



Indianapolis Broadcast Pioneers Newsletter

2013 HOF NOMINEES

The Indiana Broadcast Pioneers Hall of Fame Committee met on March 20, 2013 to review and select the nominees for induction into our 2013 Richard M. Fairbanks Hall of Fame.

Thirty one people were eligible from nominations submitted from 2011 through March 15, of 2013.

This year the Pioneer Hall of Fame Committee selected five nominee's. They include,

Robert Carter WANE, WTTV

Donald Davidson IMS Radio, WIBC

Vicki Weger WTHI Radio/TV, PBS,
Associated Press

Jim Wilson WBAA, WSBT TV, WISH TV

Lloyd Wright WFYI Radio/TV

This years HOF event will be held at the Indianapolis Marriott North, Keystone at the Crossing on October 3, 2013. Following a reception and dinner each inductee will be recognized and honored with a video presentation highlighting their broadcast careers and their accomplishments.

Each inductee will also receive a Pioneer Hall of Fame plaque as a memento of their broadcasting careers.



Members of the Indiana Broadcast Pioneers and the Indiana Broadcasters Association will receive registration forms for the event by email or you may go on line at

www.indianabroadcastpioneers.com or

www.indianabroadcasters.org/

PIONEER SOCIAL EVENT

Friends, food, fellowship, fond memories and photos were all part of the Pioneer gathering at George's Steakhouse in Indianapolis. The May 10th event drew some real old timers. One special group in attendance included five members of the WTTV staff from those very early years. The Bloomington



Broadcast Pioneers,
social event

station, signed on November 11, 1949 as VHF channel 10 before changing to Channel 4 on February 21, 1954. The five WTTV pioneers at the lunch included Bob Dooley, Dave Smith, Harry Thompson, Bill Wheat and Stan Wood. Stan,

making a transition from WTTS radio, had the honor of announcing the sign on of the new TV station, the second in the state following the sign on of WFBM in May of 1949. Other pioneers from both radio and TV were present to tell stories of those days and the people in the early years of Indiana broadcasting. Dave Smith and Jed Duvall brought collections of old photos, advertisements and promotional materials from stations. Some of the photos were of Indiana broadcasters who were unidentified and the pioneers in attendance were able to help with putting names to faces. The event was produced by Dave Smith. There was no agenda, just a group of old radio and television broadcasters who shared memories and stories, from a time that only pioneers can know.



WTTV early control room.
L-R Milt Lewis, audio Bill Wheat, video
Dave Smith, Director



L-R Pat Garrett Rooney, Bob Warren,
Jimmy Mack, Jane Hodge



The Indiana Broadcast Pioneers continue to preserve our history by hosting a look into the past. The April 10, 2013 event



WFYI President Lloyd Wright

held at the facilities of WFYI TV/Radio in Indianapolis. WFYI President Lloyd Wright welcomed the Pioneers and guests and former Pioneer President Dick Florea spoke on behalf of the Pioneer organization



"Chico" Fernandez

and introduced Julio "Chico" Fernandez, former producer/director of children's programming for WFBM TV and producer/director of many nationally broadcast programs who served as moderator for the event.



Dick Florea

The panel featured Jane Hodge, host of the "Popeye and Janie Show", on WTTV, Jimmy Mack, host of "Teen Twirl" dance program, WLWI-TV, Pat Garrett Rooney, Romper Room and Kindergarten College" WLWI, and Bob Warren, Clowning Around" and "Uncle Buster". WISH-TV.



Jane Hodge

"Janie" remembered those early days of little money but a free reign to be creative. Using a mixture of cartoons and educational segments the program built an audience that received an avalanche of letters and personal photos from her young viewers. Later, when making personal appearances the crowd of kids was huge, sometimes stretching for blocks.



Jimmy Mack

Jimmy Mack cleaned out his basement and brought his collection of memorabilia from his years in broadcasting, displaying photos, record albums, recordings and other souvenirs from his long career. He started his Indianapolis career by hosting "Teens and Tunes" on WISH Radio.

A photo of Jimmy and Ed Clark, "The Used car King", prompted the story of how "The King" was responsible for his first TV teenage dance show, "Teen Twirl", on WISH TV. He later hosted a second dance show, "Bandstand 13" on WLWI-TV.



