

YOUR HOST OF THE AIRWAVES

The Coca-Cola Company presents EDGAR BERGEN with CHARLIE MCCARTHY CBS 8 p. m. EST every Sunday The Hlustrated Lress

Membership Information

New member processing, \$5.00 plus club membership of \$15.00 per year from Jan 1 to Dec 31. Members receive a tape library listing, reference library listing,



d a monthly newsletter. Memberships are as follows: If you join Jan-Mar, \$15.00; Apr-Jun, \$12.00; Jul-Sep, \$8.00; Oct-Dec, \$5.00. All renewals should be sent in as soon as possible to avoid missing issues. Please be sure to

notify us if you have a change of address. The Old Time Radio Club meets the first Monday of every month at 7:30 P.M. during the months of September to June at 393 George Urban Blvd. Cheektowaga, N.Y. 14225. The club meets informally during the months of July and August at the same address. Anyone interested in the Golden Age of Radio is welcome. The Old Time Radio Club is affiliated with The Old Time Radio Network.

Club Mailing Address

Old Time Radio Club P.O. Box 426 Lancaster, N. Y. 14086

Back issues of *The Illustrated Press* are \$1.50 postpaid. Publications out off print may be borrowed from our Reference Library.

Deadline for *The Illustrated Press* is the 1st of each month prior to publication.

The Illustrated Press is a monthly newsletter of The Old Time Radio Club, headquartered in Western New York State. Contents except where noted, are copyright 1995 by the OTRC.

Send all articles, letters, exchange newsletters, etc. to: *The Illustrated Press* c/o Peter Bellanca, editor 1620 Ferry Road Grand Island NY 14072

Club Officers and Librarians

President

Jerry Collins (716) 683-6199 56 Christen Ct. Lancaster, N.Y. 14086

Vice President & Canadian Branch

Richard Simpson 960 16 Road R.R. 3 Fenwick, Ontario Canada, L0S 1C0

Treasurer, Back Issues, Video & Records

Dominic Parisi (716) 884-2004 38 Ardmore Pl. Buffalo N.Y. 14213

Editor of IP, Renewals, Change of Address

Peter Bellanca (716) 773-2485 1620 Ferry Road Grand Island, N.Y. 14072

Membership Inquires, and OTR Network Related Items

Richard Olday (716) 684-1604 100 Harvey Dr. Lancaster, N.Y. 14086

Tape Libraries

Cassettes

Don Friedrich (716) 626-9164 21 Southcrest Cheektowaga, NY 14225

Reel to Reel and Reference Library

Ed Wanat Sr. (716) 895-9690 393 George Urban Blvd. Cheektowaga NY 14225

Tape Library Rates: All reels and video cassettes are \$1.85 per month; audio cassettes and records are \$0.85 per month. Rates include postage and handling. Canadian rates are the same as above, but in Canadian funds. The Illustrated Press

May 1995

Publication of the Old Time Radio Club

The Perfectly Named Serial Heroine

by Jim Cox

Any program that could command the loyal following for almost twenty-four years must have done something right. Any program that had a lock on the same time slot on the same network five days a week for seventeen consecutive years must have done just about everything right.

Such was the acclaim for Backstage Wife aired at 4 P.M. ET daily from 1938-55 on NBC. Originally presented on the Mutual Broadcasting System starting August 5, 1935, Wife offered so much promise that in only a few months (March 30, 1936) it gained a slot at the more prestigious NBC. When, two decades later, that network acceded to the demands of its affiliates by reducing network programing so the stations could air more profitable locally-produced features, Wife's loyal following allowed it to transfer to CBS without the story line missing a beat. Aired at 12:15 P.M. ET on CBS, Wife was able to squeeze out another three years of absorbing melodrama, until CBS began to pull the plug January 2, 1959, wiping out all but a half-dozen of its long-running serials, the backbone of its daytime schedule.

