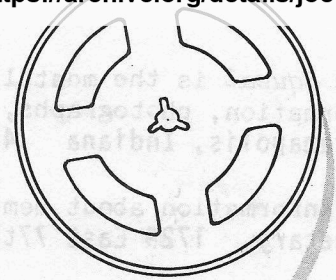


# TAPE SQUEAL



## INDIANA RECORDING CLUB, INC.

Volume XXIII, Number 8 -- August, 1982

from  
CONQUEST, a  
newspaper for  
Michigan's Srs.  
and Handicapped.  
November, 1981

"This is Myron H. Jones, better known to my listening audience as The Old Philosopher. This broadcast comes to you from Airport Studios. Now I want you to enjoy yourselves...And, now on with the show..."

The time: Friday afternoon, Oct. 2, 1981

The place: A compact-sized recording studio nestled ever-so snugly between a washing machine, dryer, full-sized freezer and other assorted household necessities. Together, they comprise the rear of a three-room shanty situated on an old dirt road in Romulus, Michigan.

The man: Myron H. Jones, of course.

Myron is 80-years-old, with pewter-gray hair and the startling blue eyes of a baby. He is short, and compact just like his recording studio of 15 years.

And to hundreds of people across the nation, this small-time radio operator represents fun, intrigue, and escape. Not to mention hours filled with music and laughter.

But it was not always this way. Joy Howell, a retired music teacher from Free Soil, near Traverse City, was despondent and without regular contact with others.

The continuous isolation from the outside world was certainly no help to Mrs. Howell who suffered from Multiple Sclerosis.

Her days ahead looked similarly bleak, as did Ruth Buletti's of Detroit, and Mrs. H. T. Holmes of Roseville.

Yet, just when these three seniors' lives seemed not worth living, Myron H. Jones came into their homes with song and dance, rhyme and lyric...and afternoon delight.

"These ladies are old and handicapped, and they were full of self pity," said Jones. "Their biggest problem was they had all day and night to think about nothing else but their sorrowful state."

But, not for long. Once Myron discovered their plight he went to work, just as he had done numerous times before.

Myron signed the three ladies up for his radio show. No charge whatsoever.

"That was three years ago, and it's gotten to be that they live for my show," said Myron. "One of the ladies even came to visit."

Hence, a happy ending.

But, not so fast. What about a beginning? How does a retired "egg peddler" and part-time printer come to have his own radio show?

Myron explains.

Back in 1966, Myron was tiring of his 33-year career in door-to-door egg sales. Not even a part-time candy shop would satisfy Myron for long.

"I needed a hobby, something that I could really get into," said Myron.

Then one day Myron ran across a small advertisement in his local newspaper. The ad offered membership in a Mid-west Recording Club.

"I signed up right away," said Myron.

Membership in that club entitled Myron to a growing library of cassette tapes featuring historical readings, music, and general information.

It wasn't long after that Myron decided to start up his own club, with Myron as host and his listening audience: the blind, handicappers and, senior citizens.

"I started with a little tape recorder that didn't amount to nothing. I was just merely amusing myself," Myron said. "But pretty soon, I really got cookin' with all original shows."

Today, Myron provides entertainment for more than 300 seniors and handicappers living in 40 states, and he does it free of charge.

His once-a-month radio program regularly features variety, religion, musical segments and regularly he provides witty and humorous comments from Th Old Philosopher himself.

"The best thing about this radio show is that my listeners send me tapes and I include some of their work on my show," Myron said. "Everybody feels like they're a real part of it."

Myron's shows have ranged from a documentary on the history of that old superstition 'to break a mirror' to his regular spot, "Most Embarrassing Moments."

"People send tapes all the time telling me of their most embarrassing moments,

and those tapes keep all of us in stitches," Myron chortled.

One of Myron's all-time favorites involves a 92-year-old woman's recount of when she was younger she played on an all-girl basketball team.

"She was wearing oversized bloomers, and during the game in front of everyone they fell to the ground," Myron laughed. "Another good bloomer story is about this lady who was getting on a streetcar and...you got it, her bloomers fell to her ankles."

