KGLT Night at the Blackfoot River Brewing Company

On Monday February 28th the Blackfoot River Brewing Company hosted a KGLT Community Monday event. LCPRA assisted by sending postcard invitations to our members and supporters inviting public radio aficionados to attend. The evening was a great success! KGLT brought most of their staff and a large number of their volunteer DJs to meet and visit with their listeners in Helena. KGLT was very appreciative of the Blackfoot River Brewing Company and LCPRA’s assistance in putting the event together. KGLT was able earn some money from the beer proceeds but the greatest benefit was getting to interface with their supporters in Helena!

Thank you very much for showing up and we hope to do more of these types of events in the future.

Please attend the LCPRA Annual Meeting
May 25 at 5:30 PM at the Lewis and Clark Public Library big meeting room!
Transmitter Update

LCPRA is still in the process of trying to acquire its own FCC transmitter license in the educational band. A year and a half ago the FCC ruled that LCPRA and the Calvary Chapel of Helena (CCH) are tied for a license and must create a time sharing agreement on a Helena frequency. Since that time, we have been in negotiations with the CCH and several other religious organizations in our region to try and come up with an acceptable settlement that would allow ourselves and several of these groups to acquire FCC transmitter licenses. If we are able to come to a settlement with these groups it will be to our great benefit as it will give us the most flexibility with what we ultimately are able to do with this transmitter. If a settlement does not occur we will be forced to accept the FCC decision of the shared LCPRA/CCH transmitter. As you can imagine that would not be a very satisfactory arrangement.

In the meantime we still believe that locking in one more Public Radio transmitter in the Helena area could be a huge benefit to the community; whether we end up using it for an existing station or for new local programming. This effort requires a fair bit of money as we are required to keep a Washington DC area communications lawyer and a specialized radio engineer on retainer to continue this highly technical and drawn out process. We appreciate your kind donations for this effort!

Yellowstone Public Radio Transmitter

Yellowstone Public Radio (YPR, KEMC in Billings) will be installing their new transmitter in Helena this summer. Jim Nichols, the YPR Engineer, says that he hopes to have it installed and running by July or August. The new transmitter will broadcast at 89.1 FM once it is activated. We hope to transmit both 89.1 and the current translator 96.7 simultaneously for a while prior to taking down 96.7. This will hopefully give YPR listeners a chance to retune their radios and brains to the new frequency.

The main benefit of the new transmitter will be a permanent location on the dial for YPR in the Helena area. YPR will no longer have to worry about the translator being bumped off its signal by another applicant similar to what happened a few years back.

LCPRA will strive to keep you up-to-date on this transition period.