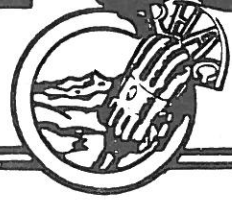


# RETURN WITH US NOW...

The Radio Historical  
Association of Colorado, Inc.



VOLUME 11, NUMBER 7

FEBRUARY, 1986



## LEGEND IN HIS OWN TIME

It is a sad, sad day in the history of R. H. A. C. A "Legend" has finally succumbed to that dreaded disease medical experts call "Conflictitis". John Lloyd has resigned his post as Editor of RETURN WITH US NOW to pursue full-time the planning and organization of our '86 Convention. So, fellow members, you know what that means? You are stuck with me. All that I ask is that you be lenient and forgiving. After all, John is a Class Act that will be hard to follow. I will try to dot all the "i's" and cross all the "t's" and attempt not to crucify the King's English. (I just may never forgive myself for opening my big mouth. I very innocently came to last month's meeting feeling good about myself and to perform whatever duties a Veep performs. I went home with a heavy burden. Not only on my mind but in my car... full of all the editorial paraphernalia John could thrust on me.. Now that I think of it, he did not seem to be too heartbroken about resigning.. I'll have to have a talk with him soon)..

All kidding aside, John, thanks for your dedication, insight and love for O.T.R. It is my wish that you receive all the help and support you can for a successful and memorable '86 Convention.. Were it not for your efforts and that of others, R. H. A. C. would not be where it is today.

Editor (Apprentice)

## FEBRUARY MEETING

The February meeting of the Denver Chapter of the Radio Historical Association of Colorado will be held on Thursday, February 20, 1986 at 2061 W. Hamilton Place, Englewood\* The meeting will begin at 7:30 P..M.\*(the home of the Stanodyne Diesel Systems or Colorado Diesel and Purifiers). Please consult the directions in the newsletter.

RETURN WITH US NOW is the official publication of the R. H. A. C.Inc. a non-profit organization. The cost of membership is \$15.00 per year and allows the member full use of the Club's resources.

For further information, contact one of the following Officers or Board Members.

PRESIDENT	:Herb Duniven..4184 S. Syracuse..Denver, Co. 80237..773-1142
VICE-PRESIDENT/NEWSLETTER EDITOR???	:John Cook..3344 So. Jasper Ct...Aurora, Co 80013..690-5827
TREASURER	:John Licht..617 Detroit..Denver, Co. 80206..321-6269
SECRETARY	:Reid Hansen..9362 W. Floyd Pl...Lakewood, Co. 80226
COLORADO SPRINGS DIRECTOR	:Tom Daoust...P.O. Box 1472...Colorado Springs, Co. 80903
TAPE LIBRARIAN	:Elmer Westbrook..855 S. Corona..Denver, Co. 80209...778-7426
BLANK TAPE SALES	:Barrett Benson...P. O. Box 507...Pine, Co. 80470...838-6185
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR./LOG LIBRARIAN	:Vicki Blake..P. O. Box 440139..Aurora, Co. 80044..690-0048
REFERENCE LIBRARIAN	:Charles Barton..5330 S. Washington...Littleton, Co. 80121...781-6287
TAPE DONATIONS	:Charles Smith...2760 N. Academy Blvd...Colorado Springs, Co. 80903
	:Elmer Westbrook (See above)
	:John Cook " "
CONVENTION CHAIRMAN	:John Lloyd...2667 E. 99th Ave...Thornton, Co...80229...451-7890

We thank you for your support of the RHAC. We hope that all members utilize the many references of the club to the fullest and enjoy them. Any comments, suggestion and donations are greatly appreciated.

