THE 53RD ANNUAL
CABLE TV PIONEERS BANQUET
NEW ORLEANS, LA | OCTOBER 2, 2019

CELEBRATING THE CLASS OF 2019
THE RITZ-CARLTON | 921 CANAL ST. NEW ORLEANS, LA 70112
WE ARE GLAD TO WELCOME YOU TO THE FIFTY-THIRD ANNUAL CABLE TV PIONEERS BANQUET

WEDNESDAY – OCTOBER 2, 2019

The Chairman’s Report
Sponsor Recognition
DOCSIS™ “Gold Coat” Sponsorship
Pioneer Toast
Presentation of the Anniversary Class of 1994
Induction Ceremony of the Class of 2019

David M. Fellows
Chairman & Dinner Host

Susan Bitter Smith
Immediate Past Chairman

Jim K. Faircloth
Executive Director

Join Us at the Afterglow Party
Coffee – Cocktails – Cordials
Good Evening and Welcome Fellow Pioneers and Guests:

The Cable TV Pioneers are thrilled to be bringing our “Party Gras” back to New Orleans for the first time since 2008. As today’s Cable TV Pioneers Chairman, I have fond recollections of being among the 26 new members inducted that evening over a decade ago. It was a night to be remembered for a fabulous venue, the National WWII Museum, and for one of the longest dinners and induction ceremonies of all time. I guarantee our 53rd Annual banquet will be memorable for all the right reasons.

Tonight, we are introducing another select group of new Pioneers covering many facets of the industry. These 25 individuals have not only dedicated their lives to the cable industry, but also to their home communities and colleagues. They are indeed a special class. And in recognition of the 30th anniversary of deploying the first cable modem, and the 20th anniversary of CableLabs certifying the first DOCSIS™ modem, we are inducting as a group many of those who pioneered DOCSIS™ and congratulating many of our own Cable TV Pioneers who also were involved in this technology. A quick estimate indicates our industry enjoys about $40 billion per year in revenue from this development. As other key anniversaries in our history come up, we may honor other groups of key contributors in the same fashion. For tonight, please join me in commending these DOCSISTM Pioneers for their historic achievement.

Thank you to our Cable TV Pioneer family, our sponsors and our guests for coming to celebrate the history of cable and to honor the people who made it possible. And a very special thanks to SCTE/ISBE for the third consecutive year of a successful partnership, making this the cable event of the year.

Enjoy tonight’s unique Big Easy hospitality — Cable TV Pioneer Style.

David M. Fellows
Chairman
Members of the Founding Class of 1966

IN MEMORIAM
M. William Adler
George J. Barco, Esq.
Charles E. Clements
Benjamin J. Conroy, Jr.
Jack R. Crosby
Bill Daniels
Glenn H. Flinn
Fred Lieberman
Albert J. Kozminski/Malin
Martin F. Malarkey
Bruce Merrill
Sanford F. Randolph
Albert J. Ricci
Gene W. Schneider
Hon. Milton J. Shapp
E. Stratford Smith, Esq.
Fred J. Stevenson
Robert J. Tarlton
Archer S. Taylor
Frank P. Thompson
Edward P. Whitney

We Salute the 25th Anniversary Class of 1994

ACTIVE MEMBERS
Vincent R. Borelli
Chuck Davis
Thomas J. Duffy
Timothy P. Neher
A. Dean Peterson
Dan J. Pike
William W. Riker
Ronald A. Siegel
David R. Van Valkenburg

IN MEMORIAM
Israel Switzer
Wendell D. Woody
Special Thanks to Our Sponsors

The DOCSIS™ Pioneers

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THE MANAGING BOARD OF THE CABLE TV PIONEERS PRESENTS

THE PIONEER CLASS OF 2019
BRIAN PATRICK BANE  
North Grafton, Massachusetts

Brian Bane is Vice President of Network Implementation/Construction for Comcast Cable, a position he has held since 2014. His responsibilities include Outside Plant Construction and Implementation strategies for the next generation of fiber networks across the company’s national footprint.

Brian got his start in the industry with Prime Cable in 1982, working his way to Plant Maintenance and Headend Technician in Marlboro, MA. Six years later, he moved to Continental Cable in Massachusetts as Technical Operations Manager.

In 1996, Brian was promoted to the position of Director of OSP Networks for Continental’s New England Region where he managed a team of 250 technicians and engineers. When Comcast acquired the operations in the AT&T transaction, Brian was named Director of Network Construction for the MSO’s Northeast Division.

