

October 1986



After we had already completed our issues of The Jot'Em Down Journal that saluted Pine Ridge and Dick Huddleston on Pine Ridge's 50th Anniversary, we discovered this extremely rare photo, and decided to pass it along to you before 1986 was over. Left to right in the picture are Norris "Abner" Goff, Dick Huddleston, William Horlick (the founder of Horlick's Malted Milk), and Chester "Lum" Lauck. The occasion of this historic gathering is unknown, but probably had something to do with the plans for changing Waters, Arkansas, to Pine Ridge in April 1936. As far as we know, this is the only photo that shows the four men most responsible for the early success of "Lum and Abner" together. We are most grateful to Ethel Huddleston Ball, who discovered the photo in her files and permitted us to reproduce it here.



The Jot'Em Down Journal,
 Volume 3, Number 2, October
 1986. Published bi-monthly
 by the National Lum and Abner
 Society, P.O. Box 38, Pine
 Ridge, Arkansas 71966, a non-
 profit organization.
 Membership, including a sub-
 scription to the Journal, is
 \$6.00 per year. Send editorial
 and subscription correspondence
 to Tim Hollis, Route 3, Box 110,
 Dora, Alabama 35062.

THE JOT 'EM DOWN JOURNAL

OCTOBER 1986



In This Issue

THE NATIONAL LUM AND ABNER SOCIETY

Zekatif Ossifers

PRESIDENT

Donnie Pitchford

VICE-PRESIDENT

Sam Brown

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Tim Hollis

PUBLICITY DIRECTOR

Rex Riffle

"You can't sprinkle the perfume
 of happiness around without
 spillin' a little on yerself."

- Old Eddards

Sayin'

COVER: Publicity photo taken in
 1933 in the town of Peninsula,
 Ohio. (Courtesy of UALR Archives)

LUM AND ABNER is a registered
 trademark. Used by permission of
 Chester Lauck, Jr.

HOWDY, EVERYBODY	2
The Zekatif Ossifers meet at Uncle Donnie's house.	
LUM AND ABNER ON TELEVISION?	3
Part One of a new series.	
MEMORIES OF LUM AND ABNER	6
This month we visit with "Bashful Harmonica Joe" Troyan	
MEET THE HONORARY MEMBERS	7
The stories of our most celebrated members.	
PINE RIDGE'S GHOST STORY	9
Just in time for Halloween.	
TAPE LIBRARY NEWS	10
Additions, changes, and corrections abound.	



ABOVE: Honorary Member Pat Buttram studies
 a recent issue of The Jot'Em Down Journal
 (see related story, page 7)

HOWDY, EVERYBODY

ANNOUNCER: And now, let's see what's going on down at the National Lum and Abner Society. Welllll, it's been several months since the wedding of Uncle Donnie and Aunt Laura, and they have had plenty of time to settle into their life together. As we look in on them today, we find them in their living room; they seem to be having a slight disagreement. Listen.

AUNT LAURA: For the last time, I'm telling you, those "Zekatif Ossifers" of yours aren't meeting HERE this week!!

UNCLE DONNIE: But honey, we've met at their homes already! It's our turn!

AUNT LAURA: I don't care, I don't want that bunch of crazies hanging around here.

UNCLE DONNIE: Well, just what's wrong with them?!

AUNT LAURA: Well, nothing's WRONG, they just get on my nerves. Like that vice-president of yours, that Stinkin' Sam...

UNCLE DONNIE: "SINGIN' Sam."

AUNT LAURA: Whatever. There's no privacy when he's around!! Every time I look at him, he's got that video camera of his pointed at me!!

UNCLE DONNIE: But...

AUNT LAURA: And then there's that Square Riffle...

UNCLE DONNIE: "Squire."

AUNT LAURA: He worries me; he laughs so hard at his own jokes that it looks like he's gonna pass out.

UNCLE DONNIE: But...

AUNT LAURA: And then, that Ratty Hollis....

UNCLE DONNIE: "Mousey."

