As mentioned in the previous issue of Keylight, the Central States Region of the Alliance for Community Media had planned on presenting a collaborative Spring, 2004 conference with our friends from the Midwest Region (Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri). Unfortunately we were unable to lock in plans for this event, prompting the C/S ACM Board to implement..."Plan B for Spring".

"Plan B" consists of two events at different locations: “Take A Dip In The Bitstream” is a 1.5 day seminar on streaming video and will be hosted by DATV in Dayton, OH on April 23 & 24, 2004. The C/S ACM is also promoting the “Media Democracy Conference” hosted by the Grand Rapids Community Media Center. This event will be conducted in early May, 2004, and will feature keynote speaker Amy Goodman from Democracy Now.

Please see additional details about these events in this edition of Keylight and on the C/S ACM website: www.csregionacm.org.

Membership meetings will be held at both events, primarily to gather nominations for the bi-annual election of the Board of Directors.
The American election process is sometimes called the longest ongoing peaceful revolution in history. Each year, people across our nation have the opportunity to revolt against those in power by participating in the voting process. While some might debate the “peacefulness” of the process the alternative revolutionary techniques are quite a bit messier.

The elections of the Alliance for Community Media Central States Region are a revolution of another type. Since 1976 the ACM has been a revolution in media. Putting the power of the program into the hands of your communities and using bandwidth to make them better in the process.

Its time for you to join in the longest, almost peaceful, revolution in media by participating in the upcoming Central States Board of Directors elections.

The election process in the Central States requires that nominations either be made at the spring member business meeting or via mail, fax, e-mail, etc. before the close of the spring member business meeting.

Since we are mixing things up a little this spring and having essentially two seminars instead of our usual conference, we will have spring business meeting part 1 in Dayton, Ohio during the “Take A Dip In The Bit-stream”, Video Streaming Seminar on April 23rd & 24th. Part 2 will take place in early May (dates to be announced soon) at the Grand Rapids Community Media Center Media Democracy Conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

The nominations will open in Dayton and close in Grand Rapids. You can either nominate someone from the floor of the meeting or you can e-mail me at tom@mediabridges.org with any nominations. All nominations must be accepted, either in person at one of the two meetings or in writing to be presented by the close of the Grand Rapids meeting.

We have 9 seats total up for re-election. The Chair and then 8 at-large members of the board. The Chair’s election is run separately from the at-large members of the board.

Currently the board commitment consists of 5 meetings per year. Two the day before regional conferences, two at locations where future conferences will be held and the national conference. The January meeting at a future conference site is currently serving double-duty as our retreat so where commitment for all other meetings is generally one evening and the next morning, the retreat can run into an extra day depending upon our agenda.

Board members are also expected to actively serve on committees and generally provide the work that makes the Central States run. We have no staff so all work is done by board members and others who generously volunteer their time, skills and energy.

If you have any questions about becoming a member of the Central States Board of Directors feel free to contact me at tom@mediabridges.org.

Don’t forget to join the revolution!

Tom Bishop, Chair
TREASURER’S REPORT:

The Central States Region of the ACM finished 2003 with a balance of $40,336, a net gain of $2,013 over 2002. This is particularly impressive in light of the Board actually planning on absorbing a project loss of $4,600!

Once again, congratulations to the great folks at Wadsworth Community Television for planning and hosting a hugely successful Fall '03 conference, and to Rod Swartz for the equally successful Philo T. Farnsworth Video Festival.

Please review the 2003 Year—End Balance Sheet that accompanies this report.

Ron Beacom, Treasurer

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C/ S ACM Balance Sheet

December 31, 2003

Current Assets:

- Certificate of Deposit: $10,115.99
- Checking: $263.39
- Checking/MMF: $29,956.68

Total Current Assets: $40,336.06

Liabilities/Equity:

- Opening Balance Equity: $36,626.52
- Retained Earnings: $1,695.77
- Net Income: $2,013.77

Total Liabilities/Equity: $40,336.06

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Spring Grassroots Report

As you have read elsewhere in this edition of Keylight, Dayton, Ohio will be the place a special Spring Seminar - “Take A Dip In The Bitstream”.

The Grassroots Committee will have scholarships available. The scholarships will include one night hotel stay and registration. Check out the Central States website at www.csregionacm.org for more information, or give me a call at 937-223-5311 or email at Melissa@datv.org. Deadline is March 29, 2004.

