The Radio Historical Association of Colorado, Inc.

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RETURN WITH US NOW...is the official publication of the Radio Historical Association of Colorado, a non-profit organization. The cost of membership is \$15.00 per year and allows the member full use of the Club's resources. For further information, contact one of the following Officers or Board Members...

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:Barrett Benson..P.O. Box 507..Pine, Co...80470..838-6185 :Vicki Blake..P.O. Box 440139..Aurora, Co..80044..690-0048

:Charles Barton..5330 S. Washington..Littleton,Co. 80121... 781-6287

TAPE DONATIONS :E1me

:Elmer Westbrook (See Above)
:John Cook ""

We thank you for your support of RHAC. We hope that all members utilize the many resources of the club to the fullest and enjoy them. Any comments, suggestions and donations are appreciated.

NEXT MEETING

The general membership meeting for September will be held once again at the Church of the Master, 5152 East 17th Ave. located on the southside of 17th Ave between Filbert and Forest Sts. Enter from the Filbert St. side and proceed downstairs. The meeting will be held on Thursday the 18th at 7:p.m. This meeting is the annual election of Officers. The recommended nominees are; President, John Cook, Vice-Pres., Dick King, Treasurer, John Licht, and Secretary, Reid Hanson. Nominations will be accepted from the floor. If you, are anyone you feel will serve the best interests of RHAC and should be considered as candidates for any of the four elected positions, please speak up and make your nominations either at the meeting or prior to election night. Let's have a good turn out . Your input is valuable and there is a lot of planning to do for

Our newest honary member was a guest speaker at our last meeting. All of you who attended were treated to a fine presentation by Mr. Russell Coburn of WLW Cincinatti, Ohio, who is retired and presently living in Aurora for the past 26 years. Those of you who didn't make it missed an entertaining evening. In next month's newsletter there will be an article about Mr. Coburn and his visit with us. Thanks, Russell, for a delightful evening.

ABOUT THE COVER

Everyone who has ever listened to radio particularly in its heyday, knows who the Great Gildersleeve was. A character first introduced on the FIBBER MAGEE AND MOLLY SHOW, Gildy proved to be as popular as his two host stars and subsequently "got his own show". Television has its share of "spin-off" programs and so did radio. THE GREAT GILDERSLEEVE is considered to be one of the first "spin-offs" of a highly rated and popular program, and, as you well know, proved to be just as successful and popular.

Harold Peary was the first to play the pompous but good-natured character, Throckmorton P. Gildersleeve supported by nephew Leroy, niece Margaret and housekeeper Birdie. Harold first broke into radio on January 21, 1923 with the Oakland Tribune Juveniles on KZM - Oakland. Later, on NBC,

he was featured on BLONDIE before joing Fibber and Molly as their neighbor.

In 1941 THE GREAT GILDERSLEEVE went to Springfield where he settled down as the town's Water Commission with his niece and nephew and housekeeper and continued there through 1950 until sheer boredom made him quit the series and began the short-lived HONEST HAROLD series. Of course you know who replaced him as Gildersleeve.

THE GREAT GILDERSLEEVE - Harold Peary (Source - Great Radio Personalities by Anthony Slide)

WANT-ADS

This month I have had a flood of requests from members looking for or wanting to sell items. As a believer in advertising, I can attest to the fact that letting your wishes be known does bring results. A fellow member sent me four STRAINGHT ARROW programs I had requested in the last two Newsletters for which I am deeply grateful. Read on; you may be able to help out a fellow member.

Barbara Watkins is looking for more of the ALDRICH FAMILY shows. She is a big fan and has 87 shows in her collection and wants all that may be available. She will be happy to exchange lists with anyone who will send theirs. You can write her at P. O. Box 561, So. Pasadena, Ca. 91030.

Al Gillen of Colorado Springs is looking for some PETE KELLY BLUES programs. He is willing to furnish blank tape for anyone who will take the time to dub them. You can write Al at 4718 Bunch Berry Ln., Colorado Springs, Co. 80917.

In addition to Dick King's request for a copy of John Dunning's Tune In Yesterday, Ken Douglas

of 365 21st. St., Boulder, Co. 80302, is also looking for one. Can we help them out?

