

June Newsletter



June 2007

June Meeting
Bala Golf Club
June 20, 2007
Reservations **856-365-5600**

Reception **12:00 p.m.**
Lunch **12:30 p.m.**
Ratecard **\$25.00**
or rsvp@broadcastpioneers.com

Another super, stupendous, outstanding program to celebrate the arrival of summer in the Delaware Valley. On Wednesday, June 20 at Bala Golf Club, Channel 3 will celebrate 75 years since coming on the air as W3XE on June 28, 1932. It received its commercial license in 1941 as WPTZ, in 1956 it became WRCV-TV and in 1965 it started using the call letters, KYW-TV. **Dick Sheeran** will be moderator, and on the panel will be: **Florence Hanford**, who did cooking

shows on Channel 3 in the 40's, 50's and 60's; **Bob Jawer**, producer in the 40's and 50's and then sales; **Al Primo**, creator of the Eyewitness News format and news director; **Al Meltzer**, "Big" Al with sports; **Malcom Poindexter**, long time reporter; **Pat Ciarrocchi**, staple of KYW-TV News. There will be introductory remarks by **Michael Colleran**, current President and GM of KYW-TV. You'll enjoy a special musical tribute sung by member Pretty **Peggy King**

as she was known on the "George Gobel Show," with the piano played by member **Bucky Clark**, who sang as a child on KYW.

We will get together at 12 noon, at Bala, cash bar, crudité and cheese table, and at 12:30 a full course lunch will be served. It is \$25 per person and is open to members and guests, active and retired, from industry or associated fields. Call **856-365-5600** or email:

rsvp@broadcastpioneers.com.

Happenings

This fits in very well with the ribbon cutting for the new studios for KYW-TV. Pioneers President **Gerry Wilkinson** was among the guests as **Michael Colleran**, GM of CBS 3 cut the tape with guests **Katie Couric**, CBS News Anchor, PA Governor **Ed Rendell** and Philly Mayor **John Street**. Truly a VIP dedication of their new studios and HD facilities.

The May luncheon which was a tribute to the late **John Facenda**, was the largest anyone can remember. It drew 98 people. Great time to see old friends and meet new ones.

Edna Cathcart, perhaps our oldest member, notes that **John and Dorothy Facenda** were

godparents to both of her children, and John was dear brother to her over the years. She laments having missed seeing her friends at the meeting: **Herb Clarke**, **Bill Baldini**, **Don Barnhouse**, **Jack Facenda** and **Tom Brookshier**. Special hugs to all, says Edna.

Dorie Lenz and the Nominating Committee have produced the slate for 2007-2008. They are: Chairman of the Board **Bill Webber**; President **Gerry Wilkinson**; Vice Presidents **Diego Castellanos**, **Jerry Klein**, **Kal Rudman**; Treasurer **Pat Delsi**; Secretary **Shirley Morris**. Three year Board Members: **Richard Kearney**, **Carter Merbreier**, **John Roberts**, **Carol Leebron**, **Mike**

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"I know nothing about sex because I was always married."

Zsa Zsa Gabor



Paul Norton - just a few years ago.

Please send your news that you can share with members to Paul Norton, 205 Ocean View Blvd., Lewes, DE 19958, phone 302-645-8910 or e-mail:

nanort@comcast.net

PA 19004, e-mail
bfeldman@ap.org.

More Happenings

Les Waas can be justifiably proud of his son who is a widely respected reporter and author in Washington. Scooter Libby is to be sentenced for four felony counts in the Valerie Plame affair on June 5. In the same day, **Murray Waas'** book titled "The United States v. I. Lewis Libby" will be released (Union Square Press / Sterling Publishing). Also note that the current issue of Washington City Paper features Murray Waas in a (full page) cover story of 21,000 words, 11 full pages. Congratulations, father and son.

Irv Homer's lifetime companion, wife, and friend, Fran, or Queenie, as he called her, has died. At her request the burial was private, and she wished that no notice be given to her passing, but Irv said that when Fran issued it, it wasn't a categorical ban, and he checked with his lawyer, and so you may have heard about it. You couldn't listen to Irv without feeling you knew her. She'll be missed by her many friends. If you would like to acknowledge Irv's loss, you could make a contribution to The Sunshine Foundation, 1041 Mill Creek Drive, Feasterville, PA 19053.

Captain and Mrs. Noah (Carter and Pat Merbreier) are at it again spreading the diversity and uniqueness word in their neighborhood at Gladwyne's combined 2nd Grade classes to introduce their (free) community outreach program called "Lessons in a Box of Crayons." The children receive free crayons and are shown clips of the Noah Show which aired on Channel 6 from 1967 to 1994. Students are encouraged to "send their pictures" to offer messages of hope to children in hospitals.

And More

Member **Frank Hogan's** WGLS FM (Rowan University Radio) has won another award with a documentary on Philadelphia radio personalities of the past. "Changing Stations; Radio in Philadelphia" was competing against all radio stations in the Delaware Valley, and the award will be presented at the annual Philadelphia Press Association's Awards Banquet at Bala Country Club in June. Among the personalities featured were **Bill Wright, Sr., Hy Lit, Dean Tyler** from WIBG; **Jim Nettleton, Joel Denver** and **Dick Fennessy** from WFIL; **Tom Moran** from WIP; **Bill Webber** from WPEN; and **Christy Springfield**

from WCAU-FM.

For many years there was a sign recognizing "John Facenda Way" at City Line and Monument Road, but suddenly it wasn't there anymore having been knocked down by an errant motorist. That fact was noticed by **Ron Joseph**, who is on the air at WNWR 1540 AM, Saturdays at 3 pm, which is nearby. A long time fan of the legendary anchorman, Joseph decided he had to get it back in its place, and, as noted in the Main Line Times, the talk show host can mark it as Mission Accomplished. It is now

back in its rightful place after Ron contacted a number of local officials. For his efforts, Ron, RJ on the air, received thanks from John's son, Jack.

Populus vult
decipi. (The
people like to be
deceived.)

Latin Proverb

And....

Harry Harris, television columnist and a long time member of Broadcast Pioneers, died in January of 2006. On behalf of the family, Terri Harris has donated his book and scrapbook collection to the Pioneers. The club is delighted to have his scrapbooks. His books (over 80 boxes) have been given to DeSales University in Center Valley. The librarian says they are delighted to have them. She says they are in near-mint condition.

New members: **Monica Malpass**, anchor of the 5 pm news on Channel 6; **Paul Gluck**, former Station Manager of WHYY-TV and radio, now of the Rudman Institute at Drexel University; **Edie Huggins** for many years a staple at WCAU-TV with special features; **Marjorie (Wieting) Harvey**, who is frequently at meetings with her husband **Ed Harvey**, started in the business in 1950, and was with the WFIL stations and

WPEN, and with Ed all night on a radio show.

Incidentally, after seeing the Scholarship Awards that the Philadelphia Broadcast Pioneers have been presenting for many years, **Kal Rudman** decided to present three scholarships to students at Drexel University.