

# AIR CHECK

NEWSLETTER OF THE RADIO ENTHUSIASTS OF PUGET SOUND (REPS)

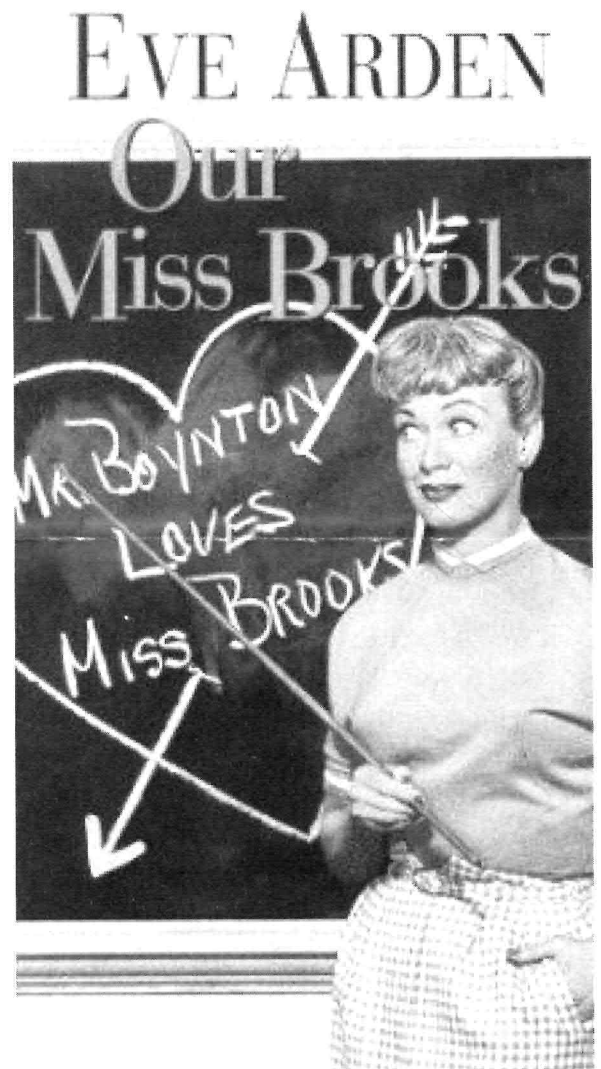
www.repsonline.org

## Our Miss Brooks

At first if one were to see the names Eunice Quidens, Charles Aldrich Jr., and Ira Grossel associated with a radio program there might be a puzzlement as to what radio program it is. Well, these are the names of Eve Arden, Gale Gordon, and Jeff Chandler; Constance (Connie) Brooks, Osgood (Marble Head) Conklin, and Philip (Frog man) Boynton, and of course the program is *Our Miss Brooks*. Robert Rockwell replaced Jeff Chandler as Philip Boynton in 1951. Others in the cast are Richard (Walter Denton) Crenna, Jane (Mrs. Davis) Morgan, Gloria (Harriet Conklin) McMillan, Leonard (Stretch Snodgrass) Smith, Mary Jane (Miss Enright) Croft, and Joe (Mr. Stone) Kearns. The part of Mr. Stone is played by others from time to time and appearing once in a while are Parley Baer, Gil Stratton Jr., and Verna Felton. As the French Teachers, Gerald Mohr is Jacque Monet, and Maurice Marsac is Mr. LeBlanc.. The part of Mrs. Conklin, the principal's wife, is played later in the series by Virginia Gordon, Gale Gordon's real life spouse.

The head writer is Al Lewis. Al Lewis also directs. Vern Smith does commercials for Colgate Palmolive Peet and Bob Lemond is the announcer. Wilbur Hatch does the music.

The program is on the air from July 19, 1948 to July 17, 1956 with 346 live episodes of which 194 are known to exist. From October 7, 1956 to July 7, 1957, CBS ran transcriptions of earlier episodes and 2 examples of these transcriptions exist. (All these existing episodes are in the REPS CD Library.) About 2/3 of the existing episodes are from network broadcasts. The other 1/3 are from AFRS recordings that were found in Frankfort, Germany.



## MAY MEETING DATE CHANGED ONE WEEK LATER TO MAY 9, 2009

Because of a conflict at the Norse Home, the May Meeting will be one week later on May 9, 2009.

The Radio Readers will present, *Evening Primrose* from *Escape*.

There is no meeting on May 2, 2009, it will be on May 9, 2009.

