

HELLO AGAIN

VOL. 28 NO. 3

MAY - JUN 1997

A PERSONAL NOTE: My first visit to the Cincinnati Convention was very enjoyable. I met several people with whom I have corresponded for many years including Chuck Schaden, Jerry Alexander, Robert Newman, Charles Laughlin, John Edwards, Gerald Ruark, Herb Brandenburg and Ken Gackler. My sincere congratulations to Bob Burchett and Robert Newman for a very well run convention. Many thanks for the award they presented me. And for once I was able to relax and talk to people including Parley Baer, Peg Lynch, Fred Foy and Joan & Barney Beck.

ULTIMATE HISTORY: My **Ultimate History** is now revised with all the information that was in the 3 supplements combined with the original book. There is a lot more information acquired this year also. Cost is \$46 plus \$4 P&H for new purchasers and \$36 plus \$4 P&H for purchasers of earlier book and supplements.

CONVENTION 1996: We have several items for sale: **New FOTR Canvas Bags** are on sale for \$7.00 plus \$2.00 P & H. **20th Anniversary Mugs** are available for \$4.00 plus \$4.00 P & H. **Convention booklets** are on sale for \$2.00 plus \$1.00 P & H. **New Blue 1996 FOTR Bic Click pens** are on sale for \$2.00 plus .50 P & H. We still have **FOTR flashlight-key chains and FOTR Magnets** for \$1.00 each plus \$1.00 P & H.

CONVENTION 1997: Dates are October 23 - 25 at the Holiday Inn-North, Newark, NJ.

Friends of Old-Time Radio Script Contest

The **Fourth** annual original script writing contest is now open. We would like an original 30 minute script which must be based on any of the great radio programs of the past, such as The Shadow, Jack Benny, etc. The script can have the characters originating in their original era and time or you can update the time to today.

The script must have all music and sound cues as well as all the spoken material. Try to arrange it in script form so it doesn't have to be retyped.

The prize for the best script will be \$150 and will have its live performance at our 1998 convention on Thursday evening after dinner. We would like you to attend our convention to participate but it is not mandatory. You can direct it if you wish. There will be some rehearsal time. Scripts must be submitted by **August 15th, 1997**. Send to Dave Zwengler, 319 Plymouth Rd., North Brunswick, NJ 08902 (908) 940-7639. A distinguished panel of old-time radio buffs will pick the winning script. They must be very readable. All are eligible so please spread the word.

The winning script in our first contest was won by Michael Giorgio. The second was won by James Nixon. The third winner is Edgar Russell, Jr. whose script will be performed at our 1997 convention.

Will all clubs with newsletters print the above in order to give everyone a chance?

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED: Jot 'em Down Journal, April; for Lum and Abner fans...**The Silver Bullet**, Mar; quarterly magazine; \$15 a year from Terry and Kay Klepey, Box 553, Forks, WA 98331 (360) 327-3726. This magazine in its 11th year is for Lone Ranger fans...**Tape Squeal**, Mar/Apr, article on Perry Mason...**Galaxy Patrol Fan Club Space O Gram**, Apr; Dale Ames has published 29 issues of this newsletter dedicated to fans of such programs as Tom Corbett, Space Patrol, Captain Midnight, Rocky Jones, Flash Gordon. For information write Dale at 144 Russell St., Worcester, MA 01609 (508) 755-3830...**Return With Us Now**, Apr; article and reprint of article about Heartbeat Theater...**Tradition**, Mar - Apr, articles about Roy Acuff, Bob Wills...**Radio Recall**, Apr; articles on Lou Genco, Jim Widner and Jerry Haendiges, 2 OTR Web Masters; also about

