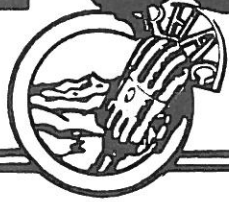


# RETURN WITH US NOW...

The Radio Historical Association of Colorado, Inc.



VOLUME 11: NUMBER 11

JUNE 1986



JUNE FORAY

A  
REUNION  
OF  
RADIO  
GREATS



FRED FOY

RADIO HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION OF COLORADO, INC.  
1986 OLD TIME RADIO CONVENTION

Pete Wehner

John Dunning

Pete Smythe

Bill Saul

Dick McDaniel

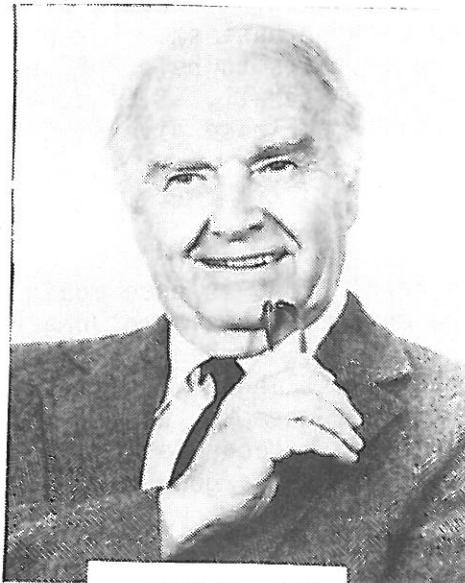
Jim Hawthorne

The Metro State Players

Don Roberts



SAM EDWARDS



PARLEY BAER

RETURN WITH US NOW...is the official publication of the Radio Historical Association of Colorado, 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...

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TAPE DONATIONS	:Charles Smith..2760 N. Academy Blvd..Colorado Springs, Co. 80903
	:Elmer Westbrook (See Above)
	:John Cook " "

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

#### JUNE MEETING

The next general membership meeting of the RHAC will be held Thursday, June 19th at 7:30 P.M.. The meeting, as usual, will be held at Colorado Diesel and Purifiers, 2061 W. Hamilton Pl., in Englewood. The topic for discussion will be the ratification of the proposed revised by-laws and the wrap-up of the '86 Convention. Please plan to attend. Your voice regarding plans for next year's event is most welcome. Bring a friend or neighbor. Note: the by-laws ratification was tabled until this month's meeting. Please consult May issue of RETURN WITH US NOW for a review of the current and proposed by-laws.

#### RHAC NEEDS YOU!!!

To some it may be a bit early but now is the time to start thinking about how you can help out RHAC. Though election time is not until September, you should start thinking about how you can serve and in what capacity. An organization can become stale if the same people are being elected to its offices. There is the problem of burn-out, complacency and over-kill when these same folks are expected to perform over and over. These people who continue to volunteer for a job are an asset to an organization. However, along side of these individuals should be fresh blood and new ideas coupled with enthusiasm. I know there are many of you who have these qualities and hopefully the time it takes to help RHAC achieve new heights. Our club could very well be the club of the Midwest. After all, it is up to organizations such as ours to keep alive this art-form we love so dearly. Please give some thought to this request and consider where you fit in with RHAC.

#### ABOUT THE COVER

Convention time is here! RHAC is once again blessed four-fold with the appearance of the guest stars pictured on the cover. We welcome June Foray (Stan Freburg Show, Smilin' Ed's Buster Brown Gang, Smile Time); Fred Foy (Lone Ranger, Green Hornet, Sgt. Preston); Parley Baer (Gunsmoke, Suspense, Tales of the Texas Rangers, Escape); and, Sam Edwards, back from last year's convention, (Corliss Archer, Suspense, Gunsmoke, Luke Slaughter).

These stars have traveled a good distance to share with us their careers in OTR. Let's make them feel welcome and show them a good time. Old Time Radio is alive and well in Denver!!!

### SPECIAL TRIBUTE

I would like to take a moment to pay a special honor to Dick King and John Callor for their work in directing the Convention Committee in their efforts to bring to you a convention to be proud of and hopefully, one well worth remembering. Thanks, Gentlemen....

