



Bambi and The Bird Spread Royal Feathers at Annual Brunch



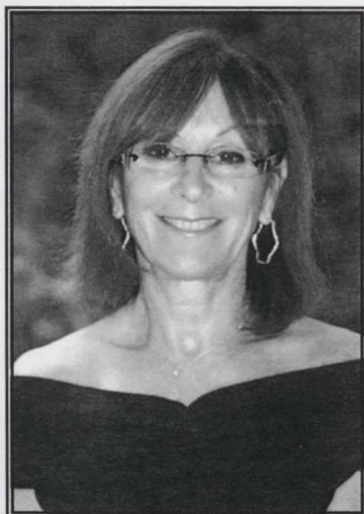
INSIDE PN

Bambi & The Bird Spread Royal Feathers at Annual Brunch	1
Marilyn's Page	2
What's Now! NBC Olympics to be on YouTube	3
Peacock Profile: Keeping Up with the Asmans	4, 5
Peacock Profile: Lou Gerard and the Fenway Rat	6, 7
What's Now! Bob Costas to Sportswriters Hall of Fame	8
What's Now! Sue Simmons Leaves WNBC	9
We Get Pictures: Peacock North Brunch Photos	10-20
We Get Pictures: Long Island Lunch Bunch Grows	21
We Get Pictures: NBC Florida—Two Reunions	22
We Get Pictures: Network A&P Second Annual Reunion	23
What's Now! Coming Soon: The 9th Floor Commissary!	24
Did You Know?: Historic Plaque on Display	25
Silent Microphones - Julian Goodman	26-27

INSIDE PN

Silent Microphones - Ann Kramer	28
Silent Microphones - Frank Weill	28
Silent Microphones - Barbara Millstein	29
Silent Microphones - Bob Daniels	30
Silent Microphones - Roy Denny	31
Silent Microphones - George Kiyak	32
Silent Microphones - O Tamburri	33
Silent Microphones - Richard Fischer	34
Silent Microphones - Lee Elliott	35
Silent Microphones - Peter Donlan	35
Silent Microphones - Bob Stewart	36
"Hello? Is this NBC?" - By Dan Gabel	37
NBC News Radio	38
"What Is It?" - and Membership Coupon	39
The Asmans Redux	40

Marilyn's Page



Peacock North is officially 25 years old and by the look of the pictures the recent celebration was grand. Bambi (a/k/a "Ma Bell") seems to not only have entertained the crowd but also managed to be in nearly every photo. Let's just say she is well documented on this occasion! And why not? She has been part of the NBC family for more than 40 years.

I would like to note that in recent months there has been a lot of loss at NBC. Therefore, *Silent Microphones* has a large presence in this issue. Over the years a number of people have told me how much they dislike *Silent Microphones*, even to the point of not joining PN because of it. I hope everyone appreciates that we pay homage to these people who have passed on or are infirm by rejoicing in their lives. They helped mentor all of us and were enriched by their jobs and experiences, and so enriched us. You can't truly appreciate who you are unless you know who came before you to help get you there. I hope *Silent Microphones* does that for all our readers. I hope you will

take the time to absorb the fine detail of their lives. Enjoy the stories and the pictures and realize what a vibrant group we are.

It is also incumbent upon us to document what's happening now to our members. We really do need you to send us stories and photos of your pursuits both at and away from your work. The staff also be contacting multi-generational NBC families for first-hand anecdotes of those whose work experience overlapped or continued on from parent to offspring. A quick count yielded at least ten such families.

We are also asking younger PN members to describe their early years at NBC.

It's all about our members...so please "spill those beans!"

And now to the best part of the magazine: Bambi – "and the rest of us."

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

Current E-mail Addresses

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

This is a great way for us to help members keep in touch with each other.

*What's Now!***NBC and YouTube to partner for 2012 Olympics**

NBC has partnered with Google-owned video service YouTube to provide its video player and livestreaming infrastructure for the London 2012 Olympic Games. Comcast, which recently acquired NBC Universal, bought the rights to The Games, keeping them at the network until 2020. As a result, NBC has been selling more than \$900 million in advertising to ensure it gets back some of its investment.



Part of its strategy is to broadcast every live event in some form, showing more than 3,600 hours of Olympic coverage across its outlets. To do this, it has signed a deal with YouTube, using its player to deliver livestreams on NBCOlympics.com.

NBC explains its plan on its Olympic advertising website:

As a result, we plan to deliver the most extensive 2012 Olympics content to viewers, including—for the first time ever—ALL events streamed live. That's right, you'll be able to watch up to 3,000 hours of live streaming covering all 302 Gold Medals and every event in-between. We'll also include replays of Web-exclusive events, all television broadcasts, interviews with the athletes and exclusive daily segments about London 2012. Live streams will be available across our mobile platforms, providing an extraordinary 360-degree coverage of The Games.

The rights are shared across the world: in the UK the BBC has gained access to The Games and will deliver live coverage via television broadcasts but also online via its website and iPlayer service. The two companies differ in the fact that BBC is publicly funded, whereas NBC is a private company. This means that the US company has to try and recoup some of its investments via advertising and syndication deals.

This suggests that YouTube will not deliver a livestream on YouTube.com itself, ensuring that NBC will be able to direct users to its own website to maximise pageviews. Whether this will mean YouTube pushes advertising on Olympic coverage remains to be seen.

Update: NBC has reached out to provide a more accurate overview on its YouTube partnership after its advertising website listed some inaccurate facts:

- YouTube is not our official video-on-demand partner. They are simply providing the technology behind our NBCOlympics.com video player.
- Not all events will be streamed live. For the first time in the U.S., all events will be presented live on at least one NBC platform (either broadcast, cable or digital).

NBC only controls digital rights for the United States.

—by Matt Brian, The Next Web, March 7, 2012

*Peacock Profile***Keeping Up with The Asmans**

For her wonderful speech at our Peacock North brunch, Bambi Tascarella used the contents of her office files and memorabilia as her theme. They brought back some wonderful memories and great stories from her NBC past, starting as a "Guidette" in Guest Relations and working up to her responsibilities as the technical communications expert for conventions and Olympics, and on the way, becoming a nationally-recognized person with her own fan club!

Bambi's speech, along with our ongoing effort to slim down a 50-year accumulation of "stuff" in our Washington home of 51 years, inspired me to wade through some of that stuff.



What I found was quite amazing. First, some background: I met my wife, Nan, as a tour guide at NBC while both of us were going to college. I had just finished my service in the U. S. Navy and was taking some journalism and radio courses at Columbia, while my future wife was on her work/study program from Bennington College. The year was 1947 and our NBC tours were primarily radio oriented. It was just the last few minutes of our one hour and 15 minute tours that we took our tour groups into the "jeep" on the 8th floor. There was a black and white camera and monitors, and members of the tour could go in front of the camera to the amusement of the rest of the group. They were wonderful days in New York at the time. The RCA building was still new enough to be in all of its art deco glory. The tour groups would assemble in the large Mezzanine area (now offices and multi-media conference rooms) after having come up from the main floor using either one of the glamorous curved staircases that took them up to the Mezzanine. Cost of the studio tour: 75 cents!

So, what I found were things relating to our tour guide days. There was our brand new (at the time) 1947 Guide Manual, copies of whose pages will appear in future issues of Peacock North. There was also a montage of pictures of pages and guides from that era such as Peter Tintle.

My wife (of 62 years!) served as a guidette for two years and then went to the Ticket division. We were both in Pat Kelly's announcing class at NBC and, as a result, I landed a job as an announcer at WSAY, a station in my home town of Rochester, New York. I moved to a brand new station that opened in Geneva, New York. While there, I invited Nan to visit me, we got engaged, married and lived for a brief time in Geneva before coming back to New York. I ended up at CBS as a production manager on "The Twentieth Century" series with Walter Cronkite until 1961 when the late Ted Yates called me and offered me a job as Associate Producer of

"David Brinkley's Journal", a one hour, prime-time magazine-format program.

That brought me back to NBC, but in Washington, D C, where I moved my family (now with two kids, a boy and girl). After the Journal finished its second season, I convinced the folks in New York that with the expansion of the NBC Washington bureau, they really needed a full time special-events producer. They bought it and I have been in Washington ever since.

It's been a great run, covering all the presidential overseas trips, inaugurations, assassinations, conventions and, perhaps best of all, joining Jim Kitchell's Space Coverage team where I was down at Cape Kennedy (or Canaveral) for every space shot from Mercury, Gemini and Apollo to the Space Shuttle. It was during those major special events that I worked with and got to know so many New York-based engineers and directors. So, all in all, my two NBC experiences (first as a tour guide then as a Special Events Producer) it has been a really great life!

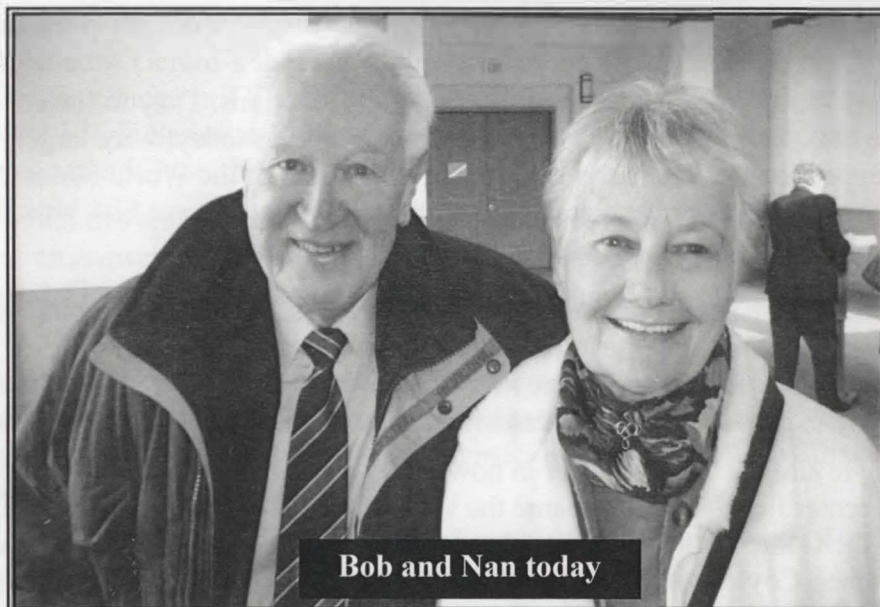
By the way, I wasn't finished. After my NBC retirement in 1993, I went on to do some free-lance producing starting with organizing and pool-producing the Pope's visit and World Youth Day in Denver in 1993, working as Executive Producer for the Commission on Presidential Debates in 1996, doing media training with Susan Peterson Productions and finally working as an usher at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts here in DC.

Now, my wife and I are considering a move back to the NYC area to be closer to our kids and grand kids. I'll be 86 in August, Nan two years behind me. So, we shall see!

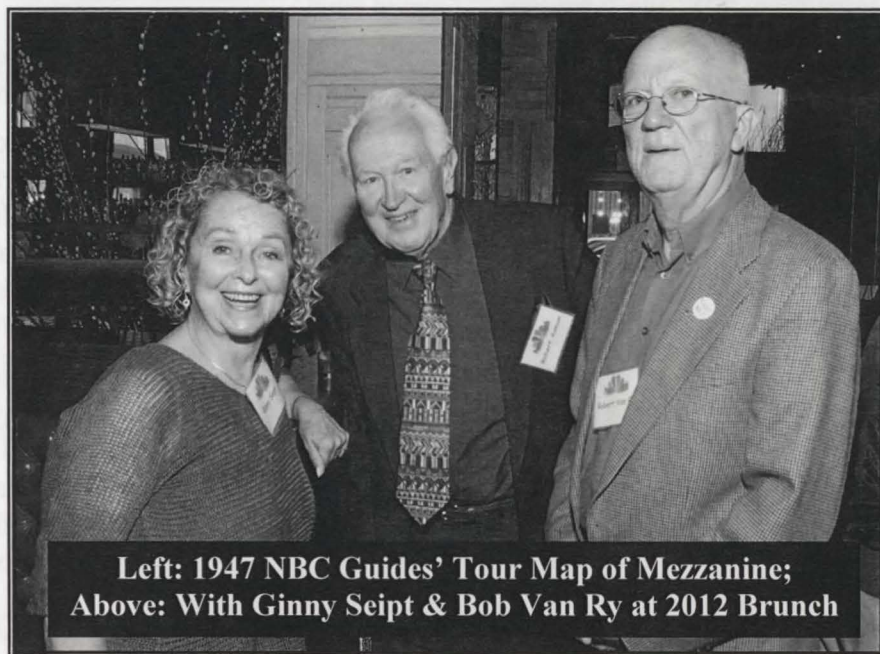
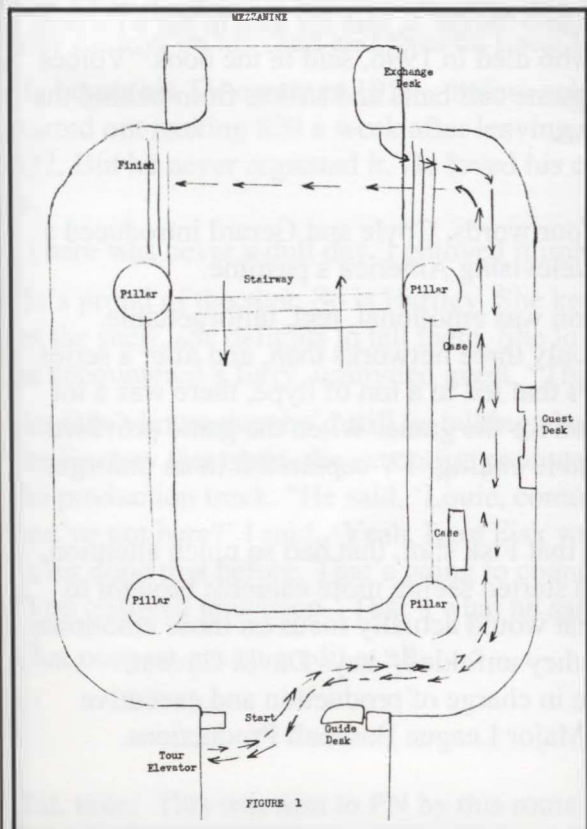
Keep in touch!

