Happy New Year, Everybody!

From Network Manager Ursula Ruedenberg, Operations Coordinator Stephanie Schubert, and Business Manager Ruth Weidemeier. Like our cute shirts? You can buy them here!

Michelle Bradley Gives Discussion on What Community Radio Looks Like in 2023

In our first round-table of 2023, Michelle "Michi" Bradley of REC Networks shares her outlook for community radio. She touches on Biden's re-nomination of Gigi Sohn to the FCC, Emergency Alert System changes, FCC updates, the LPFM filing window, the translator window, how to qualify for a booster, sub channels, and clarifies news about Sinclair Audio Services and Nexstar.

Watch the recording.

President Biden Re-Nominates Gigi Sohn to FCC

After the Democrats gained seats in the House for 2023, there may be enough votes to elect Gigi Sohn to the Federal Communications Commission. President Biden resubmitted his nomination of Sohn in early January.

Sohn is a longtime telecom regulator and consumer advocate. She has a
As a reminder, we are now doing monthly round-tables again instead of weekly. On Thursday, February 2nd, Ursula Ruedenberg will share some of what 2023 holds for Pacifica Network. Watch the station managers' listserv for the link.

FCC Includes Radio in Latest Review of Media Ownership Rules; Allows Comment Period

On December 22, 2022, the FCC began its quadrennial review of radio and television regulations. This review is required every four years due to the Telecom Act of 1996.

Three media ownership rules are up for review including the Local Radio Ownership Rule - "which limits ownership by a single entity of broadcast radio or television stations in local markets," according to Inside Radio.

It’s also a priority for the FCC to note how the media ownership rules affect the broadcast stations run by women and minorities.

The Media Bureau of the FCC allows for feedback on these rules, though no deadline has been set yet for broadcasters. The first comment deadline is scheduled for 45 days after the public notice appears in the Federal Register. Reply comments are expected 15 days later.

FCC Quarterly Issues/Programs List Has Been Extended

Because technical issues are impeding the responsiveness of the Commission’s Online Public Inspection File (OPIF) system, the Media Bureau for the FCC has announced a deadline extension for all broadcasters uploading required documents into their OPIF.

The original deadline of January 1, 2023 has changed to January 31, 2023.

For further information, radio stations may contact Albert Shuldiner, Audio Division, Media Bureau, at Albert.Shuldiner@fcc.gov.

New in AudioPort

Earth Riot Radio (Half Hour)

Produced by Reverend Billy and the Stop Shopping Choir

"Hosted by Reverend Billy and Savitri D, EARTH RIOT is a comedy-infused, music-filled exploration of humanity’s most urgent issue -- the planet’s Sixth Extinction."

"Made by "Earth-loving urban activists" from The Church of Stop Shopping, this podcast educates, inspires and urges listeners to embrace reality and take action. Featuring 'News From the Natural World,' a weekly gathering of climate change’s latest science, and insightful interviews with radical leaders in environmentalism and activism."
Look for them soon on Sprouts!

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Photo of Gigi Sohn by Stanford Center for Internet and Society.
Radio Waves image by Dublab (the year 2023 was added along with a different color scheme).

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