

The

Broadcast



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Our annual Person of the Year dinner was a great success. In a celebration that was described as the biggest and best ever, the Philadelphia Chapter of Broadcast Pioneers honored Gene McCurdy on May 23rd in a memorable and appropriate manner at the Adam's Mark Hotel. There were 275 people there to honor Gene for his work in the broadcasting industry. President Herb Clarke M.C.'d as a number of Gene's friends spoke about him. Among those presenting kudo's were WCAU-TV Anchorman Larry Kane, who knew Gene from his days at WFIL Radio and TV. Former Person of the Year award recipient and past President of our chapter (1968-1969) Max E. Solomon, now 83 years old, came in from his retirement in Florida for the occasion looking better than ever. They were backed up by Susan Rynn, Vice-President of the Independent TV Association, and Dave Krantz, former President of the Pennsylvania Association of Broadcasters, who is with WTAE in Pittsburgh. While dinner was being served there was a constant slide show of Gene along with some of the people from his past.

Art Moore was presented with a token of our appreciation for all of the work he has done for our chapter over the years. Art, who is currently Director of Station Promotions and Advertising for WPVI-TV, will be leaving his position there and will become Director of Programming at WABC-TV in New York. Our congratulations to Art and a big "thank you" for a job well done. Art has indicated that he will maintain his membership in our chapter although his active participation in the future will be limited.

Art, who is Chairperson of our Scholarship Committee, then made the official announcement of the winners of this year's Walter H. Annenberg Scholarship which is sponsored by our chapter. As you know, the profits from our Person of the Year event go to our scholarship fund. This year our Scholarship Committee awarded two \$1000.00 scholarships. One went to Mary Jo Bird who is a student at East Tennessee State University. The other went to Barbara Abseck who is studying communications at Villanova University. Both students were invited to attend our Person of the Year dinner to hear the official announcement of the awarding of their scholarships. Mary Jo could not attend, but Barbara, who lives in West Babylon, New York came in to be with us for the evening. Barbara gave a short talk about herself and her plans in the Communications Industry and she thanked us for presenting her with one of this year's scholarships.

Dinner at the Adam's Mark Hotel was great. Prime rib with all the trimmings. Entertainment was provided by our own Larry Ferrari at the organ during the cocktail hour and by Bucky Clark, a friend of Larry's, who played the piano during dinner. Thanks also go to Lew Klein and his committee who put this wonderful evening together and also to those who helped during the event. Truly a great time was had by all.

N E X T M E E T I N G !

Our next meeting will be held on June 21, 1989 at Williamson's Restaurant in the GSB Building on City Line Ave. in Philadelphia. Cocktails will be available at noon with lunch beginning at 12:30 P.M. The price for lunch will be the usual \$12.00. As this will be our last meeting prior to the summer hiatus, there will be no formal program but, instead, this will be a chapter business meeting which will include the election of officers for next year. President Herb Clarke would like all committee chairpersons to be present or to have a designated hitter there for them. We will hear reports from all of our committees including their activities and recommendations for the coming year. All members are invited to attend. If you haven't attended one of our meetings as yet, this will be a good opportunity for you to meet those people who help make this organization run. Please R.S.V.P. to Dorie Lenz at WPHL-TV at (215) 878-1700.

Congratulations are in order for chapter member Tom Moyer. Tom, who has been Chief Engineer for the WFLN stations for a number of years was recently promoted to Vice-President and Director of Engineering for Marlin Broadcasting Company which now owns WFLN-FM as well as other classical music stations around the country.

Susan Drake will soon be off on a trip to Africa. We wish her a safe and interesting journey.

Please welcome new member Austin Culmer, Jr. He's a talk show host at WCAU-AM and has been a fixture in Philadelphia area broadcasting for the past 25 years. It is a pleasure to have Austin with us.

A reminder....DUES WILL BE DUE SHORTLY. Our membership year 1989-1990 will begin on September 1st and you will soon be receiving a renewal notice in the mail (sometime in July). If you are a recent new member and do not receive a dues notice, don't panic. Since you joined rather recently, your initial dues will carry you through the end of August of 1990.

Those of you who attended the Person of the Year dinner received a name tag in a plastic holder when you arrived. PLEASE KEEP THEM! They will be great to use at our regular meetings and other chapter events as well. For those of you who could not attend, your name tags will be available at our regular meeting.

This will be our last newsletter until September. We hope that you have enjoyed reading our material over the past year. If you would like to contribute any information about our members and their activities or other news that may be of interest to our members, please send your item to Paul Norton at WPVI-TV, 4100 City Line Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19131 or you can call Paul at (215) 878-9700.

HAVE A NICE AND SAFE SUMMER!!!!

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