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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.

Kansas Association of Broadcasters
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Happy Holidays!
Merry Christmas
Happy New Year!



Chairman's message

(Scott Donovan, KHOK/KVGB)

"One of the greatest titles in a person's life is citizen....." a quote from former New York City Mayor Rudy Gulliani. Imagine being named "Citizen of the Year" in New York City. Many broadcasters have received the citizen of the year honor in their communities and it's due to the fact that most broadcasters are very community oriented people. We should be commended for the job we do at the local level, not only to inform listeners and viewers but to get them involved in a wide variety of community events.

The Kansas Association of Broadcasters recently put a promotional piece together to inform the public and legislators about the amount of service we contribute to our communities. Kansas broadcasters donated over \$111.3 million in support with public affairs activities, charitable causes, and more. The sad part is only 60 % of broadcasters responded to the survey sent out by the National Association of Broadcasters. Imagine what that number could be if every broadcaster participated in that survey ?

This is my final *Transmitter* column as your KAB Chairman. I challenge all broadcasters to show above PAR performance in 2003. Pledge, air and report your involvement in your local community. I know the involvement of you and your staff exceeds the numbers that we are currently promoting. Put a pencil to it, I'm sure you will be amazed at the time and the commitment we all make to our communities.

Let me wrap up by saying that many

(continued on page 2)

Transmitter

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KAB joins other media organizations in filing law suit

Claiming Gov.-elect Kathleen Sebelius violated the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA), the KAB, Associated Press, Kansas Press Association and 11 newspapers, filed suit in Shawnee County District Court on December 4. The suit claims that the Budget Efficiency Savings Teams appointed by Sebelius to review the operations and finances of state government, violated KOMA by not conducting their meetings in public or notifying people of the meetings.

District Judge Eric Rosen heard the case on December 12. Topeka Attorney Mike Merriam represented the media organizations, and assistant attorney general Steve Phillips represented Sebelius. Judge Rosen is expected to rule in the next few days.

#

Call for entries

Kansas State High School Activities Association will honor a sports broadcaster with the Oscar Stauffer Award at one of the state basketball tournament sites in mid-March. The competition is open to any Kansas broadcaster who does play-by-play of high school sporting events.

Entries for the competition should be an actual aircheck (continuous play-by-play) of a high school sporting event during the 2002-2003 season. Airchecks should be no longer than five minutes in duration. Interviews or sportscasts should not be part of the entry. **Entry deadline is Monday, December 30, 2002.** Mail entry on cassette to Cliff Shank, 106 N. Main, Hutchinson 67501.

2002 KAB Year in Review

THANKS to the KAB Board of Directors and many member volunteers who gave time and effort to KAB events and initiatives in 2002.

KAB 2002 Events

Paul Weyland Sales Seminar

Wichita, January 24

Journalists Day at the Court

Topeka, February 1

Chris Lytle TV Sales Satellite Seminars

February 12, March 12 & 26

Sales Academy, Topeka, March 25

Student Seminar / Career Fair

Topeka, April 16

Political Broadcast Seminar,

Topeka, May 7

Political Broadcast Seminar

Wichita, May 8

Sports Seminar, Kansas City, May 14

KAB/MBA Bi-State Convention

Kansas City, June 6-8

Fall Conference: DSA / Hall of Fame

Inductions, Management, Production Seminars, Annual Meeting, Station & Individual Awards, Wichita, Oct. 15-16

Other Activities and Projects

*KAB lobbied at the national level on issues of vital concern to Kansas broadcasters. KABers called on our Washington DC delegation and attended NAB's Leadership Conference.

*Monitored the state legislature for proposals detrimental to Kansas broadcasters and represented broadcasters interests. Introduced legislation providing for a press shield law. The bill was referred to the Kansas Judicial Council for further study.

*Joined other media organizations in filing a suit alleging violation of KS Open Meetings Act by Gov.-elect Sebelius'

*Co-sponsored with Kansas Sunshine Coalition for Open Government, Kansas Supreme Court, KU Media Law Clinic, and Kansas Press Association, Journalists Day at the Court. Discussions were held about the current state of the law regarding open records and open meetings, cameras in the courtroom and other issues of importance to journalists covering Kansas courts.

*Partnered with NAB to conduct a community service survey of Kansas radio and television stations. Kansas broadcasters reported contributing \$111,265,000 to local communities in fund raising efforts and the airing of PSAs.

*Made adoption of Kansas children in need of a family, an official project again in 2002. Kansas broadcasters continued to give air time for the Kansas adoption and foster care effort.

*Presented awards and cash prizes to winners in our PSA contest for high school and college students and classes to produce radio and television PSAs for youth alcohol/drug abuse prevention.

*Continued our endorsement and airing of PSAs of the Kansas LIFE Project, a campaign to improve care for Kansans at the end of life.

*Coordinated broadcaster participation in the Kansas AMBER Plan and provided copies of training and public awareness materials about the program to broadcasters and law enforcement agencies.

*Continued FREE legal hotlines to give members a reliable, quickly available source of expert legal advice.

*Continued the Alternative Broadcast Inspection Program for radio and television stations.