Bob Asman
r49asman@aol.co

202-363-5715
May 31, 2012

Bob and Nan today



Left: 1947 NBC Guides' Tour Map of Mezzanine;
Above: With Ginny Seipt & Bob Van Ry at 2012 Brunch

Peacock Profile
Lou Gerard and the Rat that Made TV History

It is the walkoff home run of live action sports shots. Carlton Fisk is waving the ball fair. He's perfectly in focus, perfectly framed as he drifts left toward first base. As the ball hits the fair pole, he jumps, Fred Lynn in the on-deck circle behind him jumps, and the dozens of fans in the shot behind him jump.

It is one of the most famous and enduring images in American sports history. More important than that, it forever changed the way television covers baseball.

And it almost never happened.

The story behind it is one of the great—and little-known—tales in Fenway Park's 100-year history.

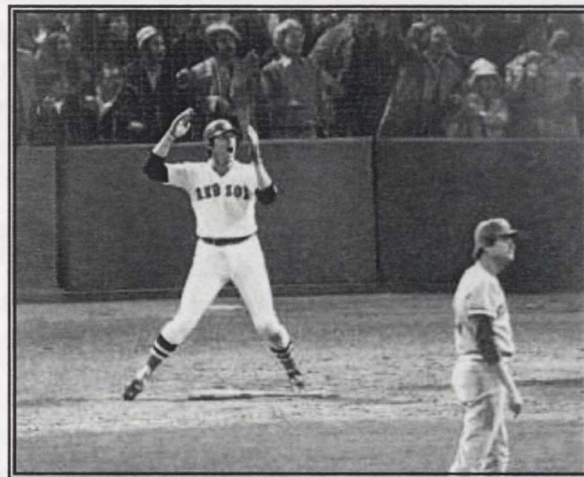
In 1975, cameramen did not follow players' reactions. They followed the ball. Reaction shots like that one, so ubiquitous today, were largely unheard of. Then Fisk, the Red Sox catcher, stepped to the plate in the 12th inning of Game 6 of the World Series. NBC cameraman Lou Gerard, stationed in the Fenway scoreboard and assigned to track the ball wherever Fisk hit it, had a problem.

A big, hairy, ugly, nasty problem.

"There were some rats running around," he says. "With Fisk coming up, Harry Coyle, who was the director at the time, he told me, 'Lou, you have to follow the ball if he hits it.' I said, 'Harry, I can't, I've got a rat on my leg that's as big as a cat. It's staring me in the face. I'm blocked by a piece of metal on my right.' So he said, 'What are we going to do?' I said, 'How about if we stay with Fisk, see what happens?'"

Coyle already was a pioneer in how TV covered baseball, unafraid to try new things. It was his idea to put a camera in center field—which became the view of virtually every pitch. Coyle, who died in 1996, said in the book "Voices of the Game" that he got that idea from watching an umpire in a softball game call balls and strikes from behind the pitcher. Coyle was the type of guy who would go along with Gerard's plan.

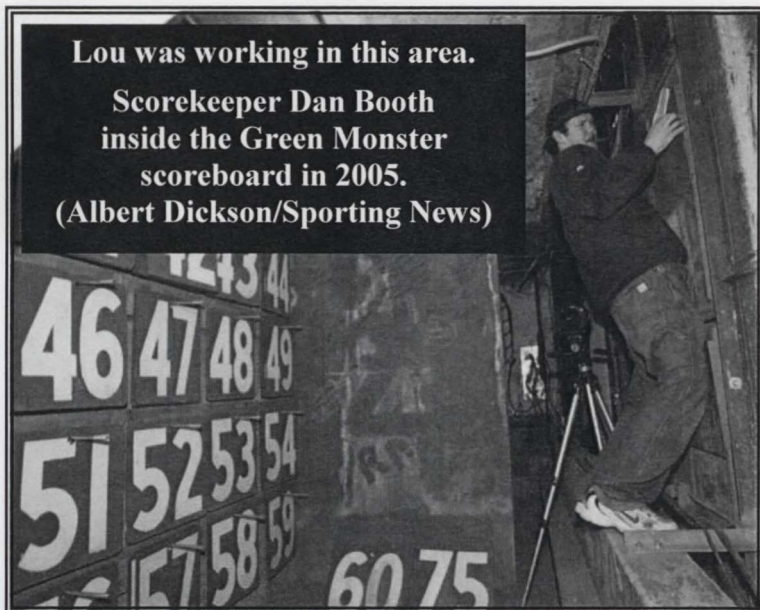
"Harry says, 'OK, we'll try that,'" Gerard says.



Lou was working in this area.

**Scorekeeper Dan Booth
inside the Green Monster
scoreboard in 2005.**

(Albert Dickson/Sporting News)



With those four words, Coyle and Gerard introduced a new way of televising America's pastime.

Fisk's reaction was emotional, real, unforgettable. There were only three networks then, and after a series of rain delays that led to a ton of hype, there was a lot of anticipation for the game. When the game provided an unforgettable ending, TV captured it in an unforgettable way.

"It was after that Fisk shot, that had so much attention, that now you started seeing more cameras brought to big events that would actually focus on those emotional moments as they unfolded," says David Gavant, the executive in charge of production and executive producer of Major League Baseball Productions.

At the time, Gerard just thought it was a nice shot of a great moment. Inside the production truck, producer Roy Hammerman thought the same thing. NBC did not use Gerard's shot live. The live shot followed the ball as it soared into the night, plunked into the fair pole and fell at the feet of Reds left fielder George Foster. As that happened, Hammerman was watching the monitors. Looking at the screen showing Gerard's shot, he saw TV gold.

"I told the guys, 'Get ready for the replay,' "

Hammerman says. They did. Again and again. In his 19-year career, Hammerman was nominated for 16 Emmys and won once, for the 1975 World Series, for decisions like that one.

"We replayed it about 12 times," says Hammerman, who is now retired and lives in California.

Thirty-six and a half years later, it feels like 12 million. It is one of the most replayed highlights in any sport, and arguably the most important in terms of the way baseball is broadcast now. Gerard's shot had a bigger impact than the home run itself; the Red Sox lost the World Series in Game 7. But the change in TV that followed endures, from Kirk Gibson pumping his fist after his walkoff in Game 1 of the 1988 World Series to Joe Carter's jubilant tromp after his World Series-winning home run in 1993 to every player who pimps it on the way to first.

That home run is the defining moment of Fisk's Hall of Fame career. Within the sports TV industry, Gerard is famous for his work that night, too. He was part of an answer on "Jeopardy!" Bring up his name among his contemporaries, and they know who he is and what he did. Gerard got a kick when he was watching TV recently and his old friend Bob Costas name-dropped him.

"Louie had the greatest shot of all," says Lenny Basile, who worked a center-field camera that night in Boston. "It was just fantastic." Basile and others who know Gerard say it couldn't have happened to a nicer guy. Gerard will turn 85 in August. He has two children, two grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. He retired in 1986 with four Emmys on his shelf and lives on Long Island with his daughter, Julie Hartley.

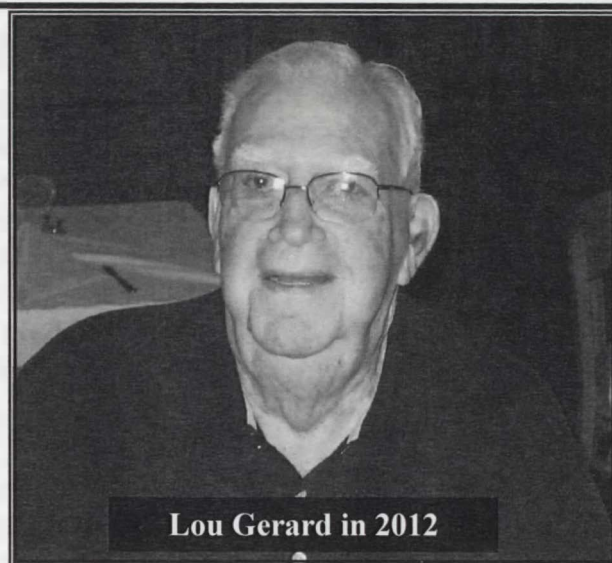
He began his TV career in 1951—before color, before cameras could move, before coast-to-coast connections. He started out making \$29 a week after leaving an engineering job he didn't like for which he was making \$32. But he never regretted it. He loved his career behind the camera for just about every major sporting event there is.

"There was never a dull day. I enjoyed it immensely, all the time I worked there," he says.

He's proud of the shot. So is Hartley. She kept a scrapbook of stories about it. When people ask about those Emmys on the shelf, she delights to tell them. She loves the story about the rat—it wasn't the only time he encountered a furry, uninvited guest. "That drove my mother crazy—'Don't get bit by rats!' "

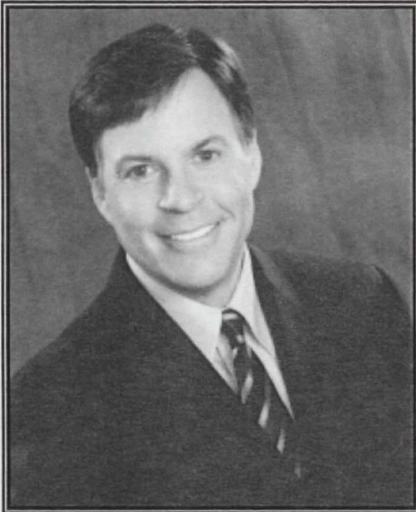
He didn't know then he'd still be talking about Carlton Fisk now. Though there were some hints. As he was leaving the Fenway that night, the executive producer, Scotty Connal, who later helped start ESPN, called out to him from the production truck. "He said, 'Louie, come in here, I want to show you something.' He said, 'Do you know what you've got here?' I said, 'Yeah, I got Fisk waving his arms, trying to keep the ball fair.' He said, 'Yeah, but we've never done that before. That's going to change what we're going to have to do every time we take a shot.' He says, 'You changed television.' That's what he said to me."

That poor rat got no credit at all.



--By Matt Crossman, Sporting News, April 17, 2012

[Ed. note: This was sent to PN by this route: Kevin Monaghan, Ken Fouts, Phil Parlante and Mike Noseworthy.]

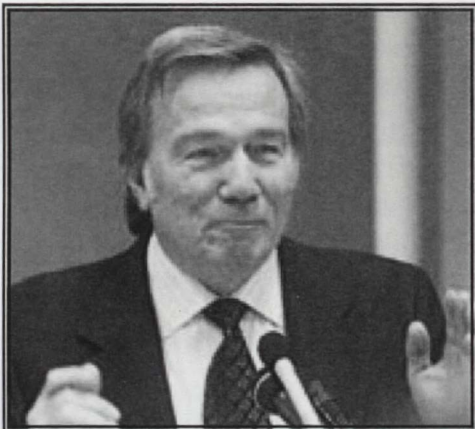
*What's Now!***Another Hall of Fame Inducts Bob Costas**

Bob Costas of NBC Sports and the Major League Baseball Network and author and sportswriter John Feinstein of the Washington Post have been elected to the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association's Hall of Fame, NSSA Executive Director Dave Goren announced today. Costas and Feinstein were honored at the 53rd Annual NSSA Awards Banquet on June 11, 2012 in Salisbury, NC. The event marks the 50th anniversary of the NSSA's Hall of Fame.

Costas, who hosted NBC's coverage of Super Bowl XLVI from Indianapolis on February 5, has starred on network television in many different roles. A 22-time Emmy Award winner, he has spent more than 30 years at NBC. The 2012 London Olympics this summer will mark Costas's 10th with NBC and ninth as primetime host, more than any other. Since 2005, Costas has also hosted "Football Night In America." And, he serves as play-by-play announcer and host for the Major League Baseball Network.

—Adapted from an NBC Owned TV Stations News Release - January 18, 2012

[Ed. Note: Bob has been a Peacock North keynote speaker and remains a loyal fan of our organization.]

