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Transmitter

Volume 42 No 3 March 31, 2003

Chairman's message

(Kyle Bauer, KFRM/KCLY)

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The *Transmitter* is free to members and available to non-members by subscription for \$25 per year. KAB's mission is to provide professional lobbying and governmental representation, efficient communication and effective recruiting, education and training for Kansas broadcasters for the purpose of enhancing the success of Kansas broadcasters and helping them better serve the people of Kansas.

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Mark your calendar
2003 KAB Convention
October 19-21 (Sunday - Tuesday)
Wichita Airport Hilton

It would have been more timely to talk of the NAB Leadership Conference in my last article. At that point we were in an effort to save our sales tax exemptions. Our situation may be nearly as dire on that issue today, but hopefully you all are well informed and working hard on that yourselves.

I have attended the NAB Leadership Conference in Washington DC for the last two years. I was not an NAB member before attending last year, but I came home and joined. I always felt it was too expensive and we couldn't afford it, but after I saw how well respected NAB is in the political community and how good they were at presenting their point of view without losing friends, I felt like we had to pay our share.

For me the highlight of the Conference this year was the address by Tom Ridge, director of Homeland Security. He had a great deal of security with and around him, but he was very comfortable mixing and visiting with the group. I was reminded how much the government relies on us. I can tell you that not everyone takes us for granted, but "they" will. When I say "THEY" I mean your community, your local schools, your local government, your state government, and your federal government. As an industry the donated hours of programming and personnel that we give free to each of these entities is huge. We attempt to quantify that periodically, but the point is you owe it to us to "blow your own horn". Point out your public service from time to time. Don't be modest. We operate in a highly regulated environment. We need friends.

Remember what my daddy taught me. "Friends come and go but enemies last forever". And in politics forever is a very long time.

KAB to help with tax amnesty plan

The KAB Board of Directors, at its March 26 meeting in Emporia, made the decision to offer KAB's assistance to Governor Kathleen Sebelius and the KS Department of Revenue, in creating public awareness about the Governor's tax amnesty plan. The amnesty plan is part of the Governor's adjustments to close the \$230 million deficit for the fiscal year 2003 and 2004 budgets. She released her plan on March 25. The Governor proposes closing the deficit without cuts in her 2003 and 2004 budgets and without a tax increase.

The tax amnesty program, called "Fair Share", will attempt to collect unpaid back taxes by forgiving penalties and interest to those taxpayers who come forward and pay back taxes owed. The Governor projects this program will generate about \$32 million in tax revenue.

According to KAB Chairman Kyle Bauer, "Radio and television broadcasters are the primary source of information for most Kansans, so it makes sense that KAB take the initiative to offer assistance by producing radio and television announcements and asking stations to air them to create awareness about tax amnesty". KAB's Harriet Lange will meet soon with Secretary of Revenue Joan Wagnon to start planning for the on-air initiative.

Other elements of the Governor's plan include: accelerated payment of property taxes and accelerating payment to monthly, of state withholding and sales taxes collected by quarterly filers; the passage of legislation allowing for expanded gaming in Kansas; and issuing \$175 million in bonds to be repaid with income from tobacco settlement receipts.

#

KAB spring events

KAB has a busy spring planned with events scheduled for April, May, and June.

The **Annual KAB Student Seminar and Career Fair** is set for **April 16** at the Wichita Marriott. The morning student seminar will give high school and college students the opportunity to talk with professionals working in the broadcast industry, at a series of round table discussions. The Career Fair, open to the students and to the public is scheduled for 12:00 to 2:30 pm. Stations are encouraged to participate to help meet their non-job vacancy specific outreach requirements in the new EEO rule. Contact KAB for details.

The re-instituted **KAB Sports Seminar** will be held **May 6** at Royals Stadium in Kansas City. It is scheduled to begin at 10:00 am. Registration will include a ticket to the Royals/Red Sox game that night. During the day-long seminar, broadcasters will hear from representatives of the Royals, the KC Chiefs, NASCAR, KSHSAA, and the Boston Red Sox announcers will be invited. Schedule and registration information will be distributed soon.

