

NEWS RELEASE

Plexus Publishing, Inc.

For Immediate Release

Contact: Rob Colding
(609) 654-6266, ext. 330

Pioneer, Go Home!

Satirical novel by the author of *The Philadelphian* pits backwoods South Jersey clan against Big Government ... These “Pineys” won’t go home!



This 50th anniversary edition from Plexus restores the book many critics have called “one of the funniest novels ever published”

January 26, 2009, Medford, New Jersey—Plexus Publishing, Inc. announced the publication of the 50th anniversary edition of Richard Powell’s *Pioneer, Go Home!* The Plexus edition of the novel that might have been called “Piney, Go Home!” restores Powell’s uproarious 1959 bestseller and includes a new preface by the author.

Originally released by Scribner’s in 1959, *Pioneer, Go Home!* was the immediate follow-up to the author’s best-known novel, *The Philadelphian*. Like its predecessor, *Pioneer* received rave reviews, spent weeks on the *New York Times* bestseller list, and was made into a popular movie (1962’s *Follow That Dream*, starring Elvis Presley). The similarities end there, for with the new novel Powell chose satirical comedy over high drama—with frequently sidesplitting results.

Powell relates the adventures of the Kwimpers, a motley clan of New Jersey Pineys who break down on the side of a southern highway project and decide to claim squatter’s rights. Call them “hicks” or “bumpkins” if you like, but these Kwimpers are more resourceful than most folks give them credit for—and at least ten times as stubborn. When the government orders them to vacate, Pop Kwimper gets his dander up and the die is cast. Hilarity ensues as the family defends its homestead against an onslaught of conniving bureaucrats, Mother Nature, and the mob.

A warm and witty satire of little man versus “Big Gummint,” *Pioneer, Go Home!* features a fast-paced story, a wonderful cast of characters, and dozens of memorable, laugh-out-loud moments. One can’t help but cheer for the heroic Kwimpers as they thumb their noses at the authorities, struggle to get a business going, stand up to gun-happy gamblers, and tangle with a foxy social worker over custody of twins Eddy and Teddy. Meantime, young Toby Kwimper and the

—more—

family's endlessly resourceful "babysitter," Holly Jones, find the time to fall in love—though it takes Toby some time to realize that Holly is "real grown up." Fish and fishing are recurring themes in many Powell novels, and there are plenty of both to go around in *Pioneer, Go Home!*

Raves for *Pioneer, Go Home!*

"One of the most affable tales of liberty without license that has appeared since *You Can't Take It With You*. ... a fine, knockabout extravaganza. ... Mr. Powell achieves the impossible on occasion. The impossible, that is, in stimulating our willing sense of disbelief. ... An awesome feat."
—*The New York Times*

"Surely one of the funniest books ever published!"
—*Richmond Times-Dispatch*

"The book has laughs from the first page right on through to the end."
—*San Antonio Express News*

"Powell brings to the humorous novel something that is often lacking in all too many 'funny' stories—a few good belly laughs. ... Like all good things, Powell's book had to come to an end. But the Kwimpers are not the kind of people you forget about once having met them. ... Long live the Kwimpers!"
—*New Orleans Times Picayune*

About the Author

Philadelphia native Richard Powell was the author of 19 published novels, including many mysteries along with several comedic, dramatic, and historical works. While most of his novels disappeared from publishers' lists during the 1970s, his work is experiencing a well-deserved revival thanks to the efforts of his daughter, Dorothy Powell Quigley, to return all his books to print. In addition to *Pioneer, Go Home!* and *The Philadelphian* (also from Plexus), at least eight Powell novels have been restored since 2006.

Prior to retiring to Florida in 1958 to write full time, Powell studied history at Princeton, was a reporter for the *Philadelphia Evening Ledger*, served in the Army during WWII, and worked for many years in advertising and public relations. No matter what fiction genre Powell turned his hand to, his wry characterizations, crackling dialog, and deft plotting made each book an irresistible page-turner. Several of his novels, including *Pioneer, Go Home!* and *The Philadelphian*, were made into feature films.

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