AUNT LAURA: Talk about perpetual motion! He makes me tired just watching him; doesn't he ever light in one place?!

UNCLE DONNIE: Well, he's the Executive Secretary; he's always got a million things to look after. But, dear, they're going to be here any minute!

AUNT LAURA: Okay, OKAY!! But I'm going upstairs; just keep them away from me, and hold down that racket!!

UNCLE DONNIE: Yes, Gussie.

AUNT LAURA: W H A T?!?

UNCLE DONNIE: Er, whatever you say, dear.

(MUSICAL BRIDGE)

(SOUND: Zekatif Ossifers all arguing loudly about a point)

UNCLE DONNIE: (shouting) I DON'T CARE WHAT THE INTERVIEW SAYS, LUM AND ABNER DID NOT MAKE TWELVE MOVIES!!!

(SOUND: Thumping noise)

MOUSEY HOLLIS: Say, Uncle Donnie, what's that noise?

UNCLE DONNIE: Oops...I told Laura we'd keep things quiet. She's stomping on the floor upstairs.

SINGIN' SAM: Look at the way that chandelier of yours is swingin', there.

SQUIRE RIFFLE: Looks like it's gonna fall any minute.

MOUSEY HOLLIS: Now what were we talking about?

UNCLE DONNIE: Um...oh, yeah...(roaring) LUM AND ABNER MADE NINE MOVIES!!!

SINGIN' SAM: NO, NO, SIX MOVIES!!!

SQUIRE RIFFLE: SEVEN, YOU CLOWNS!!

(SOUND: Loud thumping noise)

MOUSEY HOLLIS: Boy, that chandelier is wobbling now.

UNCLE DONNIE: Uh oh, I hear Laura coming down the stairs.

AUNT LAURA: (storming in) All right, that's it!!! All of you, clear out of here RIGHT NOW!!!

MOUSEY HOLLIS: Look out for the chandelier!!

UNCLE DONNIE: LAURA!!!

(SOUND: Crash, Bang, Bam, Tinkle)

SINGIN' SAM: Oh, my.

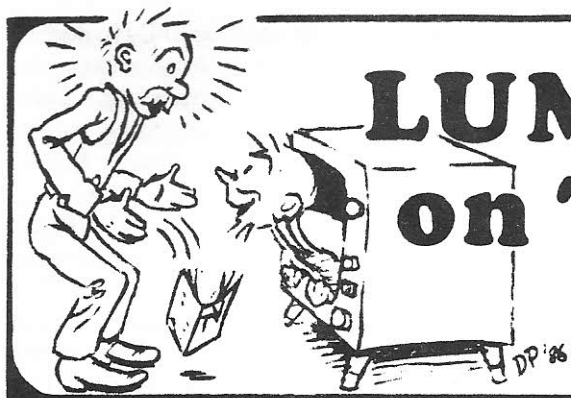
UNCLE DONNIE: Laura? Honey? Are you hurt? Speak to me, Laura!!

AUNT LAURA: (dazed) Laura? Who's Laura?

UNCLE DONNIE: Why, that's you.

AUNT LAURA: No...no, I'm Buster V. Davenport.

(MUSIC: Playoff)



LUM and ABNER® on TELEVISION?

Part 1 of a Series

With the release of "Partners In Time" in 1946, Lum and Abner's movie career was put on hold until the ill-fated "Lum and Abner Abroad" went into production in 1954. Though still a solid standby on radio in the late 1940's, Chet and Tuffy would soon have to face television, which was "just around the corner" ("HUH?" Abner might query). Television! Oh, that scary, ugly word! How would the then-popular radio stars fare on the tube? Was there REALLY a chance that TV could prove THAT big a competitor? Could an act like Lum and Abner survive? Could Chet Lauck and the ailing Tuffy Goff weather the uncomfortable makeup and bright lights weekly on live television? Gone would be the ease of gliding almost effortlessly (but wonderfully!) through a superb Roz Rogers/Betty Boyle script with little rehearsal, with only a small radio crew watching.