But if revealing embarrassing stories doesn't tickle your fancy, Myron has even more up his sleeve, such as: "Strangers in Foreign Lands," and "Kitchen Talk," authored by his own wife, Lois.

His newest feature is the "round robin," a tape exchange which permits listeners to send and receive "talking tapes."

"People have conversations with each other, and they last for months," said Myron. "But they don't have to pay the high phone bills."

Many of Myron's listeners are blind, "and this offers them something they normally couldn't get anywhere else. It's real personal, as well as informative."

At the end of each program, Myron makes sure he turns his listeners' thoughts from self-pity to philosophical ponderings.

"I always leave them a special, and original quote from the Old Philosopher," Myron said.

Like: The Old Philosopher Says...Don't Look Your Age, SMILE.

Or: Don't think you are so big, others don't.

And: Don't worry, let the other guy do it.

The End

*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, Indiana 46205.

For information about membership in the INDIANA RECORDING CLUB contact: Eleanor Davies, secretary, 1729 East 77th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240. Telephone (317)2517048.

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

Your INDIANA RECORDING CLUB Board of Directors consists of Dennis Burcher, Pres.; Bill Tillett, Vice-Pres.; Eleanor Davies, Secretary; John Oliver, Treasurer; and Bill Endicott and Gene Scott, Members.

## TO ALL NEW MEMBERS (In the United States)

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

**ADDRESS CHANGES** --all address changes MUST be sent to the Directory Manager at least one month before the effective date to ensure uninterrupted delivery of the Tape Squeal.

# TRADING POST

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

John Ott, D-86 — has for sale a black and white video camera. \$100 or best offer.

Paul Brians, S-7 — Has a list of sources for OTR tapes and records, comparing them by prices per half hour, complete with addresses and other information. He will be glad to send one to any IRC member who sends a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Paul Brians, S-7 — has 165 Jack Benny shows and is looking for those with similarly large collections who are interested in trading. Will also trade other radio shows for Benny programs he wants.

Maurie Bennett, D-65 — wonders if anyone knows of a "pop and crack eliminator" that works. Any information would be appreciated.

Bill Graves, D-52 — has for sale a Quasar VK 100 black and white video camera with all cables, in original box. Original cost is \$300, but will sell for only \$175, inc. shipping.

Walter Smith, D-88 — wants the 1950's record album called (he thinks) "Great Moments in Show Business," featuring Burns and Allen, Eddie Cantor, Bill Robinson and others. He is looking for the cut, "September Song" as performed by Walter Houston from that album and will supply either open reel or cassette tape for either the single cut of the entire album. Tape replies, please.

Bill Graves, D-52 — has for sale a Robins Bulk Eraser for audio cassettes or reel-to-reel tapes for only \$10.

Coleen Marvin, D-13 — is looking for new people to tape with. She states that she is in her forties, single, and interested in natural people, as well as the interests listed in the directory. She promises to answer all tapes.

Ed Gleim, S-1 — is looking for 3 pieces of music (one of which may not exist)! He needs the album "Wild Honey" by the Beach Boys and the song "Violets of the Dawn" by the Paul Butterfield Blues Band. The third piece is "Rusalka's Ode to the Moon" from Dvorak's opera "Rusalka," first performed in 1901. Unsure of whether there is even a recording of the opera, he will take a copy of the aria or the whole opera. Will supply cassette or 7" reel.

(continued on track 3)



## THOSE DANGEROUS "WALKMEN"

Sharon Moore

As the little recorder/players of the Walkman variety become more popular and much more numerous, I would like to take this opportunity to ask everyone to take care to use them properly. With the earphones on and the volume up, a user is likely to be unaware of the "real" world. If you use one of these while jogging, bicycling, walking, etc., please be alert to the traffic around you. If you drive anywhere where people might use them, please be alert to the possibility of your car's presence not being noted. The City Council of a small town somewhere (I can't remember where) considers them so detrimental to the alertness of people in traffic that they have outlawed them! Although I don't feel that such extreme measures are necessary everywhere, I do feel that any listening device needs to be used with care during travel of any sort. Thanks!

## MR. TWEEDY

By Ned Riddle



"Hey, someone swiped my portable radio with the headphones. And I had it tuned to a good acid rock station, too."

