

KAB 2004 Award Winners

2004 Distinguished Service Award and Hall of Fame - Joe Engel



KAB presents the 2004 Distinguished Service Award to Joe Engel for his contributions to Kansas broadcasting, and for his service to the Kansas Association of Broadcasters and to his community. As a DSA recipient, he also is inducted into Kansas Broadcasting Hall of Fame.

Joe was born in Ellis KS and attended St. Mary's Grade School, St. Joseph Military Academy, and Fort Hays State University.

He started his broadcast career in Norton in 1968 at KNBI Radio. At the station, Joe signed on at sunrise, did the on-air morning shift, then worked the rest of the day in sales. Soon after, Fred Thompson, who had recently purchased an FM station in Bartlesville OK, recruited Joe to sell and do play-by-play and an on-air shift. Joe and his family returned to Kansas when Bernie Brown hired him as senior sales representative at KAYS TV, Hays. Later as co-owner with Bernie Brown of Bengel Broadcasting, Joe managed KKAN in Phillipsburg and later KNEX AM/FM in McPherson. His next move was as general manager of KVGB AM/FM, Great Bend. In 1987, as co-owner of Plains Broadcasting with Jack Sampson, he managed KHAZ FM in Hays. When the station was sold to Beach Schmidt Communications, Joe became manager of KAYS AM/KHAZ FM, a position he held for ten years until 2000. Joe currently is regional manager of Eagle Community TV, the Cable Ad Division of Eagle Communications.

Joe has served on numerous KAB committees and as chairman in 1997. And he gives back to his community. In the many cities and towns in which he has worked, he has been influential in their Chambers of Commerce, school organizations and local economic development efforts.

Throughout his career, Joe has been supported by his wife and business partner Sherri and his children, Tammy and Todd.

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Background: The Distinguished Service Award is the KAB's highest honor, awarded for service to the community, state and broadcast industry.

2004 Kansas Broadcasting Hall of Fame - Len Dawson



Sports Broadcaster Len Dawson is one of the most respected sports figures in America. He made Kansas City his home in 1963 when he joined the Kansas City Chiefs. He quarterbacked the team to three championship seasons, reaching his peak when he was named the Outstanding Player in the 1970 Super Bowl victory over Minnesota. Len was named NFL Man of the Year in 1973. He retired from the Chiefs in 1975 and was inducted into the NFL Hall of Fame in 1987. He was given the NFL's Order of the Leather Helmet in 2000.

KMBC TV named Len sports director in 1966 while he was still playing for the Chiefs. He continues as sports anchor for the station. He has hosted "Inside the NFL" on HBO for more than 20 years and has offered expertise to NBC and numerous Kansas City radio stations. For the past 16 years, Len has been a member of the Chiefs Radio Broadcast Team. *Kansas City Magazine* named Len Best Kansas City Sports caster in 1987.

"I'm one sports fan talking to another," he says. "I have access to a lot more inside information, and that's really exciting. I'd be lying if I said I didn't love my job!"

Len is active in the community and focuses much of his energy on charity work. He has raised money for countless charitable organizations, especially those that help needy children.

Len is married and has two grown children. He lives in Kansas City, Mo.

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2004 Kansas Broadcasting Hall of Fame - Elmer Gunderson



Elmer Gunderson, WIBW TV engineer, is nearing his 50th year as a broadcast engineer. He began his career at WIBW TV on November 19, 1955. He was just out of the Navy, having served in the Korean War.

His first years at WIBW TV were the days of live children's programs. Network programming was delivered on 16 mm film. Elmer began setting up remote broadcasts for the station in the late 1950s when WIBW TV started broadcasting K-State basketball games from Ahearn Field House. Other remotes included Friday night broadcast of a high school football game of the week and a bowling show on Saturdays. Elmer was part of the team that originated broadcasts of the All-American Futurity races from New Mexico. Later, the races were fed to a network that included more than a dozen stations – an effort unheard of for a station in a market the size of Topeka.

In the mid-1980s when the station purchased a satellite truck, Elmer became the chief operator. Still with the station, the truck has nearly 200,000 miles, most of them driven by Elmer.

Elmer has embraced new technology all along the way, most recently the station's construction of a new home in 2001 and transition to digital.

Elmer was a charter member of the Kansas Chapter of Society of Broadcast Engineers – only the third chapter in the nation. He has played a major role in the station's community service. After the 1966 tornado, Elmer helped man the phones in the newsroom while the public used the station as a clearinghouse for information. For most of the 30 years the station has broadcast the Muscular Dystrophy Labor Day Telethon, Elmer has given up this holiday week-end to provide engineering for the broadcast. Elmer also set up facilities for KAB's Reunion Camp for siblings in foster care, which allowed the station to provide the sibling groups with a video.

