

# RETURN WITH US

The Radio Historical  
Association of Colorado

# NOW...



FEBRUARY 1981



RETURN WITH US NOW

Volume 6 #8---February 1981

Is the official newsletter of the Radio Historical Association of Colorado.

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- Blank Tape Sales . Glenn Blair 756-8130
- Resource Librarian. Craig Anderson 831-7228

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RHAC MONTHLY MEETING

The February meeting will be held on Thursday the 12th at the Allstate Bldg. For those who don't know where it is, directions are as follows: Take I-25 to Belleview go west on Belleview to the first traffic light (QUEBEC) go south on Quebec to the first stop sign (no street sign) turn left (east) and follow till the street turns. The Allstate Bldg is to the left side of the street, enter on the east side.

We will be pleased to have the people from Ear Whacks at this months meeting, don't miss out.

NEW MEMBERS & RENEWALS

We wish to welcome the following new members;

- Mike Wotovitch 2958 E. Euclid Pl. Littleton Co. 80121 / 798-0284 12/81
- Bonnie Salazar 930 E. 18th Ave. #1 Denver Co. 80203 / 831-4214 1/82
- David Tysver 5841 N. Irish Pat Murphy Dr. Parker Co. 80134 / 841-5910 1/82
- H.W. Marcellus Jr. #8 Durian Ct. Longmont Co. 80501 / 651-0898 1/82

Thanks to the following members who will be with us for another year:

- Micky Rubin, Rod Button, Harral Peacock, Irving Hale (10-81). Dan Danbaum (12-81).
- Neil L'Heureux (7-81). Robert Elfstrand, Kenneth Keller, Dave Clow, Gary Lindberg,
- Barrett Benson (1-82). Hugh Anderson (12-81). John Migrala (2-82).

A VERY SAD NOTE

If there is but one thing every collector of OTR fears, it is the thought of having ones collection stolen or destroyed. I am sorry to say that this tragedy has befallen on one of our fellow members (Jim Vaughan). He had his residence broken into and all of his audio equipment along with his entire collection was stolen. Now replacing an audio system is not hard (assuming one has the money) but replacing a collection is another matter; therefore we would like to urge members to give Jim a hand by helping to re-dub tapes from the club library for him. If you would like to give a hand let us know at the next meeting or call John Lloyd at 451-7890 who will be in charge of things. John will be bringing a box to the February and March meetings which members may deposit other tapes; blank or with shows, or other accessories they would like to donate to help out.

JOHN DUNNINGS SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY 1981

- 2-1 Romance "Lady or the Tiger" 5-12-56
- The Sixshooter "Actors" AFRS 1953
- Family Theatre "The Tin Whistle" w/ Ronald Reagan 8-12-48
- An interview with Roberta Goodwin (Bob Bailey's Daughter) Recorded 1-12-81
- 2-8 Amos & Andy "Overnight Investment" 12-8-44
- Inner Sanctum Mysteries "Black Art" 5-15-45
- Suspense "One & One's a lonesome" w/ Ronald Reagan 3-23-50
- 2-15 Amos & Andy "Andy's Fake Suicide" 12-15-44
- MGM THEATRE On The Air " Joe Smith American" w/ Ronald Reagan
- 2-22 Arthur Godfreys Talent Scouts "W/ Lenny Bruce" (his 1st national appearance)3-15-49
- Gangbusters "Case of the Ape Bandit" 11-1-40
- Suspense "The Defense Rests" w/ Alan Ladd 3-9-44

Old Time Radio is brought to us on KADX at 1 p.m. by the Public Service Co. of Colorado.

