Mission Statement

The mission of the Broadcasters Foundation of America is to improve the quality of life and maintain the personal dignity of men and women in the radio and television broadcast profession who find themselves in acute need. The foundation reaches out across the country to identify and provide an anonymous safety net in cases of critical illness, advanced age, death of a spouse, accident and other serious misfortune.
Broadcasters Foundation Meets In Philadelphia

Broadcasters Foundation of America's President Jim Thompson met with Philadelphia television station general managers and radio group managers recently to update the group on the mission of the Foundation. The meeting was hosted in B101's conference room.

The Foundation's mission reaches out across the country to identify and provide an anonymous safety net for broadcast professionals who have experienced critical illness, advanced age or other serious misfortune.

Pictured are B101's General Manager Blaise Howard and owner Jerry Lee, Jim Thompson, Allen Murphy and Fox 29 GM Mike Renda
PETER SMYTH,
FIRST CLASS IN EVERY WAY, NOW AND ALWAYS!

Peter, you epitomize the very best in all that we do each day. Your stewardship is remarkable, your leadership enviable, and your style and smile enriches us all.

CONGRATULATIONS, OUR DEAR FRIEND!

NORMAN AND SCOTT KNIGHT
Celebrating its fourteenth year the 2009 Golden Mike Award was presented to Peter Smyth, chair and CEO of Greater Media and to the founders of Greater Media, the Bordes family. The presentation was made during the Broadcasters Foundation of America annual black-tie gala on Monday, February 23 at the Waldorf=Astoria in New York City.
This is the fourth consecutive year the Golden Mike Award has been held at the famed Waldorf=Astoria having moved from The Plaza in 2006.

Peter Bordes Jr. and Peter Smyth with the 2009 Golden Mike Award.

The Citation reads:

The 2009 Golden Mike Award honors a distinguished individual together with a family tradition of excellence in radio broadcasting. Peter Smyth has led Greater Media to the summit of the radio industry by never losing sight of the ethos of founder Peter Bordes and the Bordes family. This unique combination is most worthy of the respect, admiration and accolades forthcoming with the Golden Mike tribute.
The Golden Mike Gala overflowed with talent with performances by Grammy Award winning country music star Martina McBride (pictured here) and Broadway’s Tony Award winning performer Melba Moore (opposite). Peter Smyth was instrumental in the launch of Martina’s early career. McBride sang, “This One’s for the Girls.”

Broadway’s Melba Moore opened the second part of the evening with a montage from her starring role in the musical Hair, including “Where’s the Sunshine,” “The Age Of Aquarius” concluding with her signature smash hit “Lean on Me.”

Victoria Savio, Peter’s daughter Nancy Ruggeri, Dan Lander, Peter, daughter Kathleen Smyth, son Colin Smyth and Peter’s wife Cathy
When Bad things happen to good people...
Norman Knight, recipient of the 1996 Golden Mike Award, announced through his son Scott Knight the creation of the Norman Knight Golden Mike Honoree Fund in honor of Peter Smyth. Here N. Scott Knight presents a founding check for $50,000 to Broadcasters Foundation Chair Phil Lombardo. Said Knight, “It is the wish of my father and me in honoring our dear friend Peter Smyth that this gift will encourage others to honor future Golden Mike honorees with a gift in support of the foundation’s mission.” Scott Knight is a director of the Broadcasters Foundation.

...The Broadcasters Foundation of America is there to help.
BMI’s Mike O’Neill, Google’s Desmonique Bonet and the Executive Vice President of Radio of the NAB John David

Hearst Argyle’s Emerson Coleman, Crystal Johns and N.S. Bienstock’s Richard Leibner

Jim Maloney, Peter’s Sister Susan Maloney and Sister Sarah Clancy

Triton Radio Networks Spencer Brown and his wife Wendy

Peter and Daughter Kathleen
Showtime at The Golden Mike Award

Musical sensations Martina McBride and Melba Moore donate their talents for one unforgettable evening...
“Peter, I am here to salute you and the wonderful mission of the Broadcasters Foundation of America. I dedicate my arrangement of Over the Rainbow to you Peter, to the Bordes family, and to the good work of the Broadcasters Foundation.” - Martina McBride

“We are here to say to our fellow broadcasters who have had some challenges during this very difficult time, we are here for you. We are never going to let you fall. We just want to make sure we keep you standing tall.”

