



# 30 Rock is 80 Years Young



### INSIDE PN

30 Rock is 80 Years Young on November 11, 2013 .....	1
NBC Buys Stringwire.....	2
What's Now! Spring Lunch Errors and Omissions Dep't .....	3
What's Now! Bambi's Iconic Page Moment .....	4
What's Now! NBC Sports Reunion Planned for 2014 .....	5
What's Now! NBCU Telemundo "Fluency" Project.....	6
What's Now! Maria Shriver, Meredith Viera Return to NBC. 7	
Historical Photos: Iconic 30 Rock Photo Has Its Own Doc.....	8
Historical Photos: Radio City Construction.....	9
What's Now! Stan Zabka - From Page to Show Biz Dynasty10	
What's Now! NBC Page Program Marks 80th Anniversary 11	
We Get Letters: Reardin, Gardner, Bertyl .....	12-13
We Get Pictures: Bob Asman and Gemini Central .....	14-15

### INSIDE PN

We Get Pictures: A Tale of Two Brothers.....	16
We Get Pictures: Baseball with One Camera - No Problem! 17	
Silent Microphones - Herb Kaplow .....	18
Silent Microphones - Lew Wood.....	19
Silent Microphones - John Palmer.....	20-21
Silent Microphones - Chuck Quinn .....	22
Silent Microphones - Cissie Lindemann.....	23
Silent Microphones - Vance Babb.....	24
Silent Microphones - Ron Gordon.....	25
Silent Microphones - Laura "Annesley" Swicker.....	26
Silent Microphones - Anne Einhorn.....	27
Membership Coupon .....	27
New Member .....	28

*What's Now!***NBC Buying Web Service to Stream Phone Video**

When a plane crashes or a protest turns violent, television crews speed to the scene. But they typically do not arrive for minutes or even hours, so these days photos and videos by amateurs — what the news industry calls “user-generated content” — fill the void. Those images, usually found by frantic producers on Twitter and Facebook, represented “the first generation of user-generated content for news,” said Vivian Schiller, the chief digital officer for NBC News. The network is betting that the next generation involves live video, streamed straight to its control rooms in New York from the cellphones of witnesses.

On August 12th, NBC News, a unit of Comcast’s NBCUniversal, will announce its acquisition of Stringwire, an early stage Web service that enables just that. Ms. Schiller imagined using Stringwire for coverage of all-consuming protests like those that occurred in Tahrir Square in Cairo. “You could get 30 people all feeding video, holding up their smartphones, and then we could look at that,” she said in an interview by phone. “We’ll be able to publish and broadcast some of them.” Such a vision fits neatly into the future many academics predict. That future has fewer professional news-gatherers but many more unpaid eyes and ears contributing to news coverage.

Stringwire is embryonic. What NBC is really acquiring is Phil Groman, who developed the technology while a graduate student in the Interactive Telecommunications Program at New York University. Such “acqui-hiring,” in which a start-up is bought primarily for its talent, is normally associated with technology companies like Google and Apple, not television networks like NBC. But that is partly the point of Monday’s announcement, Ms. Schiller said: to send a message that the network news division wants more entrepreneurs like Mr. Groman.

Mr. Groman, who graduated from N.Y.U. in May, will become a product lead, based at the NBC News Digital Group’s office in San Francisco, where he will finish building Stringwire. The service works by tapping into the multitudes of people who send Twitter messages when they witness a news event. Those people will receive a Twitter post that asks them to click a link and point their camera at what they are seeing. Without any special app, the service will start streaming live video to NBC. The video submissions will be vetted just like any other material the network uses, Ms. Schiller said.

“Wherever you see a swarm of eyewitnesses on Twitter, that’s the sweet spot for Stringwire,” she said, citing the July 6 crash-landing of an Asiana jet in San Francisco. That day, photos from a passenger and a short YouTube video from the terminal were the primary images on television until a local news helicopter arrived.

Ms. Schiller said Stringwire could have also helped coverage of the hunt for the suspects in the Boston Marathon bombing, when the movements of reporters were restricted. Several times during NBC’s coverage in April, local residents were interviewed via Skype from neighborhoods that had been cordoned off. Generally, during news events, “we might have reporters there, but they may not be in the right places,” Ms. Schiller said. “They may not have the kind of access that eyewitnesses do.”

Clay Shirky, the N.Y.U. professor who introduced Ms. Schiller to Mr. Groman, said that by having reporters reach out to witnesses, “you don’t get the Pulitzer Prize-winning shot, but you get real information about life on the ground.” He said Mr. Groman’s insight was in applying “multiple sources and editorial judgment.”

The acquisition is the first by NBC News since its Web joint venture with Microsoft was dissolved last year. Their joint Web site, msnbc.com, has become NBCNews.com. The strategy now involves “building things in-house and placing a lot of bets,” Ms. Schiller said. While Stringwire will initially be used by the news division, she said she thought the service had “great commercial opportunities,” suggesting that it could be licensed to others, creating a new source of revenue for NBC.

—By Brian Stelter – The New York Times - August 11, 2013



*What's Now!*

**Spring Luncheon Photo Errors and Omissions Dept.**



**Soraya Gage (photo at left)** was mis-identified in a picture with Steve Capus in our Summer issue. She is a 20-year veteran of NBC News. From her start as an NBC page, through her rise from associate producer to senior producer, she has worked on major NBC News broadcasts including Nightly News, Dateline, and TODAY. In 2009, Soraya became the Executive Producer of NBC Learn, with responsibility for all editorial content and content partnerships. Presently, she is General Manager, NBC Learn & Education Nation. As we have previously reported, Education Nation is a large-scale multi-city event at which parents, educators, and students met with leaders in politics, business and technology to explore the challenges and opportunities in education today. As we go to press its next event, based in New York City, is in progress. Read about it at [www.educationnation.com](http://www.educationnation.com).



**Sophia Faskianos (photo at right)** and Steve Capus have been married since 1996. She was not at our Spring Luncheon, despite our photo caption. She was a segment producer for "Dateline NBC" in New York. A graduate of Barnard College, she received a master's degree in journalism from Columbia University.



Your Editor confesses that due to production errors  
NBC Writer/Producer/Director  
**Beryl Pfizer** (Left in photo at left with Laura Klein) and  
Production Administration's **Gigi Harold** (Right, in photo  
above, with Carla Engelmann) were omitted from the Spring  
Luncheon pages. As you see here they most certainly  
did attend the event, and in high style too!



*We Get Letters and Pictures*

## Bambi's Iconic Page Moment



It was 1967. My assignment was to sell NBC Studio Tour tickets (for \$1.25) in the Main Hall cashier's booth at the foot of the "Grand Staircase" up to the mezzanine. Many stars would parade by me on their way to the "Tonight Show" with Johnny Carson.. I sat there waiting for customers in my shabby but glamorous navy blue uniform (hem length appropriately two inches below knee!). I was making forty dollars a week!

As I was about to make a sale, a young man came over to my booth and stole some money out of my drawer. In the booth we had a foot-activated alarm to the 7th floor NBC Security office, but I knew the "ancient" guard on duty would take forever to respond.

I locked my cash drawer, raised my skirt above knee level and took off after the thief. I caught up with him, grabbed "my" money out of his hand and raced back to my booth.

When I returned, some moments later, the security guard arrived and asked if he could be of assistance!! "No thanks", I said. I have it under control.



*What's Now!***2014 NBC Sports Reunion - Planning Under Way**

In the fall of 2004 a group gathered at a resort hotel in Savannah, GA to try to muster up some memories of the past. It was a group of people that had worked for NBC Sports from its infancy in the 1960's up to the early 80's. NBC Sports was a close knit group of executives, announcers, producers, directors, associate producers and directors, engineering and unit managers that pioneered coverage of sporting events in such a way that many of the methods still exist today in the digital modern world of television. That reunion made many of us realize that even though we thought we had lost contact with each other, we were truly friends forever.

So the next reunion of the group will be in the Fall of 2014. The location is being researched by a committee of Ginny Seipt, Neil Flagg, Larry Cirillo and myself and will be announced this Fall. All of those that attended the last one are looking forward to experiencing the same thrill of seeing each other and reliving those wonderful years in the Sports Department at 30 Rockefeller Plaza.

I have maintained a large email list of the alumni of those golden years and it will be used to pass on all the developments leading up to September of 2014. Anyone who is interested in, and was in anyway associated with NBC Sports in that era, is certainly welcome to be a part of that list and the upcoming reunion. Contact me via email at [Kfoutsjr@aol.com](mailto:Kfoutsjr@aol.com) and I will add you to the list.

To give you a general idea of the activities that will be planned for the three day weekend, we will start upon arrival Friday with socializing in the hospitality room at the hotel and a casual pay-as-you-go dinner at a place of your choice (there will be suggested eating and drinking establishments). Saturday will include a golf outing, tours of the area and/or visit to museums and places of historical interest. A spa for those interested in pampering themselves will be listed. Saturday night will be the highlight with a sit-down dinner after cocktails (of course) followed by a program including anyone who would like to address the group. There will be a memorial video honoring those of our group that have passed on and maybe some video messages from people who are unable to attend. On Sunday we will arrange a brunch and more social time in the hospitality room and then all head home. These are general details, but as the committee firms up each activity, you will be given the information on our email list.

