VOL. 23 NO. 1 JAN - FEB 1992

A PERSONAL NOTE: Many thanks for all the holiday cards. I hope all of you had an enjoyable holiday and that 1992 brings peace and happiness to all of you...I now have updated my Jack Benny Log. It is now complete and available for \$10. It is the one that I sold at the convention this year and has a red cover...As I have mentioned, I am revising and combining my Network Log and My Log of Circulating Shows. This project is getting more involved than I thought. Already it is about 400 pages. It is hard to predict when it will be ready; hopefully by 1993. I am also including a comprehensive list of theme music and would like any help you can give. If you have any knowledge of OTR theme music, not found in usual sources, please let me know. Also, would all dealers and others who get new shows, please let me know so I can update my project.

**CONVENTION 1991:** If you want a program booklet, please send \$2 to cover printing and postage...Many Thanks to Lillian Buyeff who donated \$50 to The Friends of Old-time Radio.

**CONVENTION 1992:** The dates are Oct 22 – 24 at the Holiday Inn North.

REMINISCING: From October, 1971, Vol. 2 No. 10: On December 4th, a miniconvention will be held at the Holiday Inn in New Haven. Guests so far include Mrs. House Jameson (This was the first OTR convention ever held; I was co-chairman of the event)...Covers of Hello Again, if any, will be drawn by my 11-year old son, Jeff. (As most of you know, Jeff died in June of 1982)...subscription is now \$3.50 a year...Catalogs received from Mar-Bren, Ray Stanich, Roger Hill, Joanne Burger, Dave Siegel. Jack Webb in an article in The Inquirer (10/3/71) mentions that his biggest break came when he was in the movie, "He Walked By Night." It gave him the idea for Dragnet, which he created... Eddie Anderson says that he owes his success to his gravely voice which he got when selling newspapers when he was 12. The kid with the loudest voice sold the most papers. He ended up with the highest sales and the biggest case of permanent laryngitis in history. New Friends: Dr. Barry Brooks has one of the largest collections of OTR shows and magazines in the country...Rev. Frank Gilmore, Wayne Johnson, Mason King, Michael Langer, Paul Parisi, Barbara Schwarz (Barbara is head of the Vic and Sade Society), Dave Siegel (Dave now has one of the largest collection of OTR shows and is always willing to help), John Stanley, Al Trott, Arthur Zucker, Bud Ross, Dick Leeman, Earl Grow, Don Scott.

(Subscribers now who were written up in the October issue follow. Remember, informa-

tion is 21 years old)

**Don Fisher** is 39, has 4 children and owns a Radio Shack store in Bennington, VT. He has been collecting for 4 years and has over 1000 programs. Don spent 15 years in broadcasting before coming to Vermont. He likes dramatic and popular comedy shows.

Michael Langer is 30, has 2 children, and is a police lieutenant. He has collected for 2

1/2 years and has over 2000 shows. He is interested in crime shows.

**Bruce Ruggles** is 42, has 4 children and is program director of a local radio station in Canada. He has also done some special productions for television. Bruce has been collecting for about 10 years and has 1200 programs (He has one of the best selections around). Bruce prefers 1/2 track and is trying to get one of every program. Hobbies include 8mm photography, swimming, golf, writing and music.

If any of these 3 wish to update themselves, it will be in the next issue.

**RADIO IS ALIVE AND WELL:** An article about Stuart Canin by son, Ethan, is found in the Feb. issue of Life Magazine. Stuart Canin started The Benny-Allen feud after playing "The Bee" on the Dec. 30th, 1936 episode of the Fred Allen program.

**PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED:** All addressees of publications are contained in my Publication list included with your first newsletter and the Nov - Dec, 1991 issue...Bear Facts (Cinnamon Bear Brigade), Dec; many articles about The Cinnamon Bear...Jack Benny Times, Mar - Oct; new address of publication is 3561 Somerset Ave., Castro Valley, CA 94546 (510) 886-3321; articles on records made by Jack Benny; interviews with Sam Perrin, Eddie Carroll who does a one-man show of Jack Benny... Return With Us Now, Dec; article on Command Performance...The National Old-time Radio Enthusiasts, an informal group of OTR enthusiasts, put out a publication called Those Were The Days with much current and reprinted information. For information send a SASE to Steve Hiss, Rt 1 Box 253, Alachua, FL 32615... Nostalgia Digest, Dec - Jan; articles on Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy; Pearl Harbor Week on radio; Big Bands and World War 11... Tape Squeal, Nov - Dec; article on music for silent films with Lee Erwin and Gaylord Carter...Illustrated Press, Nov; article on The Fantastic Four...OTR lost a fine publication. Bob Burnham has stopped publishing Listening Guide Newsletter. Details were sent to all his subscribers. Bob will continue to be active in OTR as you can see further on and will contribute articles to Bob Burchett's Old Time Radio Digest...Old Time Radio Digest; Nov - Dec; article on upcoming convention in Cincinnati on Apr 24 - 25...SPERDVAC Radiogram; Jan; articles on their 1991 convention...Past Times, Winter; articles about Hal Roach and Oliver Hardy; Eddie Cantor... A-1 Gazette, January; articles on ILAM, One Man's Family; chapter One of "The Dead Don't Die."

