

2011 Kansas Broadcasting Hall of Fame and Distinguished Service Award

Wayne Godsey, Kansas City



Wayne began his career as a broadcast journalist. He was a reporter/producer for Newsweek Broadcasting in New York for three years and later managed broadcast news operations in Charlotte NC and Milwaukee WI. Wayne was executive vice president of Pulitzer Broadcasting in St. Louis from 1993 to 1999, when the company was sold to Hearst. He had oversight of five of Pulitzer's television properties, four of which were market leaders in viewership and revenue.

Before being promoted into group management, Wayne was general manager of television stations in Milwaukee and Albuquerque NM. In 1999, Wayne became president and general manager of Hearst Television's KMBC TV and KCWE TV, Kansas City. KMBC has ranked among the top ABC affiliates in share of audience in primetime and in local news.

Wayne served on the KAB Board of Directors and as Chairman in 2006. He was instrumental in bringing other Kansas City broadcasters into KAB membership and in giving KAB a higher profile among legislators from Johnson and Wyandotte counties. Wayne's understanding of politics and the legislative process provided an important benefit to the KAB in its lobbying efforts in both Topeka and Washington DC. It was during Wayne's term as Chairman that KAB successfully lobbied the state legislature for property tax credits and exemptions on digital radio and television equipment, saving the industry in Kansas an estimated \$1 million in property taxes.

Wayne is a native of Virginia and earned a BA in English from Lynchburg College. He served for six years in the Virginia and North Carolina Army National Guard.

2011 Kansas Broadcasting Hall of Fame

John Froome (Posthumously), Wichita



As television came into people's homes in the mid-1950s, it created both national and local celebrities. Wichita's first such celebrity was John Froome. For a quarter century, Froome was a jack-of-all-trades as a live television host, meteorologist and pitch man. It is likely that no one has hosted more hours of live local television in Wichita than John Froome.

He came to Wichita in 1950 as a copywriter for KANS-AM. He became program director for the station, with duties that included broadcasting baseball at the National Baseball Congress World Series from Lawrence-Dumont Stadium. Froome was hired by Martin Umansky at KAKE-TV before the station went on the air in October of 1954. He is best remembered as the host of the very popular live program, "IGA Party Line." With local grocery chain IGA as its sponsor, the show ran from 1957 to 1964 and featured a studio audience with housewives as contestants.

In addition to "IGA Party Line," Froome hosted other shows with audiences: "Show for Dough," "Cash Calls" and "Game-O-Names," a syndicated show that also appeared in Topeka, Oklahoma City and Tulsa. In addition to hosting shows, Froome handled KAKE's nightly weather duties, eventually giving way to KAB Hall of Fame member Jim O'Donnell.

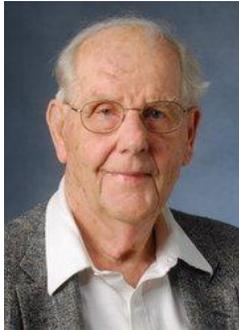
In 1969, Froome began to limit his on-air work to commercials while he concentrated on managerial duties as KAKE's vice president in charge of programming. He rose through the managerial ranks to become assistant general manager in 1972. During this time, he was instrumental in the hiring of Maggie Linton, who was one of the first minority females in Wichita television.

In recognition of his NBC World Series broadcasting and contributions to baseball in Wichita, Froome was inducted in the Kansas Baseball Hall of Fame in 1977. He was posthumously inducted into the Broadcast Professionals of Wichita's Hall of Fame in 1999.

Froome lived in Wichita until he died of bone cancer in 1977 at the age of 50. His wife Shirley continues to live in Wichita and six of their eight children live in Kansas.

2011 Kansas Broadcasting Hall of Fame

Dr. James Seaver (Posthumously), Lawrence



For nearly 60 years Dr. Seaver created, produced, compiled and wrote weekly radio program focusing on opera titled “Opera Is My Hobby.” Dr. Seaver hosted this show from 1952 through 2011, providing an anchor between the KANU of yesteryear and the Kansas Public Radio of today. “Opera Is My Hobby” was one of the longest-running, continuously-produced and continuously-hosted-by-the-same-presenter shows in national radio history.

