

VOL. 9 No. 4 JULY - AUGUST 1981



ON THE AIR



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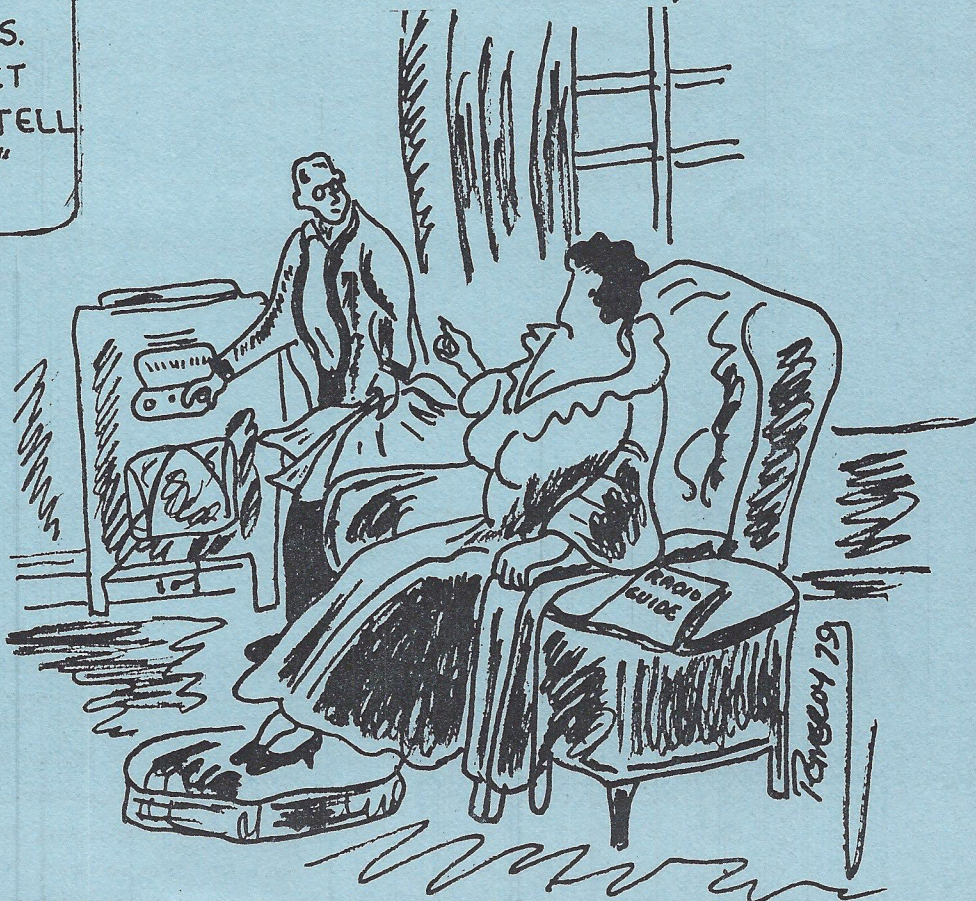
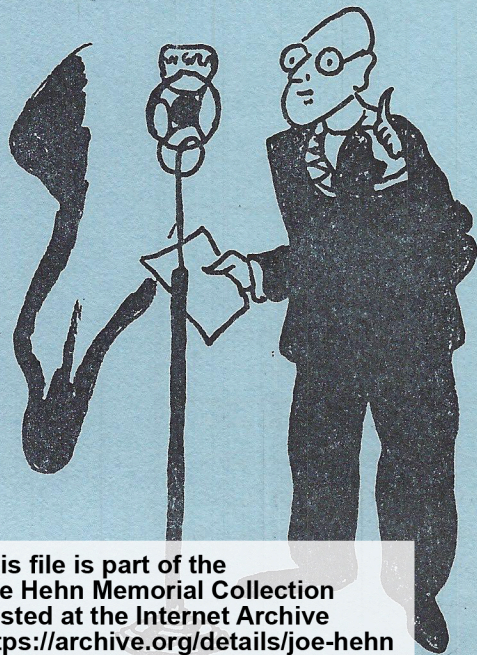
PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY by the GOLDEN RADIO BUFFS OF MARYLAND, INC.

KIDDING THE AIRWAVES

....a light hearted look at the
Golden Days Of Radio

... "WE HAVE A SURPRISE FOR
YOU TODAY, BOYS AND GIRLS.
THE CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT SECRET
CODED MESSAGE WILL NOT TELL
YOU TO DRINK OVALTINE!"

"DON'T TURN IT OFF, DEAR. I AM TIMING
DINNER. IT WILL BE READY BETWEEN THE
JELL-O COMMERCIAL AND THE FIRST
CHORUS OF DENNIS DAY'S SONG!"



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• ON THE AIR •

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A PUBLICATION OF THE GOLDEN RADIO BUFFS OF MARYLAND, INC. FOUNDED 1972

3613 CHESTNUT AVE.
BALTIMORE, MD., 21211

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PLEASE NOTE: If a Red Star appears after your name on the address label, your membership has expired & this will be your LAST newsletter you will receive until your dues are paid for the coming year.

We wish to thank the following organizations, publications, OTR Clubs, & individuals for submitting articles for this edition of ON THE AIR: AFTRA, Pacific Pioneers, Nostalgia Book Club, NARA News, News-American, The Sunpapers, Weekly Variety, The Hollywood Reporter, Broadcasting Magazine, (Mrs.) Cornelia Crist, W. J. Ryan, Al Inkster, and Gary Bennett.

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EDITORIAL

Ah, Nostalgia...during the golden days of radio. You know, I got to reminiscing the other day, & maybe someone can tell me whatever happened to...The times there were millions of "slugs" floating around Baltimore--& many chislers used them in a "juke" box on Saturday night....Those "News of the Day" newsreels at the local movie house. (remember when we booed Hitler & Mussolini?) ...Those big outside running boards on our first car..when you could stand on it while the auto moved...And what about those rumble seats for good-timers in back of the cars?? ...The girls who "played the field" until they received an engagement ring...Those times when we ordered a cheese sandwich & they put a lot of cheese on it...Ah, those days of 2 mail deliveries to our homes. And there were no stamp machines in stores (and charging extra for stamps.) ...The times when Tito & Hirohito were denounced as murders of American captured soldiers (now American Presidents visit them). ...The block gossip who knew everything going on and advertised it (Oh, she's still around, is she) ...The radio premiums we used to wait patiently for the mailman to deliver so we could play with them....The "haunted house" in every neighborhood...The man with his horse & wagon who collected all the junk you were going to throw out anyway,..The times when we were in our beds by 10:00 P.M. ,when there were no late shows to watch. (we should have been asleep, but you & I both know we were listening to the radio, weren't we???)... Self respecting times when no female especially would use off-color language (If they did, their mothers washed their mouth out with soap!!)The Saturday afternoons when Tailspin Tommy was featured at the Bijou The times when we ended each day listening to our favorite radio program, as we experienced the "theatre of the mind"....Tell me now, why did it all have to end???... Until next time, I remain as always,
Obediently yours.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

April 6, '81

Dear Mr. Pomeroy,

May I compliment you on your interesting & informative articles & also on your fine art work on the covers, column headings, etc. Also I am pleased that you are continuing to send copies to Phil. When I read the Mar.- Apr. edition I happen to see your nice tribute to Jim Crist & also Phil's program with him. I am enclosing a little donation to help with the postage & cost of the printing of the newsletter, which is constantly escalating.

Thanks Again!

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Cornelia R. Crist

Thanks for sending my GRB prize tapes. It is a very nice job of dubbing. I know that it is a tedious job, & I really appreciate your efforts.

Sincerely,

Bill Ryan,

Fair Lawn, N.J.

Dear Owens,

Thanks very much for sending me a copy of the rejuvenated ON THE AIR, Since I am no longer the editor of NARA News, I will forward it on to our current editor, Jack Trench in Fairfax, Va. I have always liked very much the art work on the covers of ON THE AIR, and now I am sure that your Editorship, concept, format and guidance will show the same careful work. Good luck with the publication.

Sincerely,

Al Inkster,

Tucson, Arizona

OTR "RADIO TID-BITS".

BY DANA DAFFIN

Momentous day of the history of radio: Aug. 28, 1922; The first radio commercial was broadcast!



GRB MEETING!

July 18, 81-7:30 P.M., St. Mathias Hall
6400 Belair Rd. (next to Dunkin' Donuts)
1 mi. S. of B/way Exit 32, on Belair Rd. (Rt. 1)
Lighted Parking Lot - Ground Level - No Steps
M-T-A Bus (15) drops you at the door.

OLD-RADIO-NITE

2 OF OUR FELLOW BUFS ARE COLLECTORS OF VINTAGE RADIOS FROM THE GOLDEN ERA. THEY WILL HAVE ON DISPLAY SOME OF THEIR COLLECTION AT OUR MEETING & GIVE A BRIEF TALK AND DEMONSTRATION.

PLUS "STUMP THE EXPERT!"

SEE HOW MANY OTR QUESTIONS HE CAN ANSWER BEFORE YOU STUMP HIM.

REFRESHMENTS: 'DUNKIN DONUTS,' COFFEE, ICE TEA, SODA. PLUS: BRING SOMETHING TO SHARE.

HAVE YOU MISSED A GRB MEETING SINCE THE FIRST OF THE YEAR? Then why not give Jerry Michael a call and ask him for a recorded copy of the one that you missed. You really should "hear what you've been missing!" You can reach Jerry at: (301) 282-6057 if you would like a recorded copy of the meeting.

PLEASE POST AND SAVE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.
CLUB MEETINGS FOR THE COMING YEAR.

- July 18th.
- Sept. 19th.
- Nov. 14th.

Next newsletter deadline for all articles, photos, ads, & contest entries will be Aug. 15th., '81 (Sept. - Oct. edition)

NO TIME TO WRITE? PHONE IN YOUR OLD-TIME RADIO NEWS STORY!! USE OUR NEWSLETTER "HOT-LINE" . CALL: (301) 388-1976.

MOVING? or have you moved since our last issue? If so, please fill out the change of address form below and mail it to your editor so you will not miss any future issues of On The Air.

NAME: _____
OLD ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ STATE: _____
ZIP: _____ GRB# _____ DATE: ____/____/____

NEW ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ STATE: _____
ZIP: _____

Mail To: Change of Address
c/o Editor
On The Air
3613 Chestnut Avenue
Baltimore, Md., 21211

*
* Anyone having or knowing any information on the following Baltimore OTR personality, please contact : Gene Leitner, 388-1976, or Ann Sieling, 269-0088.
* We want to know the whereabouts of Jean Abbey. She had a very popular shopping & Fashion show on WFBR & WCAO. any information you can give us will be helpful in our research.
*
*
*

- *****
* WELCOME NEW MEMBERS! *
* We welcome the following new members *
* to our "Radio Family". *
* John P. Laszo Bruce C. Greenberg *
* Paul McGehee Marvin W. Somers *
* Daniel Holtzman Col. San Pierce, Jr. *
* (Retired) *
* Bob Walters Ed Owens *
* Jim Bush Jack Klasnic *
* Francis Sellers Charyl Quersurth *
* Robert W. Sukowski, Jr. *
*

Please consult your new membership supplement for their addresses and phone numbers.



