

# Lake Champlain Access



*Channel 2 headquarters*

## ***Channel 2***

*Annual Report*

*FY 1998/99*

*October 1, 1998-September 30, 1999*

## ***LCATV Board of Directors***

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### **Colchester**

*Public Access*

Mary Simperts, **President**

*Governmental Access*

Sam Conant, **Vice President**

*Educational Access*

Roger Moyer

### **Milton**

*Public Access*

Open Seat

*Governmental Access*

Donald Alderman, **Treasuer**

*Educational Access*

Kary Towne, **Secretary**

### **Georgia**

*Public Access*

Open Seat

*Governmental Access*

Thomas Neiman

*Educational Access*

Deb Martin

## ***Staff***

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*Channel Director*

Jess Wilson

*Playback Programmer*

Kevin Christopher

*Production Coordinator*

Buddy Meilleur

*Field Producers*

Scott Hamlin

David Bessery

Chuck Padula

Todd Stowell



*Lake Champlain Access TV*

*Channel 2*

354 Prim Road, Suite 3

Colchester, VT 05446

*phone* (802) 862-5724

*fax* (802) 864-6635

*email* lcatv@together.net

*www.together.net/~lcatv*



## **President's Report- Page**

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Roger Moyer

Deb Martin

Thomas Neiman

### **Channel Director**

Lake Champlain Access Television Corporation (Channel 2) is the community access (PEG) television provider for Colchester, Georgia, and Milton. Additionally, a small number of North Burlington viewers receive our programming. The total potential viewing audience is between 8,000–9,000 Adelpia cable television subscribers in our viewing area, and this audience continues to increase in number as residential neighborhoods are created in each of the communities we serve. Administrative and Operating costs for Channel 2 are fully subsidized by a contribution provided, by law, from Adelpia Cable Corporation – Vermont's largest commercial television service provider.

Channel 2 provides live and taped programs for viewers, and some of our locally produced programs are relayed (fed) into Vermont's network of community access television stations for viewing in other regions statewide. Channel 2 provides live and taped gavel-to-gavel coverage of public community meetings, including all Select Board and several other governmental meetings in the communities we serve. Additionally, Channel 2 staff and volunteer producers offer a range of public interest programs such as our award-winning **Story Time** for children and families, popular programs focussing on the contributions of women in Colchester, gardening (Michelle Penca's award-winning **Vermont Gardens**), and local political issues. Community government leaders discuss and describe various aspects of their work and programs. A new program, **Community Round Table**, provides a weekly discussion and telephone call-in forum about civic, commercial development and enterprise, governmental, and social issues as well as other topics which, hopefully, are of interest to local viewers.

The year leading up to Y2K has been arduous, challenging, frustrating, encouraging and eventful for Lake Champlain Access Cable Television. 1999 has been a year of and for change, and the Board of Directors and our capable staff have engaged the demands for change with sadness, competence, and excitement.

In 1999, Channel 2 lost our long-term mentor, board member, program producer and friend, Jim McMullan to cancer. Jim has been a veritable spark plug and the "infield utility" person for Lake Champlain Access Television from the beginning. The offices and roles he filled over the years, the tasks he performed, the community contacts he made, the volunteer recruiting he was able to do, his behind-the-camera work – all contributed to the success of Channel 2 from the station's infancy to the present. He will be missed for years to come. In Jim's memory, and to remind us daily of his many contributions and the presence he commanded, our studio bears a plaque dedicating the facility to him.



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### **Channel Director**

With the capable and competent work of our Executive Director, Jess Wilson, we entered contract negotiations with Adelpia Cable – negotiations which continue as this report is prepared. Highlights of the new contract, when approved by Adelpia Cable Corporation, include a significant increase in the Adelpia contribution for our continued operations; the proposed addition of a second channel for our corporation so we can more adequately meet the increasing demand for more and better programming; and a substantial increase in the number of municipal television “connecting points” so that we can broadcast more events, live from more sites in Colchester, Georgia, and Milton.

