

A Non-Profit Fraternal Organization of Radio and Television Broadcasting Professionals

LEGENDARY STAR OF BROADWAY film and television, **FLORENCE HENDERSON**, was honored at a festive holiday celebration at the Sportsmen's Lodge on November 18, 2011. Pacific Pioneer Broadcasters' President **SAM LOVULLO** and Entertainment Chair **JEANNE DEVIVIER BROWN** presented the **ART GILMORE** Career Achievement Award to the woman who portrayed one of TV's best-loved and best-known moms, Carol Brady.



On the Dais: Back Row (L-R): **LLOYD SCHWARTZ**, **JOANNE WORLEY**, **LEE MERIWETHER**, President **SAM LOVULLO**, **BILL HARRIS**; Front Row (L-R): **A.C. LYLES**, **MARION ROSS**, Honoree **FLORENCE HENDERSON**, Entertainment Chair **JEANNE DEVIVIER BROWN**. (Photo: David Keeler)

Florence's long career includes starring in *Fanny* on Broadway and in the companies of *The Sound of Music*, *The King and I* and *Oklahoma!* In 1962, she became the first woman to guest host "The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson" and delivered light news and weather as "The Today Girl" on NBC's popular morning show.

Her most widely-seen role was as Carol Brady in "The Brady Bunch" which aired on ABC from 1969 until 1974 — the show has never been off the air in this country, and can still be seen in 122 countries around the world.

Florence has been a sought-after celebrity spokeswoman, a motivational speaker and performs in her one-woman show *All the Lives of Me: A Musical Journey*. As a producer and a talk-show host, her credits include nine seasons of the Nashville Network's cooking and comedy series "Country Kitchen." Last year, she was hoofing it up as a contestant on "Dancing with the Stars" and currently hosts "The Florence Henderson Show" on DirectTV. Her autobiography, *Life Is Not A Stage: From Broadway Baby to a Lovely Lady and Beyond*, has just been published.

AT EACH LUNCHEON, WE HONOR A MEMBER who has made important contributions to the development of broadcasting. In November, for the first time in PPB history, the Diamond Circle recipient was not able to attend our Luncheon for health reasons. So, Vice President **LARRY VANDERVEEN** and Board Member **LUCKY BROWN**, who recorded the event, traveled to his home and presented our Award to producer/director **FRED ESSEX**. At the Luncheon, Larry introduced the video by saying (in part) that our inductee began his love affair with broadcasting in high school, when as a member of an amateur dance band, he appeared in a competition on "The Fred Allen Show."



PPB Vice President **LARRY VANDERVEEN** presents the Diamond Circle Award to Producer/Director **FRED ESSEX**.

His first radio job was as assistant producer on "Major Bowes Amateur Hour" on CBS. He made a big leap to directing with the quiz show "Battle of the Boroughs" on the Mutual Network, followed by "Ripley's Believe It Or Not." He produced "The André Kostelanetz Show" and directed "Dunninger, The Mental Marvel," "Charlie Chan" and "Ellery Queen."

PPB is proud to present our newest Diamond Circle member, Mr. Fred Essex.

BOARD MEMBER PAT GLEASON put together several videos shown at the Luncheon.

STUDENTS AND THEIR ADVISOR from Cal State Northridge joined Board Member **CHARLES CAPPLEMAN** as guests at the **RALPH EDWARDS** Invitational Table.

ATTENDEES AT THE NOVEMBER LUNCHEON had a chance to win prizes! Ruffled off was a VocoPro Portable Mini-Concert System, gift bags from our friends at Chase Bank and tickets to the next PPB Luncheon. More prizes will be given away in February — but you must be on hand in order to win!

ORDER YOUR LUNCHEON TICKETS NOW!!!!

We are delighted to welcome comedienne, actress, writer and producer **LILY TOMLIN** as our guest of honor for the PPB Luncheon on Friday, February 17, 2012. Join us for what promises to be a fun-filled afternoon.



LILY TOMLIN
Photo: Greg Gorman

FRANCES ROBERTS WANTS HER PPB FRIENDS TO KNOW that her 10-member comedy troupe, comprised of compatible elders in their 60s, 70s and 80s, entertains at retirement homes and assisted living locations and they're having a ball. They get lots of laughs from their modern and slightly spicy routines. Frances is the oldest and is dubbed "Mother Superior."

KAREN SARGENT HAS BEEN KEEPING VERY BUSY in Big Bear. She heads up the Community Arts Theater Society (CATS) and for the last 18 years she's produced, choreographed and directed over 50 musicals and plays. The recently completed CATS Warehouse Theater now houses their extensive collection of sets, props and costumes. www.BigBearTheater.org. With the recent passing of Karen's uncle, PPBer **UAN RASEY**, she's now the matriarch of the Rasey family.

FOR OVER 25 YEARS, the California Artists Radio Theater (CART) has presented the best in dramas, comedies and musicals, featuring renowned actors performing award-winning scripts. Producer/Director **PEGGY WEBBER** is pleased to announce that now CART can now be heard worldwide on SiriusXM, Channel 80. www.CARTradio.com.



