



2023 Annual Meeting



HALL
of
FAME
Inductions

Annual Report 2022

Agenda



27th ANNUAL MEETING

Monday, September 11, 2023 • 5:15 p.m.

Welcome - Tom Leypoldt, Executive Director

Convene Meeting – Stephanie Wilson, Board President

- Approve 26th Annual Meeting Minutes of May 9, 2022
- Introduction of PEGTV Board Members
- Recognition of Outgoing Board Member, Anna White

PEGTV Committee Reports

- Treasurer's Report - Gerry Carbine

Executive Director's Report - Tom Leypoldt

- Introduction of Staff
- Executive Director's Remarks

Introduction of Guest Speaker - Tom Leypoldt

- Stewart Ledbetter is a veteran of Vermont media and currently Anchor & Senior Reporter at NBC5 in South Burlington.

Romeo Award Presentation - Tom Leypoldt

PEGTV Hall of Fame Inductions - Tom Leypoldt

Adjourn Annual Meeting

Convene September Board Meeting – Stephanie Wilson

- Move to Approve Slate of Officers for the Term 2023-2024

Stephanie Wilson, *President*

Sherri Birkheimer Rooker, *Vice President*

Gerry Carbine, *Treasurer*

Nancy Donahue, *Secretary*

Adjourn September Board Meeting

Special Guest - Stewart Ledbetter



Stewart Ledbetter is a veteran of Vermont media, and anchor and senior reporter at NBC5 in South Burlington.

A reporter by nature, Stewart edited his high school paper, volunteered at WRUV-FM while a student majoring in economics at the University of Vermont and wound up as station news director.

He joined Burlington's top radio stations and got his first taste of Statehouse and City Hall reporting soon after. In 1984, Stewart joined NBC5 and gravitated toward statewide politics, business news and the Legislature starting with Gov. Madeleine Kunin's historic election.

He later spent ten years as station news director, hiring young reporters, expanding newscasts and designing its first website, before returning to "the street" once again in 2000.

Stewart has also been a longtime contributor to Vermont PBS, moderating political debates and has served as the longtime host of "Vermont This Week" -- the popular Friday PBS political roundtable.

Stewart has earned 20 first-place awards from the Vermont and New York Associated Press for his reporting, a regional Emmy for "Champlain 2000," an environmental series, and a national Edward R. Murrow award for continuing coverage. In 2019, Stewart was inducted into the Vermont Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame.

Stewart lives in Winooski.



Executive Director's Report

PEGTV has reached its 30th year of incorporation and I'm proud to say that my involvement with the station also began 30 years ago.



Our organization has made some amazing local TV history over the decades and it's all due in part to our incredible volunteers and a very dedicated staff. Throughout the years, we've also been fortunate to have some very capable board members, and our current board is no exception. The staff continues to build on PEGTV's legacy. Nancy Donahue, Office Manager, has been with us for just over 20 years, Chelsea Vogel has completed 8 years of service as Channel Coordinator for Channels 1075 & 1095. PEGTV's Government Channel Coordinator, Rich Elnicki, will reach the 3 year mark this November. Jim Boughton, Marketing & Production Support, completes 2 years in September. I hit 28 years in May. Senior Field Producer, Bill Chemielewski just celebrated his 10th anniversary with us. Field Producers, Greg McCormack and Steven Wilson have each put in 2 years and Field Producer, Chris Donahue is going on 18 months at PEGTV.

We've made some amazing upgrades this year, most notably in Rutland City. We've been covering live meetings at the Longfellow Building and City Hall since the late 1900s, and after 3 decades of transporting equipment back and forth, we finally installed a permanent video system at both locations. Complete with remote control HD cameras. The quality is amazing.

The creation of a PEGTV Hall of Fame is my way of publicly acknowledging the wide array of people who have contributed an immense amount of time and talent to our station over many years. PEGTV would literally not be where it is today without our stars from the past and present. Collectively their efforts have brought PEGTV to the forefront of community access television in New England. From the early days of VHS tape, all the way to today's streaming video, PEGTV has evolved into an amazing center for hyper local information, entertainment, and weather.

Thank you for joining us in our celebration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom Leypoldt". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and legible.

Tom Leypoldt
Executive Director



President's Report



This year marks the 30th Anniversary of PEGTV! In a media landscape dominated by social media use, political divisiveness, and disinformation; a local, independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to connect viewers with vital community information and events has never been more relevant.

