

ONE GOOD TURN

Newsletter Of The One Good Turn Tent, Oasis 156, Of The Sons Of The Desert

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Well, our next meeting is at our new home, The Playwright, where good booze, food and booze will be the main attraction along with our film program (not to mention the booze). Unfortunately, our Keeper of the Celluloid, Jack Roth, probably will not be with us on the 3rd, due to his commitments with the Howdy Doody Convention...so, it's up to yours truly to select the films. For openers, I have chosen a silent Our Gang Comedy, featuring lovely Jean Darling, who we met when we were in Dublin in August, entitled WIGGLE YOUR EARS (1929), complete with a newly restored Vitaphone sound track. Of

course, everybody is always requesting a Charley Chase two-reeler, so IT HAPPENED ONE DAY (1934), which is one of the lesser-known Chase comedies, will be featured. It's a wonderful 'Comedy of Errors' with Chase paired off beautifully with his frequent co-star, Betty Mack. We will also be showing two of Laurel and Hardy's best: HELPMATES (1932) and TOWED IN A HOLE (1932), which was directed by George Marshall, who later directed such classics as "Destry Rides Again" (1939) with Marlene Dietrich and James Stewart and "Star Spangled Rhythm" (1942). Our October meeting wouldn't be complete without one Halloween short, so I selected Stan and Babe's last three-reeler, OLIVER THE EIGHTH, with Mae Busch giving one of her best performances with the boys.

If you plan on attending, please contact Lou lsabini@optonline.net or me cerinc1@earthlink.net no later than September 30.

DIRECTIONS TO THE PLAYWRIGHT PUB: The Playwright Pub is at 488 Summer St, Stamford, phone is (203) 353-1120.

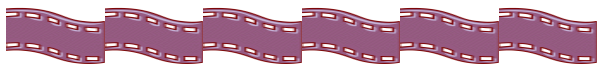
From I-95 Westbound
Take the ELM STREET exit, exit number 8. Turn RIGHT onto ELM ST. ELM ST becomes GROVE ST. Turn LEFT onto BROAD ST. Turn RIGHT onto BEDFORD ST. Turn LEFT onto NORTH ST. Turn LEFT onto SUMMER ST. Continue to 488 Summer Street.

From I-95 Eastbound
Take the GREENWICH AVENUE exit - exit number 7- toward CT-137 N. Turn SLIGHT LEFT onto S STATE ST. Turn LEFT onto WASHINGTON BLVD. Turn RIGHT onto NORTH ST. Turn RIGHT onto SUMMER ST. Continue to 488 Summer Street.

From Merritt Parkway
Take exit 35 (High Ridge Road). HIGH RIDGE RD becomes SUMMER ST., follow Summer Street downtown (about 2 miles) to 488 Summer.

OUTDOOR SCREENING DELIGHTS SONS -- KUDOS TO ANDY

The September meeting was a huge success attended by a record crowd for this event. Andy's giant outdoor screen and tremendous hospitality in providing food and drink for all who attended are greatly appreciated by one and all. Let's hope we can continue this annual event for many years to come.



OUR RELATIONS

We had planned a genealogy update for this issue. However, an interesting invitation crossed the editor's desk that seemed extremely relevant for our new column. This arrived from the Berth Marks Tent #238 of Harlem, Ga.:



The Sons of Confederate Veteran's Camp #1914 Would like to invite you to the Memorial / Dedication Ceremony for Oliver Hardy Sr. at the City of Harlem Cemetery, South Bell Ave. on Friday, October 1st. at 6:30 pm. [NOTE: Both Ollie's father and grandfather served in the Confederate Army]

Also enclosed was a further invitation:



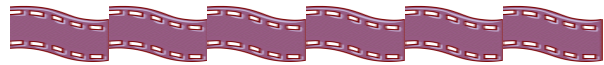
The City of Harlem, The Oliver Hardy Festival Committee and the Berth Marks Tent #238 Invite you to attend the Pre-Festival

Reception Friday, October 1st., at 7:00 pm at

Harlem City Hall 320 N. Louisville Street, Harlem, Ga.

Berth Marks will be holding their monthly meeting on October 2nd at BG's Deli 179 N. Louisville Street for Dinner. Wear your Western attire! RSVP 706-556-0401.

Some day, I hope one of our members will be able to attend this event; you can check out details of the event on the website <http://www.n-georgia.com/oliverHardyFest.htm>. I confess to being disturbed by the following line that I don't believe was in last year's promotional materials: ***In Association With Larry Harmon Pictures Corp.***



BUSY BODIES

Only a few sightings this month.

- 1) If you don't own a copy, set your VCRs, TCM is airing THE HOLLYWOOD REVIEW at 11:15 AM Tuesday October 5th.
- 2) Janet Davis spotted a Laurel & Hardy mention on "Jeopardy!" September 17. The category was "Quasi-Related Pairs," and the \$600 answer was "A Wreath of Leaves & Possessing the Quality of Robustness." And yes, the contestant got the answer right: "Laurel & Hardy"!
- 3) The 2004 Disney Legends awards. Tim Conway was one of the named honorees. The Disney folks compared Conway and Don Knotts favorably to Laurel & Hardy.
- 4) On August 31 Paramount released the Frank Capra film "Riding High" on DVD. The film features a cameo by Ollie.
- 5) Bizarre sighting in August 25 Connecticut Post. Headline on editorial page "Happy 75th birthday to Popeye and hardy laurels to Stanley." The writer was in truth sending a nasty reply to an opinion letter writer named Stanley. Don't know whether he or the Post caption writer came up with the headline.





