



ACTON TV FALL 2013 NEWSLETTER

The ActonTV Staff



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SIMON SAYS

It has been a busy time for us. There has been a lot going on "behind the scenes", so to speak, with a major upgrade to set lighting and improved studio acoustics. You can literally see and hear the difference.

We have rolled out our new web site which features an extensive library of over 550 videos-on-demand in a new searchable format, a link to our live streaming of the Government channel and several new ways for you to communicate with us.

This season, we have expanded our coverage of the AB Colonials football games with a fourth camera for close follow shots and instant replay and complete multi-camera coverage of all home and away games by ActonTV staff using our production truck. We greatly appreciate the support from the many sponsors that made this expanded coverage possible.

We hope you will take some time to explore the works of our members and staff on your TV or on the web. It's all *for you*.

THE NEW WWW.ACTONTV.ORG IS HERE



It's taken some time but ActonTV is pleased to announce the debut of its new website. This visually striking site will make communicating with our members and the public much easier and more efficient. You'll be able to follow all the latest news from ActonTV including crew calls, announcements, new videos posted to on-demand, classes, special events etc. from the new site! Special thanks to the amazing team at SlaterDesign for designing a site that is functional, easy to use and incorporates all the helpful features we wanted.

Please check it out and let us know what you think!



NEW LIGHTING IN THE STUDIO



Alisa Keller

alisa.keller@actontv.org

Production Assistant

Photo Gallery:



Participants of the April 2013 Video Camp for Kids had a great time directing, shooting and starring in their own shows.



Tommy a.k.a. Banana Man and Rory a.k.a. Harry Potter in the control room during the April 2013 Video Camp.



Students from the Victor School in Acton visited the studio over the summer for a tour of the facility and to shoot a public service announcement using our green screen.



Video Camp co-instructor Shane Brown poses with the participants of the July 2013 Kids Camp.



Meenu creates a clay Medusa for her



All three sets in our spacious studio have been meticulously re-lit by professional lighting

designer Jonathan Lipsy.

Jonathan used ActonTV's stock-pile of lights and dimmers to design and light our talk show set, green screen and cooking show set. He also lit a one person monologue set. Over 45 lights were hung in order to give our shows and the various hosts and guests a truly professional, broadcast quality look.

PROFESSIONAL SERIES WORKSHOPS



In late May, ActonTV sponsored its first professional series workshop. We invited local filmmaker and Emmy Award winner Christo Tsiaras to direct and edit a cooking show in his own unique style. Workshop participants acted as camera crew while also learning new ways to direct and edit. Joe and John LoBlundo, owners of Twin Seafood in Acton and Concord, graciously volunteered their time to act as the talent for the show. By the end, everyone learned a different approach to multi-camera studio shooting and new editing techniques on Final Cut Pro. This two-part workshop was a tremendous success for us and we intend to continue inviting media professionals to ActonTV for similar style classes and workshops. We'll have details soon about the next workshop in our professional series. In the meantime, please let us know if you have any ideas for future classes.

NEW SHOWS TO WATCH ON ACTON TV

Since our last newsletter we've had a wide variety of new shows on all three of our channels:

- Two new series have debuted on the Government channel: *472 Main* (produced by Acton Town Manager Steve Ledoux and other town hall employees) and *Half Hour on the Hill* (produced by State Senator Jamie Eldridge).
- Acton Pharmacy owner Saad Dinno is producing *A Healthier You*, a new health and wellness series airing on the Public channel.
- Volunteer produced programs that have aired recently include coverage of the "Patriots Day - Spirit of Acton" event, the "Memorial Day Parade", various Acton Library lectures and programs, coverage of the July 4th celebration featuring Beatlejuice, the "Lions Club Fair," classical and jazz concerts at Nara Park, "Kashmir, the ultimate Led Zeppelin tribute" and many others!
- ActonTV intern Jason Nelken produced a fascinating documentary now airing on the Education channel about Acton magician Shin Lim called "Behind the Illusion: Shin Lim Revealed."
- The ABRHS Broadcasting Dept. continues to submit new episodes of their news and magazine style *AB to Z* series as well as coverage of such events as the "ABRHS Awards Night," "2013 Graduation Ceremony" and "An Evening with Dr. Zhao." These programs can be seen on the Education channel.
- ActonTV's Shane Brown recently produced a new episode of *Animal Adventures* featuring such animals as an African Bush Baby, a Wallaby and a green monkey! *Animal Adventures* airs on the Education channel.
- All of these programs and more can be seen on our [Video On Demand page](#) at www.actontv.org.

