

RETURN WITH US

The Radio Historical
Association of Colorado, Inc.

NOW...



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Tyler McVey

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 APRIL BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE RESIDENCE OF JOHN ADAMS ON APRIL 4TH AT 7:30 PM.

ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME AND INVITED TO ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE AT THE BOARD MEETINGS WE INVITE YOUR SUGGESTIONS.



CLUB MEETINGS:

THE MARCH MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY MARCH 21ST. THE MARCH MEETING WILL BE AT THE CHURCH OF THE MASTER. EAST 17TH AVE AND FILBERT COURT.

We received word from club member Misty Dawn Lane that a new club has been formed: Radio Enthusiasts of Puget Sound, 8540 S. 123rd Place, Seattle, WA 98178. Misty complimented us for the quality of material in our library and hope they will be able to come up with like quality. We wish to thank the Rhodens for their work on the news letter. Congratulations to the Rhodens for their baby boy born in January.



Radio Historical Association of Colorado

FROM THE KING'S ROOST

By Dick and Maleta King

There is an adage that actors use: "If you get work, write." Ours will be: "Clean our equipment." Remember, March is clean up-paint up time. Clean the tape path with a good head cleaner and be sure to clean the pinch roller with a rubber conditioner. Do not use head cleaner on rubber parts because most head cleaners are alcohol, and that will cause a great deal of trouble with

rubber parts; 92% alcohol is available at the drug store and some of our members prefer to use that for cleaning heads and tape path. There seems to be mixed opinion about demagnetizing the heads. It should be done, but how often?

Item of note: The Metropolitan Opera recently had its One-Thousandth broadcast sponsored by Texaco. These are closely copyrighted shows and are not available from RHAC.

Jack Mumey's talk at our last meeting was very informative about his years in broadcastings "revolving door." Jack is now putting all his energy into alcoholic rehabilitation.

Ray Erlinborn was honored by Pacific Pioneer Broadcasters. They awarded him the Diamond Circle award for his 65 years in broadcasting. RHAC will be honored to have Ray and his wife at our 1991 convention.

In 1990, our club added 45 reels (876-920) to the regular library that relates to 180 hours and 490 shows; 37 reels (5135-5171) were added to the contributors' library that relates to 220 hours and 440 shows. Your club's library additions for 1990 were 82 reels, 930 shows, 400 hours of programs. For every hour of material added to the library, your club's volunteers had to do at least four hours of work to prepare it for your use. We are in deep appreciation for the work done by Herb Duniven, Bill McCracken, Elmer Westbrook and Barrett Benson.

Convention information is as follows: the date is Saturday, June 15th. We have invited the following: Sam Edwards, Harry Elders, Ray Erlinborn, Esther Geddes, Tyler McVey, Shirley Mitchell, Ezra Stone and Les Tremayne. This line up of stars makes attendance a real must for Old Time Radio Buffs .

Bill Stipp, our Contributor's Cassette Tape Librarian, advises that he feels that five years of service is long enough and would like to be replaced. Bill's library is not too large and should not require a lot of time from someone willing to help our club and be able to do most of the work at home. Please let us know if you are interested.

One member was very concerned about his tapes and called after waiting many weeks, only to have them show up four days later. The good people in the post office had delayed them for almost four weeks. Another member noted that he received his order in eight days, and others get them in only three to four days. Our post office ships them out the same day, but from here they go to Denver and from there????

OUR COVER PICTURE OF TYLER MCVEY

Tyler McVey

The name Tyler McVey has been heard in the credits of over 1000 radio broadcasts from Hollywood, including The Red Skelton Show, Great Gildersleeve, Lux Radio Theater, Cavalcade of America, Burns and Allen, fibber McGee & Molly and many more Tyler and his wife Esther Geddes will be our guests at the RHAC June Convention.

