

SURE, BUT WHAT DO THEY LOOK LIKE? • READERS HAVE THEIR SAY • THE FABULOUS MR. TAYLOR

sperdvac



RADIOGRAM

Vol. 34 • No. 6

May 2009



**hello,
miss duffy**



SPERDVAC graciously extends its gratitude to these individuals who have contributed \$50 or more to SPERDVAC during the past 12 months. If you wish to be a sponsor of SPERDVAC and join this select group your tax-deductible donation to SPERDVAC can be mailed to Dan Haefele, 13720 Jefferson Avenue, Hawthorne, CA 90250. Thank you!

- ALICE AKINS *in memory of Glen Akins*
- ARTHUR J.M. ANDERSON *in memory of Nila Mack*
- ERIC BAELEN
- JUDIE BARTELL *in memory of Harry Bartell, Ben Wright and Vic Perrin*
- FRED BONDY *in memory of the whole Gunsmoke gang*
- GEORGE BRECKENRIDGE
- BUD BRESNAHAN *in memory of Richard Crenna*
- RICHARD A. BROCKELMAN
- DENNIS B. BURK *in memory of Phil Harper*
- CHRIS M. BUZZARD
- WARD L. COCHRAN
- RICHARD F. COLAVECHIO *in memory of Bryna Raeburn, Craig McDonnell, Bill Zuckert and Florence Robinson*
- JOHN COLLINS
- THOMAS W. COLLINS *in memory of William Conrad*
- TOMMY COOK *in memory of Arch Oboler*
- IVAN CURY *in memory of Bob Novak*
- DIX DAVIS
- LLOYD DE LLAMAS
- ROSEMARY DOBBS
- JUNE FORAY DONAVAN *in memory of Hobart Donovan*
- WIL DUFOUR
- HENRY C. ENGELHARDT III *in memory of Michael Meredith*
- CARMEN FINESTRA
- JACK FRANCE
- BARBARA FULLER *in memory of John Newland, Peggy Knudsen and Laughter*
- JACK GAGNE
- BARRY GERBER
- STANLEY D. GINSBURG
- RICHARD GLASBAND *in honor of Bobb Lynes and Barbara Watkins*
- KATHLEEN GRAMS-GIBBS *in memory of Mary Grams*
- JOHN F. HALLEY
- DR. MICHELE HILMES
- STEPHEN E. HOLDEN
- JAMES F. HORNER *in memory of The KNX Radio Drama Hour*
- SEAMAN JACOBS *in memory of Fred S. Fox*
- RALPH M. JOHNSON
- SAM KAMLER
- CASEY KASEM
- NILAN L. KINCAID
- ALBERT J. KOPEC
- RON LANGSETH
- JEFFREY J. LEBRUN *in memory of all departed voice artists*
- ALFRED LUCAS
- LON McCARTT *in memory of Smilin' Ed (Froggy the Gremlin) McConnell*
- ROBY MCHONE
- JAN MERLIN *in memory of Frankie Thomas and Mona Bruns Thomas*
- GEORGE (BOB) & VIRGINIA NEWHART *in memory of Bill Quinn*
- DR. WAYNE OTT
- FORREST F. OWEN
- GARRY PAPERS
- PHIL PROCTOR
- LEE SMITH
- BRIAN E. RAMSEY
- MARIE RAYMOND
- RONALD M. REISNER, M.D.
- DICK RICHARDS
- D.W. RICHARDSON
- STEPHEN K. SHUTTLEWORTH
- LOREN SLAFER
- LEE SMITH
- C. W. STAUFENBERG *in memory of Paul Rhymer and members of the "Vic and Sade" cast*
- RICHARD STONE
- RICHARD & MADELENE TEPERSON *in memory of Gil Stratton*
- EDMUND TOTMAN
- EUGENE J. WARD
- BETSY L. WEINBERG
- LESLIE C. WEST



Volume 34 • Number 6 • May 2009



The Society to
Preserve and Encourage
Radio Drama, Variety and Comedy

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

president

Bob Steinmetz

...

Dan Haeefe • Dave Struthers
Rex Quinn • Glenda Kelly
Jim Harmon • Don Aston

Officers

Treasurer Pro Tem	Dan Haeefe
Secretary	Glenda Kelly
Activities Chair	Bobb Lynes
Acquisitions Chair	Dan Haeefe
Membership Chair	Barry Opliger
Elections Chair	Neil J. Mitchell
Merchandise	Michael Plett
Catalogs	Bob Steinmetz
New Members	Rex Quinn



Editor

PATRICK LUCANIO

RADIOGRAM is published monthly except December by SPERDVAC, the Society to Preserve and Encourage Radio Drama, Variety and Comedy, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation, P.O. Box 669, Manhattan Beach, California 90266-0669. Dues are \$25 for first year and \$15 for renewals; \$30 American currency for Canadian members. Annual subscriptions to *Radiogram* only are \$15 in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico, and \$20 in all other countries. Editorial submissions are welcome, but the publisher assumes no responsibility for the return of unsolicited material. All editorial-related photographs and artwork received unsolicited become the property of SPERDVAC. Opinions expressed are not necessarily the opinions of SPERDVAC. All rights to letters sent to *Radiogram* will be treated as unconditionally assigned for publication unless otherwise stated. The publishers make every effort to ensure the accuracy of information published in editorial and advertising material but assume no responsibility for inconveniences or damages resulting from editorial error or omissions. Publisher is not responsible for typographical errors. All photographs and illustrations are believed authorized for reproduction as set forth within. Entire contents are copyright © 2009 by the Society to Preserve and Encourage Radio Drama, Variety and Comedy. All rights reserved. Nothing contained in this issue may be reproduced, in whole or in part, by any means, including the Internet, without prior written permission from the publisher.

EDITORIAL SUBMISSIONS should be sent to Radiogram, Patrick Lucanio, Editor, 1097 Janus Street, Springfield, Oregon 97477; e-mail: Radiogram@comcast.net. E-mail attachments in Microsoft Word are encouraged for all articles submitted. Articles sent by U.S. Mail should be Microsoft Word formatted floppy disk or compact disk accompanied by hardcopy.

ADVERTISING RATES. Full page \$125; half-page \$70; quarter page \$40. Rates subject to change without notice.

ADDRESS CHANGE. Send address change to Barry Opliger, 435 Garfield Avenue Apt. 306, Glendale, CA 91030-2241

AUDIO RADIOGRAM is available by sending a C-90 cassette in a returnable mailer to Russell S. Hudson, 3836 Harper Court, Bethlehem, PA 18020-7570. Telephone 610-866-0386. (This service is for blind members only).



E-MAIL
radiogram@comcast.net

The Mysterious Traveler



The Fabulous Mr. Taylor

EVEN THE neophytes among the old-time radio community are familiar with the imposing names which once stood immediately behind the microphones: Edward R. Murrow, Fred Allen, Orson Welles, Raymond Edward Johnson, Walter Winchell, Eve Arden, Major Bowes, Bob Bailey. And even Lassie. But then we come to the great names who stood further away from the microphones: the writers, producers, directors whose visions were just as important, sometimes more important, than the stars who reaped the headlines. The ol' Traveler was reminded anew of the contributions of these off-mike figures as he was dusting down his OTR bookshelf a few days ago. One of the books that recaptured his attention was a slim little volume encapsulated in a red, white and gray jacket, *Before Television: The Radio Years*. The author was Glenhall Taylor. It is to the memory of this remarkable personage that this month's column is directed.

You won't find the name of Glenhall Taylor lurking on Wikipedia. The Internet Movie Database offers just one lone entry as "writer" for a 1961 *Bat Masterson* TV script. Taylor's venue is not cyberspace but rather the cracking, static-filled radio ether. During a lengthy career in radio, Taylor filled many roles: announcer, actor, orchestra conductor, station manager, advertising executive, but it was as writer, director and producer that Glenhall Taylor clearly made his most significant contributions.

Taylor made his radio debut in 1922 at the age of 19 on station KZY in Berkeley, CA. As Taylor explains it, he was one-third of a musical trio. Taylor played piano. "The microphones, to my then-inexperienced eye," he recalled, "appeared to be merely mouthpieces protruding from the sides of cube-shaped wooden boxes."

