

September 2011
TypeRider

Arizona Press Women



Visit the Valley Ho, past and present, during the Sept. 11 APW meeting.

Submitted Photo

Valley Ho tour on Sept. meeting agenda

by Patricia Myers

"Valley Ho: Then and Now" is the theme of a historical tour conducted at the Arizona Press Women's monthly meeting from 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 11 at the Hotel Valley Ho, 6850 E. Main St. in Scottsdale.

The event, which is open to the public, is free for members and \$10 for nonmembers. RSVPs are required by Sept. 6 by emailing apw.reservations@gmail.com.

The tour of Scottsdale's legendary hotel, which opened in 1956, will be led by professional guide Ace Bailey and the hotel's concierge, Judy Kabler. A no-host cocktail hour will follow the tour of the hotel, which is the location of the 2012 National Federation of Press Women conference held Sept. 20 through 22 and hosted by Arizona Press Women.

Bailey established Ultimate Art & Cultural Tours after conducting art tours throughout the Southwest, Seattle and the Northwest coast. She previously was program director of the Sierra Arts Foundation, a nonprofit art organization. Bailey has also been a docent at the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art and served on the Scottsdale Tourism Development Commission.

Kabler has been a concierge for 27 years, first at Marriott's Mountain Shadows Resort and then at the Scottsdale Plaza Resort. In 2005, she moved to the Hotel Valley Ho as part of the opening team. She is a past president of the Valley of the Sun Concierge Network and serves on the board. She also is a member of the international concierge association, Les Clefs d'Or.

APW's own, to become Arizona Culturekeeper

APW member Lois McFarland is one of 10 Arizona residents being honored for "making a positive impact on history, culture, environment and/or economy."



The Sharlot Hall Museum in conjunction with Arizona Historical Society, the Westin Kierland Resort & Spa and Official Arizona State Historian Marshall Trimble will recognize McFarland and nine others as 2011 Arizona Culturekeepers at the Culturekeepers Induction Luncheon from noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 11 at Westin Kierland Resort.

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NFPW 2011 Conference reminder



Those planning to attend NFPW's 2011 Plains Speaking Communications Conference held Sept. 8 through 10 at Harrah's Council Bluffs

Casino & Hotel in Council Bluffs, Iowa, can make hotel reservations by calling 800-427-7247 (800-HARRAHS).

Complete conference information is available on the NFPW website at <http://nfpw.org/conference.cfm>. Also available online is information about the Nebraska Pre-tour, the Wednesday day tour, Thursday morning's various tour possibilities and the Iowa Post-tour. Dress is business casual, except the Friday and Saturday banquets, which are cocktail dress.

Those choosing to go on the pre-tour or post-tour, must make separate reservations for the nights that are before the pre-tour or after the post-tour.

Publishing opportunity

The Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies in partnership with the ASU English education program is in the process of creating an imprint to publish young adult fiction with a medieval or renaissance setting.

Historical fiction such as *Avi's Crispin: Cross of Lead* or fantasy fiction such as David Clement Davies' *The Telling Pool* are perfect examples of the genre.

The Center has means for initial print runs but is interested in following a modest print run with a major eBook effort.

"I know many of you have manuscripts you're working on now that might fit the bill or may be looking for your next project," says Jim Blasingame, associate professor and director, of English education at ASU-Tempe. "They are actually hoping to have some people under contract by their 30th Anniversary Celebration on Oct. 15."

According to Blasingame, they are most interested in Southwestern authors. Those interested should contact him at James.Blasingame@asu.edu or 480-965-6074.

APW Remembers...

As we approach Arizona's Centennial, the APW newsletter will periodically run stories submitted by long-time industry professionals that discuss how they perceive journalism, reporting the news, writing features, etc. has changed over the last 100 years or reflect on the most memorable interviews they've done throughout their careers. Submit your stories with photo(s) to Lynda Exley, APW Newsletter editor at exlent@aol.com.

Some famous artists worth meeting

by Emily Pritchard Cary

Since the early 1980s, I have interviewed well-known actors and musicians of all genres at least twice each week for my column in the *Washington Examiner* (formerly *Journal Newspapers*).

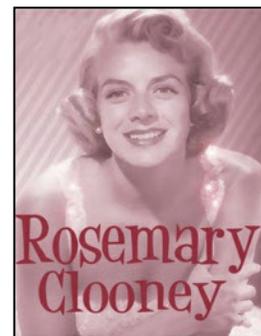


Emily Pritchard Cary

Of course, all are eager to promote their shows, whether at the Kennedy Center, Wolf Trap Farm Park, Strathmore Music Center, George Mason University Center for the Arts or any of the dozens of venues between Washington and Baltimore. More importantly, they offer glimpses into what drives them and the legacy they would like to leave.