With the new EEO rule going into effect on March 10, KAB has scheduled two **EEO seminars** with Broadcast Attorney Barry Umansky. The first will be **Monday, May 12**, 1:30 to 4:00 pm in Topeka; and the second will be 9:30 am to 12:00 on **Tuesday, May 13** in Wichita. The title of the seminars will be: "EEO and License Renewal: A Wake-Up Call".

The Annual **KAB Sales Academy** is scheduled for **Monday, June 9** at the Topeka Capitol Plaza/Maner Conference Center. The full day academy will feature Kansas broadcast/sales professionals in a variety of one-hour sessions to appeal to rookies as well as sales veterans.

#

Smoller receives Stauffer award

Brian Smoller, sports director for KMAN/KMKF/KXBZ/KACZ, Manhattan, received the 2003 Oscar Stauffer Award for Sports Broadcasting, sponsored by Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA).

Entering his fifth year as sports director, Smoller is the play-by-play voice of the K-State volleyball team and the B104.7 "Area Game of the Week" for high school football. Brian also is heard on K-State baseball broadcasts and provides play-by-play for area high school basketball and selected sports.

#

EAS monthly tests AMBER quarterly tests

Tues., April 8, 10:50 pm / EAS
Tues., May 13, 1:50 pm / EAS
Sunday, May 25, 1:50 pm / AMBER
(*It's National Missing Children's Day*)
Tues., June 10, 10:50 pm / EAS
Tues., July 8, 1:50 pm / EAS
Tues., August 12, 10:50 pm / EAS
Thurs., August 14, 1:50 pm / AMBER
Tues., September 9, 1:50 pm / EAS
Tues., October 14, 10:50 pm / EAS
Tues., November 11, 1:50 pm / EAS
Thurs., Nov. 13, 1:50 pm / AMBER
Tues., December 9, 10:50 pm / EAS

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## Check your KAB alternative inspection certificate . . .

If the expiration date on your Certificate of Compliance is in 2003, start thinking about signing up for another inspection. The advantage to KAB's alternative inspection program, is that stations which pass get a three-year exemption on routine FCC inspections. Go to [www.kab.net](http://www.kab.net) to download the information and form to request an inspection, or contact KAB.

## Welcome new member

A warm KAB welcome to new Associate Member: **K-State Radio Network**, Manhattan; **Larry Jackson**, radio coordinator.

These stations have renewed since the February *Transmitter*: **RADIO**: KACY FM, Arkansas City; KREP FM, Belleville; KINZ FM, Chanute; KTCC FM, Colby; KDCC/KONQ, Dodge City; KBTL FM, El Dorado; KDNS/KZDY, Glen Elder; KVGB AM/FM/ KHOK FM/KBGL FM, Great Bend; KAYS/ KHAZ/KJLS/KKQY/KFIX, Hays; KWBW/KHUT/KHMY, Hutchinson; KZQD FM, Liberal; KSDB FM, Manhattan; KREJ/KSNS, Medicine Lodge; KINA/KSKG, Salina; KBEQ/ KSFT/KKJO/KSJQ, St. Joseph; KLEY/ KWME, Wellington; and KKLE AM, Winfield. **TELEVISION**: KLBY TV, Colby; KUPK TV, Garden City; KTKA TV, Topeka; and KAKE TV, Wichita.

#

## 2003 KAB events

- April 16, KAB Student Seminar and Career Fair, Wichita Marriott
- May 6, KAB Sports/Sports Sales Seminar, Royals Stadium, KC
- May 12, KAB EEO Seminar, Topeka
- May 13, KAB EEO Seminar, Wichita
- June 9, KAB Sales Academy, Topeka Capitol Plaza Hotel
- June 10, KAB Board of Directors Meeting, Topeka Capitol Plaza
- July 18-Aug 8, KAB Office closed
- August 27, KAB Board of Directors Meeting, Clay Center
- October 19-21, KAB Convention, Wichita Airport Hilton
- November 18, KAB Executive Committee Meeting, Topeka
- December 11, KAB Board of Directors Meeting, Manhattan

#

## More pass inspection

These stations have recently passed a KAB Alternate Broadcast Inspection, gaining a three-year exemption from routine FCC inspections: KXXX/KQLS, Colby; KTCC FM, Colby; KGNO/KOLS/KZRD, Dodge City; KNNS/KGTR, Larned; KSLS/KYUU, Liberal; KJRG AM, Newton; KOAM TV, Pittsburg; and KWLS AM, Pratt.