AIRWAVES

by Gene

MEMBERSHIP and CLUB NOTES

Well, I'm very proud to say the GRB have "Gone Hollywood." Received a call from MGM & they wanted some of our collection of local Baltimore Vintage Radio Broadcasts To use in their new soon-to-be Released film "Diner" which was shot partly in Baltimore. Hopefully they will use our vintage collections that we gained from WFBR, WBAL & WCAO. Will keep you posted on this....Many thanks to the following for their financial & tape contributions Mr. & Mrs. Phil Crist, Dave Sickles, Ernie Rethschulte, Jim Bradley, Ed Owens, & Bob Thompson. Also to Alan Christian for having us on his show, to Gerald Michael for hours spent putting the 62 segments together for that show; and to our members who appeared on the air. Also to Mary McCleary for all of the typing she is doing for us.....Bob Thompson is now supplying the OTR for the Baltimore Radio Reading Service Broadcasts....Everyone was glad to see Ernie Rethschulte "back in action" at our last meeting. Ernie is now back in full stride and thanks all who were concerned about his health.....I found a great club from Memorex tape.(see the ad in our classified column of this newsletter.) Really worth the \$1.00 dues.....Red Barber in Jan. of this year began an early morning sports commentary for NPR, which he phones in from his home in Tallahassee, Florida.Our next meeting will feature 2 of our club members who will bring OTR items they own, discuss about their history, and display and perhaps play them for us. Due to the hot weather, our refreshments this meeting will be Dunkin' Doughnuts, coffee, ice tea, soda, and any item that you care to bring that you can share with us.One final note: Dinah Shore will be appearing in person at the Merriweather Post Pavillion, in Columbia, Md. on July 16th.Until we meet again, another time & another issue, I bid you au-revoir, and pleasant memories.

Gene.

"Our Gal Sunday" ... Still

alive & doing Commercials!

by Gene Leitner

When Vivian Smolen Klein speaks, people over 35 listen. There is something in her voice, a memory, a hint of something bygone, something that was important....No wonder the voice sounds familiar. She was Our Gal Sunday, a daily radio drama. Our Gal Sunday was to radio what Dallas is to television.

At the same time she was playing this role, she was also doing the role of Laurel on Stella Dallas. Vivian got her start in radio when she auditioned for a role as a child on a local New York show called "The Children's Hour".

She also did "The Lady Next Door", another children's show, finished school and decided to be an actress full time. In 1941 she got the part of Laurel Dallas, which led to the role of Sunday. When the shows went off the air in the late fifties, she did radio and television commercials.

In 1974, when her husband Harold Klein executive Vice-President of Pitts Theatres was transferred to Chicago, she appeared on Chicago Radio Theatre. She still does commercials and only last year she tried something new---the movies.

Vivian had a small part in "My Bodyguard" the role of Mrs. Dunphy. Even with that small part people recognize her on the street and stop to talk to her. Of course that would never have happened in radio, but when she tells them about her roles on the soaps and Sunday & Laurel, they get quite nostalgic. She is astounded at times how people still remember, because it was so far in the past, and there are so many people who are radio buffs.

('Nuff said, and thank you, Vivian!.. ED.)

DID YOU KNOW THAT?????

George Gobel got his start in show business as a singing cowboy at the ripe old age of 11 years on the National Barn Dance way back in 1936?

4 RADIO... AS RADIO USED TO BE

"Plucking Memory Strings"

PART II

by Owens

The first national radio programs went crackling out over the airwaves in 1921, but what was an average radio day at the height of it's popularity in the 1940's? For one thing the time was different then. Had you forgotten that we were on Eastern, Central, and Pacific War Time? Or that the networks were CBS, NBC, MBS, and the Blue Network?... Sunday was a great day for radio listening.although it did not include the traditional soap operas and children's adventure stories. A typical day in 1942 would start with organ recitals by E. Power Biggs, Comm- ando Mary spoke to the home front at 9:15, while those in search of inspiration could turn to the Radio Pulpit, The Ghazop of the Air, Wings Over Jordan, or the Salt Lake City Tabernacle. Egon Petri gave a twenty-five minute piano recital at 11:00 A.M. and then it was time for invitation to learning.

Sunday afternoon offered a wide choice of programming. For news analysis you could choose from Morgan Beatty, Quincey Howe, William L. Shirer, Edward R. Murrow, Drew Pearson, Gabriel Heatter, Eric Sevareid, and Walter Winchell. If we could only get that kind of variety in news opinions today! Those who preferred cultural programs could listen to John Charles Thomas and the New York Philharmonic Orchestra. Sundays had something for the youngsters too. There were Stoopnagle's Stooperoos; Aunt Jemima; the Green Hornet; The Shadow (lighting the 5:30 spot for Blue Coal); One Man's Family, Jack Benny; Fred Allen; Charlie McCarthy and Inner Sanctum to send you off to bed with a creaking door. And that was only a smattering of what radio offered in it's Golden Years. I glance in my closet at the Orphan Annie Shake-Up Mug, the Green Hornet Ring, and the Tom Mix Straight Shooter Medaland the memories come flooding back....I Love A mystery for one; with that famous trio of rugged chareeters: Jack, Doc, and Reggie. Who came out of every adventure unharmed while the gang was always caught. "Simply a matter of knowing how to take pre-cautionary measures," said Doc. And you know,I believed every word of it.

(TO BE CONTINUED)



Yesterday's
RADIO
LOGS.

TEXACO STAR THEATRE

FRED ALLEN
tonight
WITH
KENNY BAKER

PORTLAND HOFFA,
AL GOODMAN'S
ORCHESTRA
THE NIGHTY ALLEN
ART PLAYERS
JIMMY WALLINGTON

PRESENTED BY
TEXACO DEALERS

WJR
9 TO 10
AND OTHER
COLUMBIA
NETWORK
STATIONS

ON WARC TONIGHT

6:30 P.M.
JACK ARMSTRONG
The all-American boy

Don't Miss

Counterspy 7:30 p.m.
Carnegie Hall 8 p.m.
American Town

Meeting 9 p.m.

24 HOURS DAILY

WARC 950

ANNE BAXTER and DAN DAILEY

star in "You're My Everything"

SCREEN GUILD THEATRE • Tonight • 9:00



ANNE BAXTER

It's ANOTHER ALL-STAR NIGHT ON WHAM!

7:00 LIGHT-UP TIME

Starring Frank Sinatra and Dorothy Kirsten with a fine program of popular music. Tonight and every weekday at 7. Tune in!

8:30 ROBERT YOUNG

Star of the comedy "Father Knows Best."

9:30 ED GARDNER

As "Archie" in the popular "Duffy's Tavern."

10:00 MAE WEST

Guest on Perry Como's Chesterfield Supper Club. Her first radio appearance in 12 years!

10:30 DRAGNET

Exciting police drama!

WHAM

Rochester's No. 1 Station

14760

A page from....

The BIG BAND SCRAPBOOK

by Vernon Bell

From 1930 to 1935, all of the musicians were becoming better known although the public had very little chance to see them in the extravagant supper clubs & hotels. Orchestra leaders such as Paul Whiteman, Ben Pollack, Ted Lewis, Jean GoldKette, (A man with a girl's first name) Gus Arnheim, Ben Burnie, Rudy Vallee & so many more were working these plush spots throughout the country, & employing all of the men who would eventually be leading their groups or becoming big stars within their own griups during the Big Band era. In fact, Whiteman had been leading an orchestra since 1918 & his alumnus reads like a who's-who in the music business.

Ray Noble really had an all star band that was assembled for him by Glenn Miller when he arrived from England in 1934. Names such as Bradley, Spivak, Erwin, Van Epps, Mince, Thornhill, Miller, & Freeman were just a few of his musicians that showed the calibre of talent available to all of the leaders priop to 1935.

Benny Goodman had created a name for himself as a studio musician, rather than a leader during the late 20's & had a band prior to 1935, but drew very few rave notices.

Guy Lombardo & his 3 brothers came from London, Onterio Canada, formed the Royal Canadian Orchestra in the early 20's, came to America, took the country by storm, & finnaly settled at the Roosevelt Grill in New York City.

The Dorsey Brothers started their own band in 1934, which lasted a year & were attracting some of the younger set to their dance music.

To say that America was ripe for the advent of the Big Swing Bands is putting it mildly. During those depression days it was like a prescription for a sick patient. Time & space does not permit me to list all of the swing bamsds from 1934-1935, So when we get together in September we will endeavor to tell you about the "King of Swing," Benny Goodman, as we turn another page from the Big Band Scrapbook.

ALLAN'S... MEMORIBILIA



MANOR*

Greetings Gates!!! ...Here I am again down from the attic (please pardon my dust) with another old ad, this one is from June 1925, and may be the first "portable" radio offered for sale.

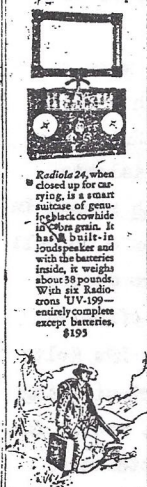
..."38 pounds with the batteries, radiotrons (tubes), loudspeaker, and antenna inside it. And it was also very reasonable; Just \$195.00. However then, as now, the batteries were not included. Excuse me now, as I go back to the attic to search for some more memorabilia for our next issue. This is your loyal, if slightly grimy, "Keeper Of The Archives," Allan H. Caplan.

(P.S.: Just for the fun of it, and if any of you buffs have the nerve, why not clip out the information coupon and send it to RCA "for more details on the electronic tuner".)

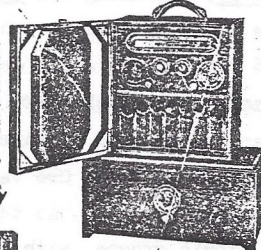
Announcing RADIOLA SUPER-HETERODYNE PORTABLE

Two models—Radiola 24 and Radiola 26.

Take it with you—anywhere! And just think! The loudspeaker is built-in. There's a directional loop inside the cover and the batteries go inside the back. It's all complete. The Radiola Super-Heterodyne needs no antenna, no ground, no connections of any kind, and it brings in the stations—at home—outdoors—anywhere! The Radiola Super-Heterodyne is the popular set of the year—for tone quality—and for big performance. It is the set of the future, too. And now it is entirely portable—all closed up in a suitcase or a walnut box—ready to put new joy into every summer lark!



Radiola 24, when closed up for carrying, is a smart suitcase of gunmetal-corrugated inlaid grain. It has a built-in loudspeaker and with the batteries inside, it weighs about 38 pounds. With six Radiolons UV-159—entirely complete except batteries, \$195



Radiola 26, has a built-in loudspeaker and a place in the back for six small batteries. Ready to carry out of doors, it weighs about 15 pounds. As illustrated, for lipside, it has an additional cabinet matching its fine walnut case—no hold zipper handles. With six Radiolons UV-159 \$125

Radio Corporation of America
Sales Office: Suite No. 356
255 Broadway 10 St. La Salle Street
New York Chicago, Ill.
28 Grassy Street, San Francisco, Cal.

Write today for more details

RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA
Address only please. Do not send money.
Name _____
Street Address _____
City _____ State _____
Zip _____

Radiola

PRODUCED ONLY BY RCA

REMINDER: THOSE OF YOU WHO'S DUES ARE DUE THIS MONTH...DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP BEFORE THE DEADLINE...OR THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST ISSUE OF "ON THE AIR."

PERSONALITY PROFILE.

The *Amos 'n Andy Show*

(Part Two)

by *Rae Deo*

Before Amos 'n Andy came along, most of the sponsors of radio shows had been manufacturers of radio sets because advertisers had figured that radios were the only thing you could sell on radio. But Amos 'n Andy proved otherwise.

