

Sudbury Cable Television Committee Annual Report

In 2004, the Cable Committee continued to move into the digital age, and began to settle into our new facility at Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School.

For channel 8, the Sudbury Access Channel, we continued to upgrade equipment and convert to an all-digital operation. Also, with the help of our excellent Access Coordinator, Lynn Puorro, we increased the amount of local programming. We provided a live cablecast of Town Meeting, all Selectmen's meetings, and various other town events, including the HOPE Sudbury telethon.

Sudbury Channel 8 programming included a variety of programs produced by volunteers, about topics including history, sports, culture, and politics. Peggy Fredrickson and Linda Wade covered monthly Sudbury Historical Society presentations held at Sudbury Town Hall. Pat Beatty covered L/S sports such as basketball, hockey, and lacrosse. Rick Knight produced highlights of the 2003/2004 L/S wrestling season.

Tom Hillary produced The Sudbury American Legion presentation "Listen My Children". Marty Greenstein produced "The Sudbury Art Experience: Nigerian Art". Ulli Novick produced Haynes Elementary Schools' Colonial Life Festival, as well as highlights of Robert Giorgio's TaekwonDo Camp. A student volunteer covered Congressman Marty Meehan's "Town Meeting" held at Curtis Middle School. Dave Levington produced the Sudbury Democratic Town Committee meeting featuring Father Robert Drinan. Studio programs produced by volunteers included "A Better View" by Marilyn Unger-Riepe, and "Domestic Violence Roundtable" produced by the Domestic Violence Roundtable. Volunteers also assisted in producing community events such as the League of Women Voters Candidates Night, LSRHS Graduation Ceremony, and the Sudbury Day Festival.

Sudbury residents have two cablecasting facilities in Sudbury available for their use, representing over \$100,000 of recent investment by COMCAST. At our studio in LSRHS there is a full complement of broadcast and editing equipment, including state-of-the-art digital cameras and recording decks, and digital non-linear editing systems and software. After training, residents can use this equipment to create and edit professional quality programming for our Access channel, either using the on-site studio, or on-location anywhere in town.

At the Town Hall, the main meeting room is wired for video and sound, so that a single volunteer can produce a professional-quality recording (or live broadcast) of any meetings or presentations. Although our Access Coordinator has limited responsibility for cablecasting a small number of town events, the essence of Public Access is programming produced for residents, by residents. All interested residents are encouraged to contact our Access Coordinator (Lynn Puorro) at the studio to discuss programming and arrange free training. She can be reached at 978 443 9507, or at Lynn_Puorro@cable.comcast.com

The Cable Committee recommends that ALL residents (including dish owners) sign up for COMCAST's most "basic" service (costing roughly \$12/month) as their method of receiving local broadcast channels with high quality. Not that we are marketing for COMCAST, but all residents should receive both our local Access channel (channel 8), and the High School channel (channel 9), which are included in the basic package. With our new, expanded access operation, we are putting many more Town and School meetings and events on the air, with quality that rivals the broadcast networks. The result is a channel which serves as a true "window" into Sudbury, of interest to all residents.

Regrettably, long-time member Mike Daitzman resigned mid-year, but the committee is still ably staffed by Jeff Winston (Chairperson), Margaret Fredrickson (Vice-Chairperson), Marty Greenstein (Secretary), Peter Boers, and Linda Wade.

The Sudbury Cable Committee generally meets on the second or third Tuesday on the month at 7:30 PM, usually at the Hudson road fire station. All residents are invited to attend. Our meeting schedule and

minutes of past meetings are posted on the town web site. Questions or problems can be sent to:
cablecommittee@town.sudbury.ma.us.

Jeff Winston, Chairman

Margaret Fredrickson

Peter Boers

Marty Greenstein

Linda Wade