Taishoff Family Foundation

The Taishoff Family Foundation was established by the late Lawrence B. Taishoff and his son Rob in honor of their legendary father and grandfather Sol Taishoff, the founder and editor-in-chief of Broadcasting magazine.

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 so many years ago.

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 one of our own founding chairman Ward L. Quaal. In 2009, the Taishoff family was honored with a Ward L. Quaal Pioneer Award.

In addition to their commitment to journalistic causes and a free press, the Taishoff Family Foundation is also active in improving the lives of people with intellectual disabilities. The Foundation has developed resources to help educate society about the special skills and talents of people with Down syndrome, autism and traumatic brain injury, to name a few. Toward this goal, the Taishoff Family Foundation has established the Lawrence B. Taishoff Center for Inclusive Higher Education at Syracuse University.

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 organization which, as you know, has now become the national charitable endeavor known as the Broadcasters Foundation of America which you and so many of our colleagues support.

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.

Retired Captain Robert Taishoff USN, is the chairman of the Taishoff Family Foundation.

The Broadcasters Foundation of America extends its deep gratitude to the Taishoff family for carrying on the legacy of their illustrious forebears by underwriting On The Air magazine, which is distributed widely throughout the broadcast industry.
chairman’s message

More than ever before, broadcasters who are in need of help are reaching out for assistance. This year we plan to give close to $900,000 in aid to people throughout the United States. In order to keep up with our grant requests, we encourage donations through our various fundraising initiatives, including the Guardian Fund, Angel Campaign, Legacy Society and Membership Drives. We need your continued support to ensure our colleagues in need receive the help they deserve.

We have included a remittance envelope in this edition of On the Air that you can fill out and return, or you can donate online at www.broadcastersfoundation.org or by calling 212-373-8250. The Broadcasters Foundation is an organization you may never need, but, with our help, we will always be there for you or someone you may know.

Thank you,

Jim Thompson
President
More than 250 television and radio broadcasters assembled for the annual Broadcasters Foundation of America Leadership Breakfast to honor seven of the most prominent figures in broadcasting. Six Ward L. Quaal Leadership Awards and the Lowry Mays Excellence in Broadcasting Award were presented during the Leadership Breakfast, held during the NAB Show in Las Vegas this past April.

The Ward L. Quaal Leadership Award Recipients:
- Jim Belofianis
  Past President, Katz TV Group
- Dan Mason
  President/CEO, CBS Radio
- Deborah Norville
  Anchor, Inside Edition
- Mary Quass
  President/CEO, NRG Media LLC
- Perry Sook
  Chairman/President/CEO, Nexstar Broadcasting Group
- Nick Verbitsky
  Chairman/CEO, United Stations Radio Networks, Inc.

Lowry Mays Excellence in Broadcasting Award:
- Richard E. Wiley
  Chairman of Wiley Rein LLP
  The Award honors an individual in broadcasting whose work exemplifies innovation, community service, advocacy and entrepreneurship. It salutes its namesake, Lowry Mays, and is underwritten by The Clear Channel Foundation.

The Leadership Awards Breakfast is complimentary to all, thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, Frank N. Magid Associates, Inc., Marketron, The National Association of Broadcasters (NAB), The National Association of Media Brokers (NAMB), Nielsen, The Radio Advertising Bureau (RAB) and The Television Bureau of Advertising (TVB).

The Ward L. Quaal Pioneer Awards

The Lowry Mays Excellence in Broadcasting Award

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Ward L. Quaal Leadership Awards Breakfast

1. Chris Bernier, Mary Quass, Terry Shockley
2. Richard Wiley
3. Scott Harris, Anton Guitano, Dan Mason, Peter Dunn, Ezra Kuhare
4. Philip Lombardo, Nick Verbitsky, Jim Thompson
5. Barbara Higgins, Bonnie Verbitsky, Jill Colombo

1. Philip Lombardo, Mary Quass, Jim Thompson
2. Jim Thompson, Paul Rotella
3. Dan Mason, Mary Quass
4. Nick & Bonnie Verbitsky
5. Dan Mason
6. Charlie Colombo, Nick Verbitsky, Jim Higgins
Ward L. Quaal Leadership Awards Breakfast