Roger Hill of 1231 Grove St. #10, San Francisco, Ca. 94117, has a number of items for sale in anticipation of a move to Taiwan. He wishes to sell at the fairest and best price possible, the following items:

450 master reels of OTR shows

25 reels of new Sony PR 150 1800' tape

4 reels of new Ampex 311 1200" tape

5 reels of new Sony PR 200 2400' tape

A old heavy Phillips tape recorder

BSR EQ 110x equalizer (used twice)

A Sony TC-129 cassette deck

A Sony 560-D tape Deck

A Sony 105(?) taperecorder

2 Sony models 377 and 366 decks currently in shop for maintenance

LR 75 receiver with speakers

Montgomery Ward receiver/cassette/phono with speakers.

In addition, Roger has many books, records and other items in the apartment if anyone is interested Due to the weight/volume of the above, he cannot arrange for shipping. It would be worth your while to make an offer for everything and pick it up. He can be reached at (415) 346-4966. Any of you planning a trip to San Francisco in the near future, think about what Roger has to sell and drop him a line or give him a call.

Chuck Barton has a home-made tape-switching unit with a 6-deck capacity that he built himself. He would like to sell it to someone who may have need of a switching unit. He is asking \$15.00 for it. If you are interested, you can contact Chuck by dropping him a line or giving him a call.

(See Officers & Director's registry page one of this newsletter)..

Here is a special request from a friend of RHAC. He is looking for a special-edition-stylized version of the Baby Grand Radio, produced by Philco, circa 1930-36, Philco-Ford Corp. It is a model #R-90. Must be in good condition and will pay top dollar. If you have any info concerning this particular model of radio, please contact the Editor. (See director's registry)

Thanks to all of you who have sent us your want-ads. Hope we can get you some results.

TAPE REVIEW

"Copy Boy"....that was the closing order given by Randy Stone, a top reporter for the Chicago Star newspaper. Played by Frank Lovejoy, NIGHTBEAT came to NBC in 1950 and was considered among the tops in newspaper adventures. Aside from the human interest appeal, there was always a good. mixture of crime, mystery and adventure in which Randy Stone was involved. Lovejoy, one of my all-time favorite actors, played the part as only he knew how.

If you've not heard this fine series, you can find them on tape #'s101, 282, 283, 286 & 444.

Good Listening

LIBRARY NEWS

There seems to be a slight problem in tapes being returned late and by different people. It seems that one person orders tpes and another person returns them. You can imagine the confusion that would cause the Tape Librarian. Although this is isolated, it still produces mayhem in the sacred halls of the Library. Please, do not circulate tapes. Dub them, return them and then, trade with your friends. Thanks.

Effective October 1st, 1986, tape rentals will increase to \$1.50/reel. The "late fine" will increase to .50¢/ reel per week!! This move was necessitated by increases in postage, tape, box replacement and handling. Keep this in mind when October comes around. This reminder will be printed in subsequent Newsletters so that all will adjust to the change. This change was recommended by the BOD and approved by the members at the last meeting.

MEMBERSHIPS

August was a dead month for receiving new members. None... However, thanks to Jeff Ready of Woodland, Texas for his early renewal. Also our apologies for newsletters not getting to him. Vicki reported a \$27.00 rental from the Log Library. Despite the slack in our monthly membership drive, we have had a very successful year in so far as new members joining our organization. Vicki will report on the sixeable increase in members over the past 12 months at our next meeting. An increase that is indicative of the growing interest in OTR.. Thanks to you all for your support and renewed interest. We will strive to continue to bring you a satisfactory product.

MOUNTAIN PICNIC REPORT

Thanks to Barrett Benson and his lovely wife, Patty, the summer picnic held at the Benson's mountain home was a fun evening. The food was good, no ants, the air cool and invigorating, des-

pite the 95 degree heat in the metropolis, and the fellowship agreeable.

The 18 people who attended were treated to a wonderful slide presentation of Colorado Ghost Towns located in some of the most remote and rugged mountain terrain that only a 4-wheel vehicle could reach, and not without some difficulty. The spectacular color slides were taken by Elmer Westbrook over the past several years - some from the early Forties - on many of his excursions to the high country. As usual, Elmer was in top form, recalling the names and locations in addition to the history of these towns and the nearby mines, as well as enduring a constant barrage of good-natured kidding. It was a very relaxing evening and, despite the deafening silence and the full moon as bright as a blinding light out-shining a million or so stars (I got tired of counting) we all felt a certain peace with nature. As though it was on cue, a shooting star signaled the end of the evening, (probably a piece of space junk burning up in the atmosphere), and we request tantly drove home.

