

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

- Jun. 28- ZOOM
- No Presentation
- Sept. 27- Zoom
- Presentation – TBD
- Oct. 26- at Varto Technologies
- Presentation –Varto Technologies
- Dec. 6- ZOOM
- Presentation- TBA
- Jan. 31, 2024- TBD
- Presentation- DeSisti
- Feb. 28- ZOOM
- Presentation- de Wolfe Music
- Mar. 27 at Bloomfield TV
- Presentation- TelVue
- Apr. 24- ZOOM
- No Presentation
- May TBD
- JAG Conference
- Crown Plaza Hotel, Rt. 27, Edison

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President’s Message

Bob Duthaler



Gone Fishing..... I Only Wish That Was True

I have had the chance over these last few weeks to speak to a lot of our JAG Members and the one thing I keep hearing is how busy they are, especially this time of year. The first thing I say is... I know exactly what you mean. The second thing I always say is, I’m glad. I am glad to be busy and I am glad you are. That means we are all out there covering the things that need to be brought to attention in our communities and making a big difference. So, with that in mind, I am going to give you a few excerpts from past articles and links to them for you to read the entire article. I believe the things I have mentioned and talked about cannot be stressed enough. So enjoy being busy, enjoy the summer and when you get a chance, however brief as it may be, relax and wind down!

All Things JAG need your participation: ([February 2023 Article](#))
Monthly General Members Meetings

Meetings are a continued benefit of being a JAG member. In January we held our second hybrid meeting (in-person and Zoom). The meeting was hosted by Piscataway TV and included a special vendor presentation and lunch by DeSisti Lighting. It was once again great to gather together, eat lunch, conduct the business of JAG and hear and see a vendor presentation. Those who could not make it in person were still able to participate via zoom, and had full access to the presentation by Paul from DeSisti Lighting and were able to ask questions and participate fully. The only thing the online participants missed out on was a free lunch! Our upcoming meeting in February will be a 100% Virtual. Please look out for the upcoming invitation along with a special presentation by JAG Organizational Member Cablecast during our next meeting. We will once again be hybrid in March as Bloomfield will host the in-person meeting and vendor presentation by Telvue. I urge you to participate in the upcoming membership meetings as we also discuss, present and vote on matters to help keep the organization running. We always meet on the last Wednesday of each month, taking both July and August off in the summer. I look forward as always to seeing all our members at our meetings. ([Click Here For February 2023 Article](#))

Station Check List – Help Grow Your Station ([April 2023 Article](#))

Use What You Have, and Use It To The Fullest

We are all guilty of this, I know that I am. So, what am I referring to? Just about any product or software you have in your place. You would be surprised on how much they have to offer and how we don't use them to their full potential. What are some examples of this? How can I find solutions? I will give you a couple examples, but take inventory on all your hardware and software, research all they have to offer, then train yourself to use these products to their full potential. For our purpose I am going to talk about broadcast systems, and multi-camera productions. Each one of these are important to station productions, operations, and overall appearance. ([Click Here For April 2023 Article](#))

You + 1 Committee = JAG Member ([October 2022 Article](#))

So then, what is the problem? As with any successful organization, at some point members start to slowly withdraw from participating in committees and even in regular meetings. They are under the impression that the organization is providing everything they need, is running smoothly and falsely feel their participation is not needed. That is a big problem for an organization and is currently one for JAG.

So how is that a problem when JAG is already doing everything we need already? Let's break it down (still no math, I promise). As members start to slowly withdraw from participation it creates a void. This void is felt by the board and committees that regularly meet to support the organization. As current board and committee members retire, relocate, or take a break after many years of service, without other members stepping up to fill their spots, the void continues to grow. If this void grows too great, then the organization starts to get stagnate and to lose touch with members and their needs. ([Click Here For October 2022 Article](#))

Holiday Wish List... 3rd Annual ([December 2022 Article](#))

What would be on your list this year for your station? I hope you picked up some ideas from the many vendors who attended our in-person trade show back in May or from the many vendor presentations at our monthly meetings. There is no wrong answer in this situation. Each station operates differently from others across the state and vary greatly. But each has the same core principle, to inform the community which they serve. When you make your wish list, keep in mind your community, their needs and how as a station you can serve them. The goal is always to enhance what we are currently doing.

