# **April**

# Newsletter



April 2003

Issue 8

April Meeting Bala Golf Club April 16, 2003 Reception Lunch Ratecard 12:00 noon 12:30 pm

\$18 Members / \$18 Non-members Phone 610-436-4217

We don't know about 'April in Paris' but we do know that it's looking a lot like spring in Philadelphia. Dr. Neil Harvey, and his scholarship committee, have put together an all-star group of scholars who should provide ample entertainment. and show members what our fundraiser is about. This is where the money goes...to provide scholarships to deserving young people in Philadelphia area colleges who are studying communications. We will award six \$1,000 scholarships this year, and we can expect to meet the recipients at this

lunch. Do make it a point to join us at 12 noon on April 16th, the third Wednesday of the month. At 12:30 we'll have another great lunch at Bala. Please note: the rate schedule has been changed. It is now \$18 for members and nonmembers, so if you wish to bring a prospective member you are not penalized.

It is MOST IMPORTANT that you call or e-mail your reservation. The day before the March meeting we only had 38 reservations, it became 56 the day before the meeting, and then 65 showed up for Merrill Reese.

Bala had only ordered 61 chickens, so several people sacrified and ate vegetarian. They tell us the waitresses were more than courteous. even offered Shirley Morris two pieces of cake to make up for her loss in the chicken department. (She declined with thanks.) Our thanks to those who sacrificed, but it isn't fair to those who were forced to sacrifice. YOU MUST MAKE RESERVATIONS BY FRI-DAY BEFORE THE MEET-ING. Please help your club by calling 610-436-4217, or e-mail morrissam6@aol.com. DO IT EARLY!!

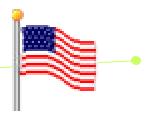
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## **Happenings**

Merrill Reese was wonderful. Several people said they found him to be the best speaker that we've had this year, and as President Bill Webber said in introducing him he still looks like he did when he was doing sports for free on WIP at 6, 7 and 8 am, and then coming in to do his news shift in the afternoon. Merrill is a guy who is really living his dream. You miss a lot when you don't make it to the meetings.

The board of our club has decided to offer widows (and widowers) of members the op-

portunity to continue with their deceased partner's membership. The first year they will receive the newsletter, and subsequently they will be allowed to continue a regular membership, at the retired rate, and will be welcomed at meetings.

We were delighted to hear from **Mel Kampmann** that he has retired and he and Karin are living in Dewey Beach, Delaware. His e-mail is melkamp@juno.com and his number is 302-227-9303. He would love to hear from any old timers and hopes to attend one of

the luncheons soon. Mel was the original news director when the Action News format with **Larry Kane** was established

On March 3 and 4, in Covington, Kentucky, Pioneers member Dr. Neil Harvey delivered two one-hour Power Point lectures to the fifth annual conference of "Children: Our Commonwealth." Illustrated by slides and narration his talk, "Mandate for the Millennium" featured a viable nongovernmental solution to the widespread problem of illiteracy. A huge quantity of evi-

dence drawn from pediatric neurology and anthropology, Harvey's specialties, enriched the presentation.

"Sensible and responsible women do not want to vote."

**Grover Cleveland** 

# **More Happenings**

In the January newsletter we mentioned Les Keiter's admittance to the Big Five Basketball Hall of fame, and we touched on Keiter's memorable broadcast when there was a bomb scare at the Palestra. Channel 10 had two news crews present and one included Cinematographer Charles Gindhart who was using an Auricon SOF camera on a body brace. Les may not have been acquainted with the equipment when Charles walked down the center of the basketball court to document the empty floor as well as the fans who were quickly moving to the exits. He says they were later told that Keiter had exclaimed, "I see the Philadelphia Police Department's bomb disposal unit has arrived with a Geiger

counter and is checking out the area for the suspected explosive." Gindhart says he's done a lot of interesting things in his life—but bomb disposal was not one of them. With Charles in the intepid group from CAU were **Ed Gannon**, producer, **Ed Tycenski**, camera, and audio with **Ralph Rodio** and **Bill Ludes**.

Our website, www.broadcastpioneers.com. continues to touch a wide variety of people. We have received an e-mail from **Wes Rodgers**, son of **Tom Rodgers** who worked at KYW Radio, WPTZ and WFIL. There is audio of Tom on the website. Tom was with WFIL Radio news in the

60's and went to ABC-TV news for a number of years, dying suddenly on his birthday, May 21, 1973, at age 58. Wes Rodgers works as an investigative reporter in Colorado Springs, CO. You may contact him at west-patriot@msn.com or phone 719-661-1728.

Another letter to the website is from **Lisa** (**Zompa**) **Nietupski** who was with Al and **Stella Alberts** on the **Al Alberts** Showcase on Channel 6 from 1976 to 1980. She says that Al taught her not to fear a camera and to have self confidence. The lessons served her well as she is now in her 20th year of television news.

### **And More**

Welcome new members: **Jim Nettleton** of JayNet Communications in Cherry Hill who has 44 years in the business. Jim will be remembered as one of the original Boss Radio Jocks in the 60's and 70's on WFIL, and then at WCAU-FM, WUSL, WPEN, WSNI, and now does voice tracks from home and free lancing. Ronald Joseph 'RJ,' president of RJ Productions, has over 50 years in broadcasting with many stations in Philadelphia, New York and San Francisco in his credits. Ed Klein who is currently with WPEN in Philadelphia has been in the business almost 40 years and is semi retired. We hope all our new members can soon join us for lunch.

John Brown recently spent some time at Widner Memorial School for Disabled Children. As a former student K through 3rd grade, he was given a tour by the school's principal. He also had a chance to speak to students about being in radio and weather forecasting. What an inspiration he must be to the kids! He will also be helping to put together a school radio station so the kids can practice during the two lunch periods. On May 21 John will take part in Widner Day, a day where students and their parents get together for some fun. His part will be to meet with parents and talk to students.

"Id' rather have a German division in front of me, than a French Division behind me."

General George S. Patton

#### And.....

Just a couple of quick takes about ailing members. John Beaty informs us that Board member Austin Culmer broke his hip in a fall at a hardware store, of all places. He is in therapy. Gerry Wilkinson says Herb Clarke had a bad March. He had hernia surgery, then a bad cold. He was probably back at it through for an appearance at LaSalle University Career Night, probably recruiting for our Future Broadcast Pioneers. Ed Sciaky is slowly recovering and may be home when you read this. He was allowed to leave the re-

hab to do his WMGK show live at the studios. Recording artist Little Steven sent a limo so Ed could attend the Bruce Springsteen concert in Atlantic City. **Chief Traynor Halftown** is now 85 and he and Margaret live near their children who work in Atlantic City. The Chief's health has not been good for a number of years. He is on dialysis three days a week and recently was in the hospital being treated for circulation problems in his toes. **Sally Starr's** health on the other hand is great. She has turned 80, but feels 45 or 50, and looks it. She can

still be seen at openings, closings and conventions. Go Sally.

Thanks to all who send items for the newsletter. Send to Paul Norton, 205 Ocean View Blvd., Lewes, DE 19958, or e-mail nanort@aol.com. Phone 302-645-8910. You can also fax that number but call in advance.

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