1200 FOOTERS GO UP

With the improvement in quality control at the Ampex tape-making place, there is an increase in price of the 1200' Ampex tape. It is now \$2.00/reel and before too long, the price will be as high as \$3.50 or, there-abouts, for virgin tape.

Elmer still has 1200' reels at the old price so, don't delay. The new shipment is here and El-

mer's supply won't last...

CASSETTE LIBRARY NEWS

A new Librarian for the cassette library has been found. Bill Stipp has volunteered to handle the duties. He has gotten some experience by working with Elmer in the Reel library so, he will

be able to provide good service without too many problems.

There will be certain rules that must be followed by our members when ordering from the cassette library... Simple tips on the care and handling of these cassettes. It is hoped that members using the library will have a decent deck that won't"chew up"the tapes. The inexpensive decks are just that. They do not have the precision that a medium or higher-priced deck has. Therefore, it is vitally important that your recording and playback heads be cleaned every 9 or 10 hours of play and demagnetized periodically or according to your manual specs. This will not only prolong the life of your deck but protect any cassette your are recording or playing back. When using the tapes for long auto trips or around town, do not leave the tapes in a hot car. Make sure that they are kept in the coolest place available.

I know that many of you are thoroughly familiar with the care and maintenance of your decks and cassetes but, with the influx of new folks entering the OTR collecting hobby, there are many who are not knowlegeable about these things. So,,,it is our duty to help them with these matters con-

cerning the "how-tos" and the "why-fors" of protecting their equipment.and tapes.

We will be printing helpful hints in issues to come.

Get set. The target date for ordering is Jan 1, 1987. More information will be at hand in coming issues.

WE GET LETTERS

I would like to take a moment to acknowledge some letters received by some of our members. First of all, we received a nice letter from Mike Fields of Colorado Springs, offering his services to the club. About the only practical way you can help, since you offered to drive to Denver once-a-month, is to contact Elmer Westbrook and give him a hand in the Tape Library on

a Monday and/or Tuesday. Thanks for writing and offering your services.

In regards to the noticed printed in last month's issue concerning the taxation of recording tape and tape decks, Tom Monroe of Lakewood, Ohio responded with a letter he received from Senator Charles Mathias who has proposed an amendment to Senate Bill S-1739, which allows individuals to copy recordings for private use. In return for that privelege, the bill imposes a modest royalty on the tools used to copy music. (OTR?). The royalty is applicable only to audio recording equipment. It does not apply to equipment used for home video, audio equipment which can record by microphone; playback-only equipment; recorders equipped with copy-code technology to precent unauthorized copying; equipment purchased for use in a trade or business, or comparable nonprofit organization, For those tape recorders not falling within one of the exemptions, the royality rate would be 5% of the wholesale price for conventional recording equipment and, 25% of the wholesale price of "dual-port" equipment, which allows direct copying (High-speed dubbling) of prerecorded tapes....Thanks, Tom for helping to clear up this matter and answering some of the

We also received a letter from Dan Holcomb of No. Muskegon, Michigan who writes to tell us about what he has done to enjoy OTR. He found an old D.C. powered Grynow radio that did not work and removed the tuner and speaker. In their place he put a portable tape recorder with detachable speakers in the lower compartment and plays OTR tapes. Now, he is able to enjoy and relive those days when his family sat around the radio with a bowl of popcorn and listened to The WLS Barn Dance and other shows. Thanks, Dan, for sharing your means of enjoying our hobby. (Dan sent a couple of polaroids --front and back--of his old radio shell and how he set it up. Sorry

I did not print them. They didn't copy very well/)

Thanks to all of you who wrote. If you have any comments, suggestion or gripes, drop me a line and I will acknowlege your letter. I won't be able to print a letter in its entirety but will

comment on the highlights of its contents and share them with our members.

1987 OTR CONVENTION

We are happy to announce the approval of a 1987 OTR Convnetion. At the last meeting, the members attending voted to hold a 3rd annual affair. The time now at hand is to establish a committee to handle the organization and preparation thereof.