FEBRUARY ADDITIONS TO THE TAPE LIBRARYREEL 167 HAVE GUN WILL TRAVEL 1200'

|    |                               |          |
|----|-------------------------------|----------|
| 1L | A New Start                   | 9-4-60   |
|    | Troublemakers                 | 9-11-60  |
| 2L | Nellie Watson's Boy           | 9-18-60  |
|    | Old Friends                   | 9-25-60  |
| 1R | The Snoop                     | 10-2-60  |
|    | Skeeter Hickshaw and Sam Crow | 10-9-60  |
| 2R | Lola Blackwood                | 10-16-60 |
|    | Billy Boggs                   | 10-23-60 |

REEL 168 CAVALCADE OF AMERICA 1200'

|    |                                   |          |
|----|-----------------------------------|----------|
| 1L | A Case for the FBI                | 3-15-43  |
|    | Mr. Lincoln's Wife                | 5-31-43  |
| 2L | The Road to Berlin                | 2-5-45   |
|    | Nellie Was A Lady                 | 9-17-45  |
| 1R | The Camels Are Coming             | 1-21-46  |
|    | The Doctor With Hope in His Hands | 3-11-46  |
| 2R | The Old Fall River Line           | 9-23-46  |
|    | The Rain Fakers                   | 12-30-46 |

REEL 169 FREEDOM U.S.A. (SYNDICATED) 1200'

|    |   |
|----|---|
| 1L | Central American Revolution-Trade Embargo |
|    | Glacier Mining-Conspiracy                 |
| 2L | Everett Callinan Story                    |
|    | Passport for Professor Joplin             |
| 1R | Gambling Investigation                    |
|    | African Planes-Foreign Trade              |
| 2R | Louisiana Purchase Anniversary            |
|    | Fuel Shortage-Communications Leak         |

"CLARA, LU 'N' EM" IS ON THE AIR ... AGAIN

"Clara, Lu, 'n' Em", oft-credited as radio's first daytime serial drama or "soap opera", is being recreated in the place of its birth: Northwestern University, in Evanston, Illinois.

Ms. Taylor Scobie, a graduate student at the university, has written a Master's paper about the radio program; and while she was researching it, she shaped a recreation into a viable radio production. The old cast of characters is being played by a new trio of Northwestern graduates, professional actresses all, one of whom, Harriet Allyn Crowley, had portrayed "Lu" in the 1942 revival of the program.

Ms. Crowley was a contemporary of the three college students (Louise Starkey Mead, Isobel Carothers Berolzheimer and Helen King Mitchell) who made themselves into "back-fence gossips" in the late '20s. At first, they did it only for their own and their sorority sisters' amusement. But after graduation and a short separation, they were reunited in Chicago and put their talents to work on the radio. They talked their way into the studios of W-G-N in 1930, appeared nightly for no pay for two weeks, then were hired for \$25 to continue their topical humor and "small town chatter" on a sustaining basis until the Colgate-Palmolive-Peet Company hired them and later had them lead-off NBC's first "day of soap operas" in February, 1932.

The ladies' radio names can still be found stamped into the handles of souvenir spoons, mementos of the Century of Progress Exposition of 1933 ("The Chicago World's Fair"), in what was the very first box-top (Super Suds) premium promotion made to radio listeners.

Their voices can still be heard in the handful of air-check recordings preserved from the '30s and from the 1942 revival sponsored by Pillsbury Mills. The actress who played "Lu" died in 1937, and the other two members of the trio decided not to continue broadcasting without her. For a time they turned to publishing a syndicated newspaper feature containing "folksy" letters exchanged between "Clara" and "Em"; but in 1942 they were persuaded to return to radio, this time to CBS (from "The W-B-B-M Air Theater, Wrigley Building, Chicago"). Ms. Crowley assumed the role of "Lu" and did an excellent job of matching the voice of the original character.

The Pillsbury series was short-lived. Various reasons have been cited for its brief six-months' tenure, but the most compelling one is that war-time censorship played havoc with the ladies' spontaneous use of topical material. For the first time in their career, they had to submit their scripts up to three weeks in advance of broadcast dates, and their humorous comments on the news of the day were extremely limited by that ruling. The program was revived once more in 1945 by Kitchen Klenzer, but only Ms. Crowley remained from the previous series.

