



National Radio Trader

National medium for the old-time radio devotee . . .

OLD RADIO literature wanted; 19-30s, 1920s and older. Radio magazines, parts catalogs, manufacturers literature, what-have-you? First, send card or letter telling type of literature, date, number of pages, condition, etc. Paul Everett, Box 16910-B, St. Paul, Minn. 55116. 5/78

LOOKING FOR Fort Laramie and Frontier Gentleman. Want to fill out my holdings by trading show for show. Art Chimes, 919 St. Paul St., Baltimore, MD 21202 5/78

RADIO PROGRAMS from the Good Ole' Days. 24-hour service from full-time dealer (10 years in business). Order your Radio Program Catalogs NOW. 100-page General \$1.00; 20-page General, Big Bands, Country/West.; Movie/Serial Soundtracks 50 cents each. Ayers Sound Recordings, Box 96W, Newton Junction, New Hampshire, 03859. 8/78

COMMERCIAL SIZE records for sale. Late 1940's, early 1950s, discs, armed forces, government spots, promotions, price open. Charles Owens, 2625 Greenleaf, Elkhart, Indiana. 46514. 8/78

WANT DISCS to Marx Bros. "Hollywood Agents" (been circulating for years). Will pay \$100. Also want Marx "Five Star Theaters," "Kellogg Hours" ("The Circle") and any disc with any Marx Brother. John Tefteller, 15536 Pescados Drive, La Mirada CA 90638. 5/78

WANTED: VERY good complete reel BBC Broadcast Tolkien "Lord of the Rings." Conrad Somerville, 2600 Morange Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15205. 5/78

LOOKING FOR transcriptions of radio shows. I have many to trade. Stuart Weiss, 136-49 Jewel Ave., Flushing, NY 11367 5/78

WANT NATIONAL Lampoon radio shows and other similar comedy materials. Have several thousand hours of comedy, first generation BBC, and old radio for open reel trade. Also want modern comedies and Freeberg material. Ed Potter, 1308 Evergreen, Goldsboro, NC 27530. 5/78

WANTED: CBS Workshop: Portrait of London, Columbia Workshops, Cavalcade of America, News, documentaries, rarer shows, etc. Have 10,000 shows. Prefer whole reel trades with very occasional customizing. Will exchange catalogs. Sol Feldman, 119 Pooler Ave, DeKalb Ill. 60115 5/78

WOULD LIKE to trade for Amos and Andy shows. Fred Berney, 5638 H Via Romano, Charlotte, NC 28211

INTERESTED IN Keeping old time radio alive? You should be a member of North American Radio Archives. For a free brochure write NARA, PO Box 11962, Reno NV 89510 5/78

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EDITOR'S REEL

OLD TIME RADIO SYNDROME

My psychiatrist doesn't like old time radio. At least I don't think he does. It all began recently at one of my weekly visits to him. I reclined leisurely in his office. Funny thing about that, in all these years he's never said anything about my lying on his typewriter instead of on his couch. Anyway, I put my elbow on the roller and leaned against my hand.

"What would you like to talk about today?" he began.

"I'm publishing an old time radio newsletter," I volunteered.

"What's an old time radio?" Hodge said (his real name is Hodge Podge, but after all these years he lets me call him Hodge).

"It's a bunch of wires and tubes inside a box," I said. "And, oh yes, there's a thing called the speaker."

"What does that remind you of?" he asked.

"Jack Benny, Fred Allen, and The Shadow," I said.

"No, I mean the box and the tubes," Hodge responded.

"Oh no," I replied. "Not that again!"

"Oh yes. Don't the tubes have little prongs that go into sockets?" Hodge queried. "And wasn't one of the popular radios cathedral shaped, with a point, I mean?"

"Oh God!" I replied. "But the main thing I like about this old time radio thing is the programs."

"They come out of the speaker?" Hodge asked.

"Yes," I said.

"Doesn't that remind you of something?" he suggested.