Sixteen inch Electrical Transcription disks have a little better fidelity on the outer part of the groove but most most programs have the first half recorded on one disk and the other half recorded on a second disk. No so *Our Miss Brooks*. The first 10 minutes was recorded on disk one. The second ten minutes on disk two. During the recording of disk two, disk one was turned over and the third 10 minutes recorded on that second side of disk one. You will find the CBS Network existing episodes to be of excellent sound quality because of this attention to sound engineering by using only the outer part of the groove.



Jane Morgan - Jeff Chandler - Eve Arden - Richard Crenna

Early in 1948 a young staff writer at CBS came up with the idea for *Our Miss Brooks* and submitted a script. The powers that be liked the script idea but did not think the young writer was up to the task of doing a series. He was paid for his idea and sent on his way to anonymity.

*Our Miss Brooks*, *Life with Luigi*, and *My Friend Irma* were the first series to be produced by the CBS Network itself rather than by the Advertising Agencies. These three series are somewhat intertwined. There is also a tie in with the *Lux Radio Theatre*, *My Favorite Husband*, and *The Amazing Mr. Tutt*.

It seems that in the spring of 1948, in Chicago, Eve Arden had a chance meeting with William S. Paley, the founder and chairman of CBS at a party. Arden had an established career in film and stage work and was in a variety show, *The Village Store* on radio that also had Jane Morgan and Richard Crenna.

After the meeting with Paley, Arden was offered the *Our Miss Brooks* script. This script had been auditioned twice already, once by Shirley Booth, and one other actress we are

uncertain of. A recording of the Shirley Booth audition exists; the script and acting is dreadful.

This was problem number one. Eve Arden disliked the script so Al Lewis was assigned to it, worked and had a revision ready in about a week. This one Eve Arden liked. An audition was made, which still exists, on June 23, 1948. With minor revisions this script was used for the first broadcast on July 19, 1948, which also still exists.

Problem number two was a little harder to overcome. Eve Arden had a planned vacation in the East with her children and was unwilling to do live broadcasts in Los Angeles for 8 weeks. The policy was no recorded broadcasts. But since Bing Crosby had already been doing recordings and since this was a summer replacement program some episodes were recorded and everyone had their summer vacation.

The *Lux Radio Theatre* had taken a summer vacation in 1948. The last *Lux* was June 28 and it was scheduled to be back on August 30. The first half hour replacement for the hour *Lux* show was *The Amazing Mr. Tutt*. The second half hour replacement was *My Favorite Husband*.

We don't really know what the CBS Brass was thinking in 1948 but it is likely they thought they had a couple of potential good programs with *My Favorite Husband* and *Our Miss Brooks*. And there were other things brewing at CBS at the same time.

After two broadcasts *My Favorite Husband* was moved to its own time slot on Friday evenings and was replaced by *Our Miss Brooks*. After the six week summer run was over, *Our Miss Brooks* was rated as the number one show on radio.



Gloria McMillan Gale Gordon

continued on page 4

## LARRY AT HIS BEST...

At the REPS general membership meeting on March 7th at the Norse Home in Seattle we were treated to a trivia quiz show led by our own Larry Albert. The quiz show has become an annual event and is much anticipated by all the members. The challenge and answers to the questions are mostly secondary to the delivery and adlibs from Larry. Two panels are selected by Larry and they try to provide answers to the questions. If they cannot answer the question, which is usually the case, it is thrown open to the other members in the audience. At the end of the day there are no winners except all of us in attendance. It is always a rousing laughter filled event and we all seem to learn a bit of trivia we didn't know. The quiz is one meeting you don't want to miss. It's Larry at his best!!!

## NEW HONORARY MEMBER...

At the March meeting Bob Hudson was presented with an honorary membership award to REPS. We honor him because of the many, many years that he has given the broadcast industry. And, as he discovered REPS we then discovered him. In his short time with REPS he has provided us with his acting abilities and his keen sense of humor, too. To complete the day, a cake was presented to Bob at the intermission and we all shared it with him. We certainly were not going to let him have all that cake.

## AN EVENING WITH GROUCHO ...

We caught the show starring Frank Ferrante at the Northshore Performing Arts Center in Bothell on March 21, titled "An Evening with Groucho". And that's what it was. Mr. Ferrante gave the audience a glimpse of Groucho's life as he and his brothers got their start in show business and how their careers developed. In just the two hours of his performance he did masterful job of impersonating Groucho with his antics, storytelling and singing. We are going to have a segment with Frank and Eddie Carroll at Showcase this year. Another great event and reason to attend Showcase this year.

