

## WHEN OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS...

How many times have you recognized an opportunity and have actually taken it? If you had asked me this question three years ago, I couldn't have answered it because I wouldn't have known what an opportunity looked like. I used to think it was so obvious I could spot it through the thickest fog. I have learned opportunities could be disguised as anything – even the fog. For *Moonlighting Strangers* to be included on the *Moonlighting* DVDs was never what I or the rest of the fanzine staff had expected. Yet it happened. Our experience is the epitome of the precise ingredients of what an opportunity is: talent, preparation and timing. Diana had introduced this fanzine to Buena Vista at the cusp of TV DVD market boom. Her forward thinking has paid off. The six of us: Joy, Diana, Pam, Kim, Michelle and Yours Truly have been featured on the *Moonlighting Phenomenon* featurette representing millions of dedicated fans throughout the United States and around the world.

It's an unbelievable honor to be recognized for an activity that was created out of love for an incredibly original yet callously disregarded television show. Joy's idea for starting the *Moonlighting Reunion Campaign*, coupled with my idea for this fanzine, has been the blueprint. Diana's media savvy and Pam's editing expertise have been the engine. And Michelle and Kim's flair for words and energy have been the fuel that made this unique publication the only choice Lions Gate considered for fan content. I can't forget to mention the staff members who, unfortunately, couldn't make the LA trip with us, yet their contributions are just as valuable: Sal, Kelly, Karin and Sara. In addition, I need to say thanks to the people who helped us with our efforts along the way: Heather Clemens, Honey Chodan, Josephine Taylor, Missy, Elyse, Allison, Ella, Tanya, Sasha, Cristina Brondoni, Monika, Michelle Atkinson and James Tumminia. I am humbled with the dedication and, frankly, the belief all the people I have mentioned have shown this publication and, most of all, for other frustrated *Moonlighting* fans an outlet to express their passion for the show.

This issue has allowed us the opportunity to celebrate the long awaited DVD release. It's jam packed with the most exclusive material we have ever published! We present interviews with television's most lovable receptionist Agnes DiPesto, portrayed by Allyce Beasley, *Moonlighting* producer, now *Joan of Arcadia*'s executive producer Barbara Hall, *Moonlighting*, now *Boston Legal*'s editor Phil Neel and *Moonlighting* pilot director and television veteran Robert Butler. In previous issues, what I have just listed would have been enough to catch your attention. However, we're giving you much more. Our special DVD section covers many angles of the DVD experience. Think of it as the extension to the extras Lions Gate couldn't fit on the DVD. This section chronicles our personal take of our LA trip, the making of our featurette, our dinner with Allyce Beasley and her husband Jim, the after thoughts of some of the cast and crew who participated on the DVD, and a bonus interview with Lions Gate executive, Miguel Casillas. After what I just described, the contents should be enough to hold you for at least six months. But, wait! Like a late night infomercial exclaims: "There's more!" You will enjoy our exclusive photos supplied by Allyce Beasley, Curtis Armstrong and ourselves. Also, yes there's more, Kim's *Moonlighting Episode Guide* provides overview of seasons one and two, Pam's *It's All In The Writing* discusses the script for *Knowing Her*, and Michelle's *Blue Side of the Moon* analyzes the music used in *Every Daughter's Father Is A Virgin*.

*Moonlighting Strangers* has come a long way since our first issue three years ago, in many ways. The quality of our staff and content has risen to the respect of Entertainment Industry insiders. In fact, Diana has joined a charity organization called the *Screen Smart Set*, which is profiled in *Spreading the Good News*. I'm sure our success will enable many of our staff to make the professional transition and expand on skills we all have developed during this endeavor. Thanks to this fanzine, we have reached for the moon, touched the stars and made a profound impact in our lives. Keep this in mind when you hear opportunity knocking. Be sure you're prepared for it when you open the door.

Christie Taylor  
Co-Publisher of *Moonlighting Strangers* Fanzine  
Vice-Chairman of the *Moonlighting Reunion Campaign*

