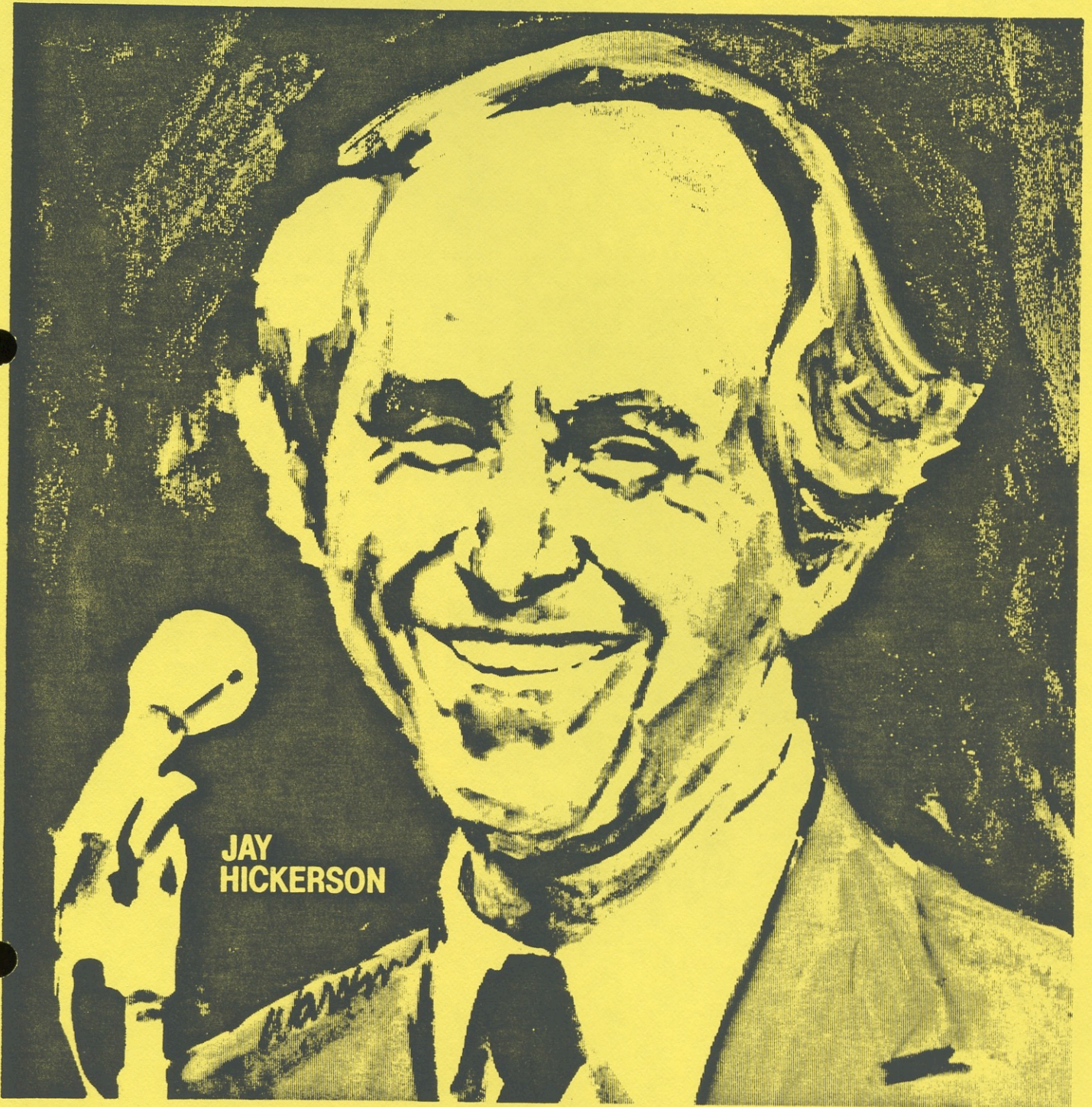




16th Annual Friends of Old Time Radio Convention

# GUNSMOKE

Oct. 24-26, 1991 Holiday Inn North Newark, NJ



JAY  
HICKERSON

# LOGS AND LISTINGS FOR COLLECTORS OF OLD-TIME RADIO PROGRAMS

**LOG OF ALL NETWORK SHOWS:** This 100-page log lists over 1700 network shows on the air from the 1920's to the 1980's. Each show, arranged alphabetically, contains a chronological history of changes in sponsors, network, days, length, and time. Exact broadcast dates are indicated in many instances. This log is a **MUST** in every library. Much of the information is not readily available elsewhere. Availability of logs of individual series are also indicated. **Cost is \$15.00 including several supplements.**

**CIRCULATING SHOWS:** This 44-page computerized log lists all available complete network and syndicated shows. Each item lists title, year(s) on the air and the number of shows available for trade. If there are a few shows available, exact dates or titles are often shown. List of sources is included. Complete or partial runs are indicated. **Cost is \$18.00 including several supplements.**

**SUSPENSE LOG:** This 40-page log lists every show chronologically and alphabetically. Each entry lists date, title, and up to 2 performers when known. It also includes an introductory part listing directors, producers, musicians, sponsors and other important information. **Cost is \$8.00**

**HELLO AGAIN:** Now in its 20th year, Hello Again is the oldest independent newsletter dedicated to the traders and collectors of old-time radio shows. Much of the information it contains is contributed by collectors including: problems and techniques in dubbing, tape quality, what different collectors are doing and what they are looking for, updated info about new radio shows being circulated and logs related to old-time radio, deaths of radio personalities and much more. It also keeps you up to date on the annual Friends of Old-time Radio Convention. The next convention is Oct. 24 - 26, 1991 at the Holiday Inn-North, Newark, NJ.

