



## **THE JERRY GRAY STORY – 1953-1954**

[Updated Jun 15, 2018 – Version JG.007e]

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### **January 3, 1953 [Saturday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, ABC Network Dancing Party Radio Broadcast, 7:30-8:00 p.m., El Paso time.

El Paso Herald-Post [El Paso, Texas], Jan 3, 1953, Page 18:  
KEPO 690 ABC            7:30-8:00 p.m.            Jerry Gray Ork.

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### **January 12, 1953 [Monday]:**

Broadcasting, Jan 12, 1953, Page 78:

Advertisement – Broadcast Music Inc.:

*Another BMI "Pin Up" Hit*  
**MY HEART BELONGS ONLY TO YOU**  
*Published by Regent*

*On Records:* Jerry Gray . . . . . (Decca)  
June Christy . . . . . (Capitol)  
Betty McLauren . . . . . (Derby)

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### **January 16, 1953 [Friday]:**

#### **Club 15**

*Club 15* – Last CBS Broadcast. We have closing last seconds and the subsequent complete Edward R. Morrow newscast.

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**January 19, 1953 [Monday]:**

*The Billboard*, Jan 10, 1953, Page 4:

**CBS Sets 2 Strip Shows**

NEW YORK, Jan. 3 – Two new strip shows, one sponsored, the other sustaining, are coming up on the Columbia Broadcasting System radio network this month.

The sustainer is the Jo Stafford show in the 7:30-7:45 p.m. slot, beginning January 19. It replaces "Club 15," which was sponsored by Campbell Soup on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and the Mindy Carson show, which was sustaining Tuesday and Thursday.

General Foods, thru Foote, Cone & Belding, has contracted for the 4-4:05 p.m. slot for Post Toasties and Calumet. Going on January 21, the program has not yet been decided, but it won't be news.

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*KMBC KFRM HEART BEATS*, Kansas City's Radio Merchandiser, Jan 1953, Page 4:

**JO STAFFORD LAUNCHES NEW 5-A-WEEK PROGRAM ON KMBC**

Jo Stafford, one of America's most-listened-to feminine singers on the air, on records and in person, launched her new and scintillating five-a-week "Jo Stafford Show" on KMBC Monday, Jan. 19, with the Page Cavanaugh musical trio in a featured position.

Miss Stafford, whose biggest record hit last year was the oft-heard "Shrimp Boats," takes on this new microphone assignment following a long and flourishing career as one of radio's most popular vocal stars. Her precise song styling has led to her identification as "a musician's singer."

The program is heard at 6:30 each week night.

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**March 22, 1953 [Sunday]:**

**The Jerry Gray Show, possible radio transcription program.**

*The Times-News* [Hendersonville, North Carolina], Mar 21, 1953, Page 2, Radio Schedule: WHKP, MBS, 2:30-2:45 p.m.

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**March 24, 1953 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today; Decca Recording Session, 5505 Melrose Avenue, Hollywood, California.**

L 7104	AND THE BULL WALKED AROUND, OLAY (X:XX) v Thurl Ravenscroft	Decca 28673, 9-28673
L 7105	TOMPKINS COVE (2:49)	Decca 28673, 9-28673
L 7106	ONE-STOP BOOGIE (2:38)	Decca 28782, 9-28782

**Jerry Gray and His Band Of Today:** Johnny Best, Tom Patton, JOE DOLNY, Whitey Thomas, t; Jimmy Priddy, John Halliburton, George Arus, PAUL TANNER, tb; Dale Brown, cl/as; Riley Weston, as; RONNIE PERRY, Bob Cooper, ts; John Rotella, as/bari; Marty Paich, p; Bobby Gibbons, g; Harry Babasin, b; JIMMY PRATT, d; THURL RAVENSCROFT, v

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Publicity and Reviews:

*The Billboard*, Sep 5, 1953, Page 18, Music:



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*The Billboard*, Aug 1, 1953, Page 34, Other Records Released This Week:

One Stop Boogie – Jerry Gray Ork Decca 28782  
A Pair Of Trumpets – Jerry Gray Ork Decca 28782

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**March 28, 1953 [Saturday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, Dance, Rendezvous Ballroom, Balboa, California.**

*The Occidental* [Los Angeles, California], Mar 27, 1953, Page 3, Advertisement:

RENDEZVOUS BALLROOM, BALBOA, JERRY GRAY, SAT., MAR. 28

Easter Week DUKE ELLINGTON Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sat. APRIL 1, 2, 3, 4

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*The Occidental* [Los Angeles, California], Mar 27, 1953, Page 7:

Record Test Reveals Bruce B's 'Hepness' – By Richard Norton

..... You dance enthusiasts who will be down at Balboa next week will be glad to hear that the Duke will be featured in a four-night stand at the Rendezvous Ballroom from April 1 to 4, Wednesday through Saturday.

Jerry Gray will lead off with an engagement there tomorrow night. They promise to keep things hopping at Bal.

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**April 27, 1953 [Monday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today; Decca Recording Session, 5505 Melrose Avenue, Hollywood, California.**

L 7166	PALE MOON (AN INDIAN LOVE SONG) (x:xx) v Thurl Ravenscroft	Decca 28718, 9-28718
L 7167	OFF THE WALL (X:XX)	Decca 28718, 9-28718
L 7168	LATER	Unissued

**Jerry Gray and His Band Of Today:** Tom Patton, Joe Dolny, Whitey Thomas, t; Jimmy Priddy, John Halliburton, Paul Tanner, tb; Dale Brown, cl/as; Riley Weston, as; Ronnie Perry, Bob Cooper, ts; John Rotella, as/bari; Marty Paich, p; Harry Babasin, b; Jimmy Pratt, d; Thurl Ravenscroft, v

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Publicity and Reviews:

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**May 20, 1953 [Wednesday] thru June 2, 1953 [Tuesday] [2-week Engagement]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today featuring Linda Lee, with The Four Aces, Alan King, and The Martin Brothers; Stage Show, Paramount Theatre, Times Square, New York City, New York.**

**Stage Show at 12:11, 3:34, 7:02, and 10:13 p.m.**

Brooklyn Eagle [Brooklyn, New York], May 20, 1953, Page 12:



The Billboard, May 30, 1953, P18/52:

### **Night Club – Vaude Reviews**

Paramount, New York (Wednesday, May 20)

Capacity, 3654. Price range, 70 cents- \$1.50. Four shows daily; five weekends. Chain booker, Harry Levine. Show played by Jerry Gray ork.

The teen-agers who make up disk artists claques are once more sweating out four consecutive shows a day at this house, what with the Four Aces headlining the stage show and swooner Gordon MacRae co-starring in the film. Except for the Aces, who were working to their fans, rest of the bill had to fight the noisy house for attention.

The Four Aces were ahead from the moment they bounded on in gray tux jackets with black lapels. They ran thru "Should I," "Honey In The Horn," a medley of "Tell Me Why," "Sin," "Heart And Soul" and "Perfidia," and went off with "Organ Grinder's Swing." All were disk items familiar to the first half dozen rows. The group still makes with the studied "choreographic" bits and unison hand movements which are now kind of a trademark. It must be said that to their credit was a showmanly approach to the claque. They didn't play to the kids, but worked for the whole house.

Alan King, fresh from a strong appearance at Bill Miller's Riviera, had a tough time with the Aces' fans, who knew his routine from beginning to end. They crowded him, beat his punches and

made it a rough go. He kept going, tho, and came out way ahead with his now familiar neighborhood, child psychology and "Babalu" material. He finished to a fine mitt.

Martin Brothers and their standard puppet act performed well and got deserved applause for the boy-girl jive team, clown and suitcase and Negro musicians' bits. The team came on to a cold reception yet finished with a warm one.

The Jerry Gray ork backed the acts smartly and handled itself well on a flag-waving opener, "Crew Cut," "No Moon At All," "Old Black Magic" and a mid-show medley of items which Gray had arranged for the late Glenn Miller's ork in its hey-day. "Moon" and "Magic" were sung by a well-stacked, black-haired thrush, Linda Lee, who impressed with a brassy, musicianly voice. Gal could step out into the bigger time with more work. She handled herself well on the two tunes.

Pic. "The Desert Song"

Joe Martin

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### **May 21, 1953 [Thursday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today featuring Linda Lee, with The Four Aces, Alan King, and The Martin Brothers; Stage Show, Paramount Theatre, Times Square, New York City, New York.**

**Stage Show at 12:11, 3:34, 7:02, and 10:13 p.m.**

*Brooklyn Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], May 21, 1953, Page 4:

#### **On Paramount Stage**

The Four Aces, Alan King, the Martin Bros., and Jerry Gray and his band are the attractions in the Paramount's new stage show.

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### **May 22, 1953 [Friday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today featuring Linda Lee, with The Four Aces, Alan King, and The Martin Brothers; Stage Show, Paramount Theatre, Times Square, New York City, New York.**

**Stage Show at 12:48, 4:16, 7:37, and 10:42 p.m.**

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**May 23, 1953 [Saturday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today featuring Linda Lee, with The Four Aces, Alan King, and The Martin Brothers; Stage Show, Paramount Theatre, Times Square, New York City, New York.**

**Stage Show at 12:10, 3:07, 6:04, 9:01, and 11:58 p.m.**

*New York Age* [New York City, New York], May 23, 1953, Page 7:

**'Desert Song' Aces On B'way**

A new version of one of the best-loved of all musical romantic adventures, "The Desert Song" came to the screen of the Paramount Theatre Wednesday. Kathryn Grayson and Gordon MacRae share the star billing in this up-to-date technicolor production from Warner Brothers studio.



**May 24, 1953 [Sunday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today featuring Linda Lee, with The Four Aces, Alan King, and The Martin Brothers; Stage Show, Paramount Theatre, Times Square, New York City, New York.

Stage Show at 2:02, 5:04, 8:06, and 11:06 p.m.

Brooklyn Eagle [Brooklyn, New York], May 24, 1953, Page 33:



**May 25, 1953 [Monday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today featuring Linda Lee, with The Four Aces, Alan King, and The Martin Brothers; Stage Show, Paramount Theatre, Times Square, New York City, New York.

Doors open 9:45 a.m.

Variety Daily, May 25, 1953:



Keyword: "Desert Song" with Jerry Gray and his orch, the Four Aces, and Alan King topping the stage show, shapes fairly good at \$47,000 the first five days at the Paramount

**May 26, 1953 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today featuring Linda Lee, with The Four Aces, Alan King, and The Martin Brothers; Stage Show, Paramount Theatre, Times Square, New York City, New York.**

**Stage Show at 12:56, 3:59, 7:02, and 10:02 p.m.**

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**May 27, 1953 [Wednesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today featuring Linda Lee, with The Four Aces, Alan King, and The Martin Brothers; Stage Show, Paramount Theatre, Times Square, New York City, New York.**

**Doors open 10:00 a.m. Stage Show at 12:56, 3:59, 7:02, and 10:02 p.m.**

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**May 28, 1953 [Thursday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today featuring Linda Lee, with The Four Aces, Alan King, and The Martin Brothers; Stage Show, Paramount Theatre, Times Square, New York City, New York.**

**Doors open 10:00 a.m. Stage Show at 12:56, 3:59, 7:02, and 10:02 p.m.**

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**May 29, 1953 [Friday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today featuring Linda Lee, with The Four Aces, Alan King, and The Martin Brothers; Stage Show, Paramount Theatre, Times Square, New York City, New York.**

**Doors open 10:00 a.m. Stage Show at 12:14, 3:01, 5:56, and 10:19 p.m.**

[Author's Note: The Stage Show times were changed to include a sneak preview of "The Caddy" at 8:42 p.m.]

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**May 30, 1953 [Saturday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today featuring Linda Lee, with The Four Aces, Alan King, and The Martin Brothers; Stage Show, Paramount Theatre, Times Square, New York City, New York.**

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**May 31, 1953 [Sunday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today featuring Linda Lee, with The Four Aces, Alan King, and The Martin Brothers; Stage Show, Paramount Theatre, Times Square, New York City, New York.**

**Doors open 11:30 a.m. Stage Show at 2:02, 5:05, 8:08, and 11:03 p.m.**

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**June 1, 1953 [Monday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today featuring Linda Lee, with The Four Aces, Alan King, and The Martin Brothers; Stage Show, Paramount Theatre, Times Square, New York City, New York.**

**Doors open 10:00 a.m. Stage Show at 12:48, 3:50, 6:52, and 9:54 p.m.**

Variety Daily, Jun 1, 1953:



Keyword: "Desert Song" with Jerry Gray band, the Four Aces, and Alan King heading stagershow, held to a fine \$50,000 the first five days of second inning

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**June 2, 1953 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today featuring Linda Lee, with The Four Aces, Alan King, and The Martin Brothers; Stage Show, Paramount Theatre, Times Square, New York City, New York.**

**Stage Show at 12:24, 3:11, 6:02, and 10:29 p.m.**

[Author's Note: The Stage Show times were changed to include a sneak preview of "South Sea Woman" at 8:42 p.m. One wonders if Jerry Gray was able to visit with the many music friends who were also appearing in New York City during these two weeks, including Herb Shriners, Vic Damone, and Herb Jeffries. And ..... did JG find time to take in a Dodgers baseball game?]

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**June 4, 1953 [Thursday] into June 5, 1953 [Friday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Graduation Finals Dance, 11:30 pm to 4:30 am, Doremus Memorial Gymnasium, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia.**

*The Ring-tum Phi* [Lexington, Virginia], Jun 2, 1953, Page 1:

**Martin's 'Mobile Madness' Opens In Gym Tomorrow To Torrid Trumpet Of Spivak**

**Jerry Gray's 'Band Of Today' Will Play For Thursday Dance**

Two eventful days for Finals will get off to a start tomorrow afternoon with the President's Party in the Pi Kappa Alpha back yard. With the theme "Mobile Madness" the dances tomorrow night and Thursday night will feature Charlie Spivak, and Jerry Gray and his "Band of Today."

The kick-off cocktail party is scheduled for four o'clock Wednesday afternoon, according to Ben Martin, set president. The first night dance will be to the music of Charlie Spivak "the man who plays the sweetest trumpet in the world," lasting from ten to two. The finals figure will be at eleven.

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today will play for the Thursday night dance from 11:30 until 4:30.

Unlike years past, formal attire will be required for the duration of the dance. The senior figure will be at midnight. Plans are now definite that a band concert will not be held on Thursday afternoon, due to conflicts with other activities.

The first night figure will present set president Ben Martin and his five vice-presidents:

PRESIDENT Ben Martin, Pi Kappa Alpha from Owensboro, Ky., will lead the figure escorting Miss Betty Byrne Gill, Sweet Briar, from Roanoke.

Bud Hoss, vice-president in charge of the cocktail party, will escort Miss Bets Chapman. A Randolph-Macon student, Miss Chapman is from Bethesda, Md.

Monte Pearse will escort Miss Dede Crater, Sweet Briar, from Livingston, N.Y. Vice-President Pearse is handling set decorations.

Vice President Fletcher Lowe will escort Miss Pam Compton, Sweet Briar, from Moorestown, N.J. Lowe is in charge of the figures for the set.

Decoration Vice President Henry Heymann will escort Miss Sylvia Williams from Suffolk, Va. and Mary Washington College.

Pete Carter, vice-president in charge of chaperones and invitations, will escort Miss Noine Rogers, from Leesburg, Fla.

WITH A decoration scheme described by Martin as "entirely different," a mobile will represent the four divisions of the University and the various aspects of campus life. Two murals flanking the mobile will also add to the contemporary idea of the decoration scheme.

Spivak, scheduled for the first night of the set, will bring music and song to the W&L gym Wednesday evening. Lovely soloist Eileen Rodgers and baritone Joe Tucker will provide the vocals.

Gray, from CBS Club 15 radio show and Decca Records, will give Thursday night dancers some of his own arrangements. Formerly a right hand man to the late Glenn Miller, his arrangements of "Chattanooga Choo Choo," "Pennsylvania 6-5000," and "Night and Day" brought national fame to the leader of the Band of Today.

Students are reminded that dance plan tickets are now transferrable. Other tickets may be bought at the door either night.

Photographs with caption:

Above: Miss Betty Byrne Gill of Sweet Briar who will lead tomorrow night's figure with Ben Martin. At right: Charlie Spivak who will play Wednesday night and at far right: Jerry Gray who will be on the bandstand Thursday night.

[Author's Note: The Ring-tun Phi is a Washington and Lee Semi-Weekly Newspaper.]

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*Calyx 1954 – Washington and Lee 1952-1953 Year Book, Page 210:*

To the tune of champagne corks, "Auld Lang Syne," the tempting waters of Goshen Pass, and the music of Charlie Spivak and Jerry Gray, Washington and Lee bade farewell to the graduating class of 1953. We put away our books for the summer and let our fancy lightly turn to thoughts of dates, dancing, and those final capers that are a part of every senior's last days.

The festivities began with a cocktail party on Wednesday afternoon given by the Pi Kappa Alphas in honor of Finals Dances.

Charlie Spivak and his orchestra provided the music for the first night's formal dance as Miss Betty Bryne Gill escorted by Ben Martin with vice-presidents Bud Hooss, Monte Pearse, Fletcher Lowe, Henry Heymann, and Pete Carter and their dates led the figure. The theme "Mobile Madness" provided an entirely new and delightful concept in decorations. Simplicity and modernism prevailed as a mobile structure representing the four divisions of the university – the liberal arts, commerce, science, and law; and the four aspects of campus life – academic, activity, social, and athletic, was flanked by two abstract murals along the walls of the gym.

Senior Class figure was held Thursday night to the music of Jerry Gray and his orchestra, as the class of 1953 participated for the last time in the campus life here at Washington and Lee; and the social season of 1952-1953 came to a climatic end.





This *Calyx* reference copy is Class No. 378.755 and Book NO. W317C, 1954, from the Library of Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia.

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**June 11, 1953 [Thursday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, "Thursday Evening Big Band" Dance, Lakewood Park Ballroom, Barnesville [near Mahanoy City], Pennsylvania.**

*The Plain Speaker* [Hazleton, Pennsylvania], Jun 9, 1953, Page 28:

What They Say About

**Jerry Gray**  
and his orchestra

**Lakewood**  
**Thursday, June 11**  
Admission \$1.25, plus tax

"this is the only band for me"  
Bob Crosby

Jerry Gray has always been one of our favorite men of music. It is an honor to work with him on C.B.S. Andrews Sisters Creator of Artie Shaw's "Begin The Begiune"; composer of "String Of Pearls", Penna. 6-5000 and dozens of other hits for Glenn Miller. Gray is sensational. Russ Morgan

"I knew Jerry Gray when he was Glenn Miller's right hand man in Europe. He created the Miller style. Let Jerry carry on. Broderick Crawford

Bus Leaves Beaver Meadows 7:45; Hazleton 8:00; McAdoo 8:15.

[Author's Note: Lakewood Park was a very popular amusement and entertainment complex. Most of the big bands played there over the years.

Like many wooden dance halls at amusement parks, the magnificent Lakewood Park Ballroom burned to the ground. The park closed in 1984 after 68 years of operation.]

The Plain Speaker [Hazleton, Pennsylvania], Jun 10, 1953, Page 20:  
and  
Standard-Sentinel [Hazleton, Pennsylvania], Jun 10, 1953, Page 28:

**YOU'VE HEARD HIM ON THE  
CBS CLUB 15 RADIO SHOW  
AND ON HIT DECCA RECORDS**

*In Person!*

**Jerry  
Gray**

THE MAN WHO  
CREATED  
ARTIE SHAW'S  
"BEGIN THE  
BEGUINE"  
AND DOZENS  
OF TOP GLENN  
MILLER HITS.

*and his*  
**BAND OF TODAY**  
**Lakewood**  
**Thursday, June 11**

Admission \$1.25, plus tax  
Bus Leaves Beaver Meadows  
7:45; Hazleton 8:00; McAdoo  
8:15.

**June 13, 1953 [Saturday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Dance, Rocky Point Park Palladium Ball-Room,  
Narragansett Bay, Off Route 117, Warwick Neck, Rhode Island**

The Hartford Courant [Hartford, Connecticut], Jun 12, 1953, Page 10:

**ROCKY POINT**  
Warwick Neck, Rhode Island  
**Midway Open  
Every Day**  
KIDDES' DAY EVERY WED.  
**Swimming Pool  
and Bathing  
Pavilion  
Open Daily**  
*Floodlighted for  
Night Bathing*  
**Shore Dinners**  
Served with Watermelon  
12 to 8 P.M. Daily  
Chowder and Clam Cakes  
*All You Can Eat*  
**Special Free Attraction**  
Sun. Afternoon & Evening  
**BRISTOL RANGERS**  
*Bugle and Drum Corps*  
**DANCE TOMORROW NIGHT**  
**Jerry Gray's Orch.**

**July 4, 1953 [Saturday]:**

The Billboard, Jul 11, 1953, Page 15:

Coast Band Hypo by MCA

HOLLYWOOD, July 4 – Music Corporation of America this week embarked on an intensive program to hypo the band business on the West Coast with transfer of Bob Willding to Hollywood office to take charge of its band department.

Willding, for three years in charge of MCA's one-nighter activities in the Dallas area, will concentrate on similar bookings on the Coast. He already has commenced reorganizing the Hollywood operation preparatory to scheduling tours as far east as Colorado for MCA bands. Bands slated for bookings in the area during the next six months include those of Tex Beneke, Spike Jones, Jerry Gray, Sammy Kaye, Dick Jergens, Jack Fina, Harry James, and Freddie Martin.

**July 19, 1953 [Sunday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee and Ronnie Deauville, telecast, Palladium Party, KNXT (2), 7:00-8:00 p.m.**

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Jul 18, 1953, Part II Page 5:

**TV ★ RADIO – BY WALTER AMES**

SUNDAY SHOWS – Jerry Gray is featured on Palladium Party on KNXT (2) at 7 p.m.

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Independent Press-Telegram [Long Beach, California], Jul 19, 1953, Page C-9:

**Tele-Vues by TERRY VERNON**

MUSICAL – Jerry Gray, his violin and his 16-piece band will take the spotlight on “Palladium Party” over KNXT (2) at 7 p.m. Gray is well remembered as the arranger for much of Glenn Miller’s music. His featured singers are Linda Lee and Ronnie Deauville.

KNXT (2)            7:00 – 7:30 p.m.            Palladium Party, Jerry Gray

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Variety Daily, Jul 23, 1953:



Keyword: There’s no longer any doubt about television’s impact on band bis. On the “Palladium Party” teleshow Sunday, Jerry .....

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**July 21, 1953 [Tuesday]:**

The Gazette and Daily [York, Pennsylvania], Jul 21, 1953, Page 18:  
WNBC                      11:30 pm-Midnight                      Jerry Gray

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Variety Daily, Jul 7, 1953:



Keyword: Terpery's present tenant is Buddy Morrow, who drew 12,991 payees for his first frame. He'll be succeeded July 21 by Jerry Gray who'll be celebrating the fourth anni of his band when he opens there.

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Variety Daily, Jul 21, 1953:



Keyword: Spot has another opening tonight: Jerry Gray returns to town with two new vocalists, Ron .....

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**July 25, 1953 [Saturday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, NBC Telecast, Saturday Night Revue.**

*Los Angeles Times* [Los Angeles, California], Jul 25, 1953, Part II Page 5:

**TV ★ RADIO – BY WALTER AMES**

RADIO-TV TIDBITS – Harry Babbitt, glamour boy of the Glamour Girl show, recreates a song he recorded in 1938, “I Get Along Without You Very Well,” when he guests with its composer, Hoagy Carmichael, on KNBH (4) at 6 tonight. Jerry Gray’s orchestra is featured.

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*The Independent* [Long Beach, California], Jul 25, 1953, Page 22:

**Tele-Vues by TERRY VERNON**

**REVUE** – Hoagy Carmichael’s “Saturday Night Revue” on KNBH (4) at 6 p.m. will spotlight Jerry Gray and his band, comics Paul Gilbert, Bobby Sargent and Gary Morton, Eddie Foy Jr., Sara Berner, and Gayla Peeve, 10-year-old singing find. The little girl was discovered in Oklahoma City and a great future is predicted for her. Along the same line we learn that Hoagy has signed Ricky Vera, 10-year-old singer-dancer, to a contract. Looks like Hoagy is going in the kid talent business in a big way.

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*The Philadelphia Inquirer* [Philadelphia, Pennsylvania], Jul 25, 1953, Page 12, Television:

**9:00-10:30 p.m., WPTZ-Channel 3, SATURDAY NIGHT REVUE.** Variety. Hoagy Carmichael, Jerry Gray’s Orchestra, Gayla Peeve, Eddie Foy Jr., and Sara Berner.



Hoagy Carmichael – NBC Saturday Night Revue Publicity Photo, June 1953

[Author's Note: WPTZ, Philadelphia, was one of the world's first television stations, starting as the experimental W3XE in 1932, owned by Philco. One of three stations that carried the original NBC television service in 1946. In 1953, Saturday Night Revue was the summer replacement for Your Show Of Shows.]

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The Gazette and Daily [York, Pennsylvania], Jul 24, 1953, Page 27, Saturday On The Air:  
WNBC 11:30 pm-Midnight Jerry Gray

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Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Jul 25, 1953, Part II Page 5:  
KFI 640 11:45 p.m. – Midnight Jerry Gray

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**July 26, 1953 [Sunday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee and Ronnie Deauville, telecast, Palladium Party, KNXT (2), 7:00-8:00 p.m.**

Variety Daily, Jul 28, 1953:



Keyword: KNXT then back to the Palladium, picking up Ronnie Deauville singing with Jerry Gray's band, "I'm Walking Behind You."

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Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Jul 26, 1953, Part IV Page 10:  
KFI 640 11:45 p.m. – Midnight Jerry Gray

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**July 28, 1953 [Tuesday]:**

The Independent [Long Beach, California], Jul 28, 1953, Page 16:

**Tele-Vues by TERRY VERNON**

**SPINNING THE DIAL** – Orchestra leader JERRY GRAY will guest with BETTY WHITE on her KLAC (13) show at 1 p.m.

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The Gazette and Daily [York, Pennsylvania], Jul 28, 1953, Page 15, Tuesday On The Air:  
WNBC 11:30 pm-Midnight Jerry Gray

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**July 31, 1953 [Friday]:**

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Jul 31, 1953, Part I Page 26:

RADIO TODAY – PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

VARIETY – 9:30 – Jerry Gray Orch.

KFI 640            9:30–10:00 p.m.            Jerry Gray

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**August 1, 1953 [Saturday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, Telecast, Broadcast, and Dance, Hollywood Palladium, Hollywood, California.**

Telecast KNXT (2), 12:00 Midnight to 1:30 a.m.

Details Unknown, Chuck Miller, emcee.

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Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Aug 1, 1953, Part II Page 5:

**TV ★ RADIO – BY WALTER AMES**

. . . . . Chuck Miller will emcee the midnight Palladium Party on KNXT (2). It runs 90 minutes and features Jerry Gray's orchestra . . .

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Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Aug 1, 1953, Part II Page 5:

**RADIO TODAY**

KFI 640            11:45 p.m. – Midnight            Jerry Gray

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The Gazette and Daily [York, Pennsylvania], Aug 1, 1953, Page 27, Saturday On The Air:

WNBC            11:30 pm-Midnight            Jerry Gray

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**August 4, 1953 [Tuesday]:**

Variety Daily, Aug 4, 1953:



Keyword: With Jerry Gray prepping a long, local stand, his road manager Charley Trender is joining the Art Whiting Agency as radio and record talent rep. Mrs. Gray is now hubby's personal manager.

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The Gazette and Daily [York, Pennsylvania], Aug 4, 1953, Page 18, Tuesday On The Air:  
WNBC                    11:30 pm-Midnight                    Jerry Gray

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**August 8, 1953 [Saturday]:**

The Gazette and Daily [York, Pennsylvania], Aug 7, 1953, Page 34, Saturday On The Air:  
WNBC                    11:30 pm-Midnight                    Jerry Gray

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**August 11, 1953 [Tuesday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, Dance, Lagoon, Utah.

Daily Herald [Provo, Utah], Aug 5, 1953, Page 8:



**Late 1953 or Early 1954:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, possibly with Bill Lee and Vocal Group. Recording studio unknown. Processed and Pressed by Allied Record Manufacturing Company.**

**The Veterans Administration presents "Here's To Veterans" Program #381.**

**Here's To Veterans, Program #381 – F 16894:**

DESERT SERENADE (opening theme) (0:55)  
SOUND OFF (1:30) – possibly v Bill Lee and vocal group  
VA SPOT #1 (1:01) – Jerry Gray  
TOMPKINS COVE (2:53)  
VA SPOT #2 (1:05) – Jerry Gray  
A PAIR OF TRUMPETS (1:56)  
OFF THE WALL (2:38)  
DESERT SERENADE (closing theme) (1:51 to fade-out)

Total transcription length is 14:33

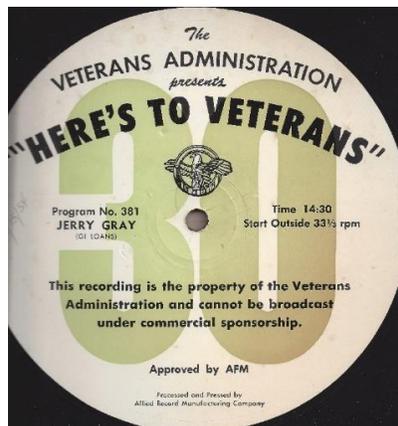
*Jerry Gray [over opening DESERT SERENADE]: This is Jerry Gray and the Orchestra, on Here's To Veterans. The best in music for all you ex-servicemen and women and your folks everywhere, especially transcribed for you by the Veterans Administration, in cooperation with the American Federation of Musicians.*

*Jerry Gray: Hi Ya Friends. This is Jerry Gray, answering your invitation to again entertain on Here's To Veterans. We hope you like the show, and be sure to give a listen to an important word I'll have for you later on. And now, all you Veterans, front and center ... Sound Off.*

[Author's Note: The A-B comparison method confirms all but SOUND OFF are the released Decca studio recordings. SOUND OFF is not from the first Decca session of May 18, 1950. We do not have the second Decca SOUND OFF from Apr 28, 1951 to compare as of yet.

A PAIR OF TRUMPETS has been edited down by about one minute from the original Decca recording. Jerry Gray refers to A PAIR OF TRUMPETS as "our new" instrumental. It was recorded on Apr 28, 1951, but not released until the first week of August of 1953.

The first play date on-air of this specific program disk is notated as Aug 15, 1954. Reverse side is Here's To Veterans Program 380 with Mel Blanc, notated as Jul 25, 1954. A similar copy on eBay shows Radio Station WHOK, dates are Feb 21, 1954 and Feb 14, 1954, respectively.]



**August 22, 1953 [Saturday]:**

*The Cash Box*, Aug 22, 1953, Page 9, Music, *Round The Wax Circle*:

Orchestra leader Jerry Gray will leave on a tour of the Midwest.

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**September 1, 1953 [Tuesday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Dance and Show, Riverside Ballroom, 1560 Main Street, Green Bay, Wisconsin.