Brian is an active member of the New England SCTE Chapter and was awarded their “Bill Riley Personal Achievement Award” in 2014. He holds a Master’s Degree in Business Administration. In addition to being an active United Way volunteer, Brian is a member of “Team Bane,” which honors the memory of Mary Murray Bane. He has personally raised more than $50,000 through Team Bane cycling, riding in the 200-mile Pan Mass Challenge. The ride supports adult and pediatric cancer patients by funding life-saving research and treatment at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston.

JOHN R. “DICK” BEARD  
St. Louis, Missouri

Dick Beard is Director of Business Development for Ervin Cable Construction where he has responsibility for sales and business relations.

Dick’s cable journey began in 1972, as a system technician with Sammons Communications. In 1973, he moved to Continental Cablevision as Chief Technician for Quincy and Lincoln, IL and spent the next 12 years working with their engineering team, reaching the position of Director of Engineering for Illinois and Missouri.

In 1985, Dick founded Brentec, Inc., a design and construction company, before returning to Continental five years later as Regional Director of Engineering for Midwestern operations. In 2003, Dick assumed his current position with Ervin Construction.

Dick is a Senior Member of SCTE and serves on the Boards of the Gateway and Five Rivers Chapter. He is a member of the SCTE Hall of Fame, the SCTE “Circle of Eagles,” and currently serves as an Associate Board member of the American Cable Association.

Dick has coached multiple youth sports teams and has been recognized by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society with the MS Corporate Achievers Leadership Award.

Sponsored by
Mark A. Manning & Larry J. Stiffelman

Sponsored by
Tom R. Jokerst & Tom L. Gleason, Jr.
THOMAS J. CLOONAN, PH. D  
Lisle, Illinois

Tom Cloonan is the Chief Technology Officer, Network Solutions for Commscope (formerly ARRIS), a position he has held since 2002. He is responsible for specifying architectural features within network solutions platforms and all next generation products within the company. From 1982 to 1999, Tom was a distinguished member of the technical staff and Technical Manager for AT&T Lucent Bell Labs where he led multiple design teams. Following his Bell Labs tenure, he was one of three founding members of Cadant, a start-up company dedicated to the design and manufacture of routers and cable modem termination systems.

Tom is widely recognized throughout the broadband industry for his initiatives in developing and deploying advanced technologies which include CCAP, Channel Bonding, and DOCSIS. He holds more than 60 patents in a broad set of industry related areas, has published more than 130 papers, and is co-author of four technical journals.

Tom is a significant contributor to the SCTE Engineering Council, IEEE Computer Society, Cable Labs, and others. He has been a volunteer teacher as part of the National Junior Achievement program and volunteers at the West Suburban Humane Society shelter. Tom has mentored countless employees, students and new authors while gaining new industry patents, publishing white papers, and sharing his knowledge as a speaker at technical conferences around the world.

Sponsored by
John M. Egan, Sr. & Alex B. Best

MARC W. COHEN  
Springfield, Virginia

Marc Cohen is Executive Vice President for Sales & Marketing at Denver-based Evolution Digital where he is currently spearheading the company’s entry into the end-to-end IPTV solution space.

Marc entered the cable industry in 1985 with Continental Cablevision as a sales representative in one of their Michigan new builds. Following his Continental tenure, Marc spent three years as Sales Supervisor for Comcast in Pontiac, MI. Subsequent career advancements took him to North Carolina for a management position with Vision Cable and later to Hauser Communications in Virginia where his responsibilities included managing residential and business sales and negotiating right of entry agreements. Marc parlayed this experience with his next career move as Vice President of Sales & Marketing for Mid Atlantic Communications. Following the company’s sale to Comcast in 2000, Marc and Mid Atlantic CFO John Long co-founded Longview Communications.

Marc is an active member of CTAM, SCTE, ACA and NCTC, and served as Vice President of the Carolina Cable Coop. He has served on the Cancer Research Foundation executive committee in Virginia and funded a free hot lunch program for a local elementary school from 2009 to 2014.

Sponsored by
Steve R. Ross, Esq. & Dave Rozelle
JOHN DICANDILO  
Glen Mills, Pennsylvania

John DiCandilo is Vice President of Business Development for Dycom Industries where he is responsible for key MSO relationships and promoting cost saving solutions for customers. Prior to joining Dycom, John spent 22 years with CommScope, responsible for sales in the Mid-Atlantic Region, initially, and as Vice President of Sales for the Northeast Region from 2006 to 2018. John served on the Board of SCTE’s Delaware Valley Chapter working on membership growth initiatives. He currently serves on the Board of the SCTE Foundation which is dedicated to the advancement of business education for industry professionals. He has been a featured speaker at many SCTE Chapter Leadership conferences and is involved with many alumni volunteer projects at his alma mater, Drexel University.

