



2006 LOCAL 16 NOLAN/DIFRANCO SCHOLARSHIPS

This year we will award five (5) James P. Nolan Scholarships (\$1000 each) and one (1) Donald DiFranco Scholarship (\$1000) for the 2006-2007 school term. Applications must be received at the NABET-CWA Local 16 office by Friday, June 30, 2006.

A random drawing will be held on or before July 7, 2006 to determine the six winners. An applicant may win only one of the six scholarships. Applicants need not be present to win. Scholarship awards will be paid to the educational institution upon submission of verification of enrollment.

DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION
AT WWW.NABET16.ORG

Eligibility:

- The scholarships are open to sons and daughters of retired, deceased, or active members, in good standing, of NABET-CWA Local 16. **Grandchildren are not eligible.**
- Applicants must be enrolled in an institution of higher learning full-time during the 2006-2007 school year. Previous winners are not eligible.

These scholarships are in memory of James P. Nolan, founding president of Local 16, and Donald DiFranco, the Local 16 member and WABC-TV transmitter engineer who died in the 9/11/2001 World Trade Center attacks.

LOCAL 16 PICNIC JULY 23, 2006

THE 2006 FAMILY PICNIC WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY JULY 23 AT KRUCKER'S GROVE, ROCKLAND COUNTY, NEW YORK FROM 10:30 A.M. - 6:00 P.M. FOR THOSE WHO HAVE ENJOYED OUR PAST PICNICS YOU CAN COUNT ON THE CONTINUED QUALITY OF FOOD AND ABUNDANCE OF ACTIVITIES PROVIDED.

GO TO WWW.NABET16.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO DOWNLOAD A RESERVATION FORM AND MAP.

THE RESERVATION FORM MUST BE RETURNED TO THE UNION OFFICE BY JUNE 26, 2006.

NABET-CWA LOCAL 16
80 WEST END AVENUE 5 FL.
NEW YORK, NY 10023
ATTN: PICNIC 2006



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

As I watched my youngest daughter graduate from High School last week it was impossible not to reflect on the rapid passage of time. It was hard for me to believe that so much time had passed since the day in 1988 when she was born. As I grow older, it seems that many of life's milestones happen much more quickly.

I think that for most NABET-CWA Local 16 members the "milestones" of contract renewals provide a measure of our professional work lives. Just as I find it hard to believe that more than eighteen years have passed since my daughter's birth, it is hard to believe that almost three years have passed since ratification (Sept. 2003) of the current NABET-CWA - ABC Master Agreement and that we find ourselves less than ten months away from expiration. NABET-CWA is once again preparing for the next round of bargaining with

Disney/ABC. The five NABET-CWA Locals (16, 31, 41, 51, & 57) who administer the Master Agreement have selected their respective Network Negotiating Committee representatives and we will be having our first in-person preparatory meeting in mid-June at the Local 16 offices. Along with me, the other voting members of the Negotiating Committee are: Maurice (Mo) Thomas (Washington, D.C.), Ray Taylor (Chicago), Kevin Wilson (San Francisco), and Richard Daszkowski (Los Angeles). John Clark, NABET-CWA Sector President, is the acting Network Coordinator and I expect will also play an important role on the Negotiating Committee (President Clark's role will be decided by the voting members of the Negotiating Committee).

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VICE PRESIDENT JIM JOYCE
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UNIT 4 DENNIS ALLEN
UNIT 5 JIM NOLAN
UNIT 6 ORLANDO BURGOS
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SCENE 16

A PUBLICATION OF
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RETIREE NEWS LES SCHEYER
 HARVEY REIBEL

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COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE
 BRENDAN BLACK BOB BOCHART
 NAT PHILLIPS HENRY PLIMACK

MEMBERS OF THE MONTH

This month the spotlight is shared by two of our NABET-CWA brothers, John Dibbins and Bob Stickle. John currently works in Network Technical Maintenance (NTM) as a Broadcast Engineer, a career he began in 1980. Bob has been a Broadcast Engineer in Systems Maintenance and Assembly Group (SMAG) since 1983. Bob and John were members of the United States Power Squadron for approximately 15 years. After the September 11th attacks, they decided to take the next step and joined the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Both of these NABET brothers volunteer many hours to this very worthwhile endeavor. Both men have trained and obtained command level positions with Station Fire Island. They completed Aviation training at the end of March, at the USCG Academy in New London, CT. Bob lives in Southold, L.I. with his wife Emmy. John lives in Copiague L.I. with his wife Susan and his son Johnny.