While I never paid much attention to Backstage Wife during the 1940's, even though I randomly heard it, my own familiarity with the show dates to the summer of 1954. That was the year of my first paying job, as a delivery carrier for the afternoon daily newspaper. Television, by then, was still in its infancy. Few had purchased sets that early. Few could afford them, I imagine. Most families still included two parents and the idea, even the necessity, for middle class women to work outside the home was a foreign subject. While a women's place was in the home, she busied herself with the family wash, ironing, baking and cleaning. For entertainment, she turned to her radio as a daytime companion.

The summer of 1954 was very hot in our city. The average household of that era did not yet afford a central air conditioning system or even window units. Instead, we relied on screened porches, open windows under canvas awnings and entrances fronted by screen doors to expel some of the heat building up inside the house during the day.

In this situation I made my late afternoon rounds in suburbia, delivering newspapers on a neighborhood

route. As I biked my way from house to house pitching rolled papers onto the sidewalks and porches, my ears picked up the strains of "The Rose of Tralee" played on an organ, ushering in episodes of *Back*stage Wife.

By four o'clock there was a lull in daytime network programming. CBS had expended three hours of daily washboard weepers and Art Linkletter had said "good-bye" to the last child he would interview on *House Party* for the day. ABC and MBS had pared their daytime programming to a few yet-to-be heard juvenile adventures series. Now, NBC carried on with three full hours of serials -- and almost no competition for the homemaker's attention.

As Wife's theme began to fade, Ford Bond, once voted by listeners as the eighth "best announcer on radio," introduced the durable series with this epigraph: "Now we present once again *Backstage Wife*, the story of Mary Noble, a little Iowa girl who married one of America's most handsome actors, Larry Noble, matinee idol of a million other women -- the story of what it means to be the wife of a famous star."

As this was the program of choice by my newspaper readers at that hour, I continued from house to house hardly missing a word of dialogue.

Sandwiched between *The Right to Happiness* and *Stella Dallas*, to its final broadcast *Wife* depended upon a recurring issue that was present from its beginning. Handsome Broadway actor Larry Noble was attractive to women, almost all women, and did not have the fortitude to spun their advances. The men on this program served as constant reminders which gender was the superior. If they were not unbalanced, they were weak.

Simultaneously, Larry's kindhearted homemaker spouse, Mary Noble, called by soap opera historian Raymond William Stedman "the most perfectly named serial heroine," was also attractive to men. Across two dozen years of radio marriage the couple resided on the fringes of suspicion, jealousy, misunderstanding and others' deceit. How could they not with so many "glamorous" women falling after Larry, working such references as "Larry, darling," "my love" and "Larry dearest" into their conversations.

Hustrated Press 3

The Hlustrated Press

Publication of the Old Time Radio Club

Mary had her suitors, too, but they were forever rebuffed. Her firm, unwavering sense of propriety and commitment to Larry constantly spared them from the brink of divorce.

Of course, the listening audience knew that once the current crisis had been resolved and the Nobles reunited, it wouldn't be long before some star-crazed demoniac would be chasing Larry's coattails again, driving a new wedge between the erstwhile happy couple.

In one episode, Larry returned home sheepishly late at night, having spent long hours with a "wealthy benefactress" who was footing the bill for his current play. Mary waited up for him. Unlike some wives in similar situations, however, Mary was typically supportive, forgiving, comforting and ready with his slippers so Larry could sit and relax in his favorite easy chair. Meanwhile, Larry, misguided fool that he was, convinced himself that, behind his back, Mary was running after playwright Eric Jackson. She assured Larry, perhaps for the umpteen jillionth time in the series: "Just keep telling yourself that I've never cared for anyone but you." Millions of listeners knew she spoke the truth. But Larry just didn't seem to get it.

Within moments, having come home apologetically, he was questioning his faithful spouse about his doubts. Then, seeing a thick envelope she had set aside to mail to Eric Jackson, fire spewed from his nostrils as he exclaimed: "I've been a fool all over again. Sorry I walked in unexpectedly and interfered with your romance by picking up your letter! What letters! How much you must have to say!"

He stormed out of the house, unwilling to hear Mary's explanation that she was returning a play Johnson had given her because she did not want any involvement with him. In an episode that began with the prospect of Mary and Larry mending their rift, the gap seemed wider that ever by the end of the quarter-hour.