## ABOUT THE COVER

Chet Lauck and Norris Goff..LUM 'N ABNER...,billed at one time as the white AMOS 'N ANDY, provided us with some of the best in down-home humor. Goff's dad owned a general store which was the inspiration for the famed "Jot 'Em Down" Store. Their radio career began in April of 1931 and ran until May of 1953.. As LUM 'N ABNER, Chet and Norris made several movies but they did not seem to come across as well as they did in radio.

Thanks to Dan Danbom for providing this month's newsletter cover.

## NEW MEMBERS!!!

Vicki Blake was pleased to report that four new OTR enthusiasts have joined our happy family. They are as follows; Michael Holt...Jack Kirby...Larry Zalley...and, Herman Urschel...

Welcome to RHAC, gentlemen. If you need questions answered or any information about the Club, contact any Officer or Board Member. They will be happy to help...

Also...thanks to Irving Hale for his renewal for another year.

## TUNING IN...COLORADO SPRINGS

Chapter Director Tom Daoust and member Kevin Shields made the trek from the Springs to last month's meeting bearing glad tidings. Kevin's OTR Show has been rescued from the dustbins of KRCC FM by KCMN, 15:30 on the AM dial. "Showtime" will be on Sundays from 4 to 6 PM. His "First-nighter" aired on Sunday, January 12th. Although the show does not have a sponsor as of this printing, it appears that Kevin has found a home much to the enjoyment of Springs enthusiasts. Kevin will be mikeside and hopes to have interviews with interesting people during breaks. His first guest was the illustrious Mr. Daoust discussing OTR. Listen for a guest appearance by Herb Duniven and possibly John Lloyd as the Convention draws near. If you can receive the signal, give Kevin your support by tuning in. (At least the last hour of his show). RHAC wishes you the best, Kevin. And, here's hoping for a successful and long run.

The February Colorado Springs Chapter meeting will be held at the home of Tom Daoust, 703 North Wahsatch, on the 18th at 7:30 PM. Please plan to attend and add your support to the success of the Springs Chapter.

The tape library for the visually impaired is complete and ready for use. Tapes are free of charge and orders should be addressed to Tom Daoust, P.O. Box 1472, Colorado Springs, Co. 80901. telephone (303) 635-2150

## EDITORIAL RESPONSE

Regarding the so-called "verbal attack" on a particular vendor in a recent issue of RETURN WITH US NOW, was not without justification. If offense was taken then, consider this. The use of our Club's membership roster without permission was undeniably a lack of professional courtesy. We have and will continue to consider any and all requests for advertising, roster use, etc., provided a request does not interfere with RHAC's policies and/or articles for sale. All that is asked is a donation of something of use to the Club and its members as a fair exchange for the free advertising and/or member roster use.

We do not object to free enterprise. We do, however, object to the methods which dealers use to promote their wares with little regard for professional ethics. We will treat any vendor or dealer with courtesy. We expect the same in return.

Now that Fibber's Closet has been opened, the mess of misunderstanding must be tidied up. I hope that our Club's position regarding this matter is clearly understood.

'Nuff Sed....

## THE WANT ADS

Chuck Barton is looking for some tapes containing the series "The Scarlet Pimpernel " This serial was aired sometime in the early '40's. He listened to it as a youngster on Radio Station KDKA, Pittsburgh, on Sundays. If you know of this series and can help Chuck locate it, please contact him. (See Officers and Board Members List). Chuck will be extremely grateful.

Looking for shows? Want to sell or buy equipment? Want to trade? Let me know. My fingers will do the walking for YOU.....Won't promise results, but, if you've a catchy ad, send it...

## BOOK REVIEW

### THANK YOU MUSIC LOVERS

Those were the words of Spike Jones after the opening of his famous CBS "Coca-Cola Spotlight Review" radio show in 1947 and '48. Jack Mirtle's forth coming book on Spike Jones takes you through the important years 1941 through 1965 when Spike was riding the waves of popularity with over five hundred song titles under his belt and recordings on six other well-known record labels of the '40's, '50's and '60's...some of which are still to this day being held in Victor vaults awaiting release.