- Melba Moore
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Greater Media Sr. Vice President of Corporate Communications Heidi Raphael and O’Neill and Associates CEO Shelly McPhee

Whitney Radio Chairman William O’Shaughnessy with Peter

Jim and Cindy Thompson

Quantum Communications CFO, Michael Mangan and CEO Frank Osborn with Norm Feuer and Dick Ferguson

Greater Media Vice-President of Program Development Buzz Knight with Vice-President of Radio Rick Feinblatt
Last year, the BFOA gave out $500,000 in grants...
Maverick Media CEO Gary Rozynek, Ann Hero Foreman and Dick Foreman

Lew Dickey, Jr., President and CEO of Cumulus Media, President and CEO of Entercom, David Field and the President and CEO of iBQuity Bob Struble

Peter Bordes, Jr. Peter Smyth with WBEB President Jerry Lee

Melba Moore and the legendary Hal Jackson of WBLS, New York

Peter with Tommy O'Neill

...Thank you for your support.
ESPN Radio’s Tim McCarthy, Jessica Klekamp and Christopher Knight

Phil Lombardo with Katz Media Corporation CEO Stu Olds

Ernest Liebre of Cambridge Financial Services with Broadcasters Foundation of America Vice-President and Assistant Treasurer Colleen Galley

Staci Assael and Michelle Balan

Whitney Radio Chairman Bill O’Shaughnessy with Jerry Lee

BMI President & CEO Del Bryant, Martina McBride, Peter Bordes, Jr., Peter Smyth and BMI’s Senior Vice-President of Licensing Mike O’Neill
"We hear everybody talk about the chaos in our economy. We hear people talk how our days ahead of us are challenged and difficult. I only see the days ahead of the radio and the television industry as the greatest days it will ever have. We’re going to see the integration of the interactive world with the broadcast world. We are going to see great opportunities come forth to us. We are going to see technology become our friend and we are going to harness that to great levels.

By all of you coming tonight and having the Knight family donating $50,000 in my name this is one of the proudest moments in my life. We have been blessed by the broadcasting industry. Everybody in this room has been. In addition, it is incumbent upon each one of us never to forget the members of our community that have not been as blessed as we have. That is our responsibility, to be here tonight to give back. Without the Broadcasters Foundation of America, this wonderful reflection upon our industry would not be taking place. Speaking for all of my family members gathered here this evening I thank you from the bottom of my heart.”

- Peter Smyth

“My father and uncle would have been incredibly proud of this moment as are my mother and every member of the Bordes family. This tribute recalls so many wonderful memories of how great it was to grow up in a radio family. Every day was exciting, new and full of challenges. The Bordes family is extremely proud of Peter Smyth who has carried on a great tradition of trying to “get it right” each day. We look forward to a very bright future within broadcasting, and we just want everyone to know how committed we are, and deeply rooted within this industry, to make it a bigger and better place for everybody. We are deeply honored and thank you Broadcasters Foundation of America. I congratulate you on your noble mission.”

- Peter Bordes, Jr.
On The Air
Spring 2009

“I cannot begin to tell you how proud we all are of Peter and the Bordes family for receiving such a distinguished and well-deserved honor. In a time of challenges and opportunities, this tribute is a true testament to your leadership and commitment to the broadcasting industry.

The word “family” is very real and relevant within our world, and it is echoed from the top down. From the Bordes family’s commitment to making sure the women and men of Greater Media and their families are properly taken care of, to Peter’s dedication in helping everyone he works with, I cannot think of a better way to celebrate family, than to honor the Bordes family and Peter for all they have done.”

Greater Media Vice President of Corporate Communications, Heidi Raphael

“It is an honor to be here with Peter and the Bordes family. I looked over some of Peter’s writing about radio and I think I found his answer in a recent column ‘A station license is not a right, it is a privilege and with that privilege comes moral and ethical responsibilities to the communities we serve. We are not licensed to live and broadcast in the community and only take from it. We are expected to give back, in time, energy, involvement and commitment. It is our obligation, as broadcasters, to enrich our communities and make them better than the way we found them.’ I think Peter and the Bordes family embody the noblest ideals not only of radio broadcasting but also of life itself. I am proud to be here with you and to be a part of this great industry.”

