



Farewell To Two Favorite Sons



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Marilyn's Page

This edition would have gone to print around June 17th were it not for the deaths of Tim Russert and Charlie Jones, ...so this edition is bittersweet.

First, the bitter...

Sometimes the face of "The Company" boils down to those who surround you at work, support you, care about you. This past week our faceless corporation had an identity and it was us. Our grief has been profound.

So many of us who knew and worked with Tim Russert, as well as Charlie Jones, who died on June 13th, have expressed deep, personal feelings as in the loss of friends, which they were.

Charlie Jones has been gone from NBC for many years, yet he made his mark with the wonderful professional legacy he left behind as well as the friends and colleagues who so admired him and kept in frequent touch.

Tim Russert, still in his prime, struck a note not only with us, his co-workers, but with all of America. His touch was broad and exuberant. The dogged preparedness by him and his team made MTP a cut above every other news show around. I should know... I watched him religiously. People trusted him, liked him, identified with him. They loved that he came from Buffalo and that he was proud of it; that his dad, Big Russ, was working class and Tim was proud of that as well. Very proud.

They loved his attachment to the Bills, Rolling Rock beer, family, his country and his faith. He seemed to exude true Americana in the most decent of ways. He was the guy always watching our backs with the leaders of this nation and world. We will miss him.

BRAVO BOB and BOB, et al....

This is my favorite article to write, the one following the PN luncheon. I was remiss in thanking several people at the luncheon and I do want to take this opportunity to thank them now. First and foremost, our editor, Joel Spector, without whom these issues would never get to print and in such high fashion. (Applause and standing ovation inserted here);

Peter and Peggy Peterson, who started this organization along with several other people and who come every year and lend their support;

Jim and Mary Marshall, who have been an integral part of this operation and who travel to New York from Ohio every year to lend a hand;

George Ann Muller and Paul Scrabo who consistently party with the stars of SNL the night before the luncheon (it seems SNL's wrap party always precedes ours) and then, bleary-eyed, show up with lights and video camera in hand(s) to illuminate and record our guests. We are making DVD copies of this video available on request. Please send a check for \$5.00 for each DVD to our mailing address on the back cover. Be sure to include your clearly printed return address with the check.

Bob Sazer who helps us with some technical issues;

Sharon Stucker who bravely staffs the entryway and checks in all our attendees;

And this year, I would like to thank our guest of honor, Bob Hager and his straight man, Bob Asman: A dynamic duo of incredible talent and good humor. Well done, both of you!

Did You Know?**WNBC to Create New 24-hour News Channel**

Declining local-news ratings have spurred WNBC-TV New York to overhaul its facility at NBC's 30 Rockefeller Plaza HQ and create a 24-hour local-news channel. WNBC is calling the refurbished operation a content center, which will produce local news not only for the TV channel's newscasts and the 24-hour digital channel but for WNBC.com and for out-of-home platforms including gas pumps and taxicabs. WNBC's goal is to get the 24-hour channel on digital cable in the New York area by the end of the fourth quarter. Spearheading the transformation is John Wallace, recently promoted to president of the local-media division of NBC Universal, who said he wants WNBC to "become the leading multiplatform content provider for the New York market." "Consumers are demanding relevant content, round the clock, on the platform of their choice," Wallace said. The big-picture plan is for the New York operation to serve as a model for similar changes at the seven other NBC-owned TV stations, including KNBC Los Angeles and WMAQ Chicago. Like WNBC, each of these outlets would add a 24-hour local-news channel to fill the digital slots that will open up for TV stations throughout the country in the next year. The KNBC remodeling is already under way.

-- Written by John Dempsey for **VARIETY**, May 7th, 2008

Mark Kusnetz Article on the State of TV News

Former NBC News Producer Mark Kusnetz has written a long article titled "**Network News's Perfect Storm**", with much food for thought for our readers, which was published in the Winter 2007 issue of The Neiman Reports for Harvard University.

Please check it out at <http://www.nieman.harvard.edu/reports/07-4NRwinter/p73-kusnetz-long.html>

NBC "Third Generation" On the Move...to ABC

ABC News President David Westin on announced May 7th that [former NBC executive] Todd Donovan has joined the Network as Vice President, News Technology. "As Vice President, News Technology, Mr. Donovan will work with ABC News' management and Broadcast Operations and Engineering, Finance, and the Human Resources departments to direct technical resources across ABC News' broadcasts and platforms worldwide. Reporting to Mr. Westin, he will lead the effort to identify and acquire the most promising new technologies and integrate them strategically across all ABC News' platforms. The Digital Bullpen and ABC's Continuity and Crisis Management Directors will report to Mr. Donovan.

Before joining ABC News, Mr. Donovan was Director of Digital Media Systems for NBC Universal. There he led a team that designed, built and supported all New York based editing, intake/playback, and archive solutions for NBC News, MSNBC, WNBC-TV, Olympics/Sports, and Entertainment productions and their digital endeavors. Over the past five years, he has directed non-linear conversions for "Nightly News," "Today," and MSNBC and overseen the HD edit technology launches for "Nightly News," "Today," "Football Night In America," "Late Night," and "Saturday Night Live." He worked with the Operations department and NBC News programs on extensive training efforts, putting new technological tools in the hands of the editorial staff. Before that role, Mr. Donovan was the Director of Broadcast Facility Projects for NBC Universal, in charge of technology and project management for a multi-year editing and graphics digitization effort. Mr. Donovan joined NBC Universal in 1992 and has held a variety of other production positions, advancing to the corporate level in Engineering and Media Technology for the company. Mr. Donovan is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania.

-Ed. Note: We first met Todd when he joined the engineering staff of WNBC News in 1996.

PEACOCK NORTH at "21"
By Gene L. Farinet

Sound the chimes.

Cue a 21-gun salute.

But then, who knew? When 30 NBC engineers, many accompanied by their wives, first gathered in a New Jersey restaurant on a warm summer day in August, 1987. By historic coincidence, Rockefeller Center was declared a National Landmark the same year..

But here we are, entering our 22nd year, with over 360 paid members, 132 of whom attended our 2008 Luncheon. We experience a flood of memories as we revisit our years at NBC...

Broadcasting was running a four-minute mile in the 70's and 80's. Technological breakthroughs were more rapid than ever before, overshadowing the old in a dozen ways. We in the business were energized, living near the center of reporting historic events, the nearest thing to front row seats.

Though times could be turbulent and uneasy, to me, the world then was a place of more innocence and civility. Courteous and helpful sales clerks waited behind counters. Taxi drivers knew where most places were, and helped with the luggage. Bus drivers still made change. You could still go to Gimbel's. You could take a subway home late at night and still have your wallet. Music had lyrics and words were worth remembering.

Most NBC'ers wore shirts and ties, skirts and dresses at the office. The chief watering hole was an ancient three story building clinging to 30 Rock: Hurley's Bar and Grill. Where bartenders knew your name. And the after-work crowd always had something to re-live and talk about. Where there was an NBC phone extension at the end of the bar.

At lunch time, you could afford to eat out. There was Sager's, Headquarters, Sun Luck, Charley O's, and Down Under in the concourse. On Sixth Avenue you would often see a hooded monk-like sidewalk celebrity who called himself Moondog.

"Nightly News" blossomed into half an hour. Pioneering NBC News documentaries set the gold standard. Specials were stuff that awards were made of. National political conventions had drama. Politics was politics, but there were fewer pundits and media consultants. Experience as a reporter was considered essential to the dignity of an anchor job. Though lately, it seems few in this age have it, or want to get it.

I was always amazed by Tom Brokaw's capacity for work. One year, on successive evenings in prime time, he appeared with the Soviet General Secretary Gorbachev at the Kremlin, and the next night at the Kennedy Center with the 12 presidential candidates.

I particularly mourn the old two-hour Today show. We were always told to identify it as a "program," not a "show."

Most of all, I miss the heyday of network news, and grieve over the erosion of the traditional ethical standards of journalism. When the line began to blur between news and show business, and though the grass on the other side of the fence was brown, it was far more profitable. Cable, of course, led the way in aggressively staging one media circus after another, talking heads endlessly interviewing talking heads.

I know that nostalgia is a treacherous emotion in some cases, with occasional bouts of personal resentment. But psychologists believe a trip down memory lane from time to time lifts the spirits of most people. At the very best, it reduces stress.

Hail, Peacock North!.

In the wake of another Spring festival, it comes to mind....

A decade or so into the future, maybe even sooner,

Will second generation Peacockers mark their memories as we do ours?

On a page like this, will someone sit down and affectionately recall the "good old days?"

Or even give a second thought to a tradition that may have been lost?

Chemotherapy Room to be Built in Memory of Jerry Caruso

It has been nearly four years since leukemia took the life of longtime NBC audio engineer Jerry Caruso. In his silence, a new Chemotherapy Room is being built at the small-town hospital that helped keep Jerry alive for four years when all the specialists had given him little more than 6 to 12 months to survive.