Jim Nolan



CAPTAIN DANTE LAURINO, USCG AUX, (C.) PRESENTS AN AWARD TO JOHN DIBBINS (L.) AND BOB STICKLE (R.)

"I HAVEN'T HAD A RAISE
IN PAY SINCE... 1990."

LETTERS

I believe that a raise is long overdue for the retirees. It has been more than 5 years since we received any increase, in that time the cost of living (gas, home heating, taxes) has skyrocketed!! The plan has more than enough funds to provide for a good increase, perhaps even a bonus payment. I find it hard to understand why this hasn't happened. Kindly take this matter under consideration soon.

Dick Roes

35 years a good dues paying member

It is with great sorrow that I write to Scene 16. Receiving my first copy in years, I'd like to express my condolences to the families of Nat Albin, Joe Chillari, Jack Dorfman, Al Gianetta, Lance Knapp, Murray Konecky, Joel Parisi, Jack Powers, and Bill Wagner.

As a World War II Pacific Theatre Combat Veteran the same feeling goes through you when you lose so many buddies. I had the pleasure of working with these men in Lodi, N.J. for 23 years and 6 years in N.Y. May they all rest in peace. Amen.

John S. Esposito

To President Gene Maxwell, members of the Executive Board and the staff of Scene 16:

It is hard to believe that time is slipping by so quickly! It has been over fifteen years since I have worked and have been on Long Term Disability.

Whenever I read in a Scene 16 of old friends dying it provokes memories, some good, some not so good, of my days at ABC and WABC. Would it be possible to give a bit more information of those members who have died? How about their ages when they died? Their year of retirement? How many years they worked at ABC? Cause of death? Location? Anything?

It would also be nice to hear news about other folks who were employees of ABC. Management? Staff? Members of the DGA? I, for one would like to know what happened to my "nemeses", Jim Baker and Duane (Don) Amell!

Please leave all political commentary out of the newsletter. I resent hearing about how wonderful liberals are and how rotten conservatives are.

I have to laugh to myself when I hear of some of the problems that are being faced by current NABET members. How about this one . . . I haven't had a raise in pay since the last contractual raise prior to October 1990! That's right. LTD payments stay the same . . . forever. My income is exactly the same as it was in October 1990!

Well, actually, with every increase in medical insurance premiums, I see less and less income. When you add that to the chunks taken by inflation, you can see the problems that are experienced by all who are collecting LTD for long periods of time.

Ron Blachut

LETTERS MAY BE EDITED FOR
CONTENT AND LENGTH

CWA NATIONAL POLITICAL AND LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE BY PAUL VASQUEZ

Vice President Jim Joyce led a Local 16 delegation that included Mike Cullen, Debra Simmons, and Executive Board member Paul Vasquez to the CWA National Political and Legislative Conference held in Washington DC from March 12 through March 15. The annual event gathers CWA members from around the country to visit Senators and House of Representatives members to inform, educate, and lobby the members of Congress on issues that matter to CWA and its members.

