

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

Michael Feinstein Honored at May Celebrity Luncheon

Multi-platinum-selling, Emmy and Grammy Award-nominated entertainer **MICHAEL FEINSTEIN** lit up the Empire Room at the Sportsmen's Lodge as friends paid tribute to the entertainer known as the "Ambassador of the Great American Songbook."

PPB President **CHUCK STREET** began the festivities by introducing a video of the highlights of Michael's illustrious career which included a rarely seen duet with **ROSEMARY CLOONEY**. Entertainment Chair **JEANNE DeVIVIER BROWN** read congratulatory notes from **KAY STARR**, **DEBBIE REYNOLDS**, as well as **PAULA KERGER**, President and CEO of PBS.



Front Row: **ALAN BERGMAN**, **MARILYN BERGMAN**, **MICHAEL FEINSTEIN**, **MYRA JANCO DANIELS**, **JEANNE DEVIVIER BROWN**. Back Row: **CHUCK SOUTHCOTT**, **PAUL JAN ZDUNEK**, **BILL MORAN**, **DEBBY BOONE**, **SAUL LEVINE**, **CHUCK STREET**, **PATRICIA KELLY**, **HERB EISEMAN**. (Not Pictured: **NORMAN LEAR**, **FLORENCE HENDERSON**). (Photo: David Keeler)

PPB's **BILL MORAN**, who has interviewed Michael on several occasions, introduced the members of the dais: Producer **NORMAN LEAR**; Grammy Award winner **DEBBY BOONE**; **HERB EISEMAN**, the producer of Michael's first album, *Pure Gershwin*; radio station owner **SAUL LEVINE**; **MYRA JANCO DANIELS**, who founded the Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts in Florida; song writers **ALAN** and **MARILYN BERGMAN**, who presented a letter from **BARBRA STREISAND**; past PPB President **CHUCK SOUTHCOTT**; performer **FLORENCE HENDERSON**; and **PAUL JAN ZDUNEK**, CEO of Pasadena POPS.

Michael graciously accepted PPB's **ART GILMORE** Career Achievement Award by saying that "PPB cares about history, just like I do. We share a common bond."

This summer, Michael became the principal POPS conductor taking over for the late **MARVIN HAMLISH**. According to the LA Times, "Feinstein has programmed a 2013 summer filled with film and stage music and arrangements that have never been heard live."

Michael's just recorded a new Christmas song entitled *It Comes Around the Same Time Each Year* – it was written by PPBers **VAN ALEXANDER** and **LEE HALE**.



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Friday September 20, 2013

RADIO TALK SHOW HOSTS

- **BILL HANDEL**
- **DOUG McINTIRE**
- **DENNIS PRAGER**
- **More Surprise Guests!**

The Diamond Circle Award Recipient will be Actor
CHRISTOPHER THOMAS



Ever-enthusiastic songstress **FLORENCE HENDERSON** (center) spent time with students studying broadcasting at Columbia College in Tarzana. At each celebrity luncheon, **RALPH EDWARDS** Productions hosts a group of students and faculty members to further their interests in future broadcasting careers. (Photo: David Keeler) (Text: Gerry Fry)

Milt Larsen Receives PPB's Diamond Circle Award



Diamond Circle Award recipient **MILT LARSEN** and PPB's First VP, **LARRY VANDERVEEN**

PPB's First Vice President **LARRY VANDERVEEN** presented the Diamond Circle Award to **MILT LARSEN**. In part, Larry said in his introduction that "... Milt first learned about entertainment as a young boy traveling and performing all around the country with his highly successful magic family: his father Bill Sr., his mother Geri, and his younger brother Bill, Jr. In the late 40s, Bill's mom was the first female magician to have a weekly TV show. It was right here in Los Angeles on KTLA.

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VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

PPB could not exist without members who volunteer to perform a variety of jobs leading up to successful celebrity luncheons. Long-time member **TOM WILLIAMS** is one of these, directing traffic for expedited parking at luncheons and Board of Directors meetings.

