37th Reunion draws out-of-state and a few local habitués not seen in years.

By Marge Carroll

In the new, sunny party room at the front of the remodeled Athena restaurant in Greektown, 28 former Chicago’s American/Chicago Today employees, spouses and friends gathered for lunch on Saturday, Sept. 15.

Don Harris made the trip from Arizona to Reunion 2012, and the faithful Dolly Teasley and Merv Block traveled from New York. Rich and Marybeth Runnion drove down from Wisconsin.

Other guests enjoying their choice of either the fish or lamb/chicken entrée with accompanying libations included a few who hadn’t attended the reunion for a while: Steve Lasker, Mike Paradise and Frank Ring—all greeted warmly by their former colleagues.

Also enjoying one another’s company were Sy Adelman, Leonard Aronson, Marge Carroll, Ernie Cutro, Jerry Field, Bob Fischer, Shirley Haas, Kenan Heise, Pat Krochmal and her husband, Peter Luongo, Mike Hirsley and his wife, Kathy, Rudy Kunath, Marc Michaelson, Warren Moulds, Joe Pete, Denise Stauder, Ed Stone and Tina Vicini. Allen Rafalson, president of the Chicago Journalists Association, also joined the party, as did webmaster Bill Whitney, who works with Warren Moulds on “The Late Edition” online.

Those who could not attend were remembered and missed. The reunion organizers hope that 2013 will be a lucky-number year for the reunion—with more attending and sharing their stories.

Receiving The Late Edition without a computer is possible

We have been asked more than once by readers who do not use a computer if a paper version of The Late Edition can be made available. The short answer is yes, but only in a limited number. The purpose of going online was to cut costs of producing the newsletter. It was factored early on that we would more than likely have to make a few
paper copies of the online version for those who do not use computers. This can be done but we intend to keep the number small and not incur printing and mailing costs that we can ill afford to bear. Marge Carroll made one copy of the first online issue; it numbered 40 pages. However, if you have no computer and wish to receive The Late Edition by mail, please inform Marge or Warren Moulds. We will try to fulfill your desire to keep up with your old friends and colleagues through The Late Edition.
LETTERS OF REGRET

From Suzanne Darlington Ruggiero:

Marge,

As you figured, I am sure, I will not be in attendance for the reunion. I notice it is in the afternoon for lunch now. That is a good restaurant. I’ve been there with my sister and others before, when I lived in Chicago. So sorry, but I know it will be wonderful.

I love watching some of the new shows on TV about newspapers and the news in general being broadcast. So different though.

Write to me when you get a chance and tell me about the reunion.

Love,

Suzanne

From Deby Cox (and Ernie):

Unfortunately, once again we are unable to attend the reunion. We were actually hoping we (or at least Ernie) might make it this year, but it’s not to be.

Emie’s doing pretty well, considering he was told he’d be on dialysis by now. Now, because of the medication he’s taking and his adherence to the

From Art Aman:

Eagle River, WI

Hi Marge,

Thanks for the notice of the Today reunion. I’m at our place near Eagle River, WI. It’s doubtful that I’ll be in Chicago Sept. 15 because that is the week we’re usually shutting down up here for the season. If there is any change in plans, I’ll notify you at once. Best wishes for a very successful reunion gathering.

Best,

Art

From Jeff Lyon:

So sorry I will be unable to be there Saturday. I have to oversee the Columbia College paper. Please say hi to Warren Moulds and everyone else.

Best regards,

Jeff

From Tony Berardi:

Sorry we cannot attend. Wish we could be with our colleagues from the past. We are not doing very much but artistic painting and printing for
special diet, he does think it may be as much as two years before dialysis will be necessary. We’re keeping our fingers crossed. He goes to the oncologist this week to see if there’s any change in the bone marrow cancer. Not likely, as it’s very slow progressing and not usually a danger for a while. Otherwise, he feels okay and is able to do what he wants.

Ernie continues to volunteer at our computer club, now up to 2500 members, and teaches Mac, iPad and iPhones classes. He does a lot of “home visits,” helping people with computer issues. He has quite a reputation now in the community, and recently was offered a paying gig at La Posada, a large independent living facility, to give classes and help folks on one-on-one with their iPads and computers. It’s interesting because most of the people are quite elderly (even older than we are) and many are just getting interested in computers and other devices. He’s quite busy, sometimes working five days a week. Fine with me – I don’t have to find ways to keep him busy and there’s more time for hanging out at the pool and reading on the patio. Teehee. When it’s not 110 degrees, I even ride my bike on some of the local trails and do a little mountain hiking. Since one of the activities around here is going out to lunch with friends, I’ve managed to gain some weight but, of course, Ernie still has the 32” waist he’s had for 50 years. He’s so annoying! He turned 75 in May, and we had a get-together with several good friends. Low key, but big fun.

How are things with you? I know you had a pretty hot summer, altho the temps seem pretty nice, at least for August. Have you been doing any traveling, or, like me, are you content to relax and read?

We actually did go up to Montana in June for our older granddaughter’s high school graduation. (These milestones truly make me feel old.) Emie flew home after a couple of weeks there, and I drove and did some back-packing and camping for a few weeks on the way home. Other than that, a quiet summer.

Hope all is well and you have a great time at the reunion!

Very much for a little painting and printing for other artists. I hope you are doing fine and wish you the best.

Tony Berardi

From John Riley:

I had intended to repeat my last year’s visit this year, but that weekend I will be with my wife Judy in Mansfield, Ohio, attending her fifth-fifth high school reunion. We have a pact. We attend each other’s school reunions, particularly the ones we attended together (Northwestern). But I will not be with you in Greektown on September 15, except in spirit. Next year, I hope.

