



Boston/New England Chapter

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Contact: David Burt, President
Phone: 617-635-3112

NATAS Honors New England Broadcasting Superstars

*Broadcast Legends Jim Boyd and Tom Ellis
Selected for Gold Circle Induction
And Four Other Outstanding Broadcasters Selected
for Silver Circle Induction at
The Gold and Silver Circle Awards Gala on November 16, 2011*

*The Gold and Silver Circle Awards is Sponsored by
Subaru of New England*

The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS) Boston/New England Chapter is delighted to announce that broadcast legends **Jim Boyd and Tom Ellis** have been selected to receive induction to the prestigious **Gold Circle** honoring their more than 50 years of broadcast excellence and community commitment. With more than 25 years of distinguished service to broadcasting and the community, **Brad Field** (WVIT-TV; Hartford, CT), **William Hague** (WPRI-TV, WNAC-TV, ENAC-TV; Providence, RI), **Dave Madsen** (WGGB-TV; Springfield, MA), and **Bill Springer** (WHDH-TV; Boston, MA) have been chosen to be the 2011 **Silver Circle** inductees.

These New England television pioneers will be honored for their lasting contributions to the industry at a gala celebration on **Thursday, November 16 at 6PM at Granite Links Golf Club** at 100 Quarry Hills Drive in Quincy, MA. For tickets, email Jill Jones at natasne@aol.com or call 617-283-6314.

Gold and Silver Circle members are honored for making an enduring contribution to the vitality of the television industry. The Gold and Silver Circle honors television professionals who have performed distinguished service within the industry for more than 50 and 25 years respectively. For more about The Gold and Silver Circle members as well as more about The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS) Boston/New England Chapter, visit <http://boston.emmyonline.org/>.

The Gold and Silver Circle Awards will once again be sponsored by Subaru of New England. The Boston/New England Chapter of NATAS is very grateful to **Ernie Boch, Jr.**, who has generously supported both the Gold & Silver Circle Awards and the Emmy Awards for many years.

THE 8th GOLD CIRCLE AWARD HONORS:

JIM BOYD:

A leader and legend in Boston broadcasting, Jim Boyd spent the majority of his career with WCVB-TV- Channel 5, Boston's ABC affiliate. As a boy growing up in Harlem, Jim attended New York City schools and entered the television industry in 1961, starting in the mailroom at National Educational Television (NET) in New York City. Before long, Jim was writing press releases and learning the ropes in public affairs production. A Ford Foundation grant took Jim to Boston's WGBH-TV in 1967 where he sharpened production skills and produced initial installments of "Say Brother" (now "Basic Black"). He returned to NET in '68 and was appointed producer on the Emmy Award winning news analysis program "News In Perspective." Jim travelled extensively to help produce programs in France, Japan, Germany, South Vietnam and Egypt.

In 1971, Jim started with WCVB, first appearing on-air as a general assignment reporter when the station began operating. He moved to the anchor desk in 1976 on NewsCenter 5's weekend editions at 6PM and 11PM and then took over as co-anchor of NewsCenter 5's Eyeopener and Midday editions in 1984. His Eyeopener assignment ended in 2000, but he continued anchoring the top-rated NewsCenter 5 at Midday alongside Susan Wornick until 2006. He is married to Linda Polach, Executive Producer of "Greater Boston with Emily Rooney." They have three daughters, Erica, Alyssa and Olivia. Though Jim retired in December 2008, in 2009 he returned to college at Fairleigh Dickinson University in greater New York to complete his undergraduate degree. He's currently majoring in sociology at Tufts University in Medford, MA and plans to graduate in the spring of 2013.

TOM ELLIS:

Tom Ellis is Boston news. For more than 40 years, Tom served as anchor for three of Boston's network-affiliated stations and NECN. And while he spent time at stations in New York (WNBC-TV and WABC-TV) he will always be remembered for his presence, longevity and professionalism as a trusted news source in New England. Tom holds many news industry distinctions: he is the only individual in television history who anchored top-rated newscasts in three major markets: San Antonio, TX; Boston, MA; and New York, NY -- and top-rated newscasts on all 3 network affiliates in Boston. From his first job a sideshow barker, Tom became the face and voice of New England news. Starting as lead anchor for WBZ-TV in 1968, Tom covered seminal events like the powerful presidential elections of 1972 and 1976. After his New York stint, Tom returned to Boston in 1978 to host WCVB news alongside Natalie Jacobson and Chet Curtis. In 1982, he joined the Channel 7 (WNEV at the time) for its new newscast. In 1992, he ventured into cable news, serving as an anchor at NECN until 2008. Tom has received numerous awards for his work, including the prestigious Emmy and Peabody awards, and has appeared in movies and as a television actor.

