



Indiana Broadcast Pioneers Newsletter

"IF I WASN'T IN RADIO I'D PROBABLY BE A BRAIN SURGEON"

Bernie Eagen had his first "On Air" radio experience a little earlier than most professional broadcasters, . . . He was fourteen years old. He was also blind.

An avid listener and fan of WICR, the then ten Watt Indiana Central College (Now University of Indianapolis) student radio station. On Friday nights he called the station to request songs, . . . and he called often!



Bernie Eagan

Eventually the lady on the phone said, "Does your mother know you're using the phone like this all the time?" Bernie gave the phone to Mom. Bernie was then invited to visit the station and they put him on the air.

He continued his passion for radio listening to stations outside the Indiana area, listening to New York stations WLS, Chicago and WABC and WCFL in New York.

In 1968 Radio in Indianapolis changed drastically when a new format came to Indy on WNAP.

Cris Connor, Buster Bodine, Bruce Munson created another influence and factor in hyping his passion for broadcasting. Bernie received his early education, Grades one through twelve at the Indiana School for the Blind before attending Ball State University's Radio/TV Program.

In 1981, Bernie applied to work at a "new" station called WENS, and was hired by Program Director Rick Cummings, who is now the President of Radio Programming for Emmis Communications. Bernie's first day on the air was July 11, 1981, which was one full week after WENS had made his debut as an Adult Contemporary format.

At that time there were no computers and the on air music were recorded on audio "Carts" and Bernie was able to label them with Braille to identify each song. When computers came along, Bernie had a problem.

That problem was solved by a engineer in Texas who designed a Plexiglass board with holes that aligned over the face of the computer screen. Put your finger in the correct hole and you had what you needed!

Expressing his feelings about his career Bernie said, I love the connection with the listeners. I mean, I talk to people, and they think they know me. They think we're friends and most of the time, that's not a bad thing. This is a great city. Thirty-seven years is enough time for people to be born, go to school, get married, get divorced, get married again, have kids. Thirty-seven years is a long time. It will be hard to leave. Even though it's my choice, that last day will still be difficult.



Bernie will be inducted into the Indiana Broadcast Pioneers Hall of Fame

in November 2018

B105.7
SOFT ROCK

2018 Hall of Fame

The Indiana Broadcast Pioneers Board met earlier this month to discuss and select the 2018 Hall of Fame inductees. This personal and special recognition was created in 1981 to honor broadcasters who have devoted their careers to broadcasting and to recognize their outstanding service to the broadcasting industry. Pioneer President Dave White facilitated the process and four inductees were selected as the 2018 honorees.

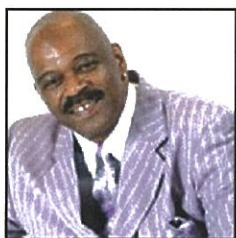
Norman Cox began as the Indiana Statehouse reporter at WRTV-6 Indianapolis in 1976. During that time, he covered seven governors from Otis Bowen to Mike Pence. He retired in November of 2013 after a 36-year career. A two-time Emmy award winner, Norm also has received awards for excellence from The Associated Press, United Press International, Society of Professional Journalists and the Indianapolis Press Club. Before coming to Indianapolis, Norm also worked for WTOL-TV Toledo, Ohio and has a Bachelor of Arts and Master's degree in Journalism from The Ohio State University.



Beech Grove-native Bernie Eagan was born blind, but he didn't let that stop him from pursuing a love of music and entertainment. After graduating from the Indiana School for the Blind in 1975, Bernie went on to Ball State University where he graduated with a degree in Radio and Television Communications. He then accepted a position as a Programming Consultant at WWHC-FM (now WMXQ-FM) Hartford City and was hired part time by WERK-AM Muncie. In July 1981, Bernie began working at Emmis Communications, specifically with WENS (now WLHK-FM) Indianapolis eventually becoming Music Director and Assistant Program Director along with hosting the afternoon drive from 1984 – 2002. He also hosted Friday Night Retro Show from 1999-2002, and mornings on B105.7 from 2002 to 2010. Since 2010, Bernie has hosted afternoons on WYXB-FM Indianapolis.



