

RETURN WITH US

The Radio Historical
Association of Colorado, Inc.

NOW...



Volume 16 Number 3

October 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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 TAPE DONATIONS: Herb Duniven and Bill McCracken (see above)
 RHAC PLAYERS: Ed Hendrickx.....366-1505



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS:

THE NOVEMBER 1ST MEETING WILL BE HELD AT DAN DECKER'S HOME, SEE ABOVE FOR ADDRESS.
 ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME AND INVITED TO ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE AT THE BOARD MEETINGS;
 WE INVITE YOUR SUGGESTIONS.

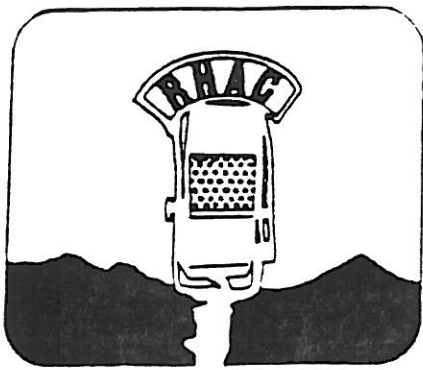


CLUB MEETINGS:

THERE WILL BE A REGULAR CLUB MEETING THURSDAY EVENING OCTOBER 18TH AT 7:32 PM.
 BOB BUTZ WILL BE OUR GUEST SPEAKER AND HE MAY BRING AN ASSOCIATE.
 MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE CHURCH OF THE MASTER, 17TH AVE AND FILBERT COURT.

*The Results of the election held at our September meeting are as follows:
 PRESIDENT-DICK KING, VICE PRESIDENT-JIM HARMON, SECRETARY-GLENN RITTER,
 TREASURER-MALETHA KING.*

We wish to take this opportunity to thank the membership for their support.



Radio Historical Association of Colorado

Static On The Line

By Jim Harmon, RHAC Vice President

And a good time was had by all! I don't know how to better to describe the September RHAC general meeting.

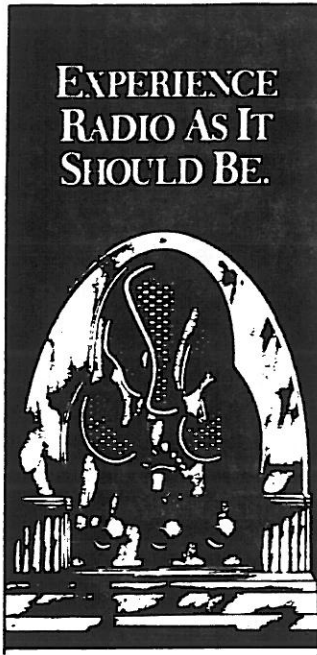
The ending of the summer travel season coincided with the September meeting, and we had a very good turn-out to hear our three guest speakers. Ben Avery acted as both panelist and coordinator for the group. With Ben was another well known broadcast personality from the Colorado area, Dave Scott. And as a very special treat, the third member of the group was former Coloradan now of California Mr. Clint Comerford.

The broadcast careers of these gentlemen all started in Colorado and their reminiscing of the industry in this area brought in a lot of good comment and banter from the audience. It must be that in radio there are (or were) more ways to get fired than in any other industry. Ben and Dave must have experienced them all. Now, that isn't necessarily bad. Because the stories these guys told about those firings kept us in stitches throughout the evening. As the staff members changed it would seem that call signs and frequencies did too. When the audience got involved in trying to figure which stations became which other stations and just who owned a station at some particular point in time.

When Clint Comerford returned to Colorado for his 50th High School reunion he stopped in Denver as a part of the return trip. We were most fortunate that he accepted an invitation to become a part of the September panel. You see, while others were putting words into a mike, Clint was writing the words to put into their mouths. He described the invitation he had to submit a script to a rather well known ex-vaudevillian turned network comedian. Told of how he dashed it off quite easily, of how easily it was accepted, of how great it was to become a regular writer at CBS for that personality. And he gave us some real food-for-thought as he described how tough the writing game became once you had used up the supply of jokes you entered the business with. Oh, I almost forgot to tell you...the personality that Clint went to work for was "Jack Kirkwood". Kirkwood had his own comedy show on CBS for a number of years. If you are not familiar with Kirkwood's work check out and listen to the tape of The Railroad Hour which broadcast a much shortened version of "The Merry Widow".