It's no secret that I am a tech head! I love new and exciting things that come along that can help our industry and make our lives easier. I love to play around with these items, demo them, beta test and give valuable feedback on how they would fit in with my station operations and serve my community. With that in mind, I am going to share with you some items that are on my wish list for this holiday season based on what I am doing at stations I am involved with. Perhaps these will give you some ideas, help you to review your stations needs and give you direction for the future. ([Click Here For December 2022 Article](#))



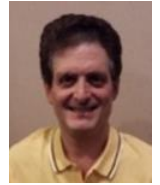
2023 JAG Conference Legislative Session Recap & the Protecting Community Television Act Dave Garb, Legislative Committee Chair

Legislation

During our annual JAG Conference last month, we held a special session that recapped the latest news from Capitol Hill and what it all means to New Jersey municipalities and PEG/Access stations.

Our panelists, myself, Mike Wassenaar, President of the ACM, Alliance for Community Media, and Mike Lynch, Legislative & Regulatory Affairs Director for NATOA, the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors, mainly focused on one very important subject, the federal *Protecting Community Television Acts*.

From this forum, it became obvious that our audience was not up to speed on why this legislation needs to be acted upon and what could be the ramifications if they are not. We explained all the details about it during the session, but I would like to once again give the background on what has been going on and why support of these bills is crucial.



From NATOA: On August 2, 2019, the FCC released a Third Report and Order interpreting provisions of the federal Cable Act.

This Order allows cable operators to deduct from franchise fees the fair market value of cable franchise requirements, with limited exceptions, and largely preempts states and local governments from regulating the non-cable services and equipment of franchised cable operators, including their Wi-Fi and small cells equipment. This order defines “in-kind, cable-related contributions” to include “any non-monetary contributions related to the provision of cable services provided by cable operators as a condition or requirement of a local franchise, including but not limited to free or discounted cable service to public buildings, costs in support of PEG access other than capital costs, and costs attributable to the construction of I-Nets.

From The ACM: The FCC Franchise Fee Order redefined the federal Cable Act’s 5% franchise fee cap to include the value of most non-monetary franchise obligations as franchise fees. This change allows cable companies to reduce what they pay for the use of public property and rights-of-way. These Protecting Community Television Acts (S 340/HR 907) correct this error by clarifying that franchise fees are only monetary. The Cable Act protects the rights of a local community to charge cable companies a five (5%) percent franchise fee and to meet community needs and interests, such as providing public, educational and governmental channel capacity. Contrary to industry practices that date to the 1980s, the FCC’s actions could result in reducing cable operators’ monetary compensation to towns and municipalities that wish to communicate with residents through community television.

The Identical Protecting Community Television Acts, S 340, authored by Senator Edward Markey (MA) and Tammy Baldwin (WI), and HR 907, authored by Representative Anna Eshoo (CA), were reintroduced in Congress on February 9th of this year. These acts clarify that only monetary payments, not non-monetary franchise obligations, qualify as Cable Act franchise fees and are subject to a fee cap.

Without these acts passed into law, cable operators could create fees to drain away municipal revenues and pressure municipalities to give up or reduce the staff at their PEG channels. It could come down to a choice between franchise fees or communicating with residents through community media that provide Americans with local (transparent) civic, public safety and public health content.

When the Protecting Community Television Acts, were first introduced during the 2021-2022 Congressional Session, Representatives Donald Payne (10th District) and Bonnie Watson Coleman (12th District), led the charge by co-sponsoring it at that time.

This time around, New Jersey’s U.S. Senator Corey Booker learned about our concerns from the FCC’s Order and the detriment it could cause to all of New Jersey’s municipalities. This interest was first sparked by a visit I had, along with Mike Wassenaar, to his Washington DC office this past April.

More recently, this spark was relit when Beatrice Moskowitz, Vice Chair. of the Middlesex County Democrats, working with JAG’s Managing Director, Rich Desimone, made it possible for Senator Booker’s office to take a much closer look into this act, as well as an interest in our conference. So much so, that Senator Booker sent his Press Secretary, Minjae Park, to attend our conference and find out first hand what the issues were, what the act does, and also, what JAG was all about.

