# The Radio Historical Association of Colorado, Inc.

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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 of the 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 Home 761-5135 Work VICE PRES. Herb Duniven 4184 S Syracuse, Denver CO 80237 773-1142 80220 377-4798 SECRETARY....Glenn Ritter 750 Niagra, Denver CO TREASURER...Maletha King (see above) NEWSLETTER EDITOR.Dan Decker 10587 G, W Maplewood DR, Littleton CO 80120 933-4232 CLUB HISTORIAN. John Adams 2811 S Valentia, Denver CO 80231 755-9185 TAPE LIBRARIAN (open reel) Dick and Maletha King (see above) TAPE LIBRARIANS CASSETTE #1 (1-499) Dan Decker. #2 (500 up) Dave Logan. #3 (5001 up) Bill Stipp. Dan Decker (see above) David Logan 5557 S Sherman Cir, Littleton, 80121 730-1430 Bill Stipp 6289 Yarrow, Arvada, CO 80004 422-1144 BLANK TAPE SALES Barrett Benson P O Box 507 Pine CO 80470 838-6185 TAPE COORDINATOR Elmer Westbrook 855 S Corona Denver 80209 778-7426 DIRECTOR AT LARGE David Michael RM 730, 820 16TH ST DENVER, CO 80202 623-1215 TALKING NEWSLETTER Mike Fields 7925 Sanger, Colo Spgs, CO 80920 719 598-0253 REFERENCE LIBRARIAN Bill McCracken 7101 W Yale #503 Denver, CO 80227 986-9863 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON/SCRIPTS AND LOGS Vicki Blake PO Box 1908 Englewood, CO 80150 TAPE DONATIONS Herb Duniven and Bill McCracken (see above) 366-1505 RHAC PLAYERS Ed Hendrickx MEETING COORDINATOR David L. Michael (see above) ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO RHAC, PO BOX 1908 Englewood, CO 80150 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS: The January 4th Board meeting 7:30 PM at John Adams see above. The February 5th Board meeting 7:30 PM at Dan Deckers see above ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME AND INVITED TO ATTEND THE BOARD MEETINGS AND WE INVITE YOUR SUGGESTIONS. CLUB MEETINGS: Meetings are held at the Church of the Master, 5152 E 17th Ave. Denver. on the third Thursday of each month except December. December 16th will be our traditional Christmas party we will have trivia and other entertainment. Map is enclosed also what to bring The January meeting will be Jan. 21 st. RHAC THANKS TO: Elliot Wager for mentioning RHAC in the Governors Park News. Walter Niebuhr for mentioning RHAC while on his vacation. Brent Pellegrini for his membership for Rob Atkinson. The panel of some of the clubs founders headed by John Dunning.





Radio Historical Association of Colorado

# FROM THE KING'S ROOST Dick and Maletha King

December. The last month of the '80's is here. Have you done everything you were going to do by this time? We certainly will never get everything done, but let us look at what we have done: our club has grown to over 300 members; our tape libraries now have more than 1000 reels; and over 10,000 shows are available for our members to enjoy. We

also have an extensive collection of books, scripts, and logs of shows to enjoy. Have you thought of sharing some of our wealth of collections with a friend--some-thing they could enjoy for a long time to come? Many of our members give gift-memberships to friends, and although some do not realize the full depth of the gift, others are quick to start enjoying the pleasant hours of listening while busy doing other activities in the kitchen, garage, or shop. Winter is not a time to look outside and wish but rather a time to get after some of those "will-do-it-later" chores and make the time fly by listening to old-time radio shows. A TV show limits the activities that you can do while watching, and if you are able to stay awake long enough for a program to end, you often have a feeling of having wasted time with the majority of shows currently being offered. Put your time to good use and enjoy yourself while listening to shows on either your reel-to-reel or cassette player.

Elmer Westbrook has completed the conversion of the Contributors' Library to cassettes so that many more members can enjoy the vast collection of <u>Gunsmoke</u>, <u>Have Gun, Will Travel</u>, <u>National Recovery Act</u>, and other series. RHAC owes Elmer Westbrook a great big thank-you for this big job.

Let's look to the '90's. If you have your own home, you may want to install permanent wiring and speakers that will enable you to enjoy your busy hours listening to your favorite radio shows or to music, which will make time fly and you get a good feeling of having done something constructive.