Paul  
Secord  
President



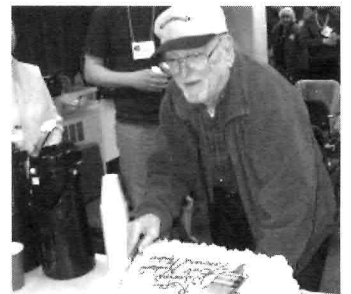
## A REMINDER TOO ...

Showcase XVII, 2009 is fast approaching. It's time to send in those reservations. It's going to be another great two days and you don't want to miss any of it.

## THAT'S ALL FOLKS, FOR NOW ...



Check out [www.repsonline.org](http://www.repsonline.org) for latest information on Showcase, Meetings, and Library. You can download an audio recording of the last meeting by Ken Bertrand on Abraham Lincoln.



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*Mr. Tutt*, the friendly lawyer finished the summer run and disappeared into the ether. Your author has about 60,000 programs in his collection and although they may exist somewhere nary a one of the 60,000 is a *Mr. Tutt*.

The Sunday evening Fall 1948 lineup was a solid block for NBC. They were *Jack Benny* at 7:00 est followed by *Phil Harris and Alice Faye* at 7:30, *Fred Allen* at 8:00, and *Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy* at 9:00. When *Lux* came back, CBS placed *My Favorite Husband* opposite *Phil Harris and Alice Faye* at 7:30 and *Our Miss Brooks* at 9:30 a time usually filled at NBC and CBS by musical shows.

Surely the next thing had already been in motion at CBS. Paley and CBS did a big time raid on the talent at NBC. Jack Benny moved his show to CBS on January 2, 1949 without changing time slots or missing a broadcast. That is an interesting story in itself. CBS offered some tax structure that was favorable to Benny. NBC very unwisely hired an attorney to negotiate that had been the Federal Prosecutor against Benny when he had some trouble bringing a diamond necklace into the country back in 1939 bypassing customs. Freeman and Gosden moved to CBS with their *Amos 'n' Andy* shortly before

Benny. Fred Allen was off the air. Red Skelton and Edgar Bergen moved about the same time too. That left only the *Phil Harris and Alice Faye Show* on NBC. NBC never recovered its lead in the radio industry.

What were some of the relationships among the shows at CBS? Gale Gordon was not able to do the role of Osgood Conklin on *Our Miss Brooks* for the first three broadcasts because he was working on *My Favorite Husband* and the time was a conflict. Joe Forte did Osgood Conklin for the first three shows. *Our Miss Brooks* replaced *My Favorite Husband* after the first two shows. Joe Forte had a role on *Life with Luigi* as one of the other students in the English Lesson Class segment of the program, another show produced by CBS. Gloria Gordon, Gale Gordon's mother was the Irish housekeeper/landlord on *My Friend Irma* produced by CBS at the same time.

The *Our Miss Brooks* broadcasts, except for the final half season were never transcriptions. In the regular run of the series most scripts were new. Scripts in a few cases were reused, sometimes with major changes, sometimes minor changes or sometimes not changed at all. The key word would be all new broadcasts. Some of the only existing recordings of a few episodes are from AFRS disks that are heavily edited of commercials. The program content is intact in those however.



Gale and Virginia Gordon

**WWW.RADIOENT.COM**  
YOUR HOME FOR CLASSIC  
AUDIO DRAMA

**Yesterday USA**  
SUPERSTATION  
Online

www.repsonline.org

**SECOND PRINTING**  
INCORPORATED  
425-883-2182 Kirkland



Jane Morgan

All of the episodes are rather similar.

The announcer begins a paragraph which Brooks finishes having to do with the plot. The situation of the day is then usually set in the kitchen of Margaret Davis. This the home where Connie Brooks rents a room. Mrs. Davis will have cooked a breakfast of waffles topped with raw rhubarb and canned sardines. Mrs. Davis will complain how her sister is so absent minded she cannot finish a sentence. Then Mrs. Davis starts to explain something and changes the subject mid sentence herself.

Walter Denton will come in to drive Miss Brooks to school and gobble up any breakfast that remains. But first he explains what he is going to do for the day. In one of my favorite episodes he is asking for help to take a deceased mouse, Millie, out to the back edge of the athletic field. That is where Brooks, Walter, and Philip Boynton will bury the mouse.