The mere fact that Gosden and Correll were white men might have been born after WW II & those few fanatics that grew up with the civil rights movement that assumed that Amos 'n Andy was hated by all Blacks was totally untrue. There was indeed some objection as early as 1931, when their show was charged in effect as being racist. But it wasn't until 1953 when Amos 'n Andy went to TV and had Black performers playing the roles, that the NAACP drove it off the air, never to return again-not even in re-runs. Why was it, then, there never was any wide-spread protest against the radio program? One reason is that the radio version of Amos 'n Andy was done by whites, while the TV version was done by Black performers who were placed in a position of playing stereotyped Blacks, and who could be seen rather than merely heard.

In the days of Amos 'n Andy, much of American comedy was ethnic. Smith & Dale and Lou Holtz did nothing but ethnic jokes in exaggerated German & Jewish dialects. Nobody, including the B'Nai Brith seemed in the least to mind, so when Gosden & Correll did come on the scene doing Negro dialect comedy, the Blacks were no more offended than the Jews of Germans were by Lou Holtz and Smith & Dale. One very important thing you must remember. At that time, making fun of ethnic groups, with their patterns of speech & behavior was then a tradition of American humor.....

(To be continued)

BEGINNING NEXT ISSUE: 2 new writers will be added to our staff with the Sept. Oct. edition. Dana Daffin will begin a new column: "OTR Radio Tid Bits", and we will revive the very famous "Will Rogers Sez" column that was very popular during the Golden Days of Radio.

On The Air In Baltimore...

with the ALAN CHRISTIAN SHOW

by *Gary Bennett*

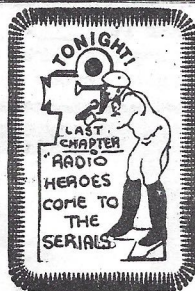
On March 5, 1981, my wife & I drove to Baltimore with a briefcase full of notes on science fiction. Not knowing what to expect in a radio talk show, where the audience can call in & ask anything, I wanted to be prepared. We were met by Mr. Christian in the WBAL lobby when we arrived half an hour early & for about 20 minutes Mr. Christian & I discussed my writing & book. (which evidently appealed to whoever lifted the promotional copy & sent it to Mr. Christian.) I discovered that he is a science fiction fan & well-read in the field & quite current on a number of scientific topics. I was soon to see that he does his whole show with just a book of announcements, a clock a telephone & few buttons to call in tapes of outside announcers. The rest he handles unaided---a true professional.

The show started off at 9:00 P.M. & I was "on the air". With calls coming in we were soon discussing scientific technology that I became too busy to worry about my initial "mike fright". We discussed a persistent interest in flying saucers & in the question "Do you think there is intelligent life out there?" All too soon it was 10:00 P.M. & I was off the air but the radio experience was not over. As my wife & I were walking toward our car, a woman called out, "Are you the author who was just on the radio?" When I said yes she asked me for my autograph! I am pleased that the public is still excited about space travel--it bodes well for the future of the human race.

About a week after my appearance, Mr. Alfred E. Burke, Vice President-General Manager for WBAL Radio wrote thanking me for appearing on the Alan Christian Show. He ended by writing: "It was one of the most interesting & enjoyable programs we have had this year," One final note. I discovered while at the studio that Owens Pomeroy had informed Alan Christian about my novel, thus setting me up for this "radio adventure". Thank you, Owens Pomeroy! (Glad that I was able to help you in your endeavors. Only wish that I could have done more. Ed.)

AN
AFFECTIONATE
LOOK
AT THE
MOVIE
SERIALS

by
Dave Stevenson



One of the most popular programs of the 1940's was Captain Midnight. In 1942, Columbia Picture decided to cash in on the popularity of the show by lensing Captain Midnight, a 15 episode adventure starring Dave O'Brien in the title role. Another character from radio that made it to the serials was the Green Hornet (Columbia, 1939).

The role of Britt Reid, fell to Gordon Jones, while the role of Kato was played by Charlie Chan's number one son, Keye Luke. Incidentally, Al Hodge, the radio Green Hornet supplied the voice for the masked Hornet in the film! "Who knows what evil lurks in the heart of men? The Shadow knows!" The Shadow arrived on the scene via Columbia, in 1940, the same year as The Green Hornet. But I am sorry to say the serial was a sad let-down for fans of the invisible avenger. Instead of the invisible character, the audience got an amateur detective who ran around in broad daylight in a black costume, complete with cape & mask. One radio hero that did make out fairly well in the serials was The Lone Ranger, along with his horse Silver, & his faithful Indian companion Tonto, played by Lee Powell, Tarzan, (Buck Jones' horse) & Chief Thundercloud.

Republic Pictures brought the characters to the screen in 1938 in a 15 chapter serial.

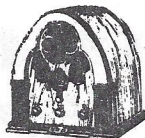
Well, that's it. I certainly hope that I have sparked some flames of nostalgia in you for those "good old days of five cent cokes, Philco radios & Saturday afternoon matinees. The serials were a part of my youth that I will never forget. I can remember wanting so bad to be fighting alongside of Superman or trekking through the jungle with Jungle Jim.

Most of the serials that I saw were re-issues during the mid-fifties in an attempt to get the kids away from the television set.

It sure worked for me....how about you?

The End

Dave Stevenson.



WHAT'S
HAPPENING
ON
RADIO

The Local Scene

WEEKDAYS: WITH-AM (1230 KHZ)

Music of Your Life: Top vocalists & songs of the Big Band era. A welcomed addition to our listings.

WBAL-AM (1090 KHZ)

Jay Grayson Show: Noon till 3:00 P.M.

Alan Christian Show: 9:00 P.M. - Midnight.

WAMU-FM (88.5 MHZ)

Play It Again, Ed; Big Band Music with your host, Ed Walker. (MON. 12:30 P.M. & FRI. 12:45 P.M.)

WEAM AM (Arlington. VA.)

24 Hours of Big Band Music with Al Ross.

SATURDAY: WRBS-FM (95.1 MHZ)

Ranger Bill (Kid Show) 10:00 A.M.

Unshakled: (Religious Drama) 6:00 P.M.

WCVT-FM (89.7 MHZ)

The Import Show: with Dave Stevenson.
4:00 P.M.

SUNDAY: WCEM-AM (680 KHZ)

Insight: with Eddie Fenton. 7:30 A.M.

WBJC-FM (91.5 MHZ)

Star Wars: (NPR Theatre) 6:00 P.M.

Sounds Like Yesterday: 7:00 P.M.

WAMU-FM (88.5 MHZ)

Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar: 7:30 P.M.

Life Of Riley: 8:00 P.M.

Cavalcade Of America: 8:30 P.M.

Rogers Of The Gazette: 9:30 P.M.

Recollections: 9:30 P.M.

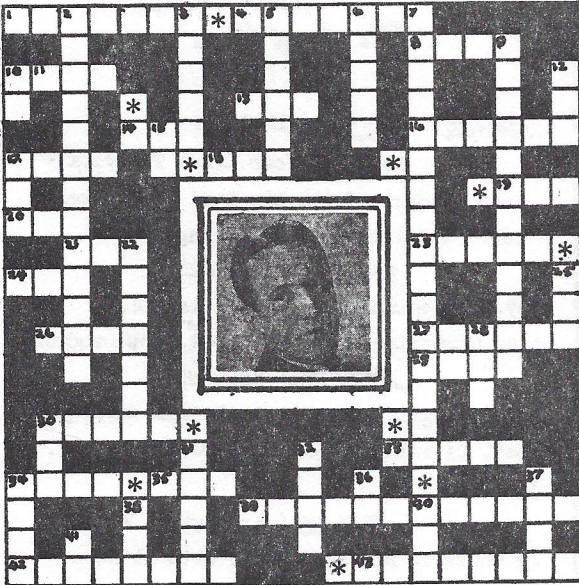
Great Gildersleeve: 10:30 P.M.

(Washington D.C.)

Jack Edwards is now back at WCEM after an absence of more than two years. You will be able to hear Jack from 7 P.M. to midnight playing the oldies but goodies. September, by the way, mark's Jack's 25th year in radio in Baltimore....Jack's old spot at WITH will be taken over by Jim Davis that station's program director. ... Welcome back, Jack!!

PUZZLE PAGE

by *C.R. Osley*



ACROSS

- 1-4. Played "Boston Blackie" (Pictured)
- 8. Fury's Dad.
- 10. The late M/s Matthews, to her friends.
- 13. "The Hall's of _____".
- 14. "RE-CORDially Yours, _____ Travers".
- 16. Curley Bradley role. (2 words.)
- 17. Tommy Dorsey hit of the 40's " _____ One"
- 18. West coast OTR Show, "Antique _____".
- 19. Roosevelt era employment plan. (2 words)
- 20. The "Dynamic _____".
- 21. Mrs. North, to Jerry.
- 23. " _____ Aluminum, Presents".
- 24. "You _____ Your Life".
- 25. Hugh Wanke theme, "Sunny _____ of the Street
- 27. Tonto, for one.
- 29. Wendy Warren's news time.
- 30. Bobby _____, boy singer on radio.
- 33. Big Band leader of the 20's, _____ Jones.
- 34. Cugat's vocalist, Miss Lane.
- 35. Affirmative answer for Don Winslow.
- 39. Benny Goodman's radio show (2 words)
- 42. Hit Sci-Fi movie, now on radio (2 words)
- 43. "The sweetest music this side of heaven"

DOWN

- 2. Comedy quiz show. (4 words)
- 3. Mr. Warbucks, to Annie.
- 5. Mr. Hardy or 3 down.
- 6. Ann Southern role.
- 7. OTR "Soaper" (3 words)
- 9. OTR writer/producer. (2 words)
- 10. OTR Announcer, (Int.)
- 11. (Due to printing error, there is no clue for this one. Ed.)
- 12. Early sponsor of The Lone Ranger.
- 15. _____ Steel Hour. (Int.)
- 17. Our kind of radio.
- 22. Mike Clancey's Boss. (2 words)
- 25. _____ August, of Box 13.
- 28. Mr. Wilson or Mr. McNeill.
- 30. Leslie Towns Hope, alias _____.
- 31. Played Sammy on the Goldbergs.
- 32. " _____ That Tune".
- 34. Mr. Carney's
- 36. _____ Pearce, played Elmer Blurt.
- 37. Played 25 down.

- 38. "Hear It _____."
- 40. Phonograph part.
- 41. Singing cowboy on radio (Int.)



CONTEST

FREE RADIO PROGRAMS

Who is in the picture above? The earliest correct answer wins **2 FREE** Radio Programs. Winner and Answer to be listed in the next issue.

THE EARLIEST POSTMARK WINS

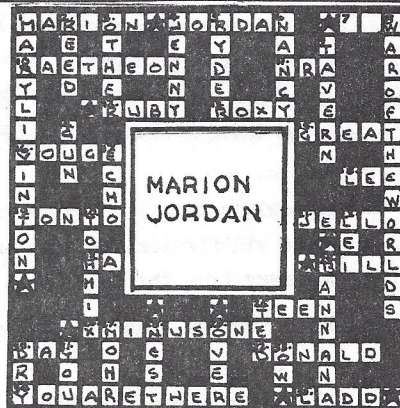


Address all entries to: OTR PHOTO CONTEST, C/O EDITOR; ON THE AIR, 3613 CHESTNUT AVE. BALTIMORE MD., 21211.