But that's how Jerry approached life. He lived it with no regrets. And it was this passion for life that gave him a remarkable 35 year career at NBC, one that saw many accomplishments, awards and friendships. During his tenure, Jerry worked on numerous programs including The Tonight Show, The Perry Como Show, The Today Show and many Political Conventions and Soaps. But it was his time in the Sports Division that really defined his career, an Emmy Award-winning one thanks to an ingenious microphone in a golf cup. He spent the final 20 years of his career setting the standard for sound and communications on hundreds of NBC golf, football and baseball broadcasts.

Just as he approached his career, Jerry faced his own death. He loved his weekly visits to the Osceola Medical Center and became fast friends with many of the attending physicians and nurses. "Jerry often credited his longevity to the incredible care and personal attention he received from OMC," said Geri Caruso. "It is our goal as family and friends to help OMC build a special chemotherapy room in Jerry's memory."

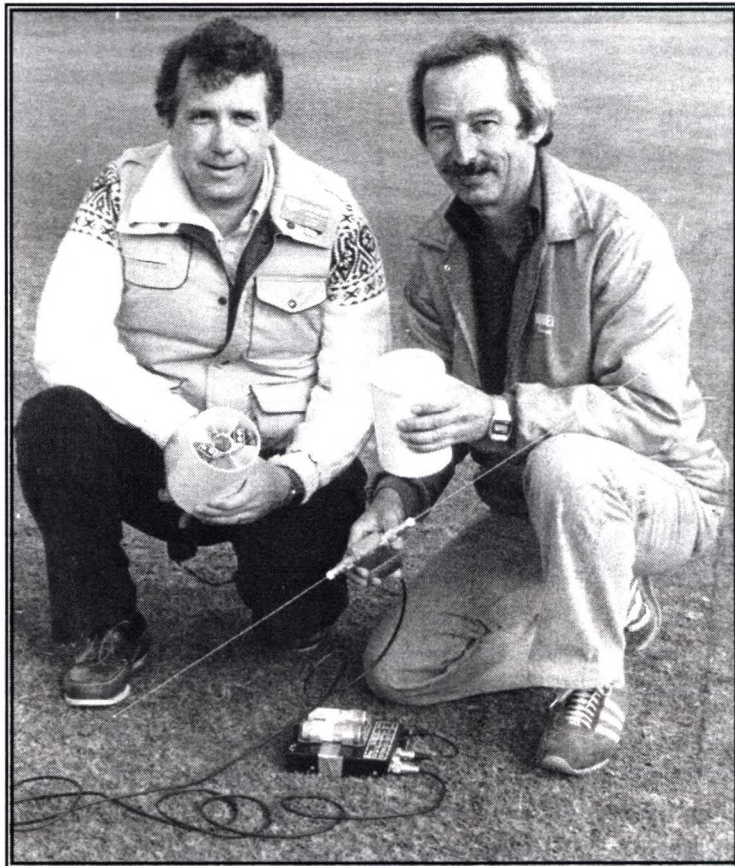
For 75 years, Osceola Medical Center has been serving the small Wisconsin community near where Jerry retired. Construction is now underway on a new healthcare campus that will include a hospital, nursing home, senior housing options and YMCA all on 134 acres of land just south of Osceola. It is here that future chemotherapy patients will enjoy the comforts of a new state-of-the-art treatment room, and where they will probably hear a story or two about the late Jerry Caruso. Our capital campaign is to raise a minimum of \$8 million for the new hospital and clinic with the remainder of the project funded through acquired debt. To date the campaign has raised over \$7.6 million from the community.

"It is our goal to raise \$20,000 over the next three years to help finance the chemotherapy room in Jerry's memory," said Geri Caruso. "If he were alive today, this project is something we know he would be eager to participate in."

Colleagues are invited to consider joining the cause with a contribution to help the Caruso family and the Osceola Medical Center achieve their goal. Your philanthropic support can make a difference in this small community. Please make any donation check payable to **Osceola Medical Center** and send to:

**Geri Caruso
P.O. Box 203
Star Prairie, WI 54026.**

Any questions can be forwarded via email to: gicaruso@frontiernet.net.



**Harry Smith (L) and Jerry with the
Golf Cup Microphone,
Transmitter and Receiver Equipment**

We Get Letters

Charlie Jones passed away last night while dressing for dinner at the US Open at Torrey Pines. It was a heart attack is the report. He was 77 and survived by his wife Ann and two adult children. His career spanned many years of sports announcing, most notably at NBC Sports where his versatility was showcased.

Ken Fouts

I had the privilege of working with Charlie frequently during my years at NBC Sports, especially at Wimbledon and during the football season. At Wimbledon, Charlie would often be the announcer at Court One, voicing matches over the BBC feed without any help from the truck...just doing the set-up and lead-out every other game so that we would always have matches to roll in to programming with natural breaks.

When Teddy got me started on my directing career, he assigned me to work with Charlie right from the beginning. He was the master teacher, not just for production people, but also for color announcers as they were staring their off-field careers.

This has been a tough week for the NBC family. I write this early on a Sunday morning at the NBC News Bureau in Washington, where some of us from New York are helping with the extra work-load as the wonderful people here cope with the loss of Tim Russert.

John LiBretto

Charlie Jones was a good man.....He had been so kind to me in the last few years...He really inspired me to write a book about my Dad and more importantly he was going to assist me in putting it together....For quite some time now he had been gathering stories of my dad with all of you guys and the wonderful times everyone had at NBC Sports....

Some of my earliest memories at football games in the AFL were of my Dad and "Mr Jones"...He was always good to me when I was just a kid hanging out and following my father through windy stadiums and long days (for a 12 year old) ending up with the announcers meeting on a Saturday night in some hotel before the games telecast on Sunday..... Charlie would always take the time to say hi to the kid in the room....and would never fail to tell a funny story.....He was pretty good with practical jokes, and some times with my dad would they take the microphone piece out of the telephone hand set in the producers hotel room and they would go down to the lobby after the meeting and call the producer.....of course the producer's words could never be heard because of the removed mike.....and he would never know why no would hear him.....The yelling could be heard all the way across the street..!!!

There was also "The Game of the Week" where I was the runner in booth...The backup games that most often came from Yankee Stadium or Shea and I would pick up Charlie from the airport or rush him right after the game to catch a plane....He always took the time to ask how I was and praised my father's work....

Charlie Jones appreciated all the work everyone did to make the broadcast work....He loved "The Game" on the air and on the field.....I will miss him...

Michael Nathanson

Hello Everyone, This one really hurts !!!! I'm so proud to be a part of the NBC family. I have many fond memories of my days in the booth, in the hospitality suite during rain delays (playing word games), in the hospitality tent (playing my banjo) meeting world famous people at our functions and developing friendships with my many co-workers. Again, "This one hurts !!!!!" With all due respect to everyone, Charlie Jones was my favorite person on the planet. He overlooked my huge ego and was kindly and helpful with advice and wisdom in and out of the booth. I love you all, and may we enjoy each and everyday from here on.

.....Maury Wills

Tim Russert Honored at Kennedy Center

Capping five days of seemingly nonstop coverage of the death of NBC's Tim Russert, members of the media and political elite - and at least one bona fide rock star - turned out in force for a final farewell to the "Meet the Press" moderator, who died last Friday of a heart attack.

As the roughly 90-minute memorial service came to an end, Bruce Springsteen appeared via videotape from Europe, where his band is currently on tour. Springsteen dedicated a solo acoustic rendition of "Thunder Road" to Russert, who was a huge fan and who tried repeatedly but unsuccessfully to get Springsteen on "Meet the Press."

The service comprised testimonials from 10 speakers - former "NBC Nightly News" anchor Tom Brokaw; "MTP" exec producer Betsy Fischer; Sister Lucille Socciarelli, who taught Russert in school; Bloomberg D.C. bureau chief Al Hunt; former New York governor Mario Cuomo; columnist Mike Barnicle; former NBC personality Maria Shriver; current "Nightly News" anchor Brian Williams; historian Doris Kearns Goodwin; and Russert's 22-year-old son, Luke.

Among the mourners: former presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton and her husband, the former president; former Fed chief Alan Greenspan and his wife, NBC correspondent Andrea Mitchell; CBS News anchor Katie Couric; NBC Universal topper Jeff Zucker; Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein; former Clinton administration secretary of state Madeleine Albright; Sen. Joe Lieberman; George Stevens Jr.; and former "Nightline" anchor Ted Koppel.

Though the several hundred in attendance mainly wore black and sat quietly before the service began, the mood quickly lightened when Brokaw, speaking first, set the tone:

"I want you to know at the outset that this is a celebration," he said. "And we're going to do it Irish style. There'll be some tears, some laughs, and the occasional truth."

Brokaw even made sport of the question that's been on everyone's mind:

"As Tim would look out on this gathering, he would say, 'It's wild! Wild!' My family, my closest friends from near and far, the powerful, the ordinary, and the largest contingent of all in this room, those who think that they should be his successor on 'Meet the Press.'"