(Photo: David Keeler) (Text: Gerry Fry)

If you'd like to join in the fun at the luncheons, or serve on one of our committees, please leave a voicemail message at (323) 461-2121.





PPB President **CHUCK STREET**, right, welcomed renowned celebrity luncheon guests (Left to right): Diamond Circle Award recipient **MILT LARSEN**, and composer **RICHARD SHERMAN**, who collaborates with luncheon honoree **MICHAEL FEINSTEIN** in his effort to preserve the great American songbook of past years. Milt is a long-time PPB member and good friend of Sherman and Feinstein. (Photo: David Keeler) (Text: Gerry Fry)

Past PPB President **CHUCK SOUTHCOTT** recently attended a KIIS reunion. Almost all were former KIIS-FM people. Mr. Southcott says, “**CHUCK STREET** and the engineers were the only ‘cross-dressers’ (worked both AM & FM while I was there).” PPB Board Member **RON SHAPIRO** also attended. Southcott’s internationally syndicated show, *This Is Music*, has just been picked up by additional stations in Florida.

BILL A. JONES is starring in a new TV pilot with Broadway star **RENA STROBER**, featuring original music by Glee’s **BRAD ELLIS**. Bill is also in production on a documentary tentatively titled, **MARSHA HUNT’s Sweet Adversity**. In it, he sings *Here’s to All Who Love*, a song supporting marriage equality written by Marsha herself. The 1940s film star’s career was ruined by the Hollywood Blacklist of the 1950s. Now in her mid 90s, she remains an activist.

PPB Board Member **BOB FOX** and his wife **VALERIE** celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on July 5. He says, “It seems like yesterday that we went out on our first date 61 years ago. We went to the Hollywood Bowl and the tickets were 50 cents each. At that time, a little more than the price of a movie. I knew from the first that this young woman and I had a future.”

Milt Larsen

(continued from page 1)

Milt decided he wanted to be a TV gag writer. A natural can-do guy, he found novel ways to study this new craft—like searching for old TV scripts in dumpsters behind studios and talking people into letting him write gags for nothing. And it paid off! His talent and perseverance landed him a job as a staff writer and sometimes on-camera bit player for **RALPH EDWARDS’ Truth or Consequences** hosted by **BOB BARKER**. That job continued for 19 years. He played the same key writing role for numerous other TV programs including *The Jim Nabors Show*. Milt has written and produced magic specials for all three major networks. And, you will find his star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

For the past six years, he’s been producing and hosting two weekly programs for the Cable Radio Network, *Hear Them Again—For the First Time*, and *Hit Parade Cavalcade*. They celebrate and document the fabled Tin Pan Alley era of American Music.

On Milt’s magical journey through life he was able to make a dream of his father’s come true when he created the Magic Castle in Hollywood; 20th Century Fox is producing a movie based on the Castle. This world renowned magician’s club is now celebrating its 50th anniversary.”

PPB is pleased to welcome the newest member of the Pacific Pioneer Broadcasters Diamond Circle—Milt Larsen.

CHUCK STREET has begun his second term as PPB’s 23rd President, and is “... delighted to be chosen your President for the next year, and to be able to continue the good work that we’ve started.”

Thanks to outgoing Board Members **DEE BAKER**, **TOMMY COOK**, **ALAN PERRIS**, **KRISTEN SHEETS**, and **JIMMY MacGEORGE**. Congratulations to newly elected Board Members **MIKE BELSON**, **RICHARD BURDEN**, **CHARLES CAPPLEMAN**, **PEGGY DAVIS**, **GERRY FRY**, **JHANI KAYE**, **TOM PATTERSON**, and **TED RAY**.



It’s a busy year for **LARRY “Dr. Trek” NEMECEK**. He plays Dr. “Bones” McCoy in an indie web series, *Star Trek Continues*, with **GRANT IMAHARA** as Sulu and **CHRIS DOOHAN** playing his father **JIMMY**’s role as Scotty. If anyone has any connection to *Star Trek*, Larry would love to have you on his vidchat series. You can reach him at 818-515-5908 or larry@larrynemecek.com.