The issues this year, as always, were many and varied, reflecting the large and diverse membership of CWA. They included support for The Employee Free Choice Act, (S.842 Kennedy D-MA H.R. 1696 Miller D-CA). This act would make it easier for the estimated 42 million Americans who would like to join unions to do so. It would change the often arcane and one-sided laws that favor managers hostile to unions that would give their employees a voice in the workplace. We also supported the Stop Terminating Our Pensions Act (S.1158 Kennedy D-MA H.R. 2327 Miller D-CA) that would impose a 6-month moratorium on terminations of certain pension plans during bankruptcy reorganization of contributing plan sponsors. This would be a very small step on the long road to providing retirement security for working people. We also weighed in on consumer protections when dealing with business customer call centers, the Federal budget priorities, the reauthorization of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), foreign control of US airlines, US trade policy, the health care crisis, due process rights for local law enforcement officers, and a national shield law for journalists protecting the identity of their source(s).

All of the above are important but none of those issues are as important as Telecommunications Reform. I can do little more than mention the existence of the subject in this forum because the issues are so complex and the competing interests are so numerous and varied. The interests sometimes divide geopolitically, local vs. state vs. national control. Sometimes commercially, by content providers, aggregators, distributors, and carriers. Sometimes philosophically, markets vs. regulatory agencies as the path to the best results for the most people.

All of those are operating in a rapidly changing technological environment that no one has a clear vision of yet. To put it in simple terms, no one knows what consumers will be willing to pay for, on which platforms they will access it, or what model(s) they will support. Will they pay to access content once or multiple times? For specified time periods or only to purchase forever? Will they pay at all?

Telecommunications Reform will be made up of many political decisions in an election year for all House members and one third of Senate members with huge, frankly staggering, sums of money at stake so the positions people take are not always consistent and the eventual outcome does not have to make sense.

CWA has issued a set of basic principles we believe should be contained in any reform regardless of how it comes about and which level of government is in the mix. The principles are up on our website www.nabet16.org for you to see.

Each of you has a stake in Telecom Reform. As a media industry worker, your future employment opportunities will in part be determined by the future shape of the industry, and that will be in part determined by the outcome of the Telecom Reform debate happening now. As a consumer, how much you will pay for what you would like to access in the future, if you are allowed to access it at all, will be determined in part by the Telecom Reform debate happening right now. More importantly, as a citizen, the future, all of it, will depend on what information is available to you and others. That will be, in part, determined by the outcome of the Telecom Reform debate happening right now.

It is time to get involved. The best place to start is with information. We will provide more here but the best single source I know of continuously updated information about Media Reform is Free Press. Their web site is www.freepress.net. Visit there often to stay informed. Visit www.nabet16.org often to stay informed on NABET's and CWA's positions on the same issues.

As a media industry worker, your future employment opportunities will in part be determined by the future shape of the industry.

UNIT ONE NEWS

"...IF NR WORKED AS WELL AS WE DID, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN ON THE AIR A YEAR AGO AND HD COMPATIBLE!"

Super Bowl Sunday: In spite of a damaging early morning flood and years of Disney under-funding in the basement, the NABET in-house crew aired the S.D. and H.D. broadcasts of ABC's last Super Bowl flawlessly. In comparison, if NR worked as well as we did, it would have been on the air a year ago and HD compatible!

By the way, have you seen management's Super Bowl attaboy addressed to "all concerned"? While I appreciate the gesture, I have seen more emotion expressed on my Con Ed bill.

Monday Night Football: I salute the NABET-CWA Monday Night Football crew. Right up to the last show, Super Bowl XL, they remained professional, reliable, simply the top crew on the road. The only good thing about Disney taking one of the best known, most successful and longest running shows in broadcast history and moving it to cable is the fact that we will get to see our staff crew member friends more often in house. What a waste of talent. Hey, but ESPN gets to pay \$1 billion a year for M.N.F. with no playoff or Super Bowl coverage! Who made that deal? It is almost as good as paying \$5 billion for the Family Channel.

Grievance and Arbitration: Our Union has grieved or is in discussion with management about: 2006 vacation pay for members returning from LTD; denied per diem pay vouchers at All My Children; Work speed up and staffing cuts at One Life to Live; Network Release (TV studios renamed by management for group intimacy) procedures and staffing; management interfering in the medical affairs of a member and non-NABET staffing of EVS at TSS and on the third floor. We have also filed a complaint with the National Labor Relations Board against a BO&E 7th floor manager who has threatened a shop steward for merely carrying out her duties.

