



# WESTINGHOUSE SURE NEWS

[www.westinghousesure.org](http://www.westinghousesure.org)

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## The President's Message

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Mary joins me in taking this opportunity to extend our very best wishes to each of you for continued good health, happiness and prosperity as we embark on the New Year 2012. Thank you for your selfless participation in SURE's community service and member service programs. You've certainly done your part to demonstrate the spirit of Westinghouse people—the spirit of reaching out to those in need and offering your hand to help.

The SURE organization had an excellent year in 2011. We ended the year with 882 members, a modest increase over year end 2010. As I write this, SURE serves the community in 40 volunteer programs, and has 7 member service activities. About 90% of your volunteer hours are dedicated to Community Service. On behalf of all the people you serve so selflessly—Thanks a million!

Dues and Donations were also up, in part owing to the generosity you showed in donating to the SURE Matching Gift Program. It was started last year in an attempt to provide some additional support to the charitable organizations we serve with our volunteer efforts. The program was successful, with nearly the entire amount being used; the residual was donated to our County Food Banks. The Board approved the Matching Gift Program for 2012. Let's all do our part by donating to keep the Fund solvent. See the Application Form on page 15.

2011 brought some changes in key individuals who have held leadership positions, and they will be greatly missed. In April, Trips and Tours coordinator Gerry Angel passed away suddenly. That activity is now under the direction of Howard Finney and Bob Plummer who have engaged the help of Rose Marie DeRiso to plan future SURE trips. Nick Sowko has assumed the position as Director of Projects, replacing Marvin Chidester who retired after seven years at the helm. And finally, Agnes Sink has retired as Coordinator of SURE's Hospital Volunteers, a program she started twenty-two years ago. That program has been divided into three projects with Judith Buchanan, Walter Thomas and Marv Chidester as Coordinators.

We learned recently that the owner of the Churchill property had settled its lawsuit with CBS Corporation, and has decided to put the site up for sale. We have been advised that we are welcome to continue our use of the facilities pending the sale. While the future is somewhat uncertain, we will continue to house the SURE office at Churchill, and use the auditorium there to hold the Financial Roundtable meetings. Many thanks to Winthrop Management for its generosity to the SURE organization.

And finally, don't forget to pay your 2012 dues—SURE can't continue its leadership role in volunteerism and in our member services without your participation. And please—add an extra donation if you're able to. It will help more than you can possibly realize!

*To the world you may be only one person, but to one person you may be the world....Anonymous*

**Westinghouse SURE News**

Published six times a year

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(If no answer please leave a short message, we will return your call.)

## The Westinghouse Memorial in Schenley Park

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The Westinghouse Memorial, capturing the industrial spirit of a man and a region, is an elaborate sculpture facing a small pond and fountain in Schenley Park. The memorial was financed by small contributions from almost 55,000 employees of the Westinghouse Corporation around the world. It was dedicated in 1930 before a crowd of thousands, and the ceremony aired on KDKA as well as stations in



Boston and Chicago. President Herbert Hoover sent a letter that was read before the crowd expressing America's gratitude for George Westinghouse's inventions and industrial advancements.

Architects Henry Hornbostel and Eric Fisherwood designed the monument and the surrounding landscape, including the pond, trees, and location of black granite benches. They chose renowned sculptor Daniel Chester French to design the sculptures, including the bronze "American Youth," a young man taking inspiration from Mr. Westinghouse, which was described by art critics as "the finest portrayal of American boyhood." The middle portion of the monument depicts George Westinghouse standing between a mechanic and an engineer, with the surrounding panels (created by sculptor Paul Fjelde) illustrating Westinghouse's achievements.

Over the years, the Westinghouse Memorial and Pond has fallen into disrepair and is badly in need of a major renovation. The pond was drained sometime ago due to a damaged liner and broken storm water piping beneath it. The Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy has developed a listing of the needed repair which is expected to cost in excess of \$1.5 million. One of the significant components of the restoration initiative is storm water

mitigation that will solve decades old maintenance problems. Other needed items include extending the walkway behind the Memorial for improved access and viewing, a new and improved concrete liner for the pond, including new drain components and water supply, improved lighting for the memorial, pond and surrounding landscape and a selection of tree and shrub plantings that will better accent the unique landscape and compliment the Memorial.

Contributions are being solicited by the Parks Conservancy. To donate, please refer to their website at

<https://www.pittsburghparks.org/donate#>  
(designate your contribution to "Westinghouse Pond") or phone (412) 682-7275, to learn more about the project. As Westinghouse retirees, we can all help to provide some of the funds needed to renovate this priceless memorial to the Corporation's founder, and return it to a state of which we can all be proud.

## Spotlight Award for January 2012

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**Marv Chidester** is our Spotlight Volunteer for January. He has been SURE's Project Director for the past seven years, and has accumulated over 5000 hours in that period.

A longtime volunteer in church activities, Marv joined the Westinghouse Male Chorus in 1967 at the invitation of Lee Johns. He became President of the chorus in 1989 and served in that capacity until the Chorus disbanded. In 2004, Marv joined SURE, became involved in the Financial Roundtable, and was soon selected as Director of Projects. During his term of office, Marv has selected dozens of Spotlight Awardees, contributed to monthly Board meetings, served on all the Annual Award Committees, all the while directing SURE's large cadre of Project Coordinators. Marv's greatest joy has been meeting and coming to appreciate the selfless efforts of each of SURE's Spotlight Award winners, selected for that distinction for their long service and dedication to the needy.

Marv grew up in McKeesport, and after working for that city and serving in the US Army Signal Corps, he attended West Virginia University and

earned a BSEE in 1966. He then joined Westinghouse at the Astronuclear Laboratory in Large, PA and was assigned to the NERVA Nuclear Rocket program at its underground test facility in Nevada. Late in 1967, he left the NERVA program for the Westinghouse Information Systems Lab (WISL), and spent most of the rest of his career in software systems. Marv made contributions to a nuclear plant training simulator in Japan, a power control system for Cleveland Electric Illuminating, a control system for a Bethlehem Steel Plant in New York and a test system for Westinghouse Industrial Systems Division.

