

# TAPE SQUEAL



INDIANA RECORDING CLUB, INC.

Volume XXI — Number 4 : April, 1980

## "SAVE THE MASK"

New IRC member Marsha Lindgren has an acquaintance we would all like to meet — Clayton Moore, better known as The Lone Ranger. Marsha acted as Clayton's hostess when he was in Indianapolis in January to appear on behalf of his "Save The Mask" Campaign. For those of you out there who wonder what that is, let me explain. Clayton Moore portrayed the Lone Ranger for approximately 30 years on radio and TV, devoting his life to promoting the ideals this legendary character embodied. The Wrather Corporation, which owns the rights to the Lone Ranger character, decided that Clayton is "too old and too fat" to portray the character and have obtained a court order forcing him to cease appearing in the mask he made so famous. He now appears wearing over-size sunglasses. There are those of us who don't support the actions of the Wrather Corporation. To raise support for his position, Clayton has been appearing at shopping centers around the United States, proving to skeptics and fans alike that he not only is trim and fit, but the youngest 65 year old in existence. If any of you would like to help in this fight for "truth, justice, and the American way," Marsha will be happy to supply copies of a petition. All enquiries should be sent to her at her home address:

Marsha Lindgren  
2368 Court Saint Gobain  
Indianapolis, Indiana  
46260

Be certain to enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope and to return the petitions to Marsha for processing. Letters of support can also be sent directly to Clayton Moore:

Clayton Moore  
4720 Park Olivo  
Calabasa, Calif.  
91302

We will do our best to keep you informed as to the success (or lack of same) regarding this disagreement.



*Tape Squeal* is the monthly newsletter of the Indiana Recording Club. Send all news, information, photographs, etc. to Sharon Moore, Editor, 4215 North Oxford Street, Indianapolis, IN 46205.

For information about membership in the Indiana Recording Club contact William B. Davies, Secretary, 1729 East 77th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46240. Telephone (317) 251-7048.

Please send all changes of address and directory data to Eleanor Davies, 1729 East 77th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46240.

Your Indiana Recording Club Board of Directors consists of Bill Endicott, President; Bill Tillett, Vice-President; Bill Davies, Secretary; Sue Bereman, Treasurer; and Gene Scott, Member.

### TO ALL NEW MEMBERS

When you receive your welcoming tape please return the accompanying postcard to the committee chairman, William Kearney, 2625 W. Jefferson Rd., Kokomo, Indiana 46901.

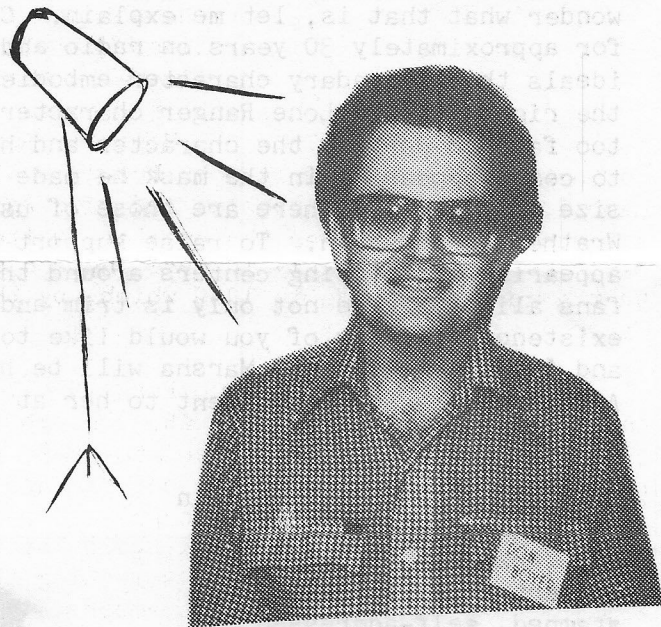
### I R C SPOTLIGHT

Don Boyer

*Old Time Radio Librarian*

Fans of Old Time Radio within the IRC will be eternally grateful to Don Boyer's pinched billfold. Don reports that purchasing copies of "One Man's Family" was about to drive him to the poorhouse. A sympathetic friend told Don about the IRC but was unable to furnish any information as to how to join. In February of 1976 he finally found out where the meetings were held and was able to track down the name and phone number of the secretary, whom he promptly contacted. Arrangements were made for Don to attend the February meeting and he has been attending since.