----to be continued----



Cowboys on Radio, Part 6

by Dom Parisi

Maverick Jim was an early 1930's radio show with a western setting. It was broadcast over WOR radio from New York City. The cast included Artells Dickson as Maverick and also starred John Battle, Anne Elstnel and Alice Frost.

This is all I know about this show. I don't know how long it lasted on the air, and I have never heard an episode.

Hopalong Cassidy came on the air on January 1, 1950. His early 1930's B western films were so successful that he was given his own radio show.

Cassidy was created by Clarence Mulford for western pulp stories. But Mulford's Hopalong was a hard drinking, tobacco chewing relic of the old west. But in 1934 things changed.

A man named Harry Sherman bought the film rights to Mulford's stories and hired silent screen star William Boyd to play the badman role. Boyd, however, identified more with a hero image and Sherman switched parts before the cameras started to roll. The casting of Boyd greatly affected the character that Mulford created. Hoppy was molded into a straight shooting man of high standards who helped ladies across the street, but never stooped to kissing the heroine! Hoppy, under Boyd would never smoke, cuss or touch hard liquor.

William Boyd had one of radio's perfect voices. His voice could do anything from comforting a bereaved widow one moment, to scaring the boots off her husband's killers the next. The voice was strong, virile, and straight to the point. Even his belly laugh became famous. It was one of his trade marks along with his black outfit (a good guy dressed in black?) and his horse Topper.

Andy Clyde played his companion California Carlson. First heard on Sundays for General Mills, Cassidy moved to Saturday on CBS in 1950-52. For a little while the Hopalong Cassidy craze was as frantic as any thing seen in America, (so great in fact that it created a national shortage of black dye) that is, until Davy Crockett came along.

Red Ryder was first heard on the Blue Network, over the west coast stations, in early 1942. The cowboy with the red hair and red shirt was created as a

May1995

Illustrated Press 4

The Illustrated Lress

Publication of the Old Time Radio Club

comic strip by artist Fred Harmon. Following the comic format we have a two-fisted buck who lives with his aunt, called "The Duchess," his sidekick Buckskin, and his Indian ward, Little Beaver. They all lived together in the western area known as Painted Valley.

Mutual-Don Lee carried the series into the 1950's, and Langendorf Bread was the sponsor. Carlton Kadell, Reed Hadley, and Brooke Temple all had a crack at playing Ryder, but Temple played the role the longest. He started in 1945 and continued in the role for another five years. Child actor Tommy Cook played Little Beaver. He also played Alexander on the Blondie show. He really was a busy Little Beaver. Henry Blair, the early Ricky Nelson on Ozzie and Harriet, took over the part in February 1944. Later into the series the role was played by Johnny McGovern. Horce Murphy played Buckskin. All the Indian dialect (except Little Beaver) was handled by Jim Mather. New Yorker Paul Franklin, a pulp magazine writer, was the writer-director of the show. For the record, Red Ryder's horse was called Thunder. Remember the Red Ryder BB rifle? It sure was a beauty! "You betchum, Red Ryder!"

Sky King was an altogether different type of cowboy. Most cowboys got around on a horse, not so Sky King. He was "America's Favorite Flying Cowboy." He zoomed into our living rooms over NBC in 1946 in his plane the Songbird.

The show started out as a fifteen minute daily serial on October 28, 1946. By 1947 it moved into a Tuesday and Thursday thirty minute episode format. The sponsor was Peter Pan Peanut Butter. Roy Engel and later, Earl Nightingale took turns playing King.

Sky flew into adventure from his ranch in Arizona, accompanied by his two sidekicks Penny and Clipper. The plane flew them to adventures as far away as France and South America. Many of their adventures, however, took place in the modern good-old American west. Beryl Vaughn played Penny, Jack Bivens was Clipper, and the announcer was none other than Mike Wallace of Sixty Minutes fame. The show was heard on Mutual for its last four years, and ended in 1954. Sky King was another successful radio program that switched over to early television.

