



Northeast Courier

Newsletter of the Alliance for Community Media – Northeast Region

www.acm-ne.org

Special Inter-Conference Issue 40

September 2014

ACMNE Grassroots Scholarship Provides New Skills, New Hopes

by Maryann Arrien

It was an absolute privilege to attend the joint ACM/ NAMAC Conference in Philadelphia on a grassroots scholarship sponsored by the ACM Northeast Region. Workshops that I attended exposed me to new ideas in crowd funding for community media, and to how we can measure the impact of media content by means of new software being developed by the Cultural Data Project. The keynote speech by FCC Commissioner Mignon Clyburn was very encouraging, confirming for us that at least one commissioner is indeed dedicated to the preservation of Net Neutrality.

Especially helpful at this conference were all the comments I heard in various workshops from both panelists and attendees concerning the proposed Comcast/Time Warner merger. That merger significantly affects my home state of New York, which is mostly Time Warner Cable territory. Then late on Thursday I discovered that there was still an opportunity to submit comments to the NY State Public Service Commission by the last day of the conference. With the help of all that I learned at the conference workshops, some excellent background info from Dan Coughlin of Manhattan Neighborhood

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National ACM Conferences: Great Ideas, Great Memories

by Karen Handville

I write to thank the Northeast Region for the scholarship to attend this year's national Alliance for Community Media conference in Philadelphia. This was the fourth national conference I've attended over the last eight years since I became the Station Manager at SCTV. I go every other year when they take place on the East Coast. I am the only full-time employee at our small station, so it's difficult to spend time out of the office. But it's also my job to bring ideas and solutions to the table that can be implemented on a small budget. Attending ACM conferences is the most interesting way for me to gather information and ideas that are specific to the needs of access stations.

Since my first conference, I have concentrated on attending workshops with subject descriptions that sounded pertinent to and timely for our station's challenges. I would come back from each conference with solutions to problems or at least a direction to take. I would also return with new ideas to put into action. Additionally, I would spend a lot of time talking to the many vendors at the trade show, looking for solutions and ways to improve our production, editing or cablecast. I would come back

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Keynote Speaker for the 2014 Northeast Conference:

Joseph Torres

*Senior External Affairs Director
Free Press*

Joseph advocates in Washington to ensure that our nation's media policies serve the public interest, and builds coalitions to broaden the media reform movement's base. Joseph writes frequently on media and Internet issues and is the co-author of the New York Times bestseller *News for All the People: The Epic Story of Race and the American Media*.

Joseph also serves on the board of directors of the Center for Media Justice and the National Association of Latino Independent Producers. Before joining Free Press, Joseph worked as deputy director of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists and was a journalist for several years.

We will hear from Joseph at the Friday luncheon of our regional conference on October 10, 2014.

Save these Dates:
ACM Northeast Regional Conference

★ **Thursday, October 9**

*Trade Show,
Product Demos, Roundtables*

★ **Friday, October 10**

*Workshops, Keynote Luncheon,
Special Awards*

**Crowne Plaza Nashua
Nashua, New Hampshire**



Early Bird Conference Discounts end on September 24!

Register online via [this link](#).

Is there still room at the inn? Check for the "AAC" discount at
Confirmed Workshops as of mid-September (check the [ACM-NE website](#) for updates)

Management Track

Techniques and Strategies for a Successful

Cable License Renewal ♦ What are the best ways to prepare for those negotiations? What documentation is needed? What audits need to be conducted? What are the strategies necessary to insure the most successful outcome for community needs and interests to be provided for during the next license period?

Evolving from Community Media Center to

Broadband Access Center - "By Any Media Necessary" ♦ Panelists will share experiences of CMC's with a range of broadband access serving cable TV audiences and communities beyond cable, from dial-up to fast Internet, fixed and mobile, over wireline and wireless connections. Workshop participants will get ideas for making the transition in their own communities - including practical advice and creative bootstrapping tricks along the way!

The 5 Legal Hot Spots Organizations Need to Monitor in Human Resources "

Small Centers Track

Whizz-Bang One Camera Production ♦ Get hands-on advice from Steve D'Onofrio, to make community media productions look and sound more inviting. The Director of Photography for "This Old House" and board member for North Andover Community Access Media, Steve brings the perfect combination of quality and reality to the forefront in this session.