Hollywood featured Spike Jones and his famous "City Slickers" in several films and Television procurred his talents during the '50's and '60's. Some of those moments are now available on video cassette for home viewing made possible by his son, Spike Jr.

Slowly, many of the "City Slickers" are passing on. The most famous, Doodles Weaver, left us approximately a year ago taking his own life...a sad passing of a lonely man who was suffering through ill health. Even unto the end, Doodles was still cheerful in his zany manner.

Although the price of \$55.00 is rather steep for the casual reader, the avid Spike Jones fan will treasure this book for its storehouse of information and discography of records, radio shows, television and film appearances and many unknown facts collected from over 200 personal interviews over a period of four years by the author.

Without the able assistance of Mr. Ted Hering who, in 1965, was permitted to record on tape all that was found in Spike Jones' garage, many of these rare recordings would never have been found. To Mr. Hering's sad discovery, so much of the material found was water and heat damaged and some of the glass-based discs were cracked and unsuitable for transfer to tape. Luckily, Mr. Hering, from other sources, is locating material replacing the damaged recordings a little at a time. Also, Mr. Mirtle was able to unearth fourteen pages of photographs never before published or used.

I don't know about you but, I will be anxiously awaiting for the presses to roll and turn out a book that goes into such detail about the life of one of my idols. A man who has gone down in history as a virtuoso of the washboard, cow bells, whistle and kazoo. He wasn't a Beethoven or a Brahms but he did leave the mark of his genius.

John Adams

Editor's note; John, I have passed on the advance book information to the Reference Librarian for review and the possibility of obtaining this book. Perhaps some Spike Jones fan will donate a copy to our Library. Thanks, John...and, to the rest of our fellow members...take a hint from Mr. Adams' contribution. Whether you realize it or not, you have something of interest to us all. Whether it cover something you have read, a favorite OTR program or a favorite radio personality, we would like to read about it. Your thoughts and opinions are important. Don't worry about spelling and punctuation. Wunce i cudn't spel eddytur, now i are one....

## TAPE REVIEW

As a fan of radio science fiction, I was pleased to find in our tape library a series of programs called "Alien Worlds". These shows are in stereo and the sound effects are of the Star Wars genre. The stories are mind-tingling and well acted. "Alien Worlds" was aired in the late seventies and featured as guest stars, Hans Conreid, Virginia Gregg and Janet Waldo, to name a few. If you are a 'science-fiction' fan and have never heard "Alien Worlds", give them a listen. You will find them on tape No. 417 thru 422 and the first half of No. 423. Put Elmer to work; send him an order. (In future issues, Elmer will submit a review of programs from the tape library in the hopes that you will discover something new as well)..

## NEW MEETING FORMAT

With the exception of those items that require the attention of the general membership, most of RHAC's business will be taken care of at the BOD meetings a week earlier. Herb has promised less boring and more informative general meetings. In February, Elmer Westbrook, Chuck Barton and Vicki Blake will present a program covering the operations of our Club Libraries. For March, plans for a local radio personality as guest speaker are in the offing. And, in April, a demonstration on the care and maintenance of your Open-reel and Cassette equipment is planned. Chuck will have a special offer at the next meeting so, make you plans to be there. (He would not tell me what it is...)

OTR RECORDING ALTERNATIVE

The December 1985 issue of the Milwaukee Area Radio Enthusiasts Newsletter had the following entry under the heading BITS & PIECES:

BAD NEWS FOR REEL-TO-REEL TAPE RECORDER OWNERS - According to Bob Burnham, SONY is out of the reel tape-recording business; AKAI is phasing them out; TEAC may be next. Guess we'll really have to maintain our reel equipment well!!