THE 19th SILVER CIRCLE AWARD HONORS:

BRAD FIELD:

Does weather happen in Connecticut without Brad Field knowing about it? Brad Field, an NBC Connecticut meteorologist for 28 years, has forecast Connecticut's weather since 1983. They say in New England that if you don't like the weather, just wait a few minutes and it will change. Brad has lived through more than a quarter century of New England weather, from blizzards to floods to perfect summer days. And no stranger to well-deserved awards, Brad has been awarded the American Meteorological Society's "Seal of Approval For Excellence In Television Weathercasting" and received awards for his coverage of Hurricane Gloria and the blizzards of 1995-'96. A New England native who received his bachelor of science degree in meteorology from the College of Pure and Applied Science at the University of Lowell, in Lowell, MA, Brad has also worked in Providence, R.I., where he was a meteorologist at WLNE-TV, worked at Weather Services Corporation in Bedford, MA, and has forecasted weather for the Boston Red Sox. He lives in the northwest hills of Connecticut with his wife two sons.

WILLIAM HAGUE:

William (Bill) Hague is Chief Engineer for Providence's WPRI-TV 12 (ABC), WNAC-TV Fox Providence, and ENAC-TV. Bill began his television career at Full Channel TV in January 1984 in the area of equipment maintenance. Bill joined Rollins Cable in November 1985 where he continued with equipment maintenance and mobile van maintenance, and he joined WPRI-TV as a live truck operator and thus his long standing career with WPRI began. Bill was promoted to News Operations Manager in September 1989 and two years later he was promoted to Chief Engineer, a position he has proudly held for almost 20 years. In 1995, Bill oversaw the station transfer from an ABC affiliate to a CBS affiliate, as well as all technical aspects of adding WNAC, a FOX affiliate, to the station group in July 1996. Bill was also extremely instrumental in the launch of the digital station, myRITV, in February 2009. Also over the course of his distinguished career, Bill has also been involved in a number of station firsts. From his days manning the live trucks, he has become a visionary in digital technology, HD, satellite, on-air and on-line integration and so much more.

Bill also uses his expertise to serve the community. In 2007, Bill was an enormous asset to RIBA in the planning of the School Closing Network. This network is now a cooperative effort between all RI broadcasters and there are currently thousands of entities signed on to be included in the network, as well as thousands of viewers signed on to receive alerts from the Network. During the DTV conversion, Bill went above and beyond ensuring that our viewers experienced minimal interruption in service. Not only did Bill do everything possible to ready our viewers but for those certain viewers that were still not prepared at conversion time, Bill paid visits to numerous residences to hook-up converter boxes or antennae properly.

DAVE MADSEN:

Dave Madsen is celebrating his 42nd year in broadcasting and 20th year with Springfield's abc40/FOX 6 (WGGB-TV) as Managing Editor and primary anchor of their noon, 5:30PM, and 6PM newscasts as well as FOX 6's Fox News at 10PM. He began his career in 1970 with WMAS Radio in Springfield and later moved onto a nine-year association with WHMP Radio in Northampton. During this time he has actively supported many causes including: Host of the annual Muscular Dystrophy telethon for the past 20 years, co-hosting an education special with comedian Bill Cosby, Host of "Your Hometown America Parade" -broadcast worldwide by PBS;

and Host of international teleconferences with noted authors Dr. Daniel Goleman and former Labor Secretary Robert Reich. He is also a longtime member of the Jimmy Fund Council of Western Massachusetts, having served as its president and is the first Western Massachusetts recipient of the “Jimmy” Award for his distinguished and continuing support of cancer research and the care of children with cancer. He also received the Jimmy Funds prestigious Bob Cheyne Lifetime Achievement Award for ten years of dedicated service to the Jimmy Fund Council of Massachusetts. Dave was born and raised in Southampton where he and his wife Linda now reside.

BILL SPRINGER:

William (Bill) Springer is a Post-Production Editor at Boston’s WHDH-TV (7NBC) and WLVI-TV (CW56) where for eighteen years he has been integral to the creation of the stations’ promotional spots and on-air marketing campaigns. As one colleague wrote in support of Bill’s induction into Silver Circle: “He’s done it all! From photographer, engineer, video operator, technical director, ENG technician, and for the past 18 years as Post Production Editor...Bill has a passion for editing and creating spots that stand out.” Bill began his distinguished career in 1978 in Youngstown, Ohio first as a photographer for Photo Corp. of America and later as Relief Engineer at WFMJ-TV. In 1980, Bill joined Channel One, LTD in Sewickley, PA as a video operator, and in 1981 he returned to Youngstown to WKBN-TV as Technical Director/Editor. In 1982, Bill moved to Boston and brought his considerable experience and talent to WHDH-TV...and he has been a creative force on their team ever since.

For tickets to NATAS’ Gold and Silver Circle Awards Gala, email Jill Jones at natasne@aol.com or call 617-283-6314.

NATAS Boston/New England Chapter is dedicated to the advancement of the arts and sciences of television, the fostering of creative leadership in the television industry, and the encouragement of excellence in artistic, educational, cultural and technical progress.

- NATAS’ Gold and Silver Circle -