

AIR CHECK

NEWSLETTER OF THE RADIO ENTHUSIASTS OF PUGET SOUND (REPS)

Fred Allen – His Life

Michael Comstock

In 1954, James Thurber wrote: “You can count on the thumb of one hand the American who is at once a comedian, a humorist, a wit and a satirist, and his name is Fred Allen.” Fifty-one years after his death and 58 years since his last radio program left the air, Fred Allen’s reputation as a respected humorist remains intact.

Fred Allen was born John Florence Sullivan on May 31, 1894 in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He died at the age of 61 on St. Patrick’s Day, March 17, 1956 in

New York City of a heart attack while out taking one of his regular midnight walks.

Allen began working in a library at age 14 and during one of their annual employee shows where he juggled and told a few jokes, was told he should join the theatre.

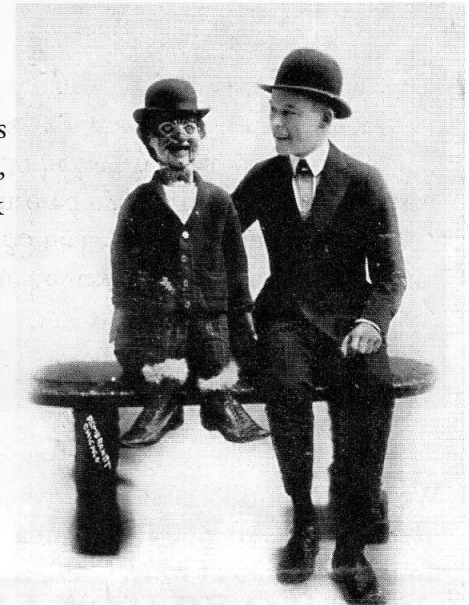
He did, working

vaudeville, where in 1919 he was making \$400 a week and was playing The Palace which led to many Broadway shows, including *The Passing Show* in 1922 where he



met his future wife Portland Hoffa. On Broadway he worked with such comedy stars as Al Jolson, Ed Wynn, George Jessel, and Jack Benny.

He first appeared on radio in the fall of 1929 on WOR where he guest starred for free up to three times per week with such stars as Helen Hayes, George M. Cohan and Leslie Howard. It was to be three years before he felt inclined to venture into radio again.



He began his radio career on *The Limit Bath Club Review* on October 23, 1932 on CBS. The following year it moved to NBC where he stayed for the rest of his radio career. In August of 1933 he began a new program, *The Salad Bowl Review* sponsored by Hellmann’s Mayonnaise. Then on January 3, 1934 he began what was to be a six-year run on Wednesday nights on a show that set the format he was to expand and continue with until he left radio, *The Sal Hepatica Review*, a 30-minute program. The following year the show expanded to a full hour and the sponsor, Bristol Myers brought in another of their products, Ipana Toothpaste to help spread out the cost for the full hour program. Thus began the *Hour of Smiles* with Fred’s *Town Hall Tonight*.

May 5, 2007 Regular Meeting, Norse Home, 2 pm *Radio Readers*. A Sharon Richards, Albert E Clarke Script, *A Matter of Roses*, Dick Beals directing.



In 1940 he had a new sponsor, Texaco, still on Wednesdays until March 1942 when the *Texaco Star Theater* moved to 9:00 P.M. Sundays and stayed there until June 25, 1944 when health issues forced Fred to take a year off.

In October 1945, he was back again with a 30 minute format, still on Sundays with his new sponsor, Tenderleaf Tea. He stayed with them until December 28, 1947. Then on January 4, 1948, still at the same time slot he went on for the Ford Motor Company. That continued until he left radio as a regular performer on June 26, 1949.

Like Jack Benny, Fred had a regular cast. Unlike Jack's, his cast changed more often, all except Portland Hoffa, his wife. The cast, over the years included Kenny Delmar, who was his announcer as well as playing Senator Claghorn. Delmar became a national phenomenon, seen in movies and copied by Warner Brothers in their *Foghorn Leghorn* cartoons. Minerva Pious (Mrs. Nussbaum), the DeMarco Sisters, Allen Reed (Falstaff Openshaw), Charlie Cantor (Socrates Mulligan and Senator Bloat), Peter Donald (Ajax Cassidy) and Parker Fennelly (Titus Moody) were all regulars at one time or another.

Unlike Jack Benny's show, Fred's program was modeled around his wit and story telling ability. Allen's comedy was almost always topical and satirical. Throughout his career he was famed for being as sharp with a quip as any live radio comedian. Highly literate and absurdist even though he never finished high school, Allen's topical humor was thought to be an acquired taste for audiences.

Fred wrote most of his own material, reading up to nine newspapers a day plus magazines to find material to write about. He loved to comment on the daily foibles of the day.

He'd often work seven days a week and it wasn't unusual for him to work all night. This schedule took its toll on his health which by 1949 was once again failing. On doctor's orders he took a year off from his radio, little knowing he'd never return to a program of his own.

During this time he did have writers, most notably, Al Lewis, Nat Hiken and Herman Wouk (*The Caine Mutiny*) all of whom remember him kindly and feel he was the greatest wit of his generation. He often ended up using little of their actual writing, often rewriting much of their material. They universally felt that his changes greatly improved upon their ideas. They, more often than not, served as sounding boards and early consultants more so than writers.

Allen ad-libbed more than any other radio performer and because of this often ate up airtime. It was not unusual for him to sign off with, "We're a little late, so good night, folks." It is believed that he used this more than any other radio performer and he was often at odds with the NBC brass because they would cut off his program before it ended.