WISL was absorbed by Advanced Systems



Maury

Nick

Marv

Joanne

Technology, where he worked on a power planning package for an electric utility of Saudi Arabia. In 1980, AST moved to Penn Center where Marv was responsible for the group's DEC computer system. When AST was sold to the ABB Corp. in 1986, Marv moved back to the Astronuclear site in Large, now the Machinery Technology Division where he prepared alarm procedures for the Hanford Nuclear site, test procedures for the Sizewell B nuclear power plant control system, the design and testing of control cabinets for the Temelin Nuclear power plant, and a trouble shooting manual for equipment provided by MTD for the US Navy. Marv retired in 1996 when MTD closed, then worked as a consultant for the Temelin nuclear power plant, finally retiring in 2000.

Marv met Joanne, a Westinghouse Gateway employee in 1971 and they were married in 1976.

Joanne went on to serve as an Administrator to Westinghouse CEO Robert Kirby, and for other Westinghouse Executives. Marv and Joanne have two daughters, Beth and Amy, and are now blessed with six grandchildren, ages 6 to 14. Since both families live in the area, Marv and Joanne spend considerable time visiting. Marv plays tennis and continues to sing with his church choir, while Joanne stays busy with family and several bridge clubs.

Westinghouse SURE thanks Marv Chidester for the myriad contributions he's made in his seven years of unfailing service as Director of Projects. He has made our organization stronger by his efforts and his sharp focus on SURE's success. Well Done!!!

## **Volunteer Tutors Needed for Adults**

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According to a recent census, one in five adults in the US is functionally illiterate. Thirteen percent of residents in Allegheny County age 25 or over have no high school diploma or GED. The consequences for them and our society include poverty, lack of employment, compromised health, failure to participate in the community, and inheritance of poor literacy skills by their children.

And, according to the census, more than 80,000 people in the U.S. do not speak English. It is difficult for them to function. They aren't able to understand notes from school about their children and letters from their banks or utilities, or distinguish advertisements from government notices.

The Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council (GPLC) was formed to address these problems. Volunteer tutors are trained by GPLC and then assigned to teach one or a few adults. The tutors decide whether they prefer to teach basic education to Americans or to teach English as a second language (ESL). GPLC provides books and other assistance. Classes are scheduled by the tutors and their students. They meet in public places, such as a library or Starbucks, generally twice a week for two hours each time. Schedules are flexible to meet the students' and tutors' vacations and other commitments.

If you would like to learn more about this worthwhile program and to find out whether it would be a good volunteer opportunity for you, please contact Ron Lawrence.

## **The Consumer Corner**

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### **Pennsylvania Discovers Cyberspace! Sees Opportunity for More Taxes**

When Governor Rendell discovered that Pennsylvanians were going out-of-state to lose their money and life savings on gambling, he set in motion a means for them to lose it in PA. Now our government has decided that we shouldn't shop out-of-state or in cyberspace to avoid PA's sales or "use" tax. Hold on to your wallets again!

As long as we can recall, PA has applied sales tax to a wide variety of items we buy. We go to our area "brick and mortar" community stores and add 6%, 7% or 8% sales tax (based upon the county of sale) on our total purchases, with exception for most food, clothing and all drugs. It has also been the rule that if you made an out-of-state purchase via catalogue or otherwise, of an expensive PA taxable item, such as electronics or appliances, that you were required to voluntarily file a "use tax" form and a remittance to the Commonwealth Dept. of Revenue. Very few PA consumers knew of the law, or if they did, they failed to comply in the absence of an adequate means for Pennsylvania enforcement.

That was then and this is now the era of internet shopping. Cyber shopping has become vogue and Pennsylvania wants in on the action. It is unfortunate that the people we elect to govern us feel that taking more of our earnings trumps being efficient and effective in governing us with the means at hand.

PA has declared that they will begin "use tax" enforcement in 2012 (on 2011 purchases) as part of their efforts to recoup some of the estimated \$380 million in lost cyberspace and catalogue sales tax revenues. There will be a new line on the 2011 PA-40 income tax form which will require your disclosure of your heretofore untaxed catalogue and online buys.

To make this happen, shoppers would have to save their receipts all year (with 2011 already behind us), and if no applicable PA sales tax was included, it would have to be totally reconciled by the taxpayer with payment to the state, along with their annual income tax. The Dept. of Revenue has stated, in their misguided wisdom, that it is the taxpayer's responsibility, by law, to reconcile, report and pay the added tax. I will note here that merchants receive 1% of their gross sales tax collection for their efforts to collect the taxes and remit them to the state. Taxpayers will likely not get the same deal for their work.

In the new PA income tax forms, the Department of Revenue gives taxpayers the option of paying their cyberspace and online sale taxes based on their actual receipted calculations (2011 is over) or just allowing them to estimate an appropriate added sales tax levy based on their income. What a choice!

Critics of the Commonwealth's plan are interested in the mechanics of enforcement because of the peculiar sales tax quirks and exemptions unique to Pennsylvania. How will honest Pennsylvanians know whether they are paying the right amount? Pennsylvania has 3 different sales tax rates and a slew of gray areas as to what items are taxable and what is not taxable. Some items, such as sewing notions, can be taxable or not taxable based on their use. There are 50 states that all have different sales tax rules and rates, making for one confusing mess. If someone pays sales tax to another state at a lower rate than in Pennsylvania do they owe just the difference, or if they pay a higher rate, such as New York charges, should they get a refund? The questions are unending and there are few, if any, reasonable explanations being offered by Harrisburg's revenue hawking profiteers.

They just need more revenue and the only place they can get it is from the taxpayers here in Pennsylvania. Common sense that would command that all state and all interstate and cyber businesses learn all the rules and remit back to the proper state the correct amounts is too hard. I have sued Walmart for over-collecting sales tax on couponed items and the Dept. of Revenue permits that activity. If due diligence were taxable, we might actually get some in Pennsylvania.

