

A Non-Profit Organization of Broadcast and Media Professionals

It's a 'Laugh-In' as Pacific Pioneer Broadcasters Honor George Schlatter

PPB Luncheon Re-cap Written by Celebrity Journalist Margie Barron
(Edited for space)
Luncheon Photos by Roxanne Schorbach

During the love-in era of the '60s, prolific TV producer and director **GEORGE SCHLATTER** created "Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In." It was a revolutionary sketch comedy that united America with laughter.

For that pioneering program along with other impressive accomplishments, Pacific Pioneer Broadcasters honored Schlatter on February 22nd.



PPB President **ALAN PERRIS** presented the **ART GILMORE** Career Achievement Award and reminded everyone, "George has had three groundbreaking shows—*Laugh-In*, *Real People*, and a 15-year run with the *American Comedy Awards* specials."

Hilarity followed for all those attending the entertaining luncheon at the Sportsmen's Lodge in Studio City. The dais was filled with **JO ANNE WORLEY**, **SARAH PURCELL**, **BRUCE VILANCH**, **FRED WILLARD**, and **TONY DANZA** telling rib-tickling stories about their lovable pal George.

"Some of their comments need rebuttal," Schlatter said when he finally got the microphone. He corrected the person who said he got his start as a bouncer at the Sunset Strip nightclub *Ciro's*. "My wife Jolene doesn't like hearing that, so I now say I was an executive in charge of emergency departures," said the man who was born in Alabama and raised in Missouri. He moved to Los Angeles to attend Pepperdine University before meeting the comedy team of **DAN ROWAN** and **DICK MARTIN** when he managed *Ciro's*. A source of pride for George is discovering new talent and launching careers, as he did with **GOLDIE HAWN** and **LILY TOMLIN**,

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and the rest of the incredible *Laugh-In* ensemble. An indispensable member of that team, Jo Anne Worley, recalled Schlatter's glee at hoodwinking the NBC censors, like the time he had Jo Anne sing *The Things We Did Last Summer* in a maternity gown to rile the network.

Schlatter also produced *Real People*, perhaps the first reality show that offered a comedic look at unique folks across the U.S. Among the co-hosts were Sarah Purcell and Fred Willard who had a knack for interviewing crazy people. George said, "There was a guy with a perpetual motion machine that didn't work, and a lady with a spaceship that didn't go anywhere."



Laugh-In alum **JO ANNE WORLEY** sent greetings to producer **GEORGE SCHLATTER** from her fellow cast members **RUTH BUZZI**, **LILLY TOMLIN** and **GOLDIE HAWN** who were unable to attend the luncheon.

Purcell surprised the PPB crowd with her naughty explanation of a memo George wrote stressing that foul language is no substitute for good writing. Amen!

Tony Danza (*Who's the Boss*, *Taxi*) said, "A lot of the highlights of my life are because of George. He put me in **MUHAMMAD ALI's**

Continued on page 2



On the Dais: Honoree **GEORGE SCHLATTER**, **JO ANNE WORLEY**, **SARAH PURCELL**, PPB President **ALAN PERRIS**, **FRED WILLARD**, **TONY DANZA**, **BRUCE VILANCH**.



PPB Second Vice President "SHOTGUN TOM" KELLY found last November's celebrity luncheon honoree, REGIS PHILBIN among those attending the Schlatter luncheon. On the left is iHeart Radio's JIM DUNCAN.



Actress JOLENE SCHLATTER chats with TONY DANZA during a break at the PPB luncheon honoring her husband. Jolene was a regular on *The ERNIE KOVACS Show* and a number of other TV shows in the 50s and 60s.

50th birthday special, SAMMY DAVIS Jr.'s 60th anniversary in show business, and FRANK SINATRA's celebration. They were among the greatest nights of my life to be around the people I grew up worshipping."

Bruce Vilanch, who is enjoying a 40-year roll as a comedy writer, had the PPB crowd roaring as he mentioned he was wearing something from the IVANKA TRUMP collection, "I found it in a dumpster behind Nordstrom's." Then he sort of got serious when he praised George for being the first producer to pull together AIDS fundraising specials with top talent supporting the cause.



