



2016 Spring Luncheon Lester Holt Sets a PN Sardi's Record!



Complete Luncheon Photo Coverage Inside

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Marilyn's Page



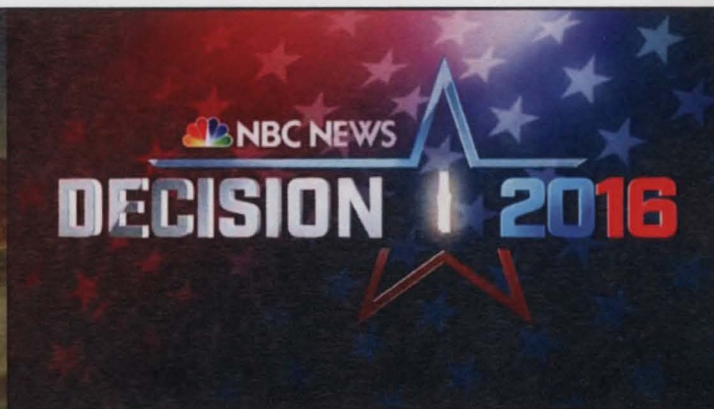
This is always my favorite edition of Peacock North. It showcases the annual spring luncheon featuring those wonderful pictures of all of YOU!

This year's luncheon was a grand success with almost 150 members in attendance (again!). Not only were we lucky enough to have Lester Holt as our guest speaker - nothing blew up that weekend and the politicians behaved themselves, sort of - we also had a wonderful introduction by David Corvo. I got a chance to congratulate the Holts on a very unique father and son act: both are news anchors, and both now work at 30 Rockefeller Plaza. Of course it is the senior Holt who is one of Time magazine's most 100 influential people and the National Association of Black Journalists' choice for *Journalist of the Year*.

Of course, much of the success of this luncheon is all about the gathering of 150 of your favorite people from NBC. It is a great time to re-connect with those we have spent so much time with at work. It was a boisterous and jubilant crowd filled with noise and laughter! And as a note, we have 14 new members. I will be working even harder this year to increase our membership. If you know of anyone who has worked at NBC for more than 10 years, please urge them to join. It is so easy to do and so important that we keep this organization alive and thriving.

Hard to believe but by the time the next edition of this magazine goes to print the Olympic Games and Political Conventions will be a very recent memory. I want to take this opportunity to wish all of our friends and colleagues involved in either of these events the best of luck! For those at the Games, travel safely and may the Games play out with joy, good sportsmanship and great viewership for NBC. The Olympic Team and those going for NEWS are just the best at this.

For those travelling the Political road, safety first and may the conventions be on a higher level than the political year has shown itself. This will be a sizzling Summer on many levels and I am sure we will all be watching. But for right now, here's the good stuff....



Current E-mail Addresses

REMINDER—When you change your e-mail address, please remember to notify us at peacocknorth@yahoo.com.

**Support Our Troops,
Our Crews
and Our Correspondents
in Harm's Way**

Peacock Profile

Stefan Holt to WNBC

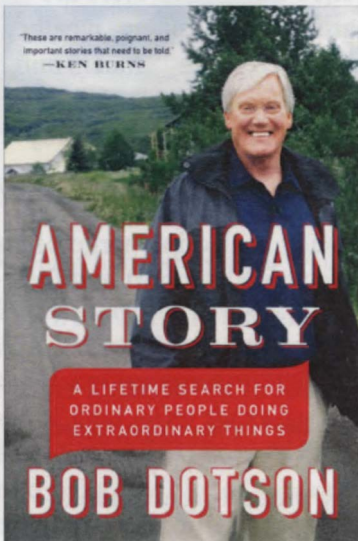


[Marilyn Altman recently watched *Nightly News* and the local promo was for WNBC News with Stefan Holt as the 4pm anchor.]

Stefan, the son of *NBC Nightly News* anchor Lester Holt, is now able to share a ride to the office with his father. The younger Holt has been hired by WNBC New York to anchor its new 4 p.m. newscast [Ed. Note: at PN press time, scheduled to start on June 13th]. Stefan Holt has spent the last five years working for NBC's Chicago station, WMAQ — just a short walk from the former location of WBBM, where Lester Holt worked before joining NBC News. Stefan was born in Chicago during his father's 15-year run as an anchor in that city. The younger Holt started as a reporter and weekend morning anchor and was quickly promoted to anchor the station's weekday morning and mid-day newscasts. Before working in Chicago, Holt was an anchor and reporter at WPBF, the ABC affiliate in West Palm Beach, Florida, for three years. Stefan Holt, who is 29, [joined] WNBC in mid-April. NBC [added] the late-afternoon newscasts at its stations in New York, Los Angeles, Miami and Connecticut to replace Meredith Vieira's canceled daytime program. Lester Holt welcomed his son to New York with a message on Twitter that read, "Congrats to @stefholtNBC So proud of you kid. First lunch in 30 Rock commissary is on me."

By Stephen Battaglio, Los Angeles Times, February 17, 2016

Catching Up with Bob Dotson



Our own Bob Dotson retired this past October after the equivalent of 22 years in hotel rooms, 4,000 NBC News stories, 4 million miles searching for American stories, and numerous awards. Bob would have been at the Peacock North luncheon except that he had a previous engagement with a family road trip, which included his two grandchildren, Aden and Zoe. We are hopeful that he will join us next year.

More than six million people watched Bob Dotson's Emmy® award-winning segments, *American Story*, on NBC's *Today Show*. For the last four decades, Dotson has traveled the country searching out inspiring individuals who quietly perform everyday miracles. In the process, he has become the treasured cartographer of America's heart and soul. Today's news is overwhelmingly grim; it's also told by journalists who travel in herds as they trail politicians and camp out at big stories. In *American Story*, his latest book, Dotson shines a light on America's neglected corners, introducing readers to the ordinary Americans who have learned to fix what really matters.

For anyone interested in purchasing one of Bob's books, you can order them on Amazon. For autographed, personalized copies, contact:

Bob Dotson

NIGHT WORK CORPORATION

5 Holmes Street

Building E-14

Mystic, CT 06355

This article was adapted by Marilyn Altman from a Plume Publishers press release.

*Peacock Profiles***The Women of NBC News**
By Marilyn Altman

This past February ELLE Magazine published an article by Mattie Kahn entitled “Meet The Girls On the Bus” referring to the almost all-female cast of correspondents covering politics for NBC News. (Follow the link; it’s a good read.) See it at <http://www.elle.com/culture/a33964/meet-the-women-of-nbc-news/>

Just around the same time this article came out I was invited to dinner with seven of my female colleagues from NBC News, all of whom had been in the business 30+ years; many had spent all those years at NBC. My dinner companions that evening were also the *A Team* of NBC News. Women who had worked their way up from more or less entry level positions to major executive roles in the division. Their influential leadership positions made me want to introduce you to them. They have laid the groundwork for countless women to have a path to success in jobs that were traditionally reserved for the “boys club”. They did this through hard work, defining themselves by the job rather than their gender, and by putting one foot in front of the other and getting on with it.

The A Team behind the A Team**Stacy Brady, Executive Vice president and General Manager of News Field & Production Operations**

I have known Stacy since her start at NBC in 1978. We would often bump into each other or work together during the political year, she with EJ and me with Studio/Field. In 1999 I went to work for her at LIC’s Field & Production Operations. Best move I ever made. She is by far one of the most popular and effective managers at NBC. She fights hard for what she believes in and she believes in her people and her mission. She is on those 10 pm or 2 am conference calls when there are shootings in Paris or Brussels, issues in the Ukraine, marches in Ferguson, weather disasters, and News needs to move anchors, correspondents, crews, producers and gear into those locations. She is attached at the hip to David Verdi, Senior VP of Worldwide News Gathering NBC News, as they act and react as one unit. Stacy oversees 30 Rock news production, bureaus, and field and satellite operations. Her team includes the expansive editing organization at 30 Rock, as well as the media management and archival departments for NBC News. Stacy is also in charge of an international team of engineers who provide day-to-day technical support and live remote origination for NBC News worldwide. Though she is one of NBC News’ superheroes, she also supports many of the other NBC partnerships such as MSNBC, CNBC, Telemundo, Bravo, USA, SYFY and a host of the network entertainment shows like *The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon* and *SNL*. She pushes

the envelope in technology and has won numerous awards to prove it. Though she can still be a unique presence at serious Engineering and Technology discussions she has helped to change that scenario by promoting women in management and engineering which has permanently altered the present and future work landscape.

**NBC NEWS**

Dianne Festa, Vice President, News Partnerships

I have known Dianne for many years but only had the pleasure of working with her my last 3-4 years at NBC. We worked together on *Education Nation* and I got to see her talent in pitching this concept to dozens of affiliates, convincing them to lend production support and air time. She is savvy, seasoned, always well prepared, gracious and warm in her presentations. Dianne was the Director of this team for the last 16 years, and now leads the department as Vice President. She spent the last two years growing NBC News and MSNBC internationally.



Dianne has been with NBC News for 30 years, holding a variety of key jobs. Starting in 1983 as the NBC Miami bureau coordinator she then went to the London bureau in 1986 as an assignment editor. She became Weekend News Manager in 1989 and in 1991 was named Moscow Bureau Chief. Prior to her joining the News Partnerships team, she coordinated the network's election year coverage as political editor for NBC News Decision '96.

Maralyn Gelefsky, Senior Production Manager

I have known and worked with Maralyn for more than 30 years. She is the person you want working on your team when you need to get an anchor, producer, camera crew (or two) plus IT and transmission gear into a country which just got demolished (like Haiti) in the next few hours. She is your (wo)man! There is no more persistent and knowledgeable person to get the job done than Maralyn.

In 1997 at the Princess Diana Funeral Maralyn was able to commandeer the best location for our anchor position. Our control room and workspace required that we gain access through a bank. She is a relentless negotiator. She got her way and I overheard the bank manager say to Maralyn "you look like woman but act like man"!

She started her career at NBC in the travel department as a temporary hire. A VP liked her work and asked her to work on the Moscow Olympics, which later got cancelled. She was offered a job in News for Conventions and then got hired as a Production Manager for Nightly News and Specials in 1983. She spent 23 years with Tom Brokaw at the helm of Nightly.

Cheryl Gould, Senior Vice President NBC News

I first met Cheryl back in 1982 when she was Senior Producer of the award winning *NBC News Overnight* with Linda Ellerbee and Lloyd Dobyns. TIME named it one of the best programs of 1982, calling it "TV's wittiest, toughest, least snazzy news strip", and, after the program left the air, one of the best programs of 1983. The DuPont Columbia Awards jury cited *NBC News Overnight* as "possibly the best written and most intelligent news program ever." She was fresh back from being a radio correspondent and field producer for NBC News in Paris and then London (1977-1982) when she was asked to help create *Overnight*.

After working closely with Tom Brokaw on his *D-Day Plus 40* documentary she was the first woman to break through the leadership ranks of NBC Nightly News. Towards the end of her decade-long tenure at *Nightly* she served as the Executive Producer, making her the first woman to hold that position in the American broadcast industry, breaking a glass ceiling of note.



Cheryl went on to spend 20 years in the front office of News as a Vice President (including joint appointment with CNBC) and later as Senior Vice President. She has also been a leader in the journalism profession beyond NBC News. For two decades she has been an active member of the Committee to Protect Journalists and continues to do so now that she is retired.

A final note of interest: Cheryl was one of the first women to be admitted to Princeton University, where she majored in History and graduated with honors in 1974. She also attended the Sorbonne.