## TRADING POST (cont.)

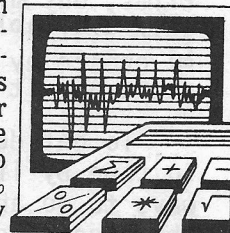
Richard Clapper, S-61 — would like to get a copy of the sound track of the movie "Grand Prix." He would also like to find a copy of Stan Freberg's audio spot promoting radio: he drains one of the Great Lakes and fills it with hot chocolate. He will be happy to arrange a mutually agreeable swap for either of these items.

continued on track 4

## Pocket-Size Cassette Players Are Getting Improved Sound

**B**ETTER SOUND IS COMING to Sony Corp.'s Walkman and its imitators, which lately have made what little sweet music the audio equipment industry has enjoyed. On the market only two years, Walkman and other small, portable units that play stereo cassette tapes through lightweight headphones now equal receivers, turntables and tape decks in sales.

Last year, Americans paid about \$200 million for stereo-to-go. This year, pocket-size player sales are expected to total more than \$300 million, despite the recession and much price-cutting, according to Venture Development Corp., a Wellesley, Mass., market research company. Although sound quality was impressive to begin with, making it even better will keep player sales growing at a high rate through 1983, and possibly longer, while audio sales overall continue to edge upward only 2% to 3% a year, Venture and other industry watchers believe.



The principal acoustic advance: electronic parts that filter the annoying hiss and crackle magnetic tapes make and increase the dynamic range, or the difference between the loudest and quietest sounds, that the miniature players can reproduce faithfully. Such parts, known as noise reduction circuits, have become standard in home audio equipment and are one of the best selling kinds of parts made by semiconductor companies.

**M**OST OF THE CIRCUITS are based on designs by Dolby Laboratories Inc., of San Francisco, but a subsidiary of BSR Ltd., dbx Inc., Newton, Mass., is a contender, especially in the audiophile market. Until lately, however, the circuits have required too much electricity to be useful in tiny stereo players.

The only player with Dolby noise reduction, the Intimate, made by Infinity Systems Inc., Canoga Park, Calif., has been on the market for more than a year. But the reduction circuits draw so much power that the Intimate needs twice as many batteries as most other units, and the batteries last only half as long. What's more, the player retails for about \$185, double the price of most personal players.

Low-power Dolby integrated circuits for the headset players are in advanced development at Dutch-owned Signetics Corp., Santa Clara, Calif., and at Japanese semiconductor makers Hitachi Ltd., Rohm Co. and Toko Inc. Recently, dbx and Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., maker of Panasonic equipment, developed another antinoise circuit, known as the NRX Chip, for personal players. Signetics, already the largest maker of Dolby integrated circuits, plans to begin shipping the low-voltage chips in commercial quantities by the second quarter of 1983.

Dolby circuits on Sony's Walkman players are "quite likely" to be introduced at the Consumer Electronics Show in Chicago next June, Sony says.

This summer Toshiba America Inc. and Akai America Ltd. also are expected to announce plans for Dolby players. "We look for them to be comparable in performance to the Intimate but half the size, weight and price," says Tom Frisina, Infinity's marketing vice president. "We haven't decided whether we're going to compete." Infinity is owned by Kyoto Ceramic of Japan and Electro Audio Dynamics Inc. of Great Neck, N.Y.

In Mr. Frisina's view, the antinoise features will be a boon to sales. "Dolby is a great buzzword," he says. "Most people who go to the movies or buy records or tapes have at least heard the name, even if they can't hear the difference."

—RICHARD A. SHAFFER

from: The Wall Street Journal  
March 19, 1982

thanks to JERRY JOHNSON

## TAPING YOUR OWN SOUNDTRACKS

*by Paul Brians*

Like a lot of folks, I'm particularly fond of the Hollywood musicals of the thirties and forties, and have often wished there were more recorded soundtracks of the old musicals available. Various small labels do issue commercial recordings of selected films, but many have never been commercially available in any form. My solution is to create my own recordings; I'd like to share how it's done with other IRC members..