The Latest on Lloyd Dobyns, from John Dancy

I learned recently that our former colleague, Lloyd Dobyns, is in a nursing home just 30 minutes from where I now live, in Durham, NC, and had been there for two years. I have visited Lloyd a couple of times since then, and took him out to lunch today. He has suffered a couple of strokes, according to his son, Brian, and needs to use a wheelchair to get about. I found him a little slower to converse, but still quick-witted. As I was helping him from the wheelchair to the car today, I said, "You want to drive?" Immediately, he said, "And what the hell would you do if I said 'Yes?'"

For those of you who never knew Lloyd...you missed a lot. For those of you who did, I'm writing to ask a favor. Could you write him an upbeat note, letting him know that you know he's in a nursing home, and are thinking about him. You might recall some instance when you worked with him. I find he remembers the old times very well. I know, because he has told me, that it's depressing to be in a nursing home, and it would likely do him a lot of good to be remembered.

His address is:

Mr. Lloyd Dobyns

Room D-1

Presbyterian Home of Hawfields

2502 S NC Highway 119

Mebane, NC 27302 (Mebane is pronounced MEH-bin)

If it is easier, write an e-mail attachment, and send it to me at profdancy@yahoo.com and I'll take it to him the next time I go out there.

Many thanks,

Bud

Bambi Tascarella fondly remembers him and his family when they had a super apartment in Paris decades ago. He had always said, "if you come to Paris and can't find a room...call me!" Well, first time ever, Paul & I arrive during the Paris Air Show (reservation-less!!) ...not a room in the town. Called Lloyd and moments later we had a place in his apartment!

*What's Now!***A Final Newscast for Sue Simmons on WNBC**

Sue Simmons, a television institution in New York City, anchored her final newscast on WNBC on Friday night, months after reports of her forced retirement startled longtime fans, colleagues and competitors. True to herself to the end, Ms. Simmons reacted to a lengthy televised tribute on the station's 11 p.m. newscast by exclaiming "shut the front door," a phrase that sometimes substitutes for an expletive. Her co-anchor Chuck Scarborough knowingly laughed aloud at her joke. "Almost got you, didn't I?" she said.

"This week I was thinking, somebody's made a mistake, you know," Ms. Simmons said, alluding to the fact that she was not leaving WNBC entirely of her own accord. "But, you know, everything comes to an end at some point. And this is it for me here, at this station; I hope to be employed elsewhere at some point, even if it's maybe just once a week."

Mr. Scarborough then had to interrupt her, as there were only seconds remaining in the newscast. "We wish you the best," he said. She kissed her hand, smiled and waved goodbye to viewers.

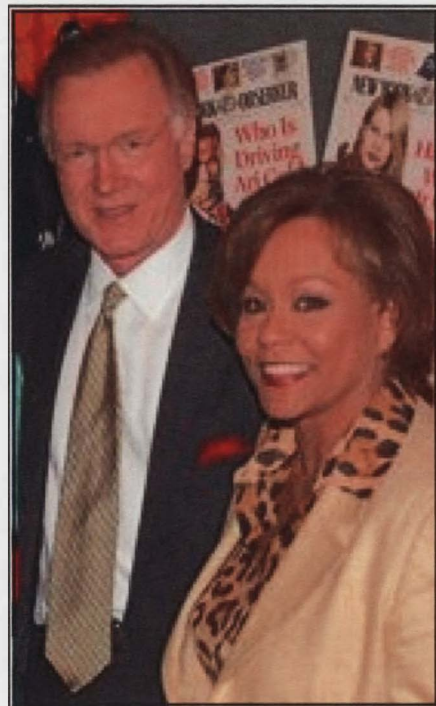
Ms. Simmons' goodbye followed a series of tributes by Mr. Scarborough and other notable New Yorkers, including the New York mayor Michael Bloomberg, who said in a taped segment, "Sue, you're a quintessential New Yorker. We're going to miss you." In another of the tributes, the comedian Joan Rivers hinted at the possibility that Ms. Simmons will find employment elsewhere on television. "I'm not going to say goodbye because you're going to pop up somewhere bigger and better," she said. In her brief remarks at the end of the 11 p.m. newscast, Ms. Simmons said she had been "crying for two weeks" over the prospect of signing off. "We all have, we all have," Mr. Scarborough responded. He called her "funny, unpredictable, dangerous, and always there when you and I needed her, covering the news that shaped our lives."

During the newscast, after a news report about daredevil Nik Wallenda's walk on a tightrope across Niagara Falls, Ms. Simmons quipped, "I think I'm ready for a walk off of Niagara Falls. Don't know why."

Her remarks capped a day of look-backs. Earlier Friday, WNBC newscasts recounted light-hearted moments in Ms. Simmons's career, including her imitations of a groundhog on Groundhog Day each year and a meltdown of sorts in the early-1990s when she and her co-anchor at the time, Matt Lauer, couldn't stop laughing at a video clip from a tabloid TV show. "It's certainly an emotional end to a storied career," Mr. Scarborough said on his 6 p.m. newscast, the one he previously co-anchored with Ms. Simmons. Left unspoken, at least on the broadcasts earlier in the day, was the reason, or reasons, Ms. Simmons, 69, was signing off. She has declined interview requests, but her role had been diminishing for some time.

In March, when the plans for her departure were made public, one current and one former WNBC staff member, both speaking on the condition of anonymity, said Ms. Simmons was aware when she signed her most recent contract that it was intended to be her last at the station.

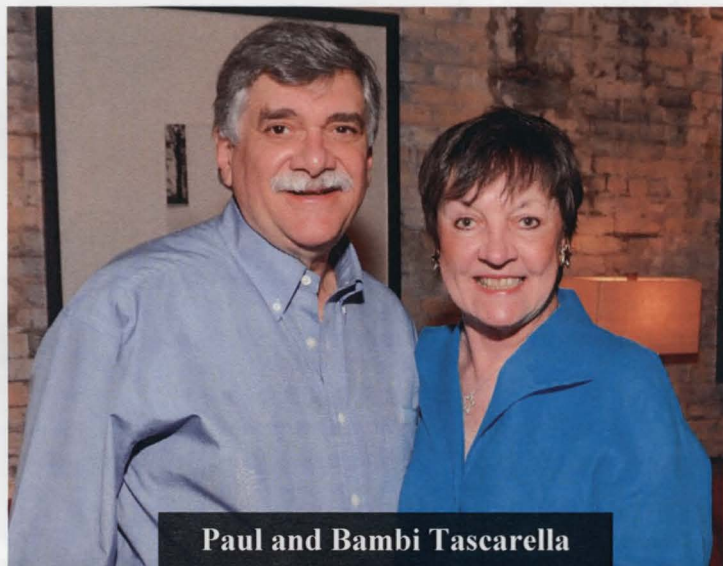
The station threw a party for Ms. Simmons on Thursday night, where she was toasted by a number of friends and colleagues, including Brian Williams, the "NBC Nightly News" anchor. On "Nightly" on Friday night, Mr. Williams, who grew up in northern New Jersey watching Ms. Simmons, took a moment to wish her well. "Sue has always been a piece of work, and those of us who have been so proud to work with her, wish her nothing but the very best," he said.



—By BRIAN STELTER - The New York Times—June 15, 2012

What's Now!

Spring Brunch
Photos by Karl Rivenburgh - except (*)



Paul and Bambi Tascarella



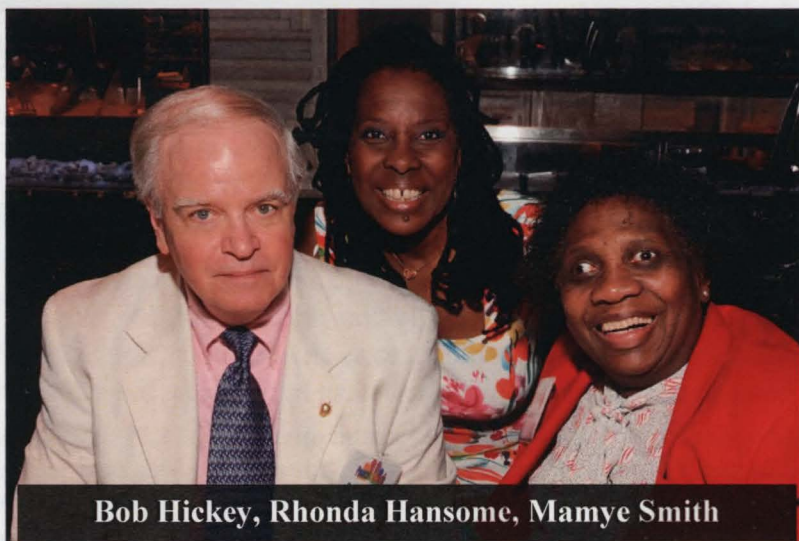
Milt Wyatt and Rich Scrivani (*)



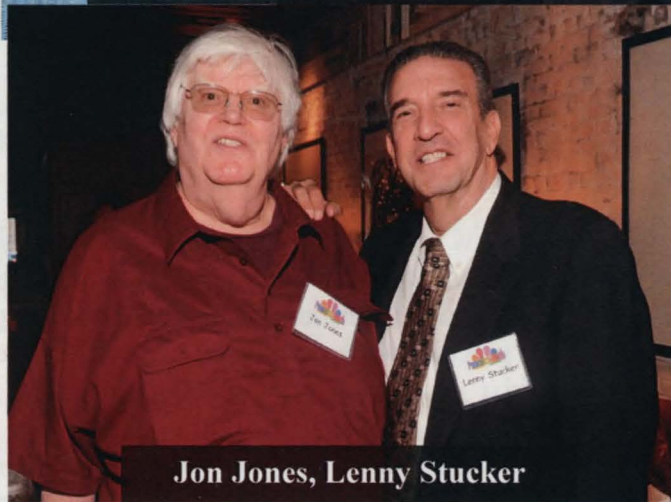
Carol Aerenon, Art Finkelstein and Bambi



Ethel and George Corrado



Bob Hickey, Rhonda Hansome, Mamye Smith



Jon Jones, Lenny Stucker



Joyce Werney, Carol Aerenson



Lucille Weener, Suzanne Lavallo



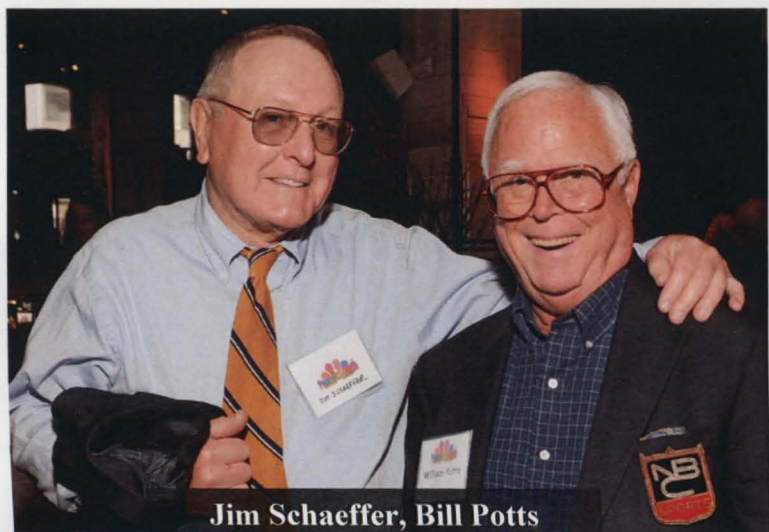
Larry Cirillo, Edith Nathanson, Ginny Seipt



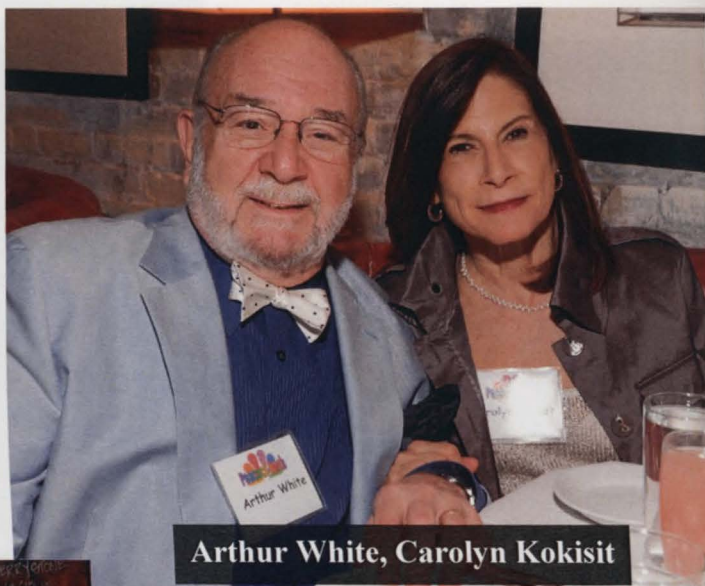
Lenny Stucker, Bambi



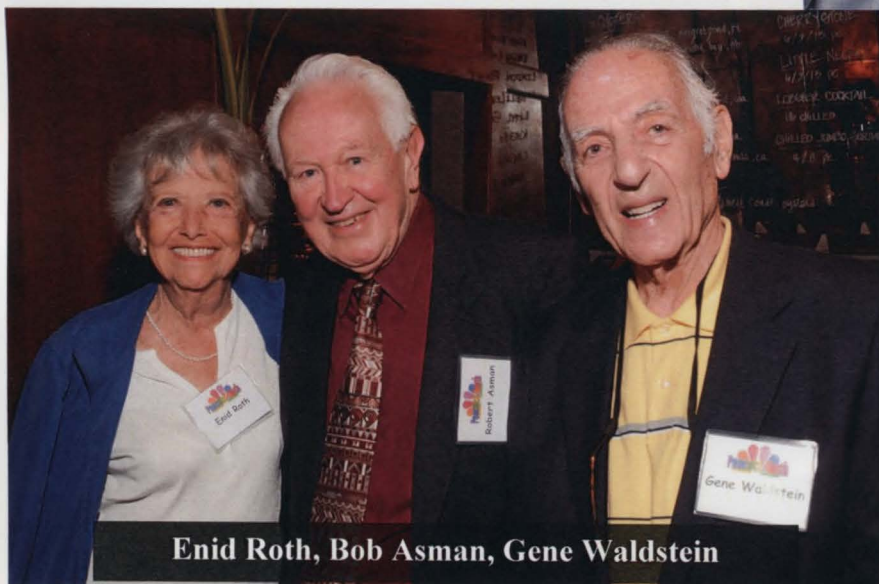
Jennifer Vetter, Bambi, Bob Hager, Suzanne Lavallo, Beryl Pfizer