Staff Vacation Pay: If you received any amount of night differential, (even just 15 minutes per day), for 130 days or more in 2005 then you should expect to receive a 15% night differential bonus on all vacation pay for 2006.

Bill Bores

THANKS

NETWORK AD JACK SHARKEY WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL LOCAL 16 MEMBERS WHO SUPPORTED HIS PLAY "NO CHILD..." DURING ITS OFF-BROADWAY RUN.

IN MEMORIAM**FLOYD SEGARRA**

Floyd passed away on Saturday, April 15th in Ocala, Florida. Floyd started his career in Video Tape at ABC in 1965 and eventually became a Group 6 Supervisor on the Video Tape Bridge. He retired from ABC in 1993. Floyd is survived by his wife, Eugenia, daughters, Stephanie Nelson and Danielle Vasquez, and four grandchildren. He was 77 years old at the time of his passing.

A Funeral Service was held on April 20th in Florida. The family has asked that in donations, in lieu of flowers, be sent to Sylvia's Hospice House, 28-97 E. 62nd Street, Ocala, FL 34480.

DAVID GORDON

David apparently died from a heart attack while visiting friends in Boston. David, a member of Local 16 since 1979, was a longtime ABC Studio/Field Engineer and was very involved in local charitable endeavors. His most recent work assignment at ABC was TV-3 camera on the overnight news programs. He was 56 years old at the time of his passing.

JOHN BLESSINGER

John began his career at ABC as a Courier in 1964 with the ABC Courier Division of Allied Freight Division and became a member of Local 16 when the Couriers became direct employees of ABC in 1979. He was separated from employment at ABC in 1999 along with the other Couriers when ABC subcontracted out the work.

A Funeral Service was held on April 4th in Queens.

REGINALD BRADLEY

Local 16 member Reginald Bradley (Video Tape) passed away after being on a medical leave for almost two years. Reggie was a member of Local 16 since 1978 when he began his career at ABC as a Transmitter Engineer at WABC-TV. In 1982 Reggie was transferred from the transmitter position to a Video Operator in BO&E and eventually to Video Tape.

A Funeral Service was held on March 30th in the Bronx.

MICHAEL ALTIERI

Local 16 Retiree Michael Altieri passed away on May 30, 2006. Mike worked as a videotape editor in the Network Videotape room and Network ENG for many years. Mike is survived by his two daughters. His wife died several years ago after a long battle with M.S.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, June 3rd, 2006 at Glenrock Community Church in Glenrock, NJ.

IN MEMORIAM

GEORGE DELEON

NABET-CWA Local 16 is very sad to have learned of the passing of George DeLeon passed away on Saturday, June 3rd in Florida. George started his career in at ABC in 1967 as a Vacation Relief Engineer and eventually became a Senior Video Operator and worked on a great many ABC Sports remotes. He retired from staff employment at ABC in 2003 but continued to do some Daily-Hire work as an SVO on ABC Sports remotes. George is survived by his wife, Jean, and his sons Craig and Scott. He was 63 years old at the time of his passing.

A Funeral Service was held on June 10th in Wellington, Fl.

JONATHAN LORY

Jon passed away on Monday, June 5th. He started his career at ABC in 1971 as a Vacation Relief Engineer and eventually became an Audio - Post Production Engineer. He worked on daytime dramas, national conventions and presidential debates, covered town meetings in Israel and South Africa, traveled to Sarajevo and Lake Placid for Olympics, and to stadiums across the country for Monday Night Baseball and Football. Jon was the recipient of eight Emmy awards over his career and retired from staff employment at ABC in 2004. He is survived by his wife, Carla Bandini-Lory. Jon was 57 years old at the time of his passing. A memorial service was planned for June 24th in Stamford, CT.