Radio Advertising Bureau President & CEO, Jeff Haley
"It is with the utmost pleasure that I have the opportunity to represent my father, Norman Knight this evening. The Knight Family Foundation is presenting this gift of $50,000 to establish the Norman Knight Golden Mike Award Memorial Gift Fund, with the very first recipient being our dear friend Peter Smyth.

My Dad will never forget that it was fourteen years ago on a snowy April evening that he received the first of the newly created Golden Mike Awards. It is his hope that with this gift others will follow his lead by recognizing future honorees in support of the noble mission and wonderful work of the foundation. Peter, to you and your entire family, the heartfelt congratulations of the Knight family.”

N. Scott Knight

“To know Peter Smyth first hand is to know not only a great friend, but also someone who gives of himself in the most charitable way and in the most gracious way you can possibly conjure. He is a wonderful leader for this family of newspaper and radio stations. He has done a terrific job with everything he has accomplished for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, for the people of our state and for other states where his company operates. I have seen Peter take people who have been forgotten in the world of radio and brought them back to life. I have seen them help young people who needed help. They never turned their back on anyone who needed an extended hand.”

Tom O’Neill

“The love my father has for his friends, family and the Greater Media family is always shown in the way he wants others to succeed. He would always tell me, ‘In business, work for the smartest people possible. Work for people that will push you, who will make you better.’ He told me that he made a promise to himself when he was a young salesperson, that if he ever got to a role he has today, he would make sure that he gave back, and checked in on people who were just starting out, because he was there once and he knew how hard it was.”

Colin Smyth
“He exemplifies what is best about our industry. He cares, he loves people, and he understands the need to support his community. There is no better steward of our industry than Peter Smyth. Tonight, Tom Melewski, Peter Bordes and John Bordes are smiling down on you, because you are receiving an honor you so richly deserve. For you and all of the Bordes family, we thank you so very much.”

Jeff Smulyan

“He is sometimes my boss but always in every way my friend. The esteem in which Peter is held in this room extends throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the broadcasting industry.”

Mike Barnicle
Congratulations to Greater Media Chairman & CEO Peter Smyth and the Bordes Family

Thank you for Making Greater Media Greater!

Your Greater Media Family
Ed Nolan

The RAB’s Ron Ruth and Peter Smyth

Cathy Smyth and Jeff Haley

Herb Granath with Melba Moore

Desmonique Bonet of Google

Cathy Smyth and Jeff Haley
Commonwealth Broadcasting Company President Steve Newberry

Joyce Tudryn and Delores Nolan

Emmis CEO Jeff Smulyan, Peter Smyth and Tom O’Neill

Maverick Media’s Gary Rozynek, Brent Lightfoot and Lorraine Hadfield of Nielsen, George Kelb of WGNY and Jim O’Hara of Nielsen.

Inner City Broadcasting President Charles Warfield
HipCricket CEO Ivan Braiker, Morris Broadcasting’s Norm Feuer, Nancy McKinley, and Greater Media’s Rock Feinblatt

Debevoise & Plimpton’s Caitlin Gibson, Uri Herzberg and Charles Wachsstok

Greater Media New Jersey’s Dan Finn, BMI’s Dan Spears, and WMGQ General Manager Dan Henrickson

Heather Smulyan with the Chief Operating Officer of Emmis Communications Pat Walsh and his wife Jackie

Sr. Vice-President ABC Radio Networks Carl Anderson, President of the ABC Radio Networks Jim Robinson, Executive Vice-President and COO of Radiolicious, T.J. Lambert
Inner City Broadcasting President Charles Warfield, NAB Radio Executive Vice President John David, Commonwealth Broadcasting President Steve Newberry and David Kennedy

The RAB’s Ron Ruth and CBS College Sports Sr. Vice President Ellen Schned

Lorraine Hadfield and Brent Lightfoot of Nielsen

John Hesano and Christine Travailigni of Katz Media Corporation

Herb McCord, Heather Smulyan, Jeff Smulyan and Jerry Lee
The Broadcasters Foundation of America has given out over $3,000,000 to help colleagues in need...
Wendy Brown and Susan Patrick of Patrick Communications.

Peter Smyth and Peter Bordes

Arbitron National Group Sales Manager Lung Huang with Steve Seraita, executive vice-president of sales for Scarborough Research.

