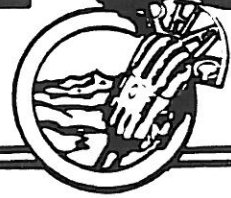


RETURN WITH US

The Radio Historical
Association of Colorado, Inc.

NOW...



Volume 15 Number 12

July 1990



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.



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS:

THE AUGUST 2ND BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD AT JOHN ADAM'S HOME ADDRESS ABOVE.

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

WE INVITE YOUR SUGGESTIONS.



CLUB MEETINGS:

THERE WILL BE A REGULAR CLUB MEETING THURSDAY EVENING JULY 19TH AT 7:32 PM.

THE REASON FOR THE NEW START TIME IS BECAUSE WE WERE LATE STARTING AT THE MAY MEETING.

JIM HARMON WILL BE OUR GUEST SPEAKER.

MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE CHURCH OF THE MASTER 17TH AVE. AND FILBERT COURT.



OUR ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC WILL BE HELD AUGUST 18TH AT 900 WEST QUINCY.

KNUS HAS DECIDED TO REPLACE JOHN DUNNING'S OLD TIME RADIO PROGRAM WITH SOME NONSENSE-TYPE TALK RADIO PROGRAM. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THEY OFFERED JOHN A THREE-HOUR TIME SLOT FROM 6:00AM TO 9:00AM SUNDAY MORNING. WE CAN WELL UNDERSTAND HIS RELUCTANCE TO HAVE HIS PROGRAM ON AT THAT TIME OF THE MORNING. REMEMBER JOHN RAYBURN HAS PLANS TO GIVE US MANY HOURS OF OLD TIME RADIO ON A DAILY BASIS. MAYBE JOHN DUNNING WILL FIND ANOTHER STATION TO GIVE US OTR.



Radio Historical Association of Colorado

FROM THE KING'S ROOST

By Dick and Maleta King

JULY IS HERE! The 15th Anniversary Convention is now past history. Most people who attended expressed their pleasure about the entire day.

Would you like to do it again??? It's a lot of work, but we are here to manage your club, so let us know your feelings. This is not a profit making enterprise, so your input will be appreciated. (we can afford to do it again.)

We certainly got a lot of help from members for all the necessary work associated with the convention. When people arrived, they were greeted by Carol Tiffany and Vicki Blake. We were particularly fortunate that we didn't have to tie Carol to the desk, since she had an unscheduled injury that kept her from wandering around the hall.

Using a private catering hall is a different approach for us, but it certainly saves a lot of money, thus enabling us to keep the prices down. The club's cost for the dinner alone at a hotel would be more than the admittance charge. In addition to that cost, we had other expenses: air fare, hotel, printing and others.

The members attending the convention were able to get their programs autographed by our guest stars, but the rest of the members may also enjoy the quality souvenir program. We have some left, with a picture of each of the guests and a biography of each on the opposite page; the souvenir program is available and is certainly a good keepsake. You may order a copy for your collection \$5.00 for one and \$9.00 for two postage paid.

The morning started out with a very well-planned presentation by John and Larry Gassman reviewing some of the highlights of Jack Benny's career. They have a 75-page log compiled from several years of research on the career of Jack Benny. Larry and John brought with them many short clips from programs and went into detail about how various characters were entered into the programs and the major impact each had on the total shows. These logs are available from the Gassmans for \$15.00, P.O. Box 1163, Whittier, CA 90604. They are well worth the price.

Our collector's panel was hosted by John Dunning and included John Adams, Barrett Bensen, John Gassman, and Glenn Ritter. They emphasized the importance of record keeping and using quality materials for dubbing and the equipment used in that process, as well as the time and attention required to keep from having problems with copies one produces.

An interesting panel has made up by the wives who played an important role in their husbands' careers. Great emphasis was placed on the wives' part to keep their families normal and their kids just thinking of dad's career as just another line of work, nothing special, and not the reason for their children to get big heads. It was good to hear about these ladies' experiences, and maybe some of the audience was able to grasp the importance of good "team mates" in the success of their husbands. Each of these ladies has had a very important part to play in their husband's careers, as well as helping to maintain the "family" attitude that was prominent in the radio actor's life. They did not compete with each other in the same coldness that is common in other trades, but seemed to always help another member of the radio family of actors. Larry Gassman helped to start the discussion off. We found that the ladies all had a lot of personality themselves. Maybe it's catching.

