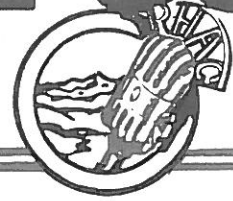


# RETURN WITH US NOW...

The Radio Historical  
Association of Colorado, Inc.



VOLUME 10, NUMBER 2

AUGUST 1984



AUGUST MEETING

The August meeting of the Radio Historical Association of Colorado Inc. will be on the 3rd Thursday of each month. This will be on August 16th at 7:30 pm. The place is Church of the master 5152 East 17th Ave. It is located between Forest and Fairfax streets just south of 17th. Please use the Filbert street entrance. Hope to see everyone there!

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JOHN DUNNINGS OTR SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST, KNUS 710 AM.

SATURDAY's 4 to 6 pm.

SUNDAY's from 2 to 5 pm

August 4 THE WHISTLER: Letters from Aaron Burr, 11/20/49. THE DAMON RUNYON THEATRE: All Horseplayers Die Broke, 10/3/50. THE GREAT GILDERSLEEVE: Plastic Mousetrap, 9/24/44.

August 5 THE HENRY MORGAN SHOW: Consider the Pocket, 3/21/46. CAVALCADE OF AMERICA: Bob Hope Reports (on his most recent tour on the fighting fronts overseas), 10/11/43. COLUMBIA PRESENTS CORWIN: Unity Fair, 7/3/45.

August 11 SCREEN GUILD THEATRE: Hand of Providence, 4/16/39. THE DAMON RUNYON THEATRE: Princess O'Hara, 10/17/50. THE GREAT GILDERSLEEVE: Gildy Must Sell His House, 10/1/44.

August 12 STUDIO ONE: Baby Cyclone, 7/1/45. LIFE WITH LUIGI: Essay Contest, 3/25/52.

August 18 NICK CARTER, MASTER DETECTIVE: The Case of the Vanishing Weapon, 9/18/49. THE DAMON RUNYON THEATRE: For A Pal, 10/24/50. THE GREAT GILDERSLEEVE: Boy's Club, 10/8/44.

August 19 LUX RADIO THEATRE: Mrs Moonlight, 6/26/39. ON STAGE: The Public Furlough, 1/29/53.

August 25 SUSPENCE: The 13th Sound starring Agnes Moorehead, 2/13/47. QUEEN FOR A DAY: Show of 2/13/50. THE GREAT GILDERSLEEVE: Gildy Looks For a Job, 10/15/44.

August 26 THE CBS RADIO WORKSHOP: 1489 Words, starring William Conrad, 1956. COUNTRESPIY: The Case of the Soaring Saucer, 5/2/50. FORT LARAMIE: The Woman at Horse Creek, starring Raymond Burr, first of 4 Ft. Laramie shows.

August the 25th will be the last of John Dunning's Saturday programs. He will still continue the Sunday broadcasts but the station has some program changes set for Saturdays. We all wish John continued success on his Sunday program and would like to thank him for the hours of entertainment he brought to an otherwise boring Saturday afternoon.

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RETURN WITH US NOW is the official publication of the Radio Historical Association of Colorado, Inc., a non-profit corporation. The cost of a membership is \$15.00 per year, and allows the member full use of the clubs resources.

For further information contact one of the following:

PRESIDENT: John Lloyd - 2667 E. 99th Ave., Thornton, CO 80229 - 451-7890  
VICE PRESIDENT: Guy Albright - 786 S. Quitman St., Denver, CO 80219 934-0184  
TREASURER: John H. Licht - 617 Detroit, Denver, CO 80206 321-6269  
TAPE LIBRARIAN: Elmer E. Westbrook - 855 S. Corona, Denver, CO 80209 778-7426  
SECRETARY: Reid Hansen - 1205 Carr, Lakewood, CO 80215 - 232-8068  
BLANK TAPE SALES: Barrett Benson - P.O. Box 1690, Arvada, CO 80001 - 422-6442  
EDITOR AND  
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN: John Callor - P.O. Box 1109, Westminster, CO 80030 - 429-4639  
TAPE DONATIONS: Charles Smith - 2760 N. Academy Blvd., #103, Colorado Springs, CO 80907

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The RHAC would like to welcome the following new members:

H.J. Reed North Star Route Lyons, CO 80540

7/85

Dan Singer Columbia Special Products 51 W. 52 Street New York, NY 10019

7/85

If any of the officers or members of the club can help in any way, please let us know!

