

# Community Access Quarterly



## Community Access Television

### Orientation

First Thursday of every month,  
6:00 p.m.

### Workshops

Studio Camera & Lighting  
June 22, Sept. 7, Dec. 7

Studio Audio & Control Room  
Operations  
Apr. 13, July 6, Sept. 21, Dec. 21

Post Production  
Apr. 27, June 8, Aug. 24, Nov. 23

Field Camera  
May 3, May 31, June 28, July 26,  
Aug. 23, Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov.  
15, Dec. 13

Field Lighting  
May 17, July 12, Sept. 6, Nov. 1,  
Dec. 27

Field Audio  
Apr. 19, June 14, Aug. 9, Oct. 4,  
Nov. 29

Remote Truck  
Call for dates

Being a paid member and attendance at an orientation session are the prerequisites for signing up for any classes or workshops, and some classes have additional prerequisites. All sessions are \$10.00, with the first workshop free with a new membership. Please see a staff member for the current class schedule, descriptions, and prerequisites..

## *Random Access Notes from Executive Director Jeanne Bleil*

As a manager, I know the importance of having talented, resourceful, helpful, and reliable staff members. As a supervisor, I appreciate people who follow the rules, don't sweat the small stuff, and don't mind getting their hands dirty. As an administrator, I value having employees who are on the same page as I am. And as a coworker, I enjoy working with people who are friendly, knowledgeable, accommodating, and (very important) have a sense of humor.

April 25-29 is Staff Appreciation Week at Community Access Television, and this is my opportunity, and yours, to recognize the contributions of Shawn Phelps and Sherry Gardner to our success. Both Shawn and Sherry are everything I mentioned above, and more.

During this past year, Shawn has been working toward a certificate as a networking and database administrator by taking classes at Erie Institute of Technology. With increasing reliance on computers for editing, scheduling and tracking programs, people and facilities, and, in the future, the possibility of exploring server-based playback, Shawn not only identified the need for further training in this field, but also

bartered production services in order to get the training at no monetary cost to CAT.

Sherry picked up the ball from previous staff members who had begun implementation of two robust computer programs. She first tackled and mastered our Tightrope program that handles our bulletin board and interfaces with a Leightronix controller to cablecast all of our programming. Once

Tightrope was up and running, she put her nose to the grindstone and learned all about Facil, a database program that tracks membership, schedules facility and equipment use, manages reporting functions, and more. In addition, both Sherry and Shawn worked with me to develop an entirely new format for teaching television production skills.

There is more that I could say, but I think you get the point. Shawn is coming up on seven years at CAT, and Sherry is just completing her first. I have the utmost confidence when I am out of the office that things are running smoothly and that all the plates are still spinning. I will be telling Shawn and Sherry how much I appreciate their contributions during Staff Appreciation Week, and I hope that you do, too.



*Thank You*

## Erie Community Foundation and Time Warner Add to Equipment Inventory

Thanks to a \$7,500 grant from The Erie Community Foundation and last year's equipment grant from Time Warner Cable, we will soon be purchasing two new Canon GL-2 field cameras, two new mic kits, and a new Edirol editing unit with four external storage drives. You have shown us, through your reservations for equipment and facilities, that you enjoy using our field equipment and editing your raw footage into completed programs. Our four Canon GL-1 cameras were checked out an average of 223.5 days *EACH* in 2004, and they were all

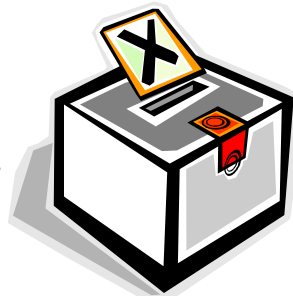
booked up for virtually every weekend. Our Edirol unit was in use for five hours of every day that we were open last year. Those numbers convinced The Erie Community Foundation that we genuinely need new equipment to be able to continue empowering your voices and visions. In turn, when you are thinking about all of the places to which you can donate your charitable dollars, in addition to Community Access Television (remittance envelope enclosed!), please consider supporting the foundation.

## Access to the Candidates



During this spring primary political season, we offered more than 50 candidates for offices within the City of Erie the opportunity to tape a 15-minute segment for our Access to the Candidates

program. About 30 individuals accepted and came to our studio during the past ten days to do their taping. We are also partnering with the Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership, the Manufacturers Association of Northwest Pennsylvania, the Erie Times-News, and Young Erie Professionals to tape two political forums at the Hirt Auditorium at Blasco Library. The forum on April 27<sup>th</sup> is for the County Executive race, and the one on May 11<sup>th</sup> is for the City of Erie Mayoral race. Watch the Erie Times-News, our bulletin board, and our website for cablecast times.



## Production Services

Nonprofit organizations, churches, and other organizations that have memberships at Community Access Television have a number of services available to them. Starting off with announcements on our video bulletin board (nonprofit event announcements throughout the Erie area are available to any organization, not just members) and ranging through standard membership options of training, equipment and facility use, we also offer the ability to hire CAT for production services. We can be your virtual arms and legs, while you concentrate on developing content, finding talent, and designing the look you want to achieve. Depending on the complexity of your project, the cost to you can range from a few hundred dollars on up. See Jeanne or Shawn for more information if you are interested.



Okay, you've carefully planned your show, reserved field equipment, worked diligently with your crew and cast, and spent hours of tedious time editing and adding the final touches to your new show, but it seems as though you may have forgotten some detail . . . what could it be?

Oh yeah . . . who the heck is gonna watch it? How will they find out when it's on CAT? When will it be repeated? How do they get a copy? What do they tell their friends? For answers to these and other very important questions join us in the studio of CAT-TV on Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. That evening we will explore the vital aspects of promotion with some local experts. Sheila Coon from the Erie Times-News, George Hazuda from Moreé Advertising, Rick Santos from Creative Imprints, and Bob Neely from WJET-TV will be on hand to introduce you to important and reasonable methods of promotion. Don't miss this critical two-hour low-cost (only \$10) informational seminar!

Master Workshop Series  
May 18, 2005, 6:00 p.m.  
Peak with Promotion

Please complete the information below, enclose your check or money order for \$10.00 and mail it to Master Workshop Series, Community Access Television, 142 West 12th Street, Erie, PA 16501. Deadline May 13.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone \_\_\_\_\_ Evening phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

## Spring Cleanup

### ***Holiday Closings***

***Memorial Day***  
May 30

***Independence Day***  
July 4

### ***Hours of Operation***

Monday through Friday  
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Evenings Mon—Wed  
Saturday mornings  
By appointment  
Subject to staff availability

It's that time of year again—time to clean up the parking lot and the front of our building from the ravages of Erie's winter and downtown traffic. If you can join us on Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, starting at 2:00 p.m. (and you don't mind getting your hands dirty), call Sherry at 454-2226 to sign up. We'll be picking up trash, hosing down the building, scrubbing our logo, and generally sprucing up the joint. Thanks to Beary Clark, who has again volunteered to wash our windows. We hope to see you then!



### **This Week's To Do List**

- ✓ Sign up for Masters Workshop
- ✓ Watch for CAT political programming
- ✓ Volunteer for Spring Cleanup

### ***HOW TO REACH US***

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142 West 12 Street  
Erie, PA 16501  
(814) 454-2226; Fax (814) 455-4109  
Email: [info@cattv-erie.org](mailto:info@cattv-erie.org)  
[www.cattv-erie.org](http://www.cattv-erie.org)

City of Erie Cable TV Access Corporation  
Community Access Television  
142 West 12 Street  
Erie, PA 16501

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