Wendy Brown and Susan Patrick of Patrick Communications.

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Young Family Devastated

A married couple that both worked as successful sales executives in the broadcasting industry find themselves today in a situation that is simply unimaginable. The wife and mother of two small children was diagnosed with Lou Gehrig’s disease in 2005. This rare and paralyzing disease, in a very short time, has claimed the exhuberant life that she enjoyed. She is fed intravenously and relies on breathing support to survive. She is aware of her surroundings, can see and hear her children but can neither hold nor communicate with them.

Her heartbroken husband is now raising their children, ages 7 and 10, while he tries to cope with the cruel reality that confronts them every day. Their family situation appears as if it could not get any worse. But there is also a pressing financial need. The husband left his prosperous sales career five years ago because he needed to step in and save the family printing business since his own father’s health was failing. He made the commitment to invest most of his resources into the business only to watch it fail financially.

This loss of income coupled with staggering home health care costs have stripped away any safety net that the family saved. Although siblings are trying to assist financially, their contributions are meager compared to the monthly debt.

At this moment, our colleagues and their children are in jeopardy of losing their home due to foreclosure.

The Broadcasters Foundation of America is there for them.

You can help by making a contribution to the Broadcasters Foundation of America.

This message was made possible by the McCormick Foundation Journalism Program
The Broadcasters Foundation of America Endowment Fund was established in 1998 by a resolution of the Broadcasters Foundation of America Board of Directors.

The fund’s exclusive purpose is to ensure that financial assistance be available in perpetuity to fellow broadcasters who, through no fault of their own, are in acute personal financial need. The endowment is used exclusively to support the benevolent outreach of the Broadcasters Foundation of America.

To qualify for help, an individual must go through a detailed application process which includes a financial statement, income tax returns, reference checks, and a physician’s medical statement, when appropriate. Monthly grants vary in size depending on individual circumstances. All grants are approved and renewed annually by the Broadcasters Foundation of America Executive Committee. Grant recipients remain anonymous so as to preserve their dignity.

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William O’Shaughnessy, Chair
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Erica Farber, Publisher, Radio & Records
Richard A. Foreman, Richard A. Foreman Associates
Larry Dunn, Publisher, Broadcasting & Cable
Richard Ferguson, Cox Radio
Ed McLaughlin, Foundation Chair Emeritus

Call (203) 862-8577 for more information
The 2009 Ward L. Quaal Pioneer Awards

Wednesday, April 22
at The Bellagio

The 2009 Ward L. Quaal Pioneers
James Gabbert
Walter C. Liss
Lowry Mays
The Taishoff Family
Cecil Walker
Bayard “Bud” Walters

The 2009 Broadcasters Foundation of America Ward L. Quaal Pioneer Awards will be presented on Wednesday morning at 7 A.M. April 22 in the Monet Ballrooms at The Bellagio Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. The awards were formally named last year in honor of legendary broadcaster Ward L. Quaal of Chicago, Illinois, with a benefaction from The Hubbard Broadcasting Foundation and the McCormick Foundation Journalism Program.

Recipients present to receive the 2009 honors will be FM radio pioneer Jim Gabbert, Walter Liss, president of the ABC Owned Television Stations, Lowry Mays, founder of Clear Channel Communications, the Taishoff Family, founders of Broadcasting magazine the former president of Gannett Broadcasting Cecil Walker and the founder of the Cromwell Group Bayard “Bud” Walters.

James Gabbert
Jim Gabbert has been a legend in the radio and television business for five decades. The son of a U.S. Diplomat, Jim grew up in South America and was headed for a career as a diplomat until a radio station moved in next door to his home in Central America. He began his illustrious career by purchasing an hour of airtime from the station, establishing an English language music station supported by advertising, and playing records his brother sent him from West Point.

From the very beginning, Jim threw his arms around the engineering side of radio and upon his return to the U.S. received his degree in electrical engineering from Stanford University. In 1957, he and two partners purchased KPEN-FM licensed to Atherton, California with an investment of $2,000. That station later became the all-powerful 125,000-watt K101 in San Francisco.

Under the moniker of the Pacific FM Group Jim acquired radio stations in Honolulu and then later purchased KEMO-TV channel 20 in San Francisco. The station later became KOFY-TV and the WB television network affiliate in the Bay Area. In 1998 with impeccable timing Jim sold his radio and television holdings.