And now, almost thirty-five years later, "Clara, Lu 'n' Em" is back on the air; not on a regular basis as yet, but the ladies are working toward that goal. Appearing with Ms. Crowley (who is now cast as "Em"), are Virginia Blair ("Clara") and Lila Letchinger ("Lu"). Directing them is yet another Northwesternite, Winifred Gahagan. Taylor Scobie is the producer.

They have broadcast several times on the university station, W-N-U-R, and twice on W-C-F-L (the long-time "Chicago Federation of Labor" station, and now the new Mutual Network affiliate station in Chicago). In addition to these radio broadcasts, they have made several personal appearance "broadcasts" in the Chicago area. They are using the original scripts of the programs from the '30s, scripts which have been preserved by the families of the original trio.

This latest re-creation recalls to mind the opening lines from the premiere episode of the first revival of the program in 1942:

CLARA: "Well, hello, girls. How are ya'?"

LU: "Just fine, Clara; just fine."

EM: "Well, gunnite, girls; here we come again!"

(CHATTER)

by Donald Koehnemann  
811 Bristol Ave.  
Westchester IL  
60153



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YESTERDAYS HEADLINERS. TODAY --- DON MCNEILL AND SAM COWLING

Don McNeill went to work in broadcasting in the middle 1930's and the biggest show he is remembered for is the Breakfast Club from Chicago. A familiar musical theme of the ABC network show began "Good Morning, Breakfast Clubbers..." and went rousingly on from there, involving such zany things as marching around the "breakfast table." Sam Cowling joined the program in 1937 as a singer and then became McNeills court jester, sitting around the table cracking jokes.

Where are McNeill and Cowling today? McNeill, conducts seminars on communications at Marquette University, his alma mater, and at the University of Notre Dame. He wound up the Breakfast Club in 1969 after thirty-five years on ABC. Cowling, works in the fishing-tackle department at a downtown Chicago store (Abercrombie and Fitch). Neither of them miss the old radio life in which they once starred.

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTHS MATCHING

- 1-X, 2-PP, 3-S, 4-R, 5-NN, 6-MM, 7-W, 8-A, 9-O, 10-QQ, 11-M, 12-E, 13-RR, 14-L,
- 15-UU, 16-Y, 17-I, 18-FF, 19-JJ, 20-V, 21-D, 22-XX, 23-KK, 24-G, 25-B, 26-WW,
- 27-SS, 28-GG, 29-LL, 30-VV, 31-TT, 32-OO, 33-Z, 34-C, 35-U, 36-AA, 37-P, 38-T,
- 39-EE, 40-K, 41-F, 42-J, 43-N, 44-BB, 45-H, 46-Q, 47-II, 48-HH, 49-CC, 50-DD.

ABOUT LAST MONTHS "FRONTIER GENTLEMAN" LOG

David Easter has sent the following information concerning the log: the show of 5-18 should be "Advice to the Lovelorn", the show of 6-8 should be "Belljoy's Prisoner", the series was pre-empted on 6-22, and the titles recognized by the National Archives for the shows of 9-28 & 11-2 are "The Gold Digger" and "Nasty People" respectively. Thanks for the information, I had some trouble copying the info. from a bad mimeo.

