



OREGON COMMUNITY MEDIA

A Periodical Newsletter



Notes From the President

First, we are an informal lot; you are NOT required to hum “Hail to the Chief” while reading this.

This is the Oregon Community Media Board of Directors’ first effort at creating a regular, monthly Info report/bulletin to the Affiliates, Associates and Friends of Community Radio (and other non-commercial media) in Oregon. It will evolve, especially with your input and feedback.

The big issue for most of us (other than the eternal quest for higher and more reliable sources of funding!) is how best to operate your station safely in the midst of pandemic. There is no one-size-fits- all solution to this problem. I suspect your county Gov’t has issued guidelines, based on Oregon state regs or rules, for Re-Opening after the shutdown. Not all will be applicable to your station but will be worthwhile to review anyway. For example, here is a link to Marion County’s set: <https://govstatus.egov.com/reopening-oregon>

We recommend two basic rules to guide you:

1. Keep your people, staff, volunteers & visitors, safe. Do whatever it takes.
2. Keep your listeners informed. Use your airwaves and any other channel you have.

We are hoping to see you all in Astoria this fall if at all possible. Stay tuned!

David Hammock
President OCM
KMUZ-FM, Turner (Salem)



Attendees at the first meeting of Oregon Community Media, May 2013, in Ashland

How OCM Got Its Start

Several community radio folks around the state were thinking that some form of cooperation among community stations would be good for all. The idea was that working together stations could share programming, build membership, raise more money and do a better job of reaching people all over Oregon with local, community news, information and a variety of programming. We could share resources and even apply for CPB money once we got organized and had a 501(c)3 non-profit status (**which OCM now has!**).

Connie Saldana of KSKQ said, “A collaboration between sister Oregon community stations just seemed like a logical thing to happen. That’s why we convened the group. And why we continue to support OCM whole-heartedly.”

The folks at KSKQ and KSHD were the ones who gathered the contact info of all the LPFM and NCE stations and applicants in Oregon and sent out invitations to convene the first meeting. Those stations also kept the organization going to start with, by providing logistical details and leadership that are important to keep a fledgling organization running.

OCM’s first meeting was held May 11, 2013 in Ashland. David Christian (KSHD) and Connie Saldana (KSKQ) were co-chairs in the beginning.

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(how OCM got its start continued)

KSKQ had the administrative lead until the Steering Committee (former name of the Board) got its feet underneath it—meaning they did the meeting notes, mailings, maintained the lists, etc. The group voted from the start that the stations would rotate meeting locations and whichever station hosted, also ran the meetings.

Of course, being the oldest and strongest of the stations, KBOO was able to connect OCM stations into the Blues festival, collaborative programs, and Election Night coverage. The smaller stations have really reaped the benefits of that over the years!

OCM's participation in election interviews being produced by Don Merrill, is another example of exactly the type of thing that was envisioned back in 2013.

Today, OCM's goals remain much the same, and now that OCM has 501(c)3 status, we are ready to pursue them with vigor!

OCM achieves 501(c)3 IRS status

We got it! Betty did a lot of work to make it happen and we are all so happy. Now we can go after grants to fund the projects we have been dreaming about for seven years.

What does this mean for Oregon Community Media?

1. Those who make contributions to OCM can deduct that donation from their federal taxes.
2. It will make fund-raising much more productive as many foundations and other funding bodies only make grants to organizations with the 501(c)3 status.
3. OCM affiliate stations can seek funding as a larger group than single stations, with larger goals and ambitions of working together. This is more appealing to funding organizations.
4. Emergency fund for stations
5. Equipment fund for stations
6. Travel expenses to OCM meetings for stations needing assistance.
7. Other: Do you have any ideas?



Meet an OCM Affiliate

91.7 FM



KYAQ is a full-power community radio station for Lincoln County, broadcasting at 91.7 FM.

All-volunteer KYAQ is dedicated to advancing the common good of the Oregon Central Coast through the power of connection. Our mission is to strengthen the fabric of our community by weaving together vital threads of news, information, science, music, and art, creating an environment rich with surprise and discovery.

Community radio station KYAQ, 91.7FM in Siletz, is on the central Oregon coast and turned seven years old in January.

KYAQ was started by a tenacious and dedicated group of folks who wanted to have a local presence on the radio waves. After a long struggle fighting for the license, obtaining funds, and locating volunteers, Lincoln County had its first community radio station.

KYAQ streams live on the internet at KYAQ.org — check it out. It airs progressive talk radio and, except for 2 shows, most of the locally produced shows (about 15) are music. On Sunday afternoons KYAQ airs the only Spanish language music and talk show in the county.

KYAQ is a full-powered 1200 watt station. Its signal reaches 30 miles out to sea (the fishermen love KYAQ), 30 miles south past Yachats, 30 miles east to Burnt Woods, and about 5 or so miles to the north hindered by Cape Foulweather, but on a good day, the signal reaches Depoe Bay. Like most community radio stations, KYAQ is funded primarily by individual donors and hopes someday to have a bit of a surplus for repeating equipment to better serve north county.

Check out more about KYAQ and the people behind it at the website kyaq.org.



Fall OCM Meeting

September 12-13, 2020, 12:00-5:00
In Astoria, hosted by KMUN
(In person or via Zoom - to be decided)

What kind of training would you like to see at the Fall meeting in Astoria? Send your suggestions to Dave Hammock, dhammock@comcast.net.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

The puzzle for community radio, especially in rural, sparsely populated areas, is complicated. How can a station attract diverse voices when the local populations on the whole is not diverse? How can stations in virtually all-white communities that are themselves virtually all-white too create a welcoming environment?

Here are a few reads for managers who are looking to foster more diversity, equity and inclusion at their stations:

- * <https://hbr.org/2016/01/diversity-policies-dont-help-women-or-minorities-and-they-make-white-men-feel-threatened>
- * https://www.cjr.org/special_report/journalist-of-color-second-job.php, "Diversity as a Second Job"
- * <https://www.poynter.org/ethics-trust/2020/a-view-from-somewhere-what-white-managers-need-to-know/>
- * <https://source.opennews.org/articles/newsroom-managers-diversity-inclusivity-covid19/>, "Newsroom Execs and Managers: Ways to Uphold Your Diversity and Inclusivity Values During COVID-19"
- * <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XGc68ybiqcs>, video of NFCB's panel discussion on DEI
- * <https://www.poynter.org/educators-students/2020/a-more-diverse-student-newsroom-will-make-your-publication-stronger-heres-how-to-get-started/>

Thanks to NFCB for sharing these resources.



Oregon Community Media

Mission:
Oregon Community Media is an association of non-commercial Radio Stations working together to strengthen local independent media to better serve diverse communities.

OCM Vision:
Oregon Community Media supports members in being vibrant, active and respected community institutions who offer public service through high quality, interesting, creative and diverse content.

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Some new LPFM rules took effect on July 13... others are still on deck.

See details at
<https://rechnet.com/node/3139?fbclid=IwAR2YH0ZD70cBl1uDkhS2BRxvuVDL9DB-tt53NWuWwMFORztS4SdQHirKKI>

Be part of Oregon Community Media!!

Go to OCM's website, <https://oregoncommunitymedia.org/>, to find the application form to become an OCM affiliate or associate. An OCM Associate is an individual or organization that supports Oregon community radio stations.