

January Newsletter

Broadcast **PIONEERS**

January 2003

Issue 5

January Meeting Williamson's January 15, 2003

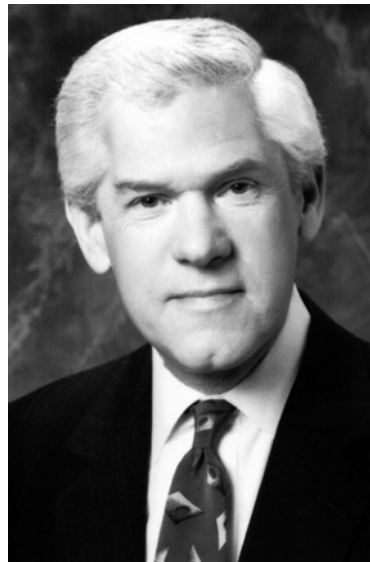
Reception 12:00 noon
Lunch 12:30 pm
Ratecard \$18 Members / \$20 Non-members
Phone 610-436-4217

A brand new year to work with, and a new season of Broadcast Pioneers luncheons. Please note: This is a change...Williamson's Restaurant. Bala is closed. We will meet for conversation at 12 noon, and lunch at 12:30.

We start the year with a real headliner...**Marc Howard**, who has long been anchor of the #1 early news (5 pm) on Channel 6. He has just begun his new job as anchor of the 11 pm news at Channel 3, KYW-TV in Philadelphia. Marc has spent

a lifetime in news and should bring light to whatever he chooses to discuss.

Make reservations early, PLEASE, so the room will be properly set up when you get there. Call 610-436-4217. We may get charged extra for people if they have to set up extra tables, make more meals, etc. PLEASE! Call reservations to 610-436-4217 or e-mail morris-sam6@aol.com. Join us on Wednesday, January 15 at Williamson's on City Line.



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She put a bullet,
Through his hat,
But he's had
Closer shaves than
that

Burma Shave

Happenings

What a wonderful program we had for the December meeting. Those who were there were amply rewarded by several of the most charming disc jockeys in the history of Philadelphia from WIP at a time when the station was the best there was. **Wee Willie Webber** was host, and **Dean Tyler**, Program Director, **Tom Moran**, **Tom Lamaine**, **Nat Wright**, and Music Director **Bob Russo** told anecdotes of the golden days of broadcasting at a truly great station. A great, warm, wonderful meeting.

Brian Hurst, son of **Ed and Cissie**, who spoke to our club a couple years ago, has been elected to the Board of Governors of the TV Academy of Arts and Sciences (they vote for honorees of the Emmy Awards). He is also on the Board of the Producers Guild of America, new media counsel. Brian went to college with **Alex Baldwin** and recently ran into him. "Alex, do you remember me?" Baldwin didn't, at first. When Brian told him who he was, Baldwin said, "Sheehs! You weren't bald

when I knew you."

Mel Alpern, long time member of the Pioneer's and a member of Bala Golf Club, recently explained that the reason he does not get to our meetings often is because he has a golf date Wednesdays at the club. One of these days he promises he'll join us.

"The louder he talked of his honor, the faster we counted our spoons."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

The peripatetic **Jelineks** continue their traveling, though not as much. They recount their adventures on Saturdays on WPEN-AM—10 am to 12 n. Recently they've been to Ireland and to Williamsburg, VA. They head for St. Croix in the Virginia Islands in February.

We need your help to keep the letter going. Please contact Paul Norton with items three weeks in advance of meetings. He can be contacted at 205 Ocean View Blvd., Lewes, DE 19958, or phone 1-302-645-8910, or e-mail nanort@aol.com.

