

HELLO AGAIN

VOL. 39 NO. 6

NOV - DEC, 2008

A PERSONAL NOTE:

I turned 74 on the 25th.

If anyone wants information in HA, please e-mail me the exact wording if you can. I can then paste it right in the newsletter. Of course I will accept information in regular mail from everyone else.

We lost one of our good friends, **James (Sonny) Raley**. He specialized in autographs and pictures and was a fixture as a dealer at various conventions including FOTR.

Louise Salerno, our banquet manager for 28 years for our convention, lost her husband of 52 years, Tony, on the 21st. Our deepest regrets go to her and her family.

THIRD REVISED ULTIMATE HISTORY: Just a reminder that this book was originally written in 1992 and is the first and original book listing Network radio programming and the shows that are in circulation.

The third Supplement to the third edition is off the press. Cost is \$5.00 plus \$1.50 P & H.

The 2005 "3rd Revised Ultimate History" is \$63 including P&H, which includes the First, Second and third Supplement. If you bought any of my earlier editions, the cost is \$53 including P&H. Please send new information when you can for the third supplement. I will need the information by October 1, 2009.

CONVENTION 2009: This is our 34th convention. Dates are Oct 22 - 25, 2009 at the Holiday Inn, Newark, NJ. Our web site will keep you up to date. Note web site: <<http://www.fotr.net>>.

CONVENTION 2008: 2008 Convention booklets are available for \$2.50 including P&H. There are guests bios and pictures.

All of the sessions were video recorded by Satellite Media Production. You may order them as a complete set or by individual sessions. Please contact Fred Berney at Satellite Media Productions, P.O. Box 638, Walkersville, MD 21793-0638. Phone 800-747-0856. E-mail: fsberney@verizon.net.

Two years ago, Ellen and Fred Berney prepared 2 DVD's of the past 30 conventions. Cost is \$20 plus \$5.00 P&H. Send to Satellite Media Productions.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED: A complete list of publications mentioned with addresses, contact people, etc. is one of the introductory pages in my current Ultimate History. It is also part of a small package mailed with your first Hello Again. If you don't have one, e-mail me for it and I will e-mail it to you. If you don't have e-mail, please send me a SASE for it; -**Illustrated Press**, Sep; article about Walter Tetley; -Oct; article about Bud Collyer; -Nov; article about Abbott and Costello; -**Air Check**; Sep; article about Sherlock Holmes; -October; article about Gil Stratton; -**RLL on the Air**; Fall; article about Inner Sanctum Mysteries; -**Radio Recall**, October; article about Canines and Radio

BOOKS: (Most books can also be purchased at <www.lofcom.com/nostalgia/books/>, <Amazon.com> or <Barnesandnoble.com>). **Greenwood Publishing Group** (Box 5007, Westport, CT 06881) has published many bio-bibliographies in the performing arts. James Robert Parish is the series editor. Over 80 have been published. For a list or to order call 1-800-225-5800 or 1-203-226-3571; -Many books are from **McFarland**; 1-800-253-2187; Web (www.mcfarlandpub.com) and **Bear Manor Media**, Box 71426, Albany, GA 31708; 229-436-4265; <Bearmanormedia.com> **Book Hunter Press**, Box 193, Yorktown Hts., NY 10598 (www.bookhunterpress.com/radio); -**Martin Grams (OTR Publishing)**, Box 252, Churchville, MD. 21028; (717) 456-6208 <www.martingrams.com>; -**Scarecrow Press**; <scarecrowpress.com> 1-800-462-6420.

McFarland; Broadcasting on the Short Waves, 1945 to Today by Jerome S. Berg 190 photos, appendix, notes, bibliography, index; 496pp. hardcover (7 x 10) 2008; Price: \$65.00

Description

Short-wave broadcasting originated in the 1920s, when stations used the new technology to increase their range in order to serve foreign audiences and reach parts of their own country that could not easily be covered by regular AM stations. The early days of short-wave radio were covered in *On the Short Waves, 1923-1945: Broadcast Listening in the Pioneer Days of Radio*, published by McFarland in 1999. This book picks up the story

after World War II, focusing on the stations themselves and the environment in which they operated. A companion volume, *Listening on the Short Waves, 1945 to Today*, focuses on the short-wave listening community.

