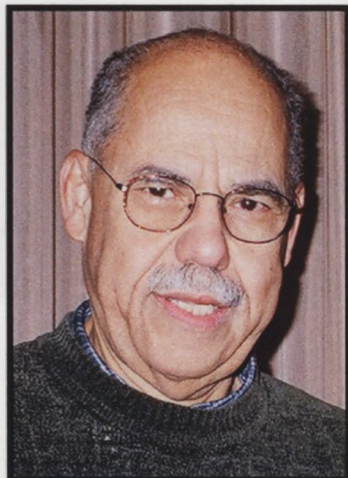




# PN Spring Luncheon Opens On Broadway! Make Your Reservations Today!

It's official! The new location for our luncheon is O'Neals' Restaurant, located opposite Lincoln Center on 64th Street between Broadway and Central Park West. The entire ground floor space will be ours - but only if we can guarantee at least 120 guests. Please see the reservation coupon on Page 31 and mail it in today!

## Inside This Issue: A Season of Events



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## Marilyn's Page

The last few months have seen several of our colleagues be memorialized by their friends, family and associates. Among those were Gordon Manning and Reuven Frank.

Gordon was put to rest on September 11th, a dazzling New England day in Westport, CT. Does it get any more appropriate than that? I think he would have enjoyed the irony. His memorial service came one month later in New York City and was attended by what looked to be the Who's Who of broadcast news. Part of the group which assembled to pay homage to Gordon were those who had actually been responsible for telling the American story through News for the past half century. It was like being in a time capsule.

Reuven Frank was also honored this past winter in a tribute on the 50th Anniversary of the Huntley-Brinkley Report. The gathering in 8H consisted of more than 200 people, many of whom had not seen each other in decades. Thanks to the efforts of Cheryl Gould and Bambi Tascarella this group included everyone from correspondents and producers to technicians, directors, PA's, editors, stage managers, announcers and secretaries. Quite a broad group indeed! More on that later.

**A point of business about the annual luncheon.** The date remains the same, Sunday May 20th. The location has changed because La Maganette has been taken over by a new owner. Our luncheon this year will be at O'Neals' on 64th Street between Broadway and Central Park West. It is a great space as well as a great location. Easy to get to by public transportation as well as by car. The restaurant is on the ground level, no elevators necessary. We hope you will like it as much as we do. Please send in your reservation form (on Page 31) and luncheon check as soon as possible. The restaurant requires a firm booking by April 18th to guarantee the price and the room. Check out their website at [www.onealsny.com](http://www.onealsny.com) for an animated tour.

Now on to the rest of the magazine....

## Remember our troops, our crews and our correspondents in harm's way

Air Force Chief Master Sgt. John Gebhardt, of the 332<sup>nd</sup> Expeditionary Medical Group at Balad, Iraq, cradles a young girl as they both sleep in the hospital. The girl's entire family was executed by insurgents; the killers shot her in the head as well. The girl received treatment at the U. S. military hospital in Balad, but cries and moans often. According to nurses at the facility, Gebhardt is the only one who can calm down the girl, so he has spent the last several nights holding her while they both sleep in a chair.

Photo by David W. Gilmore Jr/U.S. Air Force,  
Sent to Peacock North by Frank Kennedy

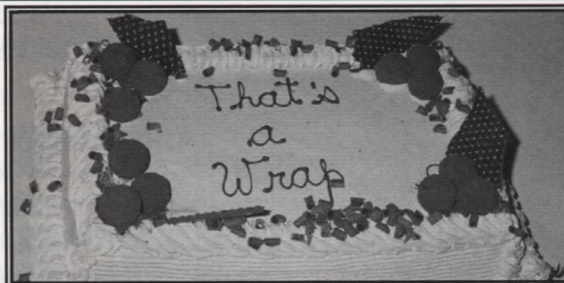


## Current E-mail Addresses

REMINDER—When you change your e-mail address, please remember to notify us at [peacocknorth@yahoo.com](mailto:peacocknorth@yahoo.com). This is a great way for us to help members keep in touch with each other.



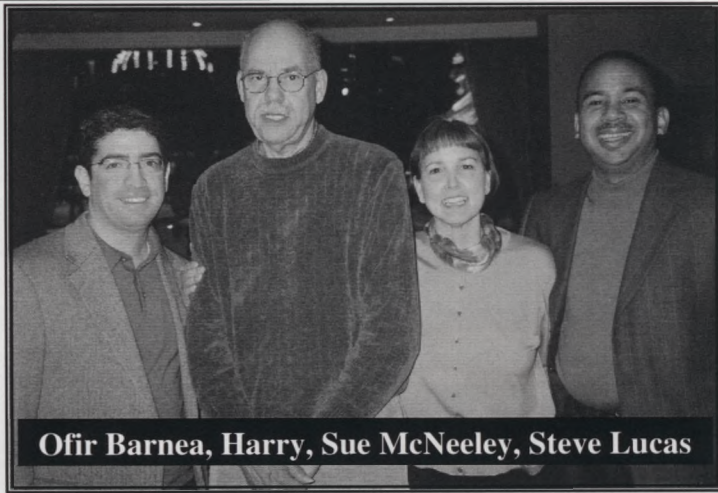
**“Okay, gang...  
Let’s do this!”  
WNBC’s  
Harry McNeil  
Retires**



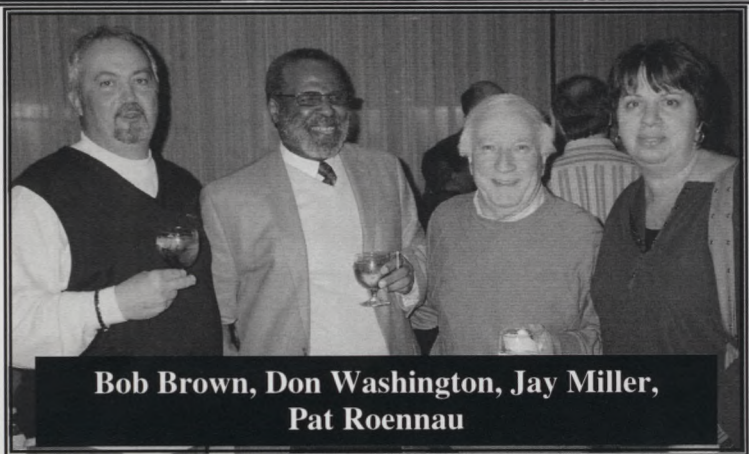
Nearly fifty of the WNBC Director’s pals toast him at the Rock Center Café as he caps a 37-year tour on January 16th.



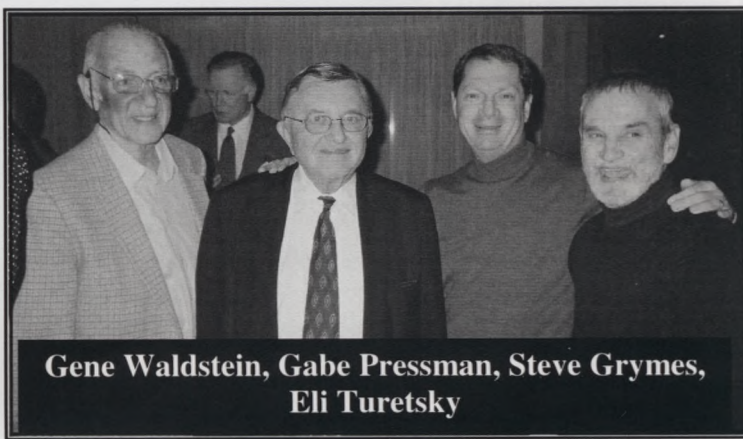
All of Harry’s DGA associates pose together.



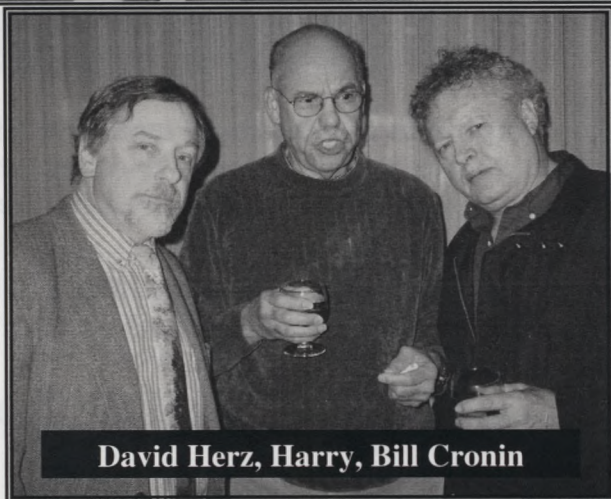
Ofir Barnea, Harry, Sue McNeeley, Steve Lucas



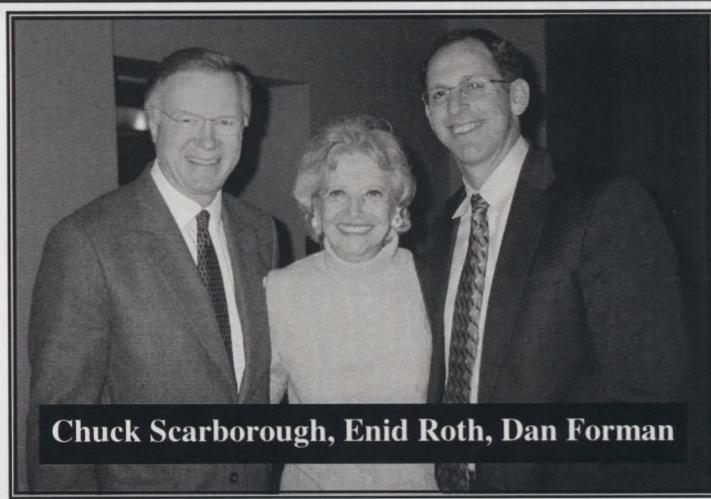
Bob Brown, Don Washington, Jay Miller, Pat Roennau



Gene Waldstein, Gabe Pressman, Steve Grymes, Eli Turetsky



David Herz, Harry, Bill Cronin



Chuck Scarborough, Enid Roth, Dan Forman

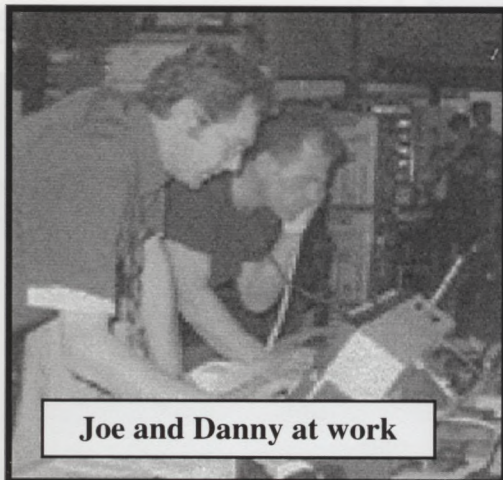
Others retiring from  
the Peacock Express

Ed McEwan  
John Marelli  
Beth Skobel

Kathy Salvio  
Peter Weiss  
Larry Worster

We wish them all well!