I hope that those attended last time will again plan to join the fun and anyone that was unable to attend will make plans to be there in 2014. The more the merrier and the taller the tales that will be told!

**Ken Fouts**



*What's Now!*

## NBCUniversal's Fluency to unveil its first two shows Telemundo's Bilingual Studio Develops RomCom, Sci-Fi Series



**FLUENCY**  
multiplatform programming

*Fluency*, Telemundo's multiplatform studio that develops and produces bilingual original content for U.S. Hispanics, is close to releasing its first two productions -- a romantic comedy and a science-fiction mystery.

The two series -- *La Buena Mala*, a romantic comedy starring John Ecker and Angélica Celaya, and science-fiction conspiracy series *Isa* -- have been shot in 4K [a high-definition format] but written to work both in short increments and as a single, feature-film like package, José Marquez, VP of digital video production and development for Telemundo, said. He is also creator and writer of both series.

The mix of Spanish and English used in each series depends on the story and the characters, Marquez said. *La Buena Mala* -- the story of a 29-year-old Mexican-American Los Angeles native who "falls into" a telenovela just as the protagonist of that series arrives in real-life L.A. -- is produced mainly in Spanish, due to its plot, he said. The protagonists in *Isa*, on the other hand, are typical American young adults growing up in a major city who discover that they're being pursued by a Mexico-based conspiracy. The characters speak the language that is appropriate to their environment.

"Whether it's the esoteric languages of Middle Earth or the popular languages of Middle America, an authentic environment makes audiences dig deeper," Marquez said.

*Fluency*, which is based in Los Angeles, was officially announced during the May 2013 upfront season in New York and it aims to produce shows across a variety of genres that can then run on several platforms. New series will be created for any network and platform, including Telemundo, mun2 or other NBCUniversal properties.

*Fluency* is modeled after several multi-platform content creators, including Michael Eisner's *Vuguru*, which develops and finances scripted, story-driven content for digital and international platforms.

—By Laura MartínezMultichannel News—June 20th, 2013



*What's Now!***Maria Shriver and Meredith Vieira to Return to NBC****Maria Shriver Is Returning to NBC**

By BRIAN STELTER – The New York Times - April 30, 2013

Nearly a decade after she left NBC, Maria Shriver is returning to it as a “special anchor,” covering women’s issues for television and the Web. The announcement, made on the “Today” show on Tuesday morning, is a significant moment in Ms. Shriver’s move away from political life. Ms. Shriver, a member of the Kennedy family, was the first lady of California while her husband, Arnold Schwarzenegger, was governor from 2003 to 2011. “Through her reports, her books, her events, her activism and the powerful social community that she has built, Maria Shriver has become a leading voice for empowering women and inspiring all of us to be architects of change in our lives,” said Pat Fili-Krushel, the NBCUniversal News Group chairwoman, in a statement on Tuesday. In Ms. Shriver’s new role, she will not appear regularly on any one NBC program, but will be on a variety of them and will produce and anchor prime-time special reports. Her appearances will not be limited to NBC’s network news programs; they could also come on the cable channels MSNBC and CNBC and on the company’s sports shows. Her other title will be editor at large for women’s issues for the Web sites owned by NBC News, indicating that she will contribute to those as well. Says Shriver, “Like so many women, I’m trying to craft a life that allows me to do meaningful work and keep a focus on my family, which will always be my No. 1 job.”

**Returning to Daytime TV, Vieira Will Host Talk Show**

By BRIAN STELTER - The New York Times - July 9, 2013

Meredith Vieira will return to daytime television as the host of a syndicated talk show in the fall of 2014, Comcast’s NBCUniversal unit announced on Tuesday. NBC’s syndication division did not say whether it had completed any deals with local television stations. But executives involved with the production of “The Meredith Vieira Show” expressed confidence that stations, including the 10 owned by NBC in big cities, would snap up the rights to the show in short order. Daytime television, with its blend of information and entertainment, is terrain Ms. Vieira knows well: she was one of the original hosts of “The View,” the ABC talk show that Barbara Walters started in 1997. Nine years later, she signed off “The View” to succeed Katie Couric on “Today,” and helped keep that morning show on top of the ratings. Ms. Vieira left “Today” in 2011, exhausted by the early-morning hours and eager to spend more time with her family. She remained with NBC as a special correspondent. By persuading her to return to daytime talk, NBC is betting that Ms. Vieira can help prop up the ratings for local stations at a time of increasing competition for the audience’s attention.



The company will most likely seek out early afternoon time slots for the show, not the late afternoon slots that are typically highly rated and more highly sought. Also, the show could be televised in the late mornings by some local stations, putting it into direct competition with Ms. Vieira’s old show “The View.”

In a statement on Tuesday, Ms. Vieira said she wanted the show to embody what she called the “three H’s”: heat, heart and humor. “And speaking of the heart, I want to thank my husband, Richard, and kids, Ben, Gabe and Lily, for strongly encouraging me to take this incredible opportunity,” she said, and added, “or else they really just want to get me out of the house.”



### *Historical Views*

## 30 Rock is 80 Years Young - The Famous “Lunch Atop a Skyscraper” Construction Photo Now Has its Own Documentary Film



[Ed. note: Thanks to PN Member Bill McConnell for bring this story to our attention.]

On Sept. 20, 1932, 11 workers sat on a beam 69 floors above Manhattan during the construction of 30 Rockefeller Plaza. The photograph of this moment, one of the most famous images of New York, is called “Lunch Atop a Skyscraper”. “Men at Lunch” is a documentary about the picture’s resonance as a symbol of Everymen and about the mystery of who those men really were. The film’s narration, by the Irish actress Fionnula Flanagan, is lovely; the details revealed of the photograph are fascinating; and the commentary by historians on how the photograph relates to life during the Depression and to the immigrant experience is illuminating.

Everybody knows the picture. Nobody knows who took it. And for most of its 80 years no one has known who’s in it. Its director isn’t making any exorbitant claims. “We just muddied the waters a bit,” Sean O Cualain said with a smile during a recent interview in New York. The film establishes the identity of at least two of the long-anonymous workers. Joseph Eckner, third from left, and Joe Curtis, third from right, were cross-referenced with other photos that the O Cualains were shown at Rockefeller Center. While the “Lunch” print itself bears no identifications, Eckner and Curtis were certainly the same men named on other photos taken that day. Two others — at each end of the row, one lighting a cigarette, the other holding a bottle and glaring at the camera — were traced to Ireland, which is where the O Cualain brothers, natives of Galway, entered the story. “We were in doing another documentary and were having lunch in Whelan’s Pub, in Shanaglish,” Sean O Cualain said, referring to a small village in County Galway. “We saw the picture on the wall, and Mikey Whelan told us the story.” As Mr. Whelan, the publican, explained it, the framed copy had come from a Boston-area man named Pat Glynn, who was convinced that his father, Sonny Glynn, was the man with the bottle at the far right, and that his uncle, Matty O’Shaughnessy, was at the far left with a cigarette. Comparisons with family photos seem to back him up. What Mr. Glynn knew for sure is that the men had emigrated in the ’20s from Shanaglish, hence the prominent display of the photo in a pub there.

“With all the evidence they’ve given us and based on their own belief,” Eamonn O Cualain said, “we believe them.”

—Story combined from materials in The New York Times (©) on November 8, 2012 and September 19, 2013



*Historical Views***30 Rock is 80 Years Young - Construction Photos**

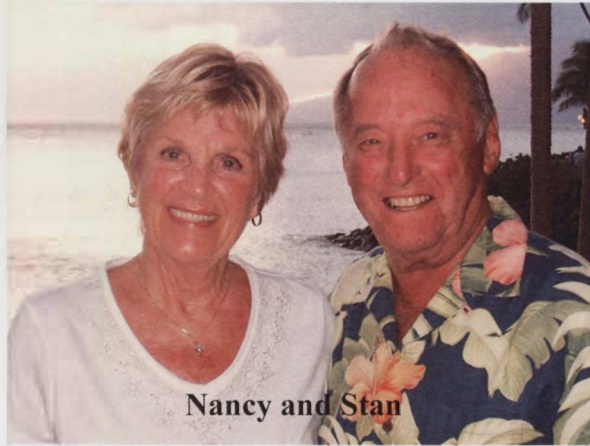
Above: Before and after initial demolition of the first of 200 brownstones.  
Below: Plaza excavation in progress and 30 Rock steel rising; The completed structure is the RKO Building at 1270, to which the Music Hall is attached.





*What's Now!*

**Stan Zabka: From NBC Page to a Show Biz Dynasty**



Nancy and Stan

In a career twice interrupted by military service, **Stan Zabka** has compiled a record of achievements and peer awards in many fields of the entertainment industry. Returning from Europe as military news chief of the American Forces Network during the Korean War, he continued his music studies in New York and earned recognition as a composer of memorable theme music for various Pulitzer,



Singer Martha Lou Harp with Stan, ca. 1950

Christopher, and Emmy-award winning television specials. He's co-composer with Al D'Artega of "Chimes", the original Tonight Show theme, the marching band version of which later became the signature theme of NBC Network Sports for many years. Possibly his best known popular work is "Christmas Eve In My Home Town" which he co-wrote with Don Upton when they were Pages at NBC.