CALL OR WRITE FOR FREE CATALOG

B Burlington

The Blue Beetle by Chuck Juzek including a log...**Chattanooga Airwaves**, Mar – Apr; article on Orientals in OTR by Jack French. Jack will be doing a panel on this topic at the next FOTR Convention...May – Jun; article about Radio and WWII...**Tune Into Yesterday** (Publication of the Old-time Radio Show Collector's Association, a British and American Organization); Issues 21 and 22; articles about The Secret Colditz Radio Logbooks; ILAM; Sexton Blake; The Raid on Dieppe; more ILAM; I'm Sorry I'll Read that Again. TIY comes out 4 times a year and is \$15 a year. Contact Barry Hill, Rt 1 Box 197, Belpre, OH 45714...**Illustrated Press**, April; articles about Buffalo Radio; We Love and Learn; More Active People in Radio...May; articles about Orientals in OTR by Jack French; The Guiding Light...**SPERDVAC**, April; article about Road of Life...May; articles about OTR in Cyberspace; This is Nora Drake; Ampex...**Reminisce**, June; article about Fibber McGee and Molly by Clair Schulz...**Thrilling Days of Yesteryear**, May – Jun; articles about Johnny Roventini and Lights Out...**Past Times**, #27; reviews of books, CD's and other new material relating to Popular Culture including **The Marx Brothers Encyclopedia** by B T Batsford; 256 pages; \$19.95 from Trafalgar Square (1-800-423-4525)...**Daily Sentinel**, May – Jun; articles about Judy Canova; More Audition shows; Orientals in OTR by Jack French...**OTR Digest**, Mar – Apr; articles about Soap Operas and Fran Carlon; Review of new and recent science fiction shows...**Nostalgia Digest**, Jun – Jul; articles about Jack Carson; George Gershwin; The DeZurik and Cackle sisters; Sherlock Holmes; Radio Stars from Canada; Lowell Thomas...**NARA News**, Spring; NARA is celebrating 25 years. Congratulations; articles about Bret Morrison; Frank Bresee; Ray Erlenborn; OTR 2000 by Bob Burnham; Mexican Border Radio by Jack Palmer; Bobby Benson; Fibber McGee and Molly...**Jot 'em Down Journal**, Jun; reprints of articles about Lum and Abner from June, 1937 Radio Stars.

BOOKS: Greenwood Publishing Group has published many bio-bibliographies in the performing arts. James Robert Parish is the series editor. 73 have been published. For a list or to order call 1-800-225-5800...#75 is **Ann Sheridan** by Margie Schultz; 400 pages; \$65.. One recent book put out by Greenwood is "**Voices in the Purple Haze**," Underground Radio and the Sixties by Michael Keith, 216 pages, \$22.95. For discount for your organization call Ellen Louer at 203-226-3571, ext 384, Fax at 203-222-1502 or e-mail <elouer@greenwood.com>...**Same Time...Same Station** by Ron Lackmann has been selected as the winner of the 1996 Ray and Pat Browne Award in the textbook, reference book, resource category. The Award was made at the 27th Conference of the Popular Culture Association in San Antonio on March 27. Congratulations Ron.

ORGANIZATIONS, CLUBS and PERFORMANCES: **Yesterday USA (YUSA)** is still very active under the hands of Bill Bragg. For information write Bill at 2001 Plymouth Rock Dr., Richardson, TX 75081 or e-mail <bill@yesterdayusa.com>. The station broadcasts public domain OTR shows and vintage music 24 hours every day. The service is available by Satellite (C-Band backyard satellite system), cable TV system that carries it of the internet via a 486 computer equipped with a modem and sound card. Web site is <http://www.yesterdayusa.com>...**Lon Clark** was honored for his 70 years in radio and theater on May 6 at the Players in New York. Lon is a frequent attendee at our convention and well deserves this recognition...**The Elmira Little Theater** on Feb 7 and 8 presented their 9th visit to the Golden Age of Radio under the very capable direction of Gary Yoggy. Guests included Fred Foy, Barney Beck. Re-creations included Burns and Allen, The Lone Ranger and Sergeant Preston of the Yukon.

CONVENTIONS:

13th Annual National Lum and Abner Society Convention, June 20 – 21 in Mena Arkansas; Contact Tim Hollis, #81 Sharon Blvd., Dora, AL 35062.

