

community radio hates a vacuum

by B. F. Deal (aka Jim Bedford)

You had to be in Telluride in 1974 to understand why KOTO came into being. At that time Telluride's available airwave entertainment consisted of one 1950's style TV station. one semi-pop AM radio station and zero FM signals. Many of the new faces in town had

grown up on music of the freeform FM stations of the '60s and were ready for the information revolution soon to come. We were starved for music, local news and information, and we wanted to live in a community that provided it all

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) had a small niche in its restrictive regulations that allowed a private non-profit group to build and operate a 10-watt FM radio station. Into this niche jumped an odd assortment of local folks. An application was filed. Time, money, and space was provided by dozens of people. The Town Council

came up with \$10,000 over two years for equipment, a very courageous decision for those times

Unbelievably, the FCC issued a construction permit and said "Do it!" Within six months, KOTO was on the air.

In the past ten years, thousands of people have been heard on KOTO. Tens of thousands of tunes have been played, hundreds of folks have been interviewed and thousands of local news stories have been reported. And not one paid commercial message. None!

Sure, sometimes you can't even listen to it. On occasion you hate it. But even though KOTO can be the worst, it can also be the best. KOTO is there 20 hours a day. If you don't like it, turn it off for a while. It will be better soon.

More than any station, KOTO is your radio station. You can make it better by your participation, comments and money. Support KOTO and it will treat you right. Community radio hates a vacuum, so help KOTO and it will help fill your life, too.

280 mighty watts



After eight years without, this is perhaps the most welcome feature of our New Facility.

KOTO Engineer Jay Himmelman climbing new tower on Coonskin Ridge to adjust KOTO antenna (four spheres at top).



ten years of sound growth



by Jerry Greene

with four white spheres. This is the C-4 (Coonskin Community Communication Center), a cooperative venture of KOTO, Telluride Ski Area, San Miguel County Sheriff's Department and joining later KKXK-FM from Montrose.

A ninety foot tower has been erected to mount these antennas, including the four white spheres that protect KOTO's four-bay, circularly polarized antenna. Powered by our 150 watt Versa-Count transmitter, these bays together put out 280 watts of effective radiated power.

KOTO's associated equipment in-clude a microwave STL (studio tran-smitter link), digital remote control, and new monitoring equipment, to see that it all works optimally.

What does the 280 watts mean for our listeners?? Many folks who formerly received no KOTO or a poor signal are getting a solid signal, most notably Wilson Mesa, Ilium, Ophir, the Ski Ranches and Mountain Village, Sharp-eyed folks riding Lift 4 have and the ski area. A good stereo radio seen a small radio tower, decked out with headset can bring KOTO with you

when you're skiing, and we now frequently hear KOTO smoothing our way onto and off the chairlifts.

The new transmitter and antenna have not done everything we'd hoped for. The signal is noisy some places down the canyon, and there are a few dead spots in town, most notably in the Backman Village area. Further adjustments will be made in the antenna to correct some of these problems, and we may consider larger power increase or the installation and upgrade of our translator system to bring a strong KOTO signal to more listeners in the region.

In the meantime, if you're having reception problems, try an inexpensive Dipole antenna. We're giving them away while they last at the station or you can make one as illustrated in the KOTO Nooze. If you have an antenna, move it around to find the best reception spot. You can also call KOTO for help. We're dedicated to providing a good signal throughout the county. *Please stand by.*

program guide ...

SUNDAY

6:00 a.m. "Music for Good Listening" with Brother Al Johnston, Christian music and programming.

8:30 a.m. "Interdimensional Fun Show" with Laura and Toby Douglas, mostly mellow New Age music - or - "Musical Meditations" with Michael Saftler, New Age Music.

10:00 a.m. "New Dimensions"; interviews

with New Age folks. NOON "A DJ from the Outside World" with Jonathon Tharp, eclectic - or - "Musical Mix" with Michelle Curry. 3:00 p.m. "Mellow Music" with Sharon

Shuteran - or - "Vin Rose" with Sherry Rose,

old and new vintage songs. 6:00 p.m. "Music with Jan Malone"; old and new rock.

8:00 p.m. Radio Drama.