Pat Garrett Rooney

Pat Garrett Rooney, early host of Romper Room and Kindergarten College" on WLWI-TV, made \$60.00 a week as host and got a free "Romper Room" coffee cup which she brought with her. A former Camp Counselor, she felt she was able to "teach on TV". She recalled having a young boy on the show begin to read the Teleprompter along with her. Pat knew she had become recognizable from her show when a young girl asked if she could push her cart for her while she was grocery shopping.



Bob Warren

Bob Warren, former Producer/Director for WISH-TV, also brought along some memorabilia, sharing photos of his days as a clown on the station's children's shows. He began as "Wonder the Clown" before becoming "Nosey" the Clown. He regularly appeared on "The Dee Sweet Show", Clowning Around and "The Uncle Buster Show". He also "Clowned" as Ronald McDonald, for the Shrine Circus, and played the Canadian National Exposition as a Clown with the Huber International Circus.



Bob Glaze

Bob Glaze, "Cowboy Bob" of WTTV's Cowboy Bob's Chuckwagon Theater was also at the event to lend support and contribute a few stories.

Those early local children's programs were a treasure. There were no guidelines, no predecessors just the talent and imagination of the local producers and talent. The goal was to entertain and to educate, and the children loved it. It was a great time for local TV and those who were children at that time still remember the people, the cartoons, the puppets and the music.



The first year I was a photographer for the Indy 500 was 1957 when I worked for WISH TV and was assigned to the "Crows Nest", a crude two plank wooden photographers platform that hung from the roof of the grandstand on the main straightaway. I was shooting with a 16mm Auricon sound camera with a 100 foot capacity which was good for around 3 minutes of action. By 1964 I had photographed each 500 race from either turn one or the pit area using a Bolex 16mm hand held camera.

Prior to the race of '64 I was able to land some freelance work with Firestone tire company. Each year Firestone produced a program covering pre-race, qualifications and the actual race. The coordinator for Firestone assigned me to the straight stretch between turns one and two. My first day I was watching the cars running practice laps and noticed that Pedro Rodriguez was running really loose coming out of turn one. I waited for his next approach to the turn and began filming. Sure enough, he lost it, began spinning, smoke coming from his tires, and slammed into the wall, spun again, and stopped right in front of me. When Firestone viewed my film they asked if I would move to the inside position of turn four and I agreed. The next two qualification weekends were boringly uneventful in turn four but I did meet another photographer who was shooting for Race Film. Each day we stood side by side shooting what little action took place. With the race approaching I now had a decision to make. Did I want to continue to shoot for Firestone or should I join the team of WISH TV photog's for the actual race? Knowing I would later have to edit the WISH footage for on air and that I would be assigned to the pit area where there was always lots of action, I decided to go with WISH. Three photographers from WISH were assigned to the pits. Each person covered eleven cars and this year I had the middle group, pit positions 11 through 22. A second assignment was to be out on the track prior to the start of the race and photograph the cars being rolled out and put in position, get shots of mechanics and owners and race officials hovering around the cars, shots of the drivers and any other interesting activity. Since there were two other WISH guys and the Crows Nest camera shooting the same thing I decided to get just a few shots and save my film for the start of the race in the event something unexpected happened. I shot film of two drivers getting into their cars then headed for the pits. The start of the race went well, Jimmy Clark, my favorite driver, had won the pole and was leading the first lap. As the cars began going through turn four to complete the second lap rookie Dave MacDonald, driving a prototype Mickey Thompson car, lost control, spun, hit the inside wall, burst into flames, bounced off the wall and came to a stop, blocking a portion of the track. Eddie Sachs, unable to see



Rodriguez turn one crash



1964 turn four crash

MacDonald's car hit him broadside. Both drivers were killed. Standing in the pits I heard a roar from the crowd and saw them looking towards turn four. As I turned and looked in that direction I saw a HUGE cloud of smoke rising from turn four, followed by a burst of flame that suddenly was blown toward the grandstands in turn four. I thought at the time that many of the fans had been burned. I took off running toward turn four and as I exited the pit area I saw Bobby Unser climbing slowly out of his car and over the short wall along the inside edge of the track. He took off his helmet and I saw some burned areas on his face but I didn't stop to photograph him, I kept running toward turn four.

