

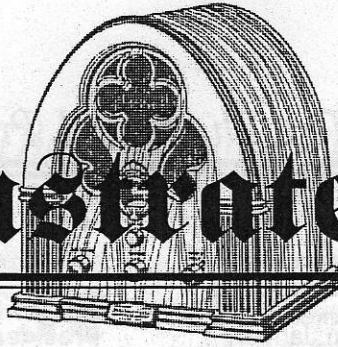
The Old Time Radio Club

Established 1975

The Illustrated Press

Number 361

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Buffalo Bob Smith

The Illustrated Press

Membership Information

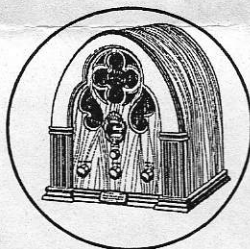
Club Membership: \$18.00 per year from January 1 to December 31. Members receive a tape library listing, reference library listing and the monthly newsletter. Memberships are as follows: If you join January-March, \$18.00; April-June, \$14; July-September, \$10; October-December, \$7. All renewals should be sent in as soon as possible to avoid missing newsletter issues. Please be sure to notify us if you have a change of address. The **Old Time Radio Club** meets on the first Monday of the month at 7:30 PM during the months of September through June at St. Aloysius School Hall, Cleveland Drive and Century Road, Cheektowaga, NY. There is **no** meeting during the month of July, and an informal meeting is held in the month of August.

Anyone interested in the Golden Age of Radio is welcome. The **Old Time Radio Club** is affiliated with the Old Time Radio Network.

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All Submissions are subject to approval prior to actual publication.

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Library Rates:

Audio cassettes and CDs are \$1.95 each and are recorded on a **club supplied cassette or CD** which is **retained** by the member. Rates include postage and handling and are payable in U.S. funds.

Tokyo Rose

By TOM CHERRE

One of the most popular broadcasters in the South Pacific during the World War II years was Iva Toguri. You might know her better as Tokyo Rose. Iva was one of about 12 English speaking females that entertained



our GIs with her one hour show called "Zero Hour". Iva or Tokyo Rose would host that show for 340 episodes from 1943 to 1945. The show consisted of news back home, stateside hits from the likes of the Andrews Sisters, Bing Crosby, the big bands, and propaganda. After doing a little research I was flabbergasted to see what a gross miscarriage of justice was dealt to Iva Toguri.

After the war she was tried for treason, and found guilty. She was fined \$10,000 and sentenced to jail for ten years. She was inauspiciously given a bum rap. Some of you may disagree that her trial was a travesty, but if you read a bit more you may have a change of heart.

Iva Ikuko Toguri was born in Los Angeles on July 4th 1916. She was the daughter of Japanese immigrants. Her father Jun came to the US in 1899, and her mother Fumi in 1913. Iva graduated from UCLA in 1940 with a degree in zoology. After graduation she worked in her parents shop. She was a registered Republican, and voted for Wendell Wilkie in 1940. She was an average American girl. On July 5th 1941 Iva set sail to visit a dying aunt. Her mother was too sick to make the trip so Iva went in her place. At that time she could sail without a passport. When she decided to return home in September she found out she would need a passport. She applied to the US Vice Consul and her request was forwarded to the State Department. In those days things didn't move any faster than they do now, and while she waited, Pearl Harbor was attacked. Iva was then stranded in Japan as an enemy alien. She was pressured by the Japanese Government to renounce her American citizenship, but she refused.

Having to support herself she found work as a clerk typist and eventually got a job with Radio Tokyo. She barely spoke any Japanese, but was fluent in English and

was chosen to broadcast propaganda to the GIs in November of 1943. She hosted the "Zero Hour" show and went by the name "Orphan Ann". The GIs gave her the name Tokyo Rose. She earned about \$7.00 a month doing the show. She used some of her meager earnings to feed American POWs smuggling in food.

Iva aimed her comments towards her fellow Americans. In one of the few remaining recordings of the show she calls herself "Your Number One Enemy". She was telling them that she was their best enemy (in other words conveying she was their friend). The Japs however, thought she meant greatest enemy. Along with news of ships sinking she would often say your girlfriends or wives were running off with other guys. Other little comments to cut morale were also injected in her show. This was hardly stuff punishable by high treason. Actually the GIs looked forward to hearing her show.



Toguri in December 1944 at Radio Tokyo

When the war ended a couple of American reporters went to Japan looking for this famous Tokyo Rose to do a story on her. They offered a couple hundred bucks for the identity of this mysterious Tokyo Rose. Iva who needed money to return home stepped forward to claim the money, but was arrested instead on September 4th 1945. She was released from jail after serving a year in a Japanese prison. The FBI and General Douglas MacArthur could find no evidence that she aided the enemy. After her release she requested to return home, and that's where the fiasco begins.

