

ShapTalk

Class of 1981

Editor

Lisa O'Donnell Connors

Extension 6803

On Monday, September 24, The Post honored 170 employees who joined the newspaper's 20-Year Club, during the annual reception held on the third floor of the Northwest Building. Publisher **BO JONES** welcomed the new members, noting that there are now 2,000 present and former employees in the 20-Year Club.

The newly minted members of the 20-Year Club cite a number of professional and personal reasons why they have stayed at The Post for two decades.

"The quality of The Post's amazing, incredible people and of our common mission are among primary reasons I've been at The Post for 20 years," commented Los Angeles-based Advertising Sales Manager **OMAR OLSON**, "Some years ago, Paul Taylor of our Foreign Desk was wounded covering apartheid violence in South Africa. **DON GRAHAM** spoke about it to us "ad types" and told us our work financially supported our newsroom, including reporters in harm's way. His remarks codified our core mission which is vital in the face of today's new global challenge."

MOLLI YOOD, office



The new members of the 20-Year Club with Chairman **DON GRAHAM** and publisher **BO JONES**.

manager at the Southern Maryland Bureau, has also worked in the Newsroom and Circulation Departments, as well as for The Washington Post Company subsidiary, Washingtonpost.Newsweek Interactive. "Many famous people have visited the newspaper during my 20 years, many of them making lasting impressions. But the single most thrilling was Lech Walesa, the working class leader of the uprisings in Poland in the early 80's. He held a lobby full of Washington Post employees' attention for probably 15 minutes as he was trying to leave the building," she noted. "It was a moment that never would have come my way, had I not been work-

ing at The Washington Post at just that time."

Three employees of the five-person security department at the College Park Plant joined the paper in 1981. **JAMES "BIRD" PEACOCK**, **REGINALD HARROD** and **LARRY JIGGETTS** were hired by The Post, after their employer, the *Washington Star*, closed in August 1981.

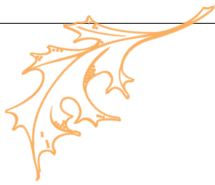
"We were offered the opportunity to work at the Southeast Plant," said Jiggetts. "I'm shocked 20 years has gone by." Peacock, the College Park Plant's security manager, is most proud of his perfect attendance record at The Post. "It has been important to me to be here and on the job every

day." However, for all three, it has been the pride of working at The Post and the connection to the Graham family that has kept them at the newspaper for 20 years. "Katharine and Don Graham established a family atmosphere at The Post," said Harrod. "I've always wanted to be here to protect the newspaper, this building, and the people who work here."

For two 20-year club members, events in 1995 are examples of why they have stayed at The Post.

"Of course, you remember the team effort of covering big news events and all those election nights when perhaps hundreds of people are in the newsroom," explained **CHERYL BUTLER**, News. "But my favorite day was in January 1995, when the News Desk decided to throw me a surprise birthday party for my 50th. I thought I was going to sneak out of town for a vacation in San Diego and no one would notice. The day before I was to leave, Wendy Ross and some others had assembled 50 presents to open and this cake with 50 trick candles. I was...worried that we'd miss deadline because it took so long to open the presents —

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A Fall Full of Events

Autumn officially began on Saturday, September 22 and The Post kicked off a fall full of community events, activities and contests sponsored by the newspaper. Staff from several departments, including Circulation, Marketing, News and Public Relations, often with Ned the Newshound in tow, will be all over the metro area during the fall months.

Last week The Post presented the Third Annual Fall for the Book, a literary festival held September 19 – 23 in the City of Fairfax and George Mason University. The festival featured a variety of book-related programs for all ages that celebrate reading and literacy, including a free street fair on Saturday, September 22.

Blues Festival held at Prince George's Community College in Largo, Md. Blues fans attended the event to hear performers including, Deanna Bogart, Bad Influence and the Gary Jenkins Quartet. Public Relations staff **GAYLE GIGER, NEKEIDRA MASON,**

CARRIE MORSE, and David Jones provided the audience with Post information and giveaways.

Tomorrow, Friday, September 28 is Washington Post Family Night at the Big Apple Circus at Dulles Town Center in Virginia. Sponsored by KidsPost, the highlight of the evening will be the appearance of KidsPost Deputy Editor **LIZ KASTOR** as the circus ringmaster. The Marketing department has been running an in-paper contest to win free tickets to the circus, which runs through October 8. The ad also features a coupon for \$7.50 off the cost of tickets, ranging from \$15 to \$23, for family night.

