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The Catholic Radio Association offers its members several vital products and services that aid in all aspects of radio station operation:

- **Station acquisition assistance** - At the member's request, the Association will help members to locate, evaluate and negotiate a station in their market. The Association has contacts developed

Working Together in Solidarity

One of the themes we addressed multiple times at the conference is that of solidarity. I mentioned it last newsletter and the conference and the national radiothon (both recently completed) are great examples of working together and sharing the gifts God has given to us for the good of all.

One of our major current efforts involves adding 250 new noncommercial FM stations in small to medium markets across the country (though we have found a few major markets, too!). This effort involves combining our engineering expertise with a national mailing. The mailing allows us to locate interested Catholic applicants and at the same time subsidize this intensive and very costly effort (my personal thanks again to those of you who have already so graciously responded). It also impresses upon the heart of the reader the almost unequaled value of Catholic radio as an instrument of evangelization.

We are well on our way to finding those local applicants to begin their first station, helping small stations expand and individual stations expand into networks.

Please pray for this effort. Adding a significant number of new stations brings more people face to face with Jesus Christ, thereby strengthening the entire Church and society. It also adds credibility to the efforts of every programmer and station (the adage success breeds success comes to mind).

By God's grace, your support and our effort, may it please Him that we soon bring the Faith to every person in America through Catholic radio!

Ad maiorem Dei gloriam!

Stephen Gajdosik, CRA President

2006 Global Catholic Radio Conference UPDATES "For the Love of Christ Impels Us." 2 Corinthians 5:14

WOW! What a line-up!

The 2006 Global Catholic Radio Conference made a tremendous impact in the lives of all who attended. EWTN & the CRA were blessed to have over 120 attendees registered for the conference this year. This is the largest attendance to date, and we look forward to growing in numbers and in strength every year. In writing about some of the highlights, we hope to convey to you at least a small portion of the power of the Word of God as presented by the spiritual leaders and speakers who formed and informed us over those four days in Birmingham, Alabama.

with multiple radio station brokers to quickly find stations that are for sale and can also help members to locate and negotiate a station acquisition directly with the owner.

- **Marketing** – The Association is committed to and currently developing a marketing strategy incorporating the internet, Catholic periodicals and Catholic television to promote Catholic radio across the nation.
- **Credit card processing** – The Association has developed a discounted credit card processing plan for members.
- **Special events** – The Association co-hosts with EWTN an annual Global Catholic Radio conference to provide members with the most up-to-date information and guidance available.
- **Newsletters/information exchange** – The Association provides to its members a monthly newsletter with information, pertinent news and ideas relevant to Catholic broadcasting.
- **Regulatory** – The Association shares with its members via its newsletter and/or e-mail broadcast any regulatory

Wed. Oct. 11, 2006: From that first afternoon's tour of EWTN's Radio Mountain

Let the tour begin!

We climbed aboard buses and enjoyed a scenic drive past highways and byways, then up a very steep and rocky mountain on a road that seemed an inauspicious entry to such holy ground. The studio was set securely atop this mountain and boasted an impressive array of high-tech equipment and obviously knowledgeable staff savvy enough to make it all work. We also found out later, as we were touring the facilities, that such huge equipment as the generators had to be brought up that same steep road via delivery truck...back in the days when the road wasn't even paved! The miracles that occur on that mountaintop are not all via satellite; some are very down-to-earth in the physical facilities. You really don't have to have a lot of technical expertise in radio to see and appreciate that fact.

Thurs. Oct. 12, 2006: A day of Retreat and Prayer

We joined our fellow pilgrims on the buses again, this time to spend the day at the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Hanceville, Alabama. We were enriched by [a spiritual talk](#) from **ARCHBISHOP JOSE H. GOMEZ, S.T.D.** on the vocation of Catholic radio in the new evangelization. We attended a private Mass with Archbishop Gomez as the celebrant, and we had lunch in the Castle San Miguel. In the afternoon, we were treated to a tour of the Castle and a visit with the Nuns of Perpetual Adoration. One of the absolute highlights of the trip for many attendees was the presence of Mother Angelica in the visitation chambers. I personally witnessed much joyful weeping at the foot of this nun, as people attempted to express their gratitude for the impact she has had on their lives. And I watched her smile softly and listen intently to every one who came before her. She needed to say nothing at the time, she who has wielded such humble influence and spiritual tenacity to so many people already. Her mere presence was confirmation of all that we are trying to do in Catholic radio around the world.

That evening we took a tour of the EWTN Television Studio, and we had the opportunity to sit in on the live show, "Life on the Rock." You might say it was entertainment at its best. It was a late evening back to the hotel, but in an exhilarating rather than exhausting way.

Fri. Oct. 13, 2006: A Day of Education and Networking

No superstitions about "Friday the 13th bad luck" here. Instead, the attendees were treated to a day of welcome and education that spanned many essential topics for both start-up and ongoing stations.

The keynote address was given by Raymond Arroyo, EWTN News Director and author, and it was a delightful hour of funny stories about Mother Angelica and important lessons drawn from her experience. We were thoroughly informed on the Programming lineup for EWTN and we were given a DVD of the highlights and some testimonials. We had an extremely important session with Michael Wagner, the Assistant Chief in Audio Division for the FCC, which addressed such topics as NCE FM, regulatory changes, and more. After lunch, we went into some break-out sessions, depending on your interests and level of expertise. One session focused on getting started, or Catholic Radio 101. This included timely information from a radio station broker (David Reeder, American Media Services) and a communications attorney (Dennis Kelly, JD) on strategies and tools to establish a new station

changes or updates of which it becomes aware.

