

VENICE “LADY PEPPER” PRICE BROOKS

JULIA LEGASPI

CONNOR MADDOCKS

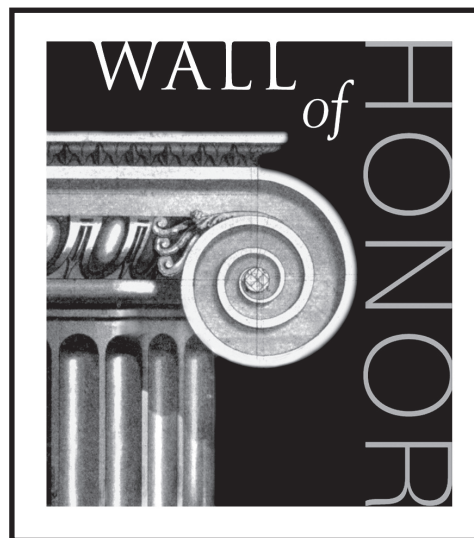
TRACIE JADA O'BRIEN

TERESA OYOS

DOUG SNYDER & CHRIS SHAW

MAUREEN STEINER

ANDREA VILLA



THE 2019 SAN DIEGO LGBT COMMUNITY WALL OF HONOR

Special Thanks To



*“A community indeed a
movement that does not know
where it came from and whose
shoulders it stands on, does not
know where it is going.”*

CITY COMMISSIONER
NICOLE MURRAY-RAMIREZ
founder Wall of Honor



Wall of Honor Committee

SUSAN JESTER

GEORGE MURPHY

NICOLE MURRAY-RAMIREZ

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THE SAN DIEGO LGBT COMMUNITY WALL OF HONOR

The San Diego LGBT Community Wall of Honor is the nation's only LGBT community memorial display dedicated to honoring and remembering important local LGBT community members. Located in The San Diego LGBT Community Center, The Community Wall of Honor was created in 2004 by Nicole Murray-Ramirez, The Imperial Court de San Diego and The San Diego LGBT Community Center. The Wall recognizes and celebrates those San Diego LGBT community members and LGBT community allies who have had a significant positive impact upon the San Diego LGBT community. The Community Wall of Honor is also intended to help educate community members, particularly our youth, about these significant historical persons, their contributions to the community, and their lives.

In the past our community was so busy fighting to survive that we had no time to record our history as it was happening. Today we are so focused on the future that we tend to let the past slip away from us. The Community Wall of Honor is about remembering, honoring and educating all of us about that history. It is a visible and lasting way of reminding our community of those whose efforts have brought us to where we are today.

This memorial display will enable us to honor, remember and commemorate members of our local community who have made significant contributions to our history. It is unique and special — to our knowledge no other LGBT community in the nation has taken the time to commemorate its local leaders. This unique Community History project is intended to be an evolving document recording the lives, challenges and victories of the San Diego LGBT community and is compiled with input and assistance from community members.



VENICE “LADY PEPPER” PRICE BROOKS
She/Her/Hers
COMMUNITY ACTIVIST



Venice “Lady Pepper” Price Brooks was born in Torrance, CA. She is a graduate of La More High School located in La More, CA. Venice moved to San Diego in 1983 and transitioned shortly after her arrival. She felt incredibly embraced and supported by the San Diego transgender community, and especially her older sister who came and stayed with Venice during her transition. The move to San Diego allowed for deeper connections throughout the community. Venice still feels there is more work to be done to serve and uplift our transgender community. Her leadership in the transgender community is also displayed with her involvement and passion with Diamonds in the Rough, a support group for transgender women. Venice is an ordained minister and has worked closely with a local congregation in Hemet, CA. Her call to ministry allowed her to share God’s ministry to the LGBTQ community reminding them “We are all God’s children.” Venice “Lady Pepper” Price Brooks has been married to her husband for 31 years.



JULIA LEGASPI
She/Her/Hers
COMMUNITY ACTIVIST



Julia was born in Cavite City, Philippines the fifth of eleven siblings to Ceferino Legaspi and Juliana de los Santos. Julia opened “JHIGS” Hair Studio in 1982, a favorite spot for locals and many celebrities.

