

WRMPPF

TRIBUTES AND MEMORIALS

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REMEMBER A SPECIAL COLLEAGUE OR FRIEND ...

To learn more about the Tributes and Memorials Program, please visit
www.wrpioneers.org or call Carol Wickham toll-free at
 (888) 994-3863, ext. 2363.

CONTACT US:
 WILL ROGERS MOTION
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 10045 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, THIRD FLOOR
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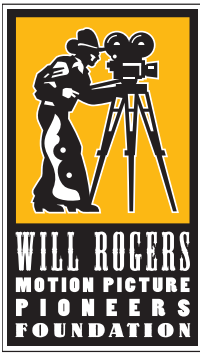


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THE PIONEER NEWS

FALL 2005

THEN AND NOW: WE'RE STILL PIONEERS

A PIECE OF OUR HISTORY FROM 1952

PRESENTATION OF GEM CAR TO MPTF

A. Montague Re-elected Rogers Hospital Head



WILL ROGERS HOSPITAL BOARD MEETS—Back row, left to right: Fred J. Schwartz, Samuel Rosen, Jack Beresin, Sam Rinzler, William J. German, Paul Lazarus jr., William White, Herman Robbins. Seated, left to right: Murray Weiss, Sam J. Switow, J. Robert Hoff, Charles E. Lewis, A. Montague, Max A. Cohen, George Dembow, Robert Mochrie, Richard F. Walsh, Joseph R. Vogel and Tom Connors.

NEW YORK—A. Montague has been re-elected as president of the Will Rogers Memorial hospital.

Other officers re-elected are: Chairman, Robert Mochrie; vice-president, Charles E. Lewis; secretary, Max A. Cohen; treasurer, S. H. Fabian; assistant treasurer, George Eby.

Montague reported on 1952 as a year "remarkable in many ways for us." It was necessary to raise more money, he said, to meet increased operating costs, to provide funds for the reopened laboratory and for new research work.

Lewis gave a detailed report on improvements to the hospital property, important among which was the substitution of oil heat for coal at a cost of \$17,500.

He reported that Charles Gratz of Pittsburgh had been engaged as hospital administrator.

Another project under way is installation of a master radio and television antenna. It also is planned to paint the interior of the entire hospital and redecorate the main lounge and dining room. This was approved by the board.

Dr. George E. Wilson, as medical director, reported through Lewis that there are 57 patients at present with three applications being processed.

The report of Fabian as treasurer showed that operating costs for the year ending

Oct. 31, 1952, were \$174,127.20, and that the total cost was \$221,072.24, an increase of \$46,945.04 over 1951.

J. Schwartz, chairman of the finance and auditing committee, reported collections for this year's Christmas Salute seem to be running ahead of last year. Last year's total was \$9,000.

The project is now in operation in 3,000 boxes and the first change-over of boxes is now taking place. Schwartz said he was too early to report on how the project is working.

The hospital now has 17 sponsored rooms. These sponsorships, or endowments, have been provided by men in the industry.

Special votes of thanks were given Lewis and Samuel Goldwyn. Goldwyn gave the opening night receipts of "Hans Christian Andersen" to the hospital and, in addition, sent a check for \$25,000.

The 1953 board of directors includes: Jack Beresin, Maurice Bergman, Charles Boasberg, Harry Brandt, Max A. Cohen, Tom Connors, George Dembow, Gus S. Eyssell, S. H. Fabian, Charles J. Feldman, William J. German, Leonard H. Goldenson, Maurice R. Goldstein, John H. Harris, William Heine- man, J. Robert Hoff, Harry M. Kalmine, Paul N. Lazarus jr., Charles E. Lewis, Al Licht- man, Robert Mochrie, A. Montague, R. J. O'Donnell, Sam Rinzler, Herman Robbins, William F. Rodgers, Samuel Rosen, Fred J. Schwartz, Wilbur Snaper, Alfred Starr, Sam J. Switow, Morton Thalheimer, Joseph R. Vogel, Richard F. Walsh, Murray Weiss, Wil- liam White and Herbert J. Yates.