An Alabama native, who later moved to Kentucky, Al Hobbs left a career in the grocery business when he was lured to join WTLC-FM Indianapolis in its early days by then General Manager Tom Mathis. Al quickly rose through the ranks becoming Sales Manager in 1974 and then General Manager in 1976. Al's Sunday afternoons "The Love Train" gospel music program garnered huge ratings and exposed generations to quality Black gospel music. For a quarter century, Al helped grow WTLC-FM in the major force in Indianapolis and Indiana broadcasting and as one of the country's pioneering Black Radio stations. WTLC-FM achieved rating success and audience dominance under his leadership. In 2012, Al's award-winning gospel music shows returned to the Indianapolis airwaves on WITT-FM Indianapolis. Hobbs passed away in 2014.



Emmy Award-winner Patty Spitzer, host, reporter and producer for "Pet Pals TV" and "Great Day TV," has had a 42-year career in radio and TV broadcasting. Patty came to Indianapolis in 1982 to co-host Indianapolis Afternoon" with Dick Wolfsle on WISH-TV Indianapolis, and eventually presented the weather and was a noon news anchor. She retired from WISH in 2004. In 2009, she was approached by a producer to join "Pet Pals TV," which now airs not only on WISH-TV, but also on 23 stations nationwide. The program focuses on the relationship between animals and humans. Patty is currently host of "Great Day TV" on WISH-TV Indianapolis presenting stories about interesting topics and intriguing people.

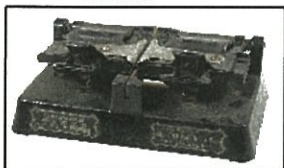


The 2018 HOF Induction will be held as part of the IBA Spectrum Awards on
Thursday, November 1, 2018 at the 502 East Event Centre in Carmel, Indiana

In the early days of local Television broadcasting "FILM was King", playing a major role in the everyday programming of local stations. Prior to the early huge 2-inch videotape machines TV Control rooms were equipped with multiple black and white 16mm film and slide projectors. At WISH-TV in Indianapolis the "Film Room" was staffed with three editors, each equipped with a film splicer, a viewer, a set of "rewinds", a film splicer and a razor blade for scraping emulsion from the film, glue for "splicing" the edits, a "Cue Marker" which scraped a circle on the film to let the on air board operators know when the commercial break was coming or when the end of the reel of film was near.



Viewer



Splicer



Glue



Timer



Cue Marker



Rewinds



In some cases movies had to be edited to fit the allowed time scheduled for the programming which included the open and closing titles scheduled commercials within each program. That required the editors to figure the various program times using minutes and seconds rather than normal math.

The amount of film aired each week was impressive. WISH had a huge Movie package and aired commercials, programs and News stories from sign on to sign off.

Picture for a Sunday Afternoon", "Coffee Cup Theater", "The Early Show" (Host Gene Allison), "The Late Show" and on weekends, the Late, late Show . Friday night featured a package of Universal Horror movies hosted by "Selwin", a character played by WISH Producer/Director Ray Sparenberg.

There were also syndicated films throughout the schedule. "My Little Margie" with Gale Storm, Stu Erwin, Ramar of the Jungle, with Jon Hall", Annie Oakley, The Big Picture" produced by the U.S. Army. Locally, except for "Live" commercials, all others were on film or slides. Eventually WISH had their own Film Library with movies shared by the other 4 stations owned by Corinthian Broadcasting. KHOU, Houston, TX. KXTV, Sacramento WANE, Ft. Wayne KOTV, Tulsa, OK., WISH TV, Indianapolis The local stories for the

news Department were also on film, shot on location with 16mm sound or silent film camera and processed and edited in house. The 16mm film processor required the actual mixing of chemicals from scratch for developing each days film run. Example; Sulphuric Acid and Potassium Dichromate were used for the "stop bath". The unexposed film for the News photographers came on 1600 ft. reels and

had to be manually wound on to 100 foot reels in the dark room. You had to count the

number of times you cranked the handle so you would know when the reel was full. If you wound too fast the speed would create static electricity, which created enough light to ruin (pre-expose) small portions of the film. If the film broke during the developing process you had to quickly find the break and staple the film together so it would not be ruined by staying too long in one of the aluminum tanks that held each chemical. Once the film went through the "Dryer" it was ready for screening by the Newscaster who would write the story and the editors/photographers would edit the film to match the script.