All entries must be postmarked no later than midnight, August 15th, 1981.

No winner to our contest again this month. What? no Soap Opera Fans in the club? Well, our contest lady for this month was none other than Julie Stevens, radio's own Helen Trent & Kitty Foyle.

Our contest entry for this issue is really quite easy. He had many "problems". If he were living today, & his show was still on the air, more than likely he would be considered a masculene "Dear Abby."



SOLUTION: MAY-JUNE

RE-CORDially YOURS.

Guy Travers



A few columns back, we mentioned that an old friend & former colleague Craig Stone, had returned to the WAYE airwaves. Well, come to find out - it WAS Craig Stone - but not the one I worked with..(he is no longer in broadcasting) this was another announcer entirely!.....Getting back to Waye, they have recently dropped their Big Band format, in favor of all - religious programming; and Jay Grayson is no longer dispensing those Big Band sounds over WBAL. However over in Washington, D.C., Ed Walker has added a Saturday show ; (WMAL, 2 - 7) in addition to his Sunday morning chores at the same station, & his weekday sessions over at WAMU - FM. Rick Coleman, who hosts the "Make Believe Ballroom" segment of "Vintage U.S.A." each Saturday over that station, is now offering a half-hour each week of "Goodman Til Midnight," Saturdays at 11:30. And Rick hosts a Sunday evening show at Washington's full-time Big Band Station, WEAM, where former WBAL wake-up man Al Ross does the morning show. Glad to have Al back on the air, his first regular stint since his retirement as your "timekeeper" on WRC-NBC for so many years.Before we go further let's extend birthday greetings to radio's original "sunshine sweetheart of the air" - Gladys Beck, who celebrated June 9th. Gladys, of course, goes back to the original Uncle Jack's Kiddie Klub.....Next time we'd like to reminisce about the principal labels that were on the market when we first got into record collecting - in the mid - thirties. In Baltimore, in those days the leading music stores all seemed partial to the name of "Fred"...there was Fred Hammen, Fred Walker, & G. Fred Kranz.....But like I said that is another column. Until then.....

RE-CORDially Yours,
Guy Travers.

HARBOR LIGHTS MUSIC FESTIVAL.....

Carmen Cavellaro & The Glenn Miller Orchestra, on July 22nd. Tony Bennett on July 24th. George Shering on Aug. 5th.

The Inner Harbor Pier 6 Concert Pavillion. Call: 539- 5993 for ticket information.



THE SILENT MICROPHONE 9

*gone.... but not
Forgotten*



ROSA PONSELLE

ROSA PONSELLE: Died May 25, '81

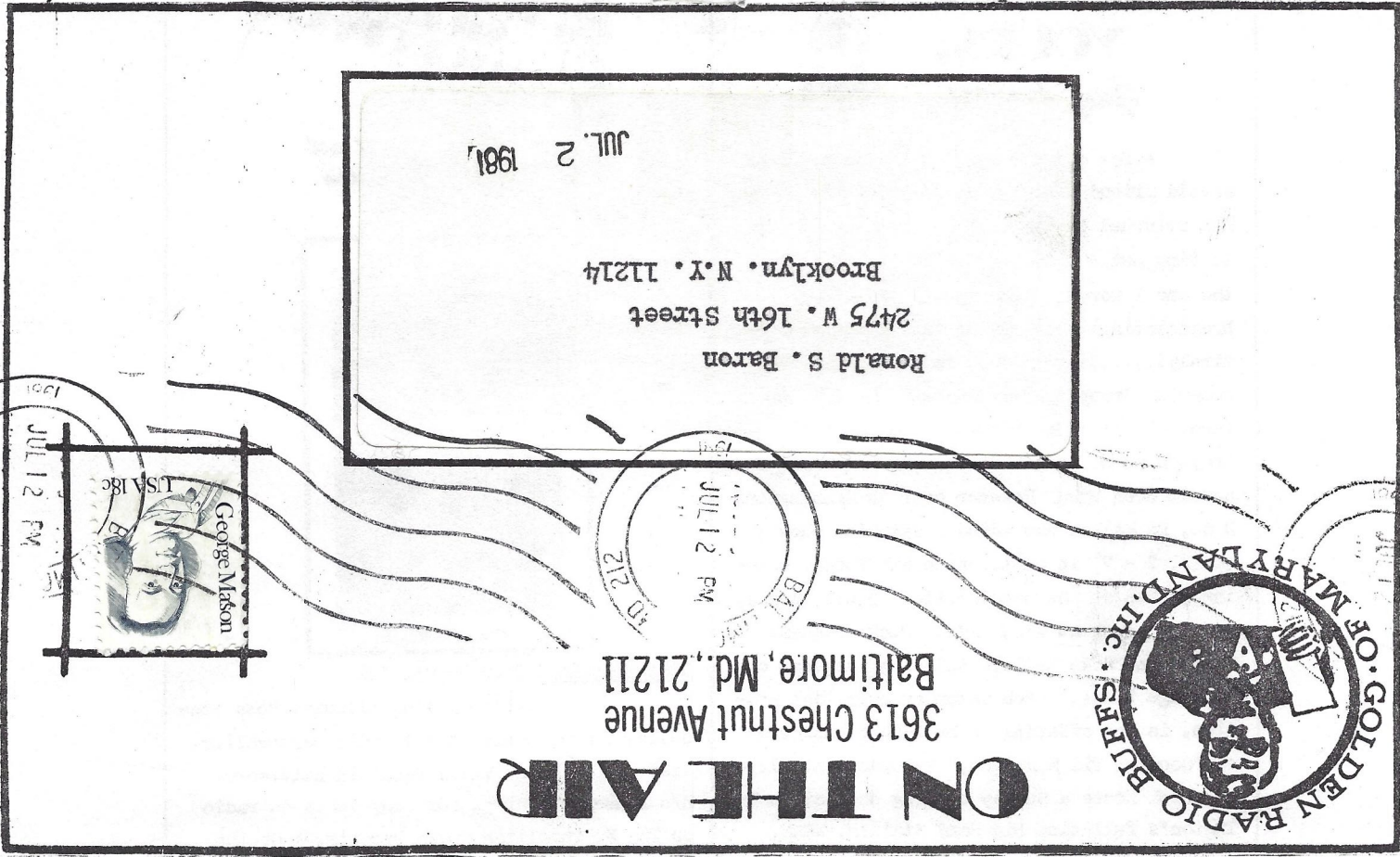
After a long illness, Rosa Ponselle, famous Opera Star & radio personality, died at her home, Villa Pace' in Baltimore. M/s Ponselle starred for many years on radio on The Metropolitan Opera b/casts, & On the Chicago Theatre of the Air. She made many guest appearances on the Firestone Hour, & was selected by Enrico Carouso to sing opposite him in his American debut at the Met in the early Twenties. M/s Ponselle was 84 years young. at the time of her death.



GEORGE JESSEL

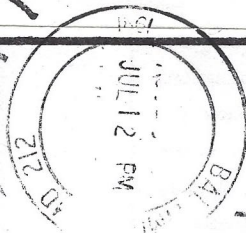
GEORGE JESSEL: Died May 24, '81

Entertainer, producer, singer, & radio personality, George Jessel died suddenly in a Los Angeles Hospital after suffering a heart attack a week before he died. Mr. Jessel was one of the pioneers of the entertainment world during it's "golden era". He made many guest appearances on numerous radio variety shows. In later years he became famous as an after-dinner speaker. "The Toastmaster General of the United States" was 83 years young at the time of his death.



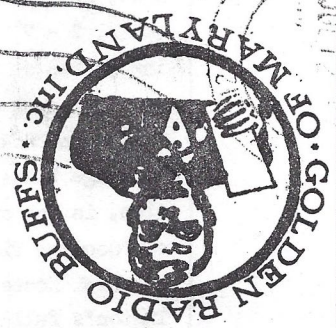
JUL 2 1981

Ronald S. Baron
2475 W. 16th Street
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11214



3613 Chestnut Avenue
Baltimore, Md., 21211

ON THE AIR



· CLASSIFIED ·

FOR GRB MEMBERS:

First time offer to our club members. Complete Log of Lux Radio Theatre; Sept. 27, 1934 - June 7, 1955. This Log lists every b/cast of Lux Radio Theatre during it's 21 year history on radio. This is a must for Lux Radio Fans to update your collection & check dates of b/casts. To receive your copy, send a SASE (letter size; 8½ * 11) to:

LUX RADIO LOG
c/o ON THE AIR
3613 Chestnut Avenue
Baltimore, Md., 21211

JOIN THE MEMOREX RECORDING CLUB!!!

FOR \$1.00 ANNUAL FEES YOU'LL RECEIVE: INTRODUCTORY GIFT, MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE, QUARTLY NEWSLETTER ABOUT TAPING, OTHER MEMBERS HELPFUL HINTS, & NEW PRODUCTS. FOR MEMBERSHIP SEND \$1.00 CHECK OR MONEY & YOUR NAME & ADDRESS TO: MEMOREX RECORDING CLUB, P.O. BOX MRC, HALF MOON BAY, CALIFORNIA 94019.

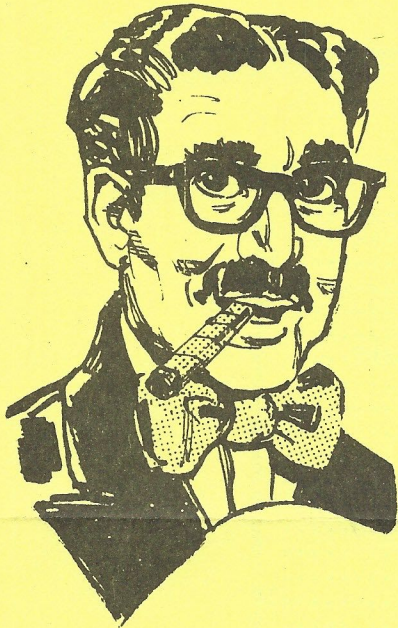
VOL. 9 No. 2 MARCH • APR. 1981



ON THE AIR

©1980 GRB of MD, INC.

PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY by the GOLDEN RADIO BUFFS OF MARYLAND, INC.



GONE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Because.....

THE

GOLDEN AGE OF RADIO

Lives Again!



COVER DESIGN:
O. L. POMEROY

• ON THE AIR •

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A PUBLICATION OF THE GOLDEN RADIO BUFFS OF MARYLAND, INC. FOUNDED 1972

3613 CHESTNUT AVE.
BALTIMORE, MD., 21211

*

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*

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We wish to thank the following people, organizations, & publications for contributing material and articles appearing in this issue of ON THE AIR. Gary L. Bennett, Ray Stanich, Radio Scripts, Ltd., London England, Variety, The Sunpapers, The News-American, The Idaho Statesman, Radio Guide (1932), The Chicago Tribune, Radio station WRBS and the Christian Broadcasting Network.