If any of you are interested in serving on the committee, please, give me a call. I will give

your name to the committee chairman whom we as yet have not named.

I will be honest with you. There is a lot of work to be done and it will take the efforts and coordination of several to accomplish our goal. I am aware it is a strictly volunteer effort but, the rewards are great and satisfying. I experienced the pleasure of meeting first-hand the guest stars when they were here last June and received the honor of getting to know them on a more intimate basis. I'd like to think that I have made some new friends. I'm sure they feel the same because we took the time to remember and honor them. I also had the pleasure of working with dedicated folks who shared the same interests as I and getting to know them personally.

If you want to be a part of a very rewarding project that requires diligence, patience, frustra-

tion, disappointment and work then, call me. I guarantee the rewards will be memorable.

OTR CONVENTIONS THIS FALL

"A SALUTE TO THE RADIO HEROES"...Sperdvac's 1986 3rd annual convention, will be held Friday, November 7th thru Sunday November 9th, 1986 at the Viscount Hotel in Los Angeles, Calif. They will

feature stars from radio's mysteries, westerns and adventure shows,

Also, the 11th Annual Friends of Old Time Radio is being held at the Holiday Inn North, Newark International Airport, Newark, N.J., October 24th and 25th, 1986. They plan to have a re-creation of a SUSPENCE, WITCHE'S TALE and, GREAT GILDERSLEEVE show. Yes, Willard Waterman will be there along with 40 other radio personalities. This Convention is one of the oldest of its type and done very well. If you are interested in more information about these conventions, please contact me. I have 11 the details.

A mere child in the business helps heyday

By Paul Sullivan

he way Carl Amari figures it, he was simply born in the wrong decade. He's trying to correct that now in the only way he knows. Amari lives in a time warp. And he gets paid for it.

"I'm into the old thing," admits the 22-year-old "nostalgia jockey"

from Schiller Park.

The "old thing" for Amari is old-time radio shows, most of which were originally broadcast well before his parents' eyes ever did the glimmer thing. And, with a cassette-tape collection now totaling some 48,000 aged broadcasts, Amari has turned what was once just an obsessive hobby into а сагеет.

Amari hosts the nightly program "When Radio Was," broadcast from 10 to 11 p.m. Monday through Saturday and from 9 to 11 p.m. Sunday on Elgin Big Band station WJKL [FM 94.3].

The program began five years ago on what Amari calls "a 10watt radio station with about a one-mile radius." It has progressed to the point where five hours of his shows are syndicated nationally each week.

From a small, hand-built recording studio in the basement of his family's Schiller Park home, Amari produces shows from his massive collection and sends them out to the National Broadcast Museum Superstation in Richard-

son, Tex.

In addition, Amari has his own network of 25 radio stations from Miami to Santa Rosa, Calif. [most of them in the 5,000-watt range], and mails them another five hours' worth of tapes each week. Neither the Texas superstation nor any of his "network" stations

pay for his shows, but Amari pay off for him in the long run. from Schaden, a former employer kid a break and let him keep the ways talking about old time radio ways talking about old-time radio, shows in Chicago. and one thing begot the next," said WJKL programmer Marty

"Listening to Chuck Schaden's old-time shows or the 'CBS Mystery Theater' just fascinated him through Friday on WBBM [AM from all the creative aspects.

Amari can recall the precise moment when he became obsessed with old radio programs. It and WNIZ [FM 96.9]. involved Cary Grant and a meat cleaver.

the night with some friends at one "Those Were the Days."

TV because, he of the guys' houses," he said. "His "It's exactly the same sort of the spare time. was, like, in awe.

stuff.' So he copied it for me, and

that's where it started."

The show was a 1950s episode of a mystery series called "Suspense." The name of the episode was "On a Country Road," and it starred Grant and actress Cathy Lewis. As Amari recalls,-it was with a meat cleaver, and Grant and his wife had run out of gas and they're listening to news reger station. ports about it, and then the lunatic comes up to their car window with the meat cleaver.

