

January Newsletter



January 2007

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January Meeting
Bala Golf Club
January 17, 2007

Reservations 856-365-5600 or

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

or rsvp@broadcastpioneers.com

45 Years ago this month the **Broadcast Pioneers of Philadelphia** was founded, and it's an extra reason to come, have a piece of birthday / anniversary cake, and celebrate.

In addition, we have a great meeting coming up for January, which has for several years now been the meeting where we celebrate sports, and sports people. It's the month of the Super Bowl after all, and we have super sports guys for the

program. Just look at these guys: moderator and panelist **Bill Campbell**, with fellow panelists **Tom Brookshier**, **Merrill Reese** and **Joe Pellegrino**. Philadelphia's best sports guys, the envy of any station. They will tell stories about their careers and talk about today's sports scene.

SPECIAL NOTE: January and February meetings this year will be held at Bala Golf Club, our usual location. We will

meet at 12 N, and have lunch at 12:30, and the usual fee will prevail \$25. Meet your friends, or bring one, to the January Pioneers' meeting.

The date is January 17, the third Wednesday, and you **MUST** call or email for reservations:

phone 856-365-5600 or email rsvp@broadcastpioneers.com.

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Bill Campbell



Tom Brookshier



Joe Pellegrino



Merrill Reese

A camel has just one hump,
A dromedary two.
Or is that the other way
around?
I'm never sure - are you?

Ogden Nash

Happenings

A grand, gala Holiday Party was held in December to the delight of the 66 attendees. They were really into the talk **Jerry Lee** gave, after having been introduced by **Les Waas**. **Bob Jawer** played seasonal music on the piano, and **Joe Pellegrino** showed that he still has great pipes singing a Christmas song to the accompaniment of **Diego Castellanos** on the guitar. As usual, **Dave Custis** produced another labor

of love with the CD's that he is kind enough to give to the members attending. That alone was worth the cost of lunch.

Broadcast Pioneers Vice President **Diego Castellanos** was honored early last month as one of Delaware Valley's most influential Latinos. The award came from the Philadelphia Multicultural Affairs Congress (a division of the Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau), Concilio (a council of

Spanish-speaking organizations), and Impacto (a local Spanish language newspaper). **Dr. Castellanos** is the host of Puerto Rican Panorama, a television program broadcast in English dealing exclusively with Hispanic issues and Latin culture. Action news anchor **Walter Perez** was likewise recognized during the award ceremony held on December 6 at the Center City Sheraton Hotel.

Please be sure to get items for the newsletter to Paul Norton. Usually they must be in by the end of the month preceding the meeting to be in that month's letter.

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- 205 Ocean View Blvd.,
Lewes, DE 19958

More Happenings

Castellanos, incidentally, is chairman of the BP Scholarship Committee. This year there will be 8 awards of scholarships worth \$1,000 apiece, the most in the history of the club. For the first time, students can make the initial application electronically via the Broadcast Pioneers website. The initial application will take students no longer than 5 minutes to fill out. Winners will be awarded their scholarships at the April luncheon.

Irv Homer is keeping busy doing a couple of hours on radio every day, and spending time in the office at the Sunshine Founda-

tion, which he helped found 30 years ago. In those years they've sent 32,000 afflicted children to Dream Village and other locations for vacations at the Magic Kingdom and other nearby parks. Frequently the Foundation will fill an airplane and take them to Florida. On December 5, they filled a plane with 110 kids in wheelchairs and other special needs equipment and took them for one day, as that was all they were allowed to be away. Irv's pride in this organization shows.

Member **Mike Nozilo** has weighed in on a subject that comes up periodically. Why

aren't cameramen, producers, directors, floor directors, engineers, women in the offices, included in the recognition that goes to people on the air? There is probably no answer to this problem. The people on the air are the ones people know and will pay to see honored, etc. If anyone has a solution to this, we're sure the Hall of Fame Committee would love to hear it.

"I like pigs. Dogs look up to us. Cats look down on us. Pigs treat us as equals."

Winston Churchill

And More

Potpourri: Vice President **Jerry Klein**, among BP's many Temple grads, passed along information about 1957 grad **Dick Hammer** who started at WRTI and then joined WEST and has been doing play-by-play for Lafayette College football and basketball for nearly 50 years. Hammer is being honored by the school and is in its Hall of Fame. **Hugh Gannon** who was for many years sports announcer at Channel 10 has died, as has **Joe Hunter** who was a Public Affairs Host at Channel 6. Joe, who lived in Delran, NJ was in his 80's. Chairman of the Board **Frank Hogan's** wife Alisa, cleaning the basement, has found a **Jay Cook** tribute that Frank and **Jerry**

Donohue prepared as a tribute to the late WFIL-PD. Frank thinks the event was held at **Fran O'Brien's**. You can hear it at www.famous56.com. Good listening. Posted on the www.broadcastpioneers.com website you'll find a picture of **former Gov. Ray Shafer** who has just died, with Channel 6 anchor, in the late 60's, **Al McDowell**. **Peter Boyle**, 71, of the Everybody Loves Raymond Show has died, and we comment on that because he was the son of **Pete Boyle** of 'Pete and His Pals' show on KYW many years ago. The younger Pete graduated from LaSalle, and his father got him various jobs including one on the Florence Hanford cooking show

of fond memory.

In early December, **Andy Kortman**, former 950 WPEN morning host, celebrated his second anniversary on 1360 AM WNJC in New Jersey After WPEN's flip to "oldies" in September 2004. Kortman does the old WPEN adult standards format which is simulcast on 1180 AM WFYL (King of Prussia), so listeners on both sides of the river can tune in weekdays 7-9 AM. Andy has "A Sinatra Sunday" from noon to 3 on Cruisin' 92.1 FM Vineland which leads into **Wee Willie's** new show, Travelin' with Bill Webber.



And.....

Member **Elly (Eleanor) Faragalli**, known as Lynn to her West Coast buddies, was a long time personal assistant to **Mike Douglas**, in Philadelphia and later in California. She was present at the memorial to the recently deceased Mike in California, which was a spectacular event. It was decided that Philadelphia should be the site of another memorial, at the KYW studios where a plaque celebrating his success is on the wall outside his studio. Mike's wife and daughter, producers, directors and people connected with the show flew in to be part of it. Wonderful DVD's were pro-

duced of the show for the event. Elly was having back problems the day of the event, so a limo was sent to her home in Bala because they wanted to be sure that she would be there. She really deserved it. Congratulations to all involved.

President Gerry Wilkinson is justifiably proud of his wife who has just been promoted to Administrator of the Philadelphia Department of Human Services. In this job she will be responsible for supervising activities of Social Workers for the city, a very big job. Michele has been with DHS since 1973.

Greet new members: **Joan Konefsky**, Vice President / Executive Director of the Sunshine Foundation. Joan is an **Irv Homer** draftee. **Anthony DiFlorio** who has been doing radio music programs since 1987, and is now with Hawthorne Cultural Arts Center in Philadelphia. **Frank Maffei** who has been in the business since 1957. **Charlie Mills** with over 30 years in the business he is currently with GCV Productions in Blackwood, NJ.