

TEX BENEKE

GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA

**VOLUME 2
1948-1950**



Prepared by:

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Key To Abbreviations

Radio

ABC	American Broadcasting Company
AFRS	Armed Forces Radio Service
CBS	Columbia Broadcasting System
CSC	Chesterfield Supper Club (AFRS Series R-13)
HTV	Here's To Veterans
MBS	Mutual Broadcasting System
MC	Magic Carpet (AFRS Series R-4)
NBC	National Broadcasting Company
ONS	One Night Stand (AFRS Series R-25)
OTB	On The Beam (AFRS Series R-70)
R	Recording Exists

Other

GMA	Dennis M. Spragg – Glenn Miller Archive
-b-	Probable or possible broadcast time (if not verified)
-p-	Partial broadcast

Personnel

Personnel Changes are noted in **BOLD**

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DEDICATED TO
EDWARD F. POLIC
(1935-2024)

For his leadership, guidance, patience and generosity
1948 Universal Pictures Publicity Photo
(Collection of the Author)



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Continued from Volume 1, 1946-1947 ...

1. 1948

Thursday, January 1, 1948
Hollywood Palladium
AFRS One Night Stand 1581

GMA B-B28-1, D-101-7, D-103-1, AFRS-861

16" 33 AFRS SSC 2-9-1

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS open

'S WONDERFUL

BUT BEAUTIFUL - Garry Stevens, vocal

DO YOU EVER THINK OF ME – The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

MY BUDDY

EAST OF THE SUN (AND WEST OF THE MOON) – Garry Stevens, vocal

16" 33 AFRS SSC 2-9-2

SEPTEMBER IN THE RAIN

(GOTTA GET TO) OKLAHOMA CITY

– Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

TOO MARVELOUS FOR WORDS – Garry Stevens, vocal

CARIOCA – Perry Burgett arrangement

LOOSE LIKE – Ray Wright composition and arrangement

Saturday, January 3, 1948
Hollywood Palladium
AFRS One Night Stand 1557

GMA B-A17-3, B-27-6, D-102-5, AFRS-862

16" 33 AFRS SSC 1-12-1

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS open

I MAY BE WRONG (BUT I THINK YOU'RE WONDERFUL)

– Tex Beneke, vocal

MY BUDDY

CIVILIZATION (BINGO BANGO BONGO)

– Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

GOLDEN EARRINGS

16" 33 AFRS SSC 1-12-2

SURPRISE SYMPHONY – Henry Mancini arrangement

TAKE ME IN YOUR ARMS - The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

DO YOU EVER THINK OF ME – The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

THE FIRST TIME I KISSED YOU – Garry Stevens, vocal

BAGATELLE - Henry Mancini arrangement

'S WONDERFUL (to dubbed AFRS close)

Friday, January 15, 1948

4:00 pm and 8:00 pm

NBC Hollywood

Chesterfield Supper Club (NBC) (KFI)

Martin Block, announcer

Jo Stafford, host

Tex Beneke, guest

The Starlighters, Paul Weston Orchestra

GMA

NBC-400

CHESTERFIELD JINGLE (program open)

SMOKE DREAMS (theme)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (Tex Beneke theme)

(GOTTA GET TO) OKLAHOMA CITY – Tex Beneke and the Starlighters, vocal

HOW SOON – Jo Stafford, vocal

CHESTERFIELD COMMERCIAL (A-B-C JINGLE) AND INCIDENTAL MUSIC

CHATTANOOGA CHOO CHOO

- Tex Beneke, Jo Stafford and the Starlighters, vocal

BEGIN THE BEGUINE (partial)

SMOKE DREAMS (close)

The Starlighters vocal group included: Pauline Byrns, Vince Degen, Jerry Duane, Howard Hudson and Tony Paris.

During the program Tex Beneke announces that he and his band will be starting a series for the Air Force called "On the Beam."

"Begin the Beguine" was played at the end of the program to promote a special "Flying Down to Rio" or musical trip to South America program promotion that was scheduled to air the following Tuesday evening.

Friday, January 16, 1948, 7:30 – 8:00 pm (10:30 – 11:00 pm EST)

Hollywood Palladium

“On The Beam” 1

(Mutual) (KHJ)

Broderick Crawford, Peggy Lee and Wilma Reisner (“High school sweetheart of the Air Force” - Hollywood High School student), guests

FANFARE-THE ARMY AIR CORPS - program open

MOONLIGHT SERENADE – theme

PIGEON TALK - Dialogue, Tex Beneke and Broderick Crawford dialogue

BUT BEAUTIFUL – Garry Stevens, vocal

AIR FORCE ANNOUNCEMENT AND FANFARE

CIVILIZATION (BINGO BANGO BONGO)

– Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

IT’S ALMOST LIKE BEING IN LOVE – Wilma Reisner, vocal

(Incomplete)

This was the first Mutual network program in this series. The program was broadcast over WOL Washington, D.C. 10:30-11:00 PM Eastern time. It was apparently not carried by KHJ (7:30 PM) or WOR (10:30 PM) - instead “The Cisco Kid” was heard in Los Angeles, and “The Longines Symphonette” was heard in New York.