The heart of the book is a detailed, year-by-year account of the short-wave bands in each year from 1945 to the present. It reviews what American listeners were hearing on the international and domestic short-wave bands, describes the arrivals and departures of stations, and recounts important short-wave events. The book also introduces readers to the several categories of broadcasters—international, domestic, religious, clandestine and pirate—and to private short-wave broadcasting in the United States. It explains the impact of relay stations, frequency management, and jamming, and describes promising short-wave technologies. It also addresses the considerable changes in, and challenges to, short-wave broadcasting since the end of the cold war. The book is richly illustrated and indexed, and features a bibliography and extensive notes to facilitate further reading or research.

McFarland; *Listening on the Short Waves, 1945 to Today*; by Jerome S. Berg ISBN 978-0-7864-3996-6 120 photos, notes, bibliography, index 423pp. hardcover (7 x 10) 2008 Price: \$65.00

Description

The discovery and development of short-wave technology during the 1920s and 1930s permitted radio stations throughout the world to transmit their programs over long distances, even worldwide, for the first time, and the thrill of hearing broadcasts from faraway places produced a dedicated American audience. Developments in short-wave broadcasting and short-wave listening from their inception through the war years were covered in *On the Short Waves, 1923–1945: Broadcast Listening in the Pioneer Days of Radio*, published by McFarland in 1999. This book picks up the story in 1945, describing the resumption of organized short-wave listening after the war and its development in the years since. The companion volume, *Broadcasting on the Short Waves, 1945 to Today*, focuses on the world's short-wave stations.

Written from the standpoint of the serious short-wave enthusiast, this book begins with an examination of the broader short-wave listening audience. It then presents in detail the histories of the major North American short-wave clubs and reviews the professional and listener-generated short-wave literature of the era. It also covers the DX programs and other listening fare to which short-wave listeners were most attracted and the QSL-cards they sought as confirmation of their reception. The book presents a chronology of the short-wave receivers available and discusses how changes in receiver technology impacted the listening experience. It also addresses the important role that computers have played in the short-wave listening of recent decades. The book is richly illustrated and indexed, and features extensive notes to facilitate further reading or research.

McFarland; *Encyclopedia of American Radio, 1920–1960, 2d ed.* by Luther F. Sies ISBN 978-0-7864-2942-4 appendices, bibliography, indexes 1158pp. library binding (8.5 x 11 in 2 vols.) 2008 Price: \$195.00

Description

In this revised, expanded and corrected edition, the acclaimed *Encyclopedia of American Radio, 1920–1960* (*Booklist* Editors' Choice; "recommended"—*Library Journal*) offers even better coverage of the performers and programming on American radio from its inception to its golden age. This work is the definitive source for scholars of communication, social and cultural history and the popular arts, as well as devoted fans of radio history.

New entries include information on such fascinating topics as gender discrimination in radio; holidays on the airwaves; husband and wife teams; minstrel shows, vaudeville, and burlesque; Scopes "monkey" trial broadcasts; and super heroes. Also included is additional information on broadcasters of the twenties, thirties, and forties, as well as on unique entertainers ranging from astrologists and musical saw soloists to yodelers and whistlers. These new additions offer even fuller understanding of radio's important role in American social and cultural history.

This Day in Network Radio

A Daily Calendar of Births, Deaths, Debuts, Cancellations and Other Events in Broadcasting History by Jim Cox ISBN 978-0-7864-3848-8 bibliography, index, 259pp. softcover (7 x 10) 2008; Price: \$49.95;

From **McFarland**

Description

For each day of the calendar, this unique work details events that have significantly affected American network radio since the mid-1920s. Entries recount occasions, practices, or decisions which left indelible marks on broadcasting (listed by date of occurrence); the debuts and cancellations of programs; and births and deaths of important people in radio history—not only headliners but also less recognized individuals, from radio executives and producers to writers, sound techs, engineers, consultants, hawkers and impersonators.