PEGTV programming can be accessed on Comcast channels 1075 (Public), 1095 (Education), and 1085 (Government), on demand, and streamed online, allowing full access to its Rutland County service community and worldwide. Long before social media was king, PEGTV was broadcasting UGC (user-generated-content). Rutland County residents have full and free access to PEGTV studio space, field production equipment, and editing facilities to create their dream program or to bring a special event to the entire community in their own homes.

PEGTV brings all the important events in our community to your living room, laptop, or phone. Graduations, aldermanic, town, and school board meetings, sporting events, political candidate profiles, debates and election results, parades, and community talent shows are all on PEGTV. Pet adoption, cooking shows, local history, Sunday worship, community health information, and much more can be accessed anytime on PEGTV.

PEGTV's talented and dedicated staff, volunteer producers, and board of directors, work in tandem to provide quality community programming, transparency, and full and free access to everything our community has to offer. In the last 30 years, PEGTV has grown and changed to keep up with technological and consumer demands – all while staying true to its stated vision to champion an engaged, connected, and informed community. On behalf of our board of directors, congratulations PEGTV!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephanie Birk Wilson". The script is fluid and cursive.

Stephanie Wilson
PEG-TV Volunteer Producer
President, Board of Directors



Public Channel Report

Education Channel Report



Channel 1075

From January 2022 – December 2022, Channel 1075 aired 566 locally produced talk shows, psas, special events, cooking shows and parades with a total amount of 283 hours. In addition, 53 shows were licensed and downloaded from the Vermont Media Exchange (VMX) adding an additional 27 hours of content.

Routinely recorded in studio shows highlighted for the year are *Pet Partners* (Stephanie Wilson and Beth Saradarian), *The Relationship Toolbox* (Tom Chamberlain and Marsha Cassel), *Historically Speaking* (Micheal Dwyer), *BROC Talk: Program Spotlight* (Tom Donahue), *Your Health Matters* (Peter Hogenkamp), *Crafts for Kids* (Jann Johnson), *Be Aware to Be Prepared* (Debbie Boyce) *Chaffee Art Center's It's All About the Arts* (Sherri Birkheimer Rooker), *The Geppetto Room* (Lou Scott) and *Time to Read a Story with Nana* (Brenda Scott). In studio cooking shows active throughout the year were *Green Mountain Chef* (Ian Vair), *Farmacy Shares* (Grace Davy), and *Baking with Love* (Carolyn Stellatella). Channel 1075 has had numerous enthusiastic new producers join and I'm looking forward to them sharing their creativity.

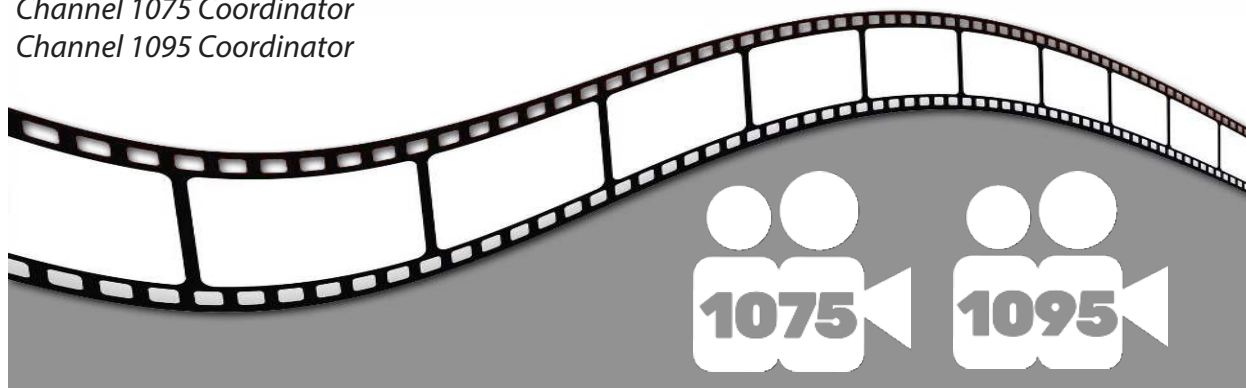
Channel 1095

Channel 1095 aired 150 school board meetings, graduations and sporting events through January 2022 – December 2022, adding up to 375 hours of content. In addition to educational events, 14 Vermont Board of Education meetings were downloaded from the Vermont Media Exchange (VMX), equaling 84 hours of programming.