Best,

John

From Marilyn Stitz Johnson:

It is nice to hear from you! Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend the reunion this year. I will be in Highlands, N.C. My friend has a home there and she grows beautiful dahlias. There will be a dahlia festival, competition and all around good fun. Please say hi to my friends who are attending. Thanks for thinking of me.

Love,

Marilyn

From Joe Hopkins:

Hate to disappoint you again, but we will be in Arizona the day of the reunion.

As for what we’ve been up to the answer is nothing dramatic. I am hardly a boldfaced name. My wife, Lisa, and I spend about two thirds of the year in Goodyear outside Phoenix and the summers in Chicago. I’ve been retired from United Airlines where I worked for 30 years after leaving Chicago Today for nine years now. Get in some golf (currently 21 handicap) and some swimming and lots of reading. We do follow the markets avidly, though some days I wonder why. Coming up in a couple of months is our 25th wedding anniversary, and we are thinking about a trip to Hawaii to mark the occasion.

www.thelateedition.org/letters-of-regret.html
Cheers, Deby

**From Chris Rauser:**

Nice to hear from you, hardly seems like it has been 40 years since the “downsizing” of Chicago today. Hope this finds you well. Things are good with Christine and me these past five years since leaving the Trib. Chris and I bought a home on Lake Superior about six weeks after I retired in June of 2007. We spend mid-May through mid-October up here. We’re located just outside Houghton, Michigan, about 400 miles north of Chicago. The other seven months of the year we’re back in our home in Highland Park. Both of our boys are still in the Chicago area. Peter, our oldest, owns a bakery in Highland Park with a long-time friend, and Mark, our youngest, is a clinical child psychologist in Chicago. Chris and I keep busy over the winter months with various volunteer opportunities, a bit of work and seeing friends. We very much enjoy the northland in late spring through early fall, and have made a great many new friends up here. Sorry I won’t be able to attend the reunion. As in past years, it is in September and we won’t be back in Chicago area until later in October. Give my best to my old colleagues.

*chris rausner....*

**From Wayne Klatt:**

Thanks but I won’t be attending the reunion. This invitation was sent to me although I worked only at the City News Bureau rather than for the Hearst papers. Funds are tight. (Part of this letter were ripped and unreadable, but was intact went on to say that Wayne’s wife was diagnosed with a “lump” she will…) need help when she is released from the hospital. Other things I have been doing, my “King of the Gold Coast” was published by The History Press last year… and I have just finished a book showing how politicians made the major bootleg available in Chicago during the 1920s.

I hope you get a strong turnout for the reunion and say hello to the eclectic gang I worked with for 11 months in 1969-70. Best wishes, Joe

**From Bob Fila:**

Hope all is well with you! Thank you so much for the invite to the Reunion. Unfortunately, I will be out of town and unable to attend. Give everyone my best!

Bob Fila

**From Marlene Iandolo:**

Thanks you for the info. Being out in Fox Lake will keep me from the Reunion.

I’m living out here and LOVING it. I’m living in senior apartments and my surroundings are just beautiful. Lots of trees, different species of birds, possums and an occasional fox. Winter, of course, brings deer. It’s very peaceful, although I do miss the convenience of public transportation. Wish I could rub shoulders and say hi to those I know. If Mike shows up, please say hi to him for me. Thanks again, Marge....

Take care,

Marlene Iandolo

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Aronson produces Anne Keegan video for ‘Distinguished Journalism’ Award

The Chicago Headline Club’s first Anne Keegan Award for Distinguished Journalism, presented at the annual Lisagor Award dinner in May, featured a six-minute video produced by Keegan’s husband, Len Aronson. Assisting Aronson on the project, which he says he started thinking about soon after her passing last May, was his friend and former colleague Tom Siegel, of Chicago public television’s WTTW. Aronson’s aim was to honor Keegan and the kind of journalism she espoused, “reflecting the dignity and spirit of the common man.”

The award was won by Tribune reporter Colleen Mastony, who columnist Michael Miner described as “humble and gracious” in receiving the tribute. The event can be seen on You Tube by typing in “Anne Keegan,” or “Anne Keegan Award,” in the address line. In an email, Aronson said of the video, “it will give you an idea why this last year has been so tough, and why I bounce back and forth between feeling very lucky and very sad.”
Former fashion editor Jean Noe Clark writes from Colorado that she is “getting ready to sell my Rudy Gernreich topless bathing suit -- black, wool, with original tags -- on E-bay.” (Her accepting the suit as a gift from Gernreich’s representatives was still allowed at the time.) Jean says the only person who ever wore the 1960s attention-getter was the model Carl Hugare photographed (modestly, with her arm over her bosom) at a pool on the roof of a downtown hotel: “Carl found it a challenge to figure out how to take the photograph for a family newspaper!” Jean also recalled that booking models was another challenge at the American, because the paper didn’t pay them—as other papers did. Jean had to find models who would work for copies of the paper’s photos for their portfolios—and she persuaded some of the best in town to do just that . . . Ellen Eshbach Nordby and her husband, Gene, have relocated from Illinois to Surprise, Ariz. Gene is still working, but Ellen—having retired after nearly 15 years of proofreading architectural and engineering reports for a consulting firm—is ready to enjoy supervising a few home improvement projects and playing mah-jongg and bridge. She also enjoys reading on the patio—with its view of glorious sunsets over the White Tank Mountains. Ellen sends greetings to all . . . Judy Nicol Havemann and her family—Judy, her husband, Joel, their son and two daughters, Judy’s daughter and her two children, enjoyed a December cruise in Hawaii, with “Santa” Judy carrying through five time zones “mostly small” gifts for her travel mates to open on Christmas—which they did with great joy while “clustered around a four-inch pop-up Christmas tree” in a meeting room on the top floor of the cruise ship. After returning home to Washington, D.C., Judy resumed her work as communications director for the National Endowment for the Humanities. . . . Former fashion writer/editor Marylin Stitz Johnson sent Christmas greetings from her home in Georgia. She had spent Thanksgiving with family members in a spacious house on Nags Head in North Carolina. The house was near the cold and windy beach, Marylin said, but the get-together was fun.... Suzanne Ruggiero sent news that her niece, Christine V. DiSano, won the 2012 Pinnacle Achievement Award for her first children’s book, Meet The Little People--An Enchanging Adventure. She is the illustrator and the author. Pull it up on Amazon to get a look at it; Barnes and Noble also is selling it. Suzanne said Christine is the granddaughter of her late brother, Charles.
It seems that only yesterday “Chicago Week in Review” host Joel Weisman celebrated the 30th anniversary of his Friday night program on WTTW-TV. But on January 18, Weisman was congratulated on another five years of the weekly news forum. Presenting him with a White Sox shirt sporting the number “35” (former Sox slugger Frank Thomas’ number) were the evening’s panelists—Lester Munson of ESPN, Kate Grossman of the Chicago Sun-Times, Charles Thomas of ABC-7 News and John McCarron of the Chicago Tribune. “Chicago Week in Review” debuted on Jan. 20, 1978, with Weisman—a former Chicago’s American/Chicago Today political reporter—a panelist on the first program and host from then on. In honor of the anniversary, WTTW posted on its website past “CWIR” programs and video of the late John Callaway doing an “audition” interview with Weisman—a discussion of politics in the 1970s.