"Well, my father did have a big booming voice," I agreed.

"Now we're getting somewhere," he said elatedly. "Tell me about this newsletter thing."

"Well I sit up late at night and sort of hunt and peck on the typewriter," I said.

"Do you lounge on the typewriter like you're doing now?" he asked.

"Well, sort of," I replied.



"Doesn't that remind you of something?" he queried.

"Well I do remember looking through the slats of my crib and seeing my mother using a mimeograph. I think she put out some sort of church bulletin or something," I reported.

"Now doesn't it make you feel better to understand that?" Hodge asked.

"I'm not sure," I replied.

"Are you making any money at this project?" he continued.

"No. Actually I'm pouring lots of money into it," I confessed.

"Sounds as if you're hooked on pain again," Hodge observed.

"That reminds me. You haven't paid your bill for the last three months."

"But all my ready cash is going into this newsletter," I plead.

"You're going to have to choose between your newsletter and me," he declared.

"But my mother and father," I explained, "don't you see how they're all involved with this? And, my pain syndrome, what shall I do about that?" I asked.

"I can't be bothered with your problems right now," Hodge interjected. "I've got to pay my bills. Did you bring your checkbook with you? By the way, I wish you wouldn't lean on my typewriter like that. It bends the keys. Last week I sent out a statement for ninety eight cents instead of ninety eight dollars because the keys stuck."

"Has my lying on your typewriter bothered you like this for all these

years," I asked.

"Yes, As a matter of fact it has," he replied.

"And you're not going to try to understand my interest in Henry Aldrich and One Man's Family?" I questioned him further.

"Your fifty minutes is up. Leave your check with my secretary on your way out and we'll talk about it again next week," Hodge concluded. "Provided you stay away from my typewriter."

I walked out of the office. "I think I helped old Hodge today," I thought to myself. "That's the first time he's ever said what was on his mind. Next week I'll ask him what Old Time Radio reminds HIM of."



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* leads us to believe that an O.T.R. pub- *
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* round 300 paid subscribers. This veri- *
* fies the experience of the old timers *
* which are no longer publishing such as *
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* have and plan to be around till the last *
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WANTED: "Shadow" programs fr. 1949 to 1954. Will trade radio shows with those having 3000+ programs. Looking to buy 16 and 12" radio transcription discs. Please contact Mr. Charles Holmes, 1111 San Juan Drive, Charlestown, SC 29407. 5/78

WANTED: RADIO shows that feature any of the following: Jack Benny, Kate Smith, Groucho Marx, The Bickersons. Also, all TV shows prior to 1962. Mitchell Weisberg, 620 Greenbrier Ct., Fredricksburg, VA 22401. 5/78

REWARD: Want Gangbusters "The Case of the Cat Burglar" or similar title. Am serious about wanting this show. Write for offer. Chuck Blaskower, 311 E. Maple St., Apt. 8, Glendale, CA 91205. 5/78

WANT TO trade any type of old time radio having to do with country music. Have listing, send information on material. Will work out trade. Contact Larry Adamson, 207 Patrick Ave., Franklin, Tennessee 37064. 5/78

WANTED: COMPLETE NBC, ABC or CBS TV or radio coverage of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy: 11/22/63. Also, any other Kennedy radio items. Ernest Rethachutte, Box 8564, Parrville, MD 21234 5/78

ONE MAN'S Family Book 129 Chapters 4 thro 52, Book 131, Ch. 10 thro 16 to trade for interesting or unusual material. Don Boyer, 4919 Carrollton Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46205. 5/78

DO YOU ENJOY reading about the entertainers of yesteryear? Then you should enjoy "The World of Yesterday," a magazine devoted to movies, radio, old records and nostalgia. \$1 will bring you a sample copy. Department NRT, 13759 60th St. N., Clearwater, Fla 33520 5/78

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GOLDEN AGE: Radio, thousands of old radio shows on reel and cassettes at low prices. Box 25215-NR. Portland, Oregon 97225. 5/78

WANTED: Gangbusters "The Killer McLoig Case". My grandfather was sheriff in Crossvilly, Tenn. where he captured McLoig who was then electrocuted. Jack Hill, 2908 Elm Hill, Nashville, Tenn. 37214. 5/78.