- **Resource sharing** – The Association makes known to its members via its newsletter of any items or abilities possessed by Association members which other members may be interested in.
- **Engineering/technical** – The Association will evaluate the coverage area of a station that a member is seeking to purchase and provide recommendations as to its upgrade-ability, suggested purchase price, and signal enhancement. The fee for a detailed upgrade analysis is only \$495.
- **Legal** – The Association has developed relationships with two attorneys who practice in FCC law, contractual work, and nonprofit corporations who offer their services to the members at significantly reduced rates.
- **Purchasing** – The Association has developed discount purchase plans for members on a wide variety of needed services and equipment:
- **Broadcast Software International (BSI)** - 20% discount on all

and to operate it successfully. The alternate track targeted Catholic radio station owners/operators already on the air with information about governmental restrictions (Barry Bostrom, JD) and music licensing issues (Keith Meehan, Radio Music Licensing Committee). At the end of the workday, we were able to participate in another live broadcast and to network with the many compatriots who were sharing this journey of education and faith.

Sat. Oct. 14, 2006: Wrap-up sessions and Q&A

Saturday morning's line-up offered information from Stephen Gajdosik, President of the CRA, on existing services of the Association and several new initiatives, as well. For example, we heard about the opportunity to access financing through a station loan program. We also had a little Financing 101 with a Patrick O'Meara, a principal from the firm of O'Meara, Ferguson Kearns (OFK). Patrick took us through some basics of investing and servicing debt, and offered an opportunity at loan funds to get your station off the ground. We also enjoyed a speaker (Kate Sell) who talked about "parish presentations," and how developing relationships with donors and pastors is essential in maintaining a stream of income for a station. The Q&A was an opportunity to ask questions of Catholic radio veterans who were gracious with their time and in sharing stories of "how-to" and "how-NOT-to"! There is simply nothing like learning at the feet of those who have gone before us.

Tips & Tricks: 2006 Membership Manual

As many of you know, we debuted the Membership Manual at the 2006 Global Catholic Radio Conference. We are pleased and proud to be able to offer this compendium of useful information for your apostolates. You should have received by now an e-mail from the CRA with the link to the Manual. If you have not, you can call or e-mail me and I will forward the information. If you have any other questions, concerns or comments:

Another important Tip: Changes in the city of license used to take years and even require waiting for an auction window. The good news is that changes in the city of license for AM and FM are now considered minor changes. You simply apply, the FCC processes your application, and you move. This can have a significant impact for member stations as it may allow you to move closer and request upgrades based upon a favorable city of license.

You can e-mail Sharon at CRAMemberService@bellsouth.net.

Radio Spots for Reality

The Second Look Project, an effort sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, which created the poster campaign and unveiled it on Washington's Metro subway system over a year ago has a three

its proprietary software to Association members, and a 10% discount on all other software and hardware.

- Armstrong Transmitter Corporation - 25% discount on the purchase of all transmitters and a 20% discount on the purchase of all other hardware to members.
- Gorman-Redlich - 5% discount and free shipping on its well-known Emergency Alert Systems (EAS) to members.

radio spots available for your use. Check out www.seconlookproject.org to preview and download the spots. Each one is only 60 seconds long and available in .mp3 format; an easy insert into the programming day. Initiate a reality check on Roe in your city.

Introduction to new staff of the CRA

Hello. My name is Sharon Minson, and I am delighted to be serving you as the new Member Services Director of the Catholic Radio Association. I hail from Akron, Ohio and I am born & raised a Catholic. I was blessed by God at a very young age to know His presence in the silence...which we don't have much of in our culture. Even in Catholic elementary school, I observed reverent silence in the church and shushed my little friends who were not quiet in the House of God. Of course, this did not make me very popular with the other third-graders! But such was my disposition as a contemplative of sorts. My first year of college, for Lent, I made the "sacrifice" to go to daily Mass. And thus started a lifelong habit of mind and heart. I remained a daily communicant for many years--until the birth of my first child four years ago. I am married to a wonderful man named Kurt, and we have two beautiful preschool daughters, Nastassja (whose name is the German form of the word Nativity, and she was born on Christmas Eve) and Gabrielle (named of course after the Angel Gabriel). I am actually a lawyer by trade, and I practiced law for seven years before searching out more meaningful work in the church. I then took an executive position with a Catholic Charities agency in my area. I lived that vocation for another seven years, but began again to feel the call to share my gifts and talents in a more evangelistic way. So here I am. I am grateful to be a part of this apostolate and I look forward to being of great service to the Association, to you our members, and to God. Thank you for welcoming me and feel free to contact me any time with questions, comments, concerns, etc.

From Rome:

"So often, the Church's counter-cultural witness is misunderstood as something backward and negative in today's society. That is why it is important to emphasize the Good News, the life-giving and life-enhancing message of the Gospel (cf. Jn 10:10). Even though it is necessary to speak out strongly against the evils that threaten us, we must correct the idea that Catholicism is merely 'a collection of prohibitions.' Sound catechesis and careful 'formation of the heart' are needed here."

Pope Benedict XVI To The Bishops of Ireland on their "Ad Limina" Visit

28 October 2006

*St. Gabriel,
Pray for us!*

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"For the new evangelization to be effective...knowledge and use of the media is indispensable" (*Ecclesia in America*, 72).
