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Transmitter

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The *Transmitter* is free to members and available to non-members by subscription for \$25 per year. Comments, news articles and advertising inquiries are welcome. 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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Chairman's message

(Robert Hilton., KNZA/KMZA/KAIR)

I hope you had no major Y2K bugs at your station(s). We had a computer blow up; the first computer we bought and still using as a word processor. It blew a chip when it rolled over to 2000. We also had one report we couldn't get out of our billing software until the company sent us a patch. But, as we hoped, Y2K was a "non-event" around here.

As I said at the Annual Meeting my monthly messages to the membership will primarily be about station operations. This month I will review the Alternative Broadcast Inspection Program (ABIP) that is now starting its second three-year cycle.

Compared to the not-too-distant past, broadcasters have fewer and fewer technical regulations to follow, so it ought to be easier to follow the ones that are left. One of the ways to stay in compliance is by participating in the KAB ABIP. This program, when you pass, gives you a "hex on the FCC" from walking in your front door to do a routine surprise inspection. And since you ask for the KAB inspection, you can train your staff on how to handle it.

I attended the training session of our new inspectors, conducted by the FCC in Topeka on January 11. Some of the highlights I picked up follow.

One of the primary items the inspector will ask to see (other than the public file) is the last two months of your station log. He will inspect it for proper transmitter power, tower lights and EAS tests sent and received. And probably most

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Low power FM authorized by FCC

At their January 20 meeting, the Federal Communications Commission authorized low power FM. It was approved by a three to two vote, with Commissioners Harold Furchtgott-Roth and Michael Powell dissenting.

The action authorizes two classes of FM stations: LP 100 stations of 50 to 100 watts and LP 10 stations of 1 to 10 watts. Third adjacent channel protection for LPFMs will be eliminated; 2nd adjacent channel protections will be maintained.

The FCC will open applications for LP 100 stations as early as May. LPFMs will be restricted to eight-year non-transferable, non-commercial educational licenses. The first two years, only local residents will be allowed to have LPFM licenses. Each owner will be limited to one LPFM per community. They will be required to operate at least 36 hours each week and must comply with the FCC's political broadcasting rules, indecency and sponsor ID rules and must transmit EAS warnings. They will not be required to maintain public inspection files.

NAB President Eddie Fritts said of the decision, "The FCC has turned its back on spectrum integrity. Every legitimate scientific study validates that additional interference will result from LPFM. The FCC has chosen advancement of social engineering over spectrum integrity..." HR 3439- The Radio Broadcasting Preservation Act of 1999 - would retroactively prohibit the FCC from

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Chairman's message continued

important is if there are well-documented notes to explain any problems.

Managers, right now ask several of your staff members (one at a time) to bring you, in less than three minutes, the station logs for the past two months. See what happens.

Some other questions to ask your on-air staff:

- 1) Explain how to take transmitter readings.
- 2) What are the upper and lower limits of each transmitter?
- 3) How do you turn off each transmitter?
- 4) How do you run an EAS test?

Harriet sent all members a letter from Bob McKinney of the FCC Enforcement Bureau in Kansas City. My translation of his comments is the FCC will be targeting stations for field visits who have not had the KAB Alternative Inspection.

Call Harriet for details of the program if you cannot find the ABIP forms she sent earlier in January.

Next month – an EAS update.

#

LPFM continued

licensing LPFM stations. To date, three Kansas Congressmen, **Jerry Moran** (R-1st District), **Jim Ryun** (R-2nd District), and **Todd Tiahr**, (R-4th District) have committed to signing on as co-sponsors.

The legislation repeals any prescribed low power FM rules and revokes any low power FM licenses which may be issued by the time of enactment of the measure.

