

# ShopTalk

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## New President at The Post

*Boisfeuillet Jones, Jr. named President, General Manager*



Newly-appointed President and General Manager of The Washington Post,  
**BOISFEUILLET JONES, JR.**

**T**his new year begins with a new president and general manager at The Post. After 15 years as counsel, **BOISFEUILLET JONES JR.** will move from vice president, assuming the position of president and general manager from **THOMAS H. FERGUSON**, who retires on January 15 after 15 years in that capacity.

As President, Jones' responsibilities for The Post's business operations will include advertising, production and circulation.

While counsel, Jones handled legal matters for The Post and has had supervisory responsibility for The Washington Post Writer's Group, which he refers to as the 'jewel' of all news syndicates; The National Weekly Edition, "a terrific product"; and The Los Angeles Times-Washington Post News Service, which he said "does a great job of publicizing the contributing newspapers and the written work of the reporters." Jones has and will continue to serve as director of company affiliates Robinson Terminal Warehouse Corporation, Capitol Fiber, Inc., Bowater-Mersey Paper Company and News-

print, Inc. He said, "As the buyer of newsprint for The Post I work really closely with the Production department—which is a pure joy because they are real pros. It's important to get quality newsprint both in terms of runnability and printability." Regarding the employees who keep the newsprint standards high, Jones quickly mentioned **REX POTTS, KEVIN CONNER and ED ALEXANDER**. He added, "**KENT BARNEKOV** is doing a great job at Springfield; it now has a record of less than two breaks per hundred rolls of newsprint. The pressrooms are operating better than ever; the other plants are doing really well, too."

Jones' legal work over the years has meant much work with the Newsroom on libel issues and with Circulation on the distributor system. He said, "These departments are great strengths of The Post."

"I've only worked in a few places," Jones continued, "but people who work at The Post and then go elsewhere will tell you that The Post is a special place, a pretty open place, and one with many facets—a great newsroom, a manufacturing plant, a service company. What's changed over the years

I've been here is the extent to which different parts of the paper now relate to each other. There are many joint initiatives leading to new features in the paper and to more efficient operations. The TV book is a good example of that. They are now putting out ten books with not much more in the way of manpower. To do that—and what the people in Systems, Circulation, News, Advertising and the Mailroom had to do to make those changes—has been quite difficult, but the end result is wonderful. It makes The Sunday Post a far more critical read for our subscribers who watch TV—particularly cable TV." This joint effort to provide customers with an improved product, Jones said, "was a need that the Newsroom, particularly **MICHAEL HILL** [TV Week editor] initiated and, with [Managing Editor] **BOB KAISER**'s backing, pushed. But they didn't push in a narrow way, they pushed in a way that would be responsive to the entire metropolitan area. Circulation's **MIKE CUSATO** ably coordinated the whole effort."

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# News, Gathered

**A**nd they said it couldn't be done! Well, it soon will be and the Main Newsroom will be accurately named again. The "5" button on the elevators will be lit up more frequently, and the lonely staffers who stayed behind will be reunited with co-workers seen infrequently since renovation and large-scale departmental moves commenced two years ago. Who's coming back, and when?

## To 5th floor Main News:

Sunday, January 29  
Financial reporters  
Financial assignment editors

Sunday, February 12  
Metro copy editors  
Coleman/Lee  
Obits  
Police  
MD Desk  
VA Desk  
Townsend  
Causey  
Levey  
Mann  
Gilliam  
McGrory

Saturday/Sunday,

February 18,19

Metro:  
Assignment editors  
Reporters  
Graphics  
Weeklies Editors/Layout  
Research

Milloy  
Raspberry  
Cohen  
Trott  
Grisco  
Brouillard

Wednesday, February 27  
Herb Block  
Foley

Wednesday, March 1  
Belton

Saturday, March 11  
Editorial

Saturday, March 18  
News Research Info. Desk  
Copy Aides  
Dictation  
Message Center  
Personnel

Sunday, April 2  
National reporters/  
assignment editors

Saturday April 8/Sunday April 9:  
Downie/O'Shea  
Kaiser/Morris  
Carswell/Hreiz  
News Desk  
Picture Desk  
National Copy Desk  
Foreign



A couple of weeks ago, the 5th Floor Newsroom looked like this.