*Editor's Note: The Consumer Corner* by Mary Bach provides general information only and does not constitute legal or financial guidance or advice.

## **Memory Lapse and Anti-Oxidants**

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**MEMORY LAPSE** is perfectly normal in both young and old alike. But minor losses of memory are more worrisome to older people than almost any other health problem. Younger people are usually indifferent, when they misplace their keys or forget appointments, but older people who go through the same experiences become fearful and negative. The attention given today to Alzheimer's disease also increases the concern of older adults.

Did you ever walk from the kitchen to the bedroom to get something and on the way you pat the dog, pick up a magazine from the floor, read a stray piece of mail and dust off the TV? By the time you got to the bedroom, you'd forgotten what you were to get. Sound familiar?

We need to filter out extraneous material and re-focus on the main objective. The intrusion of TV and other people talking have an effect on a person's conversation. As we age, we need to focus on one thing at a time. To assist in remembering, form words or picture associations, take meds at the same time every day and immediately replace the container once the med is taken or use the plastic containers divided into AM, PM, dinner and night-time sections. Keep keys, eyeglasses and pens in convenient places and never deviate. Place the greatest emphasis on important safety measures, such as turning off the stove, locking all doors and windows, fastening seat belts, spotting a position post or other landmark when parking at the mall, or noting the goods on display near the door entered at a store or in the mall.

Seniors should make lists—daily chores, things to do the next day, packing for a trip, grocery lists. Also helpful are crossing off each day on the calendar before going to bed and maintaining and sharing household and financial information with a spouse, friend or family member. When meeting people for the first time, listen closely to the

person's name, repeat it or associate it with someone else you know with the same name, to establish it more firmly in your mind. And relaxation causes memory lapses.

Older people have more data to store. When we are young, we haven't met many people and haven't been many places. The memory bank is like a sponge. That early information is readily soaked up. Through the years, we continue to meet more people and experience more and more places, filling the memory bank as we age. And finally, that sponge is saturated, making additional data difficult to store. That is why we have no difficulty remembering our childhood friends and neighbors, what we did and where we went years ago, because that information has been there a long time, but don't ask what you had for dinner yesterday. The sponge was saturated and new information just rolled off and couldn't get in. It may never have entered the bank and thus be difficult to recall.

This is all very normal, but when we become disoriented in performing regular activities of daily living, professional advice should be sought. Exercise not only helps the heart and lungs, it also increases blood flow to the brain, helping to sustain and improve memory function.

#### ANTI-OXIDANTS:

Just as oxidation forms rust on a car, a similar process occurs within the body. Anti-oxidation helps to rust-proof the body by fighting the effects of free radicals, which form during oxidation. When the body breaks down food, exposure to tobacco and smoke, sunlight, radiation and pollution, harmful radicals are produced and over time cause damage resulting in cancer, diabetes, coronary heart disease, eye disease and other age related problems. Anti-oxidant nutrients are used to prevent and repair this damage.

Vitamin A (beta carotene), C, E and selenium are the most well known vitamin and mineral anti-oxidants. Plant substances, known as phytonutrients, are also anti-oxidants. Each-listed below with their source—offers different health benefits:

- *Vitamin C*: citrus fruits, green leafy vegetables, broccoli, tomatoes, peppers, potatoes,

cantaloupe, strawberries, papayas and pumpkins.

- *Vitamin E*: vegetable oils, almonds, seeds, olives, avocado, wheat germ, liver, walnuts and peanuts
- *Beta Carotene*: spinach, kale, sweet potatoes, squash and apricots
- *Selenium*: seafood, beef, pork, chicken, brown rice and whole wheat bread
- *Phytonutrients*: blue berries, tea, spinach, dark leafy vegetables and tomatoes

In an earlier issue, we talked of the importance of *magnesium* in the diet. About 50% of older people neglect to take in as much magnesium as is needed in their diets. A higher intake of magnesium is associated with the decreased risk of coronary heart disease, stroke and abnormal heart rhythms. If an inadequate intake of magnesium is obtained from whole grains, shellfish, spinach, dark leafy green veggies, legumes, nuts, check with your doctor to see if a supplement is advisable. Some individuals may be candidates for additional supplements because certain health problems may affect magnesium absorption. Those with poorly controlled diabetes, alcoholics, those with low levels of calcium and potassium, Crohn's disease and other malabsorption problems usually benefit from additional magnesium. Medications, such as diuretics, some antibiotics and those used to treat cancer, can produce a magnesium deficiency.

Anti-oxidants from whole foods work together with other essential nutrients and components in foods to provide an array of potential health benefits. Fresh or frozen berries may be added to cereals, pancakes, waffles, muffins or salads or sprinkled atop ice cream or yogurt. Keep a pitcher of iced tea in the refrigerator and take periodic tea breaks instead of coffee. Enjoy more tomato based soups, juices, stews and add them to salads, burgers, pizza and sandwiches. Sprinkle chopped nuts on cereal, salads, pastas, rice dishes, pancakes, muffins, waffles or simply enjoy a handful of nuts or seeds as a healthy snack. Mix dark leafy greens into salads for flavor and texture or add to soup, stews or pastas. Orange colored fruits and vegetables are another benefit. Use sweet potatoes and acorn or buttermilk squash in lieu of white potatoes for mashing. Try these simple ideas for fitting in foods rich in anti-oxidants.

## From the Desk of Bob Miller

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### **It's that time of the year, again - 2012 Resolutions:**

**Place:** all the credit and other cards in your wallet on a copier. Copy both sides, in the same order. Make copies. If you lose a card or it's stolen, this list will be your life saver. The telephone numbers on the backs of cards will allow you to report lost or stolen cards.

**Update:** passwords and PIN numbers. Record them in a notebook, keep in a safe place, and tell your spouse or child where you keep them.

