

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS: The Friends of Old-Time Radio saluted many personalities of the golden age of radio last Saturday, October 7th. Present were Lee and Emerson Allman, Jo-Anne and George Ansbro and daughter, Ira Ashley, Bernice and Jackson Beck, Grace Matthews and Court Benson, Norma and Ed Blainey, Vivian Block (Marsh), Mr. and Mrs. Bob Dixon, Jack Houseknecht and his wife, the former Clair Hazel; Raymond Edward Johnson, Evie Juster, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Prescott, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Prescott Jr., Alice Reinheart, Rosa Rio and Bill Yeomans, Carol and Lee Stanley, Blair Walliser and daughter, and Betty Wragge...All of these special guests were present throughout the day and evening. They participated in a panel discussion, socialized during the cocktail hour, presented three radio programs, and some received awards.

The convention started at 9:00 with 25 dealer and display tables including some manned by Joe Webb (Collectors Corner) and Allen Rockford and Don Richardson (Nostalgia Radio News). Chuck Seeley of the Buffalo Club and Pat McGee of SPERDVAC were also there....The movies shown were IT'S A JOKE SON; THE SHADOW AND THE MISSING LADY; HOW DO YOU DO; and THE GREAT AMERICAN BROADCAST.

The sound effects workshops run by Ed Blainey and Bob Prescott and the acting workshops run by Blair Walliser were very successful. Gary Yoggy won the Trivia quiz. Gary also led a very interesting teaching workshop. Raymond Edward Johnson then entertained us with some readings from Shakespeare. The Romance of Helen Trent was then performed with Alice Reinheart as Helen. Grace and Court played a love scene together for the first time in their careers. Bob Dixon announced...Grace and Court then gave a moving tribute to Bret Morrison. The new guests were then involved in a panel discussion until 5:45... Cocktails and dinner followed.

There were 195 guests for dinner with another 52 coming in the afternoon. Following dinner Bob Witte as master of ceremonies led an entertaining program. Front Page Farrell and Counterspy were both performed by all the guests. There was a bit of adlibbing between Jackson Beck and Court Benson during Counterspy due to a late entrance by Court which had the audience in laughter...Rosa Rio performed as excellent as always on the piano; Ed Blainey, Bob Prescott and Bob Prescott Jr handled the sound effects; George Ansbro was the announcer.

Seven awards were given out. The only one not present to receive it was Ralph Camargo.

A tape of the convention can be received from Joe Webb. I will let you know when the details are worked out.

The guests were very gracious in granting interviews and mingling with the people. I want to thank them again for giving of their time to be with us.

Also the committee did a wonderful job. Many thanks to Joe Webb, Stu Weiss, Julie and Larry DeSalvatore, and Carol and Bob Witte.

IN FOND MEMORY: Jack Warner, Sep 9, 86; motion picture tycoon... John Hawkins, Aug 27, 67; TV writer (Bonanza; Little House on the Prairie)... Joe Davis, Sep 3, 81; songwriter... Ruth Etting, Sep 24, 81; singing actress who began singing on radio in 1922... Ann Shoemaker, Sep 18, 87; actress... Irving Drutman, Sep 20, 68; writer/songwriter... Myrtle Damerel, Sep 18, 90; played Myrt in MYRT AND MARGE 1931-42; her daughter played Marge until Donna's death in 1942... John Holbrook, Sep 20, 68; freelance radio announcer... Steve Gravers, Aug 26, 56; feature, TV and legit actor... Frank Ferguson, Sep 12, 69; character actor... Dwight Marfield, Aug 15, 70; film and legit actor... Lee David, Aug 30, 84; songwriter "Tonight You Belong to Me."...