PPB Board Member DON WHITEMORE is flanked by his guests at the luncheon, BEVERLY and GLORIA PINK, owners of the famous Pink's Hot Dogs restaurants.

Unable to attend, there were taped messages from pals MARYHART, RUTH BUZZI, and "Super Dave" BOB EINSTEIN.

It was noted that Schlatter has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. He and his wife JOLENE have two daughters, ANDREA and MARIA, and George is presently working with an author to write his memoir while continuing to produce shows for television.

DIAMOND CIRCLE HONOREE

Also at the luncheon, PPB's Diamond Circle Award was given to DEE BAKER. It was presented by past President CHUCK STREET who acknowledged Baker's significant contribution to broadcasting as a producer who did memorable TV specials around the world.

Street noted Baker started life on a small Iowa farm, and danced on the State Fair circuit. But his life's journey took him to Hollywood and then dancing in top Las Vegas shows. Later he turned to TV productions, working with DICK CLARK and BOB BANNER.



Past PPB President CHUCK STREET presents the Diamond Circle Award to producer DEE BAKER.

Dee became skilled at producing location specials working with Olympic ice skaters PEGGY FLEMING and DOROTHY HAMEL. He also served as associate producer for TV specials hosted by CHER, PERRY COMO, DONNY and MARIE, to mention a few, during his 50 years in broadcasting.

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HERMAN RUSH, former CEO/President of the Columbia Pictures Television Group, CEO of Coca-Cola Telecommunications, and former executive producer of the MONTEL WILLIAMS five-time-per-week program for 17 years, has joined the Board of Directors of HombreTV. In addition, Mr. Rush will work with HombreTV in strategic initiatives and programming content. HombreTV is a digital, Hispanic network platform currently in development under the auspices of DENNIS RICHARD. The network is planned to premiere late in 2017/early 2018 and will cater to the ever-growing Hispanic audience. Rush is a veteran broadcast executive, having served on the Board of Directors of Chris Craft Industries, former owner of television stations in New York, Los Angeles, Phoenix, San Francisco and other markets, now owned by NewsCorp and part of the Fox Television Station Group.

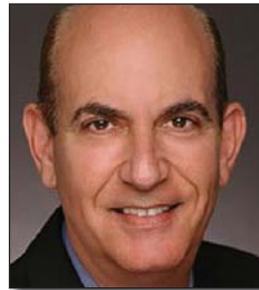


PPB board member RICK SCARRY spent part of March in the tropical paradise of Fiji shooting the second season opener of the TBS series *Wrecked*. Rick plays high powered attorney Tom Montgomery in the comedy series.

Comedy writer BOB MILLS has joined the Retired Senior Volunteer Program at the Glendale Police Department, assigned to the Detective Bureau to assist in evidence evaluation and case preparation for prosecution (he practiced law before joining BOB HOPE's writing staff). His comedic take on the new DONALD TRUMP White House appears daily at RealLaughsFromRealNews.Blogspot.com and he contributes to the radio prep service Funnyfirm.com. His website BobHopeShowBackstage.com just passed a quarter of a million views.

PPB Board Member JOHN GOLDHAMMER's Lipstick, Inc. has joined with BRIAN GRADEN Productions and sold a limited series to Oxygen. The show will concern the famous disappearance of teenager NATALIE HOLLOWAY in Aruba in 2005.

On April 1st, PAUL GILBERT, senior vice-president of international formats at CBS Studios International (CBSI), received the prestigious Gold Award at the Format Awards gala dinner at the Cannes finale in France. The award is presented annually to industry figures who have defined the formats business. As senior VP of CBSI, Paul is responsible for the development, production, and distribution of some of television's most successful programs, including *America's Next Top Model*, *I Love Lucy*, *Hotel*, *Dynasty*, *Taxi*, *Family Ties*, *Numb3rs*, and other branded shows on the company's slate. Gilbert began his career at MERV GRIFFIN Productions, eventually producing syndication hits *Jeopardy!* and



Wheel of Fortune, before moving to work with MERRILL HEATTER Productions and syndication giant King World Productions, where he headed up international program development.