When I arrived it was total chaos. There were cars, drivers, firemen, safety patrolmen, medics, emergency vehicles, photographers and lots and lots of smoke. There was so much going on and the vision was so poor I decided to head toward the outside wall where I had a better angle of the entire area. As I made my way through the now dissipating smoke I saw a car near the wall with the rear end facing me. A fireman was standing next to the car and began walking toward me. As he approached he said, "You don't want shoot that." Realizing the driver (Eddie Sachs) was still in the car, I turned and walked away. I spent the rest of the race in the pits covering the tire changes, refueling and emergency repair to engines and damaged vehicles. I later learned The "Race Film" photographer from turn four was standing right where Dave McDonald hit the inside wall. He was knocked over backward, had minor burns to his face and his eyebrows were singed off. But he did get a great shot. I was disappointed I wasn't there but glad I still had my eyebrows.

Now back at the station, it was time to begin the editing process. In those days it took forty five minutes to process 100 feet of 16mm film but you could load up to 1600 feet at a time. As the film completed the processing it was dry and you could lift off each 100 feet of film as it exited the drying box and begin screening each reel at your editing bench while the rest of the film finished processing. At some point during the screening I came across the first reel of film from my camera where I shot the on track activities prior to the race and the footage I shot of the accident aftermath. I was totally stunned when I saw that the two drivers I photographed getting into their cars prior to the race were Eddie Sachs and Dave McDonald.

You can view the Race Film turn four crash at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YJ9RaX5rBgU>.

Bob Smith

Cadle Tabernacle Radio

It was 1884 and in a log cabin in the hills of Washington County, Indiana E. Howard Cadle was born. His parents, Tom and Lorreta Cadle, had four children and Howard declared himself "The worst kid of the lot." The young man barely made it through the 8th grade and soon after began what he called a life of drunkenness, gambling and sin. It started early. In grade school his teachers called him "the meanest boy in the school." He spent his time playing tricks on his teachers and fellow students. He regularly played hookey and earned "many a whipping" for disrupting classes and occasionally the entire school. He once killed all of a neighbors chickens just for fun and during an argument threatened to kill his brother with a pitchfork. At age twelve he had his first taste of liquor.



E. Howard Cadle

Although he came from a deeply religious family his early adult life would mirror his childhood. He married at age 19 and a short while later he and his wife moved to Oklahoma City. He became a very successful professional gambler by cheating his opponents in both cards and dice. He also cheated on his wife. Eventually his reputation was ruined and he

moved back to Indiana, settling in Indianapolis. Finding the city crowded with gamblers and crooked politicians he set to work and soon became known as "The Slot Machine King". He expanded that business into Illinois and Kentucky and the money rolled in. But after a change in gambling laws he was forced out of business. Lost and suffering from Bright's Disease, he went home to his Christian mother. She nursed him physically and spiritually and helped him find the Lord. It changed his life. After his conversion and some improvement in his health he moved back to Indianapolis where he found a job as a car salesman and was so successful he eventually bought the company. He sold that business and started a chain of shoe repair shops, branching out into other states, giving the credit for his good fortune to his new found faith. Now deeply involved in his church he became aware of the many traveling evangelist coming to the city and the huge crowds that attended the revivals. Believing deeply in his conversion and relying on his faith he



Cadle Tabernacle

decided to build a Tabernacle. He wanted it to be the biggest and the best. It certainly was the biggest.

When it opened in 1921 the newly named Cadle Tabernacle had 10,000-seats and room for a choir of 1,500 people. His dream was short lived, financial problems caused Cadle to lose ownership of the building. In the late 1920's the site began hosting dance marathons, boxing matches and Klan rallies.

By 1931 Cadle had secured enough money and was able to buy back his creation. The following year he

began a radio ministry. From 1931-1935 his program, aired locally on WKBF, (which later became WIRE) in Indianapolis. He also began broadcasting on WLW radio in Cincinnati. At that time the station was broadcasting at 500,000 watts. The audience was huge. The signal was so strong locals reported hearing broadcasts on barbed wire fences, milking machines, rainspouts, water faucets, and radiators. When the station was cut back to 50,000 watts a few years later Cadle switched to Mutual Broadcasting, a nationwide radio network to maintain his national audience.

In December of 1942 E. Howard Cadle died at age 58 after battling his kidney disease for many years. His son Buford continued to operate the tabernacle for another 25 years and became the host of the Tabernacle broadcasts to continue his fathers quest to reach the masses. He began a Sunday night program, "The Christian Men's Builders" on WFBM radio that was broadcast from the Third Christian Church on the corner of Ohio and Delaware streets. In 1952 Buford expanded his broadcast efforts by starting a television show on WLW -T in Cincinnati. Former Pioneer president Dick Florea was working at WLW-T in that city the summer of 1958 and Buford Cadle was still coming there on Sunday mornings for a live telecast. By the late 1960's, the tabernacle was in need of expensive repairs and was no longer generating funds as they had in the past. A buyer became interested in the land and On November 1, 1968 it was announced that Cadle Tabernacle would be torn down to make way for a parking lot for employees at the new Indiana National Bank tower. By the end of that year, E Howard Cadle's Tabernacle had disappeared. A small Chapel just north of the magnificent building was all that remained. Buford used that facility to manage the remainder of their broadcast operation. In the early 1990's the office closed, ending a fleeting but highly successful chapter in the history of Indiana broadcasting.