REPS Radio Showcase 5, June 27 – 28 at Overlake Hospital Conference Center in Bellevue, Washington; Contact Mike Sprague, Box 723, Bothell, WA 98041 (206) 488-9518 <hrrmik@aol.com>

22nd Old-time Country Music Contest and Festival, Aug 25 – Sep 1 at Pottawattamie Country Fairgrounds in Avoca, Iowa. For information contact Bob Everhart at Box 438, Walnut, IA 51577.

25th Anniversary Golden Mikes Awards and Broadcasters Reunion, Sep 6, Balti-

more Boumi Temple, MD. For information call Gene Leitner (401) 477-3051

Friends of Old-time Radio Convention, Oct 23 - 25 at the Holiday Inn-North, Newark, NJ; For information contact Jay Hickerson, Box 4321, Hamden, CT 06514 (203) 248-2887 <Jay-Hick@aol.com>

SPERDVAC Convention, Nov 7 - 9; Crowne Plaza Hotel, Los Angeles; Contact Larry Gassman (562) 947-9800.

THE INTERNET: Many of my subscribers are on the Internet. A list was started in November of 1995. A complete alphabetical list can be obtained by sending me a SASE. If you want to get on the mailing list for the Old Time Radio Digest on the Internet e-mail to this address: <old.time.radio-request@airwaves.com>...New Members include: **Mitchell Weisberg** (Change) <mweisbe@nswc.navy.mil>...**Bill Jaker** <bilj@spectra.net>... **Doug Kosmonek** <dkosmonek@mail.fronet.com>...**Ted McGaffin** <Ted@Peterboro.net>.. **Dick King** <dick.king@worldnet.att.net>...**Stuart Weiss** <djstu@juno.com>

LOGS: **CBS Western Logs** is available from AVPRO, Box 1392, Lake Elsinore, CA for \$15. It contains complete logs for Fort Laramie, Frontier Gentleman, Gunsmoke, Have Gun Will Travel, Luke Slaughter of Tombstone. Each show listed contains the complete cast...For those who are looking for a **Fibber McGee and Molly** log, I am happy to report that **Tom Price** is still selling it. Cost for a complete 444-page log is \$59.95 plus \$8 P&H; California residents add 7.25% sales tax. Tom also has 20 scripts from Smackout for \$19.95 plus \$5 P&H. Heavenly Days, The Story of FM&M, by Charles Stumpf and Tom Price is \$29.95 plus \$5 P&H. Contact Tom at 621 Toyon Dr., Monterey, CA 93940 (408) 649-8023.

