

## Lifetime Achievement Awards – 2002

### Jerry L. Blocker Jr.

A pioneer African-American journalist in Detroit, who died Oct. 31 at age 70, Jerry Blocker's characteristic low-key and matter-of-fact-style made him a model and mentor for many television journalists. He was hired by Channel 4 after the 1967 Detroit riots and anchored weekend newscasts until 1975. He retired from broadcast work in the early 1990s and established his own public relations firm, Jerry Blocker Enterprises, in Farmington Hills.



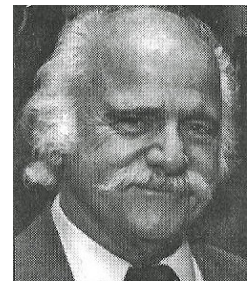
### Julie Candler

In a journalism career that began in 1955, Julie Candler became known for automotive beat stories that helped educate the public about the need for better safety equipment on cars. For five years, she was a member of the National Motor Vehicle Safety Advisory Council and in 1999 she was inducted into the Michigan Hall of Fame.



### Mitch Kehetian

Longtime *Macomb Daily* editor Mitch Kehetian had been a reporter at the *Detroit Times* for seven years when the paper closed on Nov. 6, 1960, after being bought out by the Evening News Association. He worked a variety of reporting jobs in Ohio and Michigan before returning to Michigan and the *Macomb Daily* where he has held a number of positions including managing editor and editor-in-chief. He is a former SPJ chapter president.



## Lifetime Achievement Awards - 2003

### Joe Falls

A major journalistic presence in Detroit for half a century, Joe Falls has covered just about every sporting event anyone would want to cover -- most of them dozens of times. But his first and enduring love has been baseball, from sitting in the bleachers in his native New York as a kid to induction into baseball's Hall of Fame in Cooperstown last summer.

Falls came to Detroit from New York in 1953 to work for the Associated Press. Three years later, he moved to the Detroit Times. He went to the Free Press in 1960, where he quickly became a columnist. Since 1978, he has been at The Detroit News.



### Bruce McIntyre

When Bruce McIntyre came to The Oakland Press (then Pontiac Press) as editor in 1971, he organized its coverage of the city's court-ordered school desegregation which became a major national story. He put every staffer on the story, and the Press was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize.

As publisher, he led the Press' changes from hot type and typewriters to computerization, from afternoon to morning, from six days a week to seven, and to record revenues and profits. He added executive responsibilities for other papers in the Capital Cities/ABC group before he retired in 1995.

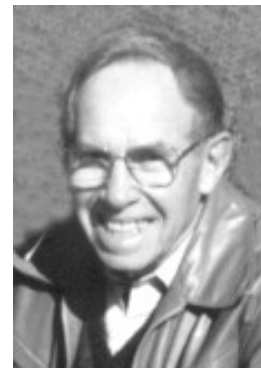


### Al Rothenberg

A stalwart reporter on the automotive beat for 55 years, Al Rothenberg has covered most of its major personalities and events since the Cleveland News made him its auto writer in 1948. He moved to its rival Cleveland Press in 1960.

Look Magazine, then a leading national bi-weekly news magazine, made Al its business editor in 1962, and he moved to Detroit. After the magazine closed in 1971, he joined the public relations department of the Automobile Manufacturers Association.

Since "retiring" in 1989, he has been an active free-lance writer and currently publishes the Automotive Press Association's calendar of auto industry events.



## Lifetime Achievement Awards - 2004

### Jim Ritz



James John Ritz inspired many in the Detroit area journalism community during his distinguished career. He started at the *Dearborn Press* in 1962, then went to *The Daily Tribune* in Royal Oak where he worked for more than 20 years. He also worked for the *Michigan Beverage Journal*, *Observer* and *Eccentric Newspapers*, *Detroit Jewish News*, and *Insight* Newsletter.

A member of SPJ since 1970, he served as Detroit chapter president in 1989-90.

Jim died at age 70 on April 22, 2004.

### David C. Smith

David C. Smith was the first editor of *Ward's Auto World* in 1970 and led its editorial efforts for three decades. Now retired, as Editor-at-Large, he continues to inform and entertain Ward's readers with regular thought-provoking columns and articles.

His career included stints as a reporter and financial editor at the *Detroit Times*, staff reporter for the *Toledo Blade* and the *Wall Street Journal* and business and financial editor of the *Detroit Free Press*.

Dave is a University of Michigan graduate and served in Korea with the Marine Corps.



