

OLD STORM SPECIAL

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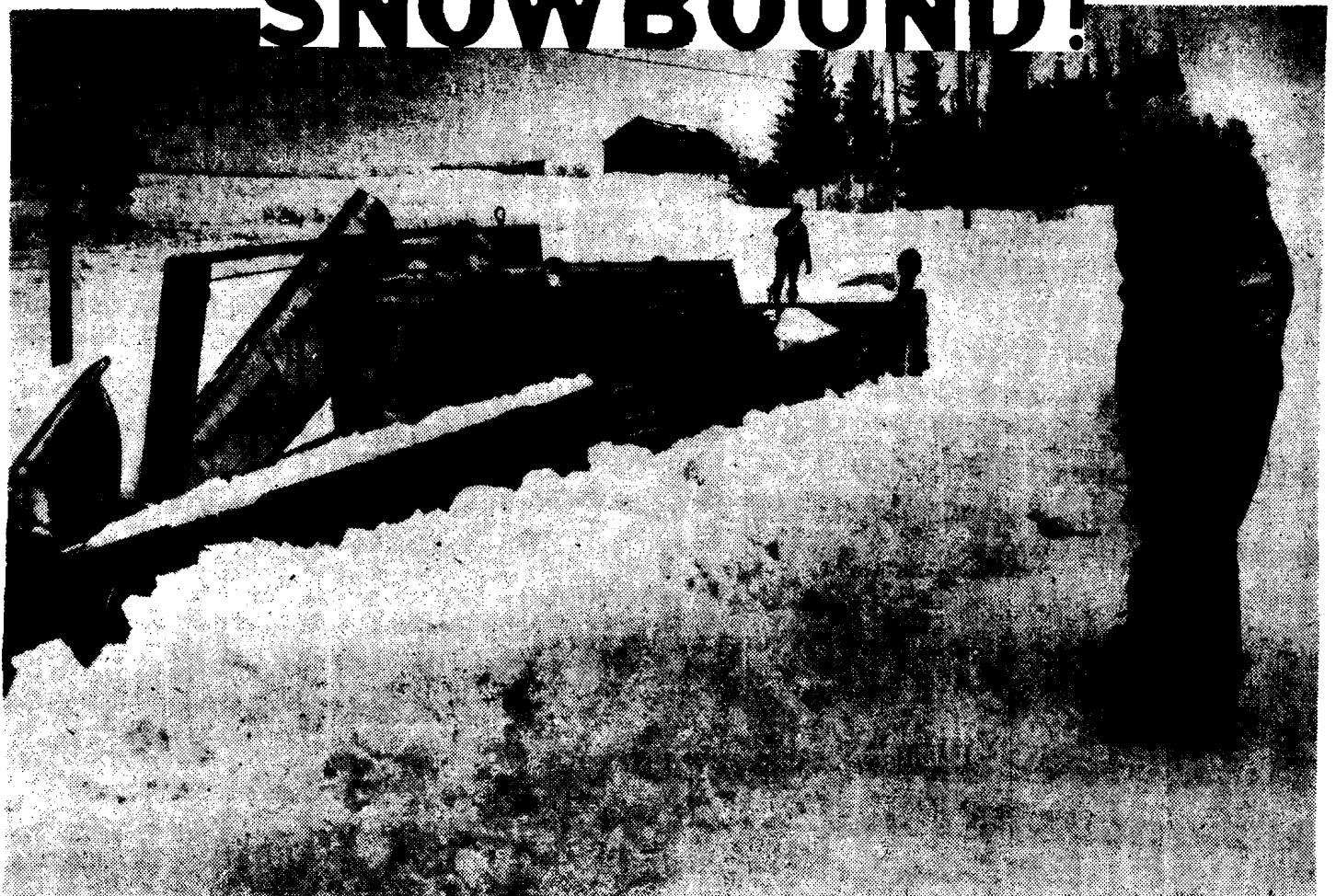
Time

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# THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS 8

