RICH SAMUELS

Rich Samuels brings a “rich” history of broadcast journalism to his current position as a correspondent for Chicago Tonight on Chicago’s PBS station, WTTW Channel 11. In addition to filing reports for the nightly news program, Rich has contributed segments to Artbeat Chicago and has reported and produced documentaries that aired on the Chicago Stories and Chicago Matters series.

From 1973 to 1990, Rich was a general assignment and investigative reporter for WMAQ-TV Channel 5. During his tenure at Channels 5 and 11, Rich received thirteen local Emmys, six Peter Lisagor awards, along with Jacob Scher, National Headliner, Associated Press and United Press International awards.

Samuels received his MA and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago after completing his undergraduate work at Yale. His academic field of specialization was the 16th century Florentine Renaissance. Perhaps Rich’s academic training as an historian explains why he maintains a web site, www.richsamuels.com, that is devoted to the history of broadcasting in Chicago (he fervently hopes someone will photograph every square foot of 630 North McClurg Court before CBS leaves the building). On his web site, Rich points out that early in his tenure at NBC, he realized that few measures were being taken to preserve Chicago’s illustrious history as a broadcast center. He launched his web site to help remedy that shortcoming. Rich also wrote the scripts for the Museum of Broadcast Communications’ 1995, 1996 and 1997 Radio Hall of Fame broadcasts.

Rich and his wife, Judy Korshak, apportion their time between Evanston and rural Green County, Wisconsin. Rich skis in the winter and cycles in the summer (pursuing both pastimes in moderation, to be sure). Rich is an ardent advocate of Apple’s Final Cut Pro and a dabbler in other non-linear editing systems. He is a licensed amateur radio operator with the callsign of KF9KV. Rich has a son, Nicholas, and a daughter-in-law, Amy Gignesi, who claim to have found affordable housing in Westchester County, NY.