By the 1930s, Glenhall Taylor was no longer "inexperienced" when it came to radio, especially when it came to the production end of the business. As an executive with the Young and Rubicam Advertising Agency, at a time when advertisers held life and death control over most radio programming, Taylor's influence was palpable. His many credits began to mount. Throughout the 1930s and 1940s, Taylor was one of the most in demand producer-directors in radio. Taylor worked on such series as *Silver Theater*, *Sealtest Summer Theater*, *Rexall Summer Theater*, *Tommy Riggs* and *Betty Lou*, *The Adventures of Ozzie*

and *Harriet*, *Blondie*, *Burns and Allen*, *The Dinah Shore Show*, *The Opie Cates Show*, *The Ginny Simms Show*, and *The New Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*.

Glenhall Taylor was a connoisseur of radio anecdotes. He lived until the age of 94 and managed to compile an extensive collection of stories which comprise the backbone of his "rambling reminiscence." For instance, Taylor pays affectionate homage to the team of Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce. For two seasons in the mid-1940s Taylor directed Rathbone and Bruce in *The New Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. Rathbone and Bruce maintained a zany irreverence when it came to rehearsals, inevitably tossing the remains of their pastry snacks at the director's booth, thereby inciting Taylor to dive for cover out of reflex week after week.

Taylor left Young and Rubicam in 1946 and took an executive position with another advertising agency, N.W. Ayer and Son. Taylor's new position had the added attraction of permitting him the luxury of doing some freelance directing. Because of this freedom, Taylor was able to direct Frank Morgan in *The Fabulous Dr. Tweedy*. For N.W. Ayer, Taylor handled *The Jimmy Durante and Garry Moore Show* and *Front and Center*, a series on behalf of the United States Army to spur enlistments.

As dramatic radio faded, Taylor remained with N.W. Ayer & Son but his responsibilities shifted. Eventually, Taylor became supervisor for all of the agency's Hollywood TV production. Radio, however, always seemed to remain at the core of Glenhall Taylor's professional purpose. In the 1970s, Taylor was involved in the aborted efforts to resurrect radio. Taylor contributed 23 scripts to *The Zero Hour* (1973-1974). In 1977, reprising his interest in Sherlock Holmes, Glenhall Taylor wrote 12 scripts for the proposed *Sherlock Holmes Radio Theater*, which was a series reportedly planned by Los Angeles station KIIS. The series was slated to star Edward Mulhare as Holmes and Ben Wright as Dr. Watson. Supposedly, seven of Taylor's scripts were recorded but the series never made it to the air.

Glenhall Taylor's valedictory to radio poignantly sums up a fading age: "So, if radio should rise again, wake me up. It's not that I'm tired; it's just that I fall asleep during the late, late show." 🐼

"Sure, but what does he look like?"

by
FRED ESSEX



oward the end of the silent film era Greta Garbo and John Gilbert were the romantic couple steaming up the black and white screen. Their devoted audience could hardly wait until they made a talkie so they could hear their voices. Then, as the story goes, when sound finally arrived the audience was disillusioned; for, instead of a deep masculine voice, Gilbert's was thin and high pitched. While it was denied that his voice was the cause of his loss of popularity, he eventually faded away.

What has this to do with old-time radio? In the late 1940s the actors on radio realized with the coming of television they could look forward to new opportunities. But there was one big question: What might happen when their faces were seen and they became real people—no longer a character known by a voice? Would there be a renewal of the Gilbert effect?

Fortunately many made the change with complete acceptance by the audience. Those who didn't probably disappointed the viewer for they were physically different from the characters they had created in the mind of the listener.

But for examples on the positive side, start with Don McNeill's *Breakfast Club*, a radio program originating in Chicago and heard daily. There was a regular singer, Fran Allison, who occasionally did comedy

bits as Aunt Fanny, a character she had developed on her own program.

Her performances were during WWII and during the time her husband was stationed overseas she would occasionally go on bond tours. On one she met Burr Tillstrom who was looking for an attractive young woman who could sing and ad lib. He was developing a program for TV. You're ahead of me for you know she became one of the first faces on television as Fran on the highly successful *Kukla, Fran and Ollie*, a program that if it were to be described today would be considered ridiculous; a person having normal dialogue with two puppets, one a doll, Kukla (the Russian and Greek word for doll) and Ollie, a dragon. But she made the transition with flying colors.

Alice Frost was one of the leads in *Mr. & Mrs. North* who went on to perform in many dramatic TV shows. Mercedes McCambridge, who was Rose in *Abie's Irish Rose* as well as various characters on *I Love a Mystery*, segued to films where she won an Oscar and was nominated for another.

Several others made the move successfully to the Hollywood scene. Richard Widmark was an actor on the soaps and also played the title role in *Front Page Farrell*. He was successful appearing in dozens of films, was nominated for an Oscar, and has a star on the



Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Ed Begley, Sr. began as a radio announcer in Connecticut before moving to New York City 10 years later. His talent was recognized and he became the lead in *Charlie Chan* on radio before moving on to TV where he co-starred in *12 Angry Men*. His later successes in motion pictures are well known, and yet it is ironic that he was standing in the unemployment compensation line when notified that he had been nominated for the Oscar, which he later won for his brilliant performance in *Sweet Bird of Youth*.

Remember Clayton Collyer? He was known as Bud Collyer and his best role on radio was playing Superman although he was active on other shows including quizzes. This worked to his advantage for on TV he was named host on such programs as *Beat the Clock* and *To Tell the Truth*.

Carleton Young was Ellery Queen on radio but he photographed well and with his rich baritone voice he moved easily into TV and motion pictures ranging from Disney's *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* to a small but memorable role as the reporter, Maxwell

Continued Page 8

**SPERDVAC
STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2009**

REVENUE:	
CONVENTION	\$23,042
MEMBERSHIP DUES	14,475
LIBRARY FEES	6,137
INTEREST INCOME	5,442
DONATIONS RECEIVED	5,031
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	1,631
MERCHANDISE SALES	43
TOTAL REVENUE:	\$55,800
EXPENDITURES:	
CONVENTION COSTS	\$32,479
NEWSLETTER COSTS	18,680
LIBRARIES EXPENSE	1,702
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE:	
BUILDING EXPENSE	\$7,788
MEETING EXPENSE	1,831
POSTAGE	1,703
MEMBERSHIP EXPENSE	1,668
PRINTING	660
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE	455
DEPRECIATION	448
PHONE	437
SUPPLIES	266
TAX AND LICENSE	55
BAD CHECK EXPENSE	26
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:	\$68,196
EXCESS OF EXPENDITURES OVER REVENUE	(\$12,396)

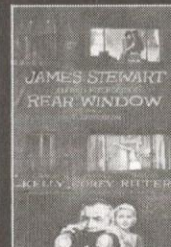
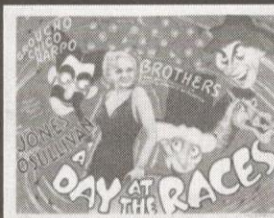
NB \$2,749 of the above expenses were non-cash (Depreciation)

AUDIOPHONIC CORPORATION CAN HELP YOU!

Have your sound recordings, cassettes, reel-to-reel tapes transcriptions, LPS, 78s and wire recordings digitized, de-noised and sweetened professionally with the complete Cedar System. Oh, yes, it's also affordable. Far, far less than any government programs.

Contact Audiophonic Corporation, Cook Recording Laboratory, for details at (719) 687-6357

**AUDIOPHONIC CORPORATION
COOK RECORDING LABORATORY
WILLIAM S. COOK
PRESIDENT**



Serious Buyer Paying Top Dollar for
 Movie Posters (1910-1980) ♦ Lobby Cards ♦ Window Cards
 Film Stills and Entertainment Photography
 Original Screenplays and Scripts ♦ Concert Posters 1920's-1969
 1920's-1930's Jazz and Blues 78 RPM Records



Will buy one piece or entire collections.
 Buying all sizes; any condition accepted.
 Immediate Cash Paid - Finders Fees offered
Always happy to provide appraisals!