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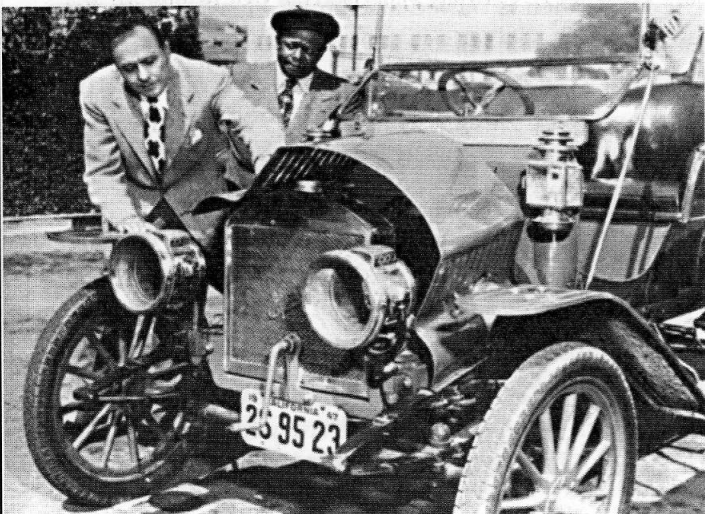


REMEMBERING JACK BENNY

If you were fortunate enough find yourself at the Museum of History and Industry on April 6th, at 2:00 PM at the REPS Monthly Meeting you were able to hear and see a fantastic tribute to Jack Benny.



John Jensen, one of REPS long time members, put on a super presentation with pictures, videos and commentary about the career and life of Jack Benny, one of America's most beloved entertainers. The crowd of close to 100 filled the room with much laughter and applause for the two hours. John was very fortunate to have interviewed Mr. Benny in the 1970's so he had some first hand knowledge that he shared with the audience.



John has done tributes at MOHI in the past for REPS on the lives and careers of Bob Hope and Bing Crosby, and now Jack Benny. All were done skillfully and with attention to great detail. REPS thanks John for the fine job he has done.

Hey John, what's next???

by Paul Secord



WHERE WILL YOU BE ON MAY 5th, 2007 ???

At the REPS Monthly Meeting on May 5th at the Norse Home in Seattle, there will be a performance presented by the REPS Radio Readers of an original script entitled "A Matter of Roses".

It was originally written for *Imagination Theatre* and not used by them, by Albert E. Clarke and edited in part by Sharon Clarke-Richards, his widow.

Dick Beals, our past president, will be catching an Alaska Airlines flight to Seattle to be with us and he will be directing program.

So that is where the entertainment will be for May 5th and you are all invited. The programs starts as usual at 2:00 PM .

Paul Secord

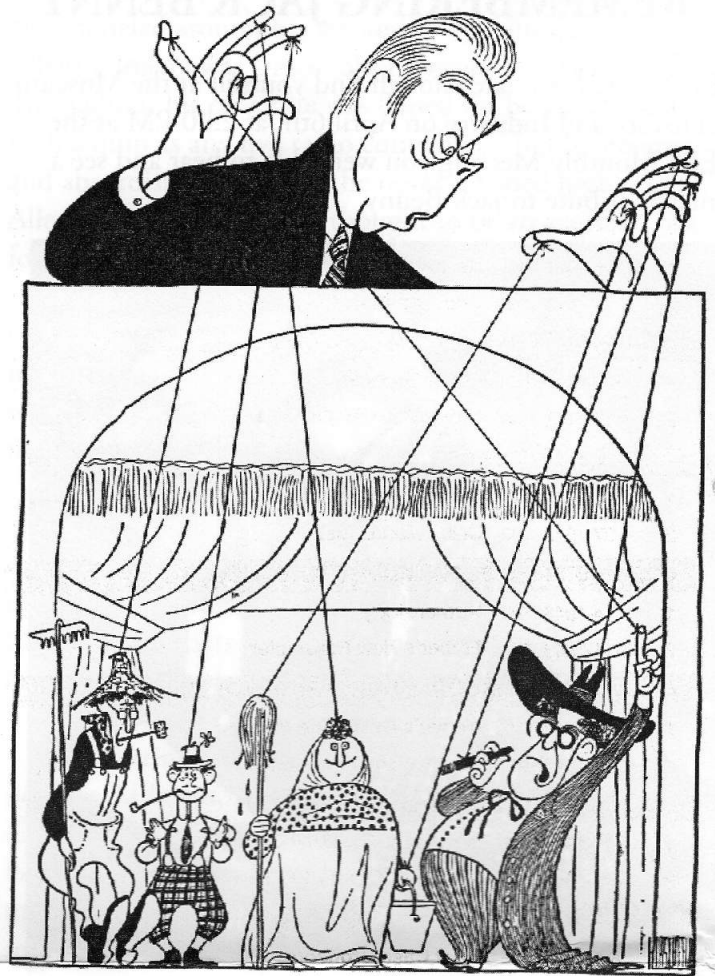


Fred's prime seasons were from 1945 to 1948 and are great satirical radio. The great characters from this period are timeless in their inventiveness and audience appeal. Allen was known for

cracking up his audiences with running comments on the jokes, the show itself, as well as his making fun of the sponsors and the network, which got him into trouble at times.