The meat cleaver episode was the first tape in Amari's collection of radio shows, which now includes a variety of material ranging from the original "Sam and Henry" programs [a predeces-sor to "Amos and Andy"] to Ronald Reagan's radio adapta-

Schaden has been broadcasting old-time programs from his extensive collection for 16 years. He hosts two shows: "Radio Classics," from 8 to 9 p.m. Monday

780], and "Those Were the Days," from 1 to 5 p.m. Satur-

turing his interest in the medium year-old. He listens to rock and "I was 13 years old and spent and patterns his show after

father was trying to shut us all up thing he does except that I give a Although his tape collection is 'cause we were kind of rowdy, and little bit more history about the an expensive hobby, he passes that he had on an old-time radio show," he said. "I started working off because "it's a passion for me. It was really scary, and everyone for Chuck at his store [Metro It's like a hobby that's become a Golden Memories, a memorabilia job. shop at 5425 W. Addison St.] be "I flipped out. I grew up on TV, shop at 5425 W. Addison St.] be "And I term that loosely be but I thought, 'That's really great fore I got into radio, and I got a cause to me, usually a job is

west suburban Triton College in early 1981, the then-teenager had. amassed 200 old-time tapes. It was no problem getting air-time on the college's tiny radio station about "an escaped lunatic armed and, after a few months of practice, he decided to go "big time" and try to take the show to a larg-

No one was interested in paying him to do it, so he paid them. In May, 1981, Amari began buying air-time once a week for \$100 an hour on WTAQ [AM 1300] in La Grange.

Because Amari couldn't afford the \$100 a week, he got a pizza, parlor to act as his sponsor. The pizza joint dropped the show within five months, but the sta-

It was then that WJKL's Zivin heard the show and offered Amari a job hosting it at the 3,000-watt station. He began syndicating his show through the satellite network in January, 1985, and hopes to gather 150 stations and find a national sponsor.

As for the "real-life thing, Amari is co-owner of a video store in Schiller Park and says he Amari credits Schaden for nur-lives the life of your average 22roll stations, but he doesn't watch TV because, he says, he can't find

"And I term that loosely bechance to read as much as I could something you're not too happy there about old-time radio." with. I'm very happy listening to nere about old-time radio." with. I'm very happy listening to By the time Amari enrolled at old-time radio and getting paid."

> Thanks to Bill Bales of Gulfport, Miss. who sen to us this article.

It is another effort to preserve and foster an interest in OTR. Thanks, Bill.



Carl Amari [left] and colleague Roy Millonzi produce old-time radio shows from a hand-built recording studio in the basement of the Amari family's Schiller Park home.

RHAC TAPE LIBRARY

DEET	631	FTRRER M	CGEE AND MOLLY	1200'
KEEL		5-26-42	Uncle Dennis Disappears - Part 1	
	111	6-2-42	Uncle Dennis Disappears - Part 2	
		0 2 42		
	21	6-16-42	Mouse In The House	
	211	1-26-43	Fibber Writes A Novel	
		1-20-43	FIDDEL WILLES W WOVEL	
	1 n	2-2-43	Fibber Finds A Music Box Which Holds Cigars	
	IK	2-16-43	Fibber Helps Government Search For Skilled We	orkers
		2-10-45	Fibber herps dovernment bearing	
	an.	0 02 //2	Important Committee Meeting At The Elks	
	ZK	2-23-43	Fibber Fixes Molly A Breakfast In Bed	
		3-2-43	Fibber Fixes horry in breakings in our	
222	(20	MUE DICC	DOT UEADT	1200'
REEL			EST HEART Mrs. Archuletta Story	
	1L		Virginia Braswell Story	
		10-27-30	Virginia braswell beory	
	0.4	11-3-50	Max Rabinoff - Mr. Santa	
	2L		Lily Thomas Story	
		11-17-30	Lily Inomas Scory	
	1 n	12-8-50	James Harvey Story	
	IK		Jean Kellogg Story	
		12-13-30	Jean Relioge Story	
	2R	12-22-50	Santa Rabinoff's Christmas Party	
	ZK	1-12-51		
		1-12-31	Anna Sharp Scory	
DEEL	633	THE RICC	EST HEART/MOSTLY MUSIC	1200'
REEL	17	1-19-51	BH: Bill Mitchell Story	
	ΙL	3-2-51	BH: Marie Wichert	
		3-2-31	Bil. Halle wiener	
	21	3-9-51	BH: Robert Barnett, Merle Cansgen, James Tu	therford Stories
	21	3-23-51	BH: Good Friday Play - The Terrible Meek	
		5 25 51	Bii. 0000 11100y	
	1 D	3-30-51	BH: Father Jim Monahan Story	
	IK	4-6-51	BH: Judge Phillip B. Gilliam Story	
		4 0 31	bii. odaga militari	
	2 P	4-13-51	BH: Last Show	
	ZK	4-20-51	MM: 1st - Somebody Loves Me	
THEG	634	MOSTLY I	MUSIC/PETE SMYTHE SHOW/ARTHUR GODFREY SHOW	1200'
KULL	1T.	5-4-51	MM: lst - It's Wonderful	
	111	6-1-51	MM: 1st - Whoop de Do	
		0 - 5 -	■ ■	
	21.	6-8-51	MM: Guest: Lawrence Welk	
		6-15-51	MM: 1st - When You Wore A Tulip	
		0 13 31		
	1 R	10-4-47	PS: 1st - Angry, Please Don't Be Angry	
	III	6-17-50	PS: lst - Ain't We Got Fun	
		7-15-50	PS: 1st - Whoop de Do	
		, 15 50	PS: 1st - Yes, We Have No Banannas	
	2R	7-11-50	PS: lst - I'm Sitting On Top Of The World	
	21	7-11-50	PS: 1st - Elmer's Tune	
		, 13 30		
		4-5-52	PS: 1st - Around The Corner	
		4-5-52 7-26-50	PS: lst - Around The Corner AG: Last Show Of Season From New York	