The Grassroots Committee will also offer similar scholarships for the Media Democracy Conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan in early May, 2004.

Use the same form (see page 4 of this Keylight) for both events.

The Alliance for Community Media will also be offering Scholarships to attend the National Conference in Tampa, Florida on July 8-10, 2004. You can check out www.alliancecm.org for more information.

Melissa Mills, Chair, Grassroots Committee

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Schuster Fills Vacant Board Seat

Matt Schuster is the Channel Manager for Louisville Metro TV, Louisville Metro Government's government access channel.

Matt has a Master of Arts in Telecommunications from Michigan State University and a Bachelor of Arts in Broadcast/Cable Production from Western Michigan University.

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2004 Spring Grassroots Scholarship Information

The Central States Region of the Alliance for Community Media (ACM) is offering scholarships to PEG access producers, volunteers, board members or access staff persons to attend the “Spring ’04 Events” listed above. NOTE: There is no formal “Spring Conference” this year, so scholarship support will be applied to these events.

The scholarships are to help offset conference costs in hopes of encouraging ACM regional leadership, invite greater diversity of participation, enhance and expand your access experience, improve production skills and expand the knowledge of public, education, and government access organizations.

The scholarships are provided by the ACM Central States Region. The Region will grant each applicant selected, (a) one free conference registration and (b) pay for one night hotel room. The room may be shared by other recipients. The selected individual(s) awarded the funds must attend the applicable event.

Who is eligible?

Assistance is limited to (a) those current, paid individual members of the Alliance for Community Media who reside in the four Central States (OH, KY, IN, MI) or (b) must be an active producer, board or staff member affiliated with an organizational member of the ACM (ask your access manager to see if your organization qualifies). A report must be submitted of your experiences to the Grassroots Committee within two weeks after the conference.

How to Apply?

You must submit a letter with the following information: your name, mailing address, phone number, fax number, e-mail address along with the name and address of the ACM affiliated organization you belong to plus a brief statement outlining:

1) How will you benefit by your attendance at the April 23-24, 2004 Central States Regional Conference in Dayton, OH?

2) What have you done to support PEG access in your community? For how long? Why do you think PEG access is important to your community?

3) If selected, how would you use the knowledge gained to invite an even greater diversity of “voices” in your community?

4) Are you an individual member of the ACM? Is your affiliated access organization a member of the ACM? You must include acknowledgement from your access center documenting your involvement in local programming, this can be done by the Volunteer Coordinator or Executive Director with a signature.

Please apply by U.S. mail to:
Central States Grassroots Scholarship C/O Melissa Mills, Grassroots Chair, DATV, 280 Leo Street, Dayton, Ohio 45404

When to Apply?

Deadline is Monday, March 29, 2004, at 5 pm. All mail requests must be postmarked by March 29th, 2004. Late applications will not be considered. Scholarship recipients will be notified by April 5, 2004.

Scholarship applications will be evaluated according to the following:

Applicants must be currently an ACM national member or a member in good standing of an ACM organizational member and live in one of the four states of the Central States Region. You must be active as a producer, community volunteer, board member or staff person working in access. ALL producers and volunteers are encouraged to apply.

Other Requirements:

Before receiving the scholarship, recipients must sign a waiver indemnifying ACM and the Central States Region from all liability arising out of attendance at the conference: not limited to incidents involving travel, lodging, transportation. Grants will be made at the discretion of the Central States Region Board of Directors Scholarship Committee; decisions are final and not subject to appeal. ACM Central States Region reserves the right to revoke scholarships before conference dates.
TAKE A DIP IN THE BIT STREAM

The Alliance For Community Media
Central States Region
Spring 2004
STREAMING SEMINAR & MEMBERSHIP MEETING

“Digital Capture & Delivery Of Your Content"
Presented by Don Davis of D & R Networking

APRIL 23-24, 2004 Dayton, Ohio
TAKE A DIP IN THE BIT STREAM

ITINERARY OF EVENTS
FRIDAY, APRIL 23
Noon   Registration Opens
1 - 3:15 pm   Seminar Session I
3:15 - 4 pm   Meal Break
4 - 6 pm   Seminar Session II
6 - 7 pm   Central States General Membership Meeting
7:30 pm   Dinner at Brixx Ice Company

