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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, and to promote free over-the-air broadcasting, for the purpose of enhancing the success of Kansas broadcasters and helping them better serve the people of Kansas.

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2005

Another great year for KAB!

A special thanks to Jackie Wise who steps down as KAB Chair, and to Cliff Shank and Patti McCormick who leave the Board of Directors - for their outstanding service to KAB and the industry.



Merry Christmas!

Happy Holidays!



Chairman's message



Jackie Wise, Vice President/General Manager, Entercom Radio, Wichita

As my year as Chair of the KAB winds down I'd like to say thank you to the KAB Board of Directors for their efforts and support. I'd also like to thank Harriet Lange for her continued professionalism and dedication to her position as KAB's president and executive director.

The key thought I will take away from my time as KAB Chair is the understanding of the importance of our *individual* members. You can and do make a difference to the organization. Regardless of the size of your market or how many stations you represent, we need your experience, your political contacts and your input for the KAB to effectively grow and serve you. It's your organization and I urge each of you to play a part in its future course.

It's been an honor to serve as your Chair and I appreciate the opportunity you gave me to do so. I'd also like to thank Cliff Shank for his many years of service and Patti McCormick who are both going off the board.

God bless and Happy Holidays!

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Community service surveys to arrive soon



NAB's and KAB's 2004 community service survey results showed that Kansas broadcasters contributed \$134 million in 2003 in service to local communities through airtime donated for PSAs and money raised for charity and disaster relief. The total for the nation amounted to \$9.6 billion.

Kansas' survey results are provided to members of our Congressional delegation, state legislators and other elected officials and policy makers. According to Kathy Ramsey, executive vice president of NAB Public Affairs, "By quantifying the value of our industry's public service, the census reminds Congress, the FCC, the press and the public that local radio and television stations are part of the fabric of communities across this country. When lawmakers understand what we do for their constituents, they are less likely to do legislative or regulatory harm to our business."

The next biennial survey by NAB and the 50 state broadcast associations will arrive at stations in January. The 2006 *Bringing Community Service Home* census will document broadcasters' efforts during 2005. Broadcasters may either: 1) return the completed survey; or 2) beginning in January, complete the survey online at www.broadcastpublicservice.org/.

The online tracking system will allow broadcasters to keep a record of community service contributions on an ongoing basis. It may be used to keep up-to-date records of activities and to print reports based on criteria that broadcasters select. The tracking system will provide a means to easily compile and report community service information, for whatever purpose, whenever it's needed.

News director development program

The Carole Kneeland Project – News Director Development Program – is accepting applications from news directors with at least three years of news director experience for its advanced management program.

The program participants will attend one three-day seminar March 2-5 in Dallas, TX and another September 13-16 in St. Petersburg FL. They also will connect to an active listserv and participate in monthly conference calls March through September.

Trainers for the program are Valerie Hyman, president of News & Management Training and founding director of the Poynter Institute's broadcast program and Joan Barrett, KAB Board Member and general manager/former news director at KWCH TV, Wichita. Joan is a protégée of Carole Kneeland who was a highly respected television journalist in Texas and succumbed to breast cancer in 1998.

Hotel and tuition expenses for the news director development program will be paid by the Carole Kneeland Project for Responsible Television Journalism. Application deadline is January 10, 2006. An application is online at: www.carolekneelandproject.org.

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License renewal, pre-filing announcements for Kansas television

Broadcast licenses for television stations in Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma expire June 1, 2006. The FCC requires that applications for license renewals must be filed no later than four months prior to the expiration of the license, or February 1, 2006, for these television stations.

As part of the license renewal application process, an applicant must broadcast announcements over the station that provide notice of the application filing and invite comment from the public.

Kansas television stations should have broadcast their "pre-filing announcements" on December 1 and December 16, 2005; also on January 1 and January 16, 2006.

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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 2005.

2005 KAB Events now history:

Luncheon at the Statehouse for **KC area legislators**, February 23

Student Seminar/Career Fair, Wichita, April 5

Sports Seminar, Kauffman Royals Stadium, April 26

Sales Seminar, Topeka, June 6

KAB Strategic Planning Retreat, Topeka, June 30

News Workshop, Topeka, October 1

Convention/Annual Meeting, Wichita, October 16-18

Other Activities, Projects

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

*KAB monitored the state legislature for proposals detrimental to Kansas broadcasters and represented broadcasters' interests at both the Regular Session and Special Session. Issues included open records and advertising disclosures on state agency advertising.

*Conducted a member survey to update member needs and gather input on KAB services and benefits

*KAB Board conducted a strategic planning session to chart the KAB's course over the next few years.

*Redesign of KAB's web site; to be launched before the end of 2005.

*Assisted Ks Department of Revenue and Secretary of State, through an on-air initiative, to create public awareness about e-filing of income taxes and new requirements for filing business franchise taxes.

*Kansas broadcasters continued to give air time for the Kansas adoption and foster care effort. Total airtime reported since KAB's adoption/foster care on-air initiative began in late 1997, is more than \$1 million. Kansas Children's Service League reports they have finalized 2800 adoptions since July 2000.

*Helped to coordinate AMBER training sessions in 22 Kansas communities for law enforcement and broadcasters. Continued to coordinate

broadcaster participation in the Kansas AMBER Plan.

*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.

