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Fred was the announcer for THE LONE RANGER from radion station WXYZ in Detroit in the 30 and early 40’s and beyond...

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GORDIE PEER – THE MAN BEHIND THE MAN IN THE MASK!

Gordie Peer is a man of many talents, including cracking a whip, twirling a six-shooter and throwing a lasso. He is also very proficient at throwing a knife...

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TRIVIA CONTEST

A new feature we hope will bring fun, and perhaps surprise answers.

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WISHING OUR MEMBERS A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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FRED FOY LEGACY

By: Bill Niland

Long time Silver Bullet fans recall we have featured several articles about Fred Foy.

Those of you new to us, may not know that Fred was the announcer for THE LONE RANGER from radio station WXYZ in Detroit in the late 30 and early 40's and beyond that, his "fiery horse with the speed of light" opened every episode of the masked man.

He went on to be the staff announcer for Dick Cavet and others....but the Radio Hall of Fame noted his pronouncement of The Lone Ranger is likely the most famous of all such work!!

Fred Foy died of natural causes in 2010 at 89 in his late home in Massachusetts. His daughter Wendy established a loving web site (www.fredfoy.com) in his honor, and there we can find a complete catalogue of Fred's work including a film shot late in 2015 about Butch Cavendish detailed access to radio, TV and movie work has been carefully collected and preserved by Wendy on this site.

Fred was the voice on The Green Hornet, Sargent Preston of the Yukon, as well as The Lone Ranger and other programs.

Many aired twice daily (to account for West Coast kids). He filled in for characters that didn't show up, and covered the "Announcer" segment of most scripts when there was no video to set our mind ablaze with detail.

I was privileged to meet Fred some years ago. He made a presentation to a local Retired Men's Club, and it was thrilling for us to hear him do live recreations of all those characters and voices we knew as kids.

He told me he only met Clayton Moore once, and that was by chance when Clayton was shopping at a store in Chicago, and Fred introduced himself with those opening lines.

His loving daughter, Wendy, shared this letter with us. You see how it is written by a lonely soldier in Cairo, Egypt, to his worried mother back home.
Saturday . . March 3rd

Dear Mom . . .

I've been meaning to write you a letter for quite a while now ... and, well, after receiving that wonderful letter with your swell birthday present . . . my conscience just wouldn't let me rest until I worded you a special reply.

Mom, sweetheart, you'll never know how much I miss you and think about you. You're the dearest mother a man has ever had and I love you with all my heart. That chair at the table on my birthday may seem vacant to you ... but I'll be there with all of you. God Bless you for being such a wonderful person. Here's a big kiss in return for the one you sent me .. Mmmmm!

And, Mom, tell Gramps and Dad for me... how much I appreciate their remembrance on my birthday. And, Mom, see that they both take it easy, will you? I'm coming home one of these days and I want to find everybody just the way I left them. And that goes double for you!

Tell, Betty for me that I've never heard of this fellow she wrote me about. The guy that runs some sort of hosiery mills. But I'll keep my eyes and ears open and if I do hear anything about him I'll write and tell you.

Mom, I saw "Going My Way" & & & out here .. and believe me I've never seen such a wonderful movie. It was so real and human .. well, I admit I just couldn't hold back the tears in certain parts. Especially the end when his mother came over from Ireland .. and they were all singing that "Irish Lullaby". I was thinking of you Mom .. and the days when we were kids .. Betty and I. I was thinking of the song you'd always sing to us. I can't say that I remember hearing you sing it when we were babies .. we were too young. But hearing it all the time as we grew up ... well, it's something I'll never forget. That song "The Missouri Waltz" has as much significance and meaning to me .. & & & that Irish tune had for him. God couldn't have given me a better Mom and Dad .. and I want you to know how much I love you both. I owe you both more than I can ever repay.

If I don't write so often, Mom, please understand. I just have so much work on my hands now that I can't write as often as I'd like too. I hope Kay understands too. I can't write her as much as I'd like either. It's not that I've forgotten about you people .. or that I don't feel like writing anymore. It's simply that I don't have all the free time that I once had. You don't know how guilty I feel because I can't write as much as I used to. But please believe me when I say that I do write as often as I can .. and that if the work slack-off, I'll write as much as I used to.