CATALOGS AND NEW SHOWS: **John Barber**, Box 70711, New Orleans, LA 70172 has more cassettes for sale including Father Coughlin, Strike It Rich, Life of Riley, Shadow. Also John has many scripts for sale...**Ed Carr**, 216 Shaner St., Boyertown, PA 19512 has several new shows: Major Bowes (7/21/35; 7/28/35), Bold Venture (#5,6), Forecast (Hopalong Cassidy, 8/11/41), 12 15-minute Amos 'n' Andy shows from 1929, a new Tale of Fatima, 1 Dark Destiny, Masquerade (1941)...**RHAC Library** has many Heartbeat Theater from 1983-85...**Doug Kosmonek**, 9191 Beckwith Rd., Richmond, BC Canada V6X 1V7 has many new CBC shows available including Canada War Bond Programs (1945); Harmony House (1944-52); Jack Cullen Show (1953); Tommy Hunter (1958, 65); What's Your Beef (1951); a strange 6/20/39 Texas State Network Show that reports on Crime and Death as it happens that day in Texas...**BRC Productions** (Bob Burnham), Box 510264, Livonia, MI 48151; May/June supplement has Suspense, Railroad Hour, X - 1, Eddie Cantor, others...**Leo Gawroniak**, Box 248, Glen Gardner, NJ 08826 (Bob and Glen were on both sides of me in the dealers room at Cincinnati); Leo's catalog contains many shows including; Casey, Crime Photographer; YTJD; Gunsmoke; Lone Ranger; Lives of Harry Lime; X - 1; Inner Sanctum, many others...**Great American Radio** (Garry Kramer), Box 504, Genesee, MI 48437 (April supplement) contains Cavalcade of America; Escape; Great Gildersleeve; Man Called X, many others..(May Supplement) contains Couple Next door; Amos 'n' Andy, Lux Radio Theater...**Radio Spirits** (Carl Amari), 1609 Barclay Blvd., Buffalo Grove, IL 60089 has close to 20 New Great Gildersleeve from 1951...**Jack French**, 5137 Richardson Dr., Fairfax, VA 22032 and **Vic Gerard**, 1230 Aimar St., Concord, CA 94518 now have a complete Flywheel, Shyster and Flywheel dated 5/22/33...**Jack** also has The Wynn show (Audition 1948) with Ed and Keenan Wynn; **The Marx Brothers** (Audition, 1936 or 1937; sponsored by Hodgekiss Packing)...**Bob Marquette**, 513 Main St., Van Buren, AR 72956 has a new **Honest Harold** (12/20/50) and **Great Gildersleeve** (10/26/54)...**Hello Again, Radio**, Box 6176, Cincinnati, OH 45206; latest flyer has variety including Jungle Jim, Unsolved Mysteries, Frank Sinatra...**Adventures in Cassettes**, 5353 Nathan Lane North, Plymouth, MN 55442 #91; wide variety including Dangerous Assignment and Dragnet...**SPERDVAC** has many more Family Theater from 6/22/49 - 9/5/51.. **Vintage Broadcasts** (Andy Blatt) Box 50065, Staten Island, NY 10305 (1-800-418-1445), June Supplement; Suspense; Information Please, Secret Agent K-7; Barrie Craig...**Randy Cox** writes about an article in the May issue of "Yellowback Library," for collectors of series books, about material including transcriptions of "The Nancy Drew" radio show with Bonita Granville. As I find more information, I will pass it on. I am unfamiliar with the show.

NEW ADDRESS: Lora Palmer, 24 Guernsey Rd., Bloomfield, CT 06002

NEW FRIENDS AND RETURNEES: Jim Cox, 202 S. Evergreen Rd., Louisville, KY 40243...**Brad Davidson**, 2732 Clermont Pl., Oklahoma City, OK 73116,,, **Warren Kew**, 14228-23 St., Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5Y 1E8 is looking for Long John Nebel shows with Dr. Walter Martin, a Baptist minister as guest...**Bill Jaker**, 1835 Main St., Vestal, NY 13850 <bilj@spectra.net> is looking for a We the People with Herb Morrison.. **Joel Cadbury**, 610 Donald's Dr., Ithaca, NY 14850 has gathered much material about Uncle Wiggily wishes to find as much information as he can and would like your help...**J Taylor Doggett**, 3608 Starmount Dr., Greensboro, NC 27403 (910) 852-1230 is looking for information on the German vocal group called The Comedian Harmonists. J Taylor is connected with the University of North Carolina and is very interested in alumni Kay Kyser, Skinny Ennis and Hal Kemp.. **Andy Adair**, 4 Avon Walk, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 4DJ, United Kingdom is very much interested in finding material with Boris Karloff, Bela Lugosi, Peter Lorre, Lionel Atwill and Lon Chaney. He has a lot of material already...**Murray Schantzen**, 207 B Linn Ct., North Aurora, IL 60542...**Ed Ginsburg**, 3011 Kent Rd., Louisville, KY 40205...**John Edwards**, 118 Buttercup Ct., Plainfield, IL 60544...**Gerald Ruark**, 3202 Busy Bee Ln., Indianapolis, IN 46227 ...**Jerry Alexander**, 7311 McCormack Dr., Hixson, TN 37343...**Geoffrey Tolle**, 207 W Lakeview Ave., Columbus, OH 43202...**Sammy Jones, Jr.**, 45 Birch Rd., Covington, GA 30209 (Age 14); Sammy is looking for the first episode of Jack Benny (5/2/32) and The Pearl Harbor episode (12/7/41)...**Mary Poehler**, Box 40, Wheaton, IL 60189...**Richard Whitney**, Box 3132, Bellingham, WA 98227 is looking for information about a 25-minute Decca Recording of **Moby Dick** with Charles Laughton...**George O'Reilly**, 8 The Sycamores, Grove Road, Malahide, CO. Dublin, Ireland is looking for a source of Bing Crosby shows, especially Kraft.