Regrettably, your Board accepted Jess’s resignation as we encouraged her to assume her new position with added responsibility at our sibling Burlington station, Channel 17. During her tenure as Channel Director, Jess organized and implemented necessary administrative and operating protocols designed to guarantee management and operational success for Channel 2. She led our contract negotiation efforts, and assertively guided the relatively new Board of Directors as negotiations floundered in our advocacy to improve our budget and expand our broadcast “foot print” with the proposed additional community connections and second channel for 2001. Jess guided the Board in a difficult and successful negotiation and legal struggle seeking a return of funds to the corporation from a former board member.

In November, Kevin Christopher became the Channel Director by a unanimous vote of the Board. Kevin worked with and was supervised by Jess Wilson throughout 1998 and 1999. His willingness to move into the Channel Director’s position affected a clear, easy transition for Channel 2. The Board commends Kevin for his continued commitment, especially as stalled contract negotiations appear to be moving to a new, more political level with the Board’s decision to involve the Vermont Public Service Board and our corporate attorney to bring negotiations to a successful end.

In closing, while 1999 was a year filled with challenges for Channel 2 and a year in which we experienced the losses of a highly respected volunteer leader as well as our station director, 1999 has also been a year of exciting beginnings. As we began the new millennium, we could look back at successes as well as losses, and we are thankful as well as positive and hopeful. We fully expect our new contract will be approved by Adelpia Cable Corporation, and anticipate the resulting opportunities for channel expansion and improved television services for Colchester, Georgia, and Milton which the new contract will create.

Respectfully Submitted:

Samuel G. Conant, *Vice President* for

Mary Simperts, *President*



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Thomas Neiman

**Channel Director**

***Channel Director's***

FY 98/99 held many challenges and triumphs for LCATV-Channel 2. One of the first challenges came when Lake Champlain Cable (the cable operator that carries Channel 2's signal) was purchased by Adelphia Cable Corporation. Adelphia owns more than 90 percent of the cable operating systems in Vermont and is the 5th largest cable company in the nation.

Soon after the sale, the LCATV staff and board began negotiating a new contract with Adelphia. As of the writing of this report a few issues remain unresolved but ultimately the new contract will be very positive for Channel 2. It calls for a large budget increase which will, among other things, allow for more coverage of municipal meetings, school events, and community issues and Channel 2 will be replacing old equipment that has been with the station since its inception. The contract also calls for an additional channel to be added to the system in January of 2001. The goal will be to dedicate this channel to governmental and educational programming. The new channel will ease the current time strain and allow for coverage of additional local meetings as well as carry more regional events. Adelphia has also agreed to install reverse feeds in the schools and municipal buildings. This will give Channel 2 the ability to broadcast live from those locations!

Channel 2 expanded in FY 98/99 and built a new broadcast studio. The new space allowed us to move our control room from a cramped hallway and to now have greater flexibility during live studio productions. The new studio was named in honor of longtime LCATV board member James F. McMullan, Jr. during the inaugural broadcast on Town Meeting Day 1999. Hank and Inge Schaefer were also honored during that broadcast as Channel 2 Volunteers of the Year.

Channel 2 received a couple of honors in the 1999 Alliance for Community Media Northeast Region video competition. Michelle Penca's *Vermont Gardens* won third place in the non-professional special interest category and *Story Time* won second place in the children's professional category.

I think a lot of great things are happening at Channel 2 and the staff looks forward to serving Colchester, Milton and Georgia even better in the year to come.

