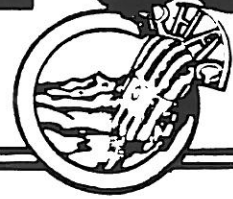


# RETURN WITH US

The Radio Historical  
Association of Colorado, Inc.

# NOW...



Volume 16 Number 10

MAY ~~March~~ 1991



**Elmer Westbrook**

1915

1991



**RETURN WITH US NOW...** is the official publication of the Radio Historical Association of Colorado, Inc., a non profit organization. Cost of membership is \$20.00 for the first year with \$15.00 for annual renewal. Each member has full use of the Club resources. For further information contact anyone listed below.



Phone numbers are in the (303) area code except Mike Fields (719).

PRESIDENT.....Dick King, 900 W. Quincy, Englewood CO 80110..... 761-4139  
 VICE PRESIDENT.....David Michael, 1640 Grant St. Denver CO 80203..... 830-0075  
 SECRETARY.....Glenn Ritter, 750 Niagara, Denver CO 80220..... 377-4798  
 TREASURER.....Maletha King (See Above)

NEWSLETTER EDITOR...Dan Decker, 10587 G, W. Maplewood Dr. Littleton CO 80127.. 933-4232

GRAPHIC ARTS: Ron Cramer

TYPESETTING: Adrienne & Mika Rhoden

CLUB HISTORIAN: John Adams, 2811 S. Valentia, Denver CO 80231.....755-9185

TAPE LIBRARIAN: (open reel) Dick and Maletha King (see above)

TAPE LIBRARIAN CASSETTE: #1 (1-499) Dan Decker.

#2 (500 up) Dave Logan

#3 (5001 up) Mika Rhoden

Dan Decker (see above)

Dave Logan, 5557 S. Sherman Cir., Littleton CO 80121..... 730-1430

Mika Rhoden, 3950 W. Dartmouth, Denver, CO 80236.....937-9476

DIRECTOR AT LARGE: David L. Michael, 1640 Grant Denver, CO 80203..... 830-0075

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: David L. Michael (see above).....623-1215

BLANK TAPE SALES: Barrett Benson, P.O. Box 507, Pine CO 80470.....838-6185

TALKING NEWSLETTER: Mike Fields, 7925 Sanger, Colo Spgs CO 80920.....282-0253

REFERENCE MATERIAL: Bill McCracken, 7101 W. Yale #503, Denver CO 80227..... 986-9863

MEMBERSHIP: Glen Ritter, P.O. Box 1908, Englewood CO 80150

LOGS AND SCRIPTS: Fred Hinz P.O. Box 1908 Englewood CO 80150

TAPE DONATIONS:Bill McCracken (see above)

Herb Duniven, 4184 S. Syracuse, Denver, CO 80237.....773-1142



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS:**

THE JUNE BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE RESIDENCE OF THE KINGS' ON JUNE 6TH AT 7:30 PM.

ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME AND INVITED TO ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE AT THE BOARD MEETINGS

WE INVITE YOUR SUGGESTIONS.



**CLUB MEETINGS:**

THE MAY MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY MAY 16TH.

MEETING WILL BE AT THE CHURCH OF THE MASTER. EAST 17TH AVE AND FILBERT COURT.

OUR GUEST SPEAKER WILL BE ED BOWMAN.

We wish to thank member Misty Dawn Lane for sending the Video of their February meeting with John Archer as their guest speaker. We enjoyed this video at our April meeting. Again our thanks to Misty and the Radio Enthusiasts of Puget Sound, 8540 S. 123rd Place, Seattle, WA 98178.

Convention plans are moving right along with everyone confirmed. Stay tuned in for further information next month.

# EDGAR BERGEN TELLS

## the True Story of Charlie McCarthy

### Where, and how, was Charlie McCarthy Born? In whose image was he created?

Mack looked at Edgar's sketches, counted for a few minutes on his fingers, and said he'd charge Edgar thirty-five dollars.

Edgar Bergen didn't have thirty-five dollars. He had seventeen dollars-four dollars of which he had earned the Saturday night before, giving a very bad exhibition of ventriloquism at the Elks' Club on Ladies' Night, and thirteen dollars which he had saved from his allowance over a six months' period of painful prudence. Edgar's allowance was two dollars a week.

Edgar counted on his fingers. If he gave up movies, and his daily soda at the drug store, he could pay Mack a dollar and a half a week. Twelve weeks of paying off; but maybe he could do it sooner if he could land another club date. Edgar swallowed hard and turned back to Mack.

"Go ahead", said Edgar.

That was the beginning of Charlie McCarthy.

Mack was a wood carver, who had a little shop in the north end of Chicago. Most of his work was prosaic cabinet making, but he had a way with a piece of wood and a knife, and Edgar had stopped by his place many times on his way home from school to watch Mack work before he ever thought of Charlie.