#

## Stations exceed commitment for KS LIFE PSAs

When representatives of Kansas LIFE Project met with the KAB Board to request endorsement of the effort, they asked that stations provide \$300,000 in PSA time over a two-year period. The Board endorsed the program and became a Kansas LIFE Project Partner.

At the conclusion of the two-year effort to acquaint Kansans with options available to them in end-of-life care, radio and television broadcasters reported air time of \$409,540. Total reported in 2001 was \$178,582; and total reported in 2002 was \$230,958.

Since last March, stations have been airing LIFE Project PSAs on pain management. According to Stacie Ogborn, project operations manager of the LIFE Project, "Kansans in pain are seeing these PSAs on television and hearing them on radio, and they're calling in immediately". Ogborn reports that since the PSAs on pain management began airing last March, the volume of calls coming in to the LIFE Project HelpLine has doubled.

Although KAB's commitment to the project has been fulfilled, Kansas LIFE Project has asked stations to continue airing the pain management PSAs through August.

#

## KABers attend NAB Conference

Kansas broadcasters were well-represented at the February NAB Leadership Conference in Washington DC. Representing the KAB were Chairman Kyle Bauer, KFRM/KCLY; Chair-Elect Cliff Shank, KSKU/KXKU/KGGG; Board Members Gary Hawke, University of Kansas; Dave Trabert, KAKE TV; and Wayne Godsey, KMBC TV. Also NAB Radio Board Member Jerry Hinrikus, EBC, Inc.; Gary McNair, KSNT TV; Jack Oliver, Clear Channel Radio; and KAB President Harriet Lange. KAB members who accompanied the group on Capitol Hill calls included Bob Zuroweste, Entercom Radio and Mike Campbell, Susquehanna Radio.

Conference sessions were scheduled over a two-day period and included updates on the transition to digital television, the state of the radio industry, copyright issues, ownership issues, national and state tax issues impacting broadcasters, and legal and congressional updates. Speakers included Ken Ferree, chief of the FCC Media Bureau; Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge; Congressmen Fred Upton, Ed Markey, and John Dingell and Senators Chuck Hagel and Orrin Hatch. A Congressional staff panel included Kevin Krufky, who is Sen. Sam Brownback's legislative aid for issues before the Senate Commerce Committee.

KABers were on Capitol Hill a full day, visiting with Kansas Congressional delegation and/or staff about the transition to DTV, ownership issues, and Internet streaming issues.

#

## Thanks to KNZA & WIBW

KAB thanks Robert Hilton at KNZA FM and Ed O'Donnell at WIBW Radio, for coordinating the installation and assignment of KAB phone lines during the state high school basketball tournaments.

## Wartime response PSAs available

Radio and television PSAs about wartime response and preparedness and patriotic messages are available from NAB.

Radio PSAs are available on NAB's web site at [www.nab.org/publicservice](http://www.nab.org/publicservice). Television PSAs will be distributed via satellite on Wednesday, April 2, from 12:00 to 12:30 pm, central time. The satellite coordinates are Galaxy 3, Transponder 7 (C-Band), Downlink Frequency 3840 MHz (H), Audio 6.2/6.8.

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## 2003 KAB deadlines

- April 1, deadline for KAB Kids Scholarship applications
- May 1, deadline for KAB Broadcast Scholarship applications
- May 1, deadline for KAB paid summer student internships
- May 1, deadline for KAB paid summer educator internships
- July 1, deadline for KAB station awards entries
- August 11, deadline for nominations for KAB Distinguished Service Award, Hall of Fame inductees, Sonny Slater Award, Tony Jewell Award, Mike Oatman Award and Tourism Award
- November 1, deadline for KAB Student PSA Contest (alcohol/drug prevention - holidays)
- November 1, deadline for paid faculty and student internships (semester break and spring break)

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## Job openings at KSU

The Educational Communications Center at Kansas State University has three positions for which they are seeking applicants. The positions are producer/director, graphic designer, and multimedia designer. For job descriptions contact Paula Seematter at (785) 532-3104. Application deadline is April 18.