### LONE RANGER ANNOUNCER VOLUNTEERS

John Callor received an unexpected phone call from a gentleman back east who offered to participate in our '86 Convention. To John's surprise and delight, it was Fred Foy, long-time announcer and narrator of the LoneRanger, The Green Hornet and Sgt. Preston of the Yukon. Mr. Foy had read about our Convention in the Radiogram Newsletter from SPERDVAC. Thanks to SPERDVAC for the free advertising and Welcome, Mr. Fred Foy!!!

### OTR MEMORABILIA DISPLAY

Gerald Piacentine has lined up several displays of OTR memorabilia for the Convention. Some of the items to be viewed are a Sherlock Holmes Collection, audio equipment, radio studio equipment from the early days of the airwaves, photos, books, magazines and other collectibles from those Golden Years. Please plan to see this display. There will be some items for sale. Sorry, no tapes of radio shows will be for sale.

### SPERDVAC COMES TO DENVER

Attending our '86 Convention will be representatives of SPERDVAC, the West Coast OTR Club, which boasts perhaps the largest membership in the country. President Larry Gassman, past President Bob Lynes, Secretary Sol Pavlosky, and RADIOGRAM Editor, Barbara Watkins will cross the Rockies and help secure the bond between our two organizations with their support. Welcome, Friends. We look forward to meeting you.

### METRO STATE TO PERFORM

Under the capable direction of Ms. Suzanne Dirkson, the Metro State Theatre Company will present a radio classic from the Suspense series, "Sorry, Wrong Number". The play first aired on May 25, 1943 and starred Agnes Morehead. The Metro State players have performed this show last fall and it should prove to be just as suspenseful as the original.

### PETE REPEATS

In his second appearance at our OTR Convention, the multi-talented and local radio personality, Mr. Pete Wehner, will once again entertain us with a one-hour radio play featuring our special guest stars in starring roles and supported by local actors and radio neophytes. Pete not only wrote the play but also composed the music and will direct. Pete needs the exposure, Folks, so please applaud loudly and ask for his autograph afterwards. Although I will not reveal the nature of the play, I will direct your attention to a character whose name is "Baxter".

### OTR STARS ON VIDEO

John Adams, RHAC member, has put together some vintage clips of OTR actors from movie scenes. John has spent hours splicing video film and put it on cassette for your enjoyment. The video can be viewed in the lounge at the Continental Inn from 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. While the OTR Display room is opened, the video can be seen during the display times.

### OTR TRIVIA QUIZ

John Licht, RHAC Treasurer, will host an OTR Quiz following the National Panel. John has lots of radio-related questions, so sharpen up on your trivia and win some prizes.

### LOCAL PERSONALITIES TO HOST PANELS

Two panels featuring our special guest stars and local radio pioneers will be one of the convention highlights. John Dunning, author and OTR Host each Sunday on KNUS will moderate the National Panel featuring Parley Baer, Sam Edwards, Fred Foy and June Foray and Bill Saul of KEZW will host the Local Panel featuring Don Roberts, Pete Smythe, Dick McDaniel and Jim Hawthorne. If you remember last year's Convention, these panels were highly entertaining. Don't Miss It!!!

### EDITORIAL COMMENT

The other evening I had a very enjoyable conversation with Mr. Tyler McVey who, through Mr. Sam Edwards, had indicated a desire to be a part of the '86 Convention. However, due to a change in plans, Mr. McVey and wife Esther would not be able to attend.

Tyler spent some 20 years in radio appearing on Fibber McGee and Molly, Lux Radio Theatre productions, Glamour Manor and a brief stint with Carleton E. Morse's, One Man's Family.

Should RHAC choose to do an '87 Convention, Mr. McVey expressed an interest in being a special guest star.

Like Tyler McVey and our special guests of this year's convention, I found that these special folk enjoy being remembered. And, as a member of a nation-wide group of OTR enthusiasts, we have an equal if not greater pleasure in remembering.

Listening to the stories they have to share with us are as entertaining as listening to the many radio productions in which they appeared.