You'll be receiving a surprise in the mail very shortly. I hope you like it. Take good care of yourself, Mom, and thanks again, a million times for your birthday present. And thank Dad and Gramps and Bets too. And, thanks too, Mom, for being so swell to Kay. I love her very much and I only wish she were my wife now. But, if God is willing, she will be soon. Tell her I love her and think of her every moment.

All my love ....

[Signature]
It could be allergy, but I teared up reading through the emotion Fred expresses to his family back home. He comforts them, while eluding to his main focus....keeping us safe in his service to America.

The Lone Ranger is based on anonymous help to those in need. American GI's embody the Lone Ranger spirit.

Like The Lone Ranger, Fred and others left their hearth and home to fight for us in far off lands. They risked life and limb to keep us safe. And they left before anyone knew their name or said "thank you".

Gordie Peer – The man behind the man in the mask!
By: Steve White #346

Gordie Peer is a man of many talents, including cracking a whip, twirling a six-shooter and throwing a lasso. He is also very proficient at throwing a knife. Mr. Peer has appeared in several Westerns; usually in the form of a stunt man, but was most happy to be behind the scenes.

He was always happy to train and coach many of our Western actors to do what we see them do and make look easy. Gordie Peer, given the title: The Lone Ranger’s Other Sidekick by the Orlando Sentinel’s Darryl E. Owens in July 2004 and Peter Guinta from The St. Augustine Record in May of 2012 titled his story on Mr. Peer as the Cowboy’s Cowboy.

I had the great opportunity to correspond first by mail, and then speak to Mr. Peer on May 18, 2017 and again for follow up on June 27th, gathering fantastic information from the Cowboy’s Cowboy himself; but am thankful for the information that already exists.

When he was a young teenager, along with a friend, they struck out on their own. “We said to each other: Let’s go see what’s out there,” he said. They ended up jumping on a train transporting a Wild West Show. This was just before World War II. He was about 14 years old. “When the train stopped, they expected us to work for our food.” he said. After a while, he left that adventure and got hired doing stunt work and making appearances, bringing in ten times the $10 to $15 per day he had been making. “(Directors) needed someone who could do it right the first time, with no retakes,” he said.

Anyone who loved Westerns in the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s has certainly seen Gordie Peer in action films; but you won’t recall...
Peer’s face or see his name at the end of the picture. He couldn’t recall right off, the many films he appeared in, though he was in the Marine war picture, *Battle Cry*, which starred Van Heflin and Tab Hunter and he was surprised once seeing himself on an episode of Rawhide, which he said was a scene from stock footage. He never had a speaking role, nor was he listed in credits; but usually showed up on camera to perform stunts or do some roping. “I am not a star,” he stated modestly. “I don’t want to be a star.”

He taught 1940s cowboy idol Lash LaRue how to use an 18 foot whip. Lash LaRue was a big Western star, appearing in several movies. His character was a master with the whip. Lash’s popular movies were worked into a television format and aired in the early 1950s. Gordie Peer said LaRue’s character was required to learn the whip, and Gordie told him to wear gloves and leather clothes to avoid popping himself. So LaRue wore a football helmet, leather jacket and gloves. “He learned easily,” Peer said. He and Lash LaRue worked together for decades and were good friends. Thanks to Gordie’s instruction to LaRue, we have the fantastic Indiana Jones whip action. LaRue is the man credited with teaching Harrison Ford how to use the whip for his successful “Indiana Jones” starring roles. Lash LaRue died in 1996.

During his years with the movies, Peer became vital to directors filming western pictures. Remember the cowboy who smoothly dismounts a horse at the saloon? Or the bad guy who falls off his mount after being shot? Or the good guy who uses his whip to snap first a pistol, then a knife, out of a bad guy’s hand? Peer either did those stunts or taught actors how to do them. He served as the source of authenticity.

