

ONE GOOD TURN

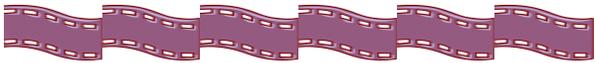
Newsletter of The *One Good Turn* Tent, Oasis 156, of The Sons Of The Desert

<input type="checkbox"/>	<div data-bbox="266 478 613 709" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>Bonnie Scotland (1935) Laurel & Hardy</p> </div> <div data-bbox="266 751 613 982" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>Short Kilts (1924) Stan Laurel</p> </div> <div data-bbox="266 1024 613 1255" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p>Sunday, April 6 Sabini Theatre Mingle 2:30 p.m. Movies 3:00 p.m.</p> </div>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Merritt Parkway to exit 35, High Ridge Rd. At bottom of ramp turn right. At 7th light (approx. 1.3 mile) turn right onto Ridge Park Ave (church on corner). Bear right onto Wood Ridge Drive. #151 is on the corner of Wood Ridge and Rosano.



**If you thought that winter was very cold, then don't be scared. It's time to get out of the house and come to the April meeting.*



Talk About Your Fine Messes!

Well, if ye thought that winter was dead chankin' then dinnae be feart. 'Tis time to get oot of the hoos and hie thee to the April meeting.* It's "Scots wha hae" month at the Sabini Theater as we try to recover from January's missed meeting and the whole wretched months in between.

Movies will start promptly at 3:00 p.m. with everyone invited out for a meal after the screenings. Cost is \$5 per family to cover cleaning costs (meal extra). If you bring a snack to share, just remember to take your leftovers with you. RSVP by contacting Lou (Isabini@optonline.net), or George (gpappas@pace.edu)

DIRECTIONS TO THE SABINIS:

This Month's Movies

From our KEEPER OF THE CELLULOID, Lou Sabini
Bonnie Scotland



Inspired by Paramount's "Lives of a Bengal Lancer" earlier that year, and recruiting the same technical advisor to work on this, the sixth starring vehicle of Laurel and Hardy, **Bonnie Scotland**, despite its large budget, was somewhat of a letdown for the team's fans. Based on an original story by Frank Butler entitled "Kilts", the film's screenplay was the victim of many rewrites and rewrite men as well as gag writers. To top it off,

comedian Stan Laurel was not satisfied with the plot, claiming that there was too much needless boy/girl subplot, which attempted to submerge the antics of the famous comedy team.



When producer Hal Roach insisted that the subplot remain, Laurel walked off the lot, claiming to the press that he had been fired. Following this, Hal Roach Studios announced that a new series would replace the Laurel and Hardy comedies called

The Hardy Family starring Oliver Hardy, Patsy Kelly and *Our Gang Comedy* star Spanky McFarland. Fortunately for all concerned, Laurel and Roach patched things up for the time being and the studio resumed work on "McLaurel and McHardy," which eventually was re-christened **BONNIE SCOTLAND**.

As always, Stan Laurel sat with director James Horne and polished the script with writer Jefferson Moffitt and gag men Charley Rogers, Wilson Collison and Albert Austin, who had been a vital contributor to many of Charlie Chaplin's comedies. According to actor William Janney, who portrayed the lovesick Alan Douglas, "The trouble with the film was that it had two stories. When they had a preview in Glendale, why, I had the whole picture, and Laurel and Hardy were the comedy relief." Upon reviewing the preview print, which ran some 100 minutes, the *Hollywood Reporter* agreed, stating that "there is a commanding position open on the screen for Laurel and Hardy features, for they are surely two of the funniest men alive. But they are absurdly wasted when the plot does not make them the central figures of their own starring comedy. In this instance, fully half of the footage is devoted to a sorry tale of love of a poor but honest lad for an heiress who, because his letters are being withheld from her, is about to marry another man. . . The story continually pops up to throw grand comedy for a loss."

After this rather sad review, Hal Roach agreed with Mr. Laurel and decided to eliminate much of the romantic subplot. The resulting feature, which

had been whittled down to 80 minutes, garnered some rather decent reviews, with *Boxoffice* stating that it's "packed with the Laurel and Hardy hokum and good for plenty of laughs," while *Movie Mirror* hit the nail on the head with their statements, saying that "this has marvelous gags but the picture doesn't quite come off because it is composed of two distinct plots which don't merge." It's too bad that **BONNIE SCOTLAND** hadn't been a better picture, since this was the first film that the comedy team would make after abandoning the short subject field. The authentic Scottish village sets were borrowed from RKO, where they had been used previously in the Katharine Hepburn film "The Little Minister."