The Great Radio Audience Participation Shows

Seventeen Programs from the 1940s and 1950s by Jim Cox ISBN 978-0-7864-4046-7 photos, appendix, notes, bibliography, index; 272pp. softcover (7 x 10) 2009 [2001]; Price: \$39.95;

from **McFarland**

Description

This work contains the histories of *Arthur Godfrey's Talent Scouts*, *Art Linkletter's House Party*,

Break the Bank, The Breakfast Club, Bride and Groom, Can You Top This?, Dr. Christian, Dr. I.Q., Double or Nothing, Information Please, Queen for a Day, Stop the Music!, Strike It Rich, Take It or Leave It, Truth or Consequences, Welcome Travelers, and You Bet Your Life, all from the 1940s and 1950s. Included for each show are the premise it was based upon, the producers, host, announcer, vocalists, orchestra conductor, writers, and sponsors, and the air dates and ratings. Biographical sketches are provided for 177 individuals.

CONVENTIONS:

Cincinnati's 23rd Old Time Radio and Nostalgia Convention, April 24 – 25, 2009; Cincinnati North Hotel; Contact Bob Burchett, 10280 Gunpowder Rd., Florence, KY 41042 (888-477-9112) <haradio@hotmail.com>

20th Annual Radio Classics Live! Sat, May 2, 2009, Buckley Performing Arts Center, Massasoit Community College, Brockton, MA. Contact Bob Bowers (508-758-4865, bobowers@verizon.net) or Alan Chapman (508-459-1864, otrghost@gmail.com)

34th Friends of Old-time Radio Convention, Oct 22 – 25, 2009 at the Holiday Inn, Newark, NJ; For information contact Jay Hickerson, 27436 Desert Rose Ct, Leesburg, FL 34748 (352) 727-6731 <JayHick@aol.com> or check our web site: <http://www.fotr.net>

THE INTERNET: Many of my subscribers are on the Internet. If you want to get on the mailing list for the Old Time Radio Digest (Round table) on the Internet, e-mail to this address: <old.time.radio-request@oldradio.net>...

WEB SITES: Various OTR Web sites will be posted. Most begin with <www.> Let me know what yours is: **Lou Genco** (many collectors have their sites here including Vintage Broadcasts; Ted Davenport; Ed Carr; Fred Berney; Pat McCoy) <old-time.com> **Jim Widner** <otr.com> (**Radio Days**);-**Chuck Schaden** <nostalgjadigest.com> **BRC (Bob Burnham)** <brcradio.com/> **Ted Kneebone** <geocities.com/tkneebone1> **Jerry Haendiges** <otrsite.com/radiolog/index.html> **Australian Film and Sound** <Screensound.gov.au> **Owens Pomeroy (Golden Radio Buffs) (not www)** <members.aol.com/grbmd> **OTR Digest** <www.lofcom.com/nostalgia/books/> **Jack Benny Fan Club** <Jackbenny.org> **Radio Broadcast Chronicles** <gna.net/tia> **Tom Heathwood** <HeritageRadio.com>. **First Generation Archives** <radioarchives.org> (Free subscription) <<http://www.radioarchives.org/newsletter.asp>> **Radio Enthusiasts of Puget Sound** <repsonline.org> **Terry Salomonson** <audio-classic.com> <digitalotr.com> The **OTR Club** now has a web page at <<http://www2.pcom.net/robmcd/otrbuffalo/>> **Doug Kosmonek** <<http://members.shaw.ca/dougosmonek>> new e-mail is <dougosmonek@shaw.ca> **Radio Spirits** <radiospirits.com> **The MWOTRC** web site is now operational and can be accessed either by www.mwotrc.com or www.readiorecall.com **Radio Memories (NEW)** www.radiomemories.com...**Ivan G. Shreve, Jr. (Thrilling Days of Yesteryear)** <<http://blogs.salon.com/0003139/>> **Bear Manor Media**, a publishing company (run by Ben Ohmart. Send for their catalog...They have published many OTR books in the last few years. <<http://www.bearmanormedia.com>> **RHAC** web site is <www.rhac.org> **Radio Days** is celebrating its 10th year on the web at <<http://www.otr.com>> **Ron Sayles (births, deaths)** <http://mywebpage.netscape.com/bogusotr/instant/taz.html>. (also) <http://otrbirths.blogspot.com/>;-**Eddie Cantor** <eddiecantor.com>

