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FIBBER MCGEE & MOLLY



Affiliated With
The Old Time Radio
Network

THE OLD TIME RADIO CLUB
MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

New member processing--\$5.00 plus club membership of \$17.50 per year from Jan 1 to Dec 31. Members receive a tape listing, library listing, monthly news letter, the Illustrated Press, the yearly Memories Publications and various special items. Additional family members living in the same household as a regular member may join the club for \$5.00 per year. These members have all the privileges of the regular members but do not receive the publications. A junior membership is available to persons 12 yrs of age & younger who do not live with a regular member. This membership is \$13.00 per year and includes all the benefits of regular membership. Regular membership are as follows: If you join in Jan- Mar \$17.50-- Apr- Jun \$14.00-- July-Sept \$10-- Oct- Dec \$7.00. All renewals should be sent in as soon as possible to avoid missing issues. Please be sure to notify us if you change your address.

OVERSEAS MEMBERSHIPS are now available. Annual memberships are \$29.75. Publications will be airmailed.

The Old Time Radio Club meets the first of every month on Monday evening from August to June at 393 George Urban Blvd. Cheektowaga, N.Y. 14225. Anyone interested in the Golden Age of Radio is welcome. Meeting start at 7:30 P.M.

CLUB ADDRESS:

Old Time Radio Club
P.O. Box 426
Lancaster, N.Y. 14086

DEADLINE FOR THE I.P.--10th of
each month prior to publication

CLUB OFFICERS:

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56 Christen Ct.
Lancaster, N.Y. 14086
(716) 683-6199

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Richard Simpson
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Cheektowaga, N.Y. 14225

Membership Renewals, Change of Address,
Mailing of Publications
Pete Bellanca
1620 Ferry Rd.
Grand Island, N.Y. 14072
(716) 773-2485

Membership Inquiries, & OTR Network
Related Items
Richard Olday
100 Harvey Dr.
Lancaster, NY. 14086
(716) 684-1684

TAPE LIBRARIES:

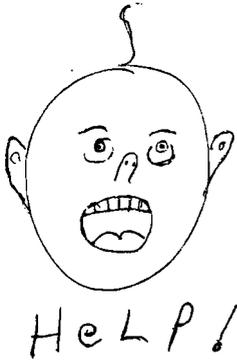
Cassettes: Jim Aprile
85 Hyledge Dr.
Amherst, N.Y. 14226
(716) 837-7747

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10905 Howe Rd.
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(716) 759-8793

Reel to REELS 851 & UP
Tom Harris
9565 Weherle Dr.
Clarence, N.Y. 14031
(716) 759- 8401

TAPE LIBRARY RATES: All reels and video cassettes-- \$1.85 per month; cassettes and records-- \$.85 per month. Rates include postage and handling.

CANADIAN BRANCH: Rental rates are the same as above, but in Canadian funds.



BY Francis Edward Bork

McGee don't open that closet

Too late. Crash, bang, rattle, rattle, ca-plop went a hundred and one items that Fibber managed to jam into that closet. I had said that McGee never did clean out that hall closet during all the years he was heard on radio. Well I stand corrected. Fibber did clean out that closet on the radio show broadcasted on June 5, 1945. Now that was a surprise to me because I don't remember hearing that show. Oh well I guess I just missed that evening. Not only did McGee clean out his hall closet here in America on that historic June day but, thanks to Jim Snyder, I also heard the South African show when McGee also cleaned out the hall "cupboard" in that country.

Now we are all use to Jim and Marion Jordan playing Fibber McGee and Molly's wife Molly. To me they were Fibber and Molly not Jim and Marion Jordan. Once more I am enlighten to the true facts of radio life during the years long gone bye. I never did care for the Doc Gamble character. McGee being my my radio character friend. I didn't like the way Doc Gamble always insulted McGee. I think Gildersleeve and McGee's little squables were really funny. Gildie would get so upset that he would stutter and finally say "now look here McGee", very sternly.

When I listened to the South African version I found some of the terminology was the same as ours and some was not. Such as we say the hall closet while they say the hall cupboard. When Molly states that she is about to clean the hall cupboard, McGee tells her he will do it because he has a lot of valueable stuff there. Hey, McGee said, what are you doing with my "poker-work" out fit. I know

from the American program that McGee means his "wood burning set". There were a lot more of such changes on the South African show. There was a very brief interlude of music during the show, but of course they didn't have Billy Mills and his orchestra or the Kings Men to sing. Well all in all I did enjoy the South African Fibber McGee and Molly program.

My Thanks goes to our fellow Club member Jim Snyder for sending me an excellent copy of both the American AND The South African programs.

Another Club member my good friend Ed Coons has so many cassettes that he doesn't even know how many or what shows he has. I usually borrow about twenty or thirty cassettes at a time but I'll never even get to borrow them all. One show I borrowed, "I Love Adventure" was numbered 3060 and that was some where in the middle of Ed's collection. Ed and I have been buddies for over 40 years, in fact my children call him Uncle Ed and I call him brother.

Don't forget if you would like to swap cassettes or reels with fellow club members, send your list to the "DRAGON LADY" and she will print it in the "I.P." for free. Send your requests to:

Linda DeCecco
32 Shenandoah Rd.
Buffalo, N.Y. 14220

I haven't heard much from the "EVIL ONE" Prof. Boncore so I guess since he has been quiet I "will" return the reels I borrowed from him last year. A little black mail goes a long way doesn't it Prof Boncore? You taught me well.

Till next time- H.E.L.P.

F.E.B.

TONIGHT
"Time Killer"
Starring Harold Kramer, with F.G. Meseroll, host. Able to pace himself into any period of time, past or present, a professor of parapsychology attacks a man in a New York speakeasy in December 1933, but doesn't know whether or not he killed him.