The Post's Young Journalists Development Project will host its annual high school journalism advisers' seminar on October 4 at the Washington Plaza Hotel in the District. The seminar is a free workshop designed to improve the quality of high school newspapers. According to program director, **DOROTHY GILLIAM**, approximately 50 high school advisers from the District, Maryland and Virginia are expected to attend. The Post's News staff, including reporters, editors and photographers, will teach work-



PHOTO BY NEKEIDRA MASON

DAVID JONES, GAYLE GIGER and **CARRIE MORSE** were busy at The Post's booth at the Bluebird Blues Festival on Sunday.

shops that range from newswriting to publication design and using the Internet as a resource.

On October 27, The Post will be the presenting sponsor of the Marine Corps Marathon™ Healthy Kids' Fun Run. The one-mile run will be held at the Iwo Jima Monument in Arlington, Va. beginning at 10 a.m. for a limited field of 1,000 kids, ages 7-12. There is no entry fee, but participants are asked to donate a new unwrapped toy (approx. value of \$10.00) to the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program. For an application or more information, visit marinemarathon.com, or call Public Relations at x7969.

Throughout the football season, the Marketing Department is running its Pick the Pros contest in cooperation with the Sports section. According to **LOLA PERANTONAKIS**, marketing coordinator, every week, readers have the opportunity to pick the winners of scheduled NFL games and enter their picks online at washingtonpost.com/pickthepros or PostHaste at x9000, enter category 8725. Each week, the players with the most correct

picks are entered into a drawing for a weekly prize. These players will also be eligible for the drawing at the end of the season for the grand prize of a big-screen TV and championship game day party for 25

people. For more information, look for the ad in Sports or click on washingtonpost.com/pickthepros.

The Washington Post Book Club will host an evening with author Amy Tan on November 15 at 6:30 p.m. at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in the District (Metro-Woodley Park). Book World Editor, **MARIE ARANA**, will introduce the author and Tan will discuss her bestseller, *The Bonesetter's Daughter*. Tan will also sign copies of her book for the audience. The cost of the event is \$10 for Book Club members and \$15 for non-members. For more information, or to volunteer to work at the event and receive free admission, contact **KATY KAVANAGH** at x6992.

There are several other events and activities The Post is sponsoring or involved in this fall. To get a current listing, go to washpost.com/events, or look for information in the newspaper and upcoming issues of *ShopTalk*.



PHOTO BY RUBEN RODRIGUEZ



Post retirement columnist **STAN HINDEN** and retirement expert Ellen Hoffman were speakers at last weekend's Fall for the Book.

STAN HINDEN, The Post's Retirement Journal columnist, was a featured speaker on Saturday at the festival's retirement workshop. At The Post's booth, Public Relations staff **DAVID JONES, RUBEN RODRIGUEZ**, and **TITO TOLENTINO** provided attendees with educational material and Ned the Newshound necklaces.

On Sunday, the newspaper was the presenting sponsor of the Ninth Annual Bluebird

That was quite a day!"

DIANE DUBOIS, Advertising, received The Post's highest employee award in 1995. "What has meant the most to me in my entire 20 years here is that I won the Eugene Meyer Award, with **CAROLYN MONROE** (also in Advertising) in 1995. When they called us up and told us

about the award, we thought it was for people close to retiring. But Don Graham said 'Quite the contrary, we want you here for another 20 years.'"

"My first real sense of what it means to be part of The Post came just a few months after I arrived, on the day the Air Florida jetliner plowed into the 14th Street Bridge. A snowstorm, a plane crash, a subway crash on top of that. It was

hard to believe what was happening, and awesome to watch the newsroom mobilize. Since then I've come to expect the sweep, strength and energy we bring to big events," recalls **CLAUDIA TOWNSEND**, editorial page writer. "Then in the early hours of the morning, after the last edition closed, a punchy crowd of us slogged out into the street and hiked up an empty, snow-covered Con-

necticut Avenue to get home. Until September 11, I thought I'd never see another day of disaster atop disaster like that one; I wish that were still so."