Happy Birthday wishes from all of us at PPB to **JOHN GRASSE** who will turn 100 on October 30th.



DEE BAKER and his wife **KATHRYN** have been traveling. This year, they’ve taken an 11-day Mississippi River cruise and been to Argentina and Antarctica where they encountered some feathered friends. To see these photos in all their colorful glory, check out the reprint of this newsletter at www.PPBwebsite.org. Dee, along with other PPBers is a volunteer at the Motion Picture and Television Fund campus in Woodland Hills where he’s involved in water therapy and works on programs for the in-house TV channel. He’d like to invite other PPBers to volunteer in the TV Group – for more information, call Dee at 818-347-9405. He promises you’ll have a great time.

JERRY F. SHARELL recently attended the **TONY BENNETT** concert at the Hollywood Bowl. Jerry says “Tony’s style, presentation and musicality are totally without equal! I’ve made it a point to see him perform every year for the last 30 years and loved every minute!” Jerry can be heard on 88.1 FM on Sundays from 10:00am to noon and on-line at KKJZ-FM.

PPB member and CBS alumna **LORRAINE HILLMAN** just returned from a cruise to Scandinavia and Russia. She says, “It was especially interesting to see St. Petersburg again; the last time I was there was in 1991 on the day they were changing the street signs from Leningrad back to St. Petersburg.” To be near her family, she’s now living in Peachtree City, GA. Lillian misses our luncheons and would love to hear from PPB friends. E-mail her at lhillman2@att.net.

Greetings come from long-time member, **HENRY ROGERS** and his wife, **MARJORIE**, who are living in Port Hadlock, WA. Henry is retired and will be 94 years young on New Year’s Eve.

Kudos



PPB member **HARRY YOUNG** (left) proudly shows off the Emmy he was awarded in June for his work as a boom operator and part of the audio team for NBC’s *Days of Our Lives*. The official category is “Outstanding Achievement In Live and Direct To Tape Sound Mixing For A Drama Series.”



TOMMY COOK hosted the tribute at the Thousand Oaks Library. Tommy's pictured on the left next to his son **MIKHAEL**, who edited a video played during the reception. **FRANK BRESEE** and **BOBBIE** are on the right.

In May, past PPB President **FRANK BRESEE** and his wife **BOBBIE** were honored by the Thousand Oaks Library Foundation for their donation of memorabilia, source materials, and over 5,000 open reel tapes from Frank's days hosting *The Golden Days of Radio* on Armed Forces Radio and Television Service.

College in Walla Walla, WA. Gerry majored in speech and drama, worked as an announcer for KUJ, was a member of the Whitman Radio Guild, edited the school paper, and served as president of TKE fraternity. Unfortunately, Gerry wasn't able to attend the ceremony due to a medical problem and credits the care of his wife **MARTY** for his quick recovery. He's looking forward to attending his 60th class reunion next year.

In June, **GERRY FRY** was honored with a Lifelong Achievement Award from his alma mater, Whitman

Producers **CHUCK** and **AVA FRIES** were honored by 3,500 attendees at the Concern Foundation for Cancer Research at the 39th Annual Block Party Fundraiser at Paramount Studios. The event brought out stars of the Fries' numerous TV productions as well studio executives, friends, and family. **KNBC's FRED ROGGIN** conducted the live auction which, along with donations and a huge silent auction, raised over \$2 million.

JANET WALDO received the Golden Halo Lifetime Achievement Award from the Southern California Motion Picture Council earlier this year. **JUNE FORAY** and **ALAN YOUNG** were also honored.

Recently the Encino Woman's Club awarded a Scholarship to CSUN honoring **MARY PRITZLAFF's** 90th Birthday.