\*\*\*\*\*  
**NOSTALGIA SHOP MOVES!!!**

After many years the Nostalgia shop moves to a new location which should be easier to find. The new address is 119 W. Alameda Ave. and the number is 778-6566. We would like to wish Larry Cox luck at this new location and continued success. Larry informs me that he has several items of interest to radio program collectors at the shop. He has several radio magazines dated in the 30's and 40's for just \$3.00 each. He also has 150 lp records with radio programs on them. They are from a better quality line than Golden Age or Nostalgia Lane and include Little Orphan Annie and Captain Midnight. Most of the records are out of print, he has 150 records available for \$4.00 each. He hopes to be getting more in the future.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**REFERENCE LIBRARY REMINDER**

The RHAC reference library is a RENTAL library with the material due make in 30 days. The cost of the material is 4 cents per page and includes postage one way. The numbers to the right of the title indicate the number of pages. The books in the reference library rent for 30 days at a cost of \$1.25 per book and one book at one time please. There will be more books added to the library as soon as I get a list from John Lloyd.

If you have any comments or questions about the library please feel free to contact John Callor at the address listed above.

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**TAPE MACHINE DEMONSTRATION AT THE AUGUST MEETING**

At the August meeting Guy Albright will be showing new and old members alike how to operate and care for open reel machines. We have had several new members who do not have machines or are getting machines and this might help them to decide what features to ask for and things to look out for.

Hope to see many of you there for this informative meeting.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS**

Although the RHAC will not have a convention to decide who to run for president, now is the time to start thinking about who you would to to vote for. Nominations for offices will be taken at the August meetings with the election to be in October. If we have more than one person per office we will send ballots to our out of town members. Please think about who you would like to have in each office and come to the August meeting and let everyone know.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**SOUND UPGRADE FOR TAPE LIBRARY**

Reel number 55 which is Les Miserables has been upgraded in sound. Thanks to Barrett Benson who found a better copy for the club.

Just a reminder for those members who think that the Casey Crime Photographers might be a little high in cost. The shows were dubbed 2 per reel at 7 1/2 ips because they are 1st generation copies from the original disc. In this way we are able to better preserve the sound quality. Other disc dubs include Alien Worlds, Heart Beat Theatre, Damon Runyon Theatre and Box 13. We hope to have more as time goes on and thanks to everyone who worked so hard in dubbing the shows and also to those who found the shows originally.

BLANK TAPE SALES

All members—blank tape is \$1.50 per reel, \$60.00 per case of 40. This is good quality Ampex 1.5 mil 1200' tape. Out of town members who want to order tape please send \$70.00 per case to cover postage and material and indicate if you want insurance to: Barrett Benson...P.O. Box 1690...Arvada, CO 80001...(303)422-6442. Please make ALL CHECKS payable to BARRETT BENSON as he pre-pays for the tape himself. Any excess from shipping will be sent to you with your order. Special orders are welcome, but only in case lots!

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IN MEMORIAM            CHARLES F. HANSEN

I think it was fitting that Chuck Hansen's funeral notice was unusual, saying that he "was survived by numerous friends and fellow Sherlockians." Chuck, himself, was unusual.

It wasn't in his education or occupation. He graduated from West High School and D.U., and worked for the Department of Agriculture, testing animals for disease before retiring some years ago. It was in his avocations that Chuck was unique.

I doubt if anyone knows the entire list, but a partial includes Gilbert and Sullivan, snakes, science fiction, carnivorous plants, winemaking, birds The Society for Creative Anacronisms (devoted to knighthood and chivalry), mountaineering, Oz, Talbot Mundy (an obscure 1930's writer of the Edgar Rice Burroughs school, I think), Malayan swords, astronomy and of course, Sherlock Holmes.

In Colorado, Chuck WAS Sherlock Holmes. Not in stature; a severe case of childhood meningitis prevented that. But he founded the Scion of Four (Doyle devotees will get the play on words), the first organization in Denver devoted to the Master, and was active in Dr. Watson's Neglected Patients, a later and currently quite popular group. He had been to the Shrine at 221B Baker Street (actually, there is no such address in London, but he got as close as you can get, and there is a reconstructed set of rooms nearby. He always wore a deerstalker and presided at the Holmes birthday dinners, held on the detectives imputed birthday, January 6.

His involvement in the RHAC goes back to 1976, not to long after the club's beginnings. I believe his interest was principally of course, in Sherlock Holmes programs, from Rathbone and Bruce to Richardson and Gielgud, and I suspect his interest in sci-fi (if you call it that, you were on his defection list the rest of that day) included his collecting of Dimension X and X Minus One. He was an I Love A Mystery buff, and probably had everything available. He participated in OTR trivia quizzes and was a generous contributor to the tape and program funds.