For **LARRY GORHAM**, Production/College Park Plant, it's a very simple reason why he has been at The Post since 1981, "It's a good organization with good people."

Byelines

On Friday evening, September 21, close to 300 colleagues and friends attended Public Relations Director **VIRGINIA RODRIGUEZ**'s retirement reception on the 9th floor of the Northwest Building. A Post employee since 1967, Rodriguez was honored for her commitment to the newspaper and the community by area arts, business and education leaders, as well as Chairman **DON GRAHAM**, Publisher **BO JONES**, Vice President/Business Manager **TED LUTZ** and Vice President/At Large **BEN BRADLEE**.

In his remarks, Graham credited Rodriguez for implementing dozens of successful programs that have benefited both The Post and the community. "She has been an inspired person for the whole Washington community," he remarked. "There is no one

VIRGINIA RODRIGUEZ greets her mentor, retired vice president of communications Vincent Reed at her reception.



associated with The Washington Post that doesn't feel lucky that this wonderful woman has been representing us in the community."

"Like Vince (Reed, retired vice president of communications) before her, she has earned more goodwill for this newspaper than anyone here today, except Don (Graham)," said Bradlee. "We will miss you and your good works, Ginny."

Public Relations Manager **LISA JACZKO** spoke on behalf of the Public Relations Department. "Through her perseverance, solid values and strong leadership, Ginny set high standards for the public relations department's external and internal communications, media relations, community relations and education programs. She is firmly committed to and takes great pride in positioning The Post as an active and involved member of the community and I am proud to say that we fully intend to carry on that tradition of excellence for you."

Rodriguez described her farewell remarks as being her last news release. "I've had the honor and privilege to work not only with some of the world's most respected and renowned people, but also with consum-



Rodriguez admires the gift presented to her by the Public Relations staff.

mate professionals, in every department, at every level at this newspaper. For so many of

you who have gone the extra mile for the Public Relations Department, I am grateful."

CHARLES BATTLE, Mail Desk, was also honored on Friday during a retirement luncheon celebration at the Northwest Building celebrating his 40 years of service at The Post.

Battle was 19, when he was hired by The Post in 1961. "I had moved from Baltimore and worked part time at the hotel across the street (Now the Madison Hotel, across from the Northwest Building). I was laid off from the hotel and was walking down the street ... a man told me I should apply at The Post, that they were hiring," recalled Battle.

"They had just put an addition on to the building and were hiring for porters."

It was the beginning of a four-decade career at The Post for Battle. He worked in Building Services until the early 1970s, when he transferred

to the Mail Desk. "It's been fun working here," he said. "I've never had a desire to leave, it's a good company and I like the people I've worked with over the years."

"Charles has been the mainstay in the office...he has trained me, as well as the seven others in the Mail Desk," said **CAROLYN RAWLINGS**, Mail Desk manager. "He has always been dependable and willing to assist anyone with any problems or concerns."

Battle's retirement plans include travelling to North Carolina to spend time with family, "And, doing all the things I've wanted to do, but didn't have the time."



CHARLES BATTLE (fourth from left) was congratulated on his service to the newspaper by **BO JONES**, publisher; **GEORGE WATHEN**, operating services director; **PEGGY SCHIFF**, vice president/controller; **CAROLYN RAWLINGS**, Mail Desk manager, and **RICK FLOYD**, administrative services manager.

POST SCRIPTS

MARKETING AWARD WINNERS

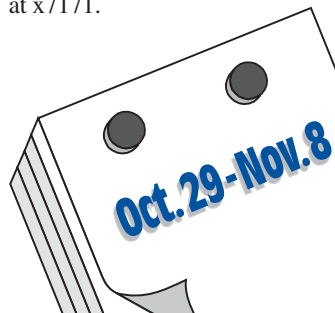
OLUSEUN AUGUSTUS and **LOLA PERANTONAKIS** were the recipients of the marketing Trooper Award for August. The monthly award recognizes non-managers on the Marketing staff that perform above and beyond the call of duty, exceed the expectations of internal Post clients, such as the Advertising and Circulation departments, and/or perform well in a challenging situation. The winners receive a Marketing Trooper Trophy, in the form of a "Real Heros®" action figure, as well as a cash award.



