

May Newsletter



May 2006

Issue 9

May Meeting
Bala Golf Club
May 17, 2006
Reservations 856-365-5600 or rsvp@broadcastpioneers.com

Reception 11:45 a.m.
Lunch 12:15 p.m.
Ratecard \$25.00

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“This one was so nice we’ll play it twice.” No, we’re not talking about a record on WIBG in the good old days. We’re talking about **Ray Didinger**, whom we promised as our guest speaker in January, but a family illness got in the way. So once didn’t work, we’ll do it twice. Again, it will be the third Wednesday, May 17, at Bala.

“Football America.” A winner of many awards, Didinger’s name was just added to the Writer’s Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio. He has just been inducted into the Philadelphia Sports Hall of Fame as a winner of the Legacy of Excellence Award for 2005. Ray’s bio is more extensive than we can do credit to here so please check our website for the full story www.broadcastpioneers.com.



Ray Didinger

Ray is familiar to many of us from his days as a sports guy on the Philadelphia Bulletin and later on the Daily News for 26 years before joining the “NFL Films Present” and the Turner Network Documentary

We’ll gather for conversation at 11:45, and have lunch served at 12:15 pm. We need your help, as usual, by calling 856-365-5600 or emailing us at rsvp@broadcastpioneers.com

to make your reservations. Again, the fee is \$25 for lunch. It’s May 17 at Bala Golf Club.



BOARD MEETING

There will be a 10 am meeting of the Board before the luncheon on May 17. All Board Members are urged to attend.

Happenings

Don’t forget that when **Ray Didinger** shows up **Ed Harvey** wants to be there to present Ray, who has just published an Encyclopedia of the Philadelphia Eagles, with a photo copy of a picture he has from the banquet for the Championship Eagles team of 1948-49. Ed will bring with him a copy of Ray’s new book which Ed purchased and hopes, in exchange, to get autographed. The picture includes Ed at the podium as Toastmaster wearing an Eagles helmet, with Coach Earl “Greasy” Neale peeking around the podium. Commissioner Bert Bell, and all of the Cham-

pionship team were at the three head tables. The owners of the Eagles, at the time, were joint owners composed of Philadelphians including many politicians, who were there. By the way, Ed was also involved in the 1960 Championship team doing color commentary for Bill Campbell’s play-by-play. Television in 1960 was handled by member Jack Whitaker and color by the late Bosh Pritchard.

Congratulations to **Ed Hurst**, again! A recent note from Cissy indicates that he has been

chosen as an individual who reflects an important part of the industry of broadcasting in Philadelphia. He will be interviewed as part of a living history project for the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences as an exemplar of what may be called ‘the good old days of broadcasting.’ Out-takes of Steel Pier Shows will be found, and show what Ed and his crew did there. Ed certainly was in the forefront of broadcasting history in both radio and television, and, of course, with the late **Joe Grady**, he was selected as Person of the Year by our club.

“They think they can get fuel from horse manure. I don’t know if your car will be able to get 30 miles to the gallon, but it’ll sure put a stop to siphoning.”

Billie Holliday

More Happenings

Al Meltzer continues his very active retirement. A recent talk with him revealed that he had just returned from, among other places, Las Vegas, where he and Barbara enjoyed the company of **Vince and Franki Leonard**. Vince and Al were part of that fabulous team they had at KYW 3 some 30 years ago. Vince is playing a lot of golf and loves retirement, says Al. With a little travel left in them, the peripatetic Meltzers stopped to see **Roy Shapiro** and Elaine in West Palm Beach, Florida. Roy was GM of KYW Newsradio. They then traveled on to Fort Pierce, FL to spend the night with the **Mort Crim's**, on the Crim Yacht.

And More

If you've always wanted to give **Irv Homer** what for, a dose of his own medicine, a piece of your mind, here's your chance. Irv, aka Evil Irving, for 25 years the scourge of people interested in Truth, Justice and the American Way, will be roasted at Dave and Busters in Northeast Philadelphia at Franklin Mills (formerly Jillians). It will be held on Sunday, September 17, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. and will benefit the Sunshine Foundation. Come on out, and support this effort to Bash Irv, and raise money for a good cause at the same time. Phone Dave Bailey at the Sunshine Foundation, 215-396-4770, or email dbailey@sunshinefoundation.org and let

And.....

Welcome new members: **Samuel Speiser**, General Manager of Global Radio LLC in Bala; **Valerie Morrison**, a Psychic Counselor and Medium who has been appearing on radio and television for the past 30 years. She includes The Joe Franklin, Phil Donohue, Sally Jesse Raphael, and Jenny Jones shows among her many credits. **William Gellhaus**, who has been in broadcasting for 36 years and is now Chief Engineer for WGLS, Rowan University, in Glassboro, NJ. Welcome to all of you and we look forward to seeing you soon at meetings.

These guys are living the high life in retirement. The Meltzers next traveled to Del Ray Beach and to the Convention Center there where 'Big Al' delighted the crowd of the Philadelphia Club of South Florida with stories about things in Philly.

Bill Wright, Sr. may be moving back to Philadelphia. At least that's the last word we had from him. Bill now has his back fixed (at the University of Alabama) and is longing for the old environs. Naturally, Bill was involved in a lot of things while there. They did a huge article on him on

him know that you will be a Roaster. THIS COULD BE YOUR BIG CHANCE TO GET EVEN WITH IRV.

I'm sure you're aware that all newsletters have gremlins that bug them now and again. Last month ours struck in listing the Vice Presidents of the Club for the coming year. Somehow Dr. Diego Castellanos was left out. The Channel 6 host of Puerto Rican Panorama for the last 25 years is the last one that that should happen to. Please add Diego to the other VP's **Barry Reisman**, and **Jerry Klein**.

Letter writer **Paul Norton** will be away from his desk for the last week of April and the first week of May in Osaka, Japan. Youngest son Mark, 40, who teaches English to corporate executives in Japan, will be married for the first time to Ai Tanabe there in a Christian service. His parents, her parents, and all 5 Norton children and spouses will be on hand to toast the happy couple, and do some touring of 'The Land of the Rising Sun.'

the front page of the Local Section of the Villages Daily Sun (Villages at Lady Lake, FL). A picture shows Bill and **Hy Lit with the Beatles** in Philadelphia in 1964. We were all pretty young then.

I've got a great diet. You can eat anything you want, but you have to eat it with naked fat people."

Ed Bluestone

A note from busy DJ **Michael Tearson** gives a long list of his current activities. Mondays-Fridays 1-7 pm, he is on Sirius' Classic Vinyl Channel. He says he's glad to be back after Folk Town channel shut down. On the Disorder Channel his Bob Dylan Radio Hour airs Sundays 10 am and 7 pm. He continues on WMGK and WBZC at Burlington County College with Psychedelic Psupper and The Attic Show. He is about to log his 1000th hour produced in his home studio, LynTown Sound CFZ (Consultant Free Zone). Whew! Busy guy.



Don't forget we need your help with the newsletter: email items to Paul at nanort@comcast.net, mail Paul Norton at 205 Ocean View Blvd., Lewes, DE 19958 or phone 302-645-8910.