**"You Think Your Job Is High Stress?"****Meet Danny Miller!****Story and Photos by NBC News Tech Manager Joe Raznik****Joe and Danny at work**

NBC Field Operations provides a bridge between news events from locations around the world and the studio control rooms of every NBC News entity. Field Operations' rapid-deployment teams travel around the globe to provide technical support for correspondents and field producers, enabling them to report on breaking news wherever it occurs. The Field Ops group also installs and maintains technical infrastructure in the 20 domestic and international news bureaus.

No one understands the challenges of this critical infrastructure - and coping with the demands of life on the road - better than Senior Communications Specialist Danny Miller.

Danny's first foreign assignment for NBC took him to Bosnia in 1994. Traveling to their makeshift headquarters through the countryside of Bosnia on a bombed-out road, Danny and crew were unable to communicate

with the outside world for days. Worried editors at the NBC News Foreign Desk wondered if the team would arrive safely which they did. Danny was then astonished to learn that the NBC News team was using an extremely rudimentary telephone system provided by a local company - which charged over \$125,000 for six telephone lines that were connected to a dilapidated portable satellite earth station.

So Danny posed the question: "Why can't we do that - set up efficient telecom - ourselves?" That question began a long-term effort, which ultimately led to the expanded technical expertise of Field Ops from dealing solely with TV technologies, to extending scarce and expensive telephone and computer services from the home office into the field at a moment's notice.

A month after returning from Bosnia, Danny got his next assignment. NBC Dateline announced a partnership with the Discovery Channel to provide live coverage during the raising of a 16-ton piece of the wreckage of the Titanic. The NBC team would be at sea for three weeks with a fleet of three ships operated by the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. The show's producers needed 24 telephone lines shared between the three ships, which were located 500 miles off the eastern seaboard.

Danny and his team installed a T-1 data circuit that combined 24 telephone lines into a single 1.5 megabit data circuit. When connected to a local cell phone site specially constructed aboard one of the ships, all news staffers had cell phone service within a three mile radius of the mother ship.

Danny also oversaw the installation of voice compression technology, which allowed Field Ops to squeeze 96 telephones into the same bandwidth previously used for only 24 telephones. At long last, the barrier of 24 voice channels was broken, providing all NBC News entities with as many telephone circuits as needed to cover a large event (not to mention a tremendous savings on long-distance calls).

Next came deployment of voice over internet (VoIP) technology, which allowed the telephone system to ride on the data circuit. This technique utilized all unused bandwidth to the fullest capacity by combining two services into a single data stream. Upon sensing an outage, the system automatically switches to the backup path.

These advances were all a result of the efforts of the dedicated team of engineers, technicians and vendors brought together and supervised by Miller, who plotted a course based upon his vision of reducing operating costs while providing an increase in both the quality and reliability of an ever-expanding range of communication services.

**Reprinted from INSIDE NBC/UNIVERSAL**



## BULLETIN

As we went to press it was announced that Danny has been promoted to Manager of Information Exchange Technology, NBC Field & Satellite Operations. Joe Raznik is now Director, NBC Field Satellite & Fiber Architecture.

**Right:** Danny conducts initial testing of the modified HUMV satellite uplink truck.



**Left:** Machine-gun toting Afghanistan Security Guards from the Northern Alliance who escorted the NBC News team 24 hours a day pose for a photo with Danny.

**Right:** Sam Sambataro and Danny inside customs house on the border between North and South Korea for "Where In the World is Matt Lauer?" North Korea is behind the locked door.





*We Get Letters***PUBLISHER NEEDED!**

Budd Schulberg's cousin, **Sunny Carmell**, is looking for a publisher for "Take Me There," a book about the NBC Pages with David Hartman, Regis Philbin, Willard Scott and more celebrities, plus celebrated Producers and Directors and even an account of the struggling, young NBC Pages during September 11th. Contact her at 212-988-1483 or at 445 East 80th Street, New York, N.Y. 10021. Thank you.

Sorry if this goes on a bit too long but I felt I had to tell you that the newsletter was a strong reminder of my husband Charlie Tesser.

He used to wait for the mailing and enjoyed it thoroughly.

November will be two years that he is no longer with me and I miss him every day. I'm sure those of you that knew him will remember him as a beautiful human being. He was very close to Al Camoin and when I read of Al's passing I can only hope that they unite up there somewhere and are able to catch up on old memories.

With sincere and heartfelt thanks for a wonderful read.

**Doris Tesser**

Hi folks. Another nice issue.

How about soliciting material by asking for "My Greatest Assignment at NBC"?

That should get the computers working. Ask them to keep it to 500 words and you can use several in one issue. I'll send in mine - - soon.

Best,

**Dan Gabel**

10/7/06

Dear Peacock North,

Although I did not know most of the people mentioned I still find it fascinating to hear their wonderful stories.

I worked "freelance" from 1964 to 1987 on four different "Soaps" and staff from '87 to '93.

The longest gig was ANOTHER WORLD for P&G. I was the voice-over guy.

The Announcing staff of 35 in 1964 is now zero! Times, they are a changin'!

Please keep up the wonderful work with the magazine. Color or black & white, it's your effort that's important.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

**Bill Wolff**

Arthur "Andy" Anderson will be 92 in January 2007 and has had Parkinson's for about 17 years.

For almost 4 years he has lived at the McCune Center in Black Mountain, NC, an assisted living facility, run by the Lions' Club. I am 87 and have moved to a town house in Marion.

All of his mail comes to me and I visit him 3 times a week. He is always happy to have me read Peacock North to him. I'm enclosing a check to help with expenses. Sorry my fingers won't allow me to write more.

Our best wishes to all,

**Audrey Anderson**

130 Deer Run Drive #20

Marion, NC 28752



*We Get Letters*

November 9, 2006

Dear Marilyn,

I'm not sure you remember meeting me at NBC. I'm a Peacock Norther, brought to you several years ago by Gloria Clyne who worked with me when I was Betty Furness' producer.

I've enclosed an article I thought you might consider publishing in a Peacock North edition. I was talking to Gloria about the volunteer work I do, and as I was telling her we'd be glad to have more retired TV people, a light went on and she suggested I get in touch with you. So here I am.

If you'd like to talk to me about publishing this, or changing it, or whatever, I'm at (212) 935-0226.

Hope you can use this-and that I'll see you at one function or another!

Best regards,

**Rita Satz****Professional Broadcaster Volunteers Wanted**

When I decided to retire from WNBC TV after over 20 years as Betty Furness' producer on NewsCenter 4, (Gloria Clyne was my colleague) I did what any professional woman in her 70s who'd made an intelligent, thoughtful decision would do. I panicked. Sound familiar? I now had what I wanted - control over my own time. So now what was I supposed to do with it? .

At first, I couldn't resist offers of free-lance work; some very interesting jobs, and not quite as restrictive as a full time job, but still work.

Finally, I bit the retirement bullet, and have built a life centered around the journalism I know, and love - but I'm doing it at my pace, making my own choices - which was the whole point of retiring in the first place.

For one thing, I teach a class at Marymount College at Manhattan's Center for Learning and Living (a continuing education program for Seniors). The class is called "Inside TV News", and my former colleagues, both on-camera and off-camera people, have been generous with their time as guest lecturers. The students love hearing about what goes on behind the scenes. Everybody loves to go backstage! I'd be delighted to hear from any of you in the area who think you might like to be a guest lecturer, I'm also deeply involved in another volunteer project that may interest some of you - a program called Active Aging that produces half-hour and one-hour programs for a public access cable TV station in New York, Manhattan Neighborhood Network (MNN). The purpose is to improve the image of seniors in the media by putting on programs that show older people leading interesting, active and productive lives. For example, we recently aired a program about Katie Kelly (remember her as NewsCenter 4 movie and theater reviewer?). She's now living in Omaha and performing with a group of tap dancers called the Omaha Dancing Grannies. Made great TV! We also aired a spot I produced about Gabe Pressman - talk about active aging! We've done programs about business people, politicians, musicians, athletes... Some are serious, some just plain fun.

The Active Aging group meets once a month at the station to discuss and decide on ideas for programs, and then we go off and produce them.

MNN, funded by Time-Warner, has a well-equipped station in Manhattan and, after certification, our members can borrow cameras and lighting equipment, use their editing rooms, studios and control rooms. The station will train people to use their equipment. The cameras are digital and they use Final Cut Pro editing

Any of you retired photographers, writers, editors, producers in the area who share our concern about the way TV usually shows older people, and think you might like to work with us, just get in touch. We can certainly use your expertise, and you might find it as rewarding as I have.

Just Email me, [satztv@nyc.rr.com](mailto:satztv@nyc.rr.com). I'll get back to you, answer any questions, and if you like, invite you to our next meeting and we can decide if it's a good marriage!



*We Get Letters and Photos*

Hi Marilyn

I, too, was one of the early "women" in the business but I began in radio in California on the Bob Hope Show and my title was "script girl" which only meant I did anything and everything I was asked. I later went to New York to try to get a foot in the door of television. We were told it would not be "t.c." (transcontinental) for ten years). Needless to say that wasn't true but the best thing was I met Carl when I was working on a show called "Believe it or Not". He was doing audio on a particularly difficult show and he did it so well everybody in the control booth cheered. My boss (Fielder Cook) said "That's what you get having an MIT man!" Well ... enough those were great days and a joy for those of us lucky enough to be part of it .... especially with people like Lamar Hunt.

**Cissie Lindemann**

It's been a while since I retired. I still am at NBC in my dreams. At least once a week I am in Studio 8H doing "Saturday Night Live." Every time we meet with friends and neighbors and the subject of television comes up, my thoughts go back to the many "incidents" that occurred on the show while on the air that the control room was unaware of. We, my co-workers and friends, can be justly proud that our group never "lost" a mike or failed to finish a stage or band setup. I can proudly say that when our late and dear friend Scotty Schachter opened a "mike" it was hooked up and we heaved another sigh of relief. It was a pleasure to work with Jack Keegan, Eddie Band, Vince Kane and Larry Glacy on the deck!

