

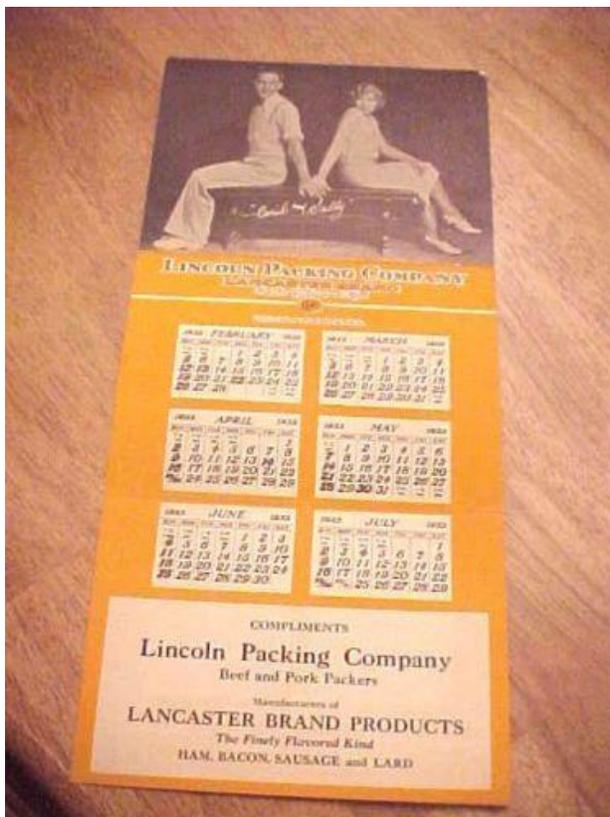
Eye on eBay

Photo Shopping Without the Software

By Doug Hopkinson

Having the inclination to decorate in a nostalgic manner and having the freedom as a hermit, to decorate my home in any way I see fit, I once again visited the quintessential photo shop that is eBay. My searches yielded up some excellent photos of vintage radio celebrities that I thought I'd share with you in this, my latest installment of Eye on eBay.

For me, there is nothing better than researching an old radio show that I like. It is especially rewarding when there is virtually no easily acquired information available and then you find something. Sometimes you find a vague reference thirty-five pages in on a Google search that gives you a clue. Other times you can find a few hits searching Newspaper Archive. Another tool I like to use is eBay. As some of you know, I happen to have a slight obsession with a few radio shows. Foremost among these are Cecil and Sally followed closely by Air Castle. Well, I happened to find a photo related item for each of these shows in the past month on eBay. This was most surprising as I have constantly monitored for the last several years and very rarely has anything been there. I'll start with these two and move on to more common fare.



To the left is an original 1933 calendar featuring Cecil and Sally perched atop it. I'm not going to say what I paid for this but it was worth every penny to me. I will say the opening bid was set at \$17.00 and the final bid was significantly higher. Just be happy for me. OK?

The picture to the right is of an original advertising hand-bill for Air Castle. This picture of the marionettes first appeared in newspapers across the country in September of 1929. This one is very clear and sharp in comparison. This had an opening bid set at \$75 but it also had a "best offer" button. I made an offer to the seller and saved at least \$20. Be very happy for me!

THE KHJ STORY MAN AND HIS AIR CASTLE FOLK FROM THE LAND OF MAKE BELIEVE



Here are some of the little folk who entertain regularly from KHJ, the Don Lee station in Los Angeles. Left to right they are:

YIP, the little wooden dog. BUGLER MURPHY; HAPPY DUCK; MUMBO-GUMBO, the cannibal. THE STORY MAN; JIMBO, the happy monkey, little CLICKETY-CLACK, one of the leading characters of "THE KHJ AIR CASTLE" and PRESIDENT PIP, who rules over the land of MAKE BELIEVE.

LISTEN TO BARON KEYES ON KHJ--AND FIND OUT WHERE THESE FAMOUS CHARACTERS WILL MAKE THEIR NEXT PUBLIC APPEARANCE



There are many examples of postcards that bear images of radio performers. Some are well known, some not so much. The postcard on the left was listed as The Three Jesters, NBC radio music stars. The following is how the item was described: **Here is a nice Postally Unused Real Photo Postcard of the type that was sent to fans of NBC Radio by The Three Jesters, or the Tastyeast Jesters.** They were active in the 1930's. Their music show was sponsored by Green Brothers Co, of Springfield, Massachusetts, and Trenton, New Jersey, makers of Tastyeast Candy. The Jesters included "Red" Latham, "Guy" Bonham, and "Wamp" Carlson. These men also formed the band: The Home Town Boys.

