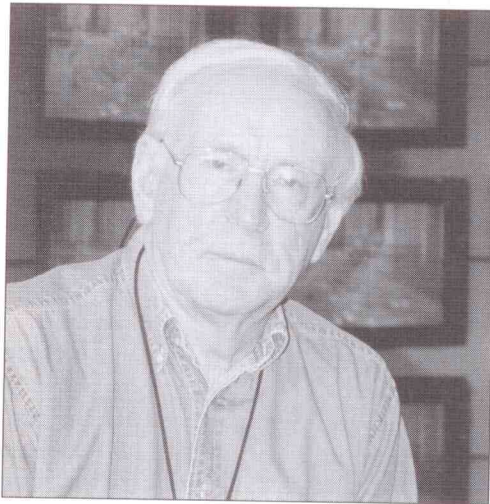


Allen Hall



Allen Hall has a philosophy: if it's not fun, don't do it. That's the idea behind the high standards that he created at WGN-TV in variety and sports programs. Hall believes the best part of television is entertainment.

Hall's stint in the Air Force in the early 1950s gave him time to reconsider a radio career. He left the military to attend the University of Iowa and, nine months later; he was awarded a Master's Degree in Television. He had decided that was the future of the world. So armed with his degree and a lot of confidence, he started with the Crosley's ABC affiliate in Indianapolis. They had new studios, a new transmitter, but no license. A few weeks after his arrival, the license cleared, and three hours after they got the word, Hall was on the air directing his first news program. He went on to do variety, sports, and four years of the Indianapolis 500 auto race.

Hall jumped at a chance to join WGN-TV in 1961, when he was hired to direct *Bozo's Circus*. He thought he'd fallen into heaven. For Hall, that was a combination of very good talent and people who really wanted to get the show done well.

During his early years at WGN, he also directed *Romper Room*, *Tree Top House*, and *The Ray Rayner Show*. In the mid-1960s, he moved into sports--producing and directing baseball, basketball, hockey, football, *The Prairie State Games*, and *The Chicago Marathon*. Every game was different and exciting, and Hall was right where he wanted to be, having fun.

Hall became the producer of "The Bozo Show" in 1973, and saw it through its final season in 2001. He retired from WGN the same year, and it was still fun.