



### **Administrative**

- New Hire: I have hired Elia Lloyd to fill the Program Scheduler / fill-in Field Producer position. She is actually Rebekah's cousin. She will start on November 1<sup>st</sup>. Initially, she will be training with us on Wednesdays & Thursdays. Will is going to remain on with us, doing program scheduling, until the end of the year. That will give us time to get Elia up to speed with the scheduling, and to also be trained on the production work (which she might be doing 2-3 nights per month to start). She will take over the scheduling responsibilities after January 1.
- Maine Media Workshop: I attended a TV / film production workshop at Maine Media Workshops last week. It was an intensive class focused on Steadicam operation, but it also covered a lot of valuable instruction on a wide range of production-related topics. Okemo Valley TV paid \$600 towards it, which amounted to approx. 1/4 of the total cost. It was an excellent program and I am interested in going back sometime to take another workshop (probably documentary / non-fiction film).
- Other Professional Development: As I mentioned last week, I have subscribed to LinkedIn Learning, and providing the videos to all staff members. There is a wide variety of classes & tutorials available, both in TV / video production disciplines, but also fundraising, marketing, graphic design, social media, video conferencing (Zoom, etc.), and so much more. It is a deep knowledge base right at our fingertips
- VAN Advocacy Work: The work is underway, in preparation for the upcoming legislative session. There is one way Board members might be able to help, which can be discussed during the meeting.
- Rebekah Vacation: Rebekah will be away on vacation next week.

### **Production**

- Production Help Sought Oct. 26th: On Thursday night next week (October 26), there are 3 meetings to cover. This is very rare for a Thursday night, especially for late in the month. And we will be short-handed. I will be covering the Ludlow Electric Commissioners' meeting. We are also able to get Peter to help out that night (who normally does not work on Thursdays); he will cover a special meeting of the Mount Holly Selectboard. Then there is a special TRSU meeting happening at the Cavendish school. It's a presentation on the Superintendent search. At the moment, we do not have anyone who can cover it. If there is a Board member interested in this topic & available, please let me know.
- Meetings: We continue to cover lots & lots of meetings. There seem to be more special meetings taking place and at least one Board (Cavendish Planning Commission) has increased from one to two meetings per month. Other Boards that meet twice per month are Plymouth Selectboard and Andover Selectboard.
- Churches: In addition to meetings, local church services also make up the "bread & butter" regular programming. For many years, Ludlow Baptist and St. James churches have been providing us with their weekly services. More recently (within the last few years), Calvary Church in Proctorsville has been sending us finished productions of all of their services. And

most recently, United Church of Ludlow has been added to the mix. Thanks to George Thomson and Pat Moore for providing the weekly programming.

- Jake Burton Dedication: Speaking of Pat Moore, he was at the recent Jake Burton Commemorative Marker Dedication in Londonderry, made a video of it, and shared it with us. Linda Thomson is coming into the studio this Friday to record a presentation on the history of Israel, in observance of the current onslaught of war.
- Studio: The Specker family came into the studio today – there were 3 generations of fiddle players performing together. Also today, Paula VbanGuilder was back in studio to record the latest episode of her mental health advocacy show.
- FEMA / SBA Updates: We have produced 2 recent updates with FEMA & SBA officials in recent weeks (related to the flood recovery & disaster assistance).
- Divided Sky Foundation: I edited a short promotional video / update about Divided Sky Foundation, which recently held a open hous. I used footage that Peter & I shot at their Fun(d) Run event back in May (which we had not yet used).
- New Music / Arts Show: Aleda Bliss, a musician from Andover, visited us in the studio recently to express interest in having her own show. She is cooking something up with Susan Haefner.
- School Programming: Students from the Expeditionary School at Black River have been coming in to work with us on a series of short community video segments that they are producing. Also, our very own Claire has been producing a series of short behind the scenes video segments with the Yoh Theatre Players at Woodstock Union HS, where she has been working. This has made for some great programming to share. Their 1<sup>st</sup> performance (“Argonautika”) is this Friday & Saturday night at WUHS.
- Black River Rugby: Rebekah recorded a couple of the Black River Rugby team’s matches over the last month (she has a friend on the team). Those shows have been widely viewed & shared.
- Staff Productions: Rebekah produced a great little video on the grand re-opening of the Ludlow Skate Park. The same day, Peter attended Cider Days in Mount Holly and has been editing a soon-to-be-released video.

## **Community Engagement**

- FOLA Film Festival Follow Up: I heard back from Scott Stearns that they will be holding a screening of the “300 Miles Melting” documentary, a story about climate change while cross country skiing along the Catamount Trail. It will be held Friday November 17<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. It is being held in partnership with Noah / Unofficial Okemo. It might be as simple as us putting out some materials & doing in person outreach before or after the screening.
- Membership Drive: Memberships are trickling in. So far, we’ve received membership renewals from Noah & Alan Isaacson, along with new members B.J. Finnell, and McKey & Jim Berkman. We need to engage the Board with this effort, as far as the outreach is concerned.
- Library Display: The Fletcher Memorial Library is trying something new – they are inviting a non profit each month to put a display in a display case in their lobby. Michelle Stinson is back working at the library (she used to work there years ago as the Children’s Librarian, before she worked for us) – she invited us to be the first. So, we now have a display at the library for the next month. I would like to add small postcards at the display for people to take, with “where to find us” information & promoting memberships.
- Social Media & Marketing Work: We have been seeing some increased engagement with the social media outlets (primarily Facebook & Instagram), as well as a small increase in subscribers to the e-news. So far, so good.

## **Equipment / Buildings & Grounds**

- New "Pocket" Camera: Rebekah & I recently recently attended an advisory council meeting for the Audio-Video Production program at River Valley Technical Center (Zachary's program). He was showing us a greta little "pocket" camera that's on a gimbal, and which can be used with an external wireless mic. We thought something like that would be a great addition to what we can offer (and also use ourselves), so I ordered one shortly after that meeting. Rebekah used it at the skate park grand re-opening. In case. You have not seen it, you can check out the video and the quality of the camera & mic here: <https://okemovalley.tv/ludlow-skatepark-grand-reopening>
- New Field Lighting: I recently purchased 2 small LED light panels for field production work, as well as a reflector and stand.
- Studio Lighting: We hung more lighting in the studio this week. More light was needed, and we happened to have a bunch of unused fixtures, which came in handy. So no new purchases were needed, which is always a bonus. I did bring in another pair of hands to help (Tom Dooley, who does contract work for us on occasion). It's looking good.
- Conference Room: As mentioned previously, we have offered friend of the station Stefan Beaumont of Red Vault Productions use of ur conference room / classroom while he & his partner Wendy renovate their house, which was badly damaged in the flood. It is a good use of the space, which was not being used much at all, and it's helping a friend & colleague. At some point – hopefully in the not-distant future, this room will be regularly in use, as our "Digital Learning Lab". It's been good having him around, too. It has been feeling a bit like a co-working space, which is nice. He suspects that their house will be ready for moving back in sometime in late Fall or early Winter. Also, Stefan & Wendy are throwing a Block Party on Depot St. next Saturday, Oct. 28 from 4-7pm. Everyone is welcome. This would be a good opportunity to capture some flood recovery images, if anyone is able to attend.