Jim Schaeffer, Bill Potts



Arthur White, Carolyn Kokisit



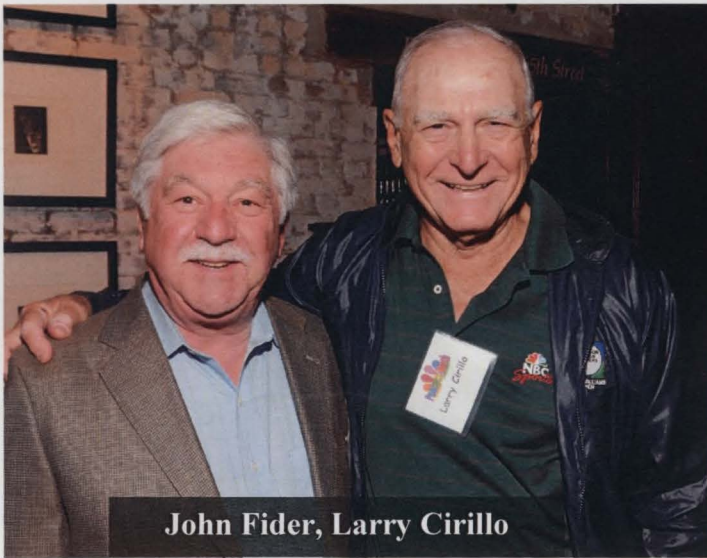
Enid Roth, Bob Asman, Gene Waldstein



Mary Chancellor with Bambi



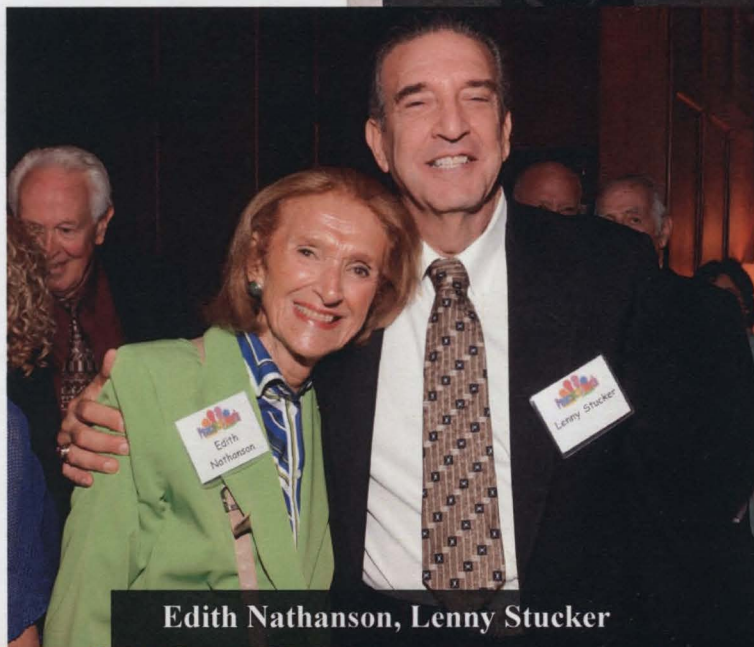
George Ann Muller, Bambi, Mary Chancellor and Lucille Weiner



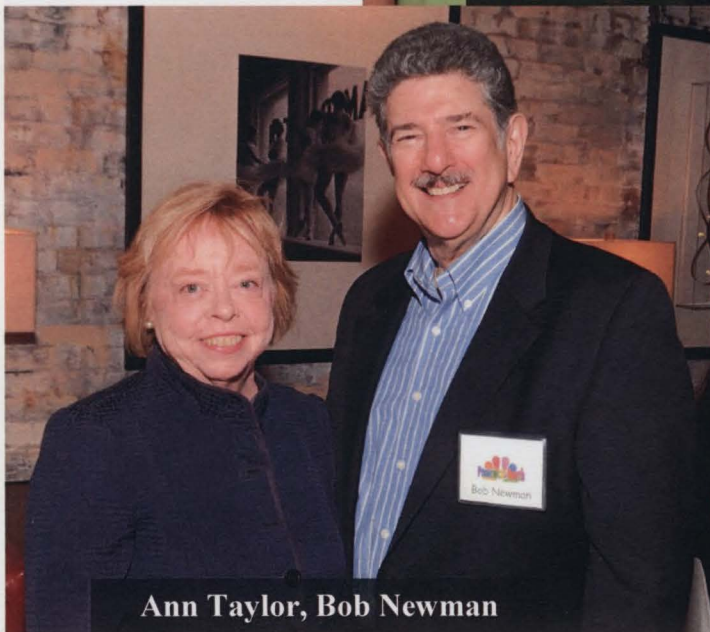
John Fider, Larry Cirillo



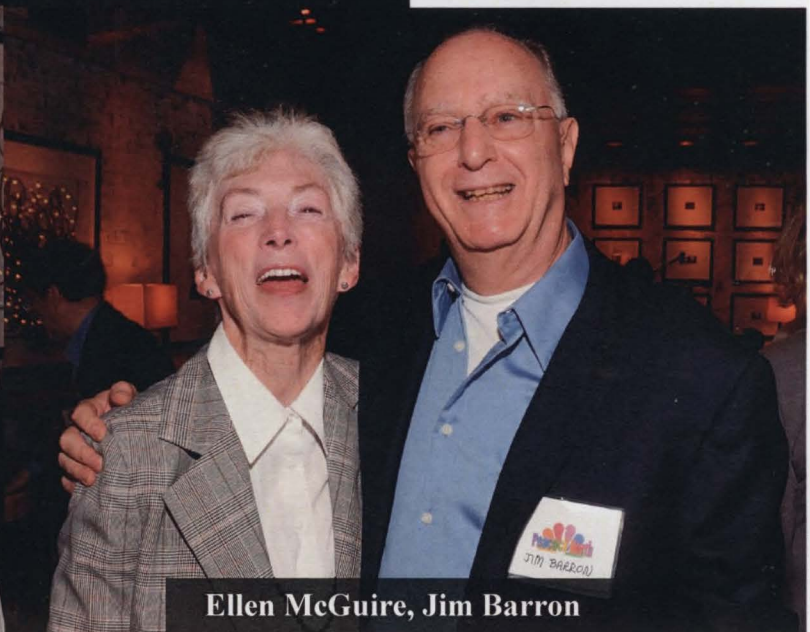
Cathy Lavaty, Elizabeth McDermott, Ellen McGuire



Edith Nathanson, Lenny Stucker



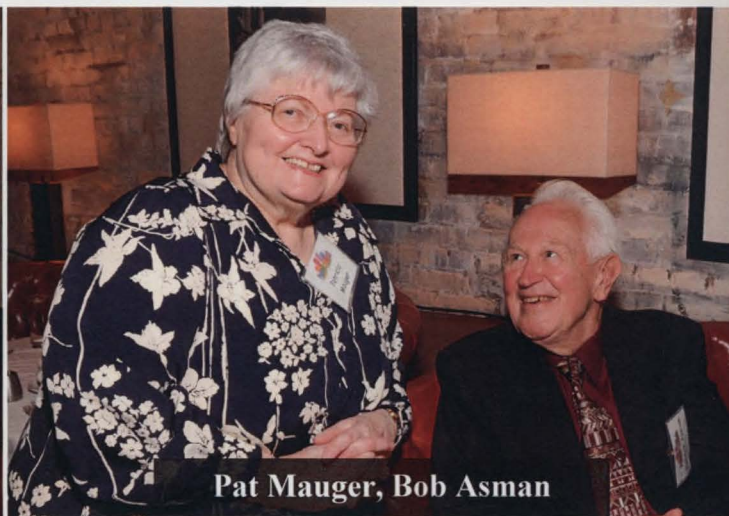
Ann Taylor, Bob Newman



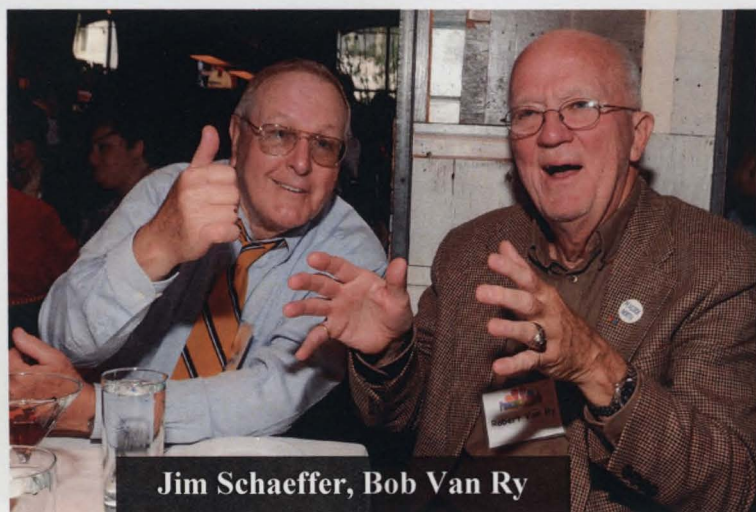
Ellen McGuire, Jim Barron



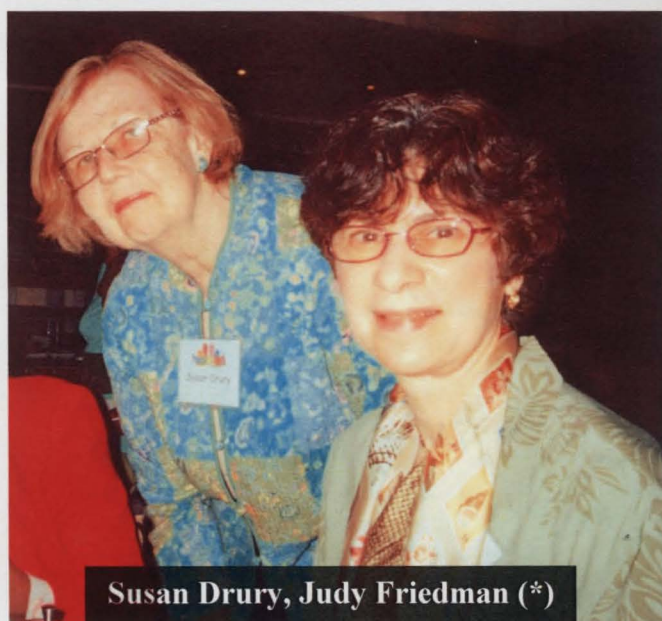
Enid Roth, Pat Lang



Pat Mauger, Bob Asman



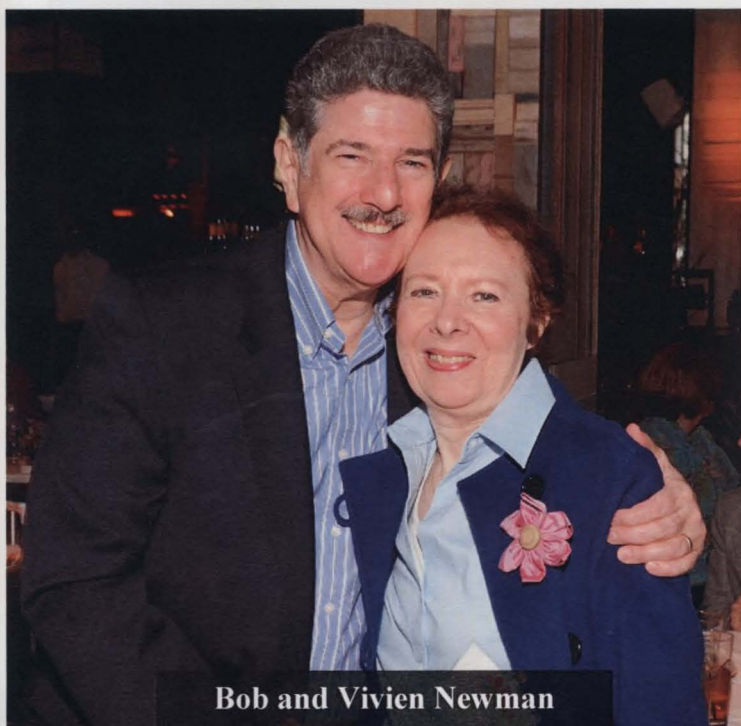
Jim Schaeffer, Bob Van Ry



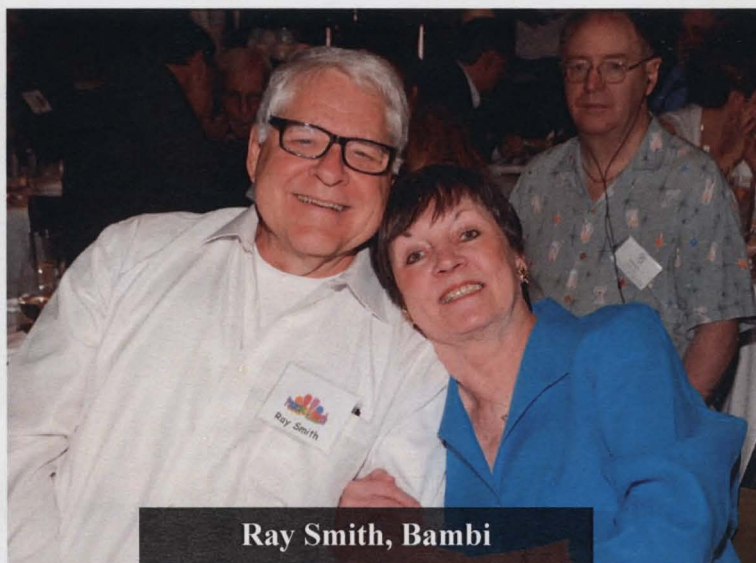
Susan Drury, Judy Friedman (*)