The first issue received includes listings of all OTR clubs, publications, many dealers, all logs available and many radio stations playing OTR. It runs about 4 to 8 pages an issue.

Subscription is **\$12.00 a year** for 6 issues per year. Send a SASE for a complimentary copy. Back issues are \$2.00. Ads are accepted.

**MORE LOGS AND LISTS:** (All are complete unless indicated)

All circulating shows indicated on Benny, Lux, Fred Allen, ILAM, Mercury Theater and Columbia Workshop logs

**Jack Benny (completely revised as of October, 1991);** much additional information) **\$10.00**

**Lux Radio Theater (completely revised; many new cast members)**  
Chronological and alphabetical **\$8.00**

|                                       |               |                                       |               |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>I Love a Mystery (Revised)</b>     | <b>\$2.00</b> | <b>Fred Allen (Newly revised)</b>     | <b>\$6.50</b> |
| <b>Mercury Theater (Revised)</b>      | <b>\$2.00</b> | <b>Columbia Workshop (Revised)</b>    | <b>\$4.00</b> |
| <b>Theater Guild of the Air</b>       | <b>\$3.00</b> | <b>Sherlock Holmes</b>                | <b>\$5.00</b> |
| <b>One Man's Family</b>               | <b>\$2.50</b> | <b>Green Hornet (mostly complete)</b> | <b>\$4.00</b> |
| <b>List of Collectors (190)</b>       | <b>\$3.00</b> | <b>Gunsmoke</b>                       | <b>\$6.50</b> |
| <b>Escape</b>                         | <b>\$2.50</b> | <b>Hallmark Playhouse</b>             | <b>\$1.50</b> |
| <b>Guide for Beginning Collectors</b> | <b>\$2.50</b> | <b>4 pages of tips on taping</b>      | <b>\$1.50</b> |
| <b>Screen Guild Theater</b>           | <b>\$5.00</b> |                                       |               |

Jay Hickerson, Box 4321, Hamden, CT 06514  
(203) 248-2887  
October, 1991

# SCHEDULE

## THURSDAY

### **DRESDEN/LENOX/TIFFANY**

- 10:00 – 5:30 Sound effects and stage setup Mingle;  
coffee from 1:00 pm; dealers from 3  
pm on
- 4:30 – 7:00 Meet **Barbara Grossman**, author of  
Fanny Brice
- 5:30 – 8:30 Cocktails and dinner
- 8:30 – 9:00 The Bickersons with **Shirley Mitchell**  
and **Sam Edwards**
- 9:15 – 10:15 An informal visit with Bob, Willard,  
Parley, Sam and others
- 10:15 – 11:00 Visit with guests and friends; dealers;  
Big band music and dancing with **Jim**  
**Albert**

## FRIDAY

### **LENOX/TIFFANY**

- 9:30 – 10:30 **Gary Yoggy** and "Community Groups  
& Old-time Radio"
- 11:00 – 12:00 All-star Gunsmoke panel hosted by  
**Gabe and Suzanne Barabas**
- 12:30 – 1:30 **Dave Zwengler** and his quiz show
- 2:00 – 2:45 **Dave Warren Players** present "Buck  
Rogers" with **Adele Ronson**
- 3:00 – 3:45 Presenting **Raymond** and "The  
Highwayman"
- 4:00 – 5:00 **Joe Hickerson** presents **Oscar**  
**Brand** and his 40 years on radio

### **DRESDEN/LENOX/TIFFANY**

- 5:30 – 6:45 Cocktails
- 6:45 – 8:15 Dinner; visit with the guests; Raffle
- 8:15 – 9:00 Re-creation (Ethel and Albert) with **Peg**  
**Lynch and Bob Dryden** followed  
by Q & A and award presentation
- 9:15 – 10:15 Re-creation (FBI) with **George Petrie**  
and **John Archer** followed by Q &  
A
- 10:30 – 11:00 More big band with **Jim Albert**

### **DRESDEN or SUTTON**

- 11:00 – 12:15 Rehearsal (Buck Rogers) (D)
- 12:30 – 1:45 Rehearsal (Ethel and Albert) (D)
- 3:00 – 5:00 Rehearsal (FBI) (D)

# SCHEDULE

## SATURDAY

### **LENOX/TIFFANY**

- 9:00 - 10:15 BBC discussion by **Barry Hill**  
10:30 - 11:30 **Dave Warren Players** present "A  
Christmas Carol" with **Bob Bruce**  
12:00 - 1:15 Discussion on Axis Sally, Tokyo Rose  
and others by **Jack French,**  
**Margaret Blair** and **Russell**  
**Warren Howe**  
1:30 - 2:15 Re-creation (The Great Gildersleeve)  
with **Willard Waterman, Shirley**  
**Mitchell, Louise Erickson**  
2:15 - 3:00 Last call to visit the dealers  
3:00 - 3:45 A visit with **Arthur Tracy;** hosted by  
Mitchell Weisberg  
4:00 - 5:00 Meet the Authors (**Joan Benny,**  
**Melvin Patrick Ely, Tom Lewis**  
and **Jordon Young**)

