
Please route to

____ General Manager
____ Sales Department
____ News and Sports
____ Programming
____ Production
____ Promotion
____ Engineering

Inside this Issue

Page 1

- **Chairman's message**
- **DSA, Hall of Fame**

Page 2

- **Stations of the Year, awards**

Page 3

- **Hod Humiston Award**
- **Tony Jewell Award**
- **New member**
- **Officers, directors elected**
- **Second round of AMBER news conferences**

Page 4

- **Washington Update**
- **News briefs**
- **Larry James**

The *Transmitter* is free to members and available to non-members by subscription for \$25 per year. KAB's mission is to provide professional lobbying and governmental representation, efficient communication and effective recruiting, education and training for Kansas broadcasters for the purpose of enhancing the success of Kansas broadcasters and helping them better serve the people of Kansas.

Kansas Association of Broadcasters
1916 SW Sieben Ct, Topeka KS 66611
(785) 235-1307*FAX (785) 233-3052

www.kab.net * e-mail: harriet@kab.net

2002 KAB deadlines

- November 1, deadline for KAB Student PSA Contest (alcohol/ drug prevention - holidays)
 - November 1, deadline for paid faculty and student internships (semester break and spring break)
-



Chairman's message

(Scott Donovan, KHOK/KVGB)

As we move closer to December and the end of my term as chairman of the KAB, I must say thanks to all of the people who have made this year for me, one of the greatest in my career. We briefly recognized Danny Thomas, Gary McNair and Larry Avery at the Convention on October 16. They will be leaving the board this year. I take this opportunity again to say thank you, Danny, Gary and Larry, for the many miles spent on the road, for the many hours spent in the board rooms, for the unending commitment and support you have shown and for the accomplishments you have achieved for our industry and for this organization. You have made your mark and you will be missed.

I can't let this year slip by without sharing with you a simple story. As I mentioned during the recent KAB Hall of Fame reception, I really feel you don't know where you are going in life until you know where you came from. I have the pleasure of working at the same radio station where the founding father of the KAB, Grover Cobb, spent many years. Grover was the general manager of KVGB AM in 1951 when he gathered together a group of radio broadcasters to work on broadcasting K-State and KU ball games statewide. The KARB was born. Ben Ludy from WIBW became the first president of the KARB, and Grover became president in 1957, then went on to become chairman of the National Association of Broadcasters in 1967, and Senior Vice President in 1971. Grover died of a heart attack in 1977 at the age of 53, in Washington DC. The day Mr. Cobb

(continued on page 2)

Transmitter

Volume 41 No 9 October 24, 2002

DSA to Sampson; three inducted into Hall of Fame

During the recent Wichita convention, KAB presented the 2002 Distinguished Service Award, the industry's highest award, and inducted three broadcasters into the Kansas Broadcasting Hall of Fame. Jack Sampson of Hutchinson received the Distinguished Service Award and was inducted into the Hall of Fame. Also inducted posthumously, were Frances and Wendell Elliott.

Jack Sampson was recognized with the Distinguished Service Award for his many contributions to broadcasting and for service to his state and community. He was born and raised in Abilene and is a US Navy veteran of WW II. Jack graduated from Kansas State University in 1950 with a degree in Journalism - Radio/TV.

After graduation, Jack worked at KAYS Radio in Hays. He moved to Kansas City where he became sales manager of WHB. Todd Storz purchased WHB and changed the format to TOP 40. He had the opportunity to be part of radio history, as Storz Broadcasting, along with Gordon McClendon are given credit for inventing the TOP 40 format. The new format led to musically formatted radio stations and helped radio survive the introduction of television.

When Storz Broadcasting purchased KOMA Radio in Oklahoma City, Jack became the station's general manager in 1958. In 1963, he moved on to Storz station, KXOK in St. Louis as vice president and general manager. Jack helped bring The Beatles to St.

(continued on page 2)

Chairman's message cont.

died, Thad Sandstrom from WIBW recorded a radio editorial and said, "Free broadcasting is better today because of what Grover Cobb stood for and did".

I think if Mr. Cobb were still alive he would be proud of our accomplishments as Kansas broadcasters. Over the past 51 years this organization has done a lot for our industry, and with your help, we will continue to strive to do good things for the future of "free broadcasting."