*Green Bay Press-Gazette* [Green Bay, Wisconsin], Aug 14, 1953, Page 11:

**WELCOME** **A. F. L.**  
**CONVENTIONEERS**  
To  
**RIVERSIDE BALLROOM**  
and  
**"The Tropics" Cocktail Lounge**

- DANCING THIS SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, AUG. 15th and 16th
- *Special Entertainment All Next Week*

---

**COMING!! TUESDAY, SEPT. 1st**  
**JERRY GRAY--"THE BAND OF TODAY"**  
*His Show and 20 Entertainers*

---

**BOOKINGS NOW AVAILABLE**  
**PHONE ADAMS 577**



# RIVERSIDE BALLROOM

## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1st



YOU'VE HEARD HIM ON THE CBS CLUB 15  
RADIO SHOW AND ON HIT DECCA RECORDS

*In Person!*

# JERRY GRAY

THE MAN WHO  
CREATED  
ARTIE SHAW'S  
"BEGIN THE  
BEGUINE"  
AND DOZENS  
OF TOP GLENN  
MILLER HITS.

and his  
*band of Today*

### A GREAT SHOW & 20 ENTERTAINERS

**ADM.**      \$1.25 Before 9 P. M.  
                 \$1.50 After 9 P. M.

AGES  
16 - 60  
WELCOME



Dance Floor of Riverside Ballroom, Green Bay, Wisconsin  
Earlier Post Card

---

**September 4, 1953 [Friday] thru September 7, 1953 [Monday] [4-night Engagement]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Dance, Moonlite Gardens, Coney Island, 10 Miles East of Cincinnati on Route 52, Ohio.**

The Lexington Herald [Lexington, Kentucky], Aug 28, 1953, Page 8:

**SKY REVUE**  
The Wallendas 4 and 9 P.M. DAILY

GORGEOUS  
**FIREWORKS**  
NIGHTLY

Free at **Coney Island**  
\* CINCINNATI  
Fri. Aug. 28 thru Labor Day  
THRILL RIDES • GAMES  
SWIMMING • DINING

DANCING  
**Moonlite Gardens**  
**TONY PASTOR**  
Aug. 28 thru Sept. 3  
**JERRY GRAY**  
Sept. 4 thru Sept. 7

Admission to Park is subject to requirements of the exclusive outing sponsor.

10 miles East of Cin'tl on Route 52  
CONEY CLOSED MON., AUG. 31

The Cincinnati Enquirer [Cincinnati, Ohio], Aug 30, 1953, Page 8, Section 3:

WITH TONY PASTOR and His Orchestra on the Moonlite Gardens Bandstand, and the Sky Revue and Fireworks Carnival a free attraction on the Mall, Coney has just about reached the peak in entertainment. The Pastor music will continue through Thursday, and Jerry Gray and "His Band of Today" will take over Friday night, to remain through Labor Day.

JERRY GRAY'S orchestra comes to Coney next Friday with a reputation for having captivated dance enthusiasts on the West Coast, and elsewhere. Gray was one of Glenn Miller's men, and when he disappeared during World War II, he was placed in charge of the band. A number of his players are former Glenn Miller bandsmen.

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The Cincinnati Enquirer [Cincinnati, Ohio], Sep 3, 1953, Page 12:

JERRY GRAY and his "Band of Today" will open an engagement in Moonlite Gardens tomorrow night, succeeding Tony Pastor's Orchestra. The Jerry Gray ensemble has rated tops among dance bands on the West Coast, but is a comparative newcomer in this section.

**CONEY** SWIM  
DINE  
DANCE  
NOW . . . Moonlite Gardens  
**TONY PASTOR**  
Coming, beg. Friday  
**JERRY GRAY**  
**FREE!** 4 & 9 P. M.  
on the Mall  
**SKY REVUE**  
and every night  
**FIREWORKS**  
Admittance to Park is subject to requirements of the exclusive outing sponsor.



**AT CONEY TONIGHT**

Linda Lee is the singer with Jerry Gray's Orchestra opening its holiday week-end date at Coney Island's Moonlite Gardens tonight.

A large, stylized advertisement for Moonlite Gardens. The ad is shaped like a large, vertical banner. At the top left, it says "See you at Coney for". In the top right corner, there is a small portrait of a smiling woman with flowers in her hair. The main text is written in large, bold, sans-serif fonts. It reads: "free fireworks NIGHTLY...and SKY REVUE 4 and 9 P.M. DAILY THRU LABOR DAY STARRING THE GREAT WALLENDAS DANCE AT ROMANTIC Moonlite Gardens". At the bottom, it says "JERRY GRAY and HIS BAND OF TODAY featuring Linda Lee, Tommy Trainor and Tony Gray". There are several starburst graphics scattered throughout the ad. At the bottom left, there is a small illustration of a couple dancing. At the bottom right, there is a small illustration of a person flying through the air. The background of the ad is dark with white text and graphics.

**CONEY**  
*SWIM • DINE • DANCE*

**3-DAY HOLIDAY**  
Today—Sunday, Monday  
*DANCE . . . Moonlite Gardens*

**JERRY GRAY**  
and His Band of Today

Only 3 More Days—FREE!

**SKY REVUE**  
4 & 9 P. M.—On The Mall  
starring the GREAT WALLENDAS  
and Every Nite

**Fireworks**

Admittance to Park is subject to requirements of the exclusive outing sponsor.

**2-Day Holiday** **CONEY** **Today Tomorrow**

Bring Your Picnic Baskets—1000 Free Picnic Tables

Only 2 More Nites **FIREWORKS** On The Mall 9:15 p.m.

Twice Daily 4 & 9 p. m. **AND SKY REVUE** starring The Great WALLENDAS

**SUPERB DINNERS** Clubhouse and Cafeteria

**SWIM!**

**DANCE** Moonlite Gardens featuring **Jerry Gray** and His Band of Today

COMING SAT.-SUN., Sept. 12-13  
A Musical Marathon With **CHARLIE KEHRER'S ORCHESTRA** and **GIN BOTTLE 8 PLUS 2**

Admittance to Park is subject to requirements of the exclusive outing sponsor.

**Coney** **SWIM  
DINE—  
DANCE**

*Last times today!*

**SKY REVUE**  
4 & 9 P. M. — On The Mall  
starring **THE GREAT WALLENDAS**  
and tonite

**Fireworks**  
*DANCE . . . Moonlite Gardens*

**JERRY GRAY**  
and His Band of Today  
Coming—Sat. and Sun.  
**A MUSICAL MARATHON**  
**Charlie Kehrer's Orch.**  
and  
**Gin Bottle 5 Plus 2**

Coney now closed weekdays—but  
operating as usual on **SATURDAYS**  
**AND SUNDAYS, Sept. 12-13 —**  
Sept. 19-20.

Admittance to Park is subject to require-  
ments of the exclusive outing sponsor.

**September 8, 1953 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Dance, West View Park and Danceland, Perryville Road, U.S. Route 19, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.**

*Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* [Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania], Sep 3, 1953, Page 14:

*The Drama Desk* – By HAROLD V. COHEN

Jerry Gray, the maestro of radio's Club 15, will bring his band to West View for a one-nighter next Tuesday.

*Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* [Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania], Sep 8, 1953, Page 17:



**September 10, 1953 [Thursday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, Dance, The New Sunset Club, Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

Mansfield News-Journal [Mansfield, Ohio], Sep 9, 1953, Page 2:

**DANCE**  
To The Famous  
**Jerry Gray Dance**  
Orchestra  
Thursday, Sept. 10  
**The New Sunset Club**  
Mt. Vernon, Ohio  
Under new management.

---

**September 11, 1953 [Friday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, with Linda Lee; Dance, Waterfront Dance Pavilion Edgewater Park, Celina, Ohio

The Delphos Herald [Delphos, Ohio], Sep 9, 1953, Page 4:

**DANCING!**

**Edgewater ' Park**

**Celina, Ohio**

**Friday, Sept. 11**

**JERRY GRAY**

**and "His Band  
of Today"**

The great "Club 15" radio  
orchestra will appear  
here following a 4 day  
stand at Coney Island.

DANCE 9 - 1

**Adm. \$1.67**

plus tax

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**September 12, 1953 [Saturday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, with Linda Lee; Dance, Casino Ballroom, Walled Lake, Michigan.**

*Detroit Free Press* [Detroit, Michigan], Sep 11, 1953, Page 14:



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*Detroit Free Press* [Detroit, Michigan], Sep 12, 1953, Page 17:

Photograph of Jerry Gray with caption:

JERRY GRAY and his orchestra will play for dancing at Walled Lake Casino Ballroom Saturday evening.

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**September 17, 1953 [Thursday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, with Linda Lee; Dance and Radio Broadcast, George Edick's Club Imperial, 6324 W. Florissant, St. Louis, Missouri.**

Radio Broadcast, KMOX-CBS Network:  
Details Unknown

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Sep 6, 1953, Page 8G:



St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Sep 17, 1953, Page 5F:



St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Sep 17, 1953, Page 10F:  
KMOX 1120 CBS      11:35 p.m.-Midnight      Jerry Gray

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**September 18, 1953 [Friday]:**

*The Decatur Review* [Decatur, Illinois], Sep 17, 1953, Page 16:

### **Festival Opens At Taylorville**

Taylorville, Sept 17 (Staff)

Taylorville's annual soybean festival was to get underway today with a parade through the business district at 2:30 p.m.

The two-day festival will include contests to select Queen Soya, a baby queen, and champion square dancers. There will be entertainment features and a street dance with Jerry Gray and his band playing.

The annual affair is sponsored by the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

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*Decatur Herald* [Decatur, Illinois], Sep 17, 1953, Page 26:

### **TAYLORVILLE'S 7TH SOYBEAN FETE OPENS**

Taylorville, Sept 16 (AP)

The seventh annual Soybean Festival put on by Taylorville, claimant to the title "soybean center of the world," starts a two-day run on Thursday.

On Friday, there'll be dancing in downtown streets to the music of Jerry Gray's orchestra.

During the festival, stores will be closed. A parade will launch events Thursday and Queen Soya will be crowned on Friday.

A series of contests will be staged for children under 14 with dogs. Judges will pick the longest dog, the ugliest dog, the dog with the longest ears, and the smallest, largest, and best dressed dogs.

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**September 24, 1953 [Thursday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, with Linda Lee; Dance and Radio Broadcast, George Edick's Club Imperial, 6324 W. Florissant, St. Louis, Missouri.**

Radio Broadcast, KMOX-CBS Network :  
Details Unknown

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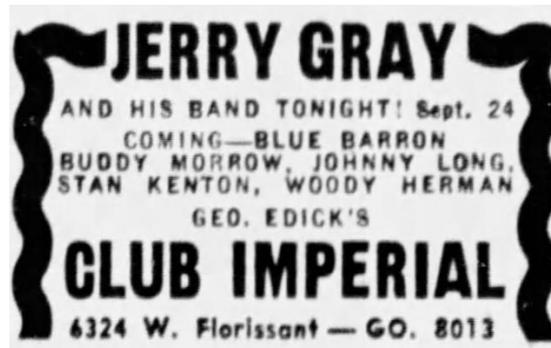
St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Sep 20, 1953, Page 9J:

***The Night Spots***

**CLUB IMPERIAL** – Jerry Gray and orchestra one night only, Thursday, Sept 24.

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Sep 24, 1953, Page 7F:



St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Sep 24, 1953, Page 8F:

KMOX 1120 CBS	11:35 p.m.-Midnight	Jerry Gray
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October 6, 1953 [Tuesday]:

Jerry Gray and his Band Of Today; Dance, 9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m., Riverside Ballroom And Park, 1975 South Central Ave., Phoenix, Arizona.

The Arizona Republic, [Phoenix, Arizona], Oct 6, 1953, Page 21:

The Arizona Republic, [Phoenix, Arizona], Oct 3, 1953, Page 15:

Advertisement:

Coming Attraction  
JERRY GRAY  
Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>

**October 22, 1953 [Thursday]:**

Variety Daily, Oct 22, 1953:



Keyword: Connie Haines and Jerry Gray KLAC-TV

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**October 23, 1953 [Friday]:**

Variety Daily, Oct 23, 1953:



Keyword: Jerry Gray filed application in Superior Court yesterday, seeking approval of contract for 16-year-old singer Linda Lee, whose real name is Lucille ???? Five-year pact starts here at \$75 a week, graduating eventually to \$550

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[05] Your Chevrolet Showroom  
23Oct1953 ABC Fri  
Host Cesar Romero  
Guests  
Jerry Gray Orchestra  
Connee Boswell  
Maurice Rocco  
Henny Youngman  
and Mario and Floria.

WABC-TV NYC 10-11 pm appears to be telecast only local. first network may have been 11/20/53

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**October 30, 1953 [Friday] and October 31, 1953 [Saturday]:**

*The Daily Tar Heel* [Chapel Hill, North Carolina], Oct 28, 1953, Page 1:

**Concert** – Memorial Hall Friday  
Dance – Woollen Gym Saturday

German Club originally signed with Jerry Gray, but due to an emergency operation, Gray had to cancel this engagement.

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**November 7, 1953 [Saturday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Homecoming Dance, University of Southern California, Circus Gardens, Ocean Park, Santa Monica, California.**

*Southern California Daily Trojan, Oct 14, 1953, Front Page:*

### **Gray To Play Homecoming Dance**

Famed 'Band of Today' Signs to Entertain Alumni

Jerry Gray and his "Band of Today" will provide the music for the Homecoming Dance on Nov. 7, at the Circus Gardens. Gray, a specialist in what he calls solid instrumentals, will feature along with his 16-piece band the young vocalist, Linda Lee.

Gray has reached big-band fame via his arrangements of "Crew Cut," "Night and Day," "String of Pearls," "Chattanooga Choo Choo," and "Pennsylvania 6-5000."

Gray's arrangements helped boost the Artie Shaw and Glenn Miller bands to the top before the war.

He has now turned his talents to directing his own band.

"With these new bands coming up and playing what they call Miller music, I decided to step in and produce some of the real stuff," said Gray.

### **Slow Ballads**

What Gray calls the "real stuff" is full-bodied orchestration that features lush reeds on the slow ballads and hard-driving brass on the rhythm numbers. Sharp attack is the keynote of the styles which Gray helped to evolve for both Miller and Shaw.

Gray finished a stand at the Hollywood Palladium in July, and then went on tour in the East, hitting such music centers as New York, Chicago, and Philadelphia.

He will return to the coast in time to make his first appearance at the Homecoming Dance, and will then go to the Cocoanut Grove, Nov. 24.

### **Band Spotlight**

Gray says he is through arranging for other bands. He now intends to beat out his own path in the band stand spotlights, he said.

Bids for the Homecoming Dance are three dollars, said Don Roe, dance chairman.

The dance is open to all students and alumni, and will follow the Homecoming theme of "The Alumni Story is SC's Glory."

---

Southern California Daily Trojan, Nov 4, 1953, Front Page:

## **DANCE FLOOR IMMENSE**

Plenty of Parking Space Assured for HoCo Dance

There will be plenty of room, both in the parking lot and on the dance floor at the Homecoming dance Saturday night at Circus Gardens in Ocean Park, according to Dance Chairman Don Roe.

"The dance floor is immense, 420 by 180 feet," Roe said. "There won't be any parking problem this year either," he added. "The Circus Gardens has more than enough parking space for cars." Eight bars will be in operation for the dance, which begins at 9 p.m.

The dorm and sorority 2 a.m. curfew having been extended to 3 a.m. by Counselor of Women Edwarda White, because of the dance.

Gray to Play

Jerry Gray and his "Band of Today" will provide dance music, with the 8-piece band of Jacque Robinson featured during intermissions. The Arthur Murray dancers will do several specialty numbers, including the Bunny Hug, Charleston, Black Bottom, and Chicago Hop.

Tom Norton, holder of both the California and Colorado state dancing championships, has arranged a Cavalcade of Dances. Norton, who emceed a recent "City at Night" TV show depicting the regional dance contest in Southern California, will be Master of Ceremonies Saturday night.

Tops the List

Gray, who recently skyrocketed to the top of the Decca recording list, is known as the man who arranged the Glenn Miller and Artie Shaw hits. He was responsible for "String of Pearls," "Pennsylvania Six-Five-Thousand," and "Begin the Beguine."

Roe announced that souvenir bids to the dance will be given at the door.

Ticket sales at the booth in front of the Student Union and on the Row have reached the 200 mark, Chairman Roe said. The \$3 ducats will also be sold at the door Saturday night.

---

Southern California Daily Trojan, Nov 5, 1953, Front Page:

### **Homecoming Events to End At Circus Gardens Dance**

The final scenes of the 1953 Homecoming pageant will unfold tomorrow and Saturday in what probably will be the biggest Homecoming finale yet to be staged.

.....

Saturday evening SC students and alumni will flock to the Circus Gardens in Santa Monica to dance out the last phase of Homecoming, 1953.

.....

The big dance Saturday night will take place at the Circus Gardens, known as "The world's largest theater-ballroom." Jerry Gray, his orchestra, and vocalist Linda Lee will provide the music. The Garden is located on Ocean Park pier in Santa Monica.

---

Southern California Daily Trojan, Nov 6, 1953, Front Page:

### **Gray Set To Play At Affair**

The 1953 Homecoming celebration will come to a close tomorrow night to the strains of Jerry Gray and his Band of Today.

Rain or shine, the Alumni Dance tomorrow promises to be a festive affair complete with specialty numbers by the Arthur Murray dancers and intermission music by Jacque Robinson and his orchestra.

The dance will be held in the remodeled Circus Gardens at Ocean Park in Santa Monica. A cardinal searchlight will direct Trojan students and alums to the party.

Chairman Don Roe and his dance committee will spend the better part of today and tomorrow decorating for the big ball. The decorations will follow closely the Homecoming theme.

### **Tickets on Sale**

Tickets will be on sale today in front of the Student Union for \$3 per couple. Tickets will also be sold at the door. Roe said that souvenir bids will also be passed out at the door.

Roe has promised plenty of facilities for everything. There is plenty of parking space, adequate room to check your hat and coat, and plenty of bar service.

"The dance floor is monstrous; so everyone should be able to dance their fill," Roe said.

### **On The Level**

He also said that everything is on one level, so that spectators will be able to see the floor show from any part of the ballroom.

Jerry Gray and his 16-piece band has flown out from the East for the engagement. He will open at the Palladium later this month. His vocalist, Linda Lee, will also be on hand to entertain.

Jacque Robinson will fill in at intermission to provide uninterrupted entertainment all evening.

## Dancers to Entertain

Arthur Murray's national championship dancers will perform a dance sequence featuring all the popular ballroom numbers of the past and present. The performance will be complete with costumes.

There will be a special reservation section for the alumni and one for the faculty.

"Everything considered, I don't see how it can miss being the greatest Homecoming dance we have ever had," Roe said. "For once we have the space to do things right."

The easiest route to the dance is straight out Pico to Santa Monica. Turn left on Main Street and follow the signs to Ocean Park.

---

*Southern California Daily Trojan, Nov 4, 1953, Page 3:*

Advertisement

Homecoming  
Dance  
Circus Gardens  
Nov. 7 - \$3 a couple

In Person!  
Jerry Gray  
and his Band of Today

The man who created  
Artie Shaw's  
"Begin The Beguine"  
And Dozens of  
Top Glenn Miller Hits

---

**November 16, 1953 [Monday]:**

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Nov 16, 1953, Part I Page 16:

**16 \* Los Angeles Times**  
**Part I—MONDAY, NOV. 16, 1953**



**GOING PLACES—Linda Lee, 16, wins approval of court on singing contract.**  
Times photo

**Singer, 16,  
Wins OK on  
Band Contract**

Sixteen-year-old Linda Lee has received court approval of her five-year singing contract with Bandleader Jerry Gray.

The brunet songbird's salary begins at \$150 a week, and if all options are exercised, will be earning \$330 every seven days at the contract's close.

Superior Judge Frank G. Swain, who approved the pact, ordered that Miss Lee invest 10% of her wages in U.S. Savings Bonds. Also, he ruled that her possible royalties from recordings be impounded to accumulate for a time, so that a savings plan might be made for them.

Atty. Jerry Pacht, who drew up the contract, told the court Miss Lee had hoped to save more, but that her budget was "very tight" as she must pay travel expenses out of her salary.

The band, with Miss Lee as soloist, will open at the Ambassador Nov. 18.

November 17, 1953 [Tuesday]:

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Nov 17, 1953, Part III Page 4:

*last night!* **HARRY JAMES**  
**COCOANUT GROVE**

 **GALA OPENING  
TOMORROW NIGHT**

**COCOANUT GROVE**

 *proudly  
presents*  
**LENA  
HORNE**  
**IN PERSON**

JOHN & JUNE  
**BELMONT**  
DANCING INDIVIDUALISTS

JERRY GRAY  
and his band of today

*Interlude Dancing*  
TICKETS THROUGH REFRIGERATOR

**AMBASSADOR HOTEL**

**DU. 7-7011**

[Author's Note: This advertisement for the gala opening night appeared in the "Food" section of this Tuesday edition, rather than in the entertainment section.

Other advertisements on this page were for Ocean Spray Cranberry Sauce, Leslie Water Softener Salt, Pioneer Minced Sea Clams, Jolly Time Pop Corn and the Wonder Palms Hotel and Guest Ranch in Palm Springs.]

**November 18, 1953 [Wednesday] thru December 8, 1953 [Tuesday] [3-week Engagement]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Lena Horne, John and June Belmont;  
World Famous Coconut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.**

**Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.**

**Possible personnel for Jerry Gray and His Band Of Today:** GRAHAM YOUNG, CARLTON McBEATH, Whitey Thomas, t; Jimmy Priddy, John Halliburton, BOB FITZPATRICK, tb; JOE ESTREN cl/as; Riley Weston, as; Ronnie Perry, JACK MONTROSE, ts; JACK DULONG, as/bari; Marty Paich, p; JOHN MOSHER, b; Jimmy Pratt, d, Linda Lee, v.

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Nov 18, 1953, Part III Page 2:

**GALA OPENING TONIGHT**

**WORLD FAMOUS COCOANUT GROVE**

*proudly presents*

**LENA HORNE**

**IN PERSON**

**JOHN & JUNE BELMONT**

**JERRY GRAY**

*and his band of today*

**AMBASSADOR HOTEL**

DU. 7-7011

From Tuesday	From Sunday
10 NIGHT IN	BUFFET
10 WAIT	DINNER



---

Variety Daily, Nov 18, 1953:



Keyword: GALA OPENING TONIGHT Lena Horne in person John Belmont Dancing Individualists Jerry Gray and his Band of Today.

---

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Nov 21, 1953, Part I Page 11:

*Skylarking* - With **JAMES COPP**

LENA HORNE was sensational at her C'nut Grove opening.

---

The Cash Box, Nov 28, 1953, Page 13, Music, Round The Wax Circle:

The talented song-stress, Lena Horne, opened at the Coconut Grove. Jerry Gray and his orchestra hold down the bandstand.



Lena Horne with the Jerry Gray Orchestra, Coconut Grove of the Ambassador Hotel, Nov/Dec 1953



Lena Horne with the Jerry Gray Orchestra, Coconut Grove of the Ambassador Hotel, Nov/Dec 1953

**November 19, 1953 [Thursday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Lena Horne, John and June Belmont;  
World Famous Coconut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.**

**Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.**

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**November 20, 1953 [Friday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Lena Horne, John and June Belmont;  
World Famous Coconut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.**

**Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.**

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*Variety Daily*, Nov 20, 1953:



Keyword: Jerry Gray ork launches the layout with a fine Glenn

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**November 21, 1953 [Saturday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Lena Horne, John and June Belmont;  
World Famous Coconut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.

Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.

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Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, Radio Broadcast, Coconut Grove at the Ambassador Hotel,  
Radio Broadcast, KECA 790, Los Angeles, California.

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, KECA ABC Network Broadcast 9:00-9:30 p.m.:**

Details unknown

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The Independent [Long Beach, California], Nov 21, 1953, Page 12:

KECA ABC 790                      9:00-9:30 p.m.                      Jerry Gray Orch.

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Nov 21, 1953, Part II Page 5:

KECA ABC 790                      9:00-9:30 p.m.                      Orchestra

[Author's Note: KECA am radio in Los Angeles, was originally KFXB (Big Bear Lake, 1925),  
moved to Los Angeles and became KPLA (1927), purchased by the owner of KFI Los Angeles  
and renamed KECA (1929), purchased by the Blue Network/ABC (1944), became KABC (1954).

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**November 22, 1953 [Sunday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Lena Horne, John and June Belmont;  
World Famous Coconut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.

Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Nov 22, 1953, Part III Page 4:



**November 23, 1953 [Monday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Lena Horne, John and June Belmont;  
World Famous Cocanut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.

Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.

---

**November 24, 1953 [Tuesday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Lena Horne, John and June Belmont;  
World Famous Cocanut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.

Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.

---

**November 25, 1953 [Wednesday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Lena Horne, John and June Belmont;  
World Famous Cocanut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.

Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.

---

**November 26, 1953 [Thursday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Lena Horne, John and June Belmont;  
World Famous Cocanut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.

Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.

---

**November 27, 1953 [Friday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Lena Horne, John and June Belmont;  
World Famous Coconut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.

Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Nov 27, 1953, Part III Page 5:



**November 28, 1953 [Saturday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Lena Horne, John and June Belmont;  
World Famous Coconut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.

Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, Radio Broadcast, Coconut Grove at the Ambassador Hotel,  
Radio Broadcast, KECA 790, Los Angeles, California.

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, KECA ABC Network Broadcast 9:00-9:30 p.m.:  
Details unknown

The Independent [Long Beach, California], Nov 28, 1953, Page 9:  
KECA ABC 790 9:00-9:30 p.m. Jerry Gray Orch.

**November 29, 1953 [Sunday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Lena Horne, John and June Belmont; World Famous Cocoanut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.**

**Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.**

*Los Angeles Times* [Los Angeles, California], Nov 29, 1953, Part III Page 11:



**November 30, 1953 [Monday]:**

**Wilshire Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner at the Cocoanut Grove, including the Great American Award presented to Bob Hope by Cecil B. De Miller and California Governor Goodwin Knight, along with General James Doolittle. Los Angeles declared the day as Bob Hope Day.**

**We are unable to confirm if this event included Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Lena Horne, John and June Belmont, World Famous Cocoanut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California. Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.**

*Los Angeles Times* [Los Angeles, California], Dec 1, 1953, Part I Page 12:

Photograph with caption:

*The Jackson Sun* [Jackson, Tennessee], Nov 29, 1953, Features Section, Page 2:

#### **Lena Horne Visits 'Celebrity Table'**

Lena Horne, orchestra leader Jerry Gray, Jack Owens and his daughter, Mary Ann, and screen actress Helen Westcott will occupy ringside spots when they join host Paul Masterson on CELEBRITY TABLE tomorrow over WTJS and the ABC Radio Network. Other portions of the CELEBRITY TABLE program will originate in Las Vegas, Chicago, and New York. The show is heard from 8 to 9 p.m. over WTJS and the Radio Network.

The new hour-long show CELEBRITY TABLE, has a new host presiding over its Hollywood portion, which originates at the Cocoanut Grove of the Ambassador Hotel. Paul Masterson, the early-morning disc jockey of KECA in Los Angeles, may now be heard interviewing the interesting and famous personalities of the West Coast on CELEBRITY TABLE.

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Nov 30, 1953, Part I Page 28:

**TV ★ RADIO – BY WALTER AMES – VIDEO-RADIO BRIEFS**

The Ambassador's Lena Horne, Jerry Gray, and Jack Owens are Celebrity Table guests on KECA at 9 p.m.

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The Arizona Republic [Phoenix, Arizona], Nov 30, 1953, Page 18:

**Radio Timetable**

At 8 p.m., KPHO, Lena Horne and Jerry Gray are feted at Paul Masterson's Celebrity Table.

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The La Crosse Tribune [La Crosse, Wisconsin], Dec 3, 1953, Page 36:

**DIAL CHATTER**

Lena Horne, orchestra leader Jerry Gray, Jack Owens and his daughter Mary Ann, and Helen Westcott will occupy ringside spots when they join Paul Masterson during tonight's KWTY "Celebrity Table" broadcast from 8:30 to 9:30.

Masterson, presiding over the Hollywood portion of the unusual new show, is known as radio's "International Disk Jockey" and he shares "Celebrity Table" honors with other star personalities in smart supper clubs in Las Vegas, Chicago, and New York.

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**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today; Decca Recording Session, 5505 Melrose Avenue, Hollywood, California.**

Label – JERRY GRAY And His Orchestra

L 7481	The Creep v Linda Lee (2:33)	Decca 28986, 9-28986
L 7482	Stop That Dancing v Linda Lee (2:54)	Decca 29038, 9-29038
L 7483	Oomp Chuck (2:43)	Decca 28986, 9-28986
L 7484	Coronado Cruise (2:49)	Decca 29038, 9-29038

**Jerry Gray and His Band Of Today:** GRAHAM YOUNG, CARLTON McBEATH, Whitey Thomas, t; Jimmy Priddy, John Halliburton, BOB FITZPATRICK, tb; JOE ESTREN cl/as; Riley Weston, as; Ronnie Perry, JACK MONTROSE, ts; JACK DULONG, as/bari; Marty Paich, p; JOHN MOSHER, b; Jimmy Pratt, d, Linda Lee, v.

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Publicity and Reviews:

*The Billboard*, Dec 12, 1953, Page 18, Music:

**DISKERIES BUSY WITH "CREEP"**

"The Creep," Miller Music's new English import, is getting a lot of action from the diskeries. In addition to the Three Suns on RCA Victor, the Lee Roy ork on Epic, and Art Mooney's ork on M-G-M, the tune has been cut by Stan Kenton on Capitol, Ralph Marterie on Mercury, Les Brown on Coral, Larry Clinton on Bell, and Jerry Gray on Decca.

The dance of the same name will be the subject of a big drive by the Fred Astaire studios across the country.

Deejay Robin Seymour, WKMH, Detroit, is teaching the dance on record hops in his territory. Deejay Bill Randle, WERE, Cleveland, introduced the dance at the Vogue night club there with thrush Mindy Carson this week.

[Author's Note: "The Creep" was written by English bandleader Ken Mackintosh, with the credit shown as Andy Burton; Burton was the name of Mackintosh's wife. Carl Sigman is credited with the U.S. lyrics.]

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*The Cash Box*, Jan 2, 1954, Page 8, Record Reviews:

**JERRY GRAY ORCH.  
(Decca 28986; F-28986)**

**B** "THE CREEP" (2:33) [Miller ASCAP – Burton, Sigman] Jerry Gray and the ork jump through a tune that's the rage in England. Linda Lee does the chirping on this, the first vocal version of the song.

**C+** "OOMPH-CHUCK" (2:43) [Albert ASCAP – Gray] On this deck, the leader conducts the crew through one of his own compositions. Good jump material tailor made for dancing.

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The Billboard, Jan 2, 1954, Page 18, Reviews Of This Week's New Records:

JERRY GRAY ORK

The Creep ..... 75

Decca 28986 – The Jerry Gray crew hands the English import a bright and brassy performance while thrush Linda Lee turns in an adequate vocal on the tune. The many good versions of the tune make competition tough, tho this slicing should snag some loot if the tune makes it (Miller, ASCAP)

Oomp-Chuck ..... 70

A slight riff effort is sold stylishly by the Gray crew, with the leader soloing on clarinet. (Albert, ASCAP)

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Metronome, Mar 1954, Page 26:

Popular by george t. simon

jerry gray

*The Creep* B 6

*Oomp-Chuck* B 6

Jerry's arrangement of *The Creep* is the most interesting on wax, notably the first chorus, but the over-emphasis of the average singer detracts from the band's work. The reverse is a sort of coy, novel riff, which, like the first side, is well played by the entire band. (Decca)

---

EVERY MUSIC OPERATOR KNOWS...

**YEAR AFTER YEAR AFTER YEAR  
AFTER YEAR AFTER YEAR  
AFTER YEAR AFTER YEAR...**

**DECCA RECORDS** *get the play!*

**DECCA**

INCLUDING:

THE CREEP	28986
OOMP-CHUCK	Jerry Gray

*America's Fastest Selling Records*

**December 1, 1953 [Tuesday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Lena Horne, John and June Belmont;  
World Famous Cocoanut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.

Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.

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**December 2, 1953 [Wednesday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Lena Horne, John and June Belmont;  
World Famous Cocoanut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.

Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.

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**December 3, 1953 [Thursday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Lena Horne, John and June Belmont;  
World Famous Cocoanut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.

Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.

*Los Angeles Times* [Los Angeles, California], Dec 3, 1953, Part II Page 9:



**December 4, 1953 [Friday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Lena Horne, John and June Belmont;  
World Famous Coconut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.**

**Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.**

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Dec 4, 1953, Part II Page 5:

**HAM ON RYON – BY ART RYON**

. . . . . Lena Horne may have a new fad on her hands. At the Coconut Grove, she's singing songs with titles with forward-backward spelling.