**Yesterday USA**, the nostalgic satellite station, needs ads to cover cost of its newsletter. It's a quarterly nostalgic, 20-page publication running \$10 a year. Ads run \$30 for a page, \$15 a half page, \$8 a quarter page for one issue. Yearly rates are available. If you want to subscribe or place an ad, write to Bill Bragg, 2001 Plymouth Rock, Richardson, TX 75081. This and the station needs your support. This a labor of love for Bill and Ruth Bragg.

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES: Repeat Performances: A Guide to Hollywood Movie Remakes by Doris Milberg is available for \$12.95 from Broadway Press, 12 West Thomas St., Staten Island, NY 11964 (1-800-869-6372). The title is self explanatory. Many radio performers who went on to Hollywood stardom are mentioned...Quiz Craze; America's Infatuation with Game Shows by Thomas DeLong, Green Publishing Group, Box 5007, Westport, CT 06881; \$22.95; 1991; an excellent and probably the most thorough study of game show history on radio and television written.

ORGANIZATIONS AND CONVENTIONS: A 15" Plush Paddy O'Cinnamon Bear is available for \$35 plus \$3.50 postage from SBP, Box 93531, Los Angeles, CA 90093. Brigade members receive 5% discount...Metro Golden Memories, 5425 W. Addison, Chicago, IL 60641 (312) 736-4133 has their newest catalog out. They deal mainly with vintage movies on video and Performing Arts books...Two organizations not mentioned last month are The Kate Smith/God Bless America Foundation. For information send a SASE to Rev. Raymond Wood, 81 Jordan St., Skaneateles, NY 13152. Their latest publication is out with very interesting reading... Also The Abbott and Costello Fan Club. For information send a SASE to A & C F Club, Box 2084, Toluca Lake, CA 91619. Cost is \$8 a year. Running the club are Bud Abbott, Jr; Vickie Abbott Wheeler; Chris Costello and Paddy Costello Humphreys...For information about the Cincinnati OTR Club, send a SASE to Robert Newman, 11509 Islandale Dr., Forest Park, OH 45240. Please change previous information.

CATALOGS AND NEW MATERIAL: RJR Enterprises (Rusty Wolfe), Box 21428, Chattanooga, TN 37421 has their 7th supplement out; many interesting shows on cassettes and reels...Dave Siegel, 419 Granite Springs Rd., Yorktown Heights, NY 10598 has 5 new Suspense: Variations on a Theme (2/7/56); Dead of Night (11/16/44); Hearts Desire (3/22/45);

Furnished Floor (9/13/45); Command (9/14/58). He will trade for uncirculated Suspense, Escape, Lights Out, Witch's Tale or Shadow...BRC Productions (Bob Burnham), Box 2645, Livonia, MI (313) 721-6070 (Voicemail and FAX) has set up an OTR and vintage video computer electronic store on Gateway computer bulletin board. You can access with a computer and a modem by calling (313) 291-557. Hit O at the main menu, then BRC Productions. For further details send Bob a SASE. Bob has a January supplement to his catalog of OTR chows on cassettes and videos. New OTR shows include Duffy's Tavern and Dragnet... Nostalgia (Larry Kiner), Box 82, Redmond, WA 98073; Supplement 32; new Jimmy Durante, Campbell Playhouse, Radio Almanac, Hello Americans, Village Store, Eddie Cantor, Forecast, This is My Best, others...Rainy Day Books (Frank Bequaert), Box 775, Fitzwilliam, NH 03447; Many scripts and radio magazines for sale...David Price, 35-51 88th, Jackson Heights, NY 11372 tells us of new Fred Allen available put out by Metacom including 10 from 1942 - 1944. David has indexed Mel Blanc's "That's Not All Folks!" and Joan Benny's "Sunday Nights at Seven." If you want either or both, send DAVE a large SASE...AVPRO, Box 1392, Lake Elsinore, CA 92531 has a new supplement with shows on cassette. Some recent acquisitions are Jack Benny. Big Town, Terry and the Pirates, Jack Armstrong. They also have serials on video.