While living in New York, Gordie met Harold Smith, (Jay Silverheels) and became good friends. This was sometime in the mid-1940s, long before Jay, a Canadian Mohawk became our beloved and perfectly cast Tonto. Most LRFC members know that Jay was an extremely talented lacrosse player and Mr. Peer said, “Jay Silverheels used to come to New York to play lacrosse.” A few years later he became good friends with Clayton Moore, the man who embodied the immortal Lone Ranger, the idol and envy of every boy growing up in the 1950s and 1960s. A kid was not cool back then unless he owned a pair of cap-firing, silver-colored shooting irons and a double leather holster, just like the Lone Ranger wore. Gordie said, “I met Clayton through Harold J. Smith (Jay Silverheels),” Peer went up to visit Jay and Jay introduced Gordie to Clayton and they all remained good friends till the end. Mr. Peer told me that he had called and spoken to Clayton the week prior to his death. “Clayton lived the part. He believed in it,” Peer remembered. “(But) I never worked in his TV series.”

He knows a great deal of whip lore, about the Spanish and Cracker cowboys and their whips. “Cracker cowboys didn’t rope. They used whips,” he said. “The Spanish were great ropers. Cowboys don’t use those 12 or 14 foot whips on cattle. They’d use an 8-foot whip. All you need is the sound.” A Cracker Cowboy usually is what a Florida Cowboy is called, the cracker coming from the sound the whip may make.

Gordie Peer got his start working in Colonel Jim Eskew’s Wild West Show, eventually making dozens of cowboy pictures in Hollywood. Mr. Peer is realistic when it comes to defining what movies mean to people. “We have to separate reality from a story line,” he said. “A lot of people take (a story) as fact. B Westerns were a story, a low budget picture. The good guy always wins and the bad guy always loses. People don’t want to see realism. They want to see how they think it ought to be.” Along the way, he traveled the rodeo circuit as a rodeo clown, trick rider, roper and expert gunslinger. For many years, he was Clayton.
Moore’s (The Lone Ranger) and Jay Silverheels’ (Tonto) trusty sidekick in touring shows and became life-long friends with Moore. Clayton even enhanced his own formidable gun handling skills after seeing how Gordie twirled his pistol. At Clayton’s request, Gordie helped polish up his twirling skills. Mr. Peer had recently attended a Rodeo Clown & Bull Fighter (rodeo style) Reunion celebrated in Santa Fe, NM in late June of 2017.

Gordie had some information that some of our Silver Bullet Chronicle readers may know; but if not, it is fascinating: He said, “Clayton had a set of his own guns stolen in Ft. Worth.” He said that a baggage handler saw that they were guns; because of the special tagging and simply stole them. The baggage handler was caught; but it took a long time before Clayton got his guns returned. He did however, get them back. On a related note, Mr. Peer said that sometimes Clayton would use Gordie’s set of nickel plated pearl handled pistols, a set that he still owns today. Mr. Peer gave a little insight to Clayton Moore’s autographs. This was during the time when the Wrather Corporation wanted the mask off the Lone Ranger because they were trying to promote the new Lone Ranger movie and preferred that Clayton cease claiming to be the Lone Ranger. This was over about a six year stretch from 1975-1981. Not only did they force him to stop wearing the mask, he could not claim to be The Lone Ranger. So, we know he donned the Corning Sunglasses as the mask, but when he made appearances and signed autographs, he no longer signed: Clayton Moore, The Lone Ranger, he simply left off the The and signed Clayton Moore, Lone Ranger. Most of us have at least a reprint or two if not an authentic signature; if you do; please check them out and you will see what Gordie was talking about. When they dropped the court injunction about the mask, Clayton also resumed signing- The Lone Ranger, something we knew he was the whole time.

Special thanks to Mr. Gordie Peer for his service to our country; having joined the Marines in the early 1950s, serving during the Korean War, but also to him for his contributions to our love of the cowboy way and from cowboy wannabes like me, a tremendous thanks. Also, thanks to Peter Guinta, Darryl E. Owens and Raye Deusinger, who have written about Mr. Peer. The Deusinger article can be found in the Spring 2011 issue of Okeechobee The Magazine. Mr. Peer can be found in Okeechobee, Florida. He heads up a Roper’s Get Together and Cowboy Schoolhouse in Okeechobee, the latest one was in February of 2017.

