STOW TV and LOCAL ACCESS CHANNEL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Local Access Channel Advisory Committee (LACAC) (formerly PEG) was created by the Board of Selectmen in 2002 for the purpose of establishing a local cable TV access channel for the Town of Stow to provide programming in areas of public affairs, education and town government. Funding for operations is provided through license agreements negotiated by the Town with Comcast and Verizon.

"Stow TV" is a community access station available in Stow on Verizon Channels 32 and 33 and Comcast Channel 9 (soon to add Comcast Channel 8). Stow operates with a small staff and volunteer producers. Residents are welcome to use Stow TV equipment for video recording or editing and to submit or request video shows. Stow TV will provide training. Anyone interested in volunteering or contributing video or photos, or assisting productions may call 978-897-7732 or email stowtv@stow-ma.gov. Stow TV is on the web at www.stowtv.org.

Coordinator Anne VanTine managed overall operations of the station in 2012. Assistant Coordinator Kathy O'Keefe created, implemented, and publicized program schedules. She also created announcements and displays of photos on the bulletin board. As Technical Assistant, Lew Halprin made improvements to recording setups and devised innovative and practical solutions for various recording situations.

Marika Barnett, Jonathan Daisy, Lew Halprin, Mike Jordan, Linda Stokes and Anne VanTine produced and recorded the majority of new shows seen on Stow TV in 2012. Mike and Maureen Busch, Paul and Maureen Trunfio, and Evan Daisy also contributed to video recordings. Linda Stokes recorded most of the Selectmen meetings. Special recognition goes to Lew Halprin who was always willing to fill in or help, and provided the lion's share of shows. Ralph DeFlorio, Scott Glorioso, and Paul Trunfio assisted with sound for some recordings.

Residents produced about 160 new shows and public service announcements in addition to 25 Selectmen meetings and two Town Meetings. Many shows from previous years were replayed, often to promote annual events or celebrate the season. A few shows and PSAs produced outside of Stow were cablecast, including about 15 school committee meetings. In all, Stow TV cablecast about 342 different shows during the year. There were over 1100 shows in the video archives at the end of 2012.

Stow TV helped educate residents about local issues and the actions of their government. Besides Selectmen, School Committee and Town Meetings, other town government events, and state government topics were shown. The bulletin board encouraged voter participation with registration and election information. Many shows entertained and educated with a focus on Stow. These shows covered a wide array of concerts, school events, and local organizations. High school and grade school activities were emphasized thanks to collaboration with Bolton Access Television and the Stow PTO.

Stow TV implemented hundreds of colorful, eye-catching announcements on the "bulletin board." Local event announcements were updated regularly based on requests from community

organizations. Many of the announcements provided public health and safety information and promoted local charities.

Many photo shows were displayed on the bulletin board. Local contributing photographers included Nancy Arsenault, Amy-Jo Conant, Scott Glorioso, Amy Hastings, Dick Luxner, Dwight Sipler, Ellen Sturgis, Greg Troxel, and Paul Trunfio.

LACAC combined forces with the Cable License Advisory Committee to help guide renegotiation of the town's cable contract with Comcast. LACAC engaged Attorney and Cable Specialist Bill August to help with the process. The new 10-year contract, signed by Stow Selectmen on October 23, 2012, provides for gradually increasing Stow TV funding and a one-time stipend for equipment. It allows for Stow TV to have two programmable Comcast channels, and regulates many issues involving cable service to the Town.

Bob Mong and Beth Tobey provided IT support. Stow TV engaged Michael Ridinger for video server support. Gerry Horne managed Town Meeting sound and Lew Halprin managed Town Meeting technical setup.

LACAC met twelve times during the year. LACAC members contributed time, advice, and oversight for spending and policy decisions as well as managing the cable contract negotiations. LACAC member Bob Glorioso advised on equipment selection. Steve Dungan resigned as Associate member early in the year. Chris Funkhouser resigned at the end of June, and Lee Pappas became a member in December. The committee thanked both Steve and Chris for their service and contributions.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Bernklow	Lisa Lavina
Robert Glorioso	Lee Pappas
Len Golder	Anne VanTine, Stow TV Coordinator

VETERANS' GRAVES COMMITTEE:

The primary responsibility of the Veterans' Graves Committee is to ensure the proper marking and identification of Veterans' graves in each of the town's three cemeteries. We are also responsible for annual replacement of all U.S. flags marking a Veteran's grave, and ensuring a proper Veteran's marker is available to hold the flag. The Committee coordinates all Memorial Day Parade activities, including the NRHS Marching Band, Stow Minutemen, groups such as Boy and Girl Scouts and the guest speakers. In 2012 we gladly participated in the inaugural Memorial Day Ceremony at the new Center School auditorium and began the task of updating documentation for each of our Veterans' graves.

We are proud of the strong turnout our town citizens provide each year for the Memorial Day Parade and Ceremonies. It sends a strong message that our Servicemen and -women who gave