Of course, by 1948, the Lum and Abner radio show itself had become more complex. The "down-hominess" of the 15-minute classic series was replaced by a weekly 30-minute "yocked up" extravaganza, filled with jazzy musical bridges, new guest stars, and an audience that "pegged" the radio engineer's VU meters with uproarious laughter every time a gag took place. (Roz Rogers told me once that L&A fan mail would occasionally ask, "Who are all those people we hear laughing in the Jot 'Em Down Store?" Remember, friends, radio listeners often believed their favorite programs were reality being broadcast!) Perhaps television had to be the next step for survival... so L&A and their staff starting planning a pilot film.

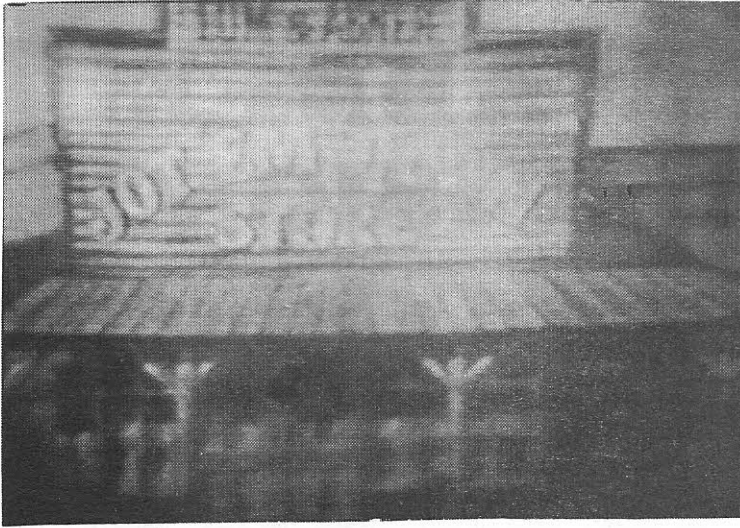
During a very enjoyable Little Rock breakfast in the summer of 1985, Roz Rogers and his "partner in time" Dorie chatted with Singin' Sam, his "good woman" Carole, and myself about this first L&A television pilot. We were familiar with the 30-minute program produced in 1949 (see our next issue for a discussion of that one), but were surprised to learn of a 15-minute attempt produced by CBS a year or so earlier. Roz explained, "After the 15-minute pilot film was completed, we decided to premiere it to a test audience. We held the studio audience following the broadcast of one of our 30-minute radio shows, and ran the film for their approval. Their response was incredible. They were very enthusiastic. The only problem was the fact that we shot the TV pilot without a studio audience, and of course it had no laugh track. Consequently, there were no pauses for audience reactions. Our preview audience laughed so

loudly, they drowned out some of the film's dialogue!" Naturally, we were excited about the possibility of obtaining a copy of this film, but Roz doubted that it still existed. He went on to explain that William S. Paley, head of CBS, liked the film, but felt the 15-minute format would soon be phased out of television; he expressed an interest in a 30-minute pilot.

Our hopes were raised at our first NLAS convention when Chet Lauck Jr. informed Tim Hollis that he had discovered a previously-unknown film of an L&A program, in which L&A appeared to be playing the card game known as canasta. Mr. Rogers' remarkable memory confirmed that this was indeed the "lost" pilot film! Recently, Mr. Lauck was kind enough to allow the NLAS Ossifers a showing of the pilot for purposes of research (the program is not available to the public at this time). We are deeply indebted to Mr. Lauck for this rare privilege.

First, some technical observations about the film. To my eyes, it appears to be a "kinescope," an early technique in which live television signals were recorded on film for purposes of delayed viewing. Video tape had not been developed in 1948. All programming, with the exception of some filmed material, was broadcast live. The Lum and Abner pilot appears to have been shot with three television cameras, whose images were actually photographed on movie film from a television monitor, using a specially synchronized movie camera. The resulting film is called a kinescope. (The three-movie-camera "I Love Lucy" technique was still a few years away.) L&A simply acted out their routine straight through, as they would for a live radio or theater audience. This performance was not broadcast, but merely performed so that a kinescope could be obtained for viewing by test audiences, network moguls, and prospective sponsors. I must point out that the quality of this kinescope is far better than the 1949 half-hour pilot that has been circulated on unauthorized video cassettes.