**Encourage:** friends who worked for, or retired from Westinghouse, or its successor Co's to take a look at [www.westinghouseSURE.org](http://www.westinghouseSURE.org) and attend a monthly **SURE Roundtable** program.

**Volunteer:** at least 23 hours during 2012 and report your hours. In 2012 SURE will be 23years "young."

**List:** your medications (dosage, time to be taken) and keep a copy in your purse or wallet.

**Confirm:** that the beneficiaries of your IRA, 401k and Life Insurance policies are up to date with correct spellings, addresses and social security numbers.

**Give:** next of kin a list of the locations of all important papers: will, insurance, military discharge, last employer benefits, property deed, automobile titles, birth certificates, marriage certificate, checking & saving accounts, direct deposit and bank payment arrangements, social security and Medicare cards, brokers, powers of attorney, cemetery plots, the keys to bank lock box and cars, combinations to your safe.

**Check:** your credit reports by getting all 3, free, from Experian, TransUnion, and Equifax at [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) and correct any errors. Or call (877) 322-8228. You will have to answer some questions and provide your social security number. Note: these are credit reports, not your credit score, which you only need if you're getting a mortgage or buying a car on time, etc.

Annually review your credit reports. See what they are reporting about you and your spending habits.

**2012 Allegheny County Property Reassessment:** to be sent in December 2011 to City of Pittsburgh commercial and residential property owners and later in the year to the residents of the rest of the county. In years past, the deadline for appealing assessments has been consistently set at March 31 of the calendar year in question. There is speculation the appeal deadlines will be shorter in 2012 than in prior years; thus it is crucial that property owners in Allegheny County pay special attention to all notices received from the Allegheny County Office of Property Assessment. A Web site from the Carnegie Library has provided excellent appeal guidance in prior years and should be examined now so that you can properly prepare an appeal if you believe your assessment to be too high:  
[www.clpgh.org/research/business/pittsburgh/revaluation.html](http://www.clpgh.org/research/business/pittsburgh/revaluation.html)

**Veterans: you are eligible to join USAA:** for auto, home, life insurance, banking, credit cards, investments. For information call 1-800-531-8722 or log onto [www.usaa.com](http://www.usaa.com). Once a member, you can pass your memberships on to your children.

**2011 standard deduction:** \$11,600 for married couples filing jointly, and \$5,800 for singles and married individuals filing separately. Married folks age 65 and older get an extra \$1,150 each - bringing the write-off to \$13,900 if both spouses get the age bonus - and 65 and older singles get a \$1,450 boost, to \$7,250.

**Medical expense?** Following a 2010 Tax Court case that allowed a man to deduct the cost of sexual reassignment operations and hormone therapy incurred to become a woman, IRS now says that the cost of a sex change operation can be a medical expense.

**2011 Long-term Care premiums:** deduction as medical expenses subject to the 7.5% Adjusted Gross Income floor; for taxpayers over 71 up to \$4,240, seniors 61-70 up to \$3,290, age 51-60 up to \$1,270.

**Use of your car for medical reasons:** subject to 7.5% AGI floor, deduct standard rate, which in

2011 was 19 cents per mile from January 1 to June 30 and 23.5 cents per mile from July 1 to December 31, and also include parking fees and tolls.

**Westinghouse Employee Stock Plan Price and Tax-Base Cost Data:** from start of the plan in Nov 1949 to the last in Nov 1999. Prices adjusted to reflect stock splits. Go to:

[www.westinghousesure.org](http://www.westinghousesure.org) and click on the Roundtable Programs tab, then click on employee stock price table.

**Be SURE:** All your 1099s are reported on your return. IRS receives copies of all 1099s and their computers will match their 1099s against your return.

**Capital gains reporting for 2011:** more complicated. You will have to use two forms: Form 8949 and Schedule D. Basis reporting rules effective for securities bought after 2010 and sold in 2011 and later. All sales will be listed on the 8949, and the totals will be carried to Schedule D. Separate 8949s must be filed for sales where the basis is reported by the broker.

**Intel International Science & Engineering Fair:** World's largest international pre-college science competition, for 1,600 high school students from 60 countries to be held at the David Lawrence Convention Center, May 13 -18, 2012. Volunteers are needed to be judges. If you have a B.A., B.S. or a masters degree with a minimum of six years related professional experience or a Ph.D., M.D., or equivalent. Judges are needed from Tuesday afternoon May 15 through Wednesday evening May 16, 2012. Register at [www.pittsburghsciencefair.org](http://www.pittsburghsciencefair.org)

**Red ink** has some states planning to legalize gambling on sports, currently permitted only in Nevada, Delaware and Montana. Backers cite the economic benefits generated by legal betting on sports.

**Social Security? Remember this** -The very first monthly social security check in the amount of \$22.54 was paid to Ida Mae Fuller of Ludlow, Vermont in 1940. Her lifetime total contributions were \$20.33. She received monthly social security checks for 35 years until her death just after her

100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Her total lifetime benefits - \$22,000. Source: AARP, MM 6/98

**Report Suspected Tax Fraud Activity** to the IRS using Form 3949-A, The completed form or a letter detailing the alleged fraudulent activity should be addressed to the Internal Revenue Service, Fresno, CA, 93888. The identity of the person filing the report can be kept confidential.

**Life insurance:** If you surrender a life insurance policy for cash, you must include in income any proceeds that are more than the cost of the life insurance policy. Life insurance proceeds, which were paid to you because of the insured person's death, are not taxable (unless the policy was turned over to you for a price as in a life settlement agreement).

**Bartering:** When you exchange property or services in lieu of cash, the fair market value of the goods and services are fully taxable and must be included as income on Form 1040 of both parties. But an informal exchange of similar services on a noncommercial basis, such as carpooling, is not taxable.

**Gambling winnings are taxable,** but they can be offset by gambling losses if you itemize your deductions.

**401(k)s and mutual funds fees:** Starting in 2012, 401(k) participants will start receiving annual disclosure of plan administrative expenses, such as recordkeeping fees, that are charged to their accounts. Workers also will receive a chart showing the expenses for each investment option both as a percentage of assets and a dollar amount for each \$1,000 invested.