After Mary Leonard retires Feb. 15 as deputy managing editor of the Pittsburgh-Post Gazette, she and her husband, Gregg Ramshaw, will head for Florida for some R&R. Mary and Gregg, both former American/Today reporters, will return to Pittsburgh for spring and summer, then travel to China next fall. The Ramshaws’ daughter Emily is editor of the online Texas Tribune in Austin. Their daughter Susie, a musician, works in student advancement at the Colburn Conservatory of Music in Los Angeles.
Birthday greetings (some belatedly or early) to Ed Stone, Jan. 1; Marc Michaelson, Jan. 7; Bob McVea, Jan. 16; Rudy Kunath, Jan. 17; Jerry Tomaselli and Sue Roll Lindsay, Jan. 18; John McCarron, Jan. 20; Denise Stauder, Jan. 21; Judie Anderson, Jan. 24; Joe Pete, Jan. 25.

Also Bill Plunkett, Feb. 1; Terry Totte, Feb. 2; Mabra McCumber, Feb. 4; Bill Jauss, Feb. 8; Frank Ring, Feb. 9; Chuck Neubauer, Feb. 13; Marlene Iandolo, Feb. 14; John Lux, Feb. 15; Bob Fila, Feb. 19, and Len Aronson, Feb. 26.

Also, Bob Nelson, March 6; Walter Tokarz and Pete Latsis, March 9; Milt Hansen, March 10; Mike Bousk, March 13; Pat Krockmal, March 17; Chuck McWhinnie, March 19; Jack Knowles, March 20; Marge Carroll and Tom Leach, March 21; Tom Bolger, March 25; John Chovan, March 26; Carol Rasmussen, March 28; and Ron Berquist, March 29.

To Mark Wilson, April 1; Chris Rauser, April 2; Tony Berardi Jr., April 6; Bill Garrett, April 9; Dan Friedlander, April 11; Jerry Ackerman, April 14; Randy Curwen, April 18, and Jim Harvey, April 25.

Mike Argirion, May 2; Anne Musial, May 3; Carol Oppenheim, May 6; Norm Glubok and Art Aman, May 12; Bill Saari, May 16; Donna Marx, May 18; Sy Adelman, May 19; Marilynn Preston, May 22; Carolyn Colwell, May 24; Dorothy Storck, May 25; Ernie Cox, Brent Musberger and John Riley, May 26; Scott Hollingue, May 28;
Raymond Bligh, June 2; Jay Branegan, June 6; John Hillyer, June 7; Ellen Soeteber, June 14; Wayne Wozniak, June 15; John Marino, June 17; Carl Panek, June 18; Linda Witt, June 23; and Cary Schneider, June 30.

Many happy returns to Larry Casey, July 2; Marylin Stitz Johnson, July 10; Terry Dvorak, July 11; Mike Ryan, July 13; Jeff Jarvis, July 15; Phil Pash, July 19; Bob Fischer, July 22; Chuck Leroux, July 25; Ed McManus, July 27; Walter Jacobson, July 28.

Also, Suzanne Darlington Ruggiero and LeAnn Spencer, Aug 5; Chris Agrella and Barbara Reynolds, Aug. 17; Jean Noe Clark and Jim Pearre, Aug 21; Myron Weigle, Aug 23; Gregg Ramshaw, Aug. 25; Ed Wagner Jr., Aug 17; Frank Hanes, Aug 29; and Steve Lasker, Aug. 30.

Happy birthday as well to Ed Pound, Sept. 4; Jerry Field and Karen Callaway, Sept. 5; Mike Paradise, Sept. 12; Donna Joy Newman, Sept. 14; Arnold Rosenzweig, Sept. 19; John McHugh, Sept. 22; Don Harris, Sept. 25; Ralph Stow, Sept. 26; and Rich Runnion, Sept. 29.


And a birthday hurrah to Jim Masek and Joe Mastruzzo Jr., Nov. 1; Don Husch and Mary Knoblauch, Nov. 7; Michael Hirsley, Nov. 8; Howard Marks, Nov. 10; Warren Shore, Nov. 11; Paul Greenslade, Nov. 13; Ernie Cutro, Nov. 22; Bruce Vilanch, Nov. 23; Jeff Lyon, Nov. 28; and Warren Moulds, Nov. 29.

