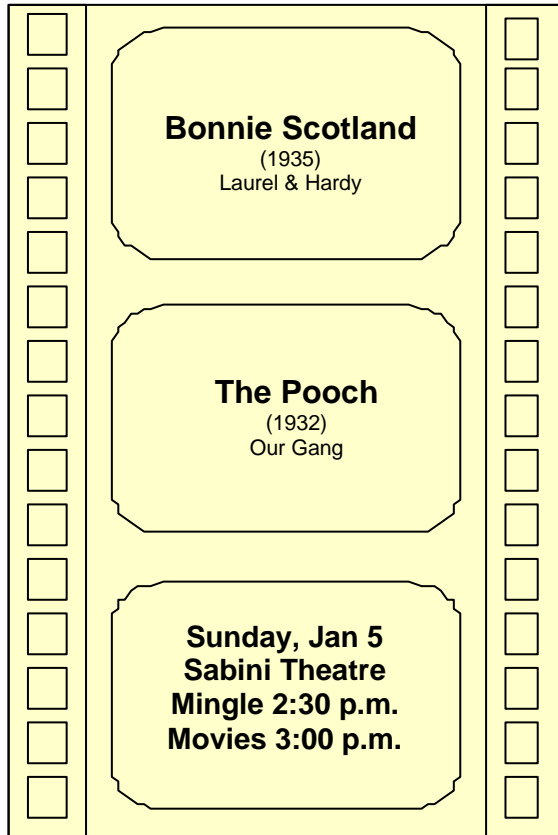


ONE GOOD TURN

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



What a Hoot, Mon!

It's been 6 years and 11 months since our Tent last screened *Bonnie Scotland*. I'm already grinning at the prospect of the Boys doing their dance while cleaning up the grounds. And as if *Bonnie Scotland* weren't incentive enough, Lou has thrown in Our Gang's short, *The Pooch*, for good measure. Bring your hankies; Stymie's tears would melt the hardest heart.

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:

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.



Bonnie Scotland

From a 1999 column by our *KEEPER OF THE CELLULOID*, Lou Sabini



Bonnie Scotland is a nine-reeler, which was released after the last official L&H short, *Thicker Than Water*. This rather big-budgeted entry features Stan and Ollie, arriving in Scotland to claim an inheritance left to Stan by his late uncle,

Angus Ian McLaurel. While this film tries hard to submerge the splendid antics of the boys with a rather tired romantic subplot, there are nevertheless many great comedy sequences to behold.

The first half of the film deals mainly with the boys inheriting a set of bagpipes and a box of snuff, whose contents inadvertently ends in Ollie's face, causing one of the most visually funny gags in L&H history! Later, in their boardinghouse, they try to evade the landlady, who is trying to collect her room rent. This sequence, with the boys

attempting to broil a fish on the bed springs of their double bed with a candle placed beneath, is one of the comic highlights of the film. After being evicted by their irate landlord, they mistakenly enlist in the Scottish Regiment, and are soon en route to India where the intrusive romantic subplot between June Lang and William Janney begins. Once in India, Stan and Ollie lock horns with their new sergeant, played with much gusto by Jimmy Finlayson, dubbed "Sergeant Leatherpuss" by the boys!



Two excellent scenes are offered in the film's second half. The first involves the regiment marching to their post, with Stan having a tough time keeping in step with the rest of the men. Constantly hopping and skipping to retain his step, he quickly causes his battery to look like a mass of



out of step, bouncing grasshoppers! The other sequence, with Stan and Ollie ordered to clean the army courtyard, is interrupted by the company's band, who are practicing a number called "A Hundred Pipers". Naturally, our boys are caught up in the bouncy tune

and begin an impromptu dance, while cleaning the grounds. Right on cue, of course, enters the irate Finlayson, whose unmerciful mugging adds immeasurably to an already funny situation.

Actually, ***Bonnie Scotland*** is a lampoon of the same year's ***Lives of a Bengal Lancer***, which starred Gary Cooper and Franchot Tone, with both films using the same technical adviser, Colonel W. E. Wynn. Also, the beautiful Scottish village sets were borrowed from RKO and were used on the previous year's Katharine Hepburn film, ***The Little***

Minister. The juvenile leads were pretty June Lang, a Fox contract player, and William Janney, who had played the unlikely murderer in the Universal 'who done it,' ***Mystery of the Blue Room***.

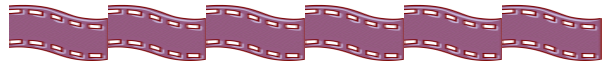
Despite this being one of Babe Hardy's favorite films, it is more episodic than some of the more fluid L&H vehicles like ***Sons of the Desert***, ***Our Relations*** and ***Way Out West***. Apparently Hardy felt that their films needed unnecessary musical interludes and romantic subplot to sustain a 90 minute running time, thinking that audiences would grow tired of the comedy. To an extent, this can definitely prove true, especially when placed in less competent hands. But in the case of Laurel and Hardy, they were able to do so much with so little, as is evidenced in many of their later vehicles for Fox and MGM, when the gag writing was rather lackluster.