It continues to be a pleasure to coordinate the Courcelle Scholarship. The Courcelle Scholarship is named in honor of Joe Courcelle, a former PEGTV Board Member and longtime supporter of community access television. In 2022 the Scholarship Committee awarded 3 students a varied amount of funds to continue their knowledge and skills in a post-secondary education in the field of media arts. Thank you field producers and volunteers for your dedication.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chelsea Vogel'.

Chelsea Vogel
Channel 1075 Coordinator
Channel 1095 Coordinator



Government Channel Report

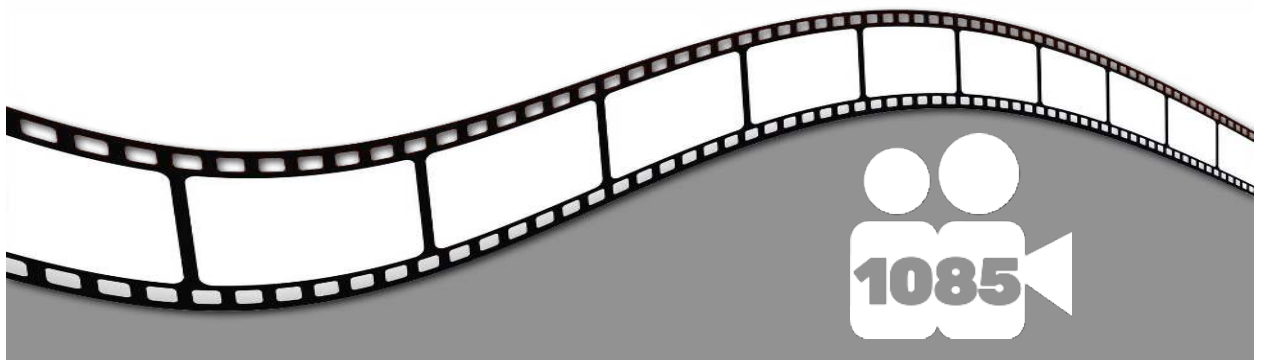


This past year was my first full year as Channel 1085 Coordinator. We recorded 303 local municipal meetings along with 193 Vermont State House meetings/conferences downloaded from The Vermont Media exchange (VMX). Every election cycle, we offer candidates the option to record "Candidate Profiles." Between the March and November elections, we recorded 33 profiles, including both government and school board candidates. Tom Donahue moderated our virtual Aldermanic Forum, which was held in February. Tom also hosted our Live Election Night Coverage for both our March and November broadcasts. Tom's professionalism and expertise are greatly appreciated. Later in 2022, we formed a partnership with the Rutland Herald and Editor, Jim Sabatasso. Jim moderated our Live Rutland County Senate Forum leading up to the November Election. Gregory Thayer also started a new show, *Vermonters for Vermont, Conversations with Gregory*. Collectively, we aired 553 new programs totaling 586 hours of content on Channel 1085 in 2022.

Things finally started to feel like they were getting back to normal this year, as we were able to have more people in the studio. We also were able to cover the Halloween Parade for the first time since I started working at PEGTV in 2020. Thank you to all our volunteers and field producers for your hard work and dedication. We have a great team here at PEGTV, and I look forward to an exciting productive future ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rich Elnicki".

Rich Elnicki
Channel 1085 Coordinator



Marketing & Production Report



In my position as Production Support Coordinator, I've Instructed and certified 8 people as Volunteer Independent Producers (VIPs). As VIPs, they now can use PEGTV's facility and equipment to produce local content. PEGTV's VIPs have contributed greatly to our channel lineups. Our volunteers help expand our coverage by recording events that staff can't always facilitate. For example, our VIP, Diane Bargiel, has contributed over 8 amazing videos to our programming schedule. Our VIPs are so important to fulfilling PEGTV's mission, and I look forward to working with both new and returning VIPs to continue developing exciting local shows that connect our community.

I have also been busy throughout our community filming a variety of events. I was recently on location for the opening of the Ira Historical Society and last summer, I covered a forum on the homeless situation in Rutland Town. I enjoy making connections with businesses and people of Rutland County, as it presents PEGTV to a wide array of community members, while also showcasing our resources.

In 2022, I gave over a dozen PEGTV studio tours, recorded 45 holiday greetings, and filmed over two dozen PSAs for a variety of non-profit ventures. Our PSAs can be produced quickly and they help get the word out about important issues, like the Rutland Free Clinic and Habitat for Humanity. These organizations are now continually using PEGTV as a tool in their marketing strategies. PEGTV staff also created 705 slides for display on our digital, community bulletin boards.

I would like to thank all of our volunteers and I look forward to more opportunities in the years ahead and to continue connecting with the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim Boughton', written over a light yellow rectangular background.

