

2015 KAB INDIVIDUAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD (also inducted into the Hall of Fame)

Monte Miller, Manhattan

Monte graduated from Kansas State University in 1962 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in journalism. Following graduation he entered active duty with the U. S. Army as a second lieutenant. Upon completion of his military service in 1967, Monte and family returned to Bellville where he went to work for his father and their newspaper business. In 1971 they moved to California to continue work in newspapers, and returned to Kansas in the spring of 1974 forming a new corporation, TeleGraphics, Inc. and purchased several weekly newspapers in and around Baldwin. Monte served as publisher, advertising manager and president of the corporation.

In 1981 they filed application with the FCC requesting a new full power television frequency on UHF 38, be authorized for Lawrence and put the station on the air February 1, 1988. In 2000, the Millers sold their television station and newspapers and moved to Manhattan, KS. Monte returned to the broadcast industry in 2008 and along with Doris and their son Christopher purchased fourteen Kansas radio stations from NRG Media. Following more acquisitions, Rocking M Radio operates 20 radio stations in Kansas – more than any other company. Monte served on the board of the KAB and was Chairman in 2013.

KAB HALL OF FAME

Herb Hoeflicker, Edwards, MO

Herb retired in 2006 from nearly 50 years in Kansas and Nebraska broadcasting. His early days in radio began in Kansas City and took him to Omaha. In 1968, Herb and his wife Ruby purchased KNDY AM in Marysville. Six years later KNDY FM hit the airwaves. By the mid 80's their daughter Deb was involved in the business and together they started a new radio station Belleville – KREP FM.

In 1988 Herb and Ruby moved to Superior, Nebraska owning KRFS AM-FM. Kansas called them back and they moved to Glen Elder and started another pair of radio stations, KDNS FM and KZDY FM which they operated until 2006. Herb was a mentor to several current radio station operators in Kansas and Nebraska. He still has a hand in the radio business – as we know the passion seldom leaves a broadcaster! He does a weekly country oldies program for KREP and KNDY and on occasion is asked to do some production.

MIKE OATMAN SALES AWARD

Cheryl Dinwiddie, Hutchinson

Cheryl spent nearly 36 years in broadcast sales before retiring earlier this year as Senior Radio Account Executive with Ad Astra per Aspera Broadcasting, Inc. She started her radio career at KHUT-FM in 1979 and was the first woman to sell advertising for Fred Conger, previous owner of KWBW-KHUT. In 1980 she went to work at KSKU FM 102.1, owned by Sampson Communications. During her tenure at KSKU she earned her Certified Radio Marketing Consultant accreditation. In 1986 KSKU sold, moved to Wichita, and became KZSN, but Cheryl continued working for KZSN. In 1988 Cheryl became first woman Sales Manager of KHUT, 102.9. In 1997 she returned to KSKU FM 106.1 and Ad Astra per Aspera Broadcasting, Inc.

SONNY SLATER AWARD FOR SERVICE TO COMMUNITY AND STATION

Brian Cunningham, Arkansas City

A high school teacher introduced Brian to KKOY radio in Chanute and was Brian's first job on Saturday mornings. KIKS radio in Iola, Ks. was his next venture, then to KKOW radio in Pittsburg. The following eight years included combining video to audio when he became a director at KOAM TV in Pittsburg, Ks. At this time, Brian's wife, Rebecca, accepted a School Psychologist position in the Winfield school district and they relocated to that area. So in 1998 Brian joined the staff of KSOK as a part-time copy writer, but soon was fulltime with Traffic, Billing, and Technical Services. Since then, he has gone on to serve in many areas at KSOK, and is presently Operations Manager/Chief Engineer for Cowley County Broadcasting.