

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

NBC4 Anchors Colleen Williams and Chuck Henry Honored at PPB Luncheon on March 28, 2014

by Frank and Margie Barron

Hours before they sprang into action to cover the earthquake, the NBC4 news team gathered at the Pacific Pioneer Broadcasters awards luncheon because the acclaimed news anchors **COLLEEN WILLIAMS** and **CHUCK HENRY** were being honored for more than 30 years of award-winning journalism. It seemed everyone wanted to be there to praise them. NBC4 president and general manager **STEVE CARLSTON** said, "Their legacy is a tradition of excellence."



At Sportsmen's Lodge to laud Williams and Henry was sky reporter **ALEX CALDER** who noted that Colleen is so dedicated to her job that during her free time she listens to the scanners. **JEFF WALD**, who was a rival news director at KTLA, said, "Chuck and Colleen are respected because they are smart, honest, straightforward and know how to do it all. They know storytelling."

Also on the dais with PPB Board Chair **JEANNE DeVIVIER BROWN** was **KELLY LANG**, the news anchor who turned into a bestselling mystery author, telling everyone why she thinks "Colleen is so perfect." Comic and LA radio icon **RICK DEES** (of KIIS-FM and "Disco Duck" fame) got a lot of laughs, especially when he noted that "Chuck Henry's hair has its own contract."



On the Dais: Front Row: FRITZ COLEMAN, Honorees COLLEEN WILLIAMS and CHUCK HENRY, RICK DEES, PPB Board Chair JEANNE DeVIVIER BROWN, Back Row: ALEX CALDER, STEVE CARLSTON, PPB President CHUCK STREET, JEFF WALD, KELLY LANGE. (Photo: David Keeler)

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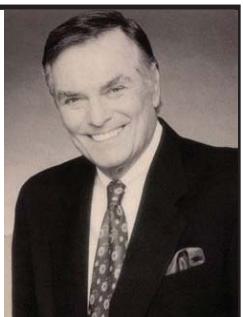
Friday, May 16, 2014
PPB will honor singer, entertainer, and accomplished game show host

PETER MARSHALL



The Diamond Circle Award will be presented to former CBS News correspondent

DAVID DOW



FRITZ COLEMAN said that honorees **COLLEEN WILLIAMS** and **CHUCK HENRY** have turned the NBC4 Newsroom into a second family. (Photo: David Keeler)

PPB President **CHUCK STREET** presented the **ART GILMORE** Career Achievement award to Colleen Williams and Chuck Henry.



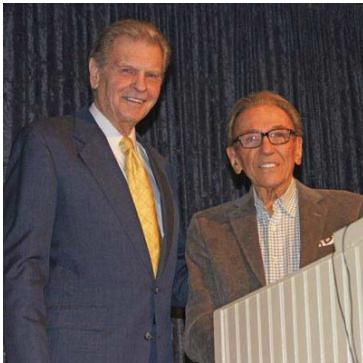
PPB Board member **CHARLES CAPPLEMAN** introduced the broadcasting students and faculty members from Columbia College Hollywood, guests of **RALPH EDWARDS** Productions. Columbia College Hollywood in Tarzana is known as the premier college for students who want a hands-on education in film, television and the digital arts. (Photo: David Keeler)

Comedian Norm Crosby Receives Diamond Circle Award

Pacific Pioneer Broadcasters' First Vice President **LARRY VANDERVEEN** presented the Diamond Circle Award to PPB's longtime member, famous comedian **NORM CROSBY**. Here, in part, are Mr. Vanderveen's remarks introducing Mr. Crosby:

Today's Diamond Circle recipient is one of America's funniest entertainers—Norm Crosby. Norm's remarkable life began in Boston a few years ago. I don't know if he started making people laugh in his crib, but thankfully he's been handing out belly laughs for almost

Continued on page 2



LARRY VANDERVEEN presents the prestigious Diamond Circle award to comedian **NORM CROSBY**. (Photo: Don King)

resorts, headlined in its biggest night clubs and even starred in his own TV series, *Norm Crosby's Comedy Club*. But while all this was going on, the giving side of Norm Crosby was just as busy.