9:00 p.m. "The Alley Stalker"; new wave -or - "Wolfgar's Serious Rock." 11:00 p.m. "Rock and Roll" with Tim Stafford.

MONDAY

6:30 a.m. "Breakfast with Buck" with Buck Lowe; always some oldies, the Free Box report and much, much more. 8:30 a.m. Yesterday's News Today. 9:00 a.m. "Monday Morning Mumblings" with Terry Tice; mostly country. "Music with Sarah Proudman"; easy NOON rock, folk, and more. 3:00 p.m. "Music with Dave Rec"; rock. 6:00 p.m. Community Radio News. 6:20 p.m. Children's Radio Theatre. 7:00 p.m. "Jumpin' Jan with Steely Dan"; plus The Police, Talking Heads, Dire Strates, and more. 9:30 p.m. "Mr. Pie in the Sky"; a slice of the best of old and new rock. MIDNIGHT "Experimental Rock" with Chas O'Bryan. TUESDAY

6:30 a.m. "Your Morning Buzz" with Buzz Bizarrio; anything is possible and everything is somewhere.

8:30 a.m. Yesterday's News Today. 9:00 a.m. "The Bobalouie Show" with Robert Allen; music director's choice. NOON "Joyce's Potpourri" with Joyce Walters; mellow music, folk, and more. 3:00 p.m. "Music with Paul Rudd"; rock and jazz - or - "Music From the Rim of the World"

with Rose of Cimarron; celtic, foreign, jazz, weird, and esoteric.

6:00 p.m. Community Radio News. 6:30 p.m. Album Feature. 7:30 p.m. "Classical Jazz" with Martha 7:30 p.m. Brady.

9:00 p.m. "Afoot with Visions" with Art Goodtimes; eclectic music, public affairs, documentaries, and poetry. 11:00 p.m. "Abreast with Hallucinations"

with Jay Simon; rock 'n roll. WEDNESDAY

6:30 a.m. "Morning Symphony" with Jack Pera; classical.

8:30 a.m. Yesterday's News Today. 9:30 a.m. "Town Hall Talks" with Joe Crain.

10:00 a.m. "Mountain Grown" with Jordy Sharp; Bluegrass.

NOON "Music with Charlotte McGuire"; anything she likes.

3:00 p.m. "Telluride High School Show" with Peter Hansen, Tad Craig, Traci Selby,

and Sai Fon Woozley; lively rock, old and new

6:00 p.m. Community Radio News.

6:30 p.m. "Producer's Choice." 7:00 p.m. "Up-Valley Show with the Ophirian"; new music - or - "Music with Mavis"; mellow rock and then some. 9:00 p.m. "Country Heartbreaks" with Rudy and Randy - or - "Crazy Momma's Rock". MIDNIGHT "Dead or Dread" with Steve and Stevie; greatful reggae - or - "Babbling Bob's Rock" with Bob Rex.

THURSDAY

6:30 a.m. "Nordic Commando Radio" with Jerry Greene; music from the cheap shelf. 8:30 a.m. Yesterday's News Today. 9:00 a.m. "A Little Bit of This and a Little Bit of That" with Bob Brickell; classic jazz,

classical, and comedy. 10:30 a.m. "Joy From the Attic" with Joyce Everett; music, drama, and more from the

KOTO archives. NOON "Walter the D.J. Presents" with Walter Farnham; eclectic.

3:00 p.m. "Music with Judie or Suzie"; folk, country, and rock.

6:00 p.m. Community News Radio. 6:30 p.m. "Uncle Jim's Good Tastin' Music" with Jim Pettegrew.

8:30 p.m. "Music with Susan Sante"; classical, jazz, and ethnic - or - "Thomas" Blues and/or Jazz Show" with Thomas.

10:00 p.m. "Ring in the New Wave" with

Joan Johnson; new wave, punk, oldies, rock-abelly, and requests. MIDNIGHT "Music with Tellef"; new wave

and rock.-

FRIDAY 6:30 a.m. "Workingman's Jam" with Peter Case; always some rhythm and blues.

8:30 a.m. Yesterday's News Today. 9:00 a.m. "Telluride Christian Fellowship



NOON "In The Mood" with Susann Maybach; really old country, Doris Day, and more depending on the mood.

