

In Memoriam



Louis J. Kleinklaus

Louis J. Kleinklaus, an AES member, passed away on November 11, 1994, in Virginia at the age of 83. The cause of death was pneumonia.

Kleinklaus was born in 1911 and began his career as a shipboard radio operator when he was 18 years old. He worked as a Merchant Marine radio officer from 1929-1940 and sailed all over the world from the New Jersey/New York harbor. He served as general secretary/treasurer from 1937 to 1940 of the Radio Officers Union (ROU) and was also secretary treasurer of the American Merchant Marine Labor Council from 1937 to 1938. In September of 1940, he joined WQXR-FM, the radio station of The New York Times, which became the first station to feed the pioneering FM master antenna on top of the Empire State Building. He rose through the ranks to the position of chief engineer, leaving in 1971. During his tenure there, the AM transmitter in Maspeth, Long Island, was upgraded to 50 000 watts (1956) and the FM transmitter and dipole antenna were installed in the Empire State Building in 1965. This event inaugurated New York City's first FM stereo broadcasts.

A senior member of the Society of Broadcast Engineers, Kleinklaus was also a veteran member of the

Society of Wireless Pioneers.

He is survived by his stepdaughter Virginia Heal, and sisters Fabiola Kleinklaus and Loretta McGowan.

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Theodore Hastings Jr., a life member of the AES, died 1994 September 27 in Edgartown, Massachusetts, after a long illness. He was 84 years old.

Born in Haverford, Pennsylvania, Hastings studied and graduated from Harvard College. During World War II, as president of the General Communication Co. in Boston and Press Wireless Manufacturing in Hicksville, New York, he was involved in the development of signal, sonar and navigational technology for the U.S. Navy.

In 1951 Hastings learned about the start of WFLN, a classical FM station in Philadelphia. Realizing that the development of an FM car radio would further the success of FM broadcasting, he collaborated with Ed Brooks, a Raytheon engineer who built FM tuners as a hobby, and developed an FM car radio. This led to an invitation to demonstrate the device at the National Association of Broadcasters convention in 1953.

Later that year Hastings formed the General Broadcasting Corp. (later called Concert Network Inc.) and operated FM stations in New York, Hartford, Providence, Boston, and several other cities.

Hastings was president, vice president and chairman of the National Association of FM Broadcasters, and in recent years president of the Maj. Edwin Howard Armstrong Memorial Research Foundation at Columbia University. He remained active as a consultant in broadcasting.