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**December 5, 1953 [Saturday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Lena Horne, John and June Belmont;  
World Famous Coconut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.**

**Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, Radio Broadcast, Coconut Grove at the Ambassador Hotel,  
Radio Broadcast, KECA 790, Los Angeles, California.**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, KECA ABC Network Broadcast 9:00-9:30 p.m.  
Details unknown

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The Independent [Long Beach, California], Dec 5, 1953, Page 9:  
KECA ABC 790            9:00-9:30 p.m.            Jerry Gray Orch.

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**December 6, 1953 [Sunday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Lena Horne, John and June Belmont;  
World Famous Cocanut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.

Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Nov 29, 1953, Part III Page 11:



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**December 7, 1953 [Monday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Lena Horne, John and June Belmont;  
World Famous Cocanut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.

Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.

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December 8, 1953 [Tuesday]:

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Lena Horne, John and June Belmont;  
World Famous Coconut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.

Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Dec 8, 1953, Part II Page 5:

**Harry! Ends Tonight!**  
**LENA HORNE**

Opening Tomorrow Night  
LIMITED ENGAGEMENT  
THE WORLD-FAMOUS  
**COCOANUT GROVE**  
presents  
The  
Poet  
of the  
Piano



**Carmen Cavallaro**

IN PERSON  
**JUDY JOHNSON**  
and her **DATES**  
Leading Stars of TV's "Show of Stars"

Continuous Dancing

**JERRY GRAY** and His Band of Today  
TICO ROBINS Dumbo Band

Every Tuesday | Every Sunday  
**"A NIGHT IN HAWAII"** | **BUFFET DINNER**

**AMBASSADOR HOTEL.**

**December 9, 1953 [Wednesday] thru December 22, 1953 [Tuesday] [2-week Engagement]:**

Opening Night of this 2-week engagement with Carmen Cavallaro, December 9, 1953.

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Carmen Cavallaro, Judy Johnson and her Dates; World Famous Coconut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.

Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.

**Possible personnel for Jerry Gray and His Band Of Today:** Graham Young, Carlton McBeath, Whitey Thomas, t; Jimmy Priddy, John Halliburton, Bob Fitzpatrick, tb; Joe Estren cl/as; Riley Weston, as; Ronnie Perry, Jack Montrose, ts; Jack Dulong, as/bari; Marty Paich, p; John Mosher, b; Jimmy Pratt, d, Linda Lee, v.

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Dec 9, 1953, Part I Page 32:

. . . . . Another TV personality, Carmen Cavallaro, is at the Coconut Grove.

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Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Dec 9, 1953, Part III Page 3:



Variety Daily, Dec 9, 1953:



Keyword: LIMITED ENGAGEMENT THE WORLD FAMOUS GROVE presents Carmen Cavallaro Judy Johnson and her Dates Jerry Gray and his Band of Today.

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**December 10, 1953 [Thursday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Carmen Cavallaro, Judy Johnson and her Dates;  
World Famous Cocoanut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.**

**Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.**

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**December 11, 1953 [Friday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Carmen Cavallaro, Judy Johnson and her Dates;  
World Famous Cocoanut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.**

**Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.**

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Variety Daily, Dec 11, 1953:



Keyword: Jerry Gray and his 12 sidemen bounce out the rhythms for dancing

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**December 12, 1953 [Saturday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Carmen Cavallaro, Judy Johnson and her Dates;  
World Famous Cocoanut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.**

**Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.**

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**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, Radio Broadcast, Coconut Grove at the Ambassador Hotel,  
Radio Broadcast, KECA 790, Los Angeles, California.**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, KECA ABC Network Broadcast 9:00-9:30 p.m.  
Details unknown

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The Independent [Long Beach, California], Dec 12, 1953, Page x:  
KECA ABC 790                      9:00-9:30 p.m.                      Jerry Gray Orch.

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**December 13, 1953 [Sunday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Carmen Cavallaro, Judy Johnson and her Dates;  
World Famous Cocanut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.**

**Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.**

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**December 14, 1953 [Monday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Carmen Cavallaro, Judy Johnson and her Dates;  
World Famous Cocanut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.**

**Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.**

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**December 15, 1953 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Carmen Cavallaro, Judy Johnson and her Dates;  
World Famous Cocanut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.**

**Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.**

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**December 16, 1953 [Wednesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Carmen Cavallaro, Judy Johnson and her Dates;  
World Famous Cocanut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.**

**Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.**

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**December 17, 1953 [Thursday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Carmen Cavallaro, Judy Johnson and her Dates;  
World Famous Cocanut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.**

**Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.**

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**December 18, 1953 [Friday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Carmen Cavallaro, Judy Johnson and her Dates; World Famous Coconut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.

Juniors of the Social Service Auxiliary 18th Annual Candlelight Ball, World Famous Coconut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.

Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Dec 6, 1953, Part III Page 4:

***Pink, Silver Theme of Candlelight Ball***

It will be a wonderland of pink Friday evening, Dec 18, when beautifully gowned young members of the Juniors of the Social Service Auxiliary descend the steps into the Coconut Grove for their 18th annual Candlelight Ball.

Below the enormous candelabra holding pink and silver tapers, a stardust scene with the orchestra framed in pink satin twinkling with silver stars, the snow scene backdrop making its debut for the holiday season as the palms assume a silvery, wintry form.

Mrs. Robert E. Merrin is chairman of this year's ball. Headlining entertainment will be Carmen Cavallaro and Judy Johnson and Her Dates with Jerry Gray's orchestra.

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**December 19, 1953 [Saturday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Carmen Cavallaro, Judy Johnson and her Dates; World Famous Coconut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.

Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Dec 19, 1953, Part I Page 12:



The Cash Box, Dec 19, 1953, Page 13, Music, Round The Wax Circle:

The Cocoanut Grove now spotlights Carmen Cavallaro along with the orchestral tempos of Jerry Gray and his crew.

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**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, Radio Broadcast, Coconut Grove at the Ambassador Hotel, Radio Broadcast, KECA 790, Los Angeles, California.**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, KECA ABC Network Broadcast 9:00-9:30 p.m.  
Details unknown

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The Independent [Long Beach, California], Dec 19, 1953, Page 11:

KECA ABC 790                      9:00-9:30 p.m.                      Cocoanut Gr. Or.

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**December 20, 1953 [Sunday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Carmen Cavallaro, Judy Johnson and her Dates; World Famous Cocoanut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.**

**Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.**

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Dec 20, 1953, Part III Page 6:



**December 21, 1953 [Monday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Carmen Cavallaro, Judy Johnson and her Dates;  
Southern California Bonifaces International Association of Hotel Executives Annual Dinner-Dance,  
World Famous Cocoanut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.**

**Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.**

*Los Angeles Times* [Los Angeles, California], Dec 20, 1953, Part I Page 26:

**Bonifaces to Hold Annual Dinner Dance Tomorrow – Cocoanut Grove**

.....

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**December 22, 1953 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Carmen Cavallaro, Judy Johnson and her Dates;  
World Famous Cocoanut Grove, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.**

**Two shows nightly; 9:30 and Midnight.**

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**January 20, 1954 [Wednesday]:**

Variety Daily, Jan 20, 1954:



Keyword: Jerry Gray band opens at the Palladium here March 19 for a . . . . .

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**January 30, 1954 [Saturday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, 35th annual Baile de las Flores [Dance of the Flowers], El Conquistador Hotel, 10000 N Oracle Road, Tucson, Arizona.**

*The Arizona Daily Star* [Tucson, Arizona], Jan 17, 1954, Page 2C:



### **Jerry Gray to Play At Baile de las Flores**

The Board of Visitors of St. Luke's has announced that Jerry Gray's orchestra will play for the 1954 Baile de las Flores scheduled for Jan. 30 at El Conquistador hotel. The ball benefits St. Luke's in the Desert, a sanitorium for pulmonary tubercular men.

Having just completed a long engagement at the Cocomanut Grove at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, Gray's orchestra is known to dance enthusiasts across the country.

Gray began his band career with the Artie Shaw orchestra. Though he never played in the orchestra his arrangements are considered classics with "Begin The Beguine" being the most famous. Later Gray joined the Glenn Miller orchestra. While with Miller he arranged Glenn's classic scores on "Chattanooga Choo Choo" and "Pennsylvania 6-5000." He is the composer of another Miller hit, "String of Pearls."

Now fronting his own large orchestra, Jerry Gray has an outstanding group of Decca records, radio, TV, and club appearances to his credit. Following their engagement at the Baile the orchestra will open at the Hollywood Palladium.

Tucson Daily Citizen [Tucson, Arizona], Jan 19, 1954, Page 12:

***Jerry Gray Provides Baile Music***

A Mexican atmosphere will set the scene for the Baile de las Flores this year. Tables encircling the dance floor will give much the impression of sitting in a cabaret.

Dinner will not be served in the main dining room that night, but the room will serve as a second dance floor. The tables will be similar to the boxes available to patrons in former years and may be reserved for a small additional sum by calling Mrs. Monte Mansfield or Mrs. Edward Belton. Tickets may be purchased through Mrs. Brick Storts or by calling the hotel.

Mrs. Emery Johnson, chairman, has announced that dancing will be held in the lobby and the dining room to the music of Jerry Gray's orchestra.

**JERRY GRAY**, once top arranger for Artie Shaw and Glenn Miller, now has his own band and will arrive here from an engagement at the Cocoanut Grove in Los Angeles. Jerry Gray took over the Glenn Miller orchestra in Paris when the maestro was killed in a plane accident and now has many of those same musicians with him.

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The Arizona Daily Star [Tucson, Arizona], Jan 22, 1954, Page 14:

***More Space, Tables Arranged for Baile***

To provide more space for dancing at the Baile de las Flores this year the main dining room of the El Conquistador hotel will be used as a second ball room the night (Jan. 30) of the dance.

Tables around the wall will be available to those who wish to reserve them, for a small additional sum.

Jerry Gray's orchestra will play for the dance, one of Tucson's oldest traditional events, which is being presented for the 35 th time this year. Proceeds go to St. Luke's-in-the-Desert, a sanitorium for tubercular men, established in 1917.

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Tucson Daily Citizen [Tucson, Arizona], Jan 28, 1954, Page 12:

***Baile De Las Flores Time Nears***

An innovation for the 35th annual Baile de las Flores Saturday night at El Conquistador hotel will be a dance contest. Judges will be Mrs. Genevieve Wright, Mrs. John Yaryan, and Walter Fathauer.

Miss Florence Archer, the Old Pueblo's lovely rodeo queen, and her escort Thomas Parnell will lead the grand march for the traditional judging of costumes at the colorful event sponsored by St. Luke's in the Desert Board of Visitors.

.....

Dance music will be provided by Jerry Gray and his orchestra who have just finished an engagement at the Cocoanut Grove in Los Angeles.

The Sun [San Bernardino, California], Jan 30, 1954, Page 15, Your Radio Dial:  
KITO 1290                      6:05 – 6:30 pm                      Jerry Gray

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Chicago Sunday Tribune [Chicago, Illinois], Jan 31, 1954, Part 7 – Page 8:

**Ball, Rodeo Hold Stage at Tucson** – By Judith Williams

TUCSON, Ariz. – A baile and a fiesta head the current entertainment list down this way; the Baile de las Flores and La Fiesta de los Vaqueros. Or, in more familiar terms, a ball and a rodeo.

The ball of flowers, sponsored by the board of visitors of St. Lukes-in-the-Desert sanitorium, was held last night at a colorful, Spanish motif hotel, El Conquistador. Although not exclusively a costume dance, the ball was well attended by Tucson residents and visitors carrying out the theme with a lace scarf, or a Spanish comb or flowers in their hair. A few, of course, wore authentic Mexican and Spanish costumes, rich with lace and embroidery.

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**February 4, 1954 [Thursday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today; Dance, Ali Baba Ballroom, Grand Avenue and Webster Street, 115 West Grand Avenue, Oakland, California.**

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*Oakland Tribune* [Oakland, California], Jan 23, 1954, Page 8:

***Going Places – A ROUND-UP OF NIGHT LIFE GOSSIP . . . . by Don Steele***

Oakland has long been considered a good dance hall and ballroom city. All the name bands stop by for one-nighters at Sweets, Ali Baba, or Linn's at some point or other during the year. More than San Francisco can say.

I went to Linn's Tuesday night and liked it very much. Really never knew how nice it seems, dancing on a big spring ballroom floor after a lifetime of dancing on night spot postage-stamp hardwood. And Sid Hoff – there is a band! His tempos are just right for this pappy, at least. Tony Martin is the host and he runs Linn's with a velvet glove. Diplomatic as an ambassador but he has eyes in the back of his head. Attractive young crowd and everybody seemed to know everybody else.

I've written quite a few memos in this space concerning Ali Baba ballroom. Jerry Gray will be here for a "one-nighter" February 4. He just pulled 32,000 people into the Los Angeles Palladium in two weeks.

Woody Herman – a great 14-piece jazz band – comes to Sweets Tuesday the 26th. Nuff said for Herman fans.

If more folks knew what fun is available at these lovely dance rendezvous, I'm sure they would not be large enough to handle the crowds. In some towns there is a prejudice against ballrooms. This I know for a certainty. But Linn's, Sweet's, and Ali Baba are as smart and as dignified as any hotel ballroom in the country. For the money it costs, I doubt if you can have a better time anywhere. If you like to meet new people; and naturally – if you like to dance. Try all three and one will appeal more than the others, perhaps. Each has its own individuality, its own set. The owners do not think of each other as rivals. Ali Baba goes in for dance instruction at a very modest cost. This feature wins many steady dancers for their glamor manor.

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*Oakland Tribune* [Oakland, California], Jan 24, 1954, Page B-3:



[newspaper advertisement and the preserved original master printing plate]

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Oakland Tribune [Oakland, California], Jan 28, 1954, Page 46:



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Oakland Tribune [Oakland, California], Jan 30, 1954, Page 6:

**Going Places – A ROUND-UP OF NIGHT LIFE GOSSIP . . . by Don Steele**

Some mighty good dancing just around the corner. Jerry Gray moves his big crew into Ali Baba next Thursday.

Photograph of Jerry Gray with caption:

Jerry Gray brings his band to Ali Baba Thursday.

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Oakland Tribune [Oakland, California], Jan 31, 1954, Page B-1:



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Oakland Tribune [Oakland, California], Feb 2, 1954, Page D-21:



Oakland Tribune [Oakland, California], Feb 3, 1954, Page 36:

**Going Places – A ROUND-UP OF NIGHT LIFE GOSSIP . . . by Don Steele**

Jerry Gray is a name above names with most platter players. Expect to see Ali Baba caught in the crush of the biggest mob in months tomorrow night. Many say this is the band of the year.

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Oakland Tribune [Oakland, California], Feb 4, 1954, Page 45:



**February 9, 1954 [Tuesday]:**

Variety Daily, Feb 9, 1954:



Keyword: Palladium has grabbed the Sauter-Finegan Orch for a two-week stand starting May 14. After the current Ralph Flanagan will be Freddy Martin, Jerry Gray and probably Tex Beneke in the spot immediately preceding Sauter-Finegan. Immediately after the S-F stand, Les Brown comes back for three

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**February 19, 1954 [Friday]:**

Variety Daily, Feb 19, 1954:



Keyword: JERRY GRAY ORK IN THE 'MILLER' MOOD

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**March 1954:**

Metronome, Mar 1954, Page 10:

Advertisement for SLINGERLAND Radio Kings

Artie Anton with Jerry Gray. Artie has always been a big time dance band drummer. He comments in his own words: "I prefer SLINGERLAND Radio King Drums because they are the ONLY drums from which I get the tone and response for playing with the best musical organizations."

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**c March 1954:**

The following World Program Service Transcriptions are grouped together with an approximate date of March of 1954, until further information can more precisely determine the recording session dates.

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Gisele MacKenzie; World Program Service Transcription Recording Session, Los Angeles, California.**

**WORLD PROGRAM SERVICE – Disc 269**

GISELE MACKENZIE With Jerry Gray's Orchestra

BB-50947-A1:

K. I GET A KICK OUT OF YOU (1:56) – v Gisele MacKenzie

L. PLEASE DON'T TALK ABOUT ME WHEN I'M GONE (1:53) – v Gisele MacKenzie

M. I ONLY HAVE EYES FOR YOU (2:03) – v Gisele MacKenzie

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra:** Musicians unknown, *Club 15* was over.

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**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Gisele MacKenzie; World Program Service Transcription Recording Session, Los Angeles, California.**

**WORLD PROGRAM SERVICE – Disc 272**

GISELE MACKENZIE With Jerry Gray's Orchestra

BB-50962-A1:

A. WHERE OR WHEN (2:12) – v Gisele MacKenzie

B. A LITTLE BIRD TOLD ME (2:06) – v Gisele MacKenzie

C. SWINGING ON A STAR (2:08) – v Gisele MacKenzie

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra:** Musicians unknown, *Club 15* was over. Strings are included on A LITTLE BIRD TOLD ME and SWINGING ON A STAR. This suggests these two songs were from a different recording session. Most likely WHERE OR WHEN was from the same session as the three cuts on the previous World Program Service Disc 269.

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**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Gisele MacKenzie; World Program Service Transcription Recording Session, Los Angeles, California.**

**WORLD PROGRAM SERVICE – Disc 284**

GISELE MAC KENZIE With Jerry Gray's Orchestra

L-16:

G. HOW BLUE THE NIGHT (2:44) – v Gisele MacKenzie

H. LET'S TAKE THE LONG WAY HOME (2:22) – v Gisele MacKenzie

J. I COULD WRITE A BOOK (2:36) – v Gisele MacKenzie

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra:** Musicians unknown, *Club 15* was over. Includes strings on all three cuts. Possibly from the same World session as A LITTLE BIRD TOLD ME and SWINGING ON A STAR.

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**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Gisele MacKenzie; World Program Service Transcription Recording Session, Los Angeles, California.**

**WORLD PROGRAM SERVICE – Disc 288**

GISELE MAC KENZIE With Jerry Gray's Orchestra

L-16:

- G. AUTUMN IN NEW YORK (2:28) – v Gisele MacKenzie
- H. LONG AGO AND FAR AWAY (2:29) – v Gisele MacKenzie
- J. THIS CAN'T BE LOVE (1:43) – v Gisele MacKenzie

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra:** Musicians unknown, *Club 15* was over. Includes strings on all three cuts.

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Gisele MacKenzie; World Program Service Transcription Recording Session, Los Angeles, California.**

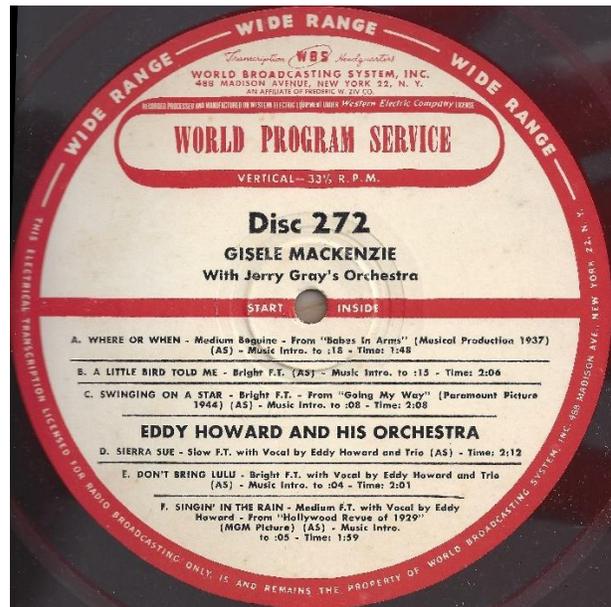
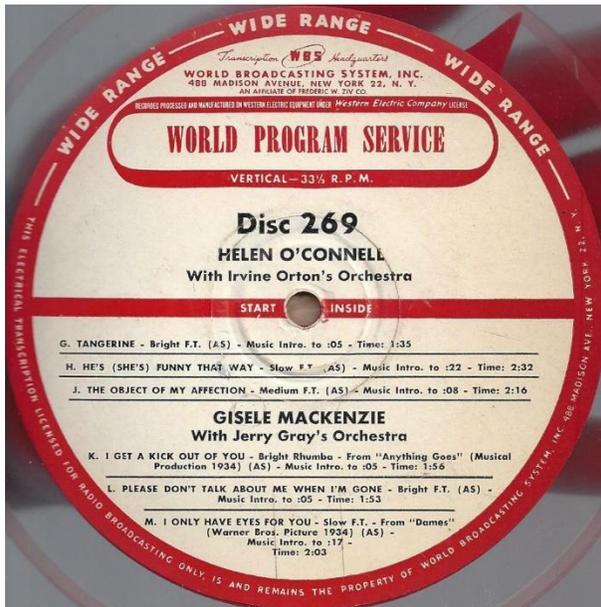
**WORLD PROGRAM SERVICE – Disc 327**

GISELE MAC KENZIE With Jerry Gray's Orchestra

BB-51852-A2:

- E. MY FOOLISH HEART (2:58) – v Gisele MacKenzie
- F. THEY CAN'T TAKE THAT AWAY FROM ME (2:18) – v Gisele MacKenzie

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra:** Musicians unknown, *Club 15* was over. Includes strings on all three cuts.





**March 5, 1954 [Friday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, 3rd Annual Eastern Conference Dance, Orange Coast College, Riverside Municipal Auditorium, Riverside, California.**

*The Tustin News* [Tustin, California], Feb 26, 1954, Page 5:

**Conference Queen To Be Announced Next Week**

The Eastern Conference queen from Orange Coast College will be announced next week, Dean Fred Huber stated today.

The Orange Coast College representative will reign over the Eastern Conference dance along with representatives from the other six conference schools. The dance, third annual all-conference event, will be held this year at the Riverside Municipal Auditorium on March 5 with Jerry Gray and his orchestra providing the music.

Candidates from Orange Coast College are Helene Gorman and Sharon Baxter, Costa Mesa; Carole Davis, Laguna Beach; Dorothy Patterson, Carole Renfro, Joan Herman, and June Heiman, Huntington Beach; Donna Schleining, Tustin; Elaine Unzelman, Orange; Mary Hammond and Carolyn Dielman, Newport Beach; Marilyn Barnett, Santa Ana; and Jean Mittrick, Garden Grove.

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*The Covina Argus-Citizen* [Covina, California], Mar 4, 1954, Sec. II – 1:

**Gloria Skaro Named Miss Varsity for MSAC College**

Miss Gloria Skare, sophomore at Mt. San Antonio college, has been selected as "Miss Varsity" to represent the college at the Eastern Conference dance Friday night at Riverside Municipal Auditorium.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert J. Skare, 215 E. Philadelphia Street, Pomona. A liberal arts major at MSAC, Gloria is active in many campus organizations and currently is president of the Associated Women Students. Last fall she was one of the princesses for the Los Angeles County Fair. She was nominated in the contest by the basketball team.

Others competing for the title were Loretta Kaiser (Monrovia), representing the tennis team; Nancy Pimm (Los Angeles), football; Phyllis Farmer (Pomona), track; Lorna Moffet (Alhambra), baseball; and Joan Hillier (Pomona), swimming.

Students from all of the schools in the Eastern Conference will attend the dance which is formal and will be held from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Providing the music for the event is the band of Jerry Gray. Each school attending has chosen a "Miss Varsity" to represent their college.

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*Weekly Torch* [Fullerton Junior College, Fullerton, California], Mar 5, 1954, Front Page:

**E.C. Dance Tonight At Riverside To Feature Jerry Gray's Band**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today will furnish the music for the third annual Eastern Conference Dance, tonight at the Riverside Municipal Auditorium. The dance will start at 9 p.m. and continue through 1 a.m.

More than 700 couples are expected to attend this yearly affair, which will climax with the presentation of the seven conference queens, one representing each member school. Suzie Basinger will represent FJC.

Admission will be \$3.00 a couple, with tickets on sale at the Book Store and from members of the student commission. No tickets will be sold at the dance.

After considerable discussion, delegates from the seven E.C. colleges agreed to have regular suits for men and long or short formals for women. Corsages will be optional.

The decorations revolve around the theme "Ocean Commotion," with the stage set to appear like a pier jutting out into the harbor, and the lower level decorated to give the impression of being under the sea.

Riverside College will act as host for the dance with San Bernardino serving as co-host.

Jerry Gray, a composer, has made arrangements for Artie Shaw and the late Glenn Miller. Among his long list of song credits are "String of Pearls," "Pennsylvania 6-5000," "Sun Valley Jump," and many others recorded by Glenn Miller.

Since he started the "Club 15" show, he has also conducted over 1,000 fifteen-minute radio shows. Formerly a violinist in the Andre Kostelanetz orchestra, Gray arranged "Begin The Beguine" for Artie Shaw.

During the war, Gray served in Europe as chief musical arranger to the late Glenn Miller. After Miller's death, Gray took over direction of the orchestra until the end of the war, when he formed his own band for radio work.

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### **March 11, 1954 [Thursday]:**

Variety Daily, Mar 11, 1954:



**March 18, 1954 [Thursday]:**

Variety Daily, Mar 18, 1954:



Keyword: a book in which patrons are asked to inscribe the names of the bands they'd like to hear. In 1953, Tex Beneke's name was listed only six times. Nevertheless, Way peered into the future and booked Beneke to follow Jerry Gray, who opens tomorrow. As an indication of what to expect, since the first of the year Beneke's name has

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March 19, 1954 [Friday] thru

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Mar 19, 1954, Part I Page 26:

**VIDEO-RADIO BRIEFS**

Jerry Gray's band is back at the Palladium this evening.

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Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Mar 19, 1954, Part II Page 8:



**March 23, 1954 [Tuesday]:**

Variety Daily, Mar 23, 1954:



Keyword: As a prelude to the Jerry Gray opening at the Palladium tomorrow night, the employees staged a contest the other night to see who could identify the authentic Glenn Miller sound. Disks by Miller

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**March 26, 1954 [Friday] thru**

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Mar 26, 1954, Part III Page 8:



**April 24, 1954 [Saturday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, with Linda Lee; Dance, Pla-Mor Ballroom, 3142 Main Street, Kansas City, Missouri.

*The Kansas City Times* [Kansas City, Missouri], Apr 23, 1954, Page 26:

**PLA-MOR DANCE TONIGHT**  
8:30 to 12—85c Inc. Tax  
**CAL CHANDLER and His ORCHESTRA**  
TOMORROW ONLY FROM THE HOLLYWOOD PALLADIUM  
**JERRY GRAY—Creator of Glenn Miller Tunes**  
**& His Band of Today with Linda Lee, Vocalist**  
ADVANCE TICKETS \$1.75 INC. TAX—TABLE RESERVATIONS 25c Person  
ON SALE AT PLA-MOR—OFFICE OPEN EVENINGS  
**Roller Skate 8 p. m. Open Bowling from 4 p. m.**

*The Kansas City Times* [Kansas City, Missouri], Apr 24, 1954, Page 19:

**PLA-MOR** Dance Tonite  
9 P. M. to 1 A. M.  
**JERRY GRAY** CREATOR OF THE  
GLENN MILLER TUNES  
And His Band of Today With Vocalist Linda Lee  
ADVANCE TICKETS 'TIL 6 P. M. \$1.75, INC. TAX—BOX OFFICE TONIGHT, \$2.00  
TABLE RESERVATIONS, 25c PERSON—ON SALE PLA-MOR OFFICE  
**Roller Skating 2 and 8 P. M. Today and Sunday**  
**Lanes for Open Bowling Starting 11 A. M.**

**April 28, 1954 [Wednesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today and Linda Lee; with Bob Hope, Betsy Duncan, The Gaylords [Burt Bonaldi, leader and guitarist; Billy Christ, bass player; and Don Rea, pianist], Tulara Lee [comedienne], Gil Johnson-Mike Madill [dance duo]; Muncie Post 12 Amvets Present *The Bob Hope Show*, Muncie Fieldhouse, 525 N Walnut Street, Muncie, Indiana.**

*The Bob Hope Show* with Jerry Gray and his Band of Today – the program included:

A String Of Pearls – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today

The Birth Of The Blues – v Linda Lee with Jerry Gray and his Band of Today

Pantomime skit – Tulara Lee and her husband George Gilbert

Unknown Title – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today featuring drummer Joe Tenney

Mama-Papa Polka – v The Gaylords

From The Vine Came The Grape – v The Gaylords

Thanks For The Memories and Introduction to Bob Hope – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today

Jokes about Muncie, President Eisenhower, Liberace, and Senator McCarthy – Bob Hope

“Songs As You Like Them” – v Betsy Duncan

That’s Love – v Bob Hope and Betsy Duncan

La Vie and Rose – v Bob Hope

Presentation of Amvets Oscar to Bob Hope – L. R. (Sparky) Walsh

Thank You To The Audience For Supporting Bob Hope Show – Al Wilson, Muncie Amvets

Closing by Bob Hope and Thanks For The Memories – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today

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*Muncie Evening Press* [Muncie, Indiana], Mar 26, 1954, Page 3:

#### **Muncie School System Board of Trustees Meeting**

A request from Amvets for use of the Fieldhouse April 28 for the Bob Hope Show was granted,

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*The Muncie Star* [Muncie, Indiana], Apr 7, 1954, Page 2:

#### ***Amvets Bring Bob Hope Here April 28***

Bob Hope, top movie, television, and radio star, will come to Muncie on April 28 at the Fieldhouse for a two-hour show sponsored by Muncie Post 12, Amvets.

With the popular comedian will be Hollywood starlet Gale Storm, now seen in “My Little Margie,” Jerry Gray and his orchestra, and three other acts.

Hope himself will be on the stage for at least one hour of the show, according to Amvet Commander Al Wilson. Known as “the benefit king,” Hope has given time and talent for 1,000-odd benefits in the past 10 years. Reviewers say in the past 25 years he has made more people laugh in more different places in the world than any other man in history.

Proceeds from the show will go for Amvets civic and welfare work.

Ticket chairman Chalmers King said all downstairs seats in the Fieldhouse will be reserved. Tickets for reserved seats can be bought only at the Muncie Music Center. Non-reserved seats can be obtained from Amvets, at the club or at the center, or at King’s office, Western Reserve Building (basement). Reserved tickets will go on sale Wednesday morning.

[Author’s Note: This is the only mention of Gale Storm, who was not part of the show.]

Muncie Evening Press [Muncie, Indiana], Apr 7, 1954, Page 3:

### **Amvets Bringing Bob Hope to City**

Bob Hope, whose name stands for first-class entertainment, will be in Muncie in person on April 28, Muncie Post 12, Amvets, announced today. Coming with the movie, television, and radio star to the Fieldhouse for a two-hour show will be other acts to be announced at a later date. Al Wilson, post commander, said Hope himself will be on stage for at least one hour of the show.

[Author's Note: We will only include those articles and ads from the *Muncie Evening Press* that are substantially different from those published in *The Muncie Star*. Duplication about ticket purchase will not be included. Notation will be shown when the same advertisement ran in both newspapers in the same time frame. ]

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Muncie Evening Press [Muncie, Indiana], Apr 9, 1954, Page 6:

**MUNCIE AMVETS Present the**  
**BOB HOPE SHOW**  
**IN PERSON ON THE STAGE!**  
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 8:30 P.M.**  
**MUNCIE FIELDHOUSE**  
**PRICES: \$2.00—\$3.00—\$3.50 AND \$4.00**  
**SEATS NOW ON SALE AT THE MUNCIE MUSIC CENTER, 123 WEST ADAMS. MAIL ORDERS ACCEPTED. SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER WITH SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED ENVELOPE!**

[Author's Note: This same advertisement appeared several times in the local Muncie newspapers, including *The Muncie Star*, Apr 10, 1954, Page 2.