RHAC TAPE LIBRARY

REEL			DDFREY TIME	1200'
	lL	7-9-46 7-8-46		
	2L	9-2-46 9-6-46		
		7 0 40		
	1R	9-18-46 10-2-46		
		10-2-46		
	2R	10-10-46		
		10-16-46		
REEL	636	GUNSMOKE		1200'
	1L	10-16-55	Trouble In Kansas	
		1-1-56	Pucket's New Year	
	2L	4-1-56	How To Sell A Ranch	
	2.0	7-8-56	Passive Resistance	
	1R	12-23-56	Beeker's Barn	
	110	1-6-57	Devil's Hindmost (AFRS)	
	2R	1-13-57	Ozymandias (AFRS)	
	ZK	3-3-57	Colleen So Green (AFRS)	
DEET.	627	GUNSMOKE	(AFRS)	1200'
REEL	637 1L	4-13-58	Livvie's Loss	1200
		4-20-58	The Partners	
	2L	4-27-58	The Squaw	
		5-11-58	Little Bird	
	1R	5-18-58	The Stallion	
		5-25-58	Blue Horse	
	2R	6-1-58	Quarter Horse	
		6-8-58	Hot Horse Hyatt	
TTTG	638	GUNSMOKE		1200'
KEEL	1L	6-15-58	Old Flame (AFRS)	
		6-22-58	Target (AFRS)	
	2L	6-29-58	What The Whiskey Drummer Heard (AFRS)	
		7-6-58	Chester's Choice (AFRS)	
	1R	7-27-58	The Cast (AFRS)	
		8-10-58	A House Ain't No Home (AFRS)	
	2R	8-17-58	The Piano (AFRS)	
		6-14-59	Kitty' Kidnap	

NEXT ISSUE

The October issue of Return With Us Now... will feature an article on Russell Coburn; the beginning of a series on Jack Benny by Washington Post Columnist Gary Giddens, sent to us by Carl Neustrand of Springfield, Va.; a 17 year-old's introduction to OTR; and, tips on the care and maintenance of your recording equipment. Sounds like a lot but, we'll manage somehow.

NOSTALGIA

Question: Do any of you remember the radio series THE BLUE BEETLE ??' Who starred in it ? When was it aired??

Just thought I would put your minds to working. It is a series that John Dunning missed and from what I have heard, it doesn't surprise me. whether John missed it intentionally or not. It is sooooo corny, it's good!!!!

If any of you have any information about it, please let me know. Editor



artoon provided by Jack Richards

GOOD LISTENING

Mr. & Mrs. J. P. Cook 3344 So. Jasper Ct. Aurora, CO 80013



BENSEN, BARRETT BOX 507 PINE, CO 80470-

(1/87

3.