Walther Winchell, probably the most famous columnist at the time was so vehement in his lobbying to have Iva tried for treason. It was 1948 and memories of families losing loved ones at the hands of the Japanese still harbored in their minds. Harry Truman who was in a fight for his life against Dewey for president felt having the famed Tokyo Rose put to jail for years might garner him a few more votes. The trial lasted months and would prove costly. It was the most expensive trial up to that time costing 750 thousand dollars. The jury was deadlocked as the chief juror approached the judge and appealed to him for a mistrial. The judge would have none of that and demanded a verdict. After two more days the famed Tokyo Rose was found guilty on one count and sentenced to ten years and a ten thousand dollar fine. She was released after serving six years, four off for good behavior. She wound up paying her fine from money from her dead father's estate.

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Later on it was proven that key witnesses were told by the FBI what to say and what not to say fearing that they themselves would be on trial. Iva was pardoned by President Gerry Ford in 1976. She was the only person to ever be found guilty of treason, then get a full pardon and have her citizenship restored. She lived the remainder of her life working in her family's gift shop in Chicago. She died in 2006 at the age of 90. There was an investigation done by Chicago Tribune's Ron Yates and a report by Morley Safer on 60 Minutes relating to this grotesque and unfortunate debacle suffered by Iva Toguri or as we knew her as Tokyo Rose.

PS To finish on a happy note Iva was given the Edward J. Herlihy Award by the World War II Veterans Committee citing her indomitable spirit, love of country, and example of courage she had given her fellow Americans. This was granted to her on January 15, 2006. According to her biographer, this was the happiest day of her life. She died eight months later.



Librarian's Notes

By FRANK BORK

From the Desk of The Club Librarian

Good News, I finally got a response from a Club Member to donate some of the Club's missing cassettes. All the way from Brooklyn, NY. Jack Sobel read in the LP, and sent me two cassettes of *The Whistler*. That's a great Club spirit. Thanks Jack, oh by the way I was only kidding"all the way from Brooklyn".

Here's the list of 10 more missing cassettes:

- #580 -The Shadow - Hounds In The Hills 2/20/38
Isle Of The Living Dead 10/13/40
- #585 -Boston Blackie - Blackie Sent To Jail 12/3/46
A Man Is Murdered - XX/XX/XX
- #596 -Inner Sanctum - Murder Faces East 12/13/48
Fearful Voyage 1/3/49
- #597 -Inner Sanctum - Color Blind Formulas 12/6/44
The Judas Clock 4/17/45
- #619 -The Cisco Kid - Shoot To Kill 3/23/54
Sheriff Phantom 3/25/54
- #636 -Molle Mystery Theatre - Make No Mistake
4/30/48
Close Shave 5/14/48

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- #663 -The Fred Allen Show - w/ Boris Karloff 11/18/48
One Long Pan 4/11/48
- #664 -Pearl Harbor Countdown 12/1/41 & 12/2/41
- #665 -Pearl Harbor Countdown 12/5/41 & 12/6/41
- #666 -Pearl Harbor News 12/7/41

The Radio Club Thanks to "The Dragon Lady"

"The Dragon Lady" aka Linda DeCecco has done it again. At the last Radio Club meeting, in April, she donated (I'll take a guess) another 100 cassettes to the Club Library.

Now I don't remember how she got that name "The Dragon Lady". As the Evil Prof. Boncore would say, that besides my being as tight as Jack Benny, our old Club Librarian is just an old, old guy. The Evil Prof. wonders how I manage to find my way to the Club meetings. Well what the heck. Now back to "The Dragon Lady". As I checked over her collection I could not find even one cassette of *Terry and The Pirates*. I got a headache thinking about that. Aha, now I remember, Linda got that name from the Evil Prof Boncore, after she out-smarted the Prof. in a trade of cassettes. A great Big Thank You, Dragon Lady, I mean Linda.

That's all for now,
The old guy, Frank Bork

The Year 1952 in Review

By JERRY COLLINS

So many important things were happening in the history of television and radio in the 1950s that I have decided to add two more years to my study. The year 1952 will be my final year.

The important events of the year 1952 were;

1. The first Holiday Inn is opened in Tennessee.
2. Kellogg's Frosted Flakes and Saran Wrap were introduced.
3. ANZUS was established in the South Pacific.
4. Dwight Eisenhower was elected president of the United States, the first Republican president elected in 20 years.
5. Dick Clark hosted the first *American Bandstand*, while Cleveland disc jockey Alan Freed organized the first rock and roll concert.
6. Ron Neccai pitched his Bristol Twins to a 7-0 victory over the Welch Miners in the Class D. He pitched the ultimate of perfect games as he struck out 27 consecutive batters.
7. Mad Magazine began publication.