Your thoughts and comments are always welcome at
scott.donovan@eagleradio.net

#

DSA, Hall of Fame cont.

Louis - during their first trip to the U.S.

In 1975, he formed Sampson Communications Co. and returned to Kansas. He purchased KSKU Radio in Hutchinson, and later KLEO in Wichita. He sold these stations in 1986 and later purchased KHAZ in Hays. He was active in KAB and served as convention chairman in 1982.

Jack served on the boards of St. Louis Ad Club and Radio Advertising Bureau. He was appointed to the Kansas Board of Regents in 1988 and served as its chairman in 1991-92. Jack was a two-time president of Reno County Historical Society and vice president of Greater Hutchinson Chamber of Commerce.

Jack and his wife, Arvilla, have four children and 11 grandchildren.

Frances and Wendell Elliott - Kansas Broadcasting Hall of Fame (inducted posthumously)

Frances and Wendell met while attending Topeka's Washburn College. They married in 1931. Frances continued in school, while Wendell quit to drive a truck to support them. When Frances graduated, Wendell re-enrolled. Frances went to work in Abilene at KFBI Radio station - Doc Brinkley's

Milford station purchased by Farmers and Bankers Insurance Company. At KFBI, Frances was "Lady of the House". She had a morning program in which she gave helpful homemaker information.

Not wanting to be away from Frances, Wendell dropped out of Washburn and moved to Abilene. He hung around the radio station until they gave him a job as an announcer. When KFBI started a remote studio in Salina, Frances and Wendell went to work in Salina. They later went to work for the competition, KSAL, put on the air by the *Salina Journal*. Frances continued her morning program and added an afternoon program, and Wendell was a staff announcer and did on-the-street interviews.

Frances quit her professional career when she and Wendell started a family. They had three sons - Sam, Wen and Mark.

Wendell took a job at KVOE, Emporia in 1945, and soon after went to work at KTOP, a new Topeka station, as a salesman and announcer.

Having helped Frank Carlson in his election as Saline County Sheriff and later as Congressman, Wendell was hired by Governor Carlson to do a weekly syndicated radio program - "Governor's Report".

In 1948, Wendell started a statewide news network. He did the reporting, writing, announcing and mailing of the 15-minute program - "Kansas Today" - which he recorded on vinyl covered aluminum discs. He also sold some of the advertising. He later hired a Washburn law student to help report and write. Wendell's first hire was Thad Sandstrom.

In January of 1950, at Jess Denious' invitation, Wendell became general manager of KGNO in Dodge City. He later put KGNO FM on the air. Frances went back on the air with a morning program and Wendell built a strong farm department. Also during this time, he served on the first board of directors of Kansas Association of Radio Broadcasters

Congratulations KAB Stations of the Year

KANU FM, Lawrence
KAIR FM, Atchison
KSAL AM, Salina
WIBW AM, Topeka
KBSH TV, Hays
KSNT TV, Topeka
KAKE TV, Wichita
KMBC TV, Kansas City

KAB presented 107 first place awards, 71 second place and 11 honorable mentions, during the October 16 Awards Luncheon in Wichita. There were 589 radio entries and 188 television entries, for a total 777 entries. Members of the Idaho State Broadcasters Association judged KAB's entries.

Thank You Sponsors

KAB appreciates the support of these October Conference sponsors:

Kansas Gas Service
U.S. Coast Guard
Broadcast Music Inc.

(now KAB).

In the late 1950s, Wendell and Jess Denious, Jr. began work on establishing the first local television station in SW Kansas. They were joined by the Warner family of Cimarron and KTVC/Channel 6, Ensign, became a reality in 1960. Wendell managed both KGNO and KTVC for awhile. Although he eventually gave up the radio position, he helped his son, Sam, start his radio station in Ulysses, KULY.

In 1965, Frances and Wendell moved to Flagstaff, Arizona, where he started northern Arizona's first television station, KVOA. It went on the air in 1968.

Wendell died at the age of 61 in 1972. Frances died three years later.

#

Humiston award to Downing

KAB presented the 2002 Hod Humiston Award for Sports Broadcasting to Rocky Downing, sports director at KCLY/KFRM, Clay Center, during the recent KAB Convention in Wichita. Downing was recognized for his contributions to sports broadcasting in Kansas.