I wonder if anyone has this show in their audio collection. Price \$7.99 Buy it now plus \$1.25 shipping.

The picture on the right was up for auction by a seller named screngems. We all know who these two guys or do we?? Lou I recognize but is that Bud on the right? I've never seen him with hair like that or such an elongated head. Priced at \$49.95 plus \$5.75 shipping, I'm not surprised it didn't sell.



On the left is someone we may not all immediately recognize but I'll bet 90% of us know her. In 1940 she was a beautiful teenager but she was still being called Baby. She is none other than Baby Rose Marie, the singing child prodigy. If you don't know her from the radio you may know her as Sally Rogers on the 1960's Dick Van Dyke television series or as herself on the 1970's television show Hollywood Squares. This autographed picture was listed for \$44.95 plus \$4.95 shipping.

I wonder who Chippy was...

To your right I offer you a photo for sale by a seller named jp-themint. JP has many great photos for sale. This particular one of Billie Burke, star of stage and screen (silent and talkies) and radio, caused me to decide to do the whole photo theme for this article. Billie is one of my all time favorites! At only \$15.00 (not \$14.95) plus \$4.00 shipping, JP put me down for two!

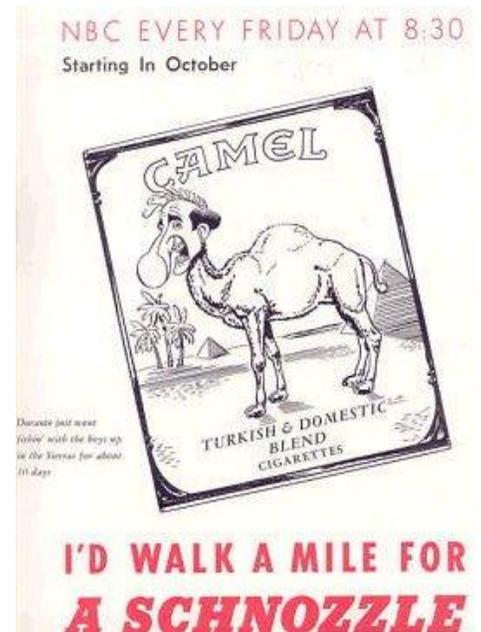




Now here is a fantastic photo! Do you know who that is? It's our favorite director from Lux Radio Theater, none other than Cecil B. DeMille. This is an original photo dated 1937. Dig those threads.

At just \$12.50 plus \$2.75 shipping it's a steal.

There are quite a few folks that make a living on eBay by cutting up old magazines and newspapers. They clip out features, pictures and ads. Such is the case to the right. It's a 1948 ad for the Jimmy Durante Show. At \$9.99 which is better than paying out ten bucks, plus \$3.51 shipping (really??), I think I'll pass on this one.



Here is a nice example of another advertisement. The seller claims it's from a 1935 publication. Campbell's Tomato Juice. Interesting. Who can say no to George and Gracie?? At \$9.95 (that's under ten bucks folks) plus \$3.50 shipping, this could be hanging in your kitchen (if you were a hermit like me).

Anyone recognize this stylish blonde woman? No? She was the wife of one Goodman Ace. Now you know. It's Jane Ace. Together they were the Easy Aces. The recommended buy it now price is just \$28.88 (I swear that was a randomly generated number) Shipping on this little gem is FREE! There is also an option to make an offer. I'd make the offer, you have nothing to lose.