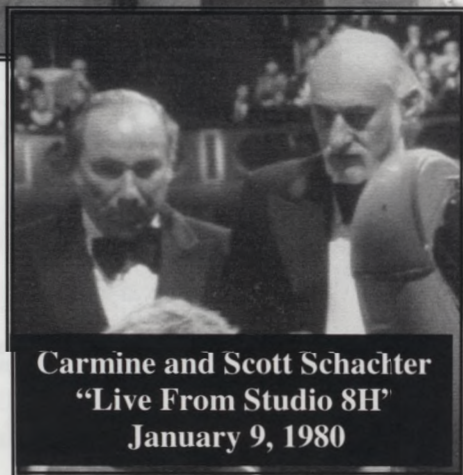
...We watched this year's Macy's Day Parade (Still call it that!) The new floats are great. I can remember looking up the street for the sight of Santa Claus that marked the end of the Parade and a long exposure to some nasty weather. A big hello to (Musical Director) Milton Delugg!

All the best to our friends in Peacock North!

**Carmine and Grace Picioccio**



Joel Spector, Carmine, Jack Keegan  
SNL's first season, December 1975



Carmine and Scott Schachter  
"Live From Studio 8H"  
January 9, 1980



Carmine and the SNL Crew on his last show before retirement  
December 21, 1985

Scotty and Joel are still with him, as are "Bobby-Joe"



**Guest Writer**  
**Mark Kramer - CBS News**

Network news operations are a strange but wonderful animal, especially if you are a field operative for one of the networks covering Special Events. People that do this for a living all know each other. It is a small, select group, most of whom have been in place for a while. They move from one special event to the other, bonding on airplanes, buses, bars and the like. They banter amongst themselves through endless Pool meetings and conference calls. It has been a privilege for me to have known and worked with Mark Kramer on numerous occasions. Here is his goodbye to us all which I felt was deserving of reprint. We wish him luck and good fortune.

*-- Introduction by Marilyn Altman*

As some of you already know, I will be leaving CBS News at the end of November, after a 40-year ride. And some ride it has been...

I can recall very clearly a conversation I had when I was interviewed for an overnight desk assistant's job in 1966. A ancient, white-haired man named Henry Wefing started talking about pension benefits when I retire. In the back of my mind I was thinking, "I'm 20 years old! Is this guy nuts? Retirement is 10,000 years away!" Well, it's not 10,000 years away any more.

I've had an amazing life with CBS News. I look back on the things I've seen and done, and I still can't quite believe it. All those primaries and conventions, all those election nights, all those standbys in 33 and then 47, all those re-motes...

All that OJ and Michael Jackson crap, and all those bizarre "double-chicken" games, waiting to see if the other nets would force us on the air...

And then there was the travel. I was lucky enough to work in 65 countries on 6 continents over the years, covering 6 presidents, one Pope and other stories.

But I confess that the story that excited me the most has been space. When Bob Wussler invited me to be the space researcher for Special Events in 1968, my first reaction was, "What? And get paid, too?" Covering the Apollo program was an experience I will never forget, including meeting all the astronauts who landed on the moon - or got close to landing on the moon -- and those very clever guys in Mission Control who got them there. For a 22-year old kid to fly the command module and lunar module simulators was pretty neat, too.

I did some checking the other day, and in addition to Apollo and Skylab, I've covered 62 shuttle launches. Every single one of them has been heart-stopping thrilling. And so were the two days I flew with the astronauts aboard the zero-gravity aircraft. We did 105 parabolas, which means I was weightless for about 49 . minutes...of course it came in 28-secon'd increments, but it was still pretty incredible. And the first time I flew the shuttle simulator I made a perfect landing...but it was in downtown Lancaster, CA instead of Edwards AFB.

A very few of you were with me on the Global International Airways charter that crashed in Brasilia. That was one experience I could have done without.

I often thought how remarkable it was that I experienced so much of my life through the lens of a pool member. I know many of you better than many of the folks back at CBS. ..and I have appreciated more than I can say your friendship over the decades. In all those weird places we found ourselves, working in the middle of the night, it was more than simply being with people I knew. Although we were competitors, I always felt we were friends who shared a common experience...and in many cases, many common experiences. Those memories will remain with me forever. And how about all those pool calls? I'm sure if we added them all up and could recap-ture all that time, we'd all be ten years younger.

So good-bye...I'll miss you. I hope the future is bright for all of you.

Mark Kramer

Operations Producer, CBS News Special Events



*We Get Letters*

My thoughts about Lamar Hunt. He is the man who really gave me the big opportunity when he brought me into the Dallas Texans family in 1960 to do the radio broadcasts. This brought me into contact with Chet Simmons which led to ABC and then to NBC when Chet went over to the all color network. But my favorite memory of Lamar took place a year ago. My daughter Julie, her husband Leon, and my grandson Parker now live in Wichita, Kansas. Lamar invited them to a Kansas City Chiefs game at Arrowhead Stadium. Their parking pass took them right up to the stadium, then into their great skybox. Lamar always went out to the parking, the tailgaters, ticket holders and fans and visited. This time he took his new friend Parker (13 years old). Next onto the field before the game where Parker met coaches and players. Then the game from the skybox. After the game Lamar took Parker into the Chiefs locker room for autographs on his Chiefs football. Lamar would say to players, just out of the shower, "Would you dry your hands and autograph this football for my friend Parker." Also the Chiefs won, defeating The Atlanta Falcons. When I saw Parker last summer, I asked about that day in Arrowhead with Mr. Hunt, and Parker said, "Granddad, that was the greatest day of my life." I have a picture of all of them on the field before the game and Parker and Lamar look like twins. They both have on gray slacks, a blue button down shirt, a blue blazer, and a red tie. That's Lamar and that's the man I now miss. **Charlie Jones**

All of us were involved with the AFL,NFL, WCT ... because of the creativity of Lamar. I met him during the development of the AFL. MCA (Jay Michaels) was the agent for the proposed league and ABC was the lead horse as far as TV was concerned - we got the rights and later when I went to NBC (not because of me) the AFL followed. It was because Sonny Werblin and his relationship with Bob Sarnoff - the President of RCA (and NBC) that the TV rights moved.--**Chet Simmons**

I remember once when we were visiting Lamar and Norma in Dallas when we went out to dinner. We stood in line for a long time waiting for a table just like everybody else. Must run in the family. His sister was a delight as well. He was one of the truly GOOD men. There are a few like that but not that many. I was always glad that Carl was one of the GOOD men. Yesterday was Carl's birthday and the love his children and many of his friends had for him was always heartwarming. I remember how good Lamar was to him at a particularly bad time. Well ... anyway .... he will be missed.

**Cissie Lindemann**

Amen to Cissie regarding both Lamar and Carl. I certainly didn't know Lamar well, but each professional contact with him made it obvious he was a classy human being and a kind person. **Tim Ryan**

Even though I was in the presence of Lamar Hunt only a handful of times, I feel deep sadness over his passing. Perhaps, it's knowing that sportsmanship, integrity, loyalty and cooperation--hallmarks of Hunt's life in and out of sports--are in a losing battle in today's sports world.

I believe that everyone--executives, producers, directors, announcers, technicians, and even publicists--who found careers in sports television in the '60s and '70s owe the man a debt of gratitude. Just think of the jobs he helped create at NBC by launching the AFL and World Championship Tennis, not to mention the two professional soccer leagues he championed, all of which drew hours of TV coverage. After joining NBC as the junior publicist working for Til Ferdenzi in a two-man shop late in 1975, it was hard not for me to wonder if my job would even exist were it not for the AFL and WCT.

**Tom Merritt**



In reading the last few E-mails from Tim and Cissie my thoughts and memories started cascading.....

I remember Dad [Ted Nathanson] always spoke of Lamar Hunt with respect and admiration....

This time of year always brings on fond thoughts of Championship football and the Bowl games that were about happen.....

When my sisters and I were younger our first holiday trips were to Miami for the Orange Bowl.....It was the greatest time for all of us.....but simply the greatest for a young son who enjoyed sports and worshiped his dad....All these fun and interesting people gathered to broadcast a football game and a parade...! (In the early days Dad did the Parade as well as the Bowl game and the AFL Championship, sometimes in 3 consecutive days) All this happened at what a 12 year old boy thought was the world's greatest hotel the Du Pont Plaza....!!

There was dinner at Joe's Stone Crab.....Going with to the team practices with Al De Rogatis... Sitting at the pool and watching Charlie Jones and Elmer Angsman telling stories... There were family dinners with the Lindemanns at Curt Gowdy's Ocean Condo.... The excitement of the great Miami Dolphin teams in their Playoff games all happening in preparation of the Orange Bowl Game....

There was a wonderful sense of purpose and adventure happening....Much of what was happening had never really had happened before and everybody was bold and vital. What was happening was exclusive.....These men and few women (Ginny) were creating and inventing a new way of broadcasting Live TV....and therefore making history ....much of what is now taken for granted....Jumping all over the country from game to game....video tape instead of film....new and mobile cameras..... This was the era when Joe Namath would guarantee a victory and.....WHERE?? from and in Miami....! Jim Simpson, David Handelman, Don Ellis, Jack Bennett, Corey Lieble, Barry Black, Ben Benjamin, Ernie something (the original head of the Orange Bowl Committee), Larry Cirrilo, Chet Simmons, Til Ferdenzi, Lou Kussero, Murray Vecchio, Jim Maroon, Bill Kelly and the list goes on and on... These were the men that surrounded "my hero." my Dad....!! These experiences and these wonderful personalities were the lens through which I was so fortunate to see the world .... Every day for 15 or so consecutive days was filled with wonderment and fun.... So when I read these E mails it brings me back to a special time in my life!! One that I will always cherish.....it was these times when I learned how to get along with people....where a sense of responsibility and achievement were expected and could be fun at the same time.... When pride mattered and integrity was more important than money or prestige....! We were a lucky bunch!! Much Love to all and Happy Holidays....!

--Michael Nathanson

I attended a Memorial Service for a truly great man yesterday. It was the Celebration of the Life of Lamar Hunt, held in Moody Coliseum on the campus of SMU, Lamar's alma mater. The service was one of dignity and soft spoken humor that was consistent with Lamar's personality. There were hundreds of high-profile personages in attendance including many of his fellow NFL owners, former players and NASL and WTC representatives. They were there not to be seen, but to honor this good man who had had such an impact on their lives through his own business acumen and innovative ideas. This from a man who graduated from SMU with a degree in Geology in 1956, and three years later, at the age of 26, founded the American Football League.

Jack Steadman, the only non-family member to speak to the congregation (with the exception of the presiding minister) recalled that he worked closely with Lamar at Hunt Oil but Lamar really didn't want to be in the oil business; all he ever wanted to do was on a pro football team. But Lamar had to organize a new league, the AFL, just to get his own team in 1960. His team was the Dallas Texans. In 1963 he moved the Texans to Kansas City and they became the Kansas City Chiefs.

