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CRA's Bos Johnson Receives Distinguished Award

9.28.04

Ohio Valley Broadcasting Elite Honored

NATAS Honors NINE for Induction into Second Class of Silver Circle Award

The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS), Ohio Valley Chapter announced its Silver Circle inductees today. Nine regional television pioneers have been selected to receive the honor for their lasting contributions to the industry during a daylong professional development seminar and celebration October 16, 2004.

The Silver Circle honors television professionals who have performed distinguished service within the television industry for twenty-five years or more, a significant part of which was done within the Ohio Valley region of Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana and West Virginia. Silver Circle members are honored for more than their longevity -- they are honored for making an enduring contribution to the vitality of the television industry and for setting standards of achievement we can all hope to emulate. The following are this year's inductees:

From Cincinnati:

Jim Friedman

Friedman entered the industry for the same reason as most - he liked watching television and he didn't want to wear a tie to work. 27 years, 53 Emmys and hundreds of television series, movies and specials later... neither his humor nor his love for local television have diminished. Dr. Friedman is a talented writer, producer, director, program creator and mentor who has dedicated his career to sharing the magic of television with thousands of students and millions of viewers across the country.

Ruth Lyons

Ruth Lyons, a native of Cincinnati, is best known for her radio and television show, *The 50-50 Club*, broadcast regionally and nationally during television's heyday, and the annual Ruth Lyons Children's Christmas Fund that she started. Known far and wide as America's First Lady of Broadcasting, she blazed a new trail for women in the unknown television market, becoming the first woman to host a nationally televised daytime talk show. Ruth began her now-famous Christmas fund in 1939. To date the fund has generated more than \$21 million for hospitalized Tri-state children.

Glenn "Skipper" Ryle

Called one of the "most versatile men to walk in front of a camera," and a "consummate story teller," Skipper" Ryle was a familiar face to Cincinnati television viewers during his long and multifaceted career. Ryle was best known as host for his long-running hit show, *The Skipper Ryle Show*. Scores of Cincinnati baby boomers played games, tried their hand at contests, and watched cartoons on his long running program. The show drew legions of loyal viewers who couldn't wait to appear in the studio audience or have their chance to compete for prizes. Play Dough and Silly Putty made their debut on Skipper's Show.

Bob Shreve

Known as the King of Cincinnati's late night TV comedy, Bob Shreve enticed millions of Cincinnatians to stay up late to watch campy, B-rated movies. Bob's appeal crossed all ages. Visiting stars would drop in including Bill Cosby, Alice Cooper and Red Skelton. Shreve's popularity reached beyond regional television and he appeared in the September 1978 issue of TV Guide.

Charles Vaughan

Charles Vaughan forever changed the face of Cincinnati television. He quietly reshaped an ailing television station, and put his touches on National Educational Television, the forerunner of the Public Broadcasting Service. He's credited with establishing WCET's Action Auction, and built it into the largest auction in the public broadcasting system, and the single largest fundraising event in the city of Cincinnati.

From Columbus:

Gene D'Angelo

D'Angelo introduced the first 24-hour news format to Central Ohioans. He also embraced new technology by providing reporters with the first fully-computerized newsrooms in the country, and also built the first satellite news gathering truck in the area allowing WBNS to air live coverage of news events from anywhere on the continent. D'Angelo was also inducted into The Osmond Foundation Hall of Fame for his significant contributions to the Children's Miracle Network Telethon.

From Dayton:

Don Wayne

Best known as WHIO TV's "the anchor man", Don Wayne was one of the Miami Valley's most popular television news anchors with nearly 40 years of nightly appearances in the homes of Dayton viewers. In 1969, Don was one of seven correspondents chosen to report from around the country on the public reaction to the U.S. moon landing for Cronkite's CBS Evening News. One of Wayne's greatest moments was a private interview with then President Gerald Ford, in the Oval office. It remained a highlight of his career.

From Lexington:

O. Leonard Press

In the 1950s when television was taking its first tentative steps, an idea was forming in Kentucky to use the medium to overcome geographic barriers to educate young people. O. Leonard Press had a vision, but as KET's Founder and Executive Director he had the persistence to camp out on a governor's doorstep and to travel the back roads of Kentucky to make it a reality. In 1962 the Kentucky legislature approved the creation of the Kentucky Authority for Educational Television, and Press was named Executive Director- a job he would hold for nearly 20 years.

From Huntington/Charleston:

C. Bosworth Johnson

Serving 56 years in the broadcasting industry, "Bos" Johnson has impacted Ohio Valley television and especially the West Virginia journalism region in an extraordinary way. His approach to covering news in multiple markets became the prototype for the NBC Huntley-Brinkley Report. For nearly 20 years he served as TV News Director - a newscast frequently listed as the highest rated 6:00 p.m. local news program in the nation's Top Fifty markets.

The daylong event is scheduled for October 16, 2004 at the KingsGate Marriott Inn, near the University of Cincinnati. Broadcastings best of the best will gather in Cincinnati to honor the Ohio Valley's second annual Silver Circle Hall of Fame inductees.

But that's just the start. There's a day filled with seminars, workshops, and collaborative events for on-screen and behind the scenes television practitioners, students and educators. The day begins at 8: 30 a.m. with registration. A keynote address follows, with four breakout sessions and the Silver Circle Induction Luncheon and Panel Discussion. Details are available online at www.emmyonline.org/ohiovalley on the Chapter News page, via email at ovnatas@fuse.net, or by calling Silver Circle Chairman Jim Friedman at (513) 533-4340.

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