I am very happy to announce to our entire JAG community that for the 2023-2024 Congressional Session, Senator Corey Booker has become the first Federal Legislator from New Jersey to co-sponsor the Protecting Community Television Act.

Our hope is that we can convey the importance of supporting both of these companion acts to all of our New Jersey members of Congress, so that every community can continue to have their specific and transparent information flow to their residents for their benefit, and for the benefit of all the citizens of our great State.



NATOA Contributes to the Success of JAG Conference

Mike Lynch, Legislative & Regulatory Affairs Director, NATOA

Feature

Thank you, Jersey Access Group, for inviting me to participate in the 2023 Conference! On behalf of the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors (NATOA), I've got to tell you....I had a blast! You're a dynamic organization with great leadership from folks like Bob Duthaler, Stephanie Gibbons, Dave Garb, Don Smith and, of course, Rich Desimone. To Rich: Thanks for your years of collaboration and teamwork as both NATOA and JAG moved forward in the ever-changing world of cable & broadband.



Thank you to Piscataway Mayor Brian Wahler for guiding our conversation with Mike Wassenaar, CEO of the Alliance for Community Media, Robert Boyle, CEO of Planet Networks and Marilyn Davis, Senior Director of Government Affairs for Altice, as we discussed all things related to broadband funding. And, thank you to Valarry Bullard, Director of the newly created Broadband Office in the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBP) for participating.

I don't know if folks remember, but Mayor Wahler has a longstanding connection with NATOA going back to 2014, when NATOA conferred our most valued honor, the Jane E. Lawton Commemorative Award on Mayor Wahler for all his good work in New Jersey advocating for local PEG, cable and broadband issues. Named in memory of the Honorable Jane E. Lawton, a past president of NATOA and former Special Assistant to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives Carl Albert, for her career-long efforts to promote community interests in communications, the Award recognizes the work of individuals who stand out for their communities on PEG and broadband advocacy. Thank you, Mayor Wahler for your continued good work.

The Jersey Access Group has a great & strong history of activism on PEG, cable and broadband issues and we're so appreciative of the long-standing partnership with NATOA.



You know, the day before your Conference, the House Energy & Commerce's Communications and Technology Subcommittee held a Markup Hearing that was tough to watch and listen to as an advocate for local government on telecom matters and PEG operations, given the rigid party line conduct and anti-localism flavor of attacks. The markup hearing of 19 bills ultimately morphed into a single bill, H.R. 3557, the American Broadband Deployment Act of 2023. H.R. 3557 passed along party lines and aimed to harm local governments' public rights-of-way authority and risks the future of cable franchising and PEG operations.

The Subcommittee combined most of the bills that impact local governments into this single measure and was approved by a party line vote. As approved by the Subcommittee, the bill would:

- Allow cable franchisees to unilaterally modify the terms/ requirements in franchise agreements
- Prohibit state and local governments from revoking cable franchises
- Preempt state and local zoning authority over the placement of cell phone towers and equipment
- Eliminate state and local government authority to manage public rights-of-way and collect fair market compensation for their use and management
- Require local government approval of modifications to existing cell phone towers
- Preempt state and local zoning authority over the placement of cable equipment

A week later -- and with little notice and with no opportunity for local governments to address the bill before the subcommittee -- the Energy & Commerce Committee passed H.R. 3557 along party lines.

In a letter to Committee leadership, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the National League of Cities, the National Association of Counties and the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors said:

"As the level of government closest to the people, we oppose heavy-handed federal overreach into local land use, permitting, and franchise negotiation decisions. Many of the bills the Subcommittee will consider during this hearing would preempt or undermine the property rights of local governments and local governments' police powers to protect and preserve the safety, well-being, and aesthetics of their communities, which Congress and the Constitution have long recognized. Congress has historically recognized these rights in Sections 224, 253 and 332 of the Telecommunications Act.

These authorities are critical to conduct responsible stewardship of public property, protect public safety, and preserve the rights of residents as consumers of broadband services and neighbors to the infrastructure that makes connectivity possible. We fear the unintended consequence of some of these bills will be to impose costs on local governments, burdens on our taxpayers, interference with public safety and otherwise harm local protections that are the heart of localism without substantively improving broadband deployment."