Contact ron.zimmerman@actontv.org or call us at 978-263-6033 and we can let you know how to produce your own TV show at ActonTV!

claymation project during ActonTV's Stop Animation Camp for Kids held in August.



Medusa and the Skeleton - two of the clay creations from our Stop Animation Camp for Kids.



The Slender Man strikes! Two more clay characters created for the Stop Animation Camp for Kids.

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ACTON TV HAS ITS OWN BLOG AT

ActonPatch

Video On Demand

ActonTV offers Video-On-Demand. All locally produced programs, including town meetings, can be viewed online! To access the Video-On-Demand page simply go to www.actontv.org and click on one of the four colored boxes below the slider bar (Public, Education, Government, Sports).

Visit our **new and improved** website

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR COOKING SHOW PRODUCERS

"Two Crazy Cooks" and "Flavorful Eats" are two of our regularly produced cooking shows. ActonTV has a fully equipped cooking show set that's ready to use by anyone interested in showcasing their culinary talents.



Dawn Tower and Lorna Agnitti have been producing monthly episodes of "[Two Crazy Cooks](#)" since January, 2013. The show features a wide variety of mouth watering recipes including such treats as lasagne soup, hot dogs wrapped in bacon and homemade cracker jacks!

"[Flavorful Eats](#)" is our newest cooking show produced by Humsha Naidoo. This show focuses on delicious and healthy vegetarian dishes and delectable deserts made from fresh and wholesome ingredients! Humsha's goal with this show is to demonstrate that vegetarian cooking can embrace an infinite variety of cuisines, colors, flavors and add immense nutritional value.



THE SPORTS CORNER

ActonTV will be providing multi-camera coverage of all Acton Boxborough Colonials High School Football games. These games can be seen on our [On-Demand site](#) under the Sports tab as well as on the Public channel on Wed. and Fri. at 7pm.

Studio Manager Rick Degon, along with co-host Jason Walker, have a weekly fantasy football program where they argue, fight and share their very opinionated views on everything related to the increasingly popular and ever growing fantasy football leagues. [TFS](#) can be seen on the Public channel on Sat. and Sun. 12pm just before NFL game time.



That Football Show with those Fantasy Guys
Produced by Rick Degon

WORKSHOPS

Our popular 4-session **free** television production workshops are offered monthly. These workshops cover all the basic production steps and will allow you to begin producing content for ActonTV's access channels! We also offer an *orientation class* that features a tour of our 5000 sq. ft. studio space and an introduction to the many ways public access television can help you or your organization. During school vacations we offer [Video Camps for Kids ages 10-13](#).

Please call 978-263-6033 or e-mail ron.zimmerman@actontv.org if you're interested in

www.actontv.org
for more info on how you
can become an ActonTV
member or volunteer.
You can also find **program
schedules** for our Public,
Education and
Government access
channels there as well!

HOURS of OPERATION

MONDAY - 9am-5pm
TUESDAY - 9am-9pm
WEDNESDAY - 9am-5pm
THURSDAY - 9am-9pm
FRIDAY - 9am-5pm
SATURDAY - 9am-2pm



registering for our next 4-session workshop or to
receive a tour/orientation of ActonTV's studio.



And, for those who have completed the four session
introductory workshops, ActonTV also offers
Advanced Workshops in

- **Field Production - camcorders, mics, etc.**
- **Studio Production & Broadcast Pix**
- **Editing with Final Cut Pro**
- **Production Truck Set Up**
- **Lighting & using the portable light kit**
- **What Not to Do: Useful Tips and Tricks**

Call now to [register](http://www.actontv.org) or for more details!
You can also register at www.actontv.org

(((Tune In)))

Comcast

Comcast Ch. 8 - Public
Comcast Ch. 9 - Educational
Comcast Ch. 99 - Government
(note new channel number for Gov.)

verizon

Verizon Ch. 45 - Public
Verizon Ch. 40 - Educational
Verizon Ch. 41 - Government

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