**Free File** [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) has a Free File program that is open to taxpayers. For 2010 the Adjusted Gross Income of \$58,000 or less was the limit to use that program. Check [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) after Jan 17 for the 2011 AGI limit for the free file program.

**File 2011 tax returns by Monday April 16, 2012**

*From the desk of Bob Miller* provides general information only and does not constitute legal or financial guidance or advice.

## Westinghouse “Stratovision”

Ed Reis Westinghouse Historian at the Senator John Heinz History Center

Television came onto the scene in the late 1940s and really took off in the early 1950s. Although they were expensive, everyone wanted a television in their home. Older folks may remember the “rabbit ear” antennas on top of the TV set that they had to move around and adjust to get a clearer picture. Interference in those days was common and getting good TV reception in some areas could be quite difficult. Some may also remember TV antennas that were moved to the roof of the house or attached to the chimney. And a bit later, some folks even had motorized TV antennas that allowed the TV antenna on the roof or chimney to be rotated with a control on top of the TV. Obviously, we now know that cable, telephone line, and satellite based systems are used to deliver television programs of very high quality to our homes today.

One may ask where was Westinghouse when television was developed? Well, Westinghouse was there from the very beginning. Russian scientist and inventor Dr. Vladimir Zworykin worked for Westinghouse and is now known as “The Father of Television.” He had previously received a patent for a television system in 1907 and had also demonstrated an early television in 1911. While working for Westinghouse, he filed a patent application entitled “Television Systems” in 1923 and another related patent in 1925. Although Dr. Zworykin left Westinghouse to head up the television program for RCA Corporation, Westinghouse continued to move forward with new ideas related to television.

Westinghouse started to work on a project to rebroadcast TV signals via transmitters mounted on airplanes in 1944. In 1948, in conjunction with the Glen L. Martin Company, Westinghouse introduced “Stratovision.” In June 1948, a test was undertaken using a stripped-down World War II B-29 Superfortress. Westinghouse Stratovision was used to rebroadcast the Republican National Convention which was held in Philadelphia and could be seen by people on their TVs in the surrounding nine-state area. Westinghouse

Stratovision was a technical success. It was calculated from this test that only eight planes would be required to provide a TV network that would provide coverage for 78 percent of the U. S.



Later, the U.S. Navy used the Westinghouse Stratovision idea to broadcast two TV channels in Vietnam from 1966 to 1972. One channel had TV broadcasts for 1.5 hours per day and was used to broadcast South Vietnam government programs to the general public. The second TV channel had broadcasts for three hours per day and was used to broadcast information and programs to the U.S. troops in South Vietnam. Actually the first test use of Stratovision in Vietnam took place when the baseball World Series was broadcast to the troops in October 1965. The Stratovision system was also used during the Cuban and Dominican Republic crises. And more recently, a Stratovision system was used for TV broadcasting in Iraq.

For Westinghouse, Stratovision was both a success and a failure. It certainly was proven that this advanced television technology would work. However, Westinghouse was never able to make Stratovision a commercial success.

Westinghouse went on to have other successes in the area of television. For example, Westinghouse was the first company to make a “color television” for sale to the public in the year 1954. And one of the most dramatic uses of television took place in

July 1969 when Neil Armstrong took the first steps on the surface of the moon, which is considered to be one of the most dramatic television moments ever created. That historic moment was filmed using a special television camera specifically created by Westinghouse for the NASA space program.

### **New Project at the Heinz History Center**

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We are announcing a new initiative at the Heinz History Center – the Digitization of important Westinghouse documents which will be made available to researchers and others over the worldwide web. Most of the work will be done at the History Center involving Westinghouse SURE Volunteers, and you can be a part of it. The planned activity will be broken into three tasks which are as follows:

#### **1. Curating and Digitizing the Westinghouse Annual Reports**

Volunteers needed: 2-3; Appx. time commitment: 1-2 months @ 3-4 hours per week. Volunteers will help curate a complete collection of annual reports. Currently the collection is missing the early 1900s and the World War II years. We need help tracking them down. Concurrently with curating the collection, volunteers will be trained to digitize the annual reports by scanning pages and adding searchable tags to the files. The scanned documents would be added to the History Center's online catalog.

#### **2. Digitizing Westinghouse Related Photographs**

Volunteers needed: 3-4; Appx. time commitment: 4-6 months @ 3-4 hours per week. Volunteers will be trained to digitize photographs, slides, and glass plate negatives using a flat bed scanner. They will also be trained to add descriptive tags so that they can be keyword searched in an online database (e.g. Historic Pittsburgh, Flickr)

#### **3. The Westinghouse News Index Database Project**

Volunteers needed: 1-2; Appx. time commitment: 3-4 months @ 3-4 hours per week. Volunteers will help to design a searchable database for the

*Westinghouse News Index* so that subject matter in the *Westinghouse News* can be keyword searched. Once the database is designed, data will need to be entered and checked for accuracy. (This project could be done off-site at someone's home or office).

As Westinghouse employees, we each played a small role in the major innovations the Corporation provided the world during the twentieth century. This is a wonderful opportunity to participate in the preparation of a permanent set of searchable Westinghouse records that can be accessed by family members, genealogists, historians and other researchers for generations to come. To become a part of this important effort, contact Projects Director Nick Sowko at (nickgsowko@msn.com) (412) 678-7309, or Maury Fey at (724) 327-5594 (mgfey@comcast.net).