We are planning ahead to the June convention and although Jim Jordan of Fibber McGee and Molly is no longer with us, we are planning to have Willard Waterman, the Great Gildersleeve, a character that got started on the Fibber McGee show. He will be co-stared with Shirley Mitchell, who was "Alice Darling" on the MeGee show and was "Leila Ransom" on the Gildersleeve show. Both of these actors were in many other shows but not always remembered for other roles.

Ray Erlenborn, expert sound man, who also acted in many shows, will display some of his talents of creating the sounds that set the scenes in our minds' eyes. Listening to radio, uust like reading good books, opens new worlds for the listener and takes him or her to places never otherwise enjoyed--but for radio!

We are hoping that Sam Edwards will be able to fit our June 9th convention into his busy schedule and allow us to enjoy some of his talents too.

The SPERDVAC convention in November was most enjoyable, with well-rounded programs of panel discussions, workshops, and two re-creations of radio shows. Friday evening was a re-creation of Sherlock Holmes with Boris Aplon, Charles Flynn. Jeff Corey, and with Ray Erlenborn on the sound.



Saturday evening at the SPERDVAC convention was the re-creation of the old chestnut, "Arsenic and Cld Lace."
California Artist Radio Theater Group provided the talent for that presentation. Peggy Webber, Parley Baer, and many other actors participated. You may have noticed that many OTR actors and participants have written books currently being published to help us remember those times. SPERDVAC offers many of these books for sale but are a little sparce on other memorabilia. The Newark Convention, on the other hand, is a good place to pick up memorabilia items to help one remember old radio.

RHAC still has a few copies of the new Fred Allen biography by Robert Taylor. (See the book review below.) This is an excellent book that would make a great Christmas gift and also help your club. The book is offered for \$15.00 from RHAC, A savings from the \$19.95 publisher's price. We are sorry to report that Heavenly Days is now out of print and our stock is depleted.

Don't forget to tune in to John Dunning's OTR show on Sunday afternoons on KBXG, 710 on the AM dial from 1-4 p.m.

We are sorry that Ed Hendrickx has been unable to get the RHAC Players together to do a Christmas show at our party, but we will see if we can get them together for some of the 1990 meetings.

Our Christmas party is December 16th, starting at 6:00 P.M. and will be at the Village Townhouses club room. Please refer to the map in this newsletter. We may have our June-type weather or it may be a snowy Christmas evening. In any case, we will enjoy good fellowship and good food together.

# Fred Allen's work still inspiring today's comedy

Fred Allen: His Life and Wit By Robert Taylor. Little, Brown. 340 pages. \$19.95

## By CHARLES FOUNTAIN

Nothing is as ephemeral as radio humor. The line that can set you to chuckling as you drive in to work can seem banal and insipid when you recount it at dinner time. Fred Allen's humor has been sitting around for 40 years now, and in the context of contemporary humor — David Letterman, Johnny Carson, Saturday Night Live — it really isn't very nny anymore.

Nevertheless, Robert Taylor's biography ses you laugh as it recounts some of Allen's at characters, skits, and lines from radio's beyon days — the years of the Depression

## Daily Books

and World War II — when Allen rivaled Jack Benny as radio's most popular personality. "I have just returned from Boston," said Allen to Groucho Marx once. "It is the only thing to do if you find yourself up there."

But the strength of this book comes not from unearthing a few Allen nuggets. Taylor, book and art critic of the Boston Globe, has produced a loving and elegantly written work showing that it was Allen's sophisticated, cutting-edge comedy that inspired the comedy we appreciate so much today.

The power of Allen's work came from its currency. Allen would tweak sponsors, poli-

tics, the Broadway theater, and Nutley, N.J. He was forever at odds with the censors at NBC; but each week, enough of the Allen wit and sting survived to let America see itself and laugh at its own foibles.

Taylor's own crisp and gentle prose moves the story along deftly and swiftly, from Allen's Boston boyhood through vaudeville, Broadway, and finally, radio. We come away with not only an appreciation of Allen's art, but a genuine affection for the man, for Allen was also a thoroughly decent human being.

For the millions who remember and savored Allen, the book should be a delight. For the millions who never knew him, it should be essential because it delivers to the reader an incandescent picture of a forever-vanished, yet not-to-be-forgotten, age.

Charles Fountain teaches journalism at Northeastern University in Boston.

## Today and OTR

(Opinions expressed are the <u>writer's</u> only, no endorsement by anybody is implied.) From Daughter "Dodi" Clow.

"Living With OTR"

Having grown up with an obsessive father, you learn to take his "hobbies" with a grain of salt and wait until it too shall pass, yet Old Time Radio seemed to become a way of life.

