

Hollywood Canteen

Affiliated With American Theatre Wing, Inc.

HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA

Sunday, July 11, 1943

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT—Bette Davis
1ST VICE-PRES.—J. K. Wallace
2ND VICE-PRES.—John Garfield
3RD VICE-PRES.—Mervyn LeRoy
4TH VICE-PRES.—Carroll Hollister
5TH VICE-PRES.—Mrs. John Ford
EXEC. SECRETARY—Jean Lewin
TREASURER—Ray Marcus

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

BLDG. & ALTERATION—Alfred C. Ybarra
BUS. MGMT.—Jules C. Stein
CHECKERS—Paul Jaffee
DECORATORS—Casey Roberts

ENTERTAINMENT:

HON. CHAIRMAN, Bob Hope
CHAIRMAN, Kay Kyser
CELEBRITIES—Ann Warner
RADIO—Georgia Fiffeld
VARIETY ARTISTS—Florine Bale

HOSTESSES—Doris Stein, Florence C. Cadrez
HOSTS—Mervyn LeRoy, Harry Crocker
KITCHEN EQUIP.—William Simon
MAINTENANCE—Paul Doyle
MUSIC—John TeGroen, Baron Moorehead
OFFICERS OF THE DAY—Edwin H. Knopf
PUBLICITY—Mack Millar
SNACK BAR—Mrs. John Ford
STAGE MGMT.—George Ramsey
TREASURERS—Catherine Baldrin

DIRECTOR OF FOOD—Chef Milani
LEGAL ADVISOR—Dudley R. Furse

SPONSORS OF HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

Actors Equity Assn.
A.F.H. Property Craftsmen, IATSE Local 44
Amer. Fed. of Musicians, Local 47
Amer. Fed. of Musicians, Local 767
Amer. Fed. of Radio Artists
Amer. Guild of Musical Artists
Amer. Guild of Variety Artists
Amer. Soc. of Composers, Authors and Publ.
Artists Managers Guild
Asso. Motion Pic. Cost., IATSE Local 705
Association of Motion Picture Producers
B.S.E.I.U., Local 99
C.,L.&R.F.D., Local 1247
Federated Amusement & Allied Crafts
Film Technicians, IATSE Local 683
Independent Publicists
Int. Photographers, IATSE Local 659
Int. Sound Tech., IATSE Local 695
Makeup Artists, IATSE Local 706
Mot. Pic. Hair Stylists, IATSE Local 706
Motion Picture Illustrators
M.P. Set Electricians, IATSE Local 728
M.P. Studio Grips, IATSE Local 80
M.P. Studio Protec., IATSE Local 165
M.P. Painters & Scenic Art., Local 644
Radio Writers Guild
Screen Cartoonists Guild
Screen Directors Guild
Screen Office Employees Guild
Screen Publicists Guild
Screen Readers Guild
Screen Set Designers
Screen Writers Guild
Society of Motion Picture Art Directors
Society of Motion Picture Film Editors
Society of Motion Picture Int. Decorators
Songwriters Protective Assn.
Studio Carpenters, Local 946
Studio Elec. Union, IBEW Local 40
Studio L. & U. Workers, IATSE Local 727
Studio Misc. Employees, Local 1104
Studio Trans. Drivers Union, Local 399
Studio Util. Emp. Union, Local 724
U.A.J.P.&S., Local 78
W.C.U., B.S.E., Local 101

ENDORSED BY

California State Federation of Labor
Hollywood Victory Committee
Hollywood Writers Mobilization
State Theatrical Fed. of California
U.S.O.

Dear Folks,

As promised, here is a letter. I have done so much since arriving that I had better start at the beginning.