Friday, January 23, 1948, 7:30 – 8:00 pm

Hollywood Palladium

“On The Beam” 2

(Mutual) (KHJ)

Jerry Colonna and Wilma Reisner (High School Sweetheart), guests

AFRS On The Beam 6

GMA AFRS-965

16” 33 AFRS (USA) D29215 (D 1-23-48)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (opening theme)

HONKY LITTLE DONKEY - Jerry Colonna

TIME ON MY HANDS (YOU IN MY ARMS) - Jerry Colonna

THE SAINT LOUIS BLUES MARCH

GOLDEN EARRINGS

16” 33 AFRS (USA) D29216 (D 1-23-48)

HALLELUJAH!

I STILL GET JEALOUS - Wilma Rysner, vocal

(GOTTA GET TO) OKLAHOMA CITY

– Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

STRANGE AND SWEET – Garry Stevens, vocal

SURE THING

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (closing theme)

Friday, January 23, 1948
Hollywood Palladium
(CBS) (KNX) (Sustaining)

AFRS One Night Stand 1599

GMA B-B19-1, AFRS-865

16" 33 AFRS (USA) SSC 3-1-1

DUBBED AFRS OPEN

BAGATELLE – Henry Mancini arrangement

AT LAST – Garry Stevens, vocal

LONE STAR MOON – Tex Beneke, vocal

GOLDEN EARRINGS

DO YOU EVER THINK OF ME – The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

16" 33 AFRS (USA) SSC 3-1-2

SOMEBODY LOVES ME – Tex Beneke, vocal

TRUE – Garry Stevens, vocal

LOVERS LEAP, STRANGE AND SWEET – Garry Stevens, vocal

SURPRISE SYMPHONY – Henry Mancini arrangement

DUBBED AFRS CLOSE

Tuesday, January 27, 1948

Hollywood Palladium
(CBS) (KNX) (Sustaining)

D M S

AFRS One Night Stand 1605

GMA B-B28-2, D-102-4, AFRS-866

16" 33 AFRS (USA) SSC 3-8-1

DUBBED AFRS OPEN

LOOSE LIKE – Ray Wright composition and arrangement

SO FAR – Garry Stevens, vocal

(GOTTA GET TO) OKLAHOMA CITY

– Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

STORMY WEATHER (KEEPS RAININ' ALL THE TIME)

– Ralph Wilkinson arrangement

16" 33 AFRS (USA) SSC 3-8-2

DO YOU EVER THINK OF ME - The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

SEPTEMBER IN THE RAIN

TOO LATE – Tex Beneke, vocal

- Perry Burgett composition and arrangement

STRANGE AND SWEET – Garry Stevens, vocal

BAGATELLE – Henry Mancini arrangement

DUBBED AFRS CLOSE

Wednesday, January 28, 1948
Hollywood Palladium
(CBS) (KNX) (Sustaining)

AFRS One Night Stand 1593

GMA AFRS-867

16" 33 AFRS (USA) SSC 2-25-1

DUBBED AFRS OPEN

BLUE SKIES – Jerry Gray arrangement

BUT BEAUTIFUL – Garry Stevens, vocal
- Ray Bloch arrangement

DO YOU EVER THINK OF ME – The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

GOLDEN EARRINGS

16" 33 AFRS (USA) SSC 2-25-2

TAKE ME IN YOUR ARMS – The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

(GOTTA GET TO) OKLAHOMA CITY

- Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

STAR DUST – Jerry Gray arrangement

TWO LOVES HAVE I - Garry Stevens, vocal

SURPRISE SYMPHONY – Henry Mancini arrangement

'S WONDERFUL - to dubbed AFRS Close

Thursday, January 29, 1948
Hollywood Palladium
(CBS) (KNX) (Sustaining)

D M S

AFRS One Night Stand 1587

GMA D-101-3, D-103-3, AFRS-868

16" 33 AFRS (USA) SSC 2-16-1

DUBBED AFRS OPEN

SOMEBODY LOVES ME - Tex Beneke, vocal

PASSING FANCY – Garry Stevens, vocal

GOLDEN EARRINGS

POINCIANA (SONG OF THE TREE)

- Garry Stevens and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

- Jerry Gray arrangement

'S WONDERFUL

16" 33 AFRS (USA) SSC 2-16-2

BUT BEAUTIFUL – Garry Stevens, vocal

- Ray Bloch arrangement

(GOTTA GET TO) OKLAHOMA CITY

- Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

TWO LOVES HAVE I – Garry Stevens, vocal

HALLELUJAH!