Downing broadcasts high school basketball, football, wrestling, volleyball, golf, cross country, softball, and baseball. He puts together a team of eight people to cover as many as 45 different teams at the state track meet while broadcasting state baseball and state softball finals. He involves as many as 15 people in his broadcasts over the year as color commentators and guest experts. Downing was the first to broadcast the Kansas High School Coaches All Star Basketball Game and he does a daily sports feature called "Kansas Sports Spotlight".

Since 1993, Downing has won 22 KAB awards for play-by-play, sports feature, public affairs programming and editorial. He has been named Sportscaster of the Year twice by Kansas Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association and once by Kansas Wrestling Coaches Association.

Downing coaches junior high football and basketball and American Legion Baseball. He is active in Rotary and area theater productions as writer, actor, singer and director.

According to KCLY/KFRM General Manager Kyle Bauer, "Rocky has shown the industry how small market sports should be done. In addition to being a great sportscaster, Rocky runs a great morning board shift that starts at 6:00am each morning. A love for kids, a love for community, a love for broadcasting, Rocky Downing exemplifies the kind of employee, citizen, person, and broadcaster that each of us in broadcasting should strive to be."

#

Jewell award to KJIL

KAB presented the 2002 Tony Jewell Award to Great Plains Christian Radio, Inc./KJIL FM, of Meade. The award was presented to KJIL General Manager Don Hughes during the KAB Convention in Wichita and recognized KJIL's outstanding contributions to the alcohol/drug abuse prevention field.

During Red Ribbon Week last October, KJIL helped develop and lead a joint prevention/ intervention effort with southwest Kansas churches, public schools, businesses, drug prevention and intervention agencies, law enforcement agencies, elected officials, print media, radio and television. KJIL called on each of these agencies to use their expertise to bring public attention on illegal drug use, underage drinking, and abuse of alcohol.

The primary focus of Red Ribbon Week was Milton Creagh, one of the top speakers in the country. KJIL brought him in to talk to students in area schools and to the general public in evening sessions. He spoke to students in high schools and middle schools in Garden City, Dodge City, Liberal, Hugoton, Ulysses, Cimarron, Scott City, Quinter, and Meade. His topic - the dangers of using drugs and the consequences of abuse. Reunion recording artists Whisper Loud performed the National Anthem at each school assembly. Creagh spoke during four evening concerts by Whisper Loud and Russ Lee.

About 15,000 southwest Kansas students heard Creagh's message about the dangers of substance abuse, during the week-long campaign.

#

Welcome new members

A warm KAB welcome to new associate member - **Hutchinson High School, Kevin Kneisley**, director of broadcasting.

#

KAB elects officers, directors

Officers and directors for 2003, elected at the recent KAB meeting are: Chairman – **Kyle Bauer**, KFRM/KCLY, **Clay Center**; Chair-elect – **Cliff Shank**, KSKU/KXKU/KGGG, **Hutchinson**, and Secretary/Treasurer- **Jackie Wise** Entercom Radio, **Wichita**.

New directors elected to serve three-year terms are: **Patti McCormick**, KIND AM/FM, **Independence**; **Marty Melia**, KLOE/KKCI/KWGB, **Goodland**; and **Eugene Williams**, KTWU TV, Topeka.

Other directors serving in 2003 include: **Wayne Godsey**, KMBC TV/KCWE TV, **Kansas City**; **Gary Hawke**, KJHK/KUJH TV, **Lawrence**; **Phil McComb**, KKOY AM/FM, **Chanute**; and **Dave Trabert**, KAKE TV, **Wichita**. Also serving on the KAB Board of Directors in 2003 as immediate past chairman is **Scott Donovan**, KHOK/KVGB, **Great Bend**.

Going off the board December 31, are past chairman **Danny Thomas**, KOAM TV, **Pittsburg**; and directors - **Larry Avery**, EBC, Inc., **Salina**; **Hank Booth**, KLWN/KLZR, **Lawrence**; and **Gary McNair**, KSNT TV, **Topeka**.

#

Second round of AMBER news conferences held

Kansas AG Carla Stovall, Donna Norris (Amber Hagerman's mother), KAB Chairman Scott Donovan, KBI Deputy Director Terry Knowles, and KHP's Terry Maple, made stops in Salina, Great Bend, Hays and Garden City on October 22.

This was the second round of news conferences announcing the Kansas AMBER Alert program.

