

**IN MEMORIAM**  
**À LA MÉMOIRE DE**  
**2007-2008**

**The Quarter/Half Century Club Committee records with deep sorrow the loss of the following members and friends of the industry during the past year. Our thoughts and deepest sympathy go out to the families of these dedicated and distinguished broadcasters.**

**Le comité du Quart-de-siècle/Demi-siècle note avec un profond regret la perte des membres et amis suivants au cours de l'année. Nos plus sincères sympathies aux familles de ces radiodiffuseurs dévoués et distingués.**

**Barnes, Ernie**

Ernie Barnes, a member of the CAB's Quarter Century Club, passed away in March 2008. He was a resident of Calgary, Alberta.

**Buchanan, Richard Dolph ("Dick") – age 76 (in Brantford, Ontario in July 2008)**

Dick became owner and president of CKPC AM and CKPC FM in Brantford in 1972, when he bought them from his mother, Florence. The stations had been in the family for decades, which was a testament to the love Dick and his family had for radio. Believing strongly that the studio had an obligation to serve its community, Dick was firm in his resolve to maintain local and regional news content via live broadcasts. In addition to broadcasting, Dick enjoyed hunting, fishing and curling, and was a member of the Brant Masonic Lodge and the Brantford Shrine Club.

**Buetow, Gerhard – age 94 (in Thunder Bay, Ontario, 2008)**

Gerhard moved to Thunder Bay from Germany in 1952 and was hired at the local TV station in 1954 as a television technician. A mere two years later, he became Thunder Bay Television's first Chief Engineer, a position he held until his retirement in 1984. Early in his career, Gerhard oversaw the construction of Thunder Bay's original TV station, CKPR-TV.

**Chambers, Marc (aka Marc Webber) – age 52 (in Toronto, Ontario on May 2, 2008)**

Born in Regina and raised in Vancouver, Marc became a well-known broadcaster, working with 1050 CHUM, The Weather Network, Humber College, The Voice Depot, and others. He had a big heart and a big voice, both of which won the affection and loyalty of fans, friends, students and co-workers. Marc fought a heroic battle with cancer with an attitude and positivity which his loved ones call "inspirational."

**Chevrier, Don – age 69 (in Palm Harbor, Florida on December 17, 2007)**

Born in Toronto December 29, 1937, Don was a career sports broadcaster, starting in radio at the age of 17 at CJCA Edmonton, and culminating in his retirement 50-some years later. In between, he racked up a stellar international reputation for his prowess in play-by-play announcing in Canada of CFL games for CFRA Ottawa, CJAD Montreal, CBC-Television and the Blue Jays games for CBC-TV. Stateside he worked as a week-end anchorman for ABC Radio and sports programs for NBC.

**Dittmer, Vin** – age 81 (in Barrie, Ontario on October 26, 2007)

Vin started in radio in 1946 at CKNX in Wingham, Ontario. In 1956, he moved to Montreal to work as program manager of CFCF-radio. He became sales manager in 1959, and in 1960 made the shift to TV as business manager at CFCF-TV. Vin signed on as the Montreal manager for CTV Television Ltd. in 1962. In 1977, Vin was back in radio as founding director of CHAY-FM in Barrie, Ontario. Vin sold CHAY in 1990, and, in retirement, served as a broadcasting consultant.

**Eddy, John** – age 56 (in Florida, January 2008)

John was an integral part of the radio community in Fredericton, New Brunswick for over 15 years, starting from his days with CFNB in the 1990s. Most recently John served as Vice-President of Astral Media Atlantic.

**Elton, John Dalton (“Dalt”)** – age 87 (in Vancouver, British Columbia on November 6, 2007)

Dalt signed-on as an announcer with CJOC, Lethbridge in 1939 and spent his entire career with the Taylor-Pearson-Carson/Selkirk Communications organization. In 1941, he moved up to CJCA Edmonton as Production Manager, a post that led to his being appointed General Manager of the station. In 1968, Dalt was transferred to Vancouver where he was General Manager at CKWX until his retirement.