Our thanks to all three of these gentlemen for spending that Thursday evening with us. And a special thank-you to Clint Comerford, now of Covina CA, for taking time out of his travels to let us see a bit of the creative-typewriter facet of radio.

Switching subjects lets consider the jargon of our club for a moment. This is of interest because we sometime confuse new members by using terminology that is perfectly clear to us. Case in point: "Reel Number". I would suggest that we simply use the term "Library Number" when referring to a specific set of programs in the library. Some newer members, have become confused when they hear us refer to a "Reel Number". They get the idea that the program they want is only on a "reel", but they have a cassette machine. To help those newer members let me explain: a group of programs is assigned a number, the material is recorded on a 7" reel of tape and the exact same material is recorded on a set of four cassettes. The reel is then placed in the reel library while the set of cassettes goes to those who maintain the cassette libraries. The material goes into the libraries under the same number. Now, we do have a lot of program material, so to make it a bit easier on our cassette handling that library was divided among three individuals. Each of these librarians has only 1/3 of the library; so, be sure that when you request cassettes the order is sent to the librarian who handles the group of numbers from which you wish to draw. If you use a cassette simply order the number referenced in our catalog from the appropriate librarian. If you prefer reel machines use the same catalog number but direct the request to the reel librarian.



**RHAC MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED
TO REMEMBER THE ASSOCIATION**

Radio Historical Association of Colorado is a non-profit organization composed of persons having an interest in the preservation and enjoyment of old-time radio, that is, radio as it existed in its often called "golden age." Our organization is one of the largest and most active of its kind.

Members are encouraged to help RHAC continue that part of its mission devoted to "preservation" of old-time radio. While we can all be very proud of our libraries which continue to grow, many members have in their own libraries material not in the Association's Libraries (regular or donors).

Your donation of material to RHAC during your lifetime, or through your Will, will allow RHAC continued growth and the ability to maintain its place among the leaders of such organizations. Your donation is a tribute to those wonderful people who were a part of radio's golden age. Your donation honors "radio"!

A donation to RHAC is tax deductible. Your donation, be it one reel (cassette) or many, one script, one log, one disk, or any memorabilia, is sought. Help RHAC. Contact Dick King, President, (303) 761-5135 or Bill McCracken, (303) 986-9863.

RETURN WITH US TO...