## A MESSAGE FROM THE MOONLIGHTING REUNION CAMPAIGN CHAIRMAN

We're back, after a long hibernation from a winter that seemed to never end. Spring rolls in the 11th issue of the fanzine and three year Anniversary issue. Through the bitter winter the fanzine staff has been hard at work putting together what we call "The DVD Issue." Success: Seasons one and two of *Moonlighting* have finally arrived on DVD with lots of great extras courtesy of Lions Gate. Success: the fanzine staff is honored to be featured on the DVDs in a segment called *Moonlighting Phenomenon* after years of hard work. Success: the fanzine, website, and members have been featured in: *USA Today* on February 7th, 2005, *The LA Times* on April 5th, 2005, and *US News and World Report* (June 27th, 2005 issue). What is success? How do you measure it? I'd like to quote something that Bruce Willis said to Billy Bush on *Access Hollywood* in a March 2005 interview. Billy Bush wanted Bruce to elaborate on a 1993 *LA Times* interview that featured comments he made about the Hollywood business. Billy Bush asked Bruce if he still felt the same way 12 years later. Bruce said, "You bet. Of course I do. It's gotten worse. It's not enough that people succeed here, it's that you have to succeed and your enemies fail."

Success means a lot of things to a lot of different people. We definitely feel that the fanzine is a success, especially this issue. We're honoring a very special lady, Allyce Beasley a.k.a. Miss Dipesto. It was an honor to be a part of an exclusive interview she granted to *Moonlighting Strangers*. The fanzine's covers are dedicated to you, Allyce. Thank you for everything. We love you. The front/back covers are of Miss Dipesto's desk. Front cover: a rose which Bert, as you remember, gave her in *All Creatures Great... And Not So Great*. (Thank you, Curtis, for everything. We adore you.) A white box that long stem roses are delivered in, addressed to Miss Agnes Dipesto, you guessed it, lots of DVDs, and on her phone, a rhyme on a post-it. Back cover: a huge thank you card to all the people who have supported the fanzine and campaign by giving interviews, pictures, advice, and more. Anyone and everyone that helped the fanzine continue and made the DVDs a reality. Those names include: Glenn Gordon Caron, Lions Gate, Buena Vista, Cybill Shepherd, Allyce Beasley, Bruce Willis, Curtis Armstrong, Peter Werner, Jerry Finnerman, and Marlena Willis and many more wonderful people. We also thank all the fans, and our friends and family who have contributed and supported our efforts for over three years.

But this issue has lots more, my friends. Exclusive interviews with Allyce Beasley, Debra Frank, Will Mackenzie, Jeff Reno, Ron Osborn and Alf Clausen, who all did commentaries for the DVDs. We've written articles about our trip to LA, our commentary session for Lions Gate, and dinner with Allyce Beasley and her husband Jim. As always are: Michelle's regular feature article *The Blue Side of the Moon*. Pam's regular feature article *It's All In The Writing*, and Kim's regular feature article *Moonlighting Episode Guide*.

When I look back at everything the fanzine staff has accomplished and gone through, I get really choked up. We started out with a mission statement and a dream. We started this for a reunion and the process has evolved into something that no one could have ever imagined. We thought that we would try letter writing and petition campaigns. But we realized pretty quickly that was not going to do anything in this situation. We set out for the reunion, then the DVDs, and wound up on the DVDs. I've learned that life can take you in all sorts of directions and people may try to steer you into others. But if you follow your heart and your gut instincts you can achieve your goals. Now that's success!

Joy Chodan  
Chairman of the *Moonlighting Reunion Campaign*  
Co-Publisher of *Moonlighting Strangers* Fanzine

# A MESSAGE FROM THE MOONLIGHTING STRANGERS' MEDIA DIRECTOR

## FATE

After the last three and half years, I now believe that there is such a thing called fate.

There is a reason why the staff of *Moonlighting Strangers* met and how it culminated in us being featured as part of the bonus extras on the 20th Anniversary DVD release of *Moonlighting*. And in the process, to meet and get to know so many of the talented people who worked on the series. Never in my wildest imagination, it is simply surreal, but there has to be one reason and it is called fate. But with fate came hard work, perseverance, planning and the ability to take advantage of opportunities as they presented themselves.

I loved *Moonlighting* ever since I saw the pilot episode in March 1985. When the series premiered on ABC, it was described as a detective show. Back then, detective shows were a dime a dozen but this one was different. It was funny and sexy. I, and the rest of the country, were glued to our TV sets every Tuesday night from 9-10pm, eager to see if David and Maddie's working relationship would cross over from professional to romantic (or "horizontee" as David would like to say), because let's face it, no one tuned in for the cases. It was appointment television back then, a water-cooler show. *Moonlighting* was even on the cover of *Newsweek*.

Fast forward to January 2000. The Bravo Cable Network began airing the series and because I didn't keep my taped ABC version, I decided to watch a few episodes. I became hooked again and I taped all of them. Then I started to surf the internet, looking for more information on the series when I came upon a *Moonlighting* message board in February 2002. There was a message posted from Joy and Christie, throwing out the idea of starting a *Moonlighting Reunion Campaign*. As I was a television advertiser at the time, I saw the potential of us being a major sponsor, if ABC was interested in producing the special.

