

The Broadcast PIONEER

Official Publication of the Philadelphia Chapter of Broadcast Pioneers

P.O. Box 21534
Philadelphia, PA 19131

February 1994

What a great time was had by all at the annual "Penny" Christmas party. 50 people braved the "January from Hell" weather to attend the party and they certainly deserve special credit. The usual load of hilarious gifts were exchanged (ask Gene McCurdy about his polish cup), and Penny was in rare form. Entertainment was provided by Larry Ferrari at the organ..it's his usual Christmas gift to the club. The Steck's, Jack and Florence, provided one of their inimitable songs and this year there was a bonus of song by Bob Kravitz who was called back for an encore. If you missed it this year, you shouldn't miss it next year.

NEXT MEETING...NEXT MEETING...NEXT MEETING...NEXT MEETING

At our next meeting Brian Gail, Chief Executive Officer of Lewis and Gilman, Philadelphia Advertising firm, will discuss problems involving large clients gravitating towards New York City agencies. Shelly Gross arranged for Brian to be with us but, as he is in Florida, Ed Harvey will serve as chairman. The date for the meeting is THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17th. The usual place, time, and price for lunch. For those who need the details: the place: Williamson's in the GSB building on City Line Avenue. The times: cocktails at noon; lunch at 12:30 P.M. The price for lunch: \$15.00. Remember, if you pay by check, please make the check payable to Broadcast Pioneers. Remember the date: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17th. CALL IN YOUR R.S.V.P. NOW!!!! it is very important that you R.S.V.P. by calling Jo Oristaglio at (215) 642-3298. Let her know that you are attending and whether or not you are bringing along any guests.

A salute was held at the Christmas party for the usual Christmas birthday boys, Harold Pannepacker, who celebrated his 72nd, and Jack Steck who, on January 2nd, celebrated his 97th. Many happy returns to both. Just think, in another 25 years Penny will catch up with Jack.

Sam Schroeder is the new president of CCI Communications (video productions). They are located at 1440 Phoenixville Pike, West Chester, PA 19380 and their phone number is (215) 296-7233.

Nat Wright is staying very busy in his retirement. He is working on his degree at Penn State Ogontz Campus, while he continues to free lance. He also helps wife, Sue, conduct historic tours of Christ Church, 2nd Street above Market.

The Person of the Year Committee met on Monday the 7th and a selection was made as to this year's designee. The name will be announced at the meeting on the 17th. Leila Brenner, Lew Klein, Cissie Hurst, Sam Schroeder, Marion Lockett-Egan, Jack Hyland, and President John Roberts are on the committee. There will also be a special award at the banquet.

For your records, John and Agnes Roberts have just moved and will probably be some time recovering. They are now located at 4108 Kottler Drive, Lafayette Hill, PA 19444. Same phone number as before. We wish them well in their new home.

We are happy to announce that Bill Webber has become a member of our chapter. Bill, otherwise known as "Wee Willie," has been a fixture in Philadelphia broadcasting for many years. He began his career as a producer for the Mutual Broadcasting System in New York in 1948 and in our area has worked at WPEN, WFIL-TV, KYW-TV, KYW Radio, WIP, WPHL-TV, and also at the old WKBS-TV (channel 48). Bill is currently with WPEN hosting a D.J. slot on Saturday mornings from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. We are pleased that Bill has joined us and we hope that he will find the time to attend meetings.

A note about phone numbers. Don't forget that some of you will become part of the new 610 telephone area code. Check the information you received from the phone company to see if you are one of those people. If you are, you may use either the old 215 or the new 610 area code during 1994. At the beginning of 1995, you MUST use the correct area code (either 215 OR 610 depending on where you live). Only the area code will change. The rest of your phone number will remain the same. For example, Al Maslin's current phone number is (215) 446-4936. It will become (610) 446-4936 beginning in 1995. The reason we bring this up is that we'd like to be sure we have your correct phone number (including area code) for our records. Al Maslin reports that he will try to cross reference everyone with the list of phone company area codes and change your number in the database. HOWEVER, if you are going to be in the new 610 area code, please drop Al a note at some point just to be sure he has your number correct.

If you have any items for the newsletter please contact Paul Norton and give him the information. To do so you only need to contact Paul at (215) 581-4508 or you can write to him at WPVI-TV, 4100 City Line Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19131.

This issue written by Paul Norton
Produced by Alan M. Maslin