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8. *The Today Show* with Dave Garroway premiered.
9. *The Honeymooners* debuted on CBS.
10. Dr. Jonas Salk developed the first experimentally safe polio vaccine.
11. Even though Gil Hodges had one of the best seasons in his illustrious baseball career, he set a record for futility in the 1952 World Series as he went 0 for 21. Catholic priests asked their congregations to pray for Hodges, Rosaries were said and other religious services were held. Nothing worked.
12. Traditionally Most Valuable Players are selected from the rosters of the top contenders in each league. Bobby Schantz (24-7) - Philadelphia Athletics (4th place) and Hank Sauer (37 HRS. and 121 RBI's) - Chicago Cubs (5th place) won the awards in 1952.
13. Billy Vessells edged Jackie Scarbath, Paul Giel, Donn Moonmaw and Johnny Lattner to win the 1952 Heisman Trophy.
14. Chicago Blackhawk's Bill Mosienko set a scoring record on March 23, 1952, the last day of the regular season. He scored three goals in 21 seconds. Goalie Gil Bodnar set another record as he assisted on all three goals.
15. On February 6th Princess Elizabeth became Queen Elizabeth II following the death of her father King George VI.
16. On the same day the first mechanical heart was used in the United States.
17. On April 4th President Harry Truman nationalized the Steel industry prior to the beginning of a nationwide strike.
18. In late June Evita Peron of Argentina died of cancer at the age of 33.
19. In early September 4,000 deaths were traced to a smog attack in London.
20. Martial was declared on October 20th in Kenya due to a series of Mau Mau uprisings.
21. In late November President elect Eisenhower visited South Korea hoping to bring about a diplomatic end to the Korean War.
22. California had the second greatest earthquake in its history. It happened in July and affected 100,000 square miles and killed 11 people.
23. I recently made a list of 55 of my favorite radio shows. Between 1948 and 1953, 30 of these shows permanently left the air.
24. On March 21st and 22nd tornadoes hit the lower Mississippi Valley, killing 208 people.
25. Bob Mathias won a Gold Medal in the Summer Olympics in Helsinki, Finland. This was his second Gold Medal as he was victorious as a high school athlete in the London Olympics in 1948. Mathias was also the starting fullback on the Stanford University football team and he helped lead them to a Rose bowl appearance in 1952. Unfortunately

they lost 40-7 to a powerful Illinois squad. It was first national telecast of a college football game and obviously the first such telecast of a bowl game.

26. On September 23rd Richard Nixon delivered his famous "Checker's Speech" from the El Capitan Hotel in Hollywood. It was an example of one of the first uses of television for political purposes. It is estimated that close to 45 million people viewed the speech on television.

The following radio shows began in 1952

1. Gunsmoke

The followed radio shows left the air in 1952;

1. The Green Hornet
2. Mark Trail
3. Mr. District Attorney
4. Richard Diamond
5. I Love a Mystery
6. Mr. Chamelion
7. Big Town
8. The Lineup
9. The Halls of Ivy
10. Nightbeat
11. The Mysterious Traveler

The following were the most popular songs in 1952;

1. Wheel of Fortune
2. Wish You Were Here
3. You Belong to Me
4. Walkin My Baby Back Home
5. I'll Walk Alone
6. Over
7. Somewhere Along the Way
8. It Takes Two to Tango
9. Kiss of Fire
10. Here in My Heart
11. Tell Me Why
12. High Noon
13. Jambalaya
14. Because You're Mine
15. Glow-Worm
16. Half as Much

The following were the best movies of 1952;

1. The Greatest Show on Earth
2. Singing in the Rain
3. The Bad and the Beautiful
4. The Quiet Man
5. Limelight
6. Viva Zapata
7. My Cousin Rachel
8. High Noon
9. The Big Sky
10. Come Back Little Sheba

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11. Ivanhoe
12. Moulin Rouge
13. With a Song in my Heart

The Emmy Award winners for 1952 were;

1. Best Dramatic Program - Robert Montgomery Presents
2. Best Actor - Thomas Mitchell
3. Best Actress - Helen Hayes
4. Most Outstanding Personality - Bishop Fulton J. Sheen
5. Best Situation Comedy - I Love Lucy
6. Best Comedian - Jimmy Durante
7. Best Comedienne - Lucille Ball
8. Best Variety Program - Your Show of Shows
9. Best Mystery, Action or Adventure Show - Dragnet
10. Best Public Affairs Program - See It Now
11. Best Audience Participation, Quiz or Panel Program - What's My Line
12. Best Children's Program - Time for Beanny

The most Popular Books of 1952 Were

1. The Caine Mutiny Court Martial
2. Silver Chalice
3. East of Eden
4. My Cousin Rachel
5. Giant
6. The Old Man of the Sea
7. Steamboat Gothic
8. The Gown of Glory
9. The Saracen Blade
10. The House in Between

The following teams and players won sports championships;

1. The New York Yankees (95-59) won the American League pennant by a margin of two games over the Cleveland Indians. The Brooklyn Dodger (96-57) won the National League by 4 ½ games over the New York Giants. The Yanks were led by Yogi Berra (30 HRS. and 98 RBI'S), Mickey Mantle (23 HRS. and 87 RBI's) and Gene Woodling (.309). Once again the Yankees had a strong pitching staff; Vic Raschi 16-6, Allie Reynolds 20-8, Ed Lopat 10-5 and Johnny Sain 11-6. Hank Bauer, Gil McDougald, Phil Rizzuto along with Berra, Mantle, Raschi and Reynolds were selected to the All-Star squad. The Dodgers were led by Gil Hodges (32 HRS. and 102 RBI's), Roy Campanella (22 HRS and 97 RBI's), Jackie Robinson (.308), Duke Snyder (.303, 21 HRS and 92 RBI's), Joe Black (15-4), Carl Erskine (14-6), Billy Loes (13-8) and Preacher Roe (11-2). Campanella, Hodges, Robinson, Snyder, Roe as well as Carl Furillo and Pee Wee Reese were selected for the National League All Star squad. The Yankees won the World Series in seven games. Allie Reynolds

was 2-1, while Vic Raschi was 2-0. Mickey Mantle had 10 hits including 2 homeruns, Johnny Mize six hits including 3 homeruns and Yogi Berra 2 home-runs. Pee Wee Reese and Duke Snyder both had 10 hits while Billy Cox contributed 8 hits. Snyder had 4 homeruns.

