

Bob Lindgren

February 28, 1939– August 28, 2024



Bob Lindgren played an instrumental part in the growth and development of the printing industry in general and PIA in particular.

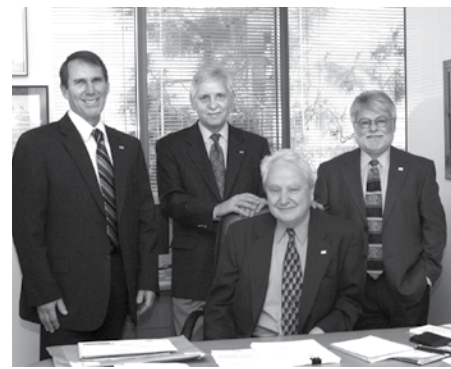
A third generation Chicagoan, Bob obtained his Master's Degree in Accounting and Finance from the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business in 1974. His experience with the printing industry began with the Neely Printing Company in Chicago. He worked at Neely part time while in college and full time thereafter, eventually serving as Accounting Manager. His education and interest in finance and accounting led him to become fascinated with the intricacies of the printing industry, and the important role that these areas play in determining success for firms in the industry.

After he left Neely, Bob joined the staff of the Printing Industry of Illinois Association, where he ultimately became General Manager. This was the beginning of a lifetime of service to the industry, where he became a champion of improving the level of management expertise for industry firms both large and small.



Bob joined our Association in 1982

In 1981 Bob moved west to Los Angeles to join the Printing Industries Association, Inc. (then called the Printing Industries Association, Inc. of Southern California, PIASC) as Executive Director, serving printing companies in six counties of Southern California. In 1982 he was named the Association's President and Chief Executive Officer, a role he held for 35 years.



Under Bob's leadership the Association added new services to aid members, which contributed to membership growing to over 2,000 member firms, served by a staff of 62 employees. Today PIA is the largest regional graphic communications industry association in the United States, serving printing and graphic arts firms in thirteen

Western states. The Association owes its position to the foundation that Bob built in his 35-year tenure.

Bob's contributions to the industry were much appreciated

In addition to leading our Association, over the years Bob also served various industry associations at the national level as a member of the Executive Committee, Board of Directors and numerous committees and task forces of Printing Industries of America.

Bob was a frequent speaker and seminar leader throughout the United States and Canada on management of the printing industry, and author of numerous articles for the trade press.



In 1990, when the Association's accomplishments were recognized by Printing Industries of America, Bob was awarded the Local Affiliate of the Year Award. In 1991 he was honored as the Executive of the Year. In recognition for his lifetime of achievement and advancing the interests of the Industry, Bob was inducted into the Printing Industries of America's Hall of Fame and was made a member of the Ben Franklin Society in 2010.

Throughout the years Bob was a constant source of help and support for printing firms on the West Coast and nationally. He was always available to member firms who were seeking answers to difficult questions, or who felt the need for guidance and support at their businesses. Bob truly loved the industry and had tremendous respect for the many owners and managers who sought his opinion and advice throughout his career. He was always willing to discuss the tough issues that others might avoid; this gained the respect of many. Bob was truly an advocate for the industry throughout his working life, and he personally assisted hundreds of printing and graphic arts firms.



Bob loved the printing industry and its members. Nothing was ever impossible for him and when difficulty arrived, he would salute it with a grin. In his words, "For me coming to work is not a living, it's delightful and a lot of fun."

Under Bob's leadership thousands of students were attracted to the industry with a variety of events like paper drives, academic challenges and plant tours. To continue with his passion of print, he also led an awareness campaign, Choose Print, which promoted print as an effective and sustainable way of communication.

Bob's other passion was trains, and he rode many during his lifetime. As a little boy, Bob also loved spending hours at the library reading a variety of books, leading to literacy becoming another passion he promoted. The Association's literacy campaign encouraged people to read. Students designed bookmarks to be printed and distributed to schools and public libraries in the greater Los Angeles metropolitan area.

Bob was also extremely active in the community

While in California, Bob's leadership in the community included serving as...