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CTCOB  
FEBRUARY 1977

## SNOWBOUND!

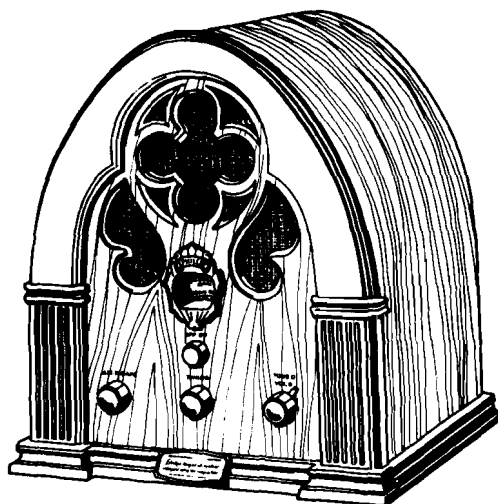


# STORM SPECIAL

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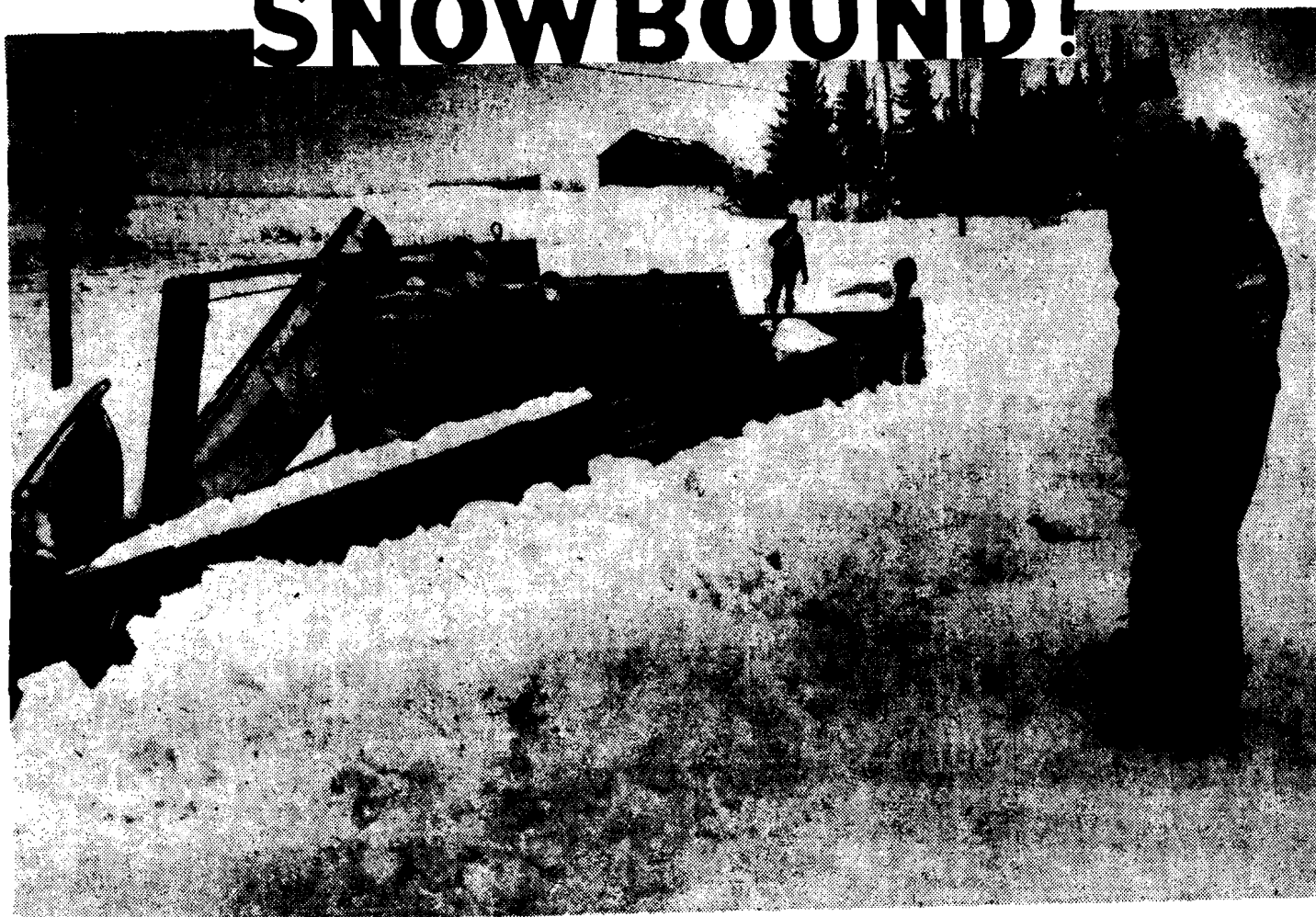
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## THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS 8