SEEKING PPB MEMBERS TO SHARE INTERESTING LIFE STORIES AND EXPERIENCES

TV and New Media host, LOREN KLING says, "Having grown up around Los Angeles radio and television, PPB luncheons have been a dream opportunity to hear amazing stories from wonderful people. I want to capture some of those stories and experiences -- inside and outside of our business -- via my audio podcast series, '5 Things That Changed Your Life.' If you are interested, please contact Loren at loren@fivethingspodcast.com or at (323) 275-1755. His audio recording equipment is mobile and ready to come to you for a one hour sit-down interview. You can listen to the first season of the podcast on iTunes or at <http://www.fivethingspodcast.com>.



In March, The Huffington Post highlighted PPB member **RANDY THOMAS** by writing:

"You're watching Entertainment Tonight!"... "Live from Hollywood, it's the Academy Awards!"... these iconic phrases are known the world over by Randy Thomas, the preeminent voice-over artist in America.

Randy's resume is stunning: The Oscars (8x) The Super Bowl (3x), The Emmy Awards (5x), The Tony Awards (18x), SAG Awards (5x) and Entertainment Tonight (14 years and counting). Most recently, Randy can be heard announcing the Rock-n-Roll Hall of Fame Inductions (3x), The Kennedy Center Honors (2x), and promo campaigns for CNN. In addition to voice-overs, Thomas has achieved her dreams of becoming one of the most recognizable voice-over artists in the world as well as being the co-author of *VOICE FOR HIRE: Launch and Maintain a Lucrative Career in Voice-Overs*.

Veteran record executives **GREG LEE** and **STEVE RESNIK** are among the organizers of the 6th Music Industry Reunion. The informal event is open to all members, past and present, of the music and music-related industries. It will take place at The Canyon Club in Agoura Hills on Wednesday, May 17. For info, call **JON SCOTT** at 818-981-9876 or JonPaulScott@gmail.com.

Announcer and author **RANDY WEST** joined **WINK MARTINDALE** March 26th on *The Late JOEY REYNOLDS Show* on KABC and WABC. Both Wink and Randy are longtime PPB members, and both have remembrances of game show master **CHUCK BARRIS**. Wink was host of the wacky producer's *How's Your Mother-in-Law*, and Randy announced the Barris revival, *All New 3's a Crowd*.

A few days later, **WINK** and **SANDY MARTINDALE** attended and participated in the premiere **ELVIS PRESLEY** Music Festival in Nashville. The event celebrates the music and legacy of Elvis, and features celebrity appearances, live music performances, on-stage interviews with Presley's friends and band members, and an Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artist competition with contestants from as far away as Canada, Brazil and Australia.



A PPB member, DJ **SPIDER HARRISON** believes in lemons. He says, "I eat lemons everyday for the VOICE. All DJ's, actors, and singers should eat lemons daily. You can buy them or GROW them. Thank you Christopher Columbus for bringing the seeds to the new world. He knew that I would need and use them throughout my career. LOL."

GOOD READS

The 5th edition of member **IVAN CURY**'s textbook, *Directing and Producing for Television*, has just been released. Based on his years of experience, Cury illustrates fundamental principles with anecdotes that teach by example. Ivan is a professor in the Communication Department of Cal State LA, where he's taught for the past 15 years and is a producer and director of commercials, sitcoms, variety shows, documentaries, and daytime dramas such as *The Young and the Restless*.

Long-time PPB member **LORRAINE HILLMAN**'s memoir, *Lifetime of News*, will be available on Amazon in late April. The book is the story of a girl who grew up in Hollywood, attended radio shows at Columbia Square, and arrived at CBS Television City during the 1950's Golden Years. Six years later she joined KNXT's *The Big News* team, where she witnessed the development of local TV news. She was the second woman in the newsroom, and the book follows her journey to find a job in news and work on major stories such as **MANSON**, **MENENDEZ**, *The Night Stalker*, **PATTY HEARST**, **MICHAEL JACKSON**, earthquakes, fires, floods, plane crashes, and **O.J. SIMPSON** trials.

