September Newsletter



September 2005

2005-2006, Issue 1

September Meeting Bala Country Club September 21, 2005

Reservations 610-436-4217

Reception 11:45 a.m.
Lunch 12:15 p.m.
Ratecard \$25.00
morrissam6@verizon.net

How can it be? The summer's over, and schools open, and the hot weather will soon be a fond memory. Now we can get back to the important things in life like the Broadcast Pioneers September luncheon. It will be held on September 21, the third Wednesday, at 11:45 am at Bala Golf Club. There will be a new rate card. It's now \$25, PLEASE NOTE! And what a way to start the year! Many of our Pioneers will remember when KYW went to all news, and Wee Willie Webber remembers playing the last record in the old format. IT WAS 40 YEARS AGO! Do

you believe it's been that long? What a wonderful job they've done over those years, dominating the market. We'll have people who have labored at 1060...All news, All the time...including **Harry Donahue** and **Larry Litwin**, and others. You won't want to miss this, plus the usual line up of friends and associates who have joined us over the years.

You must call for reservations 610-436-4217 or e m a i l m o r r i s sam6@verizon.net. We have to know how many will be there, so please reserve.

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Harry Donahue



Larry Litwin

Happenings

In addition to the increased luncheon price, the Hall of Fame dinner prices will be \$65 for members and \$85 for nonmembers. The board has also approved language on a formal agreement with Rowan University to house our archives. **Les Waas** came in with some ideas for a new logo, and will make a formal presentation in October.

You missed a good meeting in June. **Larry Mendte**, KYW 3 Anchor, entertained a great turnout at lunch. When you miss the lunch,, you miss seeing friends, and wonderful pro-

grams.

Cassandra Kramer, one of our scholarship winners, sent a literate and gracious thanks to President Frank Hogan and Pioneers members for her \$1000 scholarship. It's really encouraging to know that people are coming into the business we love who can write so well.

President **Frank Hogan** reports that **Gene Dillard** donated the \$1000 he received from his colleagues to The Rowan Foundation to help us establish The

Broadcast Pioneers collection at the Campbell Library. **Mel Gollub** (former owner of WIFI-FM) has donated some audio tape recorders and other materials to our archive.

Members will miss **Bob Dome** who was a past president of our club (1970) who up until last year could be counted on to be a friendly presence at our meetings. Bob was president of an advertising agency, and was proud of the people he knew in the business. We'll miss him.

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"A lifetime isn't nearly long enough to figure out what it's all about."

Doug Larson

More Happenings

A note from Gary Geers, who was the voice of KYW-TV for many years and now lives in Sarasota, Florida, says that Ken Matz attends the Pioneers' meeting in Sarasota, as does Bob Bradley, one of our Person's of the Year who lives in Clearwater. Bob and Gary worked together for 40 years. Bob spoke for Gary at the Sun City Men's Club as have two others from the NBC affiliate. He is trying to get Linda Giallanella (St. Pete), and will have Don Blair, NBC New York, speaking in November.

Captain Noah, W. Carter Merbreier, never sleeps, and has had a busy summer. Perhaps you caught his editorial on the faith and religion page in the "Philadelphia

Inquirer" - he reflected on going to church as a child with no air conditioning and how profoundly different things are now with the windows shut, and the AC on. Carter of Gladwyne, 79, is a retired Lutheran Minister and the advancing years have not knocked him out of overdirve. He was also the featured interviewer in the newsletter of Dudnyk Healthcare group of Horsham, PA. His final comment in the interview was "we just honestly love children, and we honestly love God." Amen, Captain.

Try to make the WPVI special taping of "Sing a Rainbow: Captain Noah's 35th Anniversary" and benefit at the Please Touch Museum (flyer enclosed).

Rich Noonan, formerly of Channel 29 is now at Channel 46, WGCL-TV, the CBS station in Atlanta. He just missed working with former Channel 10 anchor, **Jane Robelot**, who was at the station but is now with Georgia Public Television.

Dick Carr, former WIP PD, and air personality, hasn't quit yet. He reflects on increasing syndication in radio by pointing out his show which is based at WOR in New York is on a simulcast in LA and San Diego, The stations are KKGO LA, and 540 San Diego which is really XSUR, a powerful Mexican station that covers southern California.

"Right now I'm having amnesia and déjà vu at the same time. I think I've forgotten this before."

Stephen Wright

And More

Those of you who are also members of the Ad Club probably noticed in their July 2005 edition that they had a story on page 20 of our Hall of Fame Inductees (more about this later), and also took a close look at our organization.

While **John Roberts** had a stroke early in June (TIA) he is now doing well, a recent call to him revealed. John, Past President and Person of the Year of the club, hopes to be with us in September.

Gerry Wilkinson, who sent a number of items for this letter, points with pride to his overachieving daughters. Maya, 27 is

working on her Ph.D. in Criminal Justice and is contributing to a number of conferences on the subject here and in Canada. Zara Wilkinson, 20, spent a year studying in the UK, and is now home to study at the University of Pittsburgh.

Many of you may have known **Nels Hobdell** who was PD at WWSH when they had a 7 share, and later was PD at Sunny, WSNI. He also worked at WHYY and NJN. Nels passed away during the summer from cancer.

Sad to report that we won't be able to hear **Herb Clarke** on KYW-AM (1060). Herb, who is 78, has been doing more than 20

garden reports a month for Newsradio. Herb told the PD, Steve Butler, that he was "putting out too much work" and wanted to cut back, and he also sought a raise. Butler said they couldn't afford the cutback. They told Herb "We won't be needing you." Herb said, OK. Herb says he got a lot of feedback from those garden reports, more than from his stints at Channel 10 where he did the weather for 39 years.. We'll miss him on the air, but look forward to seeing our Past President and Person of the Year member at meetings. Genial Herb says there are no hard feelings. (We have them though. We'll miss hearing him.)

And.....

A note from **Bob Hamilton**, former Boss Jock at WFIL, now WMXJ Miami, points out that the WFIL website contains an aircheck of him, and if you listen a couple minutes the 1970 offering contains a "People are Great" promo by newsletter editor **Paul Norton**, and an editorial by **Dick Mendenhall**. Ah-h-h, the good old days.

Members **Tom Moran** and **Al Maslin** were among volunteers who helped celebrate 60 years of Thomas the Tank engine on the

Cape May Seashore Lines Railroad 'downtheshore' at Cold Spring Station (US 9), 3 miles north of Victorian Cape May City, NJ. A couple weekends in August saw the return of steam railroading to South Jersey for the first time since 1968. Sir Topham Hatt was among the thousands who saluted the children's favorite Thomas the Tank Engine.

Welcome new member **Kennard E. Jeff Brown**, General Sales Manager of Del-

marva Broadcasting. Well known among our members,. He has previously been at WIP, WJBR, and WOGL. He has been at his present location since 1999. Hope we see him at meetings soon.

It makes our life so much easier if
you send items for the newsletter.
All of these items were sent to Paul
Norton, 205 Ocean View Blvd.,
Lewes, DE or emailed to Paul at
nnanort@comcast.net.

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