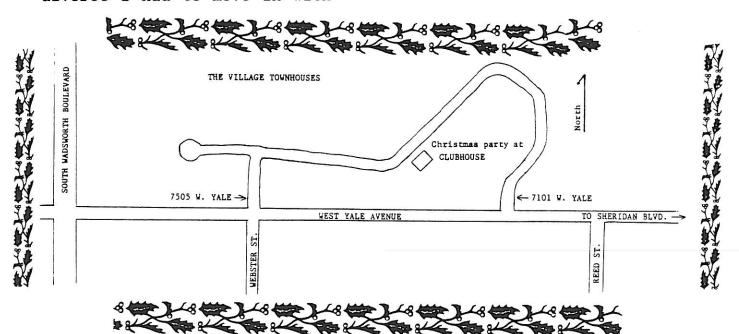
Road trips consisted of lots of food, blakets, pillows and Old Time Radio. At the time, being teenager of the musical persuasion, I would roll around the back seat of our compact threaten to and violently ill all over MY parents if they didn't turn the Consequently, my radio off. father would laugh (an eerie, demonic laugh), and turn it up full volume. As the technology of the car stereo progressed, my moans decreased; so did a few nerve endings.

It wasn't until a very troubled time in my life that I understood what Old Time Radio did for my father. After my divorce I had to move in with

my parents. My father always plays a few tapes at night, it helps him to sleep. Well, one lay awake in bed night Ι thinking of my plight, getting more depressed by the minute, and then I heard it through the walls. I mean Ι really listened to the story. Soon, I myself relaxing before knew it, it I I woke up relaxed morning. and eager to start the new day.

I still am not a fanatic about Old Time Radio but I now understand what it is that my father enjoys.

He has a dream of doing "Tapes for the Blind" when he retires and for all it's worth, I hope he succeeds. If he can do for others what he has been able to do for himself, this world will be a much better place. It has been for me.



QUICK QUIZ Questions and Answers

Strictly for the enjoyment (?) & edification (!) of our readers. There are no prizes. Comments are appreciated. The answers are, as always, printed at the bottom of the page. upside down. Before starting, decide if you will use a reference book - or not- then stick to your decision. There is separate scoring "with reference" and "without". All questions are in the form of matching. Any answers used more than once will be used the number of times indicated, not more nor less. BY ANY OTHER NAME... Nicknames, and/or secret identities: SWORN ENEMIES: The Rattler U) Chick A) Ken Thurston 1 Superman Killer Kane B) Harry Lime Carter 2 Thin Man The Avenger C) Brad Runyon Yellow Mask V) Buck 33 The Scorpion Black Hood D) Jethro Dumont Rogers Fu Manchu Capt. Midnight E) Percy Blakeney 34 W) Clark Kent \_\_ Chandu 35 The Silencer X) Don F) Lord Greystoke's 36\_\_\_Butch Cavendish 37\_\_\_Ivan Shark The Falcon G) Red Albright Winslow Y) Nayland Fat Man H) Nick Charles \_ Green Hornet 38 Prof. Moriarty I) Jim West Smith 39 Dragon Lady \_ Green Lama Z) Jack J) Jim Brandon 40\_\_Dr. Shade K) Lamont Cranston Armstrong Lone Ranger 41 Ryland Scarno AA) Buzz Corey L) Clark Kent Lone Wolf BB) Sky King M) Michael Waring 13 "X" CC) Terry Lee N) Steve Adams The Saint Scarlet Pimpernel O) John Reid
The Shadow P) Kip Burlar DD) Sherlock Holmes P) Kip Burland EE) Red 17\_\_\_ Silver Eagle Q) Britt Reid 18\_\_\_ Straight Arrow R) Frank Chandler Albright S) Simon Templar FF) John Reid Third Man T) Michael Lanyard Tarzan LUM AND ABNER & OTHER CHARACTERS - Which were really Norris Goff and which were really Chester Lauck? NG) Norris Goff (5 times) CBS PULLS THE PLUG: 21\_\_\_ Mousy Gray 22\_\_\_ Cedric Weehunt 23\_\_ Lum Edwards 42 Ma Perkins CL) Chester Lauck (4 times) Our Gal Sunday 44 Young Dr. Malone 24\_\_\_ Squire Skimp This is Nora Drake Completed all 50 questions? 45 Dick Huddleston 46 Right to Happiness \_\_\_ Grandpappy Spears 47 Backstage Wife Then check your answers and 27\_\_\_ Snake Hogan give yourself 2 points for 48 Whispering Streets Abner Peabody each correct one, and refer 49 Road of Life Doc Miller to scoring: 50 Second Mrs. Burton SCORING: "With References" "Without References" 52 points or less 36 points or less GG) 1/2/59 (4 times) Poor 38- 52 points HH) 11/25/60 (5 times) Fair 54- 64 points 66- 76 points 54- 68 points Good 70-84 points 78- 88 points

SUPER-QUIZ: Try to name the programs described, then check your answers here NEXT month.