- Trustee and Treasurer of the International Printing Museum in Carson, California
- Director of the Printing Industries Credit Union
- Trustee of the Printing Industries Consolidated Trust
- Trustee of the GCIU Local 404 Health and Welfare Fund
- Co-Chairman and Trustee of the GCIU National Health and Welfare Fund
- Trustee of the GCIU Supplemental Early Retirement and Disability Fund
- Member of the American Society of Association Executives
- Member of the California Society of Association Executives
- Trustee of Don Bosco Technical Institute in Rosemead, California



Though Bob retired from PIA in 2017, he continued to make his mark in the industry, as a co-founder of The Management Guys, a consultancy for printing firms, and as the author of a semi-monthly industry newsletter distributed to firms across the nation, writing on key management issues faced by industry firms. He never stopped caring about the industry and was still sharing his knowledge and experience of the industry with firms across the nation until just weeks before his death.



Many printing firms across the nation owe their success, and in some cases their very survival, to Bob's tireless commitment to assisting them. He will be missed, not just by his family and friends, but by industry members nationwide, some of whom he never met, but who were attentive to the advice and counsel contained in his newsletters and the many articles published over sixty years.

After leaving California Bob and his wife Lina settled comfortably and happily in Weldon Spring, MO. At the time of his death, Bob was an active member of St. Joseph Catholic Church and various community organizations in the Greater St. Louis area.

Bob is survived by his loving wife Lina and his daughter Karen.



Services were held on September 5, 2024, in Missouri. You can view and/or add to memories, tributes or photos to the online tribute book at bit.ly/Bob-Lindgren

On Our Radar

Proposed regulations and other issues that we're following:

- **OSHA issues proposed heat rule** – You may have heard that OSHA has released its long-anticipated proposed Heat Injury and Illness Prevention in Outdoor and Indoor Work Settings rule, which aims to prevent heat-related illnesses and injuries in the workplace. As a reminder, Cal/OSHA's indoor heat illness prevention rule is already in effect. For details about both, see the article at bit.ly/CA-heat-safety-rule

Approved regulations and other issues that we've been following:

- **EPA methylene chloride ban** – The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has published a compliance guide for its recent rule that bans consumer and most industrial and commercial uses of methylene chloride. You can download this guide at bit.ly/EPA-methylene-chloride-ban (scroll down to the "Managing Risks from Methylene Chloride" section to find it).
- **Hostile work environment based on single racial slur** – The California Supreme Court has ruled that there are situations in which a single use of a racial slur can constitute harassment. To learn more, see the article at bit.ly/racial-slur-harassment.
- **Non-compete agreements are still banned in state** – You may have seen the news that the Federal Trade Commission's (FTC's) controversial nationwide ban

on non-compete agreements was struck down by a Texas court. Be aware, however, that this does not impact California's ban on non-compete agreements, which is still in effect.

- **Workplace harassment based on personal social media posts** – The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit recently ruled that companies can be held liable for hostile work environment claims stemming from harassing content that an employee posts online on their personal social media. To learn more, see the article at bit.ly/harassment-social-posts.

Legislation we've been following that did not pass:

- **Unemployment benefits** – SB 1116, which would have provided unemployment benefits for striking workers, did not pass.



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FOR LEASE:

52,250 square foot property in an industrial neighborhood. Structure description: Free standing, concrete tilt up, single story dock-high building with a double wood bow truss roof (remodeled 1999). Building size: 25,200 square feet. For more information, contact Virla Clark at (310) 897-9411 or virlaclarck@gmail.com.

FOR LEASE:

Huge price reduction! 17,480 square foot industrial building in Bell Gardens, California, with heavy power and yard. For more information, please call Lui Salazar at (213) 270-2229.

CONTACT US

Address

5800 S. Eastern Avenue,
Suite 400
Los Angeles, CA 90040
P.O. Box 910936
Los Angeles, CA 90091
Phone: 323.728.9500
www.piasc.org

Key Contacts

- LOU CARON**
PRESIDENT/CEO
Ext. 274, lou@piasc.org
- NORA WOLKOFF**
VP, PIASC INSURANCE
Ext. 222, nora@piascins.com
- EVIE BAÑAGA**
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS
Ext. 224, evie@pibt.org
- KRISTY VILLANUEVA**
MEMBER SERVICES
Ext. 215, kristy@piasc.org
- RODNEY BOLTON**
HUMAN RESOURCES
piasc@hrbizz.com

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Member Spotlight: Burnett Engraving

There are many things you can do to give a printed piece that extra "pop" that separates the ordinary from the extraordinary, from the use of color to the paper choice, finish and more. But for high-end pieces and other items that really need to stand out, there's nothing like adding in specialty elements. Burnett Engraving, an Anaheim, California-based company that just celebrated 50 years of PIA membership, is known for their extremely precise work in this area.