NORMAN CORWIN and **PEGGY WEBBER** at a 1994 CART event. (Photo: Leonard Maltin)

PPB MEMBER MILT LARSON just celebrated his seventh year as host of his novel radio show "Hear Them Again For The First Time!" Milt plays rare vintage records featuring personalities of the past, many of which are new to younger listeners. Tune in Saturdays at 7:00 P.M. and Sundays at 4:00 P.M. on the Cable Radio Network, www.CRNtalk.com. Milt's stage revue *It's Magic!* has been playing annually for 56 years and his Magic Castle in Hollywood will be 50 next year. Although parts of the facility are back open following the accidental fire last year, Milt and his Band of Merry (Maintenance) Men are still hard at work repairing, refurbishing and bringing the Castle back to her original beauty.



CHRISTOPHER THOMAS (L), his wife, **Maggie** (R), their nephew **Sam** and his daughter, little **Ruby**, in Scotland in October.

PPB MEMBER CHRISTOPHER THOMAS ATTENDED the wedding of his sister-in-law in October at Lunga House, Oban, Scotland. They went on the honeymoon with the bride and groom to Tobermory, Isle of Mull, Scotland where they enjoyed lots of amazing seafood fresh off the boat each morning.

ART LABOE WAS INTERVIEWED in September at the Grammy Museum at L.A. LIVE for a major exhibit called *Music in Los Angeles: Trouble in Paradise* which covers the scene from 1945 until 1975. Open daily, the Grammy Museum is located at the corner of Olympic Boulevard and Figueroa Street in downtown L.A.

PRODUCERS DAN GINGOLD AND JOEL TATOR are developing a documentary on the history of Los Angeles TV news. They would like to hear from PPB members who worked in TV news at any of the seven local stations as far back as the '40s and '50s. Anyone who has personal recollections, current contacts or memorabilia from those early days is asked to contact Dan, either by email gingolddan@yahoo.com or telephone 818-784-4368.

BROADCASTING MILESTONES: SEVENTY YEARS AGO, "People Are Funny" debuted on NBC on April 10, 1942 with **ART BAKER** as host. The program's stunts and audience participation were calculated to reveal the humorous side of human nature. **ART LINKLETTER** took over hosting duties in 1943 and continued until 1960. "People Are Funny" was the first game show to air repeats.



Mascot J. Fred Muggs and companion with **DAVE GARROWAY** on "Today" in 1954.

"**THE TODAY SHOW**" began 60 years ago on January 14, 1952. It was the first of its genre on TV anywhere in the world and is the third longest U.S. broadcast network television series — after "Meet the Press" and "The CBS Evening News."

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Membership Chairman **KAY HENLEY** announces:

NEW MEMBERS

DAVID ALPERT — Has worked in radio in Illinois and Florida and was at ABC News Radio in New York for 18 years. Currently a free-lance news editor.

GRANT ANDERSON — President of Shane Brennan Productions. Worked in episodic TV at CBS-TV as VP, Current Programs overseeing "CSI," "NCIS" and "Criminal Minds."

DON L. ASTON — Actor, announcer, producer, director and writer. Hosted an old-time radio program on KRTM-FM in Temecula. Broadcasts for Yesterday USA Radio Networks.

MICHAEL CASTILLO — He's been an actor, producer and has written TV commercials and PSAs since 1988. Owns M.C. Video Productions in Fullerton.

BOBBY W. CONLAN — Started in the mail room at KHJ-TV in 1968 and was Stage Manager/AD for **TOM KENNEDY**'s talk show. Since 2008, he's been a director at KCBS-TV/KCAL-TV.

JOE CRAWFORD — Joe began in 1955 at KCRW-FM and was host of old-time radio shows at KLON-FM in Long Beach. Currently President of SPERDVAC.

CLIFF DEKTAR — A publicist who has worked in radio for 44 years. He retired as Senior VP of the Lippin Group in 2000.

JOHN GASSMAN — John worked in radio for 38 years. From 1980—2000, he played old-time radio shows on KPCC, he now plays them over the Internet.

JAMES GOETZ — Actor, announcer, producer, musician working on TV shows, films and commercials.

JIM HILLIKER — Radio announcer at KNOB-FM in Long Beach/Anaheim and KYMS-FM in Santa Ana. Newscaster and traffic reporter at other L.A. area stations.

DICK JOSLYN — News announcer for the Armed Forces Network in Taiwan. Top 40 DJ at KLOX in Biloxi. Worked as producer/recording engineer and host of "Time Machine" at the AFRTS-LA Broadcast and Production Center in Sun Valley.

MARGARET KERRY-WILLCOX — 32-year career in radio and TV. Child actor on *Our Gang Comedies* and was the model for Tinker Bell in the film *Peter Pan*. Hosted "What's Up Weekly" on radio.