Elena Nachmanoff, Senior Vice President, NBC News Talent Development



Elena Nachminoff has been part of the front office since 1990, when she came to the NBC family from Bienstock, a New York-based talent agency. Naturally, with her brand of expertise she has overseen talent at NBC News since her arrival. In her current role, Elena manages all talent recruitment and strategic development, including contract negotiations for NBC News and MSNBC. She counts recruiting notable NBC News correspondents and anchors including David Bloom, Brian Williams, Richard Engel, Natalie Morales, Ann Curry, Lester Holt, Tamron Hall and Hoda Kotb as some of her career successes.

In addition, Elena leads a number of diversity initiatives for NBCUniversal, NBC News and MSNBC. She contributes heavily to the development of diverse talent, both on and off the air. Her department successfully coordinates NBCUniversal's presence at the annual National Association of Black Journalists, National Association of Hispanic Journalists, Asian American Journalists Association, National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association, Native American journalists Association, South Asian Journalists Association, and UNITY conventions since 1990. This includes organizing job fairs, professional development seminars, mentoring receptions and student projects for each respective convention. Elena's efforts in these areas have resulted in a significant number of hires across NBCUniversal.

In 1995, Elena collaborated in the creation of, and continues to manage, the highly competitive NBC News Associates Program, which recruits and develops aspiring journalists for production roles. Over 80 percent of the News Associates who have completed the program have gone on to various producing positions within the NBC News Group. Elena's department also created and coordinates the Summer Fellows program to foster diverse college students in internships across all news platforms.

Mary Alice O'Rourke, Senior Producer, *Today*

Mary Alice O'Rourke is one of those women who, upon first glance, seems very understated in demeanor given her tremendous accomplishments. Her "un-flashy" good Irish Catholic nose-to-the-grindstone work ethic coupled with imaginative ideas and research have made her a great success at NBC for 35 years, before recently retiring.

She started her career at NBC in 1977 as a researcher in videotape. Over the next few years she went from being a *Today Show* executive assistant to researcher to becoming a *Today* producer in 1983. In 1986 Mary Alice worked in London as the *Today Show* Foreign Producer, directing breaking news and feature coverage of events in Europe, the Middle East, Asia, Australia and Latin America. In 1990 she became the Domestic Producer for *NBC Nightly News* and then in 1991 she earned the title of Senior Producer for the *Today Show*, which she held till her retirement in 2015.

As a Senior Producer Mary Alice was responsible for planning and overseeing remote broadcasts for the *Today Show*. She was tasked with the launch of the Signature series *Where In The World Is Matt Lauer?* in 1998 and went on to produce all ten weeklong episodes. That is 10 years' worth of week-long specials. I joined this prestigious series in 2000 where I first worked directly with Mary Alice. Most of these shows were amazing in concept, research and miraculous in execution. As Mary Alice said to me recently "I can't believe I did that..."

They were over the top, ground-breaking in every way, AND LIVE!

From the lofty heights of Machuu Pichuu to the surreal backdrop of a moving volcano in Hawaii or an oilrig in the North Atlantic, Mary Alice's leadership on these trips was stellar. Her calmness in the face of possible catastrophe was unparalleled. Her competence and jovial nature were a luxury for all of us who worked with her. Her credits carry over into every domestic and international iconic location. She pushed the envelope and brought *Today* to unprecedented places. She also set up and oversaw *Today's* Olympic coverage from 2000 – 2014. She has done it all and remained one of the most beloved Senior Producers at NBC News.



Marian Porges, Vice President, Standards and Practices

By the time she was five years old, Porges knew what she wanted to do. Her career in television news began before she graduated from Tufts University; in the fall of 1980, she took a semester off to work at ABC News. After graduating with her degree in political science, Marian was hired at ABC, where she quickly worked her way up from a production associate position to the Coordinating Producer at *ABC Weekend News*. In 1995 Marian moved to NBC News as a producer for the Specials unit, which is when I first met her. Hard working with a very quick wit, she immediately covered stories including presidential elections, the Challenger and Columbia disasters, Hurricane Katrina and the Olympics. She was as adept in the control room as she was on location.

Marian was promoted to Senior Producer in 2005, a role she held until 2008 when she became the director of a journalism program created by NBC with the New York Film Academy. She worked tirelessly at this job tweaking the program till it reflected her commitment to high ethical standards. She got the best of the best of NBC News to be involved: teaching, lecturing and demonstrating various walks of broadcast life. She used *30 Rock* as an enticing incentive and teaching tool for her students. This program trained students from around the world to become digital journalists, with an emphasis on journalism fundamentals and ethics. In 2010, Marian became Senior Producer at News Standards and Practices. In this role, she is responsible for dealing with accuracy, fairness and ethics for all of NBC News. She never relaxes her attention to those standards and works tirelessly towards that goal.



Just as an after note, there are many women who have worked and are still working at NBC who have helped put cracks in the glass ceiling. The ladies profiled here were just my recent dinner partners who made me think about all the in-roads that they made and are still making. Many women and men have profited from the important leadership roles and "firsts" these women have performed. As a very funny card I just read said: "Mother Theresa did not sit around worrying about her thighs, she had shit to do..." That says it all about this group. They definitely had shit to do. (Apologies for the language, wanted to be accurate).

*What's Now!***Inside NBC Sports' Snapchat Plans for the Kentucky Derby**

Here is Digiday.com's preview of NBC's innovations,
written at the start of Derby week



For the first time this year, Snapchat will be integral to NBC Sports' exclusive coverage of the Kentucky Derby.

Lyndsay Signor, senior director of social media for NBC Sports, told Digiday that starting today [May 3rd], her team will be on site snapping everything from the barns to fashion events to the actual horse racing via NBC Sports' Snapchat account. Meanwhile, the network will be experimenting with Live Stories in collaboration with racecourse Churchill Downs to mesh branded content with user-generated content on Derby day. "Fans may not be able to see our broadcast on TV, so we want to use Snapchat and other social media platforms to drive buzz around our sporting events, reach new people and give our existing fans more content," said Signor.

The Snapchat initiative will be overseen by NBC Sports' social media team of 15 people who are dedicated to creating and publishing on social, including video, editorial and research. NBC Sports declined to discuss the ad spend on Snapchat due to company policy, but online reports suggest that a Live Story feed can cost somewhere between \$400,000 and \$500,000.

NBC Sports is new to Snapchat; it didn't have a presence on the platform until NHL Winter Classic in December. At the time, NBC Sports snapped "a day in the life" with NHL analyst Jeremy Reonick and showed scenes from "Fan Fest" at the 2016 NHL Winter Classic Spectator Plaza and the game between the Montreal Canadiens and Boston Bruins. "Our snaps garnered millions of views during the Bridgestone Winter Classic," said Signor. "Since every event is different and it's the first time that we will produce content around horse racing on Snapchat, we are not sure how our fans will react. But I think Live Stories can help us reach more viewers nationally," said Signor.

As part of its overall social media plan, NBC Sports will also install GoPro cameras around Churchill Downs to capture the excitement, so fans can stream horse racing feeds via the @NBCSN Twitter and Periscope accounts. Meanwhile, NBC's auto racing analyst Rutledge Wood will act as a social media correspondent to document the pageantry of the Derby and interview celebrities on the red carpet via Facebook Live on Saturday.

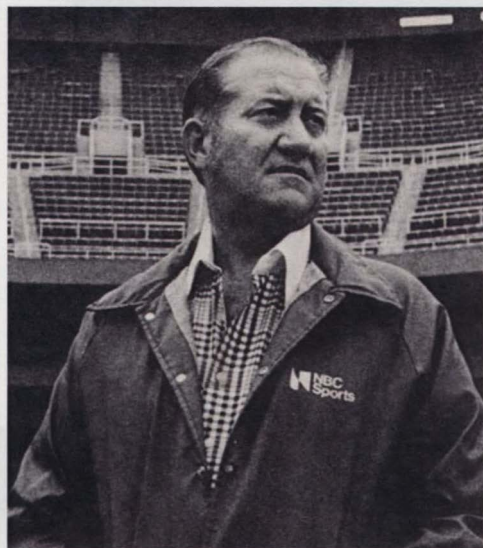
And, of course, Olympic figure skater and designer Johnny Weir will debut his Derby-style hat for the championship. Weir will be wearing a tweet-powered brooch on his lapel in a horse shape. As more Twitter conversation (hashtag #WatchMeNeighNeigh) around his hat is generated, the faster the horse will gallop and illuminate. The brooch is designed and engineered by agency Viget.

Beyond the Kentucky Derby, Signor told Digiday that NBC will collaborate with Snapchat on daily Live Stories to distribute athletes' stories and their triumphs during the Rio Olympics. The TV network will also partner with BuzzFeed to create a dedicated Discover channel on Snapchat, where the publisher will curate short video clips and behind-the-scenes content during the game.

—By Yuyu Chen, Digiday.com May 3, 2016

What's Now!

Help Place Harry Coyle in the Baseball Hall of Fame



To anyone who worked with Harry Coyle on all those World Series: Bill Potts is heading up an effort to get Harry recognized by the Baseball Hall of Fame for his tremendous contribution to televised baseball and Major League baseball in general. If anyone has a copy of one of the books that he made up for the cameramen doing the games with him, would you be willing to either copy it off and send it to Potts, or if you want him to have the original, that would also work.

If you would like to help Bill in his effort, he is currently talking with Tony Kubek and Bob Costas about it as they are giving information on Harry to Sports Illustrated also for a possible write up on him. Any input from any of you would be welcome.

Contact me if you need Potts' email or home address.

Ken Fouts, Jr
KFoutsjr@aol.com
5499 Belfast Road
Batavia, OH 45103-8646

"On Someone Else's Nickel" - Tim Ryan's New Book

To be published on September, 2016, this memoir recounts the unique and fascinating career of sportscaster Tim Ryan who over a 52-year career with three different networks managed to see the world "On Someone Else's Nickel"—covering international sports televised back to the U.S., including 10 Olympic Games.

What makes it riveting reading is that Tim doesn't talk as much about the events he covered, but more about his personal experiences surrounding them, and the many fascinating people he has met in his travels. Boxing took him to Europe, Asia, Africa and South America, tennis to Australia and the other Grand Slam stops in Paris and London, ski racing in Austria, Switzerland and the Olympics in France, Norway, Italy and his native Canada.

Ryan shares with us the painful story of his late wife Lee who died in 2002 from the deadly effects of early-onset Alzheimer's and his new married life with Patricia, introduced to him by Ernest Hemingway's son Jack.

There are anecdotes of famous friends made along the way—John Newcombe, Katarina Witt, John McEnroe, Bob Arum, Billie Jean King, John Madden and encounters with the likes of Barbra Streisand, Henry Kissinger, Bill Murray, Robert Kennedy and many more.

Tim takes us to Africa where he crash-landed in the Namib Desert, was charged by a rhino in Zimbabwe and photographed leopards in Zambia. His love of music took him to jazz clubs in Paris, concert halls in Vienna, operas in Verona—and dinner at Frank Sinatra's home in Palm Springs.

It's a whirlwind read of a whirlwind life—a unique odyssey of a former newsman who eschewed the more-moneyed life of sports studio hosts for the chance to cover more than 30 different sports, in more than 20 different countries, describing the prowess of hundreds of talented athletes, staying in grand hotels, enjoying a myriad cuisines and sampling fine wines in the most famous vineyards of the world—all "On Someone Else's Nickel". Disclaimer: Tim paid for most of the wine!