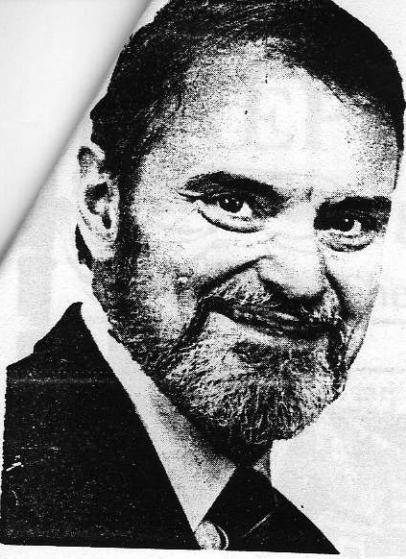
OLD FRIENDS: **Angelo Prospero**, 210 White Blvd., Summerville, SC 29483 is looking for a picture of Bob Bailey and also Dick Cole programs. Angelo is a boxing writer and historian...**Buddy Thompson**, 6807 Pennywill Dr., Nashville, TN 37205 is still looking for 2 shows he played in: Orchestras of the Nation (1/15/49) and NBC Monitor around 1972 or 1973 with a segment featuring a cut from a concert by Bobby Goldsboro...**Jim Blythe**, 941 Redding Rd., Asheboro, NC 27203 has his collection indexed on a data base. The first diskette is available. He uses Windows 95, Version 4. Copies will be made available for \$1.24 in stamps (USA residents)...**Darwin Maurer**, 315 W Market St., Perkasio, PA 18944 is looking for any copies of programs with John Charles Thomas including Five-Star Theater, RCA Magic Key and Home on the Range...**David Easter**, 1900 Angleside Rd., Fallston, MD 21047.

IN FOND MEMORY: **Arthur Kent**, Feb 9; 74; Broadcast technician (Voice of America)...**Lewis Cook**, Apr 18; 89; last surviving member of original cast of Grand Ole Opry.. **Emery Deutsch**, Apr 16; 91; Violinist, songwriter, orchestra leader; had his own radio show on and off from 1934 to 1941...**Dick Gilbert**, Feb 23; 93; singing disc jockey in New York.. **John Gray Peatman**, Mar 9, 92; radio analyst...**John Beal**, Apr 26, 87; actor (Lux).

Hello Again is \$15 a year and is published 6 times a year. The first issue appeared in April of 1970.

Write if you get work; and hang by your thumbs

JAY HICKERSON, Box 4321, Hamden, CT 06514
(203) 248-2887; FAX (203) 281-1322
e-mail: JayHick@aol.com



JOHN A. BARBER
Golden Age Productions

Box 70711
New Orleans, LA 70172
Tel: (504) 943-6091



Hi!! I sell old time radio on cassettes. Most are 60 minute tapes and cost \$4.98 ea. with \$4.50 postage and handling. I have many specialized sales sheets. For a SASE, I'll mail four(4) different pages of your choice.

1. Amos And Andy - 1 page
2. Jack Benny - 1 page
3. Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy - 1 page
4. George Burns and Gracie Allen - 1 page
5. Christmas - 1 page
6. Bing Crosby - 1 page
7. Easter - 1 page
8. Fibber McGee and Molly - 2 pages
9. Judy Garland - 1 page
10. Great Gildersleeve - 2 pages
11. Greatest Story Ever Told - & more Inspirational Radio - 1 page
12. Bob Hope - 1 page
13. Horror, Terror & Mystery - 1 page
14. Boris Karloff-Bela Lugosi-Ronald Reagan - 1 page
15. Dorothy Lamour- Lana Turner- Candice Bergen - 1 page
16. Living Legends- 2 pages
17. Lone Ranger- 2 pages
18. Love and Romance - 1 page
19. Lux Radio Theatre- 1 page
20. Movies- 2 pages
21. Music- 3 pages
22. The Old West- 2 pages
23. Our Miss Brook - 1 page
24. The Railroad Hour- more good music - 1 page
25. Science Fiction - 1 page
26. The Shadow- 4 pages
27. Frank Sinatra - 1 page
28. Superman- 3 pages

Just send a SASE plus your request for four different sales

Thank you.