Laughter erupted throughout the Kennedy Center Concert Hall, where the service was held. The other speakers shared similar memories and observations.



----Reprinted from Variety, By William Triplett

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

We Get Letters

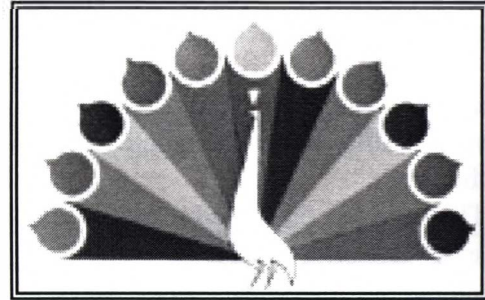
April 17, 2008

After weeks of playing telephone tag I finally got to speak to retired Nightly News studio cameraman **Bob Zweck**, who lives in Las Vegas. He told me to say hello to everyone and to let all of you know he would love to hear from his old friends at NBC. You can call him at 702-228-6704, anytime after noon Las Vegas time, or e-mail him at Ruzwe7@aol.com.

Regards, **Bill Freeda**

From Noel Engler to John Marelli...

...Thanks for the information regarding the NBC Peacock. Someone tried to keep some records that are really not entirely accurate but they are great none-the-less... Somewhere in this house I have a booklet [the Network Advertising and Promotion] department produced on the Peacock history when we introduced the brand new "bird" that is the current logo. It was prepared under Betty Hudson's direction at Fred Silverman's insistence. Betty Hudson was the 52nd floor executive in charge of PR prior to Beth Comstock. Betty ended up marrying Boyd Mattson and is no longer with NBC. So it was Fred who brought back the Peacock. He asked the top guys when he came to NBC, "Why did you ever do away with the Peacock?" and so it returned first with the proud N (Peacock and N combined and designed by Mike Mohamad). And then the new bird developed and designed by an outside consulting firm.



From John Marelli to Noel Engler...

Here are a couple of links to check out....You'll appreciate 'em...

<http://www.big13.net/> Scroll Down to History of NBC Peacock.

<http://www.kingoftheroad.net/colorTV/colorTVlogos.html> This link is at the end of the peacock page but in case you missed it here it is.

<http://www.kingoftheroad.net/colorTV/NBCcolortape-video.html> This is a page not to be missed...The first so-called color telecast from Burbank....1958 Remember it?? Not me. We had a Black and White Dumont TV No RCA discounts yet!!

The other links on the Big13 page are great, but some only cover Tampa TV History..... (RCA TV Equipment is interesting....Stuff I trained on....Wow)

...and in a related story by Michael Schneider from VARIETY on January 7th, 2008:

NBC's iconic Peacock and three-note chimes have been given an on-air makeover.

The network has dusted off the chimes -- which never really went away but weren't being actively used -- and is now playing the famous G-E-C notes at the end of most promos. In addition, the net has introduced a new swirling, animated version of its modern-era Peacock (first introduced in 1986) that will serve as NBC's main on-air icon. NBC Universal TV Group chief marketing officer Jon Miller says the net opted to refresh its image in midseason (rather than wait for fall, when most on-air makeovers are done) because of the sheer amount of new programming NBC is launching in January.

"We did some research, and people have strong, positive memories about NBC," Miller says. "The Peacock is part of it, the chimes and the Thursday legacy. The two we could call up immediately were the chimes and the re-emergence of the Peacock."

We Get Luncheon Notes

I got my annual "high" just seeing the faces of old NBC colleagues here at the Luncheon.

At 87, I have just retired from downhill skiing but still play tennis and ride my bike. I summer at Westerly, RI and taste "Middle America" with every visit.

Since our [2007] Peacock North Lunch, wife Pat and I have "done" London, Budapest, Vienna and Prague. Did not get to Florida!

Pat, at 74, is still an avid bike rider, Today, instead of attending PN Lunch, she is biking 30 miles thru Westchester. She competed in the New York State Games last year and averaged 19 mph for ten miles. This summer she will compete in the Connecticut Senior Games at 3, 6 and 10 mile races!

Oh, and she swims 365 days a year. Has been known, also, to cook an occasional meal.

We are all lucky to be able to attend another PN Lunch - onward!

Just spoke with Henry Marin who came South today for the Lunch from just North of Saratoga! Henry was in film audio [and Network Radio -ed.]

Dan Grabel

Herb is representing Aspect Foundation which places exchange students worldwide.

Otherwise our life is basically normal - I think!

Herb and Renée Oxman

What can I say about a Peacock North Luncheon that brings together all old friends, guys and gals who spent so many years making NBC the greatest network!

Everyone should be so proud to be part of this fantastic day!

Good bless everyone!

Much love to all,

Margaret and Peter Peterson

What a nice scene. Seeing those we spent many years working with brings great remembrances and joy.

It's the best four or so hours - I get to be with all my friends!

Gary Iorio

I'm doing stories of MNN - Manhattan Neighborhood Network - for Active Aging. Positive profiles of older people still doing interesting and vital things. We need volunteers and stories!

Rita Satz

Satztnyc@rr.com

We Get Luncheon Notes

April 2, 2008

Talk about an end to an era! - Both Krik Browning and Dwight Hemion passing away at about the same time. I had the good fortune to work with both of them (Dwight more so) and it was a pleasure as well. They join Clark Jones, Martin Hoade and Dave Wilson (all of whom I worked with). They all left their mark on live television entertainment.

I helped celebrate Gene Martin's 85th birthday in February. He's doing fine - still golfing - scoring better than yours truly.

See you in May.

Bob Van Ry

Class of 2000

...and from the Luncheon table:

Lighting and audio at the Luncheon were never better! Good to see old friends as well as the newcomers. Thanx to the "fearsome foursome" for another fine job!

This week I am moving to Massachusetts, so I hope that Peacock North will be farther North!!

Vic Roby

I am still involved with my study of ancient Greek and Roman history (maybe, in the manner of Shirley MacLaine). I could fall into the fantasy of having lived in those days! I'm looking forward to seeing the new production of "South Pacific" on May 21st. I saw the original with Mary Martin and Ezio Pinza. I think I was three years old!

Audrey Marshall

Where in the World is Skip Stewart? O'Neals' food and turnout was just right this year -- wishing any/all newcomers to PN well and all the best. Thanks to Marilyn, Len and Joel for "putting it together."

Bill McConnell

I live in East Hampton with my wife Debby. Our kids: Rachel works for the U. S. State Department in Washington. She is a Program Officer in the Human Rights Division, preparing reports on countries like Turkmenistan, Kyrgistan and surrounding areas. Our son Mark lives in Seattle working for a dot com named Watch Guard. They put firewalls in business computers.

Deb and I have just celebrated our 54th wedding anniversary and we are both still standing!

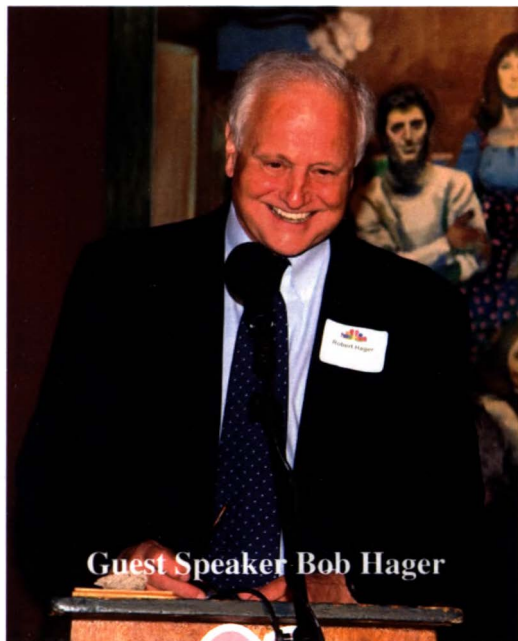
Gene Waldstein

I retired from NBC in July 2000. I moved back to my hometown of Maiden, NC with my husband Robert Monts in 2003. I spend my time doing church activities and I am now Chairman of Precinct #9 in East Maiden, NC. In addition, I maintain a Prayer Line.

My son Michael is now an established lawyer with his own firm in Charlotte, NC and he is a Sports agent for the NFL.