How many of us owe the door opening to success in our business, or advancement to greater success in our business, to Lamar Hunt? Charlie Jones recalled that Lamar gave him his first big break as the TV voice of the Texans which led to his long career in network TV. I was working in Kansas City when the Texans/Chiefs moved there and Lamar picked me to do his radio play-by-play. A year later I moved to the Jets with Lamar's endorsement. That year the Chiefs played the Jets in New York and Lamar had a dinner at 21 the night before that game. He called and invited me to join the group. I was pleasantly surprised. In fact, I was overwhelmed with his generosity. He said I might be broadcasting for the opposition but I would always be connected to the Kansas City Chiefs. That was Lamar Hunt. He never forgot his friends.

--Merle Harmon



*We Get Letters and Pictures*



Jack Barry, Host

A memoir by  
Marilyn Jacobs Furey

**FINAL** **DAILY NEWS** **5¢**  
NEW YORK'S PICTURE NEWSPAPER®  
Vol. 41, No. 90 New York 17, N.Y., Thursday, October 8, 1959\* WEATHER: Mostly cloudy, warmer.

# 'TIC TAC DOUGH' BOSS FIRED IN NBC FIX QUIZ

<b>NBC</b>		<b>RADIO CITY STUDIOS</b> RCA BUILDING • NEW YORK	
THURS.	NBC PRESENTS	DOORS	
<b>23</b>	<b>"TIC - TAC - DOUGH"</b>	CLOSE	
JAN.	A UNIQUE TELEVISION GAME		
1958	WITH		
	<b>JACK BARRY</b>	11:45 AM	

In 1959 the thing that a woman most fears happened to me, which was a lump in my breast that had to be removed. In those days it was not the simple procedure that they use today, but a real operation with a hospital stay. Fortunately it turned out well with the tumor being benign. However, after this scare I returned to work to discover that the show I was working on, "Tic Tac Dough", had been cancelled due to accusations of manipulating the results and giving some of the contestants the answers. As the AD on the show along with the TD, Danny Zampino, we always had a lot of fun answering the questions along with the contestants. However, we always used to ask the producers if the show was fixed and of course the answer was always in the negative. In fact, I had taken my first trip to Europe (everything is a first when you're in your twenties) in 1958 with the NY Young Democrats and my roommate was the Associate Producer of "Twenty One" - also a Barry-Enright Show. Well, the news reached us in Paris that the NYC District Attorney was investigating all the quiz shows so I put the question to her and the answer was again in the negative. However, a few months later she and the rest of the Barry-Enright production team were before the grand jury.

The results are well known to us now, and the right and wrong of it can still be debated, but it sure ruined the careers of the producers of all quiz shows and in fact NBC then required employees to sign all kinds of oaths and promises not to accept any favors in return for air time. How things have changed. Now the networks and movie companies are looking for products to plug and put on camera. What happened to the ethics of yesteryear!



**We Get Photos**

**From Joel Spector, these pix are all from 1966. Above,** Chase & Sanborn radio stars Kenny Delmar, Frank Gallup, Ben Grauer and Jimmy Wallington surround Charlie McCarthy and Edgar Bergen for NBC Radio's 40th Anniversary Special. **Right:** Writer/Producer Carroll Carroll and Director Danny Sutter audition some vintage material for the Special. **Above Right,** NBC Radio Director Extraordinaire Ken MacGregor. **Below Left,** Ted Kruse ("Right here, Sir!") Master Control Supervisor. **Below Right,** Evening and Daytime Radio Recording Supervisors Bill Chambers and Chuck Beardsley bookend Charles L. Bennis, Director of Radio Technical Operations.





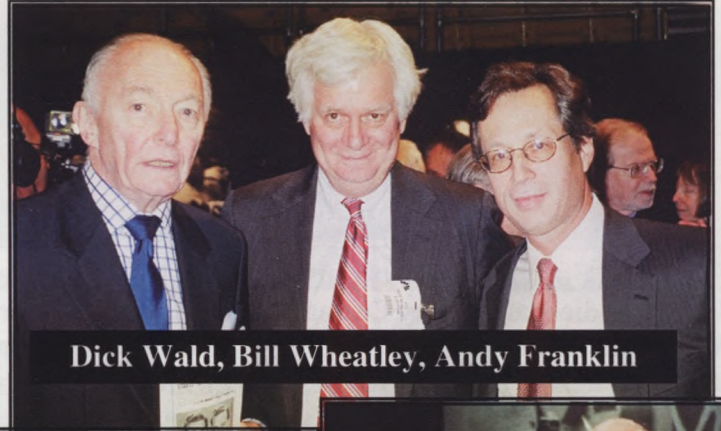
## Huntley - Brinkley 50th Anniversary Celebration

NBC News recently commemorated the 50th anniversary of the Huntley-Brinkley Report and remembered its founding producer Reuven Frank, who died last February. Reuven was a pioneer in television news, and served twice as president of NBC News. The November 3rd event was held in historic Studio 8H at 30 Rockefeller Plaza, and featured speakers Tom Brokaw, Brian Williams and NBC News president Steve Capus, as well as NBC News veterans Robin MacNeil, Sander Vanocur, Lloyd Dobyns and Linda Ellerbee. Hundreds of NBC News veterans attended from around the country, along with members of the Huntley, Brinkley, Frank and Chancellor families. David Brinkley's son Alan, a history professor at Columbia University was also among the speakers, and remarks by Chet Huntley's widow Tippy Huntley Conrad were read by Bambi Tascarella. The program also included an original half-hour documentary describing the genesis of the Huntley-Brinkley Report and tracing the early history of network television news. The event was viewed throughout NBC News on closed-circuit television and online.

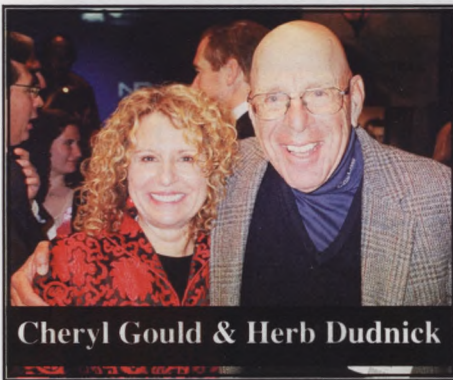
*--Introduction by NBC News Producer Andy Franklin*



**Tippy Huntley Conrad, John Chancellor's daughter Mary and her son Nick Gregory**



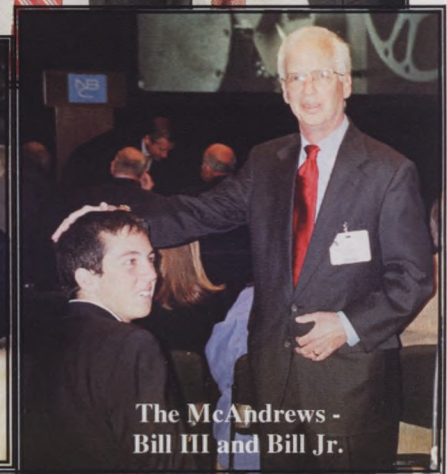
**Dick Wald, Bill Wheatley, Andy Franklin**



**Cheryl Gould & Herb Dudnick**



**John Palmer and Family**



**The McAndrews - Bill III and Bill Jr.**



**Janet Garfield Jamieson, Andy Franklin, Judy Garfield Farinet**



**Marilyn Altman, Bonnie Optekman, Karen Curry, Marilyn Gelefsky**

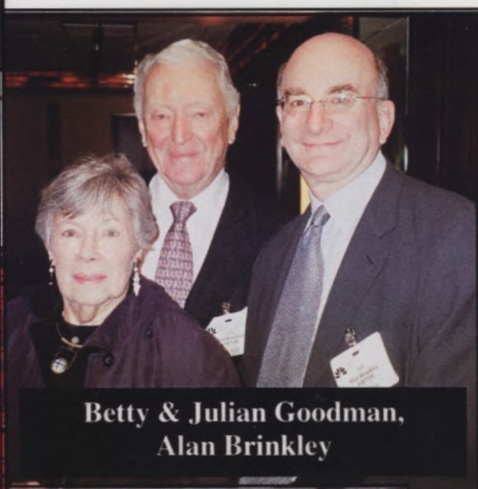




Bernice Frank and Julian Goodman



Bambi Tascarella, Tippy Huntley Conrad, Cheryl Gould



Betty & Julian Goodman, Alan Brinkley



Janet Pearce, Marilyn Schultz



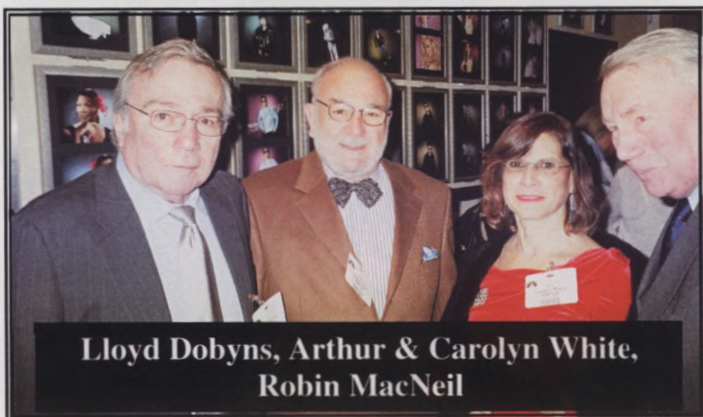
Lydia Houghtelling, Agnes & Arax Kazanjian, Les & Toby Crystal



Jerry & Jeff Polikoff, Sy & Cyndie Pearlman



Carolyn Wheatley, Mark Landesman, Bill Wheatley, John Dancy



Lloyd Dobyns, Arthur & Carolyn White, Robin MacNeil





**Macy's Parade 2006 - Just a Few of the Hundreds of TV Crew and Staff Members**



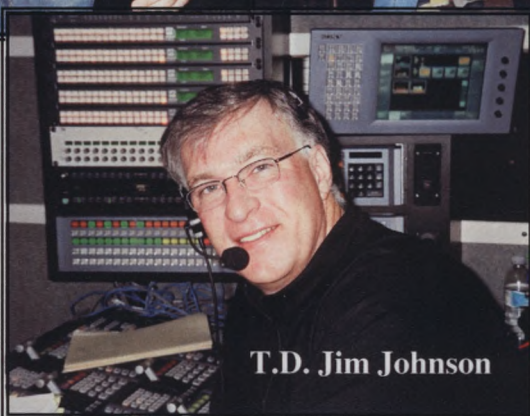
Assoc. Music Director John Rodby, Music Recording Engr. Don Hunnerberg, Music Director Milton Delugg, Music Playback Engineer Joel Spector