Zabka's 22 years as Associate Director with that network included five years with the Johnny Carson "Tonight Show" and the Perry Como "Kraft Music Hall". He received an Emmy as a Director of the daytime serial, "The Doctors". His credits as an Assistant Director in motion pictures include "Midnight Run", "Bronco Billy" and "Any Which Way You Can" (Clint Eastwood and Sondra Locke). Stan's latest project is a memoir called "Razz Ma Tazz - My Life in Music, Television, and Film" just released on Amazon in paperback and eBook forms. The book contains detailed reference of NBC, especially Page Boy days, with pictures.

Straight out of Centenary College in New Jersey, **Nancy** signed on with NBC, New York, in the production management of various television game shows, coordinating facilities, people, and budgets. Later she became assistant commercial producer and liaison between advertising agencies on the "Merv Griffin Show". But it was as production assistant on the Johnny Carson Tonight Show that she took on a lifetime assignment by marrying the show's associate director. Nancy and Stan recently celebrated 49 years of marriage. They have two sons, Billy and Guy, a daughter, Judy, and six grandchildren. Away from the hustle and bustle of New York and Los Angeles, they now call Grass Valley, California, their home.



**Billy** launched his film career starring as the main antagonist in 1984's classic movie "The Karate Kid". He spent the next fifteen years acting in more than thirty feature films and had a four-year recurring role on the "Equalizer". In 2001, Billy wrote and produced his first film, "Most" (a 33 minute Czech language live-action short film). "Most" had its world premiere at the Sundance Film Festival 2003 and went on to win numerous awards including an Academy Award® Nomination in 2004. In 2007, Billy wrote, directed and starred in a short film/music video called "Sweep The Leg". This video has had more than 2.5 million unique Internet views since its release.

Graduating from Belmont University in 1992, **Guy** holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in music theory and religion. As a songwriter, his songs have been recorded by Aaron Geoffrey, Plus One, Joy Williams, Kristy Starling, Kenny Rodgers, and Brian Littrell, among others. He has also written music for several short films: Left Behind "The Movie", "Most", and in 2006 had the title cut in an animated European feature film entitled "Asterix". Formerly Creative Director with Centricity Records, Guy is now an Artist Representative/Account Executive for World Vision Artists.



-- Zabka family bios from [www.Zabka.com](http://www.Zabka.com)



*What's Now!***NBC Page Program Marks 80th Anniversary**

On Sunday, August 24th, *Weekend Today* marked the Page Program's 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by airing a pre-taped historical review segment. Then, *Today* cut live to the Plaza, where nearly 100 present and former Pages were saluted and enjoyed a slice of cake in celebration of the occasion. Two of the former Pages were *Weekend Nightly News* Prompter Operator, Miriam Simmons, and Associate Director, Roberta Spring.

Seated at front left is Ross Bagwell, Sr. (82-ish). He was a Page in the mid 1950's. His various companies (Bagwell Communications, Cinitel Productions among others) have provided a good deal of cable content for A&E, HGTV, etc. His daughter Dee is the CEO of Rivr Media.



**Miriam Simmons and  
Roberta Spring**

*We Get Letters*

April 22, 2013

To the Peacock North Staff

First of all, I want to commend all of you for your hard work in producing a top quality quarterly "PEACOCK NORTH." I look forward to each and every issue. Keep up the good work.

When I left NBC in 1980, I went to Time-Life Films for a year and a half to work on a series about Alexander the Great.

Then did four years on "Heritage: Civilization and the Jews" at WNET/PBS.

This was followed by being Executive in Charge of Production for "The Joan Rivers Show", "The Geraldo Rivera Show", "Michael Moore Live" and several other shows.

Retired from TV in 2005 and moved to Pompano Beach Florida, where I remain.

I am currently a Realtor here in the Fort Lauderdale, Boca Raton, Pompano Beach area. If any of the Peacock Northerners are looking for a retirement home or condo down here in Sunny Florida feel free to contact me at (954) 969-1155 or wreardin@gmail.com.

You can also search listings at [billreardin.southfloridaml.com](http://billreardin.southfloridaml.com).

Sorry I can't make the May luncheon. I'm sure it will be a blast.

All the best,

Bill Reardin.

Do any of your members remember Betty De Stefano, a retired hair dresser on many shows and an initial member of IATSE Local 798 Makeup and Hair Stylists? She was one of the first hair dressers on the Today Show.

If so would you please stop in and say hello to her at:

Mary Manning Walsh Nursing Home  
1339 York Avenue, between 71st and 72nd Streets.  
New York, NY 10021.

The main telephone number there is (212) 628-2800.

It would be so nice for her to be remembered.

Many thanks,

Rosemarie Gardner  
10015 S.W. Stonegate Dr.  
Port St. Lucie, FL 34987  
772-345-9770  
[pdrpuff@aol.com](mailto:pdrpuff@aol.com)



*We Get Letters and Pictures*

## Editor's Note:

This email was originally sent to former NBC Technical Engineer Jay Ballard on April 19, 2013. It is a query about Video Tape facilities at the RCA pavilion at the 1964 New York World's Fair. We have added some photos, \*one courtesy of Wayne. Please share any info you may have directly with him.

Someone posted a fragment of quad tape from the closing day of the 1964-65 New York World's Fair – the “see yourself” feature at the RCA pavilion. At this exhibit visitors could walk by a unique “color carousel” and see themselves on color television twice, once “live” as they passed the camera, and moments later on TV tape. See the clip at [http://youtu.be/s9Vm\\_peHmKg](http://youtu.be/s9Vm_peHmKg).

I have these questions about the Pavilion:

- 1 - Is there anyone around who worked there, especially on the technical side?
- 2 – I recall that there were two playback machines, one for the first (monochrome) playback set the visitor saw, and one for the color. However, this may be a false memory, since both could have been fed from one playback. I have not been able to find a photo or anyone who was there and knows.
- 3 - The quality of the video seems superior compared to anything on the networks at that time (e.g., excerpts of the Bell Telephone Hour). Makes me speculate that the pavilion cameras were brand new, with prism optics and solid state preamps – would love to know more details. The cameras had to be 41Cs with prism optics, as RCA brought out a kit in 1963 to replace the dichroics. The SS preamps came from International Nuclear, but there is no guarantee the WF cameras had them, as RCA still shipped tube preamps with the Cs.
- 4 - Can you answer any of this or post to lists that might produce leads to answers?

Thanks for anything you can dig up.

Wayne E. Bretl  
waynebretl@comcast.net  
Zenith Electronics LLC  
(847) 941-8386



*We Get Letters and Pictures*

May 27, 2013

Here are two "official NASA" photos taken on December 21, 1966, just before one of the last Gemini flights. The pictures bring back wonderful memories of my time as part of Jim Kitchell's NBC News Space coverage team. It was a wonderful story to cover, despite the couple of accidents resulting in the loss of some of our brave astronauts.

Our team would arrive down at the Cape a week or two before the scheduled launch to set up our mobile units and camera cabling, etc. Each new flight brought new challenges, from black and white coverage to color, from huge studio cameras to more compact and portable ones. At first NASA would not allow any LIVE coverage of the launch, we had to delay coverage until, in NASA terms, there was "fire in the tail", which meant a successful launch. The then three network coverage (ABC, CBS and NBC) were fiercely competitive and we were always trying to introduce one new element to our coverage (sponsored at that time by Gulf Oil)...adding one new camera position, or persuading NASA to allow us a position on top of one of the close-by gantries. Kitchell arranged a clever ploy to get around the NASA embargoed coverage. As our converted bread truck mobile unit (put together by the great guys at our Jacksonville affiliate) pulled into the press site and the crew broke out our electronic, rather than film, cameras, the nervous public affairs officer from NASA, reminded Jim that we **COULD NOT GO LIVE**...until NASA said we could. Jim assured him that we would not go live. What NASA didn't know was that Jim had ordered up an audio/video line to and from Burbank where NBC had the first two-inch tape machines. So we fed our live shot of the launch out to our Burbank facilities, had them drape the tape across the room, from the record to a playback machine and feed it to us at the Cape with about a 7 second delay!! No, we weren't *live*...but damned close to it and ABC and CBS just cried in their beer that night.

One of many great stories to come out of our time at Cape Canaveral: Bob Priaulx was our wonderful giant of a director who, along with Max Schindler and Frank Slingland took turns directing...and frequently we would provide the pooled coverage from the Cape and so we would need two directors.