2:00 p.m. "The Heartbeat of Zion" with Rasta Stevie; reggae.

4:00 p.m. "Josephine's Jazz" with Josephine DeMaio-Fallenius; progressive jazz plus. 6:00 p.m. Community News Radio. 6:30 p.m. "All God's Children Got Rhythm" with Ingrid Lundahl - or - "Recycling the

Blues" with Thomas; blues and other related stuff. 9:00 p.m. "Your Rocky Mountain Rock 'n

Roll Rasputin" with Rockin' Rob; this is rock and roll.

MIDNIGHT "Andy Ritch's Rock, Rhythm & Requests".

SATURDAY

Calendar

Jobline

"In the

Ski Report

6:30 a.m. "Music with Heidi Geiger"; variety.

8:30 a.m. Yesterday's News Today. 9:00 a.m. "Noman's Land" with Norman Squier; concerned confusion. NOON "Beginning to End" with "Crazy John"; eclectic - or - "Alice in Wonderland and Other Places"; rock and roll.

3:00 p.m. "All That Jazz" with Paul Machado.

6:00 p.m. "Contagious Neurosis Show" with Magnolia; rock, reggae, and comedy. 9:00 p.m. "Keno on KOTO"; rock and roll, motown, country rock, metal, and more. MIDNIGHT "Beef Jerky All Night Long" with John and Faith Belka; rock, drama, and more.

REGULAR TALK Community Daily at 10 a.m., 4 & 7 p.m. Daily, 8 & 11 a.m., 9 p.m. **Community Carpool** Daily at 2 p.m. Public Interest" "Westrends" Daily at Noon Friday following the 6 p.m. News Daily, 7:30, 8, 8:35. 10:05, & 11:05 a.m.

Mon.-Fri. following the 8:30 a.m. Ski Report Daily following "Colorado Speaks" 'Daily at Noon and at 6:15 p.m. or following the 6 p.m. News As available; follows the News As available at 4 p.m.

koto programming "still crazy after all these years" by Terry Selby

KOTO programming is: the most timely news service in the county; discussion of important community and regional issues; music heard nowhere else; candidate interviews; community service announcements; current music; Town Council meetings; classic jazz; "Access" and personal commentaries; live broadcasts from hang-gliders, hot-air balloons, and on "The Plunge"; the Community Carpool; remote broadcast from parades, parties, festivals, and other events; election night coverage and analysis; the Jobline; polkas; ski reports; blues; road conditions; "Town Hall Talks"; "Breakfast with Buck"; avalanche warnings; chamber music concerts; lost dog reports; live music; country and bluegrass music; "Producer's Choice"; new wave music; shortwave news; cueing on-the-air; "Jerry Bonifiglio Rockin' Renmants"; "New Dimensions"; "Children's Radio Theatre"; documentaries; election forums; on-the-street interviews; folk music; marathons; reggae; "Guest D.J. Day"; easy listening; "Stormy James"; all-night music; Bob Dylan; "Movies on the Radio"; "In the Public Interest"; Jackson Browne; Community Calendar; and TOTALLY commercial-FREE!!!

what's smef?

by Esther White

Members of the Board of Directors of the San Miguel Educational Fund (SMEF), KOTO's parent organization, are elected annually at a general meeting in June. Board members hire the station's general manager, make policy decisions, set the annual budget and long term goals for the station, and assist in fundraising. Board meetings, which are open to the public, are the second Tuesday of each month.

Last fall the Board of Directors reluctantly accepted the resignation of Lynn Rae Lowe as General Manager (thanks, Lynn, for your hard work and enthusiasm). Following its general policy of promotion from within, the Board appointed long-time program director Terry Selby as GM. A new position, of-fice Manager/Volunteer Coordinator, is being capably filled by Joyce Everett, who brings new ideas and energy with her to the radio. New faces and voices in the news department, replacing Leigh Skinner, Rita Robinson and Norman Squier, are Bob Brickell and Joan Johnson.

As KOTO enters its latest fun-draising period, the Board of Directors thanks Telluride for its continued support. Staff and board members may change, but KOTO continues to grow with the community it serves.



KOTO paid staff you'll usually find at the station; Robert Allen, Joan Johnson, Terry Selby, Joyce Everett, and Bob Brickell.