Our guest star panel was moderated by Merwin Smith, who very tactfully encouraged the guests to reveal many parts about how they got started in their careers, and how it was not all a bed of roses, nor a barrel of gold, as many of us thought when we heard about the fabulous money that some of the radio stars made. Shirley Mitchell was not able to be on the panel because of a tender throat, but she was replaced by and the ladies of radio were well represented by Esther Geddes McVey who not only kept track of six daughters but had her own shows too. Our guests were strong in emphasizing the help they had received from others in the trade; again, the emphasis on the radio "family". Harry Elders had to leave after the panel and was unable to participate in the evening recreation of old radio shows.

The evening started with a delightful first nighter that left the entire audience laughing. Ed Hendrickx, who directed the recreations, was able to fill a couple of young roles with David Gatch and Mary Ryan from Fort Collins.

Ray Erlinborn demonstrated some of his sound effects equipment and worked the sound effects for both the First Nighter and The Gildersleeve recreations. Also, Ray demonstrated the prat fall and the chair tipping over with him.

Tyler McVey played both Mr. Peavy and Judge Hooker in the Gildersleeve recreation; Esther Geddes played the piano for the introduction and the bridges and also played "Birdie"; Sam Edwards played Leroy; and of course we had Willard "Willy" Waterman as Gildersleeve and the delightful Shirley Mitchell as Leila. Mary Ryan played Marjorie and David Gatch played the hardware store clerk.

All-in-all, it turned out to be a great day and evening, with members and guests all pleased and appreciative of the days when radio was king.

We heard from Elmer Westbrook. He is now in Swedish Medical Center, but may be on the way to getting back to being his old self again. We all wish you well, Elmer. We miss you.

Be sure to be thinking about the RHAC picnic on August 18th, at 900 West Quincy.

A note from the Editor:

I know I speak for those who attended the RHAC convention, because many have told me of their feelings, when I say a big THANK YOU to Dick and Maleta King for the hard work and many long hours they put in for the convention. Please let them know your appreciation - as well as your thoughts about another convention

-Dan Decker



RETURN WITH US TO...

by Bill Owen
Don 31
Shawwood

Bulldog Drummond

THE GREAT DETECTIVE CAME
TO MUTUAL RADIO IN 1941.



OUT OF THE FOG...
OUT OF THE NIGHT...
AND INTO HIS AMERICAN
ADVENTURES... COMES...
BULLDOG DRUMMOND!

CAPT. HUGH "BULLDOG" DRUMMOND
WAS PLAYED ON RADIO BY
GEORGE COULOURIS, SANTOS
ORTEGA AND NED WEVER,
(WHO WAS ALSO THE VOICE
OF COMIC STRIP DETECTIVE
DICK TRACY).



NED WEVER

Memorabilia of Lowell Thomas, friend of the famous, searches for a home

DENVER (AP) — In a bare, concrete back room at the Lowell Thomas Law Building, there's a picture of Thomas, labeled simply, "Thomas with a man."

The man, consigned to oblivion, is TV personality Arthur Godfrey. Now Thomas himself is facing that same forgotten fate.

"We have students here at Denver University who don't know who Lowell Thomas was," said Phil Gauthier, 63, head of the alumni association and unofficial curator of the Lowell Thomas memorabilia.

The school, which has 975 students, has no money and no room for the museum Gauthier would like to build in memory of the man who chronicled history for four generations, toured the world and crossed both poles, befriended presidents, wrote more than 50 books and was a pioneer in broadcast journalism.

Gauthier says Thomas also was a frustrated lawyer, who left his \$3.5 million estate in Pawling, N.Y., to the school to build a library in his memory.

Gauthier would like to put up a museum, featuring video presentations of Thomas' career and displaying some of the 2,600 books and 700 photos left to the university.

The mementos are now kept in a locked, bare-wall, concrete room in the building he sponsored on the University of Denver law campus, formerly Colorado Women's College. There are no displays open to the public.

Thomas grew up in Colorado, and fondly remembered the state. His father became the doctor in Victor, Colo., and Thomas went to work in the gold mines at the age of 11. He often bragged he was raised in an "ore house."

At 19, he became editor of the local paper, the Victor Daily News. His memories of one day at the paper were vivid, as recalled in a May 14, 1951, interview with the Denver Post:

"On Saturday, there was no pretty girl picture available so I ran a story about a brawl in Denver in which the nephew of our mayor was involved. To supply the needed art, I used the mayor's picture. He came looking for me with a gun, and I apologized, sincerely and quickly."