Fred's radio fortunes changed almost overnight. At the beginning of the 1948-49 season his show was number one, but just after a few months he fell in the ratings to number 38. Such a sudden loss of audience was due to at least two factors. The first was a new ABC radio give-away show called *Name That Tune*, starring Bert Parks. The second was a general decline in radio audience as listeners of radio were rapidly becoming viewers of T.V.

Fred was the first big name radio comedian to leave radio, but Bob Hope, Jack Benny, and George Burns



soon followed. They all went on to star in their own T.V. shows, all except Fred Allen. He made a few attempts, but nothing more. In 1952 he was on the *Colgate Comedy Hour*, in the 1953-54 season, a quiz show called *Judge for Yourself*, a weak copy of Groucho Marx's T.V. quiz show. He was then on a short lived show, *Fred Allen's Sketchbook*, in 1954. He finally became a panelist on *What's My Line* in 1955 until his death.

Fred Allen is buried at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Hawthorne, New York. He also has two stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Portland lived on for another 34 years and died on Christmas Day 1990. She too has a star on the Walk of Fame.

Fred Allen was inducted into the Radio Hall of Fame in 1988.

Perhaps Fred's best-remembered gag may be his long-running mock feud with close friend and fellow comedian Jack Benny, but that's a story for a later edition of *Air Check*. Stay tuned.

CD 1667 FIBBER MCGEE AND MOLLY

- 1 2-2-1943 TUE Cigar Holding Music Box
- 2 2-16-1943 TUE Search For Skilled Workers

CD 1668 FIBBER MCGEE AND MOLLY

- 1 2-23-1943 TUE Committee Meeting At Elks
- 2 3-2-1943 TUE Breakfast In Bed For Molly

CD 1669 FIBBER MCGEE AND MOLLY

- 1 3-16-1943 TUE Horoscope
- 2 3-30-1943 TUE Used Washing Machine

CD 1670 FIBBER MCGEE AND MOLLY

- 1 4-6-1943 TUE Fibber Feels Ill
- 2 4-13-1943 TUE Indian Fighter, Uncle Sycamore On The Radio

CD 1671 FIBBER MCGEE AND MOLLY

- 1 4-20-1943 TUE A Dress For Molly
- 2 4-27-1943 TUE Black Market Meat

CD 1672 FIBBER MCGEE AND MOLLY

- 1 5-4-1943 TUE Numerology
- 2 5-11-1943 TUE Fibber's New Barometer

CD 1673 FIBBER MCGEE AND MOLLY

- 1 9-28-1943 TUE Mcgee's Go To The Movies
- 2 10-5-1943 TUE Renting The Spare Room To A War Worker

CD 1674 FIBBER MCGEE AND MOLLY

- 1 4-17-1945 TUE Balancing The Bank Statement
- 2 4-24-1945 TUE Trying To Get A Ride To The Elk's Club

CD 1675 FIBBER MCGEE AND MOLLY

- 1 5-1-1945 TUE Brief Case Bronson
- 2 5-8-1945 TUE Housing Survey

CD 1676 FIBBER MCGEE AND MOLLY

- 1 5-15-1945 TUE Buys A Trunk At An Auction
- 2 5-22-1945 TUE Eleventh War Bond Drive

CD 1677 FIBBER MCGEE AND MOLLY

- 1 5-29-1945 TUE Carstair's Gas Lawn Mower
- 2 6-5-1945 TUE Cleaning The Hall Closet

CD 1678 FIBBER MCGEE AND MOLLY

- 1 6-12-1945 TUE Magic Act
- 2 6-19-1945 TUE Big Deal With Carstairs

CD 1679 FIBBER MCGEE AND MOLLY

- 1 6-26-1945 TUE Summer On Dugan's Lake
- 2 10-9-1945 TUE Wants To Buy A Used Car

CD 1680 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 6-22-1949 WED First Audition GALE GORDON
- 2 6-23-1949 THU Second Audition GALE GORDON

CD 1681 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 1-6-1950 FRI Dr. Halls Reappointment 1
- 2 1-13-1950 FRI Student Editorial 2

CD 1682 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 1-20-1950 FRI Gangster's Son 3
- 2 1-27-1950 FRI Charter Day Ceremonies 4

CD 1683 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 2-3-1950 FRI Shakespeare Expert 5

- 2 2-10-1950 FRI The Snowman 6

CD 1684 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 2-17-1950 FRI Chinese Student 7
- 2 2-24-1950 FRI Student Thief 8

CD 1685 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 3-3-1950 FRI Merton Savada's Crush 9
- 2 3-10-1950 FRI Victoria's New Review 10

CD 1686 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 3-17-1950 FRI Dirty Politics 11
- 2 3-24-1950 FRI Professor Gerhard's Secret 12

CD 1687 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 3-31-1950 FRI Ivy Chamber Music And Knockwurst Society 13
- 2 4-7-1950 FRI Toddy Plays Hookey 14

CD 1688 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 4-14-1950 FRI Lost Dog 15
- 2 4-21-1950 FRI Traffic And Ccoanuts 16

CD 1689 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 4-28-1950 FRI The Scofield Prize 17
- 2 5-5-1950 FRI Student Actress 18

CD 1690 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 5-10-1950 WED Mrs. Whitney's Statue 19
- 2 5-24-1950 WED Boxer Med Student 21

CD 1691 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 5-31-1950 WED The Sexton Award 22
- 2 6-7-1950 WED D- Day 23

CD 1692 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 6-14-1950 WED Stolen First Edition Book 24
- 2 6-21-1950 WED The Bentheimers And The Census 25