I would like to suggest a possible alternative to reel-to-reel recording. VCR's have become common place in the home of the 80's and offer a solution to the declining reel-to-reel recorder market. Current prices of VCR's are comparable to those of reel-to-reel recorders. The more features you want...the more you pay. A VCR can be bought today for as little as \$179 (of course you get what you pay for). More elaborate units run as high as \$1200. But the prices are dropping. Also, the newer units are featuring stereo sound and audio only ability. As yet I have not seen a VCR with 'sound-on-sound' (the ability to record different programs on the left and right tracks) but that may become a feature in the future.

What sort of quality can one expect from a VCR (audio only)? For comparison purposes I used the equipment I have at home. Please note that I am currently not using a VCR for OTR. I collect on reel-to-reel using SONY machines and trade on either reel-to-reel or cassette, using a TECHNICS 630 deck. Two prime items of interest when considering recording quality are the frequency response and signal-to-noise ratio. I will not go into the technical aspects of these things, just compare them.

Machine	Frequency response	Signal-to-noise
SONY TC-530 (reel-to-reel)	30-13,000 Hz. (@ 3-3/4 i.p.s.)	48 dB
TECHNICS 630 (cassette)	30-14,000 Hz.	50 dB
ZENITH VR2000 (VHS-VCR)	100-10,000 Hz.	40 dB
Original OTR programs	Generally 100-8,000 Hz.	Unknown

The above mentioned ZENITH is by no means a high quality VCR and is several years old. A quick check of the specs at your dealer will tell the story.

Now lets talk about the economics of tape. Once you have purchased equipment, your biggest investment will be the continuing cost of recording tape. A modest collect of OTR might consist of say 300 reels at \$3.00 each or \$900 of tape. The same collection on average quality cassettes might run 4 to 6 times that. For the following comparison I used prices from the current Radio Shack catalog and Burlington Audio Tapes, Inc. primarily because they are available throughout the country and the prices are consistant. I did not have a price for VHS-VCR tape from Burlington and I think that reasonable quality tape is available much cheaper than at Radio Shack. I used pricing from STEREO DISCOUNTERS here in the Baltimore area. I have used this tape for video recording at all three speeds (SP,LP,EP) and can see no difference in it and more expensive brands. I have also included a comparison of tape volume. As your collection grows there is always the question of where or how to store it.

Type	Brand	Cost each	Cost per hour	Volume per hour
Reel-to-reel 1800' 6 hr. @ 3-3/4 ips	Radio Shack Concert	\$2.49	\$ .41½	5.5 cu. in.
	Burlington Audio	\$1.65	\$ .27½	"
Cassette C-60 1 hr.	Radio Shack Concertape	\$2.59	\$2.59	7.3 cu. in.
	Burlington Audio	\$ .80	\$ .80	"
VHS-VCR T120 6 hrs. @ EP	AMPEX T120	\$3.99	\$ .66½	5.2 cu. in.

As you can see, VCR recording of audio material can compare favorably with reel-to-reel and cassette recording. I suggest you make your own comparisons based on local pricing (esp. sales). I also suggest that you keep an eye on the developing VCR market.

A few closing thoughts: 1. VCR taping time works out very well for reel-to-reel recorders...a 6 hr. tapes transfers directly to a 6 hr. VCR tape. 2. If future VCR's allow single track recording, the above costs and volumes would be halved. 3. May it be possible one day to record otr and a silent movie on the same tape? (I may be getting a little far fetched here.)

