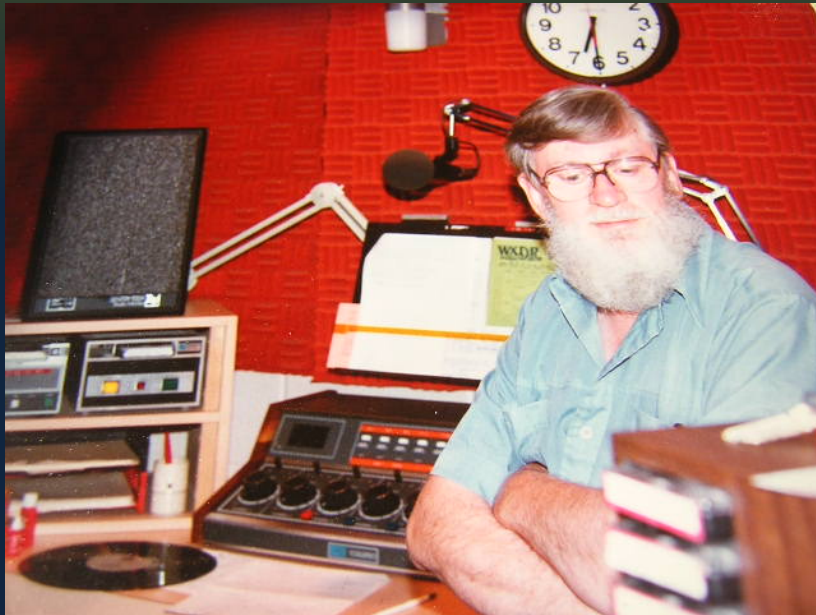




2009 Hall of Fame induction

May 5, 2009

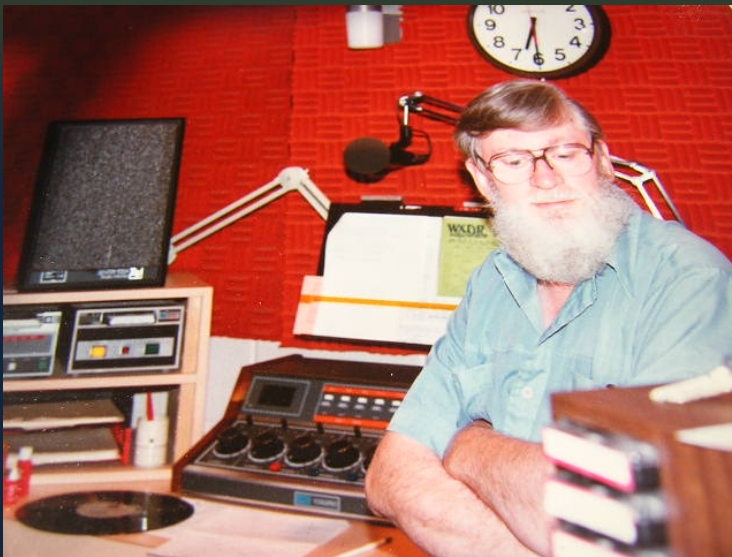
Bill Chambless



Bill was the host of the popular ‘Scratchy Grooves’ program on WXDR and WVUD from 1984-2002. Initially meant to be a 6 week temporary program that featured old recordings from Bill’s collection (“scratches and all!”), Scratchy Grooves continued on, and in perhaps the greatest testament to its creator, lasted well past Bill’s death in 2003. Additionally, old shows culled from Bill’s son’s tribute website were brought back to the airwaves in 2009.

Bill Chambliss

Bill combined a vast knowledge of his musical subject matter with a warm, inviting voice, and a quirky sense of humor to become a beloved figure for many WXDR/WVUD listeners. His ability to share the joy of radio and music with his listeners was unparalleled.



WVUD hosts and listeners alike receive a healthy dose of Bill's voice every day, oftentimes without even being aware of it. Dozens of station promos that Bill created have withstood the test of time and are still being happily played and listened to by people who were not around when Bill initially worked at the radio station.

Greer Firestone



Every story has a beginning and when it was decided that the University of Delaware needed a radio station, student Greer Firestone was among those who made it happen. On a cold night in October 1968 at around 8 PM, the ten-watt carrier current WHEN-AM began broadcasting with the prophetic words “WHEN is Now!” spoken by the station’s co-founder and General Manager, Greer Firestone. Greer went on to quote Al Jolson, saying, “You ain’t heard nothin’ yet!” Little did he know at the time how true that statement would become. Decades later, the station that Greer helped put on the air is still thriving.