----to be continued----

From the Editor's Chair

This month's *Illustrated Press* marks the twentieth anniversary of the founding of The Old Time Radio Club (of Buffalo) At our May 1975 meeting

we finally got it all together and set upon our current path. Although our first newsletter did not appear until February of 1976 I thought it might be appropriate to reprint it in this issue. It appears on page 9 and the editor was Chuck See-



ley who typed it on his Royal manual typewriter and he also drew the radio logo. The quality of print in the original newsletter was very poor, so it was scanned into our computer system, enhanced, slightly edited due to space limitations, and reprinted on our trusty HP printer. I hope you enjoy it and perhaps it will bring back some pleasant memories to members who have been with us since day one.

And how about our color cover of Charlie McCarthy and Edgar Bergen. Dom Parisi, who along with his other club responsibilities is in charge of having the IP printed, thought that our twentieth anniversary issue should have a special cover. We began working on it in January and finalized it in March, and I think it's a work of art. Great job Dom!! It's hard to believe that twenty years has passed so quickly, I guess that old saying is true, time flies when your having fun. Hopefully the next twenty years will be as enjoyable as the last have been.



Illustrated *Press* 5

May1995

The Illustrated Press

May1995

Publication of the Old Time Radio Club

RADIO MEMORIES

by Francis Edward Bork

Sometime late in 1975 I received an ad from Murray Hill Records offering on record six Sherlock Holmes shows with Basil Rathbone as Holmes and Nigel Bruce as Watson, recorded from their old radio shows. Wow, what a find this is I thought, never realizing that this would bring to me a new hobby and just as important, a life time of friendship with a dozen or more swell guys and gals of the Old Time Radio Club based right here in Western New York State. The next day found my order in the U.S. mail. I could hardly wait for the Sherlock Holmes records to arrive. It took several weeks for my order to get here, but finally they came along with a catalog of more Sherlock Holmes records and a host of other old radio shows. Of course I did order a lot more, all the old radio I had enjoyed as a kid and boy, what wonderful memories those shows brought back. I bought all the shows that I was interested in from Murray Hill Records and some I wasn't so keen on, but what the heck. I'm hooked! But now I have a problem, where do I get more? Immediately I began putting my new found treasures on cassettes. Now I could listen to all my favorites while in the car. Someone suggested the Erie County Public Library for more records. That day I called the library's main branch in Lafayette Square in downtown Buffalo, sure we have a small collection of old radio shows here, I was told, come on down and you can check them out with your regular library card. At the library I not only found a lot of radio stories, but also a swell collection of big band recordings from the 1930's and 1940's, which I also borrowed. Now my collection really started to build.

In the spring of 1976 there was a small article in the magazine section of the Sunday paper about a group of guys right here in the Western New York State area who had started a club devoted to old radio shows. Chuck Seeley's name was listed as an officer of the club, so the next day I looked up Seeley's phone number and called him. Chuck informed me that the club has it's meetings on the first Monday of each month at a church hall located on Seneca Street near downtown Buffalo at 7:30 P.M. I had to wait two long weeks for my first meeting with the club. I remember that night very well, because it was a very disappointing Monday night for me. When I arrived at the church at about 7:25 P.M., there was not a light to be seen or any cars parked nearby, all looked dark and deserted, not a soul in sight.

Luckily for me I had a flashlight in the car's glove compartment. I parked the car, got out and took a look around the church yard. There was a door on the far side with a bell about five feet up. I rang the bell hoping that either I was a little early or maybe someone had forgot to turn the lights on. An old man answered the door, "nope we don't have no radio club here at this church, and I'm the only one here, sorry," and slammed the door. Wow, well I guess there's no radio club here, that's for sure I told myself. I went back to my car, could I have gotten the directions wrong? No, this was the right church, what was wrong I asked myself, did I misunderstand the directions that Mr. Seeley gave me? As I drove home a hundred questions shot through my mind.

Another week went by before I called Chuck Seeley again. I'm sorry Chuck said I didn't have your phone number so I couldn't call and tell you there was a change in our meeting place. He explained that they had a small problem about the room they were to meet in. The problem was that if a church sponsored group got to the club's assigned room first then the Radio Club was just out of luck or more factual out in the cold. It was at this point that the club members decided to accept Ed Wanat's offer and use his basement rooms as a permanent meeting place. That was nineteen years ago. The club still meets at Ed's home.