Providing specialty treatments & litho printing

In addition to doing a great deal of regular litho printing, Burnett has deep expertise in a full range of specialty elements. Their in-house production capabilities include engraving (i.e., intaglio print), thermography, embossing, debossing, foil stamping and die cutting.

"For this side of our business," shares Mike Alurac, Burnett's President and CEO, "we're proud to be the go-to printer for many of the high-end designers in our area who specifically design around the specialty elements. Of course, we also serve many commercial printers who do not have this type of equipment or expertise. Our customers have seen that we can do the high-caliber work – such as extremely tight

registration and fine lines – that creates the 'wow!' factor they're looking for."

"Often what our clients need is an embellishment to a regular litho print job," adds Greg Copland, Burnett's long-time Operations Manager. "We'll do the printing and then add the post-press treatment after that. We also do a full range of non-embellished retail printing work as well, including Pantone spot color offset printing."

Producing gorgeous, luxurious pieces

A recent project is a great example of the type of high-quality specialty work on which Burnett has built its reputation. The project was an extremely sophisticated wedding package. As Mike explains, "The fully engraved invitations and RSVP cards were produced on 100% cotton paper, each with beveled, gold-painted edges. Three colors, seven passes through the press. We also did a custom converted envelope with a UV translucent Pantone-tinted liner that we hand-mounted into the envelope. It was stunning!"

Offering extensive expertise and a consultative approach

One of the things that really sets Burnett apart is how they are able to use their combined experience to assist their customers. Greg has been in the business

for nearly 40 years, while Mike got his start in the printing industry when he was in ninth grade. "We love to help customers avoid potential pitfalls," Greg states, "or help them brainstorm different ways to do something."

When Mike talks about his personal history in the printing industry, you can hear his enthusiasm for print in his voice.

"I fell into print shop as an assigned elective when I was just 14," Mike reveals. "Offset 1. I had no idea what it was! I told my mom about it, and she immediately got me an after-school job at her employer's in-house print shop. I went from not knowing what a print shop was to working in one every afternoon while studying print in school."

After graduation Mike got a job as a production worker at an L.A.-area printing business, primarily working as a stripper and plate maker. When the in-house sales rep called in sick too many times, Mike suddenly found himself in sales. And he loved it! Now Burnett is benefiting from his 35 years of printing sales expertise.

To learn more about Burnett Engraving or get advice about your "bells and whistles" project, visit their website at www.BurnettEngraving.com or contact Mike or Greg at 714-632-0870.



5800 S. Eastern Ave., #400
Los Angeles, CA 90040



PIA Events CALENDAR

● **Scott Merit Badges**
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21
Carson, CA
bit.ly/Merit-Badge-Day

● **Los Angeles Printers Fair**
SATURDAY - SUNDAY OCTOBER 19-20
Carson, CA
bit.ly/LA-Printers-Fair

● **Save the Date: 2024 Americas Print Awards**
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17

9 September

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30

FOR FULL LIST OF EVENTS, PLEASE VISIT WWW.PIASC.ORG/EVENTS

● **Save the Date: R.A.I.S.E. Paper Drive**
THURSDAY - FRIDAY OCTOBER 17 - 18
Anaheim, CA
Contact Kristy Villanueva at Kristy@piasc.org

● **Mail Design Consultant Workshop**
OCTOBER 21, 22 AND 23
FROM 10:00 AM TO 11:30 AM PDT
& OCTOBER 24 FROM 10:00 AM TO 12:00 PM PDT
Via Zoom
bit.ly/MailDesign2024PIA

BURNETT ENGRAVING

ON OUR RADAR

BOB LINDGREN
FEBRUARY 28, 1939 - AUGUST 28, 2024

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SEPTEMBER 16, 2024 ISSUE 166