RALPH DELUCA

157 Park Avenue ♦ Madison, NJ 07940 USA
 1-800-392-4050 Toll Free ♦ 1-973-377-1007 Outside the US
 1-973-377-4020 Fax ♦ ralph@ralphdeluca.com

For more information check out my website at www.ralphdeluca.com

Scott, who delivered the unforgettable valediction in John Ford's *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance*, when he said, "This is the West, sir. When the legend becomes fact, print the legend."

Kenny Delmar, a successful pitchman for many products including LSMFT, also announced *The Fred Allen Show*. Recognizing his distinctive voice and comedic ability he soon became the character, Senator Claghorn. On Orson Welles' *War of the Worlds* he was the voice of the unnamed Secretary of the Treasury but purposely sounded like FDR. With such ability he moved into voice-over on several TV cartoons as well as into motion pictures playing many characters.

Howie Morris met Carl Reiner by chance in a radio workshop. Both went on to star in TV, notably as second bananas on the Sid Caesar program, *Your Show of Shows*, and later in numerous motion pictures as creative comics. Then, Howie became a director. He was responsible for the great money maker *If It's Tuesday This Must be Belgium* among many others. Carl, along with his other credits, originated *The Dick Van Dyke Show* which brought Mary Tyler Moore to the screens across America.

In the latter days, radio had a reverse effect; it attracted noted Hollywood names to the medium. Who could forget *The Lux Radio Theatre* with Cecil B. DeMille as the host. When they moved the program from New York to Hollywood the first broadcast was an adaptation of a film called *Morocco* which starred Marlene Deitrich and Clark Gable. This was followed with an adaptation of *The Thin Man* which starred those who had played the leads on the screen, Myrna Loy and William Powell. The program was an immediate success and attracted the involvement of movie stars to, of all things, radio.

Another illustration, Fredric March, an Oscar and Tony winner, was a guest on the André Kostelanetz program. He and I sat at a small table in front of 65 musicians and he narrated "Peter and the Wolf" as I cued him throughout the piece. Yes, stars had suddenly recognized the value of radio to their careers and jumped on board for the exposure it provided, even to narrating Prokofiev's musical children's story.

The mental stimulus of radio was like no other. It was emotionally satisfying and listeners were deeply involved with the characters conceived by writers who were skilled in writing for the ear.

Radio could also make them laugh and feel good. And, to the delight of the bottom-lines of corporations, radio convinced people to buy their products. Then, recognizing they had discovered a profitable medium, they continued to purchase additional air time to constantly remind the listeners to sample-and-buy, sample-and-buy, sample-and-buy. Undoubtedly, that led to the creation of the phrase still a prime motivational cliché in ad agencies: "Repetition makes reputation."

The aura of those days remains. There was nothing like it before it morphed into television but thanks to the advent of tape recordings and CDs, there are many old programs still available.

Some of us can still recall the disclaimer (in case someone might have thought a performance was live): "The following is an electrical transcription." Then, the pleasant and friendly radio announcer would add, almost as a reward, "For your listening enjoyment." We bought it for we believed it.

It makes one wonder if Samuel Morse, the inventor of telegraph had a disturbing premonition that his invention could lead to changing the world forever when the first ever transmission in code was "What Hath God Wrought?"

Audio Radiogram Has New Editor

Longtime SPERDVAC member Russell Hudson has been name editor of *Audio Radiogram*, which is a service for SPERDVAC's blind members. Russ replaces Stuart Lubin, who has retired after many years of service.

Russ has been associated with his local radio reading service for the blind in Bethlehem, PA (www.radprin.org) for 15 years as a board member, live reader, tapist, show producer, and even a "techie," helping the blind staff do things difficult or impossible for them to do around the studio. Russ has been taping *Radiogram* for nine of the 15 years.

Longtime reader Russ Alberti has also resigned, and so SPERDVAC is looking for an additional reader, perhaps two additional readers (see advertisement below). If anyone can assist then contact Russ at HUDSONATWTS@YAHOO.COM or write to him at 3836 Harper Court in Bethlehem, PA 18020-7570. His telephone number is 610-866-0386.



RADIOGRAM NEEDS YOU!

"YES, RADIOGRAM NEEDS YOUR HELP!"

SPERDVAC is seeking volunteers to help our blind members enjoy Radiogram as much as you do. Each month, readers make a C-90 audio cassette of Radiogram that's distributed to our blind members, providing them full access to feature articles, advertisements, club news, new library pages and librarians, and much more.

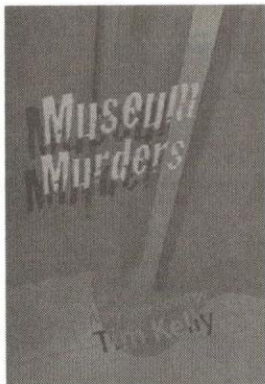
If you have equipment at home that can record audio cassettes with good fidelity, please consider becoming a volunteer to read *Radiogram*. Our volunteers read an average of three *Radiogram* issues per year, and we are seeking new volunteers to join our team. This is also a great way for you to answer the call to volunteer your services to SPERDVAC from the comfort of your own hometown.

To audition as a reader, please send an approximate 10-minute audio recording of the feature article from this issue to:

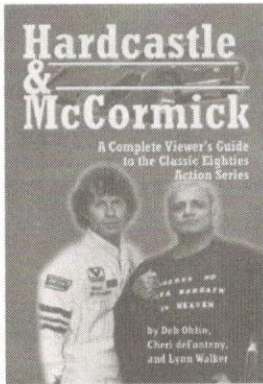
Russell S. Hudson
3836 Harper Court
Bethlehem, PA 18020-7570
Tel: 610-866-0386
EMAIL: HUDSONATWTS@YAHOO.COM

And please be sure to include a short bio of yourself. Thanks so much!

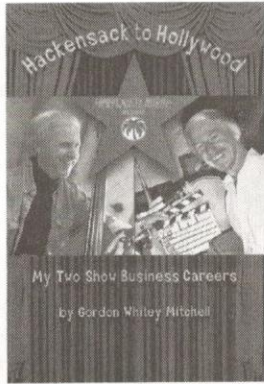
Bear Manor Media



\$19.95



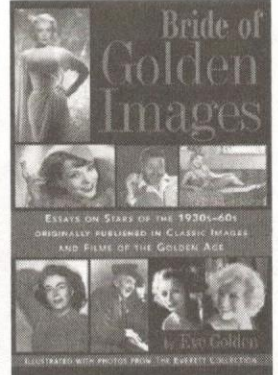
\$34.95



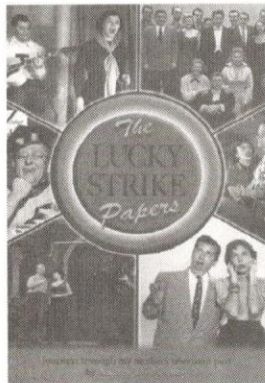
\$21.95



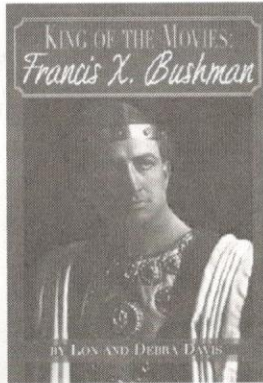
\$19.95



COMING IN JUNE



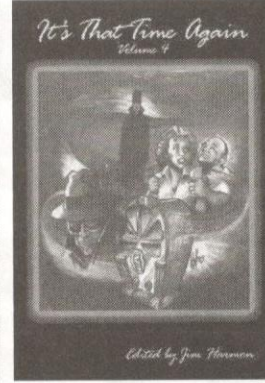
\$24.95



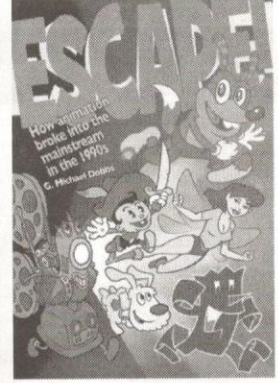
\$24.95



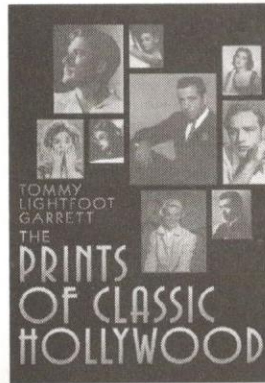
\$29.95



\$19.95



\$19.95



\$24.95



\$29.95

Check out our latest titles!