Rosemary Clooney

One of my most delightful memories is chatting with Rosemary Clooney in the Wolf Trap green room. Years ago, she sang at a college prom I attended wearing a flowing white gown. It was plain except for green ivy leaves trailing from shoulder to hem. Stunning!



When I told her how much I admired and thought about it for so many years, she laughed and explained, "I wasn't making much money singing with Tony Pastor's band, so my mother and sister made all my clothes on their home sewing machine. The material and ivy decoration both came from the

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local five and dime store. It was my favorite gown until it fell apart from wear and tear.”

She was one of many artists who make interviewers feel welcome and are happy to share some of the simple secrets that keep them grounded and lead to eventual success in their chosen fields. Here follow a few who set high standards for their colleagues.

Joshua Bell, violinist

Since his debut at age 14, Joshua Bell has stunned audiences and is today rated by many critics as the violinist of the century. His projects span classical music performed with the world’s finest symphonies and guest spots on such popular shows as “Sesame Street” and the “Tonight Show.” He recently cut a track with pop-opera vocalist Josh Grobin.

“I enjoy whatever is in my comfort zone and feels like fun to do,” he says. “It’s important for classical music to stay within the realm of pop culture, and it would be sad if it became so much of its own club that the common man wouldn’t know anything about it. When I play a concert and a kid comes up to me afterward and says I’m his role model, or his mother tells me that her child practices more because of me, it’s very gratifying.”

Richie Sambora, guitarist

The spokesperson for Bon Jovi, Sambora attributes the band’s longevity to their music and the quality of the musicians who have been together since the beginning.

“What we’ve learned over these years is to give good stadium,” he



says. “You can’t fill a stadium up with just one demographic. There are always a lot of new faces out there, two or three generations of people since we started. You have to have songs that transcend generations so you and your kids can both enjoy them.”

Keith Lockhart, conductor

Keith Lockhart has been Music Director of the Boston Pops since 1995 when he succeeded John Williams. During that time he presided at “Evening at Pops” in both the concert hall and on TV, toured nationwide with the orchestra and released 12 albums.

Despite a heavy schedule, he enjoys reinventing himself and associating with musicians who also enjoy variety. He recently added the position of BBC Concert Orchestra Music Director to his slate.

“There’s something about British musicians,” Lockhart says. “They are serious and full of humor at the same time because they love what they’re doing. I want people in this country who know me to discover the BBC brand. This is an amazing symphonic orchestra that explores the classical literature in great depth, but it can easily evolve into a big band or play avant-garde contemporary commissions.”



Michael Feinstein, master of many trades

The Great American Songbook troubadour and archivist has devoted his life to repaying Ira Gershwin for hiring him as an assistant to archive the published and unpublished songs of Ira and George Gershwin, Harry Warren, Burt Lane and other major composers.

Today, Feinstein serves on the Library of Congress National Recording Preservation Board.

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Culturekeeper from Page 1

The 10 historians were selected from more than 100 nominees. Each will be presented with an award that describes their contribution to the state, and plaques with their photos will be displayed on the walls of the resort's meeting space including Culturekeepers Hall, a special area of the hotel adjacent to the Kierland Grand Ballroom.

Culturekeepers must have long-time commitments to services as keepers or influencers of Arizona culture and have served the state through paid or volunteer

efforts. They must be dedicated to upholding the traditions, rituals and culture of Arizona.

The public is invited to participate in the Culturekeepers Induction Luncheon. Tickets are \$55 and a portion of the proceeds will benefit the Arizona Culturekeepers program, Sharlot Hall Museum and Arizona Historical Society.

For tickets, call 480-624-1356. For more information on the Arizona Culturekeepers program, visit www.kierlandresort.com/site_pdfs/2011_Culturekeepers.pdf.

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When he is not concertizing around the country, recording or performing at the keyboard of his Manhattan nightclub, Feinstein's at Loews Regency, he spends evenings poring through his enormous collection of musical manuscripts and memorabilia stashed in his three homes. This past February, the historic font began making its way to the new Center for Performing Arts in Carmel, Indiana, a multi-million dollar complex holding a museum and library with interactive displays and online access around the world. The 1,600-seat Palladium Theater that opened in February hosts guest artists. The center is located in America's heartland where composers Cole Porter and Hoagy Carmichael grew up before making their way to Broadway or Hollywood.

"The museum and library will be completed in about two years," Feinstein says. "It will grow incrementally as we transfer in the many orchestrations, original sheet music and art work. In the meantime, I continue sifting through my collection and occasionally make important discoveries. Several years ago during my research I found a lost song by Cole Porter written for 'The Gay Divorcee.' Last year, I found an unknown Johnny Mercer song. My great joy is sharing this wonderful music with my audiences."