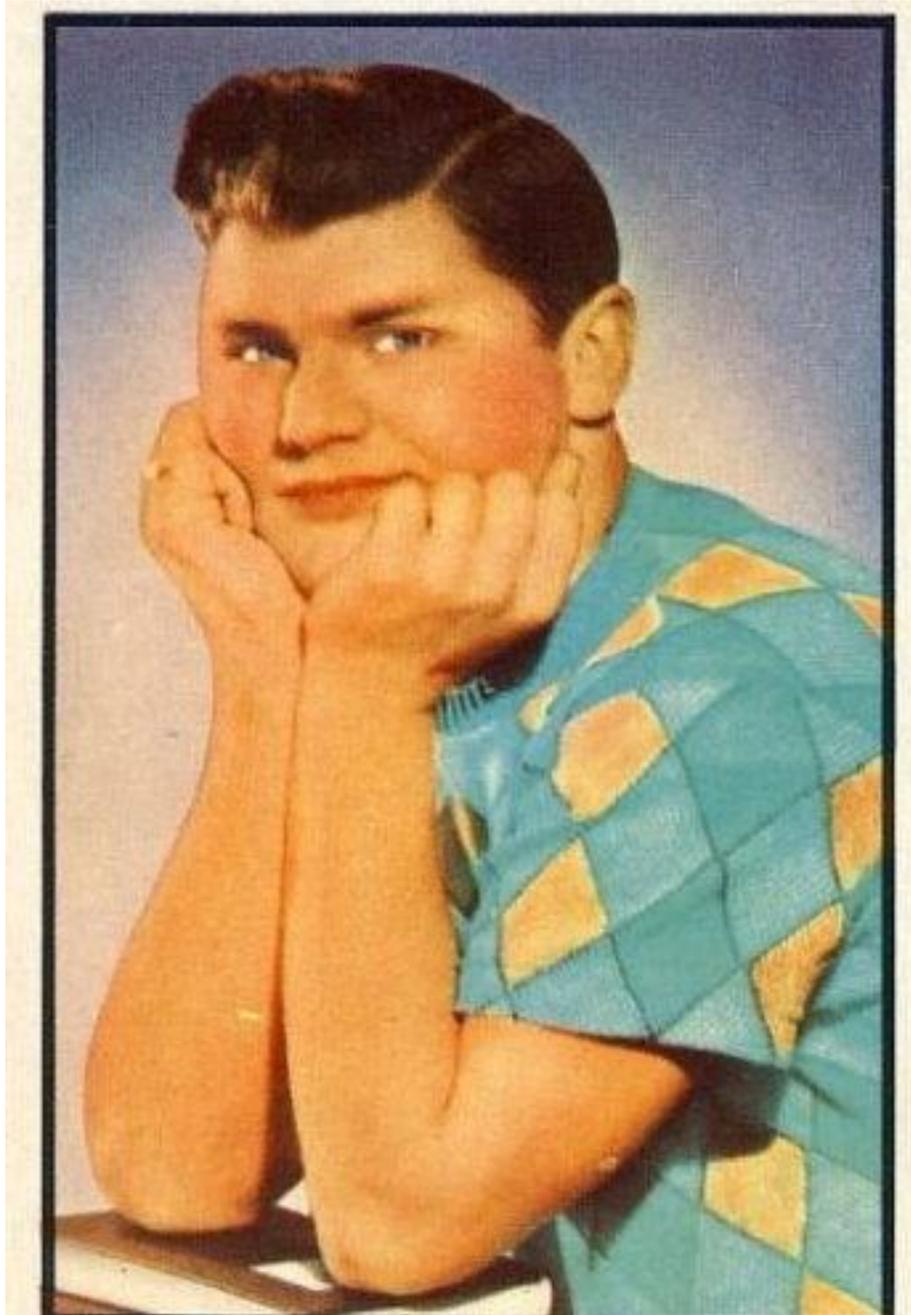


Ok, here's fairly easy one. It's the mega multi-talented Judy Canova. She had her own radio show that ran for over a decade. Just \$9.95 plus \$4.00 shipping brings her to your door. The author would like to mention that Judy's beautiful daughter Diana Canova attended and performed at the very last FOTR convention in Newark, NJ this past October (2011). The apple did not fall far from the tree where talent is concerned.

This next one is a tough one. Perhaps some of you readers know the identity of these two. This picture was taken in 1937. When they first teamed up on radio they were known as Molasses and January. Not long after they were Pick and Pat. They frequently performed in black-face make-up. They are Pick Malone and Pat Padgett. I'm not sure which is which in this picture but I'm very sure you could own it for that great price of \$28.88 and remember, shipping is FREE!



Well, it's about time to wrap up this installment but before I do, I want to leave you all with one more great picture. Evidently, in 1953 the Bowman Card Company ran a set of trading cards of TV and Radio Stars of NBC. Many of you know the gentleman pictured below. He has been an entertainer pretty much all his life. He has attended many, many old time radio and nostalgia conventions. He is always warm and kind when you speak with him. Please enjoy this picture of Bob Hastings as a rosy-cheeked youth. I know Bob will.



I urge everyone to pick up one of these cards on eBay and bring it with to CincyCon 2012 in April.