CD 1693 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 6-28-1950 WED Professor Warren Is Going Blind 26
- 2 7-5-1950 WED Poetry Reading 27

CD 1694 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 7-12-1950 WED Education Of Annie Bell 28
- 2 9-27-1950 WED The Leslie Hoff Painting 31

CD 1695 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 10-4-1950 WED New English Teacher 32
- 2 10-11-1950 WED Telephone Problems 33

CD 1696 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 10-18-1950 WED Scandal, Professor Rousseau 34 LESSER QUALITY
- 2 11-22-1950 WED Jack Benny Visits Ivy 39 LESSER QUALITY

CD 1697 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 11-29-1950 WED Honor Student 40 LESSER QUALITY
- 2 1-3-1951 WED Professor Barrett's Play 45

CD 1698 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 1-24-1951 WED Goya Painting Request 48
- 2 1-31-1951 WED Professor Warren's Regiment 49

CD 1699 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 2-28-1951 WED French Scholarship 53 LESSER QUALITY
- 2 3-7-1951 WED Eddie Gray's Wedding 54

CD 1700 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 3-14-1951 WED **His Father's Image** 55 *LESSER QUALITY*
- 2 4-18-1951 WED **Romiette And Julio** 60

CD 1701 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 4-25-1951 WED **Note The Quote** 61 *LESSER QUALITY*
- 2 5-2-1951 WED **Campus Unrest** *REPEAT PROGRAM*

CD 1702 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 5-9-1951 WED **Glory Go Lightly** 62 *LESSER QUALITY*
- 2 5-23-1951 WED **Cook's Night Out** 64

CD 1703 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 5-30-1951 WED **Science Award** 65
- 2 6-13-1951 WED **Finals Season** 67 *LESSER QUALITY*

CD 1704 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 6-20-1951 WED **Pork Barrel Politics** 68
- 2 10-3-1951 WED **Adoption, Mendelian Law** 70

CD 1705 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 10-10-1951 WED **Critical Editorial** 71
- 2 10-17-1951 WED **Student Elections** 72

CD 1706 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 10-24-1951 WED **Grandmother Enrolls In Ivy** 73
- 2 10-31-1951 WED **Football Coach** 74

CD 1707 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 11-7-1951 WED **Halloween Pranks** 75
- 2 11-14-1951 WED **Car Trouble** 76 *LESSER QUALITY*

CD 1708 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 11-21-1951 WED **Minister's Son** 77
- 2 11-28-1951 WED **Professor Warren's Girlfriend** 78

CD 1709 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 12-5-1951 WED **Agricultural Development** 79
- 2 12-12-1951 WED **Professor Royce Returns** 80

CD 1710 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 12-26-1951 WED **Sweet Sorrow** 82
- 2 1-2-1952 WED **Hell Week** 83

CD 1711 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 1-9-1952 WED **Avoiding Professor Hamlin's Class** 84
- 2 1-16-1952 WED **Art Exhibit** 85

CD 1712 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 1-23-1952 WED **Medal Of Honor Winner** 86
- 2 1-30-1952 WED **Track Star** 87

CD 1713 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 2-6-1952 WED **Glee Club Donation** 88
- 2 2-13-1952 WED **Dean Huxley** 89 *LESSER QUALITY*

CD 1714 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 2-20-1952 WED **Voice Of The Ivy Vine** 90
- 2 2-27-1952 WED **Budget Problems** 91

CD 1715 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 3-6-1952 THU **Astromony Exam** 92
- 2 3-12-1952 WED **Lame Girl** 93

CD 1716 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 3-19-1952 WED **Founders' Day Celebration** 94

- 2 3-26-1952 WED **Stolen Money** 95

CD 1717 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 4-2-1952 WED **Professor Grimes Challenged** 96
- 2 4-9-1952 WED **Faculty Marriage** 97

CD 1718 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 4-16-1952 WED **French Exchange Student** 98
- 2 4-23-1952 WED **Professor Walden's Son** 99

CD 1719 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 4-30-1952 WED **Faculty Follies Part One** 100
- 2 5-7-1952 WED **Faculty Follies Part Two** 101

CD 1720 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 5-14-1952 WED **Student Singer Loosing Hearing** 102
- 2 5-21-1952 WED **Psychology Department Opening** 103

CD 1721 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 5-28-1952 WED **Mummy Napper** 104
- 2 6-4-1952 WED **Pregnant Student** 105

CD 1722 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 6-11-1952 WED **Wellman's Come To Dinner** 106
- 2 6-18-1952 WED **Woman Math Teacher** 107

CD 1723 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 6-25-1952 WED **Summer Vacation** 108
- 2 5-17-1950 WED **Sixty Year Old Student** 20

CD 1724 HALLS OF IVY

- 1 5-2-1951 WED **Post Talk Show** *LESSER QUALITY*
- 2 11-15-1951 THU **Don Quinn Interview**

CD 1725 LET GEORGE DO IT

- 1 10-18-1946 FRI **Cousin Jeff From Three Oaks**
- 2 10-25-1946 FRI **Cowboy Afraid Of Horses**

CD 1726 LET GEORGE DO IT

- 1 11-8-1946 FRI **Eccentric Bookseller Dies**
- 2 4-5-1948 MON **Joe Burke, Old War Buddy**

CD 1727 LET GEORGE DO IT

- 1 4-12-1948 MON **Phil Bettner, Missing Brother**
- 2 4-19-1948 MON **Bird Watcher**