(See <https://www.natoa.org/news/joint-letter-on-breaking-barriers--streamlining-permitting-to-expedite-broadband-deployment->)

Congressman Frank Pallone (D NJ-6) and Committee Ranking Member valiantly offered an Amendment to oppose HR 3557 and any action to approve it. Congressman Pallone said:

"To remove arbitrary deadlines and narrow timeframes in this bill that preempt local governments' authority and ability to make decision that best meet the needs and best interest. That's why these 'deemed granted' provisions that Republicans are rushing through are, I think, a bad process and are troubling to me and to the local elected officials in the towns we represent.

HR 3557 would enact narrow and arbitrary timeframes to approve or deny applications and then 'deem them granted' if a decision hasn't been made by that time. Now to be clear, if a local planning board or town council is reviewing a project and does not approve it by a deadline set by House Republicans, the applicant's proposal would automatically be considered approved w/o any further input from the community.

I have serious concerns that this approach raises more Q's than answers especially when it comes to liability in the case of public safety and accidents. The reality is, no matter where you go in this country, local governments have an important role to play in approving construction projects.

My Republican colleagues like to demonize local governments for not approving projects in the amount of time they would like. But, this bill does nothing to address a major concern that was raised by all the witnesses that was raised at the legislative hearing on this topic. And that is the lack of qualified personnel to process these applications, particularly in smaller towns and counties. Instead, they would wave their wand and approve these applications without further process.

Now, anyone who has served at the local level, and I have - (Long Branch, NJ city council, 1982-88) - there is a lot more to these decisions than simply yes or no. In many cases, there are negotiations between towns and counties with telecommunications provider for access to Rights of Way or other publicly owned areas. In other words, if a municipal planning board or zoning board is reviewing an application and does not issue an approval by a deadline set by House Republicans, the applicant's proposal would automatically be considered approved w/o any further input from the community.

And, I'm most concerned that this approach raises more questions than answers, especially when it comes to liability in the case of accidents. And, my Republican colleagues like to demonize local governments who are not approving applications as quickly as they would like.

This 'one size fits all' mandate to approve a project in 2 months weakens a town's ability to get the job done right while at the same time ignoring the reality of many local governments' calendars. People who serve in town and county government are public servants who are accountable to the people who live in those communities. They are responsible for acting in their best interests, especially as it pertains to utilities and service in a county or town.

No one thinks about who's responsible for ensuring your safety – for example, police or fire or traffic duty– for ensuring the safety of the public and the workers during construction. Or, the complexity of scheduling certain construction projects to avoid road closures or other disruption or delays that often and do occur as a result. It's the Mayors, and councils and zoning boards who are responsible for these considerations. And, they're 'on the hook' if anything goes wrong or someone gets hurt. And, perhaps, that is why we received a letter today from the Georgia Municipal Association, which represents all 537 municipalities in the bill sponsor's home state. They strongly oppose this bill. And, I would ask you now for unanimous consent to submit this letter for the record.

I have great respect for my friend from Georgia. He knows how much I love that state. But I'm struggling to understand how his constituents – and mine – are served well by these proposals because the 'deemed granted' proposals aren't the only areas where this legislation removes critical local authority. At best, these proposals remove local leverage to negotiate the specifics of these projects that can best serve the people of these communities. At worst, they can put people at risk. Those of us who work closely with our mayors and councils – and I think that's everyone on the dais here – we know that they are the first ones to step up when it comes to deploying communications infrastructure in their towns.

What possible advantage would come from deliberately ignoring or delaying requests to improve work that would improve services for their constituents?

So, last week, I challenged my Republican colleagues to tell their mayors that they voted for this bill the next time they went home and see what they say. So, when I went home this weekend & I asked the mayors and I was glad not to be on the record supporting this bill. I would encourage my colleagues on the other side of the aisle and to go back to the drawing board and work with some Democrats in a productive way to develop some bills that might actually get signed into law. It's not as though Democrats are not trying to look for ways to enact permitting reform bills that do not trample on these protections.

But so far, the Republicans have said no. So, I urge all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to preserve local authority and vote "Yes" on the amendment."