Jim Boughton
Marketing & Production Support Coordinator



Our History

Rutland Region Community Television (RRCTV), began cablecasting sometime during the mid to late 1980's. The oldest program found was recorded in 1985.

According to a former Adelphia Cable Technician, Tom Neary, the Rutland system began with only 12 channels. Public Access was designated as Channel 8.

Pine Street in Rutland City was an early location for the public access studio. That building is currently occupied by Green Screen Graphics.

As cable expanded, RRCTV moved into the basement of the Adelphia Cable building at 299 No Main St in 1991. (Eileen Franzoni-Customer Service Tech, Xfinity) and was reassigned to Channel 15. Adelphia hired staff to operate the channel, but it was still largely overseen by the cable company. Within a few years (1993), RRCTV became incorporated and began to function independently from Adelphia. Ted Pendleton was RRCTV's first Board President. Bruce Nelson was the Executive Director at this time. In 1996, under the direction of Mike Valentine, RRCTV moved again and set up facilities on the second floor of Stafford Technical Center at 8 Stratton Road. At STC, RRCTV began to expand coverage and acquire additional staff & volunteers.

In 1999, RRCTV applied for channel expansion to accommodate the increased influx of programming. Comcast granted the request, having recently acquired Adelphia Cable. Now operating on 3 separate channels, 15, 20 and 21, RRCTV became a major source for local information, sports, and entertainment. In addition, RRCTV also began featuring an on-air, hyper local weather map, as well as live coverage of Rutland City meetings and the annual live cablecast of the widely viewed, Rutland City Halloween Parade.

In 2005, RRCTV relocated a final time to the Howe Center Industrial Complex, where it operates today. Vermont Telephone Company began to offer high-definition television service to rural areas of Rutland County. Shortly thereafter, VTel made agreements with 6 Vermont access stations, RRCTV included. In 2014, RRCTV became available on VTel's channel line-up as Channels, 163, 164 & 165. In 2021, Comcast reassigned RRCTV's channel numbers once again and they can now be enjoyed on Comcast channels 1075, 1085 & 1095.

RRCTV is now commonly referred to as PEGTV, an acronym for "**P**ublic, **E**ducation & **G**overnmental Television. Over the last 30 years, PEGTV has facilitated the production of thousands of local programs, including hundreds of sporting events, church services, parades, talk shows, concerts, non-profit fundraisers, political forums, and municipal meetings. PEGTV is widely considered one of the best public access cable stations in Vermont. Keeping pace with the changing landscape of media, PEGTV now offers video on demand and streaming services. Locally produced programs can now be seen virtually around the world. PEGTV has also formed partnerships with Catamount Radio, The Rutland Herald, Rutland Regional Medical Center, and Vermont State University at Castleton.

Now a jewel of Rutland County, PEGTV continues to strive toward being one of the best public access stations in the country.



PEGTV Staff

TOM LEYPOLDT

Executive Director

NANCY DONAHUE

Office Manager

CHELSEA VOGEL

Channel 1075 & 1095 Program Coordinator

RICH ELNICKI

Channel 1085 Program Coordinator

JIM BOUGHTON

Marketing & Production Support Coordinator

FIELD PRODUCERS

WILLIAM CHMIELEWSKI

Senior Field Producer

STEVEN WILSON

Field Producer

GREG MCCORMACK

Field Producer

CHRIS DONAHUE

Field Producer

PEGTV Board of Directors

STEPHANIE WILSON

President

ANNA WHITE

JERRY HANSEN

SHERRI BIRKHEIMER ROOKER

Vice President

ED KELLY

STEPHEN DARDECK

GERRY CARBINE

Treasurer

TERRY (JAYE) JARROSAK



2022 Annual Meeting Minutes

PEGTV

Board of Directors

26th Annual Meeting Minutes - Via Teleconference—May 9, 2022

Present- Stephanie Wilson, Tom Pour, Stephen Dardeck, Anna White, Ed Kelly, Jerry Hansen, Terry Jarrosak and Kevin Robinson

Welcome - Tom Leypoldt, Executive Director welcomed the audience to PEGTV's 26th Annual Meeting and thanked them for coming. He then introduced Stephanie Wilson, Board President.

Meeting called to order at 4:19 p.m. by Stephanie Wilson.

Approval of Last Year's Meeting Minutes

Stephanie moved for a motion to approve last year's Annual Meeting minutes dated May 10, 2021.

A motion was made by Stephen Dardeck to approve last year's Annual Meeting minutes of May 10, 2021. Seconded by Anna White. Voted on and approved.