I left camp about 10 yesterday morning by bus, and arrived in L.A. at about 5 that afternoon. I had already written for reservations at the Lambertson hotel earlier, so I walked up to the desk (which was knee deep in less foresighted individuals) and got my key. I have a lovely room for \$2.75 with bath, overlooking Broadway, the main drag downtown. I took a bath first—the first since I've been in the Army, then went out and bought my shoes (German military style for \$7.65), some shorts and came back. By previous arrangement I was to call Bob Magouler, so I did, and he gave me directions on how to get out to their house on the streets. What a ride! Those cars are almost as old as the one in Denver, and I was thoroughly shaken up by the time I arrived. He has a little old Model A Ford, so he and Ann (his wife) and I went to dinner at Adolph's, a quiet little place featuring steaks. I sent you a menu from there which I hope you receive. Bob is 33 and Ann about 31, but they are so much fun

and I prefer their company to that of some
others my own age. Anyway, we went to Adolph's
about 7:30 and got out about 10:30 - it took us that
long to get served. But we had such a good time
talking none of us minded. Afterwards we went
to the Hollywood Canteen and while Ann waited
in Pepper Pot (the car), Bob and I eased the joint.
It is a huge old barn with a stage at one end and
a long food counter at one side and a big dance floor
in the middle. I am sending M.A. a pamphlet
describing it. I got this stationery there. Kay Kyser
was playing, and the joint was just jam packed.
[Jack, you can tell the boys your brother was there
and that Bette Davis - no less - served me a sandwich.
Bob got a glass of milk from Jane Withers. There were
some other stars there too, but the only one I recog-
nized was Edward G. Robinson, who was a bus boy.
Quite an experience! I caught a car back to the hotel
then - met a Marnie Sergeant on it from La Crosse, Wis.
I think he said his name was "Kuska", or something.
His folks still live there - maybe Auntie Peg knows
them.]

This morning I got up at six and went out to
Bob's and Ann's for breakfast. It was delicious -
fried eggs, bacon, toast, fresh peaches, grape juice,
milk, and coffee. Then we went out to visit some
friends of theirs in Brentwood. These people are
about Dad's and Mom's age and have two children
They have a new house up on the hill, about 200
yards away from the Jerry Fonda residence. Of
course he isn't there now, being in the Marines,
but his wife and dogs are. These people have a
beautiful home - low and rambling with french
doors opening off the living room onto a terrace
which overlooks the city. We could see the ocean,

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So. They are pretty well so-so -
at least the house would make
you think so. They have a huge
record collection as well and a
built-in loudspeaker system for
nearly every room in the house. The
walls are all paneled in vertical
redwood and there are built-in
closets all over. Here are the rooms:
living, dining, breakfast, sewing,
kitchen, laundry, master bedroom
with dressing alcove and bath, a
playroom with two connecting
bedrooms + bath for the children,
a great room and bath, a study, and
two maids rooms with one bath.
Only one maid though. They were
lovely - we sat and talked and played
records until about ten, then we left
and Bob and Ann let me off at the
chapel at S.C.L.A. and I went to
Mass while they made another call.
They picked me up around eleven
and showed me the town. I was
most impressed by the homes in
Bel-Air and Beverly Hills. They are
just gorgeous - set a long way off
the winding shaded boulevards with
beautifully manicured lawns and hedges

English, Indo, Spanish, Georgian, and my favorite - colonial, with the cool white columns a foot two stories high. And all sorts of trees and flowers - flowering eucalyptus, ash, palms, oaks, gardenias, hibiscus, roses, lilies - all in a gorgeous riot of color, and those stately houses, set in such surroundings, certainly found ~~me~~ me echoing the phrase that: "Architecture is frozen music." George Burns & Gracie Allen have a lovely place - it is whitewashed brick. (Beverly Hills)

Well, after that Bob and Ann left me off downtown, and here I am. I am going to write a few more letters, eat, and then in early for the big day tomorrow.

Friends - real friends - are really wonderful, aren't they? Bob and Ann have been so swell to me - motoring me all over, Bob took me to dinner last night, and breakfast this morning. I certainly hope I get a chance to pay him back some day if he is ever waiting me.

Well, I'll close for now. I'll write the results of my exam if I know them myself.

lovingly,
Ernie