Marking his 40th year in radio, this summer K-EARTH 101 DJ "**SHOTGUN TOM**" **KELLY** received his star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Many of the hundreds of fans who attended the ceremony came from San Diego where Tom began his career. For the past 16 years, he's anchored the afternoon drive shift at K-EARTH. The star is located at 7080 Hollywood Blvd. at La Brea and is right next to his predecessor **THE REAL DON STEELE**.



PPB Board Member "**SHOTGUN TOM**" **KELLY** is flanked by legendary recording artist, **STEVIE WONDER** and K-EARTH Program Director **JHANI KAYE** during Tom's Star ceremony

A recent PPB luncheon honoree, composer-arranger **RAY CHARLES** was presented with the ASCAP Foundation Life in Music Award at the 2013 ASCAP Film & TV Music Awards in June. Ray was honored as composer and arranger for his vocal ensemble work with Perry Como, *Your Hit Parade* and *Kennedy Center Honors*.



After hosting more than 4,000 episodes over the last half-century of his iconic game show *Let's Make A Deal*, PPB member **MONTY HALL** received a Lifetime Achievement Award at the 40th Daytime Emmys in June. **WAYNE BRADY** (right), current host of Monty's show, presented the statuette.

Reading List

CAROLYN CARROLL is delighted to announce that *Wishing On A Star: The Life of EDDIE CARROLL* is now in print. The 314 page book was written by Carolyn and **BRAD STRICKLAND** and includes interviews with Eddie's friends, family, and Eddie himself. For info visit EddieCarroll.com.

TOMMY COOK just completed *Scream Machine Revenge*, a follow up to his *Rollercoaster* screenplay. Tommy brought in **MICHAEL JAMES KACEY** to collaborate. The project is now in the hands of CAA.

BOB DIX's latest book, *To Be A Star: A Guide For Actors and Others*, is available on Amazon.com. He says, "It's a labor of love to offer help to young and old on the stage of life. And in front of the cameras, too! So far, good reviews."

ROBERT S. LEVINSON has written short stories that are included in two new fund-raising anthologies. *The Sound And The Furry* will benefit the International Fund for Animal Welfare. *Love And Other Distractions* benefits Kids Need to Read and features works by 14 members of the Writers Guild of America.

JAN MERLIN was interviewed by **WALDEN HUGHES** and **JOHN** and **LARRY GASSMAN** about his latest e-book concerning the theatrical Thomas family and the untimely death of **FRANKIE THOMAS** in 2006. *Frankie Thomas: Eternal Cadet* is available as an e-book or in paperback.

Available for pre-order from Amazon.com is **LARRY NEMECEK's** latest book, *Star Trek: Stellar Cartography: The Starfleet Reference Library*, which features removable maps of the Star Trek universe.

CHARLES ZIARKO's latest book is available on Amazon.com. *MGM: Saving the Best for Last: DORE SCHARY and the Death of MGM* paints a financial portrait of the studio and its stars at the end of The Golden Age of Hollywood.

Upcoming Events

On Friday, September 27th, longtime PPB member **LUCKY BROWN** will be honored at a Silver Spur Awards dinner produced by the The Reel Cowboys. Silver Spur Awards will also be presented to **JON VOIGHT**, **ROBERT WAGNER**, **CONNIE STEVENS**, **LOUIS GOSSETT JR.**, **ANDREW PRINE**, and **EARL HOLLIMAN**. Our own **TOMMY COOK** will be the MC. For more info and tickets, call 818-624-8847.

ART LABOE will cap off the summer with the *11th Annual Art Laboe Show Live Concert* on September 14th at the San Manuel Amphitheater in San Bernardino. The evening will feature the music of The Chi-Lites, Peaches and Herb, GQ, and many others. For more info, go to ArtLaboe.com.