At last, Monday the first Monday of the month arrived and another try at joining the Radio Club. I followed Chuck's directions once more, no mistakes this time. I parked the car and went to the side door as directed, but I could not just walk in as Chuck had told me to do. I rang the bell, and Ed Wanat answered. "Does the Old Time Radio Club meet here," I asked? "Sure does, come on in," he said and opened the door for me. "Is there a guy named Chuck Seeley here," I then asked? "Yep, down the stairs, come on." Well that night I joined the Old Time Radio Club of Buffalo and made a start of a twenty year friendship with the greatest bunch of guys I have ever known. Yes it's hard to believe it's been twenty years since I started collecting old time radio programs.

I started my collection by putting all the shows on cassettes, then I later transferred them to seven inch reels, which was fine for at that time I lived in a big house and space was no problem. The only problem at that time was that I was confined to listening to my shows only in my den where my Roberts reel to reel was located. Poor Jim, my son in law still has that Roberts unit and it works as good as it did the day eighteen years ago when I bought it from Ed

Mustrated Press 6

The Illustrated Lress

Publication of the Old Time Radio Club

Wanat for seventy-five dollars.

Four years ago I went back to cassettes, copying as many of my favorite programs as I could. Retiring and moving to a smaller home at Lime Lake, space became the dominating factor in my decision to revert back to cassettes. For the next three months I still drove back to the Buffalo area to run our liquor store until the new owner could take over. Returning to the cassette format did prove to be the right choice. I drove for one and a half hours each way, that allowed me to listen to a lot of my favorite shows each day.

All through the years I have borrowed countless numbers of reels, records, cassettes and videos from my fellow club members to help build my personal collection. To mention a few, there's Eddie Coons my life long pal has loaned me cassettes, records and videos from his vast collection of almost every type of music you could want to listen to. Now take Eddie Wanet, the greatest Bing Crosby fan I have ever met. Ed has also loaned me a lot of his material including some of his most treasured Bing Crosby videos. Then there's Frank Boncore, the collector of science fiction. Star Wars, etc.., and has a great collection of BBC thrillers, which he did loan me. And of course there is Linda DeCecco who has a great collection of Cape Cod Mysteries and is a Sherlock Holmes fan. She lent me all of the best of her collection and even gave me some of her doubles. Radio Club members are just great people.

In my own words, (well almost) I have never met an old time radio show fan, I didn't like.

Twenty years of great Radio Club memories -- until next time, wonderful radio memories to all



Members remember the OTRC (of Buffalo)

I first learned of the Old Time Radio Club while listening to old time radio on station WEBR here in Buffalo. I found a copy of the *Illustrated Press* in a pile of magazines in the station lobby. I copied down all the contact people and made some phone calls inquiring about the club. That was thirteen years and several thousand dollars ago.

The main reason I joined the club was to obtain more OTR shows. When I first joined my collection was somewhere around 200-300 shows, now I have 30,000 or more shows. Through the club's resources I learned of several new sources to increase my collection. I first marveled at the club's library which not only had cassettes but reels. I just had to go out and buy a reel to reel recorder to tap into this new source. Now I have thirteen reel to reel recorders. I also have several cassette recorders. I went from a borrower to a contributor to the club library.

There was another resource which I wasn't thinking about but proved to be even better; the people whom I met and have become my friends over the past several years. I met people from all walks of life who had one thing in common, Old Time Radio. The people here at the local level steered me to the Newark Convention where I was given the opportunity to meet dealers and a lot more people interested in OTR. I even had the opportunity to see several recreations of Old Time Radio shows with their original stars. I'll never forget having dinner with Walter Gibson, one of the creators of the Shadow.

People make any organization and I can truly say I've met some really great people locally at the OTRC. People like the late Bob Davis, one of the trivia twins (ed. Chuck Seeley was the other) that I had listened to on local radio for several years and Frank Bork. Through the OTRC I also met John Furman and Hank Hinkle from Amsterdam, N.Y. John is a great guy, and a dealer who had shows that no one else had. I also met good old Jim Snyder, who was John's best customer. John had a way of selling Jim everything that Jim needed or did not need. And a personal note to Jim Snyder from John Furman, I do ship to Arizona, so send me your address.