In contrast to the 1948 half-hour radio programs, this 15-minute pilot features only Lum and Abner, with no guffawing audience (although I did hear one off-camera cough!). The program opens with a graphic that reads "CBS Presents," which dissolves to the title, "Lum and Abner, Props." As the camera dollies back, we see that the title is actually a sign atop a painting of the Jot 'Em Down Store (which looks amazingly like the present-day L&A Museum in Pine Ridge). As we move toward the "door" of the store, we dis-



THE JOT 'EM DOWN STORE AS DEPICTED FOR TV

solve to a shot of a very real Lum, entering the store, deeply interested in a book. All of this action is accompanied by an organ rendition of "Eleanor the original L&A theme song; unusual, since by this time L&A were using the Ralph Waldo and Elsie Mae Emerson composition "Down On The Old Party Line" to start and end their radio programs. The TV "Eleanor" is only about 7 1/2 measures long, however, and is strangely and awkwardly repeated several times to fill in the silence until Lum speaks.

After Lum is seated with his book, How To Win At Canasta, he calls to Abner, hoping to get him interested. Abner must finish his chore of soap stacking first, which he does by cutting up some of the bars of soap to make them fit the shelf. Lum insists Abner must get to know canasta (Abner asks who Canasta is, "a local feller?") in order to get into the "social swim" (that brings on another humorous comment from Abner). It seems our friend Lum picked up on the game at Sister Simpson's the evening before, and rushed down to Ed Beckley's drug store that morning to get a deck of cards and a "how to" book.



LUM IS OBLIVIOUS TO EVERYTHING ELSE AS HE STUDIES HIS BOOK

Even though Abner claims he is "too D-U-M, dumb!" to play, Lum is determined to help him achieve a "higher standard of ignorance" by teaching him. Poor Abner can't even get the name right, referring to the game as "cadenza," "cabesa," and "Cassandra." Abner, as usual, takes Lum too "literary" half the time, down to the point of throwing a card on the floor when Lum tells him to "discard" it. When Abner gets riled over his hand having two kings of spades, Lum assures him that it is perfectly legitimate to use two decks of cards in canasta. Just as Lum is driven to the point of familiar exasperation, Abner does the improbable and produces a winning hand. While sipping a dipper of water, Abner asks his stewing partner, "What did you call that little game, now... casaba?" to which Lum replies by hurling the whole deck of cards at him!

Chet and Tuffy, their performances honed to perfection by 17 years of radio and six motion pictures, are delightful in this pilot. There appears to be



ABNER CAN'T FIGURE OUT THE LOGISTICS OF THE GAME

only one edit in the film, which comes at a point where Lauck sounds as though he is about to become "tickled" at his partner's antics. We do not know who directed this performance, but his voice (I presume) is heard at the very end of the program, immediately after the end title fades out, exclaiming, "Okay, people, fine." (No, Ben Withers did not direct this pilot!!) "Fine" indeed! On the whole, this pilot is definitely the better of the two.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The photos that accompany this article were taken directly from the screen. We realize that their quality is not up to our usual standards, but we feel that their historical value compensates for this defect.

Recently, our Zekatif Seketerry, Tim Hollis, located a photograph of Lum and Abner which was taken on the same set where this pilot was shot. Obviously a posed publicity shot, L&A are not playing canasta; instead, Lum is carrying a box of candy and a bouquet of flowers, and wearing a nervous expression, while Abner determinedly shoves him through the front door. The question arises: were there any more scripts put on film at this time? Was the photo shot merely to take advantage of the prepared set and makeup and provide L&A with additional publicity photos? Did the pose illustrate another script they hoped to film and/or televise? We may never find these answers. Should anyone have further information, please contact us!

- Uncle Donnie Pitchford



LUM AND ABNER[®]

VIDEO CASSETTES

NOW AVAILABLE!