DUANE C. DICK  
Colorado Springs, Colorado

Duane Dick is Senior Partner & Co-Founder of Sand Cherry Associates, an award-winning consulting firm that supports the top companies in cable, broadband, wireless and media. Duane began his cable career in 1996 as a graduate intern with US West Media Group after earning his MBA from Georgetown University’s School of Business. He was soon heading Market Strategy Development for Media One. When Media One was acquired by AT&T Broadband, Dick took on the primary responsibility for the integration of TCI and Media One operations.

Duane co-founded Sand Cherry Associates in 2001 and twice received industry innovation awards from CTAM. Sand Cherry, a Colorado Top 50 Company, was the WICT Rocky Mountain Chapter’s Industry Partner of the Year. An active member and leader in multiple industry associations at the local, national and international level, Duane has served as a Board member of CTAM’s Rocky Mountain Chapter and Co-Chair of CTAM’s National Chapters Council.

Duane and wife Michelle, both military veterans, support the Wounded Warrior Project and other veterans’ organizations. They are patrons and annual sponsors of the acclaimed Colorado Springs Youth Symphony.

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Mark Dzuban & L. Wayne Hall

Sponsored by  
Char Beales & Rob Stoddard
MARTY DOMINQUEZ
Washington, DC

Marty Dominquez joined C-SPAN in September of 1989 as Accounting Supervisor, shortly after obtaining her MBA from Tulane University in New Orleans, LA. Marty would soon become Finance Manager, a post she held until December of 1994 when she was promoted to the position of National Accounts Manager. In this role, she represented C-SPAN with MSOs, managing carriage issues, contractual relations, and marketing opportunities. In October of 1999, Marty was named Director of Marketing and in 2005 promoted to Vice President of Marketing, overseeing all consumer marketing, print media, community outreach, and election-related promotional events.

Marty has been an active member of CTAM for 25 years, serving on committees and working groups to foster stronger partnerships with affiliates. In 2017, Women in Cable & Telecommunications recognized Marty with their Touchstones of Leadership “Inspire” award, and she is consistently listed among the most influential minorities in cable by Cablefax Magazine.

Born in Paraguay, Marty became a U.S. citizen in 2008. She spends her free hours devoted to family and assisting her aging parents. Still, she somehow finds time to mentor young associates and to volunteer with animal welfare and pet adoption services.

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BARRY R. ELSON
Alpharetta, Georgia

Barry Elson entered the cable industry in 1980 as Vice President of Market & Product Development for United Cable, where his franchising team won 16 of 31 competitive markets. In 1983, Barry joined Cox Communications as Vice President of Western Operations, was soon promoted to Senior VP and in 1992 was named Executive VP for all of Cox operations.

In 2003, after two years of consulting for Morgan Stanley and Goldman Sachs on their cable television and telecommunications strategies, he moved to Telewest Global as Chairman and CEO. There, he led a successful turnaround of the communications firm, creating $2.8 billion in shareholder value in only 27 months.

Barry graduated cum laude from Dartmouth and served in Southeast Asia as a Signal Corps 1st Lieutenant from 1964 to 1966. During this military service, he ran the world’s first mobile satellite station using Satcom 1 and Satcom 2. After receiving his MBA from Cornell, Barry became the youngest General Manager at Owens-Corning Fiberglass and was the first to bring fiber optics to the world market in 1971.

Barry served on the C-SPAN Board from 1986 to 1989 and on the CTAM Board, including a term as Chairman, from 1989 to 1994. A two-time cancer survivor, Barry has funded three cancer research projects and has been honored by the Jimmy V Cancer Foundation for his work mentoring more than 50 cancer patients nationwide.

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JAMES L. FAUST  
Golf, Illinois

Jim Faust was the founder and first President of Zenith Cable Equipment Corp., where he produced the first addressable set-top boxes and, in partnership with Viacom, the first commercial broadband modem. In June of 1966, he joined Scientific-Atlanta as Vice President for International Operations and in June of 1990 was named VP of International Operations for General Instrument. In January of 1995, Jim was named President of Antec Network Systems and later Corporate Director for ARRIS International.