I, for one, have really gotten a "kick" out of my small part in helping to bring this year's convention to pass and, should there be future conventions, I plan to play an even larger part in their preparation because of the fun and association with my fellow committee members and the prospects of meeting for the first time some of my favorite radio performers.

That's reward enough for me....

Editor

### SILENT AUCTION

Second Sound, one of our corporate sponsors, has donated a Sony Open-reel Deck that will be auctioned off at the '86 Convention. The format will be a silent bid and the deck will be on display at the Convention registration desk and during the designated hours in the Display Room. The highest bidder will be announced prior to the Pete Wehner Show.

### CONVENTION PHOTOGRAPHS

A montage of our special guest stars is available for any of you who collect photos of OTR stars. The cost for the four-picture collection is \$3.50 ea. plus .75 postage and handling. You can order the montage by sending your check or money-order to: R.H.A.C., c/o John Callor, P. O. Box 1109, Westminster, Co. 80030. Make your check or money-order payable to: R.H.A.C. Please allow for two weeks delivery.

### THIS 'N THAT

I recently received a very nice letter from Bob Lyzenga, a member from Grand Rapids, Mi. Bob is a commercial artist and has volunteered to help with illustrations, cartoons, etc., for our monthly newsletter. I have been giving some thought to ways of improving our newsletter. Perhaps Mr. Lyzenga could help brighten what may be otherwise dull reading. I will certainly be in touch with you, Bob, about doing something for a future newsletter. Perhaps a cover?

Thanks for the nice compliment.

### TAPE REVIEW

If you want to have some fun with mystery series (a la THE SHADOW) check out tape #242. THE AVENGER, almost a carbon copy of THE SHADOW, was, in effect, a poor attempt to compete with the Lamont Cranston. A bit corny and melo-dramatic, THE AVENGER is rather camp and does bring to mind the "Camp" heroes that one followed religiously as a youngster. Jim Brandon is no Lamont Cranston and Jim's secretary, Fern Collier, runs a distant third to Margo Lane. All in all, it still is fun to listen to. Fortunately, or unfortunately, this 1945 syndicated show is available on only one reel in our Tape Library. So, catch Jim Brandon with his "telepathic indicator" and "secret diffusion capsule" as he becomes THE AVENGER: The man the underworld fears the most.

## RHAC TAPE LIBRARY

<u>REEL 607</u>	<u>THE GREAT</u>	<u>GILDERSLEEVE</u>	1200'
1L	4-26-42	Gildy's Goat Horace	
	5-3-42	Ship Christening	
2L	5-10-42	Mystery Voice	
	5-17-42	College Chum Visits	
1R	5-31-42	Dinner With Judge Hooker	
	6-7-42	The Sneezes	
2R	6-14-42	Gildy Produces A Play	
	6-21-42	Father's Day Chair	
<u>REEL 608</u>	<u>THE GREAT</u>	<u>GILDERSLEEVE</u>	1200'
1L	6-28-42	Gildy In Love With Amelia Hooker	
	9-6-42	Golf Tournament	
2L	10-4-42	Plant A Tree	
	10-11-42	First Cold Snap	
1R	10-18-42	Appointed Water Commissioner	
	10-25-42	First Day On The Job	
2R	11-1-42	A Pal To Leroy	
	11-8-42	Quiet Evening At Home	
<u>REEL 609</u>	<u>THE GREAT</u>	<u>GILDERSLEEVE</u>	1200'
1L	11-15-42	College Chum's Son Vivits	
	11-22-42	Thanksgiving Dinner	
2L	11-29-42	Gildy's Date With A Theatre Star	
	12-6-42	Toothache	
1R	12-20-42	Christmas Show	
	12-27-42	Leroy's Chemistry Set	
2R	1-10-43	Fibber And Molly Visit	
	1-17-43	Woman's Club Speaker	
<u>REEL 610</u>	<u>THE GREAT</u>	<u>GILDERSLEEVE</u>	1200'
1L	1-24-43	Sabotage	
	1-31-43	Fire Engine Committee	
2L	2-7-43	Leila's Sister	
	3-28-43	Springtime In Summerfield	
1R	4-4-43	Gildy Repairs His Car	
	4-11-43	Auto Accident With Judge Hooker	
2R	4-18-43	Spring Hike	
	4-25-43	Rabbits	