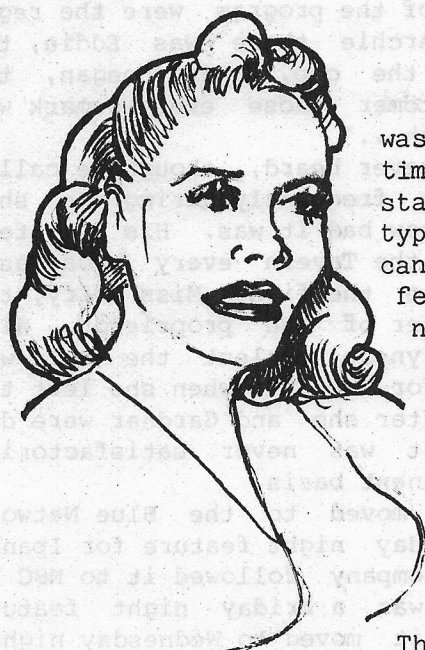
In fact, he bought his first reel-to-reel recorder from the IRC president at that initial meeting! Don has worked his way from no reels of tape in February of 1976 to over 1200 reels today, all obtained by trading. I think that it can safely be said that Don Boyer's hobby is Old Time Radio. In fact, Don reports that he enjoys OTR so much that he designed his office so that he has a tape recorder but no radio outlets in the room, enabling him to listen to OTR while working and adding a good five hours of listening time to his day. Don works in Indianapolis, designing buildings. When asked what parts of them he designed he replied "the insides and the outsides; someone else makes certain they won't fall down." Interest in Old radio is not the only "old" interest Don has; he is very interested in old cars. He works on antique cars and is the proud owner of a 1931 model A Ford, belonging to the model A owners' club. He also spends what time he can camping. But this just takes away from the time he can spend being involved with OTR. Shortly after he joined the club he began writing "Radio Ramblin's". This desire to further the interest of others in the club led to his being willed the job of OTR Librarian, a post he definitely fills well.







**RADIO  
RAMBLIN'S**  
by  
**DON BOYER**  
I.R.C. 1527

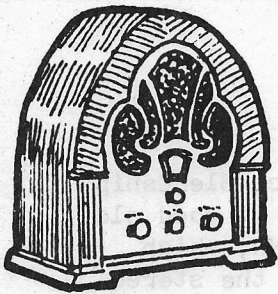


"Friendship! Friendship! Just a Perfect Blendship" was the opening theme to one of the funniest shows of good old time radio. The show was, of course, MY FRIEND IRMA, which starred Marie Wilson (at left). Irma Peterson was the stereo-type "dumb blonde" and the only two radio personalities that I can think of who even come close to her as the classic featherbrain are Gracie Allen and Jane Ace. The story was narrated by her best friend and roommate Jane Stacy, played by Cathy Lewis (wife of Elliot Lewis) who was just the opposite; she was sane, dependable, and logical. The girls lived in a seedy apartment house run by the lovable Mrs. O'Reilly, played by Gloria Gordon. Other members of the cast included another roomer, Professor Kropotkin, played by Hans Conreid, who kept up a running battle of insults against Mr. O'Reilly. Irma dreamed of marrying her millionaire boss and often commented "Wouldn't it be great if I ended up being Mrs. Richard Rhineland the Third?" However, her true love and boyfriend was the good-for-nothing Al, played by John Brown, who's opening line, "Hi ya, Chicken," always made Irma forget her troubles and gave Jane a headache because Jane saw through his schemes. Cy Howard was the creator, writer, and director of this show which was first heard on CBS early in 1947 and ran until 1954. The show was so popular that a movie was made in 1949 which, by the way, launched the careers of Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis.

Wallace Kennedy of Ozone Park, New York, sent me three cassettes in a nice case plus the book of KING LEAR. Though the old radio library does intend to get into cassettes, as well as reel-to-reel, this didn't quite fit into any library category, so we've decided to put it into the least active library, the Creative Library. I plan to donate a couple of reels of plays that I have to this library and we'll probably end up calling it the Creative and Miscellaneous Library. Thanks to Wally we've started something that will be much appreciated by many members, especially the blind members.

Six reels have been donated to the Old Time Radio Library that are the answer to several members' prayers. In the OTR hobby the reference-bible is Dunning's TUNE IN YESTERDAY, The Ultimate Encyclopedia Of Old-Time Radio 1925-1976. Many blind members now can have access to this volume thanks to my good friend Gary Benjamin in Visalia, California, who had a friend, Keith Lindersmith, read this huge book on six reels at quarter track. Even the index is in braille on the covers. These are reels T-108 through T-113. I've listened to parts of it and it's just plain fun to listen to because instead of just dry facts on each show the author has presented it in an interesting narrative glimpse into that Golden past. We'll have to forgive Keith, who is not an OTR fan, because there are a few mispronounced words. (If you hadn't heard the word before, how would you pronounce Sal Hepatica?)