Frank Boncore Buffalo, NY

Twenty years? It's hard to believe that back in the beginning, we sometimes struggled to continue with the club. I didn't believe then that we would even reach ten years, let alone twenty!

I recall some months how I worried if we would have enough money (ed: Dom has been our treasurer since day one) to print our publications. Yes, we struggled, we worried, we cried and we sometimes (not too often) laughed.

Today, twenty years later, we have enough funds to keep us going. Our reel and cassette libraries are growing and we are signing up new members every

Illustrated Press 7



The Hlustrated Lress

Publication of the Old Time Radio Club

year.

Good luck to our club for many years to come. OTR will never fade away, not as long as we have such dedicated members throughout the country and Canada. We should all give ourselves a big slap on the back for a job well done.

Dom Parisi Buffalo, NY

Olday Recalls Days When Radio Was King

from the Lancaster/Depew Bee, September 8, 1994

Every Sunday evening, Lancaster resident Richard Olday helps his listeners recall the days when radio was king and Jack Benny, the Shadow and Nick Carter took center stage in the theater of the mind.

"It's Old Time Radio," said Olday, a volunteer for the Niagara Frontier Radio Reading Service. "What we do is introduce old time radio programs and then play them on the air. I play just about anything you can think of."

The Radio Reading Service is a volunteer organization that broadcasts to print-handicapped individuals throughout Western New York. Olday got his start with the service through his employment as an energy consultant for New York State Electric and Gas, which used to have an office near the Service's at the AppleTree Business Park on Union Road in Cheektowaga.

"I got to know them and offered to do a program," he said. "I thought I could be of assistance."

Olday and his on-air partner, Frank Boncore, broadcast their program from 9-10 P.M. each Sunday. They also broadcast on major holidays, usually from 10 P.M. to 1 A.M. The program may be heard either on the receivers provided by the reading service, or on the alternate audio channels for channels 7 and 29 on stereo televisions.

Boncore rotates a schedule of programs each week, including X Minus One, a science fiction show, the Shadow, Gunsmoke, and Life with Luigi." The second half hour belongs to Olday, "and I might play anything," he said -- "from Jack Benny to Suspense."

Olday's personal favorite? "Yours Truly, Johnny Dol-

lar which ran on CBS until 1962," he said. "It started in 1949 but didn't really become a great show until 1955 when an actor named Bob Bailey took over the lead. He was an insurance investigator, who investigated murder, arson, you name it."

Olday said he has been a radio fan since he was a young boy growing up in Buffalo. "That's basically all we had, and there was a lot of it at that time," he said.

Considering the sway radio once held over the popular imagination, there is a surprising absence of radio drama today. And so Olday has turned to collecting tapes. He currently owns about 12,000 programs and is a member of the Old Time Radio Club, an international organization of radio enthusiasts.

"Generally when I'm in the car I'm listening to a tape," he said. "And I'm in the car quite a bit."

Olday and his wife, Arlene, have been residents of Harvey Drive for twenty-four years and are the parents of three grown children. He said he finds volunteering for the reading service rewarding not only for the help it gives to listeners, but also for the chance to preserve an entertainment tradition.

Hear Across Continent With Indoor Loop on New DeForest Set

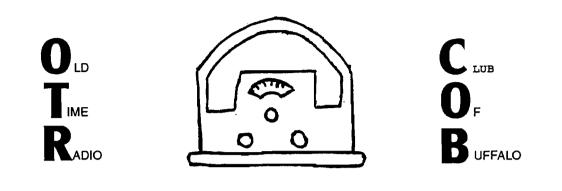
Throw into the discard those old thousand mile reception records for DeForest's D-7-A Reflex Set! This set is now receiving with indoor loop clear across the American Continent, a distance of 3,000 miles. Mr. John M. Norr, Jr., of Jersey State Electric Co., Inc., Elizabeth, New Jersey, reports clear reception of KFI (Los Angeles) during February using indoor loop only and head phones. Strawn Electric Co., California, using D-7-A heard Dr. DeForest lecture in Newark February 18th, another transcontinental record. So they come in from all over the country and DeForest registers another triumph in radio by letting you listen to the broadcasts of the entire Continent with equipment that rests complete on your library table. "The biggest advance yet in radio receivers," says Mr. V. G. Skinner of San Francisco. D-7-A with loop \$125.00. Other lower priced sets at 2,000 Deforest dealers all over the United States. [1923]