Anyhow, Bob was very proud of his French heritage and along with it his proficiency as a chef. At that time, we usually ended up with small hotel suites, which would include a small kitchen. So rather than going out to dinner at the same couple of good restaurants down there at the time, Bob would cook us a meal. One of the shots we were to cover came over Thanksgiving time. So, as a gag, we went to the store and found the biggest, heaviest turkey they had and presented it to Bob the day before Thanksgiving along with a challenge to make us a complete Thanksgiving dinner. Damned if Bob didn't pull it off ....everything from appetizers, mashed potatoes, stuffing, cranberry sauce...the works. (I think he even baked a pumpkin pie for desert!). Though the Florida temperature was in the 90's, we had our Thanksgiving dinner!

And, of course, who could forget one of the important early shots when they brought the Huntley-Brinkley team down there, along with several "suits" from 30 Rock. The coverage went very well, so, that evening, it was party time around the pool. Somehow, and we may not ever know how it was done, a piano ended up at the bottom of the pool! Ahhh, them were the days!

Like we always say, we got into the business at a great time and we got out at the right time!!

Best to all,

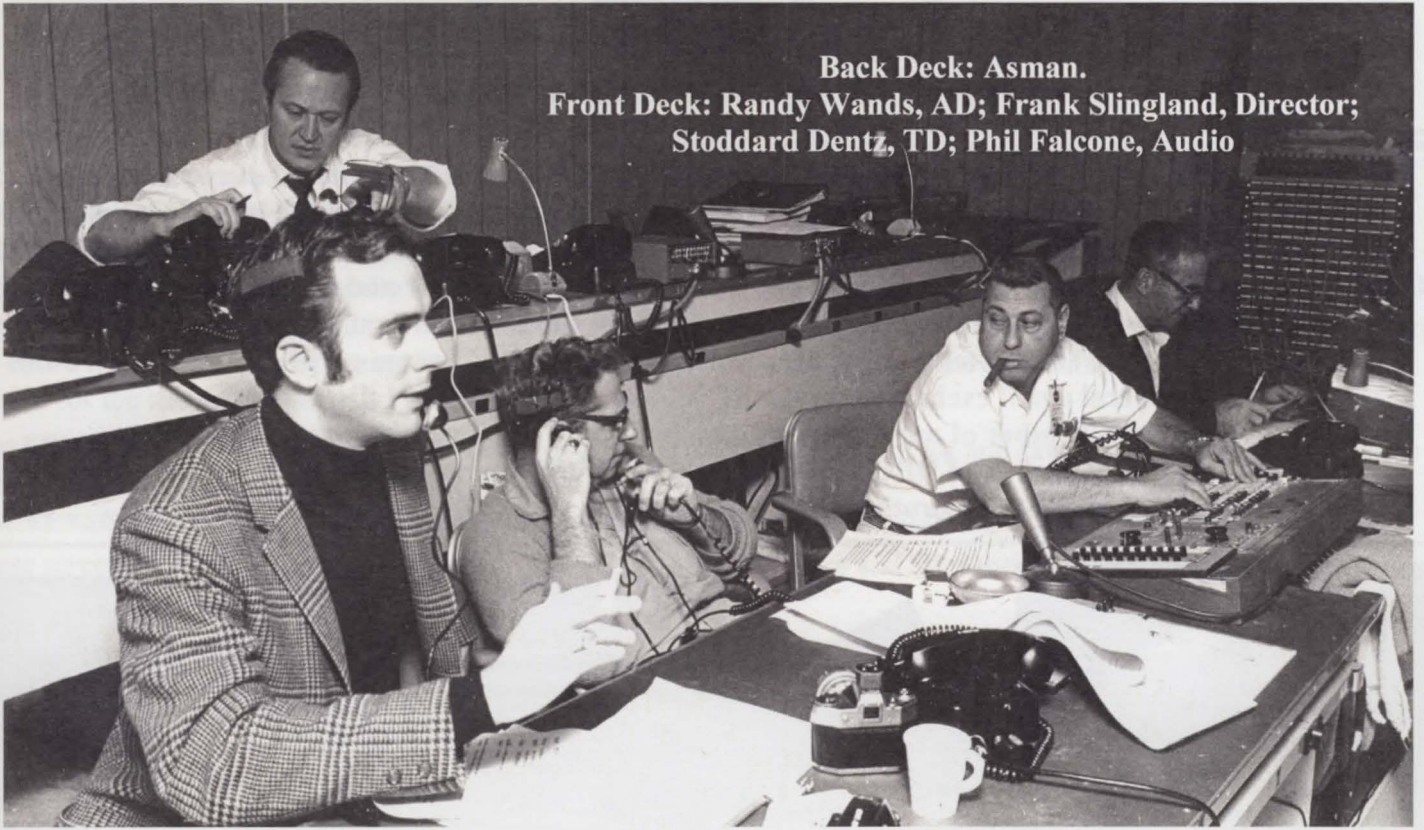
**Bob Asman.**

R49asman@aol.com



Back Deck: Asman.

Front Deck: Randy Wands, AD; Frank Slingland, Director;  
Stoddard Dentz, TD; Phil Falcone, Audio



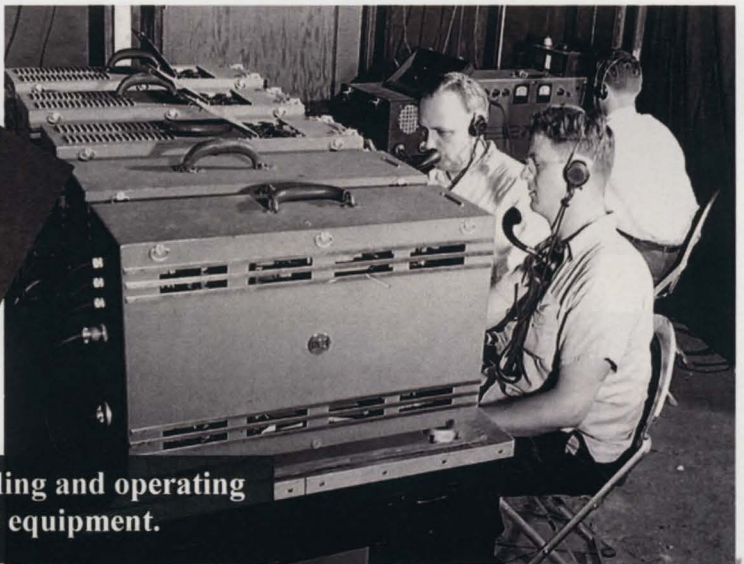


*We Get Pictures*

**A Broadcasting "Tale of Two Brothers"**

**Editor's Note:** Part of the joy of editing this publication is discovering the roles played by our NBC family members in broadcasting history. While casually researching the beginnings of New York City's radio stations I discovered a gentleman named J. R. "Jack" Poppele, who was the first Chief Engineer at WOR Radio. The station began as a promotional tool for and in the Radio Department of Bamberger's Department Store in Newark, NJ in 1922. Jack's first assignment was to go to Washington D.C. to obtain the station's actual license certificate.

After several email exchanges with NBC Video Tape engineers I discovered that J. R. was the brother of our own Art Poppele. Frank Vierling had already sent us PN's photo collection of NBC radio and early TV field operations, and this page is dedicated to the Popelle brothers using photos from that collection and the internet.



**Young Art Poppele installing and operating early NBC TV field equipment.**



**Jack Poppele on phone at right in WOR's original studio at Bamberger's in 1922. The small staff served as engineers, announcers and radio set salespeople.**

**Jack encouraged management to continue their promotional "experiment" beyond 1922, and WOR thrives to this day. He initiated many radio "firsts" during his long tenure at the station, and in 1961 founded Tele-Measurements Inc.**



*We Get Pictures***Baseball with One Camera? - No Problem for Harry and Mario**

It's a beautiful September 1982 day in Boston and NBC Sports is broadcasting the Brewers-Red Sox game. Joe Garagiola and Tony Kubek are calling the game, supported by Harry Coyle, TD Steve Cimino and Producer Mike Weissman. A camera is recording all of the control room activity for an MLB profile of Coyle, when suddenly part of the truck—especially the switcher—loses power! It is quickly determined that Camera 2 can be fed directly to New York and so Harry finds himself directing only Mario Ciarlo as though it were 1940. Mario covers the entire field, gracefully zooming in for closeups of the batter, the pitcher, the base runners and wide shots as needed for the rest of the game.