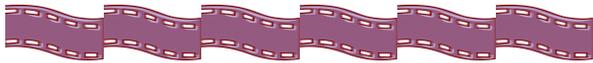


Short Kilts

After graduating from one to two-reelers nearly a year ago, Stan Laurel left the employ of Hal Roach Studios to "greener pastures" with producer Joe Rock in a series of parodies for a little over a year. **Short Kilts**, which was the last of the Roach ventures, is not one of the best of the Laurel outings, but still has much to recommend it, with 'Our Gang' kids Mickey Daniels and Mary Kornman providing most of the laughs here, while Stan and Jimmy Finlayson (almost seemingly working together as a team), doing their best with the rather uninspired narrative. Modern day audiences might find the film "politically incorrect" with all of the gags poking fun at Scottish traditions and the "age-old" opinion that all Scots are misers!

A review by *Moving Picture World* summed it up

best, “most of the fun centers around practical jokes with tacks and such like, and two battle royals in which the folks join heartily with tablelegs and fists. The original idea, that of satirizing a Scotchman’s frugality, was an excellent one, but it was not worked out, it seems, as vividly as possible. The subject, nevertheless, has much to commend it and will be liked by audiences indulgent toward routine slapstick stuff.” After making 12 rather good comedies for Joe Rock, Stan returned to Hal Roach as a writer/director/gagman and felt that he would never really achieve stardom as a comedian. Hal Roach always claimed that Stan was the best gagman in the business next to Chaplin. But, in 1926, things would change (again) for Laurel when he was teamed with a rotund comic named Oliver Hardy in what would be the first Laurel and Hardy teaming ever...***Duck Soup*** (1927). Originally, British comic, Syd Crossley was supposed to co-star with Hardy, but for whatever reasons, he was unavailable and the role went to Stan Laurel...thankfully!



Parade of Tents...Thanks!

It's never too late to register for the Laurel & Hardywood Convention. It should be a great event. If you're still considering making the trip, go to www.Laurelandhardywood.com for details.

Your Tent is well represented Steve and Carol Rugh will be there and have been asked to create a slide show Parade of Tents. Photos have been sent in from all over the world. One Good Turn Sons Andy Lehrfeld and Fred Sherwood are actively involved in making this a first of its kind event. With their editing and musical contributions it should be a great addition to the Convention.

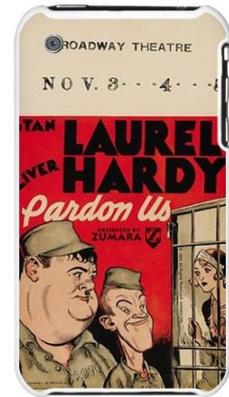
Thanks, Guys!



L&H Gift Ideas

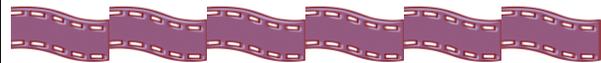
Although Christmas is a pleasant memory, there are always times when a gift related to the Boys comes in handy. So, it's always nice to find new ideas. Gino Dercola passed this along to me.

For example, who wouldn't want to give this onesie to a L&H fan with a new baby. Or this case for your iPhone. Just be warned that there are



some decidedly un-L&H items mixed in. Don't get discouraged; just keep wandering through. It's great fun.

<http://www.cafepress.com/+laurel-hardy+gifts>



Good News, Music Lovers

The Beau Hunks Play the Original Laurel & Hardy Music Volumes One & Two was re-released on February 18th.

These amazing collections are available on Amazon and CD Universe.

Here is a link to the best price I found online through CD Universe. \$12.58 each.

VOLUME ONE:

<http://www.cduniverse.com/productinfo.asp?pid=9122332&style=music&meid=14779&x=1640340626925>

VOLUME TWO:

<http://www.cduniverse.com/productinfo.asp?pid=9122538&style=music>



SEE YOU APRIL 6

