

GOLDEN MIKE AWARD
BROADCAST PIONEERS PRESENTATION OF THE
INITIAL FCC LICENSE TO PIONEER STATION
WRGB-TV, ALBANY/TROY/SCHENECTADY

I was delighted when my longtime friend, Ward Quaal, called followed by a confirming letter from fellow pioneer, Ed DeGray, asking me to participate in this significant award to the very first television station in America.

After President Reagan's message tonight and the on-target remarks of Ward Quaal, my role seems rather anti-climactic. However, I suppose it is appropriate that the FCC, the official government licensing authority, should be represented. So I'm glad you again invited 'Ol Jim, a fellow broadcast pioneer, to present the original license and the distinctive operational record that led to the prestigious Golden Mike award.

So let's get right to the point -- It is with pleasure and pride, Gary Chapman, Director of broadcasting for Freedom Newspapers, Inc., that I present you this historic book collected from the official records at the FCC titled "The History of TV Station WRGB." In addition, it is a special pleasure to present you this certified true copy of the FCC's initial assignment of the TV license to the station in March 1942. It was the very first commercial TV grant in the nation!

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It is particularly pleasing that this pioneer license is in such good hands. Freedom Newspapers, Inc. have proven a most worthy custodian of this distinguished pioneer television station. Your stewardship has been characterized by dedicated and adherence to quality, integrity and responsibility in programming and management.

So heartiest congratulations to Bob Segal, President of Freedom Newspapers, Inc., to Gary Chapman, Director of Broadcasting, and to Jim Delmonico, who is retiring after years of distinguished broadcast service.

Best wishes for continued success and broadcast leadership in the exciting years ahead for television.

The broadcaster's goal of public service is a vital part of the FCC's overall goal . . . of industry and government working together in a constructive spirit of mutual cooperation to maintain this nation's communications leadership. Thereby, we assure that Americans continue to be the best informed and best served people in the world.