Lest I forget!!

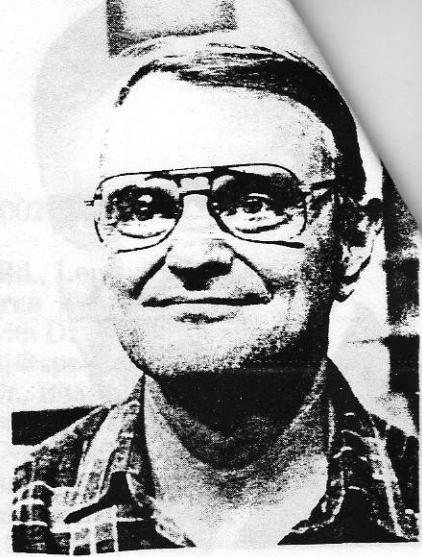
#29-Lucille Ball- Elizabeth Taylor - 1 page

Phone _____
Mail to: Showcase, PO Box 707, Buhell, WA 98041



JOHN A. BARBER
Golden Age Productions

Box 70711
New Orleans, LA 70172
Tel: (504) 943-6091



Hi, lovers of Old Time Radio!!!
I sell stuff.

CASSETTES - I have access to over 4,000 cassettes- most are the 60 min. type-with OTR programming. Send a SASE, and I'll mail to you the first part of my listing. The prices, generally, are \$4.98 ea. with \$4.50 postage & handling.

SCRIPTS-In my own apartment, I have over 350 old radio scripts and comedy sketches. A fair amount are copies of the originals, most are copied from books and transcribed from the recordings. Send a SASE and I'll send you a large listing of scripts. I sell by the page- 15¢ per page, with \$4.50 postage & handling.

COMIC BOOKS- I'm beginning to accumulate comic books that have an old time radio connection. Most are from the 80's and 90's. But, there are some rare ones. For a SASE, I'll xerox copies of the covers for your perusal.

PHOTOS- I'm beginning to accumulate photos of old radio performers. Some are excised from books, but most are on photo paper. For an SASE, I'll send you xerox copies of some goodies.

And there are a few good books- sorry, no copies of TUNE IN YESTERDAY- a 1953 magazine with A. Godfrey on the cover and other stuff.

In any case, write and tell me what you need and I'll see what I can do.

Old Time Radio Lives!!!

PS: So, buy- buy- buy!!! I need to buy a new typewriter or word processor- as you can readily see.

jab

52767

REPS RADIO SHOWCASE V

"180 DAYS 'TIL CHRISTMAS!"

The Radio Enthusiasts of Puget Sound-Seattle

JUNE 27-28, 1997
SEATTLE
REPS RADIO SHOWCASE V

CHRISTMAS?

Each year, REPS has sought to have a focus, a creative theme. Though in late June, this event will feature re-creations from Christmas shows of the past. Attendees will notice other seasonal touches as well.

THIS WILL BE YEAR #5!

For the past four years, the Radio Enthusiasts of Puget Sound (REPS) have sponsored the Radio Showcase OTR convention. We've been on the receiving end of so much kindness, talent, history and education. And...we've made so many friends! Ask anyone who has been there: there is something special about the chemistry generated at this gathering!

This is a convention where you really get to know the stars. They love the intimacy too! The Showcase will be a premier event for those who love both Old Time Radio and the best of new radio drama as well.

THE PROGRAM

Friday evening

KIRO Mystery Playhouse-Jim French will present two new radio dramas specifically written around the voices and talents of our special guests. These will be aired later on KIRO and around the country.

Saturday

Ethel & Albert meet Vic & Sade? Turns out, in our show, they're now next door neighbors. This will be a riot!