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OTRCOB  
FEBRUARY 1977

# SNOWBOUND!



A snowy hello to everyone and welcome to new members John DeNike and Dom Patrissi. The picture on page one pretty much sums up the various reasons for the lateness of this issue, and we apologize. The club's January meeting was snowed out and, at this writing, a February meeting is uncertain.

The picture on page one was taken on Scherff Road in Orchard Park, NY, near member Craig Stoll's home.

Member Tom Brown of Liverpool, NY, was among the out-of-towners stranded in Buffalo at the height of the storm. His phone conversation with member Pete Bellanca was cut off in mid-call, a common occurrence at the time. Tom was stranded at the Executive Motor Inn, not a bad place to be stranded.

Hell for an CTR collector is being snowbound without any blank tape in the house. Wush, King.

**SURVEYS:** So far, 14 members have sent in the surveys from the November newsletter. That's still not a very good sample. If you don't want to tear the page out of the newsletter, just write your responses on another sheet of paper and send that in. The deadline for these has been extended to March 28. The opinions and suggestions received so far have been very helpful in planning future issues of both the newsletter and Memories.

**NEW MEMBERS:** John DeNike, 4922 Cartlen Drive, Placentia, CA 92670  
Dom Patrissi, 93 Augusta Drive, Newington, Conn. 06111

**MINUTES:** The following membership proposal was suggested by Stuart Mann and adopted at the December meeting:

Individual .....	\$10.00
Family--first member .....	\$10.00
additional family member,	
same household .....	\$2.00
Junior, 15 years age limit .....	\$4.00

**TONIGHT!**

**BOB HOPE VISITS LIONEL BARRYMORE**



**On Rinse's "Mayor of the Town"**

Tonight Bob Hope, top comedy star, visits Lionel Barrymore, America's foremost dramatic star. Don't miss this great combination.

**WMAZ 8 P.M.**

*She's the prettiest school teacher in the business*

Hear all about this exciting beauty contest! Tune in

**OUR MISS BROOKS**

Sunday at 6:30 p.m. dial 940 **WMAZ** CBS RADIO

**OLD FEBRUARY:**

- Feb. 6, 1952: King George VI dies, Queen Elizabeth II crowned.
- Feb. 7, 1974: First CBS RADIO MYSTERY THEATER repeat--"I Warn You Three Times" with Joan Lorring.
- Feb. 13, 1935: Bruno Richard Hauptmann convicted of Lindbergh kidnapping.
- Feb. 14, 1929: St. Valentine's Day massacre in Chicago.
- Feb. 20, 1962: Lt. Col. John H. Glenn becomes first American to orbit the Earth.

REVIEW: THE GENERAL MILLS RADIO ADVENTURE THEATER made its debut on CBS on Saturday, February 5. My local CBS affiliate preceded the premiere episode with a rather heavy promotional campaign, both on their own station and in the newspaper, heavily aimed at children, and the new show is carried at 6PM in an effort to attract the younger crowd. Tom Bosley, from TV's HAPPY DAYS is the host and the first episode was the classic Kidnapped by Robert Louis Stevenson.

Now, I am an addict of the late night MYSTERY THEATER and have found myself to be rather impatient with the frequent criticism of the show. Because of that, I suppose that I should love the ADVENTURE THEATER, since they are virtually identical. Instead, I found myself annoyed because the two formats are so identical. We have what sounds like the same theme music, played "off-speed." In the story itself they revert to the same music as the late night show. The opening introduction seemed exceptionally long and tedious, especially for a younger audience, and we get the same acted-out program preview. Many of Bosley's lines are lifted directly from the MYSTERY THEATER, and Bosley simply sounds terrible imitating E.G. Marshall. The writing style of the entire program is exactly the same as MYSTERY THEATER. Everything, from Bosley sounding like E.G. Marshall to the play itself, sounds the same (even the vocal effects used by the character actors are identical). Were it not for the announcements between acts I would have been positive that I was listening to MYSTERY THEATER. Although all of this annoyed me, because I really felt a new approach was in order, I suppose that it really doesn't make much difference since the younger audience, for which ADVENTURE THEATER is intended, theoretically shouldn't be up at 11PM for the late night show anyway.

