

**A GUIDE TO THE PAPERS OF  
ZOEL J. PARENTEAU**

National Public Broadcasting Archives  
University of Maryland Libraries

Processed by: Karen E. King, April 1993  
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0.25 lin. ft.

## **BIOGRAPHY**

Zoel J. Parenteau's broadcasting career began in Atlanta, Georgia, as a producer-director for WETV in 1958. In 1960, he moved to Kansas City, Missouri to assume the position of Director-Producer for KCSD, the educational television station licensed to the school district of Kansas City, Missouri. In 1965, he became station manager. Seven years later, the license was transferred from the school district to a community group, while the call letters were changed to KCPT. Soon, Parenteau was named the general manager of the station.

In October 1972, Parenteau became executive vice president and general manager of KPTS in Wichita, and in 1973 he became president. KPTS is licensed to The Kansas Public Telecommunications Services, Inc., formerly the Sunflower Educational Television Corporation. Parenteau resigned his position August 1996 after weeks of conflict with the majority of his staff. He continued as vice president and representative to the Kansas Public Broadcasting Council until July 1997 when he retired.

In 1978, he was elected to a three year term as professional director at the Public Broadcasting Service. In addition, Parenteau has served as a member of Central Educational Network's executive and finance committees. From 1990 to 1993, he served on the board of trustees of APTS (Association of America's Public Television Stations). Then, from 1993 to 1994, he served as the first chairperson of the Kansas Public Broadcasting Council after its creation by the Kansas Legislature.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT**

The Papers of Zoel J. Parenteau cover the years 1979 to 1980. The collection documents Parenteau's involvement on the executive committees of the Board of Trustees of the National Association of Public Television Stations and its parent organization, the Association for Public Broadcasting. The National Association of Public Television Stations was created as a trade name by the Association for Public Broadcasting's executive committee in June 1980 which retained its name as the legal one.

The collection was organized into two series:

- Series 1: Association for Public Broadcasting
- Series 2: National Association of Public Television Stations

## **PROVENANCE**

The Papers of Zoel J. Parenteau were donated to the University of Maryland at College Park Libraries by Zoel J. Parenteau in January of 1991.

## **SERIES DESCRIPTIONS**

Series 1: Association for Public Broadcasting, 1979-1980 (0.24 lin. ft.)

This series documents Zoel J. Parenteau's participation on the executive committee on the Board of Trustees of the Association for Public Broadcasting. Topics include the representation of public television stations and the incorporation of the Association for Public Broadcasting. Correspondents include PBS president Hartford N. Gunn and Association for Public Broadcasting president Homer Babbidge. The materials were arranged in chronological order and consist of correspondence, minutes, and articles of incorporation.

Series 2: National Association of Public Television Stations, 1980 (0.01 lin. ft.)

This series documents Zoel J. Parenteau's involvement on the Board of Trustees of the National Association of Public Television Stations. Topics include station grants, station representation and funding for public broadcasting stations. The materials were arranged in chronological order and consist of correspondence and minutes.

**BOX INVENTORY**

**SERIES 1: ASSOCIATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING**

Box	Folder	
1	1	Correspondence June-December 1979
	2	Board of Trustees - Minutes May-June 1980

**SERIES 2: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC TELEVISION STATIONS**

3	Board of Trustees - Minutes September 16, 1980
4	Correspondence November 12, 1980