David L. Easter  
1900 Angleside Rd.  
Fallston, MD 21047

## RHAC TAPE LIBRARY

<u>REEL 574 THE WHISTLER</u>			1200'
1L	12-27-42	Double Cross	
	1-3-43	The Weakling	
2L	5-8-43	Death Has A Thirst	
	5-15-43	The Man Who Waited	
1R	6-5-43	Shadow Of A Mind	
	6-12-43	Justice	
2R	6-19-43	House Of Fear	
	6-26-43	The Blank Wall	
<u>REEL 575 THE WHISTLER</u>			1200'
1L	7-2-43	The Avengers	
	7-9-43	Eye For An Eye	
2L	8-13-43	Death In The Air	
	9-3-43	Destiny	
1R	9-10-43	The Tangled Web	
	9-24-43	Blind Alley	
2R	10-3-43	Mirage	
	7-23-44	Last Of The Devereaux	
<u>REEL 576 THE WHISTLER</u>			1200'
1L	11-20-44	Death Sees Double	
	12-4-44	The Doctor Operates In Crime	
2L	12-25-44	Christmas Bonus	
	1-1-45	Two For The Money	
1R	1-8-45	The Body Wouldn't Stay In The Bay	
	1-15-45	Murder Has A Signature	
2R	1-29-45	Murder On Paper	
	2-5-45	Murder Is Legal	
<u>REEL 577 THE WHISTLER</u>			1200'
1L	3-19-45	Murder Will Shout	
	4-2-45	The Return Of The Innocent	
2L	4-23-45	Meet Mr. Death	
	4-30-45	The Master's Tree	
1R	5-7-45	Accident According To Plan	
	5-28-45	Escape To Death	
2R	6-4-45	Murder Is Blind	
	6-11-45	Death Pays A Visit	

## RHAC TAPE LIBRARY

<u>REEL 578 THE WHISTLER</u>			1200'
1L	6-18-45	Blueprint For Suicide	
	6-25-45	Death Watch	
2L	7-2-45	The Deadly Innocent	
	7-9-45	Highway Of Escape	
1R	7-16-45	Pattern For Terror	
	7-23-45	Let George Do It	
2R	7-30-45	Summer Thunder	
	8-6-45	The Man Who Came To Murder	
 <u>REEL 579 THE WHISTLER</u>			1200'
1L	8-13-45	What Makes A Murderer	
	8-20-45	X Marks The Spot	
2L	9-10-45	Phone Call From Death	
	9-17-45	Sing A Song Of Murder	
1R	9-24-45	The Man Who Died Twice	
	10-8-45	Death Laughs Last	
2R	10-15-45	The House On Sycamore Road	
	10-29-45	Final Return	
 <u>REEL 580 THE WHISTLER</u>			1200'
1L	11-5-45	Harvest Of Death	
	11-12-45	The Seeing Eye	
2L	11-19-45	Coincidence	
	11-26-45	The Stray Dream	
1R	12-3-45	Poison Is Quicker	
	12-10-45	The Cistern	
2R	12-17-45	Lucky Night	
	12-31-45	Miracle On 49th Street	
 <u>REEL 581 THE WHISTLER</u>			1200'
1L	1-7-46	The Thin Line	
	1-21-46	Treasure Hunt	
2L	1-28-46	The Strange Sisters	
	2-4-46	Panic	
1R	2-11-46	Six Letter Word For Death	
	2-25-46	Murder In Haster	
2R	3-4-46	Decision	
	3-11-46	Boomerang	



FROM OUR FRIENDS AT "SECOND SOUND"

I recently visited SECOND SOUND's new location, 1875 S. Broadway, approximately one and a half blocks north of their old location. Their new residence is much larger with a more wide-open viewing and display area. Dave and Cathy Morgan gave me the full tour and they are now better prepared to help you with your needs. Take a look at these good buys!!!

Sony TC-350.....	\$99.00	Good starter deck/beginning collector...	
TEAC A-3300-S*	\$299.00*	10" R. to R.	
AKAI GX-266-D*	\$390.00*	Glass ferrite heads	
TEAC A-6010-GSL.....	\$269.00	Good condition	
TEAC A-4300-SX.....	\$475.00	Excellent for the money	*(BEST BUY)
TEAC A-3300-SR.....	\$475.00	" " " "	
Tandberg 9200-XD.....	\$569.00	Fine machine	
Tandberg TD-20-A.....	\$525.00	A good buy	