Original LUM & ABNER[®] Movies
Now on Video Cassettes!

- * DREAMING OUT LOUD
- * THE BASHFUL BACHELOR
- * TWO WEEKS TO LIVE
- * SO THIS IS WASHINGTON
- * GOIN' TO TOWN
- * PARTNERS IN TIME
- * LUM AND ABNER ABROAD

\$29.⁹⁵ EACH VHS OR BETA (PLEASE SPECIFY)

- Premium Quality, from original prints
- Allow 4 - 6 weeks for delivery
- Make checks payable to Lum & Abner Associates
- Arkansas residents add 4% sales tax



SEND ORDERS TO:

**LUM & ABNER ASSOCIATES
35 CIRCLE DRIVE
HOT SPRINGS, AR 71901**

- ★ Enclose check or money order
- ★ Please indicate which movie(s) you want



Memories of **LUM and ABNER®**

(This month's contributor, "Bashful Harmonica Joe" Troyan of Cleveland, Ohio, performed on the Lum and Abner series in the early 1930s. Fortunately, he kept a daily diary during this period, and so was able to provide us with the following information.)

I first met the boys, Lum and Abner, at WTAM, our 50,000-watt station here in Cleveland, Ohio, on February 18, 1933. I auditioned for them and was accepted, playing the harmonica and doing all sorts of animal imitations.

A few days later, I met Marshall "Grandpa" Jones and the rest of the Pine Ridge String Band, from Akron, Ohio. They won their audition. Grandpa was my age, and we hit it off very well.

(Lum and Abner had been in Cleveland on WTAM about six months before this, doing their nightly radio show.)

I was the only band member from Cleveland, as all the rest...Grandpa Jones, the Pine Ridge String Band, and the Milk Maids...were from Akron. We did our first radio show with Lum and Abner on WTAM, Saturday, March 4, 1933, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

I would visit Lum and Abner during the week and got to know them quite well ... I even visited their living quarters in the Auditorium Hotel, across the street from the radio station. One day, they were writing their script for the show and the room was so cold that they typed with their gloves on. They told me that the room cost \$25.00 a week at that time.

The entire group would rehearse twice a week for radio shows and future personal appearances. On Saturday, March 18, 1933, the Ford Motor Company bought the Lum and Abner series and 27 radio stations were added ... all east of the Mississippi River. It was the first time that Ford Motors sponsored any radio show.

On Sunday, April 2, 1933, Lum and Abner played their first theater appearance; it was in Jefferson, Ohio, about 60 miles east of Cleveland. Population: 2000. Price: Adults, 35¢, Children, 10¢. Lum and Abner played on a 60-40 basis. The rest of us (Pine Ridge String Band, Yours Truly, the Milk Maids, etc... ten people in all) were paid \$10.00 each.

On the way home that night, I heard Lum and Abner laughing so loud. They said to me, "Joe, we didn't make a dime after expenses on this show," but they were so happy to see such a crowd. The theater had 300 seats, and we did three shows that day, all to standing room only.

Lum and Abner would pick me up here at my home and bring me back on all show dates, and, incidentally, for about two months we drove to and from dates in their rented Ford. After about 14 months, the boys left Cleveland for Chicago and a new sponsor, Horlick's Malted Milk.

Grandpa Jones and I became very close friends and we worked many shows together. We learned many good things from Lum and Abner (and later, Bradley Kincaid), and we are just as close today. Grandpa was in service in Germany and I was with the Army Air Force, with a Hollywood Show Unit, traveling with the 9th Corp area in the west with Mickey Rooney, Alan Ladd, Peter Lind Hayes, Mario Lanza, and William Holden, all wonderful people. And, while I was in Hollywood, I visited with Lum and Abner in March of 1943.

- "Bashful Harmonica Joe" Troyan

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Can any of our members in the Ohio area come up with any old newspaper clippings, etc., relating to the L&A stage shows that Mr. Troyan mentions?)