• CLASSIFIED •

RARE RADIO SCRIPTS: Through special arrangement with "RADIO SCRIPTS, Ltd., of London, England, we can now offer our members rare radio scripts never before in circulation: (A) Mercury Theatre of the Air Production; "Ten Little Indians." 10/23/'38. (B) Gangbusters; "The Eddie Doll Case." (Complete with commercials and nationwide clues.) 5/15/'42. The Shadow; "The House That Death Built." (W/Commercials) 6/5/'47. (C)

\$3.00 ea. Postage & handling: .30

MAIL TO: "CLASSIFIED"
C/O ON THE AIR
3613 Chestnut Ave.
Baltimore, Md. 21211

ON THE AIR is the bi-monthly publication of the Golden Radio Buffs of Md., Inc. All articles & graphics, except where indicated are (c) 1980 by the Golden Radio Buffs of Md., Inc. All other rights are hereby assigned back to the contributors. Comments, contributions, & inquiries should be sent to the Editor c/o this newsletter, 3613 Chestnut Ave., Baltimore, Md. 21211. Membership renewals should be sent to Gene Leitner, 7506 Iroquois Ave., Baltimore, Md., 21219.



EDITORIAL

"AN OVERRIDING DEVOTION TO... RADIO NOSTALGIA"

Building a private collection without the sanction of the networks, requires equal measures of detective work & diplomacy. Above all, one must possess an overriding devotion to radio nostalgia. I have a genuine reverence for it, and I always will. Radio was beautiful while it lasted. Some of the better shows like Columbia Workshop & Suspense approached the artistic level of major contemporary literature.

Few radio buffs bother to keep transcriptions; they are cumbersome and extremely brittle. It is easier to tape them and pass them on to someone else. These acetates pop up in all sorts of odd places, even the Salvation Army gets them sometimes, tho (pardon the pun) God only knows how. The easiest shows to acquire, are the syndicated ones, that were pre-recorded and sent to perhaps 150 stations that would air them when they wished. This gives you 150 chances to find them. When a show came off the network feed, you only have the single source.

Advertising agencies sometimes have old recordings, altho this is fairly rare. An exception to this theory is Needham Harper & Steers with a substantial backlog of Johnson Wax programs like Fibber McGee & Mollie & The Great Gildersleeve in it's west coast office, Roma Wines has a library of Suspense shows & the Johnson's Wax plant in Racine, Wis. recently unearthed Fibber McGee shows going back to 1941.

The most valuable source of shows, however is also the most scattered--Goodman Ace; 2,000 discs stacked away in an alcove of his New York apartment-- Freeman Gosden; 500 Amos 'n' Andy shows-- Carlton E. Marse, Phillips H. Lord, & George Burns all have huge supplies. As broadcasting facilities go, old radio studios were not impressive. They were merely sound-proofed rooms surrounded on two sides by glass-enclosed booths. Long ago, their lights were switched off, the electric current died, and the microphones grew cold. But the words once uttered there made a generation of Americans tremble, laugh, cry, and rejoice--and now, it seems the words will not die. All you need is the time, a little money, & an overriding devotion to Radio Nostalgia!



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dec, 28, '80

Dear Owens,

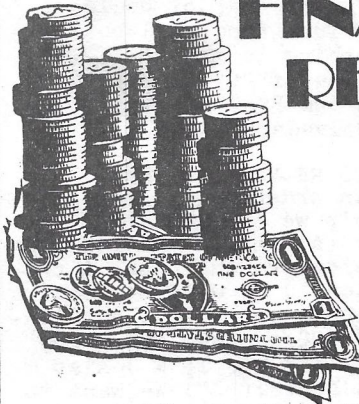
Just a quick note to send a seasons greetings to the headquarters staff back there in Baltimore.

We have a local station out here that plays a full schedule of radio entertainment programming. (KBFK Newstalk 15) Thought you may be interested in it for "On The Air." (Look for it in our next issue.Ed.) I've traveled about everywhere in this country, and this is the most complete evening of broadcasting I have seen on a regular basis. One drawback, tho, is a generally poor attitude toward the shows by the station announcers.

However, it is a great format, and they are introducing a lot of people to Old Time Radio! Thank you all for the work you are doing in this field, and best of the Christmas holidays and a better New Year.

Capt. J.H.(Jim)Abbit
U.S.Air Force,
Travis AFB, Ca.

FINANCE REPORT



Balance as of 12/31/80...\$216.31
Membership renewals..... 34.00
Donation to club (AARP)... 100.00
Total income:Nov,Dec.....\$350.31

Expences:Newsletter 200
copies,8 pages-2 sides...\$ 69.00
Postage..... 30.00
Total expences:1/1/81...\$ 99.00
Current balance.....\$251.31

Respectively submitted;
Gene Leitner,
Membership/Treasurer

Change of address:

The World of Yesterday
13759 60th Street-N.
Clearwater, Florida, 33520.



AIRWAVES

by Gene

* MEMBERSHIP and CLUB NOTES *

I have quite a few "thank-yous" to send out this issue, so I will start off by saying thank you to Miss Frances DuVal for being such a wonderful guest speaker at our Jan. meeting.to Ollie Brauer for the donation of the vintage microphone...to Owens for the donation of the Roosevelt era memorabilia...to Francis Werneth for the vintage DeSoto commercials played at our last meeting...and last but by no means least, a very special thanks to Aldine Bird for sending us the China plate comemmorating the 25th Anniversary of One man's Family....

We will be on the Allen Christian show for two Saturday nights with a history of the Children's shows from 1930 to 1955..more on this next issue.The new official mailing address of the club is: GRB of Md., Inc. c/o Gene Leitner, 7506 Iroquois Avenue, Baltimore, Md. 21219. Please address all membership, & P.R. inquiries to this address. Newsletter info. must be addressed to our Editor....Our guest speaker for the March meeting will be Gladys Beck, former star of Uncle Jack's Kiddie Club. Food will be "bring along something to share"We will be doing one of "Old-Time Radio Road Shows" at the BVRC meeting, Mar. 14th. at the Belvedere Hotel.

WANTED! TAPES TO RE-VAMP OUR TAPE LIBRARY!:.....In order to do this we need all the help we can get from you, our membership. (Attention station managers/directors/owners/engineers & on-air personalities.) We will be needing donations of tape (open reel), any length (1200/1800/2400/or 3600 ft.) any thickness. ($\frac{1}{2}$ M/ 1 M/ or $1\frac{1}{2}$ M) Also empty reels and boxes. (7") We want to give you clean, good quality programs, and your help is desperately needed, & it will be greatly appreciated.

Please contact: Gerald Michael, 282-6057, Allan Caplan, 655-9475 or Gene Leitner, 388-1976 if you have any tape donations of blank tape (new or used) for our "new" library....Until we meet again, another time, another issue, I bid you Au Revoir, and pleasant memories.

Gene.

To all club members who wish to contact me, my new address and phone number is as follows:

Gene Leitner,
7506 Iroquois Avenue,
Baltimore, Md. 21219
(301) 388-1976

(This is also the new phone number for our Newsletter "Hotline.")

PLEASE POST AND SAVE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.

CLUB MEETINGS FOR THE COMING YEAR.

March 21st.
May 16th.
July 18th.
Sept. 19th.
Oct. (Banquet)
Nov. 14th.

NEW LIBRARIAN.

Members who wish to secure tapes from our open-reel library can do so by contacting:

Jerry L. Michael
1905 Eastfield Road
Baltimore Md. 21222
(301) 282-6057

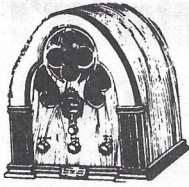
Want to give the perfect gift to someone who has everything? Then why not give a gift of a year's membership in the Golden Radio Buffs of Md., Inc. to a friend or relative? For further information, & an application form, write to Gene Leitner, 7506 Iroquois Avenue, Baltimore, Md., 21219.

GRB MEETING!
Mar. 21, 1981 7:30 P.M. - St. Mathias Hall
6400 Belair Rd. (next to Dunkin' Donuts)
1 mi. S. of B/way Exit 32, on Belair Rd. (Rt. 1)
Lighted Parking Lot - Ground Level - No Steps
M-F-A-Bus (15) drops you at the door.

GUEST SPEAKER
Gladys Beck
Star of "UNCLE JACK'S KIDDIE CLUB"
also

PREMIUM NIGHT

DISCUSSION & DISPLAYS OF RADIO PREMIUMS.
BRING YOUR OWN REFRESHMENTS TO SHARE.
WE WILL FURNISH CHIPS and DRINKS.



WHAT'S HAPPENING ON RADIO

The Local Scene

SATURDAY: WRBS FM(95.1 MHZ) 10:A.M.
Ranger Bill(Kid Show)
Unshakled(Drama)6:00P.M.

WCVT FM(89.7 MHZ)4:00 P.M.
The Import Show; with Dave
Stevenson.

SUNDAY: WAYE(860KHZ) 1:00P.M.
The Vintage Years; Music
& historical notes.

WCBM(680KHZ)7:30 A.M.
Insight; with Eddie Fenton

WRBS FM(95.1 MHZ)10:00 A.M.
Unshakled;(Religious Drama
repeat of Sat.show.)

WBJC FM(91.5 MHZ)6:00 P.M.
Sounds Like Yesterday.

(Wash.D,C,)

WAMU FM(88.5 MHZ)

Yours Truly,Johnny Dollar.
7:30 P.M.
Life of Riley.
8:00 P.M.
Cavaleade of America.
8:30 P.M.
Rogers of the Gazette
9:00 P.M.
Recollections.
9:30 P.M.
Great Gildersleave.
10:30 P.M.

The Radio adaptation of the Star Wars movie begins a thirteen week run over the NPR network beginning Sunday March 8th, 1981. In this area it will be heard over WBJC-FM in Baltimore, at 6:00 P.M. In the Wash. D.C. area it will debut on March 2nd. at 11:00 P.M. over WAMU*FM (Monday) with a repeat broadcast the following Sunday at 12:00 noon. Broadcast in stereo, it will feature from the original cast, Mark Hamill(Luke Skywalker) & Anthony Daniels(C3PO) Also featured will be Brock Peters as Darth Vader.

The production includes new characters and events that did not appear in the two movie productions. The series is being produced as a new weekly drama series entitled "NPR Playhouse."

Another new series debuting that same week, also in stereo is "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy."

This series begins on Sat. Mar. 7, at 6:00 P.M. over WBJC-FM in Balto. It is a comedy show from the BBC & stars Eric Idle who gave us "Monty Python's Flying Circus."

RADIO... AS RADIO USED TO BE

"Plucking Memory Strings"

by Owens

(The following article is the introduction to a new book about the Golden Days of Radio called "The Other Side of the Microphone; A Radio Buff Remembers...The Golden Years", recently written by yours truly.)

Did you know that Charlie Chan, Nero Wolfe, Perry Mason, Bulldog Drummond, Inspector Queen & Commissioner Weston were all the same man? Or that Mrs. Wearybottom, Geraldine, Old Lady Wheeleduck, Lady Van-de-Vere, Sis & Mollie McGee were the same lady? You would know if you belong to that growing group of nostalgic fans who grew up in the Golden Days of Radio & recapture those days with thousands of tapes of the original programs. These radio buffs can turn on their tape recorders and once again Ivan Shark & his daughter Fury have captured Captain Midnight and his young sidekick, Chuck Ramsey. They reach for the Key-O-Matic Code-O Graph to decode the special message from the Captain to all his Secret Squadron members. And those of us whose decoders have not yet arrived must sit and listen agony as the message is spelled out number by number, and we can only guess at what those magic numbers might reveal.

