



Newsletter

Memories of Metro Detroit in the 50s, 60s & 70s

Sunday, February 03, 2013

George Pierrot / WXYZ-TV Channel 7



I was a Producer/Director with **Channel 7** from 1951 to 1970. Wow, were those great times!

George Pierrot's World Adventure Series featured his buddies who, along with George, were all members of the **Circumnavigator's Club** and they shot their own films as they traveled the world. In those days, it was all 16mm. Earl B. Brink of Mutual Of Omaha was a strong supporter, sponsor and occasional guest on the show.

Following the TV show on Sunday, George also hosted a film presentation by the same speakers at the auditorium of the **Art Institute** right across the street.

When George got to the point where he wanted to slow down a little, he hired **Dick Femmel** to work with him and spell him at hosting the show. Dick was a former Channel 7 newscaster and News Director before he left Channel 7 to join George. Dick would have preceded **Bob Bean**.

I just remembered, George used to host a party once a year for the crew at the **Safari Club** on the East side. Wonderful 'adventures' in foods!

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DETROIT MEMORIES



Home of "You Know You're From

Another entry in the travel adventure shows was **Dennis Glen Cooper** who also hosted his own show when we were still in the **Maccabees Bldg** and later on at **Broadcast House**. Dennis occasionally sat in for George while he traveled.

Regards,
Chase (Chuck) Sneed
San Diego, CA

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Posted by Detroit Memories Newsletter at [2:43 AM](#) 

7 comments:



S & M 8:40 AM

When telling young people about the TV of my childhood, I describe this show- people showed their vacation home movies on TV. Even I am amazed that that was popular and I was there! Wasn't this the first local show to go color?

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Jackie Rydzon Kanavas 9:35 AM

My parents took us to many a George Pierrot presentation at the Art Institute when we were kids. Many a trip was planned thanks to these presentations. My dad always filmed in the "Stan Midgley" style.

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Anonymous 1:36 PM

George Pierrot changed my life. I watched his "World Adventure Series" show every afternoon (I think from 5 - 6 PM)after I returned home from sports practices. I wanted to visit every place that his guests had gone. So, right after graduating from Farmington HS, I took a student ship to Europe to work in a factory in Germany. After graduating from Michigan, I drove a \$65 dollar Chevy to the Panama Canal, then traveled around S America, took a freighter to North Africa, then hitched around Europe and filmed the fake withdrawal of Russian troops from Prague.

When my children were growing up, I took them to Europe 4 times before they started HS. Since retiring 1 1/2 years ago, I have visited my daughter in Shanghai, spent 2 months in the mountains of Guatemala, driven to the east and west coasts multiple times, and traveled to Europe. This year I will be in Europe again, camp in the wilds of Alaska for 6 weeks and make many more trips to the coasts and to Michigan, of course.

I thank George Pierrot for the inspiration to travel, and I think of him and his programs often.

Doug Griffin
Golden, Colorado

[Reply](#)



Douglas Griffin 2:08 PM

Great article about George Perrott. He inspired me to travel the world and to take my kids along when they were young. As a retiree I can make longer trips now to Central America, China, Western and Eastern Europe, and Alaska. Thanks George! I think of your show often.

Doug Griffin
Golden, Colorado

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Detroit: If..."

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