

## Radio Talk Show Hosts Honored at September Celebrity Luncheon

A creative new format – a group of talkative guys – an appreciative audience. All of this and more went into an enormously successful luncheon in September which featured five of LA's best-known radio talk show hosts.

In a break from the norm, PPB President **CHUCK STREET** used a Q&A format to elicit stories from each panelist. The dais featured **DOUG McINTYRE** from KABC; **BRIAN WHITMAN** and **DENNIS PRAGER** from KRLA; and, **TIM CONWAY, JR.** and **BILL HANDEL** from KFI, each comfortably seated in front of individual mikes. These guys all know each other, so great anecdotes, laughter and general ribbing contributed to the entertainment.



On the Dais: Front Row (L to R): **DOUG McINTYRE**, **BILL HANDEL**, PPB Chairman of the Board **JEANNE DeVIVIER BROWN**, **BRIAN WHITMAN**. Back Row: PPB President **CHUCK STREET**, **DENNIS PRAGER**, **TIM CONWAY, JR.** (Photo: Don King)

Chuck asked Dennis Prager about the three most extraordinary people he's interviewed. Dennis talked about how the listeners have been the ones who have touched his life and told the story of a mother who said, "how can you be happier than your most miserable child?"

Doug McIntyre was asked about the difference between being on the air in the mornings (as he is now) and doing an overnight show. He said, "morning shows pay about triple." Asked how he got in the business, Doug said he used to listen to **RAY BRIEM** who was a pilot. At the time, Doug was writing an article on the Wright Brothers and he and Ray became friends. Doug ended up taking over for Ray when he retired. The best piece of advice Doug ever received was "never lie to the audience – you can be wrong, but never lie."

Bill Handel told the story of being on the air on 9/11. Asked how he'd like to be remembered, he said "not as a broadcaster. The most important thing that I've done is to help create 2,400 babies for people who wouldn't have them." Bill was referring to his work as founder of the Center for Surrogate Parenting. When asked who he listens to on radio, Bill said "Tim has the best hour on radio."

### ORDER YOUR LUNCHEON TICKETS NOW!

Friday, November 15, 2013  
PPB will honor legendary  
singer, songwriter, and pianist  
**NEIL SEDAKA**



★★★★★

The Diamond Circle Award will be presented to comedian  
**SHELLEY BERMAN**

After effusive thanks, Tim Conway, Jr. told stories about his successful segment "What the Hell Did **JESSE JACKSON** Say?" Asked about his father's influence on his career, Tim said, "40 million people watched the **CAROL BURNETT Show** every Saturday. As a kid, I didn't want to go to the TV show, I wanted to go to Dad's radio interviews. I thought those were much more interesting."

Brian Whitman said, "I was bitten by the radio bug at an early age, too, and used an impression of **RONALD REAGAN** to get my first job from St. Louis DJ **SCOTT SHANNON**. I was 13." Brian can easily imitate the first **PRESIDENT BUSH**, **JACK NICHOLSON**, and one time convinced **DAN QUAIL** that he was **BILL CLINTON**.

It was a wonderful afternoon filled with interesting stories and lots of laughter. A truly memorable event.



The students from Thousand Oaks' California Lutheran University, studying broadcasting under **LEE MARSHALL** (left), received an enthusiastic recognition from PPB members at the September 20th luncheon for Radio Talk Show Hosts. **RALPH EDWARDS** Productions hosts a table of students from area colleges and universities at each luncheon. (Photo: Marty Fry) (Text: Gerry Fry)

Several PPB members spend some of their free time volunteering at the Motion Picture & Television Fund campus in Woodland Hills. At September's luncheon, PPBers **MARCIA MINOR**, **CHRISTOPHER THOMAS**, and **DEE BAKER** welcome **ARLENE GLASSNER** (second from left), Manager of Marketing for MPTF.



# CHRISTOPHER THOMAS Receives Diamond Circle Award

PPB's First VP **LARRY VANDERVEEN** presented the Diamond Circle Award to actor **CHRISTOPHER THOMAS** by saying (in part):

"Christopher Thomas got his first taste of performing in the Army playing guitar and singing in musical reviews touring every American base in South Korea."



LARRY VANDERVEEN presents the Diamond Circle Award to CHRISTOPHER THOMAS.

"We at PPB know about Chris's commitment to service. Not only is he a past board member, but my predecessor as presenter of the Diamond Circle Award. And today he will receive this very important honor himself."

"After the Army, he spent three years studying with Stella Adler in New York. A stint in regional theatre was followed by a move to the West Coast where Chris's guest starring and recurring roles have included *Murder She Wrote*, *MacGyver*, *Hill Street Blues*, and *The Rockford Files*. His mini series and movie-of-the-week credits include *The Winds of War*, *Centennial*, *The Rosemary Clooney Story*, and *Valley of the Dolls*. Over the years, Chris enjoyed his work as an on-camera spokesman for several corporations and recently appeared as the Pope in an episode of *American Horror Story*."