### **Trips & Tours**

Howard Finney

(724) 834-3450      howfinn@comcast.net

Bob Plummer

(412) 751-9694      plummerrl@aol.com

#### **HERSHEY, LANCASTER, BOILING SPRINGS**

Two days, one night May 16 & 17, 2012

Highlights:

- In Boiling Springs, an extensive luncheon buffet at the Allenberry Dinner Theater and an afternoon performance of "Honky Tonk Angles."
- Overnight near Hershey with buffet breakfast.
- Tour of the Antique Automobile Club of America Museum at Hershey.
- Tour of Hershey Museum—Featuring exhibits on Milton S. Hershey's life—the town he created, his chocolate factory and his philanthropic legacy.
- In Lancaster a performance of "Jonah" at Sight & Sound Entertainment Theater followed by an all-you-can-eat dinner.

COST: \$320 per person with a deposit of \$150 per person double occupancy due by February 1, 2012 and final payment by March 1, 2012. Cost for single is \$370. Please send \$150 per person deposit by 2/1/12 to RoseMarie's Tours, 217 Lindenwood Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15209. Include names, address, phone numbers (home and cell) and any special needs at hotel.

Seating on the coach will be in order of deposits received.

More detail is on [www.westinghousesure.org](http://www.westinghousesure.org) under tab "Trips & Tours."

### **7-NIGHT SCANDINAVIA & RUSSIA CRUISE**

This cruise with 5 ports of call will depart from Stockholm, Sweden July 21, 2012. Please see the flyer on page 14.

*Editors Note: The following article by John Mellor is a unique view of a young boy living through the events of World War 2. It is a perspective so few of us experienced living in the United States.*

## **My recollection of events leading up to D-Day**

John Mellor, SURE Member

I was a little boy of 9 in spring 1944 and the son of a small farmer in a small village in Staffordshire, one of England's central counties. The horrors of the early war years were long forgotten—my carrying a gas mask to the village school in 1940, the screaming sirens heralding bombing raids in the 1940-41 period. Actually we were rarely bombed being rural but they did target a nearby town assembling armored cars and they passed directly overhead on their way to bombing Manchester and Liverpool so we had to shelter.

In Spring 1944 there was optimism that the war end was in sight. The Russians were winning, the Allied armies were advancing up Italy and, according to the BBC, the RAF and USAF were bombing the heck out of Germany. We were becoming very familiar with names like Patton, Ike and Bradley to go with our own favorites Montgomery and Alexander.

Walking home from school one day we noticed some strange stuff scattered on the road and on the grass sides. There were multiple strips of very thin silvery grey metal about 8 inches long and ¼ inch wide. We gathered up several handfuls and took them home to my parents. My Dad called the local police not having any other authority contact. They informed the military and we were visited by an officer who told us to keep quiet about it. It was not until after the war we learned we had picked up "window."

The combined Allied High Command was looking for a way to fool the Germans of the intended D Day landing sites in Normandy. They decided to convince the Germans that the main invasion was the Pas de Calais and Normandy was a diversion. What they did was assemble a squadron of bombers whose bomb bays were filled with "window." Flying in precise formations of a few miles forward and then circling round to give a net forward speed of about 30 miles per hour, they had air crew throwing out handfuls of "window" every few seconds. The effect on the German radar screen was of a massive naval invasion force heading on D-Day for the Pas de Calais. This convinced Hitler and his generals to keep strategic Panzer corps sitting in far to the East of where they were needed in Normandy. What I and my friends had witnessed was practice runs at dropping "window."

By spring of 1944 we had become accustomed to the truckloads of GI's passing through our village. I and my candy starved pals would yell "Got any gum, Chum" and the GI's would toss out chewing gum and laughed hard as we scrambled and fought for the precious gum. There was no chewing gum available to us in England in the war years and when we did get our hands on some GI gum we would chew the same gum for weeks-dipping it in sugar to refresh occasionally and keeping it on our bedpost over night [as the song goes]. One day a GI threw out a condom packet instead of gum. We of course did not know what to do with it so I showed it to my mother who did know what it was and snatched it from me.

In the spring of 1944 there was a very large increase in American troops, tanks and other war materials into our village and nearby. We found out later that our hedgerows and roadside banks were very similar to what the troops were to face in Normandy once they got off the beaches. It was called bocage-and it was to stymie tank advances and provide cover for snipers when things got real. One day there was a mock battle between American troops defending the village and another unit of American tanks attacking it. Down the road towards our farm rumbled a giant Sherman tank. A group of defending GI's pulled my father's hay wagon out into the road, tipped it over, and crouched behind it firing at the on coming tank. Of

course the hay wagon was not going to stop a Sherman but the tank driver at least had the good sense to swerve and crunch only the horse shafts attached to the front of the wagon. My Dad was furious. "Stupid Yanks" he shouted, "How am I to get my hay harvest in?" An officer came and took our name and address and said somebody would be in touch.

That evening a jeep drew up and in addition to the driver was a very imposing figure. He was built like an NFL linebacker but was probably less than 6 feet. I remember I had never seen anyone with such shoulder width. He had an unlit cigar in his mouth which with a twist of his lips could shoot the cigar from one side of his mouth to the other and he never removed it in the 20 minutes or so he was there even when talking. He instructed the driver to take notes. He said "I am master sergeant blacksmith Tex [can't remember his surname], I am here to fix your wagon."

Dialogue

Tex---I notice you have wooden wheels with iron rims, would you like me to put on some new metal wheels with inflatable tires?

Dad---Yes please

Tex---We will replace your shafts with new ones of course but someday, Mr. Mellor, you will probably own a tractor so what say I throw in a hitch for a tractor.

Dad---Yes please

Tex---I notice your hay wains [the structure that holds the hay in place] are in poor condition would you like me to replace them.

Dad---Yes please and would you care for a beer or scotch or something

Tex---Yes I'd like that. I will have your wagon back by the weekend

The wagon was hitched to the jeep and driven away. It was duly returned a few days later. Not only had Tex done what he said but the wagon had been cleaned, painted and the appropriate places greased. Dad bragged he had the finest hay wagon in the county-perhaps the country.

