

of Philadelphia

May 1998

ATWATER KENT MUSEUM

May Meeting

Date: Wednesday, May 20, 1998

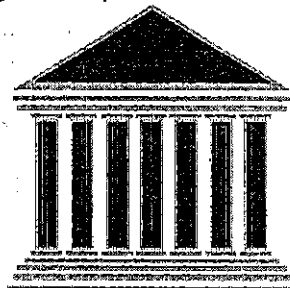
Time: 12 Noon Cocktails
12:30 p.m. Lunch

Ratecard: \$15.25

Place: Atwater Kent Museum
15 South 7th Street
Philadelphia

Reservations: Call Austin Culmer
215-247-6474

This month we go on the road to the Atwater Kent Museum for lunch in their lovely court-yard, under a tent. Following lunch, plans are in the works for a presentation to be made celebrating 50 years of television on Channel 10. (Note: it is also possible there will be a Channel 10 meeting in September much like the Channel 6 meeting of last fall.)



The Curator of Collections, Jeffrey Ray, will discuss artifacts in the collection. After the presentation, any member who wishes is welcome to wander through the museum. The museum, located at 15 South 7th Street, has plenty of parking at 7th and Market, or 7th and Ransstead. You may wish to get there by public transportation. You can take the 44 bus on City Line to 7th and Market Streets or the 9 bus from the Wissahickon Center on Ridge Avenue to 7th and Chestnut. Alternatively you can take the train to the Gallery at 9th and Market and walk over.

One change: Contact Austin Culmer for reservations at 215-247-6474. Please be sure to notify him as we need a count for the seating.

Incidentally, the reason Austin has graciously offered to fill in is because Jo Oristaglio, who has filled this job for some many years, is not

well. She has been at Lankenau Hospital and should be in a rehab facility as you read this. I'm sure all members join in wishing her a speedy recovery and quick return to good health.

Our April speaker, Pat Polillo, did not disappoint. His thought-provoking talk brought forth some animated discussion. His basic idea that "police blotter journalism", as practiced by local TV stations, leaves a viewer looking for more substantial stuff. A fire in Kensington, three car crash on the Walt Whitman, dead body found in street reporting is not good enough, and, according to Pat, PIONEERS should join an effort in trying to see to it that this is changed. He says that TV does sports and weather well.



Several members disagreed and a number supported his basic ideas. It made for a lively session. Shelly Gross and Alan Tripp have been working to have something of this kind accomplished and to have the club active in such efforts.

It was great to see Max Solomon up from Florida for the session, looking very well and enjoying the festivities with George Koehler. President Shelly was unable to be there as he was treating a continuing respiratory problem, but VP Pat Delsi filled in admirably. He called on Ed Papazian to report on the NYC trip that a number of our group took and which, according to all reports, was a great success.

It added a thousand dollars to the club's coffers. Congratulations to Ed and John Beaty and to all who participated in getting it together. Ed Harvey introduced Pat Polillo.

Dori Lenz advises that the nominating committee has completed its chores, and all of the officers of last year will continue for 98-99. (As Joe Niagara used to say, "It's so nice, we'll play it twice.")



Shelly Gross	President
Pat Delsi	Vice President
Ed Harvey	Vice President
Neil Harvey	Vice President
Jo Oristaglio	Secretary
Lydia DeGuio	Treasurer
Robert I. Goldy, Esq.	Legal Advisor

Additionally, board members nominated for a three-year term are:

Ed Cunningham	Marie Pantarelli
Roger Krone	John Roberts
Lynn Lonker	Kal Rudman
	Bill Webber

Great to see Al Meltzer back on the air and looking good. Al underwent angioplasty, which cleared a blockage that was at about 90%. Al's planning retirement somewhat later this year. He'll be missed by his many fans in Philadelphia.

E-mail greetings came this month from former General Manager of WRTI, Ted Eldredge, a Philadelphia PIONEERS' member. Ted, who can be e-mailed at teldredge@wim.org (Ted Eldredge), left Temple University a year ago last September and relocated in South Florida last May 1. He works during the day at WLRN Public TV and radio in Miami doing sales and loving it. (In the



world of Public Broadcasting, they call it "underwriting solicitation.") On Fridays and Saturdays, he moonlights at WTMI, the commercial classical station, doing on-air work. Please note Ted's new address is 4800 Taft Street, Hollywood, Florida 33021-02248. His home phone is 954-967-8389, and work is 305-995-2248. He says they are trying to get a PIONEERS group in Florida but so far it is to no avail.

Nice to see PIONEERS' members, Frank and Mary Jelinek, in David Iams column in the "Inquirer", with picture, celebrating their previously noted award as Golden Slipper Camps "Angel of the Year."

Our thanks to Lydia DeGuio for clipping and passing along items she sees on members.

Mark June 17th on your calendar for the last meeting before the summer break of our club. John Roberts, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, will preside and Marc Howard will make the presentations to our winners of scholarships to careers in broadcasting. We'll be back for this one at our regular stomping grounds at Bala Golf Club.



We're sad to report that a PIONEERS member, who had recently returned to the area and attended a meeting of our group, has died. Martin N. Oebbecke, 84, was a pioneer in local radio, having been an engineer at WIBG, WLIT (later WFIL), and WIP. He later supervised construction and establishment of WAEB in Allentown.

During the cold war he served as Deputy Director of Radio Free Europe which he joined in

1950 in Munich, Germany. In his job he was responsible for transmitting programs to Eastern block countries. His last assignment was in charge of the RFE office in Lisbon, Portugal.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Mary Elizabeth, and three children. President Shelly Gross has sent appropriate condolences to the family and in this is joined by all members of the Philadelphia PIONEERS.

Welcome to new members:

Mitchell L. Cohen 609-386-2464 (H)
180 Riverbank
Burlington, NJ 08016

Working with Board member, John Beaty, at WWJZ in Mt. Holy.

Anthony Oscapinski 610-828-3136 (H)
4064 N. Warner Rd.
Lafayette Hill, PA 19444

Retired Channel 6 cameraman and scenic artist.

A. W. Power 610-328-9808 (H)
534 Hempstead Rd.
Springfield, PA 19064

Retired from RCA as Director of International Marketing, Broadcast Division. RCA was responsible for worldwide broadcast equipment sales.

Don't forget to get the news to Paul Norton for the Newsletter. By phone at 302-645-8910, e-mail NaNort@AOL.com, or write 205 Ocean View Blvd., Lewes, DE 19958.