There will be at least two more re-creations and two panels. **Duffy's Tavern** is on tap with more to be announced. And we'll do the highly popular, get-acquainted-with-the-stars feature we call **"Just Sittin' Around and Visiting."** Lunch time will offer breakout sessions for those who wish to participate.

Many of the guests from the past have indicated that they will be with us, and first time guests include Larry Dobkin, Sandra Gould, Bob Hastings, Peg Lynch and ?

SITE AND HOTEL

Once again, we'll be meeting at the Overlake Hospital Conference Center in Bellevue. The hotel is still the West Coast Bellevue. The Showcase rate is \$79 per room including tax. Model A shuttle service will again be provided. For hotel reservations call 1-206-455-9444 and mention Radio Showcase.

SPECIAL GUESTS DURING THE FIRST 4 YEARS-A number of them coming this year too!

*Arthur Anderson *John Archer *Parley Baer
*Harry Bartell *Dick Beals *Frank Bresee
*Frank Buxton *Colby Chester *Lon Clark
*Stewart Conway *Sam Edwards *Herb Ellis
*Ray Erlenborn *Fred Foy *Jim French
*Esther Geddes *Page Gilman *Art Gilmore
*Jack Kruschen *Peter Leeds *Jay Livingston
*Merrill Mael *Gale Storm Masterson *Paul Masterson *Tyler McVey *Shirley Mitchell
*Bill Murtough *Jeanette Nolan *Kevin O'Morrison
*David Ossman *Gil Stratton, Jr. *Ginny Tyler
*Willard Waterman *Anne Whitfield Phillips
*Peggy Webber *Rhoda Williams *Douglas Young

1997 first time guests include

Larry Dobkin, Sandra Gould, Bob Hastings, Peg Lynch+

REGISTRATION

EARLY REGISTRATION BONUS

Tapes of all Showcase Re-creations

The first 30 to register will be entered in a drawing to win cassettes of all re-creations done at the Showcase. There will be 3 winners! Your acknowledgment will tell you if you're in this group.

DISCOUNTS FOR REPS MEMBERS

REPS members and their guests will receive a discount, as reflected on the pricing below.

	Member	Non member	Total
Fri. only	___@ \$10	___@ \$12	\$ ___
Sat. day	___@ \$29	___@ \$33	\$ ___
Sat. PM	___@ \$34	___@ \$39	\$ ___
Everything	___@ \$63	___@ \$72	\$ ___

Saturday includes continental breakfast and refreshments throughout the day, plus beverages at the social hour. The banquet is included for Saturday evening and Entire program registrations.

Membership # _____ OR send me info. _____

Name(s): _____
Please list ALL names for name badge purposes.

Address: _____

Phone: _____
Mail to: Showcase, PO Box 723, Bothell, WA 98041

THE COPYRIGHT EXTENSION TRAP

PLEASE READ! PLEASE READ! PLEASE READ! PLEASE READ! PLEASE READ!

The battle is starting again! Legislative attempts to extend current periods of copyright have failed in recent sessions of Congress. However, the pro-copyright extension forces (the major studios, the publishing industry, the music industry, etc.) are back for another shot at it. Bills were recently introduced in both houses of Congress to extend terms of copyright protection. Current terms of protection are:

WORKS BY AN INDIVIDUAL.....LIFE PLUS 50 YEARS
WORKS FOR HIRE (movies, newspapers, magazines, etc.).....75 YEARS

The proposed extensions are:

WORKS BY AN INDIVIDUAL.....LIFE PLUS 70 YEARS
WORKS FOR HIRE (movies, newspapers, magazines, etc.).....95 YEARS

Proponents of extension argue that the U.S. needs to be in "harmony" with European copyright terms. Yet, current copyright terms in Europe for "works for hire" (movies, magazines, etc.) are only 70 years. That's five years shorter than what we have already.

What copyright extension will mean to America:

There are literally thousands of works, particularly in the area of motion pictures, that are sitting on the shelf waiting for the freedom of the public domain. The large companies that own the rights to them have no intention of ever making most of these works available again on a widespread basis. Why? Because there's no real profit in it for them on the levels of commercial expectancy that they're used to dealing with. So what will happen? Copyrights on all works will be extended so that the major companies can continue to exploit the small percentage of works that are still profitable to them--the rest be damned!