KOTO's top fundraising D.J.'s Rockin' Rob, Jumpin' Jan, and Buck Lowe.

"Colorado Speaks" Shortwave News "Movies on the Radio Commentary "Access" weekdays

message from the manager ...

by Terry Selby

KOTO has just completed a period of tremendous growth. We bought, built, and moved into our new studio, just north of the Miners' Union. We also completed our power increase to 280 watts and vastly improved our production and broadcast facilities. The amazing part is that we were able to accomplish this growth without drawing on funds from our Listener donations. Here's how: we purchased our new space for \$20,000. The down payment (\$8,000) came from the Harris Foundation and the rest is mortgaged. We built the studios and offices with Town Capital Improvements Funds (\$20,000). Our power increase and facilities improvements were funded by a grant from The National Telecommunications and Information Agency which covered 75% and the remaninder came from the Town Capital Im-provements Fund. The total program was over \$53,000. While we still have improvements to make with respect to our power increase, we're really satisfied with our permanent home and the new equipment there. You now have a radio station facility you can be proud of...definitely "World Class".

Now that we've taken care of most of our facility needs for a while, we're going to concentrate on our programming. Some of the results of this emphasis can already be heard. In terms of news, our local coverage is concentrating more on "hard news" and less on features and is reporting a higher percentage of local stories. We've also added a "stringer" system to cover stories and attend meetings the regular news staff cannot. We've also developed a shortwave broadcast. developed a shortwave broadcast, produced by Susan Sante and other volunteers, to bring you news from around the world and a different per-

spective on national issues. We're learning things every day about the shortwave and the sound quality has improved measurably. We look forward to the day that it is crystal-clear. We also focused on mountain events this winter and are reporting on races and other events that we have missed in the past.

Our current goal or dream in terms of news and programming is to get a satellite earth station to bring National Public Radio (NPR) programming, such as "All Things Considered," "Morning Edition," etc., and independent productions such as Prairie Home Companion and The Grateful Dead Live on New Year's Eve, to the Telluride region. We will be going for another grant from the Harris Foundation to hopefully make this a reality.

New equipment and programming are the fun part of Community Radio...the hard part ... and often a rather harsh reality...is the funding of Community Radio. As we approach our tenth anniversary on the air, we're working under an annual budget of \$59,250. \$15,000 comes from the town; about \$8,500 from the Bluegrass Festival

KOTO beer booth; over \$10,000 from the Ski Swap, Halloween Party, Bar Boogies, T-Shirts, etc.; and the rest, over \$21,000, comes from direct contributions from listeners and from our out-of-state supporters. * It was easier to get the direct contributions in years past. Now there is a lot of competition for the limited amount of donation dollars available. Still, you have continued to come through, year after year. It makes us feel like we are doing something right. We've never missed a payroll or a mortgage payment and we hope to continue that record. We can do so with your continued support. Thank you Telluride and San Miguel County for making it possible for us to serve you. YOU ARE COMMUNITY RADIO!!!--WORLD CLASS!!!

* For those of you who are counting. you can see that we're \$4,500 short on income. We show this under miracles on our balance sheet and welcome any suggestions you may have.

doctor music

by Robert Allen, M.D.

The Music Department is comprised of folks who help KOTO acquire records and tapes for our listeners pleasure. Anyone who is interested in helping with the stacks can get in touch with volunteer Assistant Music Director Lew Keno or myself. You can also help us by donating records, being on the look-out for KOTO records that have walked away from the studio, putting us in touch with artists and/or record company connections.

Your Music Department is dedicated to obtaining a variety of music covering every area in the musical spectrum. County to jazz, new wave to classical, you will hear it all on KOTO. The Music Department's playlist is published to inform the world what we are playing and what kind of listener response we're receiving. It shows the musical flow at KOTO and that flow keeps moving because of your interest in great radio. KOTO-FM ... we want to be the only radio station you'll ever need. lomine

> : mostly court c with Sarah

> > LI -----

nor

-3) Short wave news should be aired (circle one):

4) Should we invest \$ toward a satellite earth station?

a. mornings only

d. never

e. other

b. morning and noon

c. morning, noon, and night

moin

and now...a word to our sponsors KOTO is your radio station. We want to know what you

think about the programming.