MONDAY-SUNDAY

11:30 PM **93 WBEN**



Francis E. Burke

As I had said many, many times BEFORE Sherlock Holmes is my all time favorite radio program. Basil Rathbone is my favorite Sherlock Holmes with Nigel Bruce my favorite Dr. Watson. There have been many different actors playing Holmes and Watson both on the radio and in the movies. There also were three or four different comic strips of Holmes and his imitators between 1939 and 1946. Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce made 14 Holmes movies.

I think most everyone thinks of Rathbone and Bruce when ever Holmes and Watson are mentioned. I believe Rathbone and Bruce made more Holmes movies and were heard on radio longer than any others who played Holmes and Watson whether on radio or in the movies. There were a lot of parodies of Sherlock Holmes and several using the Holmes character such as "The Private Life of Sherlock Holmes" which was half parody and half serious. Robert Stephens played Sherlock Holmes and Christopher Lee played his brother Mycroft. It was a fair movie but nothing much to excite a real Holmes fan.

Another Holmes type movie was "They Might Be Giants" George C. Scott played Sherlock Holmes or rather he played Justin Playfair a retired New York judge who thinks he's Holmes after he suffers a nervous breakdown. He is taken to a Lady Psychiatrist who's name by chance is Dr. Watson. Dr. Mildred Watson is played by Joanne Woodward who gives an excellent performance. Now this movie I really did enjoy and I hoped that there would be a sequel. Well if not a sequel that George C. Scott playing the the part of Holmes himself with maybe James Mason as Dr. Watson. By the way James Mason did play Dr Watson

in the Sherlock Holmes movie "Murder By Degree" and did a very convincing job as the good doctor. The story line was a little much though. Could you believe that Prince Edward was Jack the Ripper? I can't and I doubt very much many Holmes fans did either.

The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes Smarter Brother was good. No doubt about it, a comedy from the beginning to end. Gene Wilder played Sigerson Holmes, Sherlock's younger brother. As a point of information Conan Doyle had considered Sigerson for Holmes first name before he decided of that fine Irish name Sherlock. This was a funny movie I thought, light hearted and entertaining. Dom De Luise as an Opera singer? Dom is a funny guy even when he doesn't try hard to be funny, just a great actor and comedian. At the near end of the movie Sherlock Holmes is sitting in the audience and gives his younger brother Sigerson a nod of approval. This movie I would recommend to all Sherlock Holmes fans.

"The Return of The World's Greatest Detective" with Larry Hagman as a clumsy motorcycle police officer who thinks he's Sherlock Holmes after he has an accident. Jenny O'Hara plays a psychiatric social worker known as Doc Watson, what else. This too is a funny movie some what like "They Might Be Giants." Enjoyable.

"The Return Of Sherlock Holmes" was the most unusual of all the Holmes ty movies. Jane Watson great granddaughter of Dr. John H Watson finds and releases Sherlock Holmes from a state of suspended animation in the 1980's. Holmes is of course amayed at all the modern contrations which make up our daily lives. While looking for clues he sees an Adult Book Store, which Jane Watson advises him not to go into Nonsense says Holmes I'm an adult ant thats an adult bbok store so why should I not go into it to by a book? Holmes comes out of the bookstore with a olik of horror on his face. Jane Waston? Well she just smiles with a "I told you so" look on her face. Adult bookstore indeed?

"Without A Clue" is a hilarious a real change of style for Michael Caine who plays a second rate--out of work actor hired by Dr. Watson the real brains of the duo. Caine goofs up almost everything he does, while Dr Watson played by Ben Kingsley has to get him out of one scrape after another. Once again a good movie, funny and very

entertaining.

Well I rambled on so about the movies of Sherlock Holmes but I know Sherlock Holmes fans are involved in all phases of Holmes whether that be movies, books, radio comic strips or comic books.

Sherlock Holmes on the radio was first played by William Gillette on Oct 20, 1930 and ran until Dec 14, 1936. Orson Wells played Holmes on radio in 1935 a radio adaption of a Gillette-Doyle stage play. In 1939 a new season of Sherlock Holmes radio began with Basil Rathbone, a South African born actor of English parents, playing Holmes while a Mexican born Nigel Bruce of English Scotch parents played Dr. Watson. The beginning of many successful years together on radio and in the movies. Tom Conway played Holmes for a short time with Bruce still Dr. Watson/. John Guilgud and Sir Ralph Richardson played Holmes and Watson for a long time with an occasional visit from Orson Wells as Prof. Moriarty.

The English themselves had quite a few Holmes and Watson's on radio. Sir Cedric Hardwicke as Holmes and Finlay Currie as Watson were probably the most famous. Edward Hardwicke plays Dr Watson while Jeremy Brett plays Holmes. David Burke also played Dr. Watson with Jeremy Brett as Holmes in the series "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" on P.B.S. TV. This tv series was the most faithful adaptation of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle books.

There are, or were, at least a dozen radio series of Holmes & Watson aired at one time or another. The longest and by the far the most popular of all mystery stories.

Books, well there are 54 short stories and 4 full length books written by Doyle. In my personal Holmes book collection I have at least 20 different authors of Holmes stories. Just for the heck of it I wrote 3 myself. Unpublished of course. I wrote them for my own amusement. We so much for Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson---

"The Games Afoot."

Till next time good radio listening and happy radio memories.

F.E.B.

THE AIR ADVENTURES OF JIMMY ALLEN

The Air Adventures of Jimmy Allen came to radio in 1933 via the World Broadcasting System, A Chicago transcription syndicate. The serial, one of the first to come to radio following a trend inspired by real-life sky ace Charles Lindbergh, had 15-year-old Murray McLean in the title role. Barbara Croft was played by Joan Kay, a veteran of Chicago-based serial drama. Sponsor Richfield Oil Company promoted McLean's real life flying escapades (he began taking lessons at age 10) and soon Jimmy Allen Flying Clubs sprang up around the country. By 1936 more than 3 million air-minded cadets swelled the clubs' ranks. Radio lore at this time was becoming the basis for many films, and it followed that Paramount brought Jimmy Allen to the screen in "The Sky Parade," which closely mirrored the adolescent's radio adventures. The screenplay was adapted by Robert Burt and Wilfred Moore, who later would team up to bring Captain Midnight and Hop Harrigan to radio. Each episode runs approximately 15 minutes.