B-1: Heard Sat. mornings at 11 on ABC from 1947-1949, awarding \$1,000 savings bonds to

"outstanding youngsters of the week" and featuring top juvenile talent. Name it.

B-2: Created by Abe Burrows, this serial ran on CBS in 1946. Do you know it's name?

86-100 points

90-100 points

Excellent

B-3: Gertrude Berg's attempt at a new serial after the initial cancellation of THE GOLDBERGS in 1934. Can you name this short-lived series?

73-CC ' 77-HH' 72-CC' 79-HH' 71-CC' 78-HH' 73-CC' 20-HH'
12-E' 30-D' 31-A' 31-A' 33-X' 37-A' 32-X' 32-LE' 38-DD' 33-CC' 70-BB' 71-V' 75-HH'
12-E' 19-K' 11-1' 18-N' 13-B' 50-L' 51-NC' 53-CI' 57-NC' 52-MC' 52-MC' 58-MC' 58-MC'
14-E VN2MEKS: 1-L' 5-H' 3-1' 7-L' 2-C' 6-K' 1-W' 8-C' 3-C' 10-D' 11-O' 15-L' 13-V' 17-2'
14-E VN2MEKS: 1-L' 5-H' 3-1' 7-L' 2-C' 6-K' 1-W' 8-C' 3-C' 10-D' 11-O' 15-L' 13-V' 17-2'

# RETURN WITH US TO ...

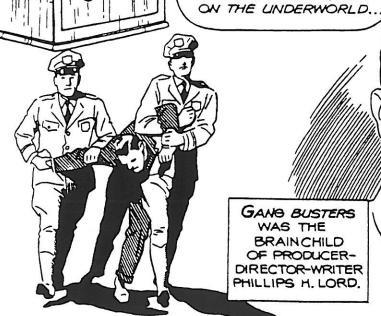


The noisy opening of the radio show gang busters, featuring THE SOUND EFFECTS OF MARCHING FEET, MACHINE-GUN FIRE AND WAILING SIRENS, CONTRIBUTED TO THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE THE PHRASE "COMING ON LIKE GANG BUSTERS."



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WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF LEADING LAW-ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS OF THE UNITED STATES, GANG BUSTERS PRESENTS FACTS IN THE RELENTLESS WAR OF THE POLICE



GANO BUSTERS WAS THE BRAINCHILD OF PRODUCER-DIRECTOR-WRITER PHILLIPS H. LORD.



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PART-PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF THIS BOOK WILL HELP SUPPORT THE OLD-TIME RADIO MUSEUM EXHIBIT and HALL of FAME IN BALTIMORE, MD.

TO ORDER BY MAIL: SEND 75 (PLUS 20 POSTAGE and HANDUNG 95 TOTAL)

TO: OLD-TIME RADIO BOOK C/O Owens L. Pomeroy 3613 Chestnut Avenue Raltimore, Maryland 21211

(NOTE: Please allow 2-3 weeks for delivery. Also, if you are ordering quantity copies for your OTR Club or Distribution outlet for Conventions, ask for special Club/Desler discount).

[Please make all chacks payable to Owens L. Pomeroy].

\_\_\_\_\_EXTRA!! SPECIAL BONUS DFFER! \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If you have not as yet read "THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MICRO-FHONE," you can order BOTH Volumes now for just \$ 12.00 post-paid and save 20% off retail. (Regular publication price if ordered seperately; \$15.00 for both)

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_\_ for the

Volumes checked below.