Mattie Navarro Monts

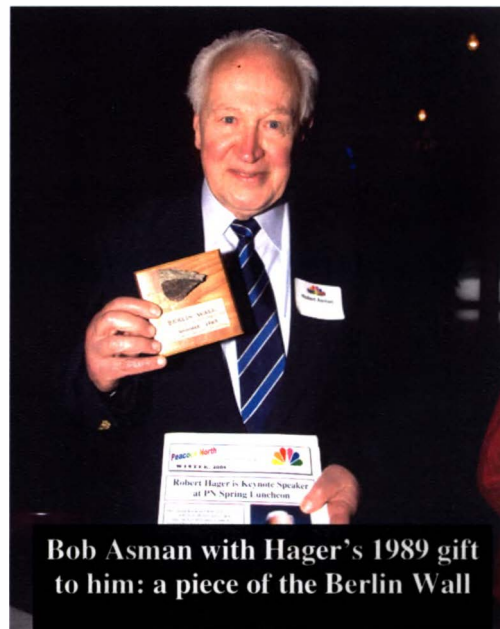
Luncheon Photos



Guest Speaker Bob Hager



Marilyn Welcomes Us



Bob Asman with Hager's 1989 gift to him: a piece of the Berlin Wall



Mary and Jim Marshall

Mike Mathews



Len Stucker, Joel Spector and Marilyn Altman kick off the Luncheon

Luncheon Photos



Peter and Margaret Peterson



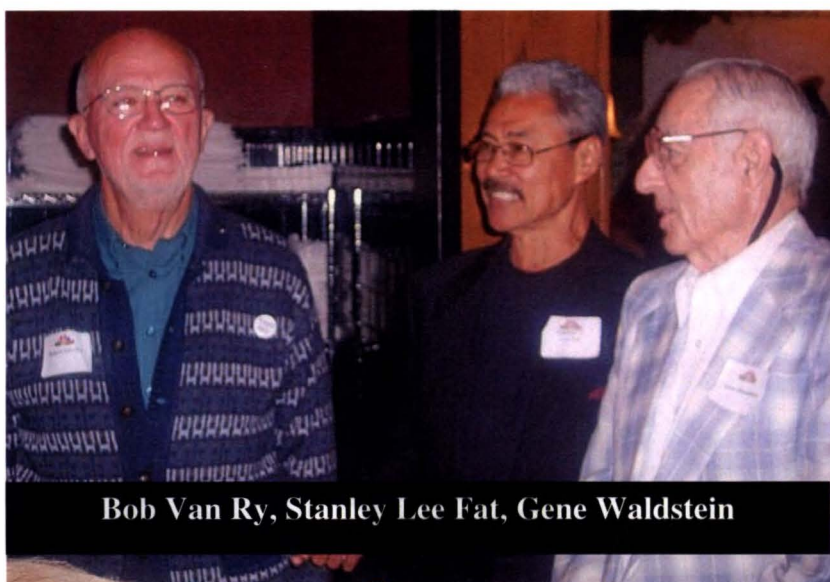
Gloria Clyne and Dave Handler



Pat Mauger, Jim Barron, Pat Donegan



Paul Scrabo and Bud Shadel



Bob Van Ry, Stanley Lee Fat, Gene Waldstein

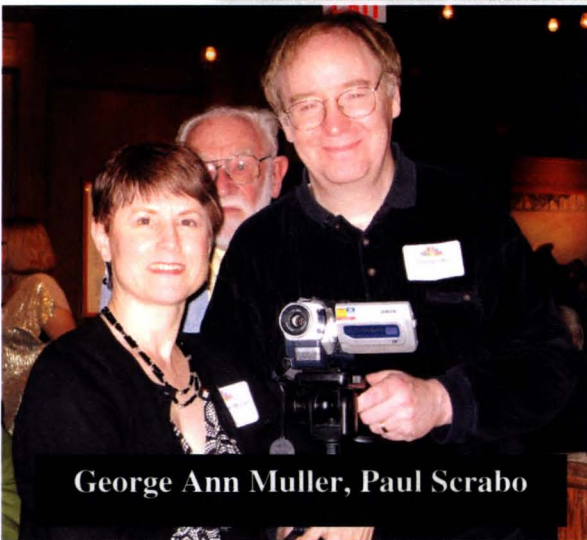


Mary Lou Kennedy, Lauren Fairbanks

Luncheon Photos



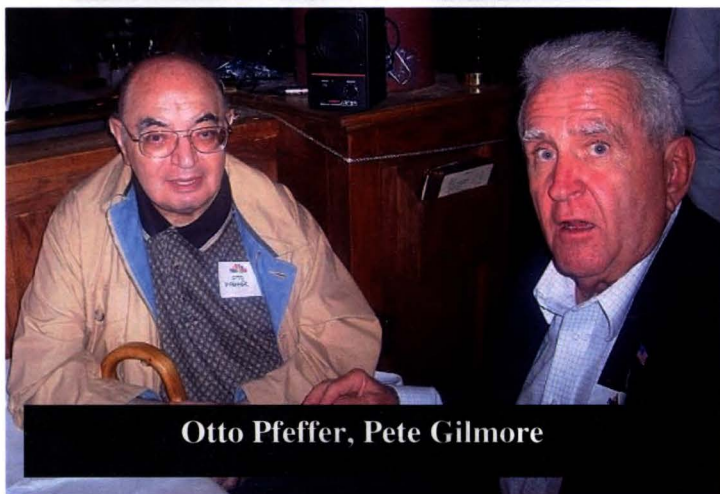
**Hope Thompson, Edna Sneed, Carrise Ann Barnes,
Mattie Navarro Monts, Sharon Crewes Whitney**



George Ann Muller, Paul Scrabo



**Jackie Twohie, Marilyn Altman, Jan Switkes
Thornley**



Otto Pfeffer, Pete Gilmore

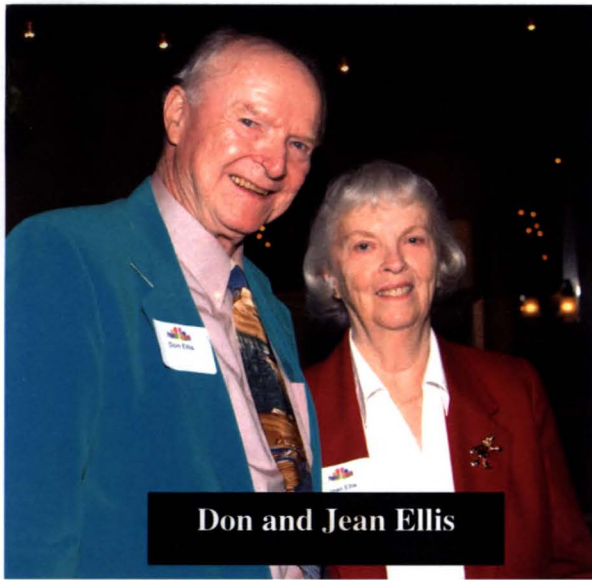


Rita Satz, Gloria Clyne

Luncheon Photos



Luncheon Photos



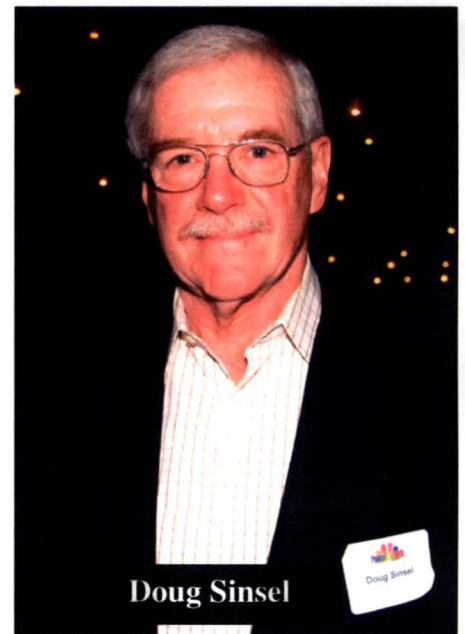
Don and Jean Ellis



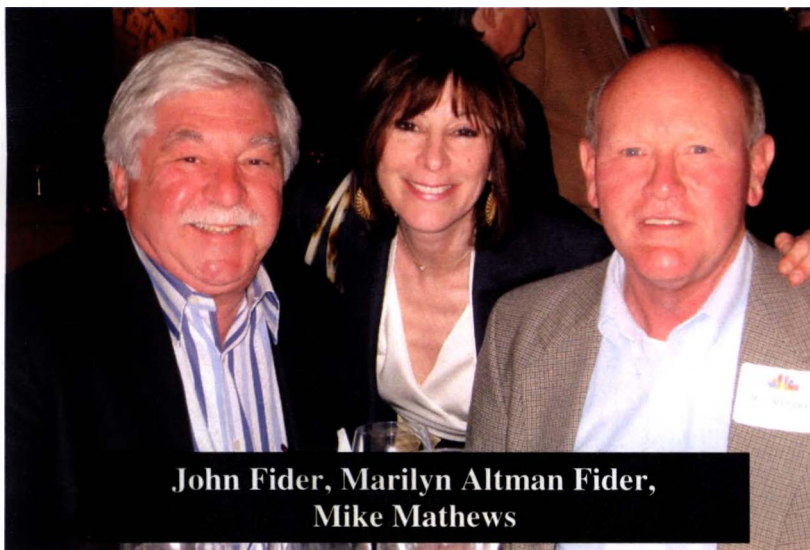
Ken Donoghue, Ed Gough



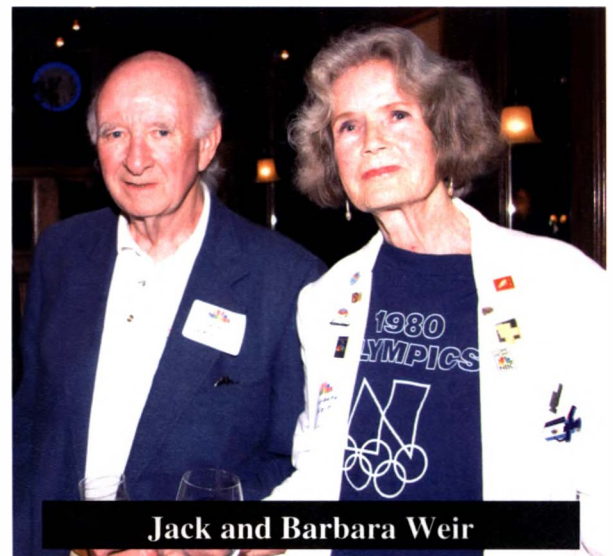
Kathy Powers Nelson, Bob Newman, Doug Nelson, Jim Barron