Jess Wilson  
*Channel Director*  
September 30, 1999

# Series Programming

TITLE	PRODUCER	SPONSOR	FREQUENCY
Bible Comment	Tom Moody	n/a	W
Bible Forum	Tom Moody	n/a	W
The Mass	Roman Catholic Diocese	Gloria Gibson	W
Journey	Roman Catholic Diocese	Gloria Gibson	W
The Religion Report	Roman Catholic Diocese	Gloria Gibson	W
Come Let Us Worship	Roman Catholic Diocese	Gloria Gibson	W
Storytime	Jess Wilson	n/a	W
VT Republican Weekly	Marty Searight	Inge Schaffer	BI-M
Electric Connections	Steve Costello	Meeri Zetterstrom	M
Street Signs	Brian Kling	Laura Bowe	M
Around the Kitchen Table	Judi R. Button	Buddy Meilleur	W
Struggles of the Spirit	C. Leland Udell	Monica Rack	W
Survey Says	Jaime Polli	n/a	M
Mind's Eye View	Loren Tindall	n/a	M
Gary Null	Gary Null	Suzanne Affinati	W
Peace & Justice Review	Ed Everts	Lea Terhune	W
Sierra Club	Ed Everts	Lea Terhune	W
Beyond War	Ed Everts	Barbara Dunnington	W
VT Rainbow Connection	Sharon Randall	Robin Seaman	M
The Davey Horror Show	Dave Parietti	Jme Wheeler	W
Messages from Jesus	Gordon Gaynon	James B. Gaynon	W
Jesus is Lord	Gordon Gaynon	James B. Gaynon	W
The Prophetic Word	Monica Richards	Stephen Cheever	W
What Do You Think?	Dianne Gross Percy	n/a	M
Green Mountain Mature News	Chester Hickok	Mary Simperts	W
The Cherie & Yolanda Show	Steven West	Candy Peate	BI-M
Point Counter Point	Channel 17	n/a	M



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Thomas Neiman

**Channel Director-** Jess Wilson

# Studio Programming

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>HOST</u>	<u>FREQUENCY</u>
Around Government	Sam Conant/Mitch Berkowitz/Hank Schaefer	W
Congressional Connection	Inge Schaefer	BI-M
Women of Colchester	Inge Schaefer	M
Fire Safety	Bob Callahan	M
School Talk	Michelle Penca	M
VT Gardens	Michelle Penca	Seasonal

# Meeting Broadcasts

<u>MEETING</u>	<u>PRODUCER</u>	<u>FREQUENCY</u>
Colchester Selectboard	Channel 17	BI-M
Colchester School Board	LCATV	BI-M
Milton Selectboard	LCATV	BI-M
Milton School Board	LCATV	BI-M
Georgia Selectboard	LCATV	BI-M
Georgia School Board	LCATV	BI-M
Husky	LCATV	M
MPO	Channel 17	Once
CSWD	Channel 17	Once
PTO	LCATV	Once
Colchester Sewer	LCATV	Once
Student Town Meeting	LCATV	Once
IBM Pension Plan Meeting	Channel 17	Once



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# LCATV Budget- Page 1

*LCATV Operating Budget October 1998 – September 1999*

## Labor

	Yearly Cost	Monthly Cost
Channel Director	\$ 25,400.00	\$ 2,116.67
Playback Programmer	8,372.00	697.67
Program Coordinator	9,360.00	780.00
Local Production	6,800.00	566.67
Election Coverage	600.00	50.00
<b>Labor Expenses</b>	<b>\$50,532.00</b>	<b>\$4,211.01</b>

## Expenses

Payroll Taxes	\$ 4,250.00	\$ 354.17
Insurance	5,400.00	450.00
Accounting Fees	2,500.00	208.33
Legal Fees	2,000.00	166.67
Office Rent	9,300.00	775.00
Telephone	2,200.00	183.33
Utilities	1,800.00	150.00
Internet	239.40	19.95
Maintenance & Repairs	3,500.00	291.67
Office Supplies	1,000.00	83.33
Dues & Subscriptions	500.00	41.67
Postage	360.00	30.00
Advertising	1,000.00	83.33
Meals & Entertainment	100.00	8.33
Travel	400.00	33.33
Video Tapes	2,000.00	166.67
Printing/Copying	1,600.00	133.00
Discretionary	1,000.00	83.33
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 39,149.40</b>	<b>\$ 3,262.11</b>

<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$89,681.40</b>	<b>\$7,473.12</b>
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# LCATV Budget- Page 2

## *LCATV Operating Budget October 1998 – September 1999*

**Revenue**

	<b>Yearly</b>	<b>Monthly</b>
LCC Contract	\$65,500.00	\$5,458.33*
FY 97-98 Surplus	16,207.79	1,350.65
Dubbing Income	2,500.00	166.67
<hr/>		
	<b>\$84,207.79</b>	<b>\$6,975.65</b>
Capital FY 97-98 Surplus	\$ 6,641.73	
Capital FY 98-99	10,000.00	
	<b>\$16,641.73</b>	
<hr/>		
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$100,849.52</b>	

\* Our funding is currently at 3%.