## Washington update

### At the FCC

\*The FCC has proposed a **schedule of regulatory fees for FY 2003**.

Congress imposed a 23% increase in the amount the FCC is required to collect in regulatory fees. For radio, the FCC also proposes to alter the population-based fee schedule by expanding the number of population categories from six to eight and adjusting the population levels in each fee category. Comments are due April 25. The FCC's Notice and proposed fees can be found at [www.fcc.gov](http://www.fcc.gov).

\*FCC Chairman Michael Powell announced he plans to submit **proposed media-ownership rule changes** to his fellow commissioners with tentative plans to bring them to a vote at a June 2 meeting.

\*The FCC's **DTV simulcasting rules take effect April 1**, requiring DTV licensees to simulcast 50% of the video programming of their analog channel on their DTV channel.

\*The FCC has issued a reminder to TV broadcasters that choose to provide local emergency information, of their **obligation to make emergency information accessible** to persons with hearing and vision disabilities.

#

### Legal calendar

**April 6 Daylight savings time begins.** Daytime-only stations and stations with pre-sunrise and/or post-sunset authorization should check sign-on-and sign-off times with your authorization to make sure you are operating legally.

**April 10 All stations place the Issue/Programs List** for the first calendar quarter in your public inspection file.

**April 10 All commercial TV stations** electronically file the Children's TV Programming Report (FCC Form 398) for the first calendar quarter. Place a copy of it and documentation regarding children's programming commercial time for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter in your public file.

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## Are you in the dark about public issues?



PO Box 4341, Topeka KS 66604

[www.sunshinecoalition.com](http://www.sunshinecoalition.com)

*Help the Kansas Sunshine Coalition for Open Government shed light on Kansas open records and meetings by becoming a member today!*

Do you have a question about open records or open meetings?

Call the Kansas Sunshine Coalition Hotline for free information from a qualified Kansas attorney.

(785) 233-3700

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■ **YES!** Sign me up as a member of the Kansas Sunshine Coalition. I want to help in the fight to keep public meetings and public records open to the public.

\_\_\_ Individual membership \$25/year

\_\_\_ Organization membership \$100

\_\_\_ Students \$10

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/St/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Tel \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Complete and mail this form with payment to: Kansas Sunshine Coalition, PO Box 4341, Topeka KS 66604

## Mona Thompson

Mona Thompson, 72 of Tulsa and formerly of Russell, died March 3 from a massive brain hemorrhage. She was married to former Russell Broadcaster Fred Thompson. The Thompsons owned KRSL/KCAY from the late 1950s to the mid -1980s. Besides her husband, she is survived by one son, two daughters and four grandchildren.

A memorial service was held March 6 at First Presbyterian Church in Tulsa.

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## News briefs

\***Marty Grey** has been appointed service director for **KNZA Radio**, Hiawatha. He has been a consultant for the station since November while he conducted an ag market study. The station has begun airing week-days a one-hour ag program.

\***Russ Schell** is new market manager for Zimmer Radio Group's **KLWN/ KLZR** in Lawrence. He replaces Hank Booth who took a position in December as executive director of Kansas Wildscape Foundation. Schell most recently was in St. Louis where he was operations manager for Bonneville stations WIL FM and WRTH AM.

\***Cait Duffy** has been promoted to news director at **KLWN/KLZR**, Lawrence. She will continue her weekday mornings on KLWN's "Morning Newswatch" and KLZR's "The Lazer Morning Show."

\***Ken Selvaggi** is new general manager at **KSNT TV**, Topeka. He replaces Gary McNair who moved to WBOY TV, in Clarksburg, W.VA. Selvaggi comes to Topeka from WSAZ TV, Huntington W. VA., where he was news/marketing director for the Emmis-owned station.

\***Robert Grossman** has been named director of sales for the Wichita Operations of **Journal Broadcast Group, Inc.** He's leading the sales teams of the group's six radio stations. He most recently was general sales manager and national sales manager for WCHH FM in Charlotte NC.

\*The 2003 **AP Broadcasters joint Missouri-Kansas** meeting is scheduled for May 10 & 11 in Kansas City. For details contact Jim Bagby with the AP in Kansas City.

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