CATALOGS AND NEW SHOWS (All addresses first): **McCoy's Recording** (Pat McCoy), Box 1069, Richland, WA 99352 (509) 627-4039; <www.old-time.com/mccoy.html> **Jerry Haendiges**, 13808 Sunset Dr., Whittier, CA 90602 <JHaendiges@aol.com> **Radio Memories (Ted Davenport)**, Box 94548, North Little Rock, AR 72190 (888) 357-2346 <tedotr@sbcglobal.net> **Vintage Broadcasts** (Andy Blatt), Box 3257, Milford, CT 06460 (203-783-1923); also 1-866-783-1923; <asajb2000@yahoo.com>; **Great American Radio (GAR)** (Gary Kramer), Box 401, Clio, MI 48420 <ga@radio.fm>; **Bequaert Old Books**, Box 775, Fitzwilliam, NH 03447 (603) 585-3448 <www.beqbooks.com>; send 2 34-cent stamps for a catalog of books and magazines on OTR **AVPRO** (Don Aston), Box 1392, Lake Elsinore, CA 92531 (1-888-3328776) **Redmond Nostalgia Co.** (David Kiner), Box 82, Redmond, WA 98073 **SPERDVAC Library** (Box 7177, Van Nuys, CA 91409) **John Barber**, Box 72273., New Orleans, LA 70112 (504) 586-1931 <jbarber@gno.lib.la.us>. **Vintage Audio** (Tom Martin), 461 Maple Ave., Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 (518) 584-1112 <Thomasmartin245@aol.com> **Satellite Video Production (Fred Berney)** Box 638, Walkersville, MD 21793 (1-800-747-0856) <Berney@fred.net> **BRC Productions** (Bob Burnham), Box 158, Dearborn, MI 48127 <bob@brcbroadcast.com> <www.brcradio.com> **Hello Again Radio** (Bob Burchett), 10280 Gunpowder Rd., Florence, KY 41042 **Audio Classics Archive (Terry Salomonson)**, Box 347, Howell, MI 48844; 1-877-653-8963 (for orders only) <audio-classic.com> **Lodestone** (Richard Fish), 611 Empire Mill Rd., Bloomington, IN 47401; 1-800-411-6463 <lodestone-media.com> (Deals in New Audio Theater **Ed Carr**, 216 Shaner St., Boyertown, PA 19512 <edcarr@enter.net> **Dan Riedstra**, 2830 North Rockwell St., Chicago, IL 60618 <daniel.riedstra@wcom.com>. **Max Schmid**, Box 3449, Astoria, NY 11103 <mschmid@rcn.com> <www.oldtimeradio.com> **Henry Hinkel**, 254 Florida Avenue, Amsterdam, NY 12010

<www.crabapplesound.com> Danean MacAndrew, P. O. Box 793, Lake Forest, CA, 92609 <www.theradiolady.com>
Heritage Radio Classics; Tom Heathwood, Box 16, Boston, MA 02467 <www.heritageradio.com> Listen to the
Heritage Radio Theatre every Sunday for one week streaming audio: <www.vintageRadioPlace.com/broadcast>

All listings below list sampling of shows.

OLD FRIENDS: From Mel Simons: Bob Elliott has a new DVD called "An Award Winning film by Bob and Ray."; -**Mel** begins his 30th year on WBZ radio in Boston. Mel is a regular on the Steve LeVeille Show. WBZ at night hits 38 states and has a listening audience of over 1 million people.

"WANTED - back issues of any old time radio magazine, or nostalgia publication for the Archives of the Old Time Radio Researchers. Willing to pay some for issues, but would like to have them donated. If donated, will reimburse shipping and handling. PDF files also accepted. Please e-mail **Jim Beshires** at beshiresjim@yahoo.com for more information."