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# Production Equipment

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<i>QTY</i>	<i>ITEM</i>
2	Panasonic VHS Camera
2	Panasonic S-VHS Camera
4	Bogen Camera Tripod
1	Videonics Digital Video Mixer
6	Sure Lavalier Microphone
4	Sure Audio Mixer
6	Telex Handheld Microphone
2	Spirit Folio Audio Mixer
34	Microphone Cable
8	Tabletop Microphone Stand
2	Audiotechnica Shotgun Microphone
5	Floor Microphone Stand
2	Lowel Tota Light
4	Lowel Studio Light
3	Barndoors
3	Panasonic Color Video Monitor
1	Computer Tower
1	ADI Color Computer Monitor
1	Digital Computer Keyboard
1	Logitech Computer Mouse
1	Radio Shack Speaker Phone Amplifier
1	Regency Cable Converter Box
1	Goldstar TV-VCR Combo
1	Sony Digital Mavica Camera
3	Canvas Gear Bags
4	Radio Shack Voice Operated Communicators
1	Light Bar



**Editing/Dubbing Equipment**

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<i>QTY</i>	<i>ITEM</i>
1	JVC Editing Control Unit
2	JVC Editing Recorder
1	Sure Audio Receiver
2	Panasonic Color Video Monitor
4	Panasonic VCR
1	Panasonic VCP

**Playback Equipment**

<i>QTY</i>	<i>ITEM</i>
1	Den Digital Time Base Corrector
1	Scott Stereo Receiver
1	Leightronix Event Controller
1	Olsen Technology Reverse Modulator
1	Scientific-Atlanta Reverse Modulator
1	ADC Video Patch Bay
1	ADC Audio Patch Bay
1	Leitch Video Distribution Amplifier
1	Sony Color Video Monitor
1	Information Masters Computer Tower
1	Leading Edge Color Monitor
1	Logitech Delux 104 Keyboard
1	Logitech Computer Mouse
9	Panasonic VCR
1	MGA VCR
1	Sony 3/4" Player



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***Events/Sports***

Colchester Middle School & High School Graduations

The Prince and the Penguin

VT Right to Life Rally

Celebrity Lock-Up

July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade

The Dark Side of Growth Culture

Senator Jefford at Burlington VFW

Colchester High School Football

UVM Hockey

The Truth about Convergence

Northwest Music Festival

Milton High School Open Mic

Milton High School Spirit Night

Milton High School Battle of the Bands

How Does Your Garden Grow?

Colchester Lord Mayor's Visit

Colchester Community Chorus Concert

Camp Ta Kum Ta

No Strings Marionette Co.

Almost Born

Georgia Middle School Academic Fair

Rope

Scholar's Bowl

Milton Middle School & High School Graduations

Georgia Elementary Recognition Assembly

Yolanda CD Release Party

Milton Elementary Oration Contest

Camp Abnaki

Stephen King's Bogeyboys

NASCAR Racing

A Gershwin Portrait

Lockdown USA

Millions for Mumia

Woods Tea Company

United Way

VT Y2K

Colchester High School Boys Soccer

1 Chick, 2 Chick, Red Chick, Blues Chick

Yolanda Live!

Hamlet

Colchester High School Girls Basketball

Little Women

40<sup>th</sup> Army Band

Children's Mass

Colchester Historical Society

LCATV Election Night Coverage

LCATV Town Meeting Coverage

LCATV Election Forums



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**Channel Director**

**LCATV- Channel 2** is public, education and government access television for the communities of Colchester, Milton and Georgia, Vermont. Channel 2 exists to give members of these communities the resources to create and utilize a televised public forum. Our equipment, air time and knowledge is available to all of our membership so that they may produce and/or present original access programming on this station. For information about training and volunteer opportunities, interested parties should call the Channel Director at 862-5724.

**Each year, LCATV acknowledges a Channel 2 volunteer for their outstanding commitment to this station and to access television.**

**LCATV  
Volunteer of the Year  
1998-1999**

***MICHELLE PENCA***

**Congratulations!**

**LCATV- Channel 2** currently has two vacancies on its Board of Directors: the Public Access seats in the communities of Milton and Georgia. Anyone interested in running for these seats can contact the Channel Director at 862-5724. The LCATV Board meets monthly at Channel 2 headquarters on Prim Road in Colchester.