Joel Grey, actor, singer, dancer

Joel Grey is a "Living New York Landmark," an honor bestowed upon him in 1993 by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis for the Municipal Arts Society. During his career of more than 50 years, the legendary song and dance man made headlines on Broadway, television and film. The son of Mickey Katz, a popular Yiddish comedian, he honors the memory of his father and the lessons learned from him each time he takes the stage.

"He never gave me advice, but he had a sound work ethic that I emulated and a powerful commitment to his audience, never showing up unprepared," Grey says. "He sacrificed a lot being away from his family, but he was a very funny man and would always try out his humor at home. When I go out and do a show, I try to bring the best of what I learned from him."

Michel Legrand, composer

Legrand chuckles when presented with his own musical question, "What Are You Doing The Rest of Your Life?" The remarkable pianist, composer, arranger, conductor, producer and singer, now 77, continues spreading his creative ventures and delectable melodies around the world nonstop.



"Everything I do is exhilarating," Legrand says. "When I wrote 'The Umbrellas of Cherbourg,' it was the first time a film was sung all the way through and people liked the modern, new way of using a musical score. Right now I'm working on a couple of movies and a couple of musicals. My songs are my children. I have no preferences. Some have become very well known, but their popularity is not up to me. You write the songs and the audience keeps some for themselves."

Sylvia McNair, opera singer, actor

Celebrated soprano Sylvia McNair placed her 20 years as opera diva in a beautiful box, wrapped it up lovingly with ribbons of past triumphs and reinvented herself for the new century. The winner of two Grammy Awards is currently performing as Jenny, the tragic protagonist and victim of Hurricane Katrina in "Songspiel" based on 17 of Kurt Weill's songs.



"I love acting and I wanted to tell the story of how Jenny became a homeless woman living in the bus station when Katrina hit," she says. "The events of her life could happen to anyone. The older I get closing in on three decades of performing, I want my endeavors on stage to be relevant. Over the past year, I began to look at homeless people closely. Many choose to be there, but most, like Jenny, are in that situation because they were thrown too many hard balls by life."

McNair understands despair, having emerged from a decade during which she endured and recovered from cancer. A model for women undergoing radiation, operations and chemotherapy, she regards her battle and survival as the greatest gift she ever received.

Brian Stokes Mitchell

Broadway star Brian Stokes Mitchell credits variety with his ever-evolving career. "Variety is the key to not being bored," he says. "I studied arranging and orchestration a number of years ago, so I have a home studio and arrange about three-fourths of my songs on the computer. My job as an entertainer is to give a great show. I love rearranging and re-imagining tunes, so I want my audience to enjoy hearing songs in a new way and make their own discoveries."

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Get books cheaper by the dozen

Families that read together save together when they join Five Star Publication's recently launched Book Nook Book Club. There is no fee to join, and participants receive a 25 percent discount on books purchased online when they agree to buy 12 in one year's time.

"Our ultimate goal is to encourage literacy and a love for reading," says Linda Radke, APW member and president of Five Star Publications, Inc. "By offering a family book club discount, we believe it will encourage more family reading time, which will in turn get more children reading. Studies show when kids see their parents reading, they are more likely to become good readers themselves."

Many of the books available through Five Star Publications are international, national and local award-winners. The genres available cover the gamut from cookbooks to children's books, mystery to financial guides, Westerns to science fiction and everything in-between.

To participate in the Five Star Book Nook Book Club and receive a 25 percent discount on books, visit www.fivestarpublications.com/booknook.php, click on Bookstore and just start shopping. The 25 percent discount will automatically and immediately be deducted from the price of each book – it is not a rebate. There are only two simple things to remember. The first is to always shop from the same email address to ensure the books purchased are counted toward the goal of 12 in one year. The second is to always purchase the books by first logging on to www.fivestarpublications.com/booknook.php then selecting Bookstore rather than going through the regular Five Star Publications website. In addition to receiving the generous discount, Book Nook Book Club participants also get email alerts notifying them when the newest Five Star titles are released and highlighting monthly featured author Q&A columns.

"Although we are targeting family reading with this promotion, we will also extend this discount to book clubs should they decide to make a Five Star their selection of the month," adds Radke.

To learn more about Five Star Publications, Inc., which is celebrating its 25th year of doing business in Chandler and its other award-winning books, visit www.FiveStarPublications.com, email info@FiveStarPublications.com, or call 480-940-8182.

Join APW now to save

Because APW is hosting the 2012 National Convention, NFPW is offering a special so as many Arizona writers and editors as possible can attend the event.