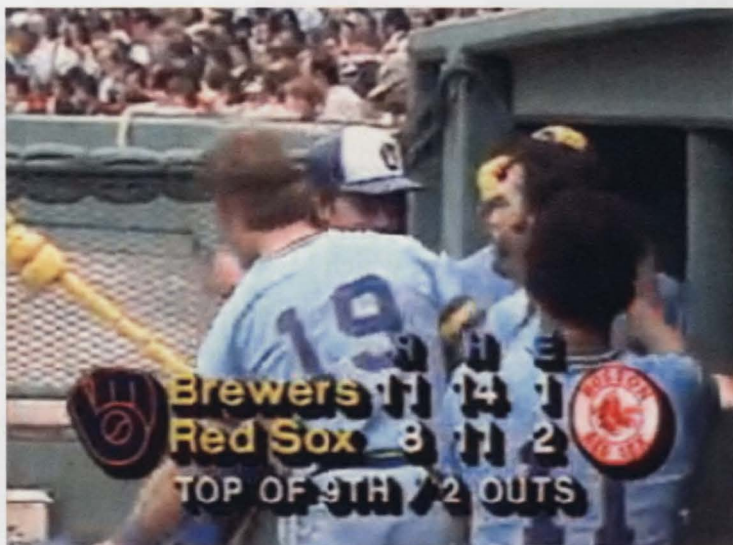
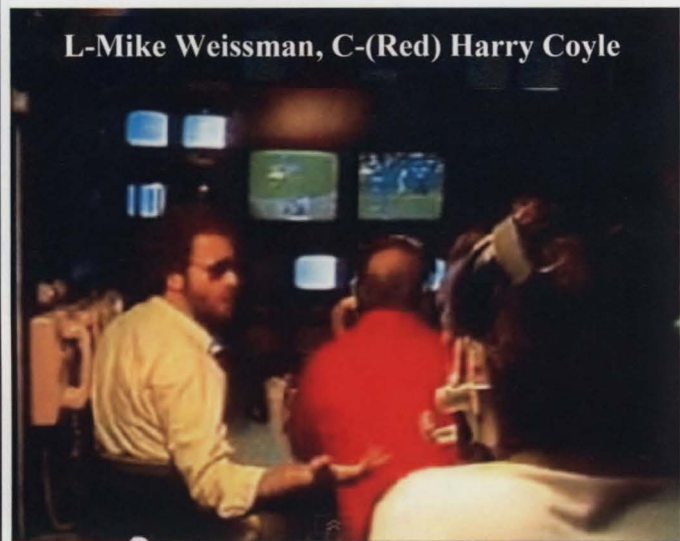
Don Ellis sent us a link to a great YouTube video which combines both on-air and raw documentary camera video and audio of the event. Check it out at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4PC8w2WZwfo&feature=c4-overview&list=UUR-muk4ObxdNH-LnEGjHq3Q>

These screen shots are from that video and give you an idea of before and after the power failure.

Thanks to Antoinette Machiaverna for supporting information.

L-Mike Weissman, C-(Red) Harry Coyle



Above: Before the power loss, with full camera and graphics complement—and Below: “It’s all on you, Mario!”



*Tributes to Silent Microphones***Herb Kaplow**

Herb Kaplow, a longtime Washington correspondent who for more than four decades brought an authoritative voice to his reporting from all 50 states and more than 50 countries for NBC News and ABC News, died on Saturday in Arlington, Va. He was 86. The cause was a stroke, his family said.

Mr. Kaplow's resonant voice and craggy face were familiar to generations of viewers of the nightly news broadcasts, and he seemed to be present wherever the action was, first for NBC and then for ABC, spending about 20 years with each. He covered the White House and 10 presidential campaigns, including 19 nominating conventions from 1956 to 1992. He reported on major moments of the civil rights movement, including the Supreme Court's 1954 ruling to desegregate schools, and the Freedom Riders'

fighting to integrate buses in the early 1960s. He reported extensively on the United States space program.

He covered the Cuban revolution that culminated in the victory of Communists led by Fidel Castro in 1959. After the disastrous invasion of Cuba by American-backed Cuban exiles at the Bay of Pigs in April 1961, he was the first American reporter to interview Mr. Castro. Mr. Kaplow covered Richard M. Nixon for decades. He was in Venezuela in 1958 when an angry crowd pelted Vice President Nixon's limousine with rocks. He was also in China in 1972 when President Nixon made his historic trip there.

In 1965, Mr. Kaplow, then working for NBC, was the only network correspondent to accompany Mr. Nixon on a trip to Asia for Pepsi-Cola, which Mr. Nixon's law firm represented. Erik Barnouw, in his book "Tube of Plenty: The Evolution of American Television" (1990), wrote that Mr. Kaplow's coverage helped keep Mr. Nixon in the public eye, speaking about Vietnam and other issues, as the Republican Party began looking ahead to 1968. Mr. Nixon went on to win the presidential nomination that year.

Herbert Elias Kaplow was born on Feb. 2, 1927, in Manhattan and grew up in Queens. His father, a garment worker, and mother, a seamstress, were Jewish immigrants from Europe. While a student at Queens College, he was drafted into the Army and eventually assigned to the American Forces Radio Service. He read scripts reporting on the Nuremberg trials and covered a Wimbledon tennis championship. After his discharge, he returned to Queens College and earned a degree in history. After a stint as an announcer at WCTC radio in New Brunswick, N.J., from July 1948 to January 1950, he earned a master's degree from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University.

Mr. Kaplow then went to Washington to work for WRC, an NBC radio affiliate, before taking an editing job on the NBC network program "News of the World." About two and a half years later he became an NBC news correspondent for radio and television. He became White House correspondent in 1968. He moved over to ABC in 1972 and retired in 1994. Mr. Kaplow, who lived in Falls Church, Va., is survived by his wife, the former Betty Rae Koplow; his sons Steven, Bobby and Larry; his sister, Naomi Mitchell; and six grandchildren.

Mr. Kaplow was known for tough, incisive political reporting. But as a correspondent who had seen it all, his touch could also be light, if not sardonic. In an essay in The New York Times in 1972, Eugene J. McCarthy, the former senator and presidential candidate who was known for a dry wit himself, quoted admiringly a "profound statement" made by Mr. Kaplow: "No two campaigns are different."

—By DOUGLAS MARTIN - July 29, 2013 - The New York Times

**Condolences may be sent to the family at  
211 N Van Buren Street  
Falls Church, VA 22046-3654**



*Tributes to Silent Microphones***Lew Wood**

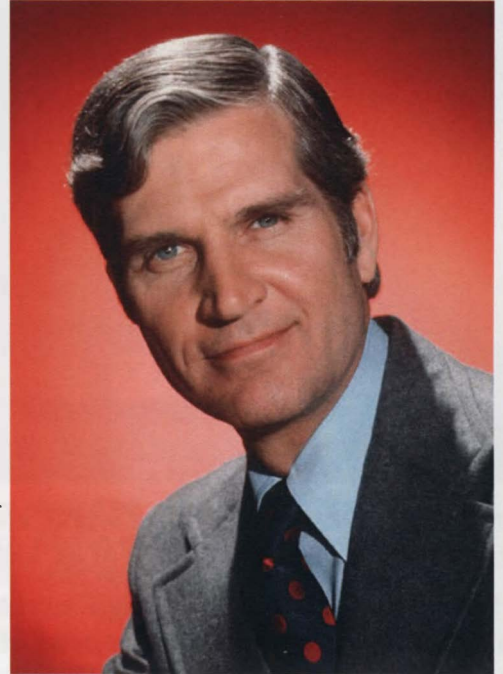
Lew Wood, a former correspondent for NBC and CBS News who covered President John F. Kennedy's assassination and later held the news anchor's chair on the "Today" show, died on August 21, 2013 at a hospice in Riverside County in California. He was 84.

The cause was kidney failure, his daughter Brigitte Wood said.

NBC hired Mr. Wood to succeed the longtime anchor of "Today," Frank Blair, in 1975. But he left the job after just a year in a program shake-up and was succeeded by Floyd Kalber. He had previously been a news anchor for WNBC in New York.

Mr. Wood was in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963, as part of the CBS team covering President Kennedy's swing through Texas. That morning he covered a break-fast speech Kennedy had made in nearby Fort Worth and snapped a personal photo of the president greeting well-wishers. After Kennedy left for Dallas, Mr. Wood headed to a restaurant for lunch. On the way, he stopped to phone a fellow correspondent, Dan Rather, who was covering the president's motorcade.

In an entry on the Web site reporters notebook.net, Mr. Wood recalled Mr. Rather telling him, "Hold on, Lew — don't go away," then quickly coming back on the line to say that the president had been shot and that Mr. Wood should go to the hospital.



Mr. Wood, who earned a degree in speech and broadcasting from Purdue, began his career at WDZ-AM in Decatur, Ill., in 1952. A year later, he joined WSBT radio and TV in South Bend, Ind.

After leaving television, Mr. Wood worked in public relations, retiring in 2006. In addition to his daughter Brigitte, he is survived by his wife, Monique; a son, Robert; two other daughters, Carole Gorenflo and Lara Wood; 10 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

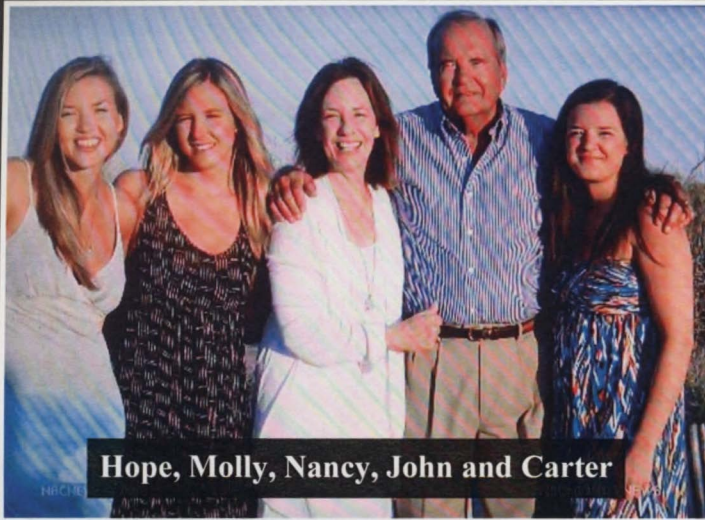
—By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS - August 23, 2013

Condolences may be sent to Monique at

43204 Teramo Street  
Temecula, CA 92592-9095

*Tributes to Silent Microphones*

**John Palmer**



**Hope, Molly, Nancy, John and Carter**

John Palmer, a veteran reporter for NBC News who covered wars and Washington over a career that spanned 40 years, died July 27th at a Washington hospital. Palmer's wife Nancy confirmed he died at George Washington University Hospital of pulmonary fibrosis. He was 77. Palmer was a graduate of Northwestern University and held a master's degree from Columbia University.