MY BUDDY - incomplete to dubbed AFRS close

Friday, January 30, 1948, 7:30 – 8:00 pm

Hollywood Palladium

"On The Beam" 3

(Mutual) (KHJ)

Marion Hutton, guest

AFRS On The Beam 2

GMA B-B21-1, AFRS-509

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D27922 (D 1-30-48)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE – dubbed AFRS open

TOO LATE – Tex Beneke and the Band, vocal

- Perry Burgett composition and arrangement

DO YOU EVER THINK OF ME – The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

'S WONDERFUL

HE SAID, SHE SAID (The Story of the Newlyweds) – Marion Hutton, vocal

SO FAR – Garry Stevens, vocal

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D27923 (D 1-3-48)

IT COULD HAPPEN TO YOU - Strings With Wings conducted by Norman Leyden

YOU DON'T HAVE TO KNOW THE LANGUAGE

- Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

MY BROOKLYN LOVE SONG – Marion Hutton, vocal

GOLDEN EARRINGS

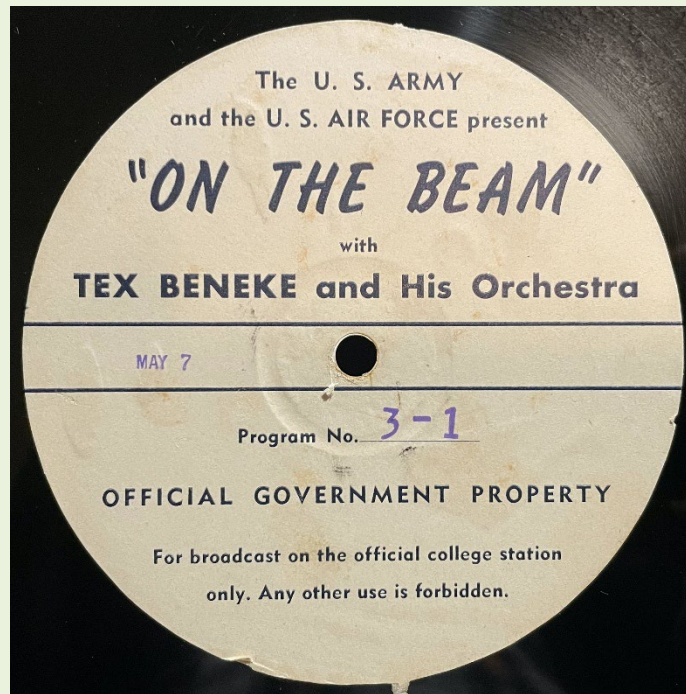
SURE THING – Strings with Wings conducted by Norman Leyden

THE SAINT LOUIS BLUES MARCH - to dubbed AFRS close

Issues:

SURE THING

16" 33 AFRS (USA) OTB 17



Friday, January 30, 1948

Hollywood Palladium
(CBS) (KNX) (Sustaining)

AFRS One Night Stand 1611

GMA B-B28-3, M-119-5, AFRS-869

16" 33 AFRS (USA) SSC 3-15-1

DUBBED AFRS OPEN

BAGATELLE – Henry Mancini arrangement

TAKE ME IN YOUR ARMS – The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

YOU DON'T HAVE TO KNOW THE LANGUAGE

- Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

THESE FOOLISH THINGS (REMIND ME OF YOU) – Henry Mancini arrangement

THE WHISTLER – Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

16" 33 AFRS (USA) SSC 3-15-2

THE FIRST TIME I KISSED YOU – Garry Stevens, vocal

LOVERS LEAP, STRANGE AND SWEET – Garry Stevens, vocal

SEPTEMBER IN THE RAIN

THE SAINT LOUIS BLUES MARCH - to dubbed AFRS close

Saturday, January 31, 1948
Hollywood Palladium
Unidentified Network/Station

AFRS One Night Stand 1617

GMA AFRS-870

16" 33 AFRS (USA) Unidentified

DUBBED AFRS OPEN

LOOSE LIKE – Ray Wright composition and arrangement

THE SONG IS YOU – Garry Stevens, vocal

IN A LITTLE BOOK SHOP – Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

RHAPSODY IN BLUE

THE FIRST TIME I KISSED YOU – Garry Stevens, vocal

16" 33 AFRS (USA) Unidentified

CIVILIZATION (BINGO BANGO BONGO)

- Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

AN OLD SOMBRERO (AND AN OLD SPANISH SHAWL)

- Garry Stevens and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

YOU DON'T HAVE TO KNOW THE LANGUAGE

- Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

TWO LOVES HAVE I – Garry Stevens, vocal

HALLELUJAH! - to dubbed AFRS close

February 1948

McCormack General Hospital

Pasadena, California

Pre-recorded segment

AFRS Jubilee 273

Alex Cooper, AFRS program announcer

Bud Windom, Master of Ceremonies

GMA AFRS-834

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D-2-11-09

ONE O'CLOCK JUMP - program open¹

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - Glenn Miller Theme

CHATTANOOGA CHOO CHOO - Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

SEPTEMBER SONG – Jane Harvey, vocal²

MEADOWLANDS – Jerry Gray arrangement

¹ AFRS Orchestra (recorded dub of theme)

² Jane Harvey, guest vocalist

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 2-11-10
THE SAINT LOUIS BLUES MARCH
NIGHT AND DAY – Garry Stevens, vocal
SUNRISE SERENADE – Bill Finegan arrangement
HALLELUJAH!
ONE O'CLOCK JUMP - program close²⁸

February 1948
McCormack General Hospital
Pasadena, California
Pre-recorded segment
AFRS Jubilee 275
Alex Cooper, AFRS program announcer
Bud Windom, Master of Ceremonies

GMA B-B10-2, D-103-2, AFRS-835

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D-21111

ONE O'CLOCK JUMP - program open³
MOONLIGHT SERENADE - Glenn Miller Theme
(I'VE GOT A GAL IN) KALAMAZOO
 – Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal
TOO MARVELOUS FOR WORDS – Jane Harvey, vocal⁴
STORMY WEATHER (KEEPS RAININ' ALL THE TIME)
 - Ralph Wilkinson arrangement
BUT BEAUTIFUL – Garry Stevens, vocal - Ray Bloch arrangement
TOO LATE – Tex Beneke and the Band, vocal

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D-21112

WHEN I TAKE MY SUGAR TO TEA
THESE FOOLISH THINGS (REMIND ME OF YOU) – Henry Mancini arrangement
ONE FOR MY BABY (AND ONE MORE FOR THE ROAD) – Jane Harvey, vocal³¹
SURPRISE SYMPHONY – Henry Mancini, arrangement
ONE O'CLOCK JUMP - program close³⁰

Wednesday, February 4, 1948, 7:30 pm - Midnight
Eugene Armory
Eugene, Oregon
(Dance)⁵

³ AFRS Orchestra (recorded dub of theme)

⁴ Jane Harvey, guest vocalist

⁵ Eugene Guard, January 31, 1948, p. 5

Friday, February 6, 1948, 7:30 – 8:00 pm

New Armory

Seattle, Washington

“On The Beam” 4

(Mutual) (KVI)

Gil Ross and Marlene Edwards, guests

AFRS On The Beam 3

GMA B-B28-4, AFRS-510

16” 33 AFRS (USA) D27178/RL 6975 (D 2-6-48)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE – dubbed AFRS open

SATURDAY DATE – Tex Beneke, vocal

CARIOCA - Perry Burgett arrangement

CIVILIZATION (BINGO BANGO BONGO) – Marlene Edwards, vocal

FRUSTRATION – Henry Mancini composition and arrangement

DON’T CALL IT LOVE – Garry Stevens, vocal

16” 33 AFRS (USA) D27179/RL 6976 (D 2-6-48)

IN A LITTLE BOOK SHOP – Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

SOME OTHER TIME - Strings with Wings conducted by Norman Leyden

THERE’S A LITTLE CABIN IN THE CASCADE MOUNTAINS - Gil Ross, solo

HALLELUJAH! - Jack Sperling, drums

MOONLIGHT SERENADE

PUT ‘EM IN A BOX

(TIE ‘EM WITH A RIBBON AND THROW ‘EM IN THE DEEP BLUE SEA)

- Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

MOONLIGHT SERENADE – dubbed AFRS close

Friday, February 13, 1948, 8:30 – 9:00 pm

Riverside Ballroom

Phoenix, Arizona

"On The Beam" 5

(Mutual) (KOOL)

Durward Kirby, announcer

Alice Dowfitz, guest, High School Sweetheart of the Air Force

AFRS On The Beam 4

GMA B-B28-5, AFRS-511

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D28654/RL 7542 (D 2-13-48)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE – dubbed AFRS open