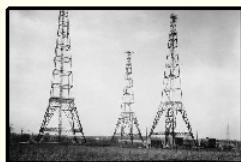
Note: On Thursday, January 15, 1942 movie actress Carole Lombard spoke at the Cadle Tabernacle to more than 12,000 people. In a moving speech she asked for funds to support the war effort. She ended the evening by leading the entire crowd in singing the national anthem. In her one day tour she met her goal of \$500,000 and then surpassed it by selling over \$2,000,000 in war bonds in Indianapolis. She was scheduled to go on to Cleveland, Ohio, but decided to end the tour and fly home to Los Angeles. She and her mother left Indianapolis at 5:27 a.m. on Friday, January 16. After several scheduled stops for passengers and refueling they stopped briefly at a Las Vegas Army Airfield. Less than 30 minutes after leaving the Army airstrip the plane crashed into an 8,500-foot mountain towering over the Las Vegas Valley killing all on board.



Lombard at the Tabernacle

What Time Is It?

In the early 1920's radio listeners throughout the country became accustomed to setting their clocks and watches by radio each day. At noon and 10 P. M., Eastern standard time these accurate time signals were sent out from the government station at Arlington, Virginia over a high-power radio telegraph transmitter. The time signals were controlled by wire line from the United States Naval Observatory and represent the exact time as registered by a chronometer. The Arlington time signals were then retransmitted by many of the broadcasting stations around the country. Shortly before 10 o'clock at night the station you were listening to interrupted the program and you would hear announcer say: "Please stand by for Arlington time signals which will now be retransmitted, with final dash for 10 o'clock." Then promptly at 5 minutes before the hour the listener would hear a succession of buzzes, each of which was an electric impulse being transmitted every second over the line from Arlington. Each impulse resulted in the radiation of



a Morse dash by wireless, and thus a listener using a receiver would hear a series of dashes exactly one second apart as Uncle Sam's master clock ticked them off. Listeners whose radios had the the proper receiving set would hear the Arlington time signals perfectly and if needed, adjust their clocks.

Ruth Hiatt Update

Ruth Hiatt, Former secretary to WFBM General Manager Eldon Campbell and a member of the Indiana Broadcast Pioneers board, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in April of 2012. Since that time her condition has declined. and in March of 2013 she was moved to a memory unit that could better serve her needs. She has since moved to Ft. Wayne, Indiana to be near her daughter, Debra Zawlocki. Ruth is unable to answer mail but loves to receive it. Her address is: **Ruth Hiatt**



**The Hearth at Sycamore
Keepsake Unit #425
611 W. County Line Road
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46814**

Note from Dave White@ DreamVision: There will be a reunion for those associated with **Love 98** Radio. Former employees, sponsors and program producers of any era are invited. June 30th from 2-6 pm at Jonathan Byrds Cafeteria in the conference area. There is no charge but you may want to say "thank you" to the Byrds by making a purchase in the cafeteria line.

Death Notices:

Gerald L. "Curley" Myers, 93, died May 19, 2013.



He was born April 1, 1920, on a farm just east of Lebanon, Indiana. From the age of eight he was in love with music. He played a bass violin in the school orchestra. Later in life he took up the banjo and guitar, and

each served him well through a successful career in show business. He became part of a group of musicians at his local church then formed a band called the Woodside Harmonica Band. This led to a group called "The Hoosier Ramblers", that aired on radio station WDAN in Danville, Illinois. The new program director for WLW heard them and within a year they were on WLW as Captain Stubby and the Buccaneers from 1939 - 1944. Due to a lung problem Curley was out of the music business for several years and opened "Shady Acres Ranch", a venue for country music singers and bands. The business enjoyed eight years of prosperity with personalities such as Roy Acuff, Webb Pierce, Hank Snow, Rex Allen and dozens of the biggest stars in country music at that time.