More Happenings

Larry Kane, who was our Person of the Year, enjoyed one of the largest ever crowds for the event at Bala Golf Club and now, **John Roberts** informs us, Larry was M.C. of the Temple University School of Communications Awards evening. The school presented its major award to Pioneer's member **Roy Shapiro** who has for many years managed the top rated radio station in Philadelphia, KYW Newsradio. Among a number of awards at the event was one to Charles Sherman, former head of the National Association of Broadcasters

Many Pioneers will recall with affection **Wally Kinnan**, the weatherman,, who la-

And More

He just keeps on truckin'. We mean Pioneers Past President and Person of the Year **Max E. Solomon**, now 95 or 96, but who counts. He had his first job at WFIL in the Strawbridge and Clothier rug department (they put up rugs for studio acoustics) in 1929, and stayed with WFIL until he retired in 1966. At retirement, Max E. headed for Miami Beach and warmer climes but he recently moved back because the children wanted he and his wife nearby. He still returns and is just back from there as he sold their apartment in Miami. They now live at the Philadelphian. He reports

And.....

Bill Wright, Sr. can tell you the weather without looking out the window. The Wibbage disc jockey who owned the Philadelphia market in the 50's and 60's has had recent hip implant surgery and it has begun to give him weather bulletins. He feels it, he says. But Bill gets around, and works part-time for the Pacifico Group in Ardmore doing marketing and telephoning for them. He's looking forward to doing some voice-overs in the near future.

Member **Rich Kellman** who spent a number of years in Philadelphia at WFIL before leaving to become an anchor at WGRZ-TV in Buffalo is now, after 28 years, a Senior Correspondent there. When we talked to

bored here at Channel 3 in the sixties. He also did the weather in Oklahoma City, Cleveland and Tampa, FL. Kinnan died in Houston at the end of November of an aortic aneurysm. He was 83.

In another part of his life, Kinnan had played trumpet in the Jimmy Dorsey band, was a WW2 bomber pilot, shot down over Germany. He was a prisoner at Stalag Luft 3 at Sagan, Germany. According to his younger son, Air Force Lt. General Timothy Kinnan, he organized a prisoner band with instruments donated by the International Red Cross. The band played to distract captors and allow others to dig a tunnel out of their prison. The escape was

that the children and grandchildren are all doing well. Must be good genes.

Art Andrews, longtime news anchor on WPEN in the morning, continues his stint at the studios working for MetroNews. Art has been there since 1984 and loves his schedule, which might cause some to blink. He is at the station from 4 am until 9 am. He has no plans to retire. He does various other things for the station, including a recent infomercial for 'Vital Heart.' He is available for voice-overs and does some at

him recently he had been on vacation around the house for a week while wife Ann pursued her job doing cosmetic hair removal. Their daughters are married. One lives in Alexandria, VA and covers Congress for the AP, while her husband is an aid to Sen. Kip Bond of MS. They have a two year old daughter. The other daughter and her husband work doing films in New York City. Their recent activities were films for Viacom and MTV. Living in the home of Lake Effect Snows, Rich has become a practiced snow shoveler.

Tom Monaghan's WFIL party was a big success with people from all over returning

immortalized in a book and a 1963 movie "The Great Escape." For more details on his life check out our website, www.broadcastpioneers.com.

Congratulations to member **Jerry Klein** who has been given a Lifetime Achievement Award for his years of service to Pinnacle Worldwide at a meeting in Sante Fe, NM in September. Pinnacle is an international network of independent public relations firms with 60 offices worldwide. Ann Klein Associates has been a member since 1992, and Jerry has served, and continues to serve, in various of the groups leadership posts.

American College in Bryn Mawr.

It was great to see **Grace Kenny** at the recent Hall of Fame dinner. Grace has not been able to join us often as she works part-time Wednesdays at the Hallmark card store near her home. She says she has recently been in touch with former WFIL cameraman and director John Hoban whose wife recently died. John spends his time on the golf course, Grace says.

to get together and relive the great days of the station. Banana Joe came up from Florida, and Long John Wade was there with many others. **Larry Mendte** now prime anchor at Channel 10 returned to relive his intern days at WFIL. Linda Coleman, Phyllis Fisher, Dick Fennessy and Lee Richards all gathered for the event, as did **Tom Moran**. Tom wasn't at WFIL, he was at WIP, but he likes a party, so, invited, he came. This will be the last of the Monaghan station parties. Should there be more Mel Klawinsky will be the host. Tom still runs his Philly Chili cook-off and his Cheesecake, peach and apple cobbler events. He has a full plate, so to speak.