Edgar had been experimenting with ventriloquism for three years. That he possessed the ventriloquist's peculiar voice construction burst upon him when he was thirteen. He rose in history class one afternoon to tackle a particularly embarrassing question about the War of the Roses, cleared his throat to get his bearings, and when he started to talk his voice bounded shrilly from another corner of the room. Edgar sat down and thought it over.

That night at dinner Edgar Bergen frightened his mother nearly out of her wits by tossing ejaculations at her from the center of a fresh cherry pie. And the next day he spent twenty-five cents on a beautifully illustrated booklet called "The Art of Ventriloquism." "The Art" was the only instruction he ever had in "the art."

Edgar made his first dummy. He was a little colored boy named Rastus, whose personality was never enough to cope with his paper-mache rustle. Despite this handicap, Rastus delighted Edgar's pals in Lakeview High School. And his mother's friends used to feign admiration for his cleverness to the point of inviting Rastus and Bergen to perform at Saturday night church suppers.

It was those first public appearances that fostered the urge for Charlie McCarthy. Bergen wasn't much of an actor, and Rastus' Dixie dialect had more than a tinge of the Swedish accent. Bergen began casting about for a model for a new dummy, determined that this time it should be the real thing. He'd be professional if it cost him his allowance for a year.

The face which puts the lie to Charlie McCarthy's top had and tails grinned at Edgar Bergen originally from a little newsboy who used to peddle papers at a street corner near Edgar's house. His name was Charlie - Edgar never learned the rest of it-and the map of Ireland was on his face. He never stopped grinning. If he lost a tooth you were conscious of a definite change in the landscape at his particular corner. He was forever involved in fantastic financial calculations. "Gee," he would complain after a thorough check of five different pockets, "I'm three cents short." His namesake had the same trouble.

Edgar sat on the curbing one afternoon and made sketches of Charlie at his work. Tough sales were his meat.

"Smatter, mister? D' your old woman catch you out late last night?" He sized up a prospect with uncanny shrewdness. The sight of a bowler on an approaching customer prompted "Stock market goes up to-da-y-ee", while a loud-checked coat evoked "Black Fox wins at Latonia!" When the sale was completed, he would turn to Edgar and wink.

Edgar often wonder what ever happened to that game little guy. Edgar was sure he was very poor. He never spent the pennies he collected from his sales, but tied the day's earning in a dirty handkerchief, and started off home with them. Edgar supposed he's still in Chicago, grown up and married, perhaps-and grinding away at some uninspiring job. "But I'll bet he still knows all the answers". Edgar said.

Edgar Bergen's sketches of Charlie didn't do him justice-despite the fact that Edgar's father, a draftsman himself, had considered Edgar a bit of an artist. But with the Irish in Edgar's impressions of Charlie, the newsboy, and the Irish in Mack's heart, Charlie McCarthy couldn't fail. He emerged with an impudent Irish profile, and the Irish spunk.

By EDGAR BERGEN  
As Told to PAULINE SWANSON

# **RHAC 1991 CONVENTION**

**SATURDAY JUNE 15TH, 1991  
Rossi's Catering Hall \$25.00**

**Reception Friday Evening June 14, 7:00 p.m.**

- Ray Erlenborn
- Shirley Mitchell
- Tyler McVey
- Jeanne Bates
- Ezra Stone
- Les Tremayne
- Harry Elders
- Sam Edwards
- John Gassman
- Larry Gassman

**Masters of Ceremonies will be  
John Rayburn  
and Merwin Smith**

# Radio Historical Association of Colorado

Announces a Convention Honoring  
More Radio Personalities

**SATURDAY, JUNE 15TH, 1991**

Rossi's Catering Hall • 4301 Brighton Blvd., Denver, Colorado

## FEATURED GUESTS

LES TREMAYNE  
SAM EDWARDS  
HARRY ELDERS

SHIRLEY MITCHELL  
TYLER McVEY

EZRA STONE  
RAY ERLNBORN  
and others

Registration from 9:00 AM. Activities start at 10:00 AM. Lunch available on site (not included in ticket price). Morning, afternoon and evening activities will include workshops, panels, sound effect demonstrations and recreations. There will be an evening buffet dinner.

For those from out of town, arrangements have been made at The Travel Lodge - Viscount Hotel for a special convention rate of \$40.00 plus tax. The hotel is located at 200 W. 48th Avenue, Denver, Colorado 80216, Phone (303) 296-4000 and is very convenient to the convention site. Airport transportation is available at no charge. RHAC members will provide transportation back and forth to the convention site. Please let us know if you need this service.

### SPECIAL PLUS FOR MEMBERS AND CONVENTION ATTENDEES:

Informal reception on Friday evening, June 14th, 7:00 PM. at a private clubhouse (see map in May newsletter) where everyone can meet, talk and mingle with our guests. Food and libation to be provided by members; out of town guests may contribute as desired. (Last year's feast was outstanding!)