Award winners **PERANTONAKIS** and **AUGUSTUS**.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The Benefits Department has announced that open enrollment for health benefits for the calendar year 2002 will take place October 29 to November 8, 2001. More information will be forthcoming in *ShopTalk*, or call Benefits at x7171.



MOHAJER REPRESENTS ALA



PROVIDED BY MINA MOHAJER

On Wednesday, September 19, **MINA MOHAJER**, Accounting, (at podium) spoke to the Washington Council of Governments to advocate the use of natural gas for cleaner air. Mohajer, who has had asthma for almost 20 years, spoke on behalf of the American Lung Association (ALA) of Virginia.

WASHINGTONPOST.COM PERFORMANCE AFTER ATTACK

According to Don Marshall, communications director for The Washington Post Company subsidiary, Washingtonpost.Newsweek Interactive, the *washingtonpost.com* web site received approximately 115 million page views from Tuesday, September 11 to Monday, September 17. In that one-week time frame following the terrorist attacks on the Pentagon and World Trade Center, *washingtonpost.com*'s traffic equaled what it normally experiences in a month. Traffic on the

site was seven times what *washingtonpost.com* receives on an average day and nearly triple its previous all-time high (the day after election day 2000).

Marshall also notes that despite the unprecedented traffic on the site on September 11, the web site was available to online viewers 93.78 percent of the time, greater than the Internet as a whole, and significantly more than other major news sites.

MARKETPLACE

FOR SALE: Amazingly comfortable leather recliner, blue-gray in color. We hate to see it go, but it doesn't go with our new sofa. \$1,350 new; \$700 or best offer. Call Rita at x7088 or (301) 564-1414.

FOR SALE: 8.5' long cream marble oval dining table (2.5' middle leaf removable) with 4 highback parson chairs (cream, jade and peach in color) and rectangular glass coffee table w/cream ceramic base—all for \$500 or best offer. Will need to pick up in Glen Dale, Md. Call Karen at x4511 or (301) 220-4136.

FOR SALE: Redskin Season Tickets, good seats in 400 section, 2 tickets per game \$1,040/OBO. Call Cassandra at x5851 or (301) 808-9691.

FOR SALE: Girls Little Tykes cottage bed, new over \$300, asking \$100. Professional grade food grinder, new \$200, asking \$100. Exercise station new \$100, asking \$40. Call Martin at x2282 or (703) 866-5464.

FOR SALE: 1971 Chevy Cheyenne pickup, shortbed, 350 automatic, pwr. windows and brakes, ac, 63K miles, original paperwork, \$10,500. Ask for Dave at x1275, or call (301) 574-0420.

FOR RENT: Spacious 1 BR basement apt. in private residence, Allison St. between 14th and 16th streets (2 bus lines), own entrance & laundry facilities, brand-new kitchen & bath, AC unit. Seeking nonsmoker, no pets, \$800/month, avail. immed. Contact Brian at x4342 or (202) 882-8502.

FOR RENT: Seeking female roommate to share a charming townhouse with three females in Arlington. Spacious 4 level, 4 BR, 2 BA, 2 half bath townhouse across the street from East Falls Church Metro. Only a 30-minute commute from home to The Post. Just \$600/month, including water and parking. Contact Anne x45776 or Jeni x45960 or contact us at home at (540) 560-7394.

FREE! FREE!: Ads in marketplace are free to employees of The Washington Post. Join thousands of satisfied customers who have bought and sold through Marketplace. The deadline is Friday at noon for the next Thursday's issue of *ShopTalk*. Send your ad with your extension and home phone number via e-mail to *ShopTalk*, or fax to x4963.

VACATION RENTAL: Get away to historic Williamsburg, Oct. 7-14. One bedroom condo, with fireplace, jacuzzi, LR, DR, full kitchen. Sleeps 4. Regularly \$150/night, \$800/week. Best offer. Call Scott at x6761 or (301) 309-0983.

MARKETPLACE DEADLINE: Noon Fridays. Please include your *name, extension and home phone number*. **ADS ARE FOR POST EMPLOYEES ONLY.** Send ads to *ShopTalk*, 7th floor, or call x6803. To send ads via fax dial x5609; via e-mail send to *shoptalk*. Ads run two issues unless otherwise requested. One ad per employee, please.

THIS NEWSLETTER IS PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

