

# RadioActive Messenger

*News and Information That Matters to the Apostolate of Catholic Radio*

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## Association Happenings

**Stephen Gajdosik, Executive Director**

*Catholic Radio Association*

Another year...another Catholic radio conference. And, judging from the responses, this year has been the best yet. It was certainly the largest to date with over one hundred and twenty participants and numerous others who expressed a desire to come but were unable to due to scheduling conflicts. Thank you to each of you who attended and participated and especially to John Pepe and all the very good people at EWTN who put forth so much effort to make the conference fruitful.

Those of you who did attend will shortly be receiving a feedback form from John Pepe. Take the time to give us your honest impressions and suggestions for improvement. As an association, our efforts become more effective as you are more involved.

One of the areas we are looking at is the number of tracks offered. This year was our first with two tracks - LPFM and Full-service. Next year we are hoping to offer four tracks. These would include a track for operational stations and another for those in process. As well we are hoping to offer a track for program providers and one for Spanish radio. These last two areas are ones in which there is a great deal of activity beginning. We believe it is important to serve them and provide whatever support we can. Certainly EWTN is in a particularly good position to offer ideas and provide support.

Lastly, on the subject of the conference, there is always a question as to the best timing for it. It has now been held in Spring, Summer and Fall. Your input on the feedback forms (or if you were unable to attend your communication with me) as to your preference for a fixed annual date on which to hold the conference will be very helpful.

This month we also held the first meeting of the Episcopal Advisory Board. It was a very fruitful meeting and a delight to spend time with worthy successors of the Apostles. It is certainly easier to

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## RADIX RADIO THEATRE HITS THE AIRWAVES

Doug Barry, Director

*RADIX*

Greetings all! It's an exciting time in which to be living. The battle to defend and proclaim Truth is fierce, but we can have hope. God always raises up saints to preserve the Truth and continue the fight. We, in this time of supernatural struggle, can assist in the formation of those saints.

Radix now offers to you a couple of great ways in which to help in this most important spiritual battle. RADIX has joined forces with Valiant Productions in providing the one-man drama, "The Passion of Christ." This theatrical performance can be done in your city as a great fund raiser/promotion as well as a powerful tool for evangelization. This performance has been aired on EWTN during Holy Week for the last four years and is known by many as a deeply-moving and life-changing production. Sponsoring this in your area is a wonderful way to further public relations in your community. This past Lent we went to Immaculate Heart Radio in California for a very successful 5 day multiple-city tour. Feel free to contact Doug Pearson of Immaculate Heart Radio, at 775-828-4228, about the impact that it had on their station and many people's lives. If you are interested in bringing this production to your city or parish, give us a call at 402-794-2100.

I also want to tell you about RADIX Radio Theatre. Storytelling has always been a powerful way to teach. RADIX Radio Theater will be a weekly theatre show that will entertain and educate your listeners. It will cover a variety of subjects that will captivate and inspire the listener. It will be launched mid-July.

Contact us here at RADIX at 402-794-2100 and we will arrange getting you the shows in the format you desire.

Remember, you only preserve the truth that you defend. God bless you all. Ω

## RENEW IT OR LOSE IT!

An important notice from the FCC's web site:

"All radio broadcast station licenses are scheduled to expire between 2003 and 2006. Each AM, FM, noncommercial educational FM, FM translator, and Low Power FM Station (LPFM) station must file an application for license renewal (FCC Form 303-S) four months prior to the expiration date of the station's license, in accordance with the schedule set forth below (on the web site). All stations, except LPFM stations, also must file a Broadcast Equal Employment Opportunity Program Report (FCC Form 396) at the same time."

To check when you must file for license renewal for your station(s) and details on the process visit the FCC's web site at

[HTTP://WWW.FCC.GOV/MB/AUDIO/RENEWAL/INDEX.HTML](http://www.fcc.gov/mb/audio/renewal/index.html)

## Association Happenings cont'd

have hope in the future of the Church in our land when you are able to sit with bishops who love the Church, are unfailingly faithful to all that she professes and have a heart for evangelization. Please pray for the members of the Episcopal Advisory Board and for all bishops. They are in need of great grace to faithfully bear the yoke upon their shoulders.

Speaking of the Episcopal Board, I would like to warmly welcome the Most Reverend Robert J. Baker, S.T.D., Bishop of Charleston, South Carolina to the Episcopal Board. Bishop Baker has several new stations in his diocese, which is coterminous with the state of South Carolina, thanks to the excellent working relations between the diocese and Mediatrix Radio. Bishop Baker recognizes the importance and efficacy of utilizing Catholic radio to reach both Catholics and non-Catholics in his diocese. Welcome Bishop Baker!

Several stations have gone on the air or have had purchase contracts signed since the last newsletter. Among them are WQIZ AM 810 by Mediatrix Radio to cover Charleston, SC, WQOR AM 750 by Holy Family Communications to cover Scranton, PA and KMDM-LP 107.9 FM by St. Joseph's Educational Association in Polson, MT. Bill Purcell at Holy Family also reports they will go on the air with WHIC AM 1460 in Rochester, NY on July 7.

May our Eucharistic Lord, whose feast of *Corpus Christi* we've just celebrated, be the source and summit of everything you do in your life and in your apostolate.

*Ad majorem Dei gloriam!*

## Best Practices (so you want a new station?)

One of the least expensive ways to begin broadcasting is to apply for a new license to broadcast from the FCC. Unfortunately, it is also one of the most difficult ways in which to get a new station. The difficulty stems from 1) the lack of available frequencies in many areas and, 2) the restriction of applying for those remaining opportunities only during FCC-authorized filing windows for noncommercial (NCE) and AM stations and/or 3) auction of commercial FM and AM licenses.

Those restrictions do not necessarily, however, rule out the possibility (except for #1). They simply make it more difficult.

One way to get a full-service station is to pre-empt secondary service stations such as LPFM's and translators by applying for a new full service station in their dial position.

There is a way in which you can make a preliminary study to see if there may be room to place a new NCE station in your area. 1) Go to [www.radio-locator.com](http://www.radio-locator.com) 2) Enter in your city and state 3) Look for results between 87.9 and 91.9 FM that are formatted as follows. If you are East of the Mississippi, the first letter will be "W", if West "K". Next there will be three numbers, 200-220, followed by two more letters. Alternately, you may receive a response of W.... (LP) for a station between 87.9 and 91.9 FM. Finding either an LPFM or a translator in your area is a good sign. We can then perform a more formal engineering study to see if we can design a full-service station that meets the FCC's minimum requirements.

## An Important Reminder!!!

An important reminder to those of you who are operating stations: In order to prepare the proposal for a national loan program, we are in need of your completed Station Establishment History. Please complete it and mail or fax it to the CRA office asap.

## National Radiothon

Look for more information in upcoming newsletters and targeted e-mailings regarding the details of the forthcoming National Radiothon.

**Catholic Radio**  
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