The nomination for Elmer stated, "It is difficult to summarize all Elmer has done for WIBW TV and for broadcasters in Kansas and nationwide because he has done everything. Through hundreds of remotes, miles of cable and hours on the road, Elmer has set an example we all should emulate...Many a young reporter editing on location in the satellite truck facing a looming feed window deadline has been calmed by Elmer's presence. Many a young engineer has benefited from his years of knowledge and ability to research to learn a little more. Many a manager has appreciated his willingness to be on duty, whenever needed."

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2004 Kansas Broadcasting Hall of Fame - Denny Matthews



Hall of Fame inductions are nothing new for Denny Matthews, who is the newest member of the Royals Hall of Fame. He was inducted in August as he celebrated his 36th season behind the microphone for the club. The "Voice of the Royals" has broadcast exclusively for the Royals without interruption, in 5 different decades.

Denny has seen more Royals games than anyone else during his 35 years with Kansas City. He was chosen from more than 300 applicants for the number two announcer position alongside Bud Blattner prior to the Royals initial season in 1969. He took over the number one job following the 1975 season. Denny teamed with Fred White on the Royals Radio Network from 1974-1998 before Ryan Lefebvre joined him in the booth in 1999.

The veteran broadcaster has also lent his play-by-play skills to the CBS Radio Network during portions of the regular season and during the 1982 and 1985 World Series.

Denny has been a regular at KAB's Sports Seminars over the years, appearing to provide Kansas sportscasters and broadcast students with encouragement and advice for improving their play-by-play skills.

Denny graduated from Central Catholic High School in Bloomington, Ill., and was inducted into the school's Hall of Fame in August, 2001. He is a 1966 graduate of Illinois Wesleyan where he lettered in football and baseball for three years and finished eighth in the nation (NAIA) in pass receiving in 1965.

Prior to joining the Royals, Denny worked for WMBD-TV and radio and KMOX-TV. His brother, Mike, is the radio analyst for Illinois State University basketball. Denny, an avid collector of sports publications, enjoys playing golf and hockey.

He resides in Leawood.

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2004 Kansas Broadcasting Hall of Fame - Fred White



Fred White works with the Royals broadcast team as director-broadcast services & Royals alumni, and as a broadcaster for the Royals radio and television coverage.

In his current position, Fred works with Royals Radio affiliates and former Royals players. He rejoined the organization in 2001 after serving as an announcer on the Royals Radio Network for 25 years from 1974-1998.

Fred does play-by-play for approximately 30 Royals games on Royals Radio Network. In addition to his duties for the Royals, he does play-by-play for ESPN Regional for Big 12 basketball and various shows for Metro Sports, Kansas City's 24-hour sports channel.

Fred started in radio at WITY in Danville IL. He became sports director in 1967 at WIBW Radio/TV, Topeka, where he did play-by-play for high school and college sports. He broadcast K-State sports from 1967 until 1979. White joined Royals Radio and TV in 1973.

Beginning in 1979, Fred did extensive college and professional sports play-by-play for ESPN. During his career he has served as lead announcer for Big 8, Big 12, ACC, Metro and Atlantic 12 Conferences. He also has worked for CBS, NBC, and ABC Networks.

Fred was born and raised in Homer, IL and educated in Homer public schools. He is a graduate of Eastern Illinois University.

Fred has won numerous awards in the broadcast industry and has been named Kansas Sportscaster of the Year several times. KAB presented its 2004 Hod Humiston Award for Sports Broadcasting to Fred during the April Sports Seminar at Kauffman Stadium. Upon receiving the Humiston Award, Fred said, "Kansas has such a great history of legendary broadcasters, and I've always felt privileged to be a part of that history,"

Fred and his wife, Barb, reside in Leawood. He has three children - Stacy, John and Joe Brett.

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Background: The KAB Broadcasting Hall of Fame inductees have worked in the broadcasting business and are selected based on substantial contributions to broadcasting and the state/nation. Individual broadcasters may be Kansas natives and have made contributions in other states or at the national level. Individuals who are not Kansas natives are eligible, but they must have worked in Kansas broadcasting. They may be recognized for major contributions in Kansas, in other states or on a national level.

Past Inductees Kansas Broadcasting Hall of Fame

All past recipients of KAB's Distinguished Service Award are Hall of Fame Inductees.