He was **JERRY LEWIS'** co-host on the Muscular Dystrophy Telethons. He was the first National Chairman for the Council for Better Hearing; he's a Trustee of The Hope for Hearing Foundation at UCLA. For 25 years Norm was the City of Hope's National Ambassador of Good Will, and he is also National Ambassador for Child Help U.S.A. The National Association of Christians and Jews gave him their National Celebrity Award. The Mayor of Boston honored Norm by proclaiming the city's Norm Crosby Day. President **RONALD REAGAN** made him his Special Ambassador for Better Hearing and Speech. And Norm helped launch National Childhood Abuse Month at the White House. He received the coveted Victory Award from President **GEORGE H. W. BUSH**, and he was accorded the rare honor of laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

In recognition of Norm's achievements in comedy and humanitarianism, he's on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Boston's Emerson College gave Norm its Lifetime Achievement in Comedy Award. And not last and not least, he has received The **GEORGE BURNS** Legend of Laughter Award. Norm puts the smile on his face on the face of others who need one.

Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome the newest member of the Pacific Pioneer Broadcasters Diamond Circle, Norm Crosby.

After a standing ovation from the appreciative crowd, Norm pleased his audience with one of his famous malapropisms: "That kind of ovation is inspiring. This is an extinguished plaque." Norm thanked **JEANNE DeVIVIER BROWN** for getting him involved in PPB and referenced many of the on-air participants on the dais.

In The News

Game show host and DJ **WINK MARTINDALE** is a very busy guy. He's the face of a new soda pop called Orange Passion Fruit Guava Soda. It's being bottled by Rocket Fizz Soda Pop & Candy Shops and will be available at over 50 franchised locations nationwide. He's also signed on to be spokesperson for EZLoans.biz, a nationwide loan company that makes business loans from \$1 million to \$25 million dollars



to small companies who cannot get similar loans from banks. And – on Sunday, June 1, along with **LARRY KING**, he'll be co-emceeing the **PAT BOONE** Celebrity Roast at the Beverly Hilton Hotel. Some of Hollywood's biggest names will be on hand roast Pat on his 80th birthday, "DEAN MARTIN" style. All proceeds benefit Ryan's Reach, the **RYAN CORBIN** Foundation for Brain Injury. For more info on this event, contact **SCOTT TEMPEL** at 714-825-7662 or Scott.Tempel@gmail.com.

CROSBY *Continued from page 1* that long. And for sure no one can mangle the English language so hysterically as the master of the malaprop.

But Norm's unique gift for comedy is equaled by his commitment to his fellow man; the two are woven together in a career that is matchless for its humor and its humanity. Let me explain. As an entertainer he has hosted TV talk shows, game shows, variety and award specials, guest starred on countless television series, appeared in motion pictures, played the nation's best

For the past two years, TV director/producer/writer **STEVE BINDER** has been working on a book with Indiana University of Pennsylvania professor, **MARY BETH LEIDMAN**, Ph.D., Department of Communications Media. The tentative title is *25 The Movers and Shakers of Primetime Variety Television*.

Steve says, "We've interviewed in-person, for three hours each, 25 of some of the most important producers and directors specializing in the genre. Some of the names we interviewed are **GARY SMITH**, **LOUIS J. HORVITZ**, **MARTY PASETTA**, **GEORGE SCHLATTER**, **GLENN WEISS**, **TONY CHARMOLL**, and nineteen others." The book will be out in 2015, distributed by Kendall Hunt Publishing, one of the leading educational book publishers in the U.S.

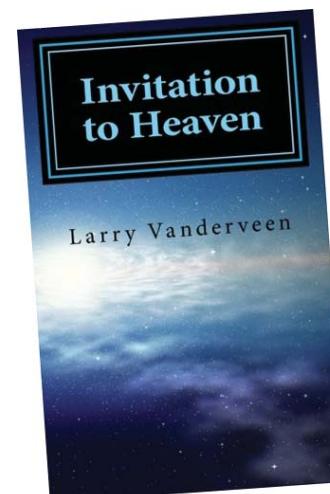


The Motion Picture & Television Fund has launched a Retiree Club, geared specifically toward the social and creative interests of people who have worked in film or TV. The dynamic calendar of events includes movie screenings, social gatherings, miniature golf, bowling, lectures, tours, and classes. For more info, contact **ARLENE GLASSNER** at 818-876-1554 or send an e-mail to her at Arlene.Glassner@MPTF.com.

ED WILLIAMS recently played **GEORGE BURNS** in a recreation of a *Burns and Allen* episode at SAG-AFTRA's Radio Plays at the Autry National Center in Griffith Park.

CONGRATULATIONS!!! Diamond Circle awardee **VAN ALEXANDER** celebrates his 99th birthday on May 2nd. He's doing great and is still active in the music business.

PPB Diamond Circle honoree **ART LABOE** will kick off summer with a Super Freestyle Explosion concert in Bakersfield on June 7th and he returns to Agua Caliente Casino in Rancho Mirage (Palm Springs area) on June 14th with his *Summer Love Jam III*. Check ArtLaboe.com for lineups and more info or listen to his nightly radio show on Hot 92.3.