In 1999, Jim again pioneered a new technology, video streaming, creating Clearband. He later moved to Optinell, a major player in Gig-e-fiber transport. Jim also served as a Corporate Director of ATX Corp.

When taking time away from building companies, Jim served as a Village Trustee for his home town of Golf, IL and also served on the Board of Trustees of Lake Forest Graduate School. He was a team member for United Way in Northern Illinois and, with wife Helen, was instrumental in the establishment of a Special Needs Trust in Palm Coast, Florida.

Jim is a member of the Board of Trustees and heads the audit committee for one of the oldest colleges in Illinois, Blackburn College, founded in 1837.

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Bob Gold & Gordy E. Halverson

JOHN FELLET  
Auckland, New Zealand

John Fellet was Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of SKY TV New Zealand until retiring in February of this year. His 44-year cable career began in 1975, as Executive Director of the Arizona Cable Television Association. After two years advocating for cable operators in his home state, John joined Storer Communications as a Regional Finance Manager for new-build operations in Arizona and Colorado. In 1988, he was promoted to lead the franchising, construction and operations of the company’s west valley systems in Glendale, Peoria, Sun City, and Goodyear, where he supervised the build-out of Storer’s first dual cable two-way plant.

Following Storer’s exit from Arizona, through a major trade of systems with Times Mirror, John moved to United Cable to oversee the construction and operations in Scottsdale. His United tenure would continue with promotions to ever-larger systems in California until he joined TCI in 1989 as Director of New Ventures. TCI’s international arm, Liberty Media, tapped John to assist in the development of a Pay TV operation in New Zealand. What was meant to be a short-term assignment continued for 28 years, the last 18 as Chief Executive Officer.

A member of the Arizona Cable TV Hall of Fame, John has served on the Boards of the Arizona and California Cable Communications Associations and for 20 years on the New Zealand Broadcasters Council. John was instrumental in the formation of the Baseball Federation of New Zealand, coached two men’s National teams, and in 2017 was elected to New Zealand’s Baseball Hall of Fame. The Howick Hawks baseball complex was renamed Fellet Field in his honor.

Sponsored by  
Jim Monroe & Bryan Blow
JOHN C. FENGER  
Yardley, Pennsylvania

John Christian (“Chris”) Fenger is EVP and Chief Operating Officer for Patriot Media, parent company of RCN, Grande Communications and Wave Broadband. His introduction to cable operations was in January of 1980 with New Channels Corp. in northern Alabama. A year later, Chris was named Marketing Manager for Rogers Cablesystems in Syracuse, NY. In March of 1985, Warner Amex tapped Chris to be General Manager in New Hampshire, tasked with improving operations and growing the subscriber base.

From the mid-1980s through most of the 1990s Chris had senior management assignments with Simmons and Marcus Cable before being recruited in October of 1998 to become Charter’s Western Division Senior Vice President. Chris was named President of Brighthouse Network’s Central Florida Division in October of 2003 and Senior VP of Operations for Patriot Media’s RCN group in 2011.

Chris was an active member of the Maryland/Delaware Cable Communications Association and lobbied in Congress for the Association and his company during the 1992 and 1996 Cable Act deliberations. During his time with Rogers Cablesystems, he led the company’s United Way campaign and later served as the Vice Chair of the Central Florida Chapter of the Red Cross and Vice Chair of a Central Florida NPR/PBS Broadcast outlet where he appeared on-air for several fund-raising campaigns.

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Lou A. Borrelli, Jr. & Ann Carlsen

RALPH GALIONE III  
Wayne, New Jersey

Ralph Galione is Enterprise Account Manager, Global Accounts for Hewlett Packard Enterprise with responsibility for all Comcast entities. His entry to the cable industry came in 1981 as a Project Analyst for Warner Amex/QUBE. Ralph moved to Scientific-Atlanta in 1985 as Account Manager and was later promoted to Vice President of Sales.

In 2009, Ralph moved to the ARRIS Group as Vice President of Sales with oversight responsibility for a team of 11 Account Executives and Sales Engineers. In 2010, Ralph joined Pace America where he once again led the Comcast Account Team. In 2012, he became Neustar’s Senior Sales Director for North America. He then joined HPE in 2016.

Ralph was nominated by the S-A senior management team for the CTAM Executive Management Program at Harvard Business School in 2006, and while with Neustar served as co-representative for the company’s WICT Sponsorship. Ralph contributed to the Cable Industry’s fundraising efforts by participating in the Battle of the Bands as lead singer of Ralphie & the Streamers at the Cable Show in 2008 and 2009. He currently serves as the HPE representative to the Adaptive Spirit Program and is responsible for coordinating HPE activities at the inspirational gathering.

