

ONE GOOD TURN

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

<input type="checkbox"/>	<div data-bbox="267 472 613 688" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>Hollywood Party MGM All Star Cast (1934)</p> </div> <div data-bbox="267 730 613 947" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>Chickens Come Home L&H (1931)</p> </div> <div data-bbox="267 989 613 1205" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p>November 7 The Playwright 4:30-7:00 p.m. \$17/person</p> </div>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Is it that time of year already? Are we approaching the holidays at breakneck speed or am I just getting older? Anyway, with Thanksgiving just around the corner, our tent's annual Laurel and Hardy "Turkey" will be presented at the Playwright on Sunday, November 7th, where we will be featuring one of Stan and Babe's lesser known films entitled HOLLYWOOD PARTY. This 1934 MGM extravaganza was to be an all-star revue with literally all of the studio's top talent incorporated into one huge potpourri. Unfortunately, plans for this proposed big-budgeted production went

through countless delays, so many of the intended stars dropped out of sight due to other commitments. By the time production was under way, the biggest stars were Laurel and Hardy with Jimmy Durante and Lupe Velez receiving third and fourth billing, but getting the lion's (Leo) share of the footage. Others included in this disjointed grab bag are the inimitable Charles Butterworth, Jack Pearl, the Three Stooges and even Mickey Mouse! Directed (for the most part) by Richard Boleslawski ("Three Godfathers", "Theodora Goes Wild"), the scenes featuring Laurel and Hardy were handled by Hal Roach graduate George Stevens, who had photographed many of the boys' silents as well as directing classics like "Alice Adams" (1935), "Gunga Din" (1939) and "Shane" (1953). We will be featuring an excellent L&H comedy entitled CHICKENS COME HOME (1931), which is a virtual remake of an earlier Hal Roach Comedy All-Stars short entitled "Love 'em and Weep" (1927). This earlier version featured Jimmie Finlayson in the Oliver Hardy role with Stan Laurel and Mae Busch playing the exact parts in both versions!

If you plan on attending, please contact Lou (Isabini@optonline.net) or me (cerinc1@earthlink.net) no later than **November 4.**

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.

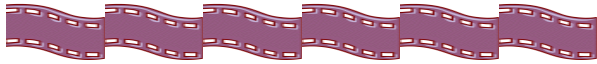
From I-95 Eastbound

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.



BUSY BODIES

Only one sighting this month: In a BBC radio show on the epitome of style, there was a reference to L&H in a salute to Cary Grant.

Leo McCarey, who was credited with teaming L&H, apparently had some mannerisms that Grant adapted in his first starring role...and went on to become Grant's debonair persona. Hmm. Does that mean when we see Cary Grant adjusting his tie, it's an indirect homage to Ollie???



SURFING THE INTERNET WITH L&H

This month's column has excerpts from two newspaper articles that were posted to the L&H newsgroup.

1) From an article entitled *Author takes serious look at comedy teams*

By Roger K. Miller

FOR THE TRIBUNE-REVIEW

Sunday, September 26, 2004

"Mixed Nuts: America's Love Affair With Comedy Teams from Burns and Allen to Belushi and Aykroyd," by Lawrence J. Epstein, Public Affairs, \$26, 293 pages.

"Like Burns and Allen, most teams, before and later, were smart-dumb (Abbott and Costello, Martin and Lewis), but not Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy. Nor were they straight man-comic.

Laurel and Hardy were the first enduring film team and, Epstein asserts, possibly the best team ever, in large part because "they created the model of two friends struggling against the world." Like other great teams, they draw us into their world. They were the only silent team to be a success in sound."

2) The second article appeared in a Canton, Ohio, newspaper.

Comedy duo shticks together Wednesday, October 20, 2004

By JULIA SHAHEEN Repository staff writer



SONS OF THE DESERT. Dale Walter Sr. (left) as Oliver Hardy and Dennis Moriarty as Stan Laurel have been portraying their favorite movie icons for more than 10 years. Their act has taken them all over the country and given them the opportunity to meet many fans.

CANTON — One evening, Dennis Moriarty and Dale Walter Sr. were at a local ice cream shop with their wives. Moriarty's wife asked her husband to remove his glasses and smile.

She glanced behind him to a Laurel and Hardy collectible on a display case. The resemblance to Stan Laurel's thin smile and blue eyes was eerie. That soon sparked an interest that would last longer than anyone expected. More than 10 years ago, Moriarty and Walter started portraying the legendary Laurel and Hardy. They continue to perfect their act, meet new people and make audiences laugh.

It seemed like a natural progression for Moriarty and Walter, who already were accustomed to working off each other in their clown act. They have known each other for more than 20 years, working at American Electric Power at the same time and being members of the Nazir Grotto clown unit as Pogo and Sparkie the Clowns. Even when Moriarty was transferred around Ohio while with AEP, they still managed to get together for Laurel and Hardy appearances.