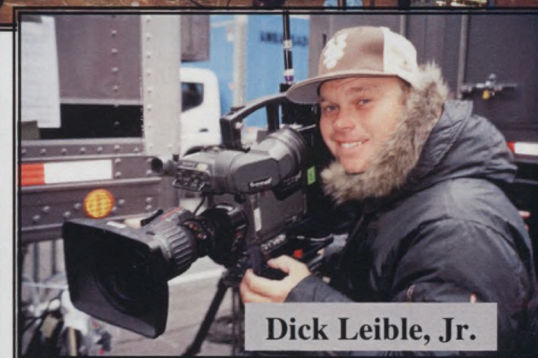
The actual Macy's Parade TV Band



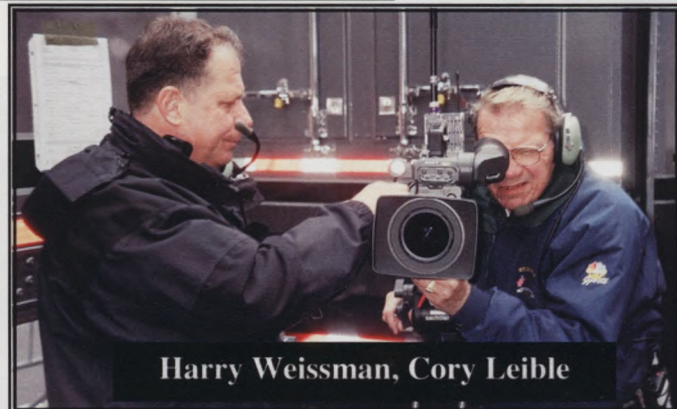
Audio Assist Ed Rutolo



T.D. Jim Johnson



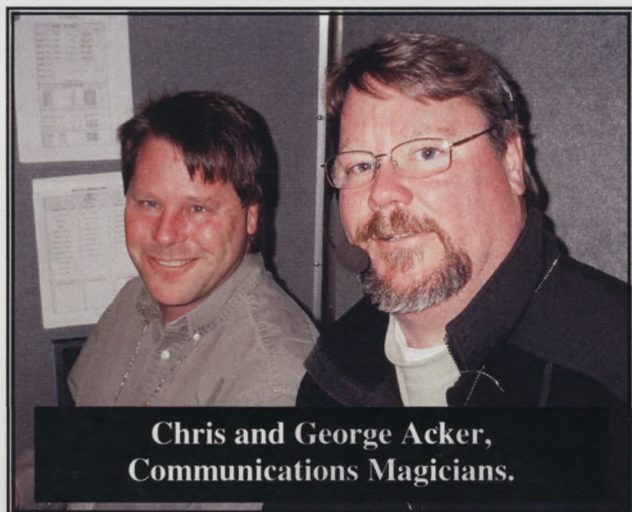
Dick Leible, Jr.



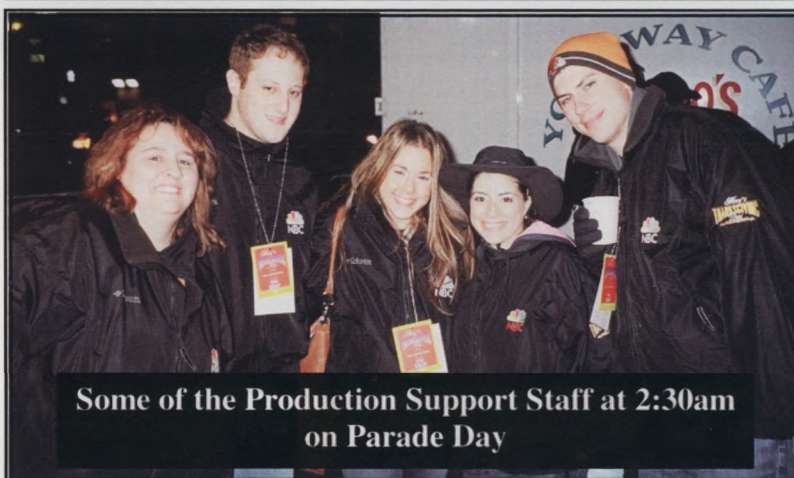
Harry Weissman, Cory Leible



Jason and Josh Sazer and their dad, Bob (a/k/a "Miracle Man")



Chris and George Acker, Communications Magicians.



Some of the Production Support Staff at 2:30am on Parade Day



*We Get Family Pictures*

From Walt and Divina Ryan....

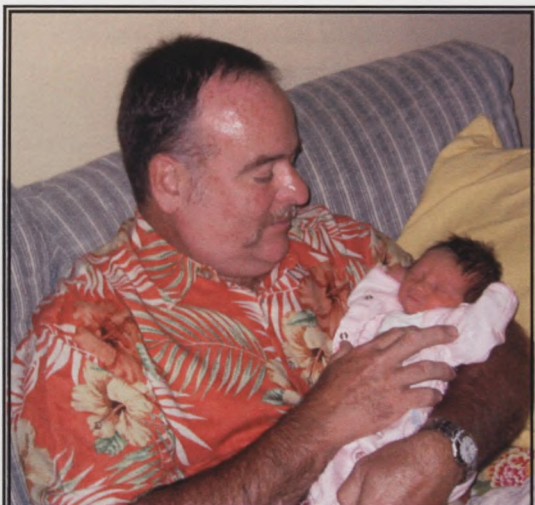
The wedding of Kimberly Mallia & George Ryan was on August 5th, 2006 and took place on the beach at MacArthur Park, Palm Beach Gardens, Florida.

Kimberly is from Farmington, Connecticut. The daughter of Sharon and Paul Mallia. Kimberly's brother Jim Mallia is an ESPN Sports Producer. Kimberly is doing her school psychology internship year with The Palm Beach School District. Kimberly will be a school psychologist next year. George is a school teacher in West Palm Beach. The wedding at the beach was attended by family members, followed by a dinner at The Strip House located in Downtown At The Gardens, Palm Beach Gardens. Then it was on to The Hotel Biba in West Palm Beach where 100 friends joined the celebrations. About half the people were from Connecticut & Long Island, the rest from Florida. The beach ceremony was very romantic; it turned out to be the perfect wedding. The honeymoon was at South Beach, Miami and there will be a honeymoon extension trip to Italy this year





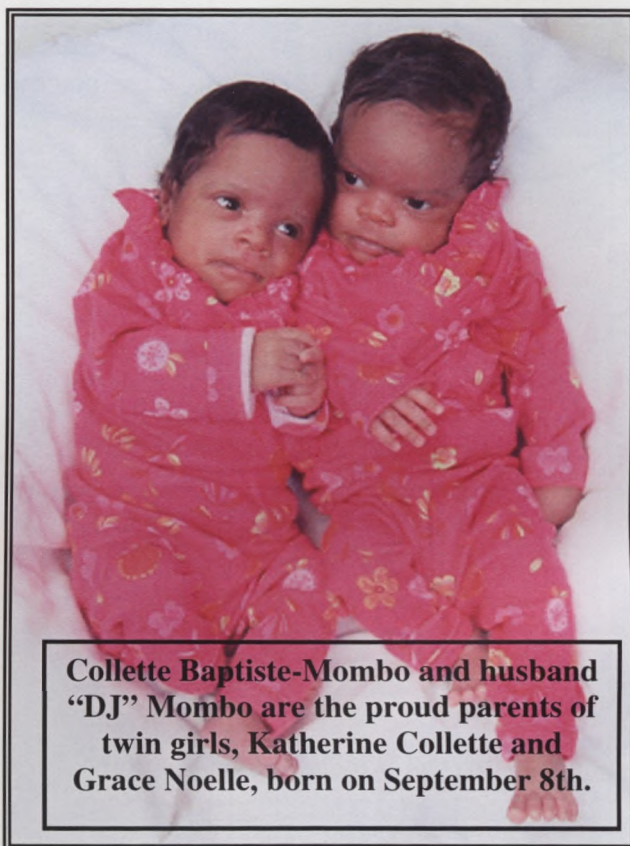
*We Get Pictures - New Arrivals*



James T. Blaney welcomed Emma Claire, his first grandchild, on August 29th. Pictured above are Great-Grandparents Deacon James J. (Jr) and Mary, proud parents Melissa and Colin Blaney, Emma herself, and a mellow grandpa James T.



Collette Baptiste-Mombo and husband "DJ" Mombo are the proud parents of twin girls, Katherine Collette and Grace Noelle, born on September 8th.





*We Get Family Pictures*



Peyton's only 10 months old  
and she's ready  
for her close-up!



Grandparents Frank and Mary Lou Kennedy,  
daughter Tara and son-in-law Jeff Fishman

Here are The Fishman Fab Four:  
Madison, age 5, Alexis, age 7,  
Peyton, age 10 months,  
and Taylor, age 3.