Doug Sinsel

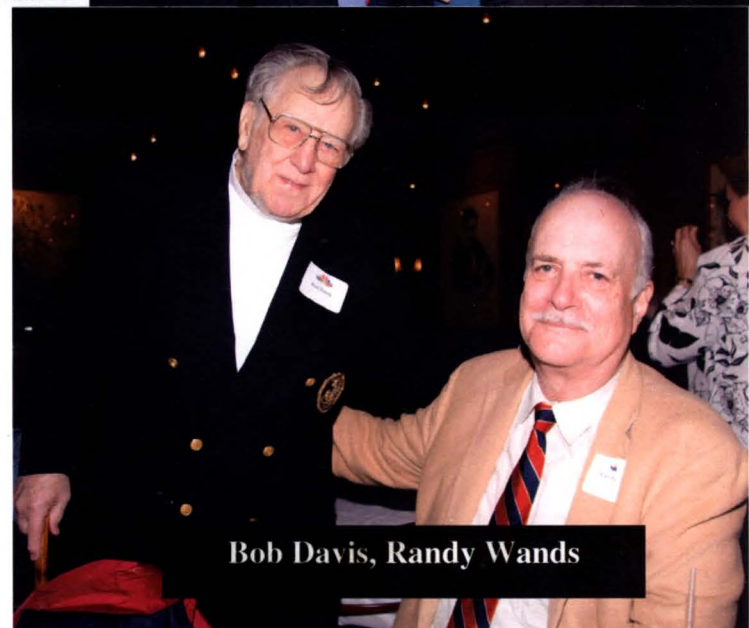
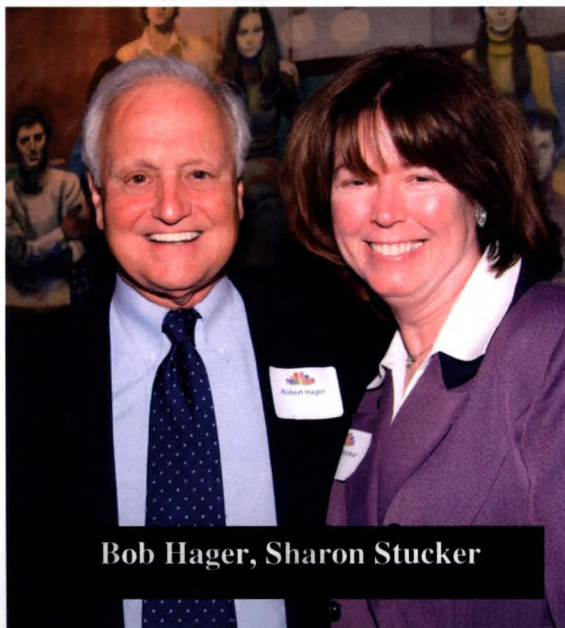
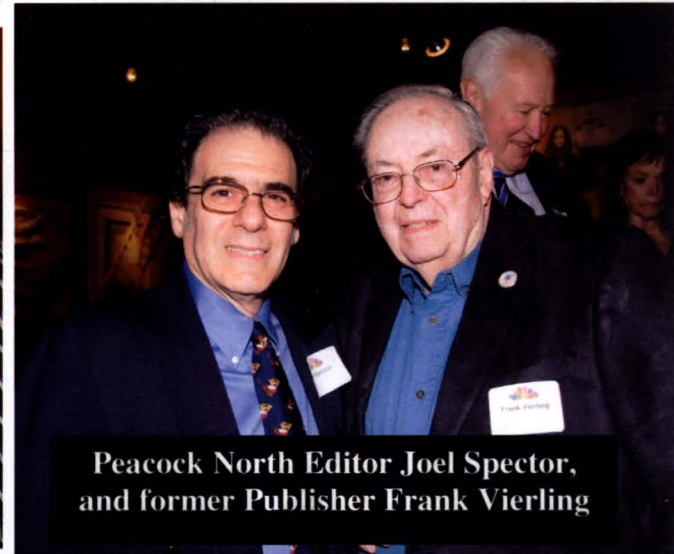
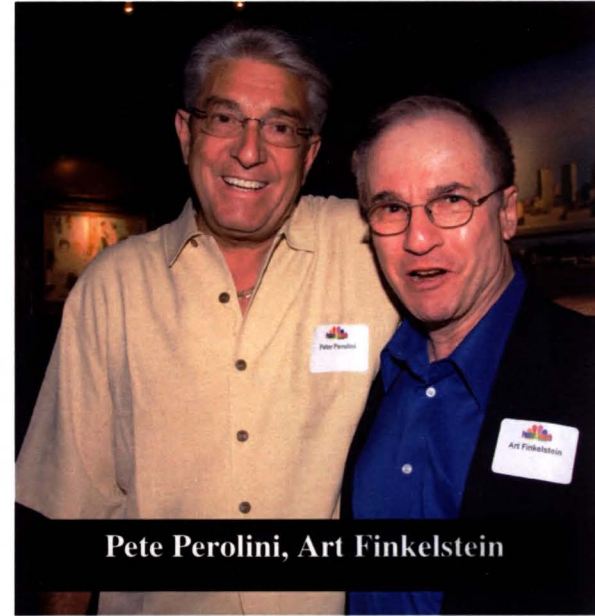


**John Fider, Marilyn Altman Fider,
Mike Mathews**



Jack and Barbara Weir

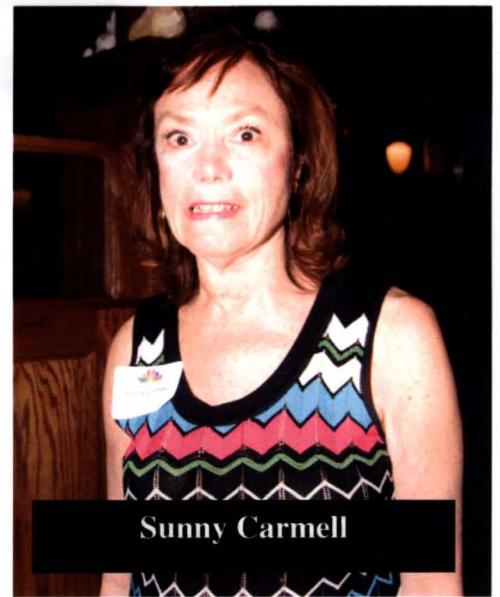
Luncheon Photos



Luncheon Photos



Beryl Pfizer, Carrise Ann Barnes



Sunny Carmell



Rich Scrivani



Susan Drury, Pat Mauger, Cynthia Kayan



Doreen Fallot



Hope Thompson, Len Stucker, Kathy Salvio

Luncheon Photos



Top: Walter Whitney, Melanie Rock, Jonathan Oakley, Henry Makrin
Bottom: Pete Gilmore, Bill Freeda, Mary Ann Martin, Frank Kennedy



Vivien & Bob Newman, Carol Aerenson, Joyce Werney

**"That's all from
New York at this time."
"Woof!"**

We Get Letters and Photos

**NBC Florida Retirees
Boca Raton - May 4th, 2008**



Another “Flynn” On Broadway!

Peter Flynn writes to tell PN that his daughter-in-law Andréa Burns is now appearing in the Tony Award-winning Broadway musical “In The Heights.”

Here’s an excerpt from Charles Sherwood's review for the New York Times, published on March 10, 2008:

“In addition to the aforementioned characters, there is... the vivacious Daniela (Andréa Burns, choicely tart), who owns the beauty salon where Vanessa works, is on the move whether she likes it or not. Priced out of the 'hood, she's packing up her straighteners and moving to the Bronx.”

Andréa’s photo is prominently displayed outside the theater.