RADIO SHOWS on cassettes. Hundreds of shows. I will trade with new collectors for blank tape. Send 26 cents in stamps. Joseph Teller, 23 Myrtle St., Waltham Mass. 02154, 5/78

I INADVERTENTLY erased the fourth half-hour segment of the Big Band Bash broadcast by PBS, 3/18/78. Could anyone help in restoring the lost segment. Will make any reasonable trade to obtain segment. All inquiries answered. Hugh Anderson, Mt. Gilead Rd., Rt. 1, Murrells Inlet, SC 29576 5/78

WOULD LIKE copies of "Casebook of Gregory Hood. Will supply tape and will trade if you let me know what you want. Write Jay Ranellucci, 4934 Topanga Canyon Blvd., Woodland Hills, CA 91364, or Phone 213-462-6252 9-5. 5/78

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THE OLD Time Radio Club of Buffalo and the Golden Radio Buffs of Denver are preparing another annual combined edition of their news letters for fall, 1978. Wanted: articles and stories to be included. Send to John H. Lloyd, 2667 E. 99th Ave., Thornton, CO 80229 8/78

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THE GOLDEN DAYS OF RADIO



By Frank Bresee

"Tell 'em Groucho sent you"

The first time I met Groucho Marx was in April, 1954. It was the final "You Bet Your Life" program of the season and I was fortunate to be able to join the 300 other people in the audience at the NBC Sunset and Vine Hollywood studios to watch the filming.

Groucho's show was the first one to be filmed at NBC and the process was unique because the Film Craft Company used four cameras, running simultaneously to film the action. After the program, which always lasted between an hour and an hour and a half, the films were edited to the thirty minutes which was seen on the air.

Following the filming, I was introduced to Groucho backstage, and I'll never forget his reply, "Have I ever met you before?" "No," to which Groucho replied, "Well, then, once should be enough," and then he raised his eye-

brows in that famous Groucho manner.

My next meeting was eighteen years later, when in 1972, I wrote and produced the KFI 50th Anniversary program. All of radio's biggest stars were on this twelve-hour radio spectacular — Bob Hope, Jack Benny, Rudy Vallee, Jim "Fibber McGee" Jordan, Bud Abbott, Harry Von Zell, Hal "Gilder-sleeve" Peary, Edgar Bergen with Charlie McCarthy, and of course, Groucho Marx.

Each personality was allotted a half hour, and I tried to squeeze as much information and as many radio excerpts as I could in the thirty minute segments. Groucho recorded some special material for me, and he talked about his long show business career. One of the lines I wrote, which Groucho loved was:

"My best wishes on this Anniversary. And, if you want to have some fun sometime, find a Desoto-Plymouth dealer in your neighborhood. And, when you go in, tell 'em Groucho sent you. He may not sell you a car, but he'll sure give you some funny looks."

As far as I know, the last radio interview Groucho ever did was for my "Golden Days of Radio" program in September, 1977, a few weeks before

his 86th birthday. The interview was done at his home in Beverly Hills. Groucho was in good form that day and he was especially excited about the many TV stations which were re-running his show "The Best of Groucho."

Groucho told me that he watched the show every night on the local Los Angeles channel (KTLA) and said in his immodest way, "It's a great show," and he was right. Five hundred and twenty-eight programs is a record for a prime-time quiz show, or any other comedy program for that matter.

Groucho said that his daily routine included walking for exercise and he continued to spend several hours at the piano. To demonstrate he played and sang several of Marx Bros. songs.

Groucho also said that he gave up smoking when he was 85. I asked him if he had given up anything else!