"Can I open a charge account?"



TUNING IN by TOM HEATHWOOD

Since this is my very first chapter of a new column for The Illustrated Press, perhaps it would be wise for me to simply give you a bit of information about me and my beginnings with Old Time Radio.

I began my radio career when I was about 13 as a "gopher" at the (then) Cowles ABC outlet in Boston, WCOP. I had visited the station which had an elaborate lobby directly accessible from Boylston Street (near Copley Square) and was completely and forever fascinated with the miracle of broadcasting! The studio was brand new then, with a wide variety of equipment that was also the latest. The studios, most of which you could see from the lobby, were built "suspended" within a rubber framework, just like the big network studios in New York. A large studio audience accommodation known as Studio "A" could also be viewed from the lobby. It had its own control room, a Hammond organ, and a Steinway grand piano, plus seating for a couple hundred.

All the studios were accessible through "sound-locks" which consisted of very heavy double doors separated by a small vestibule. I found it fun just going in and out of these arrangements.

Behind the 5 studios was a myriad of sound-conditioned halls and support areas. The office area was about one-half a story above the ground level. There was a very important Master control room, which abutted all studios except "A". Here were the consoles and transmitter control devices that made all the shows feed to the transmitter in Lexington, MA. Here too, an engineer sat in a swivel chair controlling everything that happened in the gleaming sound-tiled studios on a level of about 4 feet below. It was a fascinating place to sit quietly and watch the lighted VU meters oscillate endlessly. There was an "electronic smell" in this large room that I shall never forget. It was wonderful!!

The studios all had sound-conditions on the walls and ceilings, with rubber-tile floors in multi-color design. They were "live" studios in those days, and the slightest whisper in any part of the room could be heard on the air if the air if the studio was "on".

The studios were all built "live" in the old days, increasing the sound level, and generally making everyone sound better. I've never really been sure why, as time passed, studios were thought to be better if they were "dead", that is, absorbing ambient noise. The effect of the live studios was analogous to the sound you get while singing in the shower.

After a while of being the gopher on weekends, I was allowed to be a "junior announcer" and actually do a kid's show introduction on Voltaire Block's CHILDREN'S SONG BAG. Such a Thrill. I also had free-run of the station, and could go anywhere I wished, as long as I didn't become too obnoxious! The newsroom was a marvelous place to spend time--- with its long row of teletype machines perpetually banging and clanging and sometimes ringing. I was sometimes allowed to rip off a multi-bell story and hand-deliver it to the news announcer. I felt like I was really part of the story!

I was also intrigued by the recording room where 16" acetate transcriptions were made from "the line" (ABC network) to be saved to at a later time. These giant cutting lathes spun away the acetate thread from the blank discs, creating the most marvelous smell you can imagine. The newly cut disc had the same smell. They were labeled/signed and stored until needed. To me, it was a modern-day wonder!

This was my start in broadcasting. These early experiences assured the fact that I would never live a year of my life thereafter without being involved in radio. Even though I never made my major income in broadcasting, I always had a show on the air most of my adult life, and became involved in writing and producing commercials as well. But I would never forget the beauty of WCOP, the most up-to-date, and by far largest radio station in Boston then, at 485 Boylston St. in the New England Mutual Building. You would have to have lived in the 1940's to appreciate just how

magnificent this structure was, and what it meant to a young bout with dreams and aspirations.

Next time, we can talk about other memories from the wonderful days of old-time radio. Meanwhile, I'll be talking to you on HERITAGE RADIO THEATRE on the YESTERDAY-USA SATELLITE SUPERSTATION. Feel free to write in your comments. The address is:

HERITAGE RADIO
PO BOX 16
BOSTON, MA 02167

Editor's DESK



I'd like to take the time to thank Pete Bellanca for pitching in and taking over as Editor of the ILLUSTRATED PRESS during the months of August and September. I think that Pete did a wonderful job as editor and gave this magazine a nice change of view. We also have some donations to the cassette library to mention.

Jack French has a "Bobby Benson" tape. Side 1 has an interview with Clive Rice (Clive Campbell) Mutuals last and longest Bobby Benson and tv's only. Side 2 is a previously uncirculated episode of Bobby Benson called "Curtain Call For A Clown" broadcast 4-5-54. Any one interested in this tape can get one by sending Jack a blank tape and \$1.00 for postage & handling to:

Jack French
5137 Richardson Drive
Fairfax, VA 22032

Dick Olday, has donated 4 cassettes to the tape library:

BIG TOWN-- "The Trap" 9-28-48
The Fatal Chain 11-9-48

Yours truly Johnny Dollar--
"Buffalo Matter" parts 1&2
10-4-59 & 10-11-59

THE SIX SHOOTER--
Cheyenne Express 3-7-54
Thicker Than Water 3-14-54

CHALLENGE OF THE YUKON
Gold Behind Waterfall 9-11-50
Polar Quest 9-13-50

Linda DeCecco
Editor

CHANDU THE MAGICIAN

The original Chandu series was created by Harry Earnshaw and aired from 1932 to 1936. In 1948 Vera Oldham updated several of the 15 minute scripts and the series was given another airing, on the Mutual-Don Lee Network. It ran in this form for its old sponsor White King Soap until 1949, then went coast-to-coast on ABC as a 30 minute weekly offering. The next year it was gone.