The program ran 51 minutes, which included 11½ nauseating minutes of commercials in the worst tradition of TV. There were eight of the expected breakfast food commercials for a bewildering assortment of cereals the likes of which I have never heard, such as "Count Chocula" (??) and "Frankenberries" (??). Oh, for the good old days of "Wheaties" and Jack Armstrong's three training rules! In addition, there were two commercials for the Boy Scouts (of a calibre that makes this former Scout want to turn in his Eagle badge), and two kiddie commercials from the Better Business Bureau. I would assume from the commercials that the program was intended for the very young, but instead I found the story written on the adult level, probably over the heads of the small fry.

Now, after all of that, I would have to say that the opening show, "Kidnapped", was no less than terrific. I have always found Stevenson's writing to be dreary and, in all candor, I have to admit that this really was the first and only time that I have ever enjoyed this particular story. The acting was excellent, sound effects realistic, and the story was easy to follow. I am really looking forward to future programs, but then I am the person who loves the MYSTERY THEATER when everyone else is knocking it.

If only the two didn't sound alike so I could have two favorite programs instead of just one. But I do like it and so must hurry out to buy a box of "Frankenberries" (??) in order to keep it on the air!

---Jim Snyder

Cheer up, Jim. Maybe they'll start offering premiums. Save your "Frankenberries" (??) box-tops.

REFERENCE LIBRARY: Thanks to Frank Amico for the donation of various clippings from Variety.

The following is an update of the club's Reference Library listing. The letter A signifies an article, B a book, and M a magazine. Librarian Pete Bellanca asks that members requesting books include \$1.00 to cover rental, postage, and packaging. Please include \$.50 for other items.

- A-23 "Those Old-Time Voices Are Big-Time Again" by Robert Angus. Excellent article on OTR, emphasizing trading, legality of collecting, and copyrights. 3 Pages. Retirement Living, December, 1976.
- A-24 "Here Comes Silver Again" by Bruce Winters. Good overview of the re-birth of OTR. 1 page. The Baltimore Sun, December 14, 1976
- B-05 The Great Radio Comedians by Jim Harmon. Excellent source on all major radio comedians. Doubleday & Co. 1970.
- B-06 Whatever Became of..... #4 by Richard Lamparski. Where yesterday's stars are today. Bantam Books, 1973.
- B-07 Tune In Yesterday, the Ultimate Encyclopedia of Old-Time Radio 1925-1976 by John Dunning. We now have two Bibles of OTR. Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N.J. 1976.
- M-13 Memories #5, publication of the OTRCOB.
- M-14 Golden Days of Radio Vol. 2, #1, Hopalong Cassidy issue.
- M-15 SPERDVAC Magazine Vol. 1, #1, publication of SPERDVAC.
- M-16 Airwaves #1, Nov., 1976, SHADOW issue.
- M-17 Magic Sounds #17, published by Sounds Unlimited, dedicated to the preservation of the sounds of magic.

STUDIO B: Member Bill Zwack of Dubuque, Iowa, sends the following in: "Enclosed is a copy of the program guide for December. I share the microphone  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour a night Monday through Friday, at 6:30-7PM and 2:30-3AM, with a friend. We broadcast OTR under the name of "Studio B". On Sunday night we broadcast from 8PM to Midnight. This we call "The Big Broadcast. This program usually has a theme (comedy teams, detective, etc.). This is just a hobby, but it sure is fun and satisfying to be able to share these programs with our friends. We've been on the air for three years now." Bill broadcasts over station WDBQ (1490 AM). The program guide he sent will be reproduced next month. I'm continually amazed at the amount of OTR being made available by radio stations all over the country (except Buffalo, which is maddening.). OTR lives!

ET's: Jerry Hoedema runs the Transcription Exchange, which is a clearing-house for many kinds of transcriptions. He runs a quarterly auction, each handling about 150 transcriptions. If you're interested, send an SASE to Transcription Exchange, 1408 Whittier Street, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197. Tell him where you read about it.

