



**SPERDVAC**

# BULLETIN

Vol. 1, No. 1

February, 1975



*Radio Notes*

## THE BATTLE OF SANTA MONICA

After six months of ground work, numerous planning sessions and four general meetings, I am pleased to announce that SPERDVAC is alive and well and looking forward to a long and successful life.

Our membership is showing a slow but steady growth. The total is up to 26, and that's out of only 66 requests for information. Of the 23 members on the roster, 19 showed up for the January 11 meeting. The figures help prove that interest is high and we only need time and a little more exposure.

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A big thanks to all of the people who have so generously contributed their time, talent and resources to get the Society off to its fine start.

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Last Call: Due to the increasing mailing list, meeting notices and the newsletter no longer will be sent to non-members. To continue on the active roster, just fill out the blank below and mail it in with a check.

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Legally speaking: H. Andrew Wasmund, our lawyer from Scheil & Delamer, reports

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On Sunday, Dec. 25, old-time radio fans lost another round in their battle for total programming when producer and SPERDVAC historian Jerry Haendiges pulled his weekly, two-hour program off station KCRW in Santa Monica.

The temporary "victory" went to that mysterious (no one in authority will say who) Englishman who insists that broadcasting commercials on a non-commercial radio station is against the law. This man, who calls Santa Monica home, has vowed to remove all commercials from ALL non-commercial stations since the BBC in his native England is supposedly commercial free.

Within a matter of hours following the latest skirmish in the Battle of Santa Monica, other old-radio hosts, joined the fight.

Jay Lacey, who programs "Soft Core Phonography" Saturday mornings and who has provided most of the old radio material for KPFK's annual fund-raising marathons, gave a stirring, five-minute editorial on the problem of one man censorship and how it smacks of the McCarthyism of the 1940's. "The advertisements are a vital part of the programs. . . a part of our American Heritage," he said.

Jay urged all listeners to write in and later threatened to remove his hour of old radio if there was not enough response.

KUCI's Mike Hingson says he has no

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that our name has been reserved by the California Secretary of State and work is progressing on our incorporation.

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The Members: A roster of active members, (through mid-January) is being enclosed for the members appearing on the list.

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We're recalling most of the Society's tapes until they can be redubbed. A decision has been made to use only two tracks on either 1,200 or 1,800-foot reels. Anyway, a bad head on one of our tape decks is creating bad reproductions and must be replaced:

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Recommended Reading: Norman Corwin's monthly articles on "Media," in Westways often include old radio subjects---Gary Lycan's excellent column "Nostalgia Radio" that appears every Thursday in the Santa Ana Register.

BATTLE OF SANTA MONICA  
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plans to cut commercials out of his four-hour Sunday night program, "Radio Hall of Fame."

"I was chastised by listeners in the early days for playing Armed Forces Radio broadcasts, which omitted commercials, or for talking over the end of a program," he said. "We have every right to air the shows in their entirety, when we know this is what the audience wants."

KUSC's Steve Osborne, who includes a hour of old radio on his "Showtime" program Sunday afternoons, said both management and listeners have supported airing shows with the commercials intact since his program started almost two years ago.

All of our members object to the anti-commercial view of this Santa Monica crusader and many have written letters and postcards saying so. If you haven't written and wish to, here are the names and addresses of people to write to:

Jay Lacey  
Radio Station KPFK-FM  
3729 Cahuenga Blvd.  
North Hollywood, CA 91604

Program Director  
Radio Station KCRW-FM  
2425 - 16th Street  
Santa Monica, CA 90405



ANNUAL DUES:

- Student ..... \$5.00
- Active ..... 10.00
- Family ..... 15.00

Dear Sirs:

Please enroll me as a member of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Radio Drama, Variety and Comedy. I am enclosing a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to cover my membership for the next 12 months.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY & STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

I have reel-to-reel equipment. I have cassette equipment.

## CHECKING THE AIRWAVES

"Don't Touch That Dial" has been expanded to include two daytime segments. After adding a 30-minute show at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesdays, KCSN (88.5) station manager, Bob Bishop, has given host Kevin Stern, our secretary-treasurer, the 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. slot on Sunday. And there's still the 10:10 p.m. to 1 a.m. show on Thursdays...KFI (640) is continuing to present "This Is Your FBI" at 8:30 p.m. on Sundays but has dropped the monthly presentation of "X Minus One." Rumor has it that they're also dropping the NBC network and that ought to make founder Earl C. Anthony turn over in his grave...KUCI (89.9) has added "Chandu the Magician" nightly at 7:30 p.m. and "X Minus One" Wednesdays at 11 p.m.