Beginning with *The Muncie Star*, Apr 23, 1954, Page 12, it was notated the \$4.00 Seats were Sold Out. This included the *Muncie Evening Press*, Apr 23, 1954, Page 6; the *Muncie Evening Press*, Apr 26, 1954, Page 15; *The Muncie Star*, Apr 27, 1954, Page 14; and others.]

The Muncie Star [Muncie, Indiana], Apr 11, 1954, Page A-19:

**Bob Hope To Appear Here For Hour of Two-Hour Show**

Bob Hope, who comes to the Fieldhouse April 28 for a Muncie Amvets sponsored show, is America's "most loved comedian" according to a recent poll by George Gallup.

Public opinion, the poll showed, picked Hope as the funniest laugh maker by more than 2 1/2 to 1 over his closest rivals on stage, screen, radio, and television.

Hope will appear on the stage for one whole hour of the two-hour show.

Hope will have the stage to himself for a whole hour. The other half of his show will be given over to a Hollywood starlet, a leading orchestra, and several acts.

Proceeds of the show will be used for Amvet Post 12 civic and welfare projects. Chalmers King is ticket chairman.

The latest honor for Hope comes when he has reached the top in three branches of show business.

He is the top box office star in movies on the North American continent, his two pictures, "Paleface" and "Sorrowful Jones" having been leaders for months.

Soon he will team for the sixth time with Bing Crosby and Dorothy Lamour in "Road to Paris" or maybe "Road to Ruin."

One reason for his continued high popularity is his real fondness for charity performances. Known as the "benefit king," Hope has played 1,000-some benefits in the past 10 years and between Thanksgiving and New Year's, he frequently plays as many as three a day.

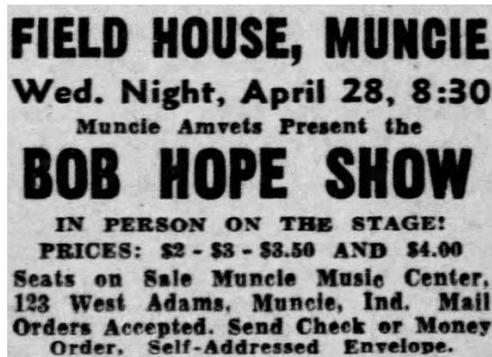
"As long as there are sick and injured people and kinds who need help, I'll play benefits," he says, and that's his credo.

Hope finished, "It's not the money or the fame or any of the rest of it. Maybe I'm just a ham, but I've got to be around people, and I've got to try to make them happy, because that's the only time I feel right myself."

Photograph of Bob Hope

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Muncie Evening Press [Muncie, Indiana], Apr 12, 1954, Page 15:



[Author's Note: This same advertisement appeared several times in the local Muncie newspapers, including the *Muncie Evening Press*, Apr 14, 1954, Page 18; and *The Muncie Star*, Apr 22, 1954, Page 7.]

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Muncie Evening Press [Muncie, Indiana], Apr 16, 1954, Page 3:

### **Singer With Bob Hope Show**

Jerry Gray and his orchestra, and Hollywood starlet Betsy Duncan head the supporting cast which will accompany Bob Hope when the world's No. 1 comedian comes to Muncie. The two-hour show, sponsored locally by Amvet Post 12, will be presented at 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 28.

Jerry Gray is a former member of the Glenn Miller Orchestra.

Betsy Duncan, now with Paramount Studios, has also made many appearances on television and radio, and accompanied Hope on a tour throughout Europe.

The Gaylords, famous recording trio, will also be on the program for the Muncie appearance of the Hope show.

Photograph of Betsy Duncan

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Muncie Evening Press [Muncie, Indiana], Apr 17, 1954, Page 3:

### ***Woman's World* ..... Edited by Ruth Mauzy McFadden**

THERE ARE MANY GOOD SEATS left for the Bob Hope Show which will be presented at the Muncie Fieldhouse at 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, by Amvets, Post 12. The proceeds will go for civic and welfare work carried on by the organization.

Such popular radio and TV stars as Jerry Gray and his orchestra; Betsy Duncan, Hollywood starlet; the Gaylords, famous recording trio; will appear with the widely known comedian. In his recent TV show Bob Hope mentioned that he would be in Muncie on April 28.

*The Muncie Star* [Muncie, Indiana], Apr 18, 1954, Page 4-A:

***Starlet, Jerry Gray Band, Gaylords With Hope Show***

Hollywood starlet Betsy Duncan, Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, and the Gaylords will be with the Bob Hope Show when the "all-American comedian" comes to the Muncie Fieldhouse on Wednesday, April 28.

Betsy, one of Paramount's youngest starlets, accompanied Hope on a tour of military bases in Europe and appeared with him at the Palladium in London. Her singing style, "songs as you like them," is bringing high popularity to the young beauty.

Jerry Gray, right-hand man of the late Glenn Miller, took over the orchestra in Paris during World War II when the maestro met an untimely death. He arranged "Chattanooga Choo Choo," "Kalamazoo" and dozens of other hit recordings and composed such Miller classics as "String of Pearls" and "Pennsylvania 6-5000."

Gray also created "Begin The Beguine" for Artie Shaw. He has been a permanent member of "Club 15" over CBS since the program began. His band features Tommy Traynor and Tony Gray as vocalists.

The two-hour show sponsored by Muncie Post 12, Amvets, will also feature the Gaylords, famous recording trio. Their current hit is "From The Vine Came The Grape." All their recordings have been solid hits.

Balcony tickets can be purchased from members of the Amvets. Balcony and reserved seat tickets are on sale at the Muncie Music Center, 123 W. Adams St., with good seats still available, according to a report from Chalmers King, Amvet ticket chairman. Mail orders will be accepted at the Muncie Music Center if accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

The Hope Show will come to Muncie from Milwaukee and, following the show here, will go to Lexington, Kentucky.

Photograph of Jerry Gray

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*Muncie Evening Press* [Muncie, Indiana], Apr 19, 1954, Page 8:

***Amateur Acrobat To Get His Chance At Bob Hope Show***

Men, have you long nurtured a secret ambition to become an acrobat? You may have an opportunity to become one sooner than you think, and in front of thousands of people, when the Bob Hope Show comes to town April 28.

According to announcement made today, Miss Tulara Lee, well-known comedienne, will be among the acts appearing here with the stage, screen, radio and television star. Her act opens with a song, but Miss Lee says, "It really gets going good when I coax a gentleman from the audience to come up on the stage and become an acrobat right before your very eyes.

Miss Lee has appeared on Ed Sullivan's Toast of the Town program, has been featured at the Palladium, and on the Danny Thomas television. She was in Warner Brothers' motion picture, "Daughter of Rosie O'Grady."

Others appearing with Hope at the Fieldhouse will be Betsy Duncan, Hollywood starlet; Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, and the Gaylords, famous recording trio whose current hit is "From the Vine Came the Grape."

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Muncie Evening Press [Muncie, Indiana], Apr 21, 1954, Page 12:

### **Tickets Are Available For The Bob Hope Show**

Tickets are still available for the Bob Hope Show April 28 at the Muncie Fieldhouse, Chalmers King, ticket chairman for Amvets Post 12, announced today. Amvets are bringing the famous comedian to Muncie for a two-hour show. Bob Hope will appear on stage half the time.

Among the persons coming with Hope will be Betsy Duncan, Hollywood starlet; Jerry Gray and his orchestra; the Gaylords, well-known recording trio; and Tulara Lee, attractive comedienne.

Jerry Gray, right-hand man of the late Glenn Miller, took over the orchestra in Paris when Miller met an untimely death. He arranged "Chattanooga Choo Choo," "Kalamazoo," and other hit recordings, and composed such Miller classics as "String of Pearls" and "Pennsylvania 6-5000."

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The Muncie Star [Muncie, Indiana], Apr 22, 1954, Page 8:

### **On Bill With Bob Hope Show**

Gil Johnson and Mike Madill, television and night club dance duo, are one of the top supporting acts on the Bob Hope Show which comes to the Muncie Fieldhouse at 8:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 28.

Refreshingly different in the field of modern dance, the Johnson-Madill act has been a success at such places as the Beverly Hills Country Club, El Rancho, California; the Desert Inn, Las Vegas; Golden Hotel, Reno; and on numerous television shows.

The two merged after Johnson came to the United States from a tour on the continent. He was a hit at the Palladium in London, the Lido in Paris, and in musicals.

Madill at that time has been featured in New York City's Copacabana. His experience in show business has run from a little single to solo work with the San Francisco Ballet.

Another supporting act on the two-hour-long show will be Miss Tulara Lee, comedienne. She has appeared on Ed Sullivan's Toast of the Town and on the Danny Thomas television show. Miss Lee was in Warner Brothers "Daughter of Rosie O'Grady."

Hope will take up one whole hour by himself during the program. Others on the show are Hollywood starlet Betsy Duncan, Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, and the Gaylords.

Balcony tickets can be bought from members of Muncie Post 12, Amvets, show sponsors. Balcony and reserved seat tickets can be bought at the Muncie Music Center, 123 W. Adams St. Good seats are still available, said ticket chairman Chalmers King.

Photograph of Gil Johnson and Mike Madill

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Muncie Evening Press [Muncie, Indiana], Apr 22, 1954, Page 15:

***Woman's World* ..... Edited by Ruth Mauzy McFadden**

DID YOU KNOW THAT PROCEEDS derived from the Bob Hope Show to be presented at the Fieldhouse Wednesday night, April 28, will be used by the Amvets for their civic and welfare work? The money will be given to disabled veterans, their widows, and orphans who are in need. There are many good seats left for the show and tickets may be secured at the Muncie Music Center.

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The Muncie Star [Muncie, Indiana], Apr 23, 1954, Page 6:

***Seen and Heard in Our Neighborhood By Dick Greene***

IN MANY PLACES . . . After the meeting of Muncie Post 12, Amvets, the other night several of the members began to tell where they had seen Bob Hope do a show during their time in the armed forces. The vets were especially interested since the post is bringing Hope to Muncie for a show next Wednesday evening at the Muncie Fieldhouse.

Sparky Walsh said he had seen his show in Guam, George Doeding in London, and John Jilbert in the New Hebrides Islands. Wayne Hoover, Hugh Scherschel and Marshall Sharp had attended performances in Germany, Al Wilson and Jim Miller in different places of the South Pacific, John Strohm on Guadalcanal and Irish Walsh in the Solomon Islands. Ray Steffey told his buddies he had caught Hope's show in Philadelphia. All of these men served in World War II. Another vet, Kenny Koehler, had seen Hope while servicing in Korea.

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The Palladium-Item and Sun-Telegram [Richmond, Indiana], Apr 23, 1954, Page 9:

**Fieldhouse  
MUNCIE**

Muncie Amvets Present the

**BOB HOPE  
SHOW**

In Person • On Stage

**WED. NIGHT**  
**April 28, 8:30 P. M.**

PRICES: \$2, \$3, \$3.50  
Seats on sale Muncie Music Center, 123 West Adams, Muncie, Ind. Mail orders accepted. Send check or money order, self-addressed envelope.

**ALSO ON PROGRAM:**  
Jerry Gray and Orchestra and the Gaylords with Hope.

This is an example of typical advertisements in communities near Muncie; including Richmond and Anderson, Indiana. Note the inclusion of Jerry Gray and The Gaylords

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**Wed., April 28 - Fieldhouse - 8:30 P.M.**  
 (Daylight Saving Time)  
**Muncie AMVETS, Post No. 12, Presents**

# BOB HOPE

★ ★ IN PERSON ★ ★



**Don't Let Anything Keep You Away! 5,000 GOOD SEATS AT ONLY \$2.00 - Get Yours Now!**  
**THE GREATEST ALL-STAR 2-HOUR STAGE SHOW EVER TO PLAY AT THE MUNCIE FIELDHOUSE**

<b>JERRY GRAY AND HIS BAND OF TODAY</b> <small>Formerly With Glenn Miller's Orchestra—Composer of "String of Pearls"—"Pennsylvania 6-5000."</small>	<b>BETSY DUNCAN</b> Paramount Starlet	<b>THE GAYLORDS</b> Famous Recording Trio	<b>JOHNSON AND MADILL</b> Sensational Dance Team	<b>TULARA LEE</b> Unusual Comedienne
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**BOB HOPE WILL APPEAR ON THE STAGE FOR ONE FULL - SOLID HOUR OF FUN!**  
**GET ALL TICKETS AT MUNCIE MUSIC CENTER UNTIL 12:30 WED.—FIELDHOUSE BOX OFFICE OPEN FROM 1:00 P.M. 'TIL SHOW TIME ON WED.**  
**Main Floor Reserved Seats, \$3.00 and \$3.50 - Entire Balcony (Not Reserved - Over 5,000 Seats) Only \$2.00 - Hurry! Hurry! - Doors Open 7:00 P.M. Wed. Night!**

THIS ADVERTISEMENT SPONSORED BY MEMBERS OF MUNCIE AMVETS POST, NO. 12

<b>Owl Coal &amp; Oil Co.</b> 2600 K. Hackley St. *ARNOLD E. SOLLARS *LEO A. VOISARD	<b>Ernst Inc.</b> 4407 Kilgore *JAMES D. STEWART	<b>L. Wayne Hoover Agency</b> 4 Patterson Block *WAYNE HOOVER	<b>Muncie Paper Stock Co.</b> 1115 S. Liberty St. *SAMUEL B. DOBROW	<b>Lawson's Jewelers</b> 416 S. Walnut St. *STEVE O'DONNELL	<b>Guy R. Taylor Co.</b> 2016 S. Madison St. *GUY R. TAYLOR
<b>Hi-Hat Hamburgs</b> 119 S. High St. *ED HIMES	<b>City Sales &amp; Service Inc.</b> 217 W. Washington St. *ELLEN R. RATCHFORD	<b>Bert's Inc.</b> 181 S. Walnut St. Women's and Children's Wear	<b>John C. Banta</b> Over on Mulberry *BOB SMITH	<b>Delaware Printing Co.</b> 312 S. High St. *DON E. STALEY	<b>Pazol's Jewelers</b> Walnut at Jackson *MORTON FAZOL *HERBERT FAZOL
<b>Village Standard Service</b> University and Dill Streets *SAM EPLER	<b>D. M. Galliker Co.</b> Hotel Roberts Bldg. *ED WILSON	<b>Rader Studios</b> 200 W. Main St. *CHUCK RADER	<b>Hang Drugs</b> 1218 S. Madison St. *WILL CONLON, MGR.	<b>Standt Jewelers</b> 282 S. Walnut St. *DICK BRONNENBERG	<b>Normandy Florists</b> 112 W. Charles St. *NICK MENTES
<b>Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co.</b> 1502 S. Walnut St. *CAMPBELL H. GILLESPIE	<b>Coca Cola Bottling Co.</b> 200 W. Winford St. *ROBERT J. COBDELL	<b>Retz Insurance Agency</b> 1891 S. High St. *HARRY RETZ	<b>Fred Baldwin</b> *Ralph E. Dennis Jr.	<b>Boxell Signs</b> 412 S. Mulberry *DAVE BOXELL	<b>Lincoln Press Inc.</b> 114-116 E. Seymour *JAMES F. HAROLD *THE OWEN CORP.
<b>Lee's Barber Shop</b> 184 N. Mulberry St. *LEE H. VAN DEUSEN	<b>Hotherr's Muncie Music Center</b> 123 W. Adams St. *RAYMOND K. HATCHER	<b>Burgauer Business Machine Co.</b> 189 W. Jackson St. *R. M. BURGAUER	<b>Louis A. Feck</b> *Neil Doughty's East Main St. Package Store 485 E. Main St.	<b>Major Appliances Inc.</b> 2883 W. Jackson St. *AL WILSON *BOB HAGEN	<b>J. Erwin Walsh Insurance</b> 513 S. High St. *CURLY WALSH

**More Support for Bob Hope**

The Gaylords [Burt Bonaldi, the leader and guitarist; Billy Christ, bass player; and Don Rea, pianist] will be one of the top supporting acts on the Bob Hope Show, which will be at the Muncie Fieldhouse at 8:30 p.m., Wednesday.

The Gaylords, all natives of Michigan, who formed their trio while attending the University of Detroit, are fast becoming one of the most-talked-about and popular attractions in show business.

Henry J. Mahady, national commander of Amvets, announced that the Amvet Oscar, the first award of its kind to be given by the organization, will be presented Hope when he appears in Muncie.

The Oscar is being awarded "for the best in entertainment" provided by Hope on his many travels to GI hospitals, military posts, and at various theaters of war around the world, Mahady said. Notice of the award was received by Lawrence J. (Sparky) Walsh, former Amvet Post 12 and state commander, and immediate past national vice commander of Amvets.

The award is a huge plaque, appropriately inscribed and contains the Amvets emblem. Arrangements for the presentation are in charge of Al Wilson, post commander, and Walsh.

Other supporting acts on the two-hour show will be Gil Johnson and Mike Madill, dance team; Miss Tulara Lee, comedienne; Starlet Betsy Duncan; and Jerry Gray and his Band of Today. Hope will take up one hour of the show himself.

Balcony tickets may be purchased from members of Muncie Amvets Post 12, sponsors of the show. Balcony and reserved seat tickets may be purchased at the Muncie Music Center, 123 W. Adams St. Good seats still are available, said Ticket Chairman Chalmers King.

Photograph of The Gaylords

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*The Muncie Star* [Muncie, Indiana], Apr 26, 1954, Page 3:

### ***Million Dollars In Talent With The Bob Hope Show***

A million dollars' worth of talent will take the stage at the Fieldhouse Wednesday night when the Bob Hope Show plays here.

Besides the "all-American comedian," who will appear for a full hour of the two-hour show, a nationally famous band and four top supporting acts will share the spotlight.

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today will come from New York for the three-day engagement in Muncie, Milwaukee, and Lexington. Gray, popular composer, was formerly with the Glenn Miller orchestra and took over in Paris when Miller met an untimely death during World War II.

### **Heard by Millions**

Paramount starlet Betsy Duncan, featured in the cast, accompanied Hope on a tour of military bases throughout Europe and appeared with him at the Palladium in London. Her singing style, "Songs as You Like Them," has been heard by millions.

The Gaylords, well-known recording trio, have been in the big-time since they left the University of Detroit. Their brand of comedy rates them as one of the most versatile and talented trios of its kind to hit show business in a long time.

Another of the acts is the Johnson and Madill television and night club dance duo. Refreshingly different in the field of modern dance, the act has been a success at such places as Desert Inn, Las Vegas, the Beverly Hills Country Club, and on many television shows.

Attractive comedienne Tulara Lee has been featured on the Danny Thomas Show, Ed Sullivan's Toast of the Town, and played in Warner Brothers' movie, "Daughter of Rosie O'Grady."

Guests at the show which starts at 8:30 p.m., will be 16 of the older children from the Delaware County Children's Home.

Tickets for the Amvets-sponsored performance may be obtained from the Muncie Music Center, 123 W. Adams St., from Amvets, or at the club 301 1/2 E. Main St. Chalmers King, ticket chairman, said a few reserved seats are available in addition to a larger number of unreserved \$2 seats.

Proceeds of the show will be used for Amvets civic and welfare projects.

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Muncie Evening Press [Muncie, Indiana], Apr 26, 1954, Page 18:

**Children To Be Guests At Bob Hope Show Wednesday**

Special guests of Amvets Post 12 at the Bob Hope Show Wednesday night at the Fieldhouse, will be 16 older children from the Delaware County Children's Home.

Proceeds from the affair will be used in local civic and welfare projects sponsored by the Amvets.

Appearing in Muncie with Bob Hope will be Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, Paramount starlet Betsy Duncan, the Gaylords, Johnson and Madill dance duo, and Tulara Lee, comedienne.

Jerry Gray and his band will come from New York for the three-day engagement in Muncie, Milwaukee, and Lexington. Gray was formerly with Glenn Miller's orchestra.

Muncie Evening Press [Muncie, Indiana], Apr 27, 1954, Page 13:

The Muncie Star [Muncie, Indiana], Apr 28, 1954, Page 18:

**HURRY! HURRY! DON'T DELAY!**  
Don't Let Anything Keep You Away!  
**GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!**  
**4,000 GOOD SEATS ONLY \$2.00**  
TO SEE THE GREATEST STAGE SHOW  
EVER TO PLAY THE  
**MUNCIE FIELD HOUSE**  
TOMORROW  
**WED. NIGHT, APRIL 28—8:30 P.M.**  
Muncie AMVETS, Post No. 12, Present

*on* **STAGE** *in* **PERSON**



**BOB HOPE**

**ALL-STAR 2-HOUR STAGE SHOW**  
**JERRY GRAY AND HIS BAND OF TODAY**  
Formerly with Glenn Miller's orchestra (composer of "String of Pearls," "Pennsylvania 6-3000")  
**BETSY DUNCAN ★ THE GAYLORDS**  
Paramount Starlet — Famous Recording Trio  
**JOHNSON AND MADILL**  
Sensational Dance Team  
**TULARA LEE, Unusual Comedienne**

**BOB HOPE WILL APPEAR ON THE STAGE  
FOR ONE FULL, SOLID HOUR OF FUN!**

**CONTRARY TO RUMORS, THERE ARE PLENTY OF GOOD  
RESERVED SEATS AVAILABLE BUT THEY'RE GOING FAST  
TICKETS ON SALE AT MUNCIE MUSIC CENTER**  
Th 12:30 Wed.—Field House Box Office Open 1:00 P.M. Th  
Show Time Wed.  
MAIN FLOOR RESERVED SEATS \$3.00 AND \$3.50  
ENTIRE BALCONY (NOT RESERVED) ONLY \$2.00

*The Muncie Star* [Muncie, Indiana], Apr 28, 1954, Page 1:

***Bob Hope Due At Airport In Afternoon***

Comedian Bob Hope, who will appear with an all-star cast at the Muncie Fieldhouse at 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, will arrive at the Muncie Airport at 3 p.m. He will be flown from Milwaukee, Wis., in a plane piloted by Dick Whitney. Accompanying Hope to Muncie will be N. J. Kissner, general manager at Acme-Lees Division, and Vic Sicilia, local theater manager.

Hope will be driven into the city behind a police escort and will stop briefly at the Hotel Roberts. Cars for the trip will be furnished by Rhodes-Hertzfeld, Inc.

Part of the show, Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, arrived in Muncie Tuesday. Other members of the show will arrive Wednesday by airplane, train, and bus.

Hope will leave for Indianapolis after the show and will fly to Lexington, Ky., where he is to give a show Thursday night.

Tickets may be purchased at the Muncie Music Center until 12:30 p.m. Wednesday. The box office at the Fieldhouse will be open from 1 p.m. to show time. General admission tickets may be purchased also from members of Muncie Post 12, Amvets, sponsors of the show.

Hope will appear for one hour of the two-hour show. He will be presented an Amvet Oscar during the performance.

His supporting cast includes The Gaylords, musical trio; Gil Johnson and Mike Madill, dance team; Miss Tulara, comedienne; and Starlet Betsy Duncan.

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*Muncie Evening Press* [Muncie, Indiana], Apr 28, 1954, Page 1:

***Bob Hope Flies Into Muncie For Show At The Fieldhouse***

Eyes of persons gathered at the Muncie Airport this afternoon were turned skyward, searching the heavens for the plane bringing comedian Bob Hope into Muncie for tonight's show at the Fieldhouse.

Piloting the plane was Dick Whitney, and accompanying Hope to Muncie were N.J. Kissner, general manager at Acme-Lees Division, and Vic Sicilia, local theater manager.

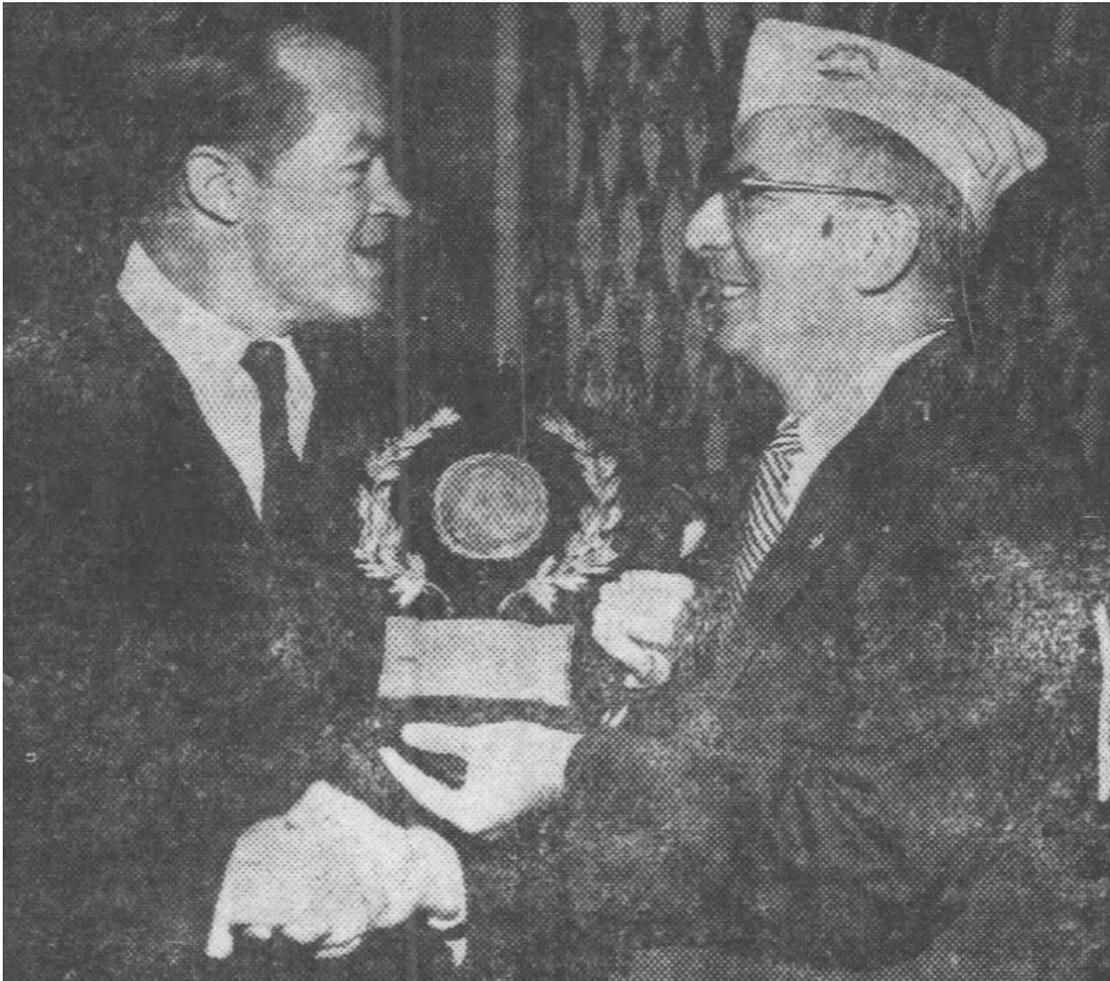
Al Wilson, commander of Muncie Amvets, greeted Bob Hope at the airport and welcomed him to the city. The Amvets are sponsoring the appearance of the famous radio, television, and motion picture star. Proceeds from the show will be used in local welfare and civic projects.

[Author's Note: The balance of this article was similar to the published article in *The Muncie Star* from earlier this same date shown above.]

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The Muncie Star [Muncie, Indiana], Apr 29, 1954, Page 1/2:

**Bob Hope Receives Amvets' Oscar, Plaudits of 4,500**



**Bob “the Great” Hope gets the national Amvets Oscar for entertaining troops during World War II and in Korea. Making the presentation in behalf of the national commander, Henry Macahay, is Sparky Walsh.**

**By BASIL ROMANOVICH**

Hollywood came to Muncie Wednesday night in the guise of Bob Hope and a star-supporting cast.

Casually walking on stage as the band played his well-known theme song, Hope got a loud reception. He clowned with Starlet Betsy Duncan, one of filmdom's lovelies, in giving one of his usual laugh-filled performances.

His sallies touched on the Bearcats and other local features in addition to his standbys on Bing Crosby and his golfing game.

At the conclusion, he was given an Amvet Oscar, first of its kind presented, for entertaining troops in World War II and in Korea.

## **Big TV Contract Near**

Hope played here on his way to New York where he is expected to sign one of the biggest contracts in television.

Before going on the stage, he said he is dealing with NBC for six super shows to be put on between November and May.

Asked what was holding up the contract, Hope quipped, "They want to know how much money I want and I want to know how much they want to give!"

He refused to tell what type of programs are planned but said, "We'll mix 'em up a lot."

One of his dressing room visitors was Carl Cooper, 16, of R.R. 1, Albany, who was left semi-helpless after an auto accident. The youth was taken to the Fieldhouse for the show by Harry Reese in his private ambulance.

It was hard to choose between the rest of the acts. One of the hits was comedienne Tulara Lee, seen in movies and on television, who spoofed the audience in an act that included her husband, George Gilbert, pantomime artist.

### **Attended by 4,500**

Gilbert, supposedly picked out of the spectators, gave an exhibition of a hapless, clumsy male that couldn't get out of her shapely clutches. Actually, he has been in the act for several years.

Like all the other acts, the Gaylords were called back for several encores after their different brand of fun and harmony. "From the Vine Came the Grapes" was their biggest hit. A variety number, the "Mama-Papa Polka," was another of their best songs.

The Jerry Gray orchestra, one of the top musical outfits of the country, played very listenable music. Gray, composer-arranger who was Glenn Miller's right-hand man, was master of ceremonies for the first half of the show.

A new singing personality, Linda Lee, his vocalist, seemed to have what a good share of the audience wanted. She got her biggest applause in a special arrangement of "The Birth of the Blues."

Another band number, drummer Joe Tenney, is apparently headed for the top. His solo number stopped the show.

About 4,500 persons came to the show, presented by Muncie Post 12, Amvets. Cmdr. Al Wilson thanked the audience for helping bring the show here.

Proceeds will go for Amvets civic and welfare projects.

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**Hope's Rapid-Fire Gags Keep Audience In Stiches**



**LAUGHTER** was the order of the day when Bob Hope and his entertainers presented a show at the Muncie Fieldhouse Wednesday night. With Hope on the stage is Betsy Duncan, red-headed Paramount starlet, who sang songs and clowned with the famous comedian. The Bob Hope Show was brought to Muncie by Amvets Post 12, Al Wilson, commander.

– Muncie Press Photo

**By ROSEMARY STEPHENS**

Muncie should be singing to members of Amvets Post 12, "Thanks For The Memory" of the Bob Hope Show which almost razed the Fieldhouse Wednesday night. With his ever-fresh humor, the famous comedian kept the crowd of approximately 4,500 persons laughing, applauding, and alert to catch every side-splitting comment he had to make.

Speaking about his arrival in Muncie, Mr. Hope said, "It's good to have arrived. Mr. N. J. Kissner sent his plane to bring me in, and that Dick Whitney is a wonderful pilot. Of course, we had to fly upside down all the way from Milwaukee – it seems Whitney forgot to wear his suspenders . . . A group of marvelous people met me at the airport. Mayor Barclay presented me with the key to the West Side washroom. They sent a motorcycle escort to bring me into town. Thanks, fellas. Two policemen on motorcycles, they sent. I had to run all the way between them. Next time I hope they'll send a car . . . I'm staying at Mr. Roberts' hotel. I have a lovely room except when the elevator comes down."

ABOUT PRESIDENT Eisenhower: "I've played golf with him, and he needs the exercise. He hasn't had any since he pushed that piano down the hall. President Eisenhower plays golf like a military man – he strokes the ball toward the hole, snaps to attention, and yells, 'Fall In!'"

About Liberace, who visited Muncie not so long ago, "That man has so much ivory in his head that every time he takes a bath he and the soap float together."

ABOUT McCARTHY: "I'm on my way to New York to sign a big television contract. I hope to go on television on May 11, if Sen. McCarthy will relinquish the time. Sen. McCarthy is investigating the Army, the Army is investigating Sen. McCarthy, but I have it on good authority that Mr. Petrillo is going to investigate both of them. He's head of the musicians union, you know, and he just heard about the hot brass and big wind section . . ."