Equality has been the focus of Julia’s advocacy, and as a prominent leader in the LGBT community and the Filipino American community, Julia has received recognition from different civic organizations and political leaders, such as Mayor Susan Golding proclaiming November 19, 1991 Julia Legaspi Day in the City of San Diego.

In 2004, Julia was bestowed the honor of being the first transgender person appointed to public office in the City of San Diego and only the third in the country. She was appointed by then Mayor Dick Murphy to The Equal Opportunity Commission and later to The Human Relations Commission.

Julia is currently the president of The Los Chabacanos of Cavite City, and is also a current member both the City of San Diego Mayor’s and the San Diego County Sheriff’s LGBT Advisory Boards.

Julia firmly believes “Discrimination against any of us is discrimination against all of us!”



CONNOR MADDOCKS

He/Him/His

COMMUNITY ACTIVIST

Connor Maddocks has been a civil rights advocate in the San Diego transgender community since transitioning 16 years ago. Connor began working at The San Diego LGBT Community Center in 2006, first as the Facilities Manager, and then in 2013 as the Program Coordinator for Project TRANS (Transgender Referrals, Assistance, Networking and Services), The Center's first transgender program.



During his time at The Center, Connor helped start several discussion groups including the Trans Coming Out Discussion Group and the Women's Discussion Group. Additionally, Connor helped co-found Transforming Families with Monica Nuñez. Through his work at The Center and in the transgender community, Connor has been essential in the leadership and coordination of both the Transgender Day of Remembrance and the Transgender Day of Empowerment. Additionally, Connor helped create the annual Transgender Community Picnic, and has led the San Diego FTM/SO meeting since 2005.

In 2015, Connor began working with the San Diego Police Department conducting the first trainings on transgender issues for the entire San Diego Police Department and for the San Diego local law enforcement professionals through the US Attorney's Office. Connor is currently a member of the San Diego Police Chief's Advisory Board, and he works with the San Diego County Sheriff's Department.

Connor is an active guest speaker and trainer to various organizations, businesses, colleges and healthcare agencies. Connor is also a trainer to various organizations on transgender issues (including legal and workplace compliance issues), diversity and inclusion, and human rights issues. Connor is a former member of the San Diego Pride Board of Directors, and is a proud active volunteer of Pride since 2004.

Connor is most proud of the work he does with his community, and helping to bring the community together. He is also the parent of three amazing daughters and grandparent to eight beautiful grandkids.



TRACIE JADA O'BRIEN

She/Her/Hers

COMMUNITY ACTIVIST

Tracie Jada O'Brien's activism began shortly after taking her first HIV test in 1991.

The result was life changing, as prior to this time she engaged in risk-taking activities. It was also during this time she made some significant life changes, realizing she was a transgender woman. In the early 1990s, Tracie worked with the San Diego AIDS Foundation creating and modeling the first HIV prevention brochure targeting transgender population and sex workers. Tracie soon engaged in collaborative efforts with Family Health Centers of San Diego's Gay Men's HIV Health Program.



It was during these efforts that Tracie, along with two other transgender advocates, approached Family Health Centers HIV testing clinic asking if they would be interested in providing monitored hormone therapy to the transgender community. The transgender community would have healthy and safe access to clean needles lessening the risk of HIV transmission and Hepatitis infection. Family Health Centers welcomed the idea and shortly thereafter began offering monitored hormone therapy and free medications. During her years working at Family Health Centers, Tracie worked to create best practices for transgender/GNC patients, medical documentation, labeling, and electronic medical records.

Tracie's involvement in the Annual Transgender Day of Empowerment (DOE) launched in November 2004 at The San Diego LGBT Community Center to an audience of 75 attendees. 15 years later, this critical event continues to empower San Diego's transgender and nonbinary community, and has provided education scholarships to more than a hundred deserving transgender/GNC individuals.