A suggestion to you who borrow from the OTR Library. Buy 16¢ stamps or just some 1¢ stamps to add to your often-used 15¢ stamps and just avoid the postal window. Stamp 'em and drop 'em in a box! (No rude postal clerk to argue with about the Library Rate.) If you choose to return them by First Class, cut up a grocery bag and wrap the entire mailer. We don't want "First Class" stampings on the boxes. Remember, others must use these boxes and they must send them back by the more economical Library Rate. Thanks. Until next time, same time, same station.



# TUNING IN

by

HERMAN LINDEMANN JR.

## DUFFY'S TAVERN

Watching Archie Bunker, the part owner of a saloon on TV's ARCHIE'S PLACE, recalls to mind an older show with a similar format on radio, DUFFY'S TAVERN. In the radio version the manager's name was also Archie, the man who ran the tavern which was located on New York's 3rd Avenue. The food was terrible, the service worse. The only thing one could count on was enjoyment and laughter.

We never did meet the owner of the tavern Duffy himself. We'd wonder if there really was a Duffy, but there had to be. After all, the program opened every week with the phone ringing and Archie picking it up and saying: "Duffy's Tavern, where the elite meet to eat, Archie the manager speakin, Duffy aint here... oh, hello Duffy." That opening became one of the best known in radio.

Archie murdered the English language just as our present day Archie Bunker, with such comments as: "Listen Eddy, wit good management dis place could show a nice overhead", or "I tink you've given me da mucous of an idea."

Archie was played by Ed Gardner, who created the idea and wrote the stories. His real name was Edward Poggenberg. Born in Astoria, New York in 1905, he was a school dropout and jumped from job to job. When he was 24 he met Shirley Booth, then 14. Shirley was also a school dropout. They were married that same year, 1929. Shirley Booth became a fast rising star, while Ed Gardner worked his way up more slowly as a writer in radio.

He worked on shows like BELIEVE IT OR NOT, RUDY VALLEE, and BURNS AND ALLEN. While a director for a CBS sustaining show called THIS IS NEW YORK he developed the character of Archie, playing the role himself.

The first full dress Archie was heard on July 29th, 1940 on the CBS series FORECAST, but DUFFY'S TAVERN as a program of its own began on March 1, 1941. It was heard Thursday nights on CBS for Schick Razors.

The illusion of the show was that anyone might drop in, and famous stars always did. But the basis of the program were the regulars. Besides Archie there was Eddie, the waiter, Clancy the cop, and Finnegan, the super-stupid customer whose every remark was prefaced with "Duh..."

Duffy was never heard, though he called on the telephone frequently during the show to tell Archie how bad it was. His daughter, however, was at the Tavern every broadcast. Shirley Booth was the first Miss Duffy, the man-hungry daughter of the proprietor. With her comic Brooklynese dialect the role was ideally suited for her and when she left the show in 1945 (after she and Gardner were divorced) the part was never satisfactorily filled on a permanent basis.

The program moved to the Blue Network in 1942 as a Tuesday night feature for Ipana. The toothpaste company followed it to NBC in 1944, where it was a Friday night feature until 1946 when it moved to Wednesday nights until 1949.

In 1949 Blatz Beer took the show for a season on Thursdays. DUFFY'S TAVERN finished on NBC as a Friday night show in 1951.

A few years earlier Gardner had moved to Puerto Rico and recorded the show there to take advantage of a 12 year tax holiday declared by the government to attract new industry to the island.

For many years we looked forward every week to the fine characters on the program and the format has been copied often on TV. Jackie Gleason used the routine some years ago, and most recently ARCHIE'S PLACE on TV follows somewhat the same format.