In 1956 WISH TV was the first station in Indianapolis to purchase a AMPEX 2 inch videotape machine.

It was the beginning of the end for film, splicer's, glue, chemicals and film editors.



Film Editing Bench



1956 Indianapolis first
AMPEX VTR

Engineers.:

Al Szaly, Bob Brockway,

Ft. Wayne Indiana Broadcast Pioneers

“**W**ayne **O**ffers **W**onderful **O**pportunities” followed by “**W**hat **G**od **L**oves.” the first letter of each forms the call letters for W-O-W-O and W-G-L. The early broadcast stations in the Ft. Wayne, Indiana area.



Kneale Ross, who for many years worked at W-O-W-O radio, recalled how the station held a contest in 1941 inviting listeners to create a slogan using the station's call letters. Sacks and sacks of mail were received and out of it all, came the award-winning phrase: Wayne Offers Wonderful Opportunities.” Since its beginnings in 1925, WO-WO has been an active promoter of Fort

Wayne, and it continues as a legendary station in the world of radio.

WO-WO was also connected to the very beginnings of radio in Fort Wayne. Chester Keen built the earliest radio transmitter in the city in 1921 as a part of the showroom of the Lauer Auto Company; its call letters were WHBJ but these were soon changed to WCWK for Chester W. Keen and the operation was moved to a studio at 1729 South Lafayette Street. At the same time Frederick Zieg of the Main Auto Supply Company had a powerful transmitter built in a room over his store. He began operating in 1925 a station with the call letters WOWO using “W,” the designation for east of the Mississippi, and “O” because it was easy to say after the “W.” They liked “W and O” so much they simply repeated it for the four-letter call sign. By 1927, WO-WO became a pioneer first station when CBS organized the nation's first radio network.

In 1928, Fred Zieg purchased the station owned by Keen, changed its call letters from WCWK to WGL, and put the two radio stations under one roof – at the Main Auto Supply. During these years the WO-WO-WGL combination achieved several notable national “firsts” in the radio business, from the first basketball game to be broadcast anywhere, to the first “man-on-the-street-type” broadcast from the lobby of the Indiana Theater on Broadway. During the mid-1930s, Zieg sold both his radio stations to the Westinghouse Company, which then became affiliated with the NBC network. As the WO-WO operation sought to dramatically increase its transmitting power in 1936, a new tower was envisioned north of Fort Wayne, at the Fort Meyer Corner. After a long struggle with the Civil Aeronautics Board since it would be close to Smith Field airport, and after the personal intervention of Governor Paul McNutt, the tower was completed as the tallest structure anywhere in the state. Later, the transmission tower was moved to a location south of Fort Wayne.

Howard D. “Tommy” Longworth was born in Ohio on 3 March 1909. He was hired as a staff musician at WOWO, Ft. Wayne, Indiana in 1936 and later served as the music librarian. He eventually became a regular performer on The Hoosier Hop during its days as a nationally broadcast network show.

Longworth retired in 1972 as the station's general sales manager. He died in Fort Wayne on 26 February 2002.



WOWO 1938 First Remote Mobile Broadcast



Les Spencer

Pioneer Board Road Trip

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The Indiana Broadcast Pioneers Board made a "Road Trip" to Bloomington, Indiana, for a scheduled tour of Indiana University's School of Broadcasting. Long time Pioneer member Sue Staton, a resident of Bloomington, also joined the group for the tour.



Franklin Hall Media Facility

Retired WRTV Newscaster and former Pioneer President Ken Beckley, along with former WTHR News Anchor Anne Ryder, who are part of the I.U. Media/Broadcasting staff, co-hosted the Pioneer visit.