Jim Gabbert is a true pioneer with a long list of firsts including the very first combination of dial position with call letters at K101. He has been honored by the Gavin Report, Billboard, and in 1994 was named Broadcaster of the Year by the California
Broadcasters Association. He was elected to the National Television Academy Silver Circle in 1990 and to the Bay Area Radio Hall of Fame in 2006.

Walter C. Liss
Walter C. Liss was appointed president, ABC Owned Television Stations Group, in May 1999. He has chief management responsibility for the 10 ABC owned television stations and for the group's ABC National Television Sales rep firm. The ABC Owned Television Stations Group is a division of The Walt Disney Company.

Under Walter’s direction, the ABC Owned Television Stations Group has continued to build upon its long-time leadership as a driving force in the broadcasting industry, combining award-winning community service with outstanding ratings and financial performance.

Walter has guided the ABC Owned Television Stations Group in innovative sales, content and technological directions. His many successful initiatives include the ongoing transition to digital technology; the launch of multiple digital channels at each ABC owned station; and the development of local station websites, as well as mobile video and text services.

He has supervised the syndicated hit series Live with Regis and Kelly (and predecessor, Live with Regis and Kathie Lee) since its inception in 1988.

A long-time company executive, Walter previously served as chair of Buena Vista Television (now Disney-ABC Television Distribution) and its pay television operation. He has also served as president and general manager of WABC-TV in New York.

He joined Capital Cities Communications in 1971 (which years later merged with ABC). He advanced at Capital Cities from promotion manager at WPVI-TV in Philadelphia to program director at WKBW-TV in Buffalo, NY and vice president and general manager at KFSN-TV in Fresno.

Walter began his professional career in broadcasting at age 16 as host of his own program at a local radio station. He then moved on to WIBF-FM as an announcer while attending La Salle College in Philadelphia.

Lowry Mays
Lowry Mays founded Clear Channel Communications in 1972. At that time, Lowry was an investment banker and had the opportunity to purchase and operate his first radio station in
San Antonio, Texas. Clear Channel currently owns over 800 radio stations and 870,000 outdoor advertising displays. Lowry’s leadership has guided Clear Channel Communications to operate in 65 countries with more than 30,000 employees.

Lowry transformed what appeared to be simply a radio business into an advertising company that continues to serve local communities and advertising customers.

During his 30 years in the media and entertainment businesses, Lowry has been heavily involved in numerous professional industry organizations. He has also committed himself to many civic endeavors. These have included chair of the Board of Regents, Texas A&M University, benefactor of the Mays School of Business, Texas A&M University, chair, United Way of San Antonio, Associates Board, Harvard Business School, chair Joint Board of the National Association of Broadcasters. In 1996 he received the National Radio Award from the National Association of Broadcasters. In 2001 he received the Broadcasters Foundation of America Golden Mike Award.

Lowry holds a BS in Petroleum Engineering from Texas A&M University and an MBA from the Harvard University Business School. Lowry and his wife, Peggy, have 4 children and 16 grandchildren. The Mays oversee the operations and giving of the Mays Family Foundation which supports many different community organizations and causes.

The Taishoff Family
As journalists and publishers, Sol and Larry Taishoff played a seminal role in the development of the radio and television industry in America. As champions of a free and unfettered broadcasting profession, Broadcasting magazine was created as the instrument and manifestation of their devotion to resemble a “sentinel on the Potomac” to warn against government intrusion into the creative processes and activities of radio and television broadcasters.

The Taishoffs devoted their entire lives to extending the values and protections of the First Amendment to “The Fifth Estate” which was the designation bestowed upon the broadcasting fraternity by Sol Taishoff.

The vision and foresight of both Taishoffs often caused them to be allied on many of the great issues of the day with the work and example of Ward Quaal for whom these awards are named.

In addition to their commitment to journalistic causes and a free press, the Taishoff Family Foundation is today active in health and education and has been a national leader in aiding research on Down’s syndrome. The Taishoff Family Foundation has committed $1 million to establish the Lawrence B. Taishoff Center for Inclusive Higher Education at Syracuse University to attract expert faculty, host conferences and symposia, and become the primary destination for future educators studying Down’s syndrome.