## Lifetime Achievement Awards - 2005

### Mary Lou Butcher

Mary Lou Butcher's career epitomizes opening doors for others to enter and advance in the journalism profession.

After graduation from the University of Michigan in 1965, she applied to be a general assignment reporter at The Detroit News. She was hired to work in the women's department, and persisted to become a general-assignment reporter. In 1976, when she was an 11-year veteran at the *News*, a few other women reporters had been hired, but she was the only woman reporter remaining in the city room, and she was shifted to a suburban bureau.

Mary Lou initiated and was joined by several other women and the Detroit Newspaper Guild in complaints to the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and then a class-action lawsuit to eliminate sexual bias in hiring, promotions and the handling of reporting assignments. Their eight-year legal battle resulted in a \$330,000 settlement on behalf of 90 women employees.

With her portion of the settlement, Mary Lou established an "Equality in Journalism" scholarship at University of Michigan. Since 1986, it has been awarded 18 times to student journalists and increased to \$3,000.

She left the News in 1977 for a successful career in public relations, later joining her husband John P. (Jack) Casey in building the largest PR firm in Michigan. After they sold the firm in 1989, Mary Lou taught at U of M for several years.



### Herschel P. Fink

Herschel Fink's unique legal career as a defender of news organizations, journalists and the First Amendment followed a decade as a daily newspaper reporter and editor.

A senior partner in the Detroit law firm of Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn, he has represented local and national news organizations and their journalists for more than 30 years.

As an undergraduate, Fink edited the Wayne State University campus daily and was named its outstanding journalism graduate. He went on to work for *The Flint Journal* and *The Detroit News* as a reporter, suburban editor and night city editor while attending law classes.

While building a specialization in news media and First Amendment law, he taught media law to journalists for many years at Wayne State University. He is past chair and member of the State Bar of Michigan's Law and Media Committee, included in *The Best Lawyers in America* under First Amendment law, and is a frequent speaker on media law at national conferences.

Fink's clients include the *Detroit Free Press*, which he has represented for more than 20 years, along with Fox 2 television, WJR-AM and other local publishers and broadcasters. He has also served as local counsel for national media companies, including Knight-Ridder, ABC, NBC, Fox, Viacom, PBS, The Associated Press and Court TV, as well as such high profile clients as filmmaker Michael Moore and rap music impresario Dr. Dre.



## **Gloria G. Olman**

Gloria Grove Olman has earned a national reputation for not only teaching student journalists, but also for inspiring them to professional careers and standards, and for defending their rights to report and publish.

She was a teacher and publication adviser for more than 33 years and holds the national status of Master Journalism Educator. She was a teacher and publications adviser at Utica High School from 1977 to her retirement in 2003, and continues to teach graduate courses at Oakland and Michigan State universities.

Olman has been in journalism since working on her high school newspaper and editing its yearbook. She is a graduate of Michigan State and Oakland Universities.

Publications under Olman's guidance have consistently ranked among the top in the state and nation, winning individual and overall excellence honors.

One of her students, Katy Dean, won a federal district court decision against Utica Community Schools in 2004 for violation of her free speech rights after her story in the high school paper was censored, a decision with major impact nationally.

Inducted into the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame in 1997, she has earned many awards from education and journalism organizations. She chairs the Michigan Interscholastic Press Association legislation work on Michigan Senate Bill 156 for Student Press Rights.

The Dow Jones Wall Street Journal Newspaper Fund named her the National High School Journalism Teacher of the Year in 1992.



## Lifetime Achievement Awards – 2006

### Emery C. King

Emery King's celebrated career in television and radio reporting includes 19 years as a key member of the Detroit WDIV-TV news team. In addition to anchoring daily newscasts, King was responsible for covering politics and national conventions and reporting from overseas.

Before coming to Detroit, King served as a White House correspondent for NBC TV's national news. He traveled the world covering President Ronald Reagan and wife Nancy as well as Vice president George Bush

Prior to his move to national news, King covered politics for WBBM-TV in Chicago. He started his career at the WBBM-FM radio station.

In addition to his work in front of the camera, King's passion for in-depth documentary filmmaking led him and his wife, Jacqueline Casselberry King, to start Kingberry Productions in 1993.

Recently, Governor Granholm appointed King as chairman of the Michigan Film Advisory Commission to assist the state in promoting film, television and video production industries and to attract media business to Michigan.

King serves on the boards of the Michigan Multiple Sclerosis Society and the Society of Yeager Scholars, which helps youths obtain scholarships for studies at Oxford University in England. He is also on the Board of Visitors for Wayne State University's School of Communication and Performing Arts.