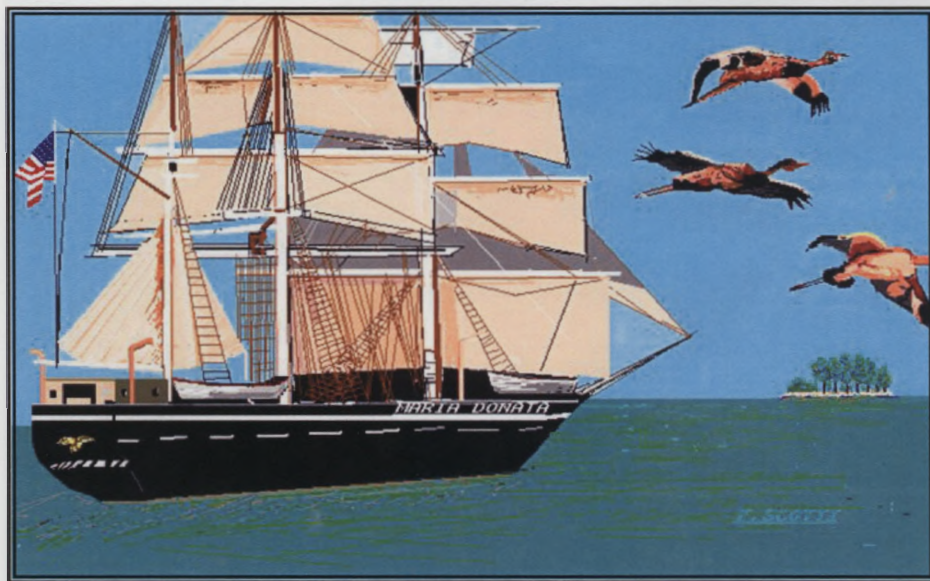




**We Get Artwork**

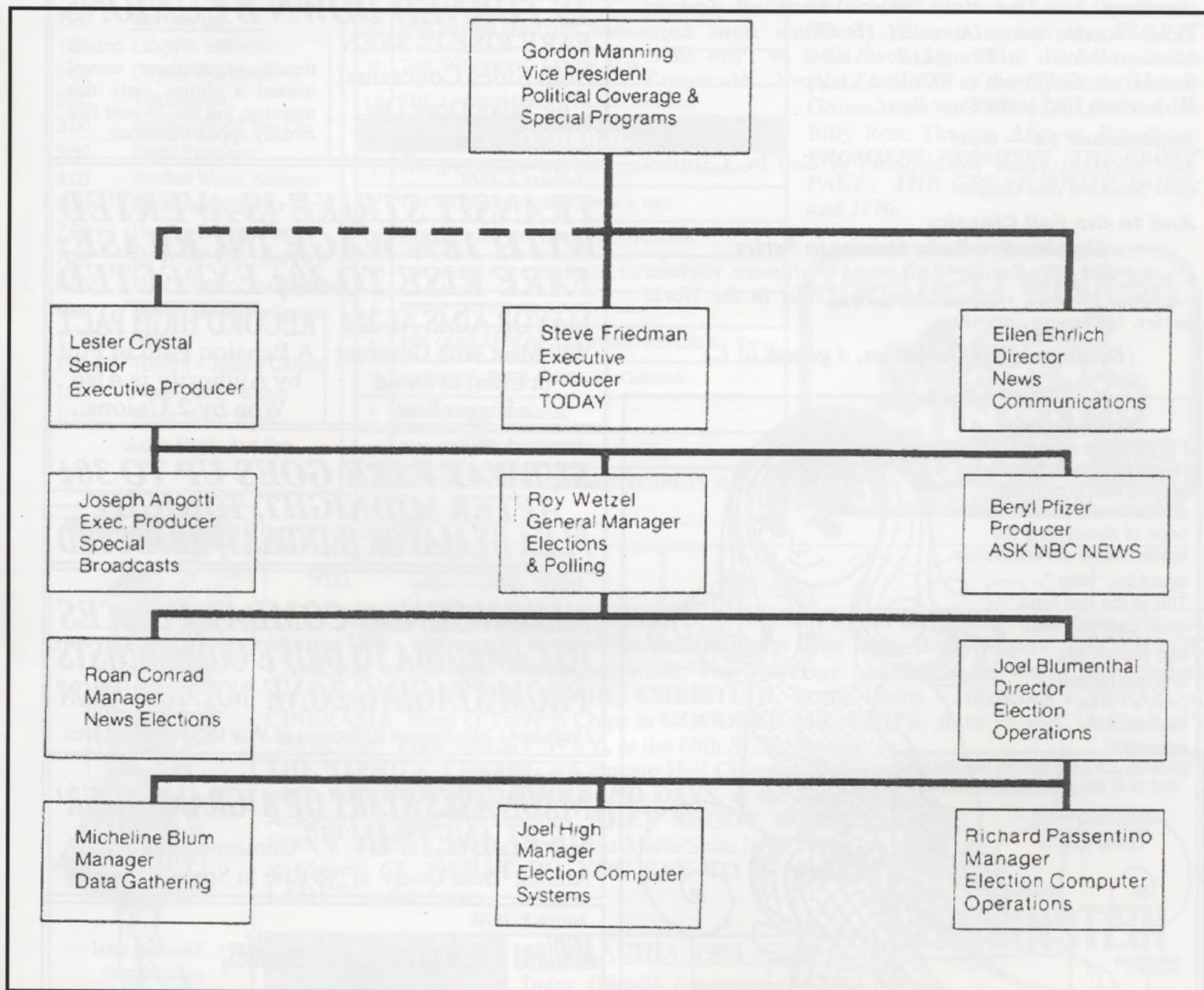
**This beautiful original art is the work of Frank Scotti, former Studio Supervisor at the NBC Brooklyn Studios.**

**The titles are  
Cape Cod  
Alaska  
South Sea**





**NBC Organization Chart - 1981**  
**Gordon Manning's Area**  
**Supplied by Arnie Reif**





# Looking BACK

By Frank Vierling

## Scanning the 1970 The New York Times

### SPORTS:

#### January 2 —The New Year's Football Scene:

Texas hands Notre Dame 21-17 Cotton Bowl Loss. Missouri beaten in Orange Bowl, 10-3 by Penn State. Southern California's Trojans topped Michigan's Wolverines 10-3 in the Rose Bowl.

#### September 14 — Golf

Jack Nicklaus Takes World Series of Golf by 3 Strokes over Stockton and Casper.

#### And to the Fall Classic:

##### October 6 —Reds, Orioles in Series

The Cincinnati Reds and Baltimore Orioles captured playoffs yesterday and will meet in the World Series, beginning Saturday.

(Baltimore took the Series, 4 games to 1.)

#### Nina's Revenge

For decades readers of the New York Times have been playing the "Hirschfeld numbers racket." All in the hope of discovering the hidden name of Hirschfeld's daughter, "Nina." This is the real Nina. Now, can you find two hidden Al's and two hidden Dolly's? (The names of her wayward parents.)



May 3, 1970

January 1, 1970:

### TRANSIT PARLEY PRESSED; 12% PAY-INCREASE OFFER IS TURNED DOWN BY UNIONS

FARE RISE IS SEEN  
Both Sides Concerned  
as Talks Drag On  
After Midnight

The city's critical transit negotiations moved toward a climax early this morning, but the 20-cent fare already appears doomed....

January 2, 1970:

### TRANSIT STRIKE IS AVERTED WITH 18% WAGE INCREASE; FARE RISE TO 30¢ EXPECTED

MAYOR AIMS AT 25¢  
Will Meet With Governor  
in Effort to Avoid  
a Bigger Rise

RECORD HIGH PACT  
A Pension Paid in Full  
by Authority is Also  
Won by 2 Unions

January 3, 1970:

### SUBWAY FARE GOES UP TO 30¢ AFTER MIDNIGHT, TONIGHT PLEA BY MAYOR [LINDSAY] REJECTED

May 1, 1970:

### NIXON SENDS COMBAT FORCES TO CAMBODIA TO DRIVE COMMUNISTS FROM STAGING ZONE 'NOT AN INVASION'

President Calls Step an Extension of War to Save G. I. Lives

March 8, 1970:

### NIXON ASKS START OF A 'GRAND TOUR' OF PLANETS IN '77

Unmanned Flight is  
Among 'Bold Goals' at No Rise in Space Spending

March 8, 1970:

### Millions Watch Eclipse in Clear Skies; An Eerie Twilight Falls Briefly Here

The next total solar eclipse visible from extreme northwest Pennsylvania and most of northern New York will be April 28, 2024.





## WHAT'S ON NBC TV

July 13, 1970

7:00	Today: Pearl Buck, author
9:00	For Women Only
10:00	Kup's Show
10:30	Concentration
11:00	Sale of Century
11:30	Hollywood Squares
Noon	Jeopardy
12:30	Who, What or Where
12:55	Floyd Kalber News
1:00	It's Your Bet
1:30	Life With Linkletter
2:00	Days of Our Lives
2:30	The Doctors
3:00	Another World, Bay City
3:30	Bright Promises
4:00	Another World, Somerset
4:30	Movie, Annie Get Your Gun
7:00	Huntley-Brinkley Report
7:30	My World, Welcome To It
8:00	Mon. Theater, The Kowboys
8:30	Movie, Two for the Seesaw
11:00	News
11:30	Tonight - Johnny Carson
1:00	News - Bob Teague
1:15	Great, Great Show - Judge Hardy And Son

## We Were Reading

## FICTION

1	THE GODFATHER. Puzo
2	THE HOUSE ON THE STRAND. du Maurier.
3	THE FRENCH LIEUTENANT'S WOMAN. Fowles
4	IN THIS HOUSE OF BREDE. Godden
5	THE INHERITORS. Robbins
6	PUPPET ON A CHAIN. MacLean
7	FIRE FROM HEAVEN. Renault
8	THE SEVEN MINUTES. Wallace
9	THE SHIVERING SANDS. Holt
10	THE ANDROMEDA STRAIN. Crichton

## GENERAL

1	THE SELLING OF THE PRESIDENT, McGinniss
2	THE PETER PRINCIPLE. Peter & Hull
3	PRESENT AT THE CREATION. Acheson
4	THE AMERICAN HERITAGE DICTIONARY
5	MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS. Fraser
6	THE COLLAPSE OF THE THIRD REPUBLIC. Shirer
7	AMBASSADOR'S JOURNAL. Galbraith
8	PRIME TIME. Kendrick
9	THE GRAHAM KERR COOKBOOK.
10	MY LIFE WITH JACQUELINE KENNEDY. Gallagher

## Playbill

**BUTTERFLIES ARE FREE** is at the Booth; Tennessee Williams' **CAMINO REAL** is at Lincoln Center and Katharine Hepburn is **COCO** at the Mark Hellinger. They're taking orders for **HAIR**; Jimmy Stewart, with his Puca **HARVEY**, is at the ANTA; over at the Eugene O'Neill, James Coco is the **LAST OF THE RED HOT LOVERS** and at the Broadhurst, Woody Allen is in his play, **PLAY IT AGAIN SAM**; Mike Nichols directs **PLAZA SUITE** at the Plymouth; Tammy Grimes stars in **PRIVATE LIVES** at the Billy Rose Theater. Also on Broadway: **PROMISES, PROMISES**; **THE FRONT PAGE**; **THE GREAT WHITE HOPE**; and **1776**.

BOX OFFICE OPENS TOMORROW

**SHELLEY WINTERS**

**MINNIE'S BOYS**

A ROLLICKING NEW MUSICAL COMEDY BASED ON THE LIVES OF THE MARX BROTHERS

AT THE IMPERIAL

ways



\$40

Pleated Accordingly!

MARCH  
9th

At The Movies

**AIRPORT**, at Radio City Music Hall - Marlo Thomas is **JENNY** with Alan Alda, at Murray Hill - 13th smash week, **Man and Wife**, at Cine Lido - Henry Millers' **TROPIC OF CANCER**, at the Paris - 3rd Record Week, **The Marriage Manual**, at the World - Peter Sellers and Ringo Starr in **THE MAGIC CHRISTIAN**, at the Globe - Hitchcock's **TOPAZ**, at CINERAMA - Peter O'Toole is Chips in **GOODBYE MR. CHIPS**, at the Palace - "A Shocker" - "Perfection" **THE MILKY WAY**, at the 68th St. Playhouse - **THE STERILE CUKOO**, at Carnegie Hall Cinema - 7th big week, **ANNE OF THE THOUSAND DAYS**, at the Plaza - 9 Academy Award Nominations, **THEY SHOOT HORSES DON'T THEY?**, at Fine Arts. - Eva Marie Saint in **LOVING**, at Cinema 57 - **"WHAT DO YOU SAY TO A NAKED LADY?"** at the Astor.



## CLAUDIA 1988 - 2006

Today, 12/16/06, I interrupted my work on this newsletter to take my aging kitty, "with the bunny fur," to the Vet's to be put-down. For 17 years she has been a loving companion, often perching on my scanner, critically watching my work progress and hinting for food.