1) What would you like to hear more of?

2) What would you like to hear less of?

volunteer co-ordinator

comments

by Joyce Everett

I was new to KOTO this fall, but not to non-profit organizations and the importance of volunteers in developing and maintaining a community service, especially one of high quality. A com-munity radio station obviously needs volunteers as DJ's, but that is just a part of a large need. Many volunteers are needed on a regular basis to do the many off-air tasks that keep KOTO onthe-air and to provide the variety and quality in programming. Clerical work, maintenance of equipment, maintenance of record library, DJ training, and program production, such as interviews, remote broadcast, and live music broadcast and recordings, are some of the on-going tasks. Special

who are we???

San Miguel Educational Fund (SMEF) **Board of Directors**

Esther White, Executive Director Allan Gerstle, Vice Director Kathy Green, Secretary Joyce Walters, Treasurer Sylvia Hemann **Rick Silverman** Norman Squier

Board of Trustees

Mavis Bennett	Jack Pera
Jerry Rosenfield	Susan Sante
Mary Jo Schillaci	Lee Shoblom

events, such as the bi-annual fundraisers, require many more volunteers for a short period of time. DEPEN-DABILITY is an essential quality in a volunteer. Enthusiasm, initiative, and a sense of humor are definite assets and also common qualities in the KOTO volunteers. Telluride and nearby residents-long-term, seasonal, and transient-have done an OUTSTAN-DING job through the years for KOTO and their community!! KOTO volunteers seem to give frequently of their time and energy, often on a moment's notice. THANKS TO YOU ALL!!! I'm glad to have the chance to work with you and am looking forward to sharing good times as KOTO continues to improve.

Staff

Robert Allen, Music & Finance Director

Bob Brickell, News and Public Affairs

Joyce Everett, Volunteer Coordinator &

Office Manager Jerry Greene, Chief Engineer, News

Lew "Keno" Menechino, Assistant

John Morton, Consultant Engineer

Stringer, and Interviewer

Joan Johnson, News Reporter

Jay Himmelman, Engineer

Music Director

Hether Bachman, Events Consultant

Director

Jim "Stormy" Pettegrew, Weather **Reporter and Engineer** Susan Sante, Shortwave News Coordinator & Mountain News Reporter

Terry Selby, General Manager and Program Director

KOTO Volunteers

Tim Duttle Toby Douglas Michael Auclair Dalice Duncan Susie Austin Gary Duncan Shane Bachman Grace DuPont Robin Baker John Fago Debbie Barr John Fahnestock Doug Barry Walter Farnham. Jim Bedford Tom Farrell Bob Beer Karen Fifield Faith Belka **Rock Fritch** John Belka Tom Ganner Lorraine Berg Heidi Geiger Jeff Berry Mark Geldbaugh **Bob Biener** Skeeter Gilmour Martha Brady Tom Goldsmith Donna Burd Art Goodtimes Karen Cain Jerry Grandey Peter Case Kevin Green Ed Chenoweth Mike Green Gordon Clegg Angela Gusa Nikki Clifton Judie Hanks Nancy Craft Peter Hansen Tad Craig Laura Harper Joe Crain Ellen Harrison Art Cranston **Brad Hatcher** Michelle Curry Phil Hayden Dan Curtis Luci Hervold Josephine DeMaio-Fallenius Betzi Hitz Karma Denton Tellef Hervold Al Dobson **Corey Hiseler** Laura Douglas Eric Nepsky