DEEP NIGHT

LONE STAR MOON – Tex Beneke, vocal

TAKE ME IN YOUR ARMS – The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

A STRING OF PEARLS – Jerry Gray composition and arrangement

SWEET AND LOVELY - Strings With Wings conducted by Norman Leyden

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D28655/RL 7543 (D 2-13-48)

BUT BEAUTIFUL – Garry Stevens, vocal - Ray Bloch arrangement

THESE FOOLISH THINGS (REMIND ME OF YOU) – Henry Mancini arrangement

HONEYSUCKLE ROSE - Alice Dowfitz, contest winner, vocal

RAMBLIN' AROUND – Tex Beneke, vocal

STAR DUST

MOONLIGHT SERENADE – dubbed AFRS close

Saturday, February 14, 1948, 2-4 pm

University of Arizona Auditorium

Tucson

(Concert)⁶

Sunday, February 15, 1948

Liberty Hall

El Paso, Texas

(Concert)⁷

Monday, February 16, 1948

La Loma Ballroom

Albuquerque, New Mexico

(Concert)⁸

⁶ Tucson Daily Citizen, January 29, 1948, p. 17

⁷ El Paso Herald-Post, February 5, 1948, p. 10

⁸ Albuquerque Journal, February 14, 1948, p. 12

Thursday, February 19, 1948, 8:00 pm - Midnight
Turnpike Ballroom
Lincoln, Nebraska
(Dance)⁹

Friday, February 20, 1948, 9:30 – 10:00 pm
University of Iowa Memorial Union
Iowa City, Iowa
“On The Beam” 6
(Mutual) (KCRG)
Irene Davis, High School Sweetheart of the Air Force

AFRS On The Beam 7

GMA B-B29-1, M-40-4, D-102-2, AFRS-513

16” 33 AFRS D29669 (D 2-20-48)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS open

CHEROKEE (INDIAN LOVE SONG)

SLEEPY TIME GAL – Garry Stevens and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

YESTERDAYS – Norman Leyden arrangement

BAGATELLE – Henry Mancini arrangement

DREAM GIRL – Garry Stevens, vocal

16” 33 AFRS (USA) D29670 (D 2-20-48)

CHATTANOOGA CHOO CHOO

– Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

MEMORIES OF YOU - “Strings with Wings”

GOLDEN EARRINGS - Irene Davis, contest winner, vocal

FALLING LEAVES – Norman Leyden arrangement

FRUSTRATION – Henry Mancini composition and arrangement

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS close

Issues:

MEMORIES OF YOU

16” 33 AFRS On The Beam 10

YESTERDAYS

16” 33 AFRS On The Beam 11

Thursday, February 26, 1948 – Wednesday, March 3, 1948

The band played a one-week engagement at Loew’s Capitol Theatre, Washington, D. C. The film was “Tender Years” (Fox).

⁹ Nebraska State Journal, February 15, 1948, p. 31

Friday, February 27, 1948, 10:30 – 11:00 pm
Loew's Capitol Theatre
1328 F Street
Washington, D. C.

"On The Beam" 7
(Mutual) (WOL)

Durward Kirby, announcer

Sarah Ann McCabe and June Mower, guests

AFRS On The Beam 5

GMA B-B28-6, M-40-6, AFRS-512

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D28654 (D 2-27-48)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS open

SHOOTING STAR

NOW IS THE HOUR (MAORI FAREWELL SONG)

- Garry Stevens and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

NIGHT AND DAY - June Mower, vocal

THE WHISTLER'S SONG - Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

COCKLES AND MUSSELS - Sarah Ann McCabe, vocal

DON'T BE THAT WAY

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D28655 (D 2-27-48)

PASSING FANCY – Garry Stevens, vocal

(I'VE GOT A GAL IN) KALAMAZOO

– Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

OVER THE RAINBOW - Strings with Wings – Norman Leyden arrangement

HE LIKE IT! SHE LIKE IT! - Sarah Ann McCabe, vocal

THE ARMY AIR CORPS – Garry Stevens and the Band, vocal

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS close

CAPITOL, WASH.

Washington, Feb. 29.