AFTER DINNER, EXPLORE THE HOT SPOTS IN DAYTON'S OREGON DISTRICT

SATURDAY, APRIL 24
8 - 9 am   Continental Breakfast
9 am - Noon   Seminar Session III - Demonstration & Hands On

THE SEMINAR SITE
DATV
280 Leo Street
Dayton, Ohio 45404 Phone: 937-223-5311

ACCOMMODATIONS
Dayton South Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
2455 Dryden Rd.
Dayton, Ohio 45439 Phone: 937-294-1471
Room Rate: $72 per night
Mention that you are with The Alliance For Community Media for this special rate.

ABOUT THE PRESENTER
Don Davis, owner of D & R Networking, has 27 years of experience in the telecommunications and networking industry. He has worked as a hardware and software design engineer, project manager, network design engineer, and provided professional services in the areas of network consulting and technical communications. Don has worked with large enterprise and service provider networks, as well as corporate start-ups. International project experience includes Denmark Public Power and network integration in other parts of Western Europe. As a technical marketing representative for Xyplex, Don used his presentation, customer relations and public speaking skills to help manage that company's reseller channel for the Midwest region.

Don's wide range of engineering disciplines and customer experiences gives him a unique perspective on technology integration and solutions development. This experience, coupled with his own down-to-earth approach to technology, enables him to present informative yet practical information for people considering technology solutions.

ABOUT THE SEMINAR
This workshop will cover the details of setting up the three major components of a digital streaming media solution: Encoder, Server and Player. Licensing issues associated with each will be discussed. Bandwidth requirements and application planning will be outlined so you can properly plan your deployment and define your target audience. Two specific solutions will be presented so you can get started fast - mobile camera deployment using digital wireless technology, and analog content delivery to the Internet community. Equipment will be available for demonstration and hands on examination. The goal is to enable you to begin using digital video technology in your environment and point you to the specific resources for equipment and software.

JOIN THE ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITY MEDIA
FOR ONLY $20

SEMINAR REGISTRATION FORM

Name __________________________

Organization ________________________
(check all that apply) ___ Public ___Educational ___Government

Title ____________________________

Address ____________________________

City, State, Zip ______________________

Phone ____________________________

Fax ________________________________

E-mail ____________________________

Please enclose a check for the total amount payable to:
Central States Alliance
Send completed form and check to:
WCTV
625 Broad Street
Wadsworth, OH 44281

Questions? Visit the Central States website at www.csregionacm.org, call 330-336-7919 or e-mail jperrino@wadsworth.k12.oh.us

Scholarships are available for this seminar and upcoming Alliance For Community Media conferences. For more information, contact Melissa Mills at 937-223-5311, Melissa@datv.org, or visit www.csregionacm.org

Seminar Registration (includes scheduled meals & events) Check one:
O $30 Member O $50 With New Membership O $50 Non-member

Check here if you would like vegetarian meals. ______

Please confirm my registration via: ______ E-mail ______ U.S. mail

Join The Alliance For Community Media for only $20 when you register for this seminar. SAVE $15
Dear Friends of Community Access:

Community Media Network located in Troy Michigan will be hosting the 2004 Fall Regional Conference for the Alliance for Community Media on October 7-9th, 2004.

The event will take place at the Sterling Inn located in Sterling Heights and will include three days of workshops, a keynote speaker luncheon, and the Philo T. Farnsworth awards ceremony.

We are looking for volunteers to help with the planning of the conference. This would include assisting with finding workshop speakers, sponsors, and vendors. We will meet on the average of once a month at our studio in Troy. Our first meeting is scheduled for March 10th at 6pm. If you are interested in helping out or know of someone who may be interested, please contact me at the number listed below.

Lastly, please help us promote the conference. We are planning several great workshops on producing quality TV programs. i.e. lighting, audio, set design, talent. If you could encourage your producers and or staff to attend the conference that would be great. I would be happy to send you a conference booklet once they are completed. Just let me know! Your consideration is appreciated. Sincerely,

Marlo L. Carver
Executive Director
Community MEDIA Network

The Best Western Sterling Inn features a comprehensive Conference Center, updated sleeping rooms, an award winning bar/restaurant, and a full indoor water park! Bring the family for the weekend!