Ralph was an active member of Wayne Presbyterian Church for 16 years and was a member of the choir. He regularly participated in local outreach events and funded several church initiatives. He served as a Little League baseball coach and leader of the annual fundraiser for the Mother Seton Scholarship fund.

Sponsored by  
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JEAN PRICE GAY  
*Hickory, North Carolina*

Jean Gay is Vice President of Global Customer Financial Services for Commscope, Inc. She has spent her entire 43-year cable career with the company. She joined Commscope in 1976 as an accounting clerk working with customer receivables. She was promoted to Credit Supervisor in 1980 and to Customer Financial Services Manager in 1986. In her current position, Jean is responsible for directing Commscope’s worldwide credit and collections functions on annual sales in excess of $10 billion. Jean also serves as Board Chairperson of the CS Credit Union, with total assets of approximately $30 million.

Jean played a significant role in the establishment of the international division in 1989, expansion of facilities around the globe, and numerous mergers and acquisitions. While maintaining a full work schedule and raising a family, Jean earned her BS degree in Business Administration and her MBA in 1995. She is a Betsy Magness Institute inductee from the seventh class and the first member from the manufacturing segment of the industry. She served on the Board of CTAM’s North Carolina Chapter and on the National and Carolina Chapters of Women in Cable & Telecommunications.

Away from the office, Jean presently serves as a volunteer at Safe Harbor Ministry, as a Board member of the Hickory Soup Kitchen, and on the advisory council of the Hickory Young Professionals. She is an active member of the Highland United Methodist Church, where she teaches Sunday School, serves as a youth leader, and is Chairperson of the finance and stewardship committee.

**Sponsored by**  
Gene W. Swithenbank & June E. Travis

SANDRA K. HOWE  
*Wilmington, North Carolina*

Sandy Howe is Executive Vice President and President/Americas for Technetix, Inc., a global leader in advanced technology products, solutions and services for the broadband cable industry. Sandy is responsible for all functions for the U.S., Canada, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Her introduction to the cable industry was with Broadband Networks, Inc. in 1995, initially as a Sales Engineer, and later promoted to Regional Account Executive.

In 1999, Sandy moved to Scientific-Atlanta as Senior Account Manager, before being promoted to Director of Business Development in 2006. During her tenure with S-A, Sandy earned numerous sales awards and was a member of the “Sales Circle of Excellence” for six years.

In 2010, ARRIS named Sandy Vice President, Strategic Market Development, within the Advanced Technologies Group and three years later to Senior Vice President, Global Marketing. She was SVP/GM for the Consumer Products Group from 2016 to 2018 before assuming her current position with Technetix.

Sandy is a long-time supporter of women and diversity, currently serving as Vice-Chair of the WICT Global Board. Having been a member of NAMIC and SCTE for many years, she is a Board member of the SCTE Foundation Board and serves as investment advisor on the finance committee. Sandy previously served on the Retailer Council Board of the Consumer Technology Association.

**Sponsored by**  
Ron Coppock & Kevin Leddy
RICARDO LA GUARDIA  
Campinas, Brazil

Ricardo La Guardia is Regional Vice President of Sales and Wi-Fi product solutions for ARRIS International in Latin America. From April 2013 to January of 2018, he was Regional Vice President for ARRIS in Brazil.

Ricardo joined the cable industry in May of 1992 as Latin America Sales Manager for Commscope. Four years later, he was promoted to Sales Manager for all of South America for the company. In 2000, he was promoted to Vice President/Operations for Brazil. In October of 2006, Ricardo was transferred to Commscope’s corporate base in North Carolina to head up worldwide product management and customer service for the Broadband unit. He returned to Sao Paulo, Brazil in May 2011 where he was Vice President of Latin American Sales for Big Band Networks.

Ricardo received his undergraduate degree in 1989 from Catholic University in Campinas, Brazil, and his MBA from Pfeiffer University in North Carolina in 1992. He is an active Board member of the Brazil Cable TV Association and the Porto Seguro School Foundation. Ricardo and his wife are active supporters of the Catechism youth group in Campinas, Brazil, and the Children’s International Villages organization.

