

WHO'S WHAT/ WHAT'S WHERE



AUGUST 2007

SUMMER VACATIONS ARE OVER, school has started and PPB starts its 2007–2008 celebrity luncheon season. We didn't receive many summer items, but here goes:

The 2007 Game Show Congress Celebrity Luncheon was held at the Beverly Garland Holiday Inn. Gary Edwards presented the Ralph Edwards Career Community Service Award to PPBer **WINK MARTINDALE**. Among the guest speakers was our own **BETTY WHITE**.

Board member **JUNE FORAY** was honored by the Disney Fan Club and guested on "The Florence Henderson Show" which is on DIRECTV. **PAT GLEASON** visited the Custer Battle area in south-eastern Montana during the summer.

TOM WILLIAMS is recovering from a detached retina operation and at the last Board meeting said, "Please, for your own safety, leave the parking lot first."

PAT HARRINGTON, Jr., is starring in the Ray Bradbury play *Falling Upward* which is playing at Theatre West through September 16. For available seating, call the theatre. PPBer **LEE MERIWETHER** is on the Theatre West board.

SUSAN McCRAY writes that she had a wonderful interview with former PPB President **TOM HATTEN** for her "Getting to Know You" program that airs on www.ksav.org. She also interviewed **JIMMY WELDON** and his sidekick Webster Webfoot. The interviews were recorded and will air later. She adds that her interview with **PATTI PAGE** aired August 14.

FRIDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 26, the Thousand Oaks Library Foundation, home of the American Radio Archives, will pay tribute to famed writer **NORMAN CORWIN** as he directs his own comedy, *A Strange Affliction*. Mr. **CORWIN** is often called the Poet Laureate of Radio for his contributions to radio drama from the late 1930s to the present. The evening will also be a fund raiser for the construction of a new wing which will house PPB's archives.

Carl Reiner and Samantha Eggar head up the cast. Also starring will be **NORMAN LLOYD**, **LINDA**

HENNING, Marvin Kaplan, **JOHN HARLAN**, Peter Dennis, **LEONARD MALTIN**, **JANET WALDO**, Shay Duffin and others. The comedy was first written and directed by Mr. **CORWIN** for CBS' "Radio Theatre," and produced in the late 1970s by Elliott Lewis and Fletcher Markle.

Then in 1994, **NORMAN CORWIN** directed his comedy for the California Artists Radio Theatre at the Cinegrill of the historic Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel. That production was produced for "NPR Playhouse" by CART, and was presented on a double bill with **CORWIN's** *My Client Curly*, which starred John Astin. Ms. Eggar and David Warner played the leads in the 1994 CART production. Many of the original performers will repeat their roles October 26.

Composer Kenneth Strange will play his original score and **MARTY HALPERIN** will engineer. Tony Palermo, associated with current CART and Thousand Oaks Library Foundation productions, will handle sound effects.

Attendance will be by invitation only, however, those interested in the event may phone the library at (805) 449-2660 for further information about the program and to request an invitation. A "gala" reception will follow the program, with Mr. **CORWIN** and other celebrities in attendance.

IN JUNE, **EDDIE** and Carolyn **CARROLL** had a wonderful time in Maui, Hawaii, celebrating Carolyn's birthday. Then they were off to Seattle where **EDDIE** joined fellow PPB members **FRANK BRESEE**, **SHIRLEY MITCHELL LIVINGSTON**, **TOMMY COOK**, **GIL STRATTON** and **GREG OPPENHEIMER** at the annual Radio Enthusiasts of Puget Sound Old Time Radio Convention. As "Jack Benny," **EDDIE** had the pleasure of re-creating the radio version of the Jack Benny classic film, *The Horn Blows at Midnight*. Since he is also the voice of Disney's Jiminy Cricket, **EDDIE** also performed in the *(continued on reverse)*

JACK B. LLOYD SAYS THAT THERE IS STILL time to order your PPB Jackets. Jackets are Royal blue nylon with orlon quilted lining and knit cuffs, waistband and collar; an order form is below.

