

April



Newsletter

Broadcast PIONEERS

April 2001

Issue 8

April Meeting

**Bala Golf Club
April 11, 2001**

**Reception 12:00 noon
Lunch 12:30 p.m.
Ratecard \$16.00
Phone 215-563-1310 or 856-365-5600**

AL MELTZER HEAD- LINES IN APRIL

Al Meltzer who came to Philadelphia 37 years ago as a drive time talk show host on WFIL will be our speaker on Wednesday, April 11 at Bala Golf Club. Al's local accomplishments are well documented but in addition to those he was also the play-by-play announcer for the Buffalo Bills for 7 years includ-

ing O.J. Simpson's 1974 season in which he became the first player to run over 2000 yards (14 game season). Al says they showed the run with his play-by-play that took O.J. to the new record daily during the Simpson murder trial. Alas, they don't pay for those things.

Al has worked radio-TV (UHF-VHF), and now cable with a daily show for Com-

cast.

Don't miss this one! April 11th. Please call for reservations, 215-563-1310 or 856-365-5600. The meeting will be held at the Bala Golf Club.

BOARD MEMBERS NOTE

There will be a Board Meeting at 10:30 a.m. before the luncheon at Bala. Please call regrets only to 215-563-1310 or 856-365-5600.

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Work is the curse of the drinking class.

Oscar Wilde (c.1890)

Happenings

Mark your calendars for upcoming meetings: May 9—**John Roberts** and the Scholarship Committee will salute three outstanding students from area schools with scholarships.

As a special feature at the May meeting, **Herb Clarke** has arranged, once again, for the appearance of 'pert and perky, pretty' Peggy King with accompanist Harriet Faye, NY and Philadelphia society orchestra leader. Peggy will do the great pop songs of WWII which she performed as a youngster with Bob Hope tours

and other USO tours.

On June 13, Pioneers Hall of Fame member **Gene Crane** will hold forth with lore from his long career.

Pat Delsi says that the **Marc Howard-Paul Norton** program at the March meeting was attended by the most members he has seen in a long time (excluding the Hall of Fame meeting). Many WFIL / WPVI TV people who haven't been around in a long time were there. Pat says everybody had

a great time.

Gil Thompson says that in spite of having a pacemaker, gallbladder removal, etc. he stays young by not retiring. He continues with his 15-year career teaching marketing at Penn State. Gil will be remembered for his work in sales at CBS Spot Sales (Chicago), WFIL-TV, WCAU-TV, WCAU-FM/AM...CBS/Columbia Records Director of Background Music.

He and wife Emalee were a singing team appearing on Ed Harvey's WCAU Morning

Show, Ralph Collier's Hi-Neighbor, and Emalee won the Arthur Godfrey Talent Scouts. Gil did feature bad guy roles on Action in the Afternoon on WCAU-TV. He considers living in State College a real quality of life plus for him. He and his best friend, business partner, wife of 48 years, are working on their next venture...'Decreased Turnover Solutions'...which they are developing under their 20-year company, DTS Marketing. ("Need us?")

More Happenings

Past President (1978), Person of the Year (1997) **Jerry Lee** has become involved in crime prevention in a major way. He is establishing the Jerry Lee Center of Criminology at the UOP. Dr. Lawrence Sherman, the most published criminologist in the world, is heading it up. They have developed a plan to reduce homicide by 10% a year in 30 cities that have 33% of all homicide in the country (Philadelphia is one of these). They are planning to get broadcasters in 30 cities behind the effort to reduce crime. Jerry points out that his partner, Dave Kurtz, is

providing half the money that is donated to the Jerry Lee Foundation which in turn is funding the Criminology Center. What a partner! Jerry has just been elected to the boards of the RAB and the NAB and has been on the board of the NAB longer than any broadcaster in history.

Ed Papazian and his Patty took their annual trek to London with a group from the University of Pennsylvania in March. A professor leads the group and instructs

them on what they are to see before, and critiques what they have seen after the play. This year they will see Cherry Orchard, Medea, Importance of Being Earnest, and Remembrance of Things Past. Two of the plays will be at the Royal Academy. Ed and Patty will make side trips to Stonehenge and Bath, and return on March 20 with two hours before they catch a plane to Palm Beach where they will attend the Armenian Assembly.

An intellectual is someone whose mind watches itself.

Albert Camus

And More Happenings

Our condolences to **Bucky Clark** who frequently comes to our meetings and who plays the piano at our Hall of Fame dinner. He recently lost his wife of 30 years to pancreatic cancer. Suzanne was a high school guidance counselor and her death was noted in a banner headline in the local paper. Bucky, a member of Hatboro, PA City Council, is Principal of Log College Middle School in Warminster.

the family of **Dr. Jim Corea** (Ph.D in Physical Therapy) who was for many years a therapist on the air at WWDB. He was 63. The day of his death he was to have started a show at WPEN on Saturdays from 1-3 p.m. having been among those furloughed in a change of format at 'DB. Other 'DB veterans will instead be in that spot. The **Jelineks** will be doing 'Dining Around' at that time.

nual trip to Marco Island, FL where he signed copies of his book "Television: What's Behind What you See" at local libraries while enjoying the balmy weather there. On the return trip they stopped to see former WFIL/WPVI-TV interviewer and children's show host Connie Roussen-Spann and her husband, Cardiologist Dr. James Spann, aboard their 60-foot Grand Banks Trawler in Charlestown, NC. Connie hopes to join our group soon.

All Pioneers will join in condolences to

The Captain Noah's, **Carter and Pat Merbreier**, have returned from their an-

And more

Ed Harvey and Marj Wieting-Harvey went to Alcatraz recently and found the accommodations there terrible. They visited Al Capone's old room, and that of Baby Face Nelson. Ed says the most famous alumnus of the place was the Birdman of Alcatraz, but he didn't have birds there! He had them at Leavenworth! Sheesh! You can't believe anybody!

earning their college degrees. Featured in the program were County Prosecutor Lee Soloman and Phyllis Della Vecchia, President of Camden County College.

8128.

Bob Kravitz brings his Tribute to Broadway show to Franco & Luigi's Pastaria Restaurant on April 18. For information

Kal Rudman has been honored again. This time it was for providing scholarships to men and women police officers in the county to continue working while

Welcome new member **Richard W. Gideon** who is retired and living in Lawrenceville, NJ. He began in broadcasting in 1952.

Please note the new address for member **Dorothy Crumbaker**. She can now be found at Dunwoody, Apt G303, 3500 West Chester Pike, Newtown Square, PA 19073. Her phone number is 610-325-

Please don't forget to send items for the newsletter at least three weeks before the date of the next meeting to Paul Norton at 205 Ocean View Blvd., Lewes, DE 19958, e-mail nanort@aol.com, call 1-302-645-8910, or fax 1-302-644-9036.