Through his occult powers which he learned from a Hindu yogi, American Secret Agent Frank Chandler battles arch-foe Roxor, an evil sort played by radio mainstay Luis Van Rooten (Nero Wolfe, Box 13, Bulldog Drummond), who raised malicious sniggering to an art form. The chase leads to Egypt, to intrigue, and to adventure, with plenty of heavy-handed acting thrown in for funzies. Frank Chandler/Chandu is played by Tom Collins (who the following year would play both the title role in the Adventures of Frank Race and Reggie York in I Love Adventure). Irene Tedrow (Lights Out, Corliss Archer) played Dorothy, Lee Millar (Those We Love) her son Bob, and Joy Terry (child actor on Coast-to-Coast on a Bus, Young Dr. Malone) her daughter Betty. Veola Vonn (Blondie, Eddie Cantor show) is Nadji, the Egyptian Princess.



TONIGHT
"The Prince of Evil,"
Starring Howard Da Silva, with E. G. Marshall, Host. Adapted from "Rich and Will," Shakespeare's historical play about a maligned, evil general who rises to power during England's Elizabethan era.

MONDAY-SUNDAY

11:30	93
PM	WBEN

NEW ORLEANS TIMES-PICAYUNE JULY 19, 1992

SMALL TALK
Brief encounters with lively locals

ARE YOU LISTENING?

There are no boundaries at all with radio," John Barber said. "To me, it's more interesting than television or movies because it truly stimulates your imagination. What you can see in your mind's eye is a lot more elaborate than what special effects can deliver.

The radio that Barber is talking about is not today's Top 40, retro rock or even yesterday's middle-of-the-road music. No, he's singing the praises of the golden age of radio, when the airwaves were filled with the likes of Myrt and Marge, The Lux Radio Theatre and "Gangbusters." A nation tuned in to comedy, drama and what-have-you with an allegiance to celebrating "those thrilling days of yesteryear" with "The Golden Age of Radio," an hour-long program that recently bowed on WTIX Radio, Sunday nights at 10 p.m. Each week, Barber is heard on "The Mighty 690" with two recordings from his bottomless barrel of broadcast nostalgia.

The last several weeks featured "You Are There: The Battle of Gettysburg," Arthur Godfrey, "The Aldrich Family" with its familiar opening ("Henry! Henry Aldrich!" to which Henry would reply, "Com-ing, Mother!"), and "Dr. Who" radio episode from the BBC, with Colin Baker as the time-tripping doctor. ("I'll hear from listeners, I'll run more," Barber said.) Tonight brings Jeanette MacDonald



John Barber celebrating radio days

and Nelson Eddy in "Sweethearts," as it was heard on the Lady Esther Screen Guild Players show in 1946.

"I listened to these shows when I was a kid and rediscovered them again as an adult," said Barber, an accountant who moonlights as a character actor. His enthusiasm led to a short-lived show on WSMB in 1984, airing old radio shows and providing commentary. Four years later, Barber created "The Golden Age of Radio Theatre," in which he and some actor pals re-created selected programs on the stage. The performances were also broadcast on — and served as a benefit for — WRBH Radio for the blind and print handicapped.

"We did the first one at Le Petit — an Allen's Alley sketch and 'The Thin Man,'" Barber said. "We made a few mistakes, but everybody had a lot of fun. Larry Hoesdorfer played Fred Allen's guest star, Peter Lorre, and Ed Chadwick and Becki Davis

were Nick and Nora Charles.

"The next year, we had Bob Krieger as "Str. Preston of the Yukon," and Uncle Wayne Daisereport as his dog, Yukon King. Also on that show was "Tarzan," with Doug Rye, — whom I call "Thundervoice" — as Tarzan and Uncle Wayne doing the yell.

"Shenan Shaeber invited us to perform at Theatre Marigny and we brought their audiences Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy and "Fibber McGee and Molly."

Last Halloween, Barber and his radio rascals unveiled two creaking-door classics — Orson Welles' "Mercury Theatre on the Air" version of "Dracula" and Arch Oboler's "Lights Out" chiller, "Carwife." Old radio hand Charlie Martin co-produced and sound effects were provided by another broadcast veteran, Reggie Hendry.

For the current TIX radio show, Barber draws on his collection of vintage radio tapes. "And what I don't have, I can get from a supplier in Michigan who has over 5,000 hours of this stuff," Barber said. "There is an appetite for old radio out there — not a large one, but it's there. Over 100 radio stations across the country broadcast these shows. There are newsletters and publications devoted to old radio and a thriving business in the sale of tapes.

Barber is a part of that business, hawkling such obscure items as six "Adventures of Michael Shayne" sets in New Orleans and starring Jeff Chandler.

Next up for Barber is another RBH benefit, for which he hopes to import several guest stars. "As long as there's someone who remembers 'The Green Hornet,' 'X Minus One,' Jack Benny or 'Ellye Queen,' there'll be an audience for old radio," Barber says confidently.

— David Cathebert



HI, GANG! THANKS FOR YOUR HELP IN MAKING A SUCCESS OUT OF MY SELLING OLD TIME RADIO SCRIPTS. I've decided to expand to include all sorts of printed materials that will help you enjoy the old time radio hobby.

Notice the cute cheapsaw! Before I go out on a promenade with my close friend, I'll start on my list of printed materials for your files. Remember, all profits from the sales go toward supporting the Old Time Radio Theaters in New Orleans.