#

2000 KAB Convention
October 9-10, Wichita
(That's a Monday/Tuesday)

KAB / Broadcast

2000 Calendar

- January 24, Congress reconvenes
 - January 24-28, NATPE Annual Convention, New Orleans
 - February 5-8, National Religious Broadcasters Convention, Anaheim
 - February 12-15, NAB Leadership Conference; KAB Capitol Hill Breakfast (Feb 15), Washington DC
 - February 14, Deadline for entries in KAB Student PSA Contest for alcohol/drug abuse prevention (Prom/Graduation flight)
 - February 16-19, RAB Managing Leadership Conference, Denver
 - February 29, Broadcast/Print Career Fair, UMKC, Kansas City
 - March 7, (Also Mar 21, April 17), Don Beveridge Sales Sessions – satellite feed to participating KAB member stations
 - March 15, KAB Board of Directors meeting, Hutchinson
 - March 17, Deadline for entries in KAB Student Broadcast Awards
 - Late March, KAB Internet Seminar (date, location TBC)
 - April 7-10, Broadcast Education Association Convention, Las Vegas
 - April 10-13, NAB Convention, Las Vegas
 - April 25, KAB Student Seminar and Career Fair, Wichita Hyatt Regency
 - April 26, 27 KAB Political Advertising Seminars, Wichita Marriott (26th) and Topeka (27th)
 - May 1, Deadline for KAB Scholarship Applications
 - May 1, Deadline for KAB Faculty and Student Paid Internships (Summer)
 - May 24-28, National Public Radio Conference, Orlando
 - June 5-9, KAB Reunion Camp for Brothers and Sisters, Tall Oaks, Linwood KS
 - June 7, Media Day at KAB Reunion Camp
 - June 7, KAB Board of Directors Meeting, Tall Oaks, Linwood KS
 - June 12, NAB Education Foundation Service to America Summit and Awards Gala, Washington DC
 - June 19, KAB Sales Academy, Wichita Hyatt Regency
 - July 1, Deadline for KAB Awards Entries
 - July 17-August 4, KAB office closed
 - August 8, Deadline for nominations for KAB Slater, Humiston, Jewell and Tourism Awards
 - August 24, KAB Board of Directors meeting, Hiawatha
 - September 7, KAB Team Day 2000 - fund-raiser for Kansas Adoption Network
 - September 13-16, RTNDA International Conference, Minneapolis
 - September 20-23, NAB Radio Show, San Francisco
 - October 3-4, SBE National Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA
 - October 9-10, KAB Convention, Wichita Hyatt Regency
 - November 1, Deadline for entries in KAB Student PSA Contest for alcohol/drug abuse prevention (Holidays flight)
 - November 1, Deadline for KAB Faculty and Student Paid Internships (Semester/Spring break)
 - November 8, KAB Executive Committee meeting, Topeka
 - December 12, KAB Board of Directors Meeting, Abilene
-

Four stations already pass inspection in new cycle

The second three-year cycle of KAB's Alternative Broadcast Inspection Program is underway with two inspectors on the job – Jerry Holley and Ed O'Donnell. Wendell Wilson has postponed his start as one of the inspectors due to health reasons.

Several stations have already signed up and four have already passed: KOAM TV, Pittsburg; KTWU TV, Topeka; and WIBW AM/FM, Topeka. With their Certificate of Compliance comes a three-year grace period exempting them from routine FCC inspections.

#

New members

A warm KAB welcome to new retired member, **Dale Anderson**, Topeka.

The following stations have renewed or joined for 2000. If your call letters are not included, mail your dues today to assure your member benefits are not interrupted.