2. The Cleveland Browns led by Paul Brown, Otto Graham, Lou Groza, Marion Motley, Mac Speedie, Dante Lavelli and others formed one of the most teams in all of sports. Still they rarely could defeat the Detroit Lions. Led by Bobby Layne, Tobin Rote, Doak Walker, John Henry Johnson, Joe Schmidt, Lou Creekmur, Leon Hart, Yale Lary, Jack Christiansen, Dick Stanfel, Les Bingaman, Bob Hoernschemeyer, Jim Martin and other, the Lions won one regular season game and 3 of 4 championship games. The dominance began in 1952. The Lions won 17-7 as Layne scored on a 3-yard run and Walker added a 67-yard TD scamper. Pat Harder added a 36-yard field goal. Chick Jagade scored the Browns only touchdown on a 7-yard run.
3. Michigan State won the NCAA football championship with a 9-0 record. Georgia Tech finished second with a 12-0 record. Although their record was 7-2-1 Notre Dame placed third based on upset victories over Oklahoma and Southern California. Those two teams finished 4th and 5th in the nation.
4. The NBA playoff finals involved quite an unusual situation. It pitted the Minneapolis Lakers who finished behind the Rochester Royals and the New York Knicks who concluded the regular season behind Syracuse and Boston. The Lakers won the playoffs in 7 games, winning the final game in New York. The winners were led by their strong front line George Mikan, Jim Pollard and Vern Mikkelson. Frank "Pep" Saul had a strong playoff averaging over 11 points a game. Slater Martin and Whitey Skoog played well at guard. The Knicks were led by Carl Braun, Harry Gallatin, Nat "Sweet Water" Clifton and Dick McGuire. Paul Arizin led the league in scoring with a 25.4 average. Bobby Wanzer was successful on 90.4% of his foul shots. The All Star squad included Arizin, Mikan, Bob Cousy, Ed Macauley, Bob Davies and Dolph Shayes.
5. The Kentucky Wildcats finished the regular season in 1st place with a record of 28-2. Their reign came to an end when they were upset by St. Johns in the Eastern Regionals. Kansas led by big Clyde Lovellette then defeated St. Johns for the NCAA crown. Tom Gola and Norm Gopin led LaSalle I to a 75-64 victory over Dayton for the NIT title. St. Bonaventure finished 3rd following a 48-34 victory over Duquesne. The 1951-52 All American squad included Lovellette, Dick Groat, Cliff Hagen, Johnny O'Brien and Bob Zawoluk.
6. The list of top boxers for 1952 would include Jersey

Joe Walcott, Ezzard Charles, Joey Maxin, Archie Moore, Ray Robinson, Carl "Bobo" Olsen, Kid Gavilan, Jimmy Carter, Sandy Sadler, Vic Toweel and Jimmy Carruthers.

7. The Detroit Red Wings won the 1952 Stanley Cup Championship in near Record fashion. They swept both the Toronto Maple Leafs and the Montreal Canadiens. They scored 24 goals while limiting the opposition to only 5 goals. This should be combined with their regular season record of 44-14-12. Soon after the conclusion of the season, four members of the Red Wings were named to the NHL All-Star squad; Terry Sawchuck in goal, Red Kelly at defense along with Gordie Howe at right wing and Ted Lindsay at left wing. Sawchuck won the Vesina Trophy and Howe won the Hart Trophy and Art Ross Trophy.
8. Julius Boros won the U.S. Open Golf Tournament.
9. Troy Ruttman won the Indianapolis 500 averaging 129.99 MPH

Cost of Living and Budget for 1952

1. New House - \$9, 075.00
2. Average Income - \$3,850.00
3. New Car - \$1,754.00
4. Average Rent - \$80.00
5. Tuition tol Harvard - \$600.00 per Year
6. Movie Ticket - \$.70
7. Gasoline - \$.20 per gallon
8. United States Postage Stamp - \$.03
9. Milk - \$.97 per gallon
10. Eggs - \$.25 per Dozen
11. Fresh Ground Hamburger - \$.53 per pound
12. Fresh Baked Bread - \$.16 per loaf

My project is now complete. I began it some fifteen months ago with the year 1938. Aside from the newsreels that changed on a weekly basis in the movie theaters we gathered all of our news and sports from the radio. We listened to Joe Louis fights, Yankee baseball games, the Kentucky Derby and Notre Dame football games, we listened to "FDR's Fireside Chats". After all radio and President Roosevelt formed a perfect match. We followed the advances of Hitler in Europe, the disaster at Lakehurst and the kidnapping of the Lindbergh baby. We were entertained by Orson Welles, the Lone Ranger, the Shadow, Amos and Andy, Jack Benny, Fred Allen and George Burns and Gracie Allen.