From the files of JOHN A. BARBER
PR-1
BOX 70711
NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70172

Old Time Radio Printed Materials Library

- 88. ABBOTT & COSTELLO sketches- Turkey Dinner - Who's On First- \$3.00
- 89. BY PLAND, FRED ALLEN by Abe Burrows- article from Radio -TV Mirror Four pages- \$3.00
- 90. Come and visit BILL BENEDY by Pauline Swanson- article from Radio-TV Mirror- 5 pages- \$3.00
- 91- JACK BENNY sketch- Buck Benny Rides Again - \$3.00
- 92- BOB AND RAY sketches- BAR reunite the Whirlays- Person of The Month \$3.00
- 93. BURNS & ALLEN- 2 sketches- Gracie's Anniversary Gift To Guy Lombardo- a vaudeville sketch- \$3.00
- 94.- EDDIE GANTOR- The Bullfight sketch- \$3.00
- 95. JOHN DICKSON CARR- BBC script- The Black Minute- (Dr. Gidson Fell)- \$6.00
- 96. COLUMBIA WORKSHOP- The Plot to Overthrow Christmas- 30 min.- \$6.00
- 97. DOC SAVAGE- The Heaviest Metal-Shadow Comics- Sept. 1945- \$3.00- \$5.00
- 98.- JIMMY DURANZ& GARRY MOORE sketch- The Hunting Trip- \$3.00
- 99.- EILEERY QUEEN - Honeymoon House- script from EQ Magazine- \$5.00
- 100- THE ETERNAL LIGHT- The Camel & I- 30 min.- \$6.00
- 101.- ARTHUR GODFREY- Every man's an SOB to Someone- Chapter 17- CBS- Reflections in A Bloodshot Eye- by Robert Metz- 15 pages- \$6.00
- 102- Chitchat and Song- by Jerome Beatty- (re Arthur Godfrey)- American Magazine- five pages- \$3.00
- 103.- ARTHUR GODFREY's Story- by Helen Bolstad- from Radio-TV Mirror- five pages- \$3.00
- 104.- THE GUIDING LIGHT- of June 14, 1946- 15 min. \$3.00
- 105- BOB HOPE- 2 monologs- On The Atchison, Topeka and the Santa Fe sketch- The Big Game Sketch- \$4.00
- 106 INNER SANCTUM Design For Dying- 30 min. 9/6/42- \$6.00
- 107- JACK ARMSTRONG- of Sept. 19, 1946- 15 min.- \$3.00

All prices are postpaid. Payable by check or money order.



From the files of JOHN A. BARBER
NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70172
BOX 70711

Old Time Radio Printed Materials Library

All prices are postpaid.

PR-2

- 108.- SITTING ON A RAINBOW by Gladys Hall-re Julius LaRosa- from Radio-TV Mirror- Feb. 1954- six pages- \$3.00
- 109.- LET'S PRETEND- The Nuremberg Stove- 30 min. - \$6.00
- 110.- MOLIE MYSTERY THEATRE- Follow That Cab- 4/19/46- 30 min.- \$6.00
- 111.- HENRY MORGAN-Everhard Commercial-Long Distance sketch- \$3.00
- 112- NICK CARTER- Midnight Blue-Shadow Comics-July 1946-comics xerox- plus- Nick Carter's Inner Circle-Matchless Murder- 3 page written story- \$4.00

113.- ARCH OBOLER- And Adam Begot- 30 min.- \$6.00

114.- JACK PEARL- as Baron Munchausen- The Circus sketch- \$3.00

115- THE SHADOW Encounters The Death Master's Vengeance- from Shadow Comics -Sept 1945- comics Xerox- \$3.00

116- THE SHADOW sets A Trap for Crime- from Shadow Comics- July 1946-comics xerox- \$3.00

117- STUDIO ONE- Babbitt- 60 min. - \$9.00

118- SUSPENSE- The Hitchhiker- 30 min. \$6.00

119- SUSPENSE- The Thirteenth Sound- 30 min. \$6.00

120 TARZAN, LORD OF THE JUNGLE- The Siren Of Omar Kara- 30 min. \$6.00

121- TERRY AND THE PIRATES- The Dragon Lady Strikes Back- 15 min.- \$3.00

122- TEXACO STAR THEATRE- w/ Fred Allen-Guest: Otto Hottendorf-bologne staffer- 30 min.- \$6.00

123- THEATRE GUILD ON THE AIR- Ah, Wilderness- 60 min. - \$9.00

124- THE THIN MAN- Case of the Goofy Groom- 3/10/46- 30 min.- \$6.00

125- TOM MIX, BALSTON STRAIGHTSHOOTERS- The Mystery of Hidden Mesa- 15 min. \$3.00

The profits from these sales go to support Old Time Radio Theatre In New Orleans. And I thank you.

THE SHADOW OF FU HANCHU

In Fu Manchu author Sax Rohmer produced the ultimate expression of Oriental cunning and one of the most malignant personalities in pulp fiction. Created in 1913, Fu Manchu was Rohmer's responses to the public's apprehensions about the Yellow Peril.

Fu's capacity for evil, like the radio drama itself, was as vast and unfettered as the mind's capacity to imagine. In his grim world, crime, deceit, intrigue and lust for power were the norm rather than the exception.

Rohmer appointed Denis Nayland Smith as Fu's adversary; his credo was that of the consummate serial hero, i.e., submission to the cause of right, even to the ultimate sacrifice. Stiff upper lip and all that.

Fu Manchu enjoyed a good serial life on radio. Network radio was still in diapers when the Collier Hour aired it on NBC Blue in 1927, drawing adventure from Rohmer's serial running in *Colliers Magazine*. On September 26, 1932 it moved to CBS where it ran until April 24, 1933, then in 1936-37 Radio Luxembourg broadcast a British version, throwing Fu and his dark fictions into the cauldron of Europe's growing war fears. In 1939, *The Shadow of Fu Manchu* began.

Like the novels from which it was crafted, *The Shadow of Fu Manchu* carries a heavy freight of mystery, thrills and pure escapism typical of the conspiratorial plotting rampant in those troubled thirties.

The tale begins when Special Inspector Smith is summoned by Mandalay by the British Govern-

ment to halt the criminal activities of Fu Manchu. Fu oversees the Black Poppy Society, a vile contagion of super criminals dedicated to eliminating Europe's most powerful leaders. The survival not of the Empire merely but of the entire white race depends on the success of Smith's mission.