Additional Inductees:

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| 2001 | Harold Ensley Tom Hedrick Tom Leahy and Dev Nelson (posthumously) |
| 2002 | Wendell and Frances Elliott (posthumously) |
| 2003 | Tom Bashaw (posthumously) Bill Kurtis Harriet Lange |

Distinguished Service Award Recipients

All DSA recipients have been inducted into Kansas Broadcasting Hall of Fame

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|------|---------------------|------|---------------------------------|
| 1969 | George Gow* | 1987 | Jerry Holley |
| 1970 | Bob Wells | 1988 | Bob Fromme |
| 1971 | Grover C.Cobb* | 1989 | Ed Hundley |
| 1972 | Bob Schmidt | 1990 | Hank Booth |
| 1973 | Olaf Soward* | 1991 | John Mileham* |
| 1974 | Alf M. Landon* | 1992 | Bill Bengtson |
| 1975 | Thad Sandstrom* | 1993 | H. Pat Powers |
| 1976 | Arden Booth* | 1994 | Mike Oatman* and Mike Lynch* |
| 1977 | Fred L. Conger* | 1995 | Lynn Higbee* |
| 1978 | Robert L. Pratt* | 1996 | Stu Melchert |
| 1979 | Sherwood R. Parks* | 1997 | George Logan |
| 1980 | Martin Umansky* | 1998 | Bill Miller |
| 1981 | Kay Melia | 1999 | Merle Blair |
| 1982 | Ed Mason* | 2000 | Max Falkenstien |
| 1983 | Tony Jewell | 2001 | Ken Jennison |
| 1984 | Dale W. McCoy, Jr.* | 2002 | Jack Sampson |
| 1985 | Bob Hilgendorf* | 2003 | Ed O'Donnell |
| 1986 | Lowell Jack | | |

* Deceased

2004 Sonny Slater Award - Laverne Goering



Laverne Goering, programming and production manager for KWCH TV, Wichita, is the 2004 recipient of KAB's Sonny Slater Award to recognize his many contributions and service to his station and community.

Laverne graduated from Kansas State University in 1976 with a B.S. in Journalism, Radio and Television. After college, he took a position with the Newton Public Library coordinating public access programs televised on cable.

Laverne's broadcast career at KWCH 12 began in 1978. He started as the director of the morning news, from the Hutchinson studios. He has held various positions in production. Today, Laverne spearheads a talented award-winning production department and programs the station.

An esteemed director with 26 years of broadcast experience under his belt, Laverne has been instrumental in televising a number of high profile local programs from the Kansas Lottery Show to the Miss Kansas Pageant. He drives the stations' efforts for various community projects such as the Goodwill/Easter Seals telethon, KWCH 12's annual Harvest of Hope for the Kansas Food Bank Warehouse, KBSD 6's broadcast of Dodge City Days and Dodge City High School graduation. Time and again local organizations have expressed their sincere gratitude for his exemplary leadership on key community projects.

Acting as a true broadcast pioneer, Laverne was involved in creating a centralized broadcast facility right here in Kansas. Working with Chief Engineer Don Vest, an operational centralized broadcast control was developed to fit the needs of KWCH 12 and satellite stations in Dodge City, Hays and Goodland. Each of these stations plus Cable Channel 52 were programmed out of KWCH 12 offering the opportunity for customized weather and breaking weather reports for each station as well as individual special programming prospects.

Laverne returns annually to K-State to speak to broadcast students, often giving local graduates their first chance to work at a television station. He currently serves on the Harvey County Zoning Board. He is a member of the Newton Rotary Club and Chamber of Commerce and sits on the board for Music Theater of Wichita. He is also on the KWCH 12 Community Advisory Board.

According to KWCH TV General Manager Joan Barrett, "Laverne's dedication and loyalty to KWCH 12 is demonstrated by his years of work. He leads by example with a voice of experience and an entrepreneurial spirit. He continues to help KWCH 12 through his leadership, expertise and commitment to our station and its viewers. "

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Background: The Sonny Slater Award was established in 1992 to honor Sonny Slater and to recognize a Kansas broadcaster, who is not an owner or general manager, for service to his or her station and community. Sonny was farm director at KSAL Radio in Salina for 40+ years. He retired on May 25, 1990. During his tenure at KSAL, Sonny was up at 2:30 AM each morning, at the studio by 4:00 AM, and on the air from 5:00 am to 8:30 am. He also aired market and farm news and weather over the noon hour. Before his retirement, Sonny was one of Kansas' senior broadcasters in terms of years spent covering state farm meetings and workshops and farm Extension events. KAB started the award to recognize Kansas broadcasters who work in the tradition of Sonny Slater - who provided so many excellent years of service to his station, to his audience and to his community.