RHAC  
Membership List  
February 2, 1981

|   |         |  |         |
|---|---------|--|---------|
| Adams, John<br>2811 So. Valentia<br>Denver, CO 80231 755-9185             | 10/81   | Clow, Dave<br>4561 S. Ouray Wy.<br>Aurora, CO 80015 693-1044             | 1/82    |
| Ahring, William<br>1801 Buffalo Ave.<br>Odessa, Tx 79762                  | 6/81    | Cunningham, Nancy<br>2350 So. Meade<br>Denver CO 80219 936-9080          | N 10/81 |
| Anderson, Craig Owen<br>1358 Emerson Apt. 303<br>Denver CO 80218 831-7228 | 10/81   | Danbom, Dan (Barb)<br>974 So. Josephine<br>Denver CO 80209 722-1846      | 10/81   |
| Anderson, Hugh<br>4851 Reamer Rd.<br>Columbia, SC 29206 803/787-5974      | 12/81   | Easter, David<br>106 King Charles Cr.<br>Baltimore MD 21237              | 8/81    |
| Barker, Vernon<br>Box 593<br>Hugo, CO 80821 743-2585                      | 10/81   | Elfstrand, Robert<br>7419 Raleigh St.<br>Westminster CO 80030 428-3973   | 1/81    |
| Barton, Charles<br>11446 E. Oxen Rd. NEDC<br>Parker, CO 80134 841-5918    | N 11/81 | Furman, F.J. (Skip)<br>1225 Pennsylvania St.<br>Denver CO 80203 831-0285 | 4/81    |
| Bates, Pat<br>Box 41 Ext 4655<br>APO New York 09194                       | 4/81    | Gadde, Rev. Ronald<br>6725 W. 65th Ave.<br>Arvada CO 80003 424-4245      | N 1/81  |
| Bell, Barbara<br>346 Milwaukee<br>Denver, CO 80206 333-5551               | 2/81    | Hale, Irving (Joan)<br>1642 Ivanhoe St.<br>Denver CO 80220 333-8414      | 10/81   |
| Benson, Barrett<br>5931 Ellis Ct.<br>Arvada CO 80004 422-6442             | 1/82    | Hansen, Reid<br>P.O. Box 663<br>Indian Hills CO 80454 697-8530           | 11/81   |
| Blair, Glenn (Nancy)<br>2413 So. Oneida St.<br>Denver CO 80224 756-8130   | 10/81   | Hardy, Kenn<br>7652 Shoshone St.<br>Denver CO 80221 428-0151             | N 5/81  |
| Bowman, D.L.<br>8195 Barton Rd.<br>Roseville CA 95678 791-0826            | N 2/81  | Harner, Robert<br>7030 Pecos St.<br>Denver CO 80221                      | 8/81    |
| Button, Rod<br>15629 West Bellview<br>Morrison, CO 80465 697-9103         | 12/81   | Harvey, Bill<br>2 Orchard Lane<br>Littleton, CO 80121 797-0777           | N 11/81 |
| Carteron, Bruce<br>444 So. York #206<br>Denver CO 80210                   | 1/81    | Henry, Dick (Penny)<br>440 So. Pierce<br>Lakewood, CO 80226 922-2767     | 10/81   |

Jessen, Ernie (Mary) 10/81  
2747 So. Joslin Ct.  
Denver CO 80227 985-9110

Keller, Ken 1/82  
1976 So. Hooker Cr.  
Denver CO 80219 935-4122

Robert Kepp (Margaret) N 11/81  
555 W. Caley Cr.  
Littleton CO 80120 798-2520

L'Heureux, Neil 7/81  
4500 19th St. #190  
Boulder, CO 80302 442-0459

Lilly, John 3/81  
2864 So. Reading Ct.  
Denver CO 755-8268

Lindberg, Gary 1/82  
4198 Xenon St.  
Wheat Ridge CO 80033 424-2346

Lloyd, John (Pat) 10/81  
2667 E. 99th Ave.  
Thornton, CO 80229 451-7890

Madden, Joe (Joyce) 10/81  
8356 E. Princeton Ave.  
Denver CO 80237 771-2019

Malone, James N 4/81  
2521 Irving  
Denver CO 80211 455-5308

Marcellus, H.W. Jr. N 1/82  
#8 Durian Ct.  
Longmont CO 80501 651-0898

McDermott, Larry 10/81

Meade, Scott N 2/81  
Rt. 8, Box 423A  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Migrala, John 2/82  
7213 W. Roxbury Pl.  
Littleton CO 80123 979-0755