Gloria McMillan Richard Crenna

Harriet lets it slip to her father there will be a burial that evening but further there have been many more burials, Martha, Roberta, Bernice, Katherine, Henrietta, Wallace, Eugene, Ted, Bill, Charlie, and more. Conklin thinks Boynton and Brooks are a serial killer team with Walter as their apprentice.

Continuing to think the worst, Conklin apprehends them that evening with their shovels in hand. They confess to all the burials and many more for the past several years.

It is only at the end that Conklin finds out they are burying deceased mice and frogs, not people in the athletic field.



Robert Rockwell Eve Arden

This episode is on CD 539 from May 6, 1956 near the end of the series but one of the most laugh filled episodes of all. *Our Miss Brooks* was several notches above most radio comedies of that period, due in part to the talents of director/writer, Al Lewis, but what really made it stand out from the usual sitcom fare was its first-rate cast.

Gale Gordon, whose portrayal of the seething, blustering principal Mr. Conlin, was perhaps his greatest radio role. Gordon didn't really want the role, so his wife, Virginia, suggest that he ask for an outrageous salary, \$150.00 a week, in the hopes they would leave him alone. To Gordon's chagrin they took him up on the offer. He didn't know at the time he could have asked for more. It was this role on *Our Miss Brooks* that kept him from accepting the part of Fred Mertz when *I Love Lucy* was launched on CBS Television in the Fall of 1951.

In this more jaded era, it's difficult to discern how much *Our Miss Brooks* was, in many ways, a sitcom ahead of its time. Arden's Connie Brooks was the first bright,



Leonard Smith

independent, unmarried, working woman comic character to appear on the airwaves. Quick, outspoken, and funny, even sophisticated, Brooks possessed one of the fastest tongues of either gender, regularly cutting everyone down to size with a withering wisecrack or flipant aside. Eve Arden also demonstrated there was a different side to teachers than had been previously portraided; most of the time, they had been sterrotyped as asexual schoolmarms.

The undefined relationship between Miss Brooks and Mr. Boynton was played mostly for comedic effect; often the two of them would address each other as *Miss Brooks* and *Mr. Boynton*, straight out of a *Mr. Keen* script. He was a decent sort, but it always seemed that he was too thick for an educator and she was a little too patient in putting up with him to exhibit any real interest.

The program had good ratings on radio and only enlarged its audience when it moved to TV with the entire cast intact. The exception, Rockwell replaced Chandler on both radio and TV when Chandler's movie career took off to the big time. Eve Arden recieved an Emmy for her work on the TV series.

There were 154 episodes made for TV with about 80 of them available on DVDs, unfortunately not in very good quality. (Lots of snow and no original commercials.) A few of the radio scripts were adapted for TV such as the one titled *Walter's Radio* or *Tether your Elephants* and retains all the charm of radio. A big storm is coming according to Walter's home made radio that is picking up a station in India. Conklin's newly purchased bamboo furniture is chopped up and nailed to the windows before they find out it is not a local broadcast.

A movie, *Our Miss Brooks*, was made in 1956 with the television cast. Richard Crenna and Gloria McMillan appear in the movie but in not much more than cameo roles. By then they were too old to portrail high school teen agers. Many of the photos in this article are stills from the movie.

Most of the radio scripts for *Our Miss Brooks* are in the KNX Collection at the Thousand Oaks Library in California. Eve Arden wrote an autobiography, *The Three Phases of Eve*, St. Martin's Press, 1985. All 196 of the known existing recordings of *Our Miss Brooks* are in the REPS CD Library. Eighty One video episodes are available from REPS on a made to order basis as is the 1956 movie on DVDs.

Gloria McMillan and husband, Ron Cocking, plan to be at Showcase this June. Check out the dealer room at Showcase for a few scripts and audio and video recordings.

Franz



Robert Rockwell Eve Arden

## GOING TO WORK

Dick Beals

In a previous issue we discussed what it was like to walk into a studio, pick up the script with your name on it, mark the lines, read it, and wait for the director to walk in. This show was a Suspense, entitled.....

“Return to Dust” !!! And I had the strangest part I’d ever had.

Other than me there were only two in the cast, a woman and an announcer. We worked this show in CBS’s largest studio, with theater type seating. But no one was in the studio except us.