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GARY LAUDER  
Atherton, California

Gary Lauder is Managing Director of Lauder Partners. From 1989 to 2015, Gary was Director and Chairman of Active Video Networks, formerly ICTV, where he guided the company’s evolution from VOD to Electronic Program Guides and interactivity. He has been an Investor and Director for Hybrid Networks and Terayon, both pioneering cable modem providers. Gary has also been an early investor in Imedia, Big Band and Aurora Networks, and more than a dozen less well-known cable technology innovators.

Gary’s pioneering introduction of venture capital companies to cable has brought hundreds of millions of dollars for the R&D needs of the industry and contributed to the funding of products essential to today’s broadband systems. He has been involved in industry education and advocacy as a frequent speaker for NCTA, CTAM, Cable Labs the Western Show, Kagan conferences and others. Outside of the industry, Gary has been involved with the National Venture Capital Association and the Western Association of Venture Capitalists.

Gary serves on the Board of the Alzheimer’s Drug Discovery Foundation, the advisory board of Santa Clara University’s Center for Applied Ethics and is Chairman of the Transportation Committee of the Town of Atherton, California.

Sponsored by  
Jim A. Chiddix & Lindsay A. Gardner
ED MARCHETTI
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Ed Marchetti is Senior Vice President of Field Operations for Comcast, overseeing technical and workforce operations, network operations and data analytics. Prior to his current posting, Ed was Senior Vice President Operations/Engineering for the company’s Northeast Division. Ed entered the cable industry in 1981 as a construction coordinator and maintenance technician for Viacom in northern California. He remained with the Viacom management team until 2002 when he joined Comcast as Vice President of Operations/Engineering for the California Division. He held positions of increasing responsibility before the move to Comcast Corporate in 2016.

Ed has been very involved with SCTE over much of his career, having been a member for more than 20 years. He has served on the Golden Gate Chapter Board and the National Board, where as Treasurer in 2017, he was honored as SCTE Member of the Year. He currently chairs the Membership Committee of the National Board.

Ed relishes his family time and enjoys hiking, biking, and golf. He is passionate about helping the less fortunate and contributes to the Reach Project, Inc., a family drug counseling program. He is a core member of Life Teen, a youth outreach program at his local church.

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Timothy D. Cooke & Stan VonFeldt

HIMANSHU PARIKH
Duluth, Georgia

Himanshu Parikh is President and Founder of iOpenC, LLC., a position he has held since 2014. He was Engineering Manager and Software Engineer for Tocom/General Instrument from 1978 to 1988, and from 1988 to 2008, VP and General Manager for Scientific-Atlanta.

Himanshu joined Cisco Systems in 2008 as Director and General Manager, managing four business units, and later to Chief Technical Officer for INOVO Broadband. At Scientific-Atlanta, Himanshu was responsible for many cable industry initiatives including Interdiction, MPEG Licensing, Cable Cards, and High-Definition set tops.

Himanshu has been part of a number of start-up Boards, including the Celeno Advisory Board and the data base company Square Zero. His passion for new products has led to beneficial relationships with Broadcom, Intel, Sigma Gemtek, Greenwave, and a number of MSOs.

He is a long-standing member of SCTE. Himanshu and wife Raksha are the proud parents of three children, all graduates of Georgia Tech.

Sponsored by
Michael P. Harney & Mike T. Hayashi
CATHERINE RASENBERGER
New York, New York

Catherine Rasenberger is President of Rasenberger Media. She founded the firm in 1998 to help develop and launch independent cable networks serving diverse audiences. During the past 22 years, Cathy’s firm has successfully launched more than 25 of the most notable and highly-branded independent networks in the U.S. Her work has had a major impact on what niche audiences in the U.S. are able to watch on TV today.

Throughout her 38 years in the cable television industry, Cathy has held pioneering positions in publishing, sales, and marketing. With Warner Brothers Television in the early ‘80s, she was responsible for marketing and promoting the studio’s movies to fledging Pay TV services, including HBO and Cinemax. In 1982, she was Associate Publisher for Cablevision Magazine and National Sales Director for Titsch Communications.

From 1983 to 1988, Cathy was Director of International Operations and National Ad Sales Manager for ESPN. She joined TV Guide in 1989 as Director of Cable Operations, launching the publication’s newly created Cable Division. Prior to founding Rasenberger Media, Cathy spent six years at Food Network as part of the original launch team and Senior VP of Affiliate Sales and Marketing.

Over the years, Cathy has worked to make a difference in her communities. Along with her husband, Cathy formed and funded Citizens of the Hudson Valley, to advocate for environmental protections. She also chaired the Blue Ocean Institute’s first major fundraising gala in New York City, and served on the board of the historic Hudson Opera House in Hudson, New York.