### CAST:

Archie, the manager	Ed Gardner
Miss Duffy	Shirley Booth
	Florence Halop
	Gloria Erlanger
	Florence Robinson
	Sandra Gould
	Hazel Shermet
Clifton Finnegan	Charlie Cantor
Eddie, the waiter	Eddie Green
Clancy, the cop	Alan Reed (Teddy Bergman)
Wilfred, Finnegan's kid brother	Dickie Van Patten
	Lurene Tuttle
Dolly Snaffle	
Vocalists:	Benay Venuta, Tito Guizar, Bob Graham, Helen Ward
Orchestras:	Joe Venuti, Reet Veet Reeves, Matty Malneck
Announcers:	Jimmy Wallington, Marvin Miller, Jack Bailey, Perry Ward, Alan Reed (Teddy Bergman), Rod O'Connor
Also:	Weekly Guest Stars



## TECHNICAL NOTES

### TAPE RECORDER HYGIENE (by Gene Eaton)

Apart from actual mechanical or electrical repair and maintenance, the subject of concern to tape-recordists is how to care for their recorders and tapes.

In addition to routine household dusting, recorders need two kinds of periodic cleaning: physical and magnetic. The tape has yet to be made that does not shed some of the oxide particles with every playing, & unfortunately these tend to accumulate on tape heads and guides, pressure pads, and the capstan/pressure-roller drive system. If not removed, this debris can cause slippage in the drive mechanism. The resulting wow and flutter is heard as inconsistency or "graininess" in pitch. In addition, the oxide accumulations on the heads cause momentary "dropouts" in the signal and loss of treble response. Happily, the solution is as near as a bottle of isopropyl or rubbing alcohol and an ordinary cotton-tipped swab. If the tape you use has a brown surface the chocolate-colored band that develops on the black pressure roller is an obvious warning that house-keeping is in order. If the tape you use has a black oxide, you will have to look more closely to see the shiny band that appears. In any case, the build-up of flaked-off oxide particles must be removed from all parts in the head assembly and anywhere the tape contacts the recorder.

Though unseen, residual magnetism induced in heads, guides, and capstan represents an even greater potential danger to your tape collection, and preventative or therapeutic treatment is indicated at least as often as physical cleaning. Head demagnetizers are inexpensive accessories available from all dealers, and using one properly takes less than a minute. Start by turning off your recorder and removing all tapes from the immediate vicinity. Remove the head covers, and holding the tape-head degausser at arms length, plug it in or push the "on" button and bring it in close proximity to each of the surfaces that contact the moving tape. Then with the demagnetizer still on, withdraw it slowly and smoothly. Turn it off only when it is at an arms length from the machine and the job is done. Note: To avoid any danger of scratching the tape heads, it is a good idea to put a piece of plastic tape over the tip(s) of the degausser. Because of

differences in physical design, it is not possible to get every tape-head demagnetizer into the heads of every recorder. Check with your dealer to make sure there will be no problem.

For most recordists, lubrication of a recorder is best left to a yearly visit to the service technician. Too much is as great a danger as too little. If you want to do the job yourself, follow the manufacturer's instructions very carefully.

Tape care is no less important. Always keep tapes in their containers when not in use, and put tape reels on edge, not piled atop one another. Leave the tapes in a played, not a fast-wound, condition, for the latter tends not only to create an unevenly wound tape "pack," but also to put internal stresses on the tape layers that may cause damage. For the same reason, it's a good idea to play, not rewind, a tape at least twice a year. Avoid storing tapes near a heat source, in the immediate vicinity (2 or 3 feet) of a strong magnetic field (loudspeakers, motors, or power transformers), or in a car trunk in warm weather. Given proper care, your tapes will outlast their owner.

You can measure magnetic fields around your equipment with an inexpensive magnetometer from R. B. Annis, 1101 N. Delaware St., Indianapolis, IN 46202.

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### MEMBER'S BUSINESSES SOLICITED

Do YOU operate a business related to tape recording? If so, PLEASE let me know!! I will, at some future time, present an article on those members who combine business with hobby. Herman Lindemann, Jr. is one such member, operating Herlin Productions. The following tape is one of his and can be ordered directly from the company.

**HIT OF THE WEEK RECORDS (1 Hour)** In the early 1930's, these one-sided cardboard discs were issued weekly and sold for a dime apiece at news stands. Herman Lindemann, Jr., program producer, narrates informative commentary and presents varied, full-length, examples of the distinctive phonograph records.