"While living in London, Chris made his British stage debut as Ben in *Death of a Salesman*, directed by Janet Suzman. Back in LA, he put on his producer's hat for the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, creating the highly acclaimed in-house specials *An Evening with Ray Bradbury* and *A Salute to the Westerns*."

"Chris currently serves on the board of the SAG-AFTRA Federal Credit Union and for 17 years has been a volunteer at the Motion Picture & Television Home."

"Ladies and Gentleman, please welcome the newest member of the Pacific Pioneer Broadcasters Diamond Circle, Chris Thomas."

Now that he's recovered from his 95th birthday celebrations, PPBer **RAY CHARLES** is preparing to go to Washington, DC to participate in the Kennedy Center Honors for the 31st time. He says, "where did the time go?"

In September, **CLIFF** and **DOLORES CORDER** returned to Cliff's alma mater Baker University in Baldwin City, Kansas. This was Cliff's 50 year class reunion where he was remembered for his roles as station manager of KBUB radio and producer/director of the 1962 Varsity Show, as Bill in *Annie Get Your Gun*, and as a member of the choir.

PPB's Secretary **DAVID DOW** sent this item: "Once again I'm teaching journalism students the bad habits carefully nurtured during nearly 40 years as a news reporter. I'm teaching a broadcast reporting class at Cal State Northridge. The generation gap keeps trying to break through, sometimes successfully. During a recent class I alluded to an interview I'd done with **TED DANSON**. Noting some blank faces, I asked how many were familiar with that name. Fewer than half answered in the affirmative. One of those asked, 'Wasn't he on a show with **KIRSTIE ALLEY**?'"

**ED** and **NANCY WILLIAMS** recently traveled to Lapland and down the beautiful coast of Norway.

**JEFF WILLIAMS** has created a new dramedy web series. *Man With A Flip Phone* is about an outspoken talk radio host (played by Jeff) dealing with technology in the 21st century. "Many people are so into their phones and other technology these days," says Jeff, "I saw an opportunity to have fun with this idea. Whether you are into smart phones and other high tech gadgets, prefer a low-tech life, or are somewhere in the middle, there are many funny moments in this show." Episodes can be viewed at [ManWithAFlipPhone.com](http://ManWithAFlipPhone.com).



**YVONNE MONTOYA** is producing a documentary about the intersection of Hollywood and Vine for PBS SoCal KOCE. She'd like to speak with PPBers who worked in radio during the 40s, 50s and 60s. [Yvmontoya@yahoo.com](mailto:Yvmontoya@yahoo.com)

Longtime PPBer **BOB MILLS**, creator of *BOB HOPE Backstage*, multimedia video shows developed for ocean cruises, now brings them to the rivers of Europe and Asia. Included are Hollywood Nostalgia theme cruises on the Danube, Budapest, and Prague featuring Bob's tributes to TV's Golden Age. For info, contact Bob at [TheLaughMakers@GMail.com](mailto:TheLaughMakers@GMail.com)

This item from **LEE MARSHALL**, better known as the voice of *Tony the Tiger*: "One of the most gratifying things about teaching at California Lutheran University is seeing my former students do well in our business. I am proud to tell the PPB membership that my former radio/TV student, **JESSE KNUTSON** has been nominated for a local Emmy Award in Harrisburg, PA. This is Jesse's first job since his graduation. His future looks bright and I couldn't be more proud."

## Kudos



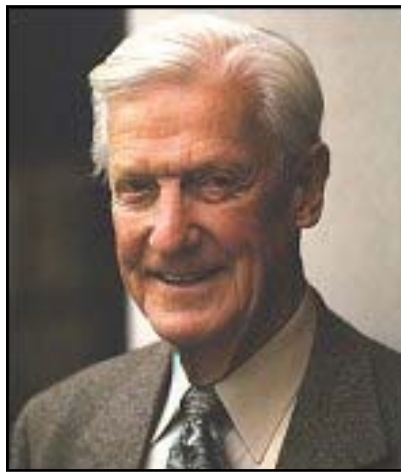
In October at the 10-4 Day Parade in Hollywood, Adam-12 producer **TOM WILLIAMS** (L) accepted his award for 45 years of Service to the City of Los Angeles from Councilmember **TOM LaBONGE** (R).



On September 15th, our own **JUNE FORAY** was given the Television Academy Governors Award. June's entertainment career spans eight decades, six of them spent in becoming an animation voiceover legend with memorable roles on *The Bullwinkle Show*, *The Dudley Do-Right Show*, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, and *The Bugs Bunny Show*. She won a Daytime Emmy last year for *The Garfield Show*.

**WE GOOFED** - **MARVIN HAMLISCH**'s name was spelled incorrectly in our September newsletter.

PPB's  
ART GILMORE  
CAREER  
ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD



That lovely award, the Art Gilmore Career Achievement Award, we give to our honored guests each luncheon, is named after our founding president. For PPB members who did not have a chance to know this outstanding man, here are some facts regarding him. Art was 98 when he passed away in September of 2010. He led a full life both professionally and as a family man. He was married to his wife, the lovely Grace, for 72 years and he was a grandfather and great grandfather.

Art was born and educated in Tacoma, WA. While studying speech at what is now Washington State University, he became an announcer on the campus radio station. He left school in 1935 and became staff announcer at KOL in Seattle.

Moving to Los Angeles in 1936, he became a staff announcer at KFWB and soon went to work at the CBS-owned KNX.

During World War II, he served as an officer in the Navy in the Pacific. He was a board member and reader for Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic, local and national president of AFTRA and a deacon at Bel Air Presbyterian Church. He loved to fly, boat, travel, and play golf.



On radio, he was the announcer on shows such as *Amos 'n' Andy*, *Dr. Christian*, *Red Ryder* and *The Sears Radio Theater*.

Moving to television in the 1950s, he was the announcer for *The George Gobel Show* and was the announcer on *The Red Skelton Show* for 16 years. He was narrator on the TV series *Mackenzie's Raiders*, *Men of Annapolis*, and *Highway Patrol* ... all 156 episodes. Moviegoers heard his voice on more than 2,700 movie trailers, including those for *It's a Wonderful Life*, *The Best Years of Our Lives*, *Rear Window*, *Shane*, *Creature From the Black Lagoon* and the original *Ocean's 11*.

Among the odds and ends of a career that included narrating children's records and serving as national spokesman for Chrysler, Gilmore was the voice of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in the 1942 movie *Yankee Doodle Dandy*.

You should also know Art was the driving force in our breaking away from a group of New York broadcasters that the West Coast radio broadcasters had joined. It turned out the New York group wanted most of the dues, so Art said "Let's have our own luncheon club." This took place in January of 1966 and 178 broadcasters signed up immediately and within several months the membership stood at 500, all of whom were declared Charter members.

If there ever was a "gentle man" it was Chairman of the Board Art Gilmore.

- by JOHN HARLAN, PPB Past President

Reading List

ROBERT S. LEVINSON'S current hardcover book, *Phony Tinsel* is newly available as an e-book on Amazon Kindle. His next crime novel, *Finders, Keepers, Losers, Weepers*, is set for publication January 22, 2014. A new short story, *After Daddy Died*, will appear in the January/February issue of *ALFRED HITCHCOCK Mystery Magazine*.

JOE SIEGMAN's newest book, *Bats, Balls & Hollywood Stars... Hollywood's Love Affair with Baseball*, is ready for publication. It's mostly dugout stories and photos related to the LA Dodgers annual *Hollywood Stars Night*, a yearly fan-favorite exhibition game. Originally organized by entertainer NAT KING COLE, Joe and ICM agent JACK GILARDI took over in the mid-60s and produced the game for over 30 years, which featured a Who's Who of Hollywood stars and jocks.

Upcoming Events

On October 27th, BILL A. JONES will sing a tribute to *The Great Gentlemen of Song*, with The STEVE RAWLINS Trio at the ARTHUR NEWMAN Theatre at Palm Desert's Joslyn Center. For info call 760-325-2731.

ART LABOE's July concert at Buffalo Bill's Star of the Desert Arena in Primm, NV was so successful, he's heading back to the state line in December. Info coming soon on ArtLaboe.com.

On Sunday, October 27th, the *Great Gatsby Extravaganza* will take place at the Marwah Estate in Malibu from 4:00pm to 10:00pm. The event will feature live 20s music, dance lessons and contests, costumes, and more - food and drink are provided. About 8:30, a highlight of the evening will feature LARRY VANDERVEEN performing his *Meeting F. Scott Fitzgerald* one man show. Tickets are \$25.00 pre-sale, or \$40.00 at the door. RSVP at 818-566-1925.



On The Mend

JERRY SHARELL - Jerry is back on KJAZZ with a new show. The overwhelming outpouring of love to Jerry has been wonderful!

TOM WILLIAMS is out of the hospital and doing well after cracking his "T-6." We asked him what happened. "I fell flat on my back," he answered. "How did it happen?" we asked. Tom said, "I went to the bank and asked them to check my balance. The teller pushed me and I fell over."

We Remember With Great Admiration

A.C. LYLES - Andrew Craddock Lyles was Hollywood's goodwill ambassador and Paramount's longest employee (85 years). He began his career as an office boy for the studio's founder ADOLPH ZUKOR, worked as a publicist, and became a full-time film producer of Westerns in 1957. He was associate producer on TV's *Rawhide*, and, most recently was consulting producer on HBO's series *Deadwood*. A.C. was featured in numerous documentaries about old Hollywood and was honored with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

HAZEL McINTOSH - Hazel was an actress, model, and Administrative Assistant to world-renowned architect, PAUL R. WILLIAMS. She had a 23 year career in radio, including producing and hosting programs on KCSN, and was an AD at KHJ.

Please send your news, and that of your PPB friends, to  
BIANCA PINO P.O. Box 8673 Calabasas, CA 91372, by e-mail to  
Bianca.Pino@ppbwebsite.org or by fax to 323-851-4570.

If you know of a member who is ill or has passed away,  
please advise PPB's Membership/Friendship Chair  
KAY HENLEY  
by leaving a message at 323-461-2121



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**From The Archives**

**1995: PPB's Celebrity Luncheon Honoring WINK MARTINDALE**



Pictured are (L to R) GARY OWENS, SANDY MARTINDALE, honoree WINK MARTINDALE, JEANNE DeVIVIER BROWN, BILL SMITH, PAT BOONE, JOHN HARLAN, BOB EUBANKS, STAN SPIRO, ARNOLD SHAPIRO, then PPB President CHUCK SOUTHCOTT, HAL KANTER. (Programming Note: During October on the Siriusly Sinatra station on Sirius XM radio, Wink will interview the songwriters who wrote for "the voice" - FRANK SINATRA. Featured are SAMMY CAHN, JIMMY VAN HUESEN, JULE STYNE, PHIL SILVERS, PAUL ANKA, and MARILYN and ALAN BERGMAN. Check listings for times.)

**New Members**

**BOB HAMILTON** is president of Hamilton Communications, a programming and management company, and senior VP of music and programming for Tom Kent Radio Network.

**DREW HAYES** - Drew is a radio executive, announcer, and talk show host. He worked in Chicago radio at WBBM, WCKG, WSCR, and in LA at KABC. He was General Manager and responsible for all programming for the 400 station ESPN radio network. Currently, Drew is Operations Director at KABC radio.

**DANIEL HUMFREVILLE** - With a 40 year career as an announcer and writer in radio, Daniel was a sales rep for CBS radio and an area rep for Arbitron Ratings Co. He's currently a partner at Car Pro Radio Network.

**JAY LARKINS** - Jay's career started as a weekend DJ at WOOL in Kingsport, TN. He's worked at CNN 2 and The Weather Channel. Now at Paramount, he's a director, TD, AD, and editor for *Entertainment Tonight*.

**JOHN LILLIBRIDGE** - Singer and administrator with 35 years in TV. John is currently Director of Technical Operations for NBC/Universal.

**BARB NORTH** - Barb's worked in program development and as an actor, producer, and writer. On camera, she's been seen on numerous shows including *The Gong Show* and *Candid Camera*. She currently is in stand-up comedy management and coaching.

**MARY PRICE** - An announcer with 35 years in radio, Mary's worked at KWIZ, KZLA, and KRTH. She's now at Clear Channel doing traffic, news, and voice overs.

**JACK ROBERTS** - Jack is a former executive producer of all CRN programming and was producer of the **ROBERT CONRAD**, **GEORGE PUTMAN**, and **ELMER DILLS** radio shows. His experience ranges from on-air personality, program director, promotion director and general manager at various stations on the East Coast. He was senior producer on the nationally syndicated **DICK CAVETT** and **COLONEL OLIVER NORTH** radio programs. Jack now writes a daily article for his internet audience at HollywoodHillsGroup.com.

**DON WHITTEMORE** - With over 50 years in radio, Don's also worked for Capitol Records and RCA. Currently, he's the owner of Dandy Don's Homemade Ice Cream, "the Pop-Up Ice Cream Shop - we bring the ice cream parlor to you!"

**CAROL WOOD** - With 30 years in TV, Carol started as a page at CBS and went on to become coordinator for CBS Children's Programs. She was an assistant at Carsey-Werner, Warner Bros., and Theatre Ventures, Inc. She says she's not retired, just between jobs.

PPB Lapel Pins are once again available from **GEORGE KNAPP** - he'll be in the lobby of the Sportsmen's Lodge before our next Luncheon, or you can drop by his table. A limited number are available for \$5.00 each.



YOUR NAME



PPB Badges can be ordered from **EDDY JO BERNAL** at each luncheon, or by sending \$10.00 to PPB, PO Box 8673, Calabasas, CA 91372. Include a check for \$10.00 - let us know how you'd like your name to appear and if you'd like a clip or a pin on the back.