You'll find HR 3557 and the amendments discussed about 2:30 pm – 4 ½ hours into the hearing:
<https://energycommerce.house.gov/events/full-committee-markup-of-19-bills-2>

Congressman Pallone did a great job advocating for local government and PEG operations. New Jersey and JAG should be very proud of your representation in Congress.

H.R. 3557 is called the American Broadband Deployment Act of 2023 but it should really be called the "Great American Give-away" to cable, broadband and wireless operators. The bill suggests it will streamline permitting to increase broadband availability. Instead, it eliminates local and state rights in broadband deployment, wireless sitings and cable franchising to benefit these companies without getting anything for the public in return. There is no 'quid pro quo' that the cable, broadband and wireless companies will build out or serve those that need to be served.

H.R. 3557 is bad for local communities and for PEG operations. The bill has moved too quickly through the Committee and will likely soon move through the full House. There is no companion bill in the Senate.

If you can, please communicate to your Members of Congress that: Neither state nor local governments were even provided an opportunity to address these bills, now collapsed into one bill as HR 3557, at the subcommittee level.

Best to all!

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JAG 2023 Conference Recap - Engaging the Community

Jesse Lerman, President & CEO, TelVue Corporation

Feature

It was great to see everyone at this year's annual JAG conference in Edison, which felt like a "coming home" of sorts, refocusing the lens back on the core New Jersey station operators and members, the real heart and soul of JAG and where TelVue got its start in community media nearly 20 years ago! The new layout, with vendor



exhibit booths inside the large group ballroom, afforded better opportunities to mingle with customers and showcase products during breaks, yet also remain an important presence during the larger panel presentations. It created a very inclusive environment for vendors and customers alike, a welcome return and grateful exit from the social distancing and virtual trade show era.



Kicking off the JAG Conference with the TelVue Users Group and Breakfast

TelVue is always proud to be a Diamond sponsor for JAG, and this year, we presented key updates on a range of products and services including: live, dual language, ultra affordable closed captioning, caption transcript search to make your government meetings fully searchable, automatic social media streaming directly from our new HyperCaster AIO+ line of playout & automation servers, integrated video editing & community bulletin board, time-saving automation rules, and new, built-in analytics & reports for your web, OTT, and mobile viewership.



I enjoyed collaborating with Joe Fernandes, Assistant Manager, Woodbridge Television, and Bob Duthaler on the panel session *Is A Cable Channel All You Need?* Joe shared successes and tips and tricks about how to expand your reach and audience with social media and social streaming, and I shared additional ways to grow your viewership online, including launching your own branded mobile and OTT apps. All great ways to deliver your programming in full HD, as well as gain insight into your viewers and reach through streaming analytics and reports. It was very cool to hear so many success stories from the audience, including Old Bridge TV, who shared how well-received their mobile and OTT apps are in the community.



I was delighted to chair a new panel on social media engagement in relation to local government with Jean-guy R. Lauture, Sr. IT Director, Bloomfield Township, and Cyd Katz, Founder/CEO of New Jersey Isn't Boring. It was clearly a "real" interesting topic, and top of mind for everyone based on the packed crowd, collaborative discussions, and the fact that it ran overtime. Cyd brought so many practical tips on how to leverage short videos to increase engagement, and Jean-guy shared best practices on how to navigate, work within local government, and avoid issues & pitfalls with social media.



Demos and Discussions at the TelVue Booth

The JAG awards honored two long time TelVue clients - Lee Beckerman on his retirement and literally sailing off into the sunset, and Stephanie Gibbons, both of whom have been incredible driving forces behind JAG. Congrats to Lee and Stephanie, and to all of the JAG award nominees and winners! It is no mystery how talented and dedicated the JAG stations and producers are, but what remains a mystery is how does Simon Mandel do that final magic trick?!?!



Honored to receive Certificate of Award for supporting JAG's new Internet TV channel

The annual JAG conference also affords a unique opportunity for our engineering and product development staff to have face-to-face customer contact as well, and to get direct feedback from important end users. We appreciated the great turn-out and participation at our morning User Group. TelVue remains dedicated to our valued NJ clients by listening and responding to their needs, and we are thrilled to be a part of the robust JAG station and member community. We were honored to be presented during the lunch banquet with a Certificate of Award acknowledging our support of JAG's new Internet TV channel. JAG is

always innovating, and always on the forefront!