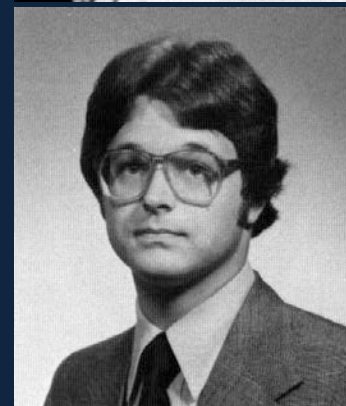
Greer Firestone



In post WHEN life, Greer became an influential part of the art and drama scene. Greer's Broadway-style musical reviews, "Judy Garland: World's Greatest Entertainer" and "Gershwin, by George" have become staples of regional theater, while locally, Greer Firestone has been recognized as a fierce advocate for the arts in Delaware, thanks to the columns, reviews and articles that have been featured in many prominent local publications.

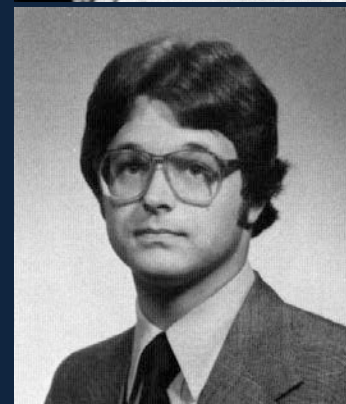
Ron Krauss

Ron was a station member from 1974-1977. When University of Delaware radio went from carrier-current radio WDRB, to an on-air station with WXDR-FM, Ron Krauss was Station Manager. After two challenging years of lobbying, convincing, and working with student organizations and the University administration, WXDR-FM signed on the air on October 4, 1976. Ron was instrumental in making it happen.



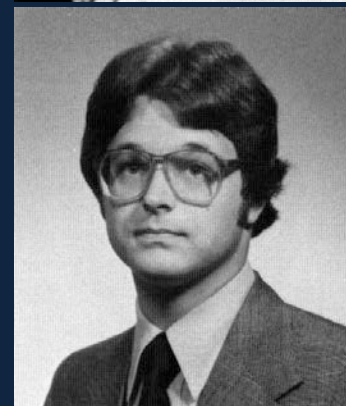
Ron Krauss

Ron drew upon his experiences as a radio engineer and programming host at Mount Pleasant High School in North Wilmington. He was part of a group, who in 1971 started WMPH, Delaware's first FM station operated by high school students. It was an experience that helped Ron organize the effort to get WXDR off the ground with a shoestring budget, while still producing a top notch, clean and dependable 10-watt FM signal that could be heard all the way north to his former high school.



Ron Krauss

Ron brought a culture and style to UD radio that made eclectic programming at WXDR possible. It was a style filled not with just intelligence and street-smart savvy, but with compassion to compliment an unending sense of mission for the young station; a mission to educate, enlighten, and entertain. The continued programming variety heard over WVUD can be traced back to Ron's tenure at WDRB/WXDR.



Tom Mees

Tom Mees developed his love of broadcasting as a part of WHEN from 1968-1972. Tom was the Sports Director and chief play-by-play voice for student led sports broadcasts. This included calling the action for basketball, football, and baseball. While usually associated with sports, Tom also did music programming on the radio station under the 'CW' moniker (due to his uncanny resemblance to a character from the Bonnie and Clyde film). Although he would leave the University at graduation, Tom was not done with Delaware sports. He would serve as part of the commercial play-by-play tandem for UD sports while at WILM.



Tom Mees

In the late 70s, Tom would make his way to Bristol, Connecticut as part of the early staff of ESPN. At ESPN, Tom would serve as one of their primary sports anchors. Later in his tenure, he would become strongly associated with NHL and NCAA hockey, lending his play-by-play acumen to both. Although you could take Tom out of Delaware, you could not take the Blue Hen out of Tom. He would frequently mention his Alma Mater on the air, always with an air of pride and respect. It was highly appropriate that when the Delaware basketball team won the 1992 North Atlantic Conference title to advance to their first NCAA tournament, Tom was at the Field House to help make the call for ESPN.



Tom Mees



Described by people who worked with him as; talented, dedicated, and a perfectionist at his craft, Tom is also a member of the Delaware Sports Museum Hall Of Fame. Tom epitomized Blue Hen spirit and was a great friend, husband, and father.

Chuck Tarver



Chuck served WXDR and WVUD from 1985-2008 as the professional Station Manager and ultimately as the Assistant Director of Student Centers. Chuck arrived at the University of Delaware by way of Boston University and Northeastern University and promptly made an indelible mark on University of Delaware radio.

Chuck Tarver



Multi-talented in nearly every aspect of communications, Chuck was a tireless advocate of how powerful community radio could be. Chuck took the FCC charge of operating in the public interest very seriously. He was always looking for ways that WXDR/WVUD could be of service to the community.



Chuck Tarver



As a teacher and trainer, Chuck was a patient, positive influence on many students who went on to successful careers in the industry. It didn't matter whether this instruction occurred in one of his Radio Production classes that he taught, or in normal day to day interactions within the station. Chuck was more than just a station manager. He was the heart and soul of WVUD for almost a quarter of a century, guiding a station comprised of students and community volunteers along a path of excellence.



2009 Hall of Fame inductees

- Bill Chambliss
- Greer Firestone
- Ron Krauss
- Tom Mees
- Chuck Tarver