(From **Joe Webb**: <drjoewebb@yahoo.com> I've been working on getting a Suspense set that is complete with all circulating shows, and best sound available. There are a few shows that pose some serious challenges, and good copies may never have been available. If anyone has replacements, please contact me.

These shows are real problems sound-wise and perhaps someone may have better versions:
7/18/56 Man Who Threw Acid (muffle/over modulated)
1/13/57 Russian New Year (muffle/over modulated)
12/1/57 Jet Stream (muffle/over modulated, other places hiss and sound processing remnants)

These shows are less of a problem, but could use some refreshing
2/9/50 The Butcher's Wife - Kirk Douglas HOLLOW SOUND - NOISY
4/12/51 Early To Death - Lucille Ball & Desi Arnaz MUFFLED OVER MODULATED
3/22/55 The Cellar - Eric Snowden (AFRS) TINNY, NOISY NEEDS UPGRADE

These two seem to be bad recordings (they might be home recordings), and new versions may never surface
5/9/46 Clock and The Rope- Jackie Cooper (AFRS)
4/28/52 The Shooting Of Billy The Kid - Frank Lovejoy

I have been looking for years on DVD or tape of "The Pittsburgh Kid" w/Billy Conn & Veda Ann Borg, made in 1941. It was on tv here about thirty years ago, but of course I did not have a VCR then. I will trade or buy;
Bill Anthony; 412-882-6135; <williamanthony@ymail.com>

NEW ADDRESS: **Lora Palmer**, 47 Maple St., 1st Floor, West Haven, CT 06516

IN FOND MEMORY: **George Putnam**, Sep 12; 94; newscasters on all networks; -**Wonderful Smith**, Aug 28, 97; actor; Red Skelton; -**Connie Haines**, Sep 22, 87; singer; 2 summer radio shows 1946 and 1947; guest on many radio shows; -**Gil Stratton, Jr.**; Oct 11, 86; actor; sports broadcaster (F M & Molly; Halls of Ivy); often at our FOTR Conventions; -**Eddie Adams**, Oct 15; 81; actress, singer (Hollywood Hotel; Good News); -**Neal Hefti**, Oct 11; 85; composer, band leader and arranger (Army Bandstand; Manhattan Melodies); -**Jack Narz**, Oct 15; 85; TV host and radio announcer (This is Paris); -**Studs Terkel**, Oct 31, 96; author, Chicago radio personality; -**Henry Loomis**, Nov 2; 89; Led Voice of America during 1950's and 1960's; -**Irving Brecher**, Nov 17; 94; comedy-script writer (created Life of Riley); -**John Michael Hayes**, 11/19; 89; screenwriter (Suspense, The Whistler, many others)

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

I hope everyone has a happy holiday season.

Write if you get work; and hang by your thumbs

Jay Hickerson, 27436 Desert Rose Ct., Leesburg, FL 34748;
Phone: 352-728-6731; FAX: 352-728-2405
e-mail: JayHick@aol.com

Web site: <http://www.old-time.com/sponsors/hickerson.html>

FOTR Web site: <http://www.fotr.net>

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

2008

The Friends of Old-time Radio held its 33rd Annual Convention from October 23 – 26 at the Holiday Inn, Newark, New Jersey. New Celebrities present were: **Mark Barkan, Ervin Drake, Harold Gould, Ilene Kristen, Laurence Luckinbill, Douglas McGrath** Other celebrities present were **Arthur Anderson, Lucie Arnaz, Larry Conroy, Christina Britton Conroy, Tommy Cook, Peter Fernandez, Cliff Carpenter, Joe Franklin, Michael Gwynne, Elaine Hyman, Chuck McCann, Shirley Mitchell, Bill Owen, Rosemary Rice, Lynne Rogers, Jean Rouverol, Leslie Shreve, , Craig Wichman**. The guests socialized with fans, participated in panels and workshops and re-created 10 radio shows.