The gentlemanly Palmer worked for NBC from 1962 to 1990, and then returned to the network from 1994 until 2002. "John was a brilliant, brave, and tireless journalist who guided viewers through many of the most significant events of the past half-century - from the early days of the civil rights movement through the tragedy of 9/11," NBC News said in a statement. "He covered five presidents and

traveled to every corner of the world, always showing the empathy and compassion that helped set him apart. His kindness is remembered by all of us, and it built lasting bonds throughout our news division."

He served as a correspondent in Chicago, Paris and Beirut, as well as at the White House. In 1980 he landed one of his biggest scoops, breaking the news of the Carter administration's failed attempt to rescue the American hostages being held in Iran. "John Palmer brought to the White House beat his foreign policy experience and a steady reassuring voice, in good times and in bad," NBC News correspondent Andrea Mitchell said in describing Palmer for a report aired Saturday evening.

It was also at NBC's Washington news bureau that Palmer met his wife, Nancy, a Nightly News producer. They have three grown daughters: Hope, who is pursuing a journalism career in Washington; Molly Palmer Cowan, a producer for the Today show and wife of CBS News' Lee Cowan; and Carter, who works in the entertainment industry as an Unscripted TV casting associate.

In 1982 he became news anchor on the "Today" show during a highly successful period when Bryant Gumbel and Jane Pauley co-hosted, bringing a seriousness and calm to the program while often being the first newsman that millions of viewers heard from each morning. He remained there until 1989, when he was abruptly replaced by Deborah Norville. In 1986, Palmer anchored the first hours of NBC's coverage of the Challenger space shuttle disaster. Palmer left the network in 1990 to emcee a syndicated news-oriented program, hosted the weekly "Discovery Journal" on The Discovery Channel, and anchored a daily newscast on the TV channel of the Christian Science Monitor.

In 1994, he was invited back to NBC as a Washington correspondent. Speaking to anchor Brian Williams on NBC sister network MSNBC upon his retirement in 2002, Palmer looked back on his tenure with satisfaction, including the access it gave him to a succession of the nation's chief executives. "I was enriched as a kid from the East Tennessee mountains," said the Kingsport, Tenn., native, "to be able to go fishing with Jimmy Carter, to go to the movies with Ronald Reagan, and to play golf with Bill Clinton." After exiting NBC, he continued to work in journalism, including through hosting roles on Retirement Living TV, a network dedicated to seniors.

A Memorial Service was held on August 10<sup>th</sup> at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in Washington DC.

You may send condolences to the family at:

4150 Linnean Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20008

—From The Associated Press story of August 3, 2013, with additional materials



## Friends and Colleagues Remember John Palmer

John and I got to know each other when he was doing Sunday afternoon *Monitor News on the Hour*. When I talked to him about my desire to go into news writing and possibly broadcasting, he not only encouraged me, he helped me learn how to “cut to the chase” when writing a story. This is advice I carried with me throughout my broadcasting career...and believe it or not, it has really helped in my current business as a real estate broker! We kept in touch sporadically over the years after I married and worked as a reporter at my local tv station in Virginia. I last saw John when he was covering the Reagan White House. I was attending a press luncheon and John was happy to show me around the White House press room. By that time, we both had children and I remember how much we enjoyed sharing stories about them! John will always be a major part of the many, many happy memories of my NBC days.

**Suzanne Lavallo Bothamley** (Former MONITOR PA, also with WNBC Radio news.)

I spent 10 days with John at Wounded Knee, living in a Winnebago. Worked with him often. John was a great guy.

### **Houston Hall**

John may have saved my NBC career. Back in 1970 when I became bureau chief in Israel I had a lot of run-ins with a correspondent who was also assigned to Tel Aviv. I felt we were not getting the stories we should be getting because he was not up to the task or didn't want to perform it. I convinced New York to make a change. Jack Paxton came for a couple of weeks and our output increased, John Masterman followed for a couple of weeks and there were some more pieces, and then “Palmer” came for about three months in early '71. He did so many stories, for A-News, Today and Nightly, I thought we might even get named MVB, most valuable bureau. We didn't, but John showed New York that if I had a correspondent who wanted to do the job, the Tel Aviv bureau would shine. Oh yeah, Palmer was also a gentleman, who was very easy to work with. In spring 1971, John helped me walk on air.

### **Sy Pearlman**

I was a cameraman in South Africa when I began reporting a story in Zaire. After a few days New York sent John in to take over. When he arrived he said “This is Fletcher's story. Let him keep reporting it.” So he did the second story for a week and I was on my way. A real nice man who I remember so fondly

### **Martin Fletcher**

I thought the world of John...real pro.....We covered a Pope's visit to Philadelphia with John who had just come back to the US after being out of the country for 10 years.....All he could talk about was how much the cost of Martinis had gone up in 10 years...really troubled him

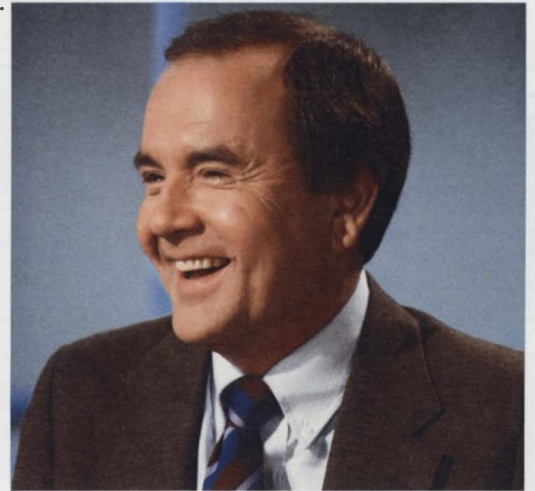
### **Dennis Unger**

John and I were roommates/fraternity brothers at Northwestern. I followed in his footsteps to WSB in Atlanta as did many others, including Fred Briggs and Tom Brokaw. We could not have asked for a better role model. At Northwestern we formed a makeshift country and western group called “The Bright Spot Boys.” Now a truly bright spot in our lives has gone out.

### **Kenley Jones**

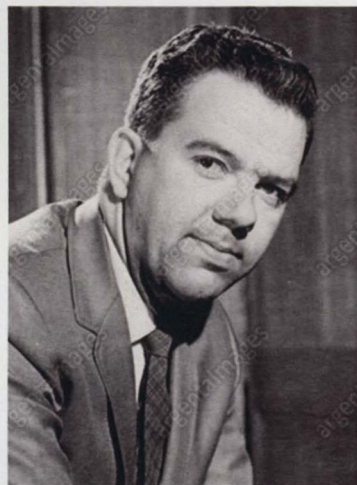
It was April 24, 1980, I had just quit smoking after several decades and was a fledgling NBC Newsdesk Manager on the night shift prepared to put breaking news on the air. I received a call from John Palmer at about 10PM; he was concerned that lights were on at the White House at that hour. He investigated and called me back. “I have a scoop, but I can't tell you what it is since I've been sworn to secrecy; please find time to put me on the air after the “Tonight Show.” I told John I trusted him implicitly and that I would get him airtime just as Johnny went off the air. I did know it had something to do with our 52 American hostages in Tehran. President Carter's “Operation Eagle Claw” to end the Iran hostage crisis at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran encountered many obstacles and was eventually aborted. Eight helicopters were sent to the first staging area, Desert One, but only five arrived in operational condition. I put John on the air to report the failure of “Operation Eagle Claw”. This earned him the Merriman Smith Memorial Award for excellence in presidential news coverage, and he was the first broadcast journalist to receive the award. This was one of the proudest moments for me at NBC News!

### **Bambi Tascarella**



*Tributes to Silent Microphones*

**Chuck Quinn**



Charles N. "Chuck" Quinn, an NBC News correspondent who covered the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy (D-N.Y.) and the civil rights movement, died July 7 at his home in Cambridge, Md. He was 82. The cause was congestive heart failure, said his daughter Diana Quinn.