To get decent sound you need to be able to tape by line from TV. There are several ways to go about this. If you have one of the special sound-only TV receivers, your problem is solved; likewise if you're recently bought a new model equipped with audio jacks intended for connection to a hifi amplifier. Most people will have neither, and like me will find the earphone jack provided on the front of many sets their best bet. Because this is an amplified outlet, you must not feed it directly into your amplifier's input section or you may overload your amp and fry it to a frazzle. Various attenuators and adapters are available.

If the signal is good and strong (being on cable may help), no more need be done, but there old films' sound can often be improved. I use both a noise reducer to extract the hiss and roar and an inexpensive 10-band equalizer. Some noise simply cannot be eliminated, and the result is never really high fidelity, but it can be surprisingly good.

At first I found myself jumping up every ten minutes or so to switch the tape deck on whenever a musical number began, switching it off at each number's conclusion. This was hard on the nerves! I now simply dub the whole show on a master tape, then re-dub the musical numbers only onto a second tape, running the sound from deck one, through the noise reducer and equalizer, into deck two. Having two decks is a definite advantage. Tapers who have one cassette deck and one open reel deck could do the same. If I'm not too lazy, I jot down the meter numbers at the beginning of each musical number while making my master tape, so I can spin the master reel to them when I'm making my final copy.

Some information for notes can be gleaned from TV Guides and such, but the handiest reference tool is Clive Hirschhorn's history of the Hollywood musical, available from most large libraries. It is very nerely a complete encyclopedia of musical films.

There are hazards. My pet peeve is the rerun station which thinks it's sophisticated to blend its theme music into the movie soundtrack after each commercial and into the last seconds of the movie. A ferocious lightening storm came up during my taping of Mr. Music, starring Bing Crosby, and spoiled the concluding numbers. Spoken dialogue often overrides promising musical numbers. Still and all, the reel of twelve musicals I've created is one of my favorite tapes. I'm pleased to share it with IRC members by donating a copy to the Music Library. It features such goodies as the original 1933 film of Forty-Second Street, the 1945 State Fair, and Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy in New Moon.

If all of this is technically beyond your reach, there is still hope. If channel 6 broadcasts many musicals in your area you may find you can pick up its sound at the extreme left hand end of your FM dial and tape from that. Another alternative is to purchase tapes like these from a firm such as the Redmond Nostalgia Company, PO Box 82, Redmond, WA 98502. For \$5 they will send you their huge catalogue. They sell both complete soundtracks, dialogue and all, and highlight tapes concentrating on musical numbers, most for \$10 per reel containing between five and six hours of music.

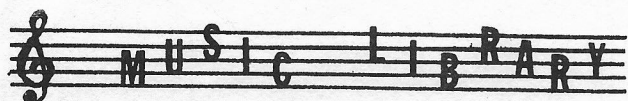
They may not make 'em the way they used to, but you can still enjoy the musicals of the era before commercially released soundtracks. Happy listening!

## TRADING POST (cont.)

Ed Gleim, S-1 — is looking for information of an ancestor, Johann Wilhelm Ludwig Gleim, a German poet who had poems set to music by (among others) Franz Schubert.

Paul Migliorelli, S-61 — needs information about a British open reel publication called "British Information Tapes." He is also looking for an old Canadian radio serial called "Whiteoaks of Jalna." Please contact on tape.





Old records, old radio and old moving pictures provided the music for the tapes which were donated to the Music Library last month. One of our newest members, *Mary V. Mayville, #2257*, dubbed a stack of Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey's old 78's on one side of a 60 minute cassette, while on the other side she put some 78's by Charlie Barnet and Glen Miller, plus some Glen Miller from LP's, in Dolby. The number of this cassette is *C-165*.

*D. William Bennett, #2215*, sent in cassette number *C-166*, a 90 minute cassette recorded from radio. On side 1 is the Harry James Orchestra at Harold's Club in Reno. On side 2 is the Stan Kenton Orchestra in concert at Disneyland. Mono.