Member Gene Ward is continuing work on his list of Los Angeles-area stations broadcasting drama. In the meantime here's a partial list:

Sunday

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|--|--|
| 5:35 a.m. KGIL (1260): Heartbeat Theater.  | 5-5:15 p.m. KSUL (FM 90.1): Adventures by Morse.                                   |
| 6:30 a.m. KWST (FM 105.9): Heartbeat Theater.  | 7:30 p.m. KUCI (FM 89.9) Chandu the Magician. Continues nightly.                   |
| 11 a.m.-Noon KLON (FM 88.1): National Radio Theater.   | 10:10-11 p.m. KCSN (FM 88.5): National Public Radio Theater.                       |
| 1-3 p.m. KABC (79): Frank Buxton (sometimes interviews old-radio personalities).                         | <u>Wednesday</u>   |
| 2-4 p.m. KUSC (FM 91.6): Showtime. Host Steve Osborn plays one hour of old radio at approximately 3 p.m. | 12:30-1 p.m. KCSN (FM 88.5): Radio Remembers.                                      |
| 6-9 p.m. KUCI (FM 88.9): Radio Hall of Fame.   | 7-8 p.m. KSUL (FM 90.1): Old-time Radio.   |
| 6:30 p.m. KLON (FM 88.1): "I'm Sorry, I'll Read That Again"--British radio comedy.                       | 8:30-9 p.m. KLON (FM 88.1): National Public Radio Theater.                         |
| 8:30-9 p.m. KFI (640): This is Your FBI.   | 11 p.m. KUCI (FM 89.9): X Minus One.   |
| 8:30-9 p.m. KRLA (1110): National Lampoon Radio Hour   | <u>Thursday</u>  |
| 9:06-10 p.m. KNX (1070): CBS Mystery Theater. Continues nightly.   | 10:10 p.m.-1 a.m. KCSN (FM 88.5): Don't Touch That Dial with Kevin Stern.          |
| 9:40-10 p.m. KOLA (FM 100): This is Your FBI.  | <u>Friday</u>  |
| 11-11:30 p.m. KWOW (1600): Theater of the Mind. Continues nightly through Thursday.                      | 6:30 p.m. KLON (FM 88.0): "I'm Sorry, I'll Read That Again"--British radio comedy. |
| <u>Monday</u>  | I'll Read That Again"--British radio comedy.                                       |
| 10-10:15 a.m. KBCA (FM 105): Sounds of the City. Continues daily through Friday.                         | <u>Saturday</u>  |
|  | 3 a.m. KPFK (FM 90.7): Old-time Radio with Jay Lacey.                              |
|  | 7:30 a.m. KPFK (FM 90.7): Jack Armstrong serial, presented by Jay Lacey.           |
|  | 8 p.m. KLAC (570): Melody Ranch.   |



JANUARY 29, 1975

NORTHRIDGE INDEPENDENT

## HIDDEN FACES HIDDEN PLACES

By Jody Avery

From time to time the Northridge Independent will spotlight an individual or group within the community whose activities, in the public interest, are often without remuneration or recognition.

The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Radio Drama, Variety and Comedy. A title that sounds long and formidable, but hang in here and see what a couple of people are doing with what began as a hobby.

"It might have been the nostalgia thing that started it" states James Coontz of Northridge. He's not really sure. He's always been a radio fan, and when he chanced to hear an F. Scott Fitzgerald story, decided to tape it. From then on he was hooked.

Sometimes having to go to Santa Monica or anyplace an old Jack Benny or Lux Theatre program was being aired took considerable time.

Kevin Stern of KCSN (The Cal State Northridge station) is the one that put it all together. He hosts the "Don't Touch That Dial" program from 10:10 p.m. to 1 a.m. on Thursdays and mentioned one night that persons interested in old radio contact him.

And the Society was formed. Meetings are held the second Saturday of the month at the First Christian Church in Reseda. Since mid-November membership has grown to an active 25, with some coming as far as Whittier. Special guests and speakers are featured. Jay Stewart of "Let's Make a Deal" fame is scheduled for February 6.

### FEBRUARY MEETING

Saturday, Feb. 8

First Christian  
Church, Reseda

18050 Vanowen St.

NOON

A library of several thousand tapes is now available to members, and plans are formulating to make tapes available to the Braille Institute.

Although interest is centered around the "Golden Age" of radio, they feel there is a definite place for radio today. Good drama and entertainment on radio is encouraged by the

Society.

Coontz, night sports news editor for the Los Angeles Times, feels a lot more people would contribute to their growing numbers if they knew of its existence. Any inquiries may be made by contacting Kevin Stern at KSUN (FM 88.5) or write P.O. Box 1587, Hollywood, California 90028.