Esther Geddes

Esther Geddes had been a very popular feature pianist an organist on radio stations in Oregon. Married to Tyler McVey, she continues to do many commercials and Recordings for the Blind



Those Quiz Kids

Old radio and TV show was a smash hit

Words by Wire

“WHAT WOULD I be carrying home if I brought . . . an apteryx?” the announcer asked. Child prodigy Gerard Darrow faltered for a few seconds, fidgeted nervously, then tossed back a response.

When 7-year-old Gerard (not directly related to famed lawyer Clarence Darrow) hit the answer squarely on the mark before radio audiences on June 28, 1940, “Quiz Kids” became a swift success.

Each week a substantial part of America listened to the radio show, featuring the voices of boys and girls who sounded exactly like the kids next door — but oh, were they smart! Throw anything at them and hear them bat it out of the ballpark, whether it was chemistry, sociology, agriculture, philosophy, literature, numerology or sports.

An apteryx? “That’s a small bird with hardly any wings at all,” proclaimed a confident Gerard Darrow, fully recovered from his momentary lapse. “And it has no tail, and it lives in New Zealand.”

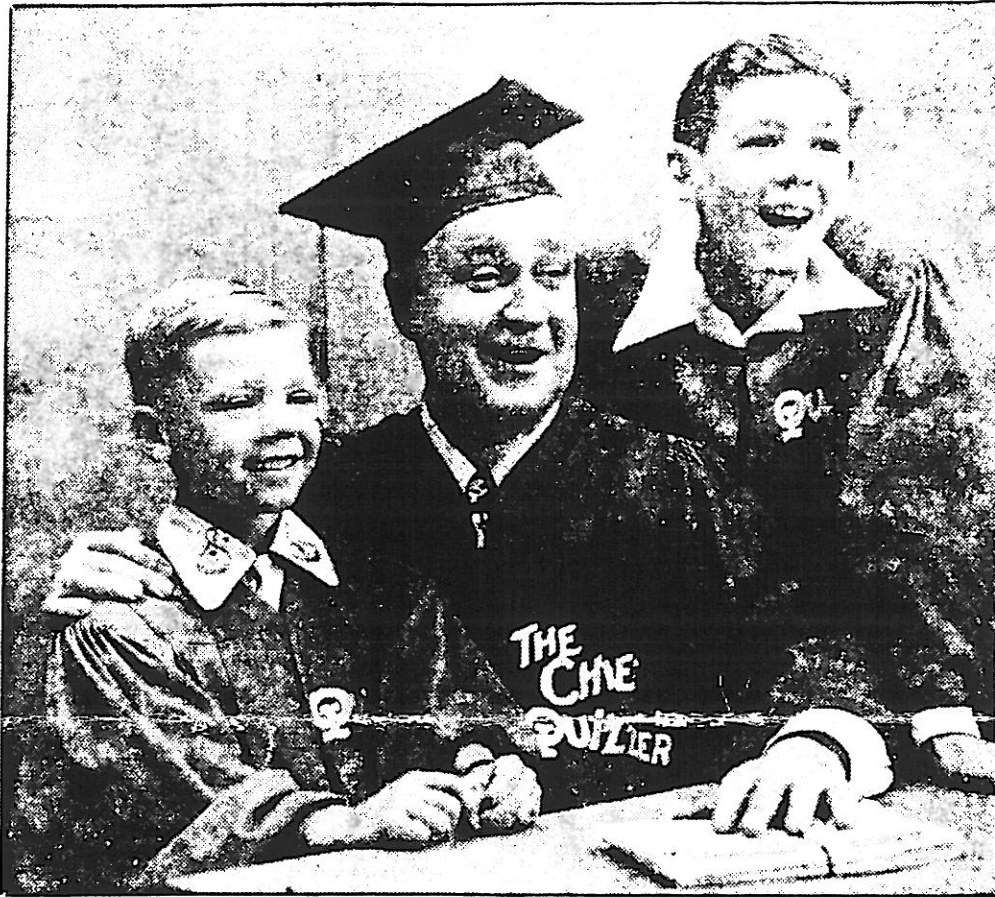
The quiz program, which made the transition to television while continuing on radio, came along when children’s intellectual powers were generally underrated. Its widespread popularity half a century ago contributed to the feeling that gifted children were a sign of a successful democracy.