Groucho: "... are you referring to sex?"

Frank: "Yes."

Groucho: "I gave that up 30 years ago ... but it was fun at the time."

Frank: "You mean it's no longer fun?"

(continued on page 6)

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Groucho Marx and Frank Bresee - Sept. 1976

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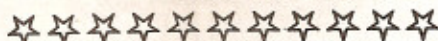
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WANT PLAY by play sports broadcasts Baseball, Football, Basketball, Super Bowl VII, Super Bowl IV, Super Bowl III, Super Bowl II. Will trade or buy. Martin Plascak, Box 200, Terre Haute, Ind. 47802 5/78

WANTED OLD remotes of Griff Williams. Also am interested in other SmBand remotes. I appreciate your help. Bruce F. Claussen M.D., 321 E B St., North Platte, Neb. 69101. 5/78

CBS 50th Anniversary Show. Sell or trade this line copy from the network line on 3 1200 1/2 track reels. Trading, buying, selling ET's and ET playback equipment. Thomas K. Heathwood, 340 Parker St., Newton, Mass. 02159. 5/78

WANTED RADIO Guide magazines or any radio magazines from 1939, 1949. Max Salathiel, 4712 Spiva Dr., Del City, OK 73115 5/78

WOULD LIKE to obtain a contact in Michigan who can tape radio broadcasts of the University of Michigan, Michigan State and Detroit professional teams. Am particularly anxious to obtain Bob Ufer broadcasts of Michigan football this fall. Would like anyone who gets WJR Detroit in excellent sound to contact me. Interested in trading my OTR reels or cash for tapes of selected games. Please contact Tom Riley, 920 W. 9th St., S. Newton Iowa 50208. 5/78

WANTED: FRONT panel for Atwater Kent coupled circuit tuner. Also board for open set No. 3925. Lyle Scheid, Iroquois, S. Dak. 57353. 5/78

MANY Excellent-Sounding, Suspense, Shadow, Escape, Sherlock Holmes, Westerns, Crime shows. Want: more of above, Bob & Ray, Excellent-Sounding, Goodman, Miller, Armstrong, Jelly Roll Morton Jazz. Will exchange catalog. Andy Blatt, 42 Bowling Green, Staten Island, NY 10314 5/78

GROUCHO

(continued from page 4)

Groucho: "It's impossible. When you're 85 see what *you* can do."

Frank: "What does your day consist of?"

Groucho: "Answering questions from people like you!"

Halfway through the interview, he looked over at my wife, Bobbie, and pointing said, "What does she do?" I said, "Noghing now—she *was* a Playboy Bunny . . ." He paused and nodded his approval, and then offered, "You know what I want on my tombstone?"

Here lies Groucho Marx
and lies and lies and lies

P.S. He never kisses an ugly girl!

Then he asked her how old she was, and Bobbie explained that she was about to celebrate her birthday. Well young lady, if you keep having birthdays you'll eventually die."

To close the interview, I asked Groucho how he would like to be remembered. With a serious look, he said, "as a nice man."

I think we will all remember Groucho Marx as a nice man. In his sardonic way, he was very kind. He was one of the greatest of all clowns and has reserved his place as one of the comedy legends.

I think these words from "Animal Crackers" best describes my memory of Groucho:

Hello, I must be going,
I cannot stay, I came to say,
I must be going.
I'm glad I came, but just the same,
I must be going.