### **BALLROOM**

- 5:15 - 6:30 Cocktails  
6:30 - 8:00 Dinner; visit with the guests; Raffle;  
some awards  
8:00 - 8:45 A Tribute to Radio with an all-star cast  
8:45 - 9:00 **Dave Warren Players** present  
"Allen's Alley"  
9:00 - 10:00 Re-creation (Gunsmoke) with **J Beck,**  
**P Baer, H Bartell, L Buyeff, S**  
**Edwards, T McVey, E Stone, F**  
**Carlton;** directed by **Ray Kemper**  
10:00 - 10:45 Awards; Closing, Final autographs

### **DRESDEN or SUTTON**

- 9:00 - 10:30 Rehearsal (Christmas Carol) (D)  
11:30 - 1:15 Rehearsal (The Great Gildersleeve) (D)  
2:30 - 3:00 Rehearsal (A Tribute to Tadio) (D)  
3:00 - 5:00 Rehearsal (Gunsmoke) (D)  
3:00 - 5:00 Rehearsal (A Tribute to Radio) (S)

## SPECIAL GUESTS

- ARTHUR ANDERSON** - *Tony and Gus, Let's Pretend*  
**GEORGE ANSBRO** - (Announcer) ABC  
**JOHN ARCHER** - *FBI in Peace and War, The Shadow*  
**PARLEY BAER** - *Gunsmoke*  
**HARRY BARTELL** - *Gunsmoke, Suspense*  
**BARNEY BECK** - (Sound effects artist) ILAM  
**JACKSON BECK** - (Announcer) *Superman, Mark Trail*; (Actor) *Cisco Kid*  
**BOB BELL** - (Prod/Dir) *Decision Now (American Legion)*  
**JOAN BENNY** - (Daughter of Jack Benny)  
**VIVIAN BLOCK** - *Let's Pretend, Wilderness Road*  
**EDDIE BRACKEN** - *Aldrich Family, Eddie Bracken Show*  
**OSCAR BRAND** - *Folksong Festival (WNYC - New York; since 1945)*  
**BOB BRUCE** - *Character actor in hundreds of shows*  
**LILLIAN BUYEFF** - *Gunsmoke, Suspense*  
**FRAN CARLON** - *Big Town*  
**LON CLARK** - *Nick Carter*  
**BOB DRYDEN** - *Superman, ILAM, Big Town*  
**SAM EDWARDS** - *Gunsmoke, Meet Corliss Archer*  
**LOUISE ERICKSON** - *A Date With Judy, Great Gildersleeve*  
**RAY ERLNBORN** - (Sound effects) *Al Pearce, Gateway to Hollywood*  
**HARRY FLEETWOOD** - *Music Through the Night (WNBC)*  
**EARL GEORGE** - *Captain Midnight, Ma Perkins*  
**BOB HASTINGS** - *Archie Andrews, The Sea Hound*  
**ED HERLIHY** - (Announcer) *Kraft, many others*  
**PAT HOSLEY** - *Brighter Day, Frank Merriwell*  
**ANNE S. HUMMERT** - (Producer and creator with her husband, Frank, of over 25 soap operas)
- RAYMOND EDWARD JOHNSON** - *Inner Sanctum, Young Hickory*  
**RAY KEMPER** - (Sound effects) *Gunsmoke, Straight Arrow*  
**RUTH LAST** - *Let's Pretend, Quiet Please, commercials*  
**ROBERT E. LEE** - (actor, announcer, producer, editor) *Comic Weekly Man*  
**ABBY LEWIS** - *House in the Country, Road of Life*  
**JAY LIVINGSTON** - *Composer (with Ray Evans) Buttons and Bows, Que Sera, Sera*  
**PEG LYNCH** - *Ethel and Albert*  
**GIL MACK** - *Chick Carter, The Thin Man*  
**TED MALLIE** - (Announcer) *The Shadow, many Mutual shows*  
**TYLER McVEY** - *Gene Autry, One Man's Family*  
**SHIRLEY MITCHELL** - *Great Gildersleeve, McGarry and His Mouse*  
**BILL MURTOUGH** - (Engineer) *Lowell Thomas, Grand Central Station*  
**BILL OWEN** - (Announcer)  
**GEORGE PETRIE** - *The Falcon, Charlie Wild, FBI in Peace and War*  
**STELLA REYNOLDS MOSS** - (Writer) *John's Other Wife, Aunt Jenny*  
**ADELE RONSON** - *Buck Rogers, John's Other Wife*  
**TERRY ROSS** - (Sound effects artist)  
**SIDNEY SLON** - (producer, writer, director)  
**EZRA STONE** - *Aldrich Family*  
**ARTHUR TRACY** - "The Street Singer"  
**SYBIL TRENT** - *Let's Pretend, Stella Dallas*  
**FRANCES A. von BERNHARDI** - (Casting director)  
**WILLARD WATERMAN** - *The Great Gildersleeve, Stepmother*  
**FLORENCE WILLIAMS** - *Front Page Farrell, Barry Cameron*  
**BETTY WRAGGE** - *Pepper Young's Family*

## Bios of Some of Our Special Guests

### John Archer

John's most famous radio role was that of The Shadow in which he appeared during 1944-45. Discovered (and named) on Gateway to Hollywood, Archer appeared on a number of programs during the golden age of radio including The FBI in Peace and War and Quick As A Flash. His film credits include Scattergood Baines, Guadalcanal Diary, Destination Moon, My Favorite Spy (with Bob Hope), The Big Trees, I Saw What You Did and How to Frame a Figg. He also made frequent television appearances in the fifties and sixties on shows like Bonanza and The Big Valley. He will be appearing in our 1991 re-creation of The FBI in Peace and War.