Also Bill Grady, Dec. 4; Wayne Stayskal, Dec. 11; Kenan Heise, Dec. 17; James Strong, Dec. 19; Al Phillips and Ed Baumann, Dec. 31
OBITS

Joe Rein

Joe Rein, who rose from copy boy to executive sorts editor at the Chicago Daily News, died Oct. 9 of severe bacterial colitis at Whitehall of Deerfield nursing and rehabilitation center. Formerly of Buffalo Grove, Mr. Rein, 99, who grew up on Chicago’s west side, attended Medill High School and with horse and buggy helped his father’s grocery business delivering fruits, vegetables and eggs to customers. He quit school after the 10th grade and became batboy for the Chicago White Sox, who played across the street from his father’s store. He later joined the Daily News as a copy boy at the Daily News, rising through the sports department to become assistant sports editor in 1947, then rising again to executive sports editor. Though not a fan of boxing, he covered the Rocky Graziano-Tony Zale middleweight title fight at a packed Chicago Stadium, taking the perspective of Zale’s trainer as he watched the champion get pounded by Graziano. He was among the sports writers who reformed boxing and bust the International Boxing Club’s monopoly of the sport. He is survived by his widow, Audree, a son, Irwin, five grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Judith Ann Southwick

Judith Ann Southwick, 73, former reporter for United Press International and co-founder of the Friends of Grass, an Oak Park community

Joe Mooshil

Joe Mooshil, 85, widely respected Chicago sports reporter for the Associated Press, died Sept. 7 of sepsis and complications of chronic lymphocytic leukemia. Known for his bushy head of hair and immense knowledge of sports, he was one of the frequent guests on The Sportswriters television program. He got hooked on sports while reading “Farewell to Sport,” a novel by Paul Gallico, renowned sports writer for the New York Daily News. “The Chicago sports scene has lost a member of the Old Guard…with the passing of Joe Mooshil,” said Chicago White Sox and Bulls chairman Jerry Reinsdorf in a Tribune obituary. He died just days before celebrating his 51st wedding anniversary. He and his wife Claire raised three daughters in the West Rogers Park neighborhood. He is survived by his wife and daughters Maria, Leah Mooshil Durst and Angele Mooshil Butler, and five grandchildren.

Wendell Smothers

Wendell Smothers, 52, was the first person to greet people at the elevator on the Tribune’s fourth floor. The soft-spoken greeter was found dead in his North Side apartment Nov. 12, heart disease cited as the cause. Known for his kindness, smile and imperturbable demeanor, Mr. Smothers drew praise from Tribune Managing Editor Jane Hirt and Editorial Page
organization that stopped the construction of public tennis courts on property that was converted into a playground next to the Julian Middle School on the village’s east side. She was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2000 and died at home Aug. 27. Growing up in downstate Peoria, she earned a bachelor’s degree in journalism in 1961 and worked for UPI in Des Moines, Iowa. She married her husband, Bill, in 1963 and lived on Chicago’s northside before moving to Oak Park, where she became a docent for the Hemingway Foundation. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Laura, who suffered a heart-related illness at age 33. In addition to her husband, she is survived by her son, Dan; a sister, Nancy; two brothers, Thomas and Richard Grimm; and a granddaughter.

Editor Bruce Dold. “I don’t think anybody rattled Wendell’s cage,” Dold said in a Tribune obituary. “He was dealing with a lot of major political figures, major film stars, athletes and he handled everybody the same. He was the guy to make conversation with them while they were waiting. I don’t remember him ever getting flustered on the job.” He loved sports, especially the Bulls and Bears and kept his own injury report on NFL players. He grew up on the South Side and graduated from DuSable High School. Survivors include his son, Kyle, a cousin, Mel Smothers.
Covering all the bases: Bill Jauss remembered...

By Warren Moulds

A sportswriter’s sportswriter whose spirit and love of games illuminated newspaper pages and the airwaves of TV and radio over a 50-year career, Bill Jauss, 81, died of natural causes Oct. 10 at his Wilmette home.

Before joining Chicago Today in 1970, William Charles Jauss established himself as one of Chicago’s most resourceful and versatile sports reporters at the Chicago Daily News, where he honed his craft beside the legend who hired him, sports editor John Carmichael.

Among Chicago sports fans Mr. Jauss became a household name when he and two cigar-puffing pals, Southtown Economist sportswriter Bill Gleason—who dubbed him “Jaussy”—and program host Ben Bentley, a boxing promoter and public relations exec, formed the original “Sportswriters” program on WGN radio.

Featuring three guys spouting opinions and analysis of professional and college sports—and occasionally of life issues of larger dimension—that radio gig morphed into an award-winning television show, becoming a “must see” weekly event for a sports audience that grew across the country. For TV, writer Rick Telander joined the threesome around an old oak round table, with newspaper scattered about for effect.

Edward Baumann

Edward Weston Baumann, 86, journalist, author, railroader, road builder, world traveler and circus roust-about, died November 6, 2012 at his daughter’s house in Paxton, Indiana.

He began his newspaper career with the Waukegan News-Sun after World War II military service in the South Pacific. Six years later he found himself working at the legendary Hildig “Hildy” Johnson’s old desk as Criminal Courts reporter for the fabled Chicago Daily News.

A lifelong Kenoshan, he was born December 31, 1925, the oldest son of the late Irvin and Mabel (Austerland) Baumann. His father, a one-time semi-pro baseball player and amputee veteran of World War I, was the tax assessor; his mother had been a suffragette.

Baumann was a 1944 graduate of Mary D. Bradford High School. As a youth he was active in the Sons of the American Legion (SAL), and headed the Kenosha Squadron in 1943. He was
Mr. Jauss’s love of sports stretched from boyhood to the end of his life. In high school his interest in sports writing bloomed. “I liked sports and I liked to write,” he reflected in a WTTW interview in 2006, and “I continued (to do it) in college.” He was a non-scholarship football “walk-on” in 1948 at Northwestern University. After playing on the freshman squad as NU’s varsity won 8 and lost 2 (second in the Big Ten) before winning the 1949 Rose Bowl, he later was a reserve guard for his college team.