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WANT REEL to reel tape player for radio shows at modest price. Must be able to play stereo tapes. Richard S. Lakin, 158 First Ave., Hightstown, NJ 08500. 5/78

WANT TO BUY radio guides 1930s to 1950s. Mint or fine only. Also want Hop. Cassidy, Tarzan, Space Patrol, Tom Corbett, Voyage of the Scarlett Queen. 16m transcription disco. Edward J. Carr, 276 Shaner St., Boyertown, PA 19512. 1-215-367-9114. 5/78

WANTED: OTR collectors/dealers with services who want to be listed in Historical Radio Services directory. Circulation is largest. Covers 100% OTR. Please serious replies only. For details send large SASE or 26 cents stamps. Brent Dingman, Box 15370 Dept. NRT, Long Beach, CA 90815. 5/78

WANTED: ANY information on parts and literature for 1929 Grebe synchrophase SK-4 (Model 21950). Also information needed for restoring 1938 Seeburg Symphonola Jukebox (Model RC-ES Envoy), parts and literature. Jim Sichman, 350 Deeds Ave., Dayton, O 45404 (513) 228-5904. 5/78

VTR ANYONE? With the widening popularity of video cassette recorders, many OTR enthusiasts are becoming interested in the possibilities of VTR..

IF YOU enjoy Lum N' Abner as I do, contact me today! Trying to catalog their shows in order of broadcasts. Can you help? Ron Hamilton, 6048 Indian Trail Dr., Port Huron, Michigan 48060 5/78

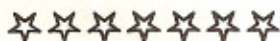
WANT NBC-TV TW3s to complete my collection. Interested in most all OTR in best possible sound, especially Suspense, Gunsmoke, Morse, CBS and Columbia Workshops, etc. Per-program trader. Art Chimes, 919 St. Paul St., Baltimore, MD 21202. 5/78

WANTED: I LOVE a Mystery, Sherlock Holmes, including Books of Criticism, Band broadcasts to 1950, Historicals theatre, World War II remotes, movie sound tracks. Prefer buying to trading. Howard Ziegler, 808 E. Brown St., Gloucester City, NJ 08030. 5/78

BEGINNING COLLECTOR of radio shows will trade two blank reels for one full reel of radio shows. Send me your catalog and let's trade. Ronny Bedoya, 1094 Evans St., San Bernardino, CA 92411. 5/78

WANTED: EARLY AC radios using Kellogg tubes, suitcase-type portables, early Crosleys. Rosenthal, 507 S. Maryland Ave., Wilmington, Delaware 19804. 5/78

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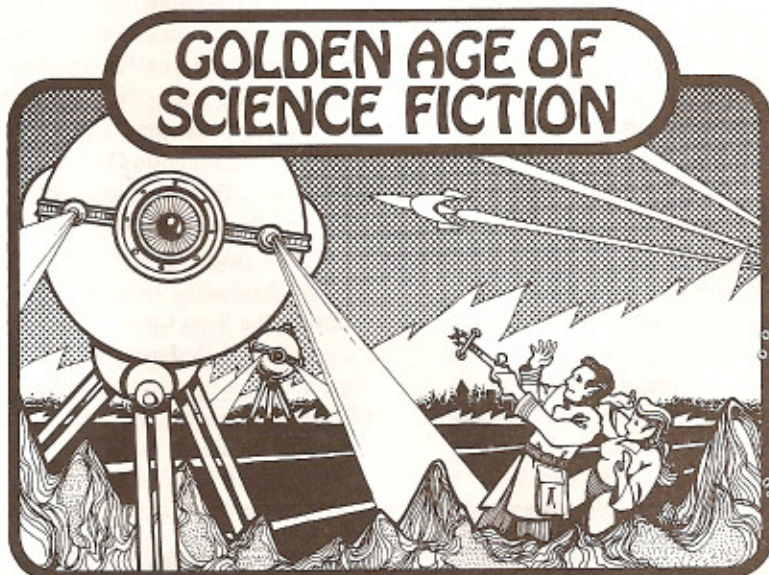


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NEWS OF OLD TIME RADIO

by Chuck Seeley

Old Time Radio is making a comeback—on television.

Remember THE QUIZ KIDS with Joe Kelly as Quizmaster? It was on radio for 11 years (1940-51) and then on TV for another 4 (1952-56). Now we can look forward to THE NEW QUIZ KIDS, a half-hour syndicated show with Jim McKrell as host. McKrell is presently host of the CELEBRITY SWEEPSTAKES game show. As of this writing, only a pilot show for THE NEW QUIZ KIDS has been made. But 26 episodes have been sold to some markets already.

