

**Gregory Stockard Distinguished Service Award
Bob Priddy, Recipient**



Bob Priddy is the News Director of The MissouriNet, a statewide commercial radio network. Bob is a historian who has written five books, three based on his popular daily radio program ACROSS OUR WIDE MISSOURI. The fourth book is a biography of Thomas Hart Benton and his great painting at the Missouri Capitol: ONLY THE RIVERS ARE PEACEFUL: THE MISSOURI MURAL OF THOMAS HART BENTON. His newest book, THE ART OF THE MISSOURI CAPITOL, HISTORY IN CANVAS, BRONZE AND STONE, was written with co-author Jeffrey Ball.

In his 35-plus year career as News Director of the MissouriNet, Bob has led efforts to open Missouri's government to its citizens through coverage of legislative committee work, opening Missouri's courtrooms to radio and television coverage and spearheading the efforts to allow Missourians to listen to legislative debate and Missouri Supreme Court arguments on the internet.

In 2010 the Board of the Radio-Television News Directors Association and Board of Trustees of the Radio and Television News Directors Foundation presented him with a distinguished service award previously given to such figures as Walter Cronkite, C-SPAN founder Brian Lamb and Senator Robert Byrd. The organizations also named a national award for services on the boards in his honor.

He is a member of the Board of Trustees of the State Historical Society of Missouri. He was President of the Board of Trustees of the Friends of the Missouri Archives for nine years. He also has led several other civic and professional organizations.

Priddy has lectured on a number of college campuses and conducted seminars in Poland and Romania on the development of independent radio news departments shortly after the fall of the Iron Curtain.

He is an active member of the First Christian Church/Disciples of Christ in Jefferson City.

In 2004, he was consulted by George Clooney's film company for information that was used in the opening scene of the movie GOOD NIGHT AND GOOD LUCK, released in 2005. He is a Kentucky Colonel and an Admiral in the Missouri Navy.

Bob graduated from the University of Missouri with a degree in journalism and did graduate work in journalism and education. In 2000, he received the University Alumni Association's Faculty-Alumni Award, which recognizes distinguished graduates of the University. In 2002, he received the School of Journalism Honor Medal, the school's highest recognition for a career in journalism.

He and his wife Nancy, married since 1967, have two children, Elizabeth and Robert. Bob and Nancy have hiked, rafted and explored the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon and the San Juan River in southern Utah. They have helped record and preserve Indian rock art in the Mesa Verde area and worked on ruins of the ancient people of the Colorado Plateau land Butler Wash, Utah.