After graduating from Northwestern, “my first employer was Dwight Eisenhower,” he said in the WTTW interview. He married his wife, Kenmar (Kenny), in 1953 and was stationed stateside with the Army during the Korean War. Soon after his Army stint, he joined the Twin City News Record in Neenah-Menasha, Wis. And only a few blinks after that he landed at the Chicago Daily News in 1955, beginning a five-decade run covering sports and becoming something of a sports world encyclopedia.

He and his wife, a journalist in her own right, moved to Wilmette, just across the line with Evanston in the shadow of their alma mater Northwestern. They lived there 47 years, until her death in May 2010.

On Carmichael’s staff at the Daily News, Mr. Jauss built a reputation for being a fair but tough interviewer. In the WTTW interview, he said the best advice he ever heard came from the Sun-Times’ Pulitzer Prize winner Tom Fitzpatrick: “When the bird starts chirping, shut up and let ‘em sing.”

“How many times have you heard somebody butt into a good interview when the subject starts to sing?” he asked. “You gotta know when to deal, when to fold and when to shut up.”

Carmichael, he reminisced, gave me “lessons in sports writing. It wasn’t about dangling participles or split infinitives. He’d say always take three takes of copy, then take your first drink... because too many guys in this business get those two numbers mixed up.”

Baumann signed on as a reporter for the Waukegan News-Sun from 1951-1956; specializing in crime and politics. From 1956-1963 he was employed by the Chicago Daily News as Criminal Courts reporter, where he covered executions, rewriteman and assistant city editor.

When the News changed ownership Baumann “crossed the street” to the Chicago American, where he served as city editor until 1970, when he was named administrative assistant to the
An interview with Tribune sportswriter Fred Mitchell quoted Mr. Jauss: “I was blessed that I went to work at the Daily News….It was kind of a pacesetter at the time because other papers would just give you the (who, what and where). And the Daily News was already trying to work on the ‘why?’ thing. To see the other papers trying to play catch-up was interesting.”

Mr. Jauss, who spent about 15 years at the Daily News, “crossed the street” soon after Chicago’s American changed from a broadsheet to a tabloid renamed Chicago Today. He joined sports editor Rick Talley’s staff and seamlessly went about his business of winning over readers who appreciated his storytelling ability.

There were few if any sports—except perhaps horse racing—Mr. Jauss didn’t take a crack at covering: baseball, basketball, football, hockey, soccer, college sports, track, golf, tennis. He loved them all. He was a fan of women’s sports as well—especially Billy Jean King and what she brought to women’s tennis. And he even had an amicable relationship with Indiana’s abrasive

Bobby Knight, despite the basketball coach’s disdain of sports reporters’ making a living by writing, something he said “most people master in the first grade.”

Mr. Jauss didn’t let Knight off the hook, though: “I said to him, ‘Bobby, not everybody can do it… (Reporters) have to capture an event in a few words and do it quickly and on deadline.’ He said to me, ‘Oh, yeah? Could you describe me in 50 words?’ And I said, ‘Five will do: honest man, great coach, jackass.’ ”

Blessed with a sometimes wise-guy sense of humor and a big smile, Mr. Jauss would often mix it up with fans at the Billy Goat tavern, recounting some experience or event he had covered.

“Jauss loved the little guy,” Telander said in a Sun-Times obit written by Toni Ginnetti. He spoke for Joe and Jane Six-Pack, but he sells himself short. He spoke for Joe and Jane Martini, too. He spoke for everyone with a heart.”

It was in 1975 that “The Sportswriters” show hit the airwaves on WGN radio. Gleason, Bentley he was named administrative assistant to the publisher. When that newspaper ceased publication in 1974 he joined The Chicago Tribune as senior staff writer.

News subjects whom he counted among his person friends over the years included fan dancer Sally Rand, Africa adventuress Joy Adamson, con man Joseph “Yellow Kid” Weil, burglar Joseph “Pops” Panczko, super cop Jack Muller, kill cop Frank Pape, singer Dinah Shore, writer Ben Hecht, actress Helen Hayes, Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley, and six Illinois governors.

He covered every beat, including going aloft in the Goodyear Blimp, and down in a submarine. A three-time Pulitzer Prize nominee, Baumann won the Chicago Newspaper Guild’s Stick-a-Type Awards for investigative reporting in 1953 and 1959, and was named Lake County Newsman of the Year in 1959. Articles he wrote for the Tribune won first place in the Illinois Associated Press News Writing Contests in 1975 and 1976; and he won the Tribune’s first Special Writing Award for Professionalist Under Deadline Pressure in 1977.

Throughout a journalism career that spanned four decades, Baumann commuted daily to Chicago, traveling the equivalent of 42 times around the world. Upon his retirement in 1988 the Chicago Press Veterans Association honored him as Chicago Press Veteran of the Year. He was inducted into the Chicago Journalism Hall of Fame in 2001 and given the Chicago Headline Club’s prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award in 2007. He received the Kenosha Bradford Alumni Association’s Distinguished Alumni Award in 2004.

Although living in Kenosha, Baumann served as president of the 2,400-member Chicago Press Club (1974); chairman of the Chicago Press Veterans Association 1977 and 1978); director of the raffish Chicago Newspaper Reporters Association, and Vice President and board member of the elite Merry Gangsters Literary Society. He also served three terms as President of the Board of Friends of the Museum; was a sustaining member of CUSH (Congregations United to Serve Humanity), and
the airwaves on WGN radio. Gleason, Bentley and Mr. Jauss kicked around whatever subject was pertinent to sports, sometimes even wandering off into bizarre happenings in the news.