For details on these, and nearly a hundred other books, visit

www.bearmanormedia.com

Add \$5.00 shipping for the first book, \$1.00 for each additional book

Please join our online mailing list for news and coupons!

<http://groups.google.com/group/bearmanor>

BearManor Media • PO Box 71426 • Albany, GA 31708

Hello, Miss I



Oscar winning actress Shirley Booth, known to baby-boomers as Hazel in the early 1960s TV adaptation of the Ted Key cartoon, had a diverse career that included many roles on radio where her distinctive voice graced everything from *Duffy's Tavern* to *The Adventures of Ellery Queen*.

Of that voice, Miss Booth once said, "I rode the New York subways and eavesdropped on as many conversations between girls as I could...but I'm afraid many of them aren't printable."

Duffy

by JIM MANAGO

Shirley Booth (born Marjory Ford) managed to succeed on stage, screen, and television. During the 1940s she kept quite busy doing radio. One of the earliest credited, but unconfirmed, appearances of Shirley Booth on a radio show occurred on December 17, 1936 with *The Royal Gelatin Hour* starring Rudy Vallee and the Connecticut Yankees. Booth and Douglas Montgomery appear in "Three Diamond Bid," possibly a parody of her stage hit *Three Men on a Horse*.

Sometimes what might seem to be a parody may not be. A supposed appearance by Booth on an episode of Fred Allen's show in 1945, entitled "Brooklyn Pinafore," is not connected to Booth and her Broadway show at that time, "Hollywood Pinafore." A copy of the show surfaced after my biography came out, and as it turns out, Booth did not even appear in the show in question. So, there's vague information that circulates which makes it difficult to state facts without a physical copy of the radio show.

While performing on Broadway in *The Philadelphia Story*, Booth apparently joined the cast of *The Goldbergs* on CBS in July of 1939. Gertrude Berg, who wrote the serial and starred as Molly, selected Booth over others auditioning for the part. Booth played a character named Ana, whom the Goldbergs picked up in their trailer while touring the U.S. and Canada.

Shirley Booth's voice is unmistakable. There was a baby-voiced quality to it, similar to Fannie Brice's Baby Snooks, but not exactly. As Miss Duffy on *Duffy's Tavern*, Booth's delivery in that "Brooklyn twang," with all the mutilated talk, accounts for plenty of the audience satisfaction. Where or when she developed her sound is anyone's guess. It might have developed in part when the Fords lived in Flatbush, a section of Brooklyn, New York.

Booth told a magazine interviewer in 1951 that she developed her voice as such: "I rode

the New York subways and eavesdropped on as many conversations between girls as I could...but I'm afraid many of them aren't printable."

For three seasons (1941-43), two on CBS and one on the NBC-Blue Radio network, Booth lent her Brooklynese voice to the irrepressibly funny and light-hearted Miss Duffy, the cashier daughter of the owner of the tavern on *Duffy's Tavern*.

Booth: "The audience loved Miss Duffy. Every time I had a personal victory on the show they had one. It's true that not many people knew I played Miss Duffy but that was the way I wanted it. I wanted them to remember the fictional character. In fact, I believe that all applause for actors at the end of a play should be eliminated. The play should end with them in character. The curtain should come down and the audience is carried away with the play."

Booth's first husband Ed Gardner wore many hats. He produced, directed, wrote and acted in the radio program.

It had been commonly believed that no shows with Booth survived. However, two episodes with her have surfaced. Susan Hayward and Frank Buck are the guest stars on the show dated March 23, 1943. The other show has Clifton Fadiman as the guest star. The following is part of an exchange from the latter show, broadcast June 15, 1943. It is typical of the lunatic and wisecracking Miss Duffy; however, it suffers here without Booth's superb comedic delivery.

Miss Duffy: Archie, did you see my Dostoyevsky?

Archie: Your what?

Miss Duffy: My Dostoyevsky.

Archie: Is it an animal, vegetable or mineral?

Miss Duffy: No, it's a book.

Archie: Miss Duffy, what would you be doing with a book?

Miss Duffy: Well, Clifton Fadiman is coming down here and I don't want him to



catch me not reading.

Archie: Well, naturally.

Miss Duffy: You see, if everybody stopped reading, authors would stop writing. And if authors stopped writing because nobody was reading, Mr. Fadiman being a critic couldn't read what authors were writing and that would put an end to his writing about reading and the poor man would be out of a job.

Archie: Mmm, yeah, I see what you mean.

Miss Duffy: Or to put it in another way, if author's write and people don't read...

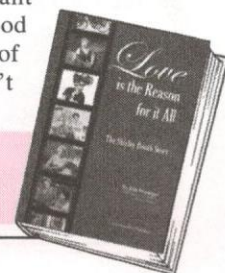
Archie: Oh please, Miss Duffy, I don't think I care to go around again.

Booth appeared on *Duffy's Tavern* from March 1, 1941 to June 29, 1943.

Ed once told her: "Shirley, people envy me my success, but they all hope you'll make it to the top one of these days. They say, good ol' Shirley. She's been pluggin' away a long time." Booth explained: "The difference was that Ed, who's really a very talented man, rose to the top so very fast."

Just as rehearsals for the Broadway show *Tomorrow the World* began, Booth's marriage to Ed fell apart. Ed went into her dressing room at the theatre and asked her for a divorce because he loved another woman. Gardner would marry Simone Hegeman thereafter.

Years later Booth would reflect: "I gave up the stage in the early days of our marriage. I thought it more important to be a good wife than a good actress. I took good care of him. I saw that he didn't



Adapted from "Hello, Miss Duffy: The 1940s" in *Love is the Reason for it All: The Shirley Booth Story* by Jim Manago with radio research by Donna Manago and a foreword by Ted Key. Published by BearManor Media (2008) and used by permission of the author.



Shirley Booth in 1937 portrait

drink too much and that he husbanded his strength. Maybe I took too good care of him. The concentration you need for acting . . . it isn't always good in private life. Having been alone part of the time, you dedicate yourself to marriage. You get sold on the idea so much you want to be with them more than they want to be with you."

For a couple of months (April - June 1943), until she bowed out of doing *Duffy's Tavern*, Booth had to do her radio show on Tuesday nights for East Coast audiences at 8:30 p.m. Her curtain call for *Tomorrow, the World* was at 8:55 p.m. Then she needed to go back to the radio studio after the play to do Miss Duffy for West Coast audiences.

The hectic schedule balancing her time between radio studio and theater stage is explained by Booth: "I sneak out of the NBC studio, jump into a taxi, and pray that the traffic lights won't stop me. There's a studio rehearsal every Monday afternoon, and at 7:30 that night we give a preview. On Tuesdays we work from 3 'till 7:30, when I rush here to the theater to make up and dress for the play. Before 8:30 I'm at the studio again, ready to go on the air. The worst of all, though, is getting back there after the play for the west coast broadcast, which starts at 11:30."

Booth would eventually say: "I've played the part so long that Miss Duffy will own me if I don't break away. I invented her. She's really another incarnation of Mabel in *Three Men on*

a Horse, and I've got to get out of her clutches before it's too late. In radio, with millions of listeners, the public identifies you with the part you play. It's now or never for me."

Booth got divorced in August of 1943.

Booth told a *Herald Tribune* reporter: "I've never mentioned this before but there was a time after my divorce when I came closest to having a nervous breakdown. I guess I just lost my confidence, that's all. Suddenly I was afraid to face an audience. I can't describe how horrible it was to go out in front of a thousand people and I feel my insides jerking, sweat pouring out of my palms, completely unsure for the first and last time in my life. I fought it. I went to all kinds of doctors, but the only medicine that seemed to work was the hardest to take - just keep going out there."

Not too long after the divorce, Booth met a noncommissioned army officer, Corporal William Hogg Baker, Jr. Several months later Corporal Baker married Shirley Booth. Baker had received a four-day furlough from the 100th division in Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

Booth lived in a townhouse apartment in 1943 on East 61 Street in New York City. Her love of interior design led to her frequent redecorating. She decided to make "...the bedrooms very frivolous and very frou-frou - pink." Then, "I couldn't stand to live in pink anymore so now I'm doing it all over again with white walls, yellow bedspread and maybe green and white chairs."