1. Artie Altman and Carol Richman
2. Deborah Norville, Mary Quass
3. Jim Beekman, Dan Mason, Deborah Norville, Richard Wiley, Mary Quass, Nick Verbosky, Perry Sook
4. Perry Sook, Marty Perzapalor
5. Richard Wiley, Philip Lombardo, Deborah Norville, Perry Sook
6. Robert Heyman, Jr., Erwin Kramer, Judy McCoy

1. Standing, Board Members of the Broadcasters Foundation of America
2. Philip Lombardo, Richard Wiley, Loretta May, Jim Thompson
3. Philip Lombardo, Dan Mason, Jim Thompson
4. Philip Lombardo, Deborah Norville, Jim Thompson
5. Philip Lombardo, Perry Sook, Jim Thompson
Scared and Alone.

It’s hard to imagine the one/two punch the family of this broadcaster was dealt. An announcer and program director in radio for more than 15 years, he was diagnosed with cancer. The treatment left him unable to work. Even with his wife’s income, the couple was desperate to support themselves and their four children. The Broadcasters Foundation awarded them a monthly grant to help make ends meet.

Unfortunately, fate had more in store for this family. Unable to win the battle with cancer, this broadcaster passed away at only 37 years old. The funeral costs wiped out what little the family had left. When two family emergencies arose in one month, the now single-mother faced an unimaginable dilemma. She felt alone and really scared.

In desperation, she wrote to the Broadcasters Foundation which immediately gave her a one-time emergency grant to cover the unexpected costs.

She wrote back:
“I can’t tell you the relief that I feel. My heart skipped a beat when I opened your email. I was worried sick trying to figure out ways to come up with the money. Thank you, thank you, thank you.”

With your help, this broadcaster’s wife and their children can continue to receive a monthly grant from the Broadcasters Foundation of America.

Audrey Hepburn once said: “As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands: one for helping yourself, the other for helping others.” I am asking you to give a helping hand in supporting your fellow broadcasters with the Guardian Fund, created by the Broadcasters Foundation of America.

“Your help literally saves lives.”

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The annual Philip J. Lombardo Charity Golf Tournament was held in April, in conjunction with the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) Show in Las Vegas.

Named in honor of our Chairman, this year’s event drew a multitude of radio and television broadcasters to the beautiful, scenic golf course at the Wynn. Much needed funds were raised to help colleagues in need.

A special thank you to our sponsors: Broadcasting & Cable, the NAB, Nielsen and US Trust.
Lombardo Charity Golf Tournament

1. Neal Oberg, Liz Burns, Brian Burns, Glenn Krieg
2. Richard Bodorff, William Moll, Mark Frates, Tim Busch
3. Greg Guenther, Philip Lombardo, Ray Cole, Brian Jones
4. Jeff Smulyan, Paul Karpowicz
5. Jose Gonzalez, Michael Steinberg
6. Jim Thompson, Brian Burns

1. Drew Marcus, Bob Struble
2. Drew Marcus, Larry Marcus, Kathleen McManus, Ken Williams
3. Paul Rettella, Peter Doyle
4. Donation to the Broadcasters Foundation of America
5. Jeff Hanson, Ed Adams, Dj Conranagh, Jeff Block

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Lombardo Charity Golf Tournament

1. Justin Hullman, Scott Blumenthal, Mike Kelly, Jay Howell
2. Paul Franklin, William Moll
3. Nick Boesie Varbiere
4. Phil Graham, Alben Smith, Michael Steinberg, Jose Gonzalez
5. Paul Franklin, Mike McKinnon, Mike McKinnon, Jr., Greg Meidel
6. Brian Sheehan, Florence Sweeney, Doug O’Donnell, Ann Leiberg, Rob Pizzella

1. Jeff Smulyan, Ryan Hornaday, Bob Stuble, Pat Walsh
2. Scott Blumenthal, Diane Wilkes, Joe DeSalvo
3. Jim Thompson, Mike McKinnon, Greg Meidel, Mike McKinnon, Jr., Paul Franklin, Philip Lombardo
4. Jim Thompson, Nisha Sadakar, Philip Lombardo
5. Jim Thompson, Greg Meidel, Philip Lombardo
The Broadcast and music industries came together for the 66th Annual BMI Board of Directors dinner, held during the NAB Show in Las Vegas last April. This year, Music legend Kenny “Babyface” Edmonds was honored at the event, which brings together the radio and broadcasting industry and the creative community through their shared commitment to great music.