LARRY VANDERVEEN's novel *Invitation to Heaven* is now on Amazon.com as a paperback and on Kindle. Larry says, "It's the story of Jim Bentley, a high school astronomy teacher. He lives alone and lonely until one day when his life is completely turned upside down. He is invited to Heaven to see if he can help some people he knows who can't help themselves. He is shocked to find that the Heaven he didn't believe existed actually does. As he moves between the two worlds of Heaven and Earth he finds new friends and serious challenges in both."

84-year-old Board Member **TOM WILLIAMS** says he's dating a 27 year old Swedish girl who just immigrated to Los Angeles. His doctor told him that "there should be some concern about death." Tom replied, "Well, if she dies...she dies!" Tom says, "That's such an old joke, but so am I."

He Gives Americans Hope

by Lorraine Sharkey

"When my father's *Pot o' Gold* radio game show aired, it became a big hit during the depression," says **HORACE HEIDT, JR.** "It gave Americans hope."

Pot o' Gold was the first ever radio game show to hand out cash prizes to radio listeners across the country as opposed to the traditional in-studio contestants. An audience member in their home could win \$1,000 should their name be chosen. "The ratings broke all the records, and created a national, dedicated audience," says the younger Horace. In the Horace Heidt Museum hangs one of the two original giant game wheels holding a spinning arrow made to land on any number between 1 and 499. The other wheel is housed in the Smithsonian in Washington D.C. Emerald green with white lettering, "Tums" is inscribed on the wheel with its familiar font, along with detailed illustrations of opened rolls of Tums. That generous sponsor made it possible to give away large pots of cash over the radio on the weekly NBC half-hour program from 1939 until 1941, changing many people's lives forever.

Horace gives a demo by spinning the wheel (*right*), with the arrow stopping on the number 251. "So my father's big band musicians would stop playing when the arrow came to rest, which began the excitement. There was a complete set of telephone books from across the country, so then book number 251 was chosen. It could have been a directory from a farm town or a big city. The music began again, the wheel was spun . . ." Horace spins and "it's number 73 this time, so they turned to page 73 in the phone book . . . just the luck of the wheel." The next spin gave a number for choosing the name on the page, and voila, the winner could be from Owensboro, Kentucky, and next week, from Beaumont, Texas, for example. All the listener had to do was be tuned in and be at home to answer their phone and receive the winning call from Horace Heidt himself.



So successful was the program, it inspired a 1941 Hollywood movie starring **JIMMY STUART**, **PAULETTE GODDARD**, and **HORACE HEIDT** and his Musical Knights Band (*left*). *Pot o' Gold* was a popular, feel-good feature produced by **JIMMY ROOSEVELT**, the son of President **FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT**. That same year, Germany invaded Poland.

To this day, Horace Jr. recalls the profoundly enriching influence of his father's big band masterpieces, and documents many other American radio and TV milestones through his own musical talent and his radio programs. Horace Jr. has renewed our hope with *America Swings*, which airs over the Internet and features YouTube channel videos of the stars Horace interviewed. Over the past 12 years he has met with over 100 stars, highlighting the talents of **PAT BOONE**, **SHIRLEY JONES**, **ANDY WILLIAMS**, **RHONDA FLEMING**, and **DICK VAN PATTEN**, to name only a very few. To hear and see more, visit www.americaswings.net.



Game Show Channel's **DAVID SCHWARTZ** would like PPB members to know about EyesOfAGeneration.com which is "the web's largest, most photo rich, television history site with over 4,000 images spread over 10 major searchable sections." A true fan of TV, actor and musician **BOBBY ELLERBY** has put together an amazing collection of material.

March 20th marked what producers (and attendees) hope will be the first of many *Martini Nights*. Both a live 'pay-per-view' event as well as a taping for a TV pilot featuring today's artists performing the Great American Songbook, *Martini Nights* was a standing room only success at Vitello's Restaurant in Studio City.

Hosted by **BRAD 'MARTINI' CHAMBERS**, the night included performances by PPBer **BILL A. JONES** as well as **STEVE TYRELL**, **CARRIE McDOWELL**, **AUBREY LOGAN**, **NICOLE HENRY**, and a surprise appearance by **BILLY VERA**. **DEBBIE BOONE** was also in attendance. For information on future 'Nights,' and to listen to the great standards on internet radio, go to www.MartiniInTheMorning.com.