The show was a hit, and after 10 years spawned a television version, “The Sports Writers on TV,” which added Telander to make the main roster a foursome and drew as regular guests Joe Mooshil of the Associated Press and Lester Munson of ESPN.

The TV version was an even bigger hit and gained national exposure via WFLD-TV’s SportsChannel America and remained on the air until the year 2000. It was casual, Mr. Jauss usually in jeans and T-shirt, Telander in shirt sleeves, Gleason and Bentley dressier and creating a smoky haze with their stogies.

As big as sports were in Mr. Jauss’s life, he also devoted time—15 years—as an adjunct lecturer at Northwestern’s Medill, teaching journalism and emphasizing the necessity of having a broad perspective.

In a 2004 feature story on Mr. Jauss by Emily Krone in Medill magazine, Associate Professor George Harmon, a former Chicago business reporter, was quoted: “He goes way beyond the stereotype of a sports reporter. He’ll say to a youngster that being an ex-athlete with a head full of statistics won’t do it for you. You need to know crime, the justice system, economics and maybe even politics to cover all this stuff properly.”

Elsewhere in the article, Mr. Jauss said one of his favorite interviews with an athlete did not touch on sports: “The interview, with Montreal Canadians’ goalie Ken Dryden, took place at the Stanley Cup Finals during the Vietnam War. Dryden talked about the experience of attending an American college during the Vietnam War, of being exempt from the draft when your friends and teammates were not. ‘It was just so totally fascinating,’ Jauss said.”

Among the tributes he received was the Ring Lardner Award last May for his contributions to the print industry—joining Mike Ditka and Jack was a member of the International Press Club of Chicago, Chicago Newspaper Veterans, Mystery Writers of America, Society of Midland Authors, Milwaukee Press Club, the AACS Alumni of Air Corps veterans, Kenosha County Historical Society, the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, National Railroad Museum, Green Bay, and the Circus Fans Association of America.

He was a founding member of the MAGGOTS, a fellowship society for men and women in the news media that was a throwback to Chicago’s rollicking, hard-drinking Front Page Era, and was co-founder of the Chicago Daily News Breakfast Club. He was also the founder of The Late Edition, a newsletter for former employees of the Chicago American. He was the originator and editor locally of "Home Town Update," a chatty newsletter for high school friends of the ’40s now living in other parts of the country.

He was a life member of Junker-Ball Post 1865, Veteran of Foreign Wars; American Legion Post 21, and a lifetime member and former deacon of Trinity Lutheran Church. He was a former member of the Brotherhood of American Railway Employees (BARE), the Hod Carrier’s Union, the Chicago Newspaper Guild, and the Chicago Editorial Association.

Baumann was the author or co-author of 10 true crime books, and more than 300 detective magazine articles published internationally. A world traveler who visited 34 countries and 46 states, Baumann’s other interests included power boating, antiques and carpentry - he once build his own three-bedroom home from the ground up. His most prized antiques included an ornate mirror from a New Orleans brothel, and a moonshiner’s still in his back yard.

Baumann married Ann Cacciapaglio of Rockford while in college. That union was dissolved, and he married Caroline Skeels Karber of St. Louis in 1959. After Caroline died of cancer at age 47, Baumann married the former Lenore (Schend) Leonard in the chapel at Carthage College in 1976.
Donald Husch, 85, a longtime news editor at Chicago’s American, Chicago Today and the Chicago Tribune, died last October 9. He had lived in La Grange and Clarendon Hills.

Mr. Husch, who began his newspaper career in 1947 as a freelance cartoonist for the Chicago Herald-American, eventually was hired and worked his way through the ranks to the position of news editor. Over that span of years, the paper’s name changed to the Chicago American, then Chicago’s American and then Chicago Today. When Chicago Today ceased publication in 1974, Mr. Husch joined the Chicago Tribune staff as a news editor. In 1980 he won a United Press International Award.

What former colleagues remember about Mr. Husch was his calm demeanor during the often chaotic news-gathering process. In a suburban newspaper article about Mr. Husch not long after he was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease in 2003, the longtime newsman’s former co-worker Ed Baumann said, “(Don) was not the typical image of a news editor of a roaring daily newspaper. Maybe that’s why he did such a good job.” Don Harris remembered him as “quiet and unassuming.”

Janice Kaminski, Mr. Husch’s sister, recalls that major stories her brother handled included the Our Lady of the Angels School Fire (Dec, 1, 1958)—“a devastating story to cover. The pictures coming in to the paper were terrible.”

Although he took his work seriously Ms. Kaminski said, her brother also saw the value in humor: “Don was known for his quick wit, which had helped him get started with his cartooning.

"After his retirement," she added, "he was given a special project—selecting headline stories from the
archives to frame and hang on the walls at the Trib."

Mr. Husch’s daughter, Peggy Husch McNicholas, was one of his caretakers during his illness. She recalled hearing her father talk about one particularly tense day at work when “he had a decision to make as to whether or not he should print a story that the Pope had died. Though there was no confirmation by the time the print deadline arrived, he took a chance, and it paid off. (The report) was true, and the paper scooped all the others with the news. He commented that he ‘really sweated that one out.’”

Ms. McNicholas, one of six children of Mr. Husch and his late wife, Eileen, said life at home might have helped her Dad in his work: “(He) had a lot of practice remaining calm in chaotic situations as he and Mom raised six children.”

The suburban newspaper article about Mr. Husch recalled that he also had been fortified by surviving a car crash when he was 18, an accident in which his parents and grandmother died and his sister was injured. After that Mr. Husch and his sister lived with their aunt and uncle. It was his uncle who encouraged him to pursue cartooning as more than a hobby. This he did in high school and then as a freelancer before being hired by the Herald-American. His first job was in the engraving department, where he met Eileen. After 55 years of marriage, Eileen died in 2006.