After a newspaper war with his rival, the late Gov. Ralph Carr, Thomas left Victor and went on to international fame.

In Denver, he attended the University of Denver and got his bach-

elor's degree in 1913.

He then left Colorado for a Chicago newspaper job, and went overseas to cover World War I. There he sealed his fame and fortune when he discovered Lawrence of Arabia (Thomas Edward Shaw Lawrence), who was at the time taking up his cudgel against the Turks on the Arabian peninsula.

In 1930, he went into broadcasting, finding a career that lasted last nearly half a century. He began the first regularly scheduled radio newscast on CBS radio and made the first television newscast in 1939. He also was host of a public television series called "Lowell Thomas Remembers."

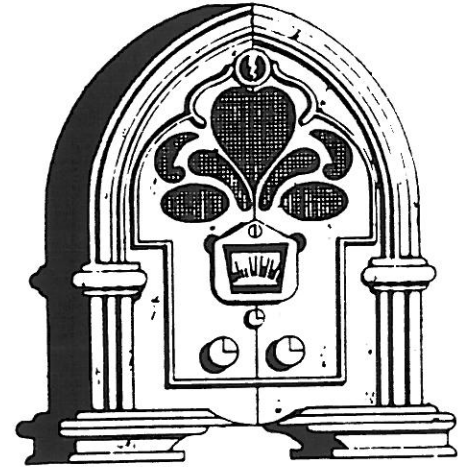
When he started his career, Eric

Severeid was 13, Walter Cronkite 9, Harry Reasoner 2.

He died at his home in Pawling in 1981 at the age of 89.

Among the items at the University of Denver are the entire collection of radio scripts, from his first broadcast in October 1930 to his last in May 1976.

Among the collection stored in the back room are pictures of Thomas with Franklin Roosevelt, Dwight Eisenhower, Jawaharal Nehru in New Delhi, Chiang Kai-shek, Gen. Douglas MacArthur in Tokyo, Herbert Hoover, cannibals in the New Guinea jungle, Jack Dempsey, Lawrence of Arabia, Gen. George Patton and the Shah of Iran.



Rocky Mountain News Tue., June 26, 1990



Dunning's done: Sunday was the final airing of John Dunning and his superb *Old-Time Radio* series on KNUS. Dunning, booted off the 6-9 p.m. time period, was offered a ludicrous 6-9 a.m. Sunday slot. Dunning, while gracefully declining, paraphrased the late Fred Allen: "The only people who listen to the radio at that time on Sunday are a couple of burglars and Arthur Godfrey."

Dunning's show is being replaced by a three-hour program featuring Jann Scott, who also is on the air 6-9 p.m. Saturday and 8 p.m.-midnight Friday. Scott's topics, which include motor racing and physical fitness, are more salable to potential station sponsors — a prime concern of struggling KNUS these days.

The decision to remove Dunning's show from a key time period stinks. In addition to having access to a wide range of familiar dramas, adventure, comedy and variety shows, Dunning recently recorded some rare programs not heard on similar series around the country.

Old-Time Radio has been on the air in Denver since 1972, with the exception of a few months two years ago when Dunning walked away because of "nostalgia burnout."

The series always has offered more than simple nostalgia. Dunning has produced it with a historical relevance that has given programs both entertainment and information perspectives. In an era when AM stations follow predictable formats, *Old-Time Radio* has been something special.

A niche for Dunning's series could be found on John Rayburn's proposed old-time radio station — if and when the project ever gets on the air. Rayburn is seeking more financial backing for his project.



REEL 5155 LET GEORGE DO IT

1800'

1L	3-28-49	The Host of Casa Diablo	1R	5-23-49	Stranger Than Fiction
	4-18-49	The Elusive Hundred Grand		5-30-49	A Matter of Doubt
	4-25-49	Lady in Distress		6-6-49	Death in Blue Jeans
2L	5-2-49	Out of Mind	2R	6-13-49	Serenade to the Southern Star
	5-9-49	Vultures on the Wing		6-20-49	The Next to the Last Guest
	5-16-49	Come and Get Me		7-25-49	Laura's House

REEL 5156 LET GEORGE DO IT

1800'