All Arizonans who are not a 2011 member now can join and enjoy membership the rest of this year and throughout 2012 for the price of only one year.

This offer of APW/NFPW membership for the rest of this year PLUS all of next year for the price of 12 months is available to anyone who is not currently a member of NFPW. So now is the time to join or rejoin at this reduced rate.

For a membership application, contact APW Membership Chair Joan Westlake at Westwoman@aol.com.

Letters to the editor

"I appreciated Ellie Mattausch's story of the good old days. By chance while I was cleaning out files I found several newspaper clippings featuring the winners of our annual contest. In the early '60s the evening paper wrote articles with photos of the winners here in Tucson – not heard of in these days. In those days, Ellie drove from Fort Huachuca to the Redwood Lodge one Saturday a month for the APW luncheon." —*Joan Cox*

"Another great issue (June, 2011). It reads and looks terrific, very professional. Thanks for your ongoing and much-needed work as APW newsletter editor." —*Patricia Meyers*

"Just a quick note to say: 'Great job on the APW newsletter!' Thanks for all of your time and effort." —*Gail Hearne*

"Hats off to you for doing a superior job in each and every task that has your name on it. Your dedication is exemplary and a hard act to follow. I am not sure how you find time to be the *APW Newsletter* Editor, Associate Editor of *Arizona Parenting*, Editor at *SanTan Sun News* and co-author of *Arizona Way Out West and Wacky*. You make us all proud and you add the shine to all Five Stars." —*Linda Radke*

Carl Tanner, tenor

Rare is the raw talent with the fortitude to surmount every obstacle separating an impossible dream from success. Operatic tenor Carl Tanner is the exception.



Spurred by his love of music, a rich “spinto” tenor voice and encouragement from expert admirers along the way, he traveled a long, circuitous route from his high school chorus in Arlington, Virginia, to stardom on world stages.

Now 48, Tanner studied voice at Shenandoah Conservatory in Winchester, but feared he lacked the drive and confidence to forge a career traditionally filled with roadblocks. Instead, he became a long-haul trucker, a job that allowed him to sing at the top of his lungs while barreling down the road. Lured by the high pay awaiting bounty hunters, he next sought his fortune armed with guns in pursuit of deadbeats and criminals until a traumatic encounter took him to a critical crossroad. At the urging of his father to stop procrastinating and utilize the voice God gave him, he headed for New York with \$77 in his pocket.

Fate stepped in at a restaurant in the East Village where singers were encouraged to perform. No sooner did Tanner belt out an aria from “Tosca” than he was approached and invited to audition for Santa Fe Opera. Shortly afterward, he met Hollywood actor Robert Duvall at a neighboring restaurant and received a second endorsement and backing.

Following summer apprenticeships with Santa Fe Opera in 1992 and '93, Tanner set forth on the career he had dreamed about. Today he is a regular on European,

American and Japanese stages. None of the 40 roles in his repertoire are in more demand than his signature role, Dick Johnson in “La Fanciulla del West,” which he performed for his Metropolitan Opera debut in January 2011 to a standing ovation at curtain call.

Appropriately, the romantic bandit hero of the role that fits him like a glove embodies the daring Tanner exhibited as a bounty hunter. Hollywood is so impressed that a movie about his life is in the works.

“Although I don’t do a lot of crossover songs today, I always admired John Denver and often sang his ‘Country Roads’ while driving my truck,” he says. “I have recurring dreams about him. Three years ago, I received a touching email from a woman who bought my Christmas album and heard an interview in which I mentioned my fondness for John Denver. She assured me that he and her mother were listening to ‘Hear the Angel Voices’ in heaven. The email was from his sister, Katy.”

Why do some performers plummet quickly from view while others endure for a lifetime?

Robert Osborne, the omniscient host of Turner Classic Movies (TCM) has a logical explanation.

“Their one commonality is that those who last are basically good people,” he says. “If you have a crazy side or are complicated, they soon get rid of you; those we see often can’t deceive us. At one time, publicists were paid money to make up things, but I’ve found that most stories about stomping off the set and slapping the leading man aren’t true. Stars like Jimmy Stewart, Gregory Peck, Clark Gable, Ingrid Bergman Ernest Borgnine, Angela Lansbury, Fred Astaire, Gene Kelly and Shirley MacLaine approached their job professionally with positive thinking. They weren’t temperamental and were exactly as they seem.”

Submissions wanted!

Share industry related news with your fellow APW members including committee reports, event news, writing contests, industry related articles, industry-related personal accomplishments ... anything you think would be of value to our membership!

Send submissions, photos and art to Lynda Exley at exlent@aol.com.

The deadline for the October issue is Sept. 21.