Introduction of PEGTV Board Members

Stephanie introduced the Board and thanked them for their guidance and support of the mission and vision of PEGTV.

She then introduced the Officers and Board members of PEGTV: Tom Pour, Treasurer and Board Members: Anna White, Jerry Hansen, Ed Kelly, Stephen Dardeck, Terry (Jaye) Jarrosak and Kevin Robinson.

PEGTV Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report:

A Treasurer's Report was given by Tom Pour, Treasurer. He discussed how most of our revenue is generated through subscribers of Comcast and VTEL. He discussed 2021 as a very successful year and how we exceeded our budget. Tom explained the plan for income surplus is to set the funds aside to counteract future reduction in funding due to changes in technology, if the time does come. He discussed the positive impacts of COVID apparent during a difficult time and how important PEGTV was in serving this community by engaging people to tune into PEGTV and participate. Tom, as the outgoing Treasurer, thanked the board for the opportunity to work with each and all of them.

A motion was made by Jerry Hansen to approve the December 2021 Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Ed Kelly. Voted on and approved.

Nominating Committee:

Stephanie Wilson moved to nominate proposed new Board members: *Sherri Birkheimer Rooker and Gerry Carbine for the term 2022-2025.*

A motion was made by Stephen Dardeck to accept the nomination of proposed new Board members:

Sherri Birkheimer Rooker and Gerry Carbine for the term 2022-2025. Seconded by Terry Jarrosak. Voted on and approved.

Stephanie Wilson moved to re-elect current Board members: Stephen Dardeck and Terry Jarrosak to a second term 2022-2025.

A motion was made by Tom Donahue to accept the re-election of current Board members: Stephen Dardeck and Terry Jarrosak to a second term 2022-2025. Seconded by Ed Kelly. Voted on and approved.

Executive Director's Report

Tom Leypoldt, Executive Director commended the staff at PEGTV. He introduced them in order of seniority: Nancy Donahue-Office Manager, Chelsea Tice-Channel 1075 & 1095 Production Coordinator, Sarah Nadler-Marketing & Communications Coordinator, Rich Elnicki-Channel 1085 Production Coordinator and Jim Boughton-Production Support Coordinator.

Tom thanked and acknowledged our staff stringers for their hard work and dedication: Bill Chmielewski, Greg McCormack, James Britt, Steven Wilson and Chris Donahue.

Tom thanked all volunteers for their content, VAN and The Rutland County Delegation, notably Senator Brian Collamore, Representative Jim Harrison and Representative Peter Fagan for all their work on PEGTV's behalf, Tom Donahue for his single-handed "live" (all night) election coverage, Tom Chamberlain for testifying in Montpelier, Comcast tech support Greg Babcock, Jeff Bates, Chris Young and Kyle Therien. He also acknowledged Melissa Pierce-Government and Regulatory Affairs. He praised Rutland Herald for their extensive coverage of PEGTV events.

Tom reported on major events for the year. He expressed thanks to Stephanie and the entire Board for their guidance.

He concluded with special thanks to Tom Pour for his 12 years of dedicated service and leadership.

Introduction of Guest Speaker

Executive Director, Rutland Herald & Barre-Montpelier Times Argus, Steven Pappas was introduced by Tom Leypoldt as our guest speaker.

Steven Pappas spoke of the common challenges shared between print newspaper and public access stations. He commented on the changing landscape of media in general and how it is a challenge to keep news relevant to the younger generation.

Romeo Award Presentation

Tom Leypoldt announced Access A/V-VT & ME Sales, Eric Nelson as the recipient of the Romeo Award.

A motion to adjourn was made by Stephen Dardeck at 5:40 p.m.

Congratulations to the 2023 HALL of FAME Inductees



**Sherri Birkheimer-Rooker
Ilene Blackman
Arlen Bloodworth
John Bloomer Jr.
Calvary Bible Church
Mark Carboneau
Joe Courcelle
Mary Crowley
Jim Davidson
Tom Donahue
Michael Dwyer
David Giancola
Nanci Gordon
Tom Haley
Nan & Jay Hart
Jack Healey
Terry "Jaye" Jarrosak
Jim Kahle
Dr. Thomas LaPlaca
Rick Marallo
Brian & Peg Mayhew
Jerry Munger
Bruce Nelson
Ted Pendleton
Jo Ann Riley
Ernie Sule
Scott Switzer
Joe Tilden
Michael J. Valentine
Stephanie & Andrew Wilson**