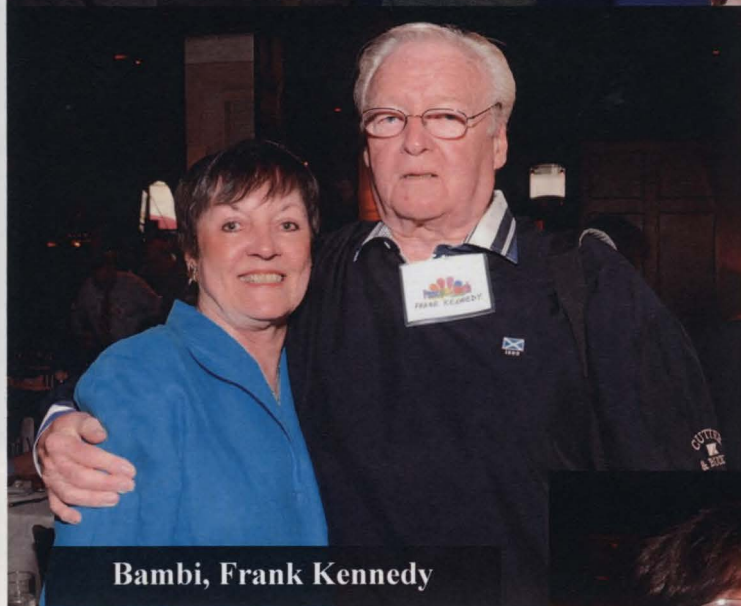
Carla Engelman, Larry Cirillo, Ginny Seipt



Bob and Vivien Newman



Ray Smith, Bambi



Bambi, Frank Kennedy



Edith and Carla



Monitor's Suzanne Laval, Angela Ladas, Beryl Pfizer



Lenny Stucker



Lenny and Joel Ringing the Chimes



Mary Chancellor, Bambi, Karen Curry



Ken Donoghue, Bob Hager



Tech Crew: Joe Sebring, Will Johnson



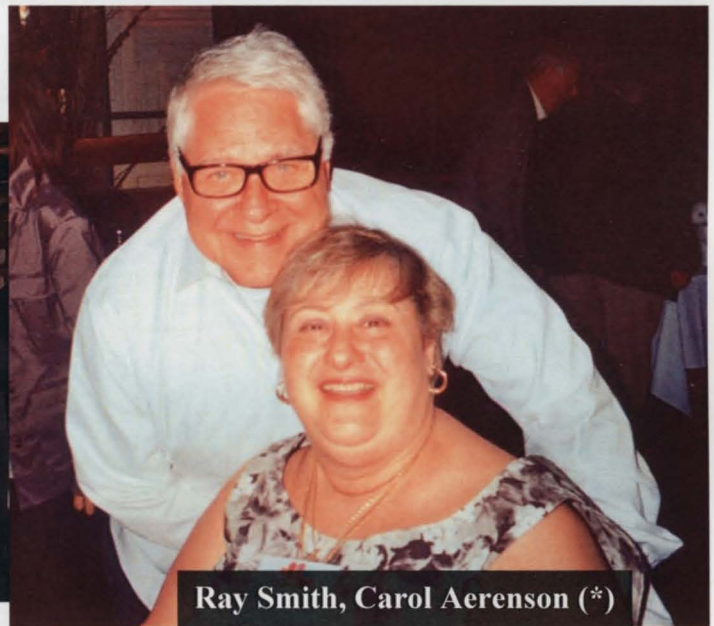
**Our Lighting Director: George Ann Muller,
and Our Videographer: Paul Scrabo**



Stacy Brady, Karen Curry



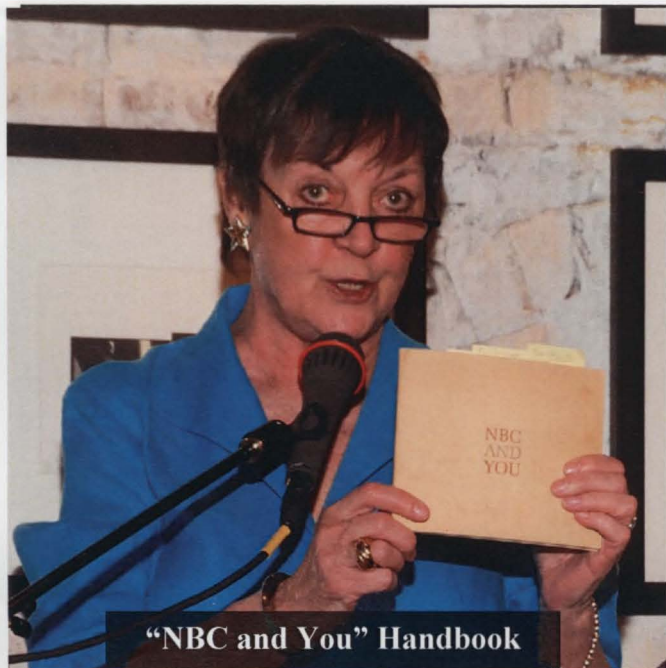
Gary Raschella and daughter Janet with Milt Wyatt



Ray Smith, Carol Aerenson (*)



Joel with Sharon and Lenny Stucker



"NBC and You" Handbook



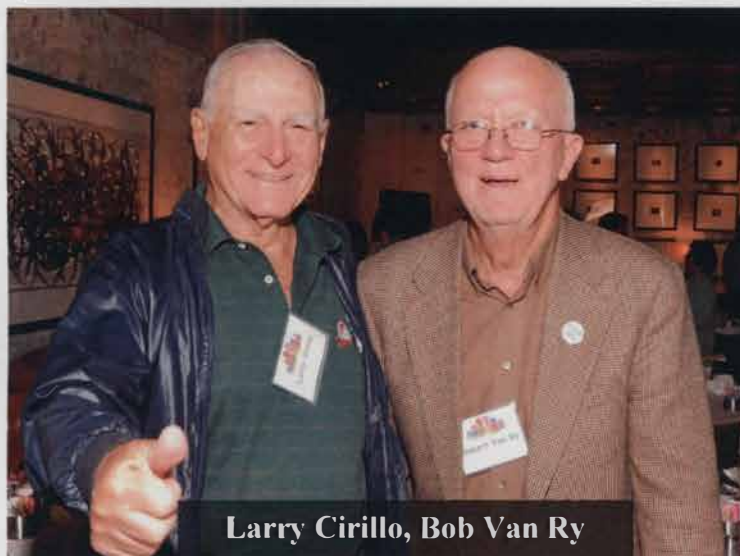
...will the toy peacock spread its wings?



Bambi's Bag o' Props



Cue Music and Ben Grauer!



Larry Cirillo, Bob Van Ry



Sunny Carmell, Pat Lynch



Tammy Brainin and Steve Gonzalez



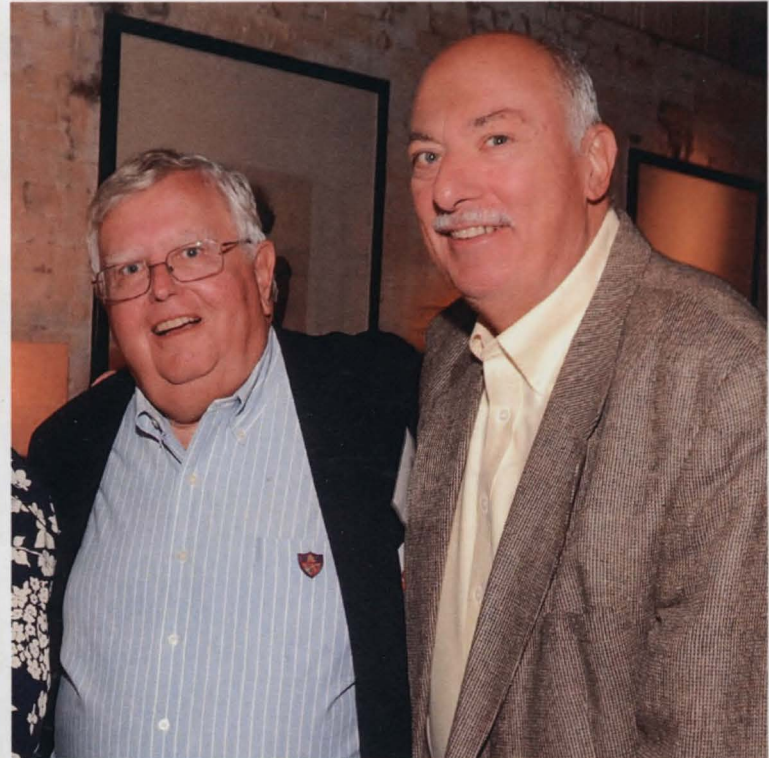
Rhonda Hansome and Joel



Arthur White, Karen Curry, Allison Davis



Bambi and Bob Asman



Bernie Braun, Vito Catalanotto

We Get Pictures

Long Island Lunch Bunch Grows



The most recent gathering of basically Long Island-based retirees on July 17th welcomed two new members to the group: Lou Gerard, who lives just a few blocks away from our headquarters restaurant, Domenico's of Levittown, and Warren Langrock.

Pictured above are (L-R) (Standing) Phil Parlante, Tony Rivera, Vince Gabriele, Jan Kasoff, Bill Freeda, Warren Langrock, Joel Spector, Hank Huestis.

(Seated: Frank Gaeta, Lou Gerard, Murray Vecchio, Tony Rivera (93 years young on July 16th!))

If you would like to join us at our next gathering at 12 Noon on September 11th please contact Frank Gaeta at (631) 367-3343.



Above, (L-R):
Gary Iorio and Hank, Phil and Vince, Bill and Jan

*We Get Pictures***Two Florida Reunions**

**Boca Raton
February 17th**



**Harry Katzman,
remaining inside for the
air conditioning!**



Above Right: Charlie Chin, Bill and Sue Freeda, Dick and Julia Sansevere, Sharon and Neil Goetz, Kathy Salvio, Walter Ryan, Nancy and Ed Chin, Len Zaslowsky and Jan Kasoff.

**Sharkey's,
Venice Beach
March 19th**



Charlie and Leah Liotta, Ed and Camille McEwan, Kimberly and Skip Dresch, Sharon and Neil Goetz, Cathy and Larry Worster

We Get Pictures

Network Advertising & Promotion Second Annual NY Reunion—June 9th at Sambuca



Ken Horton, Paula Mermelstein
and Bruce Soloway



Bill McConnell, Rick Salcedo, Helena Bowens, Al Ovadia



Steve Lance, Linda Vitti, Marvin Korman



Above, L-R: Noel Engler, Ken Horton, Lou Fallot,
Jay James, Dora Lee Marshall



Gerry Guadagno



Gerry Rowe, Gene Kolomatsky,
Betty Hamilton, Dennis Lo



Leslie Juceam



Rich Cagan, Kate Miller, Jay Pedinoff



Joel Spector, Linda , Dora Lee

*What's Now!***NBC Commissary to Move Upstairs**

NBC's new parent company Comcast is making significant investments in upgrading 30 Rock, including construction of a brand-new state-of-the-art commissary, which will look out over the ice-skating rink. The new space is on the 9th and 10th Floors of the East (Tower) Building. Your Editor discovered this on a recent visit and snapped these pictures of the partially-demolished area with his BlackBerry.

To really bring home how big a deal this is, the communications team at NBCU is asking for your help gathering anecdotes and photographs of the current, 7th-floor commissary, and whatever served as a commissary in the years before it opened.