Looking BACK

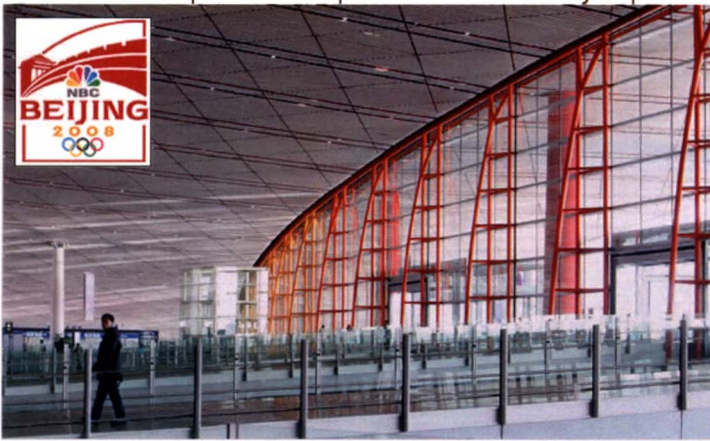
By Frank Vierling

Beijing pictures from a May New York Times

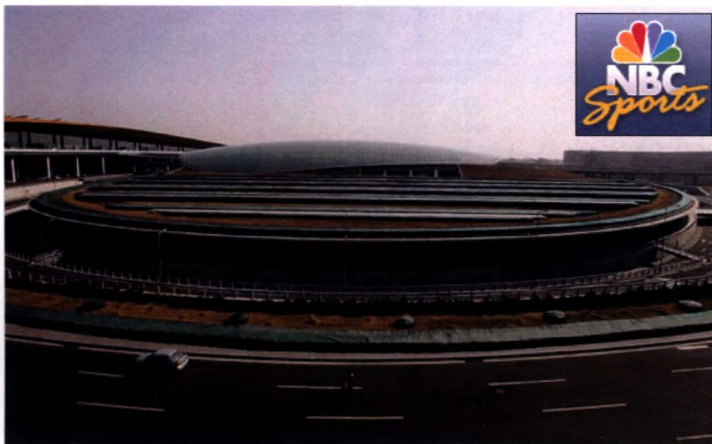
In 1896 the ancient Greek Olympic tradition was revived. In ancient times there were no sports reporters, no hoopla and few visual recordings. There does exist illustrated pottery. A casual look reveals that women did not participate and short pants had not yet been invented. Obviously togas were not meant for running and hurdling. Fortunately, by 1896, when Olympic I was held, appropriately in Athens, shorts had been invented.

In the 1900 Paris games the Olympic Committee lost control when the government took over both the

China spruces for the Olympics



The red and gold colors of Imperial China decorate Terminal 3 at Beijing Capital International Airport



The roof of Terminal 3, is meant to evoke the scales of a dragon. Construction of the terminal was accelerated to meet the expected Olympic surge.

games and the "World Exhibition," an international fair of immense size. Women were allowed to compete. Arena conditions were abysmal. Track events were held on uneven grass, discus and hammer throwers often found there wasn't enough room to throw and the swimming events were held in the Seine River's strong current. Scheduling conflicts made many contestants missed their events. US marathon runners suspected the French cheated since they had not been passed, yet when they reached the finish line, the French runners were already there and seemingly refreshed.

The 1904 St. Louis games were hardly international. Travel from Europe was expensive. Of the 681 competing athletes, 525 were from the US. As an amateur competition, there were no sponsors. It was up to each athlete to get to the games at their own expense. No one cared if they couldn't make it. Slated originally for Chicago they were moved to St. Louis by Teddy Roosevelt's urging because the Louisiana Purchase Worlds Fair Exposition was being held there showcasing the world's newest technologies (electricity, automobiles, airplanes, etc.).

During the fair's six month run, 20 Million people attended the fair. Olympic III lasted only five short days and were a disaster. If you were considered a minority, you had to compete in separate games.

George Eyser, an American gymnast won two gold, two silver, and one bronze medal. A remarkable feat considering he only had one real leg - the other leg was of wood. The 40 kilometer marathon course started with five laps around the stadium before exiting to a dusty 7 hills course. Horsemen cleared the way ahead and the runners were followed by doctors, judges, and reporters in the newly invented automobiles. The first man to cross the finish line was Fred Lorz from New York City. When he entered the stadium, the crowd roared with excitement.



1904 Olympic Website.

Photographs were taken of President Roosevelt's daughter Alice placing a laurel wreath over Lorz's head. His moment of fame didn't last very long. As he was about to accept his medal, officials learned he had been spotted passing the halfway mark in an automobile. Suffering from cramps he hitched a ride at the 9 mile point. 11 miles later the car overheated and broke down. Now rejuvenated, Lorz chose to run the rest of the race. He was banned for life, but that was lifted a year later allowing him to win the Boston Marathon.

The St. Louis Olympics and Paris games proved to be such disasters that the Olympic Committee held interim games in 1906 at Athens in an attempt to revive the flagging Olympic movement. These games were not numbered, but were attended by twenty countries. They put the Olympics back on a steady course.

Olympics IV — the 1906 Mount Vesuvius eruption caused the 1908 games to be moved from Rome to London. The games were much better organized than the previous three and the first to have an opening ceremony, yet they were marred by politics and nationalism. Britain's recent refusal to give Ireland its independence caused Irish athletes to boycott the games and caused contestants from the US to not dip the American flag to the British royalty during the opening ceremony (a tradition the U.S. continues).

There was also controversy over the 400-meter final heat. As four runners came into the final stretch, W. C. Robbins (U.S.) was first, followed by J. C. Carpenter (U.S.), British Wyndham Halswelle coming in third and followed by a fourth runner from the U.S. As Carpenter and Halswelle (second and third runners) swung out to pass Robbins, someone shouted "Foul!" Although Carpenter (the U.S. runner who had been in second) finished first, with Robbins (U.S.) in second, and Halswelle (U.K.) in third, the British officials accused Carpenter of blocking and elbowing Halswelle and voided the race. The race was ordered to be rerun. The American runners refused to participate. Halswelle ran the race all by himself to win the gold.

Diving was added to the events that year. Approximately 2,000 athletes participated, representing 22 countries. [To be continued next time — Olympic data from the internet.]

Frank Vierling retired in 1983 from the Engineering Department. He lives in Oradell, NJ and sent us this Looking Back from his summer home on Panther Pond, Raymond, Maine.



A teahouse awaits customers and passengers in the new terminal.



The new Forest Park Station along the Olympic subway line. The rail line has three underground stations.



This is the interior of the Olympic Green station.



The designers of Terminal 3 wanted to incorporate Chinese characteristics, so they sought the advice of a Feng Shui master.

We Get Letters and Pictures

Editor's Note: Two of our most senior members, Bill and Opal Howard, have checked in with us once again with excellent news. Here is their report along with a fine photo.

Regular readers will remember a complete review of Bill's 32-3/4 year career with NBC Engineering which we printed a while ago.

Contact them at 4100 Jackson Avenue # 11, Austin, TX 78731, Phone (512) 302-1316, Cell (512) 970-1316
whoward11@austin.rr.com

Dear Peacock North:

Thanks for inviting me to renew my subscription with Peacock North. With my busy schedule, I neglected it. I am sending you a check along with some pictures. On December 1, 2007, I had my 94th Birthday. I am healthy, taking no medication and exercising an hour a day in our exercise room with professional equipment.

Sincerely, Bill Howard

4 Apr 2008



NOVEMBER 15, 2007

Opal and Bill Howard had just returned from a visit to Dr. Hunt, Opal's Doctor, where we received a very good report on the healing of her broken right leg. Bonnie, one of the fine nurses, took this picture as we entered the Reception area.

Our first cool day brought out our Winter Caps.

On November 10th, 2007 Opal Celebrated her 89th birthday, and on December 1st Bill marked his 94th!
Do we look it?

We Get Pictures

Gene Waldstein has sent us several vintage photos for your enjoyment.
We'll run one or more in each issue.

This one was taken at THE PRICE IS RIGHT Christmas party, circa 1959.
Left to Right are Stage Managers Joe Dicso and Gene, Producer Bob Stewart, M.C. Bill Cullen,
Bill's Stand-In Jim Holland, Stage Hand Jim McDonough,
Associate Director Mike Graham, and Musician Dave Carey.

A brief note from our Editor...

Some of our members will be at the Olympic Games and the Political Conventions this summer. Please share your experiences with all of us by sending in an article and some photos (jpg files, please) and we'll print them in our next issue. We're also planning to resume chronicling your happy family occasions as we have in past years, so send in your notes and pix.

THE MAGAZINE IS WHAT THE MEMBERS MAKE IT. PLEASE CONTRIBUTE MATERIAL FREQUENTLY!