Montplaiser, Paul N 4/81  
Box 404  
Kittredge CO 80457 674-0529

Mulhern, Dennis N 12/80  
1195 So. Zenobia St.  
Denver CO 80219 935-5554

Navratil, Ronald N 10/81  
P.O. Box 194  
Sedalia CO 80135 688-4511

Neustrand, Carl 10/81  
PSC #2 Box 7247  
Offutt AFB, NE 68113

Palmer, Robert N 5/81  
7217 High tower  
Ft. Worth, TX 76112

Peacock, Harral (Mary) 10/81  
324 W. 99th Ave.  
Northglenn CO 80221 452-2258

Piacentine, Gerald 10/81  
115 Beryl Way  
Broomfield, CO 80020 466-2234

Prickett, David N 9/81  
908 So. Newark  
Aurora, CO 80012 366-8553

Ready, Jeffrey 10/81  
6416 So. Marion Pl.  
Littleton, CO 80121 794-0498

Reeb, James 11/81  
8392 E. Inspiration Dr.  
Parker, CO 80134 841-3993

Reeves, Don (Darline) 10/81  
17326 E. Bates Ave.  
Aurora, CO 80013 690-7176

Richards, Jack (Laura) 10/81  
7369 So. Eudora Ct.  
Littleton CO 80122 771-6774

Rittenhouse, Bruce 1/81  
2399 N. Emmons  
Rochester, Mich 48063

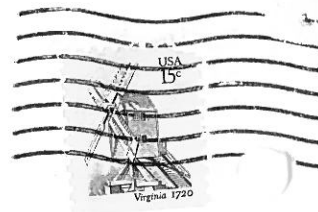
Ritter, Glenn (Tish) 10/81  
P.O. Box 20061  
Denver CO 80220 377-4798

Roe, Carol 3/82  
9900 E. Florida Ave. #19  
Denver CO 80231 755-4925



|  |        |   |         |
|--|--------|---|---------|
| Rubin, Mickey<br>477 Cook<br>Denver CO 80206 321-0044                                  | 10/81  | Wotovitch, Micke<br>2958 E. Euclid Pl.<br>Littleton CO 80121 798-0284 | N 12/81 |
| Ryan, Harold<br>2521 So. Raleigh<br>Denver CO 80219 936-1063                           | 5/81   | Youberg, Howard<br>4530 So. 23rd West Ave.<br>Tulsa, Okla 74107       | 10/81   |
| Salazar, Bonnie<br>930 E. 18th Ave. #1<br>Denver CO 80203 831-4214                     | N 1/82 | Zacek, Frances<br>6790 Albion St.<br>Commerce City CO 80022 287-6816  | 10/81   |
| Scalzo, Steve<br>8800 W. Greenwood Terrace<br>Milwaukee, Wis 53224                     | 6/81   | Appleman, Jerry<br>Box 33003<br>Northglenn, Co. 80233                 | 10/81   |
| Tedrick, Bill<br>2965 So. St. Paul<br>Denver CO 80210 756-3792                         | 10/81  | Warden, John G.<br>P.O. Box 3521<br>Spokane, Washington 99220         | 2/82    |
| Teter, Steve<br>2388 N. Sunrise #14<br>Palm Springs, CA 92262                          | N 5/81 |   |         |
| Truax, Charles<br>686 Kittridge St.<br>Aurora, CO 80011 343-3482                       | 1/81   |   |         |
| Tysuer, David<br>5841 N. Irish Pat Murphy Dr.<br>Parker CO 80134 841-5910              | N 1/82 |   |         |
| Vaughn, Jim & Debbie<br>Capitola Venetian Hotel<br>1500 Wharf Rd.<br>Capitola CA 95010 | 1/82   |   |         |
| Vaughan, James A. Jr., M.D.<br>P.O. Box 2988<br>Lancaster CA 93534                     | N 5/81 |   |         |
| Visser, Joel<br>1331 Franklin #21<br>Denver CO 80218                                   | 4/81   |   |         |
| Walle, Alf<br>%Alice Lloyd College<br>Box 43<br>Pippa Passes, KY 41844 1-606-368-2291  | 1/81   |   |         |
| Welborn, James W.<br>General Delivery<br>Denver CO 80201 572-1776 x 2533               | N 5/81 |   |         |

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