My part was a big guy, 6’4”. By mistake he took the wrong medicine, and as the scene opens, I am now only 3 feet tall, trying to reach my doctor on the phone and pleading for help. We read the script seated at a large table. However the director and the engineer were

With no rehearsal on mike, the director just said...”Ok, team, let’s get at it”. He walked into the director’s booth, got all set, then quued the announcer, the music, then me, screaming and screaming as my voice was getting smaller and smaller and squeakier, desperately trying to get my doctor to answer his phone. It was just plain scary.

Crying for help I was suddenly 3’ tall, then 2’ tall, then but 1’ tall....then a commercial break.

30 seconds later, the director quued the music, the announcer, and then little ol’ me, in that tiny, stuffy box, and still no answer on the doctor’s phone.

My voice was now down to someone only 10” and then 6”. Suddenly a hungry bird squawks, (me), picks me up and hauls me off to his cage. Now I had to “talk” like an angry bird, plus me, now only 1/2”, still trying to scream and plead for the doctor to come and help me.

I made all the hungry bird noises I could, then in a tiny, cry for help....the bird grabs the 1/2” me and eats me.

End of show.

I just stood there, in that tiny, stuffy shell, expecting the director to pick up some re-takes, i.e, more this, less this, etc.....but, alas, all he said was....”OK team, thank you.”

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### PONTIAC BAY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PRESENTS

#### *ALIENS, CREATURES, AND MONSTERS*

With Guest Conductor, Hummie Mann, Hollywood Film and TV Composer.

Come join Pontiac Bay Symphony Orchestra at the Museum of History and Industry on Sunday, June 7, 2009, 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM for an evening of spine-tingling and thrilling music from Sci-Fi and Horror films.

The concert will feature music from some classic and contemporary Sci-Fi and Horror films, including *PSYCHO*, *JAWS*, *PHANTOM OF THE OPERA*, *SPIDER-MAN*, *THE ABYSS*, *ALIENS*, *X-MEN*, AND *SIGNS*.

Sunday, June 7, 2009, 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

## IT'S SHOWCASE TIME !

As you are well aware June is fast approaching. Well, for those of us here in Seattle, where February cold seems so far removed from the summer sun, June seems so far off into the future. But not so! The SHOWCASE is roughly only 4 months from now. That still gives those of you, from out of town, a chance to plan a trip to Seattle for all the fun and merriment. Will REPS have a SHOWCASE that will be worth making the trip to Seattle? We sure hope so! At this very moment we are working to create fun recreations and sketches that are sure to entertain. Comedy, Drama , Music , Laughs and Thrills!

We turn the Bellevue Coast Hotel into one grand stage presenting shows starring many of your favorite golden age of radio personalities supported by talented singers, performers musicians and sound effects artists. Scheduled to appear are Eddie Carroll, famous for his mesmerizing portrayal of Jack Benny.

Mr. Fred Travalena . With a STAR on the Hollywood walk of fame, Fred has been applauded for his comedy, songs and fantastic impersonations.

Shirley Mitchell ( regular on *The Great Gildersleeve* ,*Fibber McGee and Molly* ).

Bob Hastings ( *Archie Andrews*, *X Minus One*).

Gloria McMillan ( *Our Miss Brooks* ).

Tommy Cook ( *Lights Out*, *Red Ryder*, *Blondie* ).

Rosemary Rice ( *Archie Andrews*, *Suspense* ).

Dick Beals ( *Gunsmoke*, *The Lone Ranger* ).

Dave Parker ( *The Lone Ranger* ).

In a celebration of the best of old time radio, sketches are planned featuring *Baby Snooks*, *Lum n Abner*, the comedy antics of Red Skelton, Jack "put something in the pot boy" Kirkwood.

A trip to Allen's alley with Larry Albert as Fred Allen ( an impersonation that would amaze even Portland Hoffa), Jack Benny as portrayed by Eddie Carroll ( an impersonation that would amaze Fred Allen ).

Hear the live and terrible sound of the creaking door as we present a fantastic tale from *Inner Sanctum*. Never seen, only heard, we bring you a thrilling adventure of *The Shadow* who knows what evil lurks in the heart of men".

A visit with *Fibber McGee and Molly* and the *Great Gildersleeve*.

A chilling adventure that is sure to delight with its grueling acting challenges – *Return to Dust* with Dick Beals – *Suspense!*

Many of the recreations feature live music and songs and singing jingles.