### MERRITT SOUND

### RECORDING

223  
GRIMSBY ROAD

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

14223

Tip Toe Through The Tulips (Demonstration Record), I'm Following You, Sing You Sinners, Somewhere In Old Wyoming, Little White Lies, Cheerful Little Earful, My Baby Just Cares For Me, 1932 Chevrolet Advertisement, Three Little Words, Little Girl, Shine On Harvest Moon - Oh Susanna, This Is The Missus - Merry Widow Waltz, By The Fireside - Loveable, (Theme) Give Yourself A Pat On The Back

CASSETTE, 8 TRACK CARTRIDGE or  
REEL-REEL TAPE ..... \$7.00



## THE SMALL HOUSE HALF-WAY UP IN THE NEXT BLOCK

None of us have ever actually seen the house, but we know where it is as well as our own. It is located on Virginia Avenue in Crooper, Illinois (East of Sweet Ester, Wisconsin, and West of Dismal Seepage, OH.)

The man of the house works as the chief accountant at the Consolidated Kitchenware Company's Plant No. 14. You know when he arrives home by his "Hi de hi, Ho de ho." He'll call out to his wife ('kiddo') and his son (Crabmeat, Dust Mop, Quick Lime, Wet Wash, Ink Stopper, Fido, Roosevelt, and even 'Harriett;') that he is home at last.

If the phone should ring (as it so often does) there will be a verbal barrage of "Telephone's ringin'! Telephone's ringin'!" Possibly it is Ruthie & Fred Stembottom calling to play cards that evening or it could be Jake Gumpox, Ike Kneesuffer, I.I.Y. & Y.Y.I. Skleeber (brothers), Mr. Chinbunny, Doctor Whipfang, the Rev. Kidneyslide, Mr. Chestbutter, Chuck or Dottie Brainfeeble, Hank Gustop, or the son's neighborhood chums such as Smelly Clark, Blue Tooth Johnson, Rooster Davis, or Skinny Martin.

Social activities for this typical family centered around the small house, but also included the Thimble Club for the wife and the title and position of Exalted Big Dipper in the Drowsy Venus Chapter of the Sacred Stars of the Milky Way for the breadwinner.

If this family had a notable character (and what wasn't notable with this family?) in its lineage, it had to be Uncle Fletcher! His nature included a commandable vagueness or deafness as it suited him or the occasion. Being one not to forget a forgettable detail, Uncle Fletcher spoke of everything and everyone such as Richigan Fishigan of Sishigan, Michigan, or Otto Heafler.

Daily, time passes on now, but I (and I bet you too) remember this radioland family even though there hasn't been too much activity up that way since September, 1944. Urban renewal might change the physical landscape, but in our minds and memories we shall always remember fondly our friends in the small house half-way up in the next block ----- VIC & SADE.

Thanks to G.E. Marrion for his contribution to this month's nostalgia edition.

## LIBRARY FEES GOING UP!

Some time this month, you should receive your new IRC directory. If you borrow tapes from any of the club libraries, pay particular attention to the new library fees on page 5. Effective May 1st, the fee for borrowing from the Creative Library, Music Library, and Voice of History Library, will be raised from the present 25¢ (two for 50¢) fee, to two for \$1.00, either reel or cassette.

The fee for borrowing Old Time Radio tapes will be \$2.00 for two reels, or \$1.00 for two cassettes. (There are no cassettes listed in the OTR index at present, but there will be, as soon as Don Boyer has enough cassettes to list a page full.)

The present 25¢ per tape fee has been in effect since the early 1960's, while the cost of postage, supplies, and printing the library index pages for the directory, has doubled.

The major cost is not postage, as you might think, but cost of printing the index pages. This cost must be borne by the total number of tapes which have been borrowed in the two years we have had the present directory, to determine the cost per tape. This cost was found to be more than the cost of postage, which means that the total cost to IRC, for postage, supplies and printing, was more than the total fees received, and we have been losing money on the libraries.

We don't want to make any money on the libraries - after all, this is a non-profit organization - but we would like them to be self-supporting, so we hope you will understand, and not be too mad at us for having to double the rates.

--- Bill Davies, Music Librarian



# TRADING POST

Free notices for IRC members, concerning  
tape and related items to sell, buy, trade, etc.

Meg Alexander D-9: needs Karl Haas' "Adventures in Good Music," especially the "European Beat #2" on the Greek Islands. She has hundreds of others to share and exchange.

Fred Becklenberg, III D-13: wants a vocal and instrumental copy of the song "Take Me Out to The Ball Game." He will supply a cassette for the recording.

Fred Elwell Sr. S-57: wants a copy of the song "Galway Bay" by Carmel Quinn.

Ed. J. Groller, 8806-I Torresdale Dr., Philadelphia, Pa. 19136: would like to tape to Senior Citizens (talk tape) on cassettes. He is also looking for someone to exchange music from old 78 records, mostly from late 1920's to early 1940's. He has a lot of good quality 78 music on tape.