Chief, Cook, and Bottle Washer ♦ Are you stuck being the camera operator, editor, and

producer? Come to this informative workshop of what a low budget Maine station is doing on producing locally made content for community television. From town meetings to musical concerts, it's all about streamlining production using templates and a little good ole' fashion Yankee ingenuity.

Election Programming for Community Media "

Get your questions answered regarding the policies and procedures relating to equal time, rules, and guidelines for broadcast channels vs. PEG channels, candidate approval statements and how the rules carry over to social media.

DIY Video Archiving with the Internet Archive "

Beyond the popular internet video distribution channels (YouTube, Vimeo, Pegmedia), what opportunities exist for creating an online digital archive? This workshop will introduce the Internet Archive and the Community Media Archive as an example archive that's grown to 35,000 videos contributed from 42 access centers and media makers from 17 states around the country. Learn what you need to know to contribute digital video files to the Community Media Archive and discover some "best practices." Archiving is too important to leave to the professionals!

Community Journalism and Storytelling

Making an Impact through Youth Media & Storytelling ♦ Members from Press Pass

TV, www.presspasstv.org, a Boston-based youth media organization, will discuss their evolved skills in interviewing, videography, and

(Continued on page 9)

The World is HD. Shouldn't You Be?

If your station is already producing HD content, show it off with **TelVue's HD/SD Simulcast** System. It's the perfect way to expand your audiences by broadcasting on HD channel to all devices, including Internet TV, PCs, tablets, and smartphones, while giving your cable operator the SD signal it requires.

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ATTORNEYS BILL AUGUST & PETER EPSTEIN

Wish ACM Northeast success in
all its endeavors

Epstein & August, LLP

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Boston, MA 02110
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billaugust@epsteinandaugust.com

The firm's principals represent many non-profit public access centers in cable license, regulatory, corporate, governance, tax exemption and related matters. Peter Epstein and Bill August look forward to working closely with and advocating for the public access community.

See these vendors at the
October 9, 2014 Trade Show in
Nashua, NH

N. J. "Chip" Gorra

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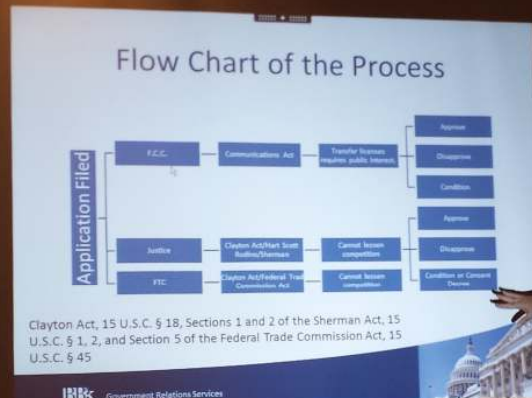
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"We had to go all the way to Philadelphia to meet face to face?"
Attendees from Connecticut were late to the Hometown Media Festival at WHYY studios because they had to talk about a policy crisis back home. Pictured here (L-R): Gil Martinez (Hartford Public Access), Jen Evans and Jitu Huntley (West Hartford Community TV), Pua Ford (Woodbridge Govt. Access TV), and Karen Handville (Simsbury Community TV).

Photo by Jenny Hawran (Win-TV, Windsor)

At the preconference policy workshop in Philadelphia, Joseph Van Eaton outlined the federal approval process for such items as the proposed Comcast/Time-Warner Cable merger.



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New Skills, New Hopes

(Continued from page 1)

Network and a little word-smithing assistance from Chuck Sherwood, I was able to file the comments before the deadline using the free wifi connection in the main meeting room.

As it turned out those comments from ACM of New York, along with the comments of New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio ended up being footnoted two weeks later by the NYS Public Service Commission when they made their own electronic comments before the FCC deadline on August 26. On page 13 of their comments, the PSC asked that the needs of PEG be represented by the FCC's "broad authority in this area." It was significant to me that the PSC took ACMNY comments to heart enough to cite community access needs to the FCC. By the end of the day, the notation about PEG access was part of an online article at www.broadcastingcable.com. On the very next day, a blogpost appeared on www.washingtonpost.com about how New York could be the key the Comcast's merger, based on the NYS PSC's comments.

So I am very, very grateful for this grassroots scholarship that made it possible for me to attend the Philly Conference, not only for the new skills I learned, but for the new hope that it gives New York State that the needs of community access might actually be considered in the Comcast/Time Warner Cable merger.