## RHAC TAPE LIBRARY

<u>REEL 611</u>	<u>THE GREAT GILDERSLEEVE</u>	1200'
1L	5-9-43    Wedding List 5-16-43    Haunted House	
2L	5-23-43    Leroy Gets A Job 6-6-43     Wedding Shower For Leila	
1R	6-13-43    Gildy Plans A Honeymoon 6-27-43    Wedding Day	
2R	8-29-43    End Of Vacation 9-12-43    War Bond Drive	
<u>REEL 612</u>	<u>THE GREAT GILDERSLEEVE</u>	1200'
1L	9-19-43    Leila Returning 9-26-43    Leila Arrives Home	
2L	10-31-43   Halloween Party 11-14-43   Gildy Rejected By Eve Goodwin	
1R	1-9-44     Gildy In The Hospital 1-16-44    Income Tax Forms	
2R	1-23-44    Eve And Gildy Get Together 1-30-44    Marjorie, The Actress	
<u>REEL 613</u>	<u>THE GREAT GILDERSLEEVE</u>	1200'
1L	2-6-44     Sleigh Ride 3-19-44    Gildy Wants To Run For Mayor	
2L	4-9-44     Campaign Officially Begins 4-30-44    Gildy And Eve Engaged	
1R	5-7-44     The Campaign Gets Hot 5-14-44    Gildy, Engaged To Eve, Kisses Leila	
2R	5-21-44    City Employees' Picnic 5-28-44    Campaign Headquarters	
<u>REEL 614</u>	<u>THE GREAT GILDERSLEEVE</u>	1200'
1L	6-4-44     Eve's Mother Visits 6-11-44    Eve's Mother Meets The Family	
2L	6-18-44    Eve's Mother Stays On 6-25-44    Election Day - Gildy Loses	
1R	9-10-44    Water Commissioner Fired 9-24-44    Plastic Mousetrap	
2R	10-1-44    Gildy Must Sell His House 10-8-44    Boy's Club	

TUNING IN COLORADO SPRINGS

Kevin Shields is back in business and has provided us with his OTR Show schedule for the month of June. As you know, Kevin's apartment was broken into last April and much of his collection and equipment was stolen and destroyed. Kevin's show can be heard on Radio Station KCMN, 15:30 AM. Due to the change to MDT, the show is on from 4 til 7 P.M. on Sundays.

- June 1 - CHANDU, THE MAGICIAN - "The Search For Robert Regent" Chapters 1 & 2 - 6/28-29/48  
ADVENTURES BY MORSE - "The City Of The Dead" Episode 1- 1944  
THE WHISTLER - "Golden Opportunity" - 5/15/49  
JACK ARMSTRONG - Program #1581 - No date
- June 8 - THE HENRY MORGAN SHOW - 1/19/47  
THE BOB HOPE SHOW - "Guest: Merle Oberon" AFRS - No date  
CHANDU, THE MAGICIAN - "The Search For Robert Regent" Chapters 3 & 4 - 6/30-7/1/48  
ADVENTURES BY MORES - "The City Of The Dead" - Chapter 2 1944  
THE ADVENTURES OF PHILLIP MARLOWE - "The Key Man" - 6/25/49  
JACK ARMSTRONG - Program #1582 - No date
- June 15- THE HENRY MORGAN SHOW - 2/19/47  
THE BOB HOPE SHOW - "Guest; Grace Kelly" AFRS - No date  
CHANDU, THE MAGICIAN - "The Search For Robert Regent" - Chapters 5 & 6 - 7/2-5/48  
ADVENTURES BY MORSE - "The City Of The Dead" - Chapter 3 1944  
DRAGNET - "Old Man's Wife Dies" - 6/28/51  
JACK ARMSTRONG - "Program #1583 - No date
- June 22 CBS RADIO WORKSHOP - "Colloquy 3" w/Stan Freburg - 8/31/56  
THE ADVENTURES OF OZZIE AND HARRIET - "Halloween" - 10/31/48  
CHANDU, THE MAGICIAN - The Search For Robert Regent" Chapters 7 & 8 - 7/6-7/48  
ADVENTURES BY MORSE - "The City Of The Dead" - Episode 4 - 1944  
SUSPENSE - "The One Millionth Joe" - 6/22/50  
JACK ARMSTRONG - "Program #1584 - No date
- June 29 THE JIMMY DURANTE SHOW - "W/Bob Hope" (Sudstítue Host) - 1/7/48  
THE PHIL HARRIS/ALICE FAYE SHOW - "The Valentine" - 2/13/49  
CHANDU, THE MAGICIAN - "The Search For Robert Regent" - 7/8-9/48  
ADVENTURES BY MORSE - "The City Of The Dead" - Episode 5 - 1944  
INNER SANCTUM - (Untitled) - - 1946  
JACK ARMSTRONG - Program #1585 - No date