Please take a few minutes to look him up and maybe plan a trip to Okeechobee.

TRIVIA FUN!!!!

See your name and fleeting fame in the next issue of the newsletter if you are the first to answer the following question correctly.

"The character of Baraby Boggs was played by two different actors during the LR series: name both actors"

Email your guess to: nolan.greer226@gmail.com no later than November 1, 2017.
MEET THE EDITOR!

By: Annie Little

Well, Howdy all!

My name is Antoinette Little, but all my friends call me Annie. So, since I’m coming into your home I’d like to assume that we ARE friends. So, please call me Annie.

I was born in New Jersey and have been here ever since. Now you may ask, “What does a Jersey girl know about The Lone Ranger?” So, I guess that’s where I should start my story.

I arrived in this world in June of 1948. Wow! That makes me how old? Too old I guess, but I feel like I’m in the prime of life – even with my occasional aches and pains. But, I digress. Let’s go back in time.

We (my family - mom, dad and my 3 sisters) would watch The Lone Ranger on our black and white RCA television set. I’m guessing much like all of you. Everyone in the household knew that the sounds of the William Tell Overture signal the start of a great evening of entertainment. One of my fondest memories was sitting on the living room floor at my dad’s feet, bopping up and down and pretending to be riding a horse to that amazing tune. Of course, dad was the king in those days. So, I was lucky dad like TLR or I might have never known the Ranger.

To me, The Lone Ranger was a knight in shining armor. Although he didn’t wear armor, he wore the next best thing - a mask and a white hat - while riding a magnificent steed – SILVER! TLR taught me to be better a person, and to treat everyone with respect and kindness. He was someone you could trust and count on to do what needed to me done – and do it in the CORRECT way. And although I’ve been told many times that I’m too naive and too trusting, I think the world would be a better place if more people acted like that. In the 50’s we had a hero to look up to, to emulate and strive to imitate. And, that hero to me was The Lone Ranger.

So for this little girl, growing up in Newark, NJ, my first loves were: God, my dad, and The Lone Ranger! Talk to you next issue.

We recommend and endorse Nutramax as a daily supplement for better health for you and your pets. Helps reduce joint pain and stop the enzymes in the joints that breakdown cartilage. Click on the boxes below for more information.
One day I went into the hills of the Northern Sioux Territory and I came across a man sitting alone by a campfire. I knew him to be Brave Buffalo, medicine man of the Teton Sioux. I asked permission to share his camp and perhaps learn from the great Satchem. Brave Buffalo shared his meat and passed his pipe and told me of his vision...

“I have noticed in my life that all men have a liking for some special animal, tree, plant, or spot of earth. If men would pay more attention to these preferences, and seek what is best to do in order to make them selves worthy of that towards which they are so attracted, they might have dreams that would purify their lives. Let a man decide upon his favorite animal and make a study of it, learning it’s innocent ways. Let him learn to understand it’s sounds and motions. The animals want to communicate with man, but Wakantanka does not intend they shall do so directly. Man must do the greater part in securing an understanding.”
## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS!

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS!

(CONTINUED)

BIRTHDAY  NAME             MEMBER #  FROM
Nov. 09   BOBBI SCHLOSSER  299       OH
Nov. 10   LAURA MARSH      596       FL
Nov. 11   W.J. WOODS       570       TX
Nov. 12   ANTHONY CUNNINGHAM 692  CA
Nov. 14   PEGGY WETZEL     612       TX
Nov. 14   DEBORAH MURRAY   636       DE
Nov. 17   RUSSEL STIVER    661       MI
Nov. 20   CLIFF BELL       511       GA
Nov. 20   JEFF FARNHAM     637       NC
Nov. 20   COLBY MURRAY     443       IN
Nov. 23   JENNIFER ERNEST  283       OH
Nov. 28   DONALD SCHACHT   162       WA
Nov. 30   JOHN KURTZ       170       OH

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL OF OUR ABOVE MEMBERS. HAVE A WONDERFUL, SAFE AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR!
**TLRFC State Directors**

S. Calif - "Sean" Cunningham #692  seancunningham2003@yahoo.com  
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**THE LONE RANGER FAN CLUB**

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