Tex Beneke Orch (30), Lou Wills, Marshall Bros. (2); "Tender Years" (20th)

"Usual practice of tossing the customers a lightweight screen attraction when there's a heavyweight bill on stage back-fired here this week. Tex Beneke, playing under his own banner rather than the Glenn Miller tab has been a box office disappointment, with management gnashing its teeth over failure of the large nut shelled out, to balance the budget. Seems to be no reason for it, since the large, well balanced Beneke troupe stacks up well alongside big name orchs which have burst the seams of this Loew house. Payees at Sunday matinee caught displayed plenty enthusiasm for the 50-minute show, so word-of-mouth plugs may yet pull the Beneke chestnut out of the fire. Band is strong on strings, though that section is featured in only one number, "Over the Rainbow." Featured soloist of crew, besides Beneke himself, is ace drummer Jack Sperling, who is plenty flashy in "Halleluia", opening number, Maestro himself handles the batons the sax and vocals with equal ease. Of the straight orch numbers, "Golden Earrings" is standout, giving each section of the band equal share in honors.

"Also deserving kudos is the finale, "St. Louis March," which is just what its name indicates. Arrangements in latter are novel and effective. Beneke shows here a flair for arranging, which is missing in some of the other orch numbers, which impressed as routine in form. Beneke gets fine

returns with a novelty vocal "Rambling Around." "Moonlight Serenaders," three men and a girl, join him in two numbers, best of which is "Chattanooga Choc Choo," handled with style and novel effects ... all in all, show is worth a better reception at box office than its getting."¹⁰

Thursday, March 4, 1948

The band opened an eight-week engagement at Loew's Capitol Theatre, New York. The film was "Naked City". Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis were also on the bill.

Friday, March 5, 1948, 10:30 – 11:00 pm
Mutual Longacre Theater or Loew's Capitol Theatre
New York

"On The Beam" 8

(Mutual)

Durward Kirby, announcer

Perry Como, Helen Carroll, the Satisfiers, the Lloyd Shaffer Orchestra, guests

Ruth Holland, New York University, Air Force College Sweetheart

AFRS On The Beam 8

GMA B-B29-2, M-40-5, AFRS-514

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D29928 (D 3-5-48)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS open

SABRE DANCE (Dedicated to Mitchell Field, New York)

TEX BENEKE-PERRY COMO DIALOGUE

TELL ME A STORY – note: most probably a prerecording

- Perry Como, Helen Carroll, The Satisfiers, Lloyd Shaffer Orchestra

YOU DON'T HAVE TO KNOW THE LANGUAGE

- Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

SUMMERTIME – Ralph Wilkinson arrangement

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D29929 (D 3-5-48)

DREAM GIRL - Garry Stevens, vocal

THESE FOOLISH THINGS (REMIND ME OF YOU) (arr HM),

MY ROMANCE - Strings with Wings directed by Norman Leyden

BEG YOUR PARDON - Ruth Holland, vocal

THE SAINT LOUIS BLUES MARCH – "Air Force Special"

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS close

Issues:

SUMMERTIME

16" 33 AFRS (USA) OTB 9

¹⁰ Variety, March 3, 1948, p. 47



Tex with "On the Beam" Admirers
(Collection of the Author)

CAPITOL, N. Y.

"Tex Beneke Orch (28) with Garry Sevens, Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis; film: "The Naked City" (MGM)

"The current Capitol show brings into sharp focus a problem that's long been a conjectural point with bookers and talent agencies. Since it's admitted that pictures are the primary draw in the Broadway deluxers, poser is whether it's advisable to put in a stage bill that would complement the film, or have a live layout that would attempt to bring in a different type audience, and therefore increase grosses. The problem is all too evident with the new Capitol stage show, which accompanies "The Naked City." The action picture devotees being lured by the late Mark Hellinger's production, probably isn't appreciative of the smooth, subtle and smart offerings of Tex Beneke's band Beneke is among the last of the major orchestras to carry a large crew, having an instrumentation of 28 pieces, including 10 strings. Arrangements, consequently, are fluid, full of subtle shadings and modeled for literate listening. Their arrangement of 'Sabre Dance' is probably the best of its kind around, bringing out the classic flavor of the Khachaturian composition. Beneke, himself, takes care of most of the vocals, doing a good job on them. Other pieces that merit attention are "Gal in Kalamazoo," "Golden Earrings" and "Rambling Along." There's sufficient variety and skilled musicianship to get acclaim, but unfortunately these offerings aren't built for the land of audience attracted by the film. Because of the time element, services of vocalist Gary Stevens aren't used, Other half of the bill is devoted to Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis, whose comeuppance during the past two years has been considerable. These lads - who first bowed as a team to New York audiences at the Havana Madrid - have firmly established themselves as one of the more promising teams to be developed in recent 'years. They may hit name proportions with their date at the Copacabana, N. Y. next month. Theirs is the type of act that throws everything at the audience, from impersonations, low comedy to straight singing. They're fresh and stuff is frequently original. They do not wear out their welcome in the 25 minutes of their stint. With a 50-minute stage show and moderate length film, there's a quick turnover for this house, and they're able to knock off five and six shows a day."¹¹

¹¹ Variety, March 10, 1948, p. 54

Friday, March 12, 1948, 10:30 – 11:00 pm
Mutual Longacre Theatre or Loew's Capitol Theatre

"On The Beam" 9

(Mutual)

Martha Raye and Joe Caruso (piano), guests

AFRS On The Beam 9

16" 33 AFRS D 30410 (D 3-12-48)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS open

HALLELUJAH!