With an investment broker background, Baker became Booth's manager. Booth, for the second time, retired to focus on being a wife. With their savings the couple bought Windrace, a 64-acre dairy farm in Bucks County, PA, complete with cows, sheep and chickens. Booth: "I'm a farm girl to start with,

you know. ... We raised cows. We'd go to bed at nine in the evening and get up a dawn."

Interestingly Booth's own personal life at this time remarkably paralleled a story she did for *The Cavalcade of America* radio program, "The Gals They Left Behind," broadcast on August 14, 1944.

Booth played Jo, wife of Corporal Bill Sullivan. Her co-star Helen Claire played Cathy Smith, wife of Private Hank Smith. This home front story tells of two soldiers' wives who bravely fight the loneliness, struggle through the demanding farm life, and keep busy doing the ordinary chores until the day when their men will return from the war.

It opens as the two New York City women arrive in Maine, to take over a run-down farmhouse. They deal with many strange and new challenges, such as a dead muskrat in the well, caring for the hens, a cow giving birth to twins, and so forth. There's also the cold temperature of 40 degrees below zero. Jo writes letters to Bill throughout the story, and keeps Bill's pipe in her bed as a talisman to remember him. She tries to keep things all together, telling Cathy that she just suffers from "a cracked morale." These women will stick together as the story concludes with talk of painting the farmhouse in the spring.

After the war, at the Bucks County farmhouse, Bill painted and Shirley took up the activity too. She became quite adept at it.

Her two farm mascots were the red-brown cocker spaniel ("Baker's Candy") and a boxer ("Sugar"). Booth explained about "Baker's Candy": "I became a painter when my husband did that portrait of our dog. But he painted him with his tail drooping. I took the brushes and repainted the tail so it is standing defiantly up in the air. Since then I've been a determined artist."

Booth: "I love painting—painting ceilings and the kitchen walls. Also oil painting. I do oils. It's the most absorbing occupation one could have. You can say this about an oil painting—it somehow never gets done. There's always one more touch you discover you can add."

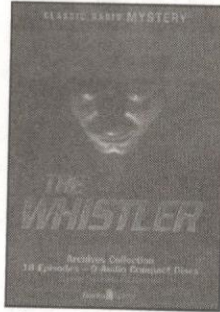
She continued to do radio shows. Booth appeared on NBC's *Eddie Bracken Show* in the recurring role of Betty Mahoney. This part provided her the opportunity to continue her famous "Mahoney" character that she did so well on so many radio variety shows, including

Booth would eventually say: "I've played the part so long that Miss Duffy will own me if I don't break away."

NEW RADIO CLASSICS ON CD

HURRY AND GET FREE SHIPPING*

Use Offer Code: **RG509** Offer expires: **June 15, 2009**

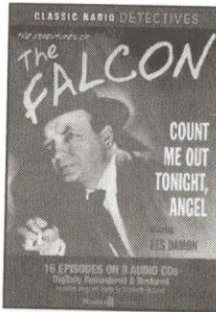


The Whistler

While the shadows are lonely - a place where lost and lethal souls withdraw into solitude of their own minds - there is one who knows that they are not deserted. Into this dark and murky realm there is one who can see with cutting clarity... The Whistler!

Episodes Include: The Man Who Died Twice 09-24-45, Death Laughs Last 10-08-45, The House on Sycamore Road 10-15-45, Final Return 10-29-45, Harvest of Death 11-05-45, The Seeing Eye 11-12-45, Coincidence 11-19-45, Harvest of Death 11-05-45, The Seeing Eye 11-12-45, Coincidence 11-19-45, The Stray Dream 11-26-45, The Sheriff's Assistant 04-07-47, Stormy Weather 12-12-48, Telltale Brand 01-09-49, The Last Curtain 02-13-49, Murder in Mind 04-16-50, Return with the Spray 04-23-50, The Return 05-21-50, Rebound 06-11-50, Jessica 06-18-50, Manhunt 06-25-50

Item # 4380CD - \$35.95
18 Episodes, 9 Hrs



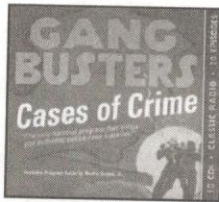
The Adventures of The Falcon

"Always ready with a hand for oppressed men, and an eye for repressed women." Michael Waring is the freelance investigator and adventurer known to one and all as *The Falcon*. He can be suave and charming, but there's never any doubt about his nail-spitting toughness. **Les Damon** brings an ever-so-slightly-world-weary tone to the title role. These broadcasts also feature **Jackson Beck**, announcer **Ed Herlihy**, and include a single episode starring **James Meighan** as *The Falcon*. Program Guide by radio historian **Elizabeth McLeod**.

Episodes Included: Muder is a Family Affair 11-27-45 starring **James Meighan** as *The Falcon*, The Case of the Quarrelsome Quartet 09-03-50, The Case of the Worried Champion 09-10-50, The Case of the Double Deal 09-17-50, The Case of the Friendly Target 09-24-50, The Case of the Talented Twins 10-01-50, The Case of the Invisible Thug 01-07-51, The Case of the Happy Hoodlum 01-14-51, The Case of the Substitute Target 01-21-51, The Case of the Worried Wife 04-01-51, The Case of the Carved Ham 04-08-51, The Case of the Shopkeepers Gun 04-15-51, The Case of the Missing Miss 04-22-51, The Case of the Beautiful Bait 08-22-51, The Case of the Gold Ring 02-24-52, The Case of the Vanishing Visa 06-19-52

Item # 44212 - \$31.95
16 Episodes, 8 Hrs

of the Invisible Thug 01-07-51, The Case of the Substitute Target 01-21-51, The Case of the Worried Wife 04-01-51, The Case of the Carved Ham 04-08-51, The Case of the Shopkeepers Gun 04-15-51, The Case of the Missing Miss 04-22-51, The Case of the Beautiful Bait 08-22-51, The Case of the Gold Ring 02-24-52, The Case of the Vanishing Visa 06-19-52

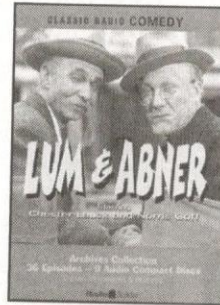


Gang Busters

When Phillips H. Lord created his long running Gang Busters radio series in January of 1936, crime was rampant and criminals (both actual and fictional) were being glamorized in movies and newspapers. In response, Lord brought the public this police procedural series, dramatizing stories of real cops who kept real counterfeiter, safe crackers, and killers off the streets - and even broadcasting alerts for criminals known to be at large.

Item # 44182 - \$39.98
20 Episodes, 10 Hrs

Episodes Include: The Case of Dwight Beard 11-01-40, The Case of the Nickel and Dime Bandits 03-28-41, The Case of the Missing Corpse (or The Case of Mrs. Gangbusters) 04-04-41, The Case of the Jersey Butcher Bandits 11-08-47, The Case of the Triple Threat Bandit 12-27-47, The Case of the Oliver Brothers (or Brothers in Banditry) 01-31-48, The Case of the Broadway Bandits 03-20-48, The Case of the Cumberland Safe Cracker (or The Case of the Ray Ernest Gang) 03-27-48, The Case of the High School Hot Shots 04-10-48, The Case of the Quincy Killers 04-24-48, The Case of Craig and Motes (or The Case of the Tennessee Triggermen) 06-19-48, The Case of the Mysterious Rooming House 07-24-48, The Case of the Cincinnati Narcotics Ring 09-25-48, The Case of the Appointment With Death 12-18-48, The Case of the Counterfeit Combine 01-29-49, The Case of the Sledgehammer Handicap (or The Case of the Laughing Bandits) 06-11-49, The Case of the Elusive Leader 10-22-49, The Case of the Hue and the Cry 11-26-49, The Case of the Golden Touch 01-07-50, The Case of the Lost Gun (or The Danville Bank Job) 02-05-50



Lum & Abner

Confirmed bachelor Lum Edwards is an earnest entrepreneur - stable, yet stumbling. Forever jumping to conclusions, Abner Peabody tends to act first and ask questions later. Together, these silly silver-haired citizens of Pine Ridge, Arkansas are the proprietors of the Jot 'Em Down Store. And now, let's see what's going on down in Pine Ridge.

