# **MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT**

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# BAY AREA RADIO HALL OF FAME ANNOUNCES FIRST CLASS OF HONOREES

San Francisco (October 4, 2006) — The Bay Area Radio Museum is proud to announce the first group of inductees into the Bay Area Radio Hall of Fame. The selections were made following a year of study during which input from broadcast professionals, fans and historians was weighed to establish criteria and nominees for enshrinement.

Among the first inductees are pioneers from the earliest period of local radio development nearly a century ago, as well as popular personalities from the modern era. Many of the names, such as Don Sherwood and Tom Donahue, may be instantly recognizable. Others, such as Colin B. Kennedy and Harrison Holliway, may be less so. In either case, it is hoped that the creation of the Hall of Fame will help to honor the men and women who have made Bay Area radio so popular over the years, and will make their names and accomplishments known for generations to come.

For the near future, the Bay Area Radio Hall of Fame will exist primarily on the Internet at www.barhof.com, although a permanent exhibit is planned at the old KRE radio studios in Berkeley, which are being refurbished by the California Historical Radio Society (CHRS).

The Bay Area Radio Hall of Fame is spearheaded by the Bay Area Radio Museum, which is an affiliate of the Broadcast & Newspaper Museum of Northern California consortium, which also includes CHRS and the Broadcast Legends. The radio museum was founded in 2005, and currently presents archival broadcast recordings, photographs, documents and historical essays on its website at www.bayarearadio.org.

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# BAY AREA RADIO HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES - CLASS OF 2006

Listed in alphabetical order.

# PIONEER ERA

#### Preston D. Allen

A founder of both KZM and KLX (forerunners of today's KNEW), he designed and built much of the broadcasting equipment used on the air by the stations.

#### Ralph R. Brunton

Innovative longtime operator of groundbreaking pioneer station KJBS; later also co-owned KQW/San Jose.

#### Hugh Barrett Dobbs

A pioneering health and fitness advocate, he was hired by KPO in 1925 to present an early-morning exercise program. The ebullient "Dobbsie" went on to host the landmark "Shell Ship of Joy" program, which later became a regular offering on the NBC Pacific Coast Network.

#### Wesley I. Dumm

Went from director to owner of KTAB's licensee, to establishing station as market leader as KSFO in the 1930s and 1940s. Also founded KPIX (Channel 5) and locally-based shortwave stations KWID and KWIX, which formed the foundation for the Voice of America service.

# Edna Fischer

"San Francisco's First Lady of Radio" was among the earliest female radio stars, making her debut on the air in 1918; her career spanned from radio's birth to the dawn of the television age.

# Fred J. Hart

A farmer by trade, he developed KQW from humble origins to key position among local stations; later also co-owned KROW, which later became KABL (forerunner of today's KQKE).

#### Charles David "Doc" Herrold

An inventor, innovator and educator, known today as the father of radio broadcasting and founder of KQW (the forerunner of today's KCBS), which dates its origin to 1909.

#### Harrison Holliway

A founder of KFRC (as well as experimental station 6BN and the short-lived Emporium commercial station, KSL) and notable early radio personality and executive.

# Colin B. Kennedy

Experimenter, innovator and station builder; produced popular line of receivers for home listeners and founded station KLP (now defunct), known earlier as 6XAC.

# Carleton Morse

Former newspaper reporter and creator/author of "One Man's Family," the popular radio drama which ran for nearly three decades on the air, first at KPO, and later across the entire nation. Morse also created the memorable "I Love A Mystery" radio program.

# Johnny Patrick & Helen Troy

Parlayed screwball "Cecil & Sally" comedy serial into one of the first nationally-syndicated transcribed (pre-recorded) programs, beginning in 1928 at KYA before moving to KPO and NBC.

# Sherwood Patterson

Longtime owner of station KSAN (forerunner of today's KEST), he built the station up from hardscrabble beginnings to wide popularity; patriarch of a radio-industry family that is now in its fourth generation.

# Al Pearce

Popular radio personality (KFRC's "The Happy Go Lucky Hour"); among first local stars to graduate to network stardom, originally on CBS and later on NBC with "Al Pearce and His Gang."

# Rev. George W. Phillips

Pioneer of religious broadcasting, he built KTAB (forerunner of today's KSFO) to serve and grow his congregation at the Tenth Avenue Baptist Church in Oakland.