BONUS OFFER: BOTH BOOKS ( ) "SOUNDS LIKE YESTERDAY" ( )

## RHAC TAPE LIBRARY

TAP 1L	3-26-52 4-2-52	GREAT GILDERSLEEVE (C) Television Comes To Summerfield Colorful Past	1200'
2L	4-9-52 4-16-52	Easter Sunrise Service Leroy The Beekeeper	
1R	4-23-52 4-30-52	Diving For Publicity Bad Report Cared - No Camp	
2R	5-7-52 5-14-52	Leroy The Singing Cowboy Bronco Coming Home - Gildy And Leroy Going Fishing	
TAP 1L	E 869 THE 5-21-52 5-28-52	GREAT GILDERSLEEVE (C) Happy Moving Day Leroy's Bike Motor	1200'
2L	6-4-52 6-11-52	Katy Lee Visits Summerfield Bronco Wants A Wall Between Yards	
1R	6-18-52 6-25-52	Guess The Number Of Beans Contest Miss McKinley Of The Complaints Department	
2R	7-2-52 7-9-52	Fourth Of July Speech Fishing With Miss McKinley	
TAP		GREAT GILDERSLEEVE (C)	1200'
1L	7-16-52 7-30-52	Back Yard Camping Bronco Sells Gildy's House	
2L	8-6-52 8-13-52	Leroy Behaving Too Well Gildy Goes On A Diet	
1R	8-20-52 8-27-52	Leroy's Million Dollar Laundry Cousin Emily Comes To Visit	
2R	9-3-52 9-10-52	Winning Leroy Back From Emily Cleaning Bullard's House	
TAPE		GREAT GILDERSLEEVE (C)	1200'
1R	9-17-52 9-24-52	Driver's License Test Hooker And Peavy Are Fueding	
2R	10-1-52 10-8-52	Economics Ladies' Man	
1R	10-15-52 10-22-52	Watch Trouble Gildy The Athlete	
2R	12-24-52 12-31-52	Gildy And Leroy Alone For Christmas New Year's Eve With Peavy - Remembering Old Flames	

## RHAC TAPE LIBRARY

	PE 872 TH	E GREAT GILDERSLEEVE (C)	1200'
lL		Leila Back In Town - Sidney Tuttle	1200
	1-14-53	Gildy And Sidney Help Leila	
2L	1-21-53	Uncle Bert Sends Leroy A Great Dane	
	1-28-53	Gildy And Grace Tuttle	
1R	2-4-53	Rivals - Leila And Grace Meet	
	2-11-53	Two Dates For Mayor's Valentine Party	
2R	2-18-53	Gildy In Trouble With Leila And Grace	
	2-25-53	Gildy's Great Dane Causes Trouble With Peavy	
TA	PE 873 TH	E GREAT GILDERSLEEVE (C)	1200'
lL	3-4-53	Extra Help At The Water Department	1200
	3-11-53	Leroy Moves Out - To Marjorie's	
2L	3-18-53	Jam Session	
	3-25-53	Rummage Sale	
1R	4-1-53	Easter Sunrise Service	
	4-8-53	Leroy Has Trouble With Mayor's Son	
2R		Boy's Club Takes Over Jolly Boy's Clubroom	
	4-22-53	Marjorie And Bronco Are Fighting	
TAP	E 874 THE	GREAT GILDERSLEEVE (C)	1200'
1L	4-29-53	Bottled Water Company Stock	-200
	5-6-53	Anniversary Present	
2L	5-13-53	Gildy Going To Europe	
	5-20-53	Leroy's Theme	
1R	5-27-53	Witness At The Wedding	
	6-3-53	Birdie May Move To Marjoria's House	
2R	6-10-53	Leroy Has The Mumps - Train Trip	
	6-17-53	Gift For Miss Tuttle	
		Accessed to the second	
TAP	E 875 THE	GREAT GILDERSLEEVE (C)	1200'
1L	6-24-53	Swimming Trip To Grass Lake	
	7-1-53	Togetherness	
2L	7-15-53	Buying A Spray Gun	
	7-22-53	Mae Home From Vacation - Engaged	
1R	7-29-53	Loron Foine To Winith Acres Winit	
TK	8-5-53	Leroy Foing To Visit Aunt Hattie The Water Commissioner Is Fired	
		and nater commitssioner is fired	
2R	8-12-53	Deciding On A Lake Cabin	
	8-19-53	A Fish Story	



# RADIO HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

## CASSETTE LIBRARY #1 C/O DAN DECKER 10587-C MAPLEWOOD DRIVE W. LITTLETON, CO 80120

PLEASE NOTE: CASSETTE LIBRARY #1 WILL BE CLOSED DEC. 15-26.

to gover th	e one month ren	tal charge of	\$2.00 per set for er 5 cassette set:	tne	
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3ship	6	9	12		
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I do hereby sell or use	agree to abide library materia	by the RHAC rules for monetar	les and agree not y gain.	to	
		Signature			

# REMEMBER

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BRING A DISH TO FEED THREE, MEAT DISHES ARE BEING DONATED

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