Dr. Seaver was also a professor of history at the University of Kansas for 27 years, and served as Emeritus for another 23 years. He was actively involved in the Topeka Opera Society and Concert Association (TOSCA), the Lyric Opera of Kansas City and with the Wichita Grand Opera, promoting opera and its appreciation along with promotion of radio as a means for accessing opera.

Among his numerous awards and recognitions, he was a recipient of the Kansas Humanities Council Distinguished Service Award in 1997. He was honored with the “Phoenix Award” from the City of Lawrence and Cultural Arts Commission. Dr. Seaver is also the namesake of the annual University of Kansas department of Humanities and Western Civilization James E. Seaver Lecture, one of the most prestigious lectures given each year at the University of Kansas.

He was a tireless volunteer for many charitable and non-profit organizations in Lawrence. For one of his most recent significant tributes, he was honored in 2007 by Douglas County Senior Services with the creation of the annual James and Virginia Seaver Volunteer Award. He donated thousands of recordings to the University of Kansas Archive of Recorded Sound; the opera collection is now known as the James Seaver Opera Archive, and is sought out by music scholars, opera lovers and serious musicologists for its many extremely rare, and some one-of-a-kind recordings.

Dr. Seaver and his wife Virginia have 3 children, 3 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

2011 KAB Mike Oatman Award

Rick Nulton, Great Bend



Rick was born and raised in Hays until his family relocated to Hoisington in 1967. He is a graduate of Hoisington High School and Ft. Hays State College. Nulton's broadcast career started in Garden City as a News Director / d.j. for KUPK Radio. He later became production assistant...then production director for KSN's Garden City television station.

Nulton joined KIUL – Garden City and later became Operations Manager of the then Harris sister property - KWKR licensed to Leoti. In that position he was also involved in morning drive on air and regional sales.

In 1986, Ross Beach and Bob Schmidt purchased KHOK FM – Hoisington. On October 1st, Nulton accepted the position of general manager. The station was re-located two years later to Great Bend. Eventually, Beach-Schmidt Communications became Eagle Communications and later acquired KVGB AM/FM Great Bend. They also have a joint sales agreement with Hull Broadcasting to oversee KBGL FM which Nulton runs.

Nulton is also committed to excellence on-the-air. He continues to anchor the morning news block and is arguably one of the best production voices in the state. He also is involved with nearly every civic and community project in the Great Bend area raising 10's of thousands of dollars through marketing programs and special events.

Rick and his wife Darlene reside in Hoisington. They have 5 children...four grandchildren...one great grand child...and are expecting their 5th grandchild in December.

2011 KAB Sonny Slater Award

Paul Heskett, Colby



Paul began his sales career in 1983 for KXXX Radio in Colby. In July, he celebrated 28 years with the station. He has been the “top-biller” from the beginning of his career.

Paul is a firm believer in the power of radio, and the results he gets for his clientele are reflected in his consistent sales numbers. The businesses and organizations he works with rely on Paul as a “partner in business.” He has an unbridled passion for the stations he works for, his clientele, the radio industry, and the northwest Kansas region. His knowledge of radio, combined with his “unique” sense of humor, allow Paul to relate well with all he comes in contact with. A favorite Paul Heskett quote: “Don’t take life too serious...it’s only temporary.”

Paul’s impact in northwest Kansas extends far beyond his billing. Born in Hoxie and raised in Oakley, he has demonstrated an unparalleled commitment to the communities of northwest Kansas. Through his community service, Paul has built strong relationships throughout the entire tri-state region. He helps organize, execute and promote numerous Rod Runs, chamber of commerce functions, community events and county fairs. Area firefighters hold a special place with Paul, and he takes great pride in raising money for local fire departments.

Paul is also the host of the very popular “Bop Shop Saturday Morning” program that is simulcast on KXXX-AM and KRDQ-FM, 9AM-Noon (CST). The program features music from the 50’s, 60’s, 70’s and 80’s, and is sold out on a consistent basis. The emphasis of “Bop Shop” extends beyond the music...with special attention given to local events, local callers, and local weather. All of this, combined with Paul’s one-of-a-kind personality, make “Bop Shop Saturday Morning” the most listened to radio program in northwest Kansas.

Paul is the youngest of 6 children born to Leonard and Myrna. Paul’s oldest brother, Jim, was killed in the Vietnam War. His other siblings are Donna, Wayne, Joe, and Vicki. Paul’s “first” wife of 20 years is Jamie.