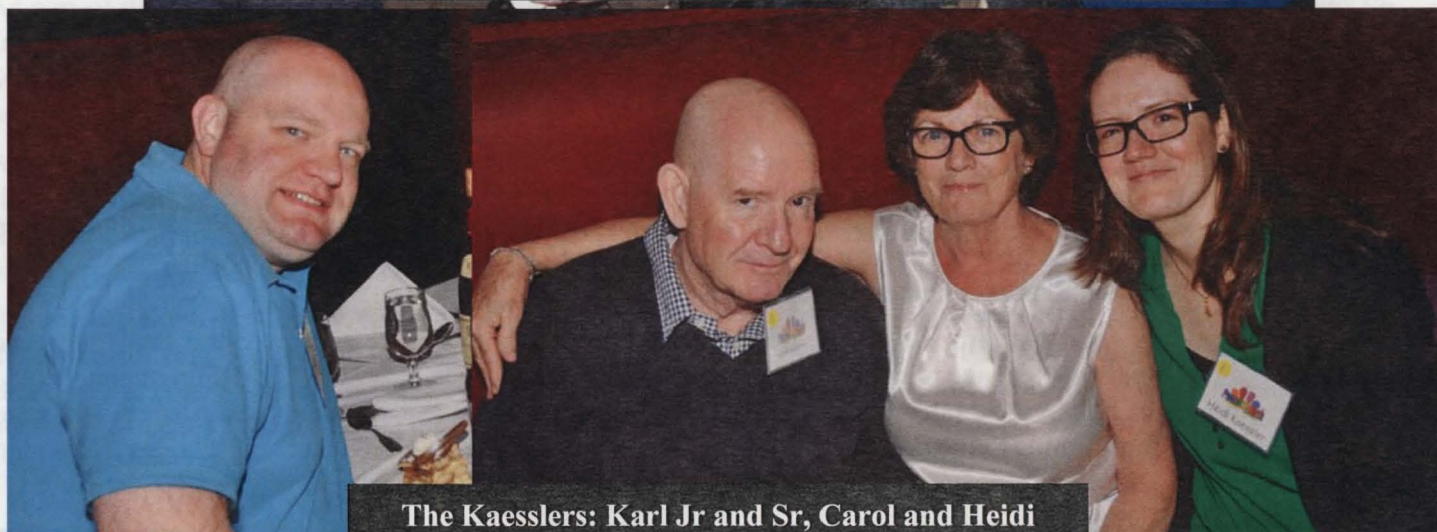
Spring Luncheon Photos by John Rochas



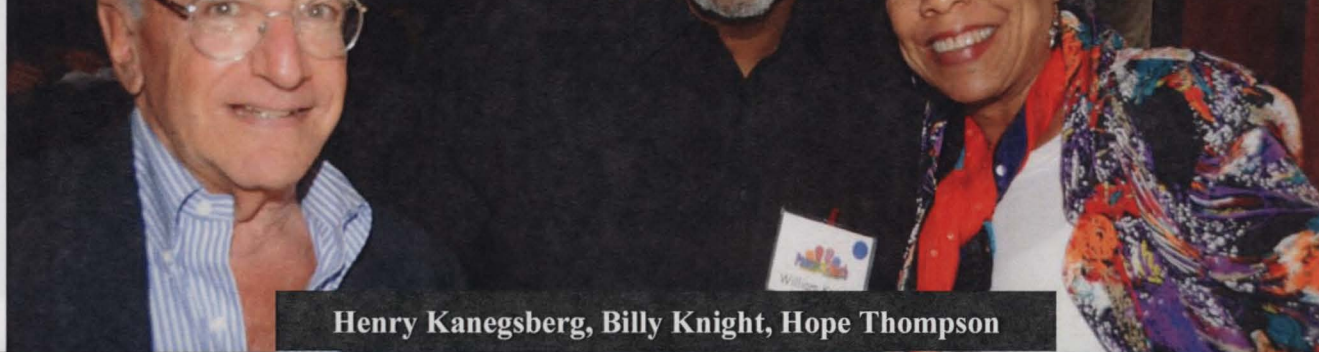
Liz Davis and Sharon Stucker at the check-in desk (Scrabo Photo)



David Corvo, Ron and Liz Bruno, Karen Curry, Allison Davis



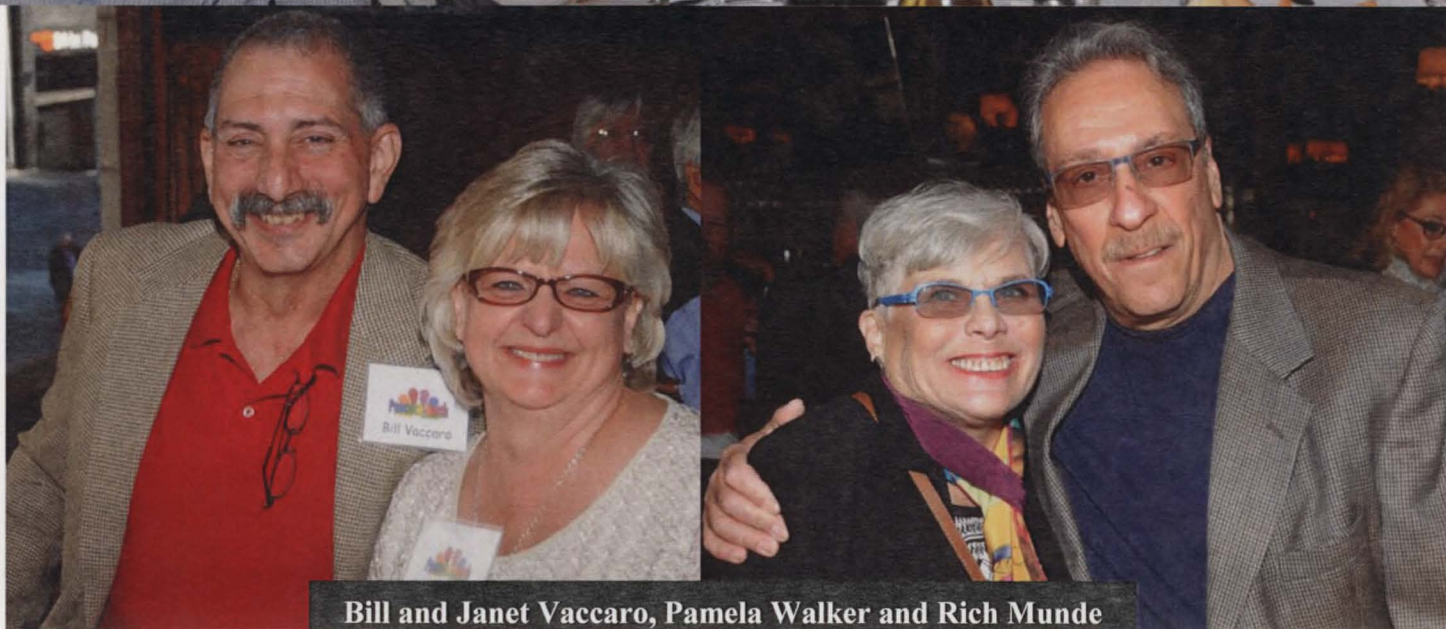
The Kaesslers: Karl Jr and Sr, Carol and Heidi



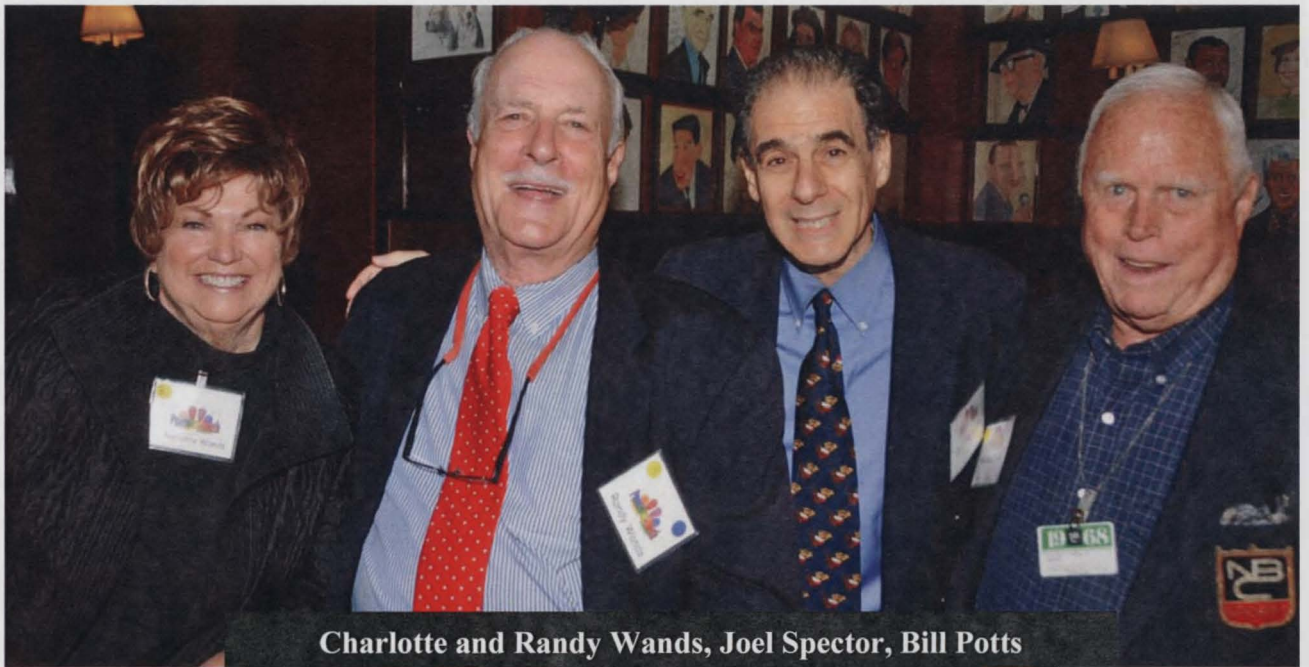
Henry Kanegsberg, Billy Knight, Hope Thompson



Cathy Lavaty, Donna Griffio-Johnson, Joyce Werney, Carol Aerenson



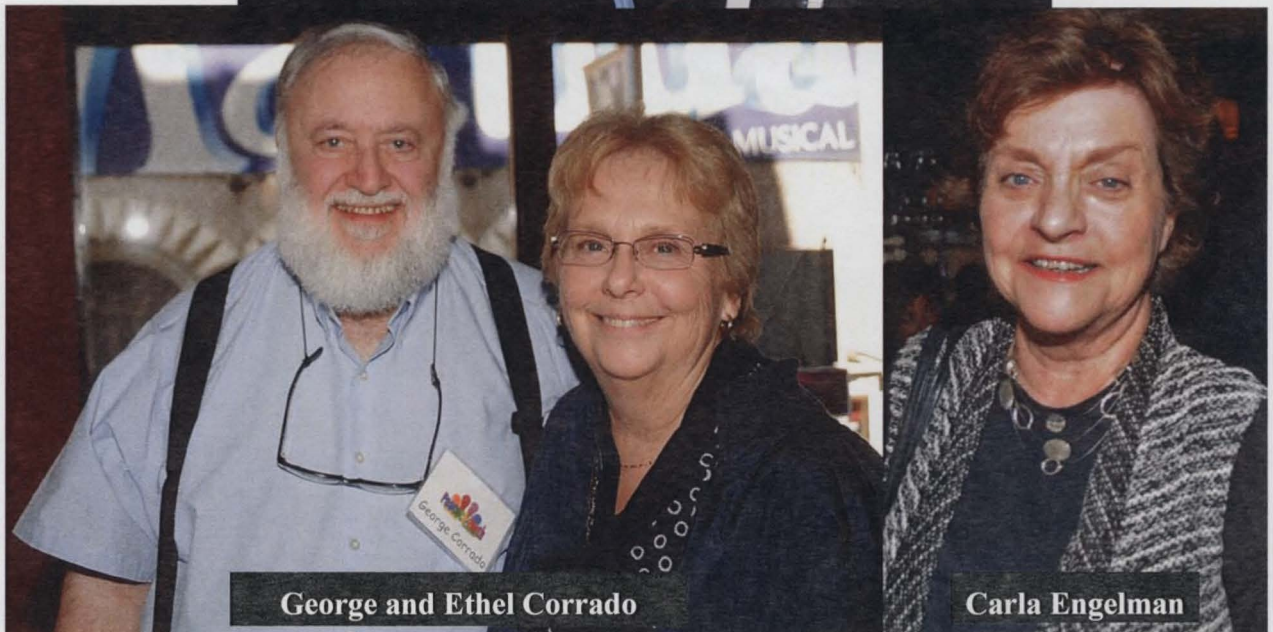
Bill and Janet Vaccaro, Pamela Walker and Rich Munde