The ORIGINAL AMATEUR HOUR is also slated for revival on TV. It'll be called THE NEW ORIGINAL AMATEUR HOUR, which is somewhat misleading since it will only be a half-hour. This is, of course, a continuation of MAJOR BOWES' ORIGINAL AMATEUR HOUR which, with Bowes and Ted Mack, played a total of 40 years on both radio and TV. The new version will employ some of the production people from the Ted Mack years, including Buddy Rage as chief talent scout, Lewis Graham as producer, and Lloyd Marx as director. A couple of new segments will be added to the updating. The "Second Chance" segment will spot light previous winners who never made it into show business. There will also be guest spots by former contestants who did make it. The scoring of the contestants will be done by electronic audience participation. It's got to be better than THE GONG SHOW.

Producers Jack Barry and Dan Enright have purchased the TV rights to 20 QUESTIONS. This is yet another radio game show that transferred to TV in the Fifties. Word is that the new version will be "restructured" for projected airing via syndication in early summer. (Perhaps they'll call it THE NEW 20 QUESTIONS.)

If you live in Canada, or close enough to the border to receive Canadian TV, you may get a chance to see

DICK BARTON, SPECIAL AGENT this fall. This show is based on a 20-odd year old BBC Radio program that enjoyed a high popularity.

Hammer Films made several Dick Barton movies in the late Forties-early Fifties which were very well received. The odd thing about this new TV version is that it is being produced in 15 minute episodes, a format that is rarely used these days. The original Dick Barton was the stereotype square-jawed, steely eyed secret agent, and it is unknown how the caricature will be updated.

Radio station WKYO in Caro, Michigan recently saluted the 45th anniversary of THE LONE RANGER. On hand was Paul Hughes, who played Thunder Martin, the X-Ranger's friend, and dozens of other roles on radio. Also on the silver bullet front, Wrath Corporation announced over a month ago that a new Lone Ranger film was going into production. No further word has come down on this.

The Guy Lombardo Orchestra is beginning its 50th year and Bill Lombardo, nephew of the late Guy Lombardo, has taken over the conductor's post. Bill has been a drummer with rock bands on the West Coast.

Sir Michael Redgrave celebrated his 70th birthday by playing Oedipus on a BBC Radio production of "Oedipus Colonus" on March 18.

The Pacific Pioneer Broadcasters honored Dennis Day on St. Patrick's Day, not with the usual Carbon Mike award, but with an authentic Shillelagh imported from Ireland. Day entertained the luncheon audience with Irish songs, but opened with "Love In Bloom," the Jack Benny theme. Day called it a tribute "for the man who made it all possible." Among those present were Jim Jordan, Ken Carpenter, Don Wilson, and Milt Josefsberg. By the way, Dennis Day's real name is Eugene Patrick McNulty.

That same week, Bob Hope was given the Will Rogers Memorial Award by the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce and Civic Association. Radio was cited as being largely responsible for the successes of both Hope and

Will Rogers. Other recipients of the award include Jimmy Durante (the first, in 1960), Kirk Douglas, Danny Thomas, Ken Murray, George Burns, Jack Benny, and Milton Berle.

Bob Hope will be appearing in print again soon. He has written the foreword to Don Freeman's book on TV titled *Eyes As Big As Cantaloupes*, to be published this spring by Joyce Press. The title is taken from a Fred Allen quote that because of TV the next generation will have "eyes as big as cantaloupes—and no brains at all." He may not be far wrong.

FIBBER McGEE and Mollie fans, I'm looking for hard-to-find shows pre-1939. Also 1943, 1944, 1951, 1952 of good quality. Have 400 reels of good quality with which to trade. Neil Lane, 1230 Redbud Dr., Chesterton, In. 46304. 5/78

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