Sonny Slater Award Recipients

- 1992 *Sonny Slater, KSAL/KYEZ
- 1993 Dan Willis, KKOW AM, Pittsburg
- 1994 Bob Kearns, WIBW Radio/TV (retired),
Topeka
- 1995 Tad Felts, KKAN/KQMA, Phillipsburg
- 1996 Don Engelhardt, KSAL/KYEZ, Salina
- 1997 Wilma "Perky" Perks, KWBW AM,
Hutchinson
- 1998 *Abram Burnett, KHOK FM, Great Bend
- 1999 Mike Cooper, KAYS/KHAZ, Hays
- 2000 *Claude Hughes, KNGL/KBBE, McPherson
- 2001 Larry Hatteberg, KAKE TV, Wichita
- 2002 Larry Moore, KMBC TV, Kansas City
- 2003 Lloyd Mintzmyer, KOOD TV, Bunker Hill
- * Deceased

2004 Mike Oatman Award - Posthumously to F.F. Mike Lynch



KAB awards its 2004 Mike Oatman Award posthumously to F.F. Mike Lynch, to recognize outstanding achievement in Kansas broadcast sales, sales management and mentoring others to sales success. The award was established in 2003 and presented posthumously to Mike Oatman.

Mike and his longtime business partner, Mike Oatman, built Great Empire Broadcasting into a chain of 15 radio stations in six states. Their flagship stations were KFDI AM/FM in Wichita. They sold their stations to Journal Broadcast Group in 1995.

In 1962, Mike and his father Frank bought KIRL Radio from silent movie stars Mary Pickford and Buddy Rogers and changed the station's name to KFDI. Over the next 35 years, Mike and Mike grew their corporation into one of the most respected radio companies in America, with stations in Wichita, Omaha, Tulsa, Denver Springfield MO, and Shreveport.

Mike was the first broadcaster to be inducted into Country Radio Hall of Fame. He also was inducted into the Old Time Country Music Hall of Fame, Broadcast Professionals of Wichita Hall of Fame, and the Cattleman's Ball Hall of Fame. He and Mike Oatman were inducted into KAB's Hall of Fame in 2000. They jointly received KAB's Distinguished Service Award in 1994.

Mike gave generously of his time, talent and treasure to the Church of the Magdalen and many Wichita area not-for-profit organizations like the Boy Scouts, YMCA, Salvation Army, Starkey, Inc., Kansas Newman and Via Christi.

F.F. "Mike" Lynch died on July 29, 2004 of pneumonia in a Houston hospital. He was 74. He had been fighting leukemia for several years. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Dorothy, 11 children and 22 grandchildren.

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Background: Established in 2003 in Mike Oatman's memory, the Award recognizes outstanding achievement in broadcast sales, sales management and mentoring others to sales success. KAB awarded it posthumously in 2003 to Mike Oatman.

2004 Friend of Kansas Broadcasting Award - Dave Witty



KAB's Friend of Kansas Broadcasting Award is not given annually, but when the KAB Board of Directors determines an individual or organization merits such recognition.

In 2004, Dave Witty is presented the award for his many contributions and service to Kansas broadcasters and KAB. Dave has been of invaluable help in hosting the annual KAB Sports Seminar at Royals Kauffman Stadium the past several years.

Dave is entering his 19th year with the Kansas City Royals, and currently serves as vice president-broadcasting and public relations. He was named an officer of the club on January 13, 2003. He previously served as director of team travel from 1987-2000 and as senior director of media relations in 2001 and 2002.

Dave oversees the promotion of the Royals regional presence by serving as vice president-operations & public relations of the Royals Sports Television Network, LLC. He directs the operation and expansion of the Royals Radio Network, Winter Caravan and Royals Alumni activities.

Dave also oversees the Royals Media Relations Department, which handles the day-to-day media requests and information and produces the club's media guide and game day magazine. He also is the Royals representative on the Major League schedule committee and has coordinated the Royals regular season and Spring Training schedules since 1990.

Dave joined the Royals as a public relations intern in 1986 and worked as a PR assistant from 1987-95 assisting with the media guide and game day activities.

Dave received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting with a minor in Radio-TV from Kansas State University in 1985 and a Master of Science Degree in Sports Administration from St. Thomas (Miami, Fla.) University in 1986. He resides in Stilwell with his wife, Carla, and sons, Scott and Brett.

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Background: The Friend of Broadcasting Award was established in 2001 and is not intended to be awarded annually but only when the KAB Board of Directors determines that an individual or organization merits such recognition.

Friend of Kansas Broadcasting Award Recipients

- 2001 Dr. Paul Prince, retired, as head of Kansas State University Radio/Television program
- 2001 Bill Ohlemeier, director of association services, Kansas Electric Cooperatives
- 2003 Barry Umansky, Communications Attorney, Irwin, Campbell & Tannenwald, P.C.