Charlotte and Randy Wands, Joel Spector, Bill Potts



Jeanne and Rick Fox



George and Ethel Corrado

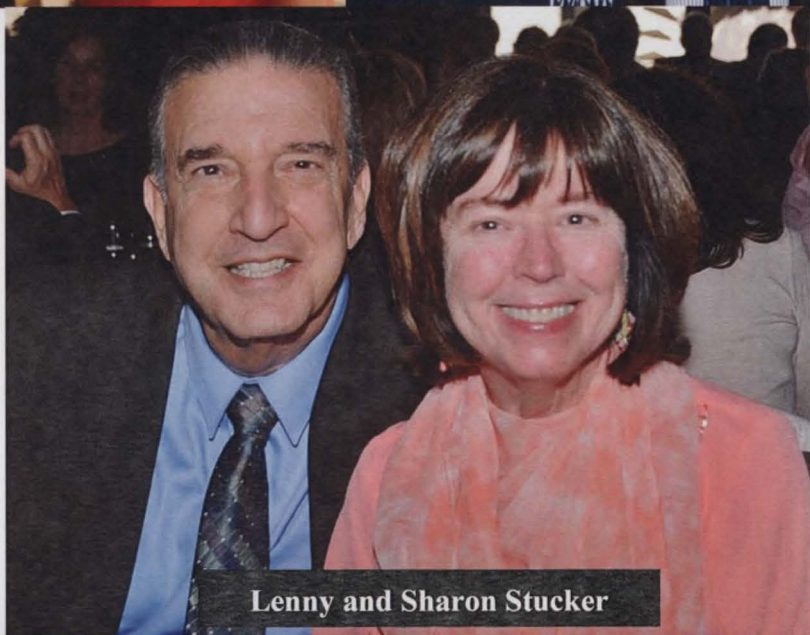
Carla Engelman



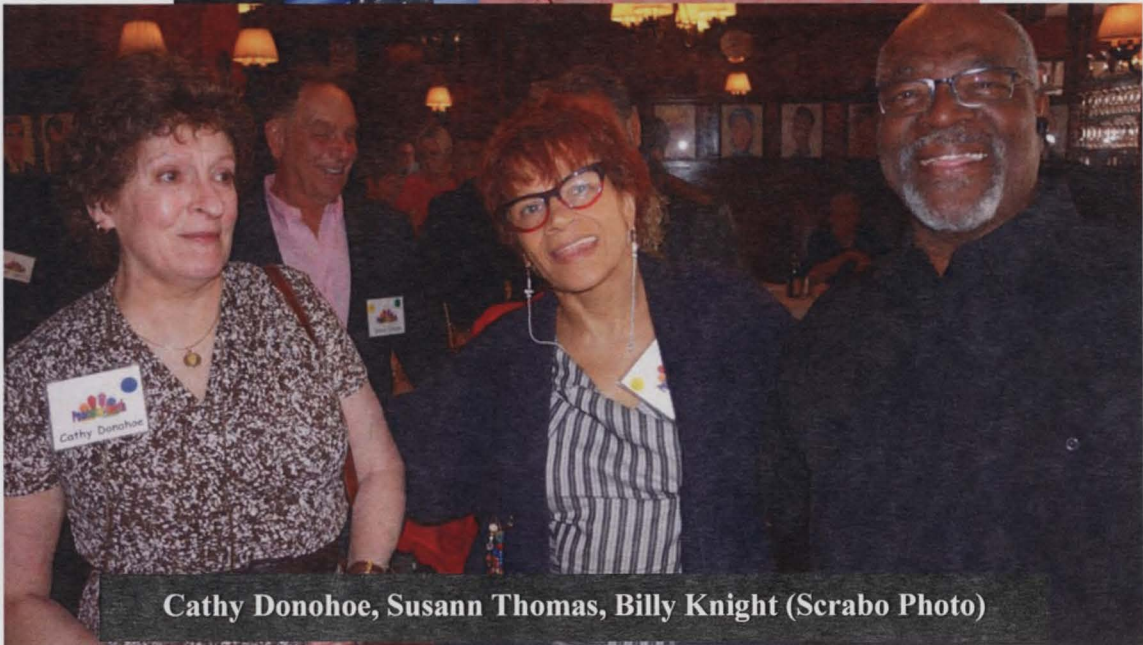
Paul Scrabo (his photo), Kathy Babiak



Margaret and Tom Launer, George Ann Muller



Lenny and Sharon Stucker



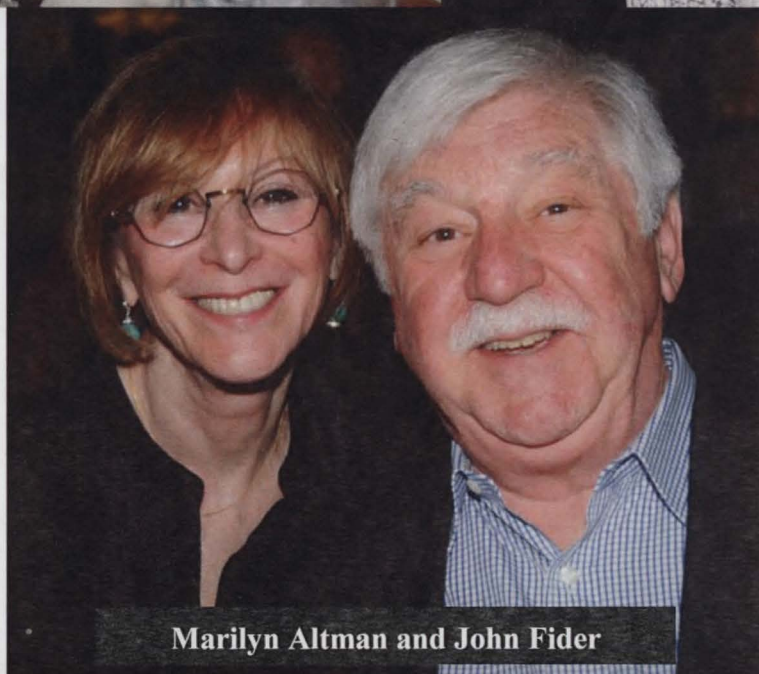
Cathy Donohoe, Susann Thomas, Billy Knight (Scrabo Photo)



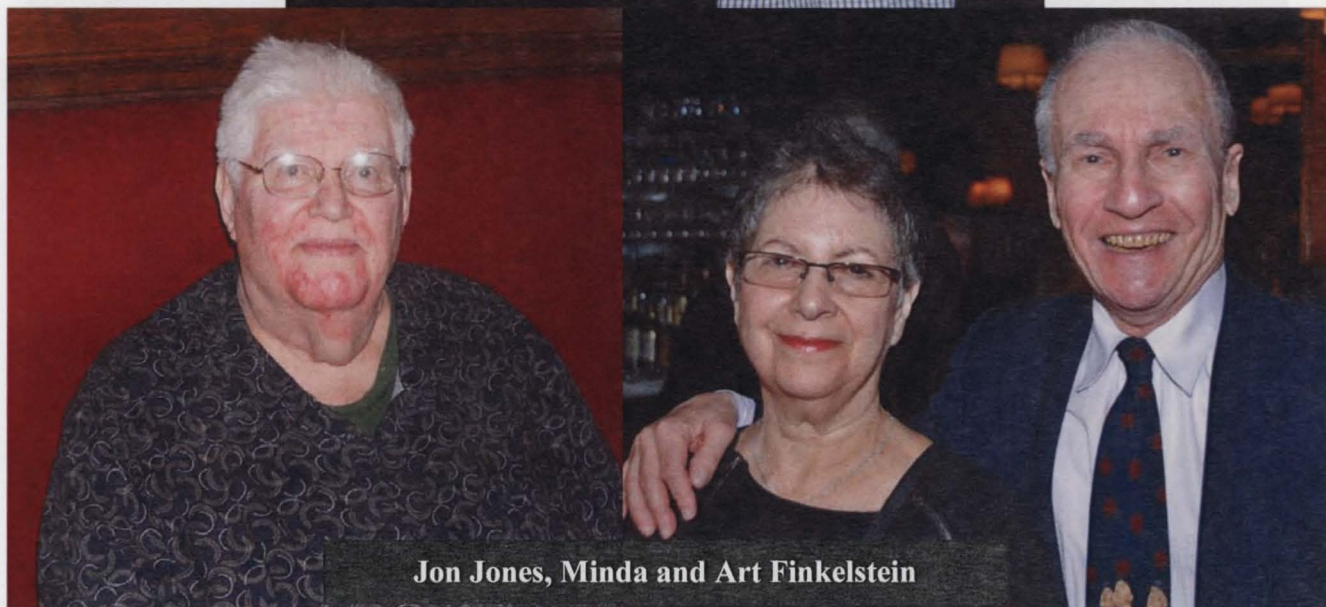
Inara de Leon, Gabe Pressman



Cynthia Bernbach Pearlman



Marilyn Altman and John Fider



Jon Jones, Minda and Art Finkelstein



Lauren Fairbanks, Donna Griffo-Johnson, Marilyn Altman (Scrabo Photo)



