



community TV serving the Black River Valley

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FY 08-09 Annual Report

June 2009 marked the close of LPCTV's 8th year serving the Black River Valley as its community television station. We earned \$110,472 in revenues during FY 08-09, up .05% from the previous year. In addition to our major source of funding- the "PEG Access Franchise Fees" collected by Comcast - we generated income through the support of Towns that we serve, local businesses, and our contributing members. Our expenses during the same period totaled \$115,381, nearly all of which (\$114,256) was for operating expenses. We used remaining "start-up funds" to cover the deficit of \$4909. The start-up funds were provided to LPCTV by the cable company during 2001 and 2002 and have been used in each subsequent year to cover capital expenses such as equipment and building improvements. What remains from those funds is now earmarked in a "Building Fund", for the purposes of contributing towards the anticipated major renovations and capital improvements.

LPCTV provided free on-loan video production equipment, its studio, editing facilities, training, workshops, and outlets for publicity to more than 50 individuals and more than 50 organizations over the course of the year. We had 34 members who produced video programming that ran on one, or both, of our channels. There were also 7 volunteers, totaling over 460 hours of labor, who contributed by either working on LPCTV-related projects or producing programming for LPCTV. It is worth noting that Bruce Perry of Ludlow accounted for more than 400 of these hours, recording games during all 3 seasons of Black River High School sports. Bruce was named LPCTV's "Volunteer of the Year" for the 2nd straight year.

We have continued to operate two channels on the local cable TV system in the Towns of Ludlow, Plymouth, Cavendish, and Mount Holly. Channels 8 and 10 ran a combined total of 15,000 hours of programming during FY 08-09. On Channel 8, the public access channel, there was 906 hours of first-run, non-repeat programming, 309 hours of which was produced locally, right here in our service area by community members. Channel 10, which runs education & government programming, broadcasted 1155 hours of first-run, non-repeat programming. Local programming accounted for 264 hours, most of which was in the form of local government meetings. In addition to first run broadcasts, LPCTV repeats most programming, giving community members several different opportunities to catch individual programs. Priority is always given to local programming.

In addition to the TV channels, we also host a website (www.lpctv.org), where we archive all locally-produced programs for visitors to view. This is useful for community members without cable television subscriptions (since LPCTV is only available on cable) and for those who live outside of our service area but want to be able to see some of the programs. It is particularly valuable to producers, allowing their programs to reach more people. In addition to providing training in traditional television production, we also offer individuals and organizations training in new media platforms, with a focus on video production and distribution.

In terms of growth, we are currently in the process of planning and designing a new facility and hope to move into a new space by the end of 2010. This has been a priority for LPCTV for several years now and it is exciting to start making the dream a reality. However, bringing it to fruition will take a lot of dedicated work by our staff and Board of Directors over the course of this next year, as well as community support. We have begun putting together a budget and exploring grants and other funding opportunities.

In addition to planning out this next phase of our growth, LPCTV's Board of Directors will engage in a strategic planning process throughout FY 09-10. Several workshops will be held throughout the year, which will involve re-visiting our mission statement, vision, and goals as well as studying or financial sustainability. Throughout the process, we will be soliciting community input (we have already conducted a survey). The strategic plan will culminate in the development of a document that will help steer our organization and the LPCTV Board of Directors in years to come.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that we serve the entire community and everyone in it; we are the media center for the people of the Black River Valley. Don't forget to put us to use.

Patrick Cody, Executive Director