On a fog-bound night in London, Smith and his associate Dr. Petrie hurry to the home of Crighton Davy to warn the renowned British statesman that he is high on Fu's list of expendables. Minutes before they arrive, however, Sir Crighton is murdered in his study. Petrie's postmortem reveals that death was caused by the sting of a poisonous insect, otherwise known as the "Zayat Kiss," probably administered by a goon in Fu's employ. A short while later, when Smith narrowly averts a Zayat Kiss meant for him, Fu orders the dacoit who blundered the assassination destroyed. All in a day's work for Fu.

As tensions build and bodies pile up, Fu kidnaps Petrie and lays a trap for Smith in his riverfront hideout. Smith, however, surprises Fu in his den; but Fu springs a trap door that sends Petrie into the Thames, and while Smith rescues Petrie he escapes into the night. Before you can say John Bull, Fu attempts two more assassinations.

In this thread *The Shadow of Fu Manchu* unraveled until it left the air in September 1940.

Initially it aired in 77 fifteen-minute installments three times a week, and was transcribed and rebroadcast in other locales on different dates. This series featured Hanley Stafford and Gala

Gordon as Nayland Smith and Dr. Petrie.



SUPERMAN

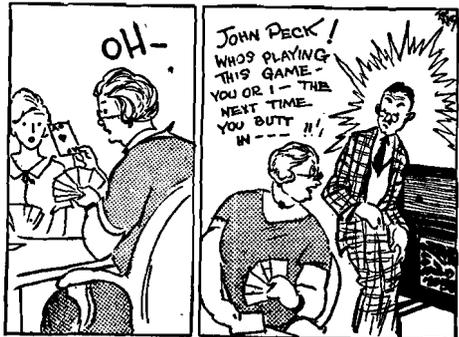
The Adventures of Superman was on the air in syndication within a few months of its 1938 debut in Action Comics. The first network broadcast aired February 12, 1940 on the Mutual Broadcasting System. These were the first adventures of this "strange visitor from another planet" to come to radio. Superman, a foundling rocketed to Earth by his parents from the doomed planet Krypton, was adopted by two earthlings, Mr. and Mrs. Kent. He grew up under protective coloration to take the secret identity of Clark Kent, mild-mannered reporter for the Daily Planet. Beneath his simple suite and spectacles was the Man of Steel, and a skin-tight blue costume with red trunks, boots and cape, with just a little yellow behind the red "S" emblazoned on his chest. As an alien, he was invulnerable, with apparently unlimited strength. At first only a fantastic jumper, he gained the freedom of pure flight when animators commissioned to do a series of motion picture cartoons found his early means of propulsion to be somewhat ludicrous. Radio's man about-the-universe was played by Bud Collyer, the actor with the two-toned voice. One voice was high-pitched for Clark Kent, the other was husky octaves lower for the no-nonsense Man of Steel. The declivity occurred near the end of the spoken line, thus: "This looks like a job (basso profundo)--FOR SUPERMAN! (It suggested a change of life more than just one of voice.) Superman was the self-appointed custodian of Right. In his crusade to

protect Metropolis from the Evil element, he usually faced pretty fat odds. His enemies included traitors, mad scientists, rampaging robots, extraterrestrials,

citizens gone berserk, and even Hitler. Fellow reporter Louis Lane had little use for the timid Clark Kent when he came to the Daily Planet. (She could never understand how he scooped her time and again.) Nor was the radio Clark quite as clever as he was in Action Comics--he was occasionally caught changing costumes in alleyways and telephone booths. Superman was the comic strip creation (in 1938) of artists Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster. Jackson Beck's ringing introduction became one of the most familiar on radio: "Look! Up in the sky! It's a Bird!" (Voice in the crowd: "It's a Plane!") "It's SUPERMAN!" In 1949, Superman moved to ABC for a 30 minute show starring Michael Fitzmaurice, The sustained version went to twice a week in 1950 and left the air in 1951.

Radiotics

By King



Broadcast museum comes out of hiding

BY TRACY SHRYER
Los Angeles Times

CHICAGO

JUST beyond the Chicago Cultural Center's ornate marble entrance is a closet. But this is not just any closet. If you take the dare of the sign dangling from the door-knob reading "OPEN AT YOUR OWN RISK," out thunder memories of the days when families crowded around the Emerson listening to the crash of Johnson Wax cans and whatever else Fibber McGee jammed behind the door.

This 19th-century building, once the city's main library, now embraces the Museum of Broadcast Communications, a repository of 20th-century culture and contemporary American history as captured through radio, television and broadcast advertising.

Radios as furniture

Anyone who remembers the classic radio comedy "The Fibber McGee and Mollie Show" should get a kick out of the vintage black-and-white TV sets and radios that look like major pieces of furniture. Further down memory lane is the tribute to Edgar Bergen, perhaps the only ventriloquist who found fame on radio. Both Bergen and his dummy, Charlie McCarthy, were natives of Chicago. It seemed appropriate to Bergen's wife, Francis, (they are Candice Bergen's parents) that the wooden McCarthy, Effie Klinker and hayseed Mortimer Snerd be enshrined here.

For those indifferent to the days before Walkmen, there is the fully functional newsroom equipped with working TV cameras and TelePromPTers. News anchor wanna-bes can test their on-air presence in borrowed blue blazers. There's even a floor director to cue the neophytes.

A video to keep

It costs a mere \$19.95 to be a newscaster, but you also get a videotape of your performance. This and the tourist shop are the only places where you can spend money in the museum; admission is free.

Although the broadcast museum has had a home in Chicago for five years, it has come out of its own closet. Once stashed off the beaten path, the museum now is on Michigan Avenue, just a stone's throw from Chicago's Art Institute and Orchestra Hall.