Radio: KABI/KSAJ/KBLS,

Abilene; **KLPQ FM**, Arkansas City; **KAIR AM/FM**, Atchison; **KNBU FM**, Baldwin City; **KVSV AM/FM**, Beloit; **KGCR FM**, Brewster; **KTCC FM**, Colby; **KNCK/KCKS**, Concordia; **KVCO FM**, Concordia; **KYFW FM**, Derby; **KBTL FM**, El Dorado; **KVOE AM/FM/KFFX**, Emporia; **KCVY FM**, Fort Scott; **KMDO/KOMB**, Fort Scott; **KBUF/KKJQ/KYBD/KSKL/KSKZ/KSSA/KIUL**, Garden City; **KBDA FM**, Great Bend; **KNZA FM**, Hiawatha; **KHCC/KHCT/KHCD**, Hutchinson; **KSKU/KGGG/KXKU**, Hutchinson; **KARF FM**, Independence; **KANU FM**, Lawrence; **KJHK FM**, Lawrence; **KSCB AM/FM/KLDG FM**, Liberal; **KKSU AM**, Manhattan; **KMAN/KMKF/KXBZ**, Manhattan; **KSDB FM**, Manhattan; **KNDY AM/FM**, Marysville; **KJIL/KHYM**, Meade; **KREJ FM**, Medicine Lodge; **KJRG AM**, Newton; **KQNK AM/FM**, Norton; **KOFO AM**, Ottawa; **KRBW FM**, Ottawa; **KLKC AM/FM**, Parsons; **KKOW AM/FM**, Pittsburg; **KRPS FM**, Pittsburg; **KRSL/KCAY**, Russell; **KAKA FM**, Salina; **KCVS FM**, Salina; **KSAL/KYEZ/KZBZ**, Salina; **KFLA AM**, Scott City; **KMZA FM**, Seneca; **KBUZ FM**, Topeka; **KMAJ AM/FM**, **KTOP/KDVV**, **KQTP/KWIC**, Topeka; **KTPK FM**, Topeka; **WIBW AM/FM**, Topeka; **KULY/KFXX**, Ulysses; **KLEY/KWME**, Wellington; **KCFN FM**, Wichita; **KKLE AM**, Winfield.

Television: KOOD/KSWK/KDCK TV, Bunker Hill; **KLBY TV**, Colby; **KSNG TV**, Garden City; **KUPK TV**, Garden City; **KSNC TV**, Great Bend; **KTMJ TV**, Junction City; **KUJH TV**, Lawrence; **KSNT TV**, Oberlin; **KOAM TV**, Pittsburg; **KTWU TV**, Topeka; **KSNT TV**, Topeka; **WIBW TV**, Topeka; **KAKE TV**, Wichita; **KPTS TV**, Wichita; **KSAS/KAAS TV**, Wichita; **KSNW TV**, Wichita; **KTQW TV**, Wichita; **KWCV TV**, Wichita.

KAB to Capitol Hill

KAB will be well represented at NAB's Leadership Conference for state broadcast associations in Washington D C, February 12-14 and KAB's Congressional Breakfast on Capitol Hill, February 15.

Making the trip to represent Kansas broadcasters are: KAB Chairman Robert Hilton, KNZA/KMZA/KAIR, Hiawatha; Chair-Elect Danny Thomas, KOAM TV, Pittsburg; Secretary/Treasurer Scott Donovan, KHOK/KVGB, Great Bend; Board Members Gary McNair, KSNT TV, Topeka; Gary Hawke, KJHK FM/KU, Lawrence; Douglas Harder, Western Kansas Broadcast Center, Garden City; and Steve South, KAKE TV, Wichita; KAB Member and National Government Relations Chair Richard Wartell, KMAN/KMKF/KXBZ, Manhattan; Ken Fearnow, KFDI/KICT/KLLS/KYQQ, Wichita; and KAB President/ Executive Director Harriet Lange.

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KAB launches new web site

KAB's new and improved web site: www.kab.net was launched in early January. The site was designed and is maintained by a web design subsidiary of Radio, Inc., Hays. Radio, Inc. Vice President Robert Bunting oversaw the redesign.

Member stations may post job openings free of charge at the "Job Bank" site and view resumes posted by individuals looking for a broadcast position.

Soon, KAB's directory of radio and television stations will be available on site to members, and links will be provided to member station web sites. In the meantime, stations are invited to provide a link to www.kab.net from their web site. Visitors to the KAB's site may access a wealth of information about KAB and broadcasting.