## To 7th Floor L Street:

Saturday, March 4  
LA/TWP News Service  
Style

Saturday, March 18  
Weekend  
Magazine

## To 5th Floor Prudential:

July 1995  
Style  
Travel  
Magazine  
Weekend

## To 4th Floor 15th Street:

July 1995  
Systems  
International Herald Tribune  
LAT/WP News Service

## To 6th Floor Lennox:

July 1995  
Health  
TV Week  
National Weekly

# Suggestion Awards



Suggestion award display cases like this one in Springfield are being installed in the Northwest and Southeast Plants.

**O**ften, when an item—art, clutter, a particular color—is seen in the same place for a long period of time, it's no longer seen. How many Suggestion Box locations are on your floor? Most of the suggestion boxes have been there for years, but they blend into the woodwork.

Soon, the moribund Suggestion Award program will be revived throughout the newspaper, fresh from a successful trial run at the Springfield Plant. Assistant Plant Manager **ALLAN KOHAN** is now organizing the program for Production suggestions and Train-

ing supervisor **ROD GRIGGS** and Production's **MARTY BLACK** will administer the program for non-Production-related suggestions.

Monetary awards will be given for implemented suggestions and all suggestions will be considered and responded to within a reasonable time after submission. Kohan is very enthusiastic about the program. He said, "We've awarded about \$8,000 so far and received some wonderful suggestions." Keep those cards and letters coming.

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The coming year promises to be exciting and challenging. "It's hard to guess about the Washington economy, Jones said, "With the spectre of local and federal government layoffs hanging over the area, we don't know what kind of year we'll have." He continued, "We're facing more competition for our readers as well as our advertisers. That is requiring The Post to make changes and adapt. I think this makes The Post a more interesting place to be—more difficult but also more interesting. That's the main impetus behind what we call reengineering—efforts to be more efficient, meet far more complex needs that we couldn't meet without the changes and maintain a profit."

### How Do You Say It?

**BOISFEUILLET JONES, JR.**, who will assume his duties as The Post's new President and General Manager on January 15, uses the shorter and more pronounceable "Bo" as his first name. The

longer version, of French derivation, is, he said, "mispronounced by my own family as well as everybody else." The family pronounces it "Bo-full-A." This mispronunciation is not a new problem. In 1962, the May 3 issue of The Washington Post ran the following item, concerning Jones' father, on page A-1:

### Off the Record It's Boisfeuillet

Boisfeuillet Jones, special assistant to the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, is used to having trouble with his name.

Monday, he achieved something new in a mix-up when reporters asked White House press secretary Pierre Salinger about Jones' role in a meeting the President had with seven leaders of the American Medical Association.

In the transcript of Salinger's press conference it was first spelled "Buffalo Jones." A little later in the same transcript it came out Waffle A. Jones, which, phonetically, is more accurate than "Buffalo."

## Byelines



Classified Supervisor **MARY JOHNSON** (right) holds a bouquet and her retirement gift, a flower-encircled clock. Standing with Johnson is longtime co-worker **CAMILLE TRAWICK**.

**A**fter 28 years in Classified Advertising, telemarketing supervisor **MARY JOHNSON** is going to slow down and take time to smell the roses. She said, "I'm just waiting to see what I feel like doing; waiting to turn the page and see what's on the other side." One option Johnson is considering is a second career as a floral designer. Her farewell party carried out the flower theme with a posy-bedecked cake and a parting gift of a silver clock with engraved flowers encircling its face.

**A**fter her retirement, Health columnist **SANDY ROVNER** will still be connected to The Post via the Internet, so her column will continue. Her presence is what will be missed. According to AME/Style **MARY HADAR**, Rovner was a dispenser of wisdom, juicy gossip, chicken soup and free medical advice; Rovner even helped get Hadar hired at The Post. Vice President at Large **BEN BRADLEE** praised Rovner's quiche—"the best that God ever made"—and said Rovner was "the woman who has done more to make this newspaper feel like a family."



Health's **SANDY ROVNER** gave a hug and encouragement to grandson Moki as she introduced him to attendees at her retirement party.



**JOHNNY WALKER** (left), shown with Engraving Superintendent **ANDY HENTMAN**, wanted his photo taken in this spot in Engraving. Although his duties have changed over the years, the area in which he performed them didn't.