In 2005, Tracie attended the first ever Transgender Consultation Forum hosted by the CDC. At this forum, transgender activists came from across the nation to formally document the significant

disparities in transgender HIV care and prevention. As a result of this forum, the California Office of AIDS invited transgender activists from throughout the state to Sacramento to brainstorm creating the foundation of what was to become The Center of Excellence for Transgender Health housed at the University of California, San Francisco.

The best reward for Tracie is telling new patients at the beginning of their transition journey that all of their care, including surgeries, can be covered by county insurance. This is critical for the transgender community, as many survive on a yearly wage of \$10,000.00 or less. With access to their life affirming services, lessening dysphoria, many in the transgender/GNC community report less depression and anxiety and have the confidence to get that job or enroll in school.



TERESA OYOS
She/Her/Hers
COMMUNITY ACTIVIST

Teresa Oyos was born and raised in San Diego and she began her activism after enrolling at San Diego City College in 1971. It was there she became very active in M.E.Ch.A., the newspaper “La Verdad”, and picketing to get Chicano Park. That activism carried over into taking the summer off to volunteer full-time with the United Farmworkers Union, where she lived at the “Boycott House” with her daughter. They organized during the week and picketed Safeway on the weekends. That experience culminated in meeting the humble leader, Cesar Chavez.

After coming out in 1974, Teresa got involved with a collective to help open Las Hermanas, a women’s coffee house and cultural center. In 1984 she joined the staff at The San Diego Gayzette, allowing her to work with Christine Kehoe and Julie Warren, and becoming friends with Adam Gettinger-Brizuela. It was with these friendships, and the encouragement of Nicole Murray-Ramirez, that fueled the fire of establishing “Orgullo”,



the first LGBTQ Latino/a/x organization in San Diego.

Starting in 1996, Teresa worked at first for CRASH for ten years, and then for HNRP, conducting research and then outreach throughout San Diego County on the affects, prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS. After 20 years of HIV/AIDS activism, Teresa retired from HNRP/UC San Diego in 2016.

Teresa was a Commissioner on the City of San Diego Human Relations Commission from 2008-2010, and was a

longstanding member of The Center’s Latino Services Advisory Committee from 2004-2010.

Teresa met the love of her life, Rose, in 1986; the couple were married in 2016.

Sober since 1987, Teresa is enjoying being fully retired, and all the joys of traveling, cooking and volunteering that come with it.



DOUG SNYDER & CHRIS SHAW
He/Him/His and He/Him/His
BUSINESS LEADERS



Doug Snyder and Chris Shaw have been together since 1983. They have both been involved in the LGBTQ community since 1979 and are the proud creators of WCPC (West Coast Production), the Flame (San Diego's Lesbian night club), Studio Nine (a LGBT under 21-night club), Hamburger Mary's (which later became Urban Mo's), Baja Betty's, Gossip Grill (California's only women's bar), Hillcrest Brewing Company (the world's first LGBTQ Brewery) and Inside Out.

Doug and Chris, their companies and their 284 staff members have always been dedicated and extremely active in the LGBTQ community. Over the last 40 years, they have donated or raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for the LGBTQ community.

Their philosophy has always been "you cannot have a successful business without a strong successful community", which is why it has always been a priority to create an incredible Hillcrest Community. Doug and Chris feel blessed to be part of San Diego's LGBT Community, and will always stay committed to it. It's not about the awards, the acknowledgements or articles in the paper. Instead, Doug and Chris have always been about creating and building a community where everyone can feel comfortable and thrive being who they are.

When the history of the LGBTQ Community is written, Doug Snyder and Chris Shaw will be in the top list of business leaders who helped build and sustained the San Diego LGBT community's organizations and our decades-long fight for equality.



MAUREEN STEINER
She/Her/Hers
COMMUNITY ACTIVIST

Maureen Steiner is more than an advocate for social justice. Maureen was taught by example that giving to the community is a moral obligation and a privilege. She is a community activist and has been a social justice leader for most of her life.