The museum was the brainchild of Bruce DuMont, a local political correspondent and nephew of television pioneer Allen B. DuMont. In 1978, while producing a local news show, he was stunned to learn how old footage was stored. "Everything was in such disarray and treated with so much disrespect. Things were piled up and there was no point of reference," he recalls.

B-O-L-O-G-N-A

After years of door-knocking and political maneuvering, DuMont's orderly dream is a reality that includes a public archives collection with more than 6,000 television shows, 49,000 radio broadcasts and 8,000 broadcast commercials — including the one that taught the world to sing. That and the ad that taught the world to spell, at least the word B-O-L-O-G-N-A.

The past is easily accessible through a bank of computers that even the most computer illiterate can understand. And the collection grows daily. Nightly newscasts are indexed so that anyone can, say, go back to their birth date to see what else happened that day.

Students and professors sit at TV and radio carrels for research. For his upcoming movie, Spike Lee came to the museum to see footage on Malcolm X. But browsers are always welcome.

City's key role

Strolling through the museum, one cannot help but notice Chicago's vital role in broadcasting. Burr Tillstrom, the hands behind Kukla, Fran and Ollie, got his start here. Jack Benny and Walt Disney grew up in these parts. WBBM's TV camera, the one that captured John F. Kennedy's charisma during the first televised presidential debate in 1960, is on display.

The Museum of Broadcast Communications is not only overflowing with nostalgia but also mirrors 20th-century values, quirks and humor. There are plenty of memories.

Stopping on his lunch hour, Scott Rylowicz, 32, found himself looking to the past. "I like the stuff that reminds me of my childhood," he said. Even the radio programs that predate him have special meaning. "I picture my dad as a kid. This was their entertainment. I'd like to bring my kids here to see if they are as interested as I am."



On Philco Automatic Tuning models the call letters of your favorite American stations appear right on a dial... similar to that on an automatic telephone. You choose your station... (twirl the dial just once. *CLICK*... there's your station... tuned with absolute perfection!

And on these models... Philco also provides the *Foreign Tuning System*, which names and locates overseas stations by name... and working with the Philco High-Efficiency Aerial more than doubles the foreign stations you can enjoy.*

See, hear, try Philco Automatic Tuning at your Philco dealer's.



PHILCO 10X*
\$125

Less Aerial
*Sold only with Philco High-Efficiency Aerial to insure greatest foreign reception.

PHILCO
A Musical Instrument of Quality

HOME RADIOS... \$20 to \$600
AUTO RADIOS \$39.95 to \$77.60

*Philco Replacement Tubes
Improve the Performance of Any Radio*

17th ANNUAL

FRIENDS OF OLD TIME RADIO CONVENTION

DRAGNET

INNER SANCTUM

Oct. 22-24, 1992
Holiday Inn North
Newark, NJ

Guests

Special Convention Guests who have given definite or tentative acceptance of our invitations:

West Coast Guests

Harry Bartell - Gunsmoke, Dragnet
Dick Beals - The Lone Ranger, "Speedy" Alka-seltzer
Vanessa Brown - The Quiz Kids, Hollywood Starline
Chris and Paddy Costello - (Daughters of Lou Costello)
Herb Ellis - Gunsmoke, Dragnet
Ray Erlenborn - (Sound effects artist)
Bob Hastings - Archie Andrews
Peggy Webber - Dragnet, Pete Kelly's Blues

New East Coast Guests

Fred Collins - (Announcer) X - 1, The Chase
Dr. Peter Cranford - (Originator) Take it or Leave it
Win Elliot - (MC) Quick as a Flash, The Fish Pond
Clive Rice - Bobby Benson
Art Richards - (Director) When a Girl Marries

Returns

Arthur Anderson - Let's Pretend, Tony and Gus
George Ansbro - (Announcer) ABC
Jackson Beck - (Announcer) Superman, Mark Trail
Fran Carlon - Big Town
Lou Clark - Nick Carter
Nancy Coleman - Young Dr. Malone
Bob Dryden - Superman, PLAM
Earl George - Captain Midnight, Ma Perkins
Ed Herlihy - (Announcer) Kraft

Raymond Edward Johnson - Inner Sanctum
Ruth Last - Let's Pretend, Quiet Please
Abby Lewis - House in the Country, Road of Life
Peg Lynch - Ethel and Albert
Ted Mallie - (Announcer) Many Mutual shows
Charlotte Manson - Nick Carter
Bill Owen - (Announcer)
Kas Roberts - (Announcer) The Shadow, Elery Queen
Adele Roman - Buck Rogers, John's Other Wife
Terry Ross - Sound effects artist
Sidney Sloan - (Producer, director, writer)
Ezra Stone - The Aldrich Family
Florence Williams - Front Page Farrell

Events

The following events are tentatively scheduled. Some may be added or dropped depending on additional guests or other changes. Time will be announced at the convention.

Thursday

Dealers Rooms: 9 am - 5 pm; evening if time
Cocktails and dinner: 5:30 - 8:30
Chris and Paddy Costello present "Lou Costello"
Visit with your friends and the special guests; visit the dealers

Friday (Daytime)

Dealers Rooms: 9 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Western panel with Clive Rice; Host is Jack French
Commercial workshop with Dick Beals; Host is Darryl Goodwin
An informal radio quiz (David Zwengler)
Re-creation: (X - 1) with all-star cast; Directed by Don Ramlow
Kate Smith Panel; hosted by Dick Hayes and Rev. Raymond
Word
Supporting Actress panel with all-star cast; Hosted by Jeff Muller and Jay Wild

Friday Night

Cocktails and dinner: 5:30 - 8:15 p.m.
Meet the guests
Warm up with Ray Edenborn
Re-creation (Dragoes); with Harry Bartell, Herb Ellis and Peggy Webber; directed by Gary Yoggy
Author panel

Saturday (Daytime)