Captain Midnight is alive and well, in hundreds of homes where his programs are a part of growing tape libraries collected by those of us who prefer the entertainment offered by old-time radio to what's available on television today. We close our and the years roll away...back to a time when a twist of the dial could send us wing.. on interplanetary adventures with Buck Rogers or off to the T-M Bar ranch with Tom Mix and his Ralston Straight Shooters. Giants ruled the airwaves in those golden days. I first heard the Lone Ranger in the early thirties & the actor playing the part at that time was Earle W. Craser. John Todd, a former Shakespearean actor was the faithful Indian companion Tonto who nursed the ranger backed to health after an ambush. Remember when Tonto made a black mask out of the Ranger's vest and dubbed him the Lone Ranger?..and when Tonto would refer to him as "Kemo Sabe"?, meaning "Faithful Friend". That program like many of the other great shows was broadcast live for more than 20 years. But even though we knew that the horses' hooves were merely coconut shells, & the gun shots were rat traps hitting an empty tin drum, they were far more real to us than the blood-spattered shoot-outs of "The Godfather" & "Bonnie & Clyde".

(To be continued)

ALLAN'S... *MEMORIBILIA MANOR*



Don't try to enter this contest, as the closing date for entries was Nov. 5th, 1931. As you can see, the Johnson's Wax radio program for the 1931-1932 season was the Johnson Wax Entertainers, featuring the Big Band of Ted Weems and his vocalist, "The Johnson's Wax Doll."

This program was on the air for about 5 years before Johnson's Wax assumed sponsorship of it's most famous show "The Johnson's Wax Program, Starring Fibber McGehee & Mollie."

Sponsorship was so important in the early days of broadcasting that many show prizes bore the sponsors name.

This practice is, of course, almost non-existent today... And that's the way it was during the Golden Days of Radio.

\$39,500 in prizes

1,000 JOHNSON ELECTRIC FLOOR POLISHERS
Largest model—with floor maintenance outfit (1930)
Given away in nation-wide Johnson's Wax contest

- We announce this nation-wide contest that every woman in the country will enter about this week. In it, Johnson's Wax machine which polishes floors to a brilliant lustre, without effort—protects them from scratches and worn spots and cleans up with old-fashioned methods.
- How to win a Polisher and Outfit... absolutely free • Go to any hardware, paint, grocery, drug or department store where the new Johnson Electric Floor Polish is displayed. See the machine in action. Then ask the dealer for the Johnson's Wax Contest entry blank. You don't have to pay anything. There is no obligation.
- All are eligible except employees of S. C. Johnson & Son, and their families. Contest closes December 31, 1932. Prizes must be postmarked on or before that date.



TUNE IN! Johnson Wax Entertainers Ted Weems and the Johnson Wax Doll Every Sunday night—12:15 Eastern Standard Time on the N. B. C. coast-to-coast Network, WJAF and 47 affiliated stations. • Spooking Entertainment. Helpful information on the care of feet, furniture, linoleum and automobiles.

Here are but a few of the interesting articles you will be reading in the coming months on these pages:

"Nick Carter, Radio, & Me." by Lon Clark.

"Another Look At English Radio; A Comparison." by Mike Gerrad.

"The Highest Paid Performer In Radio History; Will Rogers." by Rae Deo.

These articles & many more can only be found on the pages of ON THE AIR.

Yesterday's RADIO LOGS



12/6/46



GINNY SIMMS
BRINGS HIM TO YOU
TONIGHT!

THEY MUSSED UP HIS HAIR IN BOSTON

Recognize him? It's Donald O'Connor, all mixed up for his date with Ginny Simms tonight. Just back from a successfully hectic personal appearance tour (Boston, Philadelphia, Columbus, Cincinnati, Detroit) this bright young Universal Film Star is all set to shoot the breeze on your favorite radio program. For hitting songs and hitting laughter, set your dial for the Ginny Simms show tonight!

The GINNY SIMMS Show

WITH DONALD O'CONNOR
WIBX . . 9:00 P. M.

12/29/47

This is WKBW night
TELLO-TEST
Money for listening
for your phone
WKBW-6:15

"Accent on Music"
Bobby Nicholsen
7:15 P. M.

WKBW-ABC

8 P. M. 8 P. M.
DASHIELL "FAT MAN"
HAMMETT'S
"That Sensational Private Eye"
8 P. M.

"TIME TO SHINE"



HAL KEMP
and His Orchestra
TONIGHT
10 P. M., EDT—9 P. M., EST
CBS
on the air again for
GRIFFIN SHOE POLISH

The Nelsons
Are Moving!

SAVE **FRIDAY**

FOR THE FUN-FILLED
FAMILY FROLIC...

"THE ADVENTURES OF

OZZIE AND HARRIET

NEW TUNE IN TIME

WIBX--9:30 P. M.

EVERY **FRIDAY** NIGHT

My Favorite Radio Program

•SPACE PATROL•

by Gary L. Bennett

I remember listening to Space Patrol on the local ABC station when it first began back in about 1950.

The early episodes dealt with classic space opera themes---space piracy and cops and robbers on a solar-system-wide basis. Often the stories were continued from one day to the next.

Eventually the series went to a weekly Saturday format on both radio and television(ABC radio 10:30 A.M.; ABC TV 11:00 A.M.).

Space Patrol took place in the 30th. century. The Patrol itself had its headquarters on Terra, a mandate planet located between the orbits of Earth and Mars. For political reasons, this was also the capital of the United Planets of the Universe(a remarkable claim considering that in the early years of the series, the Patrol stayed within the solar system)--in fact the Commander-in-Chief of the Space Patrol, Buzz Corey, achieved his early fame by being the first man to fly to Pluto and bring back soil from that frozen world to help construct Terra.

The series was started by William "Mike" Moser, who got the idea while flying Navy planes in the South Pacific during WW II. (He had done other radio and television scripts) He initially wrote all of the Space Patrol scripts but when the radio and subsequent television scripts reached 82,000 words per week he used three other writers. The Ralston Purina company sponsored the series(Nestle got involved in the television series) and there was always an advertisement for some premium such as rocket ships, rocket cockpits, special view scopes, etc.

The series was a bit dated technologically even by the standards of 1950, but it picked up when the Space Patrol got the gravi-magnetic power drive known as star drive. Even the scripts began to show some trend toward si-fi sophistication before the series died in the mid 1950's. The television series was put into syndication under the title "Interplanetary Police." The television audience reportedly numbered some seven million people. Among the cast were:

Buzz Corey-----Ed Kemmer
Happy-----Lyn Osbourne
Carol-----Vir. Hewitt
Tonga-----Nina Bara

There were, of course other si-fi radio shows which caught my fancy---but on certin Saturday mornings, I can still hear the swoosh of a rocket taking off and the announcer crying:...

"Space Patrol! High adventure in the wild,...vast reaches of space!..Missions of daring in the name of interplanetary justice!..Travel into the future with Buzz Corey...Commander-in-Chief of the ...Space Patrol!

Remember when the Collier Hour, & NBC
Mystery Theatre, brought you.....

5

FU MANCHU on Radio?

by Ray Stanich

The Collier Hour was first broadcast over the NBC Blue Network in 1927.

It was an hour -long program, heard on Sunday evenings at 8:15 P.M. The program was divided into segments, each dramatizing a story or serial installment from the current issue of Collier Magazine.

In the Fu Manchu serialization, the part of Fu Manchu was played by Arthur Hughes(who was also the host-Editor of the program)

In 1932 the CBS Network introduced their Fu Manchu series, with John C. Daly taking over the role of Dr. Fu.

This was a series of 31 half-hour programs, heard on Monday evenings at 8:45 P.M. The premiere broadcast was on Sept. 26, 1932, and the series lasted until April 24, 1935. At the end of the premiere episode, Sax Rohmer, the creator of the Fu Manchu stories, made one of his rare appearances on radio. There were introductory remarks, commerial credits, and a talk by Sax Rohmer about the first broadcast("The Zayat Kiss") that was just aired. Partway through the series, John C. Daly was replaced by Harold Huber.

By 1939, still another and lengthier radio series was produced and sponsored by Collier's magazine, but was called the NBC Mystery theatre. This was a series of 77 fifteen-minute episodes under the over-all title of "The Shadow of Fu Manchu." First broadcast on Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays from May 8, to Nov. 1, 1939, the series was made available in transcription and rebroadcast in various parts of the country. The first 39 episodes are available on tape, and have been circulating among collectors for a number of years.

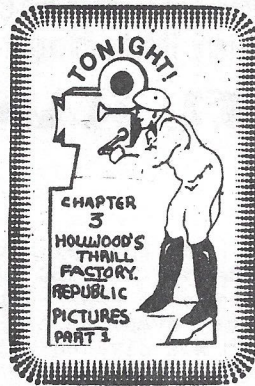
Additional episodes do exist, but it is generally agreed that all 77 episodes have not been preserved.(Ed. note we have all 77 episodes in our library.)

The adaptation is quite faithful to the original books, & are from 3 Fu stories: #1-21 are from "The Insidious Dr. Fu Manchu"; #22-27 from "The Hand Of Fu Manchu"; and #28-39 from "The Return Of Dr. Fu Manchu."

Undoubtedly a considerable amount of material remains to be uncovered concerning the Fu Manchu serial on radio. The Nov. 1932 issue of Radio Index contained an article on the program. The premiere episode must have been reviewed by Daily Variety and radio trade papers. And surely Chicago newspapers carried articles about the program and about Rohmer's visit to that city.....This is Ample ground for future research.....

6 AN
AFFECTIONATE
LOOK
AT THE
MOVIE
SERIALS

by
Dave Stevenson



In the mid-thirties, Republic Pictures had somewhat unjustly earned the title "Repulsive Pictures" and felt by many people in the film community that to work for Republic was a fate worse than death. Quite to everyone's surprise, after they started producing serials in 1936, they perfected a screen format that would not be matched by any other studio, major or minor.

Much of Republic's serial success must be attributed to three superb action directors, William Witney, John English and Spencer Gordon Bennett. Each of these men knew how to keep the action moving. This was what a serial was all about and this is what they gave us. Whitney and English co-directed 17 consecutive serial masterpieces. Starting in 1937 with Zorro Rides Again, the duo turned out in succession, The Lone Ranger, Fighting Devil Dogs, Dick Tracy Returns, Hawk of the Wilderness, The Lone Ranger Rides again, Daredevils of the Red Circle, Dick Tracy's G-Men, Zorro's Fighting Legion, Drums of Fu Manchu, Adventures of Red Ryder, King of the Royal Mounted, Mysterious Dr. Satan, The Adventures of Captain Marvel, Jungle Girl King of the Texas Rangers, and finally, in 1941, Dick Tracy vs. Crime, Inc.

The team split up in 1942, with English going into B Western production. However, Witney was able to continue to turn out exciting work like Spy Smasher, Perils of Nyoka, G-Men vs. The Black Dragon, and the Crimson Ghost. With Spencer Bennett's arrival, that great period of set destruction that is identified with Republic Serials began. While earlier fight choreography was good, it just did not equal the heights obtained by Bennett. Working closely with some of the best stunt men in the world, including Tom Steele, Dale Van Sickle, Eddie Parker and Dave Sharpe, Bennett reduced huge, ornate sets into rubble fight after fight. His very first serial for Republic contains 3 fights in every one of the chapters of Secret Service in Darkest Africa, made in 1943...That has got to be more fights than any other chapter play in the history of the movie serial! In 1947 Bennett left Republic and joined Columbia pictures.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

BACKSTAGE

In Broadcasting

by Rae Deo

DATELINE: Oct., 1939.