CD 1728 LET GEORGE DO IT

- 1 4-26-1948 MON **Eddie And Emily**
- 2 5-3-1948 MON **Tunnel Under The River**

CD 1729 LET GEORGE DO IT

- 1 7-12-1948 MON **Close Call**
- 2 7-26-1948 MON **Seven Murder**

CD 1730 LET GEORGE DO IT

- 1 8-2-1948 MON **Money Makers**
- 2 8-9-1948 MON **Perfect Specimen**

CD 1731 LET GEORGE DO IT

- 1 8-16-1948 MON **Ghost On Bliss Terrace**
- 2 8-23-1948 MON **Corpse That Took A Powder**

CD 1732 LET GEORGE DO IT

- 1 8-30-1948 MON **Minor Case Of Murder**
- 2 7-19-1948 MON **Deadman Who Was Murdered**

CD 1733 LET GEORGE DO IT
 1 1-8-1951 MON Man Behind The Fence
 2 1-15-1951 MON Two On A Triangle

CD 1734 LET GEORGE DO IT
 1 1-22-1951 MON Knock On Wood
 2 1-29-1951 MON Christmas In January

CD 1735 LET GEORGE DO IT
 1 2-19-1951 MON How Guilty Can You Get
 2 2-26-1951 MON Seen Me Once, You've Seen Me Twice

CD 1736 LET GEORGE DO IT
 1 3-12-1951 MON Prarie Dog
 2 3-19-1951 MON Murder For Two

CD 1737 LET GEORGE DO IT
 1 3-26-1951 MON No Escape From The Jungle
 2 4-21-1952 MON War Manuever

CD 1738 LET GEORGE DO IT
 1 4-28-1952 MON Operation Europa
 2 9-22-1952 MON Once A Crook

CD 1739 PHILO VANCE
 1 4-5-1949 TUE Movie Murder Case
 2 4-12-1949 TUE Green Girls Murder Case

CD 1740 PHILO VANCE
 1 4-19-1949 TUE Cardinal Murder Case
 2 4-26-1949 TUE Cypher Murder Case

CD 1741 PHILO VANCE
 1 5-3-1949 TUE Master Murder Case
 2 5-10-1949 TUE Meanest Murder Case

CD 1742 PHILO VANCE
 1 5-17-1949 TUE Butterfly Murder Case
 2 5-24-1949 TUE Hurdy Gurdy Murder Case

CD 1743 YOU BET YOUR LIFE
 1 9-15-1947 MON AUDITION
 2 1-11-1950 WED Milk

CD 1744 YOU BET YOUR LIFE
 1 12-28-1949 WED Name
 2 1-4-1950 WED Tree

CD 1745 YOU BET YOUR LIFE
 1 10-5-1949 WED Chair
 2 10-12-1949 WED Smile

CD 1746 YOU BET YOUR LIFE
 1 10-19-1949 WED Clock
 2 10-26-1949 WED Radio

CD 1747 YOU BET YOUR LIFE
 1 11-2-1949 WED Shoe
 2 11-9-1949 WED Ink

CD 1748 YOU BET YOUR LIFE
 1 11-16-1949 WED Grass
 2 11-23-1949 WED Sky

CD 1749 YOU BET YOUR LIFE
 1 11-30-1949 WED Window

2 12-7-1949 WED Dust

CD 1750 YOU BET YOUR LIFE
 1 12-14-1949 WED Hair
 2 12-21-1949 WED Chair

CD 1751 YOU BET YOUR LIFE
 1 1-18-1950 WED Spoon
 2 1-25-1950 WED Sky

CD 1752 YOU BET YOUR LIFE
 1 2-1-1950 WED Air
 2 2-8-1950 WED Bread

CD 1753 YOU BET YOUR LIFE
 1 2-15-1950 WED Sugar
 2 2-22-1950 WED Table

CD 1754 YOU BET YOUR LIFE
 1 3-1-1950 WED Door
 2 3-8-1950 WED Heart

CD 1755 YOU BET YOUR LIFE
 1 12-6-1950 WED Hair
 2 12-13-1950 WED Room

CD 1756 YOU BET YOUR LIFE
 1 3-21-1951 WED Coat
 2 3-28-1951 WED Street

CD 1757 YOU BET YOUR LIFE
 1 4-4-1951 WED Hand
 2 4-11-1951 WED Room

CD 1758 YOU BET YOUR LIFE
 1 4-18-1951 WED Light
 2 4-25-1951 WED Wall

CD 1759 YOU BET YOUR LIFE
 1 5-2-1951 WED Foot
 2 5-9-1951 WED Paper

CD 1760 YOU BET YOUR LIFE
 1 5-16-1951 WED Sky
 2 5-23-1951 WED Smile

CD 1761 YOU BET YOUR LIFE
 1 5-30-1951 WED People
 2 6-6-1951 WED Heart

CD 1762 YOU BET YOUR LIFE
 1 6-13-1951 WED Floor
 2 6-20-1951 WED Door

CD 1763 YOU BET YOUR LIFE
 1 6-27-1951 WED Table
 2 10-3-1951 WED Table

CD 1764 YOU BET YOUR LIFE
 1 10-10-1951 WED Street
 2 10-17-1951 WED Arm

CD 1765 YOU BET YOUR LIFE
 1 10-24-1951 WED Floor
 2 10-31-1951 WED Sky

CD 1766 YOU BET YOUR LIFE

- 1 11-7-1951 WED **Head**
- 2 11-14-1951 WED **Roof**

CD 1767 YOU BET YOUR LIFE

- 1 11-21-1951 WED **Door**
- 2 11-28-1951 WED **People**

CD 1768 YOU BET YOUR LIFE

- 1 11-29-1950 WED **Book**
- 2 12-19-1951 WED **Floor**

CD 1769 YOU BET YOUR LIFE

- 1 12-5-1951 WED **Tree**
- 2 12-12-1951 WED **Name**

CD 1770 ONE NIGHT STAND

- 1 **Bobby Sherwood**
- 2 **Henry Bossa**

CD 1771 ONE NIGHT STAND

- 1 5-4-1949 WED **Lenny Herman** *HOTEL ROOSEVELT NYC*
- 2 6-6-1949 MON **Charlie Barret** *HOLLYWOOD PALLADIUM*