# Glenhall Taylor

Among earliest performers on local radio as musician and announcer; later managed KTAB (forerunner of today's KSFO) before becoming noted network program producer and writer.

# Mel Venter

Popular early program host (including KFRC's "The Breakfast Gang"), newsman and sportscaster, as well as a station executive. He later made the transition to television as a KTVU host and announcer.

# MODERN ERA

# Ken Ackerman

Announcer, program host ("Music Till Dawn") and newscaster on KQW and its successor, KCBS, he spanned the decades from the Second World War and was a founding member of the Broadcast Legends.

# Ira Blue

A staple of the KGO radio staff from the 1940s, he also helped pioneer the station's nascent talk show format with his eclectic broadcasts from the hungry i.

# Al "Jazzbeaux" Collins

Perhaps the greatest character in Bay Area radio history, his broadcasts from the mythic Purple Grotto on KSFO, KGO and other local stations defined the very essence of "cool."

# Frank Dill

Imported from New York, he was the perfect fit at personality-plus KNBR for three decades, both alone and with sidekick Mike Cleary.

# Tom Donahue

The iconic "Big Daddy," a Philadelphia Top 40 refugee, made his initial impact here at KYA, then rebuilt KMPX and KSAN ("The Jive 95") into underground rock radio shrines.

# Jim Dunbar

Brought in from Chicago, Dunbar came to represent all things KGO, directing its programming shift to "news/talk" while anchoring its morning news broadcast for three decades.

# James Gabbert

As a Stanford student, he parlayed a small investment in a fledgling FM station (KPEN, which later became KIOI) into a local broadcasting empire, adding KOFY (AM, FM and TV) to his portfolio while become a familiar voice on Bay Area airwaves.

# Al Hart

Arrived in the Bay Area as program director at KABL, then programmed KNBR before becoming a beloved newscaster at KCBS for three decades.

# Pat Henry

As the creative force behind Alameda's renowned KJAZ (which its transmitter on San Francisco's Russian Hill), his name is synonymous with jazz radio in the Bay Area.

# Bill King

With his devilish moustache and an infinite vocabulary used with poetic grace, he was **the** voice of baseball (A's, Giants), football (Raiders), basketball (Warriors) and hockey (Seals) for Bay Area sports fans.

# Jim Lange

A Minnesota native known nationally as host of television's "The Dating Game," he held court as a radio star here at KSFO, Magic 61 and KABL during a career that spanned five decades.

# Les Malloy

From pioneering disc jockey on KSAN, KYA and KGO to owner of the Bay Area's original KSAN (1450 AM), a popular listener favorite from the 1930s through the 1970s.

#### Dave McElhatton

A home-grown legend at KCBS as morning personality, "Mac" later became the popular "Eyewitness News" anchor at KPIX (Channel 5); his local broadcasting career encompassed more than fifty years on the air.

# Bill Moen

Beginning as one of the nameless voices behind the beautiful music on KABL, his "Moen in the Morning" show won over the hearts and ears of his listeners during his four decades at the station — and finally was allowed to identify himself!

#### Gene Nelson

Crowned as "The Emperor" upon his arrival at KYA in the mid-1960s, he rapidly became a favorite of loyal listeners who remained his constant companions for four decades; stalwart of post-Sherwood era KSFO.

#### Jumpin' George Oxford

On KSAN, KSOL and KDIA from the 1950s through the 1970s, velvet-voiced "Old G.O." — a southern-born white man — became as elemental to local listeners as the R&B records he played.

#### Dr. Don Rose

A radio legend as beloved off the air as he was while on, the good Doctor's cornball humor and madcap cast of characters attracted a legion of listeners to his morning show on KFRC.

# Don Sherwood

Known rightfully as "The World's Greatest Disc Jockey" at KSFO for parts of three decades, this native son of The City also worked at KFRC, KROW, KCBS and KYA during his nearly mythical career. At any given time during his tenure at KSFO, one of every four radio sets in the Bay Area was tuned to his program.

#### Lon Simmons

The Baseball Hall of Fame broadcaster has blessed sports fans for six decades with his booming voice, casual style, extensive knowledge and sardonic wit on Giants, 49ers and A's play-by-play.

#### Owen Spann

Talk radio pioneer who helped transform KGO into the model for how the format should be done; built initially built his following while at KCBS.