1L	8-1-49	The Perfect Alibi	1R	9-12-49	Valley Sunset
	8-8-49	One Chance at the World		9-19-49	The Coward
	8-15-49	The Problem of Joe Martin		9-26-49	The Man Under the Elm Trees
2L	8-22-49	The Empress of Fish Falls	2R	10-17-49	Double Death
	8-29-49	End of Summer		10-24-49	The Rose Petal Staircase
	9-5-49	Everything is Nice		10-31-49	Every Shot Counts

REEL 5157 LET GEORGE DO IT

1800'

1L	11-7-49	The Dark Chain	1R	12-19-49	Follow That Train
	11-14-49	Run Until Dead		1-2-50	Needle in the Haystack
	11-21-49	Sweet Poison		1-9-50	The Silent Waterfall
2L	11-28-49	No Riders	2R	1-16-50	Juniper Lane
	12-5-49	Too Near the Sky		1-23-50	The Floaters
	12-12-49	Partner in Panama		1-30-50	The Ugly Duckling

REEL 5158 LET GEORGE DO IT

1800'

1L	2-6-50	The Old Style	1R	5-1-50	The Chair of Humanities
	2-13-50	Go Jump in the Lake		5-8-50	Picture with a Black Frame
	4-3-50	The Brothers MacIntosh		5-15-50	The Ant Hill
2L	4-10-50	Portrait by Priscilla	2R	5-22-50	Portuguese Cove
	4-17-50	Mixup in La Cruza		5-29-50	Sudden Storm
	4-24-50	Death Begins at 45		6-5-50	The Witch of Mill Hollow

REEL 5159 LET GEORGE DO IT

1800'

1L	6-12-50	The Iron Cat	1R	7-24-50	The Golden Lizard
	6-19-50	Solo in Whispers		7-31-50	The Voice of the Giant
	6-26-50	Most Likely to Die		8-7-50	Sweet Are the Uses of Publicity
2L	7-3-50	The Scream of the Eagle	2R	8-14-50	The High Price of a Penny
	7-10-50	Island in the Desert		8-21-50	The Treasure of Millie's Wharf
	7-17-50	Eleven O'Clock		8-28-50	High Card

REEL 5160 LET GEORGE DO IT

1800'

1L	9-4-50	Second Degree Affection	1R	11-20-50	Cause for Thanksgiving
	9-18-50	Cover for an Hour		11-27-50	Nothing But the Truth
	9-25-50	Tag, You're It		12-4-50	And Hope to Die
2L	10-2-50	The House That Jack Built	2R	12-11-50	The Bookworm Turns
	10-9-50	The Spider and the Fly		12-18-50	Opportunity Knocks Twice
	11-13-50	Angel's Grotto		1-8-51	The Man Behind the Frame

REEL 5161 LET GEORGE DO IT

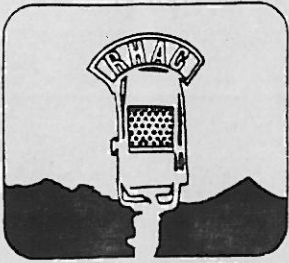
1800'

1L	1-15-51	Tune on a Triangle	1R	3-12-51	The Prairie Dog
	1-22-51	Knock on Wood		3-19-51	Murder for Two
	1-29-51	Christmas in January		3-26-51	No Escape from the Jungle
2L	2-19-51	How Guilty Can You Get	2R	4-2-51	The Eight Ball
	2-26-51	See Me Once, You've Seen Me Twice		4-9-51	Uncle Harry's Bones
	3-5-51	The Public Eye		4-16-51	The Noose Hangs High

REEL 5162 LET GEORGE DO IT

1800'

1L	9-24-51	Framed for Hanging	1R	12-3-51	Off the Record
	10-1-51	No Way Out		12-10-51	The Last Payoff
	10-22-51	A Crime Too Simple		12-17-51	Stolen Goods
2L	10-29-51	The Woman in Black	2R	1-7-52	A School of Sharks
	11-19-51	Destination Danger		1-14-52	The Bad Little God
	11-26-51	The Meddler		1-21-52	A Matter of Honor



Radio Historical Association of Colorado

RADIO HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

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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

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4.	_____
5.	_____

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(A non-profit organization)
POST OFFICE BOX 1908
ENGLEWOOD, CO. 80150

**JIM HARMON
WILL BE OUR GUEST SPEAKER
THURSDAY EVENING JULY 19TH**

**THE CHURCH OF
THE MASTER 7:31 PM
17TH AVE AND FILBERT COURT**