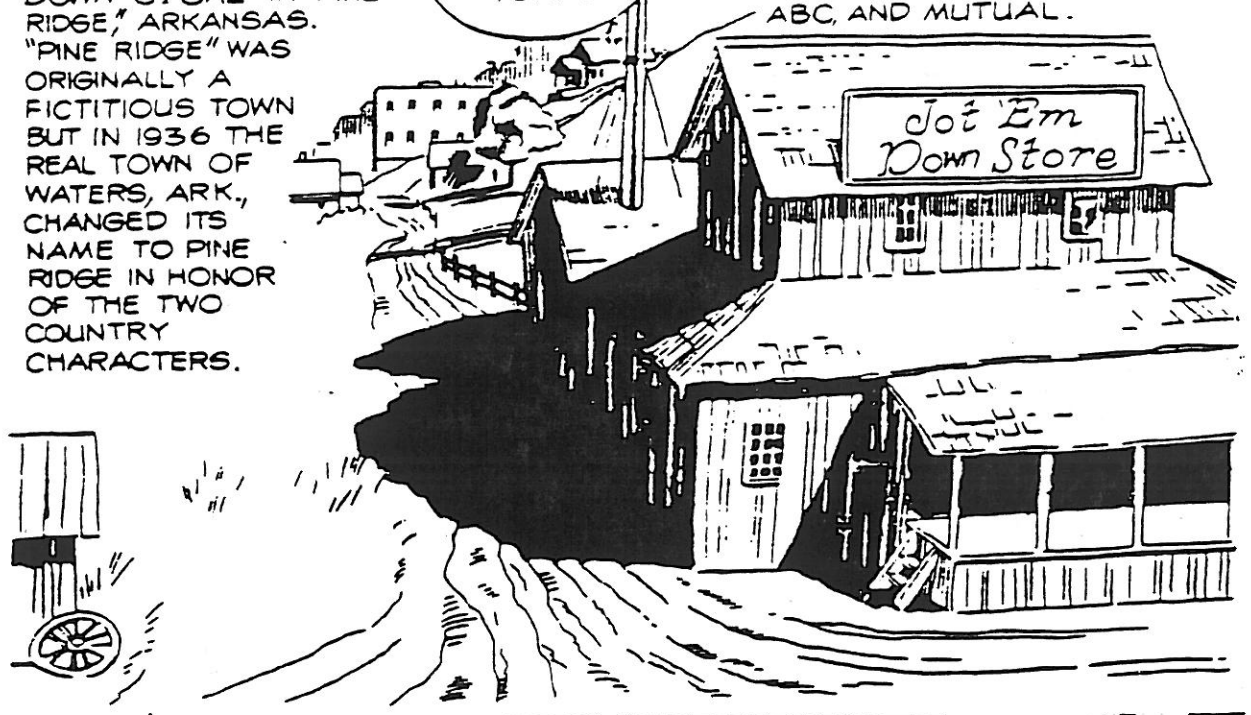
CHESTER LAUCK PLAYED LUM AS WELL AS GRANDPAPPY SPEARS, SNAKE HOGAN, AND CEDRIC WEHUNT.

JES LISSSEN HERE, ABNER... IT SAYS THEY WANNA PAY RESPECT TO OUR RADIO PROGRAM BY CHANGIN' THE NAME O' THEIR TOWN!

NORRIS GOFF PLAYED ABNER AND SUCH CHARACTERS AS DICK HUDDLESTON, DOC MILLER AND SQUIRE SKIMP

LUM EDWARDS AND ABNER PEABODY RAN THE JOT 'EM DOWN STORE IN "PINE RIDGE," ARKANSAS. "PINE RIDGE" WAS ORIGINALLY A FICTITIOUS TOWN BUT IN 1936 THE REAL TOWN OF WATERS, ARK., CHANGED ITS NAME TO PINE RIDGE IN HONOR OF THE TWO COUNTRY CHARACTERS.

IT WAS ONE OF RADIO'S LONGEST-RUNNING SHOWS... PREMIERING APRIL 26, 1931, AND CONTINUING FOR 24 YEARS OVER NBC, CBS, ABC, AND MUTUAL.



Can you imagine? There was life before television

I can hear him now. "Well, Chester," he'd say in a voice that rumbled up from his chest like a subterranean temblor, "let's go have a beer at Miss Kitty's." In my mind, I could picture him: a sturdy fireplug of a fellow, short, muscular, mustachioed, broad-faced, squinty-eyed.



BOB SWIFT

Wait. Didn't lean, towering James Arness play *Gunsmoke's* Matt Dillon? Well, sure, that Matt Dillon! But the guy I was picturing looked like William Conrad.

As a matter of fact, he *was* William Conrad. Conrad — now sturdier, even rather enormous in TV roles — was the voice of the radio version of *Gunsmoke* when I heard it in 1955. I was in college on the GI Bill, couldn't afford a TV, and thus may have been one of the few still listening to radio drama as the tube was taking over. A year later, radio's *Gunsmoke* was history, aced out by the TV version.

Radio offered something TV didn't, and can't. It let us use our imaginations. It's hard for anyone who grew up with TV to think that his own imagination might picture a scene more creatively than the one on the screen, especially now that special effects have become so expert. But once upon a time, it was so. Once upon a time our imaginations — helped along by voices and organ music — breathed life into radio drama, comedy and adventure. I was reminded of this when I wrote about baby boomers' nostalgia for Saturday morning TV shows such as *Captain Midnight*. A friend said:

"You know, *Captain Midnight* was on radio before it was on TV."