Episodes Include: Lum to Start Print Shop 05-12-42, Press to Print Store Bills 05-14-42, Abner Sleeping on the Job 05-15-42, Oxford Overnight Writers 05-18-42, More Money in Publishing 05-19-42, Contribute to the USO 05-21-42, Jewels on Squire's Property 05-22-42, Property Deal Goes Sour 05-25-42, Phantom Author's Manuscript 05-26-42, Abner is Frightened Author 05-28-42, Author Reveals His Identity 05-29-42, Old Eddards Saying 06-01-42, Store Full of Owls 06-02-42, Robert Blevins is Killed 06-04-42, Cedric Tries to Get a Date 06-05-42, Greeting Card Business 06-08-42, Greeting Card Verses 06-09-42, Tries to Get Poetic License 06-11-42, How to Win Back Clarabelle 06-12-42, Writing to Advice Column 06-15-42, Desperate Love Life 06-16-42, Cedric to Join the Marines 06-18-42, How to Boss Your Wife 06-19-42, Peace for Abner and Elizabeth 06-22-42, Rumors to Help Abner 06-23-42, The Rumor Backfires 06-25-42, Elizabeth and Pearl Leave 06-26-42, Lum is Blamed for Troubles 06-29-42, The Masked Muskrat Reports 06-30-42, Where is Elizabeth 07-02-42, Baby Left in Store 07-03-42, Moussey Takes Care of Baby 07-06-42, Lum and Abner to Keep Baby 07-07-42, Lum Dresses as a Woman 07-08-42, Threats From Black Pelican 07-09-42, Black Pelican's Confession 07-13-42

Item # 4001CD - \$35.95
36 Episodes, 9 Hrs

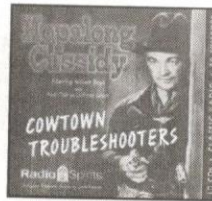


Our Miss Brooks - Volume 2

Here are 18 episodes of America's most engaging English Teacher - Our Miss Brooks! Today's lessons have less to do with language and more to do with love, as the faltering forward **Connie Brooks (Eve Arden)** continues her quest for the romantically reserved Mr. Boynton (**Jeff Chandler**). Overseeing, and undermining, our heroine is the peevish Principal **Conklin (Gale Gordon)**. And, dutiful student **Walter Denton (Richard Crenna)** is always on hand for Miss Brooks' misadventures.

Item # 4433CD - \$35.95
18 Episodes, 9 Hrs

Episodes Include: First show 07-19-48, Putting the Touch on Miss Brooks 10-24-48, Clay City Football Game 10-31-48, Babysitting 11-14-48, Custodian of Student Funds 01-30-49, The Frog 02-20-49, Stretch Has a Problem 02-27-49, Cafeteria Boycott 03-13-49, Poetry Mix-Up 03-20-49, Mr. Conklin's Wake-Up Plan 04-10-49, The Wishing Well Dance 06-12-49, Will Connie Resign? 07-31-49, Rival Football 10-02-49, Party Line 11-20-49, Cure That Habit! 01-15-50, School on Saturday 01-29-50, Rare Black Orchid 05-21-50, Audition Show 06-23-48



Hopalong Cassidy

For decades a popular hero of novels, short stories, and movies, Hopalong Cassidy became a seemingly overnight entertainment phenomenon when he burst in to the new medium of television in 1949. Shortly thereafter, he moseyed over to his very own radio series. **William Boyd** stars as Hoppy in this collection, riding out from the Bar 20 astride his trusty horse Topper. **Andy Clyde** co-stars as California Carlson alongside some classic golden voices, including those of **Howard McNear** and **Barton Yarborough**.

Item # 44202 - \$39.98
20 Episodes, 10 Hrs

Episodes Include: Coming Attraction: Murder 02-03-51, The Cold Country 02-24-51, Buckshot Badman 03-03-51, The Boss of Vinegar Bend 03-10-51, The Man in the Yellow Mask 06-16-51, Run, Sheep, Run 06-23-51, Hoppy Meets his Match 06-30-51, Bayou Drums Mean Death 10-27-51, Cleanup of Caribou Mesa 11-03-51, Six Little Men Who Were Green 11-10-51, The Devil and El Diablo 11-24-51, The Secret in the Hill 12-08-51, The Memory of Mace Melot 12-15-51, The Killers of Lion Canyon 12-29-51, The Wastrels of Juarez 01-05-52, Danger Wears Two Faces 01-19-52, Bull Fight 02-09-52, The Women of Windy Ridge 02-16-52, Stamped at Semple's Crossing 03-01-52

Order Anytime at www.RadioSpirits.com or Call **800-833-4248**

Mail orders gladly accepted at the address below (NJ residents add 7% sales tax)

Valid for shipping to an address in the United States.

This offer cannot be combined with any other promotion.

P.O. Box 3107, Wallingford, CT 06494-3107





Shirley Booth and her then husband Ed Gardner in *Duffy's Tavern*

Fred Allen's shows. On Kate Smith's show she called the ditzy girl "Dottie" Mahoney; however, it was the same character.

She appeared several times on *Hallmark's Reader's Digest Radio*. The May 8, 1947 show opens with the master of ceremonies, Broadway actor and producer Richard Kollmar, introducing Booth in this exchange:

Kollmar: Thank you, Tom Shirley, and Good Evening Ladies and Gentlemen. Tonight we bring you the story of a marriage. A story set in the granite hills of Vermont where people take a rugged pride in concealing what is deepest in their hearts. Tonight you will meet an extraordinary woman. To play her part the makers of Hallmark Greeting Cards have chosen an extraordinary actress, known for her vivid characterizations, her humor, and her fine dramatic talent. She has been seen on Broadway as Ruth in *My Sister Eileen*, Elizabeth in *The Philadelphia Story* and the lead in *Tomorrow, the World*. Incidentally, she happens to be one of my favorite stars, Shirley Booth.

Booth: Thank you, Dick. It's nice of you.

Kollmar: . . . Shirley, I couldn't say anything about your talent the public doesn't know.

Booth: Dick, do you by any chance write those nice messages on the Hallmark Greeting Cards?

Kollmar: Well, no, why do you ask?

Booth: You always say the correct and appropriate things.

Kollmar: Lady, I am susceptible to flattery.

Booth: That's what I counted on. But, Dick, it's good to be here. And I'm enchanted with the part of Paulina. She reminds me of something I read not long ago in the *Reader's Digest*.

Kollmar: What was that?

Booth: A little bit of wisdom by Oscar Wilde. It really sums up our story, he said: "Men always want to be a woman's first love, but women have more subtle instincts—they like to be a man's last romance."

Kollmar: That's right on target for tonight. Ladies & Gentlemen the makers of Hallmark Greeting Cards take pleasure in presenting on the *Reader's Digest Radio* edition, Shirley Booth in the story of one woman's love, "Uncle By's Two Wives."

Shirley Booth would appear on many other radio shows including, *The Adventures of Ellery Queen* (East Coast edition), *The Adventures of the Red-Feathered Man*, *Arthur Hopkins Presents*, *Betty and Bob*, *Celebrity Club*, *Columbia Workshop*, *Hogan's Daughters*, *It Pays to Be Ignorant*, *Pabst Blue Ribbon Hour*, *The Raleigh Room*, *The RCA Show*, *The Silver Theater*, *Stage Door Canteen*, *Strictly Business*, *The Texaco Star Theater*, *Theater Guild on the Air*, *Theater of Romance*, *This is New York*, *Treasury Star Parade*, and *The Vaughn Monroe Show*. ♣

A complete radio log is part of the Shirley Booth biography. The author writes a blog devoted to Shirley Booth at <http://shirleybooth.info>.