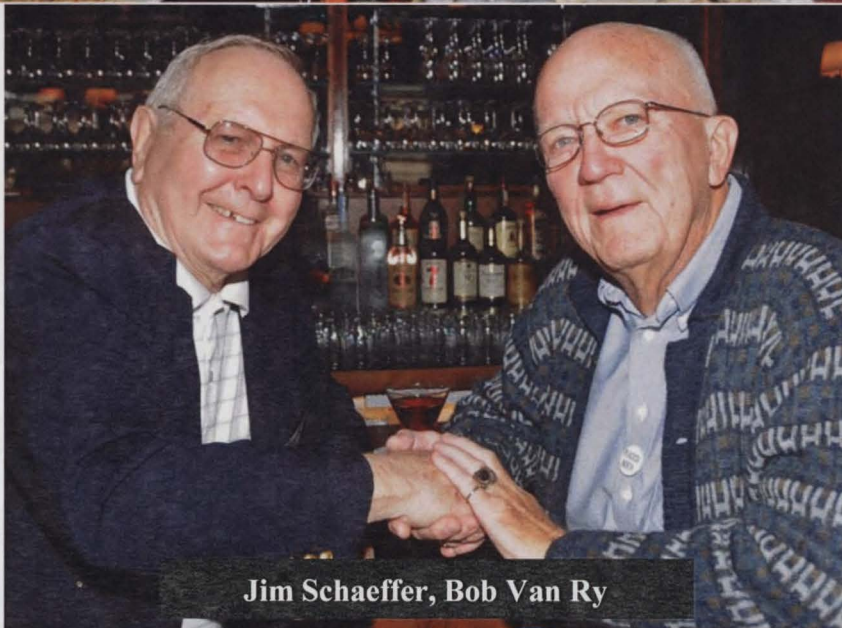
George Smith, Maureen and Peter Stamm



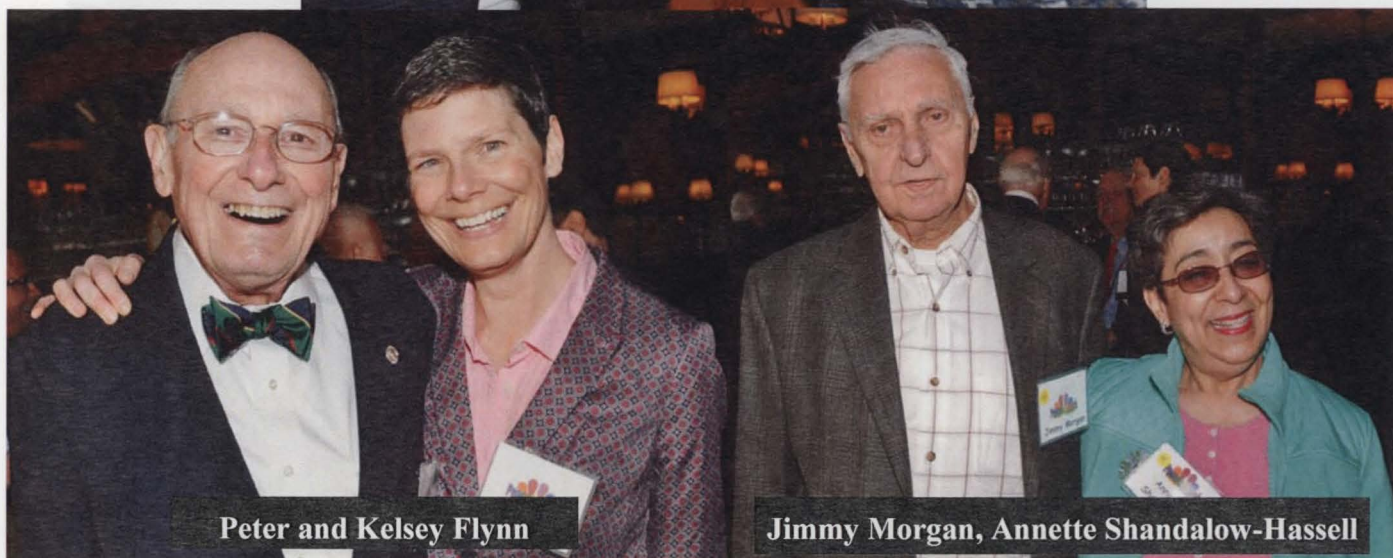
Cathy Donahoe, Sunny Carmell, Liz Davis, Debra Jankowski (Scrabo Photo)