<u>LOGS</u>: Ray Stanich, 172 Columbia Heights, Brooklyn, NY 11201 has 3 logs: Cabin B-13 for 90 cents; Star For a Night and an addendum to The Woolworth Hour for a SASE...Terry Salomonson, Box 347, Howell, MI 48844 (note new address) has a new log "Dragnet." It is complete and sells for \$7.50, post paid.

NEW ADDRESSES: Sally Janus, 9649 Via Torino, Burbank, CA 91504...Terry Salomonson (see above)...Harold Feinstein, 14050 Cedar Rd. #517, University Heights, OH 44118.

NEW FRIENDS AND RETURNEES: Terrence Doran, Box 10681, Ft. Wayne, IN 46853 (219) 422-3819 wants radio broadcasts from March to October, 1949 which tells about Oscar, a 400-pound turtle that lived in the area. A documentary film maker needs copies of broadcasts. Lowell Thomas was one that made him famous...Robert McKean, Box 203, Brookline, MA 02146...Charles Harrington, 4 Patricia Ct., Enfield, NH 03748...Brian Taves, 110 D Street SE #515, Washington, DC 20003 wants any radio shows that dramatize Jules Verne stories. Now he has 2 versions of "Around the World in 80 Days," and 2 BBC versions of "Journey to the Center of the Earth." Also wants Charlie Chan tapes...Patrick Crea, 488 Van Cortlandt Park Ave., Yonkers, NY 10705...Columbia Instruments, Box 424, Trussville, AL 35173...Larry Crowe, Box 424, Trussville, AL 35173...Sam Sot, 5400 Crestview, Raleigh, NC 27609 looking for specific Edward R. Murrow, "This is London," 8/9/44...Louis Richardson, 2420 Mariposa St, Fresno, CA 93721 looking for scripts of Bob Hope shows with Jerry Colonna.

OLD FRIENDS: Patrick King, Box 24072, Waco, TX 76702 looking for more people connected with Columbia Workshop: Harry Clark, Don Baker, James Fassett, Shirley Ward, Bob Trout, Charles Paul, Norma Jean Nillson, Adelaide Klein, Phillip Ansel Roll, Robert A. Simon...Carolyn and Joel Senter have discontinued the OTR Defense Fund which helped those dealers caught in the Shadow Lawsuit. They raised \$4942 from 110 people and want to thank all who helped. 100% of the money went to pay legal bills...Ray Nemec, 1424 Heatherton Dr., Naperville, IL 60563 wants a tape of story of the old Suppertime Frolic which ran 7 days a week on WJJD in Chicago... My son Craig is collecting Superman and Batman memorabilia (Pre 1970). If you can help write him at 56 Chadwick Estates, Peculiar, MO 64078...John Barber, Box 70711, New Orleans, LA 70172 and a local theater group performed Dracula and Cat Wife. It was broadcast over WRBH radio. If you would like the shows on 2 60-minute cassette, send \$14 to John. The profits will support OTR theater in New Orleans...Gordon Kelley,

620 Drexel Dr., Evansville, IN 47712 is looking for broadcast dates and stars of the various BBC broadcasts of Sherlock Holmes...**Mel Simons**, is in his 13th year as King of Nostalgia on the Larry Glick Show on WHDH in Boston and also resumes his job as host of Nosalgic Scrapbook which is syndicated on 55 stations.

IN FOND MEMORY: Jack Johnstone, Nov 16, 85; writer, producer, director and actor in 1000's of OTR shows (Buck Rogers, Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar)...Dehl Berti, Nov 26, 70; character actor; wrote, directed and acted in radio shows in Los Angeles before he went to Broadway, TV and movies...John Ogden Whedon, Nov 21, 86; writer for radio, TV, film and theater (Great Gildersleeve, The Circle)...Pauline Kilian, Oct 2, 83; writer for radio and TV (Midstream, Women in White)...Ralph Bellamy, Nov 29, 87; veteran stage and screen actor (Man Against Crime)...Mel Dinelli, Nov 28, 79; screenwriter and playwright; wrote radio and television scripts...Robert Q. Lewis, Dec 11, 71; actor and host of radio and television shows.

Write if you get work; and hang by your thumbs

JAY HICKERSON, Box 4321, Hamden, CT 06514 (203) 248-2887; FAX (203) 281-1322