#

Washington update

At the FCC

***The FCC did not approve the proposed merger between EchoStar Communications and DirecTV**, stating that the companies have not demonstrated that approval will serve the public interest, convenience and necessity. The companies have 30 days to file an amended application. The FCC concluded that separately DirecTV and EchoStar could provide local-into-local in at least the top 100 markets representing 85% of the US populations, and that the merger would decrease the economic incentive to provide local-into-local service.

*The FCC has **authorized immediate FM and daytime AM IBOC operation**. In-band on-channel was selected as the digital technology for radio, utilizing iBiquity Digital's IBOC systems.

***The FCC has suspended the July 2002 amended application fees**, due to an oversight of not publishing the new fees in the Federal Register. The new fees were to have taken effect on September 10. Stations should continue paying current fees when filing applications, until the FCC issues a new Order changing the effective date of the amended fees.

*The FCC Media Bureau is requiring **electronic filing**, effective November 18, for the following forms: FCC 302-TV: application for television broadcast station license; and FCC 302-DTV: application for digital television broadcast station license.

In Congress

*US House passed HR 5469 - a **small webcasting streaming bill** in late September, without the royalty moratorium on fees for streaming, which NAB supported. The bill was blocked in the Senate due to the objections of several Senators. The Senate is on election recess and returns November 12, so the bill could be revived later this year.

*Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) introduced two bills before the Senate recessed for the elections. He introduced a **bill mandating free airtime for federal candidates**. The

News briefs

*Manhattan Broadcasting Company, Inc. has put a new station on the air - **KACZ, 96.3 FM**. It's a sister station to KMAN AM, KMKF FM, and KXBZ FM. **Rich Wartell** is general manager. KACZ is a music station playing a mix of today's hits.

***KTQW TV**, Wichita, recently received four awards at the 2002 Community Broadcasters Convention in San Antonio. The station won in four of the five categories they entered - a first place for a "Politically Oriented Show"; a second place for a "Locally Produced Sports Show"; a third place for a "Locally Produced Non-Sports Show"; and fourth place for commercial production. **Mary Knecht** is general manager and **Michael Smith** is production manager.

***David Kennedy**, president and COO of **Susquehanna Radio Corp.**, (license holder of KAB member stations **KCMO AM/FM** and **KCFX FM**, Kansas City) has been elected chairman of RAB's Board of Directors. Kennedy also serves as chairman of NAB.

***Scott Slocum**, formerly of Computer Concepts, has started a new company - TurnKey Media Systems - to assist broadcasters operating with DCS and Maestro digital audio systems. His offices are in Olathe. Telephone number is (913) 568-2254.

bill imposes a spectrum tax on broadcasters to fund vouchers for political candidates and parties and mandates that stations provide at least two hours of "candidate-centered discourse" per week for six weeks prior to a federal election. The bill also changes the way lowest unit rate is calculated and makes candidate ads non-preemptible. McCain also introduced a **bill that would give sellers of telecommunications businesses a tax deferral** when their assets are bought for cash by small business telecom companies.

Larry James

James Larry "Jay Larry James" Simmons, 63, died October 10 at his home in South Hutchinson. He worked for KWNS, Pratt and KFDI, Wichita, before joining KWBW in Hutchinson in the late 1960s. He was the first program director for KWBW FM (now KHUT) when the station went on the air in 1972. In 1982 Simmons was a finalist for the Country Music Association's disk jockey of the year.

After leaving KHUT, Simmons worked at Hutchinson Correctional Facility, from which he retired earlier this year as a master sergeant. He returned to radio in 2001 as morning personality at KXKU in Hutchinson. He worked at KXKU until he was diagnosed with cancer last winter.

He is survived by his wife, Jodi, a son, three daughters, four stepchildren, and nine grandchildren. Services were held October 14 in Hutchinson. Memorial contributions may be made to Harry Hines Memorial Hospice, c/o Elliott Mortuary, 1219 N Main, Hutchinson, KS 67501. (Source: KXKU Radio).

#

~~~~~  
**ADD VALUE**

*To your local  
radio newscast*

*With KANSAS  
NEWS &  
KANSAS SOUND*

**KFB RADIO NEWS  
at**

[www.kfb.org/radio](http://www.kfb.org/radio)

**Kansas Farm  
Bureau**

*Helping Feed the World*

#