Good Listening...

Chapter Director, Tom Daoust, is completing a very thorough survey via questionnaire he developed recently and hopes to have the results soon. Many of the questions asked pertained to Springs Chapter activities: types of meetings, etc. and habits of collectors in the area regarding OTR and the type of shows they seek. Tom's questionnaire could be put to use for the Denver Chapter members. It could very well provide some answers to a lot of questions regarding the particular interests of our members. We hope that Tom's efforts stir up renewed interest in OTR and Chapter meetings will once again be held monthly.

Thanks, Tom..

WANT-ADS

I am looking for some STRAIGHT ARROW programs. I used to come home after school to listen to the episodes and would like to add some to my collection. If any of you out there have any, please, let me hear from you. I would be most appreciative. Thanks, John Cook. (See address on page 1).

Have anything to sell or trade? Looking for that special radio series?  
ReSeek, and ye shall find. Ask and ye may sell. We'll print your request - free!!

NEW MEMBERS

Vicki Blake, Membership Chairman, reports one new member for this month. He is Steve Scalzo of Milwaukee, Wisc. Welcome, Steve. Also, five people have taken a liking to our organization by renewing their memberships. They are Gene Thurber, 3/'87, Walter Niebuhr 4/'87, Roger Hill, 4/'87, Richard Lewis 4/'87, and David Tomlin 4/'87. Thanks to you all for your support.

LOG ORDERS

There seems to be a problem with those of you who have ordered radio logs lately. Folks, some of you are ordering at old rental rates. Therefore, you are short a few bucks. To solve the problem, Vicki is updating the log library list which will include the new rental rates. The new list will be published in RETURN WITH US NOW as soon as it is completed. We are sorry for any mix-up that may have occurred.

AFFAIRS OF PETER SALEM From Radio in Review May 29, 1949

A new Mutual whodunit, "The Affairs of Peter Salem", KHJ, 8:00 p.m., Thursday, is notable chiefly for bringing Santos Ortega, one of the better air thespians, back to the mike. Listeners will probably recall him as portrayer of the title role in the "Nero Wolfe" series. He's a detective in this one, too, but the scene is far removed from "Wolfe's" metropolitan locale. "Salem" is a small-town character who outwits the slick big-town crooks. On the chapter that we heard, the program opened slowly as the atmosphere was built, forgivable on a first show. Melodramatics got going during the second half of the show and robbery and murder were gusty enough for any crime-show addict.

Casting of the show was tops, with Everett Sloane (of whom we never hear enough) Luis Van Rooten and Ann Shepard (who sounds like Mercedes McCambridge to these ears) in prominent roles. Ortega, with one of the most interesting voices in radio, makes his role alone worth listening to.

WHAT'S IN A NAME? by Jack Richards

One of the most outstanding stories from ESCAPE was "Three Skeleton Key" by George Toudouse. The plot was about three men in a lighthouse, a derelict ship that discharges a cargo of rats and the horrors felt by the men as the rats swarm over the lighthouse. The thought alone should make your skin crawl.

Now, True or false?