CD 1772 BOX THIRTEEN

- 1 6-21-1948 MON **Double Right Cross**
- 2 6-28-1948 MON **Look Pleasant Please**

CD 1773 BOX THIRTEEN

- 1 7-5-1948 MON **The Haunted Artist**
- 2 7-12-1948 MON **The Sad Night**

CD 1774 BOX THIRTEEN

- 1 7-19-1948 MON **Hot Box**
- 2 7-26-1948 MON **The Better Man**

CD 1775 BOX THIRTEEN

- 1 6-7-1948 MON **Damsel In Distress**
- 2 6-14-1948 MON **Diamond In The Sky**

CD 1776 SLEEP NO MORE

- 1 12-5-1956 WED **Over The Hill**
- 2 12-5-1956 WED **Man In The Black Hat**
- 3 12-12-1956 WED **Three O' Clock**

CD 1777 SLEEP NO MORE

- 1 12-19-1956 WED **The Storm**
- 2 12-19-1956 WED **Anna Belle Lee**
- 3 12-26-1956 WED **Fish Head**
- 4 12-26-1956 WED **Death Of Olivia Becky**

CD 1778 SLEEP NO MORE

- 1 3-20-1957 WED **Woman In Grey**
- 2 3-20-1957 WED **A Suspicious Gift**
- 3 4-10-1957 WED **A Passenger To Bali**

CD 1779 MR KEENE TRACER OF LOST PERSONS

- 1 2-17-1944 THU **Mr Trevor's Secret**
- 2 2-24-1944 THU **Murder In The Air**

CD 1780 MR KEENE TRACER OF LOST PERSONS

- 1 4-13-1944 THU **Leaping Dog**
- 2 12-14-1944 THU **The Nightmare Murder Case**

CD 1781 MR KEENE TRACER OF LOST PERSONS

- 1 4-6-1950 THU **Murdered Detective**
- 2 4-20-1950 THU **Country Club Murder Case**

CD 1782 MR KEENE TRACER OF LOST PERSONS

- 1 5-11-1950 THU **Murder And The Missing Car**
- 2 5-18-1950 THU **Skull And Crossbones Murder Case**

CD 1783 TRUE DETECTIVE MYSTERIES

- 1 3-18-1937 THU **Rattlesnake And The Barefoot Bride**
- 2 3-25-1937 THU **Horror In A Hospital**

CD 1784 TRUE DETECTIVE MYSTERIES

- 1 4-8-1937 THU **Buddha Man Mystery**
- 2 4-15-1937 THU **Girl In The Iron Mask**

CD 1785 TRUE DETECTIVE MYSTERIES

- 1 4-22-1937 THU **Helen Clevergaik Case**
- 2 4-29-1937 THU **Trailing Red Lyon**

CD 1786 CHRISTOPHER LONDON

- 1 **Girl With The Lavender Eyes**
- 2 **Missing Heiress**

CD 1787 JEFF REGAN

- 1 7-17-1948 SAT **Prodigal Daughter**
- 2 7-24-1948 SAT **Lonesome Lady**

CD 1788 JEFF REGAN

- 1 7-31-1948 SAT **Lady With The Golden Hair**
- 2 8-7-1948 SAT **Man Who Liked The Mountains**

CD 1789 JEFF REGAN

- 1 8-14-1948 SAT **Diamond Quartet**
- 2 8-21-1948 SAT **The Man Who Came Back**

CD 1790 JEFF REGAN

- 1 8-28-1948 SAT **Man In The Door**
- 2 9-4-1948 SAT **House By The Sea**

CD 1791 JEFF REGAN

- 1 9-11-1948 SAT **Cain, Abel And The Santa Maria**
- 2 9-25-1948 SAT **Lady With No Name**

CD 1792 JEFF REGAN

- 1 10-2-1948 SAT **Man With The Key**
- 2 10-9-1948 SAT **Too Many Mrs Lodges**

CD 1793 JEFF REGAN

- 1 10-16-1948 SAT
- 2 11-6-1948 SAT **Lady With Too Much Hair**

CD 1794 JEFF REGAN

- 1 11-13-1948 SAT **Guy From Gower Gulch**
- 2 11-20-1948 SAT **Pilgrims Progress**

CD 1795 CLYDE BEATY

- 1 **Beauty And The Beast** 9
- 2 **Leopard On The Loose** 10

CD 1796 CLYDE BEATY

- 1 **Dangerous Ambition** 11
- 2 **Contest In Danger** 12

CD 1797 CLYDE BEATY

- 1 **Never Trust A Gilly** 17

Doing a little spring cleaning?

Terry Campbell

REPS would be glad to recycle your clutter into cash to benefit Showcase.

