



Alliance For  
Community Media  
Central States Region  
**Keylight**  
Spring 2011

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## Spring Conference in Columbus



**May 5-7, 2011**

**Don't Miss the Central States Conference!!!**

You can register now online at:

<http://www.csregionacm.org/conferences.php>

Deadline for the hotel conference room rate is April 22nd. The Conference brochure is also available online. Don't miss out on this great conference experience!

## Grassroots Sprouts



**From Elizabeth Lord**

## The Return of Roxie!



Seems like it has been too long since we've had the privilege of honoring a Central States community member with the Roxie Cole leadership award! To make up for lost time we have a very special recipient who hales from Mount Pleasant Michigan.

Patricia B. Heitman began as a community mover in 1985 when she and her late husband used their own equipment to start recording city government meetings. They planted the seeds that eventually grew into the Mid Michigan Cable Consortium which has grown to encompass not only government but educational and public access.

Join us at the Spring Conference to honor this incredible community leader.

## Philo Festival of Media Arts

[The Central States Board is always looking for new and innovative ways to better serve](#)

ntlemen as our Grassroots Scholarship recipients!

A local from Ohio Guy Fogle is bringing a new access station up from the ground in Piqua. He is new to the world of public access and is hoping to gain information that will help him develop his access center into a better voice for his community.

Another newcomer to access is Gustavo Gutierrez joining us through Access Fort Wayne. He has jumped fully into volunteering and producing. Most recently he has been working on an independent documentary sharing the story of the "Friends of the Third World" group in Fort Wayne.

I hope that everyone who makes it to the conference can take a moment to say hello and welcome these guys to the Central States!

## Chair Chat



### Sara Drabik, Region Chair

Happy Spring, everyone! I hope this KeyLight finds you opening up the windows and ushering in the sun and warm weather. It's a little cloudy here today in Northern Kentucky, but I'm holding out for some sunshine yet.

Since we last chatted, your Regional Board has been hard at work planning the upcoming Spring Conference in Columbus, OH. With exciting opportunities to lobby at the State House, learn from experts in social media, work with the amazing community media organizations in Ohio's fine capital, AND network and catch up with your fellow Central State colleagues, we certainly hope to see everyone there. If this weren't all enough, we will also be awarding the 2011 Roxie Cole Leadership Award at our keynote luncheon on Friday. Check out the link to our conference brochure for more information on programming and how to register.

In addition to the upcoming conference, we have been giving our Philos a little revamp. To be held on the campus of Northern Kentucky University in the brand new home for the College of Informatics, Griffin Hall, this year's Philo we be a little different. Look for Frank Clark, or fearless Philo Committee Chair, to fill you in on some of the details later in this issue.

With that, I wish you all a fabulous spring and look forward to seeing you in Columbus May 5-7!

## Indiana Chapter Report



From Erik Mollberg

The Chapter has been working very diligently with the Indiana Association of Cities and Town against to very bad bills coming from our state legislature. HB 1131 would eliminate all franchise fees that cities and municipalities could collect. While it passed out of the House committee, it was sent forward as a study for the economic impacts of the bill and this is generally a process used to kill a bill. The other is HB 1382 which would cut franchise fees from 5% to 4%, but authorize a fee to be charged to satellite providers. This bill died in committee because of the Democrats walking out of the session. Lastly, SB 52 would eliminate telecommunications boards that are set up by cities to monitor the interactions between cities and cable providers.

While these bills may have been put to pasture, we realize that this is not the end of such legislation to be introduced. We and our partners are keeping a close eye on the state capitol, especially as they come towards

[you our members. At our last retreat there was discussion about how to improve our Philo Awards Program. We wanted to expand our reach to a larger community beyond access. This will give us the opportunity to be more inclusive and attract new members. This year will usher in the first annual Philo Festival of Media Arts.](#)

[The festival will be hosted on the campus of Northern Kentucky University \(NKU\). It will be in the new Griffin Hall which will be having its grand opening the same weekend of our festival. Actually the grand opening of the new home of the College for Informatics and our festival will all be part of the same celebration. Instead of the two hour awards program that you have grown accustom to, festival attendees can expect two days of workshops, entertainment, and yes there will be awards, but with a different twist. I can't give away all of our secrets so you'll just have to join us on October 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> and find out for yourself. Call for entries will be going out soon.](#)

-  
Frank Clark, Philo Chair

## Michigan Chapter



Joint board meeting was held with the Michigan chapter of NATOA to discuss strategy regarding a possible Michigan Senate hearing on Public Act 480, the state video franchising law that was passed in December 2006.

Next state chapter meeting after the spring regional conference will be held on Friday, September 9 at Orion Neighborhood Television in Lake Orion. It will be hosted

the short legislative session. Norm Compton for Fort Wayne participated in a meeting with members from the Michigan Chapter as Michigan and Ohio realize that such bills being introduced in Indiana will easily make their way towards them and they are busy mobilizing to make sure such language will not be suggested.

by Diane Griffiths and her staff. There will be a call for nominations for the board for the next election for two-year terms ending in 2013.

Joint meeting of ACM and NATOA members was held in Lansing on March 9. Several good speakers including a state legislator and a lobbyist from the Michigan Municipal League. The event's luncheon was sponsored by Leightronix.

## National Board Report



### Looking For A Few Good . . .

The Alliance for Community Media is looking for people and ideas to assist in the organizations future.

There is a plan afoot to help make participation in the organization easier. To this end if you or someone you know would like to volunteer time and effort to support the A.C.M. please just let us know.

We all know that helpful and successful people are very busy and going to meetings at other locations can be costly. If you have ideas that might help others achieve being able to participate in the A.C.M. then let us know. How do you let us know . . . well then drop me a line at any one of the following:

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Thanks in advance for your help and effort.

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