YOUR VOTE COUNTED

The votes have been counted concerning the two ballot measures presented before PPB members in March:

BALLOT MEASURE #1 - APPROVED was the increase of voting Board Members to include PPB officers and past presidents.

BALLOT MEASURE #2 - NOT APPROVED was amending the name of our organization to Hollywood Media Professionals aka Pacific Pioneer Broadcasters.

JIMMY WELDON says:

Hi, PPBers...It's the "Quiet One" with a report. On February 13, I had an accident in my little Scion that resulted in a mild stroke, two stints implanted in my heart, and almost two weeks in the hospital. Thankfully, I'm coming back to my old self again. Love you guys, Jimmy.



Webster Webfoot accompanies **JIMMY WELDON** on all his public appearances.

The legendary "**SHOTGUN TOM**" **KELLY** was back in San Diego the beginning of April in all of his tuxedoed splendor as a presenter for the San Diego Film Awards. During the festivities, the organizers surprised Shotgun by presenting him with a Lifetime Achievement Award! The show was televised on The CW 6 in San Diego and Shotgun could be heard on a Friday Night Special on News-Talk 790 KABC/Los Angeles.



That's noted television and film producer **BOB GARDNER** (left) and a pleasantly surprised "**SHOTGUN TOM**" **KELLY** receiving his major award.

On June 17, PPBer **ART LABOE** returns to the Coachella Valley to host his 6th Annual Summer Love Jam concert at The Show at Agua Caliente Casino Resort Spa in Rancho Mirage. On September 9, Art will host his 15th Annual Art Laboe Show LIVE concert at Glen Helen Amphitheater in San Bernardino. More info at ArtLaboe.com.

Beginning June 30, member **KAREN RACHELS**'s Big Bear Theatre will present the Broadway musical *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*, which is based on the comic strip *Peanuts* by **CHARLES M. SCHULTZ**, and starting on August 25, they'll present *Steel Magnolias* by **ROBERT HARLING**. For ticket info go to www.BigBearTheater.org or call 909-585-4757.

PPB member **DON GRAHAM** has been busy booking his clients. In March, **DEBORAH SILVER** appeared at the Catalina Jazz Club in Hollywood to promote her latest album, *The Gold Standards*. PPBer **BRAD CHAMBERS**, host of *Martini in the Morning*, says that "response from our listeners has been off the chart. We've heard from so many people who have ordered the album and loved it." *The Gold Standards* was produced by new PPB member Grammy Award winning producer and vocalist, **STEVE TYRELL**. In addition to concerts around the country, Steve will be appearing in Costa Mesa April 27-28-29 and in Arcadia on May 30. Info at www.SteveTyrell.com.



STEVE TYRELL

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On **Friday, June 16** PPB will honor

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WE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

ALFRED ARCHULETA, Jr. is sponsored by PPB VP **"SHOTGUN TOM" KELLY**. Alfred has been in radio for 11 years starting on weekends in 1971 at KVEE in Santa Maria. He moved to KJOI-FM in Beverly Hills and then to KFVB as an editorial assistant. He also worked as fill-in for oldies radio in Victorville at KRSH. He's retired, but remains a collector of radio memorabilia.

KAREN CADLE spent 25 years in television and started her own talent booking company in 1996. She began her career as a production assistant on the **DON RICKLES SHOW** in 1968 and went on to produce hundreds of celebrity interviews, including **ROBERT REDFORD, LIZA MINNELLI, PRINCE CHARLES, CAROL BURNETT** and President **RONALD REAGAN**. Her television credits include: *Hour Magazine, Lifestyles of the Rich & Famous, The Whoopi Goldberg Show, and One on One*. She is producing a film, *Unforgettable*, a tribute to film legends. **ART ALISI** is her sponsor.

PAUL MONTGOMERY began his career in 1988 and still works with Cable Vision in Oxnard, Ojai, Thousand Oaks, and Ventura as producer, editor and director. During the past year, he's worked on two movies, *Heavenly Deposit* and *Enter the Diamond*. His sponsor is **BILL DeFOI**.