Maryann Arrien is Community Media Coordinator for the Town of Putnam Valley, NY (<http://www.putnamvalley.com/channel-18-20/>), the chair of ACM of New York (ACMNY), and NY representative on the Northeast Regional Board of Directors.



Great Ideas, Great Memories

(Continued from page 1)

with loads of materials to help choose our next project. I often felt like my head was just going to explode with so many ideas, and I had such excitement over the new technologies of the time.

What I also discovered when attending my first conferences was the incredible networking. I was introduced to a whole new world of friends, peers and allies willing to share their ideas and solutions. Now, I look forward to that part of each conference as much as anything else and often find that I learn more from having those one-on-one conversations, learning what others are doing at their own stations.

This year's conference in Philly was no exception. I had the time to sit and talk and share with others from my state of Connecticut—incredibly satisfying and a true highlight of this year's trip. The location was close enough to go by train instead of air; this gave me the opportunity to travel and connect with Gil Martinez, the new Executive Director from neighboring Hartford Public Access. Traveling together with others around Philadelphia to events outside the hotel made for great memories, too.

This year's combined conference with NAMAC was a little different for me. With the many arts choices in workshops, there were fewer geared to my specific needs. So, it was easier to choose which workshops to attend. Of course, this year's guest speakers, awards speeches and tributes each had their inspiring moments. But for me, it's the people I can spend time with and share experiences with that make attending conferences worthwhile. Thank you again.

Karen Handville is Station Manager of Simsbury Community Television in Connecticut (<http://simsburytv.org/>), and a board member of Connecticut ACM. She received a conference scholarship this summer from the Northeast Region.

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The national Hometown Media Festival in Philadelphia was celebrated at the WHY studios. WACA-TV of Ashland, MA was among the honorees.

Come Celebrate the 2014 Northeast Video Festival on October 11

The Alliance for Community Media-Northeast Region (ACM-NE) is hosting the 16th Annual Video Festival on Saturday, October 11, 2014. Programs produced all around New England and New York, by students, professionals and senior citizens competed in 20 categories. We wish to express our congratulations to everyone who entered the contest this year. The list of winners

and other information is on our website, acm-ne.org.

After the 2014 Trade Show

The ACM Northeast Region has concocted the most unique Thursday night gathering yet at a conference and trade show. Join your friends and colleagues for a private party at *FRIGHT KINGDOM*, New Hampshire's premier INDOOR haunted house. With five different scenarios, ACM will be spending the evening with a cast of characters from your childhood nightmares ... all in good fun.

Barbecue Chicken and Pork Dinner (and vegetarian alternatives) with a cash bar will be provided on site with games and thrills to follow.

Anyone signing up for a two-day registration will automatically get a ticket. Additional tickets will be available for sale....so bring your friends and family...*if you dare!*

A FREE RECEPTION with hot and cold hors d'oeuvres, petite desserts and non-alcoholic drinks (Cash Bar is available) starts at 12:30pm. The Awards Ceremony is slated to begin at 1:30pm. We wish to thank our presenting sponsor [Tightrope Media Systems](http://tightrope-media.com).

Winners, you can bring up to three guests with you to share in your victory. Please note that ALL WINNERS will be announced. FIRST PLACE winners will have a clip of their entry played, be photographed and can make a brief thank you speech. SECOND and THIRD PLACE winners will be presented their awards by ACM-NE Board members and photographed. The Winners clip reel will be posted on line after the ceremonies.

There is NO COST to attend, but we do need to know whether you will be attending the VIDEO FESTIVAL. Please register for the VIDEO FESTIVAL ONLY at <http://tinyurl.com/2014-ACM-NE-Video-Festival>. You can also find location and directions there.

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday, October 11.



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**Roundtable discussions scheduled for
Thursday, October 9 in Nashua**

Take a break during the Trade Show and talk to
others on these topics:

New Dimensions for Live Video Mixing
Content Swap: Non-Local Video for Your TV
Channels

Check www.acm-ne.org for additional information.

Special Friday Night Film Screening

The Alliance for Community Media NE Region is
pleased to present a special screening of *RAISING
MATTY CHRISTIAN*, on October 10 during the 2014
conference.

This inspirational documentary profiles the life of
Matthew G. Christian (1983-2009), known as 'Matty'
from the town of Canton, Massachusetts, who was born
without full limbs and a tongue.