BRET MORRISON, Sep 25, 66; Bret received an award at our first convention in 1971. Grace Matthews and Court Benson gave a very moving tribute to him at our last convention October 7th. Bret was the Shadow from 1944-56. He also was on ARNOLD GRIMM'S DAUGHTER: BEST SELLERS: MR. FIRST NIGHTER: ROMANCE OF HELEN TRENT: GUIDING LIGHT: ROAD OF LIFE: LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

EDGAR BERGEN, Sep 30, 75; Less than two weeks prior to September 30th Bergen had announced his retirement. Charlie McCarthy was first conceived in 1922 and will be sent to the Smithsonian Institute to be on display. Edgar Bergen with Charlie McCarthy, Mortimer Snerd and Effie Klinker were on radio from 1937-56.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED: Tape Squeal; Sep 1978; articles on services for the blind and Beulah (publication of the Indiana Recording Club. For information write William Davies, 1729 E 77th St, Indianapolis, Ind 46240)... NOSTALGIA RADIO NEWS: Sep issue; article on Joan Davis... Oct issue; article on Bob Burns... Big BANDWAGON: Sep issue; articles on Claude Thornhill and Bessie Smith... MAGIC SOUNDS: fall issue; for anyone interested in magic on radio... ILLUSTRATED PRESS: Sep issue; article on rating dealers... Return with us Now (Color. Club) Oct issue; combined issue with Buffalo Club and has articles by members of many clubs and editors of newsletters and publications.

BOOKS: Radio & Television; A Selected, Annotated Bibliography; compiled by William McCavitt; Scarecrow Press, Metuchen, NJ; 1978; all types of radio-related books here... Film Music; compiled by James Limbacher; Scarecrow Press; 1974; excellent reference book from 1908... The Magic World of Orson Welles; by James Naremore; Oxford Un. Press; 1978; reviews the best of his films... The Theater of Orson Welles; by Richard France; Associated Univ. Presses, Cranbury, NJ 1978; Welles before Citizen Kane including radio work... TV Guide-The First 25 Years; compiled by Jay Harris; Simon & Schuster; 1978; many articles and pictures... Television-The First 50 Years; by Jeff Greenfield; Abrams Pub; 1978 (offered by Nostalgia Book Club).

NEW SHOWS: Dave Siegel, 3192 Amelia Dr, Mohegan Lk, NY 10547 has new DEATH VALLEY DAYS: 6 SHELL CHATEAU with Wallace Beery; 1935; LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE; Showboat Action 6/36; HERCULE POERROT; Roving Corpse... Ray Stanich, 173 Columbia Hts, Brooklyn, NY 11201 has 1938 LIGHTS OUT with B Karloff; Dream 3/23/38.

LOGS: Ray Stanich wrote a log: ONCE UPON A TUNE; 1947-48; Send a SASE... If you want a GOON SHOW log for 10/1953-1/1960 send me 25¢ and a SASE. It starts with the 4th series.



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NEWS OF THE PAST: from Ed Carr: Ever question how far back singing commercials go? In the late 1800's a London firm offered free hymnals to a poor church in return for inserting a musical commercial in the books. The hymnals were used by the church-and so was the commercial. It went:

Hark the herald angels sing
Beecham's Pills are just the thing
Peace on Earth and mercy mild
Two for men and one for child

NEW ADDRESSES: Richard King, 136 Glenrose Dr, Riverside, RI 02915...Morgan Tiel, 112 Central Ave, Hillsdale, NJ 17642.

HERE AND THERE: New Friends; Frank Waibel, 1004 N Williamsn Bay City, Mich 48706...Owen Abdalian, 75 Creeley Rd, Belmont, Ma 02178 ...Monty Pearson, 2260 N Walnut, Muncie, Ind 47304...Steven Macko, 357 E Dewey, Northlake, Ill 60164...Eduff Campbell, 6907 Hazeltine #5, Van Nuys, Cal 91405...Harold Jacobs, 1850 Ocean Pkwy, Brooklyn, NY 11223..