Susann Thomas, Claudette Blackwood, Mariel Morin, Ellen McGuire



Jim Schaeffer, Bob Van Ry

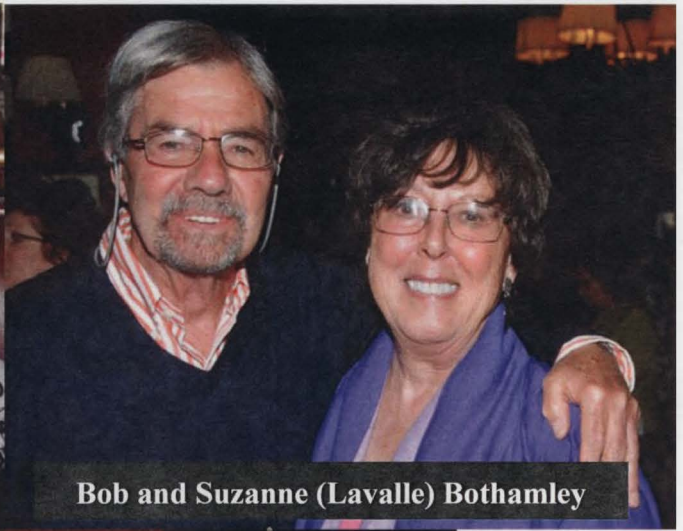


Peter and Kelsey Flynn

Jimmy Morgan, Annette Shandalow-Hassell



Jonathan and Angela (Ladas) Vierville



Bob and Suzanne (Lavage) Bothamley



Rita Sultana, Donna Griffo-Johnson, Adriana Ricciuto



Bill Vaccaro, Tammy Brainin, Mamye Smith and Bob Hickey



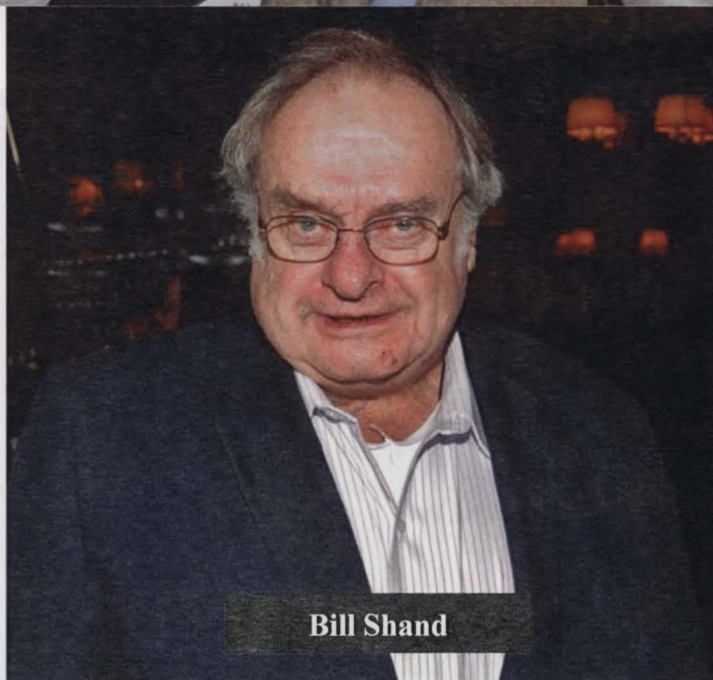
Armelle and Gary Raschella



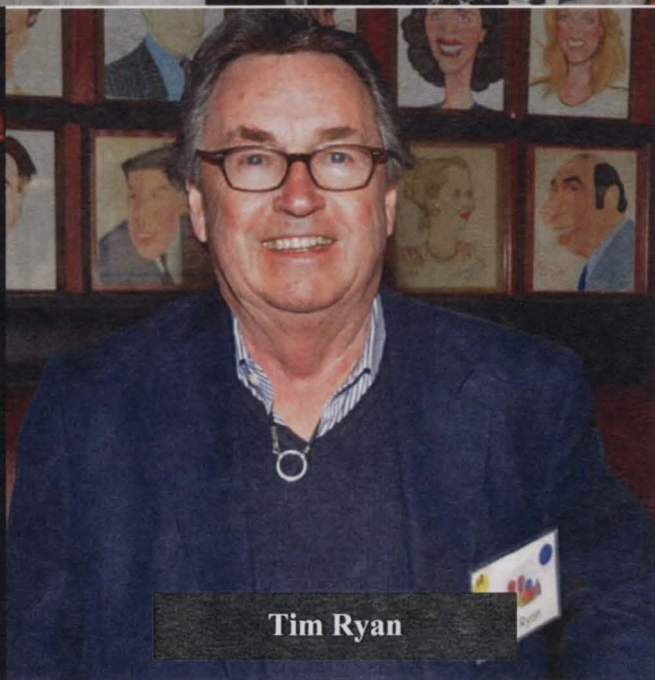
Elizabeth Coogan, Charles Moore



Mary Alice O'Rourke, Carol Holt



Bill Shand



Tim Ryan



Howie Hirsch, Julia and Richard Sansavere



Fran and Steve Cimino

Henry Kanegsberg, Nancy Cole



Patti Lang, Susan Kramer



Antoinette Machiaverna



Stacy Brady, Dianne Festa



Dana and Melinda Matlin



Pat Mauger



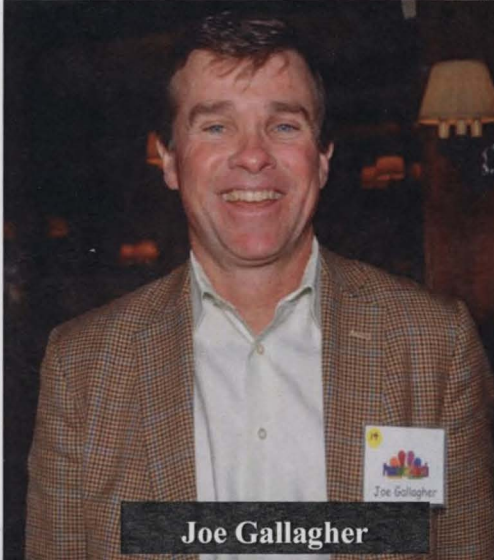
Ed Gough



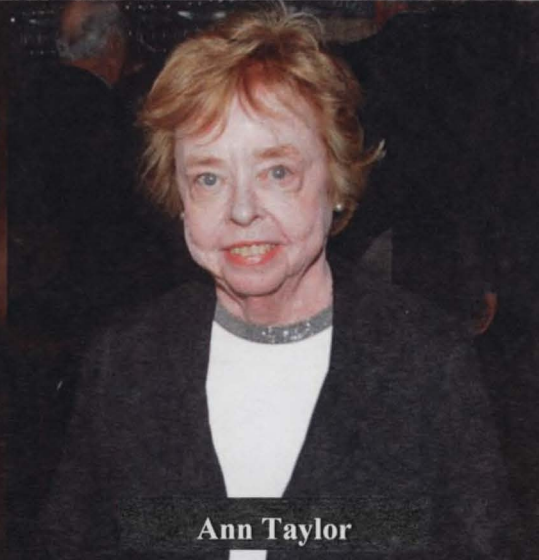
Ginny Seipt, Sue Drury



Peggy Chane



Joe Gallagher



Ann Taylor



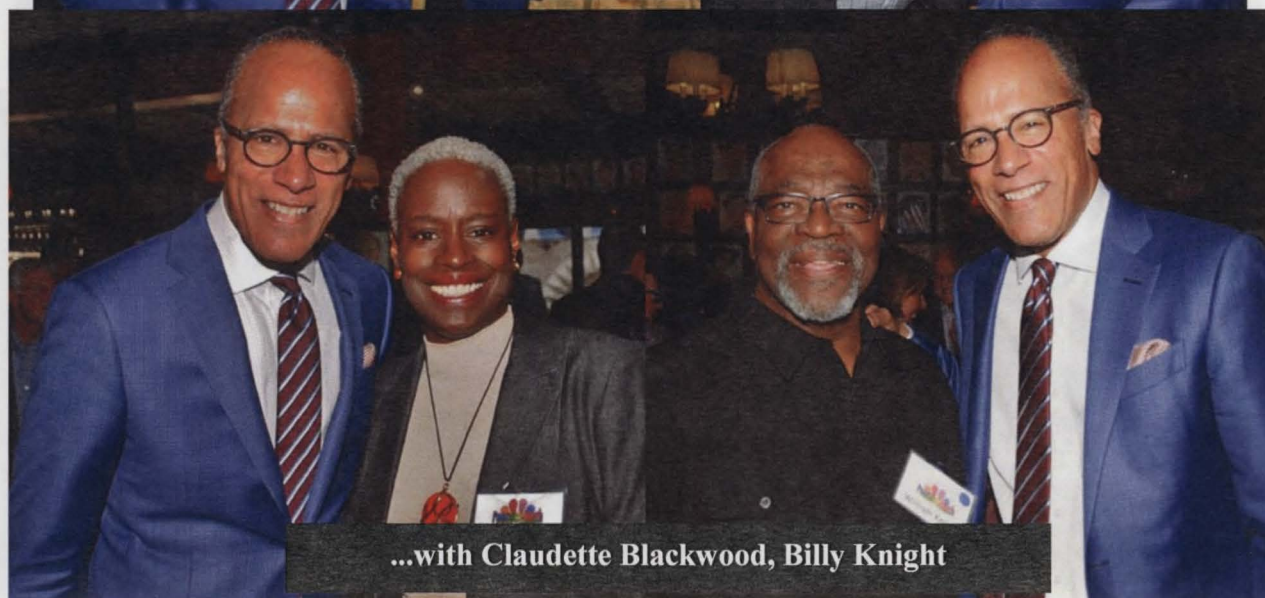
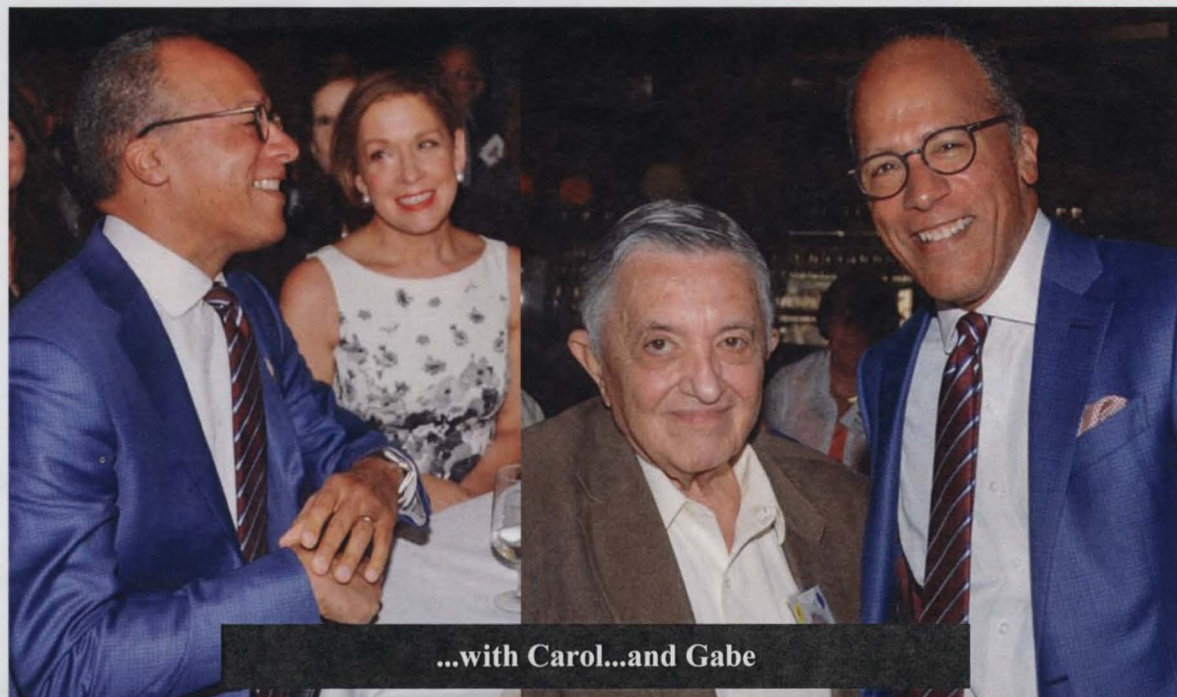
Judy Farinet, Bob Hager, Bill Chesleigh



David Corvo Introduces Lester



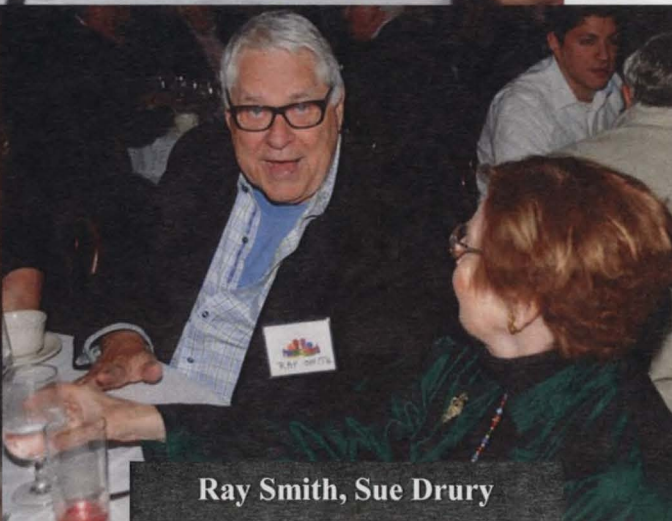
After the speech: Lester and Carol, Connie Chung, Judy Farinet, Adriana Ricciuto, David Corvo







Cynthia Selchert



Ray Smith, Sue Drury





Bob Ferraro, Joe Alicastro



Steve Cimino. Stephanie and John Marelli, Bill Freeh



From Mamye Smith and Bob Hickey:

Standing: Bob, Carol Aerenson, Sue Drury, Ronee Hoade, Cynthia Bernbach Pearlman.
Seated: Mamye, Judy Friedman, Joyce Werney



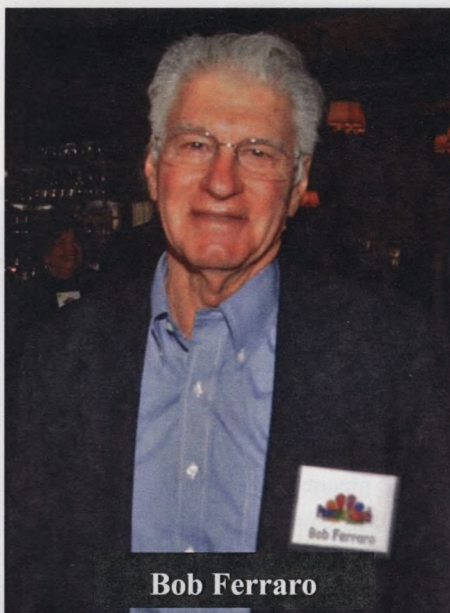
Joel Spector, Enid Roth, Fran Cimino



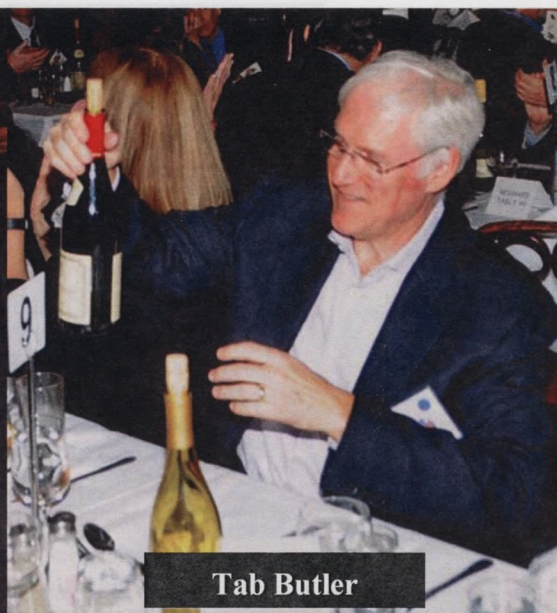
Janet Schiller

Bernie Braun, Lloyd Siegel

David Schmerler



Bob Ferraro



Tab Butler



Ben Norbitz



Sue and Mike Noseworthy



George Ann Muller wraps it up!

Tributes to Silent Microphones

Bud Collins



Bud Collins, the passionate, often irreverent face of tennis for nearly half a century in his Wimbledon broadcasts and his newspaper and magazine columns, died on March 4th at his home in Brookline, Mass. He was 86. His death was announced by his wife, the photographer Anita Ruthling Klaussen.

Mr. Collins had largely been away from tennis since tearing tendons in his left leg in a fall at his hotel room while attending the 2011 United States Open in New York. The injury required many surgical procedures. But last September, accompanied by Ms. Klaussen, he attended a ceremony at the Open in which the new media center was named in his honor. A plaque for him reads, "Journalist, Commentator, Historian, Mentor, Friend."

"Either the ball goes over the net or it doesn't," Mr. Collins wrote in the opening sentence of "Bud Collins' Modern Encyclopedia of Tennis." Having stripped the sport to its essence, he nonetheless observed, "For some degenerates, tennis is a way of life, even a religion." Mr. Collins was a flamboyant part of the tennis scene. Balding and sometimes bearded, he could be spotted in a crowd by his wardrobe, one that favored bow ties and his custom-made signature slacks. Yellow, violet and burgundy were among his favorites, and strawberry embellishments were added for Wimbledon. Reporting on tennis for NBC, he was best known for "Breakfast at

Wimbledon," his play-by-play and commentary at the tournament's finals, broadcast live on weekend mornings.

But Mr. Collins considered himself as much a print journalist as a TV personality. His first bylined article in *The Boston Globe* appeared in December 1963, when he covered Davis Cup play in Australia. His final article for the newspaper appeared in September 2011, when he was reporting on the United States Open. He was a writer and senior editor at *World Tennis* magazine. His encyclopedia, written with Zander Hollander and first published in 1980, went through several editions, and he followed it with "The Bud Collins History of Tennis" and "Total Tennis." While he focused on tennis, he mused about anything that caught his eye in his travel column, "Anywhere," and he covered combat in the Vietnam War.

In 1983, NBC shifted him to analysis and interviews when Dick Enberg was given the main broadcasting role. "Bud's enthusiasm when he's doing play-by-play can be a little overwhelming," Michael Weisman, the executive producer of NBC Sports, told *Sports Illustrated* in 1985. Mr. Collins was dropped by NBC in 2007 after 35 years with the network; afterward, he broadcast for ESPN and the Tennis Channel while continuing to write a column for *The Globe*. He was a fine player, as well. Mr. Collins won the national indoor mixed doubles at Longwood Cricket Club in suburban Boston in 1961, teaming with Janet Hopps, and he reached the final of the French Open senior men's doubles in 1975, playing with Jack Crawford. He was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in Newport, R.I., in 1984.

Arthur Worth Collins Jr. was born on June 17, 1929, in Lima, Ohio, and grew up in Berea, where his father was the athletic director and a coach at Baldwin-Wallace College. As a youngster, Mr. Collins thrilled to radio broadcasts of the United States Nationals from Forest Hills, Queens. At age 18, he drove with two high school friends to Forest Hills for the 1947 Nationals — the forerunner of the United States Open — arriving there just as play was ending for that day. "Sprinting up a steep concrete stairway, we burst through a portal and were stunned by a green flash," he wrote in his memoir, "My Life With the Pros" (1989). "Two men in white were still playing to a congregation of perhaps two hundred. The minarets of the Forest Hills Inn and the groves of Forest Hills Gardens, the comfortable residential pocket in which the club nestles, stood confidently in the gloaming, sturdy defenders of the faith, gray against an azure evening. Forest Hills. It was indeed revelation to the weary, sticky pilgrims, a romantic encounter."

Mr. Collins played tennis at Baldwin-Wallace and graduated in 1951. After Army service, he enrolled at Boston University, seeking a master's degree in public relations, but left to join *The Boston Herald's* sports staff.

He covered tennis for the first time when his editor apologetically sent him to Longwood for an event when everyone else on the paper's sports staff was shunning tennis, considered by many at the time as an outpost for elitist amateurs. Mr. Collins became *The Herald's* lead sports columnist in 1959. He also coached the Brandeis University tennis team, whose roster included Abbie Hoffman, destined for far greater notice in the counterculture movement of the 1960s. Mr. Collins moved to *The Globe* in 1963, when he also began broadcasting tournaments for WGBH, Boston's educational television outlet, which pioneered TV coverage of the sport. He covered the Nationals for NBC in 1964 and the United States Open for CBS from 1968 to 1972, then returned to NBC to cover Wimbledon and other major events.