Just 15 years later the newsreels were gone from the movie theater. With television there was no further need to gather the news on a weekly basis. We watched Willie Mays and his basket catches, Mickey Mantle's monster homeruns, Stan the Man, Ted Williams and the antics of Casey Stengel. Millions got to see Bobby Thompson's "Shot Heard Around the world." We finally got to see the Browns, Rams, Lions and Giants. We watched Hockey Night in Canada. Television replaced radio as we

viewed Ray Robinson, Archie Moore and Rocky Marciano. Unfortunately television came too late to view some of the great athletes that would have been perfect for TV; Dizzy Dean and the rest of the "Gashouse Gang," Babe Ruth, Henry Armstrong and Bronko Nagurski. Other athletes were in their waning years when we saw them on the screen; Sammy Baugh, Bob Waterfield, Pete Reiser, Willie Pep, Sandy Sadler and Joe Louis. On television we watched the McCarthy Hearings, the events of the Cold War and the spiritual talks of Bishop Fulton J. Sheen. We were now entertained by Milton Berle, Jackie Gleason, Steve Allen and Ed Sullivan. Jack Benny along with George Burns and Gracie Allen had successfully made the transition from radio to television.

What beautiful memories those 15 years have left us. I was one of the lucky ones that lived during most of those years.

BEING THERE: Collecting Radio Broadcast Admission Tickets

By RICK PAYNE (All Rights Reserved 2008)

During the golden age of radio, networks and sponsors invited the general public to attend live performances of many popular programs. For the performers, the presence of the studio audience provided encouragement, laughter and appreciation. For the audience, the experience was an unforgettable opportunity to see their favorite entertainers at work. Tickets from some broadcasts survive today . . . waiting for collectors like me.

Thank God for packrats. It's comforting to know that the DNA of some of our ancestors bore that mysterious gene which compels one to keep items of no apparent value. I'm proud to carry on that tradition.

Broadcast tickets faced formidable odds of survival. Millions started the journey, free for the asking. . . and then the process of natural selection took over. Some were given to people who didn't go, thereby having no sentimental reason to keep them. Some were presented for admission, only to be collected or ripped in half at the door. Most of those that made it past the door might have been stuffed in a pocket or tossed carelessly on the floor. The few that made it back to their owner's house still had to outlast decades of house-cleanings, scrap drives and estate settlements. When you find a radio ticket, you might literally be looking at the only one existing for that particular event. Each one is a survivor . . . a tiny paper miracle.

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And when that ticket is for the first performance of a new program, you've done the collector's equivalent of winning the lottery. Those special tickets faced the additional burden of being heavily distributed to affluent or influential insiders . . . media critics, sponsors, network executives and affiliates, government and political big-wigs, and the friends and families of performers and producers. They were less likely to keep the tickets than tourists, who usually didn't have a chance at getting one.

This month, we look at some "famous firsts", the rarest of the rare in the ticket collecting hobby: tickets for premiere broadcasts, auditions and first appearances.

Columbia Broadcasting System LUX RADIO THEATRE 6126 Hollywood Blvd. - Hollywood		Good Only on This Date DILLINGHAM PTC. CO., INC., L.A.	LUX RADIO THEATRE MON., JUNE 1	No. 319
JUNE 1	CLARK GABLE AND MARLENE DIETRICH			
1936	MONDAY 5:00 to 6:00 P. M. Doors close at 4:55 P. M. Children Under 12 Years of Age Will Not Be Admitted			

I'm particularly proud to have this ticket, for the bearer was among the very first to hear the phrase "Lux . . . presents . . . HOLLYWOOD!" This 1936 broadcast marked the radio debut of legendary film director Cecil B. DeMille as the host of a revamped and transplanted *Lux Radio Theatre*. A shift in focus from Broadway plays to motion pictures, and a change in venue to permit the personal performances of their stars, proved to create unrivalled success.

If DeMille's on-air remarks are to be believed, the opening night audience contained more stars than those appearing on stage. Joan Blondell, Gary Cooper, Al Jolson, Ruby Keeler, Franchot Tone and Frederic March were all on hand to watch Clark Gable and Marlene Dietrich perform in "The Legionnaire and the Lady", loosely based on the 1930 film *Morocco*. Dietrich reprised her Oscar-nominated role (adding the song "Falling in Love Again" from 1930's *The Blue Angel* to boot). I'm not sure why Gable played the Gary Cooper part if indeed Coop was in the audience . . . but that's what happened. The broadcast survives, and Gable did very well.

DO NOT DETACH:
This signed slip entitles holder to reserved Press seats for first Lux Radio Theatre broadcast in Hollywood.
E. J. Fontana

This little paper was stapled to the ticket, confirming that it was originally owned by a privileged member of the media. *Lux Radio Theatre* tickets were always in high demand. But as far as Hollywood was concerned, this particular broadcast started it all . . . and saved a legend from extinction.

COLUMBIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM EL CAPITAN THEATRE 6838 HOLLYWOOD BLVD. • HOLLYWOOD		Sunday JAN. 8 1939 4:30-5 p.m. Doors Close at 4:25 p.m.	No. 859
CBS	GULF OIL CORPORATION Presents SCREEN GUILD SHOW Starring JOAN CRAWFORD JUDY GARLAND with GEORGE MURPHY, Master of Ceremonies OSCAR BRADLEY and His Orchestra		
CHILDREN UNDER 12 YEARS WILL NOT BE ADMITTED			

Here's another Press ticket . . . for the very first broadcast of the *Screen Guild Show*, sponsored by "Good Gulf gasoline." This CBS show was basically performed as a benefit by the Screen Actors Guild for the Motion Picture Relief Fund. The appearance fees paid by Gulf were donated by the performers to assist elderly and destitute actors of the silent film era.

The show was hosted by future Senator and furniture maker George Murphy, but 15 year-old Judy Garland stole the show with an operatic version of Bob Hope's "Thanks for the Memory." Judy, of course, was a regular on *The Pepsodent Program* in 1939. Her *Wizard of Oz* co-star and SAG president Frank Morgan was also on hand. And the love scene between Joan Crawford and Jack Benny must have been a sight to behold.

NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY, INC. HOLLYWOOD STUDIOS SUNSET AND VINE		Studio D Sunday Doors Close At 6:55
7:00 p.m. Jan. 15 1939	THE KELLOGG HOUR	

What's *The Kellogg Hour*, you ask? Well, this ticket provided one of my happiest collector moments, and serves as a great example of how things may not always appear to be as they seem.

Many early radio programs were officially christened with the name of their sponsor; *The Pepsodent Program* (Bob Hope) and *The Chase and Sanborn Hour* (Charlie McCarthy) quickly come to mind as examples. The titles on many old tickets aren't as easy to recognize. *The American Radiator Program*, *The Premier-Pabst Show*, *The Elgin Revue*, *The Union Oil Program* and *Life Savers Rendezvous* have tested my mettle for research.

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Most prove to have obscure stars and stories. When I bought this *Kellogg Hour* ticket on ebay about 18 months ago, I expected a similar result.

Much to my surprise, it's for the first broadcast of an innovative experiment intended to silence critics who panned radio's tendency to pander to the lowest level of entertainment for the masses. Idealists saw radio as a tool that could enlighten and elevate the general public's understanding of the critical issues of the day. Imagine their disappointment when their dream was being squandered on "You wanna buy a duck?"

Intellectually-inspired programs weren't exactly unknown . . . but this one had a really interesting twist. The idea was to take Hollywood's best and brightest and create a weekly on-air cocktail party, filled with interesting debate and conversation. The program, better known as *The Circle*, had a huge budget and a dazzling line-up. Originally hosted by Ronald Colman, the regulars included Carole Lombard, Groucho and Chico Marx, Cary Grant. Unfortunately, the egos of such luminaries didn't mesh well with the required discipline of showing up every week. A frustrated Colman quit after a month, and the program mercifully died after six months.

But for a guy who's always loved the Marx Brothers, discovering this rare ticket was quite a thrill! It's cryptic name saved me a bundle!

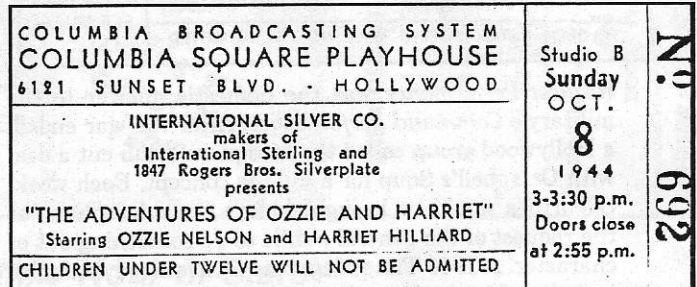


John Guedel was quite a guy. He could see extraordinary radio possibilities from the most mundane of events. His greatest gift was in understanding the power of unscripted entertainment . . . the power of ad libs. All he needed was an ordinary person, an unusual situation, and a host who was quick with a line. It was he who created *You Bet Your Life*, the perfect vehicle for Groucho Marx. He also saw the raw potential of a young San Francisco man-on-the-street interviewer with whom he would create not one, but two, huge hits. His name was Art Linkletter.

His first big national success was *People Are Funny*, and here's a ticket for the very first broadcast from 1942. It's particularly notable because it was launched with two co-hosts. Art Baker had hosted *Pull Over, Neighbor*, an early west coast version of the concept. He would later

create and host television's *You Asked For It*. But for the first two weeks of *People Are Funny*, Baker had to share the spotlight with Linkletter.

Baker won the battle, but Linkletter eventually won the war when he replaced him in late 1943. He would continue to host the show until 1960, while also overseeing another Guedel-inspired project on radio and television: *House Party*. For Art Linkletter, this 1942 broadcast was the beginning of his national career.



After supporting radio personalities ranging from Joe Penner and *Believe It or Not* cartoonist Robert Ripley on *The Baker's Broadcast* to Red Skelton on his *Raleigh Cigarette Program*, Ozzie Nelson and Harriet Hilliard were ready for their own shot at stardom. The attractive young couple had been featured on some of radio's most popular shows, and their long years of touring with Ozzie's orchestra had built a loyal fan base across the country. And the powerhouse NBC Tuesday night line-up . . . Fibber McGee and Molly, followed by Bob Hope and then Red Skelton . . . provided great exposure.