When I contacted Joy and Christie, I found out that they both lived in the New York City area, near me. Isn't that a fateful coincidence? Then, we found out that the creator of *Moonlighting*, Glenn Gordon Caron, was in New York City too, just a few avenues away from my office! Another fateful coincidence. After interviewing Glenn in August 2002, we began to look into the DVD issue, as only the pilot was released. Our campaign quickly evolved into a two pronged one—promoting a Reunion and DVD release.

We continued to have great success in people granting us interviews, many times just by referring us directly to other *Moonlighting* talent, instead of us going through managers, agents and publicists. People told us they felt comfortable talking to us and they heard from the others that it was a fun experience.

Feeling confident because we had great support and a great product, I met with Buena Vista Home Entertainment in March 2004. They were interested in working with us for the DVD release, which they ultimately passed on releasing, but the good news was that Lions Gate would be releasing them and they were interested in us. We were doing the fanzine for the fans and the *Moonlighting* cast and crew but as FATE would have it, it turned out that we were able to provide great content for the marketing of the DVDs. *Moonlighting* DVDs were going to be released and we were destined to be a part of it.

Along with our hard work, things just kept falling into place. Now, 20 years after the pilot aired, not only are we instrumental in the marketing and creation of the DVDs, but we will be featured on it for posterity and who could have predicted that?

I now believe there is such a thing called fate and I'm looking forward to where it is going to take me next

Diana Maiocco  
Media Director of *Moonlighting Strangers* Fanzine

# A MESSAGE FROM THE MOONLIGHTING STRANGERS' SENIOR EDITOR

## TEAMWORK

Three years now into the *Moonlighting Campaign*, I look back with amazement at where the road has led. Above all, I think what has allowed us to accomplish so much comes down to teamwork. It took a great team to produce a show like *Moonlighting*, and it takes another great one to produce every issue of the fanzine, each one contributing their own special skills and talents. We have been very fortunate to meet so many people who actually created *Moonlighting*, and that made all the difference!

I started watching *Moonlighting* again after so many years right after 9/11 happened. I truly feel the timing was serendipitous – as one of our friends likes to say – because 9/11 changed everything. I remember hearing a radio ad that said things like "Find your passion" and "Do what you love." It sounded too good to be true, but that's what happened! Just flipping channels, I caught an episode of *Moonlighting* on TV one day. I hadn't seen the show in many years, but I had been a huge fan! Interestingly enough, I've read that during the days immediately after 9/11, many people found comfort in things that reminded them of happy, safe times of the past. Things like old TV shows. *Moonlighting* brought back such great memories for me that I started looking forward to watching it every day and surfing the Internet for the show.

One thing led to another and I became part of the *Moonlighting Reunion Campaign*, which has truly been a labor of love. My role has evolved, first writing some fanfiction to gradually becoming the Senior Editor for the fanzine. It gave me the best of all worlds – using my love of writing and editing, getting "behind the scenes" on a ground breaking show that I loved, and working with a team of terrific people. We did some interviews, and then a few more! So many amazing things started to happen! As people shared their positive memories of the show with us, several of them put us in contact with others! We even saw people from the show who hadn't been in touch for years get re-acquainted. Over time, we became friendly with many *Moonlighting* alumni (I'll call them the *Moonlighting* team) who were instrumental in helping our team. Unbeknownst to the public, we've sent copies of each issue of *Moonlighting Strangers* to them and many have told us how much they enjoy it and look forward to seeing new interviews with old friends.

As with most things in life, our goals changed over time and we met new challenges and opportunities nearly every day. There were incredible "ups" (Will any of us ever forget LA??) and occasional "downs" (Few come to mind anymore) and many, many hours of discussions and planning. Whether it be writing, editing, designing, drawing, or just an encouraging word on a hard day, our team has consisted of friends and fans of the show who have contributed in so many ways. That dedication, along with the support of the *Moonlighting* team who shared so much of their time, memories, photos and advice, was invaluable and brought us rewards we never dreamed possible. I feel incredibly lucky that I was able to follow my passion (while watching David and Maddie's passion!) Thank you to all the *Moonlighting* cast and crew and to all my *Moonlighting Strangers* buddies. As David Addison would say, "We make a terrific team!"

Pam Hardin  
Senior Editor of *Moonlighting Strangers* Fanzine