*The number of stations pledging time to the NCSA time bank continued to increase resulting in significant revenues to the KAB from NCSA participants: KS Army National Guard; KS Department of Health and Environment (Lead Poisoning and Suicide Prevention); KS Division of Motor Vehicles; KS Radon Program; U. S. Coast Guard; KS Department of Human Resources; and Valley Hope Association.

*With the other 49 state broadcast associations, KAB filed comments in the FCC's ongoing EEO rulemaking. Meanwhile, KAB member stations continue commitment to nondiscrimination through outreach efforts as outlined in KAB's Broadcast Careers Program - career fairs, student broadcast seminars, scholarships, paid internships, online Job Bank, and continuing dialogue and collaboration with broadcast educators.

*Sponsored broadcast awards for radio and television stations and broadcast students.

*Awarded \$35,000 in 2002, through scholarships to future broadcasters and children of employees at KAB member stations and through its paid student and faculty internship programs.

*KAB Board adopted bylaws and articles of incorporation for the KAB Foundation and the process was started to form a 501 (c) 3 organization for educational purposes.

*KAB and MBA provided at the Bi-State Convention, educational sessions for managers, engineers, radio programmers, and sales people.

*Radio stations took advantage of KAB phone lines during state basketball tournaments.

*Published a *Kansas Radio/Television Directory* and monthly *KAB Transmitters*; distributed numerous communiqués to members about regulatory and legislative issues.

*PR and outreach included the awarding of the annual Tony Jewell Award for the prevention of alcohol and drug abuse, the KAB sponsored Governor's Tourism Award; assisting with the selection of the winner of KSHSAA's Oscar Stauffer Award for Sports Broadcasting; and distributed numerous PSAs and news releases for organizations.

#

Chairman's message cont.

times we underestimate the power of our media and the ability we have to touch, smile, relay a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around. People come into our lives for a reason, and especially during this season, we should cherish the time spent with family, friends and co-workers. Thanks again for the opportunity to be your KAB Chairman. I look forward to the New Year and wish you the best this holiday season. May God Bless everyone.

#

Butler Co. student wins PSA contest

Caleb McNary, a broadcast student at Butler County Community College won KAB's student PSA contest for a drunk driving PSA he wrote and produced. The PSA has been distributed to radio stations for airing during the holidays.

Caleb won a \$100 cash prize and a certificate of recognition for his effort.

Add Value
to your local radio newscast
with KANSAS NEWS & KANSAS SOUND

KFB
RADIO NEWS at

WWW.KFB.ORG/RADIO.HTM

Kansas Farm Bureau
Helping Feed the World

Washington update

At the FCC

*The FCC has recently **issued fines for violations of their rules**, including: \$7,000 for broadcast of indecent material by Georgia AM and FM stations; \$111,000 and \$153,000 for tower violations related to construction, registration, painting and lighting, by two tower owners; \$3,200 for the improper broadcast of a telephone conversation by a California FM; \$1,000 for rebroadcasting a portion of programming originally aired by an AM station, by a Puerto Rico TV station; \$2,000 for failing to install EAS equipment and failing to monitor transmission system by a Louisiana AM station; and a Florida noncommercial FM station was admonished for broadcasting advertisements and engaging in impermissible fundraising. (Source: ShawPittman LLP, KAB's Washington law firm).

#

Dick Combs

Dick Combs, majority stockholder in KLKC AM/FM, Parsons, died December 9 from complications with pneumonia. He was 73.

Dick and Gene Joslin bought the station in 1951 and added the FM in 1978. Dick served as a city commissioner from 1957 to 1959 and 1967 to 1975. He served as city manager from 1985 to 1993 when he retired.

Dick is survived by one daughter, one son, and a brother and sister. He was preceded in death by his wife, Patricia and a son.

#

More stations to DTV

According to NAB, 667 local TV stations in 171 markets have now made the transition to digital. Kansas television stations - KAAS TV, Salina and KSNT TV - Topeka have recently made the transition.

News briefs

***WIBW AM/FM and Kansas Radio Networks** held their grand opening and ribbon cutting on December 2, to celebrate their new broadcast facility in Topeka. Also on that date, WIBW AM began their 24-hour daily broadcast on 580 AM. The station had shared the frequency with Kansas State University the past 75 years, until KSU and Morris Communications reached an agreement for returning the frequency to WIBW.

*Former Kansas Broadcaster **Bob Kirby** (KGNO Radio, Dodge City) recently notified KAB that he is now working as evening news editor for NPR Online. He previously worked for the Associated Press in Washington, D.C.

#

Colboch replaces Booth on KAB Board

During its December 10 meeting in Topeka, the KAB Board of Directors elected Craig Colboch to replace Hank Booth on the Board. Craig is general manager of WIBW AM/FM and Kansas Radio Networks, Topeka. Hank has taken a position outside of broadcasting as executive director of Kansas Wildscape Foundation.

#

2002

A great year for KAB!

A special thanks to Scott Donovan who steps down as chairman and to Danny Thomas, Gary McNair, Larry Avery, and Hank Booth who leave the KAB Board of Directors. Your service to KAB and the industry has been exemplary!

#

Are you in the dark about public issues?



PO Box 4341, Topeka KS 66604

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

- **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