The final incident just prior to D-Day was not so pleasant. My sister [7] and I cycled to and from school and on this particular day I was detained for 15 minutes for some misdemeanor and my sister

rode home alone. She carelessly crossed from the left lane to the right [our house side] on a blind bend and was hit by an oncoming jeep with two GI's in it. With great skill the driver mostly avoided her but the handlebars on her bike slewed round on impact and hit her in the kidneys and she was thrown into the road. Coming along 15 minutes later I saw her mangled bike, some blood on the road and an abandoned jeep. It had happened 30 yards from our front gate and in the house were my parents, my tearful sister and two very shaken GI's, one of whom was wiping away tears.

My parents took her to hospital but they said she was only bruised and shaken and would be better off at home. I was awakened at midnight by my mother who said they were going to take my sister to hospital because she had just passed blood when using the chamber pot. It ended well--my sister had a kidney problem that required some surgery but recovered completely. One of the GI's called every day until it was clear she was recovered.

I was reading newspapers regularly in the last war years and I vividly recall on June 7 the photos of the gliders ferrying paratroops to drop them behind the lines and the scenes on the beaches shot from off shore. We also had large detailed maps of the war in Europe on the wall at school and pins with the notations Patton, Hodges etc which we moved as events developed.

I am sure you have seen the movie D-Day and do you recollect the Scotch officer played by Peter Lawford marching along to the skirl of bagpipes. That officer was Lord Lovatt, brother of our Member of Parliament. At the ripe old age of 13 I was taken by my grandmother to an election fundraiser and there met his mother Lady Lovatt--aged about 60. I had the nerve to ask her to dance and she graciously replied "I would love to young man."

We lost my mother's brother in Italy in 1943 to a stray shell and her cousin somewhere. My Dad was in the Home Guard in 1940-41 when the invasion scare was at its height and his brother in the army somewhere. I hope this gives you some perspective on what it was like for me in England in spring 1944.

## Death Notices

**Brecko, Joseph J (89)**

Sutersville  
Retired from East Pittsburgh  
Died 10/28/2011

**Burnett, James P (90)**

Trafford  
Retired from Trafford  
Died 11/15/2011

**Cynkar, Alex (86)**

Trafford  
Retired from Trafford  
Died 11/25/2011

**Dalton, Catherine (91)**

Montorville  
Retired from East Pittsburgh  
Died 11/17/2011

**Davis, Frank B (91)**

Myrtle Beach SC  
Retired from Nuclear  
Died 12/19/2011

**Estep, Bradford C (81)**

Murrysville  
Retired from East Pittsburgh  
Died 12/2/2011 **SURE Member**

**Giza, Theodore "Ted" J (88)**

Monroeville  
Retired from Westinghouse  
Died 12/11/2011

**Gregor, Eugene D (86)**

Irwin  
Retired from Westinghouse  
Died 10/27/2011

**Gulli, Nicholas A (84)**

West Mifflin  
Retired from Bettis Lab  
Died 12/13/2011

**Hager, Robert E (83)**

Elizabethtown  
Retired from Westinghouse  
Died 12/10/2011

**Hanna, Paul G (90)**

O'Hara TWP  
Retired from IAD  
Died 11/14/2011 **SURE Member**

**Heasley, Zella E (85)**

Irwin  
Retired from R&D Center  
Died 12/13/2011

**Holman, Robert R (85)**

Bethel Park  
Retired from AESD Large  
Died 11/7/2011 **SURE Member**

**Holmes, Joseph E (70)**

N Huntingdon TWP  
Retired from East Pittsburgh  
Died 11/16/2011

**Jacobs, Yvonne (81)**

Mt Pleasant  
Retired from Youngwood  
Died 12/7/2011

**Linderman, Frederick L (73)**

Trafford  
Retired from Trafford Printing  
Died 11/6/2011

**Littell, Lois Marie (85)**

Bloomington  
Retired from Bloomington  
Died 10/27/2011

**Magill, Jr, J. Bradford (77)**

Wexford  
Retired from Westinghouse  
Died 11/21/2011

**Mandros, John (84)**

Bethel Park  
Retired from Bettis Lab  
Died 12/11/2011

**McCollum, Edgar Allen (90)**

Ft Myers FL  
Retired from Westinghouse  
Died 10/27/2011

**Merritt, Victor M (85)**

West Mifflin  
Retired from Bettis Lab  
Died 10/29/2011

**Onaitis, Norbert "Nick" K (97)**

N Versailles  
Retired from East Pittsburgh  
Died 10/29/2011

**Petrarca, John Anthony (80)**

Cary NC  
Retired from Gateway  
Died 11/3/2011 **SURE Member**

**Pfrogner, James W (60)**

Rillton  
Retired from Forest Hills  
Died 11/25/2011

**Potosky, Edward C (93)**

N Huntingdon TWP  
Retired from East Pittsburgh  
Died 11/19/2011

**Ritzel, Lawrence W**

Turtle Creek  
Retired from East Pittsburgh  
Died 11/8/2011

**Schiff, Rein (73)**

Florida  
Retired from Westinghouse  
Died 11/17/2011

**Spindler, Francis Edward (86)**

Westminster CO  
Retired from Gateway  
Died 11/5/2011 **SURE Memeber**

**Sverdrup, Edward F (82)**

Libby MT  
Retired from R&D Center  
Died 10/20/2011

**Sweeney, James A (94)**

N Braddock  
Retired from East Pittsburgh  
Died 11/20/2011

**Szekely, Wilma H (97)**

N Braddock  
Retired from E Pgh/Trafford  
Died 11/17/2011

**Tarby, Albert E (88)**

N Huntingdon TWP  
Retired from Bettis Lab  
Died 10/27/2011

**Tucker, Harry (95)**

Chalfant  
Retired from East Pittsburgh  
Died 11/12/2011

**Turner, Samuel T (92)**

McMurray  
Retired from R&D Center  
Died 11/30/2011 **SURE Member**

**Williams, Jr, H. Thomas (81)**

Whitehall  
Retired from Westinghouse  
Died 11/22/2011

**Wygonik, Stanley G (87)**

Elizabeth TWP  
Retired from Bettis Lab  
Died 12/1/2011

**Zura, John F (91)**

Wilkins TWP  
Retired from East Pittsburgh  
Died 12/11/2011

## **RCI's Vision of the Seas 7-Night Scandinavia & Russia Cruise July 21 – July 28, 2012 (Departs July 20<sup>th</sup>)**

A **Royal Caribbean European** getaway. Board the magnificent *Vision of the Seas* in **Stockholm, Sweden** where you'll set sail for exotic destinations on the **Baltic Sea** and enjoy countless onboard activities while you travel.