In addition to his sister, Janice, and his daughter Peggy, Mr. Husch is survived by sons Gerry, Bobby, Patrick and Paul, and daughter Molly McNeil; 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.
THOUGHTS AND MEMORIES...

Ed Baumann

Ellen Soeteber

Ed Baumann: Can you think of anyone more versatile? High-minded, and a clever clown. A sophisticated writer who relished stories of low-life criminals. He was a loyal friend to so many of us – keeping us up-to-date and entertained long after he and we had departed the Chicago newspaper payrolls. I think he is irreplaceable.

Ellen Soeteber

Michael Hirsley

Hey, Warren,

Ed Baumann hired me at Chicago Today, bringing me in from the Waukegan News-Sun. In the pantheon of editors I worked for at Today and the Tribune, Ed was among those whose lack of bluster and pretense I greatly admired. A self-effacing man, he was a terrific writer who had done the reporting job he asked his underlings to do. As city editor, he knew and appreciated the efforts of his staff and got their respect in return.

Once I earned my spurs at Today, I was allowed into the hallowed society known as the Michigan Avenue Gin Guzzlers or Total Sots (MAGGOTS). Led by the charming likes of Baumann, Dianne McKenna, Bill Garrett and Joe Pete, the group's producer, Matt Regashus - I wrote the piece you're referring too. I wish I could be more help but I'm afraid my earliest knowledge of Bill Jauss was from watching him on TV in high school. I did come across a year for when he started in Neenah when I was doing research -- 1954. Sorry I can't help more.

Don Harris

Warren,

I don't have anything to share on Ed, but here's one about Jauss. Back when we had a softball league with the four papers and the four TV
Banis, Bill Garrett and Joe Pete, the group’s primary rite of passage was long lunches at the now-defunct Millionaires Club. Probably locating within two blocks of the Tribune Tower and serving unlimited refills of refreshing beverages at lunch was a prime factor in the Club’s demise.

I still have a copy of the Inter-Department Memo that Ed sent to “beloved colleagues” on the day he retired. “Thank you for allowing me to depart with a minimum of pomp,” he wrote. In mock appreciation of no farewell coffee, cake or gift, he reported that the savings would go into profit sharing. He urged those who “feel cheated” by no party to “feel free to make a generous donation in my name to the bartender of your choice.”

Michael Hirsley

Leonard Aronson:

I always felt indebted to Ed Baumann for a couple of reasons: first, he hired me when I really needed a job; secondly, he taught me something important about wisdom.

I’d quit Chicago’s American in the fall of 1968, thinking I’d try to write about all the turmoil that the city, and I, had gone through at the Democratic National Convention that summer.

I drove my girl friend, Anne Keegan, whom I’d met at the City News Bureau, to New York where she got on a Yugoslavian freighter to Tangier in Morocco on her own first trip to Europe. I’d already spent a couple of years tramping around the “Old World” and didn’t think going back there then made much sense for me so I bid her a sad farewell and returned with the dog we’d bought together, a tri-colored collie named Katie, to my garden apartment on North Hudson to write.

I didn’t realize how much I’d miss her and after a couple of months my

City News/Wire Service training kicked in – we were always taught to put the most important information in our lead – and I sent her a romantic telegram saying, “Don’t spend all your money. I’m coming over.”

Also, my visit to Chicago for the reunion was jam-packed. Seeing so many guys and gals from the paper was awesome. But there’s more. Had dinner with Jim Strong the night before our lunch and with Tom Leach that Sunday evening. Also squeezed in dinner Saturday night with friends from Wright Jr. College, a pizza party with some friends I grew up with on the West Side, visited my cousin in Holland, Mich., had two great Italian beef sandwiches at two restaurants in Little Italy, and flew back to the Valley of the Sun on Tuesday evening. Whew!

Don Harris

Ellen Soeteber

Everyone remembers Bill’s great abilities at writing, reporting and raconteuring, justifiably so. But as a student at Northwestern, I was blessed to have one -- unfortunately just one -- four-hour lab session in a “basic writing” class with Bill. He was a terrific teacher. After all these years, I remember things that he taught me -- and especially what he taught me about teaching.

He was passionate, caring, strict and funny. For me, it was professional love at first sight.

Ellen Soeteber

Michael Hirsley

Warren,
Katie and I landed at Orly Airport in Paris on Thanksgiving Day, 1968. Anne was there, we bought a clunker of a VW Bus for $300 from two Peace Corps guys who drove it across two continents from India to France. Anne called the vehicle “Herman the German,” and a little over a month later, on January 3rd, 1969, we drove Herman down to Algeciras, caught the ferry to the Rock of Gibraltar, put Katie in a kennel for the day and got married. We then settled down in Madrid.

About the same time that the broadsheet Chicago’s American was morphing into the tabloid Chicago Today, we were morphing from a couple into a family. Anne was pregnant.

I surprised myself by the ease with which I submitted to marriage --a process I attributed to getting the dog. That’s what really changed my life, accepting responsibility for another living thing. I had to be home every night to feed and walk her, etc. Once that commitment was made, the wife, the kid, the home was easy. It also helped, no doubt, that I’d fallen in love with a spirited character who kept the adventure of my life alive.

Anyway, with Anne pregnant, I was suddenly a young man with a child on the way, no job, no means of support, not even enough money to get home. I called Ed Baumann, who had been named City Editor of the new paper, told him my plight and he offered me a job on the spot. What a fine thing that was to do!

It brought me back into the fold of a great paper where I joyfully worked until its demise on Friday the 13th of September, 1974 I got the feeling that Baumann really liked being the City Editor, the Gatekeeper of Gossip in the newsroom. He always had an impish smile on his face, making you think he’d just been fed some delicious scrap of scandal, perhaps about you, and that he loved it.