But with the advent of TV the business eventually closed. Early in 1955 Indianapolis TV station WFBM channel 6 began airing the "Indiana Hoedown", starring entertainers who had been on WLW in Cincinnati, including Charlie Gore and the Rangers, Herb and Kay Adams and Lee Jones. Curley Myers and the Ranch Boys soon found a spot on the show. In addition to the Hoedown show, he hosted Curley's Cowboy Theater for seven years then did a Saturday morning kids show with Captain Starr (Jerry Vance) and Harlow Hickenlooper (Hal Fryar). In 1972 the TV station was sold and the new owners made a change of programming formats and personalities. Curley continued entertaining, getting together with the Buccaneers and with Tiny Stokes as the Two Bucs performing at state fairs throughout the Midwest, on Caribbean cruises and even one trip to London. He continued performing into the mid eighties.



Death Notices:

Helen J. Campbell 93, Indianapolis, died on April 3, 2013. She was born November 7, 1919 in Auburn, IN., widow of Eldon



Campbell, former GM of the WFBM stations in Indianapolis, (now WRTV). She was a member of St. Luke's Methodist Church and Meridian Hills Country Club. In 1929 the family moved to Garrett, IN when her father began work on the B&O Railroad. As a teenager, Helen participated in

Helen Campbell community, church and school plays. In 1936 she won the DeKalb County Fair contest. The summer of 1938 Helen was vocalist for the Maury Cross Orchestra in the Berghoff Gardens in Ft. Wayne, IN. In November of that year she joined the WOWO/WGL radio stations as vocalist and office secretary. She met Eldon at the stations and both made their network debut on the weekly NBC radio program "Indiana Indigo". Eldon was the studio announcer for the program, which ran 1-1/2 years with Helen as the "Hoosier Hostess". Eldon and Helen married on April 19, 1941. He preceded her in death on April 19, 1991. While the family lived in White Plains, NY from 1950-56 Helen had an opportunity to appear on the Arthur Godfrey talent scouts program, but turned it down to be a housewife and mother. Helen hosted several Indianapolis 500 tent parties at home in the 1960's. In addition, she and Eldon were co-chairpersons of the 50th anniversary of the "500" mayor's breakfast at the old Claypool Hotel.

Mary Catherine Dwenge Vincent Douglas, 85. Greenwood, Indiana passed away on Thursday, February 28, 2013. She was



born September 4, 1927 in Indianapolis to John and Margaret Cahill Dwenger. She was Record Librarian and on-air personality "Woof Boom Mary" at WFBM radio and production secretary at WRTV-6. She was also an outstanding vocal soloist on WFBM TV's "The Rhodes Show" as well as other orchestras and jazz/swing trios. Mary

Mary Douglas Catherine was preceded in death by her husbands, Francis Fitzgerald "Jerry" Vincent and Gordon H. "Sam" Douglas; daughter, Kathryn Strakis; son and daughter-in-law, Joe and Barb Douglas. Survivors include her son, Daniel J. Vincent (Helen); son-in-law, George Strakis; stepson, David Douglas (Sherry); grandchildren, Thomas Vincent (Jenn), Valerie Vincent, Matthew Strakis and great granddaughter, Zoe.

Joseph Michael Piggott 90, of Indianapolis, died Saturday, April 20, 2013 at his residence. He was born May 18, 1922 to the late John and Jennie Piggott



Joe Piggott

He grew up in the Holy Cross neighborhood of Indianapolis, graduated from Cathedral School in 1941 and attended Butler University. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He married Jean Elizabeth Shea on January 24, 1948. She died May 18, 1998. Known "on air" as Joe Pickett, he began his broadcasting career in Logansport in 1951. His four-decade long career had stops in New Albany, Columbus, St. Louis, Cincinnati, and West Palm Beach, Florida. He worked at several radio and television stations in Indiana, including WFBM, WIBC, WXLW, WISH Radio/TV, WSAL and WLRP. During the 1960s and 1970s he teamed with Glenn Webber in Indianapolis, the Pickett-Webber Thing on WFBM, a top-rated morning program which was one of the city's all-time best talk radio programs. Later, he partnered with Fred Heckman on a second high rated program. the WIBC morning news. He capped a long career in broadcasting with induction into the Indiana Broadcasters Hall of Fame in 2011. He is survived by daughters Patty, Barb Barrick (Brooks), and Phyllis Strauss (Michael); sons Mike (Nancy), Tim, Bob, Dennis, Jim and Dan; 18 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

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