PHILHARMONIC HALL-THIS WED. & WED, JAN 21, 8:30  
CARNEGIE HALL-THURS, JAN 15 AT 8:30

ALL 3 CONCERTS  
SOLD OUT!

Arthur  
**RUBINSTEIN**

RCA RECORDS  
STEINWAY

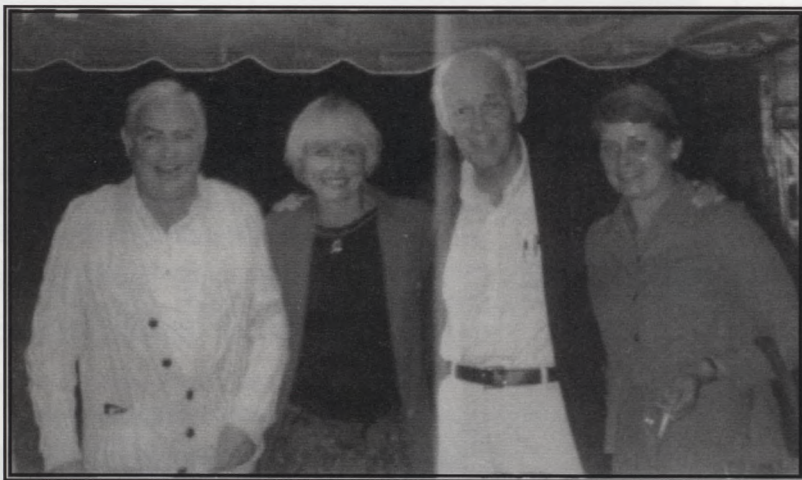
WITH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
ALFRED WALENSTEIN, Conductor

Frank Vierling retired in 1983 from the Engineering Department. He lives in Oradell, NJ and summers on Panther Pond in the woods of Raymond, Maine.



## Tributes to Silent Microphones

### Elmer Gorry Remembered by His Son, Tim



Elmer with Pat and Frank Slocum along with Helen, Elmer's wife



Elmer in his coolest "Letterman" finery

How does one begin to write about one's father and do him justice? My dad was larger than life to my sisters and brother and me and one of those rarest of people, someone who truly loved his job.



Dad started working at NBC in 1952, the year I was born. His friend Bill Quinn helped him get the job. He started working in the mailroom in an era when you either started in the mailroom or Guest Relations. He had advanced to Assistant Supervisor in the mailroom when Hugh Graham hired him as an Office Boy in Unit Managers. After 6 months as an Office Boy dad advanced to the 3rd Unit Manager on the Home Show with Arlene Francis. During the next 30 years he worked on big shows and little shows. He did light shows and serious shows. He worked on "JFK's First 100 Days" and he worked on "Ding Dong School". He was one of NBC Sports' first Unit Managers, working on the "Mel Allen Show" and the 1959 NFL Championship Game, and I think the 1960 World Series. He eventually migrated to Entertainment and spent years working on game shows like Concentration, Dough Re Mi and Three on a Match. The Junior Miss

Pageant, Miss America, Ice Capades and The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson followed as he gained experience. Another World, The Paul Simon Special, A Funny Thing Happened on the way to the White House, and Tribute to a Patriot (Dwight Eisenhower) were a few of his other assignments. The high points of his career were the 3 years he spent on The Tonight Show, the 10 years he spent producing the Orange Bowl Parade and the 2 years he spent on Late Night with David Letterman. A recent Google search revealed that he had appeared on LNDL 43 times as either Grant Tinker or Bob Wright.

His personal life was quite well rounded. He doted on his 17 grandchildren, always making a fuss over the kids when we went to visit. He wouldn't even consider moving to a warmer climate because it would take him away from the grandchildren. During his later years at NBC he managed to attend daily mass at St. Patrick's, usually with Tom Meehan. He was married to my mom Helen for 50 years and her passing in 2002 left a void in his life that nothing could fill.



## Tributes to Silent Microphones

### Lee Hall: Correspondent For NBC-TV and VOA

By Patricia Sullivan, Washington Post Staff Writer

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Lee Hall Valeriani, 80, who was a foreign correspondent for NBC television in the 1950s and early 1960s and then worked for 28 years at Voice of America, died of cancer March 23 at her home in Washington. Known professionally as Lee Hall, she was hired full time by NBC in the 1950s as a foreign correspondent and, with her first husband, Wilson D. Hall, reported from the Middle East and South America and also covered Fidel Castro's rise to power in Cuba.

A contemporary of Pauline Frederick, who is generally regarded as the first full-time female network television correspondent, Ms. Hall was far less known. In a decade when female on-air correspondents were so rare as to be notable, she and Frederick were friends, said Ms. Hall's second husband, former NBC correspondent Richard Valeriani, and both women covered the United Nations for NBC at different times in the 1950s. Julian Goodman, former president of NBC, remembered Ms. Hall as "a good reporter, personable and energetic."

"She was tenacious and was interested in everything," he said. "Just one of those women with a kind of atmosphere about her, so you knew when you entered a room that you wanted to talk to her." Friends described her as an elegant and modest woman who rarely discussed her ground-breaking career.

Ms. Hall worked primarily overseas, but she also was a member of NBC's coverage team at the 1960 political conventions and was the lone female correspondent on a panel with anchors Chet Huntley and David Brinkley, answering questions in letters from listeners. She reported for NBC Radio as well, and when she left NBC in 1962, she turned to VOA, supervising worldwide English news broadcasts, covering the White House and, for 10 years, running the West Coast bureau until retirement. She returned to Washington in 1990.

She was born in Oklahoma County, Okla., and graduated with a degree in journalism in 1947 from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she met Hall. They married and moved to New Haven, Conn., and she worked for a local radio station and helped program children's shows in the early days of television.

Her husband was recalled to military service in the early 1950s, and they moved to Japan, where Ms. Hall covered the Korean War for Armed Forces Radio. By 1953, they were both working for NBC, stationed in Cairo, covering the Middle East. Ms. Hall reported on the 1952 military takeover of the Egyptian government and the abdication of King Farouk. She also filed audio reports on the 1956 Suez Canal crisis.

When the Halls returned to New York in 1957, she served as U.N. correspondent and was interviewed by "Today" show host Dave Garroway about political developments in Jordan. In 1959, the couple was assigned to cover South America. They established a bureau in Rio de Janeiro and covered the continent, with a close eye on Cuba, where Fidel Castro had overthrown the Batista regime. They produced a 1960 program, "Castro's Year of Power," a view of "a Cuba rarely seen," with Ms. Hall exploring the Guantanamo town of Bernardo, whose once-busy business section had turned eerily quiet.

After the 1960 political conventions, she returned to South America, where the bureau was expanded to include Valeriani, based in Havana. By the end of 1961, the Halls were back in New York, and they had divorced.

Ms. Hall moved to Washington to work for VOA, where she reported and worked on programs. She covered the Republican and Democratic conventions in 1964 and 1968 and was part of the press corps accompanying President Lyndon B. Johnson on his trip to Asia and the Pacific.

She married Valeriani in 1965 and traveled abroad frequently. She became deputy chief of VOA's Worldwide English Division and also was VOA's White House correspondent. Her marriage to Valeriani ended in divorce in 1979, and she moved to Los Angeles to be chief of VOA's West Coast bureau. After retiring in 1990, Ms. Hall moved back to Washington and worked part time for two British newspapers. She served a term as president of the D.C. Public Library's Palisades Branch and was a member of the board of the Institute for Learning in Retirement. She had no immediate survivors.





On a dark and stormy Wednesday, October 11th, nearly 200 of Gordon's friends and colleagues (including Marilyn Altman and myself) joined his family for an afternoon of reminiscing at the Century Club. By turns sweet and poignant, it was Gordo's kind of day. A small private airplane had crashed into an Upper East Side luxury building, killing those on board. A short time later, arriving a bit late to the Manning "event", Walter Cronkite remarked "I had just gotten into a cab near the site of the plane crash....I was torn...You know...It's a heck of a story!" Gordon's sentiments exactly.

-- Joel Spector, Editor.

### **Gordon Manning Remembered by Roger Mudd**

The Mannings have asked us to tell stories about Gordon. But most of us who knew Gordon well enough to tell those stories are beginning to suffer from what is now called "Benign Senescent Forgetfulness." But none of us has forgotten that Gordon was the real thing. He got more out of his life than most of us pray for and he gave us more than most of us deserved.

If I had a hero at CBS it was Gordon. For those of us who tended to hate up, Gordon was our leader. Black Rock called him one of those news division "purists" and thank God he was. His loyalty was to his reporters and not to their ratings. It wasn't that he didn't love CBS, Inc. He did love it. He just loved the news division more. It was during one of those big budget cuts in 1971 when you learned how much he did love CBS. It was 10% across the board and corporate wanted the new figures by Monday morning. All day and all night and all weekend Gordon and Bill Headline - Gordon had called him back from a space shot in Houston - worked on cutting without hurting. They listed any unfilled job as a cut; they fired a guy on the traffic desk they suspected had been stealing from the company, they offered early retirement to several who were close to retirement anyway and they let several go with severance as generous as if they had stayed.

Bill was pouring over the sheets and Gordon was pounding away on his typewriter. Bill sensed something was wrong.. "Gordon, are you all right?" Gordon said, "It's the hardest thing I've ever had to do." There were tears streaming down his face. Purist tears.

Some of you may have seen the photograph of Gordon the Washington Post ran in their obit. It's an official CBS News photo. But what you may not have noticed on his desk were three plastic containers filled with surgically sharpened pencils. There must have been 50 of them. Each one sharpened within an inch of its life. In his right hand is one of those pencils and the look on his face tells you what he is about to do - Get ready because here comes another Manning-gram.

I do not know whether Gordon actually sent Jack Chancellor one of them written on a paper toilet seat cover but I do know he wrote scores of them on those little pink sweetener envelopes. When he got his hip replaced, I snatched what must have been at least a hundred pink envelopes from the CBS cafeteria and when EJ and I entered his hospital room I dumped the entire lot of them all over him. He loved the joke but he must have known how everybody made fun of him behind his back. I know I did.

I probably got to know Gordon best during those years after he had given up his apartment on 58th Street and had moved back to Westport in declining health. I would try to call him every week or 10 days but I would sometimes miss. When I did miss, he would call me. He was trying to hold on, staying connected, keeping the lines open, reliving the glory years.

I would begin each phone call in the style of the old Clicker: "Gordon Manning in Westport." He'd say, "Who's this?" I'd say, "Roger." And he'd come right back with "Roger Mudd on Capitol Hill."

We would talk about politics, the networks, the evening news, the anchors, the old gang, Iraq, family, friends, anything and everything to keep the conversation from ending. When we talked about the 2004 election and the red states and the blue states. I asked if he knew where that phrase came from. He said he did not. It came from you, Gordon, I said. You and your great 1976 election night map at NBC. He said hearing that made his day.