2023

CONGRATULATIONS

Documentary

NEWTN, The 55th Anniversary of the Newark Rebellion 1st
APTV, Sir, I Exist: A Life of Stephen Crane 2nd
WBT35, Meet the Artist on Main: Joe Messick 3rd

Instructional & Training

WBT35, Charge Point Charging Station 1st
WBMATV, Bloomfield Fire Department Safety Tips 2nd
PREMEIRE, Police Records at Hillsborough New Jersey 3rd

News Magazine

APTV, The Jersey Storm: Sandy in Monmouth County 1st
PCTV, Eye on Piscataway – July 2nd
EBTV, East Brunswick Stories 3rd

Talk Show

MOTL, Growing Green - Down the Shore 1st
EBTV, Sports Talk: Fall Season in Review 2nd
WBT35, Greenable Woodbridge: Gallery on Main 3rd

PSA

WBMATV, Fiesta Latina PSAs (English and Spanish) 1st
PREMEIRE, Hillsborough Parks & Rec. Scavenger Hunt 1st
APTV, Be Kind PSA 2022 2nd
NEWTN, Reading Under the Stars PSA 3rd

Sports Programming/Multi-Camera

CRAN, Cranford Football-Military Appreciation Night 1st
WBT35, Football: Woodbridge vs. Colonia 2nd
PCTV, PHS Football 3rd

Public Meetings/Single Camera

WM77, West Milford Town Council Meeting 1st
C-NET, Centre County Board of Commissioners Meeting, November 29, 2022 2nd

Public Meeting/Multi-Camera

OPTV, Mayor & Council Meeting: New Police Officer 1st
SPTV, Scotch Plains Candidates Night 2022 2nd
WBMATV, Bloomfield Township Council Meeting – Hybrid 3rd

Public Ceremony/ Single Camera

APTV, Bans Off Our Bodies Rally Highlights 1st
WBMATV, Texas Shooting Vigil 2nd
APTV, Universal African Festival 2022 Highlights 3rd

Public Ceremony/Multi-Camera

NEWTN, SOTC Part 2: Newark and Proud of It 1st
SPTV, Pride in the Park 2nd
EBTV, Memorial Day Observance 2nd
C-NET, 2022 Bellefonte Area High School Graduation 3rd

Public Parade/Single Camera

OAKTV, Oakland Volunteer Fire Dept. Santa Detail 2022 1st

Public Parade/Multi-Camera

LHTV, Long Hill Memorial Day Parade 1st
SPTV, Memorial Day Service and Parade 2nd
WBMATV, Bloomfield Memorial Day Parade 3rd

Concert/Multi-Camera

LHTV, We May Be Right: Billy Joel Tribute Band 1st
SPTV, Memorial Day Concert 2022 2nd
JCETV, Kennedy Dancers Holiday Showcase 23 3rd

Community Holiday Event

APTV, AP Juneteenth Day 2022 Highlights 1st
SPTV, Scotch Plains 4th of July Celebration 2022 2nd
EBTV, East Brunswick Interfaith Thanksgiving Service 3rd
WBT35, MLK Virtual Ceremony 3rd

Community Development Event

SPTV, Dogust 2022 1st
PCTV, Sharpe Football Camp 2nd
NEWTN, Shop with A Hero 2nd
EBTV, Around East Brunswick: Redevelopment Update 3rd
WBMATV, Mayor's Turkey Give-a-way 2022 3rd

Community Ground Breaking/Ribbon

Cutting/Dedication

NEWTN, Ironbound Community Skate Rink Ribbon Cutting 1st
APTV, Asbury Park 150th Anniversary Time Capsule 2nd
CTV36, White Diamond Celebrates 75 Years! 3rd

Community Festival/Fair Event

NEWTN, Halsey Street Festival 1st
C-NET, 2022 Central Pennsylvania Festival of the Arts 2nd
ROSTV, Roselle Winter Wonderland 3rd
FANTV, Christmas Tree Lighting 3rd

Community Award Presentation

JCETV, JCPS Teacher of the Year



Every Great Video we produce has to have a story. My name is Caz. Bielen, Chief Creative Officer of Premiere Media and CazTV. I immigrated to the US when I was 8 years old. I never had a TV in Poland. My first TV was a black and white set, where I learned English watching Magilla Gorilla, The Adventures of Superman, Little Rascals and I Love Lucy reruns. There were also the annual viewings of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang and The Wizard of Oz. I did not know it was in color till I was in my late teens. But I loved the stories and the lighting, the effect that made these characters come to life.