Two Wee Bits Of Trivia About The Film

(courtesy of Wikipedia and your Editor)

- The date on the office calendar in "Bonnie Scotland" is June 16, Stan Laurel's birthday.
- Although June Lang played the romantic ingénue, she never worked with L&H on this picture, and, in fact, never met them.



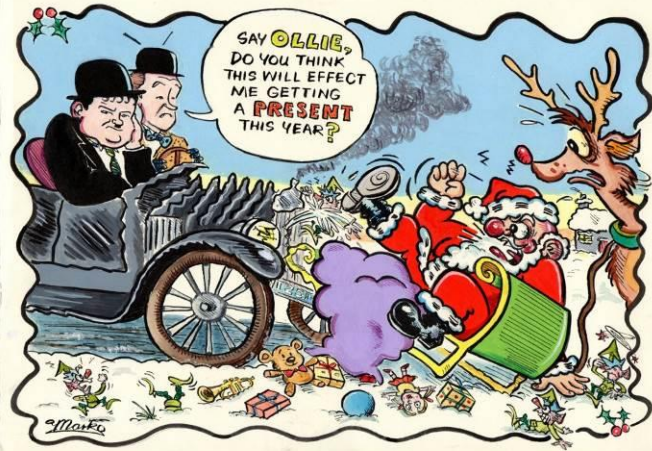
Furnace Update

Thanks to all the Sons who helped make the Christmas Merry for the Laurel & Hardy Museum of Harlem, Georgia. They met their fund-raising needs to fix the furnace and are back up and running full steam (as it were). Here's the lead volunteer herself, Linda Caldwell, "This is why I love my SOD people. To all who have so generously sent money into the Furnace Fund: THANK YOU.....THANK YOU."



Belated Holiday Greetings

Many Tents send out holiday greetings. Gino Dercola sent out a sampling. If you haven't had your fill of Christmas yet, here are some memorable greetings.



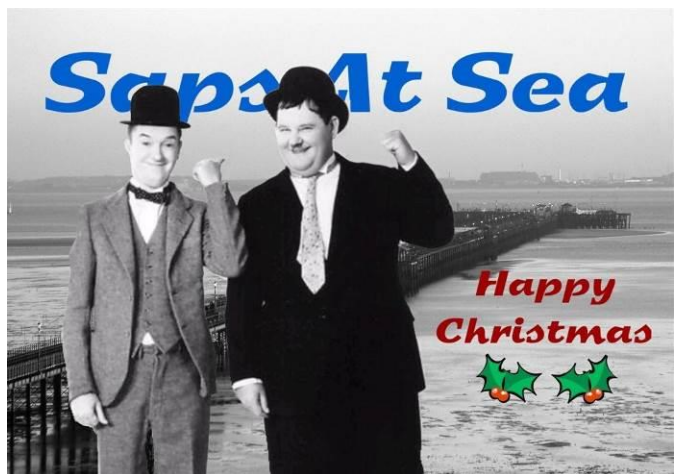
**Merry Christmas
from
The 'Laurel & Hardy Magazine'**

CHEERS

and happy holidays



Another fine mess...
Laurel & Hardy
and Cliff
2013



Check Out the Video

On December 12, 2013, Chuck McCann performed briefly with his Laurel and Hardy puppets at the Hollywood Party chapter of The Sons of the Desert in Hollywood, CA. The same night his Judy Garland puppet gave a moving performance of "Over the Rainbow". [See it again on Vimeo: <http://vimeo.com/82272773#at=0>] It's the first time in nearly 50 years these puppets have performed publicly (see Chuck from his original show in photo below). Chuck confessed that, of all the TV shows he recorded with his Laurel and Hardy puppets, none of them remain and have all been lost. This is one of only a few known clips of Mr. McCann performing with these very rare puppets.



Laurel and Hardywood Convention Update

Here's the latest update from Convention planner, Bob Satterfield:

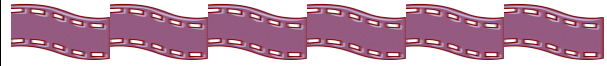
I wanted to let you know, if you have not already seen it, that the agenda for the convention has now been posted on the website

www.Laurelandhardywood.com and the registration forms will be added very soon. Also the ITJ will be publishing both items in the next

issue. I plan to start accepting registration forms the first week of the new year.

Merry Christmas and 2014 and hope to see you at the convention!

Bob Satterfield
Laurel and Hardywood Chairman



SEE YOU JANUARY 5



Sons of the Desert