The convention began Wednesday Evening with complementary Wine and Cheese and informal visiting. Thursday Morning the dealers opened at 9 am. There were three afternoon panels: **Radio Idol with R Larson, D Zwengler and guests; Script Writing; with Dave Zwengler; Authors Panel**; We then had cocktails and dinner. 52 fans attended during the day. 119 fans and guests attended in the evening. **Those Were the Days Radio Players**; dir. by Connie Foster; with Chicago group and Michael Gwynne (Odyssey of Runyon Jones by Norman Corwin); **Peter Fernandez** directs an episode of Suspense which he wrote "The Time, the Place, and the Death" including Arthur Anderson, Cliff Carpenter, Larry Conroy, Christina Britton Conroy; **Leslie Shreve Jean Rouverol, Craig Wichman; Arthur Anderson dir. an original script** (The Seven Hills of Passion by Alan Gutierrez, including Cliff Carpenter, Jean Rouverol, Larry Conroy, Christina Britton Conroy, Lynne Rogers, Craig Wichman

Friday began at 9:00 with the opening of the dealers room. 54 dealers' tables were active during the convention. 177 people attended dinner with another 69 in the afternoon. Workshops and panels included the following: **Poetry and Radio with David Zwengler and Frazier Russell; Pulp to Radio (Anthony Tollin); Sports on Radio (K Stockinger); Lindbergh Kidnapping (Jack French); War of the worlds (Anthony Tollin and Michael Biel); 6th annual Funny Friday Comedy Panel with Chuck McCann; Michael Gwynne; Shirley Mitchell, Arthur Anderson, Tommy Cook ; The Gotham Radio Players** presented a "lost" episode from THE ADVENTURES OF SAM SPADE, "Sam and the Corporation Murders". directed and produced by Steve Lewis and Max Schmid

On Friday evening we had 2 programs: **Gary Yoggy** directed Our Miss Brooks; includes Shirley Mitchell Rosemary Rice, Tommy Cook, Bill Owen, Craig Wichman; **Edgar Russell III** directed original script "The Three Lives of Nurse Polly" includes Arthur Anderson, Bill Owen, Leslie Shreve, Bobb Lynes, Michael Gwynne

Saturday the panels and workshops included the following; OTR Jeopardy; with Fred Berney; children on Radio hosted by George Downes with Tommy Cook and others; Late Nite comic with Brian Gari, Dave Zwengler and Ilene Kristen; Propaganda on entertainment program during WWII; with Gary Yoggy; **The Dave Warren Players then presented The Aldrich Family; Joe Franklin Hosts**; with Harold Gould, Laurence Luckinbill, others; Singers and Big Bands with Lucie Arnaz, Betty Rose, Ervin Drake, Mark Barkan; (B Gari and S Weiss); **Lucie Arnaz and Laurence Luckinbill** present The Bickersons; Michael Gwynne announcer

Saturday's events culminated with cocktails and buffet dinner for 192 people with another 122 coming for the day. After dinner there were 2 re-creations; **Anthony Tollin** directed The Lone Ranger; includes Tommy Cook, Chuck McCann, Michael Gwynne; **X - 1 "Mars Is Heaven" directed by Gregg Oppenheimer**; cast included Laurence Luckinbill, Harold Gould, Lucie Arnaz, Michael Gwynne, Shirley Mitchell, Arthur Anderson, Tommy Cook; **Bart Curtis with Penny Swanberg** supplied the sound effects. **Ed Clute** supplied the Music with the help of Judi Reynolds; **Bill Siudmak** was again our very capable engineer.

The Allen Rockford Award was presented to **Bart Curtis and Edgar Russell III** for their outstanding efforts in keeping radio and this convention alive. The Ray Stanich Award was given to **Arthur Anderson** for all the excellent writing he has done. A special **Florence Williams** award was given to **Elaine Hyman**. She has attended our convention for several years and has always been willing to help. Donations will be given to various organizations throughout the year.

Sunday morning found about 87 people having breakfast and listening to an entertaining and sometimes very hilarious panel consisting among others of **Arthur Anderson, Tommy Cook, Harold Gould, Michael Gwynne, Chuck McCann, Shirley Mitchell, Ed Clute**. It was hosted by **Anthony Tollin**.

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

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