Monthly EAS tests 2000

NOTE: All times are PM

-
- February 8 10:50 pm
 - March 14 1:50 pm
 - April 11 10:50 pm
 - May 9 1:50 pm
 - June 13 10:50 pm
 - July 11 1:50 pm
 - August 8 10:50 pm
 - September 12 1:50 pm
 - October 10 10:50 pm
 - November 14 1:50 pm
 - December 12 10:50 pm
-

Kansas Election Dates and Lowest Unit Rate Periods

Presidential Preference Primary set to be canceled

Kansas' Presidential Preference Primary scheduled for April 4 is on its way to being canceled by the state legislature, due primarily to the \$1.5 million cost to conduct it. However, a number of local elections may be scheduled on that date. Check with your county election office for local election dates.

The lowest unit rate (45-day) period for any local elections on April 4 begins February 19.

Kansas Congressional (and other state/local offices) primary is August 1. The 45-day **lowest unit rate period begins on June 17 for candidates running in Kansas' primary elections.**

The 2000 general election is November 7. The 60-day **lowest unit rate period begins September 8.**

KAB will sponsor half-day Political Advertising Seminars in Wichita and Topeka on April 26 and 27 respectively. Attorneys Dave Oxenford and Barry Umansky will conduct the sessions; and FCC's political guru Bobby Baker has been invited.

Washington Update

At the FCC

*The FCC issued **new guidelines for religious broadcasters'** operating noncommercial educational stations. In their December 30 decision, the Commission said more than half of the programming of noncommercial educational religious stations must "teach" rather than "proselytize" about religion to qualify for their license. Some have raised constitutional questions about the decision and it has generated opposition on Capitol Hill. According to *Broadcasting & Cable* magazine, the decision is opposed by NAB and National Religious Broadcasters Association. The decision may also impact churches ability to operate noncommercial low power FM stations which the FCC recently created.

*The FCC has issued a new Notice of Proposed Rule Making **proposing regulations for a new "primary" Class A low power television (LPTV)** service, due to the passage of Community Broadcasters Protection Act in November. The Notice requests comments on implementation of the various protections in the Act for DTV stations and whether and how DTV stations that will or must switch DTV channels after the conversion to all DTV can preserve maximized service areas on the new channels.

In Congress

*Congress returned to Washington this week to begin their 2000 session. Issues on the agenda of interest to broadcasters include low power FM, broadcast ownership, campaign reform and TV violence.

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KC Career Fair Set

KAB member stations are invited to participate in a February 29 Broadcast/Print Career Fair at UMKC, Kansas City, 5 to 8:30pm.

FCC issues

new EEO rules

The Commission, at their January 20 meeting, issued new EEO rules to respond to the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals decision in 1998 in *Lutheran Church Missouri Synod v. FCC*. The decision held that the Commission's previous broadcast EEO rules were unconstitutional.

The FCC reinstated the rule barring broadcasters from discriminating on the basis of race or gender in employment decisions. The new rules require broadcasters with five or more full-time employees to widely publicize job openings so minorities and women may compete for positions. Broadcasters must produce annual reports on the efforts taken to increase minority placement and TV stations and radio stations with 10 or more full-time employees will have additional reports. Broadcasters will be required to file annual employment reports (Form 395).

To comply with the new rules, broadcasters may implement two supplemental recruitment measures: 1) sending job vacancy announcements to recruitment organizations that request them; and 2) selecting from a menu of non-vacancy specific outreach approaches such as job fairs, internships, and interaction with educational and community groups. Or, if a broadcast station believes it can accomplish broad outreach without these measures, it may design its own outreach program but must maintain records on recruitment sources, race, ethnicity and gender of applicants so it can monitor the effectiveness of its outreach efforts.

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The annual Fair is co-sponsored by KC media organizations and United Minority Media Association. Attendance last year was 600 to 700 people.

Contact KAB for details and registration information.

**National
Child Passenger
Safety Week
February 13-19**

**Watch for
Events in
Your Community**



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**Kansas Safety Belt
Education Office**

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Carriers Association**

**Kansas Motor Carriers Association
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Topeka, KS 66611
(785) 267-1641**