DAVE RANDALL — Announcer/sportscaster with a 30-year career in radio. For the last 17 years, Dave's been a DJ at KRTH.

JHANI KAYE — Announcer and program director with 45 years in radio who has received four Billboard Awards and two Gavin awards for Program Director of the Year. Since 2006, Jhani has been PD at K-Earth 101 and KTWV The Wave.

"**SHOTGUN**" **TOM KELLY** — Announcer with 45 years in radio and 17 in TV. He's been honored with the Billboard Magazine Air Personality of the Year Award and received two Emmys as host of the game show "Words-a-Poppin'." He can currently be heard on K-Earth 101.

TIM KNOFLER — Produced "Around the Town" and was a cameraman at KOCE, channel 50. President of Audio Cinema Entertainment, Inc. and is currently producing a special with **TOMMY COOK** and **STEVE BINDER**.

LEWIS LEVY — Producer with 30 years in broadcasting. Currently producer/writer/director of medical commercials for Strata Communications Video Film.

CHARLES McCOLLISTER — Episodic, soap opera and commercial actor. Began as a child actor in 1952 on the "Del Courtney Show" in San Francisco.

JOSE MOLINA — 40 years in radio. Owner of Continental Broadcasting, KPHX-AM in Phoenix.

LAURE MOLINA — Began as a PA on TV's "Fantasy Island." Has owned several radio stations in the southwest. Currently owns KPHX with her husband, Jose.

JOANNA MORONES — 32 years in radio starting in Riverside at KGGI where she still works on weekends. Joanna is PPB member **ART LABOE**'s Administrative Assistant.

RUSS MYERSON — Executive who helped launch the Game Show Network and spearheaded the start of the basic cable

network for the WB. Currently Executive VP for The CW TV network.

GARY OSERANSKY — Gary worked in TV for 35 years on various shows and was foreman of the prop department at Universal City. His brother is PPB member **BERNARD OSERANSKY**.

CATHERINE PASSARELLI — Been an active member of SPERDVAC since 1984, serving as Elections Chairman for 20 years.

BILL POWERS — Announcer with 43 years in radio at several stations including KACE in Riverside.

KARL SOUTHCOTT — Currently works at Dial Global Radio Network in Colorado. He's worked as a grip, a sound technician and a DJ and is the son of our own **CHUCK SOUTHCOTT**.

MIKE SAKELLARIDES — Mike began on radio in 1970 on KABY-AM in Albany, NY and was the daytime host for 25 years on KOST-FM. Currently on the air at 94.7-FM, The Wave.

RON SHAPIRO — Announcer, Producer, Director and Engineer with 32 years in radio. He's worked with ABC/Watermark, at KIIS-FM and AM and taught at UCLA. Currently owner of Format 3000.

AARON WEBSTER — Announcer, producer, author. At age nine, Aaron appeared on "The Uncle Briggs Show" and worked with **MEL BLANC** at WSIU News Radio. Won a Silver Microphone Award for his documentary Elvis Presley radio series. Written five novels.

DAVID S. WILLIGER — Executive Vice President of P.A.T. Productions. During his 41 year career, Dave's worked in program development, comedy writing and game show production.

As our successful 2011 Membership Drives comes to a conclusion, we welcome the new members and thank all of their sponsors.

WE REMEMBER WITH GREAT ADMIRATION:

JACK BROWN — PPB's former President (1990—91) and a charter member. Jack was AFRTS Director for Programming and was awarded U.S. Secretary of Defense Meritorious Service Medal. He was professor of Radio, TV and Film at CSUN and General Manager of KCSN. Jack's son, **STEVE BROWN**, provides video services for PPB Luncheons.

NORMAN CORWIN, 101 — Prolific writer-producer known as "radio's poet laureate." He was among the first to use the medium of radio drama to explore social issues.

TONY DEMILO, 86 — Film and TV actor, worked in the executive offices of "Hawaii Five-O." Served on the Board of Directors of the Pasadena Playhouse.

ROBERT EASTON, 81 — Character actor whose command of foreign and American regional accents led to a second career as a dialect coach. Robert was a charter member of PPB.

HOWARD FLYNN, 96 — Howard was the morning news voice on KMPC from 1953—79 and delivered a half-hour newscast for Harris & Frank clothiers for a quarter century.

EDITH JEFFERSON — Film and television actress.

HAL KANTER, 92 — Emmy Award-winning comedy writer who worked on the Oscars for more than three decades and created "Julia," the landmark 1960s TV series.

MARK W. NELSON — Commercial voice-over actor, producer, host. Mark was the voice of The Magic Castle.

If you know of a member who is ill or has passed away, please advise Membership/Friendship Chairman **KAY HENLEY**. Kay can be contacted through our website at www.PPBwebsite.org or by leaving a message at **323-461-2121**.
We're always looking for items of interest about our members for this Newsletter. Please send your news and that of your PPB friends to **BIANCA PINO**, P.O. Box 8673, Calabasas, CA 91372. FAX-323-851-4570 - bianca.pino@PPBwebsite.org

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