*Continued the NCSA time bank resulting in revenues to the KAB from NCSA participants: KS Army National Guard; KS Department of Health and Environment; KS Radon Program; KS Department of Transportation; Community Mental Health Centers and Valley Hope Association.

*With other state broadcast associations, KAB filed comments in the FCC's Low Power FM, Satellite Home Viewer/video programming distribution, EAS, and Low Power AM proceedings.

*KAB coordinated member stations continued commitment to employment 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.

*KAB continued to offer EEO1Source for member stations. EEO1Source is an online record keeping and compliance tool for EEO.

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

*Awarded \$35,000 in 2005, through scholarships to future broadcasters and children of employees at broadcast stations and through its paid student and faculty internship programs. KAB awarded 26 broadcast scholarships and 10 KAB Kids scholarships.

*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.

*Outreach included the awarding of the annual Tony Jewell Award for the prevention of alcohol and drug abuse and \$500 honorarium to recipient's chosen organization; assisting with the selection of the winner of KSHSAA's Oscar Stauffer Award for Sports Broadcasting; and assisted in the distribution of numerous PSAs and news releases for organizations.

Washington update

At the FCC

*The FCC has **extended the deadline for the "new" children's television rules** set to go into effect in January, 2006. The FCC Order suspends the effective date of the new rules until 60 days after *Federal Register* publication of the FCC's Order On Reconsideration. The new rules include: limitations on the display of Internet Web site addresses, a revised definition of promotions with respect to commercial limitations, limits on preemptions of "core" programming and a three-hour per digital channel processing guideline. Contact KAB for a copy of a "Special Advisory to Television Broadcasters" on the delay, prepared by KAB's Washington counsel, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman, LLP.

In Congress

* By a vote of 51-50 (with Vice President Cheney casting the tie breaking vote), the **Senate passed the conference report for the Budget Reconciliation bill** on December 21. The **digital television language in the bill** sets **February, 2009** as the hard date for the end of analog broadcasts. The measure also allows the expenditure of up to \$1.5 billion to assist over-the-air viewers in purchasing analog to digital set-top converter boxes. The conference committee removed language that would have enabled cable operators to downgrade broadcasters' high-definition digital signals to lesser quality, standard definition format. Because the Senate slightly altered the reconciliation bill (a non-broadcast policy issue) from the House-passed measure, it must return to the House for final approval.

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2006 EAS monthly tests

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

Annual AMBER Test

Thursday, May 25, 1:50 pm
National Missing Children's Day

EEO violations nets \$20,000 fine

KAB Washington Attorney Dick Zaragoza reports that the FCC has fined a radio station owner \$20,000 plus reporting conditions for EEO violations. In its decision, the Media Bureau has scrutinized not only whether the licensee recruited for each full-time vacancy, but also whether the licensee's recruitment efforts were adequately broad. The message is that stations need to make sure that they have adequate systems in place not just to insure proper recordkeeping and reporting, but also to insure that they are using enough recruitment sources for each opening.

According to Zaragoza, "When it comes to recruitment outreach, the maxim 'better safe than sorry' translates into 'the more recruitment sources for each vacancy, the better.'

KAB reminds station members that KAB provides them access to EEO1Source, an online EEO compliance and recordkeeping tool. For only \$600 a year, broadcasters may take FULL advantage of this tool's recruiting and recordkeeping features. A \$600 investment now is a lot more palatable than a \$20,000 fine later!

Give EEO1Source a try. Just go to www.eeo1source.com and click on "Sign up".

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News briefs

***Calder Picket**, longtime host of **KANU's/Kansas Public Radio's** "The American Past", is retiring after 32 years at the microphone. He broadcast more than 1,500 weekly shows. The program has aired since 1973. The final show will air on Christmas Day. Picket, who is 84, is a retired University of Kansas journalism instructor.

***NAB's executive vice president of Government Relations, John Orlando**, is resigning his position at NAB to become head of the CBS Office in Washington DC. He worked at CBS before joining NAB five years ago.

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FOG awards to three

The Kansas Sunshine Coalition for Open Government (KSCOG) has honored three state senators with its 2005 Friends of Open Government (FOG) Award.

Sen. Kay O'Connor, R-Olathe, Sen. Tim Huelskamp, R-Fowler, and Sen. Anthony Hensley, D-Topeka, were cited for their efforts in the 2005 legislative session, as well as their long-term commitment to the cause of open government.

"Sen. Hensley has been called a bulldog for open government," said Randy Brown, executive director of the Coalition and a senior fellow at Wichita State University. "Sen. O'Connor went to great lengths to work with all sides in the 2005 sunshine debate, and Sen. Huelskamp has been an equally persistent friend of the public's right to now. All three have been fighting the good fight for a long time."

Typically a difficult venue for sunshine issues, the Senate in 2005 helped push through a number of open government initiatives. Legislation passed in 2005 requires that all county and district attorneys report annually on all open records and open meetings complaints they receive. Another sunshine initiative makes public any compensation agreements, public or private, involving anyone in a public position. Yet another requires that the records of private research contracts for faculty members at Kansas universities be open to the public.



Pictured with Sen. Kay O'Connor as she receives her FOG award, are (from left) Richard Gannon, KS Press Association; Sen. O'Connor's husband, Art; and Randy Brown, KSCOG executive director.



Pictured at Sen. Hensley's acceptance, are Richard Gannon, Sen. Anthony Hensley, KAB's Harriet Lange, KSCOG President Ron Keefover, and Randy Brown.