Mr. Quinn joined NBC News in 1962 as a general assignment television reporter. He was following Kennedy's presidential primary campaign in California when the candidate was assassinated at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles in 1968. He was one of the first reporters on the scene. "He's lying here on the floor. Senator Kennedy has been shot. He's been shot," Quinn told audiences. "There's blood on the floor." He covered major news stories of the 1960s, including the civil rights movement and anti-Vietnam war demonstrations, and received a 1963 Emmy Award for a news documentary program on hunger in the United States that he helped produce for the Huntley-Brinkley Report. In the early 1970s, Mr. Quinn served as NBC's Rome bureau chief before returning to Washington to work as the network's Pentagon correspondent. In 1978, he

became the managing editor and chief correspondent of the network's radio news bureau in Washington.

After leaving NBC in 1980, he briefly worked as a correspondent for the old Independent Network News before he was hired to do public relations work for the American Petroleum Institute in 1981. He retired after a decade.

Charles Nicholas Quinn was born in Utica, N.Y. He was a 1951 graduate of Cornell University and received a master's degree in journalism from Columbia University in 1954. From 1951 to 1953, he was an Army paratrooper. He moved to Cambridge from Alexandria in 2003. He was a past member of the National Press Club board of governors.

His marriage to the former Ella Blum ended in divorce. Survivors include his companion, Judy Zelsman of Cambridge; three children from his marriage, and two grandchildren.

— By Megan McDonough — The Washington Post - July 22, 2013

**Chuck's NBC colleagues remember him...**

Sorry to hear about Chuck, but it did not surprise me. I knew he had severe heart problems. About a year ago I received a call from a producer at PBS who was doing a documentary about the civil rights struggle in the South in the 60's. I told him that after I checked, I could put him in touch with a former NBC correspondent that covered the story extensively. I called Chuck and asked his permission to give the producer his name, he agreed. I never found out what happened after that.

In 1965 I spent a month with Chuck in the South bouncing from state to state and story to story. That month was the most memorable month of my 42 ½ years with NBC. It has provided me with many memorable stories. That trip was the first time I met Brokaw, who was a 25 year old reporter for WSB in Atlanta.

What I remember most about Chuck was his tenacity as a reporter, his ability to connect on a personal level with all parties. From Klan leaders to civil rights leaders. They all didn't like him, but they respected and trusted him. I can still remember sitting at breakfast with Chuck, and while I was having ham and eggs, he was having a martini, and it never once affected his ability to do his job.

**Bill Freeda**

Chuck was a terrific reporter and great fun.

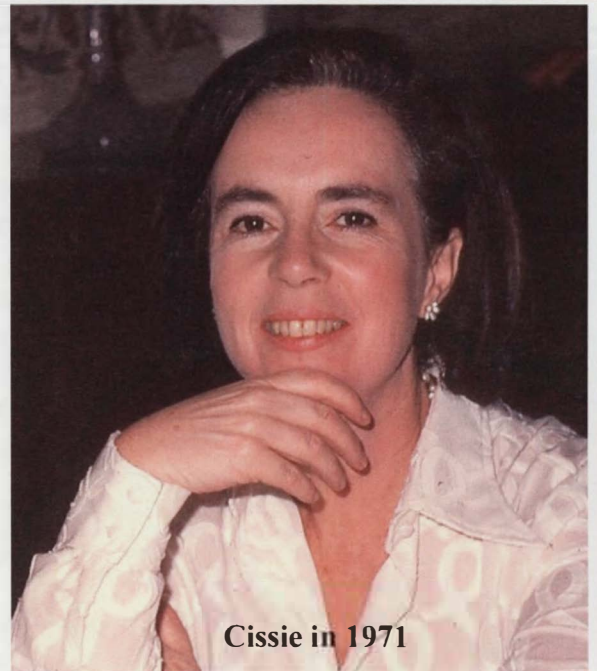
**Paul Friedman**



*Tributes to Silent Microphones***Cissie Lindemann**

Marguerite "Cissie" Williams Lindemann, 88, of Portland, Maine, passed away on Wednesday, August 7, 2013. She was the daughter of Marguerite Darmour and Paul Williams. In her first, she grew up in Washington, D.C., where her father worked for the Justice Department and she got a front row seat to history, including being part of the gallery on Dec. 8, 1941, when President Franklin D. Roosevelt asked Congress to declare war on Japan. Cissie later would recount how Washingtonians observed the Japanese hurriedly burning papers before they closed their embassy.

As she embarked on a career, Cissie chose radio and then the infant television industry, where she was a production assistant on "Your Show of Shows." That was where she met her husband, Carl, a cameraman at the time. [Ed. note: Carl rose to prominence at both NBC Sports and later at ESPN.] She also worked on "We, the People," an early public affairs interview show that, like everything at the time, aired live, including the show which featured the -- supposedly -- oldest living veteran of the Civil War. Cissie would recount dryly, "During the break before he went on, he died," her son said. One of her jobs was to keep track of the time and she was always amazed at how the performers could stretch out a scene or drop several pages of script to keep the live show on track without viewers catching on.

**Cissie in 1971**

After they married, the couple raised five children in Greenwich, Conn. Cissie took care of the kids and household during Carl's long absences to manage the network's coverage of sports events, although she sometimes traveled with him to the Olympics, the World Series, or the Kentucky Derby. The family bought a house in South Freeport while on vacation in Maine and soon began spending summers here. After her husband's health deteriorated, the couple moved to Maine. When she just turned 60, her husband died at age 62, shortly after retiring as head of NBC Sports. She had only been a full-time resident of Maine for a few years. According to her son, his mother faced a choice: She could have returned to New York City, where she still had friends, or she could have stayed in Maine. "She felt New York is too big to make a difference, but Portland is the size that she could make a difference in her 60s and 70s," he said. "And that was a great call." She created the jazz brunch that, for years, livened up the Portland Museum of Art on sleepy Sunday mornings. She wrote a walking tour book on Portland and was a volunteer guiding people up to the top of the Portland Observatory and through the Eastern Cemetery. And she helped found St. Elizabeth's Pantry at the Cathedral Church of St. Luke, where the needy in the community can still find household essentials, from a bar of soap to a box of diapers. She built on her passions -- jazz, history and community service -- and kept up a dizzying pace at a time when most people are slowing down. A few years ago, she had a stroke, her son said, and told her doctor that she wanted to recover "to be normal." "The doctor told her, "Madam, you don't want to be normal. At your age, normal is dead," her son said. But Cissie Lindemann, her son said, overcame what many see as the limitations imposed by age to make this phase of her life as enjoyable and productive as the earlier ones. "She had an awful lot of fun being at the center of this world she created," her son said.

Donations may be made to a fund created by the family in Cissie's name to support jazz music:

One Longfellow Square  
181 State Street  
Portland, ME 04101

ATTN.: Cissie Lindemann's Celebration of Jazz Fund

Condolence cards may be sent to the family at:

75 State St  
Portland, ME 04101-3746

--Adapted from an article by Edward Murphy – Maine Today - August 11, 2013 and other materials.



*Tributes to Silent Microphones*

**Vance Babb Remembered by His Wife, Enid**



[Ed Note: We have only now learned of this passing and wanted to bring it to the attention of Vance's PN colleagues.]

Vance Babb passed away at age 57 on December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2000 at home in Mamaroneck, NY.

While at Hobart College he started working at NBC as a Page and was a Unit Manager and Production Manager for WNBC TV and the NBC TV Network until 1984. He loved the news, 11 o'clock or Nightly, and then especially NBC News Overnight. He also covered the space shuttles (which he loved), the Pope's visit, and the National Cathedral for Christmas.

After NBC, he consulted for a while as an accountant and settled into selling life insurance, mostly for MetLife.

He was married for 17 years to Enid Renz, and you may contact her via email at [enidrenzbabb@yahoo.com](mailto:enidrenzbabb@yahoo.com).



**Vance with a BJ's Bunch puppet  
at WNBC in 1974.**



**Enid and Vance**

Vance was such a good friend when we were both working for WNBC-TV. When I broke my leg, horseback riding in Manhattan, and had a hip-to-toe cast and was on crutches for 3 months, I remember the two of us crutching up to the Commissary together every day. He'd be able to hold the door open for me with his crutch, ever the gentleman. After his motorcycle accident, he was on crutches for literally years. Finally, medical research caught up to his needs, and they were able to use electrical stimulation to the bone to encourage it to grow and finally knit together. Basically, the accident shattered his lower leg and was not able to support him until that procedure. Seems like anyone I know who has been an avid motorcycle rider has eventually had an awful accident, Vance being one of them (his was a hit and run – I don't think they ever found the car driver who hit him).