G. E. Marrion D-75: needs a copy (reel or cassette) of G.I. Jive as shown on Public Television (3/15/80). Will buy or trade OTR. HELP!!

Sharon Moore S-32: is interested in obtaining copies of anything sung by Harve Presnell (other than Molly Brown).

Alwyn Pepper D-82: writes "I have been taping for some ten years but have never found anyone interested in my favourite hobby — aviculture or the keeping and breeding of birds. I am also interested in all aspects of Nature and have kept all species of creatures from kangaroos to kangaroo tick. I also have two dogs and a wife — I mean I have a wife and two dogs! If you are interested in any of the above send me a tape or cassette — you won't be disappointed. (Wife not included in this offer!)"

## NEW IRC DIRECTORY IS ALMOST READY.

If you haven't told us of any changes you want in your listing in the new directory, it is now too late, as the directory should be at the printers by the time you read this. Any changes received after it goes to press will have to wait until they can be included on a supplement page.

There are no supplement pages this month, even though we received 14 new members in March, as all of the changes received during the month, together with the listings of the new members, will be included in the new directory.

And to you members who asked why you did not receive directory pages S-85 and S-86, you did receive them! Our Vice President in charge of numbering supplement pages, goofed, and the pages for February were numbered S-81 through S-84, instead of S-83 through S-86. We didn't mention the error in Tape Squeal because as soon as you receive your new directory, the old one will be obsolete and can be thrown out.

When we speak of a new directory, we are referring to only the pages, which will be sent free to all members. If you need a new binder, we still have a good supply for sale at \$3.50 postpaid.

----- Eleanor Davies, Directory Manager.

## MOVING?

Please notify the Directory Manager as soon as possible before you move. This will ensure that you don't miss any copies of Tape Squeal. Address changes sent in after moving (or just not sent in) will result in delays of at least one, and possibly two, months.

## SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Regularly scheduled meetings of the INDIANA RECORDING CLUB are held on the third Sunday of each month at 2:00pm in the basement meeting room at the Leppert & Copeland Mortuary (740 E. 86th Street) in INDIANAPOLIS.

\* \* \* GUESTS ARE WELCOME!!!! \* \* \*

### This Month---

APRIL 20TH

Bill Davies will regail us again with one of his unbeatable tape-slide shows — Newfoundland. Bill and Eleanor are noted world travelers and always provide excellent productions. DON'T MISS IT!!!

### & Next---

MAY 13TH

Dennis Burcher is going to share his hobby with us this month — Barbershop Harmony. A barbershop quarter will be at the meeting to entertain all who attend and RECORDING IS ENCOURAGED. Bring your tape recorders and hear some really great music. Coffee and cookies will be available for munching.

### <sup>M. H. JONES.</sup> The Old Philosopher Says

Make an interesting tape  
or it could be your last.

3

#### MAILING LABELS

two color with IRC logo

Reel size: 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  x 4  $\frac{1}{4}$

Cassette size: 2  $\frac{1}{4}$  x 4

Price - \$1.75/100 - either size

Order from BOB GEER

1155 MAYNARD DRIVE

INDIANAPOLIS, IN. 46227

When ordering, please specify size.

## TAPESPONDING LIVES!

So proclaims a headline in the "Tape Talk" column by Craig Stark, in the April issue of Stereo Review magazine. Mr. Stark goes on to say:

"In a previous column I answered a reader's question about the existence of tape clubs, whose members exchange correspondence via tape, lend each other tapes of old radio shows, etc., by saying that they seemed to have petered out.

I stand corrected! The oldest of them all, the Indiana Recording Club, is alive and well in Indianapolis. Readers interested in their activities should address inquiries to Bill Davies, Secretary, IRC, 1729 East 77th Street, Indianapolis, Ind., 46240"

Our thanks to Stereo Review for the plug! Letters have started to come in, asking about IRC, and we will probably gain new members from the magazine article.

Since writing the above, an inquiry has been received from the Electronics Editor of Popular Mechanics Magazine, saying he had just heard about IRC, and he believes Popular Mechanics readers might well benefit by knowing of our activities. So -- I'll send him some information about IRC for a possible article and we'll see what develops.

----- Bill Davies, Secretary.

INDIANA RECORDING CLUB

Sharon Moore, Editor

4215 North Oxford St.

Indianapolis, IN 46205

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Allentown, Pa., 18102

2-79

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