

Strong media centers. Strong communities.

Board of Directors March 16, 2020

Officers

Jake Timm President Oshkosh Media

Andy Radig Vice-President Wisconsin Rapids Community Media

Jeff Robbins Secretary Sun Prairie Media Center

Deb Brunett Treasurer Emeritus Member – Merrill Productions

Directors

Dave Grooman Lake Mills Community & Government Television

Boyce Johnson Madison City Channel

John Kelly Trempealeau County Community Television

Tom Loppnow City of Milwaukee

Tom Loucks Wisconsin Rapids Community Media

Alan Luckett Janesville JATV

Tim Montgomery
Emeritus Member – River
Falls Community Television

Executive Director

Mary Cardona (608) 215-5594 exec@

wisconsincommunitymedia.com

Mike Briggs and Gary Kaiser Plymouth Community Television c/o Plymouth Comprehensive High School

125 S. Highland Ave. Plymouth, WI 53073

Dear Mike and Gary,

Wisconsin Community Media is proud to inform you that Plymouth Community Television has been selected by the WCM Board of Directors to receive the 2020 WCM Friend of Access Award in recognition of your generosity to WCM and its members. Allowing WCM to use your MediaFire program-sharing platform has enabled WCM to offer a key service to our members at no additional cost. The award reads, "In recognition of your work to preserve the true democratic voice of the community – Public, Education, and Government Access Television."

In nominating you for this award, the WCM Communications and Resources Committee (C & R) Chair, Dave Grooman, said "I can't think of a better way to recognize the important contribution Plymouth has made to PEG media statewide than to give them a Friend of Access Award."

Six years ago, in 2014, Gary, who was then serving on the C&R Committee, approached me with the idea to share Plymouth's MediaFire account with WCM. The committee had been exploring ways to do program sharing statewide digitally. It was a wonderful offer. Gary explained that the cost of the application was being borne by one of his volunteers and that there was a lot of space for programming – much more than Plymouth Community Television would ever use.

After a period of testing, the Board of Directors approved its use in November, 2014 and it has been going strong ever since. Your contribution has enabled our media centers to share critical programs featuring candidate forums, government officials and issues as well as fun shows like high school football games, gardening tips and musical performances. WCM has used it to post conference workshops and PSAs promoting PEG media for statewide distribution. MediaFire has provided a seamless high-quality video connection that is central to what we do as a statewide organization. And yet, you have made this service something WCM can offer for free.

Recently, we learned that Plymouth Community Television has begun bearing the cost of the app and never said a word. We all feel very strongly that it is time we recognized your important contribution to Wisconsin's local PEG media community.

We invite both of you and two guests as well as the local resident who first donated MediaFire and his or her guest to the Best of the Midwest Media Fest Banquet and Show on Thursday, May 14 at the Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport Hotel where you will be honored with the 2020 Friend of Access Award. The exhibitors reception begins at 5:00 pm, the banquet at 6:30 pm and the awards presentation and show follows.

Please contact me to let me know who is coming by Thursday, May 7, 2020.

Sincerely,

Mary Cardona Executive Director