In May 2009, Boston University awarded him the master's degree in public relations he had never completed, citing his writings on the history of tennis as sufficiently scholarly.

--By Richard Goldstein -- © The New York Times - March 4, 2016

Tributes to Silent Microphones

Joe Garagiola



There is no reason that an alternative weekly in Des Moines should publish a little tribute to Joe Garagiola, who died on March 23rd at age 90. Except that I knew him and liked him and, especially, admired him.

Joe Garagiola was a mediocre baseball catcher, a first-rate announcer, a wonderful dinner companion and a world-class human being. He was a player long before players made millions of dollars a year — or even hundreds of thousands. He played nine years in the major leagues, from 1946 through 1954, and the most he made was probably \$15,000 to \$20,000 for a season's work.

But he understood that the people who played before him, especially those who played in the Negro Leagues, had made far less. Many were destitute. Some lived in run-down trailers, with no heat and not much food, he told me. Widows of some others were all but starving, he said. As he grew older, and famous and successful as an announcer, he would hunt them down, hear their stories, and try to help. It's one thing to lose your fastball, he said, but quite another to be stripped of your dignity.

In the mid-1980s, he founded the Baseball Assistance Team, or BAT. He wheedled and cajoled players and others to raise money for those who were struggling — he was always amazed, he said, to run across multi-million-dollar players who knew little and cared less about those aging athletes — but ultimately he succeeded. BAT, now affiliated with major league baseball, has given away around \$25 million in the past 30 years, making more than 2,800 grants to those who never made \$60,000 per game, or per season — or per career.

Garagiola was emotional and passionate when talking about these folks. Other times, though, he was wonderfully funny and entertaining. At dinner one night, I asked him if his boyhood pal from St. Louis, Yogi Berra, really said all those goofy things. He answered with a story.

"He called me last week," Joe said. "He said, 'Joey, I went to Mass last Sunday.'" "I said, 'Good Yogi. You're Catholic. You're supposed to go to Mass on Sundays.'" And he said, 'But Joey, I have a question.' And then he said: 'Every time I go to Mass, Joey, the priest reads a letter from St. Paul to the Corinthians.'" Garagiola just listened. "My question, Joey, is this: Didn't them Corinthians ever write back?"

I got to know Garagiola because I was president of NBC News in the late 1980s and early 1990s, and the Today show had some problems in 1990. It had great people, but the chemistry wasn't right. My friend Dick Ebersol, a guy who knew then and knows now everything about television and who then was head of NBC Sports, told me I needed to add someone to the show, someone who could get along with everyone, defuse awkward situations, be both entertaining and smart.

He suggested Garagiola.

We called him and arranged to fly to California the next day to talk to him. He didn't know why we were coming. We met him in the evening, in his hotel room. I quickly got to the point. I explained the problem, and I offered him a job. "It's a two-year deal, Joe," I said, "and we'll pay you a million dollars a year."

He looked at me for about half a second.

"I can start tomorrow," he said.

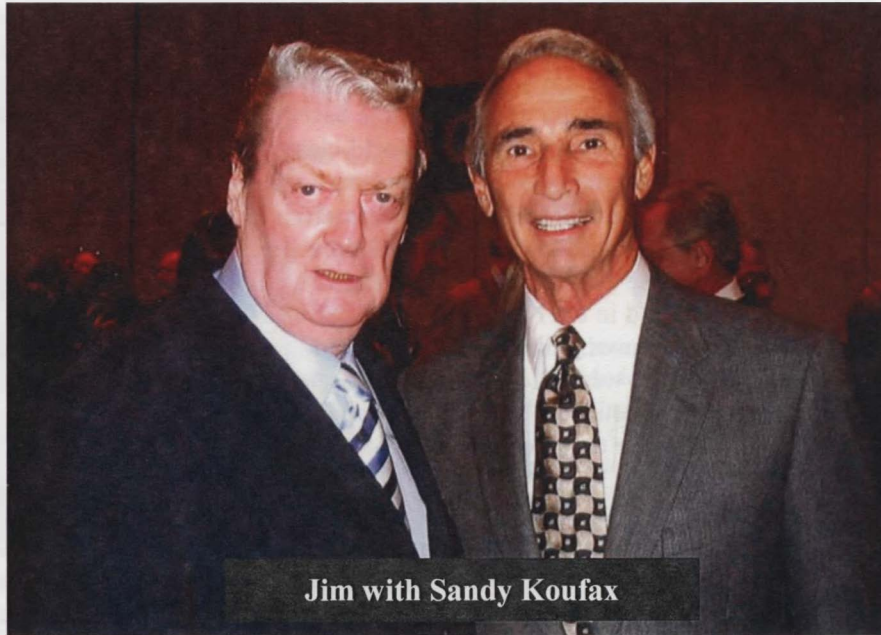
And that was that.

Once he started — and he helped make the show a great success — we had dinner every two or three weeks, often with his wonderful wife, Audrie. It was always at a restaurant I liked near my apartment. I had an NBC car and driver, and I would always tell him to wait and then take Joe and Audrie home to midtown.

One night, when it was later than usual, Garagiola insisted I ride with them. "I just live a few blocks from here," I explained. "I can walk. I need to walk off the meal." He insisted. I resisted. Finally, he said, "Look. It's late. Something could happen to you walking home." He paused, and then he said: "And if something happens to you, I lose my job."

He opened the car door. "Get in."

— By Michael Gartner, former president of NBC News, who brought Joe back to the Today show in the 1990s.

*Tributes to Silent Microphones***Jim O’Gorman****Jim with Sandy Koufax**

James Michael O’Gorman died on February 18, 2016, at age 87, in Novi, MI.

Mr. O’Gorman spent 30 years with NBC in New York, primarily with NBC Sports, and Nightly News with Tom Brokaw. He was a Korean War Veteran and was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action in the US Navy in 1951. He also served in the Berlin Occupation in the US Army working for the Armed Forces Network.

Beloved father of Maura (Derek) Doerr, Tricia O’Gorman (Gregg Brandemihl)

Proud grandfather of Kathleen (Josh), Maureen, Bridgette and Phillip. Great grandfather of Fiona, Gwen, Aiden, Delilah, Gavin, Tobias and Conor. Brother of Maureen Wasserman and the late Michael O’Gorman.

Uncle of Denise and the Late Dana. He was interned on February 22nd at Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly, Michigan.

The above is from the O’Brien Sullivan Funeral Home.

It was a routine evening, we did the usual network inserts with O’Gorman managing, and then wandering down to Hurley’s for a drink at the bar, Adrian buying. Then, the two of us going upstairs to O’Gorman’s booth for a steak and conversation, often about the brilliance of Brokaw. He loved Tom. Fabulous times, Jim working his way toward the end of his working life but loving every moment of it. No regrets, no wrinkles in his forehead. We had lunch on the east coast of Florida a couple of years ago, and then the word he was moving to be close to his children. About a year ago he sent me a picture, O’Gorman in dinner jacket, probably in Ireland or somewhere else he was traveling and celebrating life. I tried to call him a few weeks back — no answer. He was probably out at a party.

Stan Bernard

*Tributes to Silent Microphones***Horace Ruiz**

Horace J. Ruiz of New City, NY formerly of Pearl River, NY died Monday March 7, 2019 at his home. He was 94.

Mr. Ruiz worked for NBC in New York City as a broadcast engineer where he received five Emmy awards as a technical director.

Horace was born April 6, 1921 in New York City to Sergio and Margaret Ruiz. He resided in New City for the past 37 years before that he lived in Pearl River from 1961 to 1979. Horace attended Cornell University before enlisting in the US Navy during WW II, attaining the rank of RT I.

He is survived by his daughter, Linda Cury of Montvale, NJ and sons, Robert and wife Theresa of Pearl River, and Michael, a video engineer at NBC, and wife Christine of Stony Point, NY. He is also survived by his grandchildren, William Cury and wife Kerri, Christopher Cury and wife Kristen and Michael Ruiz and great grandchildren, Addison, Lyla and Dylan Cury. He is predeceased by his wife Lorraine M. Ruiz (2008). A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated on March 11th at St. Margaret's R. C. Church.

A personal note from Russ Ross:

Horace was one of those guys who knew the business inside and out and if any youngster in this business like I was asked him a technical question he made time to explain and answer it.

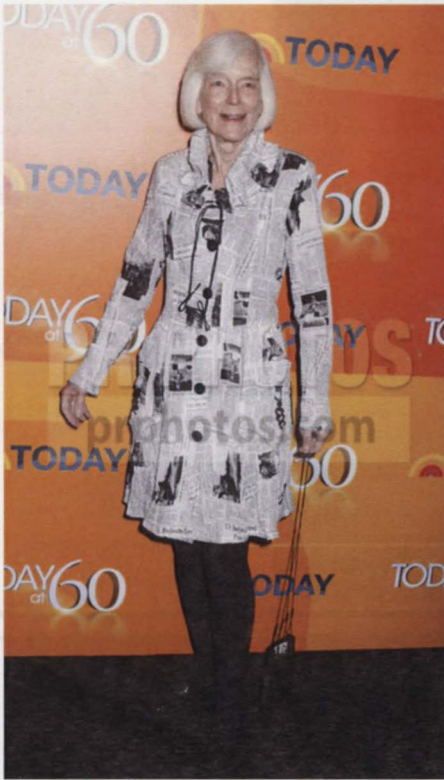
He was just "one of those guys."

A true asset to NBC and anyone who knew him.

Condolences may be sent to the family at
56 Gerardine Place,
New City, NY 10956-7209

Tributes to Silent Microphones

Beryl Pfizer



Beryl Ann Pfizer, writer and radio and television producer, died February 12, 2016, of natural causes in her beloved Manhattan brownstone. She was 87, born in 1928, in Morristown NJ. She was predeceased by her father, William R. Pfizer, Vice President of The Panama Line, and her mother, Isabel Morin Pfizer.

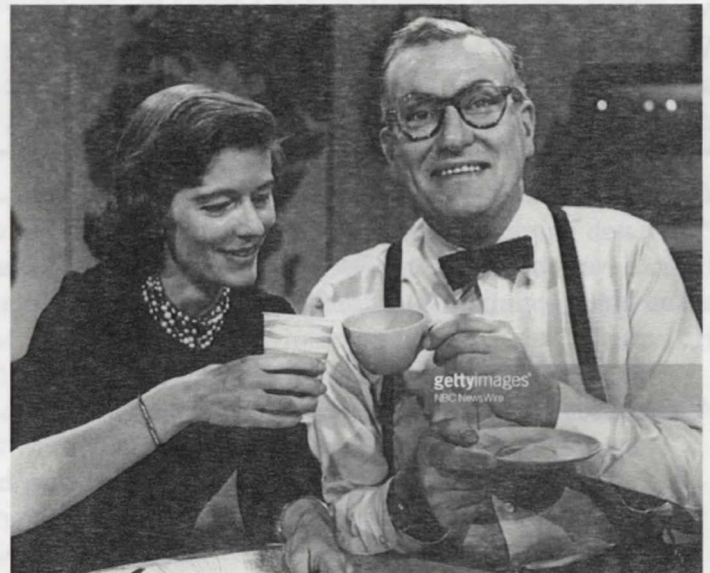
Beryl grew up in Mt. Lakes, NJ, graduating from Mt. Lakes High School in 1945 and from Hood College in 1949, with a BA in music. She always wanted to live in the city, and moved to Manhattan after college to begin a long and varied career in the radio and television industries.