Sponsored by
Joe Schramm & Howard Horowitz

JOYCE REITANO SALAJ
Posthumous

Joyce Salaj began her cable career in 1972 as a Customer Service Representative with Manhattan Cable. She was soon promoted to Customer Service Manager, one of only two for the entire customer service team, and by 1983 was Customer Service Manager of the largest system in the United States. Among her notable accomplishments with Manhattan Cable, later Time Warner, Joyce initiated the company’s first automated billing system which was the foundation for what is now CSG. She was also instrumental in the implementation of a state-of-the-art phone system to better control the system’s enormous phone traffic and allow supervisory monitoring of the CSR team.

After taking a hiatus from the work force to begin a family, Joyce returned to cable in 1991 as Director of Customer Service for Comcast in Eatonton, New Jersey. One of her first initiatives while with Comcast was to allow a floating percentage of customer service personnel to work from home. She received many accolades while with Comcast and was recognized by the company for her influence on the Northeast Region operations that stretched beyond her scope of responsibility.

Joyce was a mentor and positive role model to many at Comcast and Manhattan Cable, and a strong advocate for a work/life balance for her team members. She was an early advocate for Women in Cable and a regular volunteer at the Robert Woods Hospital Center in Somerset, New Jersey.

Sponsored by
Italia Comisso Weinand & Ellen Schned
MATTHEW STANEK
Sedalia, Colorado

Matthew Stanek is Charter’s Senior Vice President of Network Technology Operations. He began his cable journey with ATC’s National Division in 1985, initially as a bench technician before a succession of promotions to Headend Technician, Technical Instructor, and Project Manager. In 1995, Matthew was promoted to the position of Director of Technical Operations for Time Warner’s Austin Division, and in September of 2000 became Vice President of Engineering.

Matthew was named Time Warner’s President of Network Operations and Engineering in April of 2010, and in 2014 became Senior Vice President of Network Operations responsible for all core networks, the national data center and Voice and Wi-Fi operations. His key achievements included network uniformity and the creation of an analytics tool which is now in use company-wide. Matthew was part of many beta trials and first deployments of digital video, VOD, and SVD. He holds several patents related to cable network operations and network reliability.

Matthew was elevated to Senior Member status at SCTE in 1993 and has served on the Global Customer Advisory Board for Cisco Systems. Outside of the cable industry, he has served on the Library Foundation in Cedar Park, Texas, is a licensed soccer coach for youth leagues, and is an advocate for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

Sponsored by
Bob J. Stanzione & Mike L. LaJoie

TIMOTHY VAAS
Virginia Beach, Virginia

Timothy Vaas is Vice President of Sales for CableServ where he is responsible for managing expansion of current sales teams, developing growth initiatives and introducing CableServ product into global markets. Prior to moving to his current position, Tim was a Vice President with Product Management Consulting Group, a prime contractor in Broadband construction and software development.

Tim began his cable television career in 1980 with Magnavox CATV Sales. He would later become Regional Sales Manager for North American Philips where he managed all sales functions in the Mid Atlantic, Northeast and Southeast regions. In 1992, Tim joined Pico Products as National Sales Manager.

Tim has been an active SCTE member in Arizona, California, Florida, New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia and served on SCTE Chapter Boards in the Piedmont regions and Central New York. He was Vice President of the Dixie Chapter and currently serves as a member of the Chesapeake Chapter.

Away from his cable duties, Tim practices Tae Kwon Do in Virginia Beach, Virginia and is a speaker for the New Path organization which provides support and counseling to parents of young addicts in recovery.

Sponsored by
Robert J. Greiner III & Bruce R. Martin
BILL WARGA  
Parker, Colorado

Bill Warga is Vice President of Technology for Liberty Global, a position he has held since 2008. Prior to joining Liberty, Bill was Director of Digital Technology Standards for Comcast. While in this position, he chaired the Open Cable HW Working Group and served as a member of the Open Cable Certification Board.

Bill entered the cable industry in 1989 as Head Engineer and Sales Manager for The Garkie Group, providing contract services to CableLabs and designing HFC Networks. In 1995, Bill signed on with CableLabs, where he installed and tested the first MPEG-2 digital video systems.

In 2000, AT&T Broadband named Bill Director of Digital Video Technology where he was charged with upgrading the HITS platform. He stayed through the merger with Comcast and took on the additional responsibilities of both domestic and international standards. He also chaired the joint engineering committee of the NCTA and CEA for the negotiations of the One-Way and Two-Way plug and play agreements with the FCC.