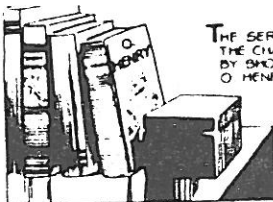
The story line is true but some experts believe it should have been "quay" (chich is pronounced "key"). Webster defines quay as a wharf or unloading dock. This, of course, ties in with the lighthouse setting.

Does anyone know which is correct?

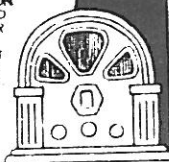
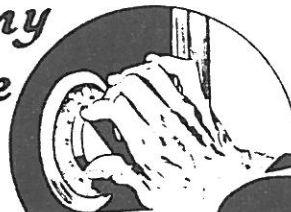
**RETURN WITH US TO...**

*Alias Jimmy Valentine*

THE FAMOUS SAFE-CRACKER CAME TO RADIO IN 1937 AS A SERIES OVER NBC BLUE.



THE SERIES WAS BASED ON THE CHARACTER CREATED BY SHORT STORY WRITER O. HENRY. FRANK AND ANNE HUMMERT PRODUCED THE RADIO VERSION.



ONCE MET, I CHALLENGE ANYONE TO FORGET LEE RANDALL, ALIAS JIMMY VALENTINE. THERE IS TOO MUCH OF EVERY MAN IN HIM...

BERT LYTELL



JIMMY VALENTINE WAS PLAYED BY BERT LYTELL AND JAMES MEIGHAN. LYTELL LATER BECAME THE M.C. ON THE POPULAR STAGE DOOR CANTINE RADIO SHOW. MEIGHAN WAS ONE OF TWO ACTORS WHO PLAYED FLASH GORDON AND ONE OF FIVE WHO PORTRAYED THE FALCON.



NATIONAL BARN DANCE from Newsweek, May 3, 1943

And That Is Hay

Probably the closest that radio will ever get to authentic Americana is the National Barn Dance, an unvarnished though slightly sandpapered group of backwoods talent crowded each week into a Chicago theatre for a Saturday-night party. So close has the 9 to 9:30 EWT broadcast grown to the hearts of its 10,000,000 NBC listeners that any attempt by the sponsor to slick up its style immediately brings an avalanche of protest. This week's performance, its 500th on a national hookup, follows virtually the same pattern as the first show on April 24, 1924.

Back in those days the program was used by Sears, Roebuck to fill in time on their station WLS (World's Largest Store). As a sustainer, it had become so popular by 1928 that it was moved from the studio to the Eighth Street Theatre to accommodate the crowds who applied for tickets each week. The theater seated 1,200, and, along with a good many others in Chicago, hadn't been doing very well up until then. The Barn Dance, charging 75 cents for adults and 35 cents for children, packed it tight every Saturday night for the next thirteen years.

Soon after it moved, the program acquired Alka-Seltzer for its sponsor. During the depression years that followed, acid indigestion and headaches became the vogue, and in 1933 the program shifted to a one-hour national hook-up. Actually, only part of it expanded. Few people outside Chicago know that the Barn Dance is a four-hour program, with a whole string of acts which never get on the air.

The part that does get on, however, is typical of the whole show. Creating the proper rural atmosphere is Arkie, the Arkansas Woodchopper. When he calls a square dance, a square dance actually takes place on the stage, which has a haystack in one corner. No less atmospheric are the mountain ballad singers, Lulu Belle and Scotty, whose courtship, marriage, and subsequent baby (real) gave a friendly, if rather intimate, timber to the show. Noisiest of the cast are the Hoosier Hot Shots, a quartet who couldn't play a straight tune if they tried (not that they ever do). Their most important equipment is a washboard (they've worn out twelve since they joined the show in 1933), four bulb horns, and a hand-pushed klaxon.

In 1941, the Barn Dance moved from its old-fashioned home on Eighth and Wabash to the more modern Chicago Civic Theater. On July 4, 1942, its network time was cut to a half-hour program. Except for those changes, it has remained a protrait of the rustic heart of America tied to a perennially acid stomach.



FELLOW MEMBERS: I THINK I HAVE THE  
ANSWER ON NON-PARTICIPATION!