**Package Includes:** 7-Night Cruise aboard the *Vision of the Seas* departing **Stockholm, Sweden** Visiting the Ports of **Stockholm, Sweden; Helsinki, Finland; St Petersburg, Russia; Riga, Latvia; Gdansk (Gdynia,) Poland and Visby, Sweden**, All Meals and Entertainment on Board Ship and Port Taxes. **(Receive a \$50.00 per Cabin Shipboard Credit.)**

**Payments:** \$500.00 deposit **per person** due upon booking and based upon category availability at time of booking. Make checks payable to "AAA" and mail to **Bob Plummer** (at address below) along with the registration form below. Write "**GCRCI07212**" on all checks. You may use a credit card—call for information. A **2<sup>nd</sup> Deposit** of \$500.00 **pp** is due on **February 8, 2012** with **Final Payment** due on **April 20, 2012**.

<b>Cost Per Person Based on Occupancy:*</b>			<b>Insurance:</b>		
Category	Double	Single	Stateroom	Double	Single
N	\$949	\$1,618	Inside	\$236	\$317
I	\$1,109	\$1,935	Outside:	\$236	\$317
D-1	\$1,619	\$2,935	Balcony	\$317	\$398

**PASSPORT REQUIRED**

\*Plus airfare from Dulles via Paris to Stockholm on Air France \$1279 inc. tax & fuel charge (fuel charge could change). Deluxe Motor Coach from GW RTP (Churchill) to Dulles, \$150 round trip.

More detail is on [www.westinghousesure.org](http://www.westinghousesure.org) under tab "Trips & Tours" OR **For Further Information Contact:**

Howard Finney at 724 834-3450

267 Lancewood Place, Greensburg PA 15601-5907

Bob Plummer at 412 751-9694

460 Niagara Dr., N Huntingdon PA 15642

-----For Reservations Please Use This Form: *Scandinavia & Russia* SURE July 20-28, 2012-----

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

(Legal First, Middle & Last Name as it Appears on Passport)

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NO.(S): \_\_\_\_\_ ROOMMATE PHONE NO.(S): \_\_\_\_\_

DATE(S) OF BIRTH: \* \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PASSPORT NO.:\* \_\_\_\_\_ EX. DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PASSPORT NO.:\* \_\_\_\_\_ EX. DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

CATEGORY REQUESTED: \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT OF DEPOSIT: \_\_\_\_\_ OR PAYMENT-IN-FULL: \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY PHONE CONTACT: \* \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NO.: \* \_\_\_\_\_

RELATIONSHIP: \* \_\_\_\_\_

\* Required by Cruise Line

SURE "GCRCI07212"

**Cancellation Insurance is available and is strongly recommended.**

**Payment (can be made by credit card) is due at time of deposit. (Include payment with deposit)**

\_\_\_\_ YES, I would like to purchase Trip Cancellation Insurance @

\$236.00 per person double occupancy or \$317.00 single occupancy for Categories N & I

\$317.00 per person double occupancy or \$398.00 single occupancy for Category D-1

\_\_\_\_ NO, I would not like to purchase Trip Cancellation Insurance and understand all penalties involved:

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**                      **January thru February 2012**  
**Plus special events**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Coordinator(s)</b>	<b>Phone</b>
January 11	10:00 AM Wednesday	Financial Roundtable	G(W) RTP Auditorium	Walt Dollard Bob Miller	(412) 824-4438 (412) 242-6256
January 11	12:45 PM Wednesday	SURE Board & Advisory Council	G(W) RTP 401-2C14	Maury Fey	(724) 327-5594
February 8	10:00 AM Wednesday	Financial Roundtable	G(W) RTP Auditorium	Walt Dollard Bob Miller	(412) 824-4438 (412) 242-6256
February 8	12:45 PM Wednesday	SURE Board & Advisory Council	G(W) RTP 401-2C14	Maury Fey	(724) 327-5594
May 15-16	R&D Center (GWRTP)	Overnight Trip	Lancaster, Hershey	Howard Finney Bob Plummer	(724) 834-3450 (412) 751-9694
July 21-28	R&D Center (GWRTP)	7-night Cruise	Scandinavia & Russia	Howard Finney Bob Plummer	(724) 834-3450 (412) 751-9694

***Financial Roundtable Presentations***

**January 11, 2012**                      **The State of the Markets**                      **Helm Heberle, Ferguson Group of Wells Fargo Advisors**

**February 8, 2012**                      **Preparing Your 2011 Tax Return**                      **Mary Jo Potter, H&R Block**

**To participate in the SURE 2012 Matching Gift Program, please complete this form.**

<b><u>2012 - WESTINGHOUSE SURE MATCHING GIFT PROGRAM</u></b>	
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Gift Amount _____ Check No. _____	City, State, ZIP _____
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<b><u>PLEASE INCLUDE DONOR CHECK AND SEND TO W SURE AT:</u></b>	
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SURE will match donations to any organization served by a SURE project.

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Matching gifts will be disbursed on a first come-first served basis. Donations not matched due to insufficient funds will be served in the following quarter.

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See previous page for Form**

**Hershey, Lancaster, Boiling Springs  
May 15 & 16, 2012  
See page 10**

**Seven-Night Scandinavian & Russia Cruise  
July 20, 2012  
See flyer on page 14.**

**See [www.westinghousesure.org](http://www.westinghousesure.org) under tab “Trips & Tours” for complete information  
about these trips.**