The Taishoffs also provided critical initial funding for the Library of American Broadcasting, now located at the University of Maryland. Sol Taishoff himself was one of the founders of the Broadcast Pioneers, which is the Broadcasters Foundation of America. The Taishoff family also underwrites the publication of the Broadcasters Foundation of America Annual Report.
Today, the Taishoff Family Foundation is administered by the third generation of family members who support, among their many worthwhile endeavors, the National Press Foundation, which annually presents the Sol Taishoff Award for Excellence in Electronic Journalism.

Captain Robert Taishoff USN is chair of the Taishoff Family Foundation, whose present directors also include Randy and Brad Taishoff and their wives Laurie, Martha and Laine.

Cecil Walker
After putting himself through the University of Nebraska, Cecil Walker was on his way to becoming an accountant. However, while at the university he obtained an ROTC scholarship to help pay the bills and immediately upon graduation married his high school sweetheart and began a three-year tour in the Air Force, spending most of his time on Guam.

Upon completion of his tour of duty Cecil landed his first job as an accountant in Denver and then moved on to the Arthur Anderson office there and in 1965 was recommended by them to join the financial office of Mullins Broadcasting which owned KBTV in Denver. Subsequently Mullins was sold to Combined Communications and Cecil Walker found himself in the TV business for real as vice president and general manager KBTV.

In 1984, Cecil moved from Denver to become General Manager of WXIA-TV, Atlanta where he worked under the legendary Al Flanagan. He was promoted to president of Gannett Television of 1985, president and chief executive officer of Gannett Broadcasting in 1987 and chair and chief executive officer in 2000. He retired from that position in January 2002.

Walker joined the BMI Board of Directors in 1998, serving as chair of the board from October 2004 to September 2007. He is a past board member of Maximum Service Television and the Television Operators Caucus.

Cecil and his wife Jan have a special interest in the leaders of tomorrow. Together they have established the Walker Family Scholarships at the University of Colorado, University of Georgia and the University of Nebraska.

Bayard “Bud” Walters
Bud Walters founded the Cromwell Group in 1972 and he remains the president and driving force within his group of 22 stations located in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee.

After serving four years in the United States Air Force, he completed his MBA at Indiana University and became an instructor in the Mass Communications Department. Simultaneously he received a construction permit to build an AM radio station in Hawesville, Kentucky. It will come as no surprise to anyone that knows him that Bud still owns the station.
Since that initial construction permit, which was three years in the making, Bud Walters has specialized in start-up and turnaround stations. Over the years Cromwell has owned and operated 32 radio stations, twenty of which were startups or up-graded from their original license.

Following his mantra of “Being important where you are,” Bud Walters has continually fostered community involvement. He has served on the board of directors of the Kentucky and Tennessee Broadcasters Associations, the NAB, the RAB, and the Radio Music Licensing Committee. He serves on the board of DePauw University.

Bud and his wife Rosemary make their home in Nashville, Tennessee. He is an instrument rated private pilot with over 4000 hours, mostly flown in his Piper Cherokee that he bought new 30 years ago.

Wednesday, April 22, 2009 at 7 A.M.
Monet Ballrooms
The Bellagio, Las Vegas, Nevada

Benefactors
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&
The McCormick Foundation

RSVP by April 10, 2009
Connie McKiernan
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Your Help Literally Saves Lives

People Living Longer than Their Means

The story of this elderly couple in their late 70s is all too typical of the cases that come to the attention of the Broadcasters Foundation of America. The husband had worked in television until his retirement 13 years ago.

For several years, they managed to maintain their independence with Social Security, savings and part time work. Six years ago, the wife was diagnosed with a rare form of kidney cancer. The husband left his part time job and became his wife’s full-time caregiver. They struggled along quietly and independently with no family members able to offer support until all of their resources were completely exhausted.

This situation was brought to the attention of the Broadcasters Foundation of America, which made an immediate emergency grant to keep them in their apartment. The foundation then placed them on a monthly grant which combined with Social Security allows them to meet their monthly living expenses, thus somewhat relieving the day to day financial pressure which they had faced quietly and alone.

Your support of the Broadcasters Foundation of America has placed you by this couple’s side with a helping hand.

You can help them by making a contribution to the Broadcasters Foundation of America.