TAPESPONDENTS: From Carl Barnum, 1909 Fair Road, Kingsport, Tennessee 37664---Wanted: Kate Smith programs sponsored by La Palino Cigars with Ted Collins as M.C.; Al Jolson; Charlie McCarthy; Judy Canova; AMOS 'N' ANDY; Jack Benny; Fred Allen; Red Skelton; BURNS AND ALLEN; Eddie Cantor; and FIBBER MCGEE AND MOLLY.

From John Wells, RD #1 Chittenango, NY 13037---Wanted: TV soundtrack from Jack Benny's first farewell special in early 1973; and Dean Martin Celebrity Roast of Jack Benny.

From Mike Hanke, 1036 South 15th Avenue, Wausau, Wisconsin---Wanted: AM portable and table model radios from 1940-1950. These are the ones he wants the most (Make, Year, Model Number): Mitchell, 1948, 1250 or 1251; Motorola, 1942, 65L11 or 65L12; RCA, 1946, 66BX; RCA, 1947, 8BX6; RCA, 1948, 8BX6.

Remember, send in your wants and we'll run them for two consecutive issues.

TAPE LIBRARY: Librarian Frank Matesic informs me that R-4 (FIBBER MCGEE & MOLLY) was donated by Leo Stachura. Thanks, Leo.

RENEWALS: There appears to be some confusion about membership renewals. Remember, your membership runs 12 consecutive months from the time you joined. Therefore if you joined in March, 1976, your renewal comes up in March, 1977, and so forth. Also, a bright yellow renewal sheet will be attached to your particular newsletter at the time for your renewal.

We also have new membership cards (Thanks to Millie Dunworth) that are being numbered as members renew.

CORRECTION: I made a mistake in the price listing for the new memberships on Page 2. Junior member, 15 years age limit, should read \$6.00, not \$4.00. Also, the Family membership is entitled to one set of publications per household (same address).

MAGNACON: A comic and nostalgia convention is being held here in Buffalo on March 11-13. It will be at the Airport Holiday Inn, 4600 Genesee Street, Cheektowaga, NY. There won't be a "radio room" (such an experiment bombed out at a previous Buffalo convention), but Chuck Seeley will be playing OTR at his table and will have OTRCOB material available.

COLUMNS: Several of the surveys returned by members suggested that we have some columns in the newsletter. So, beginning next month, Sharon Andrews will be present with her "Curious Bug" column which began way back in Memories #2. She'll attempt to answer any OTR related queries as well as questions about recording equipment. I need a couple of other OTR related columns from the membership. They don't have to be monthly; I think two other alternating columns would be nice. If you're interested, drop me a line with a sample of your writing. The columns can cover any aspect of OTR.

NEWS: CBS' MEET THE COOK series, that almost foundered after the death of chef Mike Roy, has changed its format, adding five different chefs who will appear on a rotating basis with host Dennis Bracken.....

NEWS: We can expect a movie about Walter Winchell soon. The film rights have purchased to Herman Klurfeld's Winchell Biography, Winchell: His Life and Times.....DR. BUNDOLO'S PANDEMONIUM MEDICINE SHOW, which runs weekly on CBC-AM (740), made the transition to TV on January 26 and February 9. The TV version was hilarious to be sure, but the radio version is better. CBC may opt the show for a weekly TV series.....KSFO San Francisco is playing DUFFY'S TAVERN weekly.....In the February 2 issue of Variety, CBS touts the GENERAL MILLS RADIO ADVENTURE THEATER as the network's "latest innovation" in radio programming. How soon they forget ..... "Annie", a new musical based on both the comic strip and radio versions of "Little Orphan Annie", will open in New York on April 12. Mike Nichols will direct.....KIIS radio in Hollywood is preparing a series of 39 hour shows called THE SHERLOCK HOLMES RADIO THEATER. William Baer, executive producer, has gathered actors who have been associated with the works of Conan Doyle. Edward Mulhare (who played the ghostly captain on the TV series THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR) will play Holmes, and Ben Wright will enact the role of Dr. Watson. Daws Butler will direct and scripts will be written by Sean Wright and Michael Hodel. The series is slated to go into syndication in early spring.....