He was a fast and graceful writer, skills we certainly all admired and respected, and also a cheerful and good manager of the colorful curmudgeons who plowed the fields of

Long before Bill Jauss or I came to the Tribune, I played tennis with him on the clay courts (also now defunct, converted into a parking garage) at De Paul. He was athletic, a former footballer, and would become a welcoming mentor when I moved from religion to sports at the Tribune.

When I was assigned to do feature stories at one of the women’s college basketball finals, Bill was at the tournament as a regular reporter on that beat. Just talking to him courtside or at some pub after games gave me a great introduction to a competition and players that were relatively new to me. His enthusiasm for the women’s game quickly rubbed off on me.

Like Baumann, Jauss taught me that the best journalists are those with enough quiet confidence in their skills that they don’t feel threatened by newcomers. Rather, they realize that by passing the torch they are keeping alive a profession they love.

Michael Hirsley
journalism in our newsroom, which could not have been an easy task.

Thinking about him today I realize that he was also a role model, of sorts, a living illustration of the joy that comes to one who has found that pathway to a successful and fulfilling life, that way we all seek but so few of us ever find … the way of earning a living doing what one loves to do. If that's not wisdom, I don't know what is.

Carole (Reid)

Hello Warren,

The lengthy obit which appeared in the Kenosha News was indeed written by Ed. He told me several years ago that he had written his obit (and, I believe, Lenore's as well, for when that time comes). He felt that he was the only one who would have all the correct information! I do not have a copy of his typewritten original, but Lisa probably has it. I'm sure she's the one who added the time and place of death and the dates at the end for the graveside service, etc. I do have one correction though. I have 4 grandchildren, and so that would be Ed's correct number of great-grandchildren, not two. He perhaps just didn't update that part. The great-great-grandchild he mentions is my great-grandson!

I did notice that there were a few typos in the Kenosha obit - several cases where the possessive didn't have the apostrophe, i.e. "boys ambition" instead of "boy's ambition." As I mentioned, I don't have a copy of his original, so I'm not sure how these errors got through.

I have been trying to think of anecdotes, but I'm not coming up with much. Life with Mama and Ed was certainly rich, and they both were characters in their own ways. I remember many parties and picnics with fascinating and eccentric friends from the newspaper world!

When Ed married Mama, I was twelve. Poor Ed became an instant dad to a young lady heading into the roller-coaster years of teenage angst. They went from a happy couple to 24/7 of
giggling girls, rock and roll records, boyfriends, break-ups, bad hair days, and drama-queen episodes! In later years, when I asked Ed how in the world he survived it, he simply said, "Oh, you were a great kid!" How gracious he was.

One story I've shared is when I was learning to drive. Mama was far too nervous to venture out with her "child" behind the wheel of a car! Ed valiantly volunteered, and off we went. I was feeling quite confident, staying on my side of Sheridan Road near Kenosha. I clicked the left turn signal, checked for oncoming traffic, and guided the car toward the side road. Unfortunately, I forgot to use my brakes! We flew into the 90 degree turn going 45 or 50 miles per hour, hurtling into and out of a ditch on the right side of the road. Mercifully, the angels must have diverted any other cars. From Ed's side of the car came only one calm comment: "Maybe you can take it just a little bit slower next time." I didn't have the nerve to actually look over at him, but I'll never forget his calm demeanor. We continued the driving lesson with no other mention of the potential disaster. The incident must have terrified him, but he never let me know it. That was typical of my wonderful step-dad. He was always there to encourage, listen, and support me in whatever I did.

Among other things, I thank him for my love of learning and of writing. He encouraged me to pursue my desire to write by applying for a job at the Kenosha News as the editor of the weekly teenage page. It was my first real job, with Howard Brown as my boss. I know there are many other stories, but I hope this will help.

How I would love to hear some of the anecdotes from his fellow newsmen. Thank you for your work on this project. I know all the family will be so pleased.

Sincerely,
Carole (Reid)

(Ed note: Carole, who lives in California, is one of Ed's two step-daughters.)
Mixing politics with good old St. Nick Claus is “not your ordinary Christmas story,” but that’s the nexus of The Santa Claus Trial, says author Allen Rafalson, who has been hitting the media book circuit this fall. The Tribune’s Rick Kogan called it “a charming and altogether original Christmas tale.” Self-published, the 148-page paperback is illustrated by Alex Ruiz and edited by former Tribune writer Susan Nelson. Bill Camper, raised on Chicago’s south side and now a reporter for the Daily Sunlight, digs behind the scenes into the New Party’s vengeful Santa Tariff Act, legislation designed to solve the country’s economic woes but hurts Jolly old St. Nick’s ability to deliver toys to kids on Christmas Eve. Pitiless Sen. Travis McGreedy, leading a cast of tongue-in-cheek named senators--William Whimpers, Jake Taker, Josh Rightman, holds hearings designed to support the tariff act. Through its twists and turns the story ultimately comes to a child-satisfying, Yule tide season conclusion. The book, cover price $10.99, is available online at www.thesantaclaustrial.com, or at the Amazon, Barnes & Noble and Google Books.
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Familiar faces showed up at the October meeting of the Chicago Newspaper Reporters Association. Moving counter clockwise from Shirley Haas, center foreground, are Sy Adelman, Nick Farina, Shirley and Dan Friedlander, Warren Moulds, Art Aman, Roy Wiley, Dave Gilbert and Jim Strong. The meeting was in the same room at the Athena restaurant in Greektown that we held the Chicago Today/American reunion a few weeks earlier.
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ADDRESS:
c/o WARREN MOULDS
910 N. West St.
Wheaton, IL 60187

EMAIL:
wmoulds@sbcglobal.net
mcarroll321@aol.com

ADDRESS:
c/o MARGE CARROLL
4110 West 99th St.
Unit B
Oak Lawn, IL 60453

PHONE:
(630) 665 - 9468