In the summer of 1994, they were standing in line at the Oliver Hardy Festival in Harlem, Ga., where Hardy was born, waiting to enter the Laurel and Hardy look-alike contest. "We were standing in line, getting ready to do our shtick, when I got a tug on my sleeve," said Walter. A woman pulled them aside and told them they couldn't be in the contest. "We looked too much like the boys. Instead, she said 'You're going to be parade marshals and you are now on the committee.' "

Since then, the look-alikes have been the grand marshals of the parade every year, appeared on countless advertisements for the state of Georgia and the city of Harlem, and helped open the Oliver Hardy museum, which was shown worldwide on CNN.

"It's really about getting into character," said Moriarty, who wears everything just the way Stan did from the shoes with nearly no heels to the large paper-clip cufflinks on his sleeves. Wherever Walter and Moriarty go, they stop at libraries, antique shops, bookstores and other places, including the post office, looking for more collectibles. They even own the collectible dish from the ice cream shop display.

The duo has had the opportunity to meet people who knew the real Laurel and Hardy.

"Going to the conventions it's like a big family reunion," said Walter. "To meet new people who all share a common thread that they love Laurel and Hardy and the Our Gang kids." And seeing the younger generations go to conventions and to their shows has been amazing, they said.

"We have enjoyed it so much. We have the fortune of looking like the boys and can bring laughter to audiences," said Walter.

[Editor's Note: We've had the pleasure of meeting the Lookalikes at conventions. You can see them in our convention photo album.]



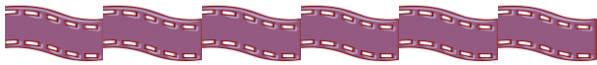
STAN LAUREL ARTIFACTS

A short time ago, I received an email from Captain Carl Fisser, owner of www.DiveForTreasure.com, who has a number of Stan Laurel items for sale. The following list arrived. There are no prices and I don't have validation for them. However, if you're interested in any items, contact him directly Captain Fizz - captainfizz7@bellsouth.net

- Corporate seal, STAN LAUREL PRODUCTIONS CALIFORNIA, March 1st 1937
- Corporate seal, STAN LAUREL PICTURES CALIFORNIA Nov 15 1937
- Brief case, zipper type, with STAN LAUREL embossment
- Key to Atlantic City for Grand Marshall Parade of Stars 1941
- Cigarette lighter inscribed Stan Laurel from bro. water rat cingalee
- Heavy copper chalice, decorative, inscribed L-A-K-C-1934
- Silver ashtray, 8 inch diameter, with ring stand with crest
- 13" by 9.5" decorative silver plated candy dish
- Small silver and glass salt dish Viking ship design
- Hinged silver plated scalloped candy dish with four smaller inside
- Signature stamp, Stan Laurel
- Bronze ship's clock form Mr. Laurel's sailboat (page 431 Laurel and Hardy "The Magic Behind the Movies" picture of Stan with the clock)
- Original recording made in England 1932 by Laurel and Hardy
- Record of Chuck McCann's radio show, "Hi, Mom" 1960, with a letter on the jacket, Signed
- Stan's original copy of their most famous photo with a note on the back, "Please return to Stan Laurel 849 Ocean Ave. Santa Monica, Calif.
- Picture of Stan and Ollie with Oliver Hardy autograph
- Coventry evening telegraph taken in England
- Photo taken in front of Old State Theatre, Laurel and Hardy in person
- Bible inscribed Rev. Stan Laurel (a joke I think)
- Silver bowl 4.5" diameter inscribed to Mr. Stan Laurel Ambassador of Goodwill Mexico City

April 1941 from Lic. Miguel Aleman, Secretary of the Interior

- Medic alert necklace, silver
- Long serving spoon with a Latin inscription, belonging to Order of Knights of Organization
- 14k gold cuff links S L
- Cigarette lighter inscribed Mrs. S.L.
- Pin presented by Ralph Edward from "This is Your Life"
- Skull and Wings pin (I can't even guess)
- Old records of Abbott and Costello (Stan helped them), White Christmas by Crosby, one side with stick on label, several more old records



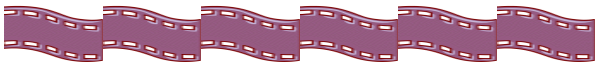
OUR RELATIONS

On Monday, January 18, 1892, Norvell Hardy (later to become Oliver Norvell Hardy) was born in Harlem, Georgia. His parents were Emily Norvell Hardy and Oliver Hardy, married on March 12, 1890.



Sadly, Oliver Hardy died when young Norvell was less than a year old, leaving a fatherless son who would carry his name to legendary status. Oliver Hardy, the father, had been born the second of eight children on December 5, 1844. According to 1860 census records for Columbia County, Georgia, the children were Charlotte, Oliver, Lucy, Henry C., Robert, James, Pattie, and Jeremiah.

Contradicting the 1844 birthdate on his Harlem, Georgia gravestone, the census lists Oliver as 18 years old in 1860, and says that his occupation is "Overseer," presumably on his father's plantation since they were sharing the same address. Next month, we'll look at the two marriages of Oliver Hardy before Emily Norvell Hardy, including records of step-siblings as discovered in the census records.



Sons of the Desert

See you November 7