December 14, 1941
with

PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
speaking from the White House

and

EDWARD ARNOLD • WALTER BRENNAN
BOB BURNS • WALTER HUSTON
MARJORIE MAIN • EDWARD G. ROBINSON
JAMES STEWART • RUDY VALLEE
ORSON WELLES

Written and Directed by
NORMAN CORWIN

Musical Score by

BERNARD HERRMANN

NBC Orchestra Conducted by

LEOPOLD STOKOWSKI

A Combined

American Radio Networks Broadcast

Sides One and Two of
MASTER REEL 42

SPERDVAC ARCHIVES LIBRARY

sperdvac



The Readers Have Their Say


That woman with red hair

A recent issue of *Radiogram* (February 2009) had an article about Barbara Britton and her radio work as Pam in the *Mr. and Mrs. North* radio series of the early fifties. I had the pleasure of doing a new play with her back in March of 1955, its script written by Sam Locke and Paul Roberts. We did *The Woman with Red Hair*, a three-character drama, at the Circle Theatre in Hollywood, and had another radio artist working with us. Carleton G. Young was well known then as having been the star of *The Adventures of Ellery Queen* radio program in the forties and as *The Count of Monte Cristo* over the Mutual network from 1944 through 1952. Carleton's teenaged son, Tony, attended rehearsals before we launched the play, and it was easy to see he'd follow in his father's footsteps when he grew older, choosing to perform as "Tony Young" for his film and tv appearances.

Doing the show in the round, almost in the laps of our audience, Carleton suavely played Barbara's live-in lover/psychiatrist, and Barbara had a somewhat psychopathic role due to my being her unstable young brother so we had a fine time scaring the unwary public who came to see us. Barbara left the show many performances later, and was replaced by Phyllis Coates, who had been Lois Lane for the first season of the Superman filmed series. It was a rewarding time for all of us and we went on to do many more roles in a variety of media shows.

I wish Barbara and Carleton were still with us, for I know they would have loved to attend the radio conventions as much as my wife and I enjoy being with all of you. I had a marvelous time in Seattle last year, since doing several recreations of old scripts revived the excitement of working before a live audience again so we look forward to being at the Beverly Garland hotel in North Hollywood this year.

Jan Merlin
e-mail



Oscar cordially invites you to
THE ACADEMY AWARDS
March 2, 1944 - KFWB-LA aircheck featuring Ken Carpenter, Jack Benny, Jack Warner, Darryl F. Zanuck, Hal Wallis, Donald Crisp, Charles Coburn, Teresa Wright, Cortina Paxxonon, George Murphy, Paul Lukas, Greer Garson and Jennifer Jones. Preshow by George Jessel, Eileen Taylor and Neil Reagan.
SPERDVAC ARCHIVES MASTER REEL 170

All things relative

In the April 2009 edition of *Radiogram* there is a biographical sketch of Mr. Paul Harvey (Aurandt). It mentions that he comes from a long line of Baptist ministers.

I now refer you to page 145 of the SPERDVAC general library catalog. Specifically, I point to reel 1035, side 1, part b. It mentions that a Mr. Dick Aurandt appeared on Mr. Paul Harvey's newscast of 03-22-59 to announce that he would be performing his rendition of the 23rd Psalm at the upcoming Easter sunrise services.

Due to the common surname of Aurandt and shared Christianity (Baptist ministers and Easter sunrise services and 23rd Psalm) it tickles my "little gray cells" (ref: Monsieur Poirot) to suspect that there is a familial relationship between these two men: Paul Harvey (Aurandt) and Dick Aurandt.

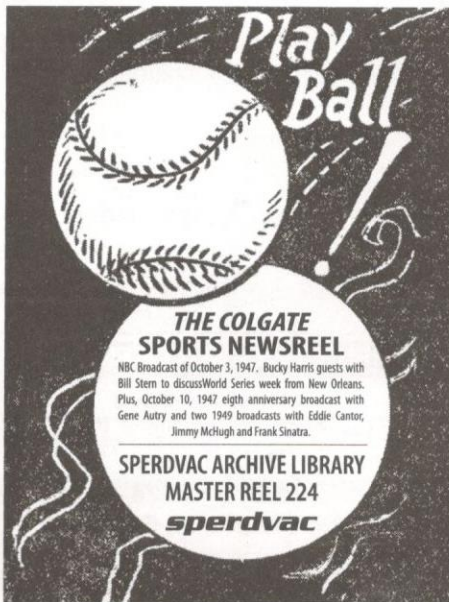
In some future issue of *Radiogram* could you be so kind as to clarify what relationship, if any, existed between these two men.

As a footnote, I would mention that many SPERDVAC tapes of "old time" radio shows that I have had the pleasure of listening to I think I have heard the name of Richard Aurandt being credited with providing musical accompaniment or background for those shows. I presume Richard Aurandt and Dick Aurandt are one and the same person.

Thank you for your attentiveness and persistence in publishing our *Radiogram* newsletter.

Anthony Chan
Monterey Park, CA

Sorry, Anthony, but ol' ed is ignorant about this relationship. If anyone can help Anthony be sure to contact us.



Play Ball
THE COLGATE SPORTS NEWSREEL
NBC Broadcast of October 3, 1947. Bucky Harris guests with Bill Stern to discuss World Series week from New Orleans. Plus, October 10, 1947 eighth anniversary broadcast with Gene Autry and two 1949 broadcasts with Eddie Cantor, Jimmy McHugh and Frank Sinatra.
**SPERDVAC ARCHIVE LIBRARY
MASTER REEL 224
sperdvac**

Signing off on Sarnoff

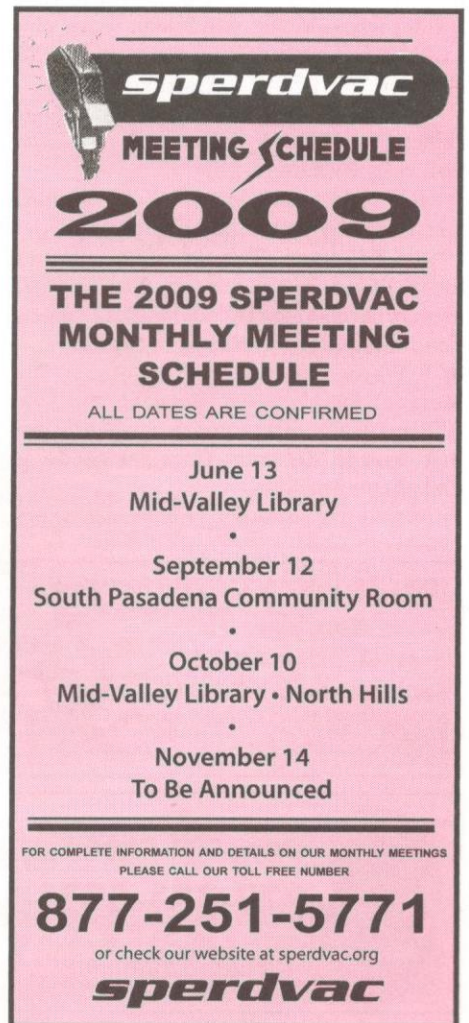
Somewhere self-promoter David Sarnoff may be chuckling about thye pit *Radiogram* fell into with your October caption.

Jim Cox's article made him an innocent bystander. But Oliver Berliner, in "RCA was co-founded by General Electric and Westinghouse" (In the Mail Nov/Dec 2008) deepened the pit.

History shows that GE was indeed RCA's found in 1919 with government blessing to pool patents and enable a takeover of American Marconi Company's assets. Westinghouse joined only after its KDKA triumph in 1920.

Also, Sarnoff was not "hired by GE and W as general manager of RCA in 1919." As an American Marconi Co. staff member, he came with the takeover, initially as No. 3 RCA executive (see pp. 31-40 of my book, *The Rise of Radio, from Marconi through the Golden Age*).

Alfred Balk
Huntley, IL



sperdvac
MEETING SCHEDULE
2009
THE 2009 SPERDVAC MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE
ALL DATES ARE CONFIRMED

- June 13
Mid-Valley Library
- September 12
South Pasadena Community Room
- October 10
Mid-Valley Library • North Hills
- November 14
To Be Announced

FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION AND DETAILS ON OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS PLEASE CALL OUR TOLL FREE NUMBER
877-251-5771
or check our website at sperdvac.org
sperdvac



BearManor Media releases collection of new OTR tales

BearManor Media of Albany, GA has released a new anthology of yet new tales featuring old-time radio characters. *It's That Time Again*, edited by OTR historian Jim Harmon, joins three previous volumes of original short stories that feature "beloved characters from the world of old-time radio [who] are not gone forever, but live again in these pages in brand new stories."