If you missed many of the jokes, blame it on the acoustics. The Muncie Fieldhouse is a grand place for a basketball game, but it is slightly less than perfect for a gag-type entertainment such as the Bob Hope troupe presented.

Perhaps that was the reason we laughed so much at comedienne Tulara Lee's act, performed mostly in pantomime and without the need of microphone. With her husband, George Gilbert, planted in the audience, she called him up on the stage and pretended to teach him how to become an acrobat in one of the funniest acts we have seen lately.

THE AUDIENCE nearly went wild over the Gaylord's rendition of their "From the Vine Came the Grape" and other numbers presented with "insane" humor similar to the Vagabonds.

Gil Johnson and Mike Madill won applause for their dance number complete with drums.

Jerry Gray and the Loudest Band of Today seemed to make a hit with the crowd. He played his own composition, "String of Pearls," like Glenn Miller never heard it played before.

Red-headed and talented Betsy Duncan, a Paramount starlet, was superb in her songs, and her chatter with Bob Hope. They sang "That's Love," followed by Hope's amusing rendition of two French people in love, La Vie (that's the boy) and Rose.

L. R. (Sparky) Walsh, former national official of Amvets, presented an Oscar to Bob Hope for his work in entertaining service men and veterans. Al Wilson, commander of Muncie Amvets, thanked the audience for helping bring Bob Hope to town, but we think most of the thanks is due the Amvets whose efforts provided Muncie with a well-paced, fresh show.

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[Author's Note: Several references have been made to a show preceding Muncie in Milwaukee and a show following Muncie in Lexington, Kentucky.]

re: Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Green Bay Press-Gazette [Green Bay, Wisconsin], Apr 15, 1954, Page 5:

### **Hope To Aid Cancer Campaign For Funds**

MILWAUKEE (UP) – Comedian Bob Hope will make a personal appearance in Milwaukee April 27 to cap the drive of the American Cancer Society for funds in the county.

Hope told his national audience Tuesday night that he would accept the invitation to appear. Gov. Walter Kohler, chairman of the board of the American Cancer Society, telegraphed his thanks to Hope.

Hope will appear on the State of Wisconsin Theater during a benefit showing of his latest movie, "Casanova's Big Night."

An original copy of a Milwaukee Journal photograph dated April 27, 1954 has been located, showing Bob Hope arriving by train at the North Western railroad station. He is being greeted by a number of gals with a "Welcome to Milwaukee, Bob (Casanova) Hope" sign. The caption states he will be on stage at the Wisconsin Theater Tuesday night at the annual Cancer Fund Show with Pat O'Brien, Cy Howard, Marie McDonald, and Elaine Carvel.



No reference is made to Jerry Gray or "The Bob Hope Show."

**April 29, 1954 [Thursday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today and Linda Lee; with Bob Hope, Betsy Duncan, The Gaylords [Burt Bonaldi, leader and guitarist; Billy Christ, bass player; and Don Rea, pianist], Tulara Lee [comedienne], Gil Johnson-Mike Madill [dance duo]; *The New Bob Hope Show*, University of Kentucky Memorial Coliseum, 201 Avenue of Champions, Lexington, Kentucky.**

**The New Bob Hope Show with Jerry Gray was part of a two-show 2nd Annual Blue Grass Festival, with the first billed as The Tony Martin Show. The Blue Grass Festival is scheduled to lead-in to the Kentucky Derby in Louisville that coming Saturday.**

*The Bob Hope Show with Jerry Gray and his Band of Today – the program included:*

In The Mood – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
Please Don't Talk About Me When I'm Gone – v Linda Lee with Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
Make Love To Me – v Linda Lee with Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
The Birth Of The Blues – v Linda Lee with Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
Pantomime skit – Tulara Lee and her husband George Gilbert  
A String Of Pearls – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
Johnson Rag – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today featuring Dave Madden on tenor sax  
Flag Waver – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today featuring drummer Joe Tenney  
Thou Swell – v The Gaylords  
Love I You – v The Gaylords  
Ay-Ay-Ay – v The Gaylords  
Mama-Papa Polka – v The Gaylords  
My Wonderful One – v The Gaylords  
From The Vine Came The Grape – v The Gaylords  
Isle Of Capri – v The Gaylords  
Look Down That Lonesome Road – v The Gaylords

*INTERMISSION*

Crew Cut – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
Dance Routine – Gil Johnson and Mike Madill  
Impressions Of A Music Box – Gil Johnson and Mike Madill  
Thanks For The Memories and Introduction to Bob Hope – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
Jokes about the Coliseum, the band, Sen. McCarthy, taxes, TV, Jello, Cinerama, Liberace, comedians, Christine, Jack Benny, photographers, newspaper people – Bob Hope  
Taking A Chance On Love – v Betsy Duncan  
Secret Love – v Betsy Duncan  
I Love Paris – v Betsy Duncan  
Unknown Title – v Bob Hope and Betsy Duncan  
La Vie and Rose – v Bob Hope  
Buttons and Bows Parody – Bob Hope  
Introduction of local personalities – Bob Hope  
Closing by Bob Hope and Thanks For The Memories – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today

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The Lexington Herald [Lexington, Kentucky], Mar 27, 1954, Page 1:

**Bob Hope Returning Here For Festival; Martin Also Is On Pre-Derby Program**

Lexington's second annual Blue Grass Festival will feature Tony Martin and Bob Hope shows and advance ticket sales will get under way next Tuesday, Vernon R. Shaffer, acting chairman of Blue Grass Festivals, Inc., announced last night.

The Tony Martin Show has been slated for Tuesday night, April 27, and the Bob Hope Show, for Thursday night, April 29. Both will be staged at the University of Kentucky Memorial Coliseum and there will be no performances on April 28, Shaffer said.

The Tony Martin show, arranged by the Music Corporation of America, will have a supporting group including Art Kassel and his band; Frank Fontaine, comedian; the five DeMarco Sisters, popular singers who have appeared in movies with Tony Martin; the Goofers, quintet of musical comedians; and Russell Swann, magician and comedian.

Shaffer said several other acts also are to be billed on the opening night program.

Bob Hope is bringing a show from Hollywood, but the star's supporting cast is to be announced later. Shaffer said Blue Grass Festivals is bringing Hope back this year at the request of many who saw his show last year.

Ticket-order coupons will be published in The Herald and Leader Tuesday. No tickets will be sold for a single performance. Prices of tickets "package" style (for both shows) will be \$7, \$6, \$5, and \$3, depending upon the location of the seats, the chairman said.

Blue Grass Festivals was incorporated last year by a group of Kentuckians who proposed to offer entertainment here during Derby Week.

Hugh Meriwether is chairman, Charles O'Connell is vice president, and Nathan Elliott Jr., secretary-treasurer.

Photograph of the DeMarco Sisters with caption:

DEMARCO SISTERS TO PERFORM HERE DERBY WEEK – The five DeMarco Sisters, singing stars on stage, screen, and radio, will perform here Tuesday night, April 27, with the Tony Martin Show to be presented by Blue Grass Festivals, Inc. Festival programs will be presented April 27 and 29 in the University of Kentucky Coliseum.

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The Lexington Herald-Leader [Lexington, Kentucky], Mar 28, 1954, Page 32:

Blue Grass Festivals, Inc.

Will Present At The

COLISEUM

TUESDAY NIGHT, April 27th

THE TONY MARTIN SHOW

Due to popular demand

BOB HOPE

With a complete show will appear at the

COLISEUM, Thursday Night, April 29th

Coupon will be in Tuesday's Herald & Leader  
for advance ticket sales for the two shows.

---

**BLUE GRASS FESTIVAL, Inc.**  
**ADVANCE TICKET SALE**

**TWO GREAT SHOWS**

At Memorial Coliseum

**BIGGER and BETTER than LAST YEAR**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 27**

**THE TONY MARTIN SHOW**

WITH ART KASEL and HIS BAND, THE DeMARCO SISTERS,  
FRANK FONTAINE and OTHER GREAT ACTS.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 29**

BY POPULAR DEMAND the RETURN ENGAGEMENT OF  
**BOB HOPE with a GALAXY of STARS**

*Tickets will be sold to include both shows only. Reserve seat prices for  
both shows are \$7.00, \$6.00, \$5.00 & \$3.00.*

FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED  
CHECK OR MONEY ORDER MUST  
ACCOMPANY ORDER FOR TICKETS. For TICKETS use coupon—  
PRINT OR TYPE.

MAIL ADDRESS:  
BLUE GRASS FESTIVAL,  
Inc.  
P. O. BOX 385  
LEXINGTON, KY.

BLUE GRASS FESTIVAL, Inc. P. O. Box 385 Lexington, Ky. Enclosed is my check <input type="checkbox"/> MONEY ORDER <input type="checkbox"/> for ----- Seals ----- Price each. Total ----- NAME ----- Street ----- Town -----
--

Blue Grass Festivals, Inc. present

**TONY MARTIN SHOW**  
Tuesday night, April 27

**The New BOB HOPE SHOW**  
Thursday night, April 29  
Memorial Coliseum, Lexington, Ky.  
8:30 C.S.T.

For reservations send check or money order to  
P. O. Box 385, Lexington, Kentucky. Tickets for  
the two shows combined are \$7.00, \$6.00, \$5.00 and  
\$3.00. These prices include both nights.

*The Courier-Journal* [Louisville, Kentucky], Apr 18, 1954, Section 5 Page 3:

### **Lexington Show To Star Hope And Tony Martin**

THE SECOND annual Blue Grass Festival in Lexington will feature shows by Bob Hope and Tony Martin in Memorial Coliseum at the University of Kentucky.

Performance nights are April 27 for the Tony Martin Show and April 29 for the Bob Hope Show.

Reservations forms in Louisville are available at Stewart Dry Goods Company.

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*The Lexington Herald* [Lexington, Kentucky], Apr 20, 1954, Page 27:

### **Cast For Hope Show Is Listed**

The supporting cast for the Bob Hope Show, to be presented April 29 as the second and final Blue Grass Festivals program, will include musicians, comedians, and dancers, Vernon Shaffer announced last night.

Booked for performances with Hope are the Gaylords, Mercury recording artists; Tulara Lee, entertainer featured recently in Warner Brothers' "Daughter of Rosie O'Grady;" Johnson and Madill, dance and comedy team; and Jerry Gray and his orchestra.

This year's festival will open Tuesday night, April 27, with the Tony Martin Show, which will also feature the five DeMarco Sisters; Frank Fontaine, comedian; the Goofers; and Art Kassel's band.

The shows, to be presented in Memorial Coliseum, University of Kentucky, will open both nights at 8:30 p.m. (Daylight Time). Tickets are on sale in the Lafayette Hotel lobby and mail orders are also being filled.

No single-performance ducats are available. Prices for both nights are \$7, \$6, \$5, and \$3.

The corporation hopes to expand the Festival into a week-long program.

"Beginning next year we plan to start creating a series of highly entertaining events, as well as social functions, to be dove-tailed throughout the week," Shaffer said.

---



**Tony Martin**  
.....

**Frank Fontaine**

Comedy Star of Television, Screen  
and Radio

**The DeMarco Sisters**

Featured on the G. M. Records

**The Goofers**

Musical Comedians of Stage and Television

**Art Kassel**

★ **TONY MARTIN and BOB HOPE** ★

Tuesday, April 27th

Thursday, April 29th

Tickets On Sale At The Coliseum and The Lobby Of The Lafayette Hotel . . .

Prices \$3.00, \$5.00, \$6.00, \$7.00 . . . Good Seats Still Available.

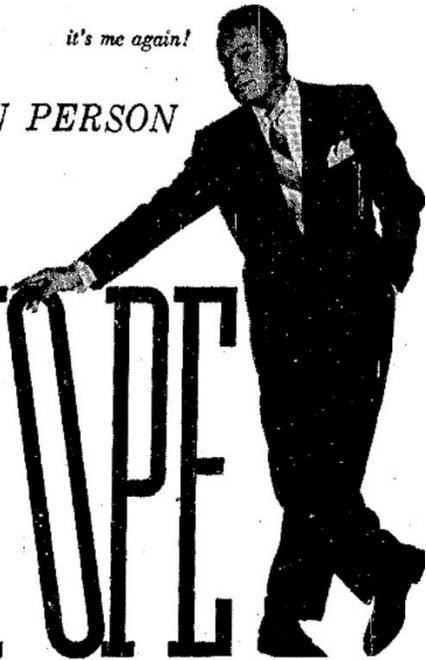
We Have Some Tickets Available for Individual Shows — Shows On Daylight Saving Time

**BLUE  
GRASS  
FESTIVAL  
INC.**

**TICKETS  
ON  
SALE  
TODAY**

*it's me again!*

*IN PERSON*



**The Gaylords**

Top Mercury Recording Artists

**Tulara Lee**

"Daughter of Rosie O'Grady"

**Betsy Duncan**

With Hope at the Palladium in London

**Johnson & Madill**

Famous Dance and Comedy Team

**Jerry Gray's Orchestra**

Just Completed Continental Tour

The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Apr 25, 1954, Section 5 Page 17:

**Events Linked To Derby Will Have Top Billing On TV Here This Week**

**Bob Hope To Appear For Arthritis**

Big Doings on Derby Eve will be the Bob Hope telecast on WAVE-TV of a variety show from the Memorial Auditorium at 9:45 p.m. until 2 a.m. Titled "Hope For Arthritis" the show is for the benefit of the Kentucky Chapter of the Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation. Admission is free to the public. A crew of 50 girls onstage will take phoned-in pledges.

Bob Hope probably will round up a few stray celebrities who just might be prevailed upon to take a bow.

The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], May 1, 1954, Section 1 Page 12:

THE  
**Kentucky Theatre**  
**WELCOMES**  
**BOB (Casanova) HOPE**  
TO LOUISVILLE FOR THE  
**"HOPE for ARTHRITIS"**  
Benefitting the Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation  
starring **BOB HOPE** in person  
Who Appeared Last Nite Over  
WAVE-TV, Channel 3  
WAVE-970 KC

Then see him  
on our screen in **"CASANOVA'S BIG NIGHT"** color by  
Technicolor

The Lexington Herald [Lexington, Kentucky], Apr 27, 1954, Page 8:

**Tony Martin Starts Pre-Derby Festivities Tonight In Coliseum**

Blue Grass Festivals will open tonight at 8:30 o'clock at Memorial Coliseum with the Tony Martin Show.

During the performance, Martin will be commissioned a Kentucky colonel.

Vernon Shaffer, member of the board of directors of Blue Grass Festivals, Inc., said Martin has said he has "always wanted to be a Kentucky colonel and has always wanted to taste a Kentucky mint julep."

The colonelcy has been issued by Governor Wetherby and will be presented tonight. The mint julep will be offered later, Shaffer said.

Featured with Martin will be the five DeMarco Sisters; Frank Fontaine, comedian; the Goofers, five musician comedians; and Art Kassel's band.

Ervin Braback, of the Music Corporation of America, producer of the Tony Martin Show, arrived here yesterday.

Martin, actor-singer who formed an orchestra while he was in high school, has played in numerous moving pictures, including "Sally, Irene, and Mary," "Music of My Heart," "Ziegfeld Girl," "The Big Story," "Here Comes The Girls," and "Show Boat."

Midway in his career, Martin entered the Army as a private, served four years in the Far East, and was discharged as a sergeant in 1945.

The Bob Hope Show is slated for the second, and final, Festival program Thursday night at 8:30 o'clock at the Coliseum.

Hope, who was starred last year, is returning by popular request, Shaffer said.

Other performers billed for the Hope Show are the Gaylords, Mercury recording artists; Tulara Lee, entertainer featured recently in Warner Brothers' "Daughter of Rosie O'Grady;" Johnson and Madill, dance and comedy team; and Jerry Gray and his orchestra.

Single tickets for both shows are on sale in the Lafayette Hotel lobby from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and at the Coliseum from 10 a.m. until show time.

Advance ticket sales were in "package" lots only, but the Festival officials announced yesterday that single-performance ducats are now available.

Photograph of Tony Martin

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*The Lexington Herald* [Lexington, Kentucky], Apr 29, 1954, Page 1:

### **Bob Hope Show Is Scheduled Tonight**

Bob Hope and his troupe will arrive by plane this afternoon to appear tonight on Memorial Coliseum stage in Blue Grass Festivals' final pre-Derby program.

The show will begin at 8:30 o'clock and supporting the comedian will be Jerry Gray and his orchestra; Johnson and Madill, dance and comedy team; the Gaylords, recording artists; and Tulara Lee, who starred recently in Warner Brothers' "Daughter of Rosie O'Grady."

Vernon Shaffer, member of the festivals' board of directors, announced last night that the curtains, hung just before the Tony Martin Show – and which partially blocked the stage to those seated in the B section – have been removed.

Tickets for the Hope Show are on sale at the Lafayette Hotel and at the Coliseum.

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*The Lexington Herald* [Lexington, Kentucky], Apr 30, 1954, Page 19:

### **Bob Definitely Proves Where There's Laughs, There's Hope**

Where there's Hope, there's life, to rephrase an old adage.

The unquenchable Mr. Robert Hope proved that last night in his Blue Grass Festival show at Memorial Coliseum, when even his unashamed repetition of the "rasher of bacon over each ear" from his last year's show brought howls of laughter from an appreciative audience, about 7,000 strong.

Hope came on at 10:25 p.m. with his "Thanks For The Memories" theme and a deep salaam. He told how thrilled he was "to be back in this lovely garage once more," and went on to joke about the band, himself, Sen. McCarthy, taxes, TB, Jello, Cinerama, and Liberace. (McCarthy didn't wait for opportunity to knock, he subpoenaed it.) He mentioned the Goofers act from Tuesday's Tony Martin Show in the Festival, and got a solid round of applause.

The comedian went on to discuss comedians, Christine, Jack Benny, photographers, newspaper people – and his last year's show, ("Did I do this last year? I don't want you to feel cheated," he said.)

After about 15 minutes, Hope introduced Betsy Duncan, a porgeous-type redheaded singer, and after three numbers he returned to ad lib with her and to sing a number.

Then Hope, kidding the young photographer who repeatedly came up to the front of the stage, sang a solo, La Vei En Rose." "I've brought you something new this year," he noted.

Next he added a bettered sombrero to his natty dark blue suit, blue tie, and white shirt to repeat the "Buttons and Bows" parody he did last year.

After that he introduced some local personalities – A. B. (Happy) Chandler and Ralph Campbell, his afternoon golf partners, and Lew Worsham, professional golfer who gave an exhibition locally yesterday.

Besides discussing Chandler's golf style, Hope referred to him as "your governor." He embarrassed a few "early" leavers ("It's that way, darling."), and closed with more ad libs – about

Ike, flying and the Derby, before closing with his "Memories" theme and the "rasher of bacon" again.

Jerry Gray and his band, who opened the show and backed the other performers up throughout, were highly popular with the audience. They started the show about 17 minutes off schedule, after impatient handclapping by the crowd.

Opening with "In The Mood," the fine, versatile Gray aggregation and vocalist Linda Lee went on with "Please Don't Talk About Me When I'm Gone," "Make Love To Me" and a warmly received "Birth Of The Blues."

A highly original acrobatic act came next, as Tulara Lee, an attractive brunette in a short-skirted, jeweled tunic, called a "spectator" from the audience to "help in her act." The resulting comedy and, finally, acrobatics, after the spectator was introduced as Pantomimist George Gilbert, won the audience's approval.

With sax and trumpet solos, Gray returned next with "String Of Pearls," made famous by the Glenn Miller band for which Gray formerly arranged. As Dave Madden took a tenor sax solo on "Johnson Rag," the leader's encouragement of some impromptu audience clapping participation gave the whole number the aspect of a giant-sized jam session. Joe Tenney's drum solo on "Flag Waver" was roundly applauded.

The Gaylord's well-known recording trio, were the most popular of Hope's supporting acts, demonstrating their melodic versatility with eight numbers. Sometimes backing themselves with piano and bass, they sang "Thou Swell," "Love I You," "Ay-Ay-Ay," and "Mama and Papa Polka," a comedy number. On their next three numbers, they first sang a tender slow chorus, then an Italian chorus and a final fast rendition of "My Wonderful One," "From The Vine Came The Grape," and "Isle Of Capri." The Gaylords closed with "Look Down That Lonesome Road."

After an intermission – and more impatient audience clapping – the band presented an intricate version of "Crew Cut." Mike Madill and Gil Johnson, dancers, presented a varied number with tap dancing, acrobatic, singing, and drums. Their "Impressions Of A Music Box" was a haunting sensitive presentation.

Miss Duncan's throaty numbers, with a central theme, were "Taking A Chance On Love," "Secret Love," and "I Love Paris."

– DOLLY SULLIVENT

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*The Kentucky Advocate* [Danville, Kentucky], May 2, 1954, Page 4:

***Hustonville***

**At Bob Hope Show** – Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hovious were in Lexington for the Bob Hope Show Thursday evening.

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**April 30, 1954 [Friday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Junior Prom, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana.**

*Pharos-Tribune* [Logansport, Indiana], May 3, 1954, Page 4:

**IU PROM QUEEN**

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. (UP) – Marilyn Boys, a brunette from Munster, reigned as queen of Indiana University's junior prom Friday night.

She was elected by men students in the junior class and crowned at midnight by bandleader Jerry Gray.

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**May 2, 1954 [Sunday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Dance, Rainbow Garden, U.S. Route 20, 1740 E. State Street, Fremont, Ohio. Capacity of 4,200 people, with a marble dance floor.

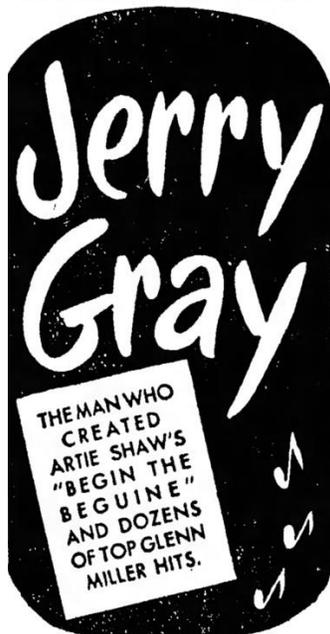
The Sandusky Register-Star-News [Sandusky, Ohio], Apr 29, 1954, Page 2:

**RAINBOW  
GARDEN  
FREMONT**

**SUN, MAY 2**

**YOU'VE HEARD HIM ON THE  
CBS CLUB 15 RADIO SHOW  
AND ON HIT DECCA RECORDS**

*In Person!*



**AND HIS BAND  
OF TODAY**

Adm. only \$2.00 Tax Inc.

**RESERVATIONS!**

Send check or money order  
to Rainbow Garden, Fremont  
for tickets and reservations!

**DANCING  
EVERY SAT. NITE**

**May 5, 1954 [Wednesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; May Day Dance, Ohio Northern University, Ada, Ohio.**

*The Marion Star* [Marion, Ohio], Apr 30, 1954, Page 5:

**May Day Activities Scheduled At ONU**

ADA – The traditional May Day at Ohio Northern University will be a double observance this year.

The annual float parade will be held Saturday and the May Day dance is scheduled Wednesday.

The dance was postponed in order to secure Jerry Gray's 14-piece dance band. As a substitute for the dance Saturday night, the Student Council has asked the fraternities to have a party and open house, competing for a cup for the best entertainment or party.

A baseball game Saturday with Findlay College.

---

**May 7, 1954 [Friday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee, and special guest artist Jan Howard; Ninth Annual Choir Dance, Memorial Auditorium, 500 East Fourth Street, East Liverpool, Ohio.**

*East Liverpool Review* [East Liverpool, Ohio], May 5, 1954, Page 7:

***Jerry Gray Will Play At Choir Dance Friday***

Jerry Gray and his "Band of Today" will play for the ninth annual choir dance Friday night from 8 to 12 at Memorial Auditorium.

Gray will be the second graduate of the late Glenn Miller's band to appear here this year, Ray Anthony having presented a jazz concert Feb 1.

Gray won renown for his arrangements of "String of Pearls," "Pennsylvania 6-5000," "Chattanooga Choo Choo," "St. Louis Blues March" and others for the Miller band and "Night And Day" and "Begin The Beguine" for Artie Shaw.

Miss Linda Lee, Decca recording artist, is Gray's featured vocalist.

The choir formal is sponsored by the Choir Parents Association for members of the Senior, Junior, Sophomore, Freshman, and Girls choirs in recognition of their work during the school year. Members of the choirs, their guests and alumni of the Senior Choir and their guests are invited.

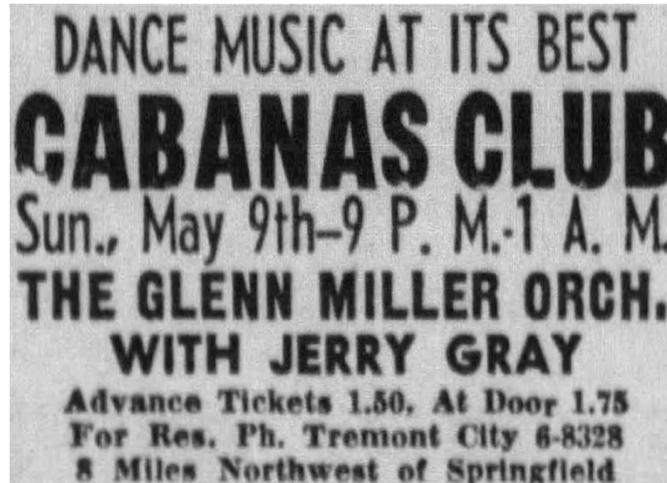
Jan Howard, who is scheduled to appear on the Ed Sullivan show, will be a featured guest artist. He will present several selections during the dance and entertain with an "after-show."

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**May 09, 1954 [Sunday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee, billed as The Glenn Miller Orchestra with Jerry Gray; Dance, Cabanas Club Ballroom, Lakewood Beach, 4834 Valley Pike, Urbana, Ohio.**

*The Dayton Daily News* [Dayton, Ohio], May 7, 1954, Second Section Page 46:



[Author's Note: A most unusual billing.]

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**May 15, 1954 [Saturday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, and Johnny Long and his Orchestra, Spring Day "Moonlight Serenade" Formal Dance, 10:30 p.m. – 2:30 a.m., Barton Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.**

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*The Cornell Daily Sun* [Ithaca, New York], May 14, 1954, Page 1 and Page 2:

### **Spring Day Celebration to Open With Twin Musical Productions**

#### **Gray and Long Play at Barton – By BARBARA BARRON**

Two Ithaca phenomena may appear together this year; Spring Weekend and fair weather – the Heavens and Day Hall permitting.

Opening with the Cornell Dramatic Club's "Lolanthé" and Octagon's "Brigadoon." Weekend festivities will proceed to Kite Hill for a "Shanty Town" Carnival complete with 16 booths.

The Red Hot Stompers Dixieland Band will play, followed by fireworks at 11:30 p.m. A keg of beer will go to the prize-winning booth.

Tomorrow's activities will center on a different note with bandleaders Johnny Long and Jerry Gray alternating throughout "Moonlight Serenade," the Barton Hall Formal Dance, from 10:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.

Although the Queen's identity will not be announced until her coronation at the dance about midnight, she and her court will ride in the Float Parade tomorrow morning.

Starting at Alpha Phi at 10:30 a.m., the Float Parade will include 12 floats as well as the Big Rad and Veterans of Foreign Wars Bands. The entourage will travel across campus, turning right at the administration building, past Willard Straight Hall, through Collegetown and terminating downtown on State Street.

Winners will be announced in front of Rothschild's department store; however, the trophies, donated by the East Hill Merchants Association, will not be awarded until the Barton Hall Dance.

.....

Throughout the day YASNY (Ya Ain't Seen Nothing Yet) will be transforming Barton Hall into a spring setting in keeping with the Weekend's theme: Spring Day '54. Jerry Gray and Johnny Long will play against a silver *backdrop* covered with a *marquis*.

Illuminating the bandstand will be a color organ – a device which varies the lighting with the music so that each range of notes produces its particular shade. Fraternity booths located along the sides will have direct access to the dance floor.

[Author's Note: Searching the *Cornell Daily Sun* for May 15th found an interesting item under *Campus Notices*: CO-EDS FOR CHASTITY – meeting postponed, lack of interest.

Also included are three pages of the names of "Spring Day Dates, 1954" by lodge and sorority and "Coeds and Imports."]

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*The Cornell Daily Sun* [Ithaca, New York], May 17, 1954, Page 1:

### **Climax to Gala Spring Weekend Comes With Crowning of Senior**

Somewhat subdued after 24 hours of continuous reveling mid sunny weather, some 4,000 people celebrated the last official fiesta of Spring Day '54 – the Barton Hall Dance from 10:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. Saturday.

Alternately played by bandleaders Jerry Gray and Johnny Long, music ceased only for the coronation of Marlies Ferro '54, Queen of the Weekend, and introduction of her court.

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**May 16, 1954 [Sunday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Dance, Ritz Ballroom, Fairfield Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut.**

*Naugatuck News* [Naugatuck, Connecticut], May 14, 1954, Page 6:

**Jerry Gray's Band At Ritz Sunday**

Jerry Gray whose exciting Band of Today appears at the Ritz Ballroom in Bridgeport on Sunday, May 16, is noted as a composer as well as for his arrangements for Artie Shaw and the late Glenn Miller. Jerry arranged "Chattanooga Choo Choo," "Kalamazoo," and composed such Miller classics as "String Of Pearls" and "Pennsylvania 6-5000." It was Jerry Gray who took over the Glenn Miller Orchestra in Paris during the war after Miller's untimely death. Jerry is also famous for his arrangement of "Begin The Beguine" for Artie Shaw. "St. Louis Blues March" was the arranger's best wartime product. Linda Lee is featured vocalist.

*Naugatuck News* [Naugatuck, Connecticut], May 14, 1954, Page 4:

**RITZ**  
SUNDAY  
**JERRY GRAY**  
And His Band of Today  
With Linda Lee

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**May 25, 1954 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee, Salisbury Cotillion Club Spring Dance, Armory, Division Street Salisbury, Maryland**

*The Salisbury Times* [Salisbury, Maryland], May 1, 1954, Page 14:

**Gray's Band To Play Here**

Jerry Gray and his orchestra will play for the Salisbury Cotillion Club's spring dance at the Armory May 25. Dancing will be from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

The club's band committee members are George (Pete) Richardson, Marvin B. Gordy Jr., and George Hurchalla.

Jerry Gray is known among musicians and in the entertainment profession as one of the greatest orchestral arrangers of the century. Once a violinist for Andre Kostelanetz, he arranged some of the biggest hit recordings ever made by Artie Shaw and the late Glenn Miller.

During the war, Gray served in Europe as chief musical arranger to Miller. After Miller's death in an air crash, Gray took over direction of the orchestra until the end of the war, when he formed his own band for radio work. He directed the music for Bob Crosby's CBS "Club 15" show for over four years.

Although the music of Jerry Gray resembles that of the late Glenn Miller, this is no case of musical plagiarism. It was Jerry Gray, who as Miller's chief arranger, wrote such favorites as "Kalamazoo," "String Of Pearls," "Jukebox Saturday Night," and "Stormy Weather March." He continues to write in the same style for his own orchestra, which includes many of the top musicians who helped make the Miller band one of the greatest of all time.

