

Vermont Association of Broadcasters  
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#### VPR A 'BEST PLACE TO WORK'

Vermont Public Radio has been named as one of the 2014 Best Places to Work in Vermont by Vermont Business Magazine and the Vermont Chamber of Commerce.



The program is designed to identify, recognize and honor the best places of employment in Vermont. VPR was also recognized in 2013.

"We are thrilled that VPR has been recognized again for being one of the best places to work in Vermont," said VPR President Robin Turnau.

The Best Places to Work program was created in 2006 and is presented in partnership with the Society for Human Resource Management, Vermont State Council, the Vermont Department of Labor and the Vermont Department of Economic Development.

#### CANAAN CP TO MOVE TO NH?

In 2012, North Country broadcaster Barry Lunderville purchased a Class C3 FM construction permit for 94.1 MHz in Canaan, Vermont at FCC auction for \$9400. Lunderville, who owns multiple stations in Northern Vermont and New Hampshire, has filed an application to move the CP to Milan, New Hampshire and to drop down to a Class A facility.

#### Quarterly Issues List Due April 10



The next Quarterly Issues and Programs List ("Quarterly List") must be placed

in stations' public inspection files by April 10, 2014, reflecting information for the months of January, February, and March 2014.

Commercial TV stations must also file their Children's Television Programming Report by April 10.



April, 2014

## REGISTER TODAY FOR THE VAB CONVENTION

59<sup>th</sup> Annual VAB Convention  
Thursday, May 22  
Capitol Plaza Hotel  
Downtown Montpelier

**REGISTER NOW**

### VAB Convention Schedule

8 a.m. - 9 a.m. Registration with coffee and snacks



9 a.m. - 10:30

**For Sales Managers and Sales Reps:**

"Getting Back to Basics" with Speed Marriott



**For Sales Reps, Program Directors and Webmasters:**

"How to Make Money from the Web" with Allie Danziger



**For General Managers, Station Managers and HR Directors:**

"Protect Yourself from Harassment Complaints"

With Kerin Stackpole of Paul, Frank + Collins, P.C.



10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. Coffee and Snack Break



10:45 - 12:15 p.m.

**For Sales Managers and Sales Reps:**

"How to Thrive Not Just Survive in Today's Market"

With Michael Guld



**For Programmers and Air Personalities:**

"Jennifer Aniston's Birthday - Don't Worry About Forgetting It!"

With Bob Moody, member Country Music Radio Hall of Fame



**For General Managers and Compliance Directors:**

"Political Advertising Refresher Course 2014"

with David O'Connor of Wilkinson, Barker, Knauer, LLP



12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

**Commercial of the Year Awards Luncheon**

Hosted by Tom Beardsley of Radio Vermont



Registration is only \$25 per person and includes the seminars and the Commercial of the Year Luncheon.

Register today at [www.vab.org](http://www.vab.org) or click on the "Register Now" button above. We hope to see you May 22!



# FCC LOWERS BOOM ON JSA'S



The FCC voted 3-2 March 31 to limit joint-sales agreements among television stations.

The vote was in support of a proposal by new FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler to curtail joint sales agreements by counting a station as an owner in the ownership cap calculation if it accounts for more than 15% of another station's advertising sales.

Those stations who currently are part of a JSA will have two years to get out of their deals (deals that had been approved by the FCC) or ask the Commission for a waiver.

Republican FCC Commissioner Ajit Pai voted against the plan. Pai told *The Wall Street Journal* the proposal gives "almost unbridled discretion" to the FCC's Media Bureau to decide on waivers, "even with the addition of language designed to encourage waivers if a station involved is minority-owned."

NAB Executive Vice President of Communications Dennis Wharton summed up the industry surprise at the vote, noting JSA's help local stations survive so they can continue to serve their communities.

"For a decade, Republican and Democratically-controlled FCC's have approved JSAs, which allow free and local TV stations to survive in a hyper-competitive world dominated by pay TV giants. That model is now declared illegal, based on the arguments of pay TV companies whose collaborative interconnect advertising sales practices make JSAs seem pale by comparison.

"It's disappointing the FCC would take this action without first completing its 2010 statutorily mandated media ownership review. As the record before the Commission clearly shows, the public interest will not be served by this arbitrary and capricious decision," Wharton said.

The FCC is required by statute to review ownership rules on a quadrennial basis. The 2010 review, however, has yet to be completed and the 2014 review is now due. The NAB and supporters in Congress have contended the Commission should finish its statutorily necessary work before delving into Joint-Sales Agreements.

Proponents of JSAs note that many television stations, especially in rural areas, would be dark were it not for these arrangements. - Jim Condon



The VAB will be celebrating some key milestones over the next year and a half. Later this year, we'll celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the VAB Hall of Fame. Next year we will present the 60<sup>th</sup> VAB Convention. How time flies!

To help us celebrate, please send us copies of any interesting or historical radio and TV station photos or clips that you'd like to share with other broadcasters and with visitors to the VAB website.

Although we do our best to look forward at new technologies and trends, we can't help but look back at an incredibly rich heritage of broadcasting in our great state. If you can, please send your photos and clips by email to [vab@vab.org](mailto:vab@vab.org) or by snail mail to VAB, 500A Dalton Drive, Colchester, VT, 05446.



Above: WVMT's Mark Esbjerg poses with a vintage RCA ribbon microphone he recently found in the station's basement. Nice find, Mark!

**Thanks to our 2014 VAB Convention Sponsors!**