**Hill, Brian** – age 47 (in Dawson Creek, British Columbia on January 27, 2008)

Brian started his broadcasting career in Dawson Creek in the 1990s, and went to CKWX Vancouver in 1996 following stopovers in Trail and Castlegar. He returned to The Peace (as they call it) in 2004 as News Director for the Astral Media Radio and TV stations in Fort St. John and Dawson Creek.

**Hulme, Walter** – age 68 (in Guelph, Ontario in May 2008)

Walter was a graduate of Radio and Television Arts from Ryerson in 1961 and went on to have a 40+ years career as a champion of small market radio: first, at CKOX in Woodstock; then to CAP Communications in Kitchener; and finally to North Bay to help launch CHUR-AM. After managing a group of Kapuskasing stations, Walter formed North Channel Broadcasters in 1996. He purchased three struggling stations and merged them into one powerful FM station which served to unite a large and diverse geographical area (now known as Algoma-Manitoulin). Walter was justifiably proud of having helped found the Ontario Independent Radio Group, an advocacy group for small and independent radio operators. Walter sold his radio assets to Haliburton in 2004 and retired to Southern Ontario.

**Laidlaw, W. Ron** – age 88 (on August 14, 2008)

Ron’s nearly half-century career in broadcasting began in 1937 when he became a photographer/reporter for the St.Mary’s Argus Journal. After a stint with the London Free Press as a photographer, Ron joined the Canadian Air Forces and became a war photographer overseas. Ron returned to London Ontario and the Free Press, and was eventually invited to head up the newsroom for a fledgling TV station launched by Walter Blackburn (owner of the Free Press) in the early 1950s. In this capacity, Ron was responsible for many ‘firsts’: the first half-hour evening newscast and the first colour TV newscast to name two. Ron was a seasoned professional who mentored many others we see on the news today. Recently the RTNDA named its Continuing Coverage Award in his honour.

**McNabb, Pete** – age 81 (in Lindsay, Ontario on July 8, 2008)

Pete McNabb owned CKLY in Lindsay for 25 years, from 1961-1986. In the 1960s, Pete pioneered the 'radio boat' concept, introducing 'live on the water' reports and marine weather forecasts. Eventually this successful publicity strategy attracted brewery sponsorship. In 1972, Pete amped CKLY from 1,000 to 10,000 watts and the station became one of the highest rated radio stations in Canada (expressed as a percentage of market that listened to the station). In 1986, Pete sold CKLY to his son, Andy. Among his other distinctions, Pete was a Charter member of the Lindsay Lions Club.

**Norton, Robert ("Bob")** – age 86 (in Toronto, Ontario on June 28, 2008)

Bob was born in Montreal and during World War II operated as an RCAF radar technician. After the war he completed an Engineering Physics degree at McGill University and came to join RCA in 1950. Bob was involved in launching the first public television station in Canada: CBFT in Montreal. For many years Bob was a Sales Representative for Applied Electronics Limited and continued on their sales force until he was well into his seventies. In 1998, Bob became the first recipient of the Central Canada Broadcast Engineers Association Ambassador Award.

**Murphy, Thomas Edward ("Ed")** – age 79 (in Vancouver, British Columbia on April 26, 2008)

Ed was born in Toronto in 1929. He enjoyed many years in broadcasting, with CFRB in Toronto, and as a talk show host of Reaction Line CKWX, The Investigators CKNW, and Reaction Line CJOR, all in Vancouver.

**Pauley, Barry** – age 74 (in Kitchener on December 12, 2007)

Barry's *entrée* to radio coincided with the founding of CKBB, Barrie, Ontario in 1949. Following a period in the armed services, Barry resumed his radio career in London, moving on to St. Thomas, Gorilla and ultimately to CHYM Kitchener-Waterloo. In 1980, Barry was elected Vice-President of the Radio-Television News Directors Association of Canada, and in 1981, as President.

