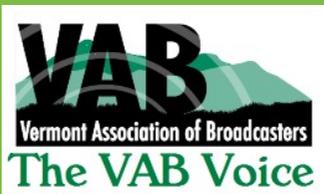


Vermont Association of Broadcasters

500A Dalton Drive
Colchester, VT 05446
(802) 655-5764
Email: vab@vab.org



October,
2016



Jeremy Siegreest-Jones



1946 - 2016

One of Vermont ETV's original producers has died. Jeremy Siegreest-Jones passed away September 8 in Burlington due to Multiple Systems Atrophy, a rare neuromuscular condition.

A UVM graduate, he was one of the pioneers at VT Public Television (now Vermont PBS), producing and directing many television programs including the first Auction and he served as its Production Manager. He left TV to start Vermont Army/Navy and later worked at Kids Town and Vermont Toy & Hobby.

He is survived by his wife, Mari, daughter Emily and son Elliott.

TEN-STEP RE-PACK?

The FCC announced Sept. 30 it is seeking comments on a plan to "re-pack" TV stations affected by the wireless spectrum incentive auction. The FCC proposes to conduct the re-packing over ten phases. The object is to avoid having all affected stations competing for the same tower and engineering resources at the same time. Comments are due by October 31. You can read the Public Notice by [clicking here](#).

FEW GLITCHES SEEN IN LATEST EAS TEST



On Wednesday, September 28, FEMA conducted the first national EAS test in five years, and from all accounts so far it appears it went quite smoothly.

FEMA launched the test from its facility in Maryland, and stayed in touch via conference call with official from the Federal Communications Commission, the National Weather Service and the National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center, as well as the chairs of the state emergency committees.

By Thursday, the FCC reported, they had heard from 22,000 radio, television and cable systems that had filed the required "Form Two" report on the new EAS Test Reporting System. In most cases, they reported, the test came through in a timely and audible manner. Form Three will be due 45 days after the test date.

There were a few glitches reported. Some stations had problems with their EAS units, possibly caused by recent lightning storms. One cable system in California was unable to produce a legible crawl on their feed. And in Philadelphia, stations relying on Local Primary station WHYH didn't hear the emergency test notification. Instead, those stations relayed an interview that WHYH was broadcasting, featuring a clip of the 1985 pop hit "Take on Me" by A-ha.

All told, officials seem pleased by the results so far. FEMA technical lead Al Kenyon told [Radio World](#), "My driving goal was to have clean audio, delivered timely, and closed out properly."

Quarterly Issues/Programs reports must be placed into your station's public file by October 10, 2016.

Television station Children's Television Report forms and children's commercial limit compliance forms must also be filed by October 10.



VAB AWARDS ANNOUNCED – SEE PAGE TWO

MEYER, MESSNER AND SLACK NAMED TO VAB HALL OF FAME

The forecast for WPTZ-TV meteorologist Tom Messner and WCAX-TV weather anchor Sharon Meyer calls for clear sailing into the VAB Hall of Fame. The popular veteran forecasters will both be inducted into the Hall of Fame [Saturday, December 3 at the Hilton Burlington](#).

Also being enshrined this year is the late Dean Slack, a longtime radio personality and manager in the Burlington market.



Sharon Meyer

Sharon Meyer, a native of the Boston area, became the lead forecaster and director of the WCAX weather department in 1990, upon the retirement of Stuart Hall. She's known not only for her forecasting skills but also for sharing her love of Vermont's natural beauty with her viewers. Sharon is regularly featured on NESN Red Sox broadcasts.

Tom Messner joined WPTZ in 1990 and quickly became a local favorite thanks to his forecasting acumen and his ever-cheerful demeanor. He has spent hundreds of hours visiting local classrooms to talk about meteorology. Tom's forecasts have been seen on the Today show, MSNBC and The Weather Channel.



Tom Messner



Dean Slack

Montpelier native Dean Slack joined WCAX radio (now WVMT) in 1950 and went to WJOY in 1954, where he was considered the market's top disc jockey in that era. WVMT hired him as sales manager and announcer in 1965. He covered the 1968 Winter Olympics in Grenoble for the station. He later

became General Manager of WVNY-TV and WVNY radio (now WEZF), but moved out of state in 1974 after buying stations in New Hampshire and New York. He passed away in Corning, New York in 2014 at the age of 85.

The VAB Hall of Fame Awards Banquet will be held Saturday, December 3 at the Burlington Hilton. Tickets are only \$30 each and includes a cocktail "hour" and a gourmet dinner.

[Click here](#) to register today.

BROADCASTER OF THE YEAR



Rod Hill

He's been broadcasting on Burlington area radio stations since he was 14. Now, just a few years later, Rod Hill has been named 2016 Broadcaster of the Year.

Now in his 30th year with Hall Communications, Hill is the co-host of WOKO-FM's "Morning Roundup" and is the Program Director for sister station WKOL-FM. He is now also responsible for day-to-day engineering duties and IT work for all five Hall stations in the region.

Rod has also helped fundraising campaigns for Camp Ta-Kum-Ta and the Vermont Children's Hospital, raising hundreds of thousands of dollars.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

Distinguished Service Awards will be presented to WCAX senior news photographer Bob Davis and veteran radio personality and salesman Bob Sherman at the Dec. 3 Hall of Fame banquet.

Davis has been covering news for WCAX for more than 30 years, and is considered one of the best at his craft. He's received numerous Edward R. Morrow awards, a Peabody award and a Dupont award. He's covered everything from presidential campaigns to cats stuck in trees--and almost everything in between!



Bob Davis



Bob Sherman

Sherman has also won many awards during his career. The Lyndon State grad was a manager, announcer and salesperson at WTSL-AM from 1978 to 1985, when he joined the staff at WVMT-AM. He returned to WTSL and its sister stations in 1990, and is currently a Senior Account Executive for Great Eastern Radio. Bob's passion for radio also prompted him to return to his alma mater to teach communications to the next generation of Broadcasters. In 1987 he was given the Distinguished Alumni Award from Lyndon State.

ALAN NOYES AWARD



WFFF-TV/WVNY-TV is the 2016 winner of the Alan Noyes Community Service Award for their volunteer efforts to beautify Little River State Park in Waterbury. On June 17, all available employees participated by gardening, trimming trees for emergency vehicle access along the main road (approximately 2 miles), and chopping, splitting, and stacking nearly nine cords of fire wood! Their 33 participants racked up 151 volunteer hours. The volunteer effort followed a week of on-air stories that encouraged viewers to volunteer in their own communities.