Be sure to hear Gillette's exclusive broadcast of the World Series day by day at 1:15 E.S.T. "Red" Barber Bob Elson, veteran sports announcers, will give you the running story...play by play. And for the color and drama such newspaper and radio celebrities as Grantland Rice, Lowell Thomas, Edwin C. Hill, Gabriel Heatter & Stan Iomax will be at the mike. Gillette, manufacturer of the New Gillette "Tech" Razor and Gillette Blue Blades has spared no expense to make this series broadcast the greatest sports event in the history of radio! Remember...tune in each day at 1:15 P.M. E.S.T.

They can't keep a good man or good gag down, so Milton Berle will bounce back onto the airwaves this week with a quiz show called "Stop Me If You've Heard This One." (If I know Milton, it will be "Try and Stop Me!") A board of Gag Busters" will try to stop him by providing the correct pay-off lines to well-known gags posed by Berle. Regular board members will be Harry Hirshfield, and Jay C. Flippin. A guest comedian will sit with them.

UPDATE: MARCH, 1981.

The latest item to cross this reporters desk is the news that the Golden Radio Buffs of Md., Inc. has recently acquired some very unusual memorabilia from the Roosevelt years in the White House, for their archives. Two items of interest are a vintage 78 RPM recording made by Roosevelt in the White House radio broadcast room, of notes for a speech. Also, the microphone he used to record it. (This is an interesting fact, because Roosevelt was the first President to use the medium of radio broadcasting to its full advantage during his long tenure in office, and became known as "The Radio President.") I am sure it will be a most welcomed addition their already priceless collection of Radio Artifacts. Look for it on display at future meetings and coming Banquet.

THIRTY.

Next newsletter deadline for all articles, photos, ads & contest entries will be April 15, '81 (May-June edition) (ED. NOTE.) The Library listings will be published every other issue.

VAMP... TILL READY by O.L.Pomeroy

AN OTR SHORT STORY WRITTEN ESPECIALLY FOR "ON THE AIR"

CHAPTER II

The star announcer of the Angel's Kiss Variety Program, and the siren of Synccaption were engaged---but wait! Soon to enter the scene to form an unwanted triangle from Paris, France is Mile. Gabrielle La Rouge! What will happen next? Let us continue our story and see.....

The announcer entered the room and forced a smile for Mr. Ray "Buzz" Theon, studio manager for Consolidated Broadcasting, who seemed to live entirely surrounded by pushbuttons. From a grille in the wall sifted the melodies of the Angel's Kiss orchestra but Mr. Theon turned them off with a contemptuous click. "So she's at it again, eh?" he complained. "Giving you a good old runaround, and thereby upsetting you, not to mention me and our smooth organization." "Not," said Mr. Theon, "that I'm going to claim the guff about being one big family---we're a lot more congenial than that, I hope. What do you propose to do about it?"

"Marry her, and as fast as I can," "Spoken like an amateur," rebuked the dynamic Buzz. "Why rush? With my own eyes I've seen her trying to vamp every stray male in the studio, and now I hear she's all quivery over that new crooner at Palmer Broadcasting. But it's all part of the game, Roger, and your cue is to be indifferent." "You can't be indifferent to a girl like Jewel", said Roger. "I could, old sock, in fact, I could be real fretful with anyone who's worrying my prize announcer. Anyhow, Roger you think it over. She only wants to show her power---there all like that---and I don't believe she'd really try anything oscillating." "You mean osculating. No I'm not afraid of her kissing anyone."

"Sorry," said Mr. Theon. "Bad habit I've got of using the wrong words at times, but it's no wonder living in a menagerie like this. Brace up, now put the freeze on Jewel, and she'll tumble right into your lap, and if you can't, then I'll do it for you, ole' buddie." Roger wished him luck in an ambiguous voice, and it's echo returned to plague Mr. Theon two evenings later when he confronted the unrepentent Jewel. Buzz fought a losing battle. Jewel assured him that although she was completely overboard in love with Roger, her individuality must be preserved at all costs. Part of that cost was that after their little "chat" Jewel conned Buzz into taking her out to a large and expensive dinner.

By next midday he was once more the iron-jawed genius presiding over a luncheon in the studio where several new clients & artists had to

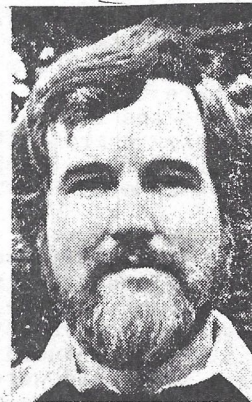
be met and programs had to be discussed for the coming season. Roger was there of course, and after a whirl of introductions, Buzz Theon noticed that he (Roger) was seated next to Mademoiselle Gabrielle LaRouge, grand opera soprano, who was to aid in making the public conscious of Slirpeasy Spaghetti

Mile. LaRouge' was a large & luscious blonde, with blue eyes like sapphires glistening in evening candlelight, and the usual knack of parisienne in making a man think that she had just lived for nothing but the purpose of meeting him. Gabrielle managed to sit half on her chair and half on Roger's while she prattled away of her forthcoming debut. From the head of the table, Buzz Theon watched his best announcer with an awakened interest... Personally the crafty Buzz had shied away from the frothy Frenchwoman, but now his gaze grew thoughtful as he appraised her, and his smile widened to a positive leer when the luncheon party filed into the corridor just as Jewel Sheringham was floating into a rehearsal room. In that brief moment the sultry brown eyes and the sapphire blue ones beamed at each other roguishly.....

(To be continued)

Golden Radio Buff member, Gary L. Bennett, has first Science-Fiction novel published.

"The Star Sailors"



Gary Bennett

Bennett, Gary L. *The Star Sailors*.

St. Martin's, Jul. 1980, c.384p. LC 79-27175.
ISBN 0-312-75582-1. \$12.95.

This exceptional first novel should be considered by libraries that buy only a few sf titles each year, as well as by more extensive sf collections. Bennett's book, like Ursula K. Le Guin's best work, excels on every level. Characterization is remarkable and essential to the development of a complex and intriguing plot that makes the vanquishing of galactic and intergalactic evil a personal challenge for four representatives of the Galactic Federation. A courageous captain defies the bounds set on space exploration and takes his three-person crew to a devastated planet, where one man discovers the fate of his father, another faces a crisis of faith, and another must pit his strength against those who once brutally harmed his wife. Powerful, absorbing reading; highly recommended. —RH

(Be sure to read Gary's fine article on page 5 of this current issue.ED.)

PERSONALITY • PROFILE •

The *Amos 'n' Andy Show*
(PART ONE) by O.L.P.

Those of you who are either too young to have heard "Amos 'n' Andy" on radio, or are so old that your memories have turned to the consistency of cream of wheat, I would like to explain that the show had to do with the comic mis-adventures of a pair of young black men who came North to Harlem from rural Georgia, to make their fortune in the taxicab business. As fate would have it, they immediately fell prey to George "Kingfish" Stevens, who is the 'Kingfish' of a lodge known as 'The Mystic Knights of the Sea'.

Most of the episodes were complete in 15 minutes, although they went on a week and sometimes even for several weeks. The program's most famous episode lasted (believe it or not) for 26 weeks in 1932, and had the entire nation on edge each evening to hear the next turn of events in the 'Amos 'n' Andy Breach of Promise Trial.' A few years later there was another one just as exciting, when Amos was unjustly accused of murder, and was about to be executed in the electric chair, when he woke up, & all America learned much to it's relief, that the entire episode was only a dream.

Freeman Gosden (Amos) & Charles Correll (Andy) wrote the show entirely themselves, for the first six or seven seasons they were on the air. The same early years the two men played all the characters heard on the show. The voices of Kingfish, Lightin', Prince Ali-Bendow & Gabby Gibson, were the creation of Gosden. Henry Van Porter & Brother Crawford, were created by Correll. They both estimated that during the course of their entire career, including minor character roles, they had been the voices of over 550 different characters, and virtually all of the characters portrayed were blacks, while Gosden & Correll were white!

By 1932, the craze for listening to Amos 'n' Andy had grown so big that department stores, restaurants, and bars had put in radios so that their customers could listen to the program between 7:00 & 7:15 P.M. Movie theatres stopped their films at 7:00 o'clock, wheeled a radio onto the stage, and tuned in Amos 'n' Andy for those movie goers who otherwise would have stayed home and listened. Pepsi-Cola became interested in this Amos 'n' Andy mania as well, and offered Gosden & Correll their first network contract. And so it was that on Aug. 19th, 1929 Amos 'N' Andy was heard by the entire NBC Network proving that sponsoring a popular radio show could lead to the sale of toothpaste, soap, cigarettes, coffee and laxatives.



THE SILENT MICROPHONE

*Gone, ... but not
Forgotten*

ANNE ELSTNER MATTHEWS:

Radio actress, starred in the title role of "Stella Dallas" for eighteen and one-half years. We are truly saddened at the death of one of the most beloved and respected leading ladies of radio. Mrs. Matthews, known to all of us as Stella Dallas, died in Stockton N.J. on Jan. 30th. She received the 1975 Golden Mike Award presented to her by our club, and truly became a friend of the Golden Radio Buffs of Md. Inc. We know that those of us who met her on that occasion and got to know this wonderful woman, will truly miss her. Our deepest sympathy to her husband Jack and the members of her family at this time.

JIM CRIST:

Former WFBR morning man and brother of fellow GRB member and Golden Mike recipient, Phil Crist, died at his home in Florida this month. Together they hosted one of the finest morning radio shows in Baltimore called "Morning In Maryland" during the 40's & early 50's. Up until the time of his illness 3 years ago he was working actively in the News Department of a Daytona Beach radio station in Fla. Mr. Crist was 73 years old. We extend our deepest sympathy to GRB member Phil and his family.

MATTHEW "STYMIE" BEARD.

Former member of "Our Gang" from 1929-1935, died at the Los Angeles County Medical Center after suffering head injuries following a stroke. In recent years Stymie was the founder of "The Clubhouse", a rehabilitation center for former drug addicts. His passing leaves only 2 of the original (1920's) "gang" left. Mickey Daniels, who is a construction engineer in Saudia, Arabia and rotund Joe Cobb, a real estate broker in Los Angeles. Stymie was 56 years old.

BOBBY SHERWOOD:

Noted musician of the Big Band era, died on Jan. 23rd., 1981 a victim of cancer. In the 1930's Mr. Sherwood was the orchestra leader for the Bing Crosby & Eddie Cantor radio shows. He is better known as the lead trumpet for the Artie Shaw & Jimmy Dorsey bands. Mr. Sherwood was 66 years old.

A page from....

The BIG BAND SCRAPBOOK

by Vernon Belt

As the year of 1900 ushered in the 20 Century, the music scene was just about the same as it was ten years before. Popular music was coming from the traveling stage as well as the songs of Stephen Foster and others to be a part of the American way of life. However, a new type of tempo was taking place in New Orleans that would change all popular music to this day.

There were a great many orphan homes in the Crescent city. In order to give these orphans an interest, a great many were given brass instruments to learn and soon they were playing in street parades. A great many others from their homes, took an interest in this type of music.

From then on it was gay New Orleans. For the least significant occasion there would be music. There was music for christenings, baptisms, weddings, lakefront hayrides and advertisements of business concerns. But the most important outlet for this music was the funeral procession. To the cemetery, the band would go, playing solemn hymns and Dolorous marches, but after the burial on the way back, the band would cut loose and play the free and swinging music, often the same hymns & marches played so differently just a short time ago. No written music, for they didn't know what a piece of sheet music was. Just six or seven pieces pounding it out, all together, each in his own way & yet somehow fitting it in the right place.