**Kristin LiBretto**



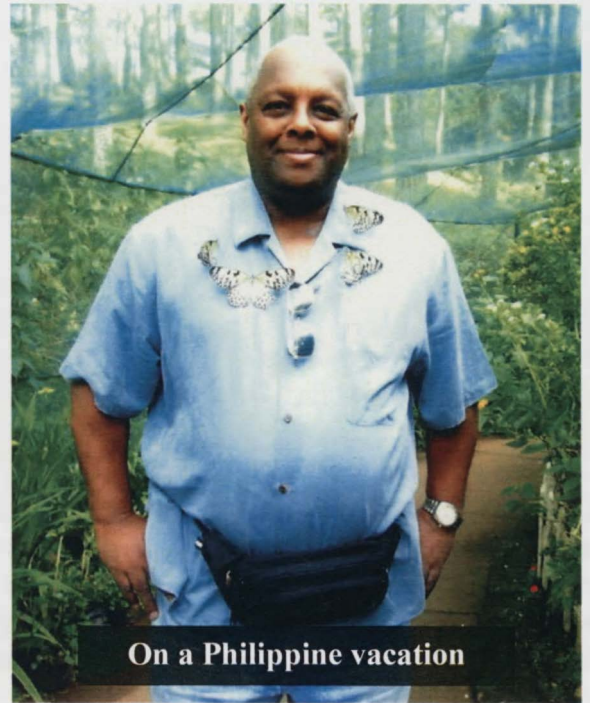
*Tributes to Silent Microphones***Karen Krenta Remembers Ron Gordon**

Ron Gordon died from a heart attack on his birthday, May 17, 2013. He was 68 years old. Born and raised in Jersey City, NJ, he graduated from the Jersey City public school system. He was one of five brothers.

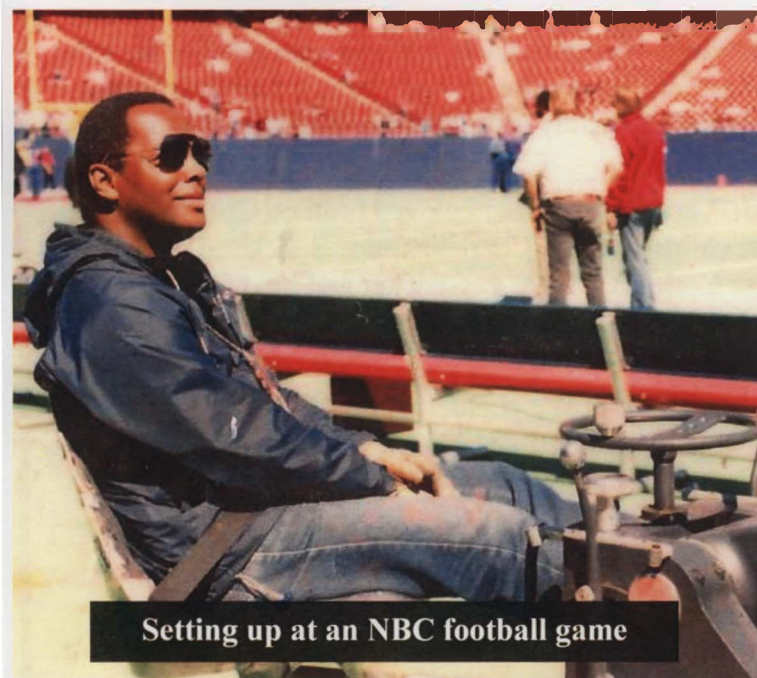
He was a pioneer who served in the Marine Corps and Air Force from 1962 – 1967, including two tours in Vietnam, before getting hired as the first African-American cameraman at NBC TV. He worked at NBC for more than 25 years as a field sports cameraman, and on SNL, Today Show, Nightly News, etc. During his career he covered major sporting events and important news stories, working with many of the top names in the industry. At ABC he worked with Diane Sawyer and Overnight News in TV-3.

Ron was a good man, a man of faith and principle. He had a kind word for everyone, and in an instant would help anyone. He was giving of his time and services to his family and to a perfect stranger. He had a joy and passion for people. He would make friends with anyone. He adored his daughter and son wanting only the best for them. His greatest love was for his grandchildren, mentioning their names, just made him glow.

While he enjoyed engaging with people, many did not realize Ron was a homebody. He enjoyed the peace and quiet of the Montgomery, NJ area, going on the deck and watching the deer, squirrels and birds. He would listen to his music and relax.



**On a Philippine vacation**



**Setting up at an NBC football game**

He was always working for a cause and interested in the world. He was an avid reader and had a large library. He was passionate about the environment, clean water, hunger, poverty, Civil Rights, and Human Rights. He was always writing letters or emails to Washington or various agencies to state his opinion. He was an advocate for the little man and did not hesitate to speak up.

He loved music, photography, movies, current events, and animals. He loved food – travel was based on restaurants he had researched.

This memoir was written by Karen Krenta,  
his companion of 22 years.

**Please send cards to the family c/o Karen at  
23870 Samuel Adams Circle  
Millsboro, DE 19966**



*Tributes to Silent Microphones***Laura Annesley Swicker**

Laura Annesley Chase Swicker ("Annesley"), 81, of Westfield, NJ, and formerly of Castine, ME, died Wednesday, September 11th, at home, after living 10 months with pancreatic cancer. Born in Brooklyn, NY in 1932, she was the daughter of the late Charles Adamson Chase and Helen Waddell Chase. Raised in Millington and Mendham, NJ, Annesley graduated from Bernards High, Bernardsville, NJ, in 1950, and went on to graduate from Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, MA, in 1954. She married her husband, Richard Kerwin Swicker, later that same year.

A housewife and a mother, Annesley moved to Westfield in 1959, where she became an active community volunteer, including a term as president of the Junior League of Elizabeth-Plainfield. Upon earning her master's degree in education from NYU in 1969, Annesley embarked upon a 25 year career as an elementary school teacher for the Westfield Public School System. She co-founded the Advanced Learning Program, which evolved into today's Gifted and Talented Program, taking great satisfaction in having been an influence on generations of Westfield students. Annesley retired in 1994.

In retirement, Annesley remained an active member of the College Woman's Club, and was a member of both the choir and the altar guild at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Westfield, where she also served as a Lay Eucharistic Minister. She also continued her life-long passion for travel, highlighted by trips to China, Africa, and to Europe, including a crossing on the Queen Mary 2.

Annesley was predeceased by her husband of 55 years in 2010, as well as by her beloved brother, Cpl. Walter Waddell Chase, USMC in 1955. She is survived by her four children, Capt. Charles "Chip" Swicker, USN (Ret.) and his wife Gayle of Vienna, VA, Bruce R. Swicker of New York City, Peter C. Swicker and his wife Violeta of El Paso, TX, and Laura A. Barber of Westfield, NJ. Also surviving are her two adored grandchildren, Sydney Chase Barber of Westfield, and Isaac Thomas Swicker of El Paso.

Services were held on September 28th, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Westfield. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that contributions be made in her memory to either the Rector's Discretionary Fund, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 414 East Broad St., Westfield, NJ, or, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Pancreatic Cancer Research Center.

Condolences may be sent to the family at  
454 Beechwood Place  
Westfield, NJ 07090-3202

*Tributes to Silent Microphones*
**Anne Einhorn**

Anne Alexander Einhorn, 89, died peacefully at home on July 11, surrounded by her adoring family- her husband of 70 years, Marvin Einhorn, her children, Ellen Zerkin, Stephen Einhorn and Kenneth Einhorn, their spouses and seven grandchildren. In the 1950's, she was a leader of the pioneering Teaneck Civic Conference, which defeated blockbusting, and stopped "white flight" in Teaneck, NJ. Inimitable, ineffable and indomitable, she will be missed by her family and by untold others in the world of theatre, her other family.



Known for her kindness and commitment to artists, she was a source of inspiration to decades of writers, staff, interns and audience. Since 1985, Anne served at Primary Stages Theater Company in many capacities including public relations director, press agent, board member and trusted advisor. An essential fixture since its inception, she brought with her a wealth of experience from previous work at Actors' Equity, Society for Stage Directors and Choreographers (SDC), AMAS Repertory, Joseph Jefferson Theatre, No Smoking Playhouse, and the Foundation for the Extension and Development of American Professional Theatre (FEDAPT) which she helped establish.

Contact Marvin at  
150 West 79th Street, Apt. 6A,  
New York, NY 10024-6435.  
(212) 724-8525

—Compiled from material published in The New York Times on July 15, 2013 and the Primary Stages site

## Peacock North

**If you haven't yet paid your 2013 dues - Or if you want to join us as a new member**

Please check either ☐ New Member or ☐ Renewing Member

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

At NBC from \_\_\_\_\_ 'til \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. \_\_\_\_\_

**Dues: \$30 Per Year**

**Make check payable to Peacock North**

**Mailing Address:**

**P.O. Box 112**

**Rowayton, CT 06853**

**Open to those who have been with NBC for 10 years or more.**



Peacock North  
P.O. Box 112  
Rowayton, CT 06853

Presorted  
Standard  
U.S. Postage

**PAID**

Permit No. 26  
Williamstown, WV

Dues were due—  
January 1, 2013



***New Peacock North Member***

**Your contacts:**

Marilyn Altman

Jim Marshall

Lenny Stucker

Joel Spector, Bambi Tascarella

(Peacock North Editors)

Sharon Stucker, John Fider

(Membership Coordinators)

**E-mail:** peacocknorth@yahoo.com

**Mailing Address:**

PO Box 112

Rowayton, CT 06853

**Stan Zakba is profiled on Page 10.  
Check out all his details!**