IN A LITTLE BOOK SHOP - Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

BEGIN THE BEGUINE

BEYOND THE SEA (LA MER) – Garry Stevens, vocal

(WHEN YOUR HEART'S ON FIRE) SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 30411 (D 3-12-48)

GOLDEN EARRINGS

SUMMERTIME (dubbed insert)¹² – Ralph Wilkinson arrangement

ON THE SUNNY SIDE OF THE STREET - Martha Raye, vocal

STAR DUST – Ralph Wilkinson arrangement

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS close

Issues:

HALLELUJAH!

16" 33 AFRS (USA) OTB 16

GOLDEN EARRINGS

16" 33 AFRS (USA) OTB 22

Personnel

Ronnie Deauville replaces Stevens, vocalist

¹² From AFRS (USA) OTB 8, March 5, 1948

Friday, March 19, 1948, 10:30 – 11:00 pm
Mutual Longacre Theatre or Loew's Capitol Theatre, New York
"On The Beam" 10
(Mutual)
Durward Kirby, announcer
Dorothy Carless and Johnny Desmond, guests
"Remembering the AAF Band"

AFRS On The Beam 10

GMA B-1488-1, AFRS-732

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 30725 (3-19-48)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS open,
'S WONDERFUL

(GOTTA GET TO) OKLAHOMA CITY

– Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

DO YOU EVER THINK OF ME – The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

HAIL! HAIL! THE GANG'S ALL HERE (WHAT THE-DEUCE-DO-WE CARE) (brief)

I'LL BE SEEING YOU - Johnny Desmond, vocal

SURPRISE SYMPHONY

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 30726 (3-19-48)

BEGIN THE BEGUINE - Dorothy Carless, vocal

MEMORIES OF YOU (dubbed insert)¹³

- Strings with Wings conducted by Norman Leyden

BECAUSE OF YOU - Johnny Desmond, vocal

BLUE CHAMPAGNE – Jerry Gray arrangement

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS close

¹³ From AFRS (USA) OTB 7, February 20, 1948



On The Bill With Tex Beneke and his Orchestra at Loew's Capitol Theatre, New York



Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis

Friday, March 26, 1948, 10:30 – 11:00 pm
Mutual Longacre Theatre or Loew's Capitol Theatre, New York

"On The Beam" 11

(Mutual)

Durward Kirby, announcer

"Col. Stoopnagle" (Frederick Chase Taylor), guest

Marsha Levine, Hunter College, Air Force College Sweetheart

AFRS On The Beam 11

GMA B-B29-3, M-40-1, AFRS-515

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 30137 (D 3-26-48)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS open

THE SAINT LOUIS BLUES MARCH - Dedicated to the 307th BW, MacDill AFB, Florida

IT'S A GOOD DAY - Marsha Levine, vocal

COLONEL STOOPNAGLE COMEDY SKIT #1

THE WHISTLER'S SONG – Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

DREAMY LULLABY – Ronnie Deauville, vocal¹⁴

LONE STAR MOON – Tex Beneke, vocal

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 30138 (D 3-26-48)

COLONEL STOOPNAGLE COMEDY SKIT #2

YESTERDAYS (dubbed insert)¹⁵

MEDLEY:

IN AN EIGHTEENTH CENTURY DRAWING ROOM

THOUGHTLESS - Ronnie Deauville, vocal

THINGS AIN'T WHAT THEY USED TO BE

RHAPSODY IN BLUE

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS close

The character Col. Stoopnagle was played by comedian Frederick Chase Taylor.

SLATE BROS. INTO N.Y. CAP

"Slate Bros, have been signed for the Capitol Theatre, N. Y., starting April 8 to replace Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis, who open that night at Copacabana, N.Y. Former will be the only change on the bill, which also includes Tex Beneke's orch plus "Naked City" (U). Slates have been signed for one week and options but are expected to play at least three weeks."¹⁶

GARRY STEVENS

Garry Stevens left the band and touring on the road to become a disc jockey at WROW, Albany, New York.

¹⁴ Ronnie Deauville is introduced as the band's new vocalist, who has come from the Ray Anthony band.