REVIEWS: The second issue of member Phil Cole's National Radio Trader is out, and it repeats the general excellence of the first issue. This time around, besides the usual collectors' ads, the NRT includes a listing of which program logs are available where, articles on the Broadcast Pioneers Library, the GENERAL MILLS RADIO ADVENTURE THEATER, and the Pacific Pioneer Broadcasters, ratings on four tape decks, a crossword puzzle, and a column called DISKovery by member Hy Daley. Other features include the OTR Answer Man, OTR club listing, and more. Every serious OTR collector should have this publication. A one-year subscription (4 quarterly issues) is \$8.00, available from National Radio Trader, P.O. Box 1147, Mount Vernon, Washington 98273.

Nostalgia Radio News, edited by Al Rockford and Don Richardson, has been mentioned here before. Besides listing virtually every OTR related show broadcast in Central/Western New York and southeast Canada, the NRN is running a continuing log of the CBS RADIO MYSTERY THEATER, advance listings for that same show as well as the RADIO ADVENTURE THEATER, club listings, and more. A super job. Subscription rates vary with first or third class mail, and PBS stations WCNY-FM (91.3) and WRVO (89.9) get part of each subscription. Send an SASE to Nostalgia Radio News, Box 24, Liverpool, NY 13088, for more info.

Airwaves is keeping up its monthly publication. The December, 1976, issue concludes the SHADOW log, profiles SHADOW creator Walter Gibson (who will be a guest at Magnacon in Buffalo), and continues the history of OTR collecting. There are articles on blank tape and the Hello Again convention. The January, 1977, issue features ESCAPE, with an article and complete log. There is a long review of Tune In Yesterday, another section of the history of OTR collecting, and instructions to build a high frequency filter. This magazine is becoming quite pleasing. Its next two issues will be devoted to Sherlock Holmes. A one year subscription (12 issues) is \$6.00 from Airwaves, 438 West Neptune/NIU/DeKalb, Illinois 60115.

SCRIPTS: If you have a script for any OTR show, the OTRCOB would like to reproduce it for the members. Let us know. We're especially interested in I LOVE A MYSTERY "The Blue Phantom Murders". We have the scripts from the first six episodes already, and we need the remainder.

OBITUARIES: Hal Sawyer--- died Jan. 9, 62. Sawyer was a featured CBS radio announcer early in his career, working with Bob Hope, Jack Benny, Phil Harris and Alice Faye, and Burns and Allen. He later had his own show on ABC, SAWYER VIEWS HOLLYWOOD.

Theodore Lenz--- died Dec. 26, 62. Lenz began his career with NBC in San Francisco in 1941. For years he hosted the TED LENZ MIDNIGHT SPECIAL. During World War II, he raised several million dollars by inducing his listeners to buy war bonds. In gratitude, the Navy named a ship after him. He was a charter member of the Pacific Pioneer Broadcasters.

Wolf Schmidt--- died Jan. 17, 64. Schmidt, in the 1950's, wrote, produced, directed, and starred in FAMILY HESSELBACH, one of the most popular German radio series. The series ran for 300 radio performances and 52 TV performances.

Ted Lloyd--- died Feb. 6, 61. After beginning his career in newspapers, Lloyd became director of radio for 20th Century Fox in 1942. In 1946, he formed Ted Lloyd Inc. to manage personalities and package and produce radio (and later, TV) programs. He produced MY TRUE STORY for NBC Radio, WHISPERING STREETS for CBS Radio, and ESCAPE for CBS-TV.

SIGN OFF: Again, my apologies for the lateness of this issue of The Illustrated Press.

The extra this time is a DIMENSION X "Universe" script. If you like the radio show, chances are you'll like the original story. It's usually in print somewhere, most recently in a Berkley Medallion paperback titled Orphans of the Sky, which contains both "Universe" and its sequel, "Common Sense." Highly recommended (as is anything by Robert A. Heinlein).

WRITE! Editor, OTRCOB, P.O. Box 119, Kenmore, New York 14217

SUPRISE!: Millie Dunworth and Dom Parisi had a very pleasant surprise for us at the February meeting: a birthday cake! They had planned it for January but, of course, the snow ended that. The cake was shaped in a rectangle, with a frosting old radio and the words "Happy Birthday, OTRCOB." Pictures of the cake and the members who were there will be in the next issue. And the cake was excellent. Thanks very much to Millie and Dom.