### Parley Baer

Parley has been one of the most popular and busy character actors appearing in countless roles on radio, television and films over the years. His most famous radio role was Chester in Gunsmoke (one of the roles he will recreate for us this weekend). Other radio credits include: Rene' on The Count of Monte Cristo; The Adventures of Philip Marlowe; The CBS Radio Workshop; Escape; The First Nighter; Granby's Green Acres (as the hired hand, Eb); Honest Harold (as Pete the Marshal); Those Websters; and Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar. His films include: The Young Lions; Gypsy; Those Calloways; and The Ugly Dachshund. Among his "recurring" roles on television, he was Mayor Stoner on The Andy Griffith Show; Darby on The Adventures of Ozzie & Harriet; Don Rickles' boss on The Don Rickles Show and the insurance salesman on The Adams Family. He has also made guest appearances on practically every major television series from Bonanza to LA Law. Parley will also play Judge Hooker in our Great Gildersleeve re-creation.

### Eddie Bracken

Eddie began his long stage, radio and screen career while still in his teens. His most famous films include Hail the Conquering Hero and The Miracle of Morgan Creek in which he played a character called Norval Jones. Other film credits include: The Fleet's In; Star Spangled Rhythm; Sweater Girl; Duffy's Tavern; Ladies Man; Summer Stock; and A Slight Case of Larceny. The Eddie Bracken (radio) Show (1945-47) was basically an extension of the Norval Jones character (although Bracken played himself on the show). The program also featured William Demarest, Ann Rutherford, Janet Waldo, Cathy Lewis, Wally Mahler and Irene Ryan. Eddie was also heard as Dizzy Stevens on The Aldrich Family and was a regular panelist on the summer quiz show Let's Talk Hollywood (1948). On television Bracken was seen as a panelist on I've Got A Secret

(1952) and Make the Connection (1955) and as host of Masquerade Party (1957). More recently he has toured with The Sunshine Boys and Never Too Late.

#### Harry Bartel

Harry appeared as a supporting actor in dozens of the finest dramas during the golden age of radio. He is, perhaps, best remembered for his "interviews" of Dr. Watson on Sherlock Holmes, but he also made frequent appearances on Gunsmoke (and on television); Fort Laramie; Frontier Gentleman; Nero Wolfe; Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar; Romance; On Stage and The Charlott Greenwood Show. He will be appearing in our Gunsmoke re-creation.

#### Oscar Brand

On December 10, 1948, a young folk singer named Oscar Brand, newly discharged from the army, aired his first folk music program on WNYC in New York City and The Folksong Festival was born. This program has become one of the longest-running programs in broadcast history making Oscar the host with broadcasting's greatest longevity. Among his guests have been virtually everyone who was of importance in the field of folk music: Woody and Arlo Guthrie, Burl Ives, Pete Seeger, John Jacob Niles, Richard Dyer Bennet, Josh White, Irving Burgie (Lord Burgess), Judy Collins, and Gordon Lightfoot. He will be discussing his radio experiences for us on Friday.

#### Sam Edwards

Sam was a child star appearing in juvenile roles on radio and films beginning in 1940. His early film credits include: East Side Kids; The Street With No Name; Twelve O'Clock High; and Gangbusters. He was frequently heard on such daytime soap operas as The Guiding Light (as Roger Collins) and Hawthorne House (as Billy Sherwood). He did a stint as Tracy Baker on Carleton E. Morse's One Man's Family and was heard occasionally as Billy Smith on Father Knows Best. He also appeared frequently as a featured player on Gunsmoke, Escape, Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar and The CBS Radio Workshop. The radio role for which he is best remembered is his funny, yet sensitive, performance as Dexter Franklin on Meet Corlis Archer. He has also appeared on television (eg. Gunsmoke) and was seen occasionally as the banker in Walnut Grove on Little House on the Prairie. He will be appearing in our re-creation of Gunsmoke and The Great Gildersleeve (as Leroy).

### Herb Ellis

Herb's radio credits include Gunsmoke and Nero Wolfe (in the role of Archie). On television he was usually cast as a cop. Some of his more important television series were Dragnet (as Off. Frank Smith), The D.A.'s Man (as Frank La Valle), Not For Hire and Hennesey (as Dr. Dan Wagner).

### Ester Geddes

(Mrs. Tyler McVey)

Ms. Geddes' radio work includes over 100 episodes as hostess "Princess Melody" on The Magic Garden and she has been a pianist and organist on the Southern Oregon Radio Network. She also spent ten years as hostess on such live daily television talk shows as Talk of the Town and Be My Guest and has appeared nationally on Divorce Court. Her stage credits include What Did We Do Wrong?, Everybody Loves Opal, You Can't Take It With You, The Constant Wife, and Any Wednesday.

### Ray Kemper

Ray is an experienced radio sound effects artist having worked on most major CBS and MBS shows. His Credits include: Gunsmoke; Suspense; The Jack Benny Show; Romance; Escape; The Whistler; Have Gun, Will Travel; Amos 'n Andy; Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar; Dragnet; Red Ryder; The Cisco Kid and Straight Arrow. He was also associate producer (on radio) for Straight Arrow and wrote scripts for Gunsmoke, Have Gun, Will Travel and The Count of Monte Cristo. As an audio engineer, Ray has worked on such television shows as The Jeffersons, Maude, Three's Company, Welcome Back, Kotter, The Judy Garland Show, The Red Skelton Comedy Hour, The Glen Campbell Goodtime Hour, The Smothers Brothers' Comedy Hour and The Carol Burnett Show. He's also worked on television specials for Johnny Cash, Ann Margaret, Danny Thomas and Dean Martin.