I knew that. I knew also that a radio listener's imagination made the good captain's rocket ship a more glamorous vehicle by far than the tinny model later seen on TV. But the remark set me to thinking about radio, and the gradual fading of many of its last voices.

Does the name Vic Perrin mean anything to you? He died recently at 73. His obituary said he had been a mainstay of the Golden Age of Radio, appearing on such shows as *Dragnet*, which later made the transition to TV. He moved to TV, too. You may not be able to picture him, but his was the voice you heard on TV's *Outer Limits*, intoning:

"There is nothing wrong with your television set. . . . Do not attempt to adjust the picture . . ."

Joseph V. De Santis died recently, too, at 80. He was a well-known radio voice in the '40s, on such dra-

mas as *Pepper Young's Family*, *The Goldbergs* and *Eternal Light*.

After such news, it's a relief to learn that Himan Brown is alive, well, and has been inducted into the Emerson Radio Hall of Fame. He created radio's scary 1940s drama, *The Inner Sanctum*. (A squeaking door opens. "Good evening, friends. This is Raymond, your host.")

At the induction ceremony, Brown said: "Do you realize we've lost the ability to listen?"

He's right, although it's not that we don't "hear" our radios. Radio is thriving. In 1988, the industry had revenues of \$7.9 billion. About 95 percent of Americans over the age of 10 listen to radio every day, and 95 percent of our cars have radios. The average household has 5.6 radios. (Mine has four, but two don't work.)

What Brown meant was that there was a time when people "listened" with their ears, but "saw" with their imaginations.

A sound-effects man pounded plungers on a tray of dirt and we "saw" horses galloping. He punched his own hand, hit a bowling pin with a stick, overturned a chair, and we were in the midst of a bare-knuckle barroom fight. A flapping leather glove evoked, in our minds, a bird in flight. Corn flakes, crunched, became footsteps in the snow. Images — in the theater of our minds.

To several generations, who listened to commercial radio from its beginning in the 1920s through the Golden Age of the 1930s and '40s, the scenes of the mind were extraordinarily real. How else can one explain *The Chase and Sanborn Hour*, starring Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy? I mean, after all, we were *listening* to a ventriloquist!

The thing is, we could *see* Charlie, in our heads. And when the Shadow sneered, "What e-e-e-vil . . . lurks . . . in the hearts of men?" and that laugh mocked us from the Philco in the living room, we *saw* him, a sinister shade, and a cold shiver rippled up our spines. When Fibber McGee said, "Well, Molly, I think I'll just take a look in the closet," we giggled, anticipating the cascade of clanging objects. When Jack Benny descended hollowly to his dungeon vault, we were there.

Of course, there were the serials.

Theme music up. Announcer's smooth, somewhat apprehensive voice: "As we leave Bob Swift, the All-American Boy, his nostalgia gland is overflowing with secretions from radio's Golden Age, but he has run out of space. Stay tuned. In our next episode, we will hear him hum, 'Wave the flag for Hudson High, boys . . . show them how we . . .'"

RHAC TAPE LIBRARY

TAPE 915 RHAC 15TH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION June 9, 1990 (C) 1200'
 GUESTS: Willard Waterman, Shirley Mitchell, Sam Edwards
 Tyler McVey, Ester Geddes, Harry Elders, Ray Erlenborn
 MASTER OF CEREMONIES: John Rayburn
 1L Opening Of Convention; JACK BENNY Panel with John & Larry Gassman
 2L JACK BENNY Panel - Concluded; Collector's Panel with John Dunning
 1R WIVES' PANEL with Beverly Edwards, Meredith Erlenborn, Maryanna
 Waterman, Christine Elders, Carol Rayburn
 GUESTS PANEL with Harry Elders, Sam Edwards, Ray Erlenborn, Ester
 Geddes, Tyler McVey, Willard Waterman
 2R GUESTS PANEL - Concluded