There hasn't been a perfect man in 1950 years, and Chuck was no exception. He could be contentious (which, I think, could largely be attributed to the effects of the terrible childhood disease), and he tended to be intolerant of opinions differing from his own. But everything that was his was yours; most of my Sherlock Holmes collection came from him and he would have given me anything else that he had two of, or could duplicate.

Chuck died July 21st at the age of 70 and as the funeral notice suggested, Chuck had no family except the vast family of friends and Sherlockians (I strongly doubt that those are two exclusive groups). He will be greatly missed; I miss him already.

Irving Hale

3/8/84



## The Great Gildersleeve

**W**ILLARD WATERMAN was finishing a late dinner in a restaurant earlier this week when a woman at another table got up, came over and said, "I just have to ask this. I think I recognize your voice. You were 'The Great Gildersleeve,' weren't you?"

Although he hasn't been the Great Gildersleeve for 25 years, Waterman was happy to say yes.

He's very much from the old school of entertainers. "I enjoy the attention," he says. "When people stop bothering you, that's when you should start to



Willard Waterman

worry. Besides, the woman said, 'Thanks for all the wonderful enjoyment you've given me.' How could that not make you feel good?"

Waterman spent 10 years on radio and one season on television (1956-57) as Gildersleeve, the pompous but lovable water commissioner of a town called Summerville who first appeared as a character on the Fibber McGee and Molly Show.

Hal Peary originated the role in 1941 and played it until 1950. "CBS started raiding all of NBC's talent," Waterman says, "and signed Hal with the expectation that Gildersleeve would switch networks, too. But Kraft, which sponsored the show, didn't want to go to CBS, and I was asked if I'd like to take over. "Hal and I had known and worked with each other on radio for years, and we had very similar voices — a certain timbre that was very much alike. My voice is heavier than his but I never had to make any effort to imitate him, because the writing on the show was so good."

Waterman never did use what Peary had turned into a trademark — the Gildersleeve laugh, a descending scale of "hee-hee-hee-hee-hees" that made it sound as if someone were tickling him with a feather.

"I did what we called the Gildersleeve social chuckle," Waterman says. "Heh-heh-heh-heh-heh. Even now when people remember I played Gildy they'll ask, 'Let me hear you laugh,' and I'll sidestep it by saying, 'Lee-roy, watch it!'"

**L**EROY WAS Gildy's often-bratty nephew, a kid of 12 or 13 who was played for 20 years by a talented adult named Walter Tetley. "What a shame we couldn't use him when we moved to TV," Waterman says.

The characters put together by brilliant writers Andy White, John Elliott and Paul West were an endearing and enduring potpourri: Judge Hooker, usually referred to as "The Old Goat"; Mr. Peavey, who often said, "Well, now, I wouldn't say that"; Floyd the Barber, who always called Gildy "The Commish"; Birdie the Maid, who was forever trying to keep both Gildy and Leroy in line.

"In those days," Waterman says, "people developed radio listening habits. Wednesday night was Gildersleeve, Sunday night was Jack Benny, that sort of thing. We were in the top five shows most of the time, I think because the show was down-to-earth, funny and human. It wasn't always just the humor. We had a lot of poignant moments, too."

Waterman, who'll be 70 this year, was going to become an architectural engineer but made it only into his junior year at the University of Wisconsin before he was kicked out. "Because I didn't find time to go to classes," he says.

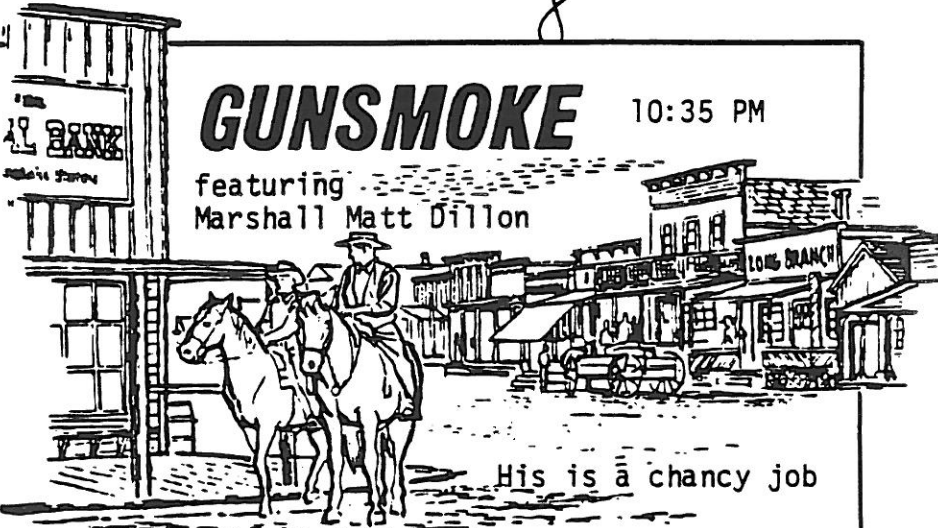
He found time to work on radio stations and in theater. He began a 14-year radio career in Chicago in 1935, when soap operas were king there, then spent 20 years in Los Angeles with Gildersleeve, "Dennis the Menace" (he was Mr. Quigley) and other TV shows and 14 more in New York, where he was J.B. Bigley in "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" and in the original Broadway company of "Mame." Waterman returned to New York last summer — after a 17-year-absence — to join five other original cast members in a short-lived revival of that show.