### Tyler McVey

Tyler has participated in over 1,000 radio broadcasts from Hollywood including The Great Gildersleeve, Fibber McGee and Molly, The Jack Benny Program, Lux Radio Theatre, Burns and Allen, Cavalcade of America, Red Ryder, Dr Christian and Glamour Manor. His film appearances include The Day the Earth Stood Still, The Gallant Hours, The Best Man, Never A Dull Moment, Sleeper, Hello Dolly, Gus, Patton, and All the President's Men. Tyler also participated in the early years of live television on such programs as Playhouse 90, Red Skelton, Lux Video Theatre, Climax!, The Jack Benny Show and The Lucille Ball Show. In addition he has acted in



over 300 filmed episodes of such series as Ellery Queen, Bonanza, Gunsmoke, Mayberry-RFD, Ironside, The High Chaparral, Daniel Boone, Death Valley Days, All in the Family, The Wild Wild West and Highway to Heaven. He has performed in such dinner theater productions as Plaza Suite (with Gale Storm) and Will Success Spoil Roch Hunter? (with Mamie Van Doren). He will play Peavie in our Great Gildersleeve re-creation.

### Shirley Mitchell

Ms. Mitchell was radio's quintessential sexy Southern belle. She was The Great Gildersleeve's favorite love interest, Leila Ransom (a role she repeated in the television series). Another of her popular roles was that of Alice Darling, the scatterbrained, man-crazy war plant worker, who rented a room at 79 Wistful Vista from Fibber McGee and Molly. She was also heard as Shirley Anne on The Sealtest Village Store, as Kitty Archer (the Mouse) on McGarry and His Mouse, and as Molly Belle on Young Love. She often played supporting roles in such dramatic anthologies as Romance. Ms. Mitchell also did some film work including Jamboree and Mr. Lord Says No! She continued her fine comedic work on television as Kitty Deveraux on Bachelor Father (1958-59); as Janet Colton on Pete and Gladys (1960-62) and as Marge Thorton on Please Don't Eat the Daisies (1965-67). We are pleased that she will be Leila in our Great Gildersleeve re-creation.

### George Petrie

George began his radio career in Hartford, CT. in 1938 and was also active on stage in live theater. After the war, he appeared on radio with Helen Hayes in Textron Theatre. His extensive post-war radio credits include: Gangbusters; Counterspy; Mr. District Attorney; Cavalcade of America; The Clock; Superman; Big Town; Mary Noble, Backstage Wife; Portia Faces Life; The Guiding Light; Philo Vance (as the DA); Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar; and the lead roles in The Amazing Mr. Malone, The Falcon, Gregory Hood and Charlie Wild, Private Eye (a follow up to Sam Spade). Petrie also appeared in such films as Winged Victory, Gypsy, Hud and Wall of Noise. His West Coast radio work includes This Is Your FBI, and The Whistler. Most recently, he played Harve Smithfield on television's popular Dallas series. George will appear in our re-creation of The FBI in Peace and War.

### Willard Waterman

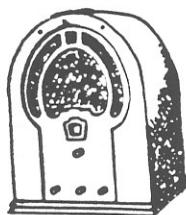
Willard began his actin career in chicago doing a variety of soap operas, kids shows and dramatic anthologies (eg., The Chicago Theatre of the Air; The First Nighter; Grand Hotel; Girl Alone; The

Guiding Light; Lonely Woman; The Road of Life; Stepmother; Today's Children; Tom Mix). Although unquestionably a fine all-around actor, it was for his comedy roles that Waterman became best know. Succeeding Hal Peary as The Great Guildersleeve, he made the role his own on both radio and later television. Other comedy shows included Harold Teen, Those Websters and The Halls of Ivy. In addition to Gildersleeve, he is remembered on TV as Mr. Quigley on Dennis the Menace and for outstanding guest performances on shows like Bonanza. His major motion picture credits include: Riding High, It Happens Every Thursday, Hollywood or Bust, Auntie Mame, The Apartment and Hail to the Chief! More recently, he has concentrated on stage roles. He has appeared in the musical Mame on Broadway and on tour with Angela Lansbury, Janis Paige, Jane Morgan and Ann Miller. Other musicals include: How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying (as J.B. Biggley); Pajama Game (as Hassler); Arsenic and Old Lace (as Teddy) and The Music Man (as Mayor Shinn). We are privileged to see him re-create his most popular radio role as The Great Gildersleeve this weekend.

These bios have been compiled from available information by Gary A. Yoggy.

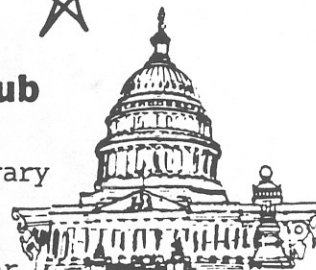


# JOIN US!



## Metro Washington Old Time Radio Club

Cassette Library \* \* \* Reel-to-Reel Library  
 \* \* \* Video Library \* \* \*



"Radio Recall" magazine, issued 6 times a year



### Membership:



\$ 15 a year to all OTR buffs within 50 miles of the Nation's Capital; \$ 10 to everyone else (we figure if you can't attend our great monthly meetings, we'll give you a break on the dues.) Residents of Canada may join at the same rate. Send your check or money order to our Secretary, Marsha Bush, 6437 Fifth Street, Alexandria, VA 22312. For further information, you may telephone Marsha nights or weekends at 703/354-7852 or call our President, Jack French, anytime (within reason) at 703/978-1236.