Currently King serves as Director of Communications for the Detroit Medical Center, which operates nine hospitals and institutions.



### George Puscas

*(Excerpt from George's Free Press column— May 9, 2006)*

All done. Sixty-five years worth. Imagine that.

Hardly anybody works in the same office for the same company for 65 years. Even the guy who owns the company won't stay that long. But I did.

Start as a kid copy boy while in grade school, work at the Freep through high school, join the Army in time to finish World War II.

I couldn't possibly recall the thousands of games, high school, college, pro, that marked my way. But I've wondered for years whatever happened to the old Detroit Baseball Federation, 300 teams-plus, which filled our fields regularly for many years.

I tell you true, you meet many of the best people, if you pause and look. Our history is filled with many great players -- Joe Schmidt and Bobby Layne, Gordie Howe, Ted Lindsay, Joe Dumars and Isiah Thomas. Charlie Gehringer, Mickey Cochrane, Hank Greenberg and Al Kaline, all among baseball's best. Don't forget Joe Louis, Sugar Ray Robinson and Jack Dempsey.

We've had great coaches to deal with; try winning a point from Fritz Crisler, or Don Canham. Bo Schembechler, too. One of my favorites is George Perles, maybe because he's old Western High, but also because he grew up an awfully nice man.

I could fill the pages with them -- and I did, as a matter of fact.

In my final years, I wrote a lot about boxing, not because I like the sport particularly, but I like the people. They are always accessible, 99% agreeable and some -- our Tommy Hearns, for instance -- make you proud to know them.

But there comes a time to close the book, as they say. I will miss my usual flow of Love Letters mail -- 50 years' worth.



## **John Teahen, Jr.**

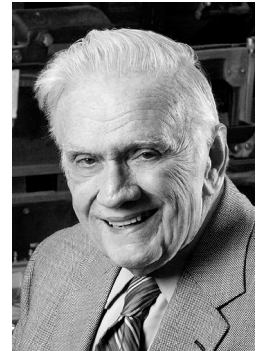
*Automotive News* Senior Editor John K. Teahen Jr. remains the auto industry's expert commentator on auto pricing, as he has been for half a century.

September 6, 2005 was Teahen's 50th anniversary at *Automotive News*. His byline first appeared in the Nov. 14, 1955, issue on a story about gimmicks and giveaways used to move the iron in the early 1956 model year.

At age 80, Teahen still goes to the office three days a week and maintains detailed but very low-tech files on auto pricing. He is an expert on dealer franchise issues and the history of organizational and personnel changes in the industry's executive suites.

As a reporter, editor or columnist, Teahen has had a piece of most of the big automotive stories of the last half century, including the rise of the imports, the growth of incentives and the proliferation of nameplates and models. From 1974 to 1984 he was managing editor.

Teahen remains an integral part of *Automotive News*, helping shape its editorial policy and news coverage. He still writes pricing and sales stories, op-ed columns, an occasional editorial, plus his popular monthly *SalesTales* column



## Lifetime Achievement Awards – 2007

### Richard Wright 1933-2006

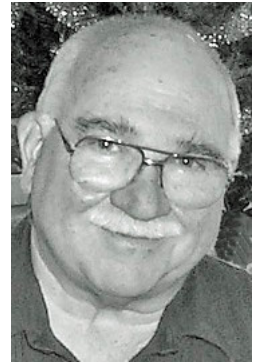
Richard Wright's distinguished career included work as a reporter, copy editor, automotive writer, journalism professor and book author.

He was nationally recognized for his expertise in automotive history. His works included two histories of the industry, a book on union pioneer Walter Reuther, a training text for retail auto sales, and anniversary publications for Ford, GM and *Automotive News*.

He wrote hundreds of articles for metro dailies and industry journals and was a regular columnist for the *The Grosse Pointe News*.

On the journalism faculty at Wayne State University for 17 years, with degrees in journalism and law, Dick taught more than a dozen courses and was beloved by his students.

His professional experience included more than 10 years as a reporter, copy editor and business writer for the *The Detroit News* and *Detroit Free Press* and more than 20 years in writing, editing and management posts with *Automotive News*.



### Ben Burns

Benjamin J. Burns is a veteran journalist with impeccable credentials who has built the Wayne State University journalism program into a dynamic, vital program where students learn the skills to be successful journalists.

