

December Newsletter

Broadcast **PIONEERS**

December 2002

Issue 4

**December Meeting
Bala Golf Club
December 18, 2002**

**Reception 12:00 noon
Lunch 12:30 pm
Ratecard \$18 Members / \$20 Non-members
Phone 610-436-4217**

Remember the sixties? The great radio we enjoyed? The Pioneers meeting on December 18 will be a chance to visit those days with Pioneers from the great Middle of the Road station of that time, WIP. **Tom Lamaine, Tom Moran, Bill St. James, Nat Wright, Music Director Bob Russo** and Pioneers President **Wee Willie Webber** were in that lineup and will be discussing then and now at the meeting. It is possible they will be joined by VP and

General Manager **Dick Carr**. We get to Bala at 12 noon, have lunch at 12:30 p.m., and then enjoy our special guests. Don't miss it.

Once again, the club really turned out for our Person of the Year / Hall of Fame dinner. It was a very special night. **Larry Kane**, Person of the Year, **Jerry Blavat, Dr. Diego Catellanos, Edie Huggins**, and **Dean Tyler** were wonderful. We also honored

posthumously **Bill Bransome** and **Ed Papazian**. Herb Clarke did a great job on the narration again, as did **Jack Hyland**, and **Dave Abramson** on the writing and production. The Mayor of Hatboro, PA provided the music. **Dr. Bucky Clark**, who, when not a politician, or playing the piano, is principal of Log Cabin High School. (He really is Mayor and long-time Councilman in Hatboro. He began playing for us years ago at the invitation of Larry Ferrari.)

Happenings

We send condolences to several people, including Hall of Famer **Gene Crane** on the loss of his wife Marlyn. **Jack Whitaker** (WCAU-TV, ABC) who lost his wife Nancy Chaffe Whitaker, a tennis star, whose first husband was Ralph Kiner baseball Hall of Famer, and broadcaster. Jack has six children and Gene's children include David who is producer of the hit television show "Friends." Also, condolences to member **Loretta Bove Crowell** who lost her sister, Rita.

Herb Clarke invited **Jack Whitaker, Gene Crane, Andy Musser** (retired Phillies broadcaster), **Al Meltzer**, and **Bill Campbell** to get together at his club, Overbrook Country Club, for lunch in November. What a wonderful group of Pioneer's that was. Also invited, but unable to make it, was **Jack Downey**, former WCAU Program Director and owner of Downey's Restaurant. Jack couldn't be there because of a QVC commitment to do a segment promoting 'Downey's Irish Whiskey

Cakes.'

Andy Musser is not completely retired we might point out. A recent call to him, on a Sunday afternoon, revealed that Andy works for Anchor Steam Beer and he loves it. He recently did a promotional party at Downey's Restaurant and travels widely along the eastern shore. Since we had the misfortune to interrupt the Eagles game, it was a short call.

Bob Kravitz celebrated the anniversary of his marriage to

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Wife Sue with a party in April. No! That wasn't the date of the anniversary. Bob wanted it to be a surprise. The real anniversary was in October. What a guy! They had the party at Franco and Luigi's Pastaria Restaurant. Pastaria means Pasta-aria, it's an opera restaurant where the staff sings, as does Bob frequently, at 13th and Tasker. Bob reports that he is slowly getting better from his hip replacement.

More Happenings

Larry Litwin, Rowan University assistant professor-Public Relations, earned APR (Accredited in Public Relations) from the Universal Accreditation Board. Only 6000 public relations professionals are APR. Larry was also recently one of nine people who were appointed by NJ Governor Jim McGreevey to the privacy study commission, which was created by the Open Public Records Law. Larry is a KYW newsradio alumnus. Nancy and Larry's son Adam is an MIT fellow earning his Ph.D. in economics. He recently left the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve where he served as a researcher on Alan Greenspan's staff. Adam once worked at **Pat Delsi's** WSSJ and is on honorable withdrawal from AFTRA.

And More

Mike Brooks says he is looking for air work somewhere. He has had a shift at WMGM in Atlantic City but began doing a show at the Terrace Lounge at Trump Plaza with Mike Vagnoni and that took away the time from his MGM job. The Trump job is 10-11 Saturday night, and he does a dance party after it. He says he is doing some acting jobs in "Jersey Girl" and "Hack."

Lynn Lonker who has not been getting to too many meetings lately has been

And Even More

Charlie Higgins who was in Master Control at WCAU-TV, and WFIL-AM is now a docent on the USS New Jersey and is active in the Battleship New Jersey Radio Club which operates a Ham radio station WJ2BB. He says "a docent in a knowledgeable museum tour guide." There were 6 exams for this he has received an engraved navy badge and a navy uniform. He is available should you need a tour.

Speaking of Rowan University Broadcast Pioneer's Vice President **Frank Hogan** is manager there of WGLS where they broadcast different formats but mainly classic rock during the week. They do a lot of Rowan University Sports, natch. He has 100 volunteers on the station including students and alumnus.

Frank, who teaches one class a semester, is establishing for us The Future Pioneer's which includes young people who hope to have careers in broadcasting. President Bill Webber recently wrote a letter for the group which has been sent to colleges and university communications departments around the country and directs people interested to the organiza-

tion's website which can be reached on a link from www.broadcastpioneers.com, our web location. Applications and information can be found there.

busy traveling. Having been to China and Egypt she plans to head for Budapest, Prague and Vienna in December. She has also been volunteering at Lanke-nau Hospital as part of their "humor ambulance." She also works as a consultant to a program supplier for a consortium of smaller public TV stations.

Norman Leebron, who has over fifty years in the broadcasting business, now works for his daughter Betsy. Both are employed at Temple University in the

Welcome new members: **Steve Highsmith**, Chief Political Correspondent for WPHL-TV. Steve spoke to our club several years ago while working as political reporter for WCAU. He has been in the business for 27 years. **Bruce Holberg** is Managing Member of Apex Broadcasting in Lafayette Hill, PA. A former President and General Manager of WFIL-AM, he has been in the broadcasting business since 1967.

Don Henderson, sportscaster, late of WRTI Temple University radio, is devoting his time to the Jersey Shore and Florida in retirement. Don will be at his place in Jersey for Thanksgiving and Christmas, then to Sarasota, where he has a condo. He loves it. Time to spend with his kids, and grandchildren. He has three children and six grandchildren. He says he has seen all the sports he needs for a lifetime, but still goes to spring training in Florida.

"A difference in taste in jokes is a great strain on the affections."
George Elliot

Communications Department. Norm advises kids on how to get into the business. Norm is a former sales manager for WFIL-TV when they first moved to City Line Avenue. Prior to that he was with WCAU-AM and TV in sales, and is a proud member of that stations' Prime Time Club.

"Golf is a game where you yell 'fore,' shoot six, and write down five."
Paul Harvey

Don't forget to send items for the newsletter to Paul Norton, 205 Ocean View Blvd., Lewes, DE 19958, or e-mail nanort@aol.com, or call 1-302-645-8910.