J. TROYAN

LEFT TO RIGHT: BRADLEY KINCAID, JOE TROYAN, AND GRANDPA JONES IN 1935

Meet the HONORARY MEMBERS

Since its inception, the NLAS has made it a point to search out any and everyone still living who was associated with the Lum and Abner programs in one way or another. These distinguished individuals are designated as Honorary Members, and they are the ones who provide us with the most firsthand knowledge available on L&A. We thought you might like to know more about them; here they are in alphabetical order:

ETHEL HUDDLESTON BALL, "Dick's Gurl," was the only child of Dick Huddleston. Although away from Pine Ridge for many years, she returned in the late 1960s and built a new home, replacing the original Huddleston home, which she sold along with the old store to Dorothy McClure in 1969. She and her husband, Charlie Ball, can still be found in Pine Ridge when not traveling.

MURRAY BOLEN was producer of the Lum and Abner radio show in 1937-38. Residing in Los Angeles, he is still active in television program production.

BETTY BOYLE collaborated with Roz Rogers on the writing of the L&A radio shows and movies during the 1940s. She is currently the Social Director for the Las Vegas Country Club in Las Vegas, Nevada.

PAT BUTTRAM, known for his work as Gene Autry's sidekick and the Squire Skimpish Mr. Haney on "Green Acres," was a close friend of Chet Lauck and Tuffy Goff. Still associated with Gene Autry, he is also active in the Pacific Pioneer Broadcasters.

ARCHIE CAMPBELL, well-known comedian of the "Hee Haw" TV show, almost played the part of Abner in an aborted TV series idea in the early 1970s. He currently makes his home in Tennessee.

OPIE CATES was the orchestra leader on the half-hour "Lum and Abner Show," and also played a comedy role. He also had his own radio series in the late 1940s, and appeared in one of L&A's ill-fated TV pilots. He now lives in Moffett, Oklahoma, just over the Arkansas line from Ft. Smith.

NANCY CHAMBERS, a lifetime Pine Ridge resident, was the model for Lum's schoolteacher sweetheart, Evalena Schultz. She is the last living person upon whom a "Lum and Abner" character was based.

GRETTCHIN GOFF DOOLING, daughter of Norris and Elizabeth Goff, resides in Orange, California. She is the one who received custody of her father's files and memorabilia upon his death, and she has promised to share this material with the NLAS soon.

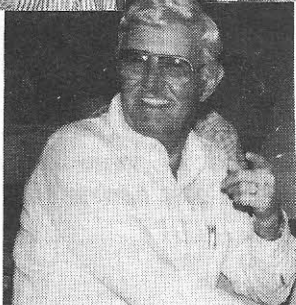
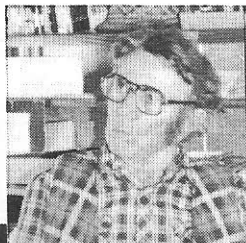
ROBERT DWYER was producer of the L&A radio show from 1941 to 1946. He lives in Laguna Niguel, California.

ELSIE MAE EMERSON was the organist on "Lum and Abner" after the death of her husband Ralph Emerson in April 1948. Together, the couple wrote "Down On The Old Party Line," which became the official L&A theme song from 1946 on.

ORA AND WILLIE GARRETT are the only two people to have passed away since being appointed as Honorary Members. Ora Garrett was the real-life model for Mose Moots, the Pine Ridge barber. He died in November 1984; his wife Willie continued to live in Pine Ridge with her sister, Nancy "Evalena" Chambers, until Willie's death in July 1986.

ELIZABETH GOFF, widow of Norris Goff, lives in the family home at the Indian Wells Country Club near Palm Springs. She has been very encouraging to the NLAS officers.

LOUISE CURRIE GOOD was Squire Skimp's beautiful niece in "The Bashful Bachelor," and she also appeared in a number of other films, including several Westerns. She retired from pictures in 1948 and became an interior designer and decorator. She and her husband John Good live in Beverly Hills.





BARBARA HALE is primarily known as Perry Mason's secretary, Della Street, but one of her first acting roles was in "Goin' To Town," in which she appeared briefly as a secretary (prophetic?). She has recently made a comeback in the made-for-TV Perry Mason movies.