We're seeking donations of radio-related items for the Silent Auction and Drawing at "REPS Salute to the Golden Days of Radio" on June 22 and 23 at the Bellevue Coast Hotel. And, we'd be glad to have any radio CDs, tapes, books, etc. to sell at the "REPS Outlet Store" at the event. As the sole fundraising efforts at Showcase, all proceeds go to help defray costs of staging it.



12 year-old Tommy Cook (in front) introduces the top stars in Hollywood for a radio tribute to President Roosevelt on his 60th birthday- 1942

Maybe you'd like to become a vendor and sell your own items. Tables are available at \$25 each.

If you have material to donate, please bring it to a REPS meeting or contact Terry Campbell by mail at 710 S. Fifth Ave., Yakima, WA 98902, by e-mail at tcampbell@yakimaherald.com or by phone at (509) 457-5351. She is also the contact person for vendors. Leading the array of items for the drawing is an Etcht-Kraft woodcut depiction of Amos 'n Andy. Also in the raffle, in keeping with the Jack Benny focus of this year's Showcase, is a framed transcription disc of half a Benny broadcast from April 28, 1946. The other disc will be in the Silent Auction.

Other items in hand for the Silent Auction include the following:

- Actor Tommy Cook has donated and signed a number of photos of himself, with co-stars and other principals in old-time radio.

- Radio Spirits, a vendor this year, is donating three items: a 10-CD, 10-hour collection, "Superman: Last Son of Krypon"; the three-CD, four-hour "Spies & Agents"; and a rare, discontinued 20-cassette, 30-hour collection, "Frank Sinatra and Friends."

- Books, books, books. We have books, including the autobiographies of Meredith Willson and Eddie Cantor; the volume, "Joyce of the Secret Squadron," based on the "Captain Midnight" radio series; and the multi-volume "Scribner Radio Music Library," containing piano sheet music for all styles of selections played on the radio. Plus, Millie Morse has donated two books signed by her late husband, Carlton E. Morse, creator of "I Love a Mystery" and "One Man's Family": "The One Man's Family Album" and his "Killer at the Wheel."

- Also to go to the highest bidder are two cast-signed scripts from last November's REPS event in Renton: the "Ethel & Albert" episode, "Business Trip to New Orleans," starring Rosemary Rice and Dick Van Patten; and "Suspense's" ultimate chiller, "The House in Cypress Canyon."

Many thanks to the people who donated items for Showcase 2006's Silent Auction and/or the REPS Outlet Store. They included Dick Beals, Tom Brandt, Frank Bresee, Donald Buka, Terry Campbell, Michael Comstock, Ray and Meridy Erlenborn, Ralph Estep, Mary Payne, Walden Hughes, John Jensen, Joanne Kennedy, Keith Leopard, Leonard Maltin, Terry Mahoney, Anne Whitfield Phillips, Barbara Schwarz, REPS, Rosemary Rice, Sharon Richards, Frank Rosin, Sam Simone, Duane White, Stewart Wright and Harlan Zinck.

Successful Silent Auction bidders last year included M. Andrijic, Ken Bertrand, Kim Bragg, Frank Bresee, Bill Brooks, Bill Buckley, Frank Buxton, Ron Carlson, Jeff Chriest, Terrance Chriest, Vic Chriest, Shaun Clancy, Michael Comstock, Anita Davies, Bill Davies, Sean Doughty, Derek Fetters, Bruce Forsberg, Al Gil, Joy Jackson, Don Lacky, Terry Mahoney, Brent Martin, Dave Palmer, Bill Parker, Sharon Richards, Jay Scott, Jay Secord, Paul Secord, Mark Skullerud, Byron Warmington, John Warmington, John Watkins, Duane White, Jerry Williams and Terry Wilson.

REPS Showcase XV June 22-23 2007



Coast Bellevue Hotel, 625 116th Avenue NE, Bellevue WA 98004
425-455-9444 or 800-663-1144 www.coasthotels.com

Room rates are \$109 before taxes for the REPS Showcase, convention rate, single or double. Reservations *must be made* 10 days prior to June 22, 2007 for this rate. Two level suites are available at a different rate.

There is a convention discount for flying to Seattle on Alaska Airlines. Check inquire at repsclub@aol.com or call 206-542-6231 for details.

There is ample free parking at the hotel for all those attending the Showcase.

Our honored guests that have committed at this point for Showcase are:

1. Eddie Carroll
2. Shirley Mitchel
3. Dick Van Patten
4. Dick Beals
5. Gil Stratton Jr.
6. Donald Buka
7. Frank Bresee
8. Rosemary Rice
9. Gloria McMillan
10. Kathryn Crosby
11. Esther McVey
12. Tommy Cook
13. Bob Hastings, along with our local personalities.

Name (s) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Checks Payable to REPS Credit card type _____ Number _____ Exp Date _____

Friday and Saturday (Before May 15) \$110 per person Number of people _____ Total _____

Friday and Saturday (After May 15) \$118 per person Number of people _____ Total _____

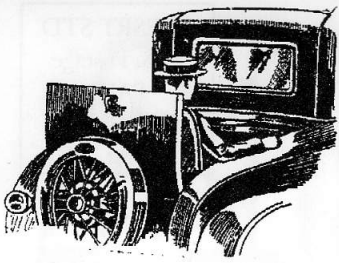
Friday Only (Before or after May 15) \$49 per person Number of people _____ Total _____

Saturday Only (Before or after May 15) \$69 per person Number of people _____ Total _____

Saturday includes a banquet dinner. Please indicate the number of people for the various choices.