¹⁵ Garry Stevens introduces "Yesterdays", which was dubbed AFRS On The Beam 7.

¹⁶ Variety, March 31, 1948, p. 50



Garry Stevens



Ronnie Deauville

Friday, April 2, 1948, 10:30 – 11:00 pm
Mutual Longacre Theatre or Loew's Capitol Theater, New York¹⁷

From "On The Beam" 12

(Mutual)

Durward Kirby, announcer

Desi Arnaz, guest

AFRS On The Beam 12

GMA B-B29-4, AFRS-516

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 31508 (D 4-2-48)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS open

SABRE DANCE - Dedicated to the ATC Atlantic Wing, Westover AFB, Massachusetts

SATURDAY DATE – Tex Beneke, vocal

ENCORE, CHERIE – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

DESI ARNAZ DIALOGUE

EL CUMBACHERO - Desi Arnaz and the Band, vocal

WHAT IS THERE TO SAY - Strings with Wings directed by Norman Leyden

D 31509/D 4-2-48

THE FEATHERY FEELIN' – Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

- Perry Burgett composition and arrangement

PIANISSIMO – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

CUBAN PETE - Desi Arnaz, vocal

STERLING AND CARDINAL¹⁸

- Ray Wright and Pete Candoli composition and arrangement

BODY AND SOUL - Ralph Wilkinson arrangement

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS close

Issues:

STERLING AND CARDINAL

16" 33 AFRS On The Beam 28

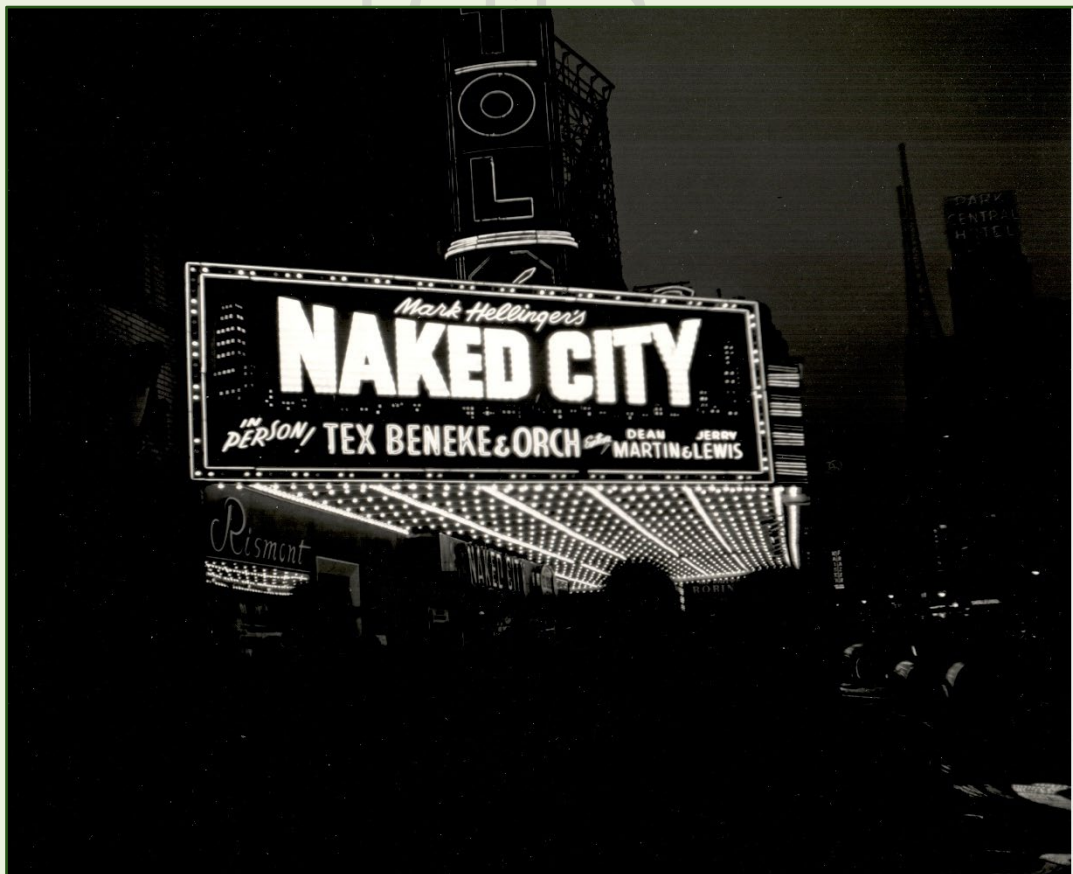