2,600 FAN LETTERS

The first week, the show got 2,600 fan letters and raves in *Variety* and *Billboard*. *Life* magazine reported, “On the air barely a month, the five bright youngsters . . . have amazed their elders with their popularity, quickness on the uptake, their encyclopedic knowledge.”

“Quiz Kids,” which was broadcast by NBC, attracted a faithful following of 10 million to 20 million listeners. Some 20,000 letters came in each week, along with 50 applications for a spot on the program. Recommendations for contestants arrived from teachers, friends and parents. Some kids recommended themselves.

Ruth Duskin Feldman, who as Ruthie Duskin was a fixture on the show, recalls in her book, “Whatever Happened to the Quiz Kids?” that it was her mother who wrote in on her behalf: “We have a daughter who will be 7 in June. She has been reading and writing since 4 years of age and already has about 40 poems to her credit . . .”



QUIZ KIDS Melvin Miles, 6, and Lonny Lunde, 14, enjoy a chuckle with the Chief

Quizzer, Joe Kelly, in 1950. Kelly died May 1959 at age 60.

Back came a questionnaire for Ruthie herself to complete; she also had to provide a 250-word essay on why she should be a Quiz Kid. “I love to play guessing games, do riddles and answer questions,” she wrote. “I have an excellent memory, a very good vocabulary, and I am at ease in front of strangers. I love knowledge and when I begin working at something, I will not stop until I have finished.”

The final test was an audition. More than brains and book learning was needed. As Feldman puts it: “Poise, quickness, originality, humor, modesty and make sense were more important than profundity . . . Showmanship was crucial.”

1 IN 20 MADE SHOW

The show emanated from Chicago, and hundreds of schoolchildren from the area showed up for auditions. One in 20 made it, and most of these lasted only one or two programs. Some children appeared on hundreds of programs and left only when they reached the cutoff age of 16. Tidy sums (a \$100 US Savings Bond for each appearance) were set aside for the Kids’ education.

“On the air barely a month the five bright youngsters have amazed their elders with their popularity, quickness the uptake, their encyclopedic knowledge.”

Life magazine

Reprinted from article in *The Milwaukee Journal*, Friday, January 11, 1991

This article sent to us by Scott Jones, an RHAC member in Fresno, CA.

RETURN WITH US TO...

by Bill Owen
Don Howard

Frances Farmer

NO HOLLYWOOD STAR HAD A MORE TEMPESTUOUS CAREER THAN THIS SEATTLE-BORN ACTRESS. SHE SIGNED A CONTRACT WITH PARAMOUNT IN 1935. BUT SHE COMPLAINED ABOUT HER ROLES AND TWO YEARS LATER SHE WON A RELEASE FROM HER CONTRACT.



IN 1943, PHOTOS OF HER BATTLING POLICE OFFICERS BECAME FRONT PAGE NEWS.

THOUGH SHE BECAME BUSY IN FILMS, THE STAGE AND RADIO, CRITICS DID NOT HOLD FRANCES FARMER IN HIGH REGARD. BROKEN MARRIAGES LED TO HEAVY DRINKING AND RUN-INS WITH THE LAW. EVENTUALLY SHE WAS COMMITTED TO AN INSANE ASYLUM.

FOLLOWING HER RELEASE YEARS LATER, SHE WAS DISCOVERED WORKING IN A SAN FRANCISCO HOTEL FOR 75 DOLLARS A WEEK. A COMEBACK FOLLOWED... SHE APPEARED ON ED SULLIVAN'S TV SHOW AND TOOK A JOB AS HOSTESS ON A TV SHOW IN INDIANAPOLIS, WHICH SHE HELD FROM 1958 TO 1964.