Old Friends: Ed Carr, 216 Shaner St, Boyertown, Pa 19512 has for trade 10 12-inch discs of Eb and Zeb which fill in missing episodes. Also 2 12-inch discs of Cecil and Sally 1933...Fred Shay, 30 Willow St, Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856 wants TENNESSEE JED...Bruce Ruggles, Box 1256, North Bay, Ontario P1B 8K5 wants complete radio-YOU BET YOUR LIFE; also 6 SCREEN DIRECTORS PLAYHOUSE from Sep 2/49-Oct 3/49 ...Tom Price, 847 Bedford, Salinas, Cal 93901 has Agnes Riggeway's THOSE WE LOVE 12/13/42-3/28/43 in very good condition. Make offer... John Manbeck, 1914 E 27th St, Brooklyn, NY 11229 wants any shows with William Bendix; also show dealing with Brooklyn...Bill Snook, Box 20, Hawthorne, Cal 90250 is offering more RICHARD DIAMOND 1950-1953 during October, November and December at \$7.50 a reel. Bill's catalog prices are lower. Write for information...Jerry Perchesky, Box 444, Watsonville, Cal 95076 went to PPB dinner for Pat Buttram (800 present); got all of Jack Haley's ET's from 1937-39. Also visited with Rosemary (Koplan) LaPlanche; received all of her ET's. ...Dale Hilk, 424 East 1st St, Waconia, Minn 55387 would like to find out Paul Hughes address. Also is looking for any 15-min. program of SKY KING from 1946 featuring Dr. Shade as the villain...Steve Wolf, 1160 E 52 St, Brooklyn, NY 11234 wants NBC tribute to Admiral Richard Byrd aired May 18/29...Fred Dickey, Box 1466, Sequim, WA 98382 has about 50 assorted reels which he wants to sell for about \$5.00 each. All in good sound...Joe Webb, 5 Valley View Dr, Yonkers, NY 10710 has 3" by 15" weatherproof bumper stickers for \$1.00 each. They read HONK IF YOU LOVE OLD TIME RADIO...Don Koehnemann, 811 Bristol, Westchester, Ill 60153 wants Enzo Pinza radio shows; The Tomorrow show (NBC-TV) with G Fenneman, John Reed King, Harry von Zell, D Wilson; also the one with R Clooney and Helen O'Connell; any show with Tommy Cecil Mack; also JACK BENNY with Ted Weems Band featuring Elmo Tanner.

RADIO IS ALIVE AND WELL: Ira Ashley suggested that you all write to WCBS to push for more radio drama. If they can carry sports events constantly, why not radio drama. Write Sam Digges Cooke, Pres, CBS 51 W 52nd St, NYC, NY 10019...SEARS RADIO THEATER will begin Feb 5th. It will be on 5 nights a week on CBS radio. It will be produced in Hollywood and directed by Elliott Lewis with scripts by Norman Corwin,

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Arch Oboler, Fletcher Markle, etc. MYSTERY THEATER will celebrate its 5th anniversary on January...

LATE MAIL: A correction. Tom Price has scripts of THOSE WE LOVE mentioned on previous page...IN FOND MEMORI; Jacques Brel, Oct 9, 49; Belgian singer and songwriter...Karl Swenson, Oct 8, 70; radio and TV actor; RADIO: CUR GAL SUNDAY; LORENZO JONES: MR. CHAMELEON; ...TV-was on LITTLE HOUSE ON THE PRAIRIE since 1974...RECEIVED National Radio Trader; Summer issue; article on George Burns... BOOK: The Big Band Almanac; by Leo Walker; Ward Ritchie Press; over 600 names. well indexed...Ken Neal, Box 911, Wash DC 20044 still wants Tolkien's BBC broadcast of LORD OF THE RINGS. Also he suggests looking into UPS rates for mailing large quantities of tapes. Anyone have the rates?...Alice Reinheart sent me this nostalgic poem.

Adjust the wobble, adapt the wiggle
Do away with the vertical jiggle
Now it's too dark and now too light
One more time - Now it's right
Sit in comfort to watch the show
What do you see? Your picture tube blow
Call the service. What did they say?
Your warranty ran out yesterday
Swear and cuss and sigh and - Eh.
For the good old days of RADIO.

RECEIVED: THE BIG BANDWAGON: October; articles on Louis Prima, Nat King Cole...

That's it for now sooo
Hang by your thumbs abd Write if you get work

Jay Hickerson, Box C, Orange, Ct 06477 (203) 795-6261 \$6.00

RADIO IS ALIVE AND WELL: The Ashley suggested that you all write to WGBS to push for more radio drama. If they can carry sports events constantly, why not radio drama. Write Sam Dinges Cooke, Pres, GBS, 51 W 52nd St, NYC, NY 10019...SEARCH RADIO THEATER will begin Feb 28. It will be on 2 nights a week on GBS radio. It will be produced in Hollywood and directed by Elliott Lewis with scripts by Norman Corwin.

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