**C**elebrants at **JOHNNY WALKER**'s retirement party had to wait a few minutes for the guest of honor to appear. Walker called to his co-workers, "I've still got a plate coming out," and didn't leave his post in Engraving until he was satisfied that the job was done. Walker came to The Post in 1952, "If you count my two years at the Times-Herald before Mr. Meyer bought it" but actually started his newspaper career in 1944 at the Evening Star as a flyboy in that newspaper's Pressroom. Any way it's counted, that's a long time.

## POST SCRIPTS

### COMICS PAGES CHANGES

The Far Side is gone. Gary Larson retired this comic strip at the end of 1994. A new cartoon, **Speed Bump**, replaced Far Side in the Monday through Saturday Comics pages. On Sundays, Non Sequitur will now run in the Far Side position on Comics Section 1,

page 1. Additionally, the creator of Curious Avenue discontinued this strip. Running in its place is **Mutts**, a new daily and Sunday strip.

Another new strip, **Dilbert**, will move into the page 3, Section 1, slot in Sunday's Comics formerly occupied by Non Sequitur. Here is a sample **Speed Bump**:

### SPEED BUMP

Dave Coverly



Personnel Director **CARL WILLIAMS** (left) and Vice President/Systems & Engineering **BETH LOKER** (center) present the President's Exceptional Service Award to **SCOTT CUSTIN**.

### EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE AWARDS

The recipients of the 1994 third quarter President's Exceptional Service Awards are **MARJORIE WILLIAMS** of Centrex and **SCOTT CUSTIN** of Systems & Engineering. Williams has been a part-time, on-call operator in the Centrex department since she came to The Post in 1988. Custin began his career as a printer in March 1972. He moved to Operations in 1982 and to Systems & Engineering in 1984.

In a memo commending the latest recipients of the award, Vice President/Controller/Personnel/Administration **PEGGY SCHIFF** said, "Marjorie has been consistently praised for her ability and her willingness to perform 'above

and beyond the call of duty.'

She has received written commendations from the Communications Department for her active intercession in that Department's 'Toys for Tots' program, and from a Presidential Inaugural Committee." She was also praised for her dedication during last year's snow storm, when she worked round-the-clock to keep lines of communication open. Schiff said of Custin, "One of the many things Scott does is provide his numerous 'clients' with the kind of discriminating information they need to make informed decisions....Whether he is responding to midnight phone calls from panicked users, or staying late to help with something that isn't even his responsibility, apparently 'No' is not a part of his vocabulary."

## MARKETPLACE

**WANTED**—Information about any carpool, vanpool or anyone using the train to commute from Fredericksburg or Dale City, Va. to The Post. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Call (703) 786-7583, ask for Ron or leave message.

**DOG TRAINING**—Has your bundle of joy turned into a bundle of trouble? In less than two weeks, we can return peace and harmony to your home. Discount to Post employees. Call (703) 354-8417.

**HOUSE FOR SALE OR RENT**—Silver Spring, Md. Large brick colonial, three large bedrooms, 1.5 baths, living room with fireplace, dining room, large kitchen, basement, garage, attic. New everything, great neighborhood. Ten minute walk to Forest Glen Metro. For sale by owner, \$179,500/rent for \$1,200 per month. Call x6463, (301) 593-6708.

**CHAIN SAW**—WEN electric, 16-inch bar, very good condition, rarely used, newly sharpened. Must sell, \$45. Call x6229 or (301) 593-3422.

**CARPPOOL**—Looking for carpool from Vienna, Va. Call Pat, x4061, or (703) 280-5412.

**FOR RENT**—Three-level townhome in Burtonsville, Md. with three bedrooms, three and a half baths, fireplace, finished rec room, security system, close to schools, transportation. Available March 1. \$1,100 per month, one-year lease and security deposit required. Call (301) 794-4135, after 7 p.m.

**FOR SALE**—Olin 160 ladies' skis, Salomon bindings, poles, ladies' size 7 Alpina boots or ladies' size 8 Salomon boots. \$150 for all. Call x7096, Wednesday through Friday, or (703) 971-5125.

**FOR SALE**—1986 Volkswagen Golf, 2-door, blue, five-speed, with sunroof, A/C, stereo/cassette, hatchback, 76,800 miles. Asking \$2,200/obo. Call x2220 ask for Bob, 3 p.m. - 11 p.m. (703) 786-7031.

**COLLECTORS' ALERT**—For sale rare Howard Stern cassette tapes and videos produced by Infinity Broadcasting. Call for details, (301) 977-6643 after 5 p.m., or leave message.

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

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