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**May 27 1954 [Thursday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, Mutual Broadcast,**

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*The Philadelphia Inquirer* [Philadelphia, Pennsylvania], Apr 4, 1951, Page 34:  
11:30 p.m. - Midnight. WOR-Sports; Jerry Gray

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**June 9, 1954 [Wednesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, Dance, Rhodes On The Patuxent, Cranston, Rhode Island.**

*The Billboard*, May 8, 1954, Page 16, Music:

#### **MUSIC AS WRITTEN**

#### **CRANSTON BALLROOM SCHEDULES BANDS**

Rhodes on the Pawtuxed, a ballroom at **Cranston**, R.I., kicks off its Spring Cavalcade of Bands today (1) with **Les Elgart**. A flock of names are scheduled to play the spot, with the schedule shaping up as follows: **Billy May's** ork under the direction of **Sam Donahue**, May 5; **Roger King Mozian's** ork with **Ray Eberle**, May 8; **Charlie Barnet**, May 12. Following Barnet will be **Richard Hayman**, **Ray McKinley**, **Ray Anthony**, **Johnny Long**, and **Jerry Gray**. **Abe I. Feinber**, handling the bookings, is still setting bands and name personalities for Wednesday and Saturday appearances thruout the summer.

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*The Billboard*, Jun 12, 1954, Page 24, Music:

#### **Cranston Ballroom Books Name Orks**

NEW YORK, June 5 – Abe Feinberg, handling the bookings for Rhodes on the Patuxent, a ballroom at Cranston, R.I., is currently setting a flock of name bands for the spot's jubilee summer season. The latest contracted by Feinberg is Guy Lombardo, who is scheduled for June 30. Jerry Vale played the spot this week, and Johnny Long's orchestra is booked for June 2. The latter will be followed by Ray Anthony June 5 and Jerry Gray on June 9.

Feinberg is still negotiating for additional names for the ballroom, which is playing bands every Wednesday and Saturday thruout the entire summer.

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**June 13, 1954 [Sunday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Dance, Lake Compounce Starlight Ballroom,  
Route 229, Bristol, Connecticut**

*The Hartford Courant* [Hartford, Connecticut], Jun 4, 1954, Page 8:



*The Hartford Courant* [Hartford, Connecticut], Jun 11, 1954, Page 8:



*The Hartford Courant* [Hartford, Connecticut], Jun 13, 1954, Part V Page 15:

### **Gray Orchestra Plays Sunday At Lake Compounce**

Jerry Gray, the man who created the Glenn Miller and Artie Shaw hits, brings his "Band Of Today" to Lake Compounce Sunday evening.

It was Gray who wrote "Begin The Beguine" for Artie Shaw and who composed "String Of Pearls," "Caribbean Clipper," "Pennsylvania 6-5000," and dozens of other hits for the great Glenn Miller. Jerry claims that he never wanted to cash in on Glenn's reputation but with these new bands

playing what they think is Miller music, he decided it was time to step in and produce some of the real stuff.

“Real stuff,” according to Gray, is full bodied orchestration that features lush reeds on slow ballads, and hard driving brass on rhythm numbers. Sharp attack is the keynote of the styles which Jerry helped to evolve for both Miller and Shaw.

Most of the former Glenn Miller musicians are now members of Gray’s orchestra which has been a feature of Bob Crosby’s CBS “Club 15” since its inception. Linda Lee is vocalist with the organization.

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June 17, 1954 [Thursday]:

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today and Woody Herman and His New Third Herd Band appearing as part of the "Thursday Evening Big Band Double Attraction" for Dancing, Lakewood Park Ballroom, Barnesville [near Mahanoy City], Pennsylvania.

The Plain Speaker [Hazleton, Pennsylvania], Jun 16, 1954, Page 22:

**LAKEWOOD**  
America's Most Famous  
One Night Stand  
Presents  
A Big Double Attraction  
**Woody Herman**  
And His New Third Herd Band  
and  
**Jerry Gray**  
AND HIS ORCHESTRA  
America's Best Known  
Arranger  
*Thurs. June 17*  
This attraction is part of Lake-  
wood's \$20,000.00 entertainment  
budget set for June and July  
. . . largest and best anywhere!  
Bus Leaves: Beaver Meadows  
7:45, Hazleton 8:00, McAdoo  
8:15.

# LAKEWOOD

THURSDAY, JUNE 17th

## 2 FOR 1

### 2 BIG HITS FOR THE PRICE OF 1

*Admission Only \$1.50 taxes included*

**IN PERSON**

**Woody  
Herman**

**and his new third herd**

**Jerry  
Gray**

**You've Heard Him On The CBS  
Club 15 Radio Show And On  
Hit Decca Records!**

**The Man Who Created Artie  
Shaw's "Begin The Beguine"  
and dozens of Glenn Miller Hits!**

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**COMING—TONY BENNETT, JONI JAMES, GUY LOMBARDO,  
TOMMY AND JIM (MY DORSEY, LES BROWN!**

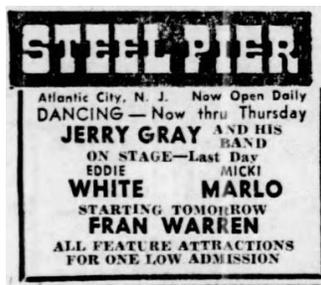
**Bus Leaves:**

**Beaver Meadows 7:45, Hazleton 8:00, McAdoo 8:15**

**June 18, 1954 [Friday] thru June 24, 1954 [Thursday] [1-week Engagement]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Dance, Marine Ballroom of the Steel Pier, 1000 Boardwalk, Atlantic City, New Jersey.**

*The Philadelphia Inquirer* [Philadelphia, Pennsylvania], Jun 19, 1954, Page 9:



The same ad also appeared in the *Courier-Post* [Camden, New Jersey], Jun 19, 1954, Page 5.

*The Philadelphia Inquirer* [Philadelphia, Pennsylvania], Jun 20, 1954, Page 14 B:

#### **Atlantic City Prepares For Big July 4 Holiday**

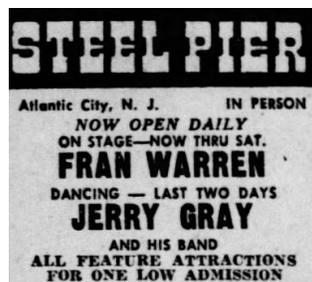
ATLANTIC CITY, June 19 – All of Atlantic City's many entertainment centers go into full swing during the coming week as they prepare for the July 4 week end and the Centennial summer gets underway.

The beaches are already busy with sun and surf bathers and the life guards are at their posts in Atlantic City, Ventnor, Margate, Longport, and Brigantine keeping an eye on the advance guard of the summer rush.

Steel Pier, with top stars of stage, screen, radio, and television on its bill, cards Fran Warren as its vaudeville headliner, June 20 through 26; with Lanny Ross, June 27 to July 3; and Julius LaRosa on the holiday. Playing for dancing will be the music of Jerry Gray, June 18 to 24; Ted Weems, June 25 to July 1; and Ralph Flanagan over the holiday week end. Each Sunday night on the pier the great maestro Paul Whiteman air his ABC network television show "On the Boardwalk," 8 to 9.

On the night club circuit all start a parade of talent with the 500 Club leading the way with Jackie Leonard and the Barry Sisters here over the holiday week end, followed by the Vagabonds, Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis, Frank Sinatra, Jimmy Durante, Tony Martin, and others.

*The Philadelphia Inquirer* [Philadelphia, Pennsylvania], Jun 23, 1954, Page 29:



June 26, 1954 [Saturday]:

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee, and Columbia Records star Jerry Vale; Dance and show, Convention Hall on the Boardwalk, Asbury Park, New Jersey.

*Asbury Park Evening Press* [Asbury Park, New Jersey], Jun 23, 1954, Page 30A:



**Convention Hall**  
BOARDWALK — ASBURY PARK

*Largest Dance Floor In N.J. and 3,000 Comfortable Seats  
Presents For Your Dancing and Listening Pleasure*

**AMERICA'S TOP NAME SINGERS AND BANDS**  
From 8:30 P.M. to 1 A.M.

**SUMMER SCHEDULE**

**ONE NITE ONLY—SAT., JUNE 26th**  
COLUMBIA RECORDS GREAT NEW STAR  
**JERRY VALE**  
*and*  
**JERRY GRAY** AND HIS ORCH.  
Adm. \$1.80 tax incl.

**June 28, 1954 [Monday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Decca Recording Session, Pythian Temple, 135 West 70th Street, New York City, New York. [Decca leased these remarkable facilities designed by Thomas Lamb from the Knights of Pythias.]**

86469	THE WAY YOU LOOK TONIGHT (3:06)	Decca 91550
86470	CHAMPAGNE BOOGIE chant Band (2:52)	Decca 29231, 9-29231
86471	KETTLE DRUM HOP chant Band (2:09)	Decca 29307, 9-29307
86472	THE OOH AND AAH MAMBO v Linda Lee/Band (x:xx)	Decca 29307, 9-29307

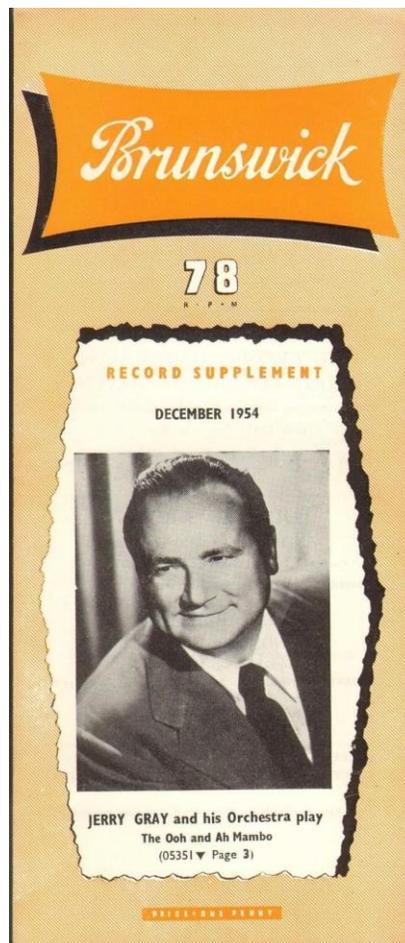
**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today:** BILLY BUTTERFIELD, JULES CHALKEN, TOBY TAUBENSON, Whitey Thomas, t; Jimmy Priddy, BOB ROBINSON, LOU McGARITY, BILL WEST, tb; RALPH LaPOLLA cl/as, Joe Estren as, BOB HARDAWAY ts, JACK FERRIER ts, Jack Dulong as/bari; DICK TURNER p; BARRY GALBRAITH g; EDDIE SAFRANSKI b; JOE TENNEY d; Linda Lee v.

DON LAMOND appears only on KETTLE DRUM HOP.

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Publicity and Reviews:

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**June 29, 1954 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, Decca Recording Session, Pythian Temple, 135 West 70th Street, New York City, New York. [Decca leased these remarkable facilities designed by Thomas Lamb from the Knights of Pythias.]**

86473	Don't Talk To Me About Love	Unissued
86474	THOU SWELL (2:25)	Decca 91550
86475	\$500 REWARD v Linda Lee (x:xx)	Decca 29231, 9-29231
86476	BABY'S LULLABY (3:00)	Decca 91551

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today:** Billy Butterfield, Jules Chalken, Toby Taubenson, Whitey Thomas t; Jimmy Priddy, Bob Robinson, Lou McGarity, Bill West, tb; Ralph LaPolla cl/as, Joe Estren as, Bob Hardaway ts, Jack Ferrier ts, Jack DuLong bari; Dick Turner p; DANNY PERRI g; JACK LESBERG b; Joe Tenney d; Linda Lee v.

THOU SWELL and BABY'S LULLABY were including on the "Big Dance Tonight" Decca album.

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Publicity and Reviews:

*The Billboard*, October 22, 1955, Page 24:

***Reviews and Ratings of New Popular Albums***

**BIG DANCE TONIGHT . . . . . 74**

Jerry Gray and his Ork (1-12") Decca DL-8101

While much of the material in this album has been previously available on 78 r.p.m., this is nevertheless a good collection of fox trots, all with a dependable beat. Material includes "Darktown Strutters Ball," "Thou Swell," "Jurame," "Off Limits," "The Way You Look Tonight," "Champagne Boogie," etc.

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**June 30, 1954 [Wednesday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Dance, Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom, 169 Ocean Boulevard, Hampton Beach, New Hampshire.

The Portsmouth Herald [Portsmouth, New Hampshire], June 25, 1954, Page 9:

**HAMPTON *Beach* CASINO**  
**FRIDAY and SATURDAY NITES**  
**Les PAUL and Mary FORD**  
**with BOB BACHELDER**  
**FRIDAY \$1.50—SATURDAY \$1.75**  
**NEXT WED.—JERRY GRAY**  
**Friday—July 2—GUY LOMBARDO**

The Portsmouth Herald [Portsmouth, New Hampshire], June 30, 1954, Page 11:

**HAMPTON *BEACH* CASINO**  
**FRIDAY NIGHT**  
***Guy* LOMBARDO**  
**TONIGHT—JERRY GRAY**  
**MIDNIGHT DANCE SUNDAY, JULY 4**

**July 3, 1954 [Saturday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Dance, Hershey Park Ballroom, Hershey, Pennsylvania.**

*The Gazette and Daily* [York, Pennsylvania], Jul 1, 1954, Page 23:

**AT HERSHEY**

Pictures of Tommy Dorsey and Jimmy Dorsey, with caption:

Tommy Dorsey, left and brother Jimmy will provide the music for a special dance tomorrow night at Hershey Park Ballroom opening the holiday weekend. The Dorseys, who formerly had their individual bands, are on a tour to introduce their "new" joint orchestra. Music for Saturday night will be by the Jerry Gray orchestra.

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*Lebanon Daily News* [Lebanon, Pennsylvania], Jun 30, 1954, Page 20:

Dorseys And Jerry Gray Will Play At Hershey

HERSHEY, PA – A series of entertainment features, including free band shell concerts in aerial acts, has been arranged for the Fourth of July Week-End at Hershey Park.

The holiday program will get under way on Friday evening, July 2, when Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey will provide the music for a special dance in the park ballroom. The Dorseys, who formerly fronted their own individual bands, recently combined their talents and are making a coast-to-coast tour to introduce their "new" orchestra.

Tommy, of course, will be featured on the trombone, while Jimmy will present saxophone specialties. Vocals will be handled by Bill Raymond and Lynn Roberts.

Music for the dance on Saturday night, July 3 will be played by the Jerry Gray Orchestra. Gray, who arranged the perennial favorite "Begin The Beguine" for Artie Shaw, and later served as arranger for the late Glenn Miller, will present Linda Lee, vocalist.

Reg Kehoe and His Marimba troupe will present free shows in the park band shell on Sunday and Monday afternoon and evenings. In case of inclement weather, the shows will be transferred to the park theater.

Free aerial presentations at the park athletic field on Sunday afternoon and evening will be given by the Great Drisco, sway pole performer. A trapeze act by the Flying Hartzells will feature the Monday park program.

[Picture of Tommy Dorsey]

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**July 10, 1954 [Saturday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Dance, Hershey Park Ballroom, Hershey, Pennsylvania.

*The Gazette and Daily* [York, Pennsylvania], Jul 9, 1954, Page 28, Saturday On The Air:  
WOR 710 11:35-11:55 pm Jerry Gray's Orch

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**July 12, 1954 [Monday] thru July 17, 1954 [Saturday] [6-night Engagement]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; The Horizon Room, Greater Pittsburgh Airport Terminal, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

*Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* [Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania], Jul 6, 1954, Page 17:

***The Drama Desk* By HAROLD V. COHEN**

Jack Lester's taking next week off at the Horizon Room, while the Jerry Gray band is there, for a Bermuda vacation.

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*The Pittsburgh Press* [Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania], Jul 11, 1954, Page 8 Section 4:

Advertisement, identical to Jul 12, 1954, below.

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*The Pittsburgh Press* [Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania], Jul 12, 1954, Page 16:

"AIR CONDITIONED"

# THE HORIZON ROOM

At The Greater Pittsburgh Airport

ALL THIS WEEK

## Jerry Gray

& HIS BAND OF TODAY

FEATURING

- Lovely Linda Lee
- Tommy Traynor
- Tony Gray

For Reservations Call  
Maitre August Castellano,  
SP. 1-3533 or Ceraopolis 4-8000

---

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette [Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania], Jul 12, 1954, Page 8:

### **Jerry Gray Band At Horizon Room**

The Jerry Gray orchestra will open at the Greater Pittsburgh Airport's Horizon Room tonight. Gray, whose band sounds a lot like the late Glenn Miller's organization, is the man responsible for the famous Miller arrangements of "Kalamazoo," "String of Pearls," "Juke-Box Saturday Night," and "Pennsylvania 6-5000."

Gray also took over the Miller band in Europe after the maestro's untimely death and directed it until the end of the war. Featured with the "Band of Today" will be vocalists Tommy Traynor and Tony Gray.

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Pittsburgh Post-Gazette [Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania], Jul 16, 1954, Page 9:

### **The Drama Desk By HAROLD V. COHEN**

Anybody who can't dance to Jerry Gray's grand music at the Horizon Room has to have two left feet.

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[Author's Note: The taxpayer-funded Horizon Room supper club/night club/cabaret at the original Greater Pittsburgh Airport terminal closed in 1963/1964, following 12 years of operation. It was a rounded room designed on the fourth floor of the airport terminal with a commanding view of the airport runways.]



[Photograph from Airport Brochure – Yesterday's Airport Of Tomorrow]

**July 19, 1954:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, Dance, Midway Ballroom, Cedar Lake, Indiana.**

*The Star* [Chicago Heights, Illinois], Jul 16, 1954, Page 11:

Photo of Jerry Gray with caption:

JERRY GRAY AND HIS ORCHESTRA will appear at the Midway ballroom at Cedar Lake, Ind., Monday. Gray, who was the chief arranger for the late Glenn Miller, wrote such favorites as "Kalamazoo," "String Of Pearls," "Juke-Box Saturday Night," and "Stormy Weather." Gray continues to arrange and write music in the same style for his own orchestra, which includes many of the top musicians who helped make the Miller band one of the greatest of all times.

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**August 3, 1954 [Tuesday] thru August 22, 1954 [Sunday] [3-week Engagement]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance, Radio and Telecast, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.

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**August 3, 1954 [Tuesday]**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, with Linda Lee; Gala Opening, Ballroom Dance and Telecast, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.

"Palladium Dance Time" Telecast, KTLA (5), 10:00-11:00 pm:

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Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Jul 30, 1954, Part III Page 8:

HOLLYWOOD PALLADIUM  
Ends Sunday  
**HARRY JAMES**  
& His Music Makers

Gala Opening  
**TUESDAY**  
**JERRY GRAY**  
& His Orchestra  
Featuring  
**LINDA LEE**

World-Famous **HOLLYWOOD PALLADIUM**  
Sunset near Vine - HO. 9-7356

Catering to banquets, private parties, benefits

Watch Palladium "Dance Time" Tues. 10 p.m. KTLA (5)

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Aug 3, 1954, Part I Page 22:

**VIDEO-RADIO BRIEFS**

Jerry Gray opens at the Palladium tonight and takes over the Dance Time show, KTLA, 10 p.m.

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Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Aug 3, 1954, Part III Page 6:

**Gala PALLADIUM**  
**Opening TONIGHT!**

**JERRY GRAY**  
**and His Orchestra**  
Featuring  
**LINDA LEE**

Watch Palladium  
"Dance Time" Tues.,  
10 p.m. KTLA (5)

**World-Famous HOLLYWOOD**  
**PALLADIUM**  
Sunset near Vine • HO. 9-7356

CATERING TO BANQUETS,  
PRIVATE PARTIES, BENEFITS

**August 4, 1954 [Wednesday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.

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**August 5, 1954 [Thursday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.

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**August 6, 1954 [Friday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance and Radio Broadcast, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.

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Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, along with Stan Kenton and June Valli, Perez Prado, The George Shearing Quintet, and Count Basie; NBC Network Radio Broadcast, "Hear America Swingin'" Program #7. 8:00-10:00 pm East Coast.

This week's salute was to the University of California at Los Angeles.

If the Jerry Gray segment was broadcast live from the Hollywood Palladium, the NBC Network feed would have begun at 5:35 p.m. Hollywood time; 8:35 p.m. East Coast time.

This program was apparently not aired in the Los Angeles area.

"Here American Swingin'" was a two-hour, 15-week, NBC Network radio series. There were four segments, with a news fill at the bottom of each hour. It is unknown if each segment included live, pre-recorded, or both sources of audio.

"Hear American Swingin'" might be considered a forerunner of the NBC Monitor series which began the following year on June 12, 1955. Not all NBC stations carried the full two-hours.

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* [St. Louis, Missouri], Aug 1, 1954, Page 4H:

**RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

Stan Kenton and his orchestra and his guest singer, June Valli, will be heard in the first portion of Hear America Swingin' on KSD at 7 Friday night. In later segments the Count Basie and Perez Prado bands will be heard.

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Pittsburgh Post-Gazette [Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania], Aug 6, 1954, Page 25:

**Radio and Television – Review By Win Fanning**

Stan Kenton with vocalist June Valli; Jerry Gray and his orchestra; Mambo Perez Prado and his orchestra; the George Shearing Quintet, and Count Basie's band will be featured on "Hear America Swingin'" broadcast by KDKA tonight from 8 to 10.

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Aug 6, 1954, Page 6D:  
7:00-9:00 pm KSD Hear America Swingin'

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The Courier Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Aug 6, 1954, Page 2 Section 2:

**TODAY'S RADIO HIGH LIGHTS**

Stan Kenton, June Valli, Jerry Gray, Count Basie, George Shearing Quintet, and Perez Prado are featured on Hear America Swingin'

7:00-9:00 pm WAVE News; Hear America Swingin'

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Wisconsin State Journal [Madison, Wisconsin], Aug 6, 1954, Section 2 Page 16:

**Today's Radio Highlights – Music**

7:35 p.m. – Hear American Swingin' (WIBA): Jerry Gray Orchestra.

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Honolulu Advertiser [Honolulu, Hawaii], Aug 16, 1954, Page B5:

*Big Name Bands and Vocalists direct from their mainland engagements!*

**hear America Swingin'**

- Stan Kenton with June Valli
- Jerry Gray with Linda Lee
- Milt Jackson Quartet
- Count Basie and his Orchestra
- Perez Prado, King of Mambo

**tonight 8 to 10 P.M.**

- *Saluting the University of California at Los Angeles*

**K G U**  
first with the finest!  
DIAL 740

[Author's Note: The KGU Honolulu broadcast aired 10-days later]

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**[Author's Note: Below is a summary of the entire Hear American Swingin' NBC series. We will also show the individual Jerry Gray segments under the specific dates in our chronology.]**

**HEAR AMERICA SWINGIN' – June 25, 1954 thru October 1, 1954. The series was replaced by "Friday With Garroway" on October 8, 1954.**

**June 25, 1954 [Friday] – Program #1: Freddy Martin**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jun 20, 1954, Page 4H:

**RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

***New KSD Program – Top Bands Featured In America Swingin'***

A new program, Hear America Swingin', featuring the nation's top orchestras and dance bands, will be heard on KSD from 7:35 to 8 Friday nights, beginning next Friday. Freddy Martin and his orchestra, playing at the Starlight Roof of the Waldorf Astoria hotel in New York, will be featured in the first program. The program will be preceded by a five-minute newscast by NBC commentator W. W. Chaplin.

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jun 25, 1954, Page 6D:  
7:30-8:00 pm KSD News; Freddy Martin's Orchestra

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The Courier Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Jun 25, 1954, Page 2 Section 2:  
7:30-8:00 pm WAVE News; Hear America Swingin;

**[Author's Note: It appears the first program in this series was only 30-minutes. It was followed by the Thirtieth Anniversary of R.C.A. program with Perry Como.]**

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**July 2, 1954 [Friday] – Program #2: Freddy Martin, Sammy Kaye, Harry James**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jul 2, 1954, Page 6C:

7:30-9:00 pm KSD News; Freddy Martin, Sammy Kaye, and Harry James

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The Courier Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Jul 2, 1954, Page 2 Section 2:

**TODAY'S RADIO HIGH LIGHTS**

Harry James, Freddy Martin, and Sammy Kaye featured bands on Hear America Swingin'

7:30-9:00 pm WAVE News; Hear America Swingin'

**[Author's Note: It appears the second program in this series was only 90-minutes.]**

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**July 9, 1954 [Friday] – Program #3: Ray Anthony with Patti Page, Freddy Martin, George Shearing Quintet with Sarah Vaughan, and Harry James**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jul 04, 1954, Page 4H:

**RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

The new Hear America Swingin' program on KSD Friday nights will be extended to two full hours next Friday, from 7 to 9 o'clock. The program features the nation's top orchestras and dance bands. This coming Friday Ray Anthony's orchestra and singer Patti Page will be heard, with Fred Collins as m.c. Two five-minute newscasts are heard, one by W. W. Chaplin at 7:30 and the other by John Cameron Swayze at 8:30.

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jul 9, 1954, Page 6C:  
7:00-9:00 pm KSD Ray Anthony, Patti Page

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The Courier Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Jul 9, 1954, Page 2 Section 2:

**TODAY'S RADIO HIGH LIGHTS**

Patti Page, Ray Anthony, George Shearing Quintet, Sarah Vaughan, Harry James, and Freddy Martin are featured on Hear America Swingin'

7:00-9:00 pm WAVE News; Hear America Swingin'

**[Author's Note: Beginning with this third program, the series was expanded to two-hours for a few weeks.]**

**July 16, 1954 [Friday] – Program #4: Rosemary Clooney with Percy Faith, Freddy Martin, George Shearing Quintet with Sarah Vaughan, Les Brown, and Benny Goodman. This week's salute was to the University of Wisconsin.**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jul 11, 1954, Page 4G:

### **RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

Percy Faith's orchestra will be heard on the Hear America Swingin' program on KSD from 7 to 9 Friday night. Rosemary Clooney will be featured as the guest singer. Other orchestras to be heard on the program will be those of Freddy Martin, George Shearing, and Benny Goodman.

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jul 16, 1954, Page 6D:

7:00-9:00 pm KSD Freddy Martin, Percy Faith, Les Brown, and George Shearing's orchestra's; guests Rosemary Clooney and Sarah Vaughan

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The Courier Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Jul 16, 1954, Page 2 Section 2:

### **TODAY'S RADIO HIGH LIGHTS**

Rosemary Clooney, Freddy Martin, George Shearing Quintet with Sarah Vaughan, and Les Brown on Hear America Swingin' – 7:00-9:00 pm WAVE News; Hear America Swingin'

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July 23, 1954 [Friday] – Program #5: Paul Weston with Jo Stafford, Freddy Martin, George Shearing Quintet, Billy May Orchestra with Sam Donahue, and Count Basie. This week's salute was to the University of Rochester and Florida Southern College.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jul 18, 1954, Page 4G:

### **RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

The orchestras of Paul Weston and Les Brown will be heard on the Hear America Swingin' program on KSD from 7 to 9 Friday night. Singer Jo Stafford also will be a guest. Two five-minute summaries by NBC newsmen are heard in this program, at 7:30 and 8:30.

Photograph of Jo Stafford with caption:

**JO STAFFORD, GUEST SINGER ON KSD'S HEAR AMERICA SWINGIN' FRIDAY NIGHT.**

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jul 23, 1954, Page 6D:

7:00-9:00 pm KSD Paul Weston, Freddy Martin, George Shearing, and Billy May's orchestras; guest Jo Stafford, singer

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The Courier Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Jul 23, 1954, Page 2 Section 2:

### **TODAY'S RADIO HIGH LIGHTS**

Jo Stafford, Paul Weston, Freddy Martin, George Shearing Quintet, Count Basie, and Billy May on Hear America Swingin' – 7:00-9:00 pm WAVE News; Hear America Swingin'

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**July 30, 1954 [Friday] – Program #6: Ralph Marterie with Joni James, Sammy Kaye, Count Basie, George Shearing Quintet, Billy May. This week's salute was to Knox College of Galesburg, Illinois.**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jul 25, 1954, Page 4H:

### **RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

Ralph Marterie and his orchestra, with special guest singer Joni James, will be featured in the first part of the Hear America Swingin' program on KSD at 7 Friday night. Other orchestras to be heard later in the program will be Sammy Kaye's from the Astor Roof in New York, Count Basie's from New York's Birdland, and Billy May's from Omaha's Peony Park.

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jul 30, 1954, Page 6D:

7:00-9:00 pm KSD Ralph Marterie, Sammy Kaye, Count Basie, George Shearing, and Billy May's orchestras; guest, Joni James, singer

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The Courier Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Jul 30, 1954, Page 2 Section 2:

### **TODAY'S RADIO HIGH LIGHTS**

Ralph Marterie, Joni James, Count Basie, George Shearing Quintet, and Billy May are featured on Hear America Swingin' – 7:00-9:00 pm WAVE News; Hear America Swingin'

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**August 6, 1954 [Friday] – Program #7: Stan Kenton with June Valli, Jerry Gray, Count Basie, George Shearing Quintet, Perez Prado. This week's salute was to the University of California at Los Angeles.**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Aug 1, 1954, Page 4H:

### **RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

Stan Kenton and his orchestra and his guest singer, June Valli, will be heard in the first portion of Hear America Swingin' on KSD at 7 Friday night. In later segments the Count Basie and Perez Prado bands will be heard.

---

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Aug 6, 1954, Page 6D:  
7:00-9:00 pm KSD Hear America Swingin'

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The Courier Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Aug 6, 1954, Page 2 Section 2:

### **TODAY'S RADIO HIGH LIGHTS**

Stan Kenton, June Valli, Jerry Gray, Count Basie, George Shearing Quintet, and Perez Prado are featured on Hear America Swingin' – 7:00-9:00 pm WAVE News; Hear America Swingin'

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Honolulu Advertiser [Honolulu, Hawaii], Aug 16, 1954, Page B5:

*Big Name Bands and Vocalists direct from their mainland engagements!*

**hear America Swinging**

- Stan Kenton with June Valli
- Jerry Gray with Linda Lee
- Milt Jackson Quartet
- Count Basie and his Orchestra
- Perez Prado, King of Mambo

**tonight 8 to 10 P.M.**

- *Saluting the University of California at Los Angeles*

**KGU**  
*first with the finest!*  
DIAL 740

[Author's Note: The KGU Honolulu broadcast aired 10-days later]

August 13, 1954 [Friday] – Program #8: Tony Pastor with Les Paul and Mary Ford, Jerry Gray, Count Basie, Louis Armstrong, Sauter-Finegan. This week's salute was to the University of Maine and to the University of Toledo.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Aug 8, 1954, Page 4G:

### **RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

TONY PASTOR'S orchestra, with Les Paul and Mary Ford as special guests, will be heard on KSD at 7 Friday night in the first segment of Hear America Swingin'. In the second segment, Jerry Gray and his orchestra will be featured. Other bands to be heard will be those of Count Basie, Louis Armstrong, and the Sauter-Finegan group.

Photograph of Les Paul and Mary Ford with caption:

**LES PAUL AND MARY FORD . . . ON KSD'S HEAR AMERICA SWINGIN' FRIDAY.**

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Tampa Morning Tribune [Tampa, Florida], Aug 13, 1954, Page 5-B:

### **Radio Programs On WLFA Today [970 NBC]**



8:35 P. M.—HEAR AMERICA SWING-IN'—Jerry Gray and his orchestra are featured from the Palladium in Hollywood.

9 P. M.—HEAR AMERICA SWING-IN'—The Stars in Jazz segment spotlights Louis Armstrong and his Jazz All-Stars along with Count Basie.

9:35 P. M.—HEAR AMERICA SWING-IN'—The Suter-Finegan Orchestra will be heard in this portion of the musical program.

---

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Aug 13, 1954, Page 6D:  
7:00-9:00 pm KSD Hear America Swingin'

---

The Courier Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Aug 13, 1954, Page 2 Section 2:

**TODAY'S RADIO HIGH LIGHTS –** Louis Armstrong, Count Basie, Tony Pastor, Les Paul and Mary Ford on Hear America Swingin' – 7:00-9:00 pm WAVE News; Hear America Swingin'

---

Honolulu Advertiser [Honolulu, Hawaii], Aug 23, 1954, Page B5:

*Big Name Bands and Vocalists direct from their mainland engagements!*

**hear America Swinging**

- Stan Kenton with June Valli
- Jerry Gray with Linda Lee
- Milt Jackson Quartet
- Count Basie and his Orchestra
- Perez Prado, King of Mamba

**tonight 8 to 10 P.M.**

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**KGU**  
*first with  
the finest!*  
DIAL 740



[Author's Note: The KGU Honolulu broadcast aired 10-days later]

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[Author's Note: Some references are showing the first segment as "Stars In Action," the second segment as "Hall Of Bands," the third segment as "Stars In Jazz," and the fourth segment as "Parade Of Bands." References also being made that Ben Grauer will be spokesman for the National Guard and Fred Collins will be master of ceremonies.]