PHIL HARRIS, of course, had a long stint on Jack Benny's show, but was also one of Norris Goff's closest friends. He had a cameo role in L&A's first movie, "Dreaming Out Loud." He is still an active performer.

CLARENCE HARIZELL played the hilarious part of Doc Ben Withers on the L&A show from 1946-49. Prior to this, he essayed a similar role, that of the half-deaf Uncle Fletcher on "Vic and Sade." He and his wife Helen live in Bella Vista, Arkansas, where he is active in the Bella Vista Television Association.

LOUIS M. "GRANDPA" JONES, star of "The Grand Ole Opry" and "Hee Haw," had one of his first show business jobs as a member of the Pine Ridge String Band on the L&A series from 1933-34. He currently lives in Mountain View, Arkansas; readers wishing to learn more about his career should consult his autobiography, Everybody's Grandpa (University of Tennessee Press, 1984).

FRANCES LANGFORD, prior to her famed appearances on Bob Hope's show and as one-half of "The Bickersons" (with Don Ameche), appeared on L&A's "Friday Night Sociable" in 1933 and in "Dreaming Out Loud." Today, she lives in Jensen Beach, Florida.

HARRIET LAUCK, widow of Chet Lauck, still lives in Hot Springs.

CHESTER LAUCK JR., "Lum's Son," owns the registered trademark "Lum and Abner." A real estate executive in Hot Springs, it was he who gave permission for the NLAS to be formed.

DOROTHY MCCLURE bought the old Huddleston store in Pine Ridge from Ethel Huddleston in 1969. She and her late husband Ralph were responsible for preserving the decaying old building. She turned over management of the store to her son Lon Stucker and his wife Kathy in 1979, but she still lives in the old Huddleston house on the hill behind the store.

WENDELL NILES was the announcer for a number of programs during radio's Golden Age, including the half-hour "Lum and Abner Show" in 1948-49. He is now retired and working on a book about his 60 years behind the microphone.

FORREST OWEN was producer of the L&A radio show from 1946 until it switched to a 30-minute format in 1948. Like fellow producer Bob Dwyer and writer Roz Rogers, he lives in Laguna Niguel, California.

ROSWELL ROGERS wrote the L&A radio scripts from 1941 to 1949, and resumed writing them in 1953. He also wrote two of their movies, and various TV ventures for the team. Later, he wrote most episodes of "Father Knows Best" for TV, plus some films for Walt Disney Productions. Now retired, he and his wife Dorie live in Laguna Niguel, California.

LON & KATHY STUCKER are the managers of the Jot 'Em Down Store and Lum & Abner Museum in Pine Ridge. They moved there in 1979, and their untiring efforts have helped keep the little community going. Mrs. Stucker is the official historian of Pine Ridge, and has amassed tons of research dealing with the town's past 100 years.

GRADY SUTTON was chosen for the role of Cedric Weehunt in several of the L&A movies, beginning with "The Bashful Bachelor." He also had many other movie and TV roles as well. He is now retired and living in Hollywood.

"BASHFUL HARMONICA JOE" TROYAN was a member of the Pine Ridge String Band from 1933-34, along with Grandpa Jones. An accomplished musician, he also specializes in animal imitations. Living in Cleveland, Ohio, he continues to perform to this day.

BOBS WATSON, a former child actor, appeared as the conscience-ridden little boy, Jimmy, in "Dreaming Out Loud." He says that he was typecast as "The Cry-baby of Hollywood." He is today the pastor of the Methodist church in Sun City, California.

(In-depth articles on most of these Honorary Members have already appeared in past issues of the Journal, or are forthcoming.)