The Media School is in newly renovated Franklin Hall at the west entrance to the campus, although some of the programs broadcast and production classes are in the Radio Television Building. A gift from Ken Beckley and his wife, Audrey, both IU alumni, contributed funding to the support the new television studio in Franklin Hall, which now bears their names.

The Pioneers visited that studio which (appropriately) was set up for a Newscast. Equipped better than the Pioneers had in their days the general concept and lay out were much the same. News Set, cameras and microphones were in place and the lighting was set.

Except, . . . we were told the cameras and the lighting are operated from the Control Room. No camera crew necessary.



Student on site interview

However, we did see the familiar sight of a student Reporter and Photographer on site shooting and reporting just like the "old days".

I.U. offers a very impressive Media program allowing a new generation the opportunity to learn the things we learned

"on the job". The program, the equipment, the Control Rooms the cameras, the lighting and special effects, were very impressive, and none of it was in black and white.

Thanks to all at I.U. who gave those of us from the past a look at the future.



Media Center Student Control Room



James Shanahan (upper left)
Dean of the I.U. Media School,
speaks to the Pioneers

INDIANA BROADCAST PIONEERS



L-R Bob Smith, Dave White, Bob Warren, Ken Beckley, Sue Staton, Chuck Schisla, Barry Allen, Reid Duffy, Lee Giles

A Little Help From Our Friends

Larry Clisby -- the voice of Purdue Men's Basketball and recent inductee to the Indiana Sportswriters & Sportscasters Hall of Fame, has been diagnosed with Stage 4 Lung Cancer and Metastatic Brain Cancer.

Larry has limited healthcare coverage through Medicare, and needs complementary medical treatments that are very costly and crucial to his recovery.

Funds will be used to assist with treatment, care and comfort needs specifically tailored to address the cancers Larry has been diagnosed with.

Any help would be greatly appreciated and any funds not used will be donated to the National Foundation for Cancer Research

(Larry Clisby Cancer Fund - [gofundme.com](https://www.gofundme.com)).



Obituaries

Kenneth Alan Glaser, 58 born February 20, 1960 took his final ride on June 10th, 2018. His ride began with dirt



Kenneth Glaser

bikes in New York. Followed by travels on his prized Ducati that he explored the roads of Northern California on. While on that ride he graduated from Butler University with a degree in Radio/TV

and began his career at Emmis Broadcasting. Soon after he traveled to San Francisco where he continued his career at KBLX as a music director. Later in life he decided to change careers and enter the technology field. He starting working at ESIGNAL as a customer service representative, later becoming a senior QA engineer where he spent the last 19 years working. Ken is survived by his son Wes, daughter Marissa, son in law Thomas and their three children, Emma, Koltyn and Landyn. He is also survived by his parents, Ernest and Janice Glaser of Carmel Indiana, his brother Steve and sister in law Catherine of Tucson Arizona, his sister Debbie and brother in law RJ of Carmel Indiana,

- Fort Wayne radio icon Charly Butcher died unexpectedly



Charly Butcher

Aug 15, 2018 after spending more than three decades in morning radio.

Current and former colleagues paid tribute to him during the morning show program in the WOWO studios. Colleagues were stunned by the news.

With more than three decades on the air, Butcher was WOWO's longest-running radio host, one who successfully transitioned to conservative talk show host from 1980s and 90s morning show shock jock on WMEE. Nicki Kelly and Briam Francisco | The Journal Gazette, National and local elected officials offered condolences to the family.

Politicians, including Congressmen Jim Banks and Todd Rokita, as well as Vice President Mike Pence and the Allen County commissioners, expressed sorrow and shared memories of the storied WOWO personality.

"Karen & I were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of a friend and an Indiana radio institution, Charly Butcher. Charly was a friendly voice in the morning for more than 30 years, with deep commitment to his family and the listening audience," Pence wrote. "Charly Butcher was a great broadcaster and even better person and he will be missed. We send our prayers and condolences to Sarah, their children, their friends and every Hoosier who will miss this truly good man. God bless Charly Butcher."