Dealers Rooms: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Re-creation (Detective Story); with all-star cast; directed by Anthony Tollin
Raymond Edward Johnson presents--
The Dave Warren Players present a re-creation
Bill Murtough, engineer, reminisces
Tom DeLong hosts Game and Quiz shows with guests Win Elliot, Vanessa Brown and Dr. Peter Cranford

Saturday Night

Cocktails and dinner: 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Peg Lynch and Bob Dryden re-create *The Little Things in Life*
Re-creation (*Inner Sanctum*); with Raymond Edward Johnson and an all-star cast
Awards, raffle, donations, brief guest appearances, final autographs

Getting There

- By Air:** Continental Airline is the official air line for our convention. Details on attached sheet. Free shuttle bus from airport. From LaGuardia or Kennedy, take limousine service or helicopter to Newark airport; then free shuttle
- By Bus:** Bus service from Manhattan's Port Authority to Newark Airport; then take shuttle bus.
- By Car:** From NJ Turnpike, take Exit 14; take second right marked SERVICE ROAD after toll booth. DO NOT TAKE FIRST RIGHT which is Rt 1 & 9. Take second right directly under bridge marked service road. You must take one of the right-hand tolls and stay on the right.
- From Garden State Parkway south of airport, take Exit 140 to Route 22E to Routes 1 & 9 North, local. Follow the blue sign marked SERVICE ROAD. Follow to hotel.
- From Newark Airport, exit airport and follow route 1 & 9 North to SERVICE ROAD.
- By Train:** Check your local train schedule; there's a station in Newark

Cost

Reserve your spot as soon as possible. Prepaid tickets are held at the door. Take advantage of our early-bird special described on attached sheet.

Thursday, October 22nd; Daytime only (9 - 5); \$10

Thursday, October 22nd; Daytime and evening including dinner (9 am - closing) \$31.00 (\$28.00*). Choice of London broil, chicken cordon bleu, stuffed fillet of sole. Please indicate choice when you make your reservation.

Friday, October 23rd; Daytime only (9 am - 5:30 pm) \$10.00 if paid in advance; \$15.00 at the door.

Friday, October 23rd; Daytime and evening including buffet dinner (9 a.m. - closing) \$42.00 (\$39.00*). Discount of \$3.00 for those over 62 and under 16.

Saturday, October 24th; Daytime only (9 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.) \$10.00 if paid in advance; \$15.00 at the door.

Saturday, October 24th; Daytime and evening including buffet dinner (9 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.) \$49.00 (\$45.00*). Discount of \$3.00 for those over 62 and under 16.

Complimentary coffee, muffins and bagels Thursday, Friday and Saturday; complimentary hors d'oeuvres Friday and Saturday evenings.

Dealer's Tables are \$35.00 each plus appropriate registration fees. See enclosed sheet.

Hotel: \$60.00 for a single, \$65.00 for a double. Reserve rooms with me when you send in convention registration. Pay for rooms upon arrival. Rooms should be reserved by October 5th. Give me details such as names, nights, etc.

Ads: Ads may be placed in our program book. See attached notice. This will be a special, enlarged, 17th - anniversary book

Registration

Advance dinner reservations must be made. Reservations are limited (Friday 300; Saturday 400). Make checks out to FOIR or Jay Hickerson

Mail to Jay Hickerson, Box 4321, Hamden, CT 06514. (203) 248-2887

Friends of Old-time Radio Convention

Oct 22nd - 24th, 1992

Updated and Further Information

Seating

Sit where you wish on Thursday. On Friday and Saturday, tables will be numbered and will be assigned in advance. Tables sit 10 people. If you wish to reserve a full or partial table, please let me know in advance with whom you would like to sit. Make sure the people with whom you wish to sit are coming. A few people gave me a long list of people to choose from. I can't do this. All those who register at the door or who have no preference will sit where there is room. Table reservations must be made in advance.

Ads

Ads may be placed in our program book (8 1/2 by 11). This is our 17th year and we will again have an expanded program book with guest biographies. Cost for ads are:

Full Page - 8 1/2 by 11	\$60	Half Page - 5 1/2 by 8 1/2 or 4 by 11	\$40
Quarter Page - 4 by 5	\$20		

Dealers at our convention may take a 25% discount on the ad. Help support our 17th annual convention.

Thursday

Remember to let me know your choice of food for Thursday night. Also remember, the dealers are open from 9 am. We may have one or two workshops in the afternoon.

Air Lines

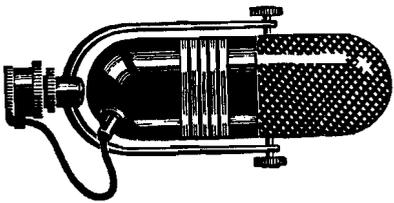
Continental Airlines is again the official airline for our convention. We have special group rates which you can use. Call 1-800-468-7022 and give the person that answers a special "EZ" number. The number is EZ 10 AP 81 (read E Z ten AP 81). Hours to call Continental are 6 am - 12 midnight CST (Monday - Friday) and 8 am - 9 pm CST (Saturday and Sunday).

Registration

All meal reservations **MUST** be paid in advance. If you are coming for the day only, avoid the hassle of paying at the registration desk and **save \$5**. Preregistration for the day only is **\$10 if mailed in advance** and **\$15 if paid at the door** for both Friday or Saturday. If you can't attend the dinner but wish to stay for the activities afterwards, the cost is **\$10** for each night.

EARLY BIRD PRICES: There are special prices **IF PAYMENT IS RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 1**. The prices with an asterisk (*) are these prices. Early bird prices are **Thursday (\$28); Friday (\$39); Saturday (\$45)**. If you reserve early but do not pay until you arrive, you will pay the higher price. Make reservations, pay early and avoid lines at the registration table.

Old Time Radio Club
Box 426
Lancaster, NY 14086



FIRST CLASS MAIL