FRANCES FARMER DIED IN 1970 AT AGE 55.

RHAC TAPE LIBRARY

TAPE 930 SUSPENSE (C) 1200'

1L 5-8-48 Life Ends At Midnight
7-15-48 Summer Night

2L 7-22-48 Deep Into Darkness
7-29-48 The Yellow Wallpaper

1R 8-5-48 An Honest Man
8-12-48 Beware The Quiet Man

2R 8-19-48 The Crisis
8-26-48 Song Of The Heart

TAPE 931 SUSPENSE (C) 1200'

1L 9-2-48 The Morrison Affair
9-9-48 The Big Shot

2L 10-14-48 A Little Piece Of Rope
10-21-48 Give Me Liberty

1R 11-4-48 Death Sentence
11-18-48 Sorry, Wrong Number

2R 11-25-48 The Screaming Woman
12-2-48 The Hands Of Mr. Ottermole

TAPE 932 SUSPENSE (C) 1200'

1L 12-9-48 The Sisters
12-23-48 Holiday Special

2L 12-30-48 Breakup
1-13-49 The Too Perfect Alibi

1R 1-20-49 If The Dead Could Talk
2-10-49 De Mortuis

2R 3-31-49 You Can't Die Twice
4-7-49 Noose Of Coincidence

TAPE 933 SUSPENSE (C) 1200'

1L ~~4-14-49~~ Murder In Black And White
4-21-49 The Copper Tea Strainer

2L ~~4-28-49~~ The Lie
5-5-49 Death Has A Shadow

1R 5-19-49 Consequence
5-26-49 The Night Reveals

2R 6-2-49 The Ten Years
6-9-49 Lunch Kit

RHAC TAPE LIBRARY

<u>TAPE 934 SUSPENSE (C)</u>			1200'
1L	6-23-49	Ghost Hunt	
	9-1-49	Nightmare	
2L	9-15-49	Last Confession	
	9-29-49	Blind Date	
1R	10-13-49	Account Payable	
	10-27-49	Momentum	
2R	11-3-49	The Search For Isabelle	
	11-10-49	The Murder Of Aunt Dehlia	
<u>TAPE 935 SUSPENSE (C)</u>			1200'
1L	11-17-49	The Red Headed Woman	
	12-1-49	Mission Completed	
2L	12-8-49	For Love Of Murder	
	12-22-49	Double Entry	
1R	12-29-49	The Bullet	
	1-5-50	I Never Met The Dead Man	
2R	1-12-50	Four Hours To Kill	
	3-2-50	Lady Killer	
<u>TAPE 936 SUSPENSE (C)</u>			1200'
1L	3-23-50	One And One's A Lonesome	
	3-30-50	Blood Sacrifice	
2L	4-13-50	Six Feet Under	
	4-20-50	Pearls Are A Nuisance	
1R	6-29-50	Love, Honor, Or Murder	
	9-14-50	Over The Bounding Main	
2R	9-21-50	The Crowd	
	9-28-50	Fly By Night	
<u>TAPE 937 SUSPENSE (C)</u>			1200'
1L	10-19-50	The Wages Of Sin	
	1-11-51	Vamp Till Dead	
2L	8-27-51	Report On The Jolly Death Riders	
	12-3-51	A Murderous Revision	
1R	12-10-51	Blackjack To Kill	
	12-17-51	The Case History Of A Gambler	
2R	12-31-51	Rogue Male	
	1-21-52	The Perfectionist	



RADIO HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

**CASSETTE LIBRARY #2
C/O DAVE LOGAN
5557 S. SHERMAN CR. #8
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

<u>Cassette number</u>	<u>Title</u>
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

Our March meeting will be March 21st, 7:30 PM. We will have a program on the early developement of sound recording up to present day techniques.

Church of the Master, 17th Ave. and Filbert Court.,

1/92

BARRETT BENSON
P O BOX 507
PINE CO 80470



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