BRAD 'MARTINI' CHAMBERS, **STEVE TYRELL**, **AUBREY LOGAN**, **NICOLE HENRY**, **BILL A. JONES**, **CARRIE McDowell**, **BILLY VERA**, and 'Mother' **MIRIAM GARFIELD**.

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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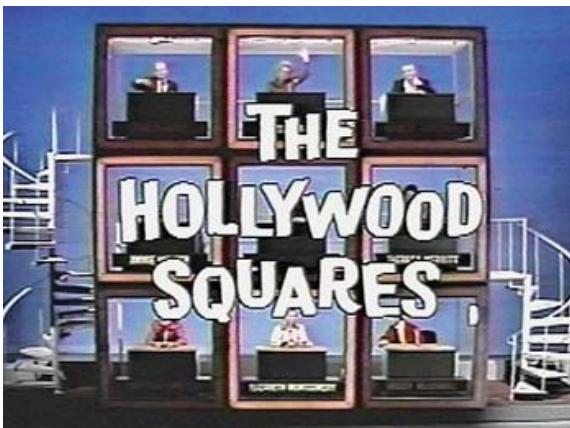
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After a month off following quadruple bypass surgery, "SHOTGUN TOM" KELLY has returned to the air on K-Earth 101. Appropriately, the first song he played was The Heart of Rock and Roll by Huey Lewis and The News. He's seen here being interviewed for CBS 2News and thanks PPB members for all their get well wishes.



Pacific Pioneer Broadcaster CHUCK FRIES (L) was presented with the American Spirit Award for his Humanitarian Service to the Community and Entertainment Industry, by VIN DI BONA of the Caucus for Producers, Writers & Directors. (Photo: Steve Cohn Photography)



PETER MARSHALL is best-known for hosting over 5,000 episodes of the five-time Emmy Award winning game show *Hollywood Squares*. With guests including PAUL LYNDE, PPBer ROSE MARIE, MOREY AMSTERDAM, CHARLIE WEAVER, GEORGE GOBEL, and WALLY COX, *Hollywood Squares* entertained audiences for over 15 years!

In addition, Peter also has almost 50 TV, movie and Broadway credits, is a recording artist, and hosts a show on the Music of Your Life radio network.

**PPB will Honor Peter Marshall
on May 16th**
**ORDER YOUR LUNCHEON TICKETS
TODAY**

New Members

ERICA FARBER – Erica began her career in sales at KIIS-FM and has worked at KRTH-FM and KABC-TV. In 2000, she was voted one of The Most Influential Women in Radio by readers of Radio Ink Magazine and in 2012, she was named one of the Giants of Broadcasting by the Library of American Broadcasting. Currently, Erica is president/CEO of Radio Advertising Bureau and serves on the boards of Ad Council, Advertising Week, Arbitron, Broadcasters Foundation, and the Library of American Broadcasting.

DAVID F. GLEASON – Announcer, engineer, administrator and program director, David has a 54 year career in radio starting as a go-fer at WCUY/WJMO in Cleveland. From 1964 to 1970, he owned and managed Nucleo Radion in Quito, Ecuador. During his career, he's worked at KKJH in LA, KWIZ in Santa Ana, and at Heftel Broadcasting. He's worked in radio in Buenos Aires and was responsible for listener research and program strategy for Univision Radio. Currently he's a consultant to Univision Radio and Radio Marti and several broadcast operations in Latin America.

ANDY LUDLUM is the director of news programming at KNX 1070 NEWSRADIO and KFWB NEWS TALK 980 and has spent over 35 years in news and information broadcasting on radio and TV. Andy's had the opportunity to broadcast from all over the world and cover some exceptional events, from the 1981 assassination of Anwar Sadat in Egypt, to the economic emergence of China and the rebirth of democracy in the former Soviet Union. While working in Washington state, he covered the 1980 eruption of Mt. St. Helens. He's spent most of the last 25 years programming all-news or news, talk and sports radio stations.

STEVE SHANON – With 26 years in radio and nine in TV, Steve's worked in Phoenix, Omaha, Syracuse, Colorado Springs, and Des Moines. He's been with various Meredith operations, at Sunbelt Communications, and Palmer Communications. Steve is founder and president of Quinby Skylur, Inc. which provides career development services in Delray Beach, FL.

We Remember With Great Admiration

JACK ROBERTS was a radio industry veteran who most recently served as executive producer for the CRN Digital Talk Radio Network. During his career, he produced national radio shows for DICK CAVETT, OLIVER NORTH, DOUG STEPHAN, JERRY WILLIAMS, and others. A native of Boston, Jack worked in LA, New York, and Boston as an on-air personality, program director, executive producer, promotions director, and general manager.



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.