Thanks,
Joel Spector

Tributes to Silent Microphones

Gene Cesa

Virginio P. (Gene) Cesa, 82, of Melbourne, Florida, formerly of Eastchester, New York died Good Friday, March 21 due to complications from Legionnaires' disease. The son of the late Virginio and Theresa Cesa, Gene was born in the Bronx, NY on December 26, 1925. He leaves behind his loving wife of 40 years, Dorene, and three loving children, Christopher, Jennifer, and Jessica as well as his sister Mary Tummolo.

During World War II, Gene served as a radioman in the Navy stationed on the USS New Mexico in the Pacific Theater.

Gene was a graduate of both NYU and Parsons School of Design and later worked for NBC for over 40 years in the entertainment and news divisions. Many Peacock North members worked with him on countless NBC News special events such as Conventions, Election Nights and Presidential Inaugurations

In his retirement Gene remained active, painting, traveling, and spending time with his family in both New York and Florida.

You may send notes to Jessica Cesa at jessicacesa@hotmail.com.

From Joe Angotti:

Of all the recent death announcements lately, this one was as difficult for me as any. Geno was such a kind, decent, creative man. I can't remember ever hearing a discouraging word from him . . . even when we told him he had to build this huge election map. Very sad passing.



A brief note from our Editor...

Some of our members will be at the Olympic Games and the Political Conventions this summer. Please share your experiences with all of us by sending in an article and some photos (jpg files, please) and we'll print them in our next issue. We're also planning to resume chronicling your happy family occasions as we have in past years, so send in your notes and pix.

THE MAGAZINE IS WHAT THE MEMBERS MAKE IT.
PLEASE CONTRIBUTE MATERIAL FREQUENTLY!

Thanks,
Joel Spector

Tributes to Silent Microphones

Jerry Rosholt Remembered by Tom Brokaw

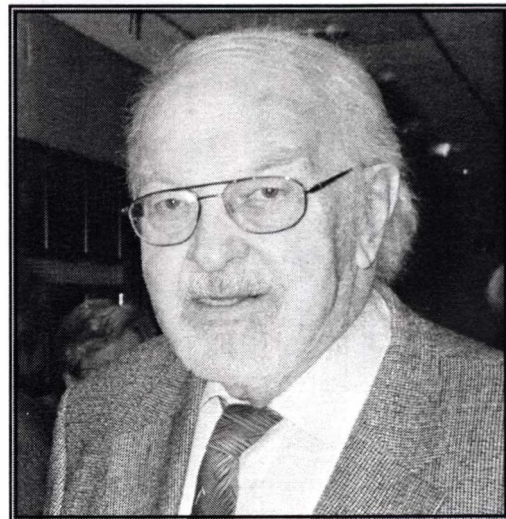
When the sad news came that Jerry Rosholt had died I immediately thought, "Well, the world just lost one of the really good guys."

Jerry was the picture of Nordic calm and efficiency in all those years he performed so many different duties for NBC News. I can see him now, walking deliberately through the newsroom, peering through his glasses, speaking in a low tone about the news of the day or the latest computer upgrade. He was never excitable or angry but he was always more than reliable for his judgment and insights.

We stayed in touch when he returned to northeast Iowa, to Decorah, the home of his alma mater, Luther College and the Vesterheim Norwegian-American museum. It was there that he began a new career: documenting the service of Norwegian men who fought in the Civil War, a project that earned him exalted recognition from the King of Norway. He was awarded the St. Olav medal in ceremonies in Decorah.

We all last saw Jerry at the 50th anniversary of The Huntley-Brinkley Report [photo above] and he was still steady as a Norwegian farmer plowing new furrows for spring planting.

It wasn't until I read his obituary that I learned he had served in World War II with the 95th Infantry Division. "It makes sense," I thought. "Jerry was a emblematic member of The Greatest Generation - modest, calm and gifted who worked at what he loved until he died."



Karlton Jerome "Jerry" Rosholt, age 85, of Decorah, Iowa, died Friday, April 4, 2008 at Aase Haugen Home in Decorah of cancer. Jerry is survived by his three sons: Rhys Rosholt of New Rochelle, NY, Dirk Rosholt of New York, NY and Cort Rosholt of Bordentown, NJ; and one brother, Norman (Darlene) Rosholt of Decorah, IA.

Jerry was born January 20, 1923 in Glasgow, Montana, the son of Carl and Edith (Solem) Rosholt. He was a 1948 graduate from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. He married Carolyn Janelle Hanson on August 28, 1947 in Oak Park, Illinois. He attended Luther College, but was interrupted by World War II, during which he served with the 95th Infantry Division. After the war, he was graduated from Luther with a degree in speech and business administration in 1948. Luther College later honored him with the first Oliver Eittreim Award for Excellence in Broadcast Media (1977) and a Distinguished Service Award (1998).

In 1957, following the launch of Sputnik, Jerry was the first American journalist to report that mankind had entered the space age. For this report, Jerry was awarded the Distinguished Journalist Award by Sigma Delta Chi.

In 1962, Jerry started working for NBC News in Philadelphia at WRCV-TV. In 1964, he represented NBC for the News Election Service. In 1966, he transferred to New York City, writing for WNBC radio. He covered the August 1967 Newark, New Jersey riot, which resulted in his being promoted to the Huntley-Brinkley Report. During the final years of the Huntley-Brinkley Report and during the period of time that David Brinkley was anchor of the NBC Nightly News, Jerry was a field producer, notably supervising the Emmy award winning NBC coverage of the Indo-Pakistani War of 1971. He also covered the US-USSR Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT), the Sadat-Begin Peace Talks, the William Calley trial, several Civil Rights demonstrations, anti-Vietnam War protests and national political conventions from 1964 to 1988. In 1972, Jerry became personal producer and head editor for John Chancellor. Transferring to NBC News Computers, Jerry finished his career rising to the level of director and retiring in 1988.

Tributes to Silent Microphones

Stewart MacGregory



L. Stewart "Mac" MacGregory of Larchmont, New York died on Sunday, December 30, 2007 at the age of 90. Born in Brooklyn, New York on October 6, 1917 to Helen and Chester Macgregory, he was raised in Norwich CT. Stewart graduated from Norwich Free Academy and Emerson College.

He began his career as a page at NBC where on December 7, 1941 he directed all military personnel visiting NBC on that day to return to their ship, base or station because Pearl Harbor had been bombed. He served four years in the U.S. Army Signal Corps during World War II. He returned to NBC in Radio Broadcasting as a sound effects technician and continued his career in television from its infancy until his retirement in 1983. His work included such projects as Circle Theater, Kraft Television Theater, Bell Telephone Hour, Jack Paar Show, Perry Como, The Today Show and Saturday Night Live to name a few. He was an NBC Unit Manager for many years.

Stewart joined Christ Church Bronxville in 1959 and served continually as a lay assistant from 1961 to 2003. As Sacristan, Stewart directed and trained the lay readers, acolytes and other lay assistants. During his tenure he trained 138 acolytes, over 50 adults and at least 22 priests in the liturgy of Christ Church. Stewart was named Sacristan Emeritus upon his retirement, and on the occasion of his 80th birthday, the "Vestry" at the church was refurbished in his honor.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Elizabeth, his son Bruce MacGregory and his daughter Carolyn Bergquist (Warren) and two grandsons Craig and Brendan Bergquist.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, January 3rd at Christ Church, Bronxville at 1:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, friends may contribute to Christ Church, 17 Sagamore Road, Bronxville, 10708.

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

Tributes to Silent Microphones

Larry White

Lawrence White, innovative early producer of programming on radio and television, died on April 27, 2008 at the age of 94. He is survived by his wife of 71 years, Evelyn, their children Joshua, Deborah and Rebecca and grandchildren Mathew and Sarah Barnett.

His long career in media arts began as an assistant to the legendary manager/producer Leland Heyward. Soon White was representing artists on his own including Walter Huston and Charles Laughton. Eventually he began to produce independently. He had the original idea of producing weekly radio series based on classic detective fiction like that of Dashiell Hammett. His first success was Sam Spade based on the detective in the book and movie, *The Maltese Falcon*. Sam Spade was quickly followed by another series called "The Fat Man", in which an original detective in the Hammett style was successfully created. Both series ran for many years on CBS Radio.

In the early fifties, White moved to the growing medium of television. He was the creator and sole producer of *The Pinky Lee Show*. At the height of its popularity, *The Pinky Lee Show* was broadcast six hours a week live on NBC. The legendary studio in Burbank currently occupied by *The Tonight Show* was built for Pinky.