The Jack Benny Beavers will appear as played by talented Seattle area child actors who are also featured in the expansive and daring production of the *Wizard of Oz* as originally heard on *The Lux Radio Theater*. Remember the unforgettable songs and music, the classic characters— Dorothy , The Tin Man, The Scarecrow, The Cowardly Lion, Toto, The Wicked Witch, the Wizard, Auntie Em and the others brought back via the magic of radio. Through the theater of imagination and



and sound effects we'll bring you the world of L. Frank Baum. A world of tornados, flying monkey's, munchkins, a scheming witch- that all starts down a yellow brick road .

We'll have more information on other presentations, panels, interviews , additional shows and guest stars in the next issue of *Air Check*.

Please stay tuned.



# SPECIAL NOTICE TO REPS MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

## Anonymous Donor Issues \$ 1,000.00 Fundraising Challenge!

This is an exciting opportunity to help raise funds. A generous donor, who chooses to remain anonymous, has offered to match any and all funds donations made to REPS up to \$ 1,000.00.

The donations to be matched must be received by REPS before June 1st, 2009. This could result in a gift of \$ 2,000.00 if we can match the generosity. With people spending less, revenues are down and at the same time expenses are up. These donations will allow REPS to continue offering the program services and events that REPS is known for – the annual radio convention- SHOWCASE, the libraries of old time radio shows, special events, membership meetings and more. Please consider making a gift in any amount to REPS.

REPS is a 501 c (3) non profit organization and all gifts are tax deductible.

Please send donations to: REPS 109 NW 83rd Street Seattle, WA 98117.

Thank you for your support.

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### REPS SHOWCASE XVI June 26-27, 2009

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

There is a convention discount for flying to Seattle on Alaska Airlines  
The Convention Code is ECCMB0709 for a 10% discount on Alaska Air

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

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Checks payable to REPS or pay by credit card.

Credit Card Type \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_

Friday Only.....\$ 49 per person No of people \_\_\_\_\_ Total \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Only.....\$ 69 per person No of People \_\_\_\_\_ Total \_\_\_\_\_

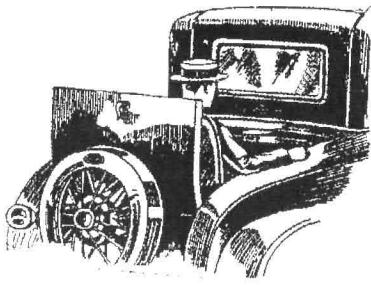
Friday and Saturday Before Apr 1...\$110 per person No of People \_\_\_\_\_ Total \_\_\_\_\_

Friday and Saturday After Mar 31.\$118 per person No of People \_\_\_\_\_ Total \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday includes a banquet dinner. Please choose a menu item for dinner. When multiple names are on the registration please indicate the name of the person for each selection if selections differ.

New York Steak \_\_\_\_\_ Grilled Salmon \_\_\_\_\_ Stuffed Boneless Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian Lasagna \_\_\_\_\_

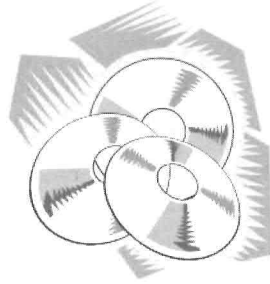
Mail to: REPS SHOWCASE, 17334 Densmore Ave N, Shoreline WA 98133



## Rumble Seat

Franz

## Optical Media



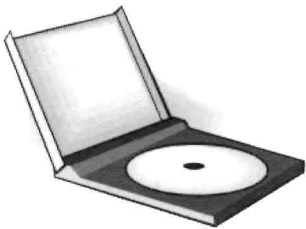
### CD & DVD THE BURNING QUESTION

They all the same size and about the same thickness, they all look alike.

For sure, all recordable CDs and DVDs do look alike, they're all the same size (some mini exceptions) and have similar shiny surfaces. They come in several different kinds, and they are **not** interchangeable. If you back up your data or music or radio episodes on one particular kind of CD or DVD it may or may not work in a different computer or playback device.

In general CD-R work pretty well all around. CD-RW do not have as reflective a surface and may be a little fussy once made. DVDs of any kind are even more fussy.

Things are improving all the time but you may want to choose a drive that burns and plays in the widest variety of formats. The same with the media you choose. Some brands work better than others. For very important data such as the only copy of wedding photos or important correspondence, brand names of proven quality are the best choice. For something used only to carry the data from your computer to the computer next door the most inexpensive media available may do.



