

March Newsletter



March 2007

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March Meeting
Bala Golf Club
March 21, 2007
Reservations 856-365-5600

Reception 12:00 p.m.
Lunch 12:30 p.m.
Ratecard \$25.00
or rsvp@broadcastpioneers.com

“Unsung Heroes” might be the title for the March meeting. We will be saluting the engineers and technicians at our meeting to be held on March 21, the third Wednesday, at Bala.

Lew Klein will M.C. the affair with **Bill Russell** and **Ralph “Bud” Galow** adding their comments. Lew was for many years the Program Director of WFIL-TV and as such had constant contact with all of the Channel 6 crew. **Bill Russell**, crew chief and proud Marine veteran, helped everyone that came through the WFIL studios and saw to it that someone turned the lights on. **Bud Galow** spent 40 years seeing to it that things went right at KYW

and knew well all the wonderful people who made that station go all those years. **Bill** and **Bud** will both offer their reflections on what happened behind the scenes, and **Lew Klein** who knows all there is to know about television will be sure to offer additional commentary. Lew was also for many years the Executive Producer of the Dick Clark Show which helps explain that as an extra added attraction member **Frank Maffei** and **Danny & the Juniors** who were 125 times guests on the Clark Show have been invited to the luncheon. They will sing two songs including their top ten hit, “At the Hop.” Member **Ed Cunningham** will come with Lew to talk about

his new show starting March 5 titled “Philly’s Favorite Kids Show Hosts” on WHYI featuring legendary children’s show performers. The show will star **Pizanne-Jane Norman**, **Captain Noah-Carter Merbreier**, **Sally Starr**, **Bill Webber**, **Chief Halftown** and others. President **Gerry Wilkinson** assisted in its production with clips from our archives. Narrator will be **Dick Sheeran**

The usual admonitions prevail: The tab will be \$25, reception at 12 noon, eat lunch at 12:30, and don’t forget to make a reservation by calling 856-365-5600, or email rsvp@broadcastpioneers.com. We hope to have a large turnout from our honorees the engineers and technicians.

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“Rascality has limits, stupidity none.”
 Napoleon



Lew Klein



Bill Russell



Bud Galow



Ed Cunningham



Danny & the Juniors

Happenings

Last month was a room filling delight with the Talk Show Hosts being saluted. Starting with a panel of **Ed Harvey**, **Irv Homer**, **Wally Kennedy**, **Howard Eskin**, and **Dom Giordano**, there was electricity in the air. Everyone seemed to enjoy the festivities, and renewing old acquaintances which always occurs at these affairs.

Tom Moran, in his inimitable manner, hosted the “Audio from the Archives” game. The game celebrates 85 years of professional broadcasting in Philadelphia. The first station on the air was WGL in February 1922. Stations WFI, later WFIL, and WIP came on the air 5 weeks later.

Member **Frank Stone’s** wife is very ill and has been hospitalized for quite some time. Frank heads our development committee and sold ads for our banquet booklet. He was with Temple and the Please Touch Museum. Should you wish to contact Frank, his email address is:

frankstone415@aol.com

Special points of interest:

- We are updating our membership list for the new directory. If you wish to change your email address, phone number, cell number, mailing address or any other pertinent items, please call 856-365-5600 or email :

pioneers@broadcastpioneers.com

More Happenings

A Wonderful World of Radio Exhibition will be seen at the Atwater Kent Museum through September 16. Philadelphia was a center for radio manufacturing in the United States from the 1920's to 1960's, including Atwater Kent, Philco, and RCA. In addition to old radios, visitors can hear segments of broadcasts from the 1930's.

Board member **Kal Rudman** was honored at The Waterfront in South Philly by the Philadelphia Crime Commission. He received the annual Jefferson Award and was named a Deputy Police Commissioner. Kal has done a lot for the police department

And More

More awards for member **Jean Moore** who got her 8th and 9th Jade crystal awards from The Communicator Awards for interviews she conducted on Sundown Towns: A Hidden Dimensions of American Racism, and Cervical Cancer. Congratulations Jean.

Ed Roberts, long time set designer and member of the crew at Channel 6, has died at 75. He will be missed by his many Pioneer friends. Thanks to **Steve Sacks** for sending this along.

And.....

While we're at it, member **Grace Kenny** tells us that former Channel 6 Director **John Hoban** is alive and well in Florida, playing golf and taking trips. Grace has quit her job at a Hallmark store, but you'll have to ask her about that. She keeps busy with the kids next door and she and partner Al Constantine can't wait for better weather.

Welcome new members: **Art Camiolo** who has been in the business since 1967 and is currently Art Camiolo Broadcast

over the years.

Congratulations to Pioneer's member **Bucky Clark, Ed.D.**, Principal of Log College Middle School in Warminster, PA. He was honored by the Greater Hatboro Chamber of Commerce with citations from the State Senate and House of Representatives for Distinguished Service to the Borough of Hatboro. Bucky was for many years a member of City Council and Mayor of Hatboro, and members recognize him as the stellar accompaniment to the festivities on the piano for the Pioneers Hall of Fame dinner. Bucky was great friends of Larry

In our obit on Bob Zimmerman in the February newsletter, we said only two Philadelphia Pioneers remain at State College. At Penn State University maybe, but not State College. We neglected to mention Accu Weather's **Elliot Abrams**, a long time stalwart of our club, and speaker at meetings. Sorry, Elliot. How could we?

Member **John Butterworth** has retired. He marked his last day in December of 2006... It was well beyond the usual retirement age we might add, but he told us not to tell how many years beyond, so we won't. John and Anna Mae have an

Management Consultant; **Dom Giordano**, Talk Host of WPHT; **Tom Gurick**, AKA **Tom Matthews**, of WOGL; **Raymond Major** has joined the group and his connection with the industry goes back over 50 years. Among other things he was engineer on the Ernie Kovacs Show on KYW. **Robertta Shaffner** was mentioned last month and the name of her business was spelled wrong. A musical person she is with Keynote Associates, and a member of ASCAP. Hope to see you all at meetings.

Ferrari and Phil Sheridan, and a video was shown that memorialized their association.

John Roberts, former WFIL anchorman, Pioneers President, Person of the Year, Dean of the Temple School of Communications, etc. had a stroke some months ago, and it has limited his ability to get to meetings. **Dave Custis** has driven him to them a couple of times, but John's health recently has been an issue. We hope that soon he will be sufficiently recovered to get to meetings. We talked to him and he sounds as great as ever, if you ever need a good voiceover guy....???

"almost second home" in Cancun where they spend a lot of time. They spent two weeks there in December and three in January. They will be in Florida while we are enjoying a Salute to the Engineers and Technicians. John was the long-time engineer for the WFIL Show "Wagon," among other jobs.

"If all else fails, immortality can be assured by spectacular error."
John Kenneth Galbraith



Should you fail to find your name in this newsletter, it's because we didn't hear from you. We hope you do better next month by writing Paul Norton, 205 Ocean View Blvd., Lewes, DE, phone 302-645-8910 or email: nanort@comcast.net.