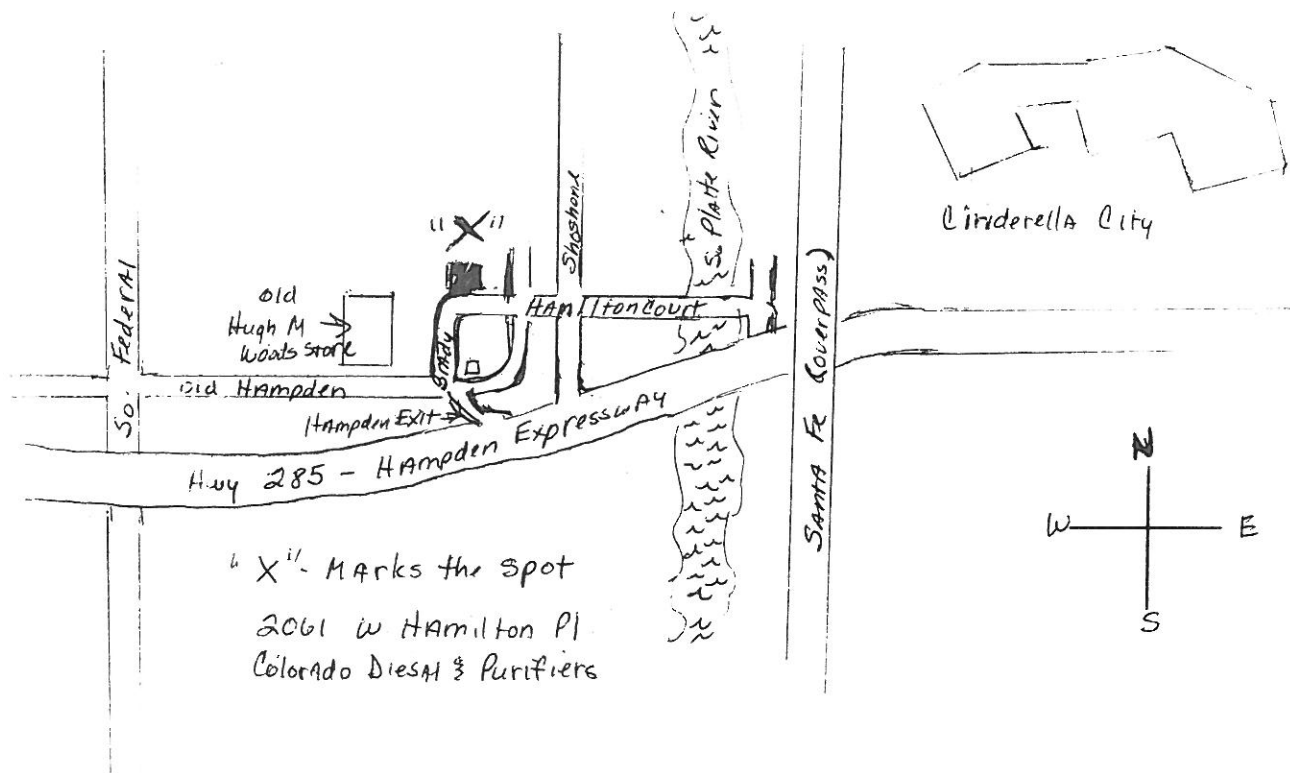
Noise reduction systems are quite handy especially for older OTR programs. These two units, the Sony NR11S and the TEAC AN60, are a steal!! Both are priced at \$49.00 each.

Stop in and browse. Cathy, Dave and Jerry will be happy to assist you. Remember, RHAC members receive an 10% discount on all items and they carry the standard 90-day warranty.

FEATURES OF COMING ISSUES

Convention progress report....Tape reviews....Tricks of the Open Reel.....Comments regarding future of Open Reel equipment....Feature articles.....and, more.....

MAP FOR DIRECTIONS TO MEETING SITE



BARRETT BENSON  
BOX 507  
PINE CO 80470

1/86