Since 1979, he and his wife have lived in Burlingame, just down a hill from their daughter, son-in-law and three granddaughters. "I'm still active as an actor," Waterman says, "I'm just not pushy about it. I'm not going to go around and knock on doors and ask for parts."

Sunday, from noon to 4 p.m. at the Amfac Hotel in Burlingame, he'll serve as master of ceremonies at the fourth annual Spring Wine and Food Festival, which will benefit the National Kidney Foundation of Northern California.


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## RWAC TAPE LIBRARY

REEL 441 THE MAGIC ISLAND

1200'

1L #101: The Pigeons  
 #102: How To Get A Pigeon  
 #103: Jerry And Tex Disappear  
 #104: Radio Broadcast From L.A.  
 #105: Aboard A Rocket Ship

2L #106: A Test Flight  
 #107: Instruments Fail  
 #108: The Submarine Leaves  
 #109: All Four Are Rescued  
 #110: Elaine Has A New Home

1R #111: An Airlock Is Discovered  
 #112: Making Escape Plans  
 #113: A Keystone Note Demonstrated  
 #114: Tex Is Suspicious Of Elaine  
 #115: Daring Escape Attempt

2R #116: Landing On Lake Hollywood  
 #117: Second Return Planned  
 #118: Tex Takes Off, Is Seen  
 #119: Newspaper Story Delayed  
 #120: Tex And Elaine Control Euclidia

REEL 442 THE MAGIC ISLAND/MISCELLANEOUS SHOWS

1200'

1L #121: Motor Almost Dead  
 #122: Island Being Raised  
 #123: They Are Sinking  
 #124: On A Life Raft  
 #125: Euclidia Surrenders

2L #126: Where Is G-47?  
 #127: G-47 Is A Professor  
 #128: Enrolling In College

1943 MERCURY WONDER SHOW: Show #1

1R 11-27-60 SUSPENSE: Home Is Where You Find It  
 10-16-60 SUSPENSE: Inferno

2R 4-13-59 SUSPENSE: Too Hot To Live  
 10-25-59 SUSPENSE: Easy Victim  
 2-21-51 YOUNG WIDDER BROWN: Horace's Will

## RHAC TAPE LIBRARY

<u>REEL 443</u>	<u>HAVE GUN WILL TRAVEL</u>	1200'
1L	1-25-59 The Teacher 2-1-59 Matter Of Ethics	
2L	4-3-60 Hey Boy Is Shanghaied 10-30-60 F. Milton Garner	
1R	11-6-60 Nebraska 11-13-60 Hidden Money	
2R	11-20-60 Martha Nell 11-27-60 The Inheritance	
<u>REEL 444</u>	<u>NIGHT BEAT/MURDER AT MIDNIGHT</u>	1200'
1L	6-29-51 NIGHT BEAT: Byline For Frank 6-1-51 NIGHT BEAT: The Will Of Mrs. Orloff	
2L	6-22-51 NIGHT BEAT: Sanctuary 6-15-51 NIGHT BEAT: Otto, The Music Man	
1R	5-25-51 NIGHT BEAT: Fear 6-8-51 NIGHT BEAT: The Search For Fred	
2R	7-31-50 NIGHT BEAT: The City At Your Fingertips MURDER AT MIDNIGHT: The Ape Song	
<u>REEL 445</u>	<u>MISCELLANEOUS SHOWS</u>	1200'
1L	AFRS#219 JUBILEE AFRS#290 DOWNBEAT AFRS#291 DOWNBEAT	
2L	AFRS#306 DOWNBEAT AFRS#307 DOWNBEAT AFRS#1413 G.I. JIVE AFRS#1414 G.I. JIVE	
1R	AFRS#266 COMMAND PERFORMANCE, USA: w/ George Murphy AFRS#280 COMMAND PERFORMANCE, USA: w/ Ester Williams	
2R	AFRS#294 COMMAND PERFORMANCE, USA: w/ Bill Goodwin AFRS#314 COMMAND PERFORMANCE, USA: w/ Bergen & McCarthy	



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