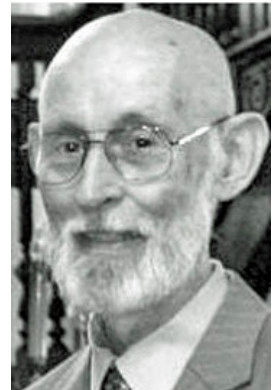
In three decades as a reporter and editor, Ben has been on the staff of the *Lansing State Journal*, executive editor of *The Detroit News*, night city editor of the *Miami Herald*, and publisher and editor of *The Macomb Daily* and the *The Daily Tribune* of Royal Oak.

He left the top editor position at the *News* to teach full time at Wayne State, where one of his achievements was establishing the Journalism Institute for Minorities.

He left the academic world to take over the executive roles at the suburban dailies, later returning to Wayne State. He has two degrees from Michigan State University and completed the Executive Business Program at the University of Michigan.

Out of the newsrooms, he never stopped writing. He is co-author of *Michigan Media Law* and contributes to area newspapers.

Ben was inducted into the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame and has been a Pulitzer Prize juror. He is a former president of the Detroit SPJ chapter.



## Lifetime Achievement Awards – 2008

### Sue Burzynski

After three years as managing editor of *The Detroit News* and a 30-year career as a reporter and editor, Sue Burzynski joined the Michigan State University Journalism School faculty as a visiting editor-in-residence in August, 2007.

In her top job at *The Detroit News*, she was responsible for the day-to-day operation of the newsroom, supervised nearly 300 journalists and helped to integrate the print and online newsrooms. Before joining *The News*, she worked as a reporter and editor at newspapers in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., Lansing and Port Huron, and at Gongwer News Service in Lansing.

Sue has served as president of the Michigan AP Editorial Association and on the board of the Mid-America Press Institute.

A colleague once called her “the MVP of *The Detroit News*,” noting that “from recruiting and hiring to staff development, and from enterprise planning to quality control, Sue Burzynski is the person who on a daily basis sets high standards, communicates them and holds others to them.”

She earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from Michigan State University and a master's degree in administration from Central Michigan University. She is married to journalist George Bullard, who was Detroit SPJ Journalist of the Year in 2004.



### Grace Gilchrist

Serving as Vice President and General Manager of WXYZ-TV/Channel 7 for nearly 13 years, Grace Gilchrist is credited with building the station's news team. Her professional achievements include community service honors, national awards for news coverage, civic leadership positions and recognition as an influential role model.

Gilchrist, who grew up in Detroit with nine siblings, retired this year. Under her leadership, the station expanded its health, consumer and investigative coverage and won many awards, including twelve local Emmy Awards for editorials and community service campaigns.

She joined the station as general sales manager in 1986 and is the longest serving General Manager in its history - an example of stability in an industry not generally known for extended service at the same station.

She began WXYZ-TV's association with *Call For Action*, a consumer advocacy program that has been a watchdog for the community. The program has helped Detroiters resolve more than \$10 million in consumer issues and complaints.

The station has continued its tradition of technological innovation, launching the first high definition broadcast and HD newscast as well as the WXYZ.com website.



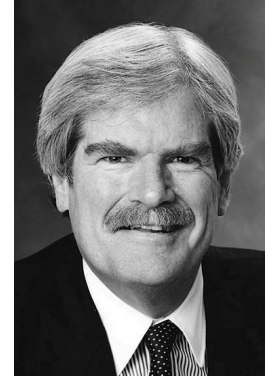
## Lifetime Achievement Awards – 2009

### Keith Crain

As publisher of *Automotive News* and editor-in-chief of *Crain's Detroit Business*, Keith Crain uses his regular columns to address issues and support causes that concern Detroit and the automotive industry.

As chairman of Crain Communications Inc, he leads one of the nation's largest privately-held publishing companies, with over 30 trade, business and consumer magazines with 19 offices and over 1,000 employees worldwide. They include the leading automotive publications in the U.S. and Europe, regional business magazines under the Crain name in five cities, and publications serving other industries including advertising, health care, investments, plastics, and television.

One of Detroit's most dedicated business leaders, he is an active participant in a myriad of civic and business organizations.



### Rod Hansen

During a 38-year career at WJR Radio, Rod Hansen won 50 national, state and local awards.

When the Detroit riots erupted four months he joined WJR as an evening news anchor in 1967, he was pressed into service as a street reporter and found his calling. He initiated, reported and produced award-winning documentaries that exposed flaws in the Michigan's criminal justice system, abuses of open housing laws, and unscrupulous practices by Detroit-area car dealers. His work prompted changes that improved the quality of life for Michigan residents.

In 1975, Rod broke the story about the disappearance of Teamster boss Jimmy Hoffa and dominated coverage of the investigation.