Congressman Banks offered Butcher's wife and children condolences, saying, "Charly Butcher was a broadcasting icon and a beloved northeast Indiana legend. I am heartbroken about his passing, and I will forever cherish the moments I spent with Charly, both on and off air. Our entire region mourns his loss, but his irreplaceable voice and legacy will live on for generations to come," Banks said. "I offer my deepest condolences to Charly's wife Sarah, his three children, his extended family and his colleagues at WOWO."

Rokita reminisced about spending time with Butcher on his "Morning News" segment saying, "Tonight my friends in northeast Indiana made me aware of the unfortunate news that my friend, revered WOWO broadcaster Charly Butcher, passed away. It has been an honor and a privilege to accompany Charly on his 'Morning News' segment over the years," Rokita wrote. "Charly is a beacon of truth and courage to all that have known him and has always put the interests of his listeners and community first. Your legacy lives on, my friend." Charly Butcher is survived by his wife and three children.. He was 61.

Death Notices

Carol Jean Anderson Harbin died in peace on May 26, 2018. She was born in Dayton, Ohio in 1931 to Willard H. Anderson and Mildred S. Anderson, parents to whom she was ever grateful for their love and guidance. In 1940, they moved to the city and state that Carol and her family came to treasure, Indianapolis, Indiana. In 1949, Carol graduated from Arsenal Technical High School and amused her family ever after with tales of how she met her husband-to-be when she enrolled in a class in zoology and went home with optimistic news: "Today, I met the man I'm going to marry."



Carol Jean Harbin

Known for her acidic wit and biting humor, Carol was 70-years-old when she was hired by Emmis Broadcasting as corporate receptionist, and recognizing her skill at wordplay, the morning show team of Wank and O'Brien persuaded her to become a regular guest, introducing her as Carol the Immaculate Receptionist.

Her popularity grew. She made weekly football picks, basing her predictions on the elegance and coloring of a team's uniforms, while never deviating from loyalty to her beloved Indianapolis Colts. When Carol retired from Emmis in 2016, at age 85, she left a bit of her heart in the broadcast booth.

"On air, she was so smart and so funny that she could handle anything, even turning herself into different characters, like the Old Lady who needed a hearing aid, or the Raunchy Gal who works in the cubicle next to you, or The wife with expectations on Valentine's Day until her husband comes home with the gift of a new fence for the dog."

Although saddened by the death of her husband in 2005, she was strengthened in her final years by the devotion of family, friends, and colleagues, and to the delight of everyone who loved her, Carol Jean Anderson Harbin was a woman who found a way to whistle her way through the storms of life, because, as Joe Staysniak said, she epitomized everything that is good in people.

Carlos Pedrazza of Indianapolis IN, passed away on February 7, 2018 at the age of 85. He was born on July 3, 1932 in Colombia, South America and graduated in



Carlos Pedrazza

Civil Engineering from Indiana Technical College in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He arrived in the U.S. in 1955 settling in Fort Wayne, Indiana and worked doing odd jobs to pay for his studies.

He eventually moved on to Mid-States Engineering, followed by Geipel Demars, Schneider, and James Associates. before opening his own companies ENARCO and SEA Corp. Carlos had also worked as a Real Estate Broker. Carlos studied music, singing, piano and guitar. working as a music teacher and performing at many different entertainment centers. Carlos acted in two movies with director and actor Ivan Rogers. "Two Wrongs Make a Right" and "Forgive me Father." Carlos was the first Hispanic in 1970 to have a one hour radio show in Spanish on WFMS-FM 95.5 "La Hora Internacional." In that year there were 12,000 Hispanics in Indianapolis. Despite his busy work schedule, always being a very generous person, Carlos always found the time to help the Hispanic Community.



Sign of the Times

As reported in the Wall Street Journal, the FCC wants to revamp it's online Public Comment System after millions of fake comments were posted about a recent FCC rule change. FCC Chairman Ajit Pai has asked Congress for permission to shift funds to pay for the change. Senators Pat Toomey (R-PA.) & Jeff Merkley, (D-Oregon) were among those who complained their names were improperly used to post comments on the repeal of Obama era net neutrality rules. Pai excepted the Senators proposal that future commenters fill out a "Capacha", a tool designed todistinguish humans from bots.

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