**Rich, Keith** – age 80 (in Meaford, Ontario on November 19, 2007)

Keith served his apprenticeship in radio at CHOV Pembroke, Ontario, following which he joined CJVI Victoria and CJCA Edmonton. In the late 1950's, Keith moved east to CFRB Toronto where, after 2 years, he teamed up with fellow Edmontonian Steve Woodman to resume work as a radio tag team. Their success led to a 2-year stint with WNBC in New York. Returning to Toronto in 1964, Keith began a 22-year tenure as CKEY's morning man. In 1986, Keith made the move to CJCL where he remained until his retirement in 1990.

**Robson, Gord** – age 56 (in Edmonton, Alberta in March 2008)

Announcer Gord Robson got his start at CKXL Calgary, and over the next 40 years saw him at legendary stations such as CFOX Montreal, CKRA Edmonton, CHED Edmonton and CKLG Vancouver. Most recently, he was covering swing/remotes/VT/production at CHQT-AM in Edmonton.

**Rockwood, Perry F.** – age 91 (in Halifax, Nova Scotia, 2008)

The radio pastor and founder of the *People's Gospel Hour* had his program – which began at CKCL Truro on September 5, 1947 – picked up by stations around the world. The program continues to air Sundays on stations in Canada, the US, and more than a dozen countries.

**Short, Robert C. (“Bob”)** – age 82 (in St. Catharines, Ontario on February 29, 2008)

Bob had a varied career which included communications experience, serving as President of the Canadian Cable Television Association, and as Vice-President of Canadian Wire and Cable and as Deputy Chairman of CUC Broadcasting. One of his proudest career achievements was, as its founding President in 1967, overseeing the growth of St. Lawrence College from a mere concept to three full campuses. He continued to work well past normal retirement time as a consultant in the telecommunications field.

**Sovereign, Dave** – age 69 (Toronto, Ontario on December 15, 2007)

Breaking into radio in the late 50s at CHIC Brampton, Ontario, Dave later joined Quinte Broadcasting at Belleville, Ontario, where he became news director for CJBQ – thence taking over sales and management for sister station CJTN at Trenton. In 1985, he accepted a full-time position on the faculty at Loyalist College where he played an integral part in the creation and development of its campus station, CJLX. Upon his retirement, Dave became a year-round resident of Haliburton, and in 2003, was the driving force behind setting-up a community-operated station: CHAN.

**Stone, Phil** – age 94 (in Toronto, Ontario on May 27, 2008)

Phil Stone, a native of Glasgow, may well have been the first broadcaster to introduce rock ‘n’ roll to Canadian radio. On the afternoon of May 27, 1957 he went on-air at CHUM to advise Torontonians that “...we have a new sound for you and I hope you like it,” and proceeded to play “Rock Around the Clock” by Bill Haley and His Comets – the first rock ‘n’ roll track ever played on the radio in Canada. Phil was also a self-taught journalist, at one point founding a magazine called *Sports Digest*. After introducing rock music to Canada, Phil became a pioneer rock jock at CHUM, eventually becoming Vice-President of the station, and responsible for its promotions and charitable efforts. Before leaving the station in 1964, Phil was on the board of 45 different charities. In addition to teaching and PR work, Phil found time to get his BA in English at York University – at the age of 73. Phil loved to help people, and is sorely missed by his three sons and his wife of 65 years.

**Talbot, Chris** – age 48 (in Port Alberni, British Columbia, June 2008)

Many friends and co-workers at the Jim Pattison Broadcast Group were shocked and saddened to learn of Chris’s sudden passing, resulting from a massive heart attack. Chris’s entire 12-year broadcasting career was spent in Port Alberni. As Operations and Sales Manager at CJAV-FM, Chris oversaw the station through ownership changes and its successful conversion to FM. He was a strong supporter of the community and was active in Port Alberni organizations such as Raise-A-Reader, the Alberni Bulldogs Hockey Club, and the Alberni Valley Emergency Preparedness Committee. He is survived by his wife Marsha.

**White, Perry** – age 43 (on December 10, 2007)

Perry was originally a morning man on CHTD-FM in St. Stephen, New Brunswick, and also worked as a week-end announcer on CHSJ, St. John. He was known in western New Brunswick as “The Country Gentleman.”