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August 20, 1954 [Friday] – Program #9: Woody Herman with Georgia Gibbs, Jerry Gray, Louis Armstrong, and Perez Prado

Tampa Morning Tribune [Tampa, Florida], Aug 20, 1954, Page 5-B:

**Radio Programs On WLFA Today [970 NBC]**

8:35 P.M. – HEAR AMERICAN SWINGIN' – Opening portion of tonight's musical program features Jerry Gray and his orchestra from the Hollywood Palladium.

**8:35 P.M.—HEAR AMERICA SWING-  
IN'—Opening portion of tonight's mu-  
sical program features Jerry Gray and  
his orchestra from the Hollywood Pal-  
ladium.**

**9 P.M.—STARS IN JAZZ—The jazz  
artist in Hear America Swingin's spot-  
light is Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong  
and his All-Stars.**

**9:35 P.M.—HEAR AMERICA SWING-  
IN'—The program continues with Perez  
Prado and his Mambo Orchestra.**

---

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Aug 15, 1954, Page 4G:

**RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

Orchestras of Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong and Perez Prado will be heard in the Hear America Swingin' program on KSD at 7 Friday night.

---

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Aug 20, 1954, Page 6D:  
7:00-9:00 pm KSD Hear America Swingin'

---

The Courier Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Aug 20, 1954, Page 2 Section 2:

**TODAY'S RADIO HIGH LIGHTS**

Woody Herman, Georgia Gibbs, Jerry Gray, Louis Armstrong, and Perez Prado and his Mambo orchestra on Hear America Swingin' – 7:00-9:00 pm WAVE News; Hear America Swingin'

**[Author's Note: Some references are now showing the first segment as "Stars In Action," the second segment as "Marine Hall Of Bands," the third segment as "Stars In Jazz," and the fourth segment as "Parade Of Bands." References also being made that Ben Grauer will be spokesman for the National Guard and Fred Collins will be master of ceremonies for some segments.]**

August 27, 1954 [Friday] – Program #10: Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey with Mindy Carson, Buddy Morrow, Louis Armstrong, Woody Herman, Charlie Parker and His Strings. This week's salute was to Michigan State College and Loyola University at New Orleans.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Aug 22, 1954, Page 4G:

### **RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

The Dorsey Brothers – Tommy and Jimmy – with Mindy Carson as their guest will be heard on the first portion of Hear America Swingin' on KSD at 7 to 9 Friday night. Other orchestras to be featured on the program will be those of Buddy Morrow, Louis Armstrong, Woody Herman, and Charlie Parker.

---

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Aug 27, 1954, Page 8D:  
7:00-9:00 pm KSD Hear America Swingin'

---

The Courier Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Aug 27, 1954, Page 2 Section 2:

### **TODAY'S RADIO HIGH LIGHTS**

Mindy Carson, Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey, Buddy Morrow, Louis Armstrong, and Woody Herman are featured on Hear America Swingin'

7:00-9:00 pm WAVE News; Hear America Swingin'

---

**September 3, 1954 [Friday] – Program #11: Ray Anthony with Joni James, Dorsey Brothers with Mindy Carson, and Louis Armstrong with Dinah Washington**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Aug 29, 1954, Page 4G:

**RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

Singers Joni James and Mindy Carson will be heard in the Hear America Swingin' program on Friday night. Miss James will be featured with the Ray Anthony orchestra in the first segment, beginning at 7:30 o'clock. Miss Carson will be heard in the second segment, with the Dorsey Brothers. Louis Armstrong's orchestra also will be heard.

Photograph of Joni James with caption:



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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Sep 3, 1954, Page 6D:  
7:30-9:00 pm KSD News; Hear America Swingin'

---

The Courier Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Sep 3, 1954, Page 2 Section 2:

**TODAY'S RADIO HIGH LIGHTS**

Jimmy and Tommy Dorsey, Joni James, Ray Anthony, and Dinah Washington featured on Hear America Swingin'

7:30-9:00 pm WAVE News; Hear America Swingin'

**[Author's Note: Beginning with this eleventh program, the series was cut-back to 90-minutes. NBC replaced the first 30-minute segment with a "Treasury Of Stars" transcription program and a "Frank Sinatra Show" transcription.]**

---

**September 10, 1954 [Friday] – Program #12: Paul Weston with Rosemary Clooney, Jack Teagarden and the Johnny Smith Quartet, and Woody Herman**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Sep 5, 1954, Page 4G:

**RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

Paul Weston and his orchestra, with Rosemary Clooney as his guest singer, will be heard in the first segment of Hear America Swingin' on KSD at 7:30 Friday night. The next half hour will feature Jack Teagarden and the Johnny Smith quartet, and the third half hour Woody Herman's orchestra.

Photograph of Rosemary Clooney with caption:

**ROSEMARY CLOONEY, GUEST SINGER ON KSD'S HEAR AMERICA SWINGIN'  
FRIDAY NIGHT.**

[The 8:30-9:00 time was pre-empted by a Congressional report by Sam Rayburn.]

---

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Sep 10, 1954, Page 6F:  
7:30-8:30 pm KSD News; Hear America Swingin'

---

The Courier Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Sep 10, 1954, Page 2 Section 2:

**TODAY'S RADIO HIGH LIGHTS**

Rosemary Clooney and Paul Weston, Hear America Swingin'

7:30-8:30 pm WAVE News; Hear America Swingin'

---

**September 17, 1954 [Friday] – Program #13: Ralph Marterie with Patti Page, Lionel Hampton, Chico O'Farrell, and Woody Herman**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Sep 12, 1954, Page 4H:

**RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

Ralph Marterie and his orchestra, with singer Patti Page, will be heard in the first half hour of Hear America Swingin', on KSD from 7:30 to 9 Friday night. The second half hour will feature the orchestras of Lionel Hampton and Chico O'Farrell, and the final half hour the music of Woody Herman's orchestra.

---

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Sep 17, 1954, Page 6D:  
7:30-9:00 pm KSD News; Hear America Swingin'

---

The Courier Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Sep 3, 1954, Page 2 Section 2:

**TODAY'S RADIO HIGH LIGHTS**

Woody Herman, Ralph Marterie, Patti Page, and Lionel Hampton on Hear America Swingin'

7:30-9:00 pm WAVE News; Hear America Swingin'

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**September 24, 1954 [Friday] – Program #14: Dorsey Brothers and Georgia Gibbs, Lionel Hampton with Chris Connor, Les Elgart**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Sep 19, 1954, Page 4G:

**RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

Ben Grauer will be spokesman for the National Guard and Fred Collins will be master of ceremonies for Hear America Swingin' – Stars in Action on KSD from 7:30 to 9:00 Friday night. Top orchestra are featured. The Dorsey Brothers, with guest singer Georgia Gibbs, will be heard in the first segment of the program, Lionel Hampton's orchestra and singer Chris Connor in the second portion, and Les Elgart and his orchestra in the final segment.

---

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Sep 24, 1954, Page 6D:  
7:30-9:00 pm KSD News; Hear America Swingin'

---

The Courier Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Sep 24, 1954, Page 2 Section 2:

**TODAY'S RADIO HIGH LIGHTS**

Georgia Gibbs, Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey, Lionel Hampton, Hear America Swingin'

7:30-9:00 pm WAVE News; Hear America Swingin'

---

**October 1, 1954 [Friday] – Program #15: Percy Faith with Les Paul and Mary Ford, Dave Brubeck Quartet, Pete Rugolo, and Louis Armstrong**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Sep 26, 1954, Page 4G:

**RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

**THE HEAR AMERICA** Swingin' program on KSD from 7:30 to 9 Friday night will open with the music of Percy Faith and his Orchestra. Special guests will be Les Paul and Mary Ford.

[Author's Note: This description in the newspaper read "Les Ford and Mary Paul."]

---

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Oct 1, 1954, Page 6F:  
7:30-9:00 pm KSD News; Hear America Swingin'

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The Courier Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Oct 1, 1954, Page 2 Section 2:

**TODAY'S RADIO HIGH LIGHTS**

Les Paul and Mary Ford with Percy Faith, Dave Brubeck Quartet, Pete Rugolo, and Louis Armstrong on Hear America Swingin'

7:30-9:00 pm WAVE News; Hear America Swingin'

---

**August 7, 1954 [Saturday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance and Radio Broadcast, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* [St. Louis, Missouri], Aug 1, 1954, Page 4H:

**RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

Jerry Gray and his orchestra will be featured on All Star Parade of Bands, on KSD at 12:05 Saturday midnight, Central time zone.

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*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* [St. Louis, Missouri], Aug 7, 1954, Page 4B:  
12:00 Midnight KSD News; Parade of Bands

---

**August 10, 1954 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance and Telecast, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

**“Palladium Dance Time” Telecast, KTLA (5), 10:00-11:00 pm:**

---

*Los Angeles Times* [Los Angeles, California], Aug 10, 1954, Part I Page 22:

**VIDEO-RADIO BRIEFS**

Don't Forget Jerry Gray's dance party on KTLA (5) at 10 tonight. It's from the Palladium.

---

*The Daily Sun* [San Bernardino, California], Aug 10, 1954, Page 21:

**TO BE SEEN AND HEARD – By T. V. TOPS**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today present a hit tune array on “Palladium Dance Time,” Channel 5 at 10 p.m. The concert will include many “classics” of the jazz world.

---

**August 13, 1954 [Friday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, along with Tony Pastor with Les Paul and Mary Ford, Louis Armstrong, Count Basie, and Sauter-Finegan; NBC Network Radio Broadcast, "Hear America Swingin'" Program #8. 8:00-10:00 pm East Coast.

This week's salute was to the University of Maine and to the University of Toledo.

If the Jerry Gray segment was broadcast live from the Hollywood Palladium, the NBC Network feed would have begun at 5:35 p.m. Hollywood time; 8:35 p.m. East Coast time.

This program was apparently not aired in the Los Angeles area.

[Author's Note: Some references are showing the first segment as "Stars In Action," the second segment as "Hall Of Bands," the third segment as "Stars In Jazz," and the fourth segment as "Parade Of Bands." References also being made that Ben Grauer will be spokesman for the National Guard and Fred Collins will be master of ceremonies for some segments.]

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Aug 8, 1954, Page 4G:

#### **RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

TONY PASTOR'S orchestra, with Les Paul and Mary Ford as special guests, will be heard on KSD at 7 Friday night in the first segment of Hear America Swingin'. In the second segment, Jerry Gray and his orchestra will be featured. Other bands to be heard will be those of Count Basie, Louis Armstrong, and the Sauter-Finegan group.

Photograph of Les Paul and Mary Ford with caption:

**LES PAUL AND MARY FORD . . . ON KSD'S HEAR AMERICA SWINGIN' FRIDAY.**

Tampa Morning Tribune [Tampa, Florida], Aug 13, 1954, Page 5-B:

#### **Radio Programs On WLFA Today [970 NBC]**

**8:35 P. M.—HEAR AMERICA SWING-  
IN'—Jerry Gray and his orchestra are  
featured from the Palladium in Holly-  
wood.**

**9 P. M.—HEAR AMERICA SWING-  
IN'—The Stars in Jazz segment spot-  
lights Louis Armstrong and his Jazz  
All-Stars along with Count Basie.**

**9:35 P. M.—HEAR AMERICA SWING-  
IN'—The Suter-Finegan Orchestra will  
be heard in this portion of the musical  
program.**

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette [Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania], Aug 13, 1954, Page 25:

**Radio High Spots And Programs**

8:00 p.m. KDKA 1020 NBC – Hear America Swingin’ – Tonight’s bands are Tony Pastor with Les Paul and Mary Ford, Jerry Gray, Louis Armstrong, Count Basie, and the Sauter-Finegan band.

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The Indianapolis Star [Indianapolis, Indiana], Aug 13, 1954, Page 17:

**Radio-TV Highlights – By ROBERT A. HART**

WIRE’s excellent *Hear America Swingin’* radio show at 7 p.m. will feature the bands of Tony Pastor, Jerry Gray, Louis Armstrong, Count Basie, and Sauter-Finegan.

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Wisconsin State Journal [Madison, Wisconsin], Aug 13, 1954, Section 2 Page 4:

**Today’s Radio Highlights – Music**

7:35 p.m. – Hall Of Bands (WIBA): Jerry Gray Orchestra.

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Aug 13, 1954, Page 6D:  
7:00-9:00 pm KSD Hear America Swingin’

---

Honolulu Advertiser [Honolulu, Hawaii], Aug 23, 1954, Page B5:

*Big Name Bands and Vocalists direct from their mainland engagements!*

**hear America Swinging**

- Stan Kenton with June Valli
- Jerry Gray with Linda Lee
- Milt Jackson Quartet
- Count Basie and his Orchestra
- Perez Prado, King of Mambo

**tonight 8 to 10 P.M.**

- Saluting the University of California at Los Angeles

**KGU**  
*first with the finest!*  
DIAL 740



[Author’s Note: The KGU Honolulu broadcast aired 10-days later]

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**August 14, 1954 [Saturday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

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**August 15, 1954 [Sunday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

**The 14th annual Nisei Week Festival culminated with a jam-packed Coronation Ball at the Hollywood Palladium.**

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**August 17, 1954 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance and Telecast, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

**“Palladium Dance Time” Telecast, KTLA (5), 10:00-11:00 pm:**

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*The Independent* [Long Beach, California], Aug 17, 1954, Page 16:

***Tele-Vues* by TERRY VERNON**

Jerry Gray's orchestra plays its final concert at The Palladium (5) at 10 p.m.

---

**Sometime between August 17, 1954 [Tuesday] and the following three weeks or so:**

**Jerry Gray filled-in one afternoon between 3:00 and 4:45 pm as a disc jockey, covering for KWKW Bill Garr who was on vacation.**

*Los Angeles Times* [Los Angeles, California], Aug 17, 1954, Part I Page 22:

**VIDEO-RADIO BRIEFS**

.....

We're turning disc jockey today from 3 to 4:45 p.m. to help Bill Garr enjoy his vacation away from his KWKW program. Dooley's in Temple City is our stopping off point and anyone in the neighborhood is welcome to drop in. Incidentally some of Bill's other guest jockeys during the three-week rest include Jeff Chandler, Jeri Southern, Tex Williams, Peggy King, Lawrence Welk, Les Baxter, Ella Mae Morse, Mae Williams, Mel Blanc, Al Burton, Bill Bird, Jerry Gray, and Sterling Way.

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**August 18, 1954 [Wednesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

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**August 19, 1954 [Thursday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

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**August 20, 1954 [Friday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.

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Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, along with Woody Herman with Georgia Gibbs, Louis Armstrong, and Perez Prado; NBC Network Radio Broadcast, "Hear America Swingin'" Program #9. 8:00-10:00 pm East Coast.

If the Jerry Gray segment was broadcast live from the Hollywood Palladium, the NBC Network feed would have begun at 5:35 p.m. Hollywood time; 8:35 p.m. East Coast time.

This program was apparently not aired in the Los Angeles area.

[Author's Note: Some references are now showing the first segment as "Stars In Action," the second segment as "Marine Hall Of Bands," the third segment as "Stars In Jazz," and the fourth segment as "Parade Of Bands." References also being made that Ben Grauer will be spokesman for the National Guard and Fred Collins will be master of ceremonies for some segments.]

*Tampa Morning Tribune* [Tampa, Florida], Aug 20, 1954, Page 5-B:

**Radio Programs On WLFA Today [970 NBC]**

8:35 P.M. – HEAR AMERICAN SWINGIN' – Opening portion of tonight's musical program features Jerry Gray and his orchestra from the Hollywood Palladium.



**8:35 P.M.—HEAR AMERICA SWING-IN'—Opening portion of tonight's musical program features Jerry Gray and his orchestra from the Hollywood Palladium.**

**9 P.M.—STARS IN JAZZ—The jazz artist in Hear America Swingin's spotlight is Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong and his All-Stars.**

**9:35 P.M.—HEAR AMERICA SWING-IN'—The program continues with Perez Prado and his Mambo Orchestra.**

*The Indianapolis Star* [Indianapolis, Indiana], Aug 20, 1954, Page 19:

**Radio-TV Highlights – By ROBERT A. HART**

WIRE's Here America Swingin' jazz parade will include Woody Herman, Jerry Gray, Satchmo Armstrong, and Perez Prado.

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Wisconsin State Journal [Madison, Wisconsin], Aug 20, 1954, Section 2 Page 8:

**Today's Radio Highlights – Music**

7:35 p.m. – Marine Hall Of Bands (WIBA): Jerry Gray Orchestra.

---

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Aug 15, 1954, Page 4G:

**RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

Orchestras of Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong and Perez Prado will be heard in the Hear America Swingin' program on KSD at 7 Friday night.

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Aug 20, 1954, Page 6D:

7:00-9:00 pm KSD Hear America Swingin'

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The Courier Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Aug 20, 1954, Page 2 Section 2:

**TODAY'S RADIO HIGH LIGHTS**

Woody Herman, Georgia Gibbs, Jerry Gray, Louis Armstrong, and Perez Prado and his Mambo orchestra on Hear America Swingin'

7:00-9:00 pm WAVE News; Hear America Swingin'

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**August 21, 1954 [Saturday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

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**August 22, 1954 [Sunday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

---

**September 17, 1954 [Friday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, Black and White Ball, Santa Monica City College, Los Angeles Breakfast Club, Los Angeles, California.**

*Santa Monica City College, Sep 17, 1954, Page 3:*

**Delia Garcia Ends Summer As Queen**

Recently elected Commissioner of Records, Delia Garcia has been awarded another honor. She was named "La Reinde Churubusco" or queen of beauty at the annual Black and White Ball. The affair was held at the Los Angeles Breakfast Club and was the highlight of the Latin American Social Act in this area. To give an idea of the importance of the dance, the bands that played were Don Tosti, Tony Martinez, and Jerry Gray.

---

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today; Benefit Dance, Columbia Gardens, Butte, Montana.**

**It appears that Russ Morgan and his Orchestra actually played for this event which was rescheduled to September 21 st.**

*Montana Standard [Butte, Montana], Aug 12, 1954, Page 14:*

**Dance Set Sep 17 for Benefit of Butte High Band**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today will play at a dance at Columbia Gardens Sept 17 under sponsorship of the Butte High School Band Parents Associations, it was announced Wednesday.

Proceeds will go into the band's fund to help defray expenses of future trips the high school organization may take.

Jerry Gray was the arranger of nearly all the Glenn Miller hits and is recognized as the only tune successor to that "greatest of all band leaders."

---

**October 17, 1954 [Sunday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, Red Skelton, Virginia Mayo, and many other Hollywood stars; Benefit Variety Shows at 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., National Orange Show's Swing Auditorium, 689 SE St, San Bernardino, California.**

**The Swing Auditorium was named after Senator Ralph Swing.**

---

*The Daily Sun* [San Bernardino, California], Oct 14, 1954, Page 4:

**SUNDAY OCT., 17, 7:30 P. M.**  
**IN PERSON**  
**RED SKELTON**  
**JERRY GRAY & His Band,**  
**ELLA LOGAN, MIKE O'SHEA,**  
**VIRGINIA MAYO, ROBERT**  
**STACK, GEORGE PUTNAM,**  
**CAROLINA COTTON,**  
**RENO BROWN**  
*And a Host of Other Top*  
*Hollywood Talent at the*  
**SWING AUDITORIUM**  
**SAN BERNARDINO**  
**BENEFIT**  
**ST. BONIFACE,**  
**New Hope, U.S.A.**  
School for **UNDERPRIVILEGED** Children of  
Every Race and Religious Belief, at **BANNING**  
**TICKETS AVAILABLE AT BOX OFFICE**  
**SUNDAY ONLY — ADM. \$2.50, \$2.00, \$1.00**

*The Daily Sun* [San Bernardino, California], Oct 14, 1954, Page 13/17:

### **List of Stars Grows for New Hope Show on Sunday**

A veteran scalp-snatcher of Hollywood westerns, Chief Iron Eyes Cody, is the latest name added to the list of stars who will entertain in San Bernardino at the New Hope, U.S.A., show Sunday afternoon and night.

Also added to the mammoth list of entertainers is Jerry Gray and his "Band of Today," which will perform at the show.

Proceeds from the giant extravaganza will go to the "Boy's Town of the West," St. Boniface's School near Banning in the San Jacinto Mountains.

Red Skelton, television star of many personalities – all of them funny – will appear as master of ceremonies in the night variety show at the National Orange Show's Swing Auditorium.

---

*The Sun-Telegram* [San Bernardino, California], Oct 17, 1954, Page 13:

### **New Hope Show, Parade Sunday**

#### **Entertainment Stars Seek to Aid School**

Lt. Gov. Harold J. Powers, Red Skelton, Virginia Mayo, and other screen stars will parade through San Bernardino Sunday afternoon to the National Orange Show Stadium.

There, at 2 p.m., they will present the first of two giant variety shows for the benefit of St. Boniface's School near Banning – also known as “New Hope, U.S.A.” and the “Boys Town of the West.”

A second show will be presented at 7:30 p.m. All proceeds from the two shows will go to the orphanage, located only 35 miles from San Bernardino.

In addition to Skelton and Miss Mayo, scores of other Hollywood personalities will appear at the two shows, including Michael O'Shea, Alan Mowbray, Ella Logan, Anita Louise, Robert Stack, Carolina Cotton, Doye O'Dell, Penny Singleton, and Champ Butler.

Music will be provided by Jerry Gray and his “Band of Today.”

The parade will form at the corner of 6th and E Sts. at 1 p.m. Western riders and civic and county officials will join the Hollywood stars as the parade moves south on E St. to the Orange Show grounds.

---

*The Daily Sun* [San Bernardino, California], Oct 14, 1954, Page 9/11:

### **10,000 Watch New Hope Benefit Parade, Shows**

#### **Lt. Gov. Powers, Film, TV Stars In S.B. Program – Proceeds to St. Boniface School**

An audience of nearly 5,000 rocked Swing Auditorium with laughter Sunday night at the star-studded comedy and musical show staged for the benefit of “New Hope, U.S.A.,” the St. Boniface School for Boys near Banning.

The gala program, headed by Red Skelton, followed an afternoon parade down San Bernardino's E St. to the National Orange Show Stadium where an exciting aerial display and ground show thrilled the crowd. An estimated 5,000 persons witnessed these earlier events.

.....

Skelton, who brought his wife and two children to the show, scooted onto the stage of the auditorium on the Orange Show grounds soon after the curtain rose. His series of pantomimes and skits, one of which was “how to handle a baby,” kept the audience in a state of mirth throughout the evening.

“The show was a tremendous success,” said Dante Di Canio, who organized the benefit.

.....

Jerry Gray and his “Band of Today” provided the music. All of the top-flight cast of actors, dancers, and musicians contributed their talent.

**October 30, 1954 [Saturday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today; Homecoming Dance, 9 p.m., University of Utah, Rainbow Randevu, 464 South Main Street, Salt Lake City, Utah.**

*The Daily Utah Chronicle* [Salt Lake City, Utah], Oct 18, 1954, Front Page:

### **Jerry Gray's Band to Play For U Homecoming Dance**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today will provide music for the Homecoming dance on Oct 30, announced Bruce White, dance chairman.

Composer of "String of Pearls," "Pennsylvania 6-5000," and other famous numbers, bandleader Gray came into the musical spotlight as an arranger for the Glenn Miller Orchestra.

Preceding the dance will be a week filled with all the traditional Homecoming activities. First on the list is choosing a queen on Oct 25 to reign over the events.

The theme governing all Homecoming events is "What Happens To Vandals Is-Um Tragic, When Hoyo Work-Um Alumni Magic," according to Suzanne Burbridge and Nancy Heath, co-chairmen of Homecoming. This theme will provide the key-note for floats, skits, house decorations, and quartettes.

Also on tap before the day of the game is an excused assembly and the annual Pi Phi/Sigma Nu street dance.

University of Utah alumni will join in activities. Downtown businessmen are also planning Homecoming displays.

Climaxing all these preliminaries will be a football game with the University of Idaho in Ute Stadium at 2 p.m. on Oct 30. Other events scheduled during the day are the parade at 10 a.m. and the dance, finale to the week's activities.



**JERRY GRAY  
To Bring Band of Today**

[Author's Note: *The Daily Utah Chronicle* is the University of Utah daily newspaper.]

Homecoming . . . that October week when alums are welcomed back to their alma mater and “U” activities are geared to honor them . . . when sororities and fraternities turn shiplap, paper mache, and chicken wire into comic house decorations . . . when quartets practice the clock around . . . when scripts for skits are written, censored, rewritten, and finally produced . . . when the Pi Phis and Sigma Nus block off Walcott Street for their street dance . . . when Utes—past, present, and future—rally to the pigskin tussle and wind up the whirlwind week dancing at the Rainbow Randevu to Jerry Gray’s orchestra.



Maestro Jerry Gray – University of Utah Homecoming Parade

## **Jazz**

### **'Kat's Meow' Reviews Top Bandman – By Dick Anderson and Loel Hepworth**

Since Jerry Gray is the wise choice for the Homecoming dance, it is only proper that we give you a little of his background.

Born thirty-four years ago, Jerry Gray was – there's no denying it – a child prodigy. He was an accomplished violinist at the tender age of seven and played the instrument with a symphony orchestra in his native Boston when he was twelve, all the other members of the orchestra averaging fifty years of age.

It was at the instigation of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Graziano, that Jerry took his first violin lessons at the Boston Opera House. However, it was not at their instigation that he spent his evenings in one of Hub City's "hot" musicians' rendezvous, sopping up the "hep" music of the day.

In his early teens, Jerry organized his first orchestra, leading and doubling on the violin. After he graduated from high school, he organized another and took it on a tour of cafes on the New England coast. Shortly thereafter, the talented musician accepted a bid to play first violin in Artie Shaw's string orchestra and, before long, he was the top arranger for the musical aggregation.

Gray later accepted the post of arranger for the great Glenn Miller band. He also was the man to take over the baton when Major Miller disappeared and was believed to have crashed in the English Channel on a flight to Paris. He continued to tour the band through Holland, France, and Germany.

Jerry received the Bronze Star for meritorious service and was discharged in Nov 1945.

"I never wanted to cash in on Glenn's reputation," says Gray, whose scoring of "Chattanooga Choo Choo" became one of Miller's trademarks, "but with new bands coming up and playing what they think is Miller music, I decided it was time to step in and produce some of the 'real stuff.'" The "real stuff" according to Jerry Gray, is rich orchestration, featuring resonant reeds on the slow pieces and hard-hitting deep driving brasses on the rhythm numbers.

Gray's "solid instrumentals" have a tone and a touch which are quickly recognizable and elicit immediate and enthusiastic response.

---

*The Daily Utah Chronicle* [Salt Lake City, Utah], Oct 28, 1954, Page 4:

### **University of Utah Alumni to Attend Homecoming Festivities**

Three days of festivities including bright house and float decorations, skits, and dinner parties will welcome University of Utah alumni who rally back to the campus this weekend for the annual Homecoming celebration.

The traditional Homecoming dance will begin at 9 p.m. at the Rainbow Randevu. Jerry Gray, former Glenn Miller arranger, and his Band of Today will provide the music. During intermission, prizes will be awarded to winners in the fraternity, sorority, and independent men's and women's divisions of Homecoming competition.

---

*The Daily Utah Chronicle* [Salt Lake City, Utah], Oct 21, 1954, Page 1/3:

**Trophies Close U Homecoming – By Nola Grant**

.....

The trophies were presented by Homecoming queen Dorothy Hutchinson and attendants Vella Neil and Karen Peterson.

Miss Hutchinson reigned at all events. Saturday morning, she and her attendants, wrapped in fur capes, adorned the queen car for the downtown parade of collegiate floats, marching units, and the University of Utah marching band. Administrative dignitaries and state and city officials, along with Maestro Jerry Gray, waived at the crowds as they were driven past in cars of ancient vintage.

.....

Jerry Gray's band was on hand for music-making at the dance at the Rainbow Randevu, which put the cork in the bottle of alumni spirits for Homecoming, 1954.

---

**November 3, 1954 [Wednesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today; Dancing, Riverside Ballroom and Park, 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m., 1975 South Central, Phoenix, Arizona.**

*The Arizona Republic* [Tucson, Arizona], Oct 31, 1954, Section 3, Page 9:

**Off The Record – Frank Pollack**

.....

Jerry Gray, the former chief arranger for the late Glenn Miller, brings his band in to Riverside Park Ballroom this Wednesday night.

*The Arizona Republic* [Tucson, Arizona], Oct 31, 1954, Section 3, Page 10:

**RIVERSIDE**  
**BALLROOM & PARK**

1975 S. Central • "Home of Name Bands"  
Don Carlos Enterprises PRESENTS

 YOU'VE HEARD HIM ON THE CBS CLUB 15  
RADIO SHOW AND ON HIT DECCA RECORDS

*In Person!*

**JERRY GRAY**

THE MAN WHO  
CREATED  
ARTIE SHAW'S  
"BEGIN THE  
BEGUINE"  
AND DOZENS  
OF TOP GLENN  
MILLER HITS.

and his  
**BAND OF TODAY**

**WEDNESDAY NITE---NOV. 3**

**DANCING FROM 9:00 P.M. to 1:00 A.M.**  
ADMISSION: \$1.80 Per Person (Tax Included)

For Private Party Table Reservations Phone AL 3-9802

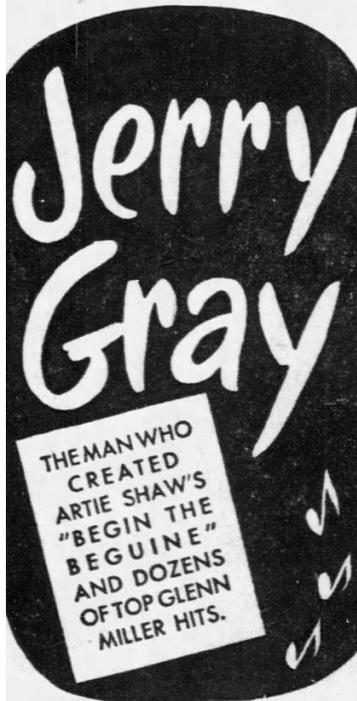
**RIVERSIDE**  
BALL ROOM & PARK

1975 S. Central Ave.

"Home of Name Bands"

A Don Carlos Enterprise  
**YOU'VE HEARD HIM ON THE  
CBS CLUB 15 RADIO SHOW  
AND ON HIT DECCA RECORDS**

*In Person!*



*and his*  
**Band of Today**

**TOMORROW  
NIGHT**

**Dancing**

**9 P.M. to 1 P.M.**

Admission: \$1.80 Per Person  
(tax included)

For Private Party Table  
Reservations Phone AL 3-9802

**November 5, 1954 [Friday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today; Homecoming Dance, 37th Annual University of Arizona Homecoming Dance, Student Union Memorial Building, Tucson, Arizona.**

*The Arizona Daily Star* [Tucson, Arizona], Nov 3, 1954, Section B, Page 1:

**Grads Take Spotlight At U.A.**

***Homecoming Features Fun And 'Big Game'***

Homecoming – backslapping and remember-when time for the old grads – grabs the campus spotlight at the University of Arizona this week end.

From Friday night until Sunday morning, the one-time members of the university student body follow an extensive schedule of parades, luncheons, dinners, dances, and receptions, topped of course by the Saturday night football game.

That game pits the Wildcats against one of their bitterest – and strongest – rivals, Texas Tech.