PAULA QUASARANO began her career in 1971 as Assistant to the head of sales at WKBD-TV in Detroit. From 1977-81, she was a Media Buying Assistant at Erwin, Wasey Advertising and then a media buyer at VMI West. For 20 years, she was a production accountant at NBC worked at Corday Productions on *Days of our Lives* for 11 years. Paula is sponsored by past PPB President **TOM HATTEN**.

STEVE TYRELL's distinguished career spans 47 years in music for film and television. He's a Grammy Award producer and vocalist and has achieved success as singer, songwriter, and musician with his own radio show on K-JAZZ. He started his career at age 18 with the team of **BURT BACHARACH, HAL DAVID** and **DIONNE WARWICK**. As an artist, all seven of his American Standards albums have achieved Top 5 status on Billboard's Jazz charts; and his first album, *A New Standard*, was among the best-selling jazz albums for over five years. **DON GRAHAM** is sponsoring Steve.

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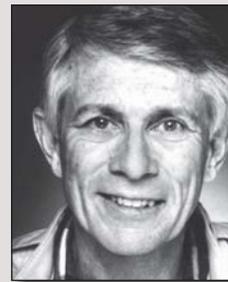
Eligibility for membership requires at least **10 years** of non-consecutive professional service in radio, TV, or a related field of entertainment, including new media.

For an application, go to PPBwebsite.org or leave a message at 323-461-2121

WE REMEMBER ...

JOHN HARLAN

A founding member and past PPB president, John's first sustained gig was at Fresno radio station KMJ, where he played the role of "Sam the Dreamer" and read poetry every night at midnight to help listeners fall asleep.



During the Korean Conflict, John served in the U.S. Navy and attended both Fresno State and USC, before embarking on a 60-year-long career as one of TV's top announcers specializing in variety, award, and game show formats. He was best known as the "voice" of *Password, Name That Tune*, and **BOB HOPE** specials. Other productions include: *The JUDY GARLAND Show, The FLIP WILSON Show, Mrs. World, The Golden Globes, People's Choice Awards, The Academy Awards, It Takes Two, American Gladiators, Jeopardy!*, and *You Don't Say*.

Over the last three decades, John was deeply involved in the administrative side of the entertainment industry, serving multiple times as both officer and delegate for AFTRA and SAG/AFTRA.

ARTHUR ASTOR - After serving in WWII and graduating from USC, Art had a broadcasting career spanning almost 60 years. In the late 1960's, he was sales manager at Boss Radio KHJ at the height of it's popularity and became one of Southern California's preeminent broadcasters, owning several radio stations. Art realized a dream of his by donating his collection of cars, radios, and memorabilia to the City of Cerritos. The Cerritos Astor Museum is scheduled to open next summer.

ED BLAU served in the U.S. Air Force and the U.S. Army and graduated from Harvard Law School. His career began with the MCA talent agency in New York, where he worked closely with the legendary **LEW WASSERMAN**. As a prominent entertainment attorney in L.A., his clients included luminaries from the world of entertainment including writer **HENRY MILLER, STEVE ALLEN, FRED ASTAIRE, BOBBIE DARIN, ROCK HUDSON, DENNIS HOPPER, JERRY LEWIS, ROWEN** and **MARTIN, SIEGFRIED** and **ROY, DIONNE WARWICK**, the Magic Castle, and **RALPH EDWARDS** Productions. He represented the legendary **JOHNNY MATHIS** for over 50 years. He received an honorary award from the Caucus for Television Producers, Writers and Directors for his dedication to the organization.

JOHN GRIFFIN - After serving in the U.S. Navy during WWII, John landed his first job at KWTC in Barstow, California, becoming "The Voice of the Mojave". His enthusiasm for broadcasting brought him to NBC in 1952, then to channels 9, 11, and 13 working behind the camera on *The Engineer Bill Show* and the **GEORGE PUTNAM** newscasts. In 1963 he was hired back at NBC in the On-Air Video Tape Department, which he ran for 25 years.

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