

December

Newsletter

Broadcast PIONEERS



December 2000

Issue 4

December Meeting

Bala Country Club December 13, 2000

The effervescent, outrageous, recently retired, **Bobby Kravitz** will headline the Pioneers December 13 meeting at Bala Country Club. For those who haven't seen the Kravitz show this will be your opportunity to do so while having lunch with your fellow Pioneers. Bobby, who was injured in a Channel 6 helicopter accident, has been having neck and arm problems and is taking a disability, early retirement.

Bobby plans to continue his singing, do some acting, and will dabble in public relations. It will be in the nature of last year's Peggy King December meeting. (Look for Peggy to be back doing her thing at a spring meeting.)

Please make luncheon reservations now.!

We are beginning a new member campaign, so we in-

Reception 12:00 noon
Lunch 12:30 p.m.
Ratecard \$16.00
Phone 215-563-1310



**Holiday Luncheon at
Bala Golf Club
Decemer 13**

vite one and all to bring a prospective candidate to

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Person of the Year / Hall of Fame

Rave reviews for the Person of the Year—Hall of Fame awards dinner. They're still tabulating but it appears the club will do very well with the money earned for its various charitable efforts.

The wonderful job turned in annually on the video by **Dave Abramson**, producer, **Jack Hyland**, writer, and **Herb Clarke**, narrator, cannot be too highly praised. These guys are really good, and we're lucky to have them.

Ed Papazian's committee produced a sell-out, and the selectees were very popular. **Dave Roberts'** family was with him. His son Dave walked in on him on his TV weather the night of the affair surprising the popular weatherman. The son is no mean TV performer himself starring in a WB17 series. Dave's daughters, with wonderful careers of their own, were also in attendance.

Relatives accepted the awards for those honored posthumously, and **Carter Mer-**

breier for **Larry Ferrari** who has no local relatives.

Joe Pellegrino sang the National Anthem and a "Here's to the Winner's" toast.

Great night, and good fun had by all.

The perennial Chairman of the dinner, Ed Papazian, had a busy schedule after the affair. At 5 a.m. he flew to Florida for a baptism, and then on Thanksgiving to New England for holiday with family.

"If it's worth having, it's worth cheating for. W. C. Fields

Thanks to all who sent items for this month's letter, or responded to calls for items, and please keep them coming.

Write, fax or call Paul Norton, 205 Ocean View Blvd., Lewes, DE 19958, fax 1-302-644-9036, e-mail nanort@aol.com, or call 1-302-645-8910.

Talk Show Personalities

Irv Homer, we notice, is no longer with WWDB, nor is **Sid Mark**. Both were let go when the station recently went all-music (and not Sid's kind). Sid, furloughed four days short of the 45th Anniversary of his show, still has syndication, and Irv has a contract that sees to it he's still getting paid. It won't be the same without Sid and Friday with Frank, and Sunday with Sinatra. Sid says that he answered an early morning phone call telling him there would be 'an important meeting at the station at 9 a.m.' Sid says he went to the meeting, violating something Frank Sinatra once told him—"Don't get up early in the morning, it can be hazardous to your health."

Happenings

The Philadelphia Ad Club presented ADDY's to Pioneer members **Ed Hurst** and **Dorie Lenz**. Dorie, a former AD Club and Pioneer's Person of the Year, was particularly saluted for her recent retirement. Dorie has been asked to continue working at WPHL-TV as a consultant for the immediate future. We hope to see more of her at Pioneer luncheons now that, perhaps, she will have more time.

Larry Kane was speaker at the November Ad Club meeting discussing "Larry Kane's Philadelphia" which is now in the book stores. You'll remember the veteran Phila-

More Happenings

Jere Sullivan started in the WFIL mailroom in the mid-sixties. His heroes were George Koehler, John Facenda, Jerry Blavat, Larry Kane, Art Andrews, Ed Hurst and Sid Mark. Later he produced a TV 6 program called "The World Around Us" with Anita Klever, then produced the "People Are Great" series with Paul Norton on WFIL-FM, then to on-air positions on WIOQ and WCAU-FM before leaving Philadelphia for NBC in New York. Since then he has spent many years programming radio stations in New York, Miami and San Diego. He now lives in Los Angeles and oversees the West Coast for a company based in Wayne, PA called Traffic.com. How many wonderful careers began in the mailroom!

Irv will still be seen on "Inside Story with **Marc Howard**" on Channel 6, Sunday morning at 10:30. He will also be doing voice-overs for some long time clients so you'll be hearing his voice. The Sunshine Foundation will remain a major part of his work, and in this regard he'll be meeting with Mayor John Street in the near future.

The dining and traveling **Jelineks** inform that they continue their travels. In July, they enjoyed a cruise to Bermuda with WWDB listeners, and in October a re-visit to Ireland (#7) this time with their children. Son David and daughter-in-law Dana

delphia anchorman spoke to Pioneers about his bio at our March meeting. We all wish him well and will look for it on the best seller lists.

Ed Harvey recently played golf in an all-star foursome. he was paired with **Tom Brookshier**, **Gene Crane** and golf pro Henry McQuiston. Ed boasted that he outdrove the long hitting Brooky on one hole. On a par three he was over the green while Brookshier landed on it. Ed also reports that wife Marj Weiting found a very small turkey for their Thanksgiving, and a bread crumb for the stuffing.

Member **Diego Castellanos** notes that he celebrated 30 years with Channel 6 on September 13. He says that the only on-air personality at 6 who has been there longer is Al Alberts. "Puerto Rican Panorama" is now the world's longest running television show devoted exclusively to Hispanic issues and Latin culture in English.

Diego began in broadcasting in 1954 at WCAM in Camden with **Pat Delsi** (Pioneer President). Diego says he owes Pat a lot for helping him with his Spanish language church sponsored program.

bought an Irish pony named Comanche for their daughter. Daughter **Mary** and son-in-law **Ken Norris** recently celebrated their 1st year of broadcasting, as Mary and Frank noted their 27th year on the air in Philadelphia in November. Frank says their cookbook makes a great gift. Send a check for \$27.45 (includes s&h) to Jelineks at Box 53, Media, PA 19063. Include address to which it is to be sent. Unfortunately, the Jenineks and the Norris' were among those let go in the recent WWDB format change. They report they're talking to WPEN and WPHT.

"It ain't necessarily so."
Gershwin's Law

Former Channel 6 employees (who got married after meeting there) Richard and **Jean Goman**, spent Thanksgiving at "Our Place in the Sun", Jensen Beach, FL with pal **Ellie Faragall**, also a Pioneer member.

Grace Kenny has taken a job with the Hallmark Store in Wayne and it prevents her from being a regular attendee at the Pioneers luncheons. Her golf has suffered because of recent eye problems, which have been corrected by cataract surgery. She can now see without glasses for distance (still needs them to read). It was great to see her at the November banquet.

In September Traffic Reporter **John Brown** had major surgery on his shoulder and was back at work in two weeks. Wife Donna got up at 3 a.m. to drive him to work and then pick him up for a period of time, but now he's cookin'. It did however cheat him out of his ride in a Hurricane Hunter plane for the time being. He hopes to do that next year. On November 13 John was honored as the Best Traffic Reporter by the March of Dimes, and on November 18, he attended the Sunshine Foundation's 25th Anniversary at the Mansion in Voorhees in black tie with **Irv Homer** and others. He says it was a great night.