

The Broadcast PIONEER

Official Publication of the Philadelphia Chapter of Broadcast Pioneers

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The annual "Penny" holiday party was somewhat smaller and a lot less ebullient than usual because the "Penny" was missing. Harold Pannepacker ended up in intensive care on the 2nd of January and celebrated his 70th birthday in the hospital. He was home on the 10th but the party really missed his estimable touch. He hopes to be at the February meeting. Jack Creamer substituted and did a great job at the party. Penny, as he always has, contributed the "more wine for my friends."

It's a pity that we have to start off the new year with more bad news, but our Pioneer's Treasurer, Don Dafilou, died suddenly at work at WPVI-TV on December 26th. Don had not had any previous serious medical problems and several of those who worked with him that day could find nothing in his behavior that gave any indication that he experienced any significant discomfort.

Many of our members were among the standing room only crowd of mourners at his funeral service at Temple Beth Am on Sunday, December 29th. The service was spectacular, according to President Dorie Lenz, in its tribute to Don's many civic, union, and religious efforts over the years. In addition to his work with Pioneers, Don was Vice President of his synagogue and was also Vice President of I.A.T.S.E. Local 804 which represents many of the broadcast technical workers in this area. Professionally, Don performed many different functions at WPVI-TV, both technical and production, and was floor director on most of the telethons and parades which were broadcast by the station. Everyone will miss him.

Fred Bell, our previous Treasurer, has picked up the reins and will administer that department for us for the remainder of Don's term.

NEXT MEETING...NEXT MEETING...NEXT MEETING...NEXT MEETING

Big meeting coming up in February. Taylor Grant has booked as our speaker Tom Brookshier. The legendary Eagle, sportscaster, morning sports talk maven, and broadcast property partner (WIP), will discuss sports of all sorts at our regular meeting on February 19th. Our usual reminder: your R.S.V.P. is VERY IMPORTANT!! We really need to know how many will attend. Please give Jo Oristaglio a call at (215) 642-3298 and let her know that you will be attending. The other information remains the same: Williamson's Restaurant in the GSB Building on City Line Ave. Cocktails (cash bar) at noon with lunch at 12:30 P.M. and the tab is still \$13.00. Please pay by check if you can. It certainly makes life easier for those checking people in at the door. **ADVANCE NOTICE IS A MUST. DON'T FORGET TO R.S.V.P. to Jo Oristaglio at (215) 642-3298.**

Secretary Al Maslin reports that all of those who have not paid their membership dues at this point have been dropped from our chapter. These people were almost 5 months behind in their dues. Even though we've lost some members, we do have some new members to report as you'll see below. (

Our apologies to Edna Whittington, who was kind enough to let us know that Howard Jones had undergone surgery. It was in the holiday rush that we somehow left that item out of the December newsletter.

People News:

President Dorie Lenz is off on a trip to Hong Kong. More info about that will be forthcoming.

Harry Haas, past President, has had knee surgery, and if you don't mind the limp, he's doing fine.

From the New Members Department please welcome the following:

Kris Chandler, who is an announcer at The Right People, Inc. in West Chester. In broadcasting since 1966 he has also been with WFIL, WCAU-FM, and WUSL-FM.

Jack Ryan is an account executive with WGBS-TV and has been in broadcasting since 1968. (

Harold Parsons, Jr. is Director of Operations for channel 12. He has been in broadcasting since 1958.

Martin Peltzman started in broadcasting in 1950 and is now retired.

John Paul Weber, who was with WIP from March of 1937 to October of 1985 and is now retired and living in Pennsauken.

Fred Bauer, who is President of The Bauer Cohen Co. which is located in Beverly Hills, CA. Fred started in broadcasting in 1962 and now resides in Carversville, PA.

G. Edward Wallis, retired Vice President of Group W, Westinghouse, began in broadcasting in 1934. He first joined Pioneers in 1937 and was an announcer at WIP in 1934. He currently lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Have any news for the newsletter? If you do, please contact Paul Norton at WPVI-TV. His phone number is (215) 878-9700.

This issue written by Paul Norton
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