PINE RIDGE'S Ghost Story



A JOI'EM DOWN JOURNAL HALLOWEEN TREAT

Arlie Gillean, reared in Pine Ridge and now living in Mena, tells of a ghost story that circulated among the old-timers in the days before Waters became Pine Ridge. In the 1870's, a family traveling by horse and wagon spent the night camped near the well on top of Clay Hill on the "Big Road" just west of what is now Pine Ridge. When the wagon left the next morning, the man on it was alone and no one had seen the wife and children leave. The neighboring farmers had seen them make camp, cook their meal, and bed down for the night, but no one had made an effort to get acquainted since the family was thought to be just passing through. No unusual noises had been heard,

so the speculation was that friends or family had come by early in the morning and had picked up the passengers. The family's name was never known, and none of them was seen in the area again. Soon, stories began to be told about the well where the travelers had stopped being haunted, and suspicions were aroused. Finally the well was dredged and remains of fabric were found in the bottom. They weren't familiar to the residents...perhaps they were the clothes of the wife and children who had disappeared. No bodies were ever found despite thorough searches, and the ghost stories were repeated for many years.

- Kathy Stucker

-----Advertisement-----

Visit **The Lum and Abner® Museum**
and **Jot 'Em Down Store**



OPEN MARCH THROUGH NOVEMBER

9 A.M. - 5 P.M. Tuesday through Saturday

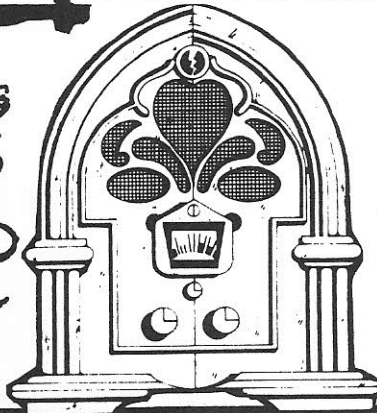
11 A.M. - 5 P.M. Sunday, and by
appointment

LOCATED ON LUM & ABNER HIGHWAY 88

Lon & Kathy Stucker
Ph. 501-326-4442

P.O. Box 38
Pine Ridge, Ark. 71966

TOUR BUSES WELCOME - Y'ALL DRIVE KEERFUL!



THIS ISSUE WAS PRINTED THROUGH THE FACILITIES OF

Action Printing Company

404 JOHNSON STREET
DRAWER 308 - ADAMSVILLE, ALABAMA 35005



TAPE LIBRARY

As Lou Crosby might say, "And now, let's see what's going on down at the NLAS Tape Library." First of all, pages 29-32 for the catalog are now ready. As always, just send a self-addressed stamped envelope to get them. The price for the whole catalog is still \$4.00.


Now for some changes and other notes on the already-existing catalog pages, for those of you who already have them. Previously, cassettes #142, #144, and #145 have only been available in very poor sound; they have now been upgraded, and are much easier to listen to. Also, on cassette #69, Side 2, Episode C is now available with the original Alka-Seltzer commercials. (This is the broadcast for June 19, 1942.)

Some of you may have wondered why there is so much blank space between programs on some of the Tape Library cassettes. The reason for this is simple; someday we hope to improve the sound quality of ALL the shows in the Library, and obtain as many episodes

as possible with the original commercials. When we do this, we have to have space left on the cassette in the event of overlap...that's why the cassettes as they are now seem to have an inordinate amount of unused room.

You trivia buffs might be interested to know that writer Roz Rogers makes what is probably his only on-the-air appearance with L&A on cassette #108, Side 1, Episode A (July 29, 1943). He appears briefly as the train conductor. On cassette #155, Side 1, Episode C, and Side 2, Episode A (October 24 & 25, 1944), we hear Jack Benny's famous antagonist, Frank "Yeess" Nelson; on the first show, he appears as a department store clerk (what else?), and in the second, using two different voices, he can be heard as employees in the railroad station.

As always, address any correspondence about the Tape Library to the Executive Secretary, Tim Hollis, at Route 3, Box 110, Dora, AL 35062.



THE NATIONAL
LUM & ABNER
SOCIETY
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Route 3, Box 110
Dora, Alabama 35062

BULK RATE
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 40
Dora, Alabama

Dr. Hal Skinner
1293 Hurlbut Avenue
Sebastopol, CA 95472

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

