

November 2003

# off natas sf/norcal camera



the national  
of academy  
television & sciences

Website: [www.emmysf.tv](http://www.emmysf.tv)

san francisco/northern california chapter

## tv industry remembers faith



She accomplished more in her 53 years than most people would accomplish if they lived to be 103. Former KTVU reporter **FAITH FANCHER**, who chronicled and broadcasted her battle with breast cancer, died Oct. 19 at her home in Oakland, surrounded by family and friends.

Fancher was diagnosed with the disease more than six years ago. Her struggle was told in a 3-part series in May 1997, reported by former KTVU anchor **ELAINE**

**CORRALL-KENDALL**. The honesty, candor and warmth in the series produced hundreds of letters and calls from women and men. The series was re-broadcast as a half-hour special in October 1998.

Fancher also founded an organization of media professionals, "Friends of Faith." The group has raised \$750,000 for programs to help low-income women with breast cancer. Fancher once said she went public with her story to help others. "In my career, I've asked people to share with me their life stories at the most difficult times in their lives, but now it's my turn to share with them," she said. "It would be wrong not to speak out. I have a responsibility."

At her funeral on Oct. 22, colleagues, friends and family members spoke of Fancher's bravery and honesty. "I once told her that she wouldn't die because only the good die young and she wasn't that good," said Corral-Kendall that night. "But, guess what, Faith, you were that good."

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## silver circle class of 2003



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With humor, nostalgia and remembrance, nine Northern California television professionals were inducted last month into The Television Academy's **Silver Circle Class of 2003**. The honorees included six t-v industry employees from the Bay Area and three from Sacramento. The ceremony was held at the Radisson Miyako Hotel in San Francisco on Saturday, Oct. 25.

"This annual luncheon is the time we pay tribute to those who not only have survived at least 25 years in the television industry," said chapter president **DAVID MILLS** in his opening remarks, "but have made significant contributions to our profession. They have paved the way. They have made it easier for those of us who followed."

Silver Circle chairman **RON LOUIE** presented a tribute to KTVU reporter **FAITH FANCHER**, who died Oct. 19, before introducing the ceremony's host, **YSABEL DURON** of KRON.

The first new Silver Circle member to be introduced was KGO meteorologist **JOEL BARLETT**. Bartlett pretended to receive a

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## war & peace forum wed. nov. 12th

Journalists who covered the Iraq war and those who followed the peace protests here will talk about their experiences at a NATAS seminar this month. The "War and Peace" forum will begin at 7 pm on **Wednesday, November 12th**, at the **ABC-7 studios**, 900 Front St., San Francisco. It will be hosted by KGO-TV anchor **DAN ASHLEY**.

**ADAM HOUSLEY** of Fox News network and **JOHN KOOPMAN** of the *San Francisco Chronicle* will be among the panelists. Both reporters covered the Iraq war,

traveling with soldiers as they swept toward Baghdad in April.

Also participating will be KPIX reporter **MANUEL RAMOS**, who will compare the 2003 anti-war protests with demonstrations of previous years. Rounding out the panel will be **REESE ERLICH**, a 35-year journalism veteran and producer of the one-hour 2001 public radio documentary, "The Struggle for Iran;" and **NORMAN SOLOMON**, a nationally syndicated media and politics columnist. The event is **FREE**.

# in a market long, long ago...

Over a quarter century ago, three Sacramento television newsmen informally gathered at a local watering hole one night after anchoring their respective 11pm newscasts.



**STAN ATKINSON** from KCRA, KOVR's **DAVE WALKER** and **JAY SCOTT** from KXTV, met up at the capital city's legendary Torch Club, an charming, old, dingy dive that catered to everyone... journalists and junkies... politicians and pundits... cops and cronies and even crooks. Jerry Brown and B.T. Collins were frequent patrons and the juke box spanned the musical spectrum, from classical to country to funk to folk.

But above all, the atmosphere catered to conviviality.. and Stan, Dave and Jay enjoyed it so much they thought it might be a great

idea for newsmen from all stations to get together on a regular basis.

And so, the Midnight Press Club was born. Through the years, this monthly late-night gathering has taken on numerous forms under various names at many different venues, but it's a Sacramento TV tradition that continues to this day.

Over the past several years, our "**Media Nights**" usually fall on the **first Thursday of every month**. And the attendees run the gamut of TV types — producers, photographers, editors, engineers, anchors, reporters, writers, artists, technicians.. even managers occasionally drop by!

With so many new restaurants and night spots in Sacramento, we try to move it around as much as possible, yet still maintain that casual late-night camaraderie that allows TV folk from all around town to meet new colleagues, see old friends, or just share an anecdote or two over a bite to eat and a beverage to drink.

## national emmys given out



A Missouri PBS station, the Houston United Way, and the MTV network were winners of national Emmys last month.

The Community Service Emmy Award went to PBS/Banyan Communications of St.

Charles, Missouri, for a program encouraging organ donation, called "No Greater Love."

There were ten finalists in this category, including KTVU's "Great Toy Test" and KRON's "Beating the Odds."

The National PSA Emmy went to Public Interest Productions and MTV for a safe sex campaign called "MTV Fight for Your Rights: Protect Yourself -- Excuses: Roller Coaster, Shark."

The Local PSA Emmy was awarded for a United Way campaign, called "One Houston United," that raised money to aid flood victims.

The awards were presented by The National Television Academy on October 23<sup>rd</sup> in New York City.

## daytime emmy awards deadline



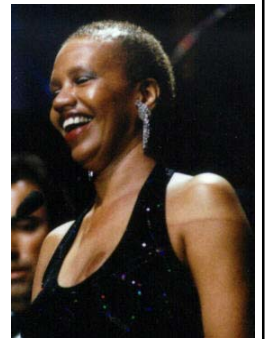
Deadline for entries, voter registration and membership for the National Daytime Emmy Awards is **Friday, December 5th**. If you work on national daytime programming you may contact the Academy Office for forms.

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## faith fancher

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Fancher was born in Franklin, Tennessee. She was valedictorian of her high school class and graduated summa cum laude from the University of Tennessee with a bachelor of science degree.



She began her broadcasting career as the first African-American female reporter at WBR in Tennessee. She also worked at WSM-TV, the National Black Network, NPR and CNN before joining KTVU in Oakland in 1983.

At the 2000 Emmy Awards show, Fancher was honored for her stories and community service in the fight against cancer. That evening, she raised a clenched fist above her head and proudly proclaimed, "I am a survivor!"

"She was upbeat, bubbly and full of life," KPIX anchor **BARBARA RODGERS** told Off Camera. "She was that way before she got cancer and she was even more that way after she was diagnosed."

Faith married **WILLIAM DRUMMOND**, professor of journalism at the University of California, Berkeley in 1982. The couple met in 1979, in Washington D.C. while both were working at National Public Radio.

## station unity

Another example of how Faith brought people together was on the day of her memorial service. Knowing that everyone at KTVU would want to go to the church to pay their respects, both KNTV and KGO volunteered early to supply the "pool camera" that would cover the service and provide us with a tape that we would be able to use in our newscasts later that day. Almost every television and many radio stations in the Bay Area aired a tribute to Faith last week. The Chronicle, Mercury News, Oakland Tribune/ANG, and the Contra Costa Times also ran great write-ups. On behalf of Faith's family and all of us at KTVU, thank you.