

September Newsletter



September 2007

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September Meeting
Bala Golf Club
September 19, 2007
Reservations 856-365-5600 or **rsvp@broadcastpioneers.com**

Reception 12:00 p.m.
Lunch 12:30 p.m.
Ratecard \$25.00

Can summer have ended so soon? The sign we look for is the first Broadcast Pioneers meeting of the fall. We have arrived at that point when September 19, the third Wednesday of the month, we have our first Broadcast Pioneers meeting.

It looks like another big one. May 2007 set a record with 98 in attendance, and June broke that with 107. Could it be another record in September? We'll celebrate "60 years of Channel 6."

Starting the festivities will be Broadcast Pioneers members **Joe Pellegrino** and **Bob Kravitz** singing the theme song of "Action News." Everyone attending will receive a one page "History of WFIL-TV" written by **Roger Clipp** in

1964. Clipp was **Walter Anenberg's** right-hand man during the time that Triangle owned the station. **Irv Ross**, the former Channel 6 Director of Engineering, will be presented our Distinguished Service Award. We will then have introductory remarks by **Dave Roberts**, Channel 6 weatherman. We will have a panel discussion hosted by moderator/panelist **Paul Norton**, a member of our Board of Directors and newsletter editor. On the panel will be: **Rich Kellman**, former reporter for Action news and Famous 56 Radio; **George Koehler**, former WFIL-TV General Manager; **Liz Matt (Lizabeth Starr)** former co-host of Channel 6's AM Philadelphia (Liz it should be noted won a Broadcast Pio-

neers Scholarship while she was a communications student at Temple University.); **W. Carter Merbreier**, better known as "Captain Noah"; **Linda Munich**, VP / Director of Public Affairs for WPVI-TV; and **Sally Starr**, everyone's favorite TV Cowgirl and a mainstay at Channel 6 for decades.

W O W ! W h a t a n event...Wednesday, September 19 at beautiful and historic Bala Golf Club, 2200 Belmont Avenue (across from the State Police) and a few blocks away from Channel 6 and 10. We gather at noon, lunch is at 12:30 and the usual fee of \$25 will prevail. **But you must have reservations. E-mail rsvp@broadcastpioneers.com or call 856-365-5600. Meet a friend, take a friend.**

Happenings

The summer meeting of the group was a big success. It was a VIP Tour of CBS 3 and CW Philly 57, and 53 were there to meet Broadcast Pioneers member **Pat Ciarrocchi**, **Tom Lamaine** and **Carol Erickson**. **Marciarose Shestak** was there appearing on an upcoming public affairs show. **Michael Colleran**, President / General Manager

of the station, greeted the group.

One of the panelists for September 19 will be returning to the airwaves in September. **Sally Starr** will be on WVLT Thursday evenings at 9 pm. She's replacing the "Danny and the Juniors" program. Sally retired in September

2006 but just can't quit.

We mentioned a few weeks ago that **Al** and **Stella Alberts** did a two hour interview which included all Four Aces music on a Canadian program, "Sentimental Journey" with Host Loran Fevens on CJLS-FM in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia. Loran recently sent

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"I don't deserve this award, but I have arthritis and I don't deserve that either."

Jack Benny

Al and Stella a bag full of the responses to the program that they had received at the station. There is still a lot of sentiment for the kind of great music that the Four Aces made.

More Happenings

Please greet new members: **Dick Mendenhall**, formerly editorial director of WFIL-TV and now a resident of Athens, Georgia and columnist for the Athens Banner Herald; **Marjorie Harvey**, wife of **Ed Harvey** and former disc jockey with WFIL, KYW, WPEN and WCAU all night with husband Ed. **Al Primo** creator of Eyewitness News, who is now in Old Greenwich, CT; **Tim Lake**, anchor at NBC 10; **Neil Rattigan**, weekends and writer for weekday editions of "Eyewitness News this Morning" and son of Jack Ratigan of KYW Newsradio; **Esther Kurtz**, wife of Dave

Kurtz, founder of B 101; **Florence Hanford**, host of TV Kitchen for more than 2 decades; **Michael Colleran**, President / GM of CBS 3; and **Joanne Calabria**, VP of CBS 3. Welcome aboard to all our new members, and we hope to see you at meetings soon.

Members mourn the loss on August 2, 2007 of **Ray McCloy** who had a stroke in February, spent time at Jefferson Hospital and returned home in April. He was, among many other accomplishments, a board operator for **Jim Nettleton** and other great people including **Phil Sheridan**, and **Wee Willie Webber**, etc.

And More

Members **Anne** and **Jerry Klein**, who pay for the BP web server space and do all of our public relations for free, announce that they will now be known as the Anne Klein Communications Group.

Rowan University will be conducting a Careers in Broadcasting panel for area college students on Thursday, October 25 starting at 7 pm. The event will take place in Bozorth Hall on the campus of Rowan, and is being moderated by Metro News Director **Paul Perrello**, and features Channel 6 VP of Programming **Caroline Foy Welch**, **Jim Loftus**, VP / GM of WOGL-FM as well as several

other area broadcasters. Although seating is limited, if you know of any area college student that wishes to attend, please have them e-mail either **Frank Hogan** (Hogan@rowan.edu) or **Keith Brand** (brandk@rowan.edu) as soon as possible.

President **Gerry Wilkinson** of Broadcast Pioneers was a "historical consultant" on WHYY TV's Phillie Favorite TV Kids Show Hosts. He informs, with delight, that the program has been nominated for an Emmy. It was produced by member **Ed Cunningham**. While we're on the subject of Gerry Wilkinson, note must be made that on the suggestion of Herb

Ray was also Chief Engineer later in his career at WFIL AM. Jim says Ray really mastered the new techniques required for the "Boss Jock" format, and was a good man and good friend. **Mel Klawansky** and many others echoed those sentiments throughout the industry.

Roger Hendler advises that **Johnny Morris**, owner of WIMG Radio, and a BP member is recovering from heart surgery at St. Francis hospital in Trenton. After a visit, Roger says that Johnny looks good. We all wish him a speedy recovery.

Clarke and others, he deserves an ovation for bringing us more members, more members at meetings, more money in our treasury, more attention to historical artifacts, and an excellent website. Great job, Gerry, you have set a high standard for future presidents.

In connection with the previous item, we mention that we have received a check in the amount of \$5,340.41 from a Charitable Trust set up by broadcaster **John Knodel**. It was set aside for Broadcast Pioneers in John's will and was to go to several charitable organizations after his wife's death.

And.....

We've heard that member **John Rose** has been hired as assignment editor for Action News (6 ABC). He started in May and loves it. He was previously with KYW Newsradio and WB 17 News.

boy Recording Studios in Ardmore, through the Julian Krinsky Summer Career Program. Ryan is an honors student at Lower Merion High School in Ardmore.

Congratulations to **Vicky Benedict Farber**, former senior account executive at the WPVI-TV Sales Department, and **Lee Farber** (editor in the Public Affairs Department of WPVI-TV) for the accomplishment of their son Ryan in being awarded a summer internship with Milk-

Member **Jack Ryan** has been promoted to Senior Account Executive / Automotive Specialist for Univision 65 and Telefutera 28. Jack has spent many years in broadcasting around the country and in the Philadelphia area. He is currently a member of Philly Ad Club and Broadcast Pioneers.

"I may be drunk Miss, but in the morning I will be sober and you will still be ugly."

Winston Churchill

Don't forget. We need your help to do the Broadcast Pioneers Newsletter. Send items to Paul Norton, 205 Ocean View Blvd., Lewes, DE 19958, e-mail nanort@comcast.net or phone 302-645-8910