2004 Tony Jewell Award - Dr. Merlynn Colip



The KAB has selected Dr. Merlynn Colip as this year's recipient of the Tony Jewell Award, for his outstanding contributions to the prevention and treatment of alcohol and drug abuse. Dr. Colip is a retired family physician and has been a Member of the Valley Hope Board of Directors since 1966.

In the mid 60's, Dr. Colip and Rev. Bob Adams established a friendship and developed an idea to help the chemically dependent individual find a program for sobriety. This idea eventually built an organization that today is known as the Valley Hope Association. The Valley Hope Association is a nationally recognized, nonprofit organization dedicated to providing quality alcohol and drug addiction treatment services at an affordable price. Valley Hope operates a network of residential and outpatient treatment facilities in seven states, five of which are in Kansas. The other states are Arizona, Colorado, Missouri,

Nebraska, Oklahoma and Texas.

At Valley Hope, they know treatment does work. They have helped thousands of people start down the road to recovery - a road that reunites families, enables employees to regain their productivity and value to the company, and literally saves lives.

Dennis Gilhousen, president of the Valley Hope Association, credits Dr. Colip with helping build the foundation upon which Valley Hope has grown. "Dr. Colip has remained committed to the basic philosophy that has defined Valley Hope throughout our more than 37 years of existence", Gilhousen said. "His vision saw beyond the obstacles in establishing a treatment center in Norton, Kansas, in the 1960's, and that same vision has helped guide us as that program has continued to pursue new possibilities of growth. I am very happy he is being recognized for his contributions to the addiction treatment field."

Dr. Colip currently serves on the Valley Hope Board of Directors and has been a deacon, an elder, trustee, and Sunday School teacher of the Norton Christian Church. He is also on the Board of Trustees at Manhattan Christian College in Manhattan, KS.

Dr. Colip has previously served on the Board of Directors of the Christian Medical and Dental Association, on the Executive Committee of the International Christian and Medical Association, and was the first president of the Pikes Peak Regional Medical Center Association in Woodland Park, CO.

Dr. Colip is seen as a caring individual who is willing to support the effort and to encourage others in need. He marvels at what Valley Hope has become and gives credit to all those that have made Valley Hope what it is today, including his wife Joan. Her support and dedication in helping her husband, was a contributing factor in the development of Valley Hope. The Colip's have three daughters, one son, and twelve grandchildren and continue to reside in Norton.

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Background: The KAB Tony Jewell Award was established in 1987 to recognize an individual (volunteer or professional) who has made a significant contribution to the prevention, intervention or treatment of alcohol and/or drug abuse in Kansas. The award includes a plaque for the recipient and a check for \$500 to an alcohol/drug organization of the recipients choice. The award is named for one of the KAB's own. Tony Jewell is a 40+ year veteran of Kansas broadcasting and KIUL, Inc. in Garden City and a past president of the KAB. Because of Tony's commitment to seeking solutions to the alcohol/drug abuse problem, it is only fitting that this award be named for him. His accomplishments include serving as the first chairman of the KAB's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Committee, during which time the KAB was recognized by the President's Citation Program for Private Sector Initiatives for Kansas' efforts in combating alcohol and drug abuse, and serving on the National Association of Broadcasters Alcohol/Drug Abuse Task Force.

Tony Jewell Award Recipients

- 1987 Judge Herb Rohleder, Great Bend
- 1988 William Leipold, Ph.D., Valley Hope Association, Norton
- 1989 Andrew O'Donovan, Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services (ADAS), Topeka
- 1990 Judge Robert Theissen, Wichita Municipal Court/Wichita Intervention Program
- 1991 Bernice Hutcherson, Professor Emeritus of Social Work, The Wichita State University
- 1992 Cal Cormack, Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, Kansas City
- 1993 James DuBois, Saline County Sheriff's Department, Salina
- 1994 Judy Donovan, Kansas Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services, Topeka
- 1995 James Nugent, Coordinator, Drug Alcohol Wellness Network, Fort Hays State University
- 1996 Ike Walter, Hoisington
- 1997 Harold & Ruth Keeling, Oxford House, Mission KS
- 1998 Judge John Barker, Abilene
- 1999 Fern Rosenberg, Topeka United Way
- 2000 Kristine McKechnie, SE KS Regional Prevention Center
- 2001 Bryan Thompson, Kansas Public Radio
- 2002 KJIL FM, Meade
- 2003 Dennis Gilhousen, Valley Hope Association, Norton