SEE OUR FLYER ON THE LOBBY TABLE FOR OUR CONVENTION SPECIAL; GET FOURTEEN MONTHS MEMBERSHIP FOR THE PRICE OF ONE YEAR IF YOU ACT NOW!



## OTHER INFORMATION

Sutton/Ascot Rooms and perhaps one or two conference rooms will be available much of the time from Thursday night through Saturday night. They should be used for interviews, meetings and rehearsals.

1. No smoking in convention area, please.

2. Do not interview in hallways and please do not congest the registration area. Interviews are to be held in the Sutton/Ascot rooms mentioned above.

3. Interviews and autographs are NOT to be gotten in the workshop rooms after the workshops. Use the conference rooms or Sutton/Ascot Rooms. We must get ready for the next workshop.

4. A cash sandwich bar will be open for lunch on Friday and Saturday in convention area. Complimentary coffee, bagles and muffins will be available Friday and Saturday mornings.

### PERSONS TO CONTACT

**AUDIO AND VIDEO TAPES** - Don Ramlow, 509 Velvet St., Portage, MI 49081

**SOUND EFFECTS** - Terry Ross, 144-15 41st Ave., Flushing, NY 11355

### COMMITTEE AND WORKSHOP LEADERS

**GENERAL CHAIRMAN:**

Jay Hickerson

**PROGRAM AND RE-CREATION DIRECTORS:**

Ron Lackmann, Terry Ross, Bill

Nadel, Gary Yoggy and SuzAnne & Gabe Barabas

**PUBLICITY:**

Nancy MacCaig

**GUEST COORDINATOR**

Bill Nadel

**SOUND EFFECTS**

Barney Beck, Terry Ross, Ray

Erlenborn, Ray Kemper, Anthony Tollin, Bill Siudmak

### **ALL OTHERS:**

Barney Beck  
Bob Burchett  
Walt Muller  
Barbara Davies  
Dave Davies  
Dave Easter  
Jack French  
Jim Albert  
Mary Ramlow  
Anthony Tollin  
Joe Hickerson  
Arlene Sabba

Ken Piletic  
Jeff Muller  
Suzanne Siegel  
SuzAnne Barabas  
Jan Easter  
Gabor Barabas  
Karen Hickerson  
Don Ramlow  
Dave Zwengler  
Dave Warren  
Barry Hill  
Mitchell Weisberg

### FUTURE CONVENTION DATES:

1992: October 22 - 24.... 1993: October 21 - 23..... 1994: October 20 - 22

## REMINISCING

Old-time radio buffs have been honoring the radio stars of yesteryear annually since 1971, when our first old-time radio convention was held. The popularity of the conventions has grown steadily over the past 20 years. The first convention hosted 4 special guests. This year we are honoring over 50 actors, actresses, writers, producers, directors and technicians from the East and West Coasts who made the age of radio a truly golden era. What better way to pay tribute to all our guests than to meet them in person at this, our 16th annual convention of the **FRIENDS OF OLD-TIME RADIO**, and express the enjoyment their performances brought and still bring to us.

The **FRIENDS OF OLD-TIME RADIO, Inc.** is a group of fans and collectors who meet once a year for this non-profit convention. All monies collected are used for hotel, transportation and other convention costs.

### RECIPIENTS ALLEN ROCKFORD AWARD

|      |                                  |      |                                   |
|------|----------------------------------|------|-----------------------------------|
| 1979 | Ken Piletic                      | 1980 | Charles Ingersoll<br>John Dunning |
| 1981 | Charles Stumpf                   | 1982 | Roger Hill                        |
| 1983 | Ray Stanich                      | 1984 | Jim Snyder<br>Bob Burnham         |
| 1985 | Dick Osgood                      | 1986 | Frank Bresee                      |
| 1987 | SPERDVAC                         | 1988 | Barbara Watkins<br>Barry Hill     |
| 1989 | Bob Burchett<br>Terry Salomonson | 1990 | Don Aston<br>Dave Warren          |

### SPECIAL AWARDS

|      |   |      |                                    |
|------|---|------|------------------------------------|
| 1979 | Raymond Edward Johnson                            | 1985 | Ken Ross<br>Terry Ross             |
| 1980 | Rosa Rio<br>Bob Prescott Jr.<br>Pete Prescott     |      | Mrs. Brace Beemer<br>Jay Hickerson |
| 1981 | Mike Warren                                       | 1986 | Max Schmid                         |
| 1982 | (None)  | 1987 | Sidney Slon<br>Anthony Tollin      |
| 1983 | Arthur Anderson<br>Fran Striker Jr.               | 1988 | Bob Steele                         |
| 1984 | Don Richardson                                    | 1989 | Florence Williams<br>Dwight Weist  |
| 1990 | Jackson Beck<br>Margot Stevenson<br>George Ansbro |      | Joe Franklin                       |

### DONATIONS

|      |   |      |  |
|------|---|------|--|
| 1987 | Frank Nelson Scholarship Fund<br>Veteran's Bedside Network<br>Actor's Fund                    | 1989 | Society for Singers<br>Stephanie Joyce Kahn Foundation |
| 1990 | OTR Defense Fund<br>Episcopal Actor's Guild<br>Thousand Oaks Library<br>Kate Smith Foundation |      |  |