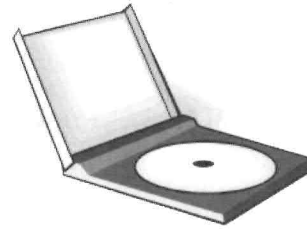
### CD-R

Write once. This is the most affordable and most compatible of all the optical media.

**Burn in:** CD-R, CD-RW, and almost all DVD burners.

**Play in:** CD-ROM, CD-R, CD-RW, and most DVD drives, and many standalone CD and DVD players

**Cost:** \$30 per 100. Almost always on sale someplace for about half price or less.



### CD-RW

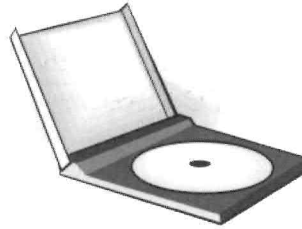
Rewritable disks, as much as 1000 times and are useful for backups you make often. They are not as readable in all drives because they are less

reflective.

**Burn in:** CD-R, CD-RW, and most DVD burners.

**Play in:** most CD-R, CD-RW, and most DVD drives and most stand alone CD and DVD players.

**Cost:** \$60 per 100. Almost always on sale for about half price or less.



### DVD-R

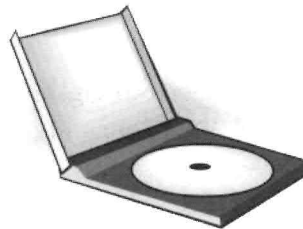
Write once. Endorsed by the DVD consortium of companies that own the DVD logo. It's pronounced DVD dash R, they don't like it pronounced DVD

minus R. A little more compatible and common than DVD+R.

**Burn in:** DVD-R and DVD±R burners.

**Play in:** DVD-R and DVD±R and most DVD+R drives and most stand alone DVD players.

**Cost:** \$60 per 100. Almost always on sale for half price or less.



### DVD+R

A different write once format. Pronounced DVD plus R. Similar in performance to DVD-R but slightly less compatible. The DVD+

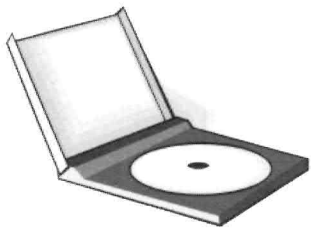
Alliance supports this format.

**Burn in:** DVD+R, DVD±R burners

**Play in:** DVD+R, and DVD±R and most DVD-R drives and most stand alone DVD players.

**Cost:** \$60 per 100. Almost always on sale for half price or less.

We use lots of CDs here at REPS and almost always purchase brand name CDs on sale. Favorite brands are Verbatim, TDK, and Sony. Although Memorex, Hewlett Packard, and Magnivox are good CDs, the company logo printed on the surface does not lend itself to writing with Sharpie Pens, so we usually do not purchase these brands.



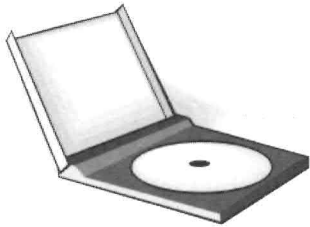
## DVD-RW

Rewritable up to 1000 times. Not as compatible as the write once DVD+R or DVD-R.

**Burn in:** DVD-R, DVD±R burners

**Play in:** DVD-R, DVD±R drives and most stand alone DVD players.

**Cost:** \$100 per 100. Almost always on sale for less.



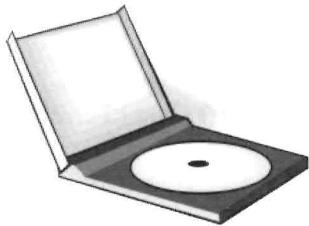
## DVD+RW

Rewritable up to 1000 times. Slightly less compatible with standalone DVD Players.

**Burn in:** DVD+R, DVD±R burners.

**Play in:** DVD+R, DVD±R and most standalone DVD players

**Cost:** \$100 per 100. Almost always on sale for less.



## All the Others

**DVD-RAM** Rewritable 100,000 times and can be used as a very slow hard drive. Very expensive.

**Dual Layer DVDs** hold about twice the data, 8.4 gigabits compared to the regular 4.7 gigabyte DVD. More and more burners can burn these but players are fussy in playing back home burned dual layer DVDs. They come in both - or + types. About \$2 each.

**Blue Ray DVDs** are just reaching the market. It would be difficult to find any home recordable Blue Ray media now, but it may be the big thing of the future.