JAMMED PACKED WITH PICTURES



This magazine unlocks the door to old time radio adventure and comedy.  
E. WILSON, N.Y., N.Y.

ONLY 50¢ A MONTH FOR MEMBERSHIP

**DON'T MISS A SINGLE ISSUE OF THE GREAT RADIO SHOWS OLD TIME RADIO CLUB MAGAZINE.** And remember gang, these issues are fast becoming real collectors items, one of the reasons is that they are not available to the public, they are available only to members of the Great Radio Shows (Captain Midnight's reactivated 1940 Flight Patrol), so make sure you get a complete set.

**THE MISSING ELEMENT IN OLD TIME RADIO**

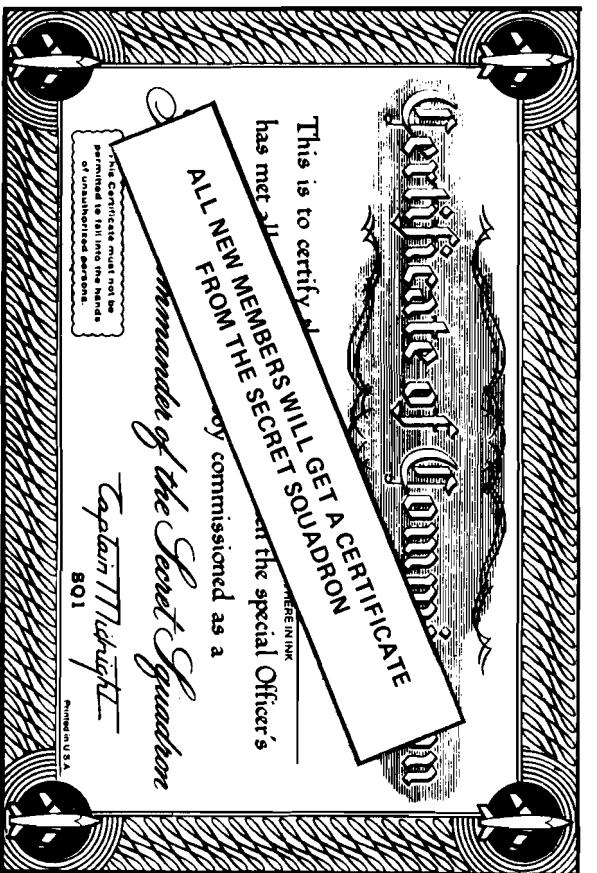
There have been other Old Time Radio Clubs, but none come close to the Great Radio Shows Old Time Radio Club, one of the reasons being that many of the same persons you heard on radio are helping to make this club magazine possible. They have provided us with a never-ending source of Old Time Radio material, including pictures — contests — radio crossword puzzles — radio quizzes — radio scripts — stories — articles on old time radio and other items too numerous to mention in this limited space. Also remember that these club magazines are not available in stores at any price, but they are yours **free** through membership in the Great Radio Shows Old Time Radio Club.

Thanks for this long overdue old time radio magazine.  
J. CARLSON  
DALLAS, TEXAS

You'll relive those old radio days of comedy and mystery through the pages of this one of a kind magazine.  
K.B. BOLGER  
ALTA LOMA, CALIF.

I haven't had so much fun since I sent for my Captain Midnight decoder years ago. Thanks for a great magazine.  
MICHAEL ROMANO  
CHICAGO, ILL.

Each issue is like a broadcast in itself, well worth reading and keeping as a permanent record of old time radio.  
KRIS STEVENS  
FORT COLLINS, COLO.



**OLD-TIME RADIO**

FREE LONE RANGER GIVEAWAY TO ALL NEW MEMBERS

*The Lone Ranger*



**HURRY — MAIL THIS ORDER BLANK TODAY!**

Please send check or money order payable to

Thomas Riggs Box 23, Vauxhall, N.J. 07088

Enclosed find \$6.00. Enroll me as a member in the Great Radio Shows Old Time Radio Club. Also sign me up for a 1-year free subscription to the club magazine. Also send the free Lone Ranger give-away and Secret Squadron Certificate. . . . .  
Please find \$2.00 send me a Souvenir Issue . . . . .

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_