

www.csregionacm.org

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Above: The Radisson Hotel (Covington, KY) will be the site of the CS ACM Spring '03 Regional Conference.

The conference plan looks terrific, and plenty of evening socializing venues are very close to the hotel.

Check out the back page of this issue for preliminary information about the CS ACM Fall '03 Regional Conference in Akron, OH. Our host will be the good folks at Wadsworth Community TV.

**See you in
COVINGTON!**

Spring Conference 2003: Come To Covington, KY

The Central States Spring Conference in Covington, Kentucky is just around the corner and it promises to be both informative and entertaining. The Conference itself will consist of three tracks covering Public, Educational and Government Access with 17 sessions to choose from. Friday's Luncheon will feature Keynote Speaker, Ted Bushelman, who has been the Director of Communications at the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport for 36 years.

As for entertainment, Thursday night will be a night on your own to explore Covington's Mainstrasse Village, the restored German village with over 35 shops, restaurants and nightspots, just across the street from the Radisson Hotel. Friday's event will include a multi media art exhibit featuring various artists at Media Bridges, including refreshments and live entertainment. Then off to the Newport on the Levee, which combines the ultimate mix of dining, shopping and entertainment. Including the IMAX theater, Gameworks, the Shadowbox Cabaret and the Newport Aquarium, featuring one of the best shark viewing galleries in the U.S.

We hope you will join us at the Spring Conference April 24th – 26th. Be sure to Register early and make your reservations at the Radisson Hotel in order to get a Riverview room with a spectacular view of the city skyline. For more information, please visit www.csregionacm.org or call 1-859-261-1300.

CHAIR CHAT

Have you hugged your legislator today? Okay, maybe not a hug, but how about a handshake? Maybe a phone call? Or just letter or fax to let them know you're alive and kicking? ***It's very important stuff!***

Right now between terrorism, state budget crises and war we aren't very high up on the radar right now. We aren't even a smudge on the screen. That could change in an eye blink.

Remember the state bill in Ohio in 1999? If not for some local vigilance in a two month period we could have gone from happy go lucky to snake bit and gone! It's that easy to get legislated out of existence. Especially when the other side has "lawyers, guns & money." Okay, they aren't using guns yet but the other two definitely apply.

You need to maintain a connection with your local, state and federal lawmakers. You don't necessarily have to be discussing legislation or even PEG access with them every time you speak, but they do need to know you have facilities they can take advantage of and make sure they know the basics: how it's paid for and who your supporters are.

Tell them stories about how individuals and families have been assisted by your facility. More importantly, thank them for their support of a true community service.

We're going to need them sooner than you think. Broadband legislation is still waiting on the sidelines. Media consolidation is on the front burner right now at the FCC. We've got a stagnant economy and cable companies who are not afraid to "boo hoo" about how they need the government to make it easier for them to rack up even bigger bucks.

All we have is you, your center and your constituencies. We need you to do the leg work. Send that fax or letter. Make that telephone call or maybe shake that hand.

Tom Bishop
Chair, CS Region—ACM



Tom Bishop in action!

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Central States Board is taking a three-pronged approach in our 2003 budget to help grow the community media movement on a local, regional, and national level. Grassroots scholarships, public policy efforts, and participation by our regional members on the national board are where most of our expenses are earmarked this year.

We encourage our members to apply for scholarships to help defray the costs to attend regional and national conferences. The regional conferences this year will be held in Covington, Kentucky, April 24-26 and Wadsworth/Akron, Ohio, October 23-25. The national conference will be in Tacoma, Washington, July 9-12.

The battle to preserve community media is ongoing in Washington. This region is committed financially to helping that fight when the national organization needs help. This region is also committed to having members from our region on the national board. We have committed money to help defray some of their costs to attend board meetings held around the country.

We're also grateful to the hosts of our regional conferences and the coordinators of the Philo T. Farnsworth Video Contest, the three sources of income for the region.

Ron Beacom
Treasurer, CS Region—ACM

OK CHAPTER REPORT:

The Ohio-Kentucky Chapter is planning to have a presence at the Central States Regional conference this April in Covington, Kentucky to promote ourselves and to recruit new members. Plus, it should be a good time. We are going to sponsor an "OK Chapter Hospitality Suite" during the conference, providing a place for people to go and socialize and free refreshments. Look for our ad in the conference program to find out the Suite's room number. The OK Chapter is compiling a new membership database and a list of potential members to contact. We are also researching the possibility of having an event at Dayton Access Television to participate in a demonstration of a "tapeless" system. More details will be available at the conference.

Suzanne Patzer, Chair

Editor's Note:

The CS ACM has thrived over the years because of a "can do" spirit and willingness to help each other out. An important way to get involved with the ACM is to actively participate in a State Chapter, maybe even by serving on a Chapter Board. Please consider giving your time to an ACM/Central States Chapter.

ACM Central States Region Balance Sheet @ 2/24/03

ASSETS:

CD (Chemical Bank)	10,000.00
Checking (Chemical Bank)	2,150.83
Checking/MMF (Chemical Bank)	27,256.80

Total Current Assets:	39,407.63
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LIABILITIES/EQUITY:

Opening Equity	36,626.52
Retained Earnings	1,695.77
Net Income	1,085.34

Total Liabilities/Equity:	39,407.63
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GRASSROOTS REPORT:

Submitted by:
Melissa Mills

The Grassroots Committee will offer scholarships to the Spring Conference in Covington, Kentucky. You should have received a scholarship application in the mail. Please make sure that you make copies and pass along to your members. You can also check out the Central States Regional Web site at www.csregionacm.org for Scholarship Information.

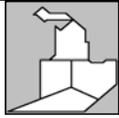
Don't forget to bring items from your centers so they can be included in the raffle. All proceeds go towards Grassroots Scholarships!

For more information on scholarships, please check out the Central States Web site or contact Melissa Mills at melissa@datv.org or 937-223-5311.



CS Region Spring Conference Scholarship Recipients: Back row - Mike Tadasco, Jamie Coch, Ric Hayes Front row - Milton Mayes, Melissa Mills (Grassroots Committee Chair), Paul Herring

CONGRATULATIONS!



The Alliance For Community Media
Central States Region

**2003 FALL
CONFERENCE
& TRADE SHOW**

**OCTOBER 23-
25**

**CROWNE PLAZA
QUAKER SQUARE**

Featuring
The Philo T. Farnsworth
Video Awards



Hosted By:

Wadsworth Community Television

Call 330-336-7919 to register or for more information.

Editor's Note:

The CS Regional Board of Directors recently met at the Crowne Plaza Quaker Square Hotel. To say the least, this is one of the most unique hotels the CS Region has ever, or probably will ever, go to for a regional conference. The hotel was literally created from the historic Quaker Oat cement grain elevators and processing complex that once thrived on the site. The rooms are circular, the corridors have curved walls, and there are real train cars in which you can dine. Come to this conference for the content and the extremely unique architectural presentation!

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