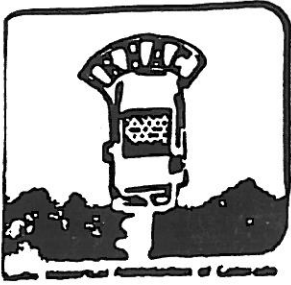
TAPE 916 RHAC 15TH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION June 9, 1990 (C) 1200'
 1L Audience Warm-Up; FIRST NIGHTER RECREATION: Old Enough To Know Better
 Willard Waterman, Shirley Mitchell, Sam Edwards, Tyler McVey
 Ester Geddes, Ray Erlenborn, David Gatch, Mary Ryan
 SOUND EFFECTS DEMONSTRATION: Ray Erlenborn
 2L SOUND EFFECTS DEMONSTRATION - Concluded
 GREAT GILDERSLEEVE RECREATION: Plastic Mousetrap 9-24-44
 Willard Waterman, Shirley Mitchell, Sam Edwards, Tyler McVey
 Ester Geddes, Ray Erlenborn, Mary Ryan, David Gatch
 CLOSING OF CONVENTION - GUESTS' THANK YOUS
 1R 4-6-47 MEET CORLISS ARCHER: Sweetheart Of The Year
 6-10-46 GLAMOUR MANOR: Circus Comes To Town

2R 9-10-55 ROMANCE: Sometimes It's Hard To Be A Gentleman
 3-13-48 CURTAIN TIME: Who Is Chris Randolph?

TAPE 917 CHANDU, THE MAGICIAN (EARLY 30s RUN) (C) 1200'
 1L Episode 136
 Episode 137
 Episode 138
 Episode 150
 2L Episode 151
 Episode 152
 Episode 153
 Episode 154
 1R Episode 156
 Episode 157
 Episode 158
 Episode 159
 2R Episode 177
 Episode 183
 Episode 184
 Episode 185

RHAC TAPE LIBRARY

<u>TAPE 918 CHANDU, THE MAGICIAN (EARLY 30s RUN) (C)</u>		1200'
1L	Episode 186 Episode 187 Episode 188 Episode 189	
2L	Episode 190 Episode 191 Episode 192 Episode 193	
1R	Episode 235 Episode 236 Episode 237 Episode 238	
2R	Episode 240 Episode 242 Episode 244 Episode 245	
<u>TAPE 919 CHANDU, THE MAGICIAN/JOHNNY DOLLAR (C)</u>		1200'
1L	Episode 246 Episode 247 Episode 248 Episode 249	
2L	Episode 291 Episode 293 Episode 294 Episode 295	
1R	Episode 307 Episode 308 Episode 317 Episode 319	
2R	-60 YOURS TRULY, JOHNNY DOLLAR: The Deadly Debt Matter (AFRS) -60 YOURS TRULY, JOHNNY DOLLAR: The Wholly Unexpected Matter (AFRS)	
<u>TAPE 920 RADIO NOVELS/BOB HOPE SHOW (ALL AFRS) (C)</u>		1200'
1L	RADIO NOVELS: #89: Neptune's Horses RADIO NOVELS: #104: Fortune's Favorite Son	
2L	RADIO NOVELS: #111: Love, Clown, Love RADIO NOVELS: #112: Aftermath	
1R	RADIO NOVELS: #430: Flight To Ludlavlo BOB HOPE SHOW: #29: Salute To Mailmen	
2R	BOB HOPE SHOW: #42: Show From Bakersfield BOB HOPE SHOW: #43: Show From Ft. Bellvore	



RADIO HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

CASSETTE LIBRARY #2
C/O DAVE LOGAN

5557 S. SHERMAN CR #6
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

Cassette number.	Title
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.

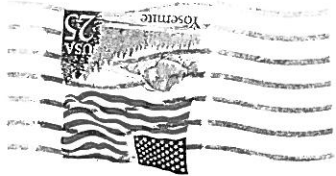
Signature

REMEMBER

THIS FORM IS FOR CASSETTE REELS 500 UP

1/91
FINE
P O BOX 507
BENSON
BARRETT

CO 80470



RADIO HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION OF COLORADO, INC.
(A non-profit organization)
POST OFFICE BOX 1908
ENGLEWOOD, CO. 80150

**BOB BUTZ WILL BE OUR GUEST
SPEAKER THURS. OCT. 18TH.
THE CHURCH OF
THE MASTER 7:30 PM
17TH. AVE. AND FILBERT COURT**