Maureen served as the first openly LGBT person on many committees in Coronado and San Diego, including chairing both the Coronado Planning Commission and the San Diego County Democratic Party. She served on the Community Leadership Council and the LGBT Historic Task Force, City of San Diego Salary Setting Commission and numerous other civic and non-profit boards. She was a leader at GLAAD, and strong supporter of PFLAG of San Diego and their program goals. Additionally, she has served on the boards of the San Diego Archaeological Center and the Save Our Heritage Organization (SOHO) where she played a role



in the saving of the Western Metal Building, which is now the signature part of the downtown Ballpark.

As a board member and then President of Lambda Archives of San Diego, Maureen had a goal of making the organization a vibrant and relevant part of the LGBTQ community. She succeeded in so many ways to bring the “antiquarian collecting society” into the current conversation and to expand it from a passive to an active community asset.

Maureen has always demonstrated transparent and ethical leadership. She received the Richard Geysler Community Leadership Award from the San Diego Human Dignity Foundation. She is a proud member of the Imperial Court of San Diego, served as the first “Ms. South Bay Pride,” and has been a staunch advocate for programs and services helping San Diego LGBTQ youth.



ANDREA VILLA
She/Her/Hers
COMMUNITY ACTIVIST

As a child, Andrea and her family spent summer days in Balboa Park. It was there on the lawns near the shuffleboard courts her father told them about her grandfather – a day laborer who immigrated from Mexico to help build the iconic Cabrillo Bridge for the 1915 Panama Exhibition.

Pride was the focus of her activism until 1987 when Andrea quit her job to attend the March on Washington for LGBT Rights, an event that would change her life. The momentum of 250,000 people in the streets of the nation’s capital fed the fire for justice that has lit her path ever since. She met local activists who would be her mentors over the years, among them Larry Baza, Albert Bell, and most importantly, Jeri Dilno. After the March, Andrea sought to be of service in equality and justice movements. She was a founding member of ActUP! San Diego, served on the board of San Diego LGBT Pride as member and Co-Chair, and was elected to the board – twice as President – of the storied San Diego Democratic Club (now San Diego Democrats for Equality).



In 2004, Andrea joined The San Diego LGBT Community Center Board of Directors, where she was a founding member of its Latino Advisory Council and helped launch the nation’s first LGBTQ Latino/a/x Services program. She threw herself into the intersectional work of The Center serving on the board in multiple capacities over 11 years, including Vice Chair and Chair of the Board. Along with her late wife Aida Mancillas, Andrea also grew

active in marriage equality engaging Latino leadership – straight and gay – in the movement. And when asked, she answered the call to Co-Chair the San Diego No on 8 Campaign.

The loss of that fight in November 2008 was devastating. “We were gutted,” she recalls. “But we were back at it that weekend helping a small group of new youth activists organize a protest against the vote.”

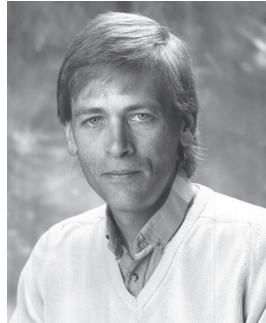
Her coffee pot may be in Oakland, but her heart is in San Diego. She’ll be back soon.