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PPB JACKET ORDER FORM XXL

Select size: Small Medium Large XL

Name to appear on Jacket: _____

Cost per Jacket: with PPB patch on right breast and first name on left: _____ number of Jackets @ \$45 ea. \$ _____

with large logo on back, first name on left breast: _____ number of Jackets @ \$65 ea. \$ _____

Shipping and Handling: \$ **5.00**

MAKE CHECK TO PPB

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5908 Aldea Ave.
Encino, CA 91316

Phone: (818) 343-7243

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City, State, ZIP _____

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radio version of the Disney classic film *Pinocchio*.

In October, following an East Coast tour of his one-man show, the **CARROLLS** will join other PPB members in New Jersey for a tribute to the Jack Benny radio show at the annual Friends of Old Time Radio event in Newark. And in November at the Sportsmen's Lodge, **EDDIE** will be on hand for the SPERDVAC luncheon honoring the 75th birthday of the Jack Benny radio program.

OUT-OF-TOWN MEMBER KAREN "SARGE" RACHELS writes from Big Bear that her production of *Guys and Dolls* opened in June with a ten-show run. **KAREN** directed, choreographed and appeared as "Miss Adelaide" at the Community Arts Theatre in Big Bear. She then began directing *Annie* for the fall production. She says she'd love for her PPB friends to look up their website for pictures and info at www.bigbeararttheatre.org.

PPB HISTORIAN JANET WALDO writes, "Did you catch PPB member **JERRY ZELINGER**'s radio documentary, 'Remembering Columbia Square' on KCRW July 4?" The program features interviews with George Burns, Charles Correll, **NORMAN CORWIN**, Herb Ellis, Ray Erlenborn, Art Linkletter, Harry Shearer, **GIL STRATTON**, **JANET WALDO**, Nanette Fabray, Marie Wilson, Alan Young and, of course, **ART GILMORE**. Lots of great stuff from the archives and a real "homage" to the Golden Age of Radio. Those of us who walked the halls of CBS Columbia Square will get a tear in our eye. If you missed it, you can listen to it on the web at www.kcrw.com.

PPB MEMBER HOWARD FLYNN writes: PPBer **MARGIE STEWART JOHNSON** was feted July 9-11 at Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas during the 50th anniversary celebration of the Commemorative Air Force Organization, based in Texas. As featured speaker, she was saluted for her role as official Army poster girl during WWII (94 million were distributed). Twenty-six of the 27 copies of the poster, displayed at the event, were sold at \$20 each, and the final one was auctioned for \$1200 at the closing night black-tie dinner with the proceeds going to the American Air Power Heritage Museum. Col. Oliver North and Michael Reagan were principal speakers at the event.

ESTHER GEDDES McVEY had a busy summer.

In June, she attended the ART (American Radio Theatre) and REPS (Radio Enthusiasts of Puget Sound) gatherings in Seattle for fans of old-time radio doing re-creations of radio shows with other "old timers" in the business. Following REPS, she went to Lopez Island to visit number-six daughter Lisa Geddes and her two cherubs. In July, she took Lisa and her two, plus daughter Sara Geddes and her teen-age daughter for eight days in Kauai.

PPB AUDIO HISTORIAN GERRY FRY attended the bi-annual reunion of American Forces Network (AFN) Europe alumni at the Nugget in Sparks, Nevada. He, along with new PPB members **ALEX SULLIVAN** and **STEVE BINDER**, was inducted into AFN's Legends Club. **GERRY** also attended the August luncheon of Valley Broadcast Legends in Sacramento, where he once worked at KCRA-TV.

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Membership Chairman **KAY HENSLEY** announces

New Members

STEVE BINDER • BILL FREIBERGER
LYLE E. KILGORE • MICHAEL A. MARTINI
RICHARD MILLER • TOM PATTERSON
ALEX SULLIVAN • NANCY WIBLE

We will remember with admiration

ROBERT H. AHMANSON
WALTER CHRISWELL
SHAYLE RAY

SPECIAL NOTE: Please send your news items either by fax or by mail. **DO NOT** put them on the website or email to someone else. Just fax or mail them to:

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NOTE
THE DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER
IS
October 1, 2007