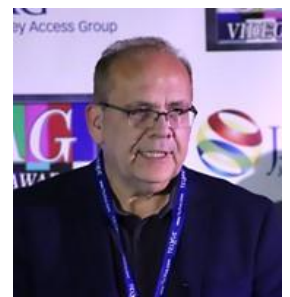


After High School I attended Rutgers University in the early 1980's. I was a part of the starting Knight Time Television, the first Student run TV Channel that also took advantage of Public Access that allowed it to also be seen on Cable TV in nearby homes. We were Cable before Cable was Cool!

After an internship at Cross Country Cable in Somerville, NJ and working there as a freelancer while still at school, I received two ACE Nominations. "Fun Stop", a Kids Show and a special on "Pediatric Cardiology". After that I got a full time job at Cross Country Cable, where I remember watching the launch of CNN. I was Producer and Public Access Coordinator, enabling the public to produce their own shows. This is where I met Debbie and Doug Gist, Lou Brogno, Dick Craig and others. Later, the Company became TKR Cable based in Warren, NJ. I was Producer-Director-Editor

Internship coordinator and started local commercial production. You may have seen the "REPS" little people ads that ran for about 20 years. I worked with Michael D'Amato and Dave Garb, as well as Lee Beckerman with whom I reconnected with after more than three decades at the 2023 JAG Conference and Awards. It's poetic that the story of my professional career and joining JAG has brought me back to where I started with people I worked with, and others I helped start on their television path.

Later, I worked at C-TEC Cable, where I produced and hosted Daytime Emmy Awards Specials, and the Pay-Per-View Report. As Media Services Manager at RCN Corporation, I got to be at the start of the Internet Revolution, before that was cool. After the dot com Boom and Bust, I started Premiere Media and CazTV, producing commercials, infomercials and working with Public Schools and Municipalities. I enjoyed creating content that educates, entertains and inspires viewers worldwide, and won 3 Telly Awards for Public Service Videos.



I wish to thank Steve Keiser, Producer of the "On the Loose" TV series. He told me a few years ago to join the Jersey Access Group and continues to be a good friend.

George Fairfield has been so helpful to me in getting to know JAG. I attended the annual Conference and was amazed at the talent and presenters that was there. I made connections and obtained knowledge from providers and facilitators on best practices.



I currently produce "Cazual Conversations" a Video and Audio Podcast, where we talk to people that are important to our world. Contact me if you want to be my guest and share your story. It's available on various web platforms and via Telvue Connect in New Jersey and on the Media Exchange Nationwide. The program provides me, as an Independent Producer, a more local connection in New Jersey. I wish to thank the Jersey Access Group for the awards I received. I will be providing more programs for the Media Exchange, such as "Studio at the Hill", a family-friendly program, and "Mr. AutoAds", on which I show local NJ

commercials from the past.

To see more of my story, go to <https://www.youtube.com/caztv>.



JAG General Meeting (ZOOM)

Apr. 26, 2023 @ 12:00pm

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

JERSEY ACCESS GROUP

[facebook.com/pegtv](https://facebook.com/pegvtv) linkedin.com/company/jersey-access-group
instagram.com/jersey_access_group

New Content on JAG YouTube Channel

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i3_vPvwEJ8k

Middlesex County 90 plus Birthday Celebration 2023 Piscataway Community TV

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rQAoN-msBMM>

An Evening of Folk Music and Storytelling with Rik Palieri EBTV

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1N8L_H3upoE

Aging Insights 136 NJ Advocates for Aging Well

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 the 2022 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, 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



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New Jersey Chapter of NATOA, Organizational Member of the ACM, and New Jersey League of Municipalities Affiliate
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