She worked for the Arthur Godfrey Show on CBS-TV, wrote for NBC-TV's The Home Show and worked with Dave Garroway on NBC-TV's The Today Show, where she was a "Today Girl" feature panelist (1960-61). She received three Emmy Award nominations (1980-82), and won an Emmy in 1980, for producing "Ask NBC News, with John Chancellor". She wrote for NBC-TV's broadcasts of The Macy's Thanksgiving Parade (1987-89), for NBC Radio's MONITOR, and for Edwin Newman; imagine the challenge of writing for the author of "Strictly Speaking"! She worked for NBC News at many Democratic National Conventions, including 1968 in Chicago. She produced "The Women's Program" series for the NBC Radio Network, which received a commendation from American Women in Radio and Television in 1979. Beryl also

wrote and produced NBC-TV's "The All-New Pink Panther Show" (1971-74), which featured those famous cartoons and live-action segments with The Ritts Puppets and comedian Lenny Schultz reading letters and jokes from viewers. She produced medical and health stories for the NBC flagship TV station in New York City.

She was the author of "Poor Woman's Almanac", humorous and pithy quips published in Ladies Home Journal. She received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Hood College, where she sponsored scholarships in writing and theater arts. Beryl was also an avid athlete and enjoyed playing tennis. She took up running and unexpectedly won prizes in the upper age groups of Jersey Shore 5 K's for many years, which tickled her to no end. She was proud to have completed a NYC marathon, and she loved the Midnight Run on New Year's Eve in Central Park, running her last race one month before her death.

Beryl was generous, quietly helping many people. She is survived by her sister, Joan Pfizer Sussmann, her four nieces and nephews, and five grandnieces and grandnephews. The family will hold a private memorial. In lieu of flowers, please honor Beryl by donating to your favorite charity.



*Tributes to Silent Microphones***Bill Theodore Remembered By Ted Elbert**

Bill Theodore was one of my greatest pals. He and I would sit and swap tales about NBC, each of us trying to top the other. One night he told one that knocked me out. It was so terrific I asked him to write it down for me. Just this past year, though he wasn't feeling well at all, he did indeed put it on paper for me. I share it now with you knowing that it will bring wonderful memories of one of the best guys we all have ever known.

"WHAT A GREAT COMPANY!" By Bill Theodore

I had started with NBC in 1962. My family was first generation Greek-American and my parents were always so proud that I was working for the big American news network. My father especially, never missed an opportunity to brag about how wonderful it was for our family to be in America and how great all things were in America.

It always brought big smiles to the faces of everyone in our family that he would go to extremes to find things to love about the great country of America. I had been working for NBC for several years when one evening, I went over to my parents' home. My father says to me in his own patois of Greek and heavily-accented English, "You know, Bill, this NBC...this is a really good company -- not just good company -- great company! I hope you know that, my son!"

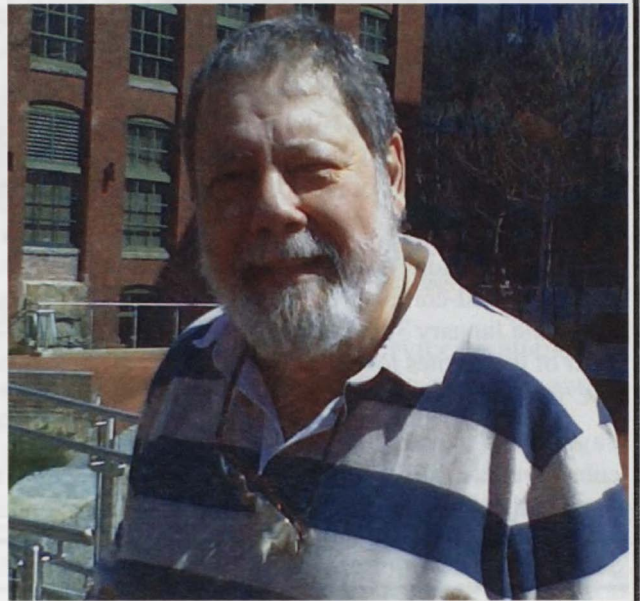
I said, "Why do you say that, Pop?"

"Well, I tell you why," he said. "This morning, when I watch Jimmy Hartz on the NBC television and he is doing the 11 o'clock news, I see he has a hearing aid! Never before have I seen this -- hard of hearing man doing television news!"

My father was referring to Jim Hartz's IFB, the interruptible fold-back intercom device an on-air person wears in his ear to hear communication from the control room to know when he is on the air, when to wrap it up and so on. The IFB is designed to fit tightly in the ear but occasionally can be seen by the viewer. And on this day, my father had seen Jim Hartz's IFB.

My father was mightily impressed that NBC was willing to hire someone who was hard of hearing. He gushed, "Such a young guy with hearing problem and they still have him do the news. I bet when some of them anchormen get up, they even limp like your Uncle Tony! What a great company, that NBC!"

I didn't have the heart to tell him about the IFB. I just said, "You're right, Pop. It's a good company."



-30-

Bill gave us all many great memories to cherish and we will never forget him. Our hearts go out to the love of his life, Jane, and their wonderful family.

Ted and Vicki Elbert

*Tributes to Silent Microphones***Wayne Wright**

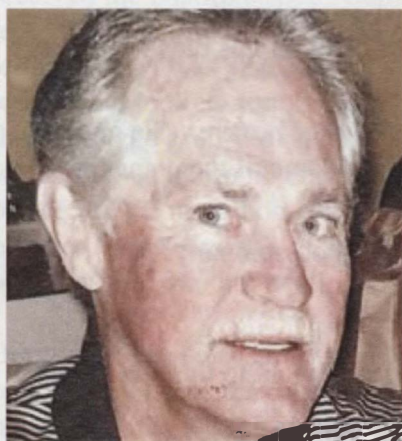
Wayne Eric Wright died on January 4th after a heroic battle with cancer lasting more than a decade. He was 63. Wayne managed his disease valiantly and continued to live his life on his own terms. Friends and family marveled at Wayne's optimistic, upbeat outlook throughout this period. PN wanted to fill in details which were not available for our last issue.

Wayne was born In Tarrytown, NY on November 2, 1952 to William and Margaret Wright, both of whom predeceased him in death. He attended the Public Schools of the Tarrytowns before transferring in his second year of high school to Carson Long Military Academy in Pennsylvania, where he graduated with honors. In 2000, Wayne married Olivia Chapman, and together they embarked on a series of travel adventures. They lived together in New York City. Wayne has one son, Adam, from his first marriage to Renelle Perry, which ended in divorce.

Wayne worked for NBC at Rockefeller Center in New York City for more than 20 years as a cameraman, technical director and electronic graphics operator. During his tenure at NBC he interacted with many celebrities, dignitaries and major political and sports figures.

In the early 1970s, Wayne attended Howard University in Washington, D.C. One of his greatest sources of pride was the enduring relationships and friendships formed at Howard. Wayne and his friends were inspirations and role models for generations of up-and-coming young students. PN wants to acknowledge that a large number of Wayne's Howard classmates attended the January 30th celebration event at Riverside Church in New York. We were regaled with tales both happy and bitter-sweet of their times together. One of the grads displayed a stunning video biography which he had prepared. More than 20 NBC friends and colleagues also attended, and WNBC's David Ushery served as the Master of Ceremonies.

Wayne had a tremendous quest for knowledge, and his spirit was filled with a sense of adventure. He was a certified sailor and scuba diver, as well as an accomplished skier. Members of the Manhattan Sailing Club, with whom Wayne crewed for many years, until a few months before his passing, were on hand at Riverside.

**John O'Connor**

John J O'Connor, 71 of Surfside Beach SC, passed away peacefully at home on Thursday April 20, 2016. Born in Lyndhurst, NJ to John J O'Connor and Mary Duffy, he was raised in Staten Island's Midland Beach and later moved to New Dorp Beach where he raised his family till retired in 1995 to Myrtle Beach. John was the beloved husband of 48 years to Sandra DeGaetano, loving father to Nicole, John and Heather and cherished grandfather of Angelina, Jake, Jaden and Antonio.

He worked for over 30 years at NBC as a videotape editor for the soap opera Another World where he won an Emmy.

John was a former boxer who loved watching fights, playing golf, and spending time with his grandkids whenever he could. He was loved and will truly be missed.

A Mass was held at St. Michael Catholic Church on April 23rd and another mass will be held on Staten Island at a later date.

*Tributes to Silent Microphones***Camie Alexander**

Camie Alexander passed away on January 27, 2016 at age 79. He was born on August 20, 1937 to the late Foster and Annabelle Alexander in Hackensack, NJ. Camie was named after his paternal grandfather and nicknamed "Joe" at a young age. His earliest years were spent in Glen Rock, NJ. The family later moved to Paterson, NJ, where Camie attended the Paterson Public Schools and graduated from Central High School Paterson. As a curious young man he often took things apart to see how they worked. His favorite subjects were math, physics, wood shop, and print shop. Anyone who knew him knew he was very good at fixing things. He had a special love for gospel music.

In 1960, Camie was drafted into the Army. He left his family and girlfriend Lizzie (King) and was stationed in Fort Dix, NJ, and later at White Sands, NM, and in Korea. He worked as an army mechanic and became interested in electronics while stationed in New Mexico.

Camie and Lizzie were married on May 4, 1963. They had two daughters, Treena and Tiffany. They resided in Paterson and then Glen Rock. After his discharge from the service he attended the Y Institute of Technology and Bergen Technical to learn more about electronics. He applied this expertise over a long career as an electronics engineer at NBC and WOR. Many people also knew him from the laundromats and buses he owned and operated with his brother Steve.

Camie was a great storyteller and also liked talking about current events. He often pondered the quality of today's food. He loved family and family gatherings. He attended the Alexander/Anderson Family Reunion every year since 1978.

He always had his camera with him. He had a wealth of knowledge about family and life that he was very willing to share with others. Camie was pre-deceased by his wife Lizzie; brother, Steve; sisters, Pearline Drakeford, Nancy, and Patricia; and brother-in-law Nathaniel Hinton.

He leaves behind his daughters, Treena and Tiffany; sister, Rosetta ; and many nieces, nephews, grand-nieces, grand-nephews, cousins, friends, and neighbors. He truly appreciated them all.

—Excerpted from © Carnie P. Bragg Funeral Homes, Inc



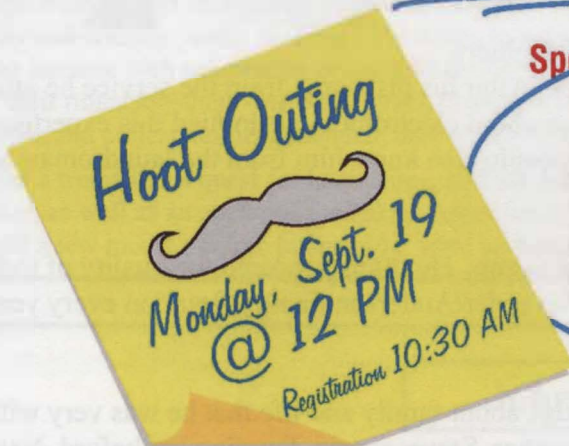
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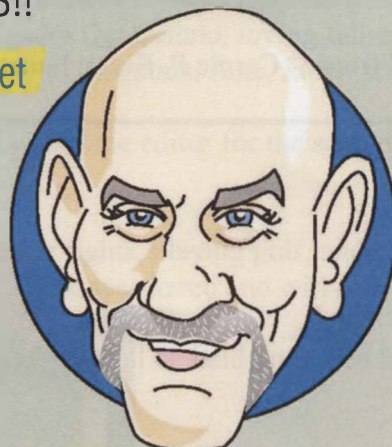
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