This message was made possible by the McCormick Foundation Journalism Program
Broadcasters Foundation
of America
NAB Charity Golf Tournament

Sunday April 19th 8 A.M.
Bali Hai Golf Club, Las Vegas Nevada

Chairs Liz Burns, Dick Bodorff and Scott Blumenthal

For player positions and sponsorships contact Gordon Hastings, ghhMANAGEMENT, 203-862-8577
Message From The President

I am pleased to write that winter and early spring have seen a number of good things come to fruition for the Broadcasters Foundation of America.

We saw an impressive showing of broadcasting executives and friends of the foundation come out to honor Peter Smyth and the Bordes family, our 2009 Golden Mike honorees.

The dinner was held on February 23 at The Waldorf=Astoria, hosted by media great Mike Barnicle, who helped make it a wonderful evening. The program opened with entertainment by sensational country singer, Martina McBride followed by Tony Award winning Broadway star Melba Moore. (See complete coverage of their performances and the Golden Mike dinner beginning on page two of this magazine.)

The Bordes family and Peter Smyth represent the true spirit of American entrepreneurship and the very best in broadcasting industry leadership and service.

Friends and colleagues including Jeff Smulyan, Tom O’Neil, Jeff Haley, Heidi Raphael, and Peter’s son Colin Smyth all took the stage to express their feelings of respect and admiration for our honorees. It is always something very special when a child stands to speak admiringly of a parent.

In keeping with the traditions of another great broadcasting family, the Norman Knight Foundation, represented by Norman and Scott Knight, presented BFOA Chair Phil Lombardo with a check for $50,000 in honor of Peter Smyth. The initial contribution creates the Norman Knight Golden Mike Honoree Fund so that future honorees can be recognized in a similar and permanent fashion. The Broadcasters Foundation of America owes an enormous debt of gratitude to the Knight family for being such generous friends and visionaries.

The 2009 Ward L. Quaal Pioneer Awards, supported by founding benefactors The Hubbard Broadcasting Foundation and the McCormick Foundation Journalism Program, will again be held at the Bellagio hotel in Las Vegas during the NAB Convention. This year’s honorees are Lowry Mays, Jim Gabet, Bud Walters, Walter Liss, Cecil Walker and the Taishoff family.

Complete biographies of our honorees appear beginning on page 37 of this issue of On The Air. I hope you will make a point of joining us for this special industry ceremony on Wednesday, April 22 at 7 AM. Thanks to the RAB, TVB and the NAMB for underwriting the cost of this great occasion so that all are welcome without charge. We also appreciate the NAB’s warm welcome of the foundation throughout the annual convention.

For the fifteenth year, the Broadcasters Foundation of America will host the NAB Charity Golf Tournament on Sunday April 19 at the Bali Hai Golf Club. I would like to thank Larry Dunn of Broadcasting & Cable, Dick Bodorff of Wiley Rein, Gary Faccenda of New York Life Investment Management, and Ed Adams of Harris for their continued vital financial support. Because of their sponsorship, all player fees go towards supporting our mission of helping colleagues in need. Special thanks also to Scott Blumenthal and Liz Burns for joining as tournament co-chairs.

Please mark your calendar for the 2009 Celebrity Golf Tournament. This year we are going back to an old favorite, Siwanoy Country Club, in Bronxville, New York, on Monday, September 14. Your participation and support for this event makes a considerable difference in the success of our funding activities every year.

Let us not forget why we are here and why you support the Broadcasters Foundation, to help our colleagues who have fallen on hard times.

In these most challenging days, more and more people are dealing with serious financial hardship. I am sure that you will be heartened to know that, in just the present year alone, the BFOA will grant more then $500,000 to broadcasters in need.

Similarly, as you can well imagine, the BFOA is being negatively impacted by the economy. Please continue to, or begin to, support our mission. You may contribute or simply join as a member for $150. For more information, please visit our website at www.broadcastersfoundation.org.

We are the lucky ones.

Regards,

Jim Thompson
President
Broadcasters Foundation of America
Broadcasters Foundation of America Board of Directors

2008-2009

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Chair

Stu Olds
Vice Chair

James B. Thompson
President

Board of Directors

Edward F. McLaughlin
Chairman Emeritus

Joseph C. Amaturo
The Amaturo Family Foundation, Inc.

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