There was one other way the music of New Orleans could be heard, and that was at the legal Red-Light district of Storeyville. All these brothels employed musicians, and the most famous Brothel of them all was Lulu White's "Mahogany Hall." (The Mahogany Hall stomp is still played in most traditional group's books to this day.) The music of New Orleans now had a name. It was called "Jass" because of its Bordello connotation, It wasn't until much later that it was changed to "Jazz." Because of this connotation, very few of these musician's work were recorded until after 1920.

The great men from New Orleans who were a part of this music from the beginning reads like a Who's Who. Names such as KING OLIVER, LOUIS ARMSTRONG, JELLY ROLL MORTON, KID ORY, PAUL BARBARIN, SIDNEY BECHET, GEORGE LEWIS, BUNK JOHNSON, BENNIE MOTEN, KID RENA, OSCAR CELESTIN,

JOHNNY DODDS, KID AVERY BUDDY BOLDEN, 9 ALCIDE PAVAGEAU, PETER BOGAGE, JAMES ROBINSON, CIARENCE WILLIAMS, JIMMY NOONE, and the list goes on & on with so many more too numerous that space does not allow me to list.

In 1917 with the advent of the first World War, the government closed the Storyville district, and many of the musicians drifted north into cities like Chicago & Kansas City. It was also at this time that the white men took a keen interest in this New Orleans sound and began playing it.

When we get together for our May issue, we will look at some of the titles of this great music and cover a period in the 1920's where time and music were wild. See you then when we once again explore a page from the Big Band Scrapbook.

Where is she now?

If anyone knows the address of dance band vocalist, Rose Blane, who sang with Joe Haymes and the Abe Lyman dance bands of the 30's & 40's, please contact your editor, c/o this newsletter. This request came all the way from a Big Band Buff in Salem, Oregon, and we would like to help him out if we can.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

BOARD OF GOVERNORS 1981-1982

Owens Pomeroy: Founder/Historian.
Gene Leitner: -Founder/Membership
Treasurer.
Fred Young: Co-Founder/President.
Alan Caplan: Co-Founder/Archives
Cassette Librarian.

NEW OFFICERS FOR THE COMING YEAR.

Christine Campbell: Recording Secty.
Refreshments.
Jerry L. Michael: Open Reel Librarian
Recording Engineer,
Bi-Monthly meetings.

The Board of Governors would like to thank Ernie Rethschulte for a wonderful job serving as our treasurer & membership chairman for the past several years. Ernie has asked for a leave of absence due to ill health. Get well soon, Ernie.

Our thanks also go to Ted Grzymala, who has been serving as our open-reel librarian. Ted is holding down two jobs at the present time, and finds it impossible to continue this club activity. Our sincere gratitude to both of you.

We are in need of volunteers to donate various varieties of "goodies" for our bi-monthly meetings. Contact Gene Leitner, (388-1976) if you would like to help supply the refreshment table for the up-coming meeting.

In our Jan.- Feb. issue, we ran an old ad from our previously neglected file for a research organization called "Seekers", c/o Mr. Don Beeks. Mr. Beeks would like us to inform our members that he is no longer associated with that company, as it is out of business. Although he no longer searches Old Radio programs, He said he will still continue to search vintage 78's, 45's & LP's. If you would care to use his service, just contact him at: 4210 Vermont St., Long Beach Calif., 90814. Do not address it to "Seekers". On The Air regrets the error and our apologies to Mr. Beeks.

The Editor.

The
GOLDEN RADIO
Bookshelf

by C.O. Lumbia

From time to time in this space I will keep you up-to date with a review of the latest in the printed word about the Golden Days of Radio and rate them for you so you can use it as a guide if you want to add it to your library shelf.

"DON'T TOUCH THAT DIAL!"
by J. Fred McDonald (****)

Writing from his private collection of 8,000 vintage tapes, making extensive use of radio fan magazines, J. Fred McDonald traces radio history and examines the distinct kinds of programs as they evolved (comedy, detective shows, Westerns, soaps and broadcast journalism). It's the most complete wide-ranging history of radio ever published, and I highly recommended it to the readers of these pages. 412 pages. Photo's. Notes. 2 indices, and a Bibliography. (Crown publishers \$14.95)

RE-CORD *dially*
YOURS.

Guy Travers



Although we usually reminisce about the Big Band scene in this spot, We would like to recall some memories of some dear Radio friends of that Golden Era that are no longer with us.....

IT WAS WITH PARTICULAR SADDNESS that we noted the recent passing of Elaine Lee Greenberg, who, over many years, contributed so much to the local broadcasting & music scene - as well as to the many young lives she touched through her many & varied activities. She was the original pianist on the Baltimore children's television program "Romper Room" - which originated

& was headquartered in Baltimore.

During WW II, Miss Elaine produced variety shows at military hospitals & continued this voluntary work at local veterans hospitals after her retirement....During the 1930's, she served as the producer, choosing the acts, coaching them & accompanying some of them, on talent shows that were broadcast by local stations from the Hippodrome & Keiths Theatres. She also served as local recruiter & coach for acts that were to appear on such national radio shows as the original Major Bowes Amateur Hour....Memory obliging, it was about this time that we first met "Princess Elaine" at WCAO, while performing on Uncle Ed's Children's Hour. Songstress Mary Small & former WBAL announcer, Dave Conner, first faced the mike on those memorable Saturday morning sessions.

Uncle Ed (the late Henry Edward Warner of THE SUN) had taken over the show when Uncle Jack moved to another local radio station. Gladys Beck & the late Nelson Baker were the regulars on his programs. This show, from WBAL, was eventually taken over by Alexander Gifford & Ted Rousten & became known as the "Gif-Ted Show". Ted was the manager at the "Hipp", & Alex was on the staff of the THE NEWS-AMERICAN where Uncle Jack also wrote a daily column....ah, those were the days!

Others who will be missed; include: WCBM's Charlie Roeder; WFBR's Jim Crist, Jennie Lea Bird, of the News American who wrote a radio column for many, many years; & finally going back to the early thirties, one of the featured air personalities of both WCBM & WCAO, former Baltimorean, Harriet R. Sappington, passed away a few months ago in Englewood, N.J. And, although in her mid eighties, she had kept busy almost to the last.

.....From the local airwaves.... WAYE has recently aquired the services of Ted Steele (former WBAL morning man) for a daily afternoon show; understand that former WAYE/WITH staffer, Craig Stone is now doing a weekend show for "Big Band 86"...welcome back to a familiar voice-and an old friend!...And finally, WAMU-FM has dropped its Sunday night "Big Bandstand" shows...Till we meet again this is Guy Travers, RE-CORDially, yours.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

Are you moving? or have you moved since the last edition of On The Air? If so, won't you please fill out the change of address form below and mail it to the editor, c/o this newsletter, so you will not miss any future issues.

NAME: _____ GRB# _____

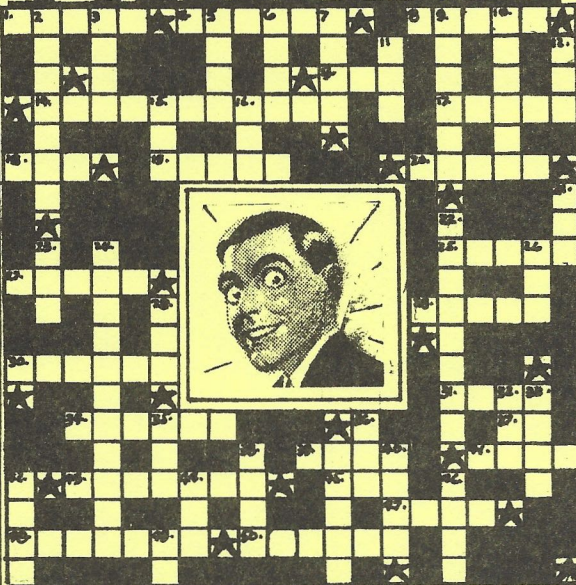
OLD ADDRESS: _____

NEW ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

NEW PHONE#(IF ANY) _____

PUZZLE PAGE



ACROSS

by Phil Cole

- 1-4. (Pictured) star of "Time To Shine."
- 8. Role played by 24 down.
- 12. Henry to Sam.
- 14. Phillips H. Lords wrote it.
- 17. A necessity for a radio actor.
- 18. One of the announcing Niles brothers.
- 19. Bazooka-playing OTR comedian.
- 20. "_____ Gildersleeve."
- 25. Big Band leader, Shaw.
- 27. Pictured star's announcer, Von Zell.
- 29. Baltimore-born Jazz musician composer, Blake.
- 30. First name of 24 down.
- 31. OTR singing sisters quartet.
- 34. Role played by 46 down.
- 37. OTR Network studio orchestra leader. (Int.)
- 39. Elwood Gary, "The _____ of the Airways."
- 41. Somerset Maugham
- 43. GRB member, wrote article on page 7.
- 45. United States of America. (Int.)
- 48-50. Our associate club _____ Society.

DOWN

- 2. ... "The story you are about to hear is true...."
- 3. Boris Aplan created him on radio
- 5. Mr. Linkletter's
- 6. "My _____ Story."
- 7. OTR Announcer, David _____.
- 9. First name of 22 down.
- 10. Sponsored 2 down.
- 11. Female Big Band leader _____ Rae Hutton.
- 12. OTR actor's payment.
- 15. First name of 19 across.
- 16. In 1982 the GRB of Md. Inc. will be _____ years old.
- 21. Consumed.
- 23. Sam to Henry.

- 24. Played 8 across.
- 26. Nick name of a 50's era President.
- 28. Jack Benny's vocalist.
- 32. Roosevelt era prosperity program. (Int.)
- 33. Too much of this will cause a microphone "feedback".
- 35. _____ Doyle, alias "Harrington" on Mr. District Attorney.
- 36. Distress signal.
- 38. A big name in radio was the _____ of the program.
- 40. "Box 13" star.
- 42. New England based OTR club.
- 44. Miss Arden.
- 46. _____ Elstner Matthews.
- 49. Singing cowboy star of the 40's (Int.)



CONTEST

FREE RADIO PROGRAMS

Who is in the picture above? The earliest correct answer wins **2 FREE** Radio Programs. Winner and Answer to be listed in the next issue.

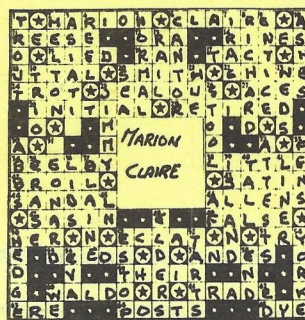
THE EARLIEST POSTMARK WINS



Address all entries to: OTR PHOTO CONTEST. C/O EDITOR: ON THE AIR, 3613 CHESTNUT AVE. BALTIMORE, MD. 21211.

All entries must be postmarked no later than April 15, 1981.

Congratulations to fellow member William J. Ryan, who correctly identified the picture in our photo contest as being that of (Believe It Or Not) Robert L. Ripley. O.K. now, who will be the first with the correct answer to this month's contest?



SOLUTION: JAN-FEB. ISSUE



ON THE AIR

3613 Chestnut Avenue
Baltimore, Md., 21211



MAR. 1 - 1981

Ronald S. Baron,
2475 W. 16th. Street,
Brooklyn, New York, 11214