ROBERT KOHL

Bob died in a car accident in New Jersey on Friday, June 16th. He started his career in at ABC in 1982 as a Vacation Relief Studio/Theatre Maintenance Engineer and became a Staff ENG Maintenance Engineer at WABC-TV in late 1983. He was a very skilled Maintenance Engineer and has been a fixture in the WABC-TV Maintenance department for more than 20 years.

Bob is survived by his wife, Janis, daughters Cheryl and Lauren, and sons Charles and Kenneth. He was 61 years old at the time of his passing.

A private service was held in Bergenfield, NJ. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Make-A-Wish Foundation of New Jersey, 1034 Salem Rd., Union, NJ 07083-7058.

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***LOCAL 16 PICNIC
SUNDAY
JULY 23, 2006***

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

SEE US AT.

WWW.NABET16.ORG

L.I. RETIREEE MAY LUNCHEON

On May 10th a group of ABC Retirees met at the Maine Maid Inn, Jericho, Long Island. All totaled there were 60 retirees who attended. These luncheons are held twice yearly and are open to all retirees and not so retired ABC folks.

Due to the recent Disney buyout offer there were some newly retired NABET members who joined us that day. Stan Birnhak, Ron Feszchur, Bill Hartley and Richard Sloan are among the newest retirees. Stu Goodman, an ABC old-timer and Ed Meenan attended as well.

Jim Joyce, our NABET Vice President, addressed the gathering and brought us up to date on some matters of importance. During the luncheon there were lively discussions at each table.

This is a great opportunity to renew old acquaintances and have an enjoyable afternoon with old friends.

For anyone who has not attended these luncheons and wishes to be placed on the mailing list please contact Harvey Reibel, (516) 796-5880.

The next luncheon for ABC retirees will take place at The Maine Maid Inn on Oct. 11th.

Harvey Reibel

(photo credits: Bob Nicosia, Bill Hartley, Mike Michaels)





**SEE YOU
ON OCTOBER 11TH
AT
THE MAINE MAID INN**

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN — CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

I very much appreciate the confidence expressed by the Local 16 Executive Board in selecting me as Local 16's representative on the Network Negotiating Committee (Jim Joyce is the Local 16 Alternate). I have personally known each of the other members of the committee for many years; they all have a great deal of experience and a strong record of Union leadership. I am confident that we will work well together as a Negotiating Committee and that with the support of the membership we will reach a ratified agreement with ABC that is acceptable to both the Network Negotiating Committee and ABC.

What should be understood from the outset is that the support of the membership is the most crucial ingredient in the recipe that will result in a satisfactory result of the 2007 negotiations. The knowledge, skill, and experience of the Network Negotiating Committee are important qualities but none of that will matter unless all NABET-CWA members become involved and committed to doing what is necessary to achieve a satisfactory result.

The broadcasting industry is undergoing very significant changes. These changes are driven by quantum shifts in technology, the way that consumers expect to access news and entertainment, and the competitive realities created for traditional broadcasters by the ever-increasing sources for obtaining news and entertainment. These are realities that we must recognize. However, recognizing

reality does not mean that NABET-CWA members must accept a diminution of wages and working conditions. The business of gathering and distributing news and information or creating and distributing entertainment programs is complex and requires special skill sets. NABET-CWA members have developed and honed those skills over many years and we are prepared to move forward into the future and embrace new technologies and distribution methods just as we have done in the past. We have to decide however, both as an institution and as individuals, if we are prepared to do what must be done to insure a secure future for our families as well as for our employer.

Make no mistake about it, the jobs we do are good jobs and provide good benefits but we must be prepared to fight to preserve what we already have and to struggle to leave a better workplace for those that come after us. In the days ahead I urge you to look inside yourself and to look into the eyes of your children and decide whether you want "just one more contract" or whether you are prepared to do what you need to do to make sure that your children have at least as good a standard of living as we do. That question will not be decided by the Network Negotiating Committee, it will be decided by you.

