

November Newsletter



November 2001

Issue 3

November Meeting

**Bala Golf Club
November 14, 2001**

**Reception 6:00 p.m.
Dinner 7:00 p.m.
Ratecard \$60.00 Members / \$80 Non-members
Phone 215-563-1310 or 856-365-5600**

The autumn leaves bring the Pioneer's Biggest Meeting of the year.

As is a tradition with this meeting, it will be dinner at the Bala Golf Club.

Our Person of the Year / Hall of Fame dinner is in November, on the 14th. The 14th will bring deserved honors to Persons of the Year—**Captain and Mrs. Noah (Carter and Pat Merbreier)**, and to our Hall of Fame inductees: **Pat Delsi, Neil Harvey, Sid Mark, and Paul Norton.**

Please note that money realized goes to our scholarships, and the other worthwhile activities that the club supports throughout the year.

We need your support. Call 215-563-1310 or 856-365-5600.



**Persons of the Year
Captain and Mrs. Noah**

Inside this issue:

- Happenings 2
- More Happenings 2
- And More 2

All members are encouraged to send items for the newsletter to Paul Norton, 205 Ocean View Blvd., Lewes, DE 19958, e-mail nanort@aol.com, call 1-302-645-8910.

You help us with notes about your current activities, oddities or humorous broadcasting items from the past.

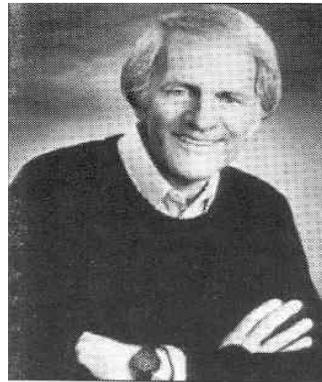
Hall of Fame Inductees



Pat Delsi



Neil Harvey



Sid Mark



Paul Norton

Happenings

We had a great luncheon in October. **Herb Clarke** hosted as the executives from WCAU-TV talked about their jobs in winning audiences in the Philadelphia market. Fifty-four people attended the Bala luncheon and very much enjoyed the fellowship and the speakers.

Since we mentioned Hall of Fame inductee **Sid Mark**, it's interesting to note that we keep getting reactions about him and others from visitors to the www.broadcastpioneers.com website. In the most recent e-mail response to our web-

More Happenings

Member **Bud Galow** sends word of the death of **Harry K. Smith** in York, PA on October 2. His ashes were interred in the St. Johns, PA cemetery. Harry had his first appearance on television in 1939 on WPTZ, the experimental station. In later years he appeared on more than 20 Philadelphia program series, on both radio and TV. Harry was a freelance broadcaster who served as weekend anchorman for the 11 p.m. Channel 3 news. In later years he left Philadelphia to work at WMAL-TV and became anchorman for the daily 45 minute early evening news. He was also principal on-camera reporter for the White House, Congress and other government branches.

And More

Member **Harry Harris** is wondering when he'll get to "The Producers", the hottest Broadway show. Harry got his tickets for \$85 before the show opened. He's been boasting about his good fortune in "Vintage" magazine, for which he writes. After opening night, and the rave reviews, tickets went to \$100. Harry's tickets were for September 12, and, of course, New York was closed that night. He hopes soon to get his rain-check date for the show which is going on hotter than ever to the extent that the "New York Times" recently reported the producers of the show are re-

serving some seats at \$450, so those scalpers don't get that kind of money.

site, **Alan Czako** of Wilmington, Delaware wrote that he belonged to a Jazz Appreciation Club while in the Air Force at Langley AFB, Virginia. He recalls a Philadelphia member of the club who talked about his idol, **Sid Mark**. Alan recently moved to Wilmington and heard Sid for the first time, almost 40 years later, and read about him on our website. You should visit our repository for Philadelphia broadcast history and see the pictures and artifacts that **Gerry Wilkenson** has put together.

We're advised that our Person of the Year,

The 950 Club which has been around a long, long time seems headed for many more years on WPEN. The program, which originally brought the late **Joe Grady** and **Ed Hurst** to fame, still includes **Ed Hurst** during its daily run, but also features Philadelphia standbys, **Wee Willie Webber** and **John Carlton**, also with weekday airings, all sounding as great as ever. You can also tune in and hear the redoubtable **Tom Moran** in afternoon drive.

Tom Monaghan keeps going on and on. He recently reflected that he has been in sales with one station for 40 years, which is

A number of members have not sent in their membership renewal. We hate to lose you, but please work on it and get those dues in so we can keep sending you the newsletter, and perhaps soon see you at lunch.

Please note that the Pioneers Newsletter will now be featured as part of the Philadelphia Advertising Club Newsletter. We're

Captain Noah, has also been saluted by his Alma Mater, Prospect Park High School. The school this year honored ten grads who made their mark on the world. **Noah**, aka **Carter Merbreier**, graduated from the school in 1944, and, in addition to being our Person of the Year this year (with wife **Pat Merbreier**), he has won many other awards.

"Every normal man must be tempted at times to spit on his hands, hoist the black flag and begin slitting throats."

H. L. Mencken

currently Power 99. Tom says it was originally WFIL-FM, but after many different managements and ownerships, he says there is still a direct line back to the original. He'll explain it to you if you have a little time. Tom's son Tom, is now a budget officer for Atlantic City, daughter Susan, a housewife with two children, and son Gregory is Senior Art Director at Greater Media. Tom is planning his 3rd five year WFIL reunion for December 6, 2002. Details later.

"Everything you read in the newspapers is absolutely true, except for that one story of which you happen to have personal knowledge"

Erwin Knoll

certainly always happy to have PAC members join us as members or for lunch. We hope it will be a long and mutually agreeable association.

Please welcome new members **Ed Sciaky** and **Art Andrews**. Ed has been in broadcasting since 1966 and has been with WHAT, WDAS, WMMR, WIOQ, WYSP, and his present location with King Biscuit Entertainment. Art started his broadcast career in 1963 at WNAR, Norristown, and is now the morning news anchor at WPEN.