**This convention is in memory of Dwight Weist**

## CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

1990

The Friends of Old-time Radio held its 15th Annual Convention from October 18th - 20th, 1990 at the Holiday Inn - North, Newark, New Jersey. Celebrities present who received awards were: **Jack Benny** (received by daughter, Joan), **Hendrik Booraem, Jr.**, **Norman Corwin**, **Phyllis Creore**, **Bill Herz**, **Betty Mandeville**, **Burgess Meredith**, **Elliott Reid**, **Rosemary Rice** and **Betty Winkler**. Other celebrities present were **Arthur Anderson**, **George Ansbro**, **Barney Beck**, **Fran Carlon**, **Lon Clark**, **Bob Dryden**, **Lucille Fletcher**, **Earl George**, **Bob Hastings**, **Raymond Edward Johnson**, **Robert E. Lee**, **Abby Lewis**, **Peg Lynch**, **Charlotte Manson**, **Bob Mott**, **Ken Roberts**, **Adele Ronson**, **Terry Ross**, **Sidney Slon**, **Margot Stevenson**, **Ezra Stone**, **Arthur Tracy**, **Sybil Trent**, **Dwight Weist**, **Florence Williams**, **Richard Wilson** and **Betty Wragge**. The guests socialized with fans, participated in panels and workshops and re-created 3 radio shows.

The convention began on Thursday with cocktails and dinner. 96 fans and guests attended and talked informally throughout the evening. **Bob Hastings** then reminisced about his days in radio

Friday began at 9:00 with the opening of the dealers room. 46 dealer tables were active during the convention. 226 people attending dinner with another 123 in the afternoon. Workshops and panels included: **Lux Radio Theater** with Gary Yoggy and Art Pierce; **Bob Mott** talk about his book on Sound Effects and then joined **Barney Beck** for a workshop on **Sound Effects**; Gary Yoggy then took us on a visit to **Duffy's Tavern** followed by the **Dave Warren Players** presenting "Duffy's Tavern" and "Casablanca;" **Jack French** then presented a workshop on **Comics and Radio**; The afternoon closed with **Raymond Edward Johnson** reading "The War of the Worlds." After dinner **Margot Stevenson**, **Abby Lewis**, **Ezra Stone**, **Rosemary Rice** and **Florence Williams** re-created "You Can't Take it With You." **Brad Ashton**, a guest from England, then talked about comedy and radio in England.

On Saturday the panels and workshops included: **Gunsmoke** panel with **SuzAnne and Gabor Barabas**, authors of a book on Gunsmoke; **Mercury Theater** panel with **Elliott Reid**, **Richard Wilson**, **Arthur Anderson**, **Bill Herz** and **Burgess Meredith**; **Joan Benny** then talked about her new book and about her father, **Jack Benny**; "Dracula," the first performance of the Mercury Theater was re-created with **Raymond Edward Johnson**, **Elliott Reid**, **Arthur Anderson** and **Bill Herz**; **Richard Wilson** directed; **Don Ramlow** and **Lucille Fletcher** then looked at **Suspense**; **Ron Lackmann** and **Peg Lynch** then reminisced about **Ethel and Albert**.

Saturday's events culminated with cocktails and buffet dinner for 347 people with another 181 coming for the day. After dinner **A Tribute to CBS** was presented with many openings and excerpts of familiar shows plus many singing commercials. Performing were **Karen and Jay Hickerson** with the singing part and several announcers and performers including **Ken Roberts**, **Dwight Weist**, **George Ansbro**, **Arthur Anderson** and **Lon Clark**. **Norman Corwin** then directed his "The Plot to Overthrow Christmas." It starred **Burgess Meredith** with **Dwight Weist** and **Bob Dryden**.

The awards were then given out. In addition to the ones mentioned earlier, they also included 2 Allen Rockford Awards presented to **Don Aston** and **Dave Warren** for their outstanding efforts in keeping radio alive. Special awards were given to **Margot Stevenson** and **George Ansbro**. Both have attended our convention for several years and have always been willing to help. Four donations were given. They were given to: The OTR Defense Fund (accepted by Carolyn and Joel Senter); The Episcopal Actor's Guild (accepted by Lon Clark); Thousand Oaks Library (accepted by Toni Hagopian and Marvin Smith) and The Kate Smith Foundation (accepted by Richard Hayes.)

I want to again thank all the guests who were very gracious in granting interviews and giving of their time to be with us.