Elsewhere in this issue of Tape Squeal is an article by *Paul Brians, #2071*, telling how he recorded a movie sound track tape, *#488*, in the library. This is a 7" mono tape playing for six hours at 3-3/4 ips, consisting of sound tracks from the following movies:

Dick Powell in "42nd Street". 1933  
Bing Crosby & Peggy Lee in "Mr. Music". 1950  
Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy in "New Moon". 1940  
Eddie Cantor in "Kid from Spain". 1932  
Eddie Cantor in "Roman Scandals". 1933  
Dick Haymes in "State Fair". 1945  
Kenny Baker & Edgar Bergen in "Goldwyn Follies". 1938  
Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers in "Story of Vernon and Irene Castle". 1939  
Rudy Vallee & Peggy Lee in "Time Out for Rhythm". 1941  
Mae West in "The Heat's On". 1943  
Betty Grable & Dan Dailey in "Mother Wore Tights". 1947.  
Laurel & Hardy in "Movie Struck". 1937

---Bill Davies, Music Librarian

## "LIVE" TAPING, PAINLESSLY

GEORGE RAWLINSON

As a new member of IRC, perhaps I might be so bold as to mention a recording procedure that I have used over the years that, for me at least, has produced some remarkable results. I'm sure that it is not original, but it is most effective!

I use my small Sony mono cassette recorder together with a Realistic tie-clip mike and in addition I use a battery pack that provides the necessary 6-volts needed to operate the recorder.

The recorder, being small, I carry on a strap about my shoulder, and it hangs down at my left side under my clothing. The mike I attach to my shirt-front with only the end visible between the buttons in my shirt. The battery-pack I carry on my belt, with the cord going from it to the recorder tucked away inside my shirt.

I have found, as I'm sure that most of us have, that to wave a mike in front of someone to get their comments will, in most instances, cause them to "freeze" up and as a result we get a rather stilted commentary, if we get any at all.

While I would never use any recordings made this way to embarrass or put in jeopardy the participants involved, I have no compunction in making such tapes for my own enjoyment and sharing them with others that I tape with.

Attending art shows, antique sales, visiting historical sites, flea markets, hunting trips, etc, I have been able to make some very interesting on-the-spot recordings that I have been able to share with others.

We all, I am sure, have from time to time used comments from our tape friends and dubbed them - out of context - to "talk back" to them with hilarious results!

As I mentioned earlier, I'm sure that this idea is not new, but for interesting "live" on-the-spot recordings, I have not found anything to beat it.

## POSTOFFICE MAKES IT LEGAL.

Have you ever wanted to mail a letter with a package, and you wrestled with your conscience about whether to tape the letter to the outside of the package with first-class postage affixed, as postal regulations required, or to put the letter inside the package without first-class postage, and hope that a postal inspector doesn't come across it, in which case you might have to suffer all sorts of dire consequences.

Well, the postoffice has now announced that you can put a letter inside a package and pay only the normal package rate, without having to pay first-class postage for the letter. Chances are you've been doing this anyway, either deliberately or not knowing you shouldn't, but anyway, now it's legal!

## SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Regular meetings of IRC are held on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. in the lower level meeting room of the Leppert & Copeland Mortuary, 740 E. 86th St., in Indianapolis. GUESTS ARE WELCOME.

### JULY 18TH

Carol Horrell of the Indiana History Project will speak to us about the recording of oral history.

### AUGUST 15TH

Fun and fellowship will abound as we conduct a sale of old records, tapes, pre-recorded tapes, etc. You'll have to come see for yourself what's what.

## DIRECTORY QUESTIONNAIRE.

Have you sent in the questionnaire yet for the new directory? Send it to Eleanor Davies if you want anything changed in your listing when the new directory is published.

### Mailing Labels

Two colors, with IRC logo

Reel size: 3½ X 4½

Cassette size: 2½ X 4

\$1.75/100—either size

### Order From:

Vern Davis  
8805 Madison, #301A  
Indianapolis, IN 46227

When ordering, please  
specify size

### DENNIS THE MENACE

By Ketcham



"LISTEN TO THIS! IT'S ME LIVE ON TAPE!"

M. H. JONES.

## The Old Philosopher Says

Don't criticise the other guy,  
He could just be right.

*Mailed at Indy  
July 9*

INDIANA RECORDING CLUB  
Sharon Moore, Editor  
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Indianapolis, IN 46240

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