Beyond all the Johnny Carson jokes, the historical record is sparse, so any and all stories or photos of the commissary would be welcome.

Please send information or artifacts to:

William Bartlett
Executive Communications
30 Rockefeller Plaza, 1016W
NY, NY 10012
(212) 664-4655

william.bartlett@nbcuni.com

Did You Know?

**Former Center Theater Plaque
“Radio and Television Encompassing the Earth”
on Display in Subway Concourse**



This cast bas relief is based upon an original 1932 watercolor study by Hildreth Meiere, an artist whose work from the same year is to be found on the 50th Street façade of Radio City Music Hall. The original interpretation of this piece, a metal and enamel plaque, was on the 49th Street face of the former Center Theater.

That 3,000-seat “little sister” of the Music Hall, was used for several NBC television programs including “Your Show of Chows” was demolished in 1954 and replaced with office and retail space in the U. S., Rubber Building, 1230 Avenue of the Americas.

The artwork has been on display since 1988 in the West Subway Concourse opposite the McGraw-Hill Building.

*Tributes to Silent Microphones***Julian Goodman**

Remembered by William Bartlett, SVP, Executive Communications, NBCUniversal

Julian Goodman, a former president of NBC during a tumultuous period of conflict with the Nixon administration, died on July 2nd at his home in Juno Beach, Fla. He was 90. The cause was kidney failure, a family spokesman said.



Betty and Julian Goodman
in 2006

In 1945, when Julian Goodman began his NBC career at the NBC News night news desk in Washington, D.C., televised news was in its infancy. Thirty-four years later, when Goodman retired from the company, broadcast television news had become the primary source of news and information to the American people. Goodman, as a key executive at NBC News and then as president of NBC, was a significant force in this development.

A tireless champion of freedom of the press and vocal opponent of government efforts to influence news broadcasting, Goodman took pride in being the only broadcasting executive on the original list of Nixon's 200 enemies. Among his achievements as a news producer and executive, in 1956 Goodman played a key role in establishing the anchor team of Chet Huntley and David Brinkley, whose *Huntley-Brinkley Report* would set the standard for national news broadcasts. He helped guide NBC News' coverage of the 1956 political conventions and produced NBC's broadcast of the Nixon-Kennedy televised debate in 1960. Goodman launched a weekly newsmagazine at NBC called *David Brinkley's Journal*, which premiered in 1961 and provided a model that would be followed seven years later by *60 Minutes*. He was an early proponent of the "instant news special," as it was then called, which refers to the now-common practice of interrupting scheduled programming with coverage of important breaking news.

Goodman served in a series of positions with NBC News in Washington and New York, culminating with the role of executive vice president of NBC News. He was named president of NBC on April 1, 1966, and served in this role until 1974. From then until his retirement in 1979, Goodman served as chairman of the board and then as chairman of the executive committee. His accomplishments as an executive include pushing for a long-term deal with the then-new American Football League, which gave the upstart league the financial strength to compete against the well-established NFL. NBC's broadcast of the famous Jets-Colts Super Bowl in 1969, in which the Joe Namath-led Jets upset the heavily favored Colts, was a proud moment in Goodman's career. Goodman also secured Johnny Carson's place at NBC with a long-term contract.

Born in 1922 in Glasgow, Kentucky, Goodman knew from boyhood that he wanted to be in the news business. As a teenager, he earned \$3 a week jotting down baseball game results from a local radio station broadcast and putting them in the *Glasgow Daily Times*. He got his break at NBC News when David Brinkley decided to give up his job at the night news desk and work the daytime shift instead. Brinkley was Goodman's first supervisor and the two would become close friends for the rest of Brinkley's life.

After leaving NBC, Goodman served on the board of directors of Boeing, Gannett, Gulf Oil, McDonnell Douglas, and the Federal Savings & Loan Association of Larchmont, New York. He was the recipient of many awards for his work in broadcasting, including a George Foster Peabody Award, the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of Broadcasters, and the Gold Medal from the International Radio and Television Society.

Goodman and his wife of 65 years, Betty, moved to Juno Beach, Florida, in the mid-1980s. He passed away in Juno Beach on July 2 after a brief illness. He is survived by his wife; their four children, Julie, John, Jeffrey, and Gregory; and six grandchildren. A private memorial service was held June 11, 2012, in Juno Beach. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that individuals make donations to the Hospice of Palm Beach County Foundation (see address below) or to the charity of their choice.

Goodman was an innovative news producer and executive, steadfast in his belief that NBC News was performing a service of vital importance in our democratic society. He leaves a legacy as a skilled businessman who always treated people respectfully and did not hesitate to take a stance for what he believed in, even if it meant incurring the displeasure of the federal government.

In a 1970 speech to an industry group, Goodman said: "It is not the mission of television journalism to support government policy without question, or to champion the views of the majority on controversial issues. Its mission is to probe, report and analyze what underlies the controversy, and to air the issues so the public can make its own judgments."

In a 1979 broadcast of *NBC Nightly News*, David Brinkley commented on Goodman's retirement, saying: "Julian Goodman came to work at NBC in 1945 as a news writer, back in the days of 'steam radio,' when the news was read by announcers. Well, from there he rose to president and board chairman of NBC and to becoming one of the most admired and respected people in broadcasting. Along the way, he, as much as anyone, helped to make NBC News and all television news a useful and reliable service to the public."

Goodman's former NBC colleague Tom Brokaw said, "Julian was one of the great statesmen of network television, a journalist who rose through the ranks to the highest levels of NBC – and always stayed true to the place of public service as an obligation of what we do. He was a wonderful friend and patron during our years together."

There was a private memorial service for former NBC Chairman and CEO Julian Goodman on July 11th in Juno Beach, Florida. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested donations to the Hospice of Palm Beach County Foundation (address below) or to the charity of their choice.

Hospice of Palm Beach County Foundation

5300 East Avenue

West Palm Beach, FL 33407

Or online at:

<https://www.hpbcf.org/make-a-gift/>

Cards may be sent to the family at:

607 Universe Boulevard

Villa 40

Juno Beach, FL 33408



Tributes to Silent Microphones

Ann Kramer

Ann Kramer, age 86, passed away on February 7, 2012. Born in New York City, she lived in New Jersey for many years.

Ann retired from NBC in 1985 after 35 years in the television news industry, including producing assignments on the "Huntley-Brinkley Report" and "Today," among others.

She also worked for Paramount Pictures. Ann was very active in reporting of political conventions. She was a go-getter, a woman before her time and at the forefront of the women's movement.

Ann is survived by her brother and sister-in-law, Joseph and Maryann Kramer of Newmarket, NH; a niece, Kathryn Harrigan and her husband, Patrick of Dracut, MA; nephews, David Kramer and his wife, Beth of Stratham, NH and Stephen Kramer and his wife, Tricia of South Londonderry, VT; and seven great-nieces and nephews. Ann was predeceased by her parents, Josef and Anna Kramer. A Memorial Mass will be held at a future date at Our Lady of the Annunciation Catholic Church in Albuquerque.

Since moving to Albuquerque in 1987, she was active in Annunciation Church Golden Agers, Women's Guild and a faithful attendee of the Thursday Morning Scripture Study Group. Ann volunteered at the Indian Pueblo Culture Center as a Docent and a Greeter.



— Published in the Albuquerque Journal, February 11, 2012 at www.RememberTheirStory.com

Frank S. Weill



**Frank and Anne
at the 2005 PN Luncheon**

Frank S. Weill, 86, died on May 19, 2012 at his home in Hartsdale surrounded by his family. He is survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Anne, his children, Charles (Jami), Thomas (Rebecca) and Elizabeth, and his grandchildren, Danielle, Michelle, Noelle and Sara. He was a loving husband, father and grandfather. He retired from a career in broadcast management for NBC in Manhattan.

A funeral mass was held at Sacred Heart Church, Hartsdale, NY on May 23rd

In lieu of flowers, donations to Calvary Fund, Inc., P.O. Box 5173, Toms River, NJ 08754, would be appreciated.

—Published in the The Journal News on May 21, 2012

Peacock North readers may contact Elizabeth Weill at eweill@eckertseamans.com. or phone (267) 253-8476

Tributes to Silent Microphones

Barbara - "The Gentle Millstein" - Remembered by Kathy Powers



Barbara Millstein passed away on May 14th at the age of 85. Most of us at NBC got to know Barbara after we had met and worked with her husband, Gil Millstein. [Ed. note: Mr. Millstein was the news editor of "NBC Nightly News" for a decade beginning in the mid-1970's. He previously worked for the Sunday department of The New York Times from 1949 to 1963, writing book reviews and articles on a variety of topics; he continued to do so after leaving its staff.] We knew what Gilbert wanted - accuracy, impeccable grammar, proper syntax and perfect spelling. What we didn't know was what, unfathomably, he had - the most extraordinary, clever, gracious and beautiful woman as his wife!

Barbara Millstein soothed not only Gilbert's soul, but also the souls that had been ruffled, to say the least, by Gilbert. To spend an evening at the Millstein apartment in the Village was to en-

joy the delightful company of Mrs. Millstein. She enchanted us all. She told the most wonderful stories of her time as a "copy boy" at the Daily News. She described her New York to us and introduced us to paintings and sculptures and photographs like nothing we had ever seen before. We followed the photography exhibits she curated at the Brooklyn Museum. We celebrated the 100th anniversary of the "The Great East River Bridge" - that was when she told us how the original Roebling drawings were found in storage under the Williamsburg Bridge. And then she soothed our bellies. There was the raspberry chicken, the roast beef with Yorkshire Pudding, an incredible spaghetti sauce and the chocolate mousse. Those were just a few of her specialties.

It was a great privilege to know Barbara Millstein. She will be missed.



From Bill Wheatley: I'll never forget Gil referring to Barbara as "the present Mrs. Millstein" and Barbara trying to get Gil to stop smoking, even calling me at NN, asking me to discourage him.

From Bill Theodore: I remember Gil always being in a rush to leave on a Friday night. The reason? Barbara was making pancakes. How he loved her pancakes.

From Sandy Polster:

i really liked barbara. one evening at dinner at their apartment, she whispered to me that i didn't need to fear gil, that he was all bluff, and if he ever got to me, i should tell her and she'd set him straight. she was, in her own right, an incredible person, and an amazing talent.

From Susan Lasala:

loved Barbara...great memories of her cooking in the kitchen in Houston...still use her 40 garlic clove chicken recipe...

From Bambi Tascarella:

I'll never forget Barbara's story of trying to impress her new in-laws with a home-cooked meal. She had chicken under the broiler and just before the guests arrived, Barbara decided to pull out the broiler pan for one last look!!! As she closed the pan, all of the chicken fell off in the back of the oven on the floor!!! "Anyone for going out to eat?", asked Barbara when guests arrived!!! Barbara was smart, chic, divine, funny & well-spoken and took great care of OUR Gil!!!! Her spirit will remain with us always!



*Tributes to Silent Microphones***Robert “Moose” Daniels**

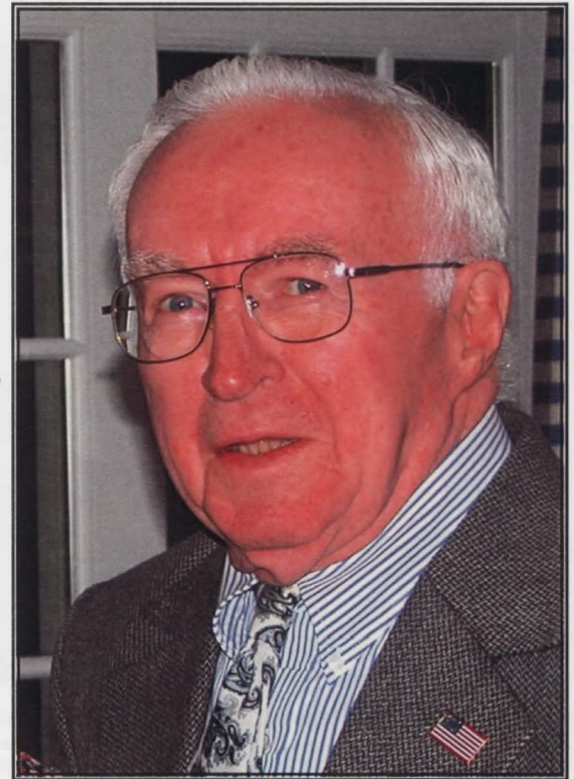
Robert S. “Moose” Daniels, age 89, of Norwalk, died on Thursday, May 31, 2012 at Aurora Senior Living, Norwalk. Born in Bridgeport, the son of the late Thomas and Louise Daniels, he was the husband of Ann McMahon Daniels for 62 years.

Moose was a veteran of W.W.II, serving in the US Army Air Corps. He retired from NBC Television as the Director of Video Recording Operations.

His honorable and distinguished career led to his name being added to the Norwalk High School Wall of Honor. An avid golfer and fisherman, he was a member of the Shorehaven Golf Club, the Catholic Club, Roxbury Club, and was a past member of the Ischoda Yacht Club and the Neptune Boat Club. He was also a volunteer with the St. Vincent DePaul Society.

In addition to his beloved wife, he is survived by their six children; twelve grandchildren and one great-grandchild, as well as two sisters.