From left, WRMPFF President Rory Bruer; Warner Bros. Distribution Chief Dan Fellman; MPTF Corp. Board Chairman Frank Mancuso and MPTF resident Betty Freeman in the GEM car.

The Will Rogers Motion Picture Pioneers Foundation (WRMPFF) has contributed an enclosed motorized vehicle to the Motion Picture & Television Fund (MPTF) to assist the residents of MPTF's Wasserman Campus. The GEM car will enable retired residents to be transported safely to medical appointments and events on the grounds during inclement weather.

Former MPTF resident Nat Fellman first spearheaded the project, thus adding significance to this gift. Nat, who passed away last month, was the father of Dan Fellman, Warner Bros. distribution chief and WRMPFF board member. "My father felt this was something the Wasserman Campus would benefit from," Fellman said. "While visiting my parents at the 'home,' I realized this was a perfect way for WRMPFF to make a difference to the residents."

"We are extremely grateful to the Will Rogers Motion Picture Pioneers for this generous gift," said MPTF Corp. Board Chairman Frank Mancuso. "The average age of those coming to the Country House and Hospital is now 84 years old, so the GEM car will be a valuable addition to our campus and will be well received by our residents. This is a shining example of two industry charities truly caring for our own."

AS A REMINDER ...



Our Social Services Department has arranged a discount on Lifeline Personal Response Services. Lifeline helps thousands of people to live more independent and active lives at home, by being available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to summon help in the event of an accident or illness.

1-800-Lifeline

If you or a loved one is interested in obtaining a discount coupon for Lifeline Installation Services, please call (888) 994-3862, ext. 1003, and one of our social workers will assist you.

Will Rogers Memorial Hospital Board Meeting — *Boxoffice* magazine, December 13, 1952

"If you're ride'n in front of the herd, look back every now and then to make sure it's still there."

— Will Rogers



HEALTH FAIR UPDATE: 2005 FALL HEALTH FAIRS



WARNER BROS.

Tuesday, October 11
11:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Medical screening

DISNEY IMAGINEERING

Wednesday, October 19
8:00 AM – 3:30 PM
Flu shots

SHOWEAST

Tuesday, October 25
1:30 PM – 4:30 PM
Wednesday, October 26
2:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Thursday, October 27
8:30 AM – 12:00 PM
Cholesterol, glucose, blood pressure, bone density, skin assessment, body composition, stroke risk assessment, lung capacity, and massage.

MARCUS THEATRES

Tuesday, November 2
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Cholesterol, glucose, blood pressure, bone density, body composition, lung function, and massage.

See you there!

All services are free to convention participants or studio/theatre employees. All services, times, and dates are subject to change. For more information, please contact Noelle Nelson at (888) 994-3863, ext. 2311.

GERIATRIC CARE AND STROKE

Geriatric care managers can help families who are struggling with the needs of an aging relative. They can arrange an assessment of the aging relative's physical, social, and financial needs and recommend services to address them. For a free copy of "Questions and Answers: When Looking for A Professional Geriatric Care Manager," call (888) 994-3863, ext. 1003. Our social service staff is always available to answer questions and provide referrals or suggestions. Veronica Rosenblatt is a member of the National Association of Professional Geriatric Care Managers, and she can assist you in determining if a professional geriatric care manager is needed. She can be reached at (888) 994-3863, ext. 2333, or at veronica@wrinstitute.org.

DO YOU KNOW THE SYMPTOMS OF A STROKE?

- Sudden numbness or weakness
- Sudden trouble seeing
- Sudden trouble speaking
- Sudden confusion
- Sudden loss of balance or coordination
- Loss of consciousness
- Sudden severe headache
- Sudden dizziness

DON'T IGNORE THESE SYMPTOMS. ACT FAST. CALL 911. FOR A FREE BOOKLET ON THE SYMPTOMS OF STROKE, PLEASE CALL (888) 994-3863, EXT. 2363.



OLDER ADULTS TACKLING TECHNOLOGY

Older adults are the fastest-growing population of online computer users. It is impossible to overlook how technology has transformed people's lives, making its way into everyday actions. In spite of this growth, computer technology continues to cause many older adults great discomfort and confusion. Of the 34.5 million Americans over the age of 65, only 22 percent use the Internet. Education is therefore essential!