On October 3rd, PPB member **WINK MARTINDALE**, aviation legend **CLAY LACY** and singer, actor, author and songwriter **PAT BOONE** will be honored at the 14th annual Justice Armand Arabian Awards luncheon at the Hilton Hotel in Woodland Hills. The Encino Chamber of Commerce presents the event to recognize leaders in public service. Seating is limited and tickets must be ordered by September 6th (no walk-ins). For info call Gloria Pollack at (818) 377-2277 or e-mail her at: gloriap@gelbgroup.com.

JOHNNY MATHIS, PPB's Celebrity Luncheon honoree in May, has granted his first ever one-on-one interview to **BILL MORAN**. The event will take place on Sunday, November 10th at 4:00pm at American Jewish University on Mulholland Drive in Bel Air. Tickets start at \$25.00. For more info, call 310-440-1246.

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

You can also send items by e-mail to Bianca.Pino@ppbwebsite.org or by fax to 323-851-4570.

Next Deadline: Friday, October 4, 2013



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From The Archives

2007 PPB's Celebrity Luncheon Honoring Leonard Maltin



Front Row: JUNE FORAY, NORMAN CORWIN, BEA WAIN, STAN FREBERG, then President CHUCK SOUTHCOTT. Back Row: JEANNE DeVIVIER BROWN, MARGARET O'BRIEN, HAL KANTER, honoree LEONARD MALTIN, ART GILMORE, A.C. LYLES, DARRYL HICKMAN.

New Members

BILL BRAGG – Bill's career in radio spans 41 years. He spent 27 years in TV and was a camera/audio trainer for 12 years. He's been an announcer, DJ, news broadcaster, studio and transmitter engineer. He founded the National Museum of Communications in Irving, TX and the Yesterday USA Radio Networks.

M. SHANA LIVIGNI – Shana has been in Southern California entertainment for the past 34 years as a DJ for KROQ, KLOS, KLSX and Arrow 93. As an announcer, writer and entertainment teacher, Shana has worked at KHJ, KEZY, KROQ, KLOS and others. She's co-hosted six KCET fund drives, hosted *Rock On-TV*, and is a photographer/writer for several periodicals.

DAVID SCHWARTZ – With 10 years in radio and five in TV, David's best known for his 25 years in animation. As a storyboard artist, he's worked on *Curious George* and *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*. He is currently working at Warner Bros. Animation on two *Scooby Doo* specials for the Cartoon Network.

GERALD A. TAYLOR – With a TV career in New York, Philadelphia, and LA, Gerald is a producer, a writer and has worked in administration for 42 years. He headed up the CBS on-air Promotion Department and has written scripts for *Studio One* and the soap, *This Is the Life*. He's a member of the State Bar of California.

HARRY E. YOUNG – With 22 years in radio and 24 in TV, Harry spent his early career in San Francisco at KPEN, KFOG, KYUU and KNBR. He recently retired as an audio engineer at NBC-TV in Burbank.

On The Mend

Past PPB President **FRANK BRESEE** is recuperating at home after suffering a minor stroke. According to **BOBBIE**, he's resting comfortably and is expected to be getting a pacemaker in the near future.

LARRY HUFFMAN is about to undergo another operation on his foot and expects to be walking with a small brace for a few months. He hopes to be dancing at a PPB luncheon soon.

We Remember With Great Admiration

BOBBY CONLAN – Bobby started in the mail-room and worked his way up to become an award-winning TV director/producer at KHJ and KCBS/KCAL.

GINO A. CONTE - Gino was long-time director of production for NBC.

MARILYN KING – The youngest and last surviving member of The King Sisters, the singing group with roots in the big band era of the 30s and 40s. In the 1960's, the foursome found renewed popularity on ABC's *The King Family Show*. Marilyn last performed in concert in 2010.

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

YOUR NAME



PPB Badges can be ordered from **EDDY JO BERNAL** at each luncheon, or by sending \$10.00 to PPB, P.O. 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.



PPB Lapel Pins are now available from **GEORGE KNAPP** who will be in the lobby of the Sportsmen's Lodge before our next Luncheon. A limited number are available for \$5.00 each.