May1995

Mustrated Press 8

May1995

Publication of the Old Time Radio Club



NEWSLETTER NUMBER ONE FEBRUARY, 1976

To all members of the OTRCOB: Welcome to the first number of your bimonthly newsletter. The purposes of this newsletter are to provide members with a record of the club's meeting and to present information concerning OTR. All members are invited to contribute to these pages because this newsletter belongs to the membership and it will become only what the members make of it. Remember, we are not merely an association of old radio program collectors but, rather, an organization dedicated to the regeneration of interest in and the enjoyment of that part of vanishing Americana that has become known as the Golden Age of Broadcasting.

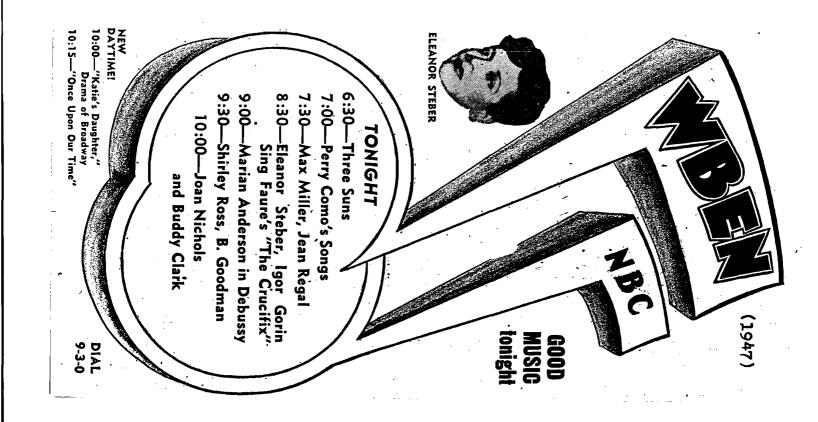
February, 1976, marks our tenth month of existence. 300 days ago in May, 1975, we set up certain objectives and goals for the club. Among them were the increasing of publicity and promotion of OTR, an involvement in charity work, and a membership drive. To date, four of our members have appeared on local radio stations discussing and promoting OTR and our club. We have donated tapes to the Channel 17 Fund Drive Auction and we provide a monthly supply of OTR shows to our local VA hospital, a service that has been very well received by the patients. Finally, our membership has increased to 16 people from our original 10, and with our recent decision to expand nationally, is sure to increase. However, this is not the time to slack off. We can become THE national organization devoted to OTR if we all work hard for it.

The OTRCOB has evolved a good deal since May, 1975. In November of last year all the club's officers were inplace with Peter Bellanca as president, Ray Oliveri, vice president, Chuck Seeley, secretary, and Dom Parisi as treasurer. In December, the club dues were changed from one dollar per meeting to six dollars annually. A service has been instituted to enable members with small collections to increase their libraries. We now accept mail memberships. And a magazine devoted to OTR, MEMORIES, is being published by the club for national distribution. All members and friends are invited to contribute to MEMORIES. Response in this area has been less than overwhelming. Members are reminded that MEMORIES, as well as the newsletter, is only what the members themselves make it.

The entire club owes a debt of gratitude to Mill Dunworth for her invaluable assistance in our printing ventures and for finding a place for us to meet. Any members with material for the next newsletter, April 1976, or for MEMORIES, should give it to Peter Bellanca or Charles Seeley.

Chuck Seeley, editor

Hlustrated Press 9



O<mark>ld Time Radio</mark> Club Box 426 Lancaster, NY 14086



and considered a

FIRST CLASS MAIL