Isolation is a key problem for many people as they age. The Internet may mitigate some of the problems that contribute to the loneliness many elders experience. Being "computer comfortable" allows people access to a world of resources, including information on health, entertainment, and recreation. It also

allows people quick access to family and friends through e-mail, chat groups, and even video applications. Once online, seniors can explore an ever-growing world of information geared toward them through Web sites such as seniortheatre.com, seniorjournal.com, and geezer.com.

The main roadblock for elders is education — computer technologies specifically designed for them. It is normal for a lack of access and understanding to lead one to harbor a general fear of something. That's why organizations such as SeniorNet have been established — offering adults 50 and older computer and Internet education to enrich their lives and allow them to share their wisdom. SeniorNet has Learning Centers that offer detailed, hands-on computer classes all over the United States; many offered in public libraries, community centers, etc. You can contact SeniorNet at (408) 615-0699 for a list of SeniorNet Learning Centers in your area, or call our social workers at (888) 994-3863, ext. 2333.

THANK YOU, SPONSORS!

Will Rogers Institute's "Fad Diets" public service announcement, starring **Wayne Brady** (right), was a big hit during spring 2005 on movie screens across the country. Thank you to the following sponsors:

- Hollywood Film for donating one million feet of film
- Technicolor for handling processing
- Screenvision for placement on 9,000 screens



WHAT'S AVAILABLE ON OUR WEB SITE? VISIT WRPIONEERS.ORG

- View our national resource directory and referrals section.
- Become a member of the Pioneers or renew your membership.
- Learn about our assistance programs and how to apply.
- Make a donation online.
- Learn about the Golden Movie Pass.
- View current or past newsletters.



**motion picture
pioneers
assistance
fund**

WE'RE HERE FOR YOU

The Motion Picture Pioneers Assistance Fund (MPPAF) serves members of the theatrical community (exhibition, distribution, and production) who are encountering an illness, injury, or life-changing event. Services and qualifications vary by program. All assistance is intended to provide support during a recovery or adjustment period. Treatment of substance abuse is not included.



WRMPPF social workers have experience with industry members who have fallen on hard times as a result of an unforeseen life event — and the emotional, spiritual, and financial impact faced by individuals and their loved ones. Here are examples of two recent members who benefited from the Pioneers Assistance Fund Short-Term Assistance programs.

Recently, a member in his early 30s, whose career in theatrical performance was just taking off, contacted our offices when he was struck with a rare hearing disorder that had quickly rendered him almost completely deaf. He was unsure if he would ever work again and felt a growing sense of isolation from his fiancée, and as a result, he didn't know where to turn. Our social worker immediately identified the member's needs and proceeded to lay out a framework of action, which included not only finding him affordable hearing aids, but also pulling from a variety of familiar and skilled referrals, such as the House Ear Institute, that would serve to provide him with a necessary sense of community to help foster an outlet for him and his fiancée to explore the frustration and isolation that hearing loss can cause, as well as to deal with the helplessness experienced by a loved one. The member obtained not only hearing aids, but also a new lease on life. Upon receiving the grant, he remarked, "Without all of your help, I don't know how I would have ever truly lived again." WRMPPF works not only to assist members with their immediate problems, but also to identify and support the groundwork for ongoing success!

We are all aware of the unavoidable curveballs that life can throw our way, as well as the importance of external support during such times. Recently, a gentleman contacted one of our social workers at the Will Rogers Motion Picture Pioneers Foundation in a state of fear and desperation. He had lost complete sight in one eye and therefore was not able to perform his job as a studio driver — a job he had held for more than thirty years. Immediately, our social worker began advocating for the client in hopes of locating a vocational training program that might allow him to continue in his line of work. Within days, a program was found. Through the financial support of the Will Rogers Motion Picture Pioneers Foundation, he was able to enroll and complete the program. Upon completion, he remarked, "You guys helped give me my life back!"