2014 HONOREES



Bill Beck & David Huskey



Scott Carlson



Queen Eddie Conlon



Pat Cluchey



Scott Fulkerson



John Graham



Peggy Heathers & Cynthia Lawrence-Wallace



Susan Jester



Christine Kehoe & Julie Warren



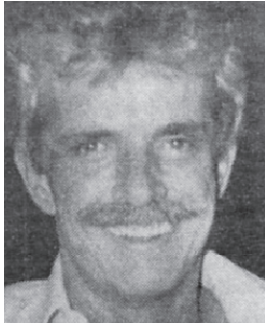
Robert H. Lynn



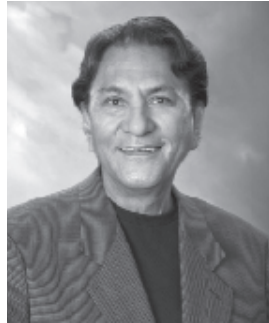
Al Smithson



2008 HONOREES



Alfred (Fred) Acheson



Larry Baza



Michael Clark



Phyllis Jackson



George Murphy



Frank Stiriti

2007 HONOREES



Lou & Carol Arko



Dr. Al Best



Gloria Johnson



*Drs. David McWhirter &
Andrew (Drew) Mattison*



Bernard (Bernie) Michels



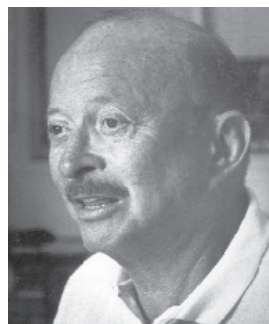
Frederick (Fred) Scholl



2006 HONOREES



Muriel Fisher



Herb King



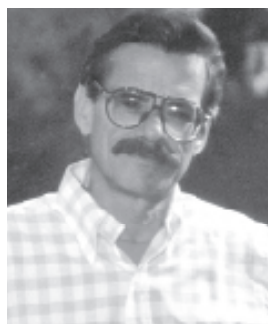
Patrick McArron



Doug Moore



Maria Plasencia



Ron Umbaugh



Bridget Wilson

2005 HONOREES



Albert Bell



Jim Cua



Jeri Dilno



Darl Edwards



David Farrell



Cynthia Lawrence-Wallace



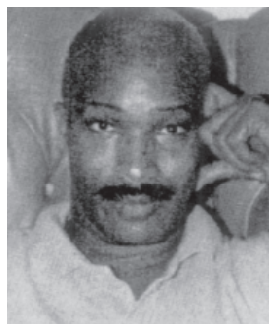
Doug Scott



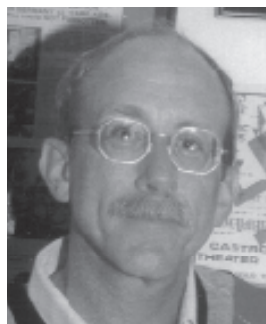
2004 HONOREES



Thomas "Thom" Carey



Don Edmundson



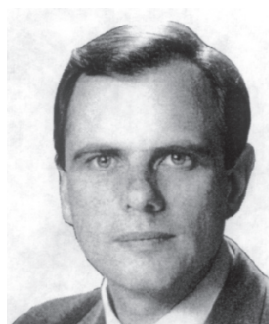
Robert "Jess" Jessop



Robert "Rob" Shepard



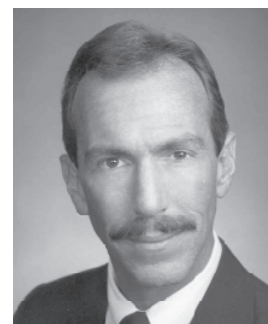
John Ciaccio



Neil Good



Clint Johnson



Dr. A. Brad Truax



Barbara Crusberg



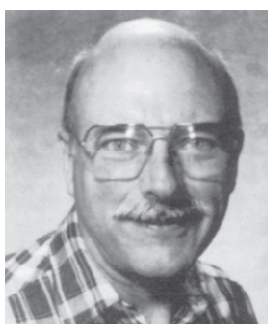
Don Hauck



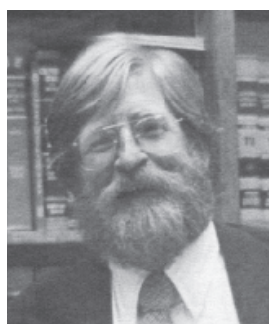
Corrine "Martie" Mackey



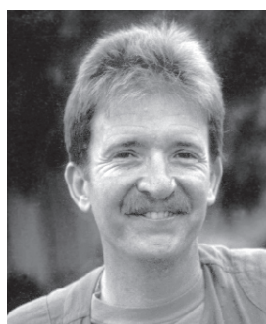
Robert Walsh



John Eberly



Tom Homann



Gary Rees



Jerry White



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