

# SLCT TIMES



## Sterling-Lancaster Community Television

### A Note From Your Director

Welcome to SLCT's "super addition" seasonal newsletter! What a winter it has been! Between the weather and the hustle and bustle here at SLCT, time has flown by and we are looking forward to spring! We have started to take on many new projects which have been in the planning stages for quite a while. Stay tuned for exciting things to come!



### Announcing "Harmonies!"

Three of our new members have established their own music show called "Harmonies", produced by Denise Hurley. The first one taped this past Saturday. The show's focus is on conversations with musicians currently in the local (Worcester County) music scene. It will provide a glimpse into each artist's background and where they find inspiration for their music. The plan is to film one a month, and volunteers are still needed! With any new show, a considerable amount of planning and training is required to ensure its success.

#### Recent Highlights

- ◇ New copier is up and running
- ◇ Camera upgrade in public meeting rooms
- ◇ Survey to both towns through the census mailing
- ◇ Staff job descriptions have been written
- ◇ Installed a forms rack in both offices
- ◇ 16mm transfers

#### Future Events

- ◇ Researching system playback servers to replace the existing Tightrope system. We're in the process of due diligence, comparing 4 manufacturers
- ◇ Lancaster and Sterling Annual Town Meetings are on the same night! Logistics TBD...
- ◇ Working on getting our channel 8 and 99 schedules into the local newspapers

## The Company

Introducing one of our latest Board Members!



Tom Kennedy

Tom is a retired purchasing manager. He was on the Lancaster Conservation Committee for 32 years.

Tom likes to volunteer and joined SLCT to continue to give something back to his community.

Our Access Agreement with the Select Boards in Sterling and Lancaster for the next five years has been signed.

SLCT continues to work with Bob Kelly of SRA Associates to help formulate and execute a strategic plan.

SLCT has hired Don Jacobs of Municipal Management Consultant Services to update job descriptions and establish salary ranges.

We have 8mm and 16mm projectors which have been donated to allow us the ability to provide transfer services.

A master contents list of policies and procedures has been created for SLCT, most of which need to be written and formally accepted by the Board of Directors.

## Welcome New Members!



Peter  
Christoph



Denise  
Hurley



David  
Jensen



Ben  
Leone



Cliff  
McMullan



Milton  
Montequ



Peter  
Murphy



Jean  
Syria



Paula  
Castner

## Purchases



GAFFGUN!



GAFFGUN - Our latest purchase, a great industrial tool which was designed to be an easy solution to the hassle of laying gaffer's tape over cables. The GaffGun body is made out of the same material used for pulleys on deep sea fishing trips. The GaffGun collects your cables and lays tape over them in one seamless motion. The GaffGun is optimized to lay their own 1', 2', and 3' tape. Their CoreLok technology guarantees the tape is always centered, and utilizes the GaffGun tensioning system, making tape application smooth and stable.

## Ideas Anyone?

Have an idea for a show?

We do! (We just need volunteers.)

Contact Matt or Myself to help guide you through the production process by providing the equipment and training for you to shoot, edit, and air it!

## Training

Camera training for all new members  
(and there were a lot!)

## Do you know....

...what MPEG stands for?

Answer on page 5/6...

WWW.SLCTV.US

Sterling: 1 Park Street - 978-563-1073 ~ Lancaster: 39 Harvard Road - 978-733-1139

## MPEG... An importing challenge for us...

Short for *Moving Picture Experts Group*, and pronounced m-peg, is a working group of the International Standards Organization (ISO.) The term also refers to the family of digital video compression standards and file formats developed by the group. MPEG generally produces better-quality video than competing formats, such as Video for Windows, Indeo, and Quick Time. MPEG files previously on PCs needed hardware decoders (codecs) for MPEG processing. Today, however, PCs can use software-only codecs including products from RealNetworks, QuickTime or Windows Media Player. MPEG algorithms compress data to form small bits that can be easily transmitted and then decompressed.

The major MPEG standards include the following;

**MPEG-1:** The most common implementations of the MPEG-1 standard provide a video resolution of 352-by-240 at 30 frames per second (fps). This produces video quality slightly below the quality of conventional VCR videos.

**MPEG-2 :** Offers resolutions of 720x480 and 1280x720 at 60 fps, with full CD-quality audio. This is sufficient for all the major TV standards, including NTSC, and even HDTV. MPEG-2 is used by DVD-ROMs. MPEG-2 can compress a 2 hour video into a few gigabytes. While decompressing an MPEG-2 data stream requires only modest computing power, encoding video in MPEG-2 format requires "significantly" more processing power.

**MPEG-3:** Was designed for HDTV but was abandoned in place of using MPEG-2 for HDTV.

**MPEG-4:** A graphics and video compression algorithm standard that is based on MPEG-1 and MPEG-2 and Apple QuickTime technology. Wavelet-based MPEG-4 files are smaller than JPEG or QuickTime files, so they are designed to transmit video and images over a narrower bandwidth and can mix video with text, graphics and 2-D and 3-D animation layers. MPEG-4 was standardized in October 1998.

**MPEG-7:** Formally called the *Multimedia Content Description Interface*, MPEG-7 provides a tool set for completely describing multimedia content. MPEG-7 is designed to be generic and not targeted to a specific application.

**MPEG-21:** Includes a *Rights Expression Language* (REL) and a Rights Data Dictionary. Unlike other MPEG standards that describe compression coding methods, MPEG-21 describes a standard that defines the description of content and also processes for accessing, searching, storing and protecting the copyrights of content.

## MPEG, continued...

Acronym for a group of standards	Title	ISO/IEC standards	First public release date (First edition)	Description
MPEG-1	Coding of moving pictures and associated audio for digital storage media. Commonly limited to about 1.5 Mbit/s although specification is capable of much higher bit rates	ISO/IEC 11172	1993	
MPEG-2	Generic coding of moving pictures and associated audio information	ISO/IEC 13818	1995	
MPEG-3				abandoned, incorporated into MPEG-2
MPEG-4	Coding of audio-visual objects	ISO/IEC 14496	1999	
MPEG-7	Multimedia content description interface	ISO/IEC 15938	2002	
MPEG-21	Multimedia framework (MPEG-21)	ISO/IEC 21000	2001	
MPEG-A	Multimedia application format (MPEG-A)	ISO/IEC 23000	2007	
MPEG-B	MPEG systems technologies	ISO/IEC 23001	2006	
MPEG-C	MPEG video technologies	ISO/IEC 23002	2006	
MPEG-D	MPEG audio technologies	ISO/IEC 23003	2007	
MPEG-E	Multimedia Middleware	ISO/IEC 23004	2007	
(none)	Supplemental media technologies	ISO/IEC 29116	2008	will be revised in MPEG-M Part 4 – MPEG extensible middleware (MXM) protocols
MPEG-V	Media context and control	ISO/IEC 23005 <sup>[37]</sup>	2011	
MPEG-M	MPEG extensible middleware (MXM)	ISO/IEC 23006 <sup>[42]</sup>	2010	
MPEG-U	Rich media user interfaces	ISO/IEC 23007 <sup>[44]</sup>	2010	
MPEG-H	High Efficiency Coding and Media Delivery in Heterogeneous Environments	ISO/IEC 23008 <sup>[48]</sup>	2013	
MPEG-DASH	Information technology – DASH	ISO/IEC 23009	2012	