SURFING THE INTERNET WITH L&H

An alert L&H
newsgroup reader
found this autographed

picture of Stan on Jerry Lewis's official web site. The caption reads: "To Jerry, In homage to a great talent & a wonderful friend. My admiration always. Stan" There's also a letter from Stan to Jerry on the website (<http://www.jerrylewiscomedy.com/>) in the Biography section.



2) Devoted New Jersey Son Yair Solan has another Charley Chase web update. "Bradley Reeves's excellent article on Roach stalwart and brother of Charley Chase, James Parrott, is now online at my WORLD OF CHARLEY CHASE website. This great piece, published last year in "The Big Reel", includes a comprehensive filmography. You can access the site at: <http://www.geocities.com/ysolan82/chase.html>

3) A member of the L&H newsgroup posted this excerpt from an Orange County NJ newspaper: in

a story about a former Orange police officer (Richard "Dick" Chaffee) who had died "Dick was a big guy, and he did a great impression of Oliver Hardy," Dooley said. "Officer John Healey was skinny and looked a lot like Stan Laurel. They'd do an act for us here in the department and always kept us laughing.

Koether continued the story. "About 23 years ago the two of them went to a call at the former Dogwood Inn, which was a little bar in town. They walked inside and pretty much everybody was involved in a fist-fight. They took a look at it and made a plan - they started imitating Laurel and Hardy. At some point someone looked up, and the entire place stopped fighting and started laughing," he said.

"They [took care of it] through humor," Dooley said. "If there was a bar fight, Dick Chaffee is the guy you wanted to go in ahead of you."

4) The L&H Newsgroup signed a petition to try and get L&H films released on DVDs by Warner Home Video. Here is the reply (the best news fans have had in some time):

Dear Mr. Castiglia,

This is in reference to your correspondence regarding our Laurel & Hardy properties.

Of course I am very familiar with our L&H holdings, having overseen their release on videocassette and laserdisc in previous years.

As a long-time L&H fan (I attended my first "SONS OF THE DESERT" meeting when I was in High School), it has always been my plan to eventually create a high-profile release on DVD built around our features and additional material we control. Although there is no date set yet for such a release, you can be sure it will remain a priority for us here at Warner Home Video.

Kind regards,

George Feltenstein



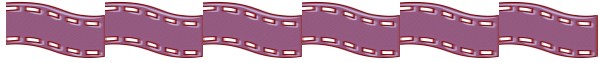
RAFFLE MADNESS!

Bring plenty of dough for some exciting L&H items that will be displayed and raffled off at the October meeting. Among the items are:

- A canvas convention goodie bag with several fun items from the convention (like a Tree in a Test Tube calculator and assorted gag gifts)
- A L&H display plate

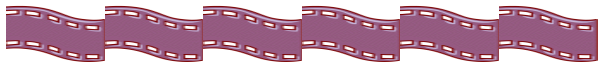
- An assortment of paper goods with L&H and Hal Roach photos and caricatures
- A driver's delight duo – L&H bumper sticker and parking sign.

Proceeds will as usual go to our general fund for future projects, such as our beanbag give-away for this year's convention. Oh, and did we mention that everyone who attends the October meeting will receive a free One Good Turn beanbag? Be there or be beaned.



And Speaking of the Convention...

In last month's issue, we commented on what a terrific time Steve and I had at the convention. The photo album chronicling our participation will be on display at the October meeting. However, the back page of this issue gives you a flavor for what ensues when 200 L&H fans gather in one spot. Many thanks to numerous contributors whose photos adorn this page. For more details and more pictures about the convention, go to <http://www.perfectdaytent.com>



In Memoriam: Fay Wray

Shortly after we went to press on the August issue of the newsletter, the announcement came of the death of film actress, Fay Wray. Although immortalized as the beauty who killed the beast in KING KONG, Miss Wray began her film career on the Hal Roach lot, appearing with Charley Chase in a few films, most notably in, ISN'T LIFE TERRIBLE. In 1925 she appeared in CHASING THE CHASER and UNFRIENDLY ENEMIES, both written and directed by Stan Laurel.

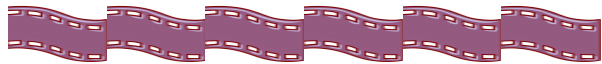


In Memoriam: Elly Annie Schneider

Elly Annie Schneider, 90, an actress who played one of the Munchkin villagers in "The Wizard of Oz", died Sept. 6. Ms. Schneider, who used the screen names Tiny Earles and Tiny Doll, died of a heart ailment.

Born in Stolpen, Germany, she moved to the United States in 1925 to join three siblings who were also midgets. She was 39 inches tall and weighed 46 pounds.

The four traveled to California to appear in "The Wizard of Oz" and were among the little people who welcomed Judy Garland's Dorothy to Munchkinland in a memorable 10-minute scene. They also appeared in "Sailors, Beware", a 1927 Laurel and Hardy short, and the cult classic "Freaks" in 1932.



In Memoriam: Ira Shprintzen

We have received word of the death of Ira Shprintzen, Grand Sheik of the Blotto Tent of Westchester. Anyone who has attended a Sons of the Desert Convention will remember Ira. Although he had been in poor health for years, Ira attended numerous conventions and always spoke passionately about the need for tents to show L&H films in hospitals and other health care settings. In fact, Ira attended the Columbus convention in July, with his service dog. Ira used his time during the Parade of Tents to educate the audience on how his dog was trained to help diabetics by detecting subtle changes in body chemistry. He is survived by a brother.



Sons of the Desert

See you October 3