John Hoagland Mary Cal Hollis Lenore Nicolay Chas O'Bryan Paul Hopkins Mike O'Connor Brad Jackson **Brian** Peters Brother Al Johnston Sarah Proudman **Phil Jones** Cathy Ray Tom Ray Ben Kerr Rocky Larocco Dave Rec **Denise Lindsay** Bob Rex Buck Lowe Alex Robb Lynn Rae Lowe Andrea Robinson Ingrid Lundahl Sherry Rose **Diane** Lyons **Rick Routh** Paul Machado Paul Rudd **Bruce MacIntire** Michael Saftler **Barbara** Mahoney Traci Selby Jan Malone Jordy Sharp Jill Markey Lynn Shortridge Peter Matschek Sharon Shuteran Susann Maybach Jay Simon Wendy McFadden Leigh Skinner **Charlotte McGuire David Smith** Jessee Minkler **Kevin Smith** Lucia Midbey "Rasta Stevie" Smith Tim Stafford Audrey Miller Katy Miller Steve Stuntz Peter Muckerman Helen Suback **Robin Mullin** Randy Sublett Gary Whitfield Emmy Lou Taylor Jonathan Tharp Don Wilson Mark Thompson Irwin Witzel **Terry Tice** Linda Wolf **Rachael Vass** SaiFon Woozley Dennis Wrestler Taz Vass Cheryl Vollenweider Kuno Vollenweider Mark Wynne Janice Zink Thomas Zoline Dutch Walker Rod Weinand David Zoller Ashley Montague Hugo Garcia ... and all those volunteers we forgot!

koto news

by Bob Brickell

KOTO News gives Telluride an asset enjoyed by few towns of 1,000 population: fast reporting of local and regional news. On the average, the News Department broadcasts about 60 stories a month. The reporters, Joan Johnson and myself, try to achieve a balance between straight news and feature stories and between local and regional coverage.

Every Monday at noon we meet to plan the story topics for the week. Questions are asked. What has been heard on the street concerning important stories? What story topics were not covered on last week's list? Did *The Telluride Times* beat us on any important stories last week? What are the important public meetings scheduled for this week? Each reporter has a range of beats. Are some of these story areas being ignored? Did any of last week's stories misstate facts? Were any stories slanted? Were any criticisms received in the past week? What were they?

Sometimes planned stories just don't happen. What appeared newsworthy turns out not to be. On occasion sources cannot be reached. Sometimes stories are virtually dumped in the reporters' laps. A week rarely goes by without more than one unplanned story making the evening news.

On occasion, when the News Department believes it is important to achieve more depth on a story, panel discussions on topics of public importance are broadcast after the evening news. In addition, all Town Council public meetings are broadcast live, and a wrap-up of those meetings is then aired, usually at 8:30 the following morning. The quality of these efforts must be judged by you, the listener. If the quality is bad, or even mediocre, then KOTO is failing in what may be the station's most important single function. If the quality is good, the station is making an important contribution to the public good in Telluride.

Reporters are like everybody else in that they like to receive compliments on their work. But it is much more important that the complaints are heard. The News Department urges listeners to respond when they believe an error of fact has been expressed or when they believe a story treatment is unfair.

Listeners can also help suggesting story topics.

"This is the KOTO Community Radio News for..."—news of and for the community, broadcast by its community radio station.

THESE

WIRES

shortwave: how & why

It started with Susan Sante's volunteer project to get world news back on KOTO. Short wave seemed to be the most interesting (and objective) source of news. KOTO had the equipment; all it needed was people.

The short wave volunteers now num-

ber five: John and Faith Belka, Hugo Garcia, Ashley Montague, and Susan. Their goal is to keep Telluride in touch with the world.

Drop in late any Sunday through Thursday night; you may like it, too.

how to make a

dipole antenna

S FT. LENGTH

FETWIST

300 OHM TWIN LEAD TV ANTENNA

and now...a word to our sponsors...

KOTO is listener sponsored community radio. There are no commercials. Our sponsors are the friends and listeners of KOTO. We get donations from California to New York.

It's almost crazy to run a full service radio station forr \$59,250 a year, but we do it! KOTO is there whenever you want it, at least 20 hours a day, 7 days a week, 52 weeks a year; so help.

NAME ADDRESS

PHONE

- I wish to pay my \$35.00 now to keep KOTO alive.
- Here's my pledge of \$_____ that I promise to pay within two months.
- I want to pay more to keep a good thing going.

81435

- I'm interested in the "painless payment plan". I pledge ______ for _____ months (come to station for bank form).

HOCK THESE WIRES TO . THE FM ANTENNA CONNECTION ON THE BACK OF YOUR RECEIVER

TWIST THESE WIRES TOLETHER



colorado

where does the \$ come from?

LENGTH OF THIS WIRE IS NOT CRITICAL



Nonprofit Organization U.S. POSTAGE PAID Telluride, Colorado Permit No. 1