As told through interviews with his parents Allie and
Jerry, brother Michael and several close friends and
authority figures throughout his life, 'Raising Matty
Christian' paints a portrait of an inspiring young man
who never took no for an answer, achieved a great deal
of success, and set out to live life to the fullest.

The screening will be followed by a special question
and answer session with the director and others.

You can read more about this film at
<http://www.raisingmattychristian.com/>.



**Integrated Solutions Group is proud to
support Alliance for Community Media
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**Workshops: Community Journalism and Storytelling,
continued**

(Continued from page 2)

journalism. Through the use of different media
examples and discussion, we will cover elements
such as story structure, interviewing, developing a
voice, visual storytelling elements, effective
sequencing, text & graphics and more!

**Introduction to Mobile Storytelling: the Nuts &
Bolts of Using a Mobile Device for Shooting
Videos ♦**

Learn how to master the tools of mobile
production through different applications and add-
ons for your handheld device! Mobile devices have
created a space for people to create content and
share it instantly with others. This workshop will
show you how to pre-produce, produce and edit
your movie, all using your smartphone. All
participants are encouraged to download iMovie for
your phone (\$5) before the session.

**If You Build It, They Will Come: How to Kickstart a
Community Newsroom ♦**

Are you looking to
launch your own newsroom at your community
media center, or interested in learning how others
are doing reporting, production and distribution?
This workshop will give a glimpse of several
different community-based news .

Expanded Views in Storytelling ♦

This is 2014.
Community media centers are emerging out of the
model of public, educational, and government
access television organizations and are challenged
with a world in which voices express and create
and advocate across multiple platforms simulta-
neously. Experience perspectives from the world of
trans-media, gaming, and analog interactivity that
inspire and educate about new horizons in the
medium of storytelling.

The Track Not Taken

(untrackable workshops)

Intellectual Property, Copyright and Fair Use in

Media and Art ♦ Technology has made it
increasingly challenging to navigate the world of
intellectual property, particularly in media and the
arts. What kind of rights do I need to secure? What
is Fair Use and can anyone tell me whether it
applies? How do I navigate the legal issues inside
of platforms like YouTube? Where do I obtain
rights if I need them? What kind of liabilities do I
have? Can I show cover music, should I fight take-
down notices, and how much trouble could I be in?

**Communicating from the Heart in Community
Media: Increasing Compassion, Empathy &
Efficiency at Work & Play ♦**

**Intersections of Doing: Community Media, Maker
Spaces, Arts Collectives ♦**

Public Policy and the Future of Community Media ♦



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Coming to the Trade Show on Thursday, October 9

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All this plus product demonstrations. Watch our [website](#) for updates.

Where? Where?

- Trade Show & Conference

Crowne Plaza Nashua

2 Somerset Pkwy (off US-3)
Nashua, NH 03063
(603) 886-1200



Register for the conference [online](#).

Rates go up after September 24.

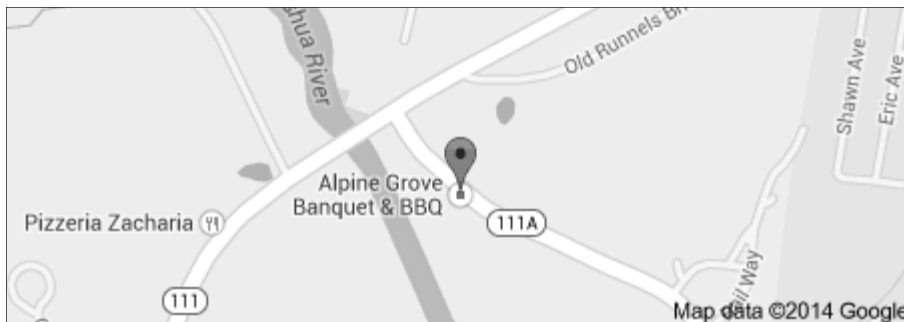
ACM Members

2 Day registration with Thursday Dinner & Show \$ 195.00
Thursday-only registration (no dinner) 75.00
Friday-only registration with Luncheon 125.00

Non-Members

2 Day registration with Thursday Dinner & Show \$ 265.00
Thursday-only registration (no dinner) 125.00
Friday-only registration with Luncheon 175.00

Keynote Luncheon only \$ 30.00
Thursday Night Dinner & Show only 55.00



- Video Festival Celebration
Alpine Grove - Americana Room
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See page 8 for details and links.