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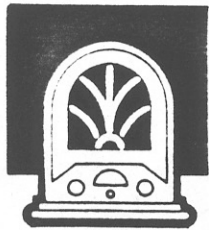
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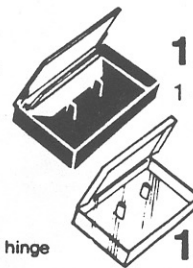
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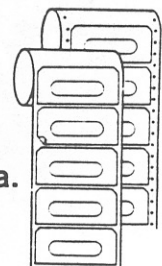
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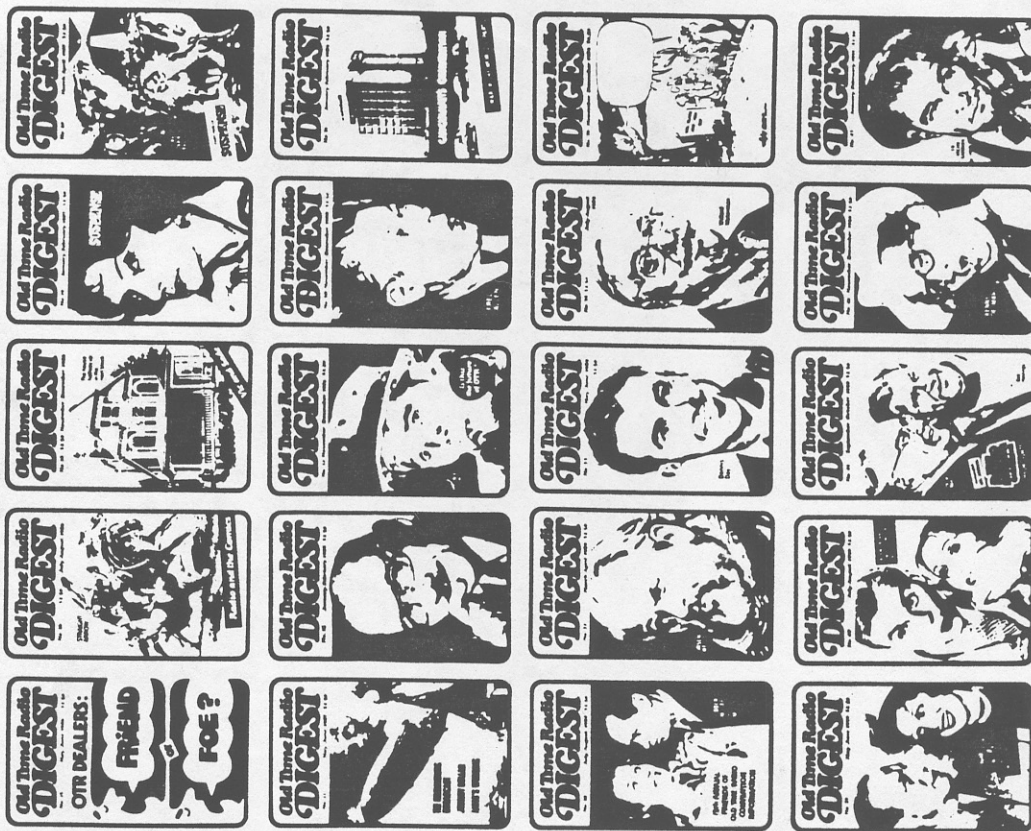
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# Radio Actor-Announcer Dwight Weist Dies

by Anthony Tollin

On July 16, as it must to all men, death came to Dwight Weist, *The March of Time's* "man of a thousand voices." The 81 year old actor died of a heart attack while vacationing at his summer home at Block Island, Rhode Island.

Dwight Weist was one of the busiest actors and announcers during the "golden age" of radio drama. On *The March of Time* broadcasts, Weist impersonated Adolph Hitler for more than a decade, and doubled as President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Lindberg baby kidnapper Bruno Hauptmann and a wide variety of other newsmakers.

He was radio's first *Mr. District Attorney*, portrayed Police Commissioner Weston opposite Orson Welles and Bill Johnstone on *The Shadow* and regularly appeared on *Columbia Workshop*, *Cavalcade of America*, *Buck Rogers in the 25th Century*, *We, the People*, *Andy Hardy*, *The Second Mrs. Burton* and many of Norman Corwin's classic radio plays. He was also heard as the announcer on radio's *Aldrich Family* and *Big Town*, plus television's *Search for Tomorrow*.

Weist's voice was prominently featured in the *Pathe Newsreels* and in numerous television commercials for Bromo Seltzer and other sponsors. He appeared in Woody Allen's film *Radio Days*, announcing the bombing of Pearl Harbor and the Martian invasion of New Jersey, a role he had been forced to turn down in the original *Mercury Theatre* broadcast because of a prior commitment.

Several years ago Weist received an unusual phone call from Germany. The director of *The Name of the Rose* wanted him to narrate the Sean Connery-F. Murray Abraham film but had a problem with the former radio announcer's reading on the audition tape. "Can you make your voice sound like an old man?" he asked. "You don't know who I am," responded the then 76 year old



Dwight Weist and Les Tremayne recreated *The Shadow* at SPERDVAC's 1986 convention.



Dwight Weist as the star of *Mr. District Attorney* on NBC in 1939. actor. "I can make my voice sound old if I apply myself."

Born in Palo Alto, CA and raised in Scranton, PA, Weist graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1931 and performed at the Cleveland Playhouse before moving to New York in 1934. He was co-founded of the Weist-Barron School of Television and Commercial Acting, where he taught for 35 years. Mr. Weist was an active member of the American Federation of Television and Radio Actors and former president of the Screen Actor's Guild's New York chapter.

Dwight Weist was the first East Coast guest to perform at a SPERDVAC convention. He recreated his role of Commissioner Weston in the 1986 *Shadow* cast recreation.

Beginning in 1982, Weist became an annual participant at the Friends of Old Time Radio conventions held on the East Coast. There he portrayed leads in recreations of *The Green Hornet*, *The Shadow* and *Mr. District Attorney*. He was prominently featured in their presentations of *Superman*, *The Aldrich Family*, *Quick as a Flash*, *Big Town*, *Mercury Theatre "War of the Worlds"*, *Mandrake the Magician*, *Lux Radio Theatre* and *Columbia Presents Corwin*.

A consummate professional, Weist recreated his *March of Time* roles at the Friends of Old Time Radio 1989 convention after under-going emergency oral surgery the previous evening. His last public performance was in a *Big Town* recreation at the first convention of the Manhattan Radio Club.



**Dwight Weist**