**For more information on our short- and long-term assistance programs,
please contact our Social Services Department toll-free at (888) 994-3863, ext. 2333.**

Ask the Social Worker By Megan Olman, MA

Q: My husband and I have started to grow concerned about our neighbor's well-being. Over the last couple of months, we have often heard loud shouting coming from her house, seemingly going on for hours. Our neighbor is in her early 80s, and her adult daughter recently moved in with her. Also, when we've gone over to see her she seems scared and confused. And my husband said that yesterday he noticed bruises on the inside of her arms. We are very concerned that she may be a victim of abuse. What can we do to help?

A: Your question and concern highlights a growing crisis in our society — elder abuse. Reports of elder abuse continue to increase each year; however, only 16 percent of abusive situations are actually referred for help. While many find it difficult to comprehend, more than two-thirds of all elder abuse perpetrators are family members, most often an adult child or spouse. It is estimated that each year one million to two million Americans are victims of elder abuse or neglect in domestic settings. With that said, your family's concern for your neighbor and desire to get involved is commendable.

Social isolation and mental impairment are the two main factors that make older people more susceptible to abuse. Elder abuse is a broad term that encompasses any "knowing, intentional, or negligent acts by a caregiver or any other person that causes harm or a serious risk of harm" to an older adult. The abuse can be physical, emotional, sexual, neglectful, or exploitive in nature.

You have noticed signs that identify elders at risk of abuse, including bruises, burns, or broken bones; an unexplained withdrawal from normal activities; sudden changes in financial situations; and strained or tense relationships, like those including frequent arguments between the older adult and the caregiver.

You and your husband are taking one of the first steps toward protecting older adults — you both have been keeping a watchful eye out for loved ones, friends, or neighbors. You need to speak up, even if you are not sure exactly what is happening next door. I strongly urge you to call the local adult protective services office or the police. Additionally, you can call the Eldercare Locator at (800) 677-1116 for assistance, as well as our social workers at (888) 994-3863. Your neighbor is lucky to have you both.

Q: My wife was recently diagnosed with an early-onset of Alzheimer's disease. I am finding it difficult to care for her, especially as she becomes more disoriented and has a tendency to wander off. Since I love her dearly and want to make sure she is cared for in the best way possible, while also reducing some of my own anxiety, what things can I do to prevent her from wandering and possibly getting lost or hurt?

A: I am sorry to hear about your wife's recent diagnosis and what I can only imagine to be a very difficult and stressful time for both of you. There are indeed several tips for protecting a loved one from wandering, and decreasing the level of anxiety shared by all.

People with dementia such as Alzheimer's disease are likely to become disoriented and wander at some point. Wandering is best described as "aimless or purposeful motor activity that causes a social problem such as getting lost, leaving a safe environment, or intruding in inappropriate places."

Several factors that may cause wandering include medication side effects, stress, confusion about time, restlessness, agitation, anxiety, inability to recognize familiar people or places, and possible fear arising from the misrepresentation of sights and sounds. Thus, you may reduce your wife's wandering behavior by encouraging movement and exercise, and involving her in productive daily activities to reduce her anxiety, agitation, and restlessness. Try putting color-matched cloth or paint over doorknobs to help her identify them, as well as to decrease her fear of being confined. Redirect her pacing or restless behavior by placing a mirror near doorways and by providing her with reassuring comments. You might also find it useful to put preventive devices such as alarms or locks on doors in the home.

Additionally, you may want to enroll your wife in the Alzheimer's Association's Safe Return program — which is a nationwide identification system for those at risk of wandering. The Safe Return program can be reached by calling (888) 572-8566 or by visiting the Web site at www.alz.org. Also, inform your neighbors and local emergency responders of your wife's condition and keep a list of their names and phone numbers.

Do you have a question you would like answered or a topic you would like more information on? If so, you should enjoy the new question-and-answer section of the Pioneer News. Please submit questions to Megan Olman at the Will Rogers Motion Picture Pioneers Foundation, 10045 Riverside Drive, Third Floor, Toluca Lake, CA 91602. You can also e-mail questions to molman@wrinstitute.org or fax questions to (818) 508-0391.