When Skelton was drafted in the spring of 1944, Ozzie felt it was time to try their own radio program. With support and encouragement from John Guedel (yes, him again), Ozzie wrote the initial script and recorded an audition disc. Sponsor rights were quickly sold to the International Silver Company, with Ozzie agreeing to make one minor change. Their radio home address would be 1847 Rogers Road, named after the company's popular silverware pattern.

This is the ticket for the very first broadcast of *The Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet*, presented on the couple's ninth wedding anniversary. They were supported by announcer Jack Bailey, Bea Benadaret as their maid Gloria, and John Brown as neighbor Thorny. Their sons David and Ricky didn't actually join the program for almost five years, after convincing their parents to replace the other child actors that had played their parts. The oft-asked question about Ozzie's occupation was actually answered in the second line of this episode: "*Ozzie and Harriet have just finished their usual summer orchestra tour.*" Ozzie would remain the occasional bandleader for 22 years on radio and television, and was

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a brilliant businessman and innovative technician to boot.

COLUMBIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM COLUMBIA SQUARE PLAYHOUSE 6121 SUNSET BOULEVARD — HOLLYWOOD		SUNDAY JAN. 27 1946 6-6:30 p.m. Doors Close at 5:55 p.m.	No 870
STUDIO A CBS	CAMPBELL'S SOUP Presents "REQUEST PERFORMANCE" Produced by the Masquers' Club ALICE FAYE LIONEL BARRYMORE PHIL HARRIS MEREDITH WILLSON		
CHILDREN UNDER TWELVE WILL NOT BE ADMITTED			

Request Performance was the domestic answer to the military's *Command Performance*. After the war ended, a Hollywood group called the Masquers' Club cut a deal with Campbell's Soup for a unique concept. Each week, celebrities would be brought before the microphone at the request of the general public to do something out of character. A 1946 Time Magazine article cited examples including Metropolitan Opera tenor Lawrence Melchior singing "One Meatball", W.C. Fields drinking a glass of water, Charles Laughton giving elocution lessons to Donald Duck and Dame Mae Whitty playing washboard with the Spike Jones band.

They hit the jackpot on January 27, 1946, when this ticket allowed you to see the first joint radio appearance of Phil Harris and his wife, actress and singer Alice Faye. The pair performed a comedy sketch about their home life in the San Fernando Valley. It went well enough that by September, they were starring in NBC's *The Fitch Bandwagon*. This ticket started it all!

NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY, INC. HOLLYWOOD STUDIOS SUNSET AND VINE		
Thurs.-Oct. 3 See Reverse Side	COLGATE DENTAL CREAM PRESENTS A Day in the Life of DENNIS DAY ★ CHILDREN UNDER 14 WILL NOT BE ADMITTED ★	STUDIO B Doors Close 6:20 p.m.

Phil Harris wasn't the only member of Jack Benny's radio family to strike out on his own. Dennis Day had left the Benny show in April 1944 to join the Navy. When he returned in March 1946, the popular tenor quickly reasserted his popularity, and the network planned a new program for him.

A Day in the Life of Dennis Day premiered on October 3, 1946 (just four days after Phil Harris' *Fitch Bandwagon* debut). If you held this ticket, you witnessed the inaugural broadcast in person. The show lasted five years with various formats, with Dennis doing double-duty with Jack's *Lucky Strike Program* for the duration of the run.

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COLUMBIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM COLUMBIA SQUARE PLAYHOUSE 6121 SUNSET BOULEVARD — HOLLYWOOD		TUESDAY JUNE 15 1948 8-9:30 p.m. Doors Close at 7:50 p.m. Calif. daylight saving time	No 1151
STUDIO B CBS	CBS Presents A New Comedy "THE LITTLE IMMIGRANT" Starring J. CARROLL NAISH		
CHILDREN UNDER TWELVE WILL NOT BE ADMITTED			

Chances are you've never heard of *The Little Immigrant*, but I'm sure you know the program. This rare ticket admitted you to an audition performance of a concept in development. It is, of course, a ticket for the pilot of *Life With Luigi*. A recording exists of this performance (running over 37 minutes), and the script is apparently identical to that used for the premiere performance on September 21, 1948 of *Life With Luigi*.

It's basically the origin story of Luigi Basco, covering his arrival in Chicago through the sponsorship of the owner of Pasquale's Spaghetti Palace and the start of his antique business. And, of course, Pasquale begins his long campaign to hook up the innocent Luigi with his rotund daughter Rosa. This pilot featured J. Carroll Naish and Alan Reed in the two principal roles, while the other parts were played for this performance only by sitcom veterans Mary Jane Croft and Gale Gordon. Croft and Gordon would become best known on television through their association with Lucille Ball, while Alan Reed's fame endures as the voice of Fred Flintstone.

Finally, here's an oversized ticket (see page 11) from the first installment of the *Prudential Family Hour of Stars* . . . and when they said "stars", they weren't kidding! Humphrey Bogart, Bette Davis, Gregory Peck and the others rotated the headliner duties for this anthology series. That might have been more a publicity stunt, though . . . Bogart and Davis only appeared twice during the two-year run. Nevertheless, any ticket which features them is worth having! Incidentally, this might be one of the truly "unused" tickets. The perforated stub is still attached.