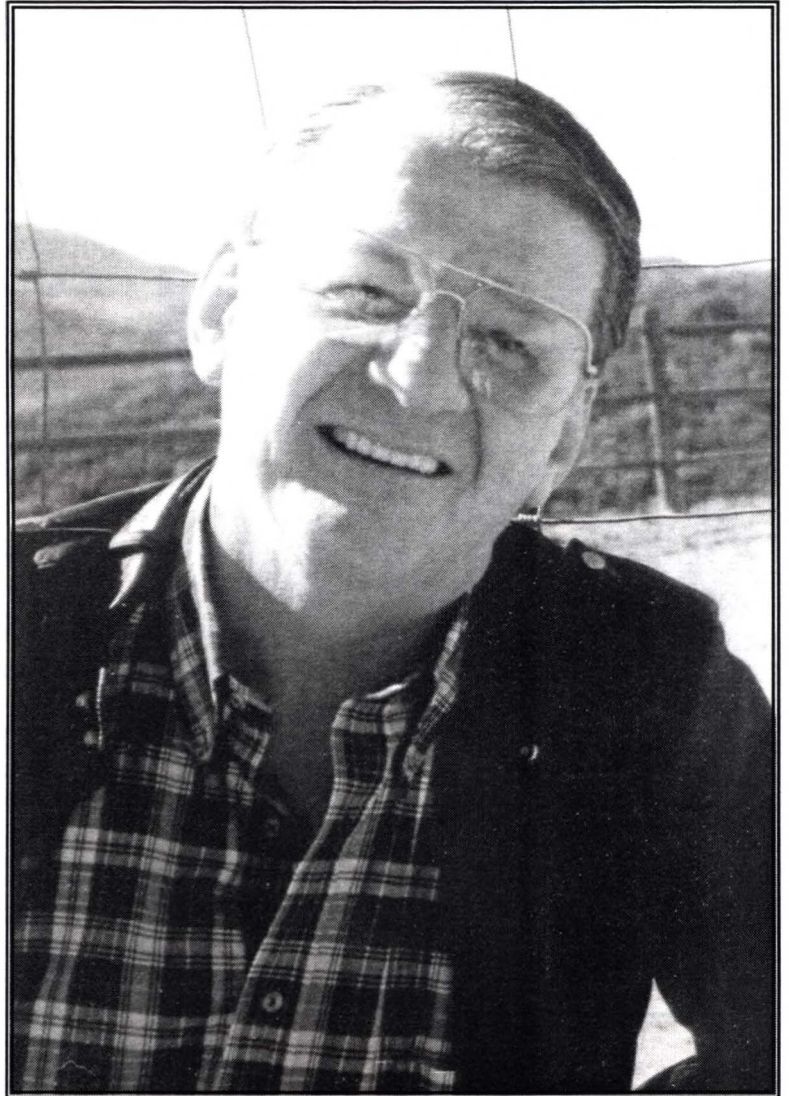
At the same time and in partnership with Leland Heyward he produced the ground breaking Ford 50th Anniversary Show, one of the very first "specials", which starred Ethel Merman and Mary Martin and was directed by Jerome Robbins. At the time, the show was so important that two networks, NBC and CBS both carried it live.

"Later, White was active in bringing Jazz to a huge audience by producing a series of classic Jazz Shows on Television sponsored by Timex watches. He also pioneered using Videotape at classic circuses in Europe, bringing them to America as "International Showtime," a long running series hosted by Don Ameche on NBC. He is remembered for his originality, creativity and intelligence.

--From the New York Times on 5/4/2008

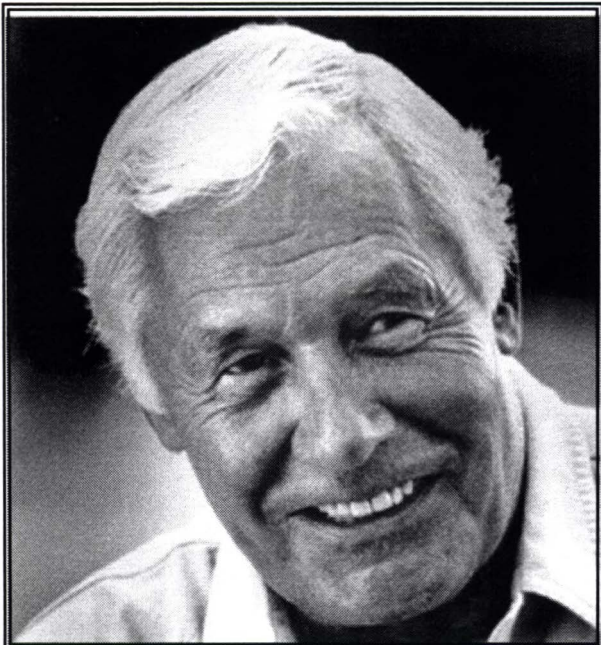
Jack Marshall adds: Larry was one of the people instrumental in hiring me at NBC. We appreciated each other's humor and work ethic - a rare commodity. He will be missed by all who knew and worked with him.

Enid Roth adds that **Clark Jones** directed the Ford 50th show, which is supported by Clark's New York Times obituary: Mr. Jones specialized in big cultural telecasts. In 1953 he directed the two-hour 50th-anniversary tribute to the Ford Motor Company, broadcast live on NBC and CBS.
(New York Times 4/5/2002)



Tributes to Silent Microphones

Bill Whalen



William C. Whelan, of Westport, CT died April 25, 2008. For over thirty years Bill covered news, sports and special events for NBC as an Associate Director and Director. His Emmy-winning work included 1969 coverage of the Apollo Moon Landing and Robert F. Kennedy's final night in California.

He is survived by wife Mary (Hector), son, William A., daughter, Cynthia W. Keating, four grandchildren, brother Thomas and sisters, Ellen, Ruth and Annette. Donations may be made to Connecticut Hospice, Branford, CT.

--- from The New York Times, April 29, 2008

Marilyn Jacobs Remembers Bill

Bill Whelan was tall, dark and handsome and one of the nicest guys you could meet. I graduated from the NYU Dramatic Arts Program and I think Bill took some courses there, so we recognized each other when we met at NBC. He was in every sense of the word, a gentleman, a lovely, unassuming person and a pleasure to know and work with.

Lee Vecchio

We regret to announce the sudden death of Lee Vecchio, wife of long-time NBC Video Tape Editor Murray Vecchio, on April 20th.

Lee was waked at the Papavero Funeral Home in Maspeth, NY.

We hope to bring you additional details in our next issue.

Contact Murray at
murrayvecchio@yahoo.com

Tributes to Silent Microphones

Arthur Edwin Anderson

Arthur Edwin Anderson, 91 died on Monday, January 1, 2007 at Britthaven Nursing Home in Morganton, NC. A native of Brooklyn, NY, he was the son of the late Edwin and Bertha Anderson. He served on the USS Lexington during WWII, was a television technician with the National Broadcasting Company for 36 years. Many Peacock North engineers remember him as a stalwart in Electronic Maintenance for live studios. He retired to Old Fort, North Carolina in 1977. A man of faith, he was active in his local church. Mr. Anderson was also a long time member of the Crooked Creek Volunteer Fire Department. He was an avid gardener, stained glass artist and amateur radio enthusiast. He was predeceased by his son, Russell and is survived by his wife Audrey Totten Anderson of Marion, NC, sons, Clifford Anderson, of Charlotte and Craig Anderson, of Derry, New Hampshire and 5 grandchildren.

Peacock North members may contact Audrey at:

130 Deer Run, Apt. 20
Marion, NC 28752

Phil McEneny



Philip McEneny, age 86 A longtime resident of Pelham Manor and Larchmont, NY, died on September 19, 2007 of complications arising from Alzheimer's. Born in Seneca Falls, New York, Philip graduated from Syracuse University with a Bachelors Degree in Speech and Drama. He began his professional career as Stage Manager for the Theatre Guild and Rodgers and Hammerstein. He worked behind the scenes on several Broadway musicals including "Annie Get Your Gun", starring the legendary Ethel Merman. Philip became Studio Manager at NBC television in New York following his Broadway career. He was part of live television's "Golden Age" and worked as Unit Manager on "The Howdy Doody Show", "Ruff and Reddy"; the first ever TV show created by Hanna-Barbera. He worked for NBC for 12 years. Phil later worked at Videotape Productions (3M) and Unitel Video Productions when video tape was first being introduced to the television industry. He helped pioneer the use of videotape in the advertising industry. Phil and his wife, Isabel (Bishop), were co-founders of The Pelham Children's Theatre. He also acted and directed several plays at The Manor Club in Pelham Manor, NY, including "Take Her, She's Mine" and "Plaza Suite". Philip was a Lieutenant in the United States Naval Reserve and served in both the European and Pacific Theatres of World War II. He was deployed on D-Day at H Hour on Omaha Beach. He was a communicant of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Pelham Manor, NY. Phil helped many people overcome drug and alcohol abuse over the past 40 years. Phil is predeceased by his wife Isabel, also a Syracuse University Drama Major and Broadway actress, and his son Philip. He is survived by his sons Tim and his wife Laurene McEneny of Colts Neck, NJ and Tom and his wife Susan McEneny of Ringwood, NJ. Philip is also survived by grandchildren Tom McEneny, Brian McEneny, Erika McEneny, Tim McEneny, Jr., and his wife Eileen (Durkin) McEneny of Brielle, NJ, and a great grandson, Tim McEneny III.

-- from the New York Times 9/23/07

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