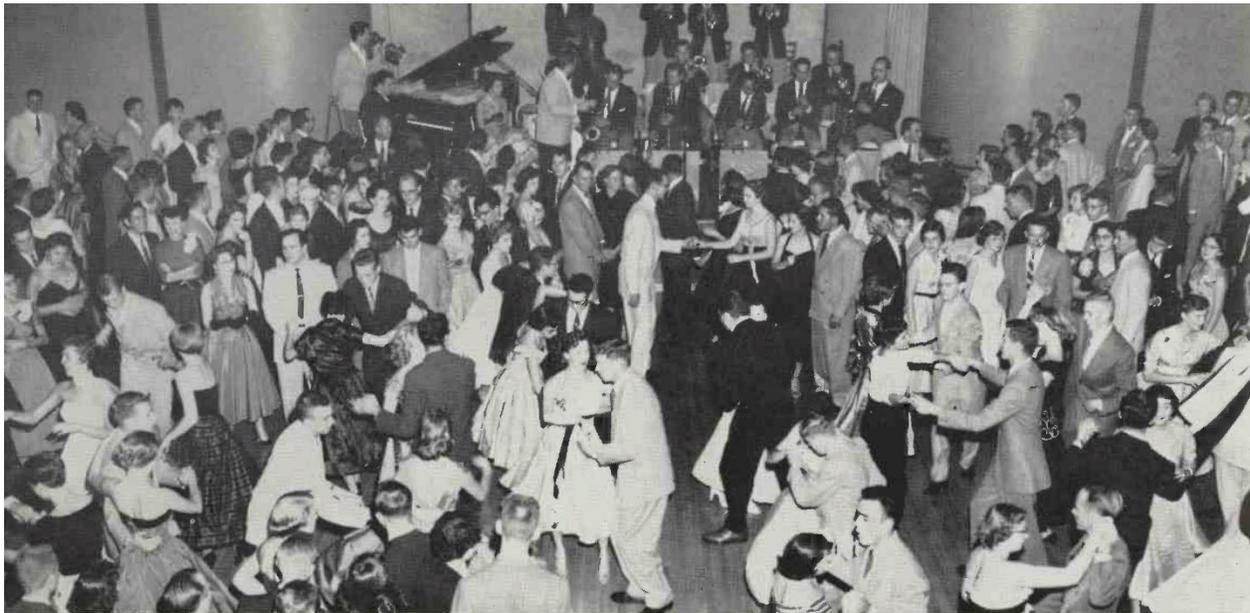
This will be the 37 th annual observance of Homecoming at the U. of A.; and, on this occasion, special honor will be paid the Silver Jubilee class of 1929 and the Golden Jubilee class of 1904.

.....

The Homecoming dance, featuring the music of Jerry Gray “and his band of today” is from 9 to midnight in the Student Union ballroom. At the dance, the Homecoming Queen will be officially crowned, although her name will be known earlier.

---

*1954-1955 University of Arizona, Desert Year Book, Page 312:*



*RETURNING alumni and underclassmen did some pretty fancy stepping to the music of Jerry Gray at Homecoming Dance in the ballroom.*



Jerry Gray crowns 1954 Homecoming Queen Florence Archer  
Attendants are Dawn Benson and Jo Bunch

---

**November 6, 1954 [Saturday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today; Homecoming Dance, 29th Annual Homecoming, UNM Alumni Association, Carlisle Gymnasium, 9 p.m. to midnight, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico.**

Albuquerque Journal [Albuquerque, New Mexico], Oct 28, 1954, Page 8:

***Dances Are Planned For Homecoming Alumni***

Homecoming dances are planned by the UNM Alumni Assn., to immediately follow the "Big Game" Saturday Nov 6. Jerry Gray and his nationally known organization will play for a dance in the Carlisle Gymnasium from 9 p.m. until midnight.

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Albuquerque Journal [Albuquerque, New Mexico], Oct 31, 1954, Page 4:

***Many Events Scheduled For Friday and Saturday During UNM Homecoming***

A weekend packed with events for the visiting alumni and the student body is scheduled for Homecoming Friday and Saturday at the University of New Mexico.

The Homecoming Dance, given by the students in Carlisle Gymnasium, will feature the band of Jerry Gray, and will begin at 9 p.m. Alumni and townspeople are welcome.

---

Albuquerque Journal [Albuquerque, New Mexico], Nov 7, 1954, Page 1/11:

***UNM Homecoming Ends With Much Celebrating***

The 29th annual homecoming of the University of New Mexico ended in the wee hours today as students, alumni, and Albuquerqueans celebrated the state university's homecoming victory over the Montana Grizzlies by a 20-14 score.

The victory added extra spark to the homecoming celebration.

Reigning over the homecoming activities was Queen Dorothy Lewis, Albuquerque senior majoring in physical education. She also is head majorette for the University marching band. Her attendants were Patty Stewart, junior from Hatch, and Barbara Mitchell, junior from Raton.

The queen was honored at half time of the football game and reigned at homecoming dances Saturday night. Thousands of persons attended the dance for students at Carlisle Gym, with Jerry Gray and his orchestra providing the music.

---

**November 9, 1954 [Tuesday] thru November 28 [Sunday] [3-week Engagement]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance, Radio Broadcasts, and Telecasts, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.

---

**November 9, 1954 [Tuesday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Opening Gala, Ballroom Dance and Telecast, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.

Ronnie Deauville, impromptu guest vocalist, opening night.

**Possible personnel for Jerry Gray and his Band of Today:** JOE BONNIE, Jules Chalken, Toby Taubenson, Whitey Thomas t; Jimmy Priddy, Bob Robinson, BRUCE HENDRICKS, tb; Ralph LaPolla cl/as, Jack Ferrier as, Bob Hardaway ts, JACK MONTROSE ts, Jack DuLong bari; Marty Paich or Dick Turner p; DICK NIVISON b; Joe Tenney d; Linda Lee v.

---

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Nov 9, 1954, Part III Page 6:

Gala **PALLADIUM**  
Opening **TONIGHT!**

**JERRY GRAY**  
& HIS ORCHESTRA  
featuring  
**LINDA LEE**

ADDED—Friday & Saturday  
**DON TOSTI**  
AND HIS MAMBO BAND

World-Famous **HOLLYWOOD**  
**PALLADIUM**  
Sunset near Vine · HO. 9-7356

CATERING  
TO PRIVATE  
PARTIES,  
BENEFITS

SEE  
"PALLADIUM  
DANCE TIME"  
TUES., 10 P.M.  
**KTLA (5)**

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Nov 9, 1954, Part I Page 26:

## **TUESDAY TELEVISION**

10:00-11:00 P.M. – **KTLA 5 “PALLADIUM DANCE TIME”**

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The Billboard, Nov 27, 1954, Page 18:

### **H’wood Palladium Booked Thru Mar. With Name Bands**

HOLLYWOOD, Nov 20. – The Hollywood Palladium is booked solid thru March of 1955, with a roster of five name bands inked. Jerry Gray ork opened November 9 for a three-week stand, followed by Orrin Tucker, Les Brown, Harry James, and the first West Coast appearance of the Les Elgart band.

Palladium will be closed during the month of December for the traditional season of Christmas private party dates. Orrin Tucker ork was specifically engaged for the period owing to its local band status. American Federation of Musicians rules prohibit traveling bands working private party sessions.

---

The Billboard, Nov 27, 1954, Page 18, Music-Radio:

### **MUSIC AS WRITTEN – HOLLYWOOD**

Ronnie Deauville gets a shot with the “Bandstand Revue,” largely as a result of his impromptu singing spot at the Jerry Gray opening at the Palladium last week.

---

Variety Daily, Oct 26, 1954:



Keyword: Jerry Gray Sets Record For Palladium Repeats Jerry Gray sets a new record for return dates at the Hollywood Palladium when he opens a three-week stand at the terpery Nov. 9. It will be his third date there since the first of the year. Gray closes Nov. 29 and Palladium then shuts down, as far as the public is concerned

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Variety Daily, Nov 4, 1954:



Keyword: Jerry Gray comes back to the Palladium Tuesday in time to see some stations raising eye brows

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Variety Daily, Nov 16, 1954:



Keyword: Kay Lyte closed his own office and joined the Milton Deutsch club, hotel and Jerry Gray drew in his first week

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**November 10, 1954 [Wednesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

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**November 11, 1954 [Thursday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

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**November 12, 1954 [Friday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee, along with Don Tosti and his Mambo Band; Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Nov 12, 1954, Part I Page 10:



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**November 13, 1954 [Saturday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee, along with Don Tosti and his Mambo Band; Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

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**November 14, 1954 [Sunday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

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**November 16, 1954 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance and Telecast, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

---

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Nov 16, 1954, Part I Page 28:

**TUESDAY TELEVISION**

10:00-11:00 P.M. – **KTLA 5 “PALLADIUM DANCE TIME”**

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**November 17, 1954 [Wednesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

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**November 18, 1954 [Thursday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

---

**November 19, 1954 [Friday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee, along with Don Tosti and his Mambo Band; Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Nov 19, 1954, Part III Page 8:



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**November 20, 1954 [Saturday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee, along with Don Tosti and his Mambo Band; Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

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**November 21, 1954 [Sunday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

---

**November 23, 1954 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance and Telecast, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

*Los Angeles Times* [Los Angeles, California], Nov 23, 1954, Part I Page 26:

**TUESDAY TELEVISION**

10:00-11:00 P.M. – **KTLA 5 “PALLADIUM DANCE TIME”**

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**November 24, 1954 [Wednesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

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**November 25, 1954 [Thursday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

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**November 26, 1954 [Friday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee, along with Don Tosti and his Mambo Band; Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

Los Angeles Times [Los Angeles, California], Nov 26, 1954, Part III Page 6:

**LAST - 3 - NIGHTS**  
**JERRY GRAY**  
**& His Orchestra**

Tonight & Sat. Only  
**DON TOSTI**  
**& His Mambo Orch.**

TUES., NOV. 30th  
AND  
FRI., DEC. 3rd  
**ORRIN TUCKER**  
and His Orchestra

World-Famous **HOLLYWOOD PALLADIUM**  
Sunset near Vine · HO. 9-7356

Closing for  
Private Parties Sat. Dec. 4th  
Reopening Xmas Eve.

**November 27, 1954 [Saturday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee, along with Don Tosti and his Mambo Band; Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

**Los Angeles High School Class of 1943 Reunion.**

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*Los Angeles Times* [Los Angeles, California], Nov 16, 1954, Part I Page 6:

## **L.A. High Class of '43 to Hold First Reunion**

Los Angeles High School alumni, class of 1943, will hold their first reunion Nov. 27 at Hollywood Palladium, according to Mrs. Richard J. Domecq, reunion committee member. The class of '43 was the largest class ever to graduate from the school and a large turnout is expected, Mrs. Domecq said.

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**November 28, 1954 [Sunday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Linda Lee; Closing Night, Ballroom Dance, Hollywood Palladium, 6215 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California.**

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**November 30, 1954 [Tuesday]:**

Variety Daily, Nov 30, 1954:



Keyword: because he sounded too much like Frank Sinatra. Now, the former Ray Anthony and Jerry Gray vocalist has come up with a new sound of his own. He's cut a pair of tunes for American Music, debuting a pair of powerful pipes, and there's some interest from the Majors in the masters of "Mirror Love" and "Fields"

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**Late 1954 – Early 1955:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Peggy King, United States Navy “Stand By For Music”  
Transcription Program 15 and Program 15B [College Series], Hollywood, California.**

“Stand By For Music” starring Peggy King with Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

SAILING, SAILING (Opening US Navy Theme) (0:06)  
DESERT SERENADE (Opening Theme) (0:29) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
FANFARE – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
MOUNTAIN GREENERY – v Peggy King  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
INTERVIEW – Peggy King and Jimmy Wallington  
BURN ‘EM UP – v Peggy King  
IT TOOK TEN DAYS – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
MAKE YOURSELF COMFORTABLE – v Peggy King  
DESERT SERENADE (Closing Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
SAILING, SAILING (Closing US Navy Theme)

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today:** Marty Paich p, Others unknown; Peggy King, vocal.

Announcer - Jimmy Wallington

*“From Hollywood, California, let’s Stand By For Music. The United States Navy and the Naval Reserve invite you to Stand By For Music, with Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, yours truly Jimmy Wallington, and the top singing stars of America.”*

One transcription disk label of Program 15 shows a play date of May 17, 1955, at radio station WLYC, Williamsport, Pennsylvania.



**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Gloria DeHaven, United States Navy "Stand By For Music" Transcription Program 16 and Program 16B [College Series], Hollywood, California.**

"Stand By For Music" starring Gloria DeHaven with Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

SAILING, SAILING (Opening US Navy Theme)  
DESERT SERENADE (Opening Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
FANFARE – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
BLUE MOON – v Gloria DeHaven  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
INTERVIEW – Gloria DeHaven and Jimmy Wallington  
SOMEBODY LOVES ME – v Gloria DeHaven  
CREW CUT – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
MY HEART STOOD STILL – v Gloria DeHaven  
DESERT SERENADE (Closing Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
SAILING, SAILING (Closing US Navy Theme)

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today:** Musicians unknown; Gloria DeHaven, vocal.

Announcer - Jimmy Wallington

*"From Hollywood, California, let's Stand By For Music. The United States Navy and the Naval Reserve invite you to Stand By For Music, with Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, yours truly Jimmy Wallington, and the top singing stars of America."*

One transcription disk label of Program 16 shows a play date of May 24, 1955, at radio station WLYC, Williamsport, Pennsylvania.



**c December 1954:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Mel Tormé, United States Navy “Stand By For Music”  
Transcription Program 17 and Program 17B [College Series], Hollywood, California.**

“Stand By For Music” starring Mel Tormé with Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

SAILING, SAILING (Opening US Navy Theme)  
DESERT SERENADE (Opening Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
FANFARE – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
YOU OUGHT TO BE IN PICTURES – v Mel Tormé  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
INTERVIEW – Mel Tormé and Jimmy Wallington  
ALL OF YOU – v Mel Tormé  
CORONADO CRUISE – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
I COVER THE WATERFRONT – v Mel Tormé  
DESERT SERENADE (Closing Theme) - Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
SAILING, SAILING (Closing US Navy Theme)

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today:** Including Graham Young, Carlton McBeath, Whitey Thomas, t; Jimmy Priddy, John Halliburton, Bob Fitzpatrick, tb; Joe Estren cl and as, Riley Weston as, Jack Montrose and Ronny Perry ts, Jack Du Long bari; Marty Paich p, John Mosher b, Jimmy Pratt d; Mel Tormé, vocal.

Announcer - Jimmy Wallington

*“From Hollywood, California, let’s Stand By For Music. The United States Navy and the Naval Reserve invite you to Stand By For Music, with Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, yours truly Jimmy Wallington, and the top singing stars of America.”*

Reference: Mel Tormé: A Chronicle of His Recordings, Books and Films, page 36

One transcription disk label of Program 17 shows a play date of Jun 7, 1955, at radio station WLYC, Williamsport, Pennsylvania.



**December 2, 1954 [Thursday]:**

Variety Daily, Dec 2, 1954:



Keyword: but Miller disks - and to spice the programming, he has been contacting former Miller sidemen to cut voice tracks to be used on the program. Among the ex-Miller men here "on the Coast are John Best, Paul Tanner, Roily Burdock, Dick Fisher, Willy Schwartz, Tom Mack, Chummy MacGregor, Jimmy Priddy, Jerry Gray

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**Late 1954 – Early 1955:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Ginny Simms, United States Navy “Stand By For Music” Transcription Program 18 and Program 18B [College Series], Hollywood, California.**

“Stand By For Music” starring Ginny Simms with Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

SAILING, SAILING (Opening US Navy Theme)  
DESERT SERENADE (Opening Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
FANFARE – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
ON THE SUNNY SIDE OF THE STREET/THIS CAN'T BE LOVE – v Ginny Simms  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
INTERVIEW – Ginny Simms and Jimmy Wallington  
I LOVE PARIS – v Ginny Simms  
INTRODUCTION TO A WALTZ – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
EMBRACEABLE YOU – v Ginny Simms  
DESERT SERENADE (Closing Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
SAILING, SAILING (Closing US Navy Theme)

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today:** Joe Tenney, d; Others unknown; Ginny Simms, vocal.

Announcer - Jimmy Wallington

*“From Hollywood, California, let’s Stand By For Music. The United States Navy and the Naval Reserve invite you to Stand By For Music, with Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, yours truly Jimmy Wallington, and the top singing stars of America.”*

One transcription disk label of Program 18 shows a play date of May 31, 1955, at radio station WLYC, Williamsport, Pennsylvania.



**Late 1954 – Early 1955:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Jeri Southern, United States Navy “Stand By For Music” Transcription Program 19 and Program 19B [College Series], Hollywood, California.**

“Stand By For Music” starring Jeri Southern with Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

SAILING, SAILING (Opening US Navy Theme)  
DESERT SERENADE (Opening Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
FANFARE – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
WHEN I FALL IN LOVE – v Jeri Southern  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
INTERVIEW – Jeri Southern and Jimmy Wallington  
YOU BETTER GO NOW – v Jeri Southern  
MUSKRAT RAMBLE – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, v Jerry Gray  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
GYPSY IN MY SOUL – v Jeri Southern  
DESERT SERENADE (Closing Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
SAILING, SAILING (Closing US Navy Theme)

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today:** Musicians unknown; Jeri Southern, vocal.

Announcer - Jimmy Wallington

*“From Hollywood, California, let’s Stand By For Music. The United States Navy and the Naval Reserve invite you to Stand By For Music, with Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, yours truly Jimmy Wallington, and the top singing stars of America.”*

One transcription disk label of Program 19 shows a play date of April 23, 1955, at radio station WOCB, West Yarmouth, Massachusetts.



**Late 1954 – Early 1955:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with June Christy, United States Navy “Stand By For Music”  
Transcription Program 20 and Program 20B [College Series], Hollywood, California.**

“Stand By For Music” starring June Christy with Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

SAILING, SAILING (Opening US Navy Theme)  
DESERT SERENADE (Opening Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
FANFARE – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
HOW HIGH THE MOON – v June Christy  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
INTERVIEW – June Christy and Jimmy Wallington  
WILLOW WEEP FOR ME – v June Christy  
CARAVAN – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
FROM THIS MOMENT ON – v June Christy  
DESERT SERENADE (Closing Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
SAILING, SAILING (Closing US Navy Theme)

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today:** Musicians unknown; June Christy, vocal.

Announcer - Jimmy Wallington

*“From Hollywood, California, let’s Stand By For Music. The United States Navy and the Naval Reserve invite you to Stand By For Music, with Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, yours truly Jimmy Wallington, and the top singing stars of America.”*

One transcription disk label of Program 20 shows a play date of April 30, 1955, at radio station WOCB, West Yarmouth, Massachusetts.



[Author’s Note: The spelling of June Christy is incorrect on the issued transcription disk.]

**Late 1954 – Early 1955:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Gordon MacRae, United States Navy “Stand By For Music” Transcription Program 21 and Program 21B [College Series], Hollywood, California.**

“Stand By For Music” starring Gordon MacRae with Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

SAILING, SAILING (Opening US Navy Theme)  
DESERT SERENADE (Opening Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
FANFARE – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
LUCK BE A LADY – v Gordon MacRae  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
INTERVIEW – Gordon MacRae and Jimmy Wallington  
COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS – v Gordon MacRae  
PERFIDIA – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
OL’ MAN RIVER – v Gordon MacRae  
DESERT SERENADE (Closing Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
SAILING, SAILING (Closing US Navy Theme)

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today:** Musicians unknown; Gordon MacRae, vocal.

Announcer - Jimmy Wallington

*“From Hollywood, California, let’s Stand By For Music. The United States Navy and the Naval Reserve invite you to Stand By For Music, with Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, yours truly Jimmy Wallington, and the top singing stars of America.”*

One transcription disk label of Program 21 shows a play date of June 28, 1955, at radio station WLYC, Williamsport, Pennsylvania.



[Author’s Note: The spelling of Gordon MacRae is incorrect on the issued transcription disk.]

**Late 1954 – Early 1955:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Peggy King, United States Navy “Stand By For Music” Transcription Program 22 and Program 22B [College Series], Hollywood, California.**

“Stand By For Music” starring Peggy King with Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

SAILING, SAILING (Opening US Navy Theme) (0:06)  
DESERT SERENADE (Opening Theme) (0:29) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
FANFARE – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
TEACH ME TONIGHT – v Peggy King  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
INTERVIEW – Peggy King and Jimmy Wallington  
IT’S ONLY A PAPER MOON – v Peggy King  
LITTLE BROWN JUG – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
GETTING TO KNOW YOU – v Peggy King  
DESERT SERENADE (Closing Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
SAILING, SAILING (Closing US Navy Theme)

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today:** Marty Paich p, Others unknown; Peggy King, vocal.

Announcer - Jimmy Wallington

*“From Hollywood, California, let’s Stand By For Music. The United States Navy and the Naval Reserve invite you to Stand By For Music, with Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, yours truly Jimmy Wallington, and the top singing stars of America.”*

One transcription disk label of Program 22 shows a play date of July 5, 1955, at radio station WLYC, Williamsport, Pennsylvania.



**Late 1954 – Early 1955:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Gloria DeHaven, United States Navy “Stand By For Music”  
Transcription Program 23 and Program 23B [College Series], Hollywood, California.**

“Stand By For Music” starring Gloria DeHaven with Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

SAILING, SAILING (Opening US Navy Theme)  
DESERT SERENADE (Opening Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
FANFARE – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
LOVE IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER – v Gloria DeHaven  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
INTERVIEW – Gloria DeHaven and Jimmy Wallington  
IT’S DE-LOVELY– v Gloria DeHaven and Male Chorus/Band  
RE-STRINGING THE PEARLS – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
SOMEBODY ELSE IS TAKING MY PLACE – v Gloria DeHaven  
DESERT SERENADE (Closing Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
SAILING, SAILING (Closing US Navy Theme)

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today:** Musicians unknown; Gloria DeHaven, vocal.

Announcer - Jimmy Wallington

*“From Hollywood, California, let’s Stand By For Music. The United States Navy and the Naval Reserve invite you to Stand By For Music, with Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, yours truly Jimmy Wallington, and the top singing stars of America.”*



**c December 1954:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Mel Tormé, United States Navy “Stand By For Music”  
Transcription Program 24 and Program 24B [College Series], Hollywood, California.**

“Stand By For Music” starring Mel Tormé with Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

SAILING, SAILING (Opening US Navy Theme)  
DESERT SERENADE (Opening Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
FANFARE – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
ISN'T THIS A LOVELY DAY (TO BE CAUGHT IN THE RAIN?) – v Mel Tormé  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
INTERVIEW – Mel Tormé and Jimmy Wallington  
LAURA – v Mel Tormé  
CHAMPAGNE BOOGIE – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today/v Band  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
CROSS YOUR HEART – v Mel Tormé  
DESERT SERENADE (Closing Theme) - Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
SAILING, SAILING (Closing US Navy Theme)

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today:** Including Graham Young, Carlton McBeath, Whitey Thomas, t; Jimmy Priddy, John Halliburton, Bob Fitzpatrick, tb; Joe Estren cl and as, Riley Weston as, Jack Montrose and Ronny Perry ts, Jack Du Long bari; Marty Paich p, John Mosher b, Jimmy Pratt d; Mel Tormé, vocal.

Announcer - Jimmy Wallington

*“From Hollywood, California, let’s Stand By For Music. The United States Navy and the Naval Reserve invite you to Stand By For Music, with Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, yours truly Jimmy Wallington, and the top singing stars of America.”*

Reference: *Mel Tormé: A Chronicle of His Recordings, Books and Films*, page 36



[Author's Note: See Mel Tormé's comments on Jerry Gray following this "Stand By For Music" listing.]

**Late 1954 – Early 1955:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Ginny Simms, United States Navy “Stand By For Music”  
Transcription Program 25 and Program 25B [College Series], Hollywood, California.**

“Stand By For Music” starring Ginny Simms with Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

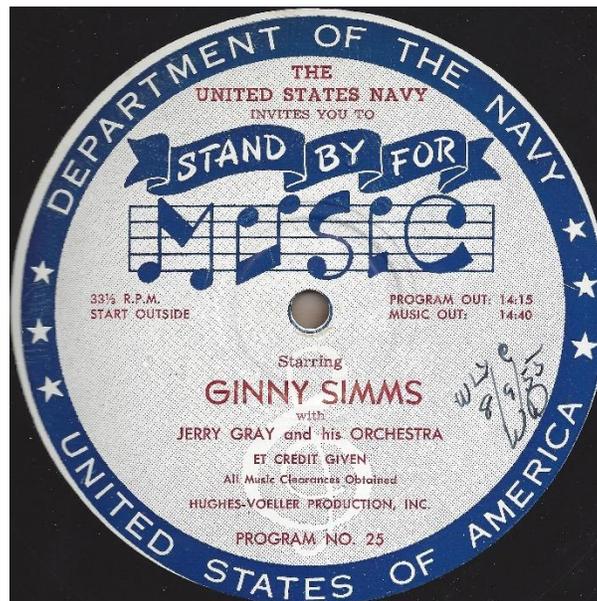
SAILING, SAILING (Opening US Navy Theme)  
DESERT SERENADE (Opening Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
FANFARE – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
THE MAN I LOVE – v Ginny Simms  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
INTERVIEW – Ginny Simms and Jimmy Wallington  
COME RAIN OR COME SHINE – v Ginny Simms  
THE KETTLE DRUM HOP – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, featuring Joe Tenney on drums  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
CUDDLE UP A LITTLE CLOSER – v Ginny Simms  
DESERT SERENADE (Closing Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
SAILING, SAILING (Closing US Navy Theme)

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today:** Joe Tenney, d; Others unknown; Ginny Simms, vocal.

Announcer - Jimmy Wallington

*“From Hollywood, California, let’s Stand By For Music. The United States Navy and the Naval Reserve invite you to Stand By For Music, with Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, yours truly Jimmy Wallington, and the top singing stars of America.”*

One transcription disk label of Program 25 shows a play date of August 9, 1955, at radio station WLYC, Williamsport, Pennsylvania.



**Late 1954 – Early 1955:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Jeri Southern, United States Navy “Stand By For Music”  
Transcription Program 26 and Program 26B [College Series], Hollywood, California.**

“Stand By For Music” starring Jeri Southern with Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

SAILING, SAILING (Opening US Navy Theme)  
DESERT SERENADE (Opening Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
FANFARE – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
LET’S FALL IN LOVE – v Jeri Southern  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
INTERVIEW – Jeri Southern and Jimmy Wallington  
I DON’T KNOW WHERE TO TURN – v Jeri Southern  
THOU SWELL – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
I GET A KICK OUT OF YOU – v Jeri Southern  
DESERT SERENADE (Closing Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
SAILING, SAILING (Closing US Navy Theme)

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today:** Musicians unknown; Jeri Southern, vocal.

Announcer - Jimmy Wallington

*“From Hollywood, California, let’s Stand By For Music. The United States Navy and the Naval Reserve invite you to Stand By For Music, with Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, yours truly Jimmy Wallington, and the top singing stars of America.”*

One transcription disk label of Program 26 shows a play date of August 16, 1955, at radio station WLYC, Williamsport, Pennsylvania.



**Late 1954 – Early 1955:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with June Christy, United States Navy “Stand By For Music”  
Transcription Program 27 and Program 27B [College Series], Hollywood, California.**

“Stand By For Music” starring June Christy with Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

SAILING, SAILING (Opening US Navy Theme)  
DESERT SERENADE (Opening Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
FANFARE – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
LULLABY IN RHYTHM – v June Christy  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
INTERVIEW – June Christy and Jimmy Wallington  
I’LL TAKE ROMANCE – v June Christy  
PENNSYLVANIA 6-5000 – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
MIDNIGHT SUN – v June Christy  
DESERT SERENADE (Closing Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
SAILING, SAILING (Closing US Navy Theme)

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today:** Musicians unknown; June Christy, vocal.

Announcer - Jimmy Wallington

*“From Hollywood, California, let’s Stand By For Music. The United States Navy and the Naval Reserve invite you to Stand By For Music, with Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, yours truly Jimmy Wallington, and the top singing stars of America.”*



[Author’s Note: The spelling of June Christy is incorrect on the issued transcription disk.]

**Late 1954 – Early 1955:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today with Gordon MacRae, United States Navy “Stand By For Music” Transcription Program 28 and Program 28B [College Series], Hollywood, California.**

“Stand By For Music” starring Gordon MacRae with Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

SAILING, SAILING (Opening US Navy Theme)  
DESERT SERENADE (Opening Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
FANFARE – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
LULLABY OF BROADWAY – v Gordon MacRae  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
INTERVIEW – Gordon MacRae and Jimmy Wallington  
IT’S A WOMAN’S WORLD– v Gordon MacRae  
ALLAH’S HOLIDAY – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
US NAVY PROMO/FANFARE – Jimmy Wallington  
YOU’LL NEVER WALK ALONE – v Gordon MacRae  
DESERT SERENADE (Closing Theme) – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today  
SAILING, SAILING (Closing US Navy Theme)

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today:** Musicians unknown; Gordon MacRae, vocal.

Announcer - Jimmy Wallington

*“From Hollywood, California, let’s Stand By For Music. The United States Navy and the Naval Reserve invite you to Stand By For Music, with Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, yours truly Jimmy Wallington, and the top singing stars of America.”*

One transcription disk label of Program 28 shows a play date of August 30, 1955, at radio station WLYC, Williamsport, Pennsylvania.



[Author’s Note: The spelling of Gordon MacRae is incorrect on the issued transcription disk.]

**December 18, 1954 [Saturday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today, along with Eddie “Rochester” Anderson and Sue Carson; Christmas Stage Show and Dance, Civilian Employees of Norton Air Force Base, held at the Swing Auditorium of the National Orange Show Grounds, San Bernardino, California.**

*The Daily Sun* [San Bernardino, California], Dec 11, 1954, Page 23:

**Norton Children’s Party In Afternoon, Dance At Night**

A Christmas show and dance will be held Saturday night for civilian employees of Norton Air Force Base at Swing Auditorium on the National Orange Show grounds in San Bernardino. A matinee party and show will be given for the children of Norton employees Saturday afternoon.

Music at the dance will be provided by Jerry Gray and his “Band of Today.” Entertainment galore is on tap with Eddie Anderson – the Rochester of the Jack Benny show – and mimic Sue Carson heading the stage show.

The dance and show will begin at 9 p.m. The regular Norton AFB badge will admit all employees and their guests to the dance. Officials of the Employees Welfare Assn. of Norton AFB – sponsors of the show – asked that those planning to attend use the Mill St. gate to the Orange Show grounds until that parking area is filled. Then the Arrowhead Ave. gate may be used.

The kiddies’ favorites – Capt. Jet of TV’s outer space and Si Otis and his trick mule – will entertain at the matinee, also at the Orange Show. Also on hand to bring laughs to the children will be Shafton’s Puppets, who have won worldwide recognition with their achievements in TV, motion pictures, theaters, and fairs.

Other acts providing entertainment for the kiddies will be Ed Ford and his dog Whitey and clown Eddie Spanety.

The matinee will begin at 1 p.m. and is expected to be over by about 2:30.

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**December 31, 1954 [Friday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Band of Today; Gala New Year's Eve Party, Rainbow Gardens Ballroom, Pomona, California.**

The Daily Sun [San Bernardino, California], Dec 30, 1954, Page 5:

**Get in on the Fun**

**GALA NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY!**

*Featuring*

**JERRY GRAY**  
**AND HIS BAND OF TODAY**

**FUN GALORE! HATS,  
NOISEMAKERS, HORNS!**

**Dining, Dancing, Cocktails**

**RAINBOW GARDENS**

**BALLROOM — POMONA**

**Just a Short, 20-Min. Drive From San Bernardino**  
**GEN. ADM. \$2.00, INCL. TAX**  
**Call for Reservations — LYcoming 9-3919**  
**or Evenings — LYcoming 9-3823**