And with that, we bring the twentieth edition of *Being There* to a close. Gosh, it seems like we've only scratched the surface of tantalizing ticket topics! I'll spend the coming months burrowing through boxes and attics searching for more relics from radio's past. When *The Illustrated Press* returns in September, we'll start the new season with a look at shows originating from Chicago. Have a great summer!

THE PRUDENTIAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA
 invites you to the
Premiere Performance
 OF THE PRUDENTIAL FAMILY HOUR OF STARS
 starring one member each week

HUMPHREY BOGART, BETTE DAVIS, GREGORY PECK
 GINGER ROGERS, BARBARA STANWYCK, ROBERT TAYLOR

405

Carmen Dragon and His Orchestra

TODAY'S STAR
 GREGORY
 PECK

THE COLUMBIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM
STUDIO B

COLUMBIA SQUARE, HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA
 6111 SUNSET BOULEVARD
 SUNDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 3, 1948
 4:00 to 4:30 p.m.
 DOORS CLOSE AT 3:50 p.m.

COMPLIMENTARY NOT FOR SALE
 ADMIT ONE
 405

— The Prudential Family Hour of Stars —



A
 Tip of The
 Hat

Many thanks to M. Frances Merrifield for her generous contribution of audio and MP3 CDs for the Club's Library. The listing of programs will be added to the upcoming revised Club Catalog.

Speaking of the Club's Catalog, due to Bob McDivitt's medical situation the 2008 edition won't be ready for member distribution until the fall. The discs will be mailed along with the Illustrated Press, same as last year.

A committee headed by Bob has been working on a project to scan all the Club's previous publications and offer them in PDF format on a compact disc. All the old Memories Magazines and copies of the Illustrated Press will be included. Prepaid cost to members only will be \$10. Send your check to Bob McDivitt payable to the Old Time Radio Club. See page 2 for address.

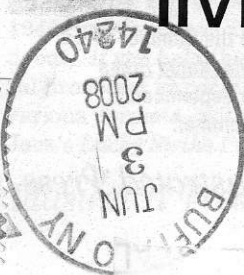
More actors are known by the character they play than by their own name. In the 1st column is the name of a character, the 2nd is the actor. Can you match them up?

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Andy H. Brown | William Conrad |
| Matt Cvetic | J. Scott Smart |
| California Carlson | Michael Dunn |
| Hop Harrigan | Natalie Masters |
| Paladin | Arthur Lake |
| Matt Dillon | Harold Peary |
| Britt Reid | Charles J. Correll |
| Throckmorton P. Gildersleeve | Andy Clyde |
| Titus Moody | Jack McCarthy |
| Captain Lee Quince | Lionel Barrymore |
| Brad Runyon | Alan Ladd |
| Dr. Leonard Gillespie | Alan Reed |
| Steve Mitchell | Edward G. Robinson |
| Dr. Daniel Danfield | Ed Begley |
| Charlie Chan | Brian Donlevy |
| Candy Matson | Parker Fennelly |
| Dan Holiday | Chester Stratton |
| Dagwood Bumpstead | Dana Andrews |
| Steve Wilson | John Dehner |
| Joe Palooka` | Raymond Burr |

Take your time, You've got all summer before I post the answers.

This is the last issue before the Summer Break.
 The next issue of the Illustrated Press will be published in September.
 Have a Great Summer.

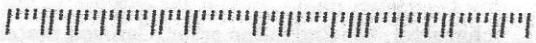
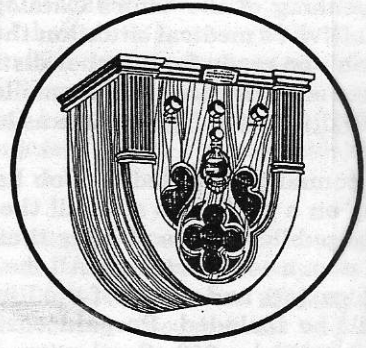
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**The 3rd Annual
Mid-Atlantic Nostalgia Convention**



EDD BYRNES
That's right! Kookie is coming to the convention!
Kookie on *77 Sunset Strip*
Vince Fontaine in *Grease* (the movie)



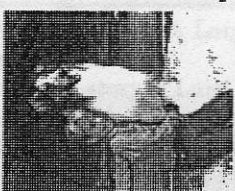
KATHLEEN HUGHES
This is Her First East Coast Appearance in Ten Years!
It Came From Outer Space (1953)
Cult of the Cobra (1955)
The Adventures of Ozzie & Harriet

THE CLARION HOTEL
Aberdeen, Maryland
Sept. 18 - 20, 2008

JON PROVOST
The one and only Timmy on television's *Lassie*



MARGARET KERRY
The model for Disney's Finkerbelle, *The Lone Ranger*,
The Andy Griffith Show, *Clutch Cargo* and she was one of the members of the Our Gang / The Little Rascals!



PATTY MCCORMACK
Academy Award nominee for *The Bad Seed* (1956)
Playhouse 90, *Wagon Train*, *Route 66* and *One Step Beyond*

www.midatlanticnostalgiaconvention.com