You, as a citizen, author, teacher, documentary film maker, librarian, musician, historian, etc. will be denied access to most these works simply because there will be no one to make them available to you, or because the cost of obtaining them will be far too prohibitive. This means higher prices in the marketplace. This means less material to draw from to create new works. This means less availability of works for reference, historical, and other educational purposes. This means less availability of materials for *your own personal enjoyment*. Sadly, in the area of film, another 20-years of copyright will mean the destruction of many movies which will decompose and disappear forever.

That ain't all folks! If copyright extension is granted, you can bet your bottom dollar that DOMESTIC COPYRIGHT RESTORATION will come next. They've already done this with foreign works via the GATT accord (see page 14). Try to imagine someday having every public domain work from all or most of the 20th century--American and Foreign alike--blanketly restored to a state of copyright. This is *not* paranoia. This could and probably will happen if we don't collectively raise our voices.

The fact of the matter is that, collectively, the major media players are becoming *far too* powerful. Their ability to shape our world and influence the way we think is staggering. They want to control as much material as they can and be paid for all usages of it. All usages. If you think this is more paranoia, think back to the flap over the Girl Scouts of America being asked to pay royalties for songs sung around the campfire, or royalty demands made on private groups for singing "Happy Birthday." How would you, as a librarian, like to have to pay royalties on most of the books in your library? Impossible, you say? It's already happening in many European communities. Extension of copyright is just another enormous slice of influential power that we cannot afford to give away.

What can you do about it? **WRITE!** Don't delay. Write your Senator or Congressman today. Tell them that you oppose Senate bill S.483 and House bill H.R. 604, which will extend U.S. copyright terms. Address your letters to any Senator or Congressman like this:

The Honorable _____
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20520

The Honorable _____
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

ALSO: Please send a copy of your letter to as many of the Senators and Congressmen below as you possibly can. They are members of the committees in Congress that initiate all changes in copyright law. We realize this is a lot of envelope addressing, but please, do as many as you can. It's very important. If you've written in the past, PLEASE, do it again. If you've never written before, please do so now. Each voice is important. **PLEASE WRITE!!!**

HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY:

- HOWARD COBLE, NC; BARNEY FRANK, MA;
- JOHN CONYERS, MI; JAMES SENSENBRENNER, WI;
- BOB GOODLATTE, WI; ED PEASE, IN;
- CHRISTOPHER CANNON, UT; BILL McCOLLUM, FL;
- CHARLES CANADY, FL; RICK BOUCHER, VA;
- WILLIAM DELAHUNT, MA;
- ZOE LOFGREN, CA; HOWARD BERMAN, CA;
- ELSTON GALLEGLY, CA; SONNY BONO, CA

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE:

- CHARLES GRASSLEY, IA; HERBERT KOHL, WI;
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- JOSEPH BIDEN, DE; SPENCER ABRAHAM, MI;
- JOHN ASHCROFT, MO; MIKE DeWINE, OH;
- JOHN KYL, AZ; JEFF SESSIONS, AL;
- ARLEN SPECTER, PA; FRED THOMPSON, TN;
- STROM THURMOND, SC; DICK DURBIN, IL;
- EDWARD KENNEDY, MA; DIANNE FEINSTEIN, CA;
- RUSSELL FEINGOLD, WI; BOB TORRICELLA, NJ

If you have any questions at all, please call! 541-773-6860. Ask to speak to Greg about copyright extension. You can e-mail us at sinister@magick.net, but it is better to speak in person because of the complexities of the issues. Send us copies of your letters! We'd love to read them. If you would like more informative reading on this subject, Go to ASU Professor Dennis Karjala's anti-copyright extension web-site:

<http://www.public.asu.edu/~dkarjala>

This will give you a much more thorough look at the issue and what's at stake. This site will also provide you with the e-mail addresses of all the Senators and Congressmen listed above should you wish to communicate with them via the net. Thanks so much, and remember--PLEASE WRITE!!