A funeral mass was held on June 5th, at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Norwalk, followed by burial with military honors.



—Published in The Hour on June 2, 2012

My father, Bob (Moose) Daniels passed away on May 31, age 89, due to complications from pneumonia. He was at NBC for 38 years in many roles before retiring. As children we heard many stories but no one ever put together the events and the television firsts he participated in. If anyone is interested in passing along some stories, my email is listed below.

Regards,
Bob Daniels, Jr.

Rsd315w@comcast.net

Tributes to Silent Microphones

Roy Denny Remembered by his Son—and Bob Rudick

My dear father, Royal Denny, passed on January 29, 2012 at age 88. He worked at for NBC at 30 Rock from August 1944 to January 1984. Dad started out in radio as a sound effects technician. He transitioned to television and eventually retired as a video & audio engineer. Dad had been ill for a few years after retiring to Oviedo, FL. As an engineer for NBC and NBC News, both in the field and in the studio, Dad had an insider's view on many key events of the second half of the 20th century. JFK's assassination, plane crashes, sporting events, the civil rights movement, riots of the 1968 Democratic Convention and man's first steps on the moon.

My parents were married for 60 years. My Mom, Eleonora survives, along with my brother Matthew and three grandchildren. Matthew worked for a short time as an intern at NBC before Dad retired. Dad was always a "glass is half full" kind of guy and truly loved his work and his colleagues. The stories were endless!

Roy Denny
royal.denny@peerless-ins.com
845-594-3538

**In Radio Recording
Edit Room 1
"Emphasis" Headquarters
1962**



Left to Right:

**Marty Enghauser,
Roy,
John Olszewski**

Roy and I became friends when he transferred from Sound Effects to Radio Recording. I think that was 1953 or 1954. He was a likable guy, a bit quiet at the time, and always did what was expected. Roy was always a happy-go-lucky individual who somehow was able to get inside of you with his low-key humor. Of course, Roy was an excellent technician and could always be counted upon to get the job done. It was inevitable for us to get together with our wives for social gatherings where his whimsical humor took over. We both became fathers about the same time and we both had two boys.

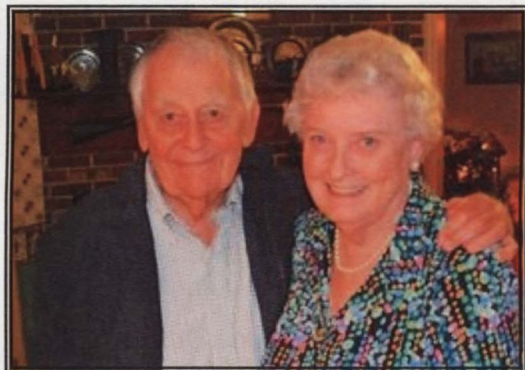
Roy was the epitome of the family man. A young wife, two kids, a house and a car. He would spend much of his Monday lunch hour or two telling those willing to listen of his weekend at home exploits. Somehow the stories would become repetitive and when told that we heard that last week he'd burst into laughter and continue with his weekend exploits as we would look at each other, shrug our shoulders and just listen.

It was the middle of the 1960's when Roy followed a few of us to the video tape area where once again he would be counted on to get the job done. We sort of parted as I was traveling a lot and we didn't get to have lunch or dinner together due to our busy schedules. Roy and Elli eventually retired to Florida. . R.I.P. Roy. We do miss you.

Bob Rudick

Tributes to Silent Microphones

George Kiyak Remembered By his Son, Mark



George Gregory Kiyak passed away at age 88 on June 17, 2012 at his residence, surrounded by his loving family. He was born May 27, 1924 in Portchester, NY to Michael Kiyak and Mary Jubak Kiyak.

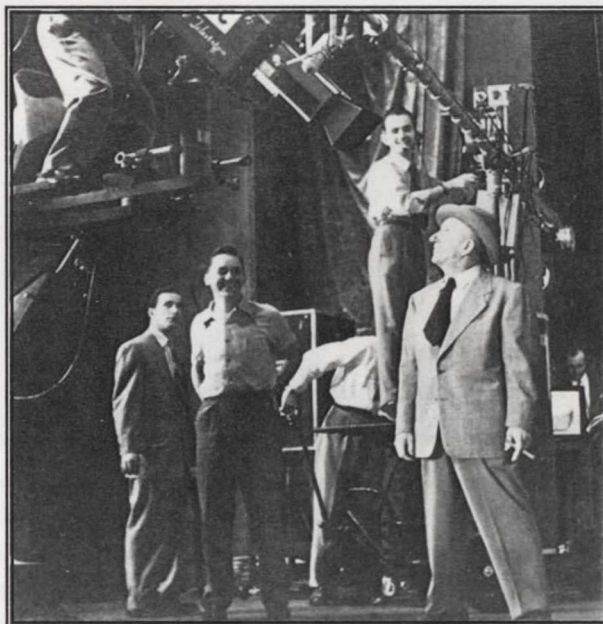
George was a pilot in the Army Air Force during WWII and worked as a DJ before working at WHEN in Syracuse and then NBC in NYC. He was a great husband and father. In another 2 weeks, he would have been married to my mom, Marian for 60 years. His sons: Greg: works for Boeing and helped design the space station; Chris: Navy pilot and currently a pilot for Southwest Airlines; Mark: Worked at NBC for a total of 15 years and is now a Professor of Film & Video at SUNY-Fredonia.

My Dad ALWAYS had time for us and taught me to always be fair and slow to anger. He almost never swore. He told me this was to let everyone know that when he DID swear...it was for a good reason!

Contact the family at 15935 Estate Drive, Athens, AL 35613-7018.

Please make donations to Hospice of Limestone County, Athens, AL.

**George (2nd from left)
on the set with
Jimmy Durante.**



I remember when I worked in the Video Tape library and George Kiyak was the Group 6 on the Desk. One night we took an extended lunch hour at Hurley's. While we were gone George turned off all the lights in the Library. I guess this was so he could tell when we came back. The only problem was that we had no idea where the light switches were! It was pitch black back there and boy did we get the message. God Bless you George!!

Melanie Rock

I was privileged to work with George in the Videotape room for some 20 years. He was a group 6 supervisor and I was an editor. I cannot remember one time when he lost control or became angry for that matter by miscues or problems that occurred there. Personally he was a kind and gentle man and straight as an arrow. He treated every one under his supervision fairly and honestly. I really enjoyed working with him and being in his company. My condolences to his family. I am sure he will be sorely missed.

Hank Huestis

*Tributes to Silent Microphones***Orland "O" Tamburri**

Orland Tamburri, a native of Uniontown, Pennsylvania, passed away peacefully at his home in Vista, California, just north of San Diego, where he retired following a long and illustrious career in the television industry during the 'Golden Age of TV'. He was 90 years old.

The son of Luigi and Maddalena Vitti Tamburri, he was a graduate of Uniontown's South Union High, Class of 1939.

Following high school, he worked at several local Pittsburgh area radio stations before enlisting in the Navy Air Corps during World War II, where he served in the Pacific theater guiding radio controlled aircraft over enemy targets, the precursors of today's modern drone technology.

It was also while in the service that he met the love and inspiration of his life, Dorothy Caldrony, a Navy Nurse. They were happily married from 1947 until Dorothy's sudden death on December 19, 2002.

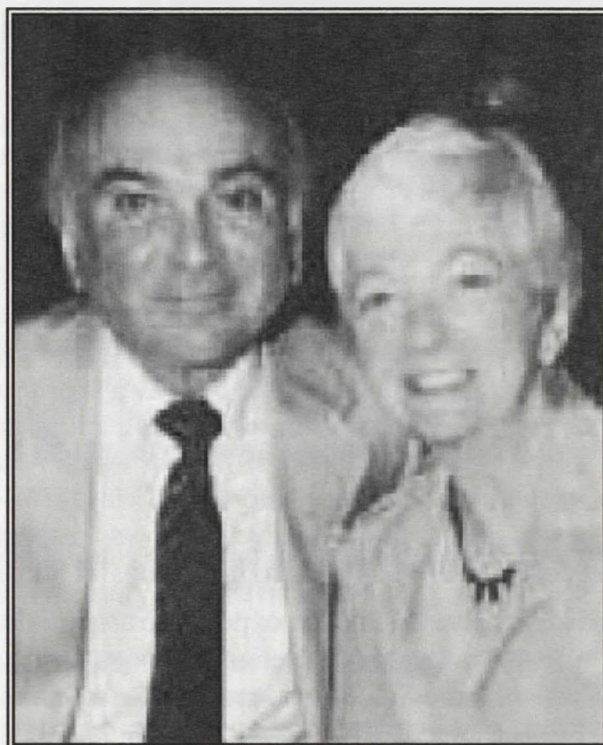
He and Dorothy had two sons, Ken Tamburri and Don Tamburri. Sadly, both are deceased.

Driven by a keen technical mind, a desire to succeed and a strong work ethic inherited from his Italian immigrant parents, he was encouraged by his mentors in the radio business after the War to travel to New York City to pursue his dreams.

It was in New York where Orland began a distinguished career as a Technical Director for the National Broadcasting Company (NBC). His career with NBC took him around the globe. He was the recipient of three Emmy Awards, two Peabody Awards and also 24 Nominations for his work as Technical Director on shows ranging from major sporting events, sitcoms and space launches, to popular game shows, political conventions and the highly acclaimed Hallmark Hall of Fame series. His many TV credits include such popular hit shows as *The Golden Girls*, *Sanford and Son* and *The Johnny Carson Show*. His name can still be seen in the credits of many of the re-runs of these popular shows, listed as "Technical Director: O. Tamburri".

He is survived by his sister, Edie Tamburri Paul of Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

He will be remembered fondly as a true gentleman considerate, selfless, generous, accomplished, genuine and humble. He will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him.



—Vista, CA Herald Standard, February 19, 2012

*Tributes to Silent Microphones***Dick Fischer**

Richard J. Fischer, former Executive Vice President of NBC News, passed away at age 80 on May 25th in Springboro, OH. He was born in Chicago, August 28, 1931. He received his B.A. and M.A. degrees from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University in 1954. After graduation, he served in the Army for two years. In 1956, he began his news career on the staffs of the CBS radio and television stations in Chicago.

During his media career, he had been a news director, network reporter and writer on the Huntley-Brinkley Report and producer of NBC's Nightly News with John Chancellor. He was named Vice President of news gathering at NBC in 1975, then V.P. of news programs and Executive Vice President of NBC News.

In charge of all the division's global news-gathering facilities, he was responsible for creating new and better ways of bringing the news to millions of TV viewers. Prior to this assignment, he was Vice President, News Operations (1977-1978), for which he was the head of news-gathering operations; before that (May, 1976-December, 1976), as Vice President, Television News, he was responsible for all regularly scheduled NBC News programming, including "NBC Nightly News" and "Today."

He had extensive production experience as a producer of "NBC Nightly News" since October, 1972, and in 1974 he won an Emmy Award for a series of reports on the program concerning world hunger. Before that (since 1969) he was the program's West Coast producer, and, earlier (since 1966), field producer for the program in Washington, D.C. Fischer joined NBC News in Chicago in 1963, coming from WLW and WLW-TV in Cincinnati, where he was news director. He had spent three years at the Cincinnati stations. For three years at WMAQ-TV, the NBC Television Station in Chicago, he was a writer and producer for "NBC: Chicago Report" and the station's Emmy Award-winning "Dateline: Chicago," weekly series of news documentaries.

He has won three Emmy awards, served on the board of an interactive television company and is a member of professional organizations and spoke frequently on communication skills to professional groups.

After leaving NBC, Mr. Fischer was associated with the Executive Television Workshop for 15 years. Starting in 1996 he provided training, speech writing and public affairs consulting through his own company, Fischer Communications Consulting. In addition to training hundreds of business and political leaders in presentation skills, Mr. Fischer wrote speeches for numerous leaders of business and industry.

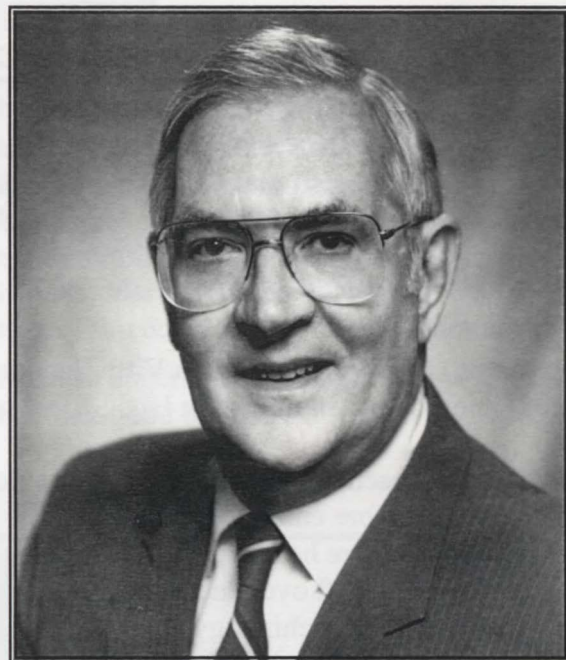
He leaves his wife, Ingrid, two children, Steven and Laura, and two grandchildren.

Memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society.

From Ingrid Fischer:

...It is very special to know that [Peacock North] pays tribute to those who have passed on. Dick had so many good friends at NBC, and all the memories will be cherished. Those wishing to send notes to our family may write to me at:

Ingrid Fischer
55 Heather Glen Court
Springboro, OH 45066



Tributes to Silent Microphones
Lee Elliott

Lee K. Elliott, 86, passed away peacefully on April 26th, at her home in Cundy's Harbor, Maine, with Bob, her husband of fifty-nine years and their children at her bedside. **She was the mother of comedian Chris Elliott and the grandmother of SNL cast member Abby Elliott.** She was born in Parkersburg, West Virginia, on February 1, 1926. She attended school in Parkersburg and Charleston, where she graduated from high school. She was awarded a writing scholarship at Northwestern University, which she completed before moving to New York City to pursue a modeling career. In that capacity she worked at the Grace Downs Agency and for the Richard Hudnut and Elizabeth Arden Salons.

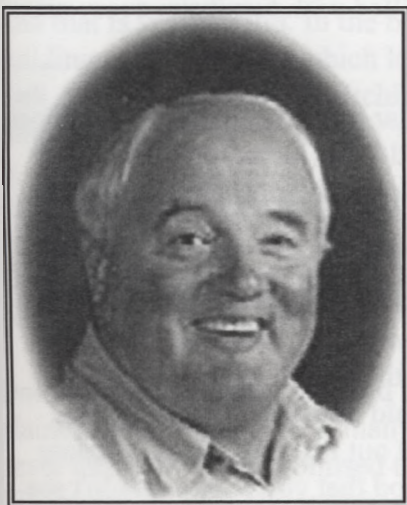


As Lee Pepper, she was runner-up to Bess Meyerson in the "Miss New York City" Contest in 1945. Her first marriage was to the writer/comedian, Raymond Knight, (producer of one of radio's original comedy hours). They had two daughters, Colony and Shannon, before Knight's untimely death in 1953. Lee eventually joined NBC TV as an Associate Director, working with Jim Elson and Dwight Hemion, among others.

In 1954 she married Radio/TV personality, Bob Elliott, ("Bob and Ray"). Together they had three children: Amy, Bob Jr., and Chris. "Nanny" also leaves 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Her warm smile and razor-sharp sense of humor will be dearly missed.

A family memorial will take place later this summer. Grateful appreciation is extended to Chans Hospice Care, 60 Baribeau Dr., Brunswick, ME 04011, to which contributions in Lee's memory may be addressed.

—Published in *The New York Times* on April 29, 2012

**Peter Donlan
Remembered by John Wendell**


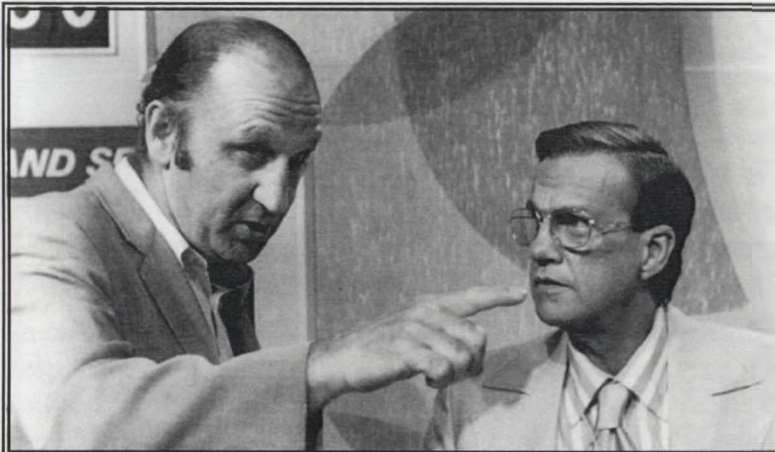
On May 29th I attended funeral services near London for Peter Donlan. He passed away on May 6th, one month short of his 69th birthday. Peter was a great friend and an invaluable resource for any of us working in Europe or for that matter, anywhere in the world. He had an encyclopedic mind. If you needed a frame sync in England or an ENG crew in Norway you could always call Peter. He knew everyone. And if he couldn't help you, he knew someone who could. He started as a cameraman for Granada TV and ITN, eventually headed up CBS Sports Operations in London and finally worked with us at Charter Broadcast. As Roger Philcox said in his eulogy, if you were at a world broadcasters meeting and were looking for Peter Donlan, all you had to do was listen for the laughter. Peter would be at the corner of the bar telling one of the funniest jokes or stories you ever heard!

His family and friends gave Peter a great send off party. In attendance were some of the stalwarts of broadcasting in England including Paul Shienfeld, Harry Storey, Ed Everest, Roger Philcox, Paul Binstead, Hans Oberg, Dick Allot, Dave Denness, Richard Wilcox, Tony Delany and many more.

Many stories, laughs and beverages. Peter would have enjoyed the party.

*Tributes to Silent Microphones***Bob Stewart
Remembered by Gene Waldstein**

Bob Stewart, a television producer with a penchant for transforming the seemingly mundane into blockbuster game shows like "The Price Is Right" and "To Tell the Truth," died on May 4th in Los Angeles. He was 91. The cause was respiratory failure, his son Sande Stewart said. Here is a long-time colleague's memoir.



Left: Bob with Bill Cullen.

Right: Murray Vecchio, Bob and another soldier in Miami— January, 1943

Bob Stewart...Boy, where do you start to talk about a guy who was the hands-on, quickest-thinking, brightest game show producer of all time (at least, as far as I was concerned)? I was assigned to "The Price Is Right" as the #2 Stage Manager sometime in 1959. We did five daytime shows and one evening show every week -- and we did them all live. The evening version was, I think, the 8th-ranked prime-time show on television at the time.

When you produced "Price," you worked on the stage with us workers; Stewart produced all of the evening shows himself. And even though the daytime show was normally produced by Beth Hollinger, every once in a while Stewart showed up to work that one too, because he just loved it. "Price" was always done in a theater, since our prizes were the real thing. We didn't show *pictures* of cars or boats or airplanes, or rooms filled with furniture; every prize was right there on that stage, in front of a big audience.

Most of the prizes were dreamed up by Stewart himself. A few of the more spectacular bid items included a cabinet that had stood in Winston Churchill's underground office for the entire Second World War (including the London blitz) and a Rolls-Royce sedan (which took a lot of convincing from Bob, as Rolls-Royce did not think an American TV game show was a proper place to exhibit one of its cars).

Fun side-note: On the afternoon when we rehearsed with that Rolls, it was positioned almost up against the curtain we would fly to reveal it. At the same time, Ronnie Adams was driving a big Houston crane, which was almost up against the curtain on the *audience* side. Unfortunately, as Ronnie was maneuvering the crane into place, he bumped into the curtain and dented the fender on the front driver's side -- which would have been the first thing America saw when the curtain flew. But there must be someone in heaven who looks out for such things, because Rolls sent someone over to fill in the dent and paint over it. The repair job was so good that you really couldn't see it. And when we did it on the air that night, with the curtain flying and the crane camera moving back and up, it was pretty spectacular.

"Price is Right" also gave me what turned out to be my all-time favorite cue as a stage manager: I flew a curtain to reveal Woody Herman leading his Thundering Herd as they blasted out their theme song, "Woodchopper's Ball." (The idea was that that band would come to your house and play for your birthday party, anniversary, or whatever.)

Here's one example of Bob's quick thinking: He was producing a daytime episode when we suddenly realized we had given out all the prizes we had. (The contestants had bid once or twice, but instead of continuing, they had frozen their bids.) So we went into our last commercial with the control room in a tizzy: When the commercial ended, we'd still have three and a half minutes to fill. Stewart went up to host Bill Cullen, explained the situation, and then asked Cullen how much money he had in his pocket...because that would be the next prize the contestants were playing for. Cullen thought this was great and played it up for all the laughs it was worth. The audience loved it. The cameramen, Lou Gerard, Buddy Joseph and Nick Bruno, our TD Mike Rosar, the #1 Stage Manager Mike Graham, all loved it. *Everybody* loved it.

Cullen's dressing room before the show was the best private club in New York. Bill, who was on WRCA radio five days a week with its morning show "Pulse" from six to ten A.M., needed a relaxing break before going on live TV with "Price". A half-dozen of us provided that break -- telling jokes, war stories, playing word games, playing dollar poker. Stewart often came to the theater just for those sessions; in fact, we played a game that eventually became another of his successes, "Password."

Bob told plenty of stories on himself. One night, Mark Goodson held a producers meeting that went on until two in the morning. Bob lived in Great Neck, and at that hour, with no LIRR trains running, he would have to go to a hotel. Much to Bob's surprise, Goodson insisted Bob come and spend the night at his home.

So they left their offices in the beautiful new Seagram Building, got into Goodson's chauffeur-driven Rolls-Royce, and drove up to his duplex apartment on Park Avenue. A butler opened the door. The men had a nightcap in the library. The butler took Bob upstairs to the guest suite. In bed, Bob tossed and turned but could not fall asleep. Eventually he got up, went to the dresser, got his wallet, and put it under his pillow. You could take the boy out of Brooklyn, but you couldn't take the Brooklyn out of the boy.

Bob had much success with Goodson-Todman, but he always wanted his own company. Finally, he told Mark Goodson he was leaving to do just that. Goodson took Bob downstairs in their building to The Four Seasons. Over lunch, he offered Bob the world: More money, a vice presidency at Goodson-Todman, Bob Stewart Productions "in association with Goodson-Todman"...but Bob turned it all down. He wanted to be his own boss.

And that is what he did. In the beginning, it took a while for him to sell a show. He had taken offices in an older building on 57th Street, which looked nothing like the elegant digs he'd known in the Seagram Building back on Park Avenue. But he kept pitching, and eventually sold the show "Eye Guess" to NBC, starring his bosom buddy, Bill Cullen.

I should mention here that these two couldn't have been closer if they had been born brothers. That wonderful friendship Bob had with Bill and his wife Ann lasted until Bill died in 1990 -- and beyond, because Ann, Bob, Betty White and a couple of others continued playing a weekly poker game and a football pool that Bill started years earlier.

One last Stewart story. He used the comedienne Totie Fields on many of his shows; and on one occasion, she complained to him that he took many other panel members out to lunch at New York's finest dining spots, but he had never taken her. Bob promised to rectify the omission. The next time she came in from Los Angeles, Bob met her at JFK in a limousine and took her to lunch...at a hot dog stand underneath the West Side Highway.

You gotta love a guy like that.

"Hello? Is This NBC?"

By Dan Grabel

Back in the 50's, 60's, 70's Hurley Bros. saloon at the corner of 49th street and Avenue of the Americas, where the Magnolia Bakery is located, was a popular watering hole for many an NBC employee -- from big-time announcers and management types, down to PAs. Before, during and after work. Certainly it was convenient and you were sure to find a friendly face.

Some people spent a lot of time away from their desks, so in the days before cell phones, texting and such, the land-line was the means of communication.

Someone finally figured out that NBC had an awful lot of telephone extensions, so why not put one in Hurley's? Great insurance!! With all the technical work orders issued every day, one more phone extension would never be noticed. It wasn't. And for many years that extension kept guys informed as to what was going on upstairs while they downed a few downstairs. (Ed. note: The one thing I'm omitting from the tale is the names of colleagues who used that NBC/Hurley's extension.)

What's New!

NBC NEWS AND DIAL GLOBAL TEAM UP TO CREATE NEW 24-HOUR RADIO NEWS NETWORK

NBC News and Dial Global, America's national radio news leader, announced today a partnership to present a new, 24-hour, radio news network—NBC News Radio. The network will be distributed to radio stations nationwide by Dial Global and will give those stations access to the global resources of NBC News including: live simulcasts of breaking news from NBC and MSNBC, and reports from top NBC News correspondents including NBC News Political Director and Chief White House Correspondent Chuck Todd, Chief Pentagon Correspondent Jim Miklaszewski, Chief Foreign Affairs Correspondent Andrea Mitchell, Chief Justice Department Correspondent Pete Williams and Senior Investigative Correspondent Lisa Myers. NBC News Radio will also feature Brian Williams, anchor and managing editor of "NBC Nightly News" and David Gregory, host of "Meet the Press."

"This alliance presents NBC News an opportunity to deliver our high-quality journalism to even more news consumers across the country through the expansive Dial Global network," said NBC News President Steve Capus. "NBC News is already America's number-one news network – now, through this new 24-hour radio news channel we can further expand our unparalleled reach and audience." "Through our new partnership with NBC News, we are proud to continue in the tradition of defining great moments for radio listeners across our country," said Spencer Brown, Co-President/CEO of Dial Global. "Millions of Americans start and end their day with NBC News," said Bart Tessler, EVP, News & Talk Programming, Dial Global. "We are pleased to bring more great NBC News content to an even wider audience 24/7."

Dial Global delivers more news to more radio listeners than any other media company. The Executive Producer of NBC News Radio is Elizabeth O'Connell.

—News item dated March 1, 2012

We Get Pictures

What is it?



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Nan
and
Bob

Asman:

This is what
The Good Life
Looks Like!
(See pages 4 and 5)