It was Audiophoria at the 2014 Radio Mercury Awards—Radio’s best audio advertising and integrated campaigns.

The Radio Mercury Awards, the only competition exclusively devoted to radio, was established in 1992 to encourage and reward the development of effective and creative radio commercials. This year’s competition drew over 17,000 entries from advertising agencies, production houses, radio stations and educational institutions across the country. The event was produced by the Radio Advertising Bureau, presented by Hubbard Radio in partnership with Clear Channel Media + Entertainment, and sponsored by: Beasley Broadcast Group, Bonneville International, Buckley Broadcasting, CBS Radio, Cox Radio Group, The Cromwell Group, Emmis Communications, Entercom Communications, Greater Media, Inc., Hubbard Radio, Katz Radio Group, Lincoln Financial Media, Marketron, Miller Kaplan Arase LLP, MoreFM, Nielsen Audio, Neuhoff Communications, Salem Communications, United Stations Radio Network, Univision Radio and WestwoodOne.
The New York State Broadcasters Association Summer Conference and Hall of Fame Ceremony held June 12th and 13th at the Waldorf Astoria in New York City.

William O’Shaughnessey, Varinda Strauss, Eric Strauss

NYSBA board member & WLIG-TV’s David Feinblatt, WNSH/New York’s Rick Morales, Mercury recording artist Kacey Musgraves, NYSBA board member & WNSH’s Maire Mason and BMI’s Dan Spears.

The Wisconsin Broadcasters Association Summer Conference held June 17th to 19th at the Blue Harbor Resort in Sheboygan.

Michelle Vetterkind, Liz Boyd, Dick Record, Linda Baun, Mandy Endicott

Martha Southard, Robert Southard, Jack Le Duc, Jim Schuh, Bob Barry

The New Jersey Broadcasters Association 67th Annual Conference and Gala held June 16th and 17th at Caesars in Atlantic City.

Charlie Sislen, Erica Farber, Mary Beth Garber, Radha Subramaniam, Jeff Warshaw

Paul Rotsila and Joe Piccopo, 2014 Recipient of the Howard L. Green Humanitarian of the Year Award

seen & heard

Two Days Short of Disability Coverage

Our colleague thrived in the fast-paced environment of a major market station ever since he knocked on doors as an account executive in 1980. He later became the type of general manager and vice president that any sales team would be proud to work alongside.

Always challenging himself, he took on a position leading a major market cluster of stations when a health emergency changed his life in one day. He had worked for this new firm fewer than 90 days, which meant he was ineligible for disability coverage.

His worst day was the result of a stroke suffered during open heart/bypass surgery, leaving him immobile. Whatever strength he could summon now would be needed for strenuous rehabilitation to stop any further physical decline and prepare himself for yet another day in the operating room.

His wife is staying at home to care for him and their three small children. While he strives to recover, she is holding the family together. Unimaginable medical bills have depleted their life savings.

Rehabilitation costs, medical bills, deductibles, in home care, and a host of other unexpected day-to-day expenses have raised havoc upon the lives of this family. However, despite the circumstances they are fighting back, together, as a family.

You can help them by making a contribution to the Broadcasters Foundation of America.
Broadcasters Foundation of America
125 West 55th Street
3rd Floor
New York, NY 10019

On The Air

Improving the quality of life of the men and women in the radio and television broadcast industry

212.373.8250  info@thebfoa.org  www.broadcastersfoundation.org
The Broadcasters Foundation of America is a 501(c)3 public charity