8th at 2pm: "Field Productions: Multi-Camera Productions both Live and Live to Tape"

Thursday, September 14th at 2pm: "Sports Coverage"

Thursday, November 9th **at 2pm**: Topic To Be Announced. Do you have a specific topic you would like to discuss? Please reach out to JAG President Bob Duthaler and discuss your ideas on topics you would like to discuss. Contact information: bduthaler@jagonline.org



Organizational Members























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

www.jagonline.org JAGinfo@jagonline.org