Bill serves as the current Chairman of SCTE. He led SCTE’s Engineering Committee while serving as Tony Werner’s Vice-Chair. He was an early champion of the RDK Initiative and a frequent contributor to SCTE Emerging Technologies Events. Bill remains an active member of the CableLabs Technical Advisory Committee and serves on the Board of RDK.

Outside of the cable technology world, Bill has served on the Board of Word of Life Christian Center in suburban Denver.

Sponsored by
Tony G. Werner & Vibha Rustagi

THOMAS MACK WILLIAMS IV  
Atlanta, Georgia

Tom Williams is Vice President of Engineering and Technology with Shurz Communications. He began his career in the cable industry as an R&D engineer at Scientific-Atlanta, developing and deploying the first digital set-top boxes in the United States. He moved into consulting with KPMG and later joined Comcast as Regional Director of Engineering, where he was the first to deploy new technologies for the company including VOD, HD-DVR, CHSI, HDTV, and more.

In 2006, Tom joined ARRIS as Vice President of Marketing and Business Development. He won two AMY awards and implemented a company-wide brand transformation and management strategy. Tom returned to consulting as a Managing Partner with Brightset Consulting, specializing in global marketing and communications strategies for technology companies. He joined the Schurz Communications leadership team in 2016 where he drives technology strategy for the company.

Tom is a long-standing member of SCTE, CTAM, NCTC, and WICT. He enjoys mentoring young people interested in technology and advanced video-related careers. He has served as a Board member on the Baltimore County Technology Council and the Technology Board for the University of Maryland.

An active participant in his home town of Atlanta, Tom enjoys coaching youth sports teams, serving on community technology boards, and supporting local and military-owned business growth. He is a member of the American Legion and also a member of the Marine Corps Memorial Association, that educates and connects others to the history of the Corps and the sacrifices of those who serve.

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Zenita Henderson & Craig Heiting
Melinda Witmer started her cable career in 1994, joining HBO as Senior Counsel, Sales and Marketing, negotiating cable carriage agreements. She was later promoted to Vice President and joined the team responsible for the negotiation of major studio and independent film agreements. In January 2001, she joined Time Warner Cable as Vice President and Chief Counsel Programming with responsibility for all programming related legal matters.

In 2006, Melinda succeeded Fred Dressler as head of the Programming Department and served in several executive roles at Time Warner thereafter. Most recently, she was Executive Vice President and Chief Video Officer managing TWC’s multi-billion dollar programming budget and overseeing all content relationships with programmers, movie studios, sports leagues, and other content providers. She also served as Chief Operating Officer, Time Warner Cable Networks overseeing 40 regional and local news, sports, and other channels.

She is currently Principal of the real estate media and investment firm Look Left Media, LLC and serves on the Board of Directors of Tegna, Inc., and the Advisory Board to the Dean of the Newhouse School at Syracuse University.

As a long-time member of WICT, Melinda was a constant presence at Senior Executive events, a speaker, mentor and sponsor of several women for the Betsy Magness program. Among many awards, she was honored as a “Wonder Woman” in 2013 and received the T. Howard Foundation’s top honor in 2014 for her work in advancing diversity in the industry.

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A Tribute to Pioneers
Who Are Gone But Not Forgotten
REPORTED 2018-2019

Bob Searle 1979 December 8, 2018
Don Anderson 1998 December 18, 2018
Don Mathison 1991 February 7, 2019
Clive Runnells 1967 April 26, 2019
Ruth Kolpin 1989 April 27, 2019
George Gardner 1977 April 30, 2019
Jim Hall, Jr. 1998 May 12, 2019
Rob Stengel 1995 July 4, 2019
Jack Clifford 2002 July 28, 2019
Arthur Sando 2018 September 3, 2019
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<th>Cable Television Pioneers</th>
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<td><strong>IN MEMORIAM</strong></td>
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We congratulate the SCTE and salute our own Cable TV Pioneer and 2019 SCTE Hall of Fame Inductee Andy Parrott.

Our Congratulations to all SCTE 2019 Honorees!

CableTVPioneers.com

Join us next year in Denver!

CABLE TV PIONEERS

We look forward to seeing you there to induct the Class of 2020 at our 54th Annual Banquet.

Stay in touch with member news. Check out history, videos and photos, including a recap of this year’s banquet. Get all the details on next year’s get-together.

CableTVPioneers.com
Thank You