Prime Rib _____ Salmon Grilled _____ Stuffed Boneless Chicken _____ Vegetarian Lasagna _____

Mail to: REPS % Bryan Haigood, 17334 Densmore Ave N, Shoreline WA 98133, 206-542-6231 bryanH362@aol.com
(Registration can also be made via internet with paypal, go to the www.repsonline.org for instructions.)



Rumble Seat

Franz

The June 22, 23, 2007 Showcase is fast approaching. We have asked Shirley Mitchell and Bob Hastings to fill out our cast of out of town honorary guests. The other honorary guests coming are listed on the facing page to the left. The fine tuning of the casting of all the recreations and the timing of the rehearsals and the performances is still being worked on. Tentative schedules are posted on the web site, www.repsonline.org.

You may register for Showcase by credit card. Check with Bryan Haigood, who is doing the registration. Some credit cards have frequent flyer miles as a bonus, might as well take advantage of them. Bryan Haigood, 17334 Densmore Ave N, Shoreline WA 98133, 206-542-6231

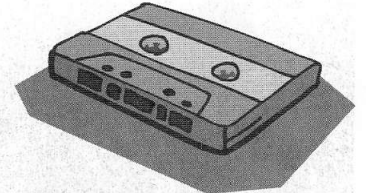
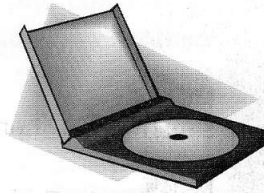
Purchases from the REPS stores, silent auction, and consignment items may also be made with a credit card at the Showcase. You will need to check with the various individual vendors that will be at Showcase on their accepted methods of payment.

Our CD library now has 1870 CDs available for checkout and growing in number every week, so much the Anderson's have run out of space for the additions. We are converting some unused Cassette space to house CDs. Since we cannot keep up with the additions here in the *Air Check* either, you can look on the web site for the CD catalog items that have not been printed.

Michael Comstock is still adding to the Cassette Library. We are in need of someone to inventory the Cassette Library and make a list of the additions so they may be published on the web site and here in the *Air Check*. REPS is still able to purchase blank cassettes in bulk but we don't know how much longer that will be the case. All the domestic manufactures of cassettes have gone out of production and only remaining stock is available. A few places overseas are still manufacturing cassettes and those may or may not be of acceptable quality. We will not know until we try them. We will not abandon the Cassette Library but large additions will probably not happen.

Your editor does not have a Cosco card so we don't know if blank cassettes are available from them. You would need to check them out. A look at the local Rite Aid store had some 90 minute blank cassettes on the shelves. They were a bit difficult to spot amongst all the digital items.

Postage is going up from 39¢ to 41¢ on May 15, 2007 for one ounce of first class mail. This will not cause a change in the library rental fees. At least not this year. Often the library rate and the *Air Check* mailing rate lag behind the first class rates by several months.



How to use the Cassette, CD, DVD Libraries.

First of all each library is distinct. Catalog numbers in one library will have a completely different content than another. It is necessary to identify CD, Cassette, or DVD along with the catalog number. At the present time there are no MP3's in the library.

REPS Members may check out 10 CDs or 10 Cassettes or 10 DVDs for \$6.00. It is also possible to check out a double order 20 CDs or 20 Cassettes for \$12.00. This covers the cost of mailing and maintaining the library. You may mix Cassettes, CDs, and DVDs in the order.

At most of the meetings a few *grab bags* of 10 Cassettes or CDs are available for checkout from the library.

Checkout forms are available at the meetings, by request in the mail, on the web site, and a new form included with each library checkout. The library may also be used with the internet using PayPal. Instructions for that use are on the web site.

Contact:

Darrell Anderson, REPS Librarian, 17232 174th SE,
Renton WA 98058.
425-226-7005, woods_inn@aol.com

Aircheck is created on a Mac G4 computer with *Adobe Indesign CS* and *Adobe Photoshop CS*. Most of the text is *Adobe Garamond Pro* at 12 points with the headlines at 12, 14 and 18 points bold. If you would like a copy on a CD, write to Frank Rosin, 9811 NE 139th St, Kirkland WA 98034.

AIR CHECK

NEWSLETTER OF THE RADIO ENTHUSIASTS OF PUGET SOUND (REPS)

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425-823-2547 pauks@earthlink.net

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At Large 2007, Membership

Bryan Haigood
17334 Densmore Ave N
Shoreline WA 98133
206-542-6231 bryanH362@aol.com

- May 4, 2007 Board Meeting, Comfort Suites, 6:30 pm
(note this is a place and schedule change)
- May 5, 2007 Regular Meeting, Norse Home, 2 pm
Radio Readers, *A Matter of Roses*
- June 2, 2007 Board Meeting, Norse Home, 11 am
- June 2, 2007 Regular Meeting, Norse Home, 2 pm
- June 22, 23, 2007 Showcase XV, Coast Hotel Bellevue
- July 7, 2007 No Meeting
- August 4, 2007 REPS Picnic at Anderson's in lieu of Meeting at
Norse Home (map in July Air Check)

Unless specified otherwise, Board Meetings are held in the Norse Home Board Room, Seattle, and start at 11:00 am. Regular Membership Meetings are held at the Norse Home, Seattle, and start at 2:00 pm. They are both on the first Saturday of each Month.

Darrell Anderson, Librarian

17232 174th SE
Renton WA 98058
425-226-7005 woods_inn@msn.com