The stories are not, as BearManor states, "re-tread scripts," but are in standard reading form. "Using your own imagination," BearManor continues, "you can not only read them but hear those voices and sounds in your mind."

Among the 17 stories is one by Jim Harmon that chronicles an interesting heretofore lost adventure of Sherlock Holmes "out west" where the world's first consulting detective joins forces with Tom Mix to track down a killer whose victim was found "hung in a sealed room where there was no noose to be found."

Additional stories include a *Lights Out!* thriller by William F. Nolan and an *Escape* thriller by Richard A. Lupoff.

Ray Nelson contributes a *Rocky Fortune* tale from the Frank Sinatra series of the 1950s; Robert C. Reinehr offers another mystery for Sam Spade's alias *Charlie Wild*; mystery novelist Dan Holliday of *Box 13* meets *Candy Matson* in "The Case of the Latours" by T. Wayne Clay, and Mr. Clay offers "The Morgue" for *Murder at Midnight*; and Lyle William Kelly offers another mystery for that strange Mr. Frank Chandler known as *Chandu the Magician*.

Noted OTR historian Jack French writes



"The Cisco Kid at Fort Laramie" and "The Backstage Murder" for *Two on a Clue*. Barbara Gratz has *Johnny Dollar* solve "The Premium Matter," and Dawn Kovner offers "The Real Story" of *Mr. District Attorney*.

Stephen A. Kallis, Jr., author of the definitive book on radio's Captain Midnight, offers his own Jim Albright story in "The Case of the Disappearing Diner." Kallis also puts *Mr. Keen, Tracer of Lost Persons* on "The Private Fortress Murder Case."

Rounding the collection are: *Frontier Gentleman*: "The Sam Bass Mystery" by Jon D. Swartz; *Peter Quill*: "Doom of the Red Circle" by Jim Harmon; and a Jack Benny story titled "The Mystery of Jack Benny's Vault" by Dashiell X. Doyle.

The 276-page trade paperback is available at Amazon.com or from BearManor directly; see the advertisement on page 7 for address and website information.



McGee's Closet is a free service to our members and honorary members. Send your wants in OTR-related material to spervac@aol.com (the preferred method) or write to McGee's Closet, P.O. Box 669, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266-0669. Please specify desired taping format (cassette, open reel, recordable CD, or DAT). Also, please include your membership number with your advertisement.

FOR SALE

For Sale 300 open reel Old Time Radio Shows, 1/2 track and many 4 track tapes. Great library collection. Popular and rare shows. News, band remotes, serials, etc. No lists, but I assure you this is a tremendous offer (MYSTO99@AOL.COM) JOHN COOPER RT. 1 BOX 371 CLARKSBURG, WV 2630109754B.

COMING NEXT MONTH!
COMPLETE COVERAGE OF CONVENTION 2009!

SPERDVAC INFORMATION

SPERDVAC INFORMATION AND OFFICIAL BUSINESS
P.O. Box 669, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266-0669
TOLL FREE 877-251-5771 or DIRECT (310) 219 - 0053

MEMBERSHIP, ADDRESS CHANGES AND RADIOGRAM SUBSCRIPTIONS

Barry Opliger, 435 Garfield Ave. Apt. 306, South Pasadena, CA 91030

ACQUISITIONS

Discs, Tapes and Printed Materials: Dan Haefele, 13720 Jefferson Avenue, Hawthorne, CA 90250, (310) 973-5060, DanHaefele@aol.com for General and Archives Libraries.

CATALOGS

Bob Steinmetz, P.O. Box 669, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266-0669, SPERDVAC@aol.com.

FOR VOLUNTEER INFORMATION CALL OUR TOLL FREE NUMBER
877-251-5771

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT spervac.org

PRINTED MATERIALS

PRINTED MATERIALS
\$1 with minimum order of \$6

Bobb Lynes
P.O. Box 628
South Pasadena, CA 91031

VIDEO LIBRARY

VIDEO TAPES
\$5 per tape for one month's rental

Jerry Williams
381 Table Mountain
Oroville, CA 95965
mrj1313@sbcglobal.net

SEND YOUR CHANGE OF ADDRESS INFORMATION TO

Barry Opliger
435 Garfield Ave. Apt. 306
South Pasadena, CA 91030-2241



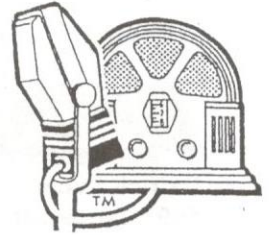
CALL TOLL FREE!

877-251-5771

spervac

Please order from only one library per form. OK to reproduce form.

SPERDVAC Library Order Form



Name _____ Date _____
Membership # _____

Address, City, Zip _____

Enclosed is my check or money order, made payable to SPERDVAC, in the amount of \$_____ to cover the costs of borrowing the following tapes or CDs: (Indicate library, format, choices. List alternates on bottom.) Remember: the more alternates you list, the easier it is to quickly fill your order.

- Hollywood Museum cassettes only** Glenda Kelley, 2323 Ralston Lane, Redondo Beach, CA 90278
First five choices: _____ **5 cassettes for \$5.50**
- General Library cassettes 1-500** Bob Steinmetz, P. O. Box 669, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266-0669
First five choices: _____ **5 selections for \$8.75**
- General Library cassettes 501-1000** Hoag Schmele, 4067 Solana Dr., Palo Alto, CA 94306-3167
First five choices: _____ **5 selections for \$8.75**
- General Library cassettes 1001-1500** Jim Hardin, 20655 Chattsworth St., Chattsworth, CA 91311-1632
First five choices: _____ **5 selections for \$8.75**
- General Library cassettes 1501-2000** Hoag Schmele • 4067 Solana Dr., Palo Alto, CA 94306-3167
First five choices: _____ **5 selections for \$8.75**
- General Library cassettes 2001 and beyond** Bob Steinmetz, Box 669, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266-0669
First five choices: _____ **5 selections for \$8.75**
- General Library open reels 500-1500** Robert Meeker, 2861 Main Way Dr., Roosmoor, CA 90720
First five choices: _____ **5 selections for \$10.00**
- General Library open reel 1501+** Bob Steinmetz, P. O. Box 669, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266-0669
First five choices: _____ **5 selections for \$10.00**
- General Library CDs 2100 and beyond** Bob Steinmetz, P. O. Box 669, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266-0669
First five choices: _____ **5 selections for \$8.75**
- Archives Library cassettes 1-500** Bob Steinmetz, P. O. Box 669, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266-0669
First five choices: _____ **5 cassettes for \$5.50**
- Archives Library cassettes 501-1000** Barbara Watkins, Box 628, South Pasadena, CA 91031-0628
First five choices: _____ **5 cassettes for \$5.50**
- Archives Library cassettes 1001-2000** Bob Steinmetz, P. O. Box 669, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266-0669
First five choices: _____ **5 cassettes for \$5.50**
- Archives Library cassettes 2001 & beyond** JIM WORDEN AT 21390 VIA DEL PARQUE IN YORBA LINDA, CA 92887 909-0148
First five choices: _____ **5 cassettes for \$5.50**
- Archives Library CDs 1800 and beyond** Barbara Watkins, Box 628, South Pasadena, CA 91031-0628
First five choices: _____ **5 CDs for \$5.50**
- Archives Library open reels 1501-1900** Bob Steinmetz, Box 669, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266-0669
First five choices: _____ **5 reels for \$7.00**

Alternates _____

Questions or problems? Contact SPERDVAC toll free (877) 251-5771 or e-mail us: SPERDVAC@aol.com

OLD-TIME RADIO IS BETTER THAN EVER!



Patrick Lucanio, Editor
1097 Janus Street
Springfield, OR 97477

(Pre-sorted) First Class Mail
U.S. Postage
PAID
Albany, OR
Permit 188

FIRST CLASS MAIL



*****ALL FOR ADC 320

003*007
JIM BESHIRE
123 DAVIDSON AVENUE
SAVANNAH GA 31419-3013