

# March Newsletter

Broadcast **PI**NEERS



March 2001

Issue 7

## March Meeting

**Bala Golf Club  
March 14, 2001**

### **MARCH COMES IN WITH A COUPLE OF LI- ONS!**

We return to old haunts for the Wednesday, March 14 meeting. Please note that we are back at **BALA GOLF CLUB** for the get-together. The Program will be **Marc Howard** and **Paul Norton**. For many years Marc, host, and Paul, producer, had Thursday afternoon sessions putting together questions for the program 'Inside Story with Marc Howard' (10:30 a.m. Sunday - Channel 6). These sessions produced controversial questions of abortion, politics, gun control, etc. which the Sunday morning panel would consider. It also produced many hours of conversation regarding

## Happenings

We missed '**Wee Willie**' **Bill Webber** at the January meeting and it's because Bill had a surprise awakening which ended with him in the ICU at Jefferson Hospital with what was diagnosed as a bleeding duodenal ulcer in his abdomen. Bill says the people in the ICU were wonderful. His doctor, Dr. Buyski, the Chief of Surgery at Jeff came in at 3 am to perform

people in broadcasting which didn't get on the air. Between them, Howard and Norton have a hundred years in broadcasting, and they'll discuss people who were their most interesting interviews, their most unusual incidents on the air, people's continuing fascination with Jim O'Brien and so on.

The usual stipulations apply. Don't fail to call 215-563-1310 or 856-365-5600 to make reservations. Again, for this meeting we are at Bala Golf Club.

**Please mark your calendars: In April our speaker will be Al Meltzer, in May, the scholarships, and in June we'll hear from Gene Crane.**

the needed surgery. He is now on the mend and anticipates no further problems, and he sounds great on his regular Saturday stint on WPEN.

**Harry Harris**, who used to do interviews for the "Bulletin" and the "Inquirer" is reminiscing about some of them in his "Funtime" column for the monthly "Vintage." In March he recalls "Bulletin" chat with

**Reception 12:00 noon  
Lunch 12:30 p.m.  
Ratecard \$16.00  
Phone 215-563-1310 or 856-365-5600**



**DYNAMIC DUO APPEARING  
ON MARCH 14 AT BALA!**

Tallulah Bankhead, in May a London-based "Inquirer" piece about the TV song and dance debut of the late Sir John Gielgud, one of the four Sirs he met abroad.

**John** and Anna Mae **Butterworth** recently returned to Cancun for their second trip this year. They love it.

Member **Bill Russell** and his bride recently celebrated 50 years of wedded bliss.

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Please don't forget if you don't send information you can't be in the newsletter.

Please address to: Paul Norton, 205 Ocean View Blvd., Lewes, DE 19958, or call 1-302-645-8910, or e-mail [nanort@aol.com](mailto:nanort@aol.com), or fax to 1-302-644-9036.

## More Happenings

Former Person-of-the-Year, Hall-of-Fame, and international globetrotter, **George Koehler**, reports he is not doing much now—just a couple of local trips. He went to Williamsburg for the Grand Illumination and a trip by car around North Jersey, Upper New York State, Pennsylvania, seeing the sights and winding up at the Air Force Museum again. A little over a year ago the Koehlers went to Peru for three weeks where he realized a longtime dream of seeing Machu Picchu and to Cuzco at 11-12,000 feet. He says it's a good idea to 'watch your back' while there. George is glad that they got their travel in while wife

### And more.....

A lot of the WWDB crew are landing on their feet after the local station told their longtime talk show hosts that they are going to an all music format. **Sid Mark** was immediately hired by WPHT for his weekend Sinatra shows.

And **Irv Homer**, who is still on contract with the station, is pursuing charitable (Sunshine Foundation), and voice-over work. Irv says that in June the Foundation will have 35 progenies children from around the world in Philadelphia at the Adams Mark. They recently took 110 children to Florida. Irv who still appears on "Inside Story with Marc Howard" will be able to attend more meetings now that he is not on the daily 12 noon to 3 pm grind.

The **Jelinek's**, **Mary** and **Frank**, report they will be on WPEN for their 27th year in

### And even more....

While **Irv Ross** had a recent visit to Lankenau Hospital to fight a staph infection, he says he is feeling fine and enjoys retirement. He spent fifteen months as a consultant but stopped that in July of 2000 and now indulges in various ventures with a group of friends that includes his passion for flying.

If you've missed **Alan Tripp** at meetings, it is because he now spends six months (guess which six) at sunny LaJolla, California. He attends lectures, but perhaps more importantly, near the Torrey Pines Golf course where they practice their golf. In February

Jane could indulge extensive trips.

**John Roberts** reports that applications have been sent to 32 colleges and universities in the tri-state area. Three \$2,000 scholarships will be awarded to sophomore and junior students who have displayed aptitude in communications studies at our meeting in May. Last year's winners were: Lauren Bercarich of Villanova, Michele Di Veterano of Temple and Michelle Mahan of LaSalle. Many schools had wonderful applicants for the awards, including the University of Pennsylvania, Shippensburg and Rowan.

broadcasting Sundays 1 to 3 pm with "Dining Around," while daughter **Christine** and son-in law **Ken Norris** will do "Travel and Dine" features Monday through Friday at a time TBA.

**Howard Eskin** has a tough life. He goes to the Super Bowl and all the All Star games to talk to players and coaches so he knows what's going on. He began his career in Atlantic City for \$1.60 an hour, and now makes a lot more than that working 3 to 7 on WIP, and doing sports for WCAU-TV 10. Howard thinks he has been on the air continuously longer in Philadelphia than any other anchor. He began in 1976, prior to Jim Gardner, he thinks. Do you know? He says Jim O'Brien was the most influential person in his career. When KYW-TV 3 offered him a job in 1982 O'Brien said to

they visited Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona where they saw the Biosphere, an experiment to see how people do in an enclosed environment.

Former President **Dave Abramson** is keeping, very, very busy with his new large Mac computer into which he puts video for his various projects, and edits them there. he then downloads the product to his lap-top and carries it to clients for viewing and editing, if need be, right there.

He has been doing some work for the Jerry Lee Center of Criminology at the Fels Center

In addition to John's work on the scholarship committee for the club he stays busy as Treasurer of the Plymouth Township Senior Citizens group. John and Agnes recently made a trip to New York for "Kiss Me, Kate" in revival on Broadway, and in November, plan a Mississippi riverboat trip.

Condolences to **Ed Elias** on the recent loss of his mother. She was 100 years old.

"I went to a fight the other night, and a Hockey Game broke out."

Rodney Daggerfield

the reluctant Eskin "If you don't take it, I'll kick your, er, tail."

Joe Piscopo came up to him recently at a Gary Maddox affair and said "Hiya, Howard." Howard said "Where do I know you from?" Piscopo said he had seen him on "George Michael's Sports Machine" which is seen on 145 stations around the country including the top 15 markets. Howard used to spin records for Michael who was a disc jockey at WFIL in the sixties, and Howard his engineer.

"When you're as great as I am, it's hard to be humble."

Mohammed Ali

of Government, University of Pennsylvania for which an official opening will be coming up. The school will be a resource for research work.

Dave also collects antique TV sets of which he says he has a houseful. Three are pre-WWII sets, and Dave is always looking for more, if you know of any. He recently rebuilt an old RCA TK11 camera (the ones with the lenses on the turret), which he now has in his dining room. He's looking for old WFIL decals, if anyone knows where such can be found.