**Storage:** Always store your discs in their cases to keep them from dust and other contaminants. Stand them vertically to prevent bowing. Hold the discs by their outer edges and avoid bending them when you remove them from their cases.

**Temperature and Humidity:** Keep in cool dry environment.

**Light and Sunlight:** Sunlight or sources of UV light will accelerate the breakdown of the dye layer of CD-R discs. A CD-RW is more sensitive to heat than UV light.

**Moisture:** Long exposure to moisture will eventually start to break down the layers of CDs and DVDs. Let them dry before playing.

**Scratches:** Scratches are deadly on the upper surface. The thin layer on the upper surface, protected only by a coating of lacquer, holds all the data and the reflective surface. Any scratch that penetrates the reflective surface will destroy the media. Scratches on the clear lower surface can sometimes be smoothed away and are not good but do not always destroy the media.

**Cleaning:** The upper surface is lacquer based. Lacquer thinner, acetone, or benzene will destroy the disc. Isopropyl alcohol or methanol used sparingly can be used. Blow dust away, *wipe from center to edge rather than in a circular pattern*. Don't wipe with anything abrasive including paper products.

**Gold Standard:** The longest lasting CDs use a layer of real gold. It has the best reflection and does not corrode. Paired with a phthalocyanine dye they are said to be stable for 100+ years.

**Markers:** You can write directly on a disc but only with felt tip water based markers or Sharpies. To be extra safe only use the interior clear hub area. Sharpie writing can be erased if a small amount of alcohol is used with a cue tip.

**Adhesive Labels:** Paper has a different reaction to the environment than the polycarbonate base of the CD and DVD. The glue sticks the label to the sensitive upper layer. Heat is deadly and it is unclear what reaction the glue has with the lacquer. The expansion of the polycarbonate base and the paper is different putting stress on the CD when exposed to heat. Once applied the paper label cannot be removed. Most CDs with paper labels will not play in car players. The heat in a closed car may destroy a CD with a label. If a label is applied be sure to use a jig which centers the label on the CD. They are most difficult to center without this aid and an off center label on a CD will throw the player off balance.

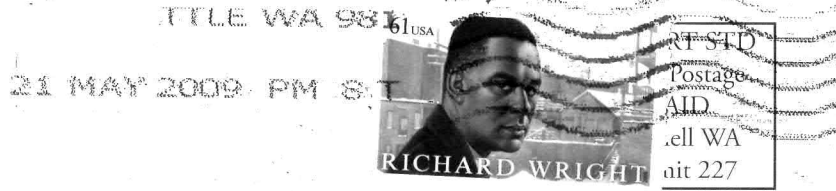
So far in this hobby and 40 years of collecting, the CD is the greatest thing ever. No generation loss in copies and almost instant location of any particular episode.

*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.

9811 NE 139th St  
Kirkland WA 98034-1806

May 2009

Address Service Requested



Doug Hopkinson  
517 South Evergreen  
Arlington Heights, IL  
60005

## REPS Board

### President 2009-2010

Paul Secord  
7633 NE 123rd Street  
Kirkland WA 98034-2401  
425-823-2547  
pauksecord@gmail.com

### Vice President 2008-2009

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

### Secretary 2009

Frank Rosin  
9811 NE 139th St  
Kirkland WA 98034-1806  
425-823-2812 frankr@eskimo.com

### At Large (1) 2009

Shaun Clancy  
18261 73rd Ave NE #A105  
Kenmore WA 98028  
206-510-5787

### At Large (2) 2009

Vi Anderson  
17232 174th SE  
Renton WA 98058  
425-226-7005 woods\_inn@msn.com

### At Large (3) 2009

Al Gil  
542 N 166th Street; Shoreline, WA  
98133-5205  
206-306-9435 acgil@comcast.net

### Treasurer 2009-2010

Mary Fichtenberg  
109 NW 83rd St  
Seattle WA 98117  
206-789-2319  
fichtenberg2319@msn.com

## Scheduled Events

- May 2, 2009** No Meeting See May 9, Next Line
- May 9, 2009** Meeting date change, Radio Readers, Board Meets 11 am Board Room Norse Home
- June 6, 2009** Regular and Board Meeting
- June 26-27, 2009** Showcase, Bellevue
- July 4, 2009** No Meeting
- August** Picnic, Date and time to be determined.

### Darrell Anderson, Librarian

17232 174th SE  
Renton WA 98058  
425-226-7005 woods\_inn@msn.com

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.