Admission for the convention, including buffet dinner, \$25.00 per person if pre-registered; \$30.00 at the door. Send registrations to:

**RHAC, PO Box 1908, Englewood, Colorado 80150  
Phone: (303) 761-4139.**

<b>ADMIT ONE</b>	Please Reserve ___ Places for the RHAC June 15th Convention in the	<b>1296</b> <b>E-54</b>
	Name of: _____	
	Address _____	
	City _____ State _____ Zip _____	
	Phone _____ Check Enclosed for \$ _____	
RHAC, PO Box 1908, Englewood, Colorado 80150		

## RHAC TAPE LIBRARY

<u>TAPE 946 SUSPENSE (C)</u>			1200'
1L	1-25-54	Want Ad	
	2-1-54	Never Follow A Banjo Act	
2L	4-5-54	Grand Theft	
	4-12-54	Parole To Panic	
1R	4-19-54	The Card Game	
	5-10-54	The Last Days Of John Dillinger	
2R	5-17-54	The Revenge Of Captain Bligh	
	6-7-54	A Terrible Strange Bed	
<u>TAPE 947 SUSPENSE (C)</u>			1200'
1L	6-15-54	The Earth Is Made Of Glass	
	6-22-54	Sequel To Murder	
2L	7-13-54	Run Sheep Run	
	7-20-54	Telling	
1R	7-27-54	Destruction	
	9-30-54	A Little Matter Of Memory	
2R	10-7-54	Chicken Feed	
	10-14-54	Lost	
<u>TAPE 948 SUSPENSE (C)</u>			1200'
1L	10-21-54	Rave Notice	
	10-28-54	The Shelter	
2L	11-4-54	The Last Letter Of Dr. Bronson	
	11-11-54	The Sure Thing	
1R	11-18-54	Blind Date	
	11-25-54	Shooting Star (AFRS)	
2R	12-2-54	The Shot	
	12-9-54	On A Country Road	
<u>TAPE 949 SUSPENSE (C)</u>			1200'
1L	1-27-55	The Operation	
	2-3-55	A Killing On Abilene	
2L	2-22-55	Waiting	
	3-1-55	The Screaming Woman	
1R	5-10-55	Going, Going, Gone	
	7-5-55	The Cave-in	
2R	7-12-55	Kaleidoscope	
	7-19-55	Back Seat Driver	

## RHAC TAPE LIBRARY

TAPE 950 SUSPENSE (C) 1200'

1L 9-6-55 Strange For A Killer  
 9-13-55 A Story Of Poison

2L 9-27-55 The Frightened City  
 11-22-55 Classified Secret

1R 11-29-55 This Will Kill You  
 12-13-55 A Present For Benny

2R 12-27-55 The Mystery Of The Mary Celeste  
 1-10-56 Two Platinum Capsules (AFRS)

TAPE 951 SUSPENSE (C) 1200'

1L 1-24-56 The Cellar Door  
 1-31-56 Arctic Rescue

2L 2-14-56 Listen Young Lovers  
 2-21-56 Hollywood Hostages

1R 3-13-56 The Groom Of The Ladder  
 4-3-56 Game Hunt

2R 4-10-56 The Lonely Heart  
 4-17-56 The Seventh Letter

TAPE 952 SUSPENSE (C) 1200'

1L 5-8-56 The Phones Die First  
 5-22-56 Fragile, Contents Death

2L 6-5-56 The Twelfth Rose  
 6-19-56 A Sleeping Draught

1R 7-11-56 Want Ad  
 7-25-56 The Tramp

2R 8-15-56 A Friend To Alexander  
 8-29-56 Holdup

TAPE 953 SUSPENSE (C) 1200'

1L 9-5-56 The Security Agent  
 9-25-56 A Case Of Identity

2L 10-2-56 Waiting  
 10-9-56 The Digger

1R 10-16-56 Prophecy Of Bertha Abbott  
 10-23-56 The Doll

2R 11-18-56 The Long Night  
 11-25-56 The Man Who Stole The Bible





# RADIO HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

**CASSETTE LIBRARY #2  
 C/O DAVE LOGAN  
 5557 S. SHERMAN CR. #8  
 LITTLETON, CO 80121**

Enclosed is my check or money order for the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to cover the one month rental charge of \$2.00 per set for the cassette ordered. You are allowed to order 5 cassette sets at one time although you may have only 5 cassette sets outstanding at any time.

Minimum Order is \$6.00

<u>Cassette number</u>	<u>Title</u>
1.	_____
2.	_____
3.	_____
4.	_____
5.	_____

Alternates:

1. _____	4. _____	7. _____	10. _____
2. _____	5. _____	8. _____	11. _____
3. _____	6. _____	9. _____	12. _____

Ship to: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

I do hereby agree to abide by the RHAC rules and agree not to sell or use library materials for monetary gain.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature

**REMEMBER**  
 THIS FORM IS FOR CASSETTE REELS 500 UP