In all the times I asked him how he was doing, knowing how frail he had become, I never heard him say, "Poor" or "Pretty bad." It always "Fair to good." And never, not ever, did he fail to ask about my family. In fact he once rattled off their names in Clicker Style - EJ Mudd in McLean; Daniel Mudd in Washington, and so on. It made my day.

( Continued on Next Page)



The last television work I did was for the History Channel - a series of profiles, ending with Walter Cronkite. I worked hard on all of them, but especially hard on the Cronkite hour because of our relationship. I told Gordon what I was doing and when I finally got an air date for the Cronkite show I made sure Gordon knew about it. Each week I'd remind him and each week he'd say, "Tell me again." So he got Blossom to write it down - the date, the time, the channel.

I was really proud of the show. But after the broadcast I didn't hear from Gordon. I had expected a call. I waited a week and I finally called him.

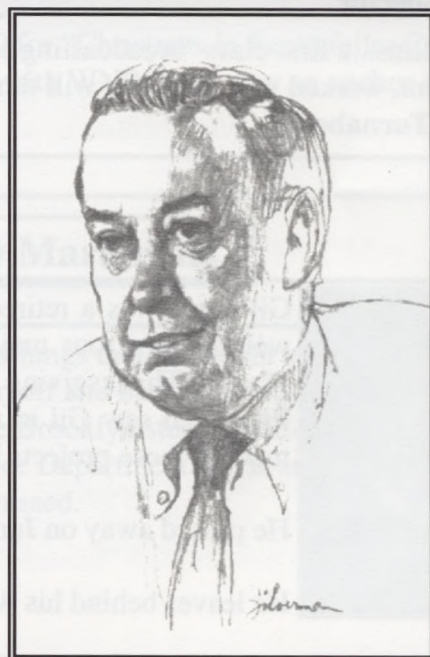
After a few preliminaries about this and that and after he still hadn't said a word about the show, I asked what he thought. He said, 'I didn't think it was very good.'

Good God, I thought, the guy's 87, he can barely walk, his lungs are awash, his heart has gone wobbly and he still is climbing down my throat. He hadn't lost his edge.

Gosh, Gordon. Whatta ya mean, 'Not very good?' 'You weren't very tough on Cronkite' he said. "You should have been tougher."

That we could all go as Gordon went - in peace, without pain and his high standards still intact.

He was a fine, fine man.





## Tributes to Silent Microphones

### Fred Collins

My husband, the love of my life for more than 40 years. Loving father of Elisabeth and Van. Adored stepfather of Vicki Haupt and the late Steven Haupt. You were the best, a prince of a man, with the biggest heart, a legend in your business. I will miss you and love you forever,

-- Margot.



I still have the Polaroid camera in its case that Fred gave me one Christmas when I was PA on "Nightline" in 1958. Fred was amazing...I remember when he left the staff to free lance. I asked him once how much he figured he'd make a year and he told me a quarter of a million. That just astounded me! He was ABC's primetime promotion voice for quite awhile.

-- Peter Flynn

Pancreatic cancer did him in. He was working and teaching right up to the end.

I attended Fred's memorial service on August 9th in a packed room of 200 people at Frank Campbell's. Margot spoke first - very touching,

then quietly funny. She set a sweet tone. Other speakers were Fred's stepdaughter, son, neighbor, lawyer, AFTRA and SAG reps, major announcer acolytes like Joyce Gordon, Bob Kaliban, et al. There were many good laughs throughout! Every announcer in NYC seemed to be there and in no hurry to leave.

-- Joel Spector

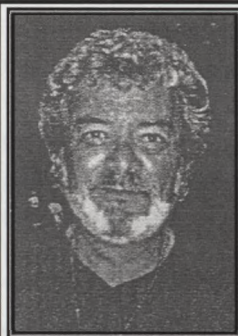
Fred Collins...a first-class "broadcasting citizen."

Knew him, worked with him, and will think of him all this week....we were about the same age.

-- Russ Tornabene



### Gilbert Perez



Gil Perez was a retired Audio Maintenance expert who worked in Live Studios at 30 Rock as well as numerous major remote broadcasts. Saturday Night Live, The Miss America Pageant, Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, Christmas at Rockefeller Center and the Orange Bowl Parade all saw Gil in action, installing, repairing and often modifying a myriad of audio equipment as these projects became increasingly complex.

He passed away on June 14, 2006.

He leaves behind his wife Edie and a daughter.



## Tributes to Silent Microphones

### Frank DeRienzo Remembered by Pete Peterson

FRANK DeRIENZO of Summit N.J. died on October 13, 2006, at Overlook Hospital in Summit, after a long illness. He was 79 years old. Frank was my friend for over 50 years, from the days at NBC continuing through retirement with our Peacock North organization. He was a great guy and a good and honorable friend to all who knew him. His death was a great blow to me despite the fact that he was seriously ill for several months. I went to see him for the last time at the hospital just prior to his death. A terrifically friendly person to his associates through the years, he wished to be remembered to all. Frank had a very loving family. He leaves behind his lovely wife Marie, three sons, a daughter, and two grandchildren. There is a large family group with whom he maintained close relationships. A huge crowd attended his wake. Frank was one of NBC's best Technical Directors. He worked on all the featured shows in the days of live TV. In his earlier years as a Cameraman he became Milton Berle's favorite crewmember friend. Then he went on to serve as Technical Director on countless great shows, such as The Today Show, The Home Show, Specials, News, etc. He had a hidden talent over the years as well. He had been a piano and trumpet player during his off time. He managed and led a band during his college years in the hotels in the Catskills. When Frank was TD on the Morey Amsterdam Show, Morey dedicated one whole program to Frank who played and sang. I listened to an archive recording of that recently, and it was a merry show for all with Morey praising Frank. Tom Snyder discovered Frank's talent as well on his Tomorrow show one night. and had Frank do a perfect trumpet rendition of Bunny Berrigan's "Can't Get Started Over You" that brought great applause. All in all, it's a great loss for me losing one of my dearest and closest friends. He was one of the good guys that everyone hopes to meet in a lifetime.



### Don Luftig

My husband Don Luftig died in July. He was a director of Local News programs since 1963 until his retirement, and also was writer/producer/director of the Test Shows with Frank Field. He won 3 Emmys, in 1976 for a Test Show and for the News, and in 1980 for "Christmas in Rockefeller Center." At the graveside service a eulogy was read by Julian Phillips, at one time with WNBC and now an anchor at Fox News. Would you please tell Pete Peterson. He was very kind to Don.

Thank You, **Sandy Luftig**

### Herb Posnik Remembered by Jay Markowitz

Herb Posnik passed away in November 2006 from a Staph infection of his lungs that he caught while in the hospital for another illness. Herb started at NBC in the 50's. In 1959 NBC had a layoff and he worked for awhile somewhere else until he was called back. He worked in Electronic Maintenance in the Brooklyn studios and then at 30 Rock until he retired in 1986. He was a great asset to the Electronic Maintenance Department. He is survived by his wife Ann, daughter Marie, son Wade, and his grandchild. He will be greatly missed.

The Posnik Family  
2920 Woodhaven Drive  
Medina, OH 44256-8633  
(330) 273-7287



## **Tributes to Silent Microphones**

### **Tom Keevins Remembered by John D'Angelo**

It is my sad duty to report to you that Thomas C. Keevins passed away on June 23, 2006. Tommy was a Stage Manager and an Associate Director on numerous NBC programs including Another World. Tommy was the type of person who was liked by everyone who met him. There was always a laugh, smile or joke from Tommy. Tom suffered terribly from MS and in his darkest days he never gave in to fear or self pity. I think Tom was one of the bravest people I ever met....Fare thee well, Tommy, your pain has ended.

With deepest regards and sympathy to his family,

John D'Angelo

### **We Remember Fitzgerald Smith**

Jerry was born in New York City on April 15, 1922. After attending Hamilton College briefly, he opted to begin his journalism career at age 19 at The New York Times. From there, he moved to NBC where he was employed for over 30 years and traveled the world interviewing celebrities, actors and anyone else who crossed his path. Jerry won two Peabody awards for his documentary work that was featured on Monitor, the NBC radio network's week-end-long program. He was a Reuters war correspondent and also served as a merchant marine in World War II.

In 1959, Jerry met and fell in love with his wife, Edith Beeson Smith, over a hot fudge sundae at Schrafft's in Manhattan. They were married a few months later, and in May of 1961 their daughter, Alexandra was born.

Jerry adored Eastern Long Island and bought his first house of many in Sag Harbor just a few months before he met Edie. The journalist in Jerry couldn't resist the opportunity to begin a radio station in Sag Harbor, and in 1963, Jerry swam out in a pond and anchored a cable wire for a radio tower. Within days, WLNG, one of Eastern Long Island's most popular stations, began broadcasting. Alex and Edie fondly remember helping him with the earlier weather forecasts. After checking the thermometer outside their bathroom window, they quickly reported back to Jerry so that he could complete his weather report for WLNG.

Jerry learned how to swim in the East River of Manhattan and continued his love of swimming in the many ocean beaches of Eastern Long Island. He was often known to spend full moons skinny dipping at one of his many favorite beaches. He also found great pleasure in buying old houses throughout Eastern Long Island at auctions and fixing them up for resale. He truly loved New York and couldn't walk down a street in all of Manhattan without telling you the happenings of the neighborhood.

In his recent years, Jerry found great pleasure in listening to the radio news every hour on the hour. He and Edie also enjoyed singing along with Frank Sinatra and friends, yet was occasionally frustrated as Edie remembered more words than he could. He remained an inquiring reporter until the day he died, always quizzing his caregivers, nurses and doctors on who they were, where they had come from, and their plans for the future.

Fitzgerald (Jerry) C. Smith, 83, of New York City passed away August 7, 2005 at a care center in Twin Falls, Idaho following complications from a stroke. Surviving Jerry are his loving wife Edie, daughter Alex Taylor and son-in-law Ron Taylor of Hailey, Idaho.



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Rowayton, CT 06853

## New Peacock North Members

Linda Ellerbee was the co-anchor (with Lloyd Dobyns) of NBC News Overnight. She continues her numerous television and book projects with her own Lucky Duck Productions.

Colette Baptiste-Mombo worked at NBC as a Technical Director from 1979 until 1997. She and her husband DJ live in Southbury, CT.

Cameraperson Rick Fox Lives in Harlonsville, PA. and recently worked on the Macy\*s Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Tony Soulet worked at NBC in Local Productions and Video Tape from 1974 until 2006. He and wife Naomi live in Kew Gardens Hills, NY.

Sunny Carmell worked in Guest Relations starting in 1962. She resides in New York City.

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