

WHO'S WHAT/ WHAT'S WHERE



OCTOBER 2007

ROBERT CONRAD, who changed the course of television westerns with his spoof of the genre in the series "The Wild, Wild West," was the honoree for the first PPB Luncheon of the season, September 28. CONRAD starred in many other TV series including "Hawaiian Eye," "Black Sheep Squadron," and others. Joining President **CHUCK SOUTHCOTT** and Entertainment Chair **JEANNE DeVIVIER BROWN** on the dais to sing his praises and talk of their friendship were producer-writer Stephen Cannell; Larry Manetti from "Magnum PI"; John Wilder, producer of "Centennial"; former PPB Board member **ANNE NELSON**; Bruce Lansbury; CONRAD's wife, LaVelda; son, Shane; and our own talented writer-producer, **HAL KANTER**. Clips of CONRAD's career were shown during the luncheon period. **JEANNE** read letters of regret from Connie Stevens and Frank Butler. CONRAD made a gracious speech when accepting the Art Gilmore Career Achievement Award from President **SOUTHCOTT**.

FORMER PRESIDENT GIL STRATTON said: "Before presenting the Diamond Circle Award, I just want to agree with **MARTY HALPERIN**'s view of the loss of Bob Ahmanson. I, too, loved him and watched his growth from a lad from Omaha, Nebraska in Billy Barty's kitchen, to become one of Hollywood's legends for his service to the community. Today's Diamond Circle winner was also an admirer of Bob's. She is one of the best radio actresses I ever worked with, from Gildersleeve's Southern crush to the running part of 'Marion Strong' on 'I Love Lucy.' From 'Fibber McGee' to 'Pete & Gladys' and anywhere for great comedy. It is my honor and privilege to present the Diamond Circle Award to **SHIRLEY MITCHELL LIVINGSTON**." In accepting, **SHIRLEY** told about her first radio audition

for a role on "The Lone Ranger." She got it and was paid \$2.50.

OUR TREASURER, RICK ROSS, wants everyone to know that the recent increase in both our annual dues and the individual cost of the Luncheons were necessitated by cost increases that most of us have had to endure over the last couple of years. For example, as everyone knows, postage costs have gone up and printing costs have increased as well. It was decided to eliminate the annual Membership Card, but the Calendar of our annual events is available for pickup at the Luncheon. Additionally, we currently have legal costs to deal with in our action against the Los Angeles DWP. The explosion of their transformer, at Sunset and Vine a couple of years ago, caused contamination of our Club Room and the contents, and, accordingly, our periodic Nostalgia Night events have had to be canceled for the time being. We hope that with our day in court scheduled for next Spring, this will be resolved soon.

SPEAKING OF MEMBERSHIP DUES, it is distressing to report that many members, including quite a few Charter members, did not renew in July.

LOU CARTER KEAY (LOU*LOU) was seen on CBS' "Late, Late Show" with Craig Ferguson, where she appeared as a li'l old lady in gray wig and granny glasses. She has taped two episodes of "That Awesome Show" with Tim and Eric on Cartoon Network. **LOU*LOU** is still undergoing therapy three times a week for her hand which was injured in January and for which she spent a week hospitalized.

ED WILLIAMS recently acted in a Honda commercial, then took to the high seas with wife, Nancy, for a NCL Fall Colors cruise to Nova Scotia and New England. While

traveling, **ED** and Nancy celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary.

CHARTER MEMBER ROBERT EASTON has just completed his 78th feature film, *The Ones*, in which he plays a schizophrenic Hindu Swami, a crusty, old American curmudgeon and a sex-crazed, senile old Frenchman.

NANETTE FABRAY WAS ADDED TO THE CAST list for the **NORMAN CORWIN** Tribute, October 26. **SPERDVAC** celebrates the 75th anniversary of "The Jack Benny Show" with a luncheon at the Sportsmen's Lodge, November 10. The re-creation of "The Jack Benny Show" will be directed by Greg Oppenheimer and stars **EDDIE CARROLL**, **TOMMY COOK**, **JANET WALDO**, Don King, John Stephenson and Gloria McMillan.

LARRY VANDERVEER just finished taping a TV special called "The Christmas Café" that will air on the Hallmark Channel in December. **LARRY** plays a small-town radio personality. The cast included **JOE CAMPANELLA**, Ruta Lee, Kevin Dobson and Talia Shire. **LARRY** says it's a heart-warming holiday story for the whole family.

JIM FOX, WHO BEGAN HIS CAREER in television at CBS in the Special Effects Department in 1955, was recently honored by IATSE Local 33 with a Gold Card for 50 years of membership. **JIM** continued working in Special Effects after leaving CBS, but eventually became a Property Master. Although he officially retired in 2001, he continues to work occasionally, having spent a good part of the past summer working as Property Master and assistant on "American's Got Talent" and "Last Comic Standing." This is actually **JIM's** 57th year in the entertainment industry, having started at the age of 14 as an apprentice at the La Jolla Playhouse.

PPB MEMBER AUSTIN (ROCKY) KALISH and wife, Irma, are packing their honorary doctorates and traveling to Syracuse University for a November meeting of the Advisory Council of the College of Visual

and Performing Arts. Irma is also celebrating the publication of her second book, *A Few Good Murders*, and is planning a book signing at Barnes & Noble in Encino on October 24.

PPB PUBLICITY DIRECTOR CHUCK PANAMA and wife, Gerry, will have a white Christmas when they fly to Steamboat Springs, Colorado to spend the holidays with their daughter and son-in-law, Carrie and Tony Requist and what he calls "the three most beautiful granddaughters in the world": Melissa, 9, and twins Lauren and Olivia. **CHUCK**'ll be back to publicize the January Luncheon.

JOHN COUCH WAS IN LONDON AND PARIS to complete the franchise for "This Is Your Life." **JIM POLLOCK** and wife, Carri, vacationed in the High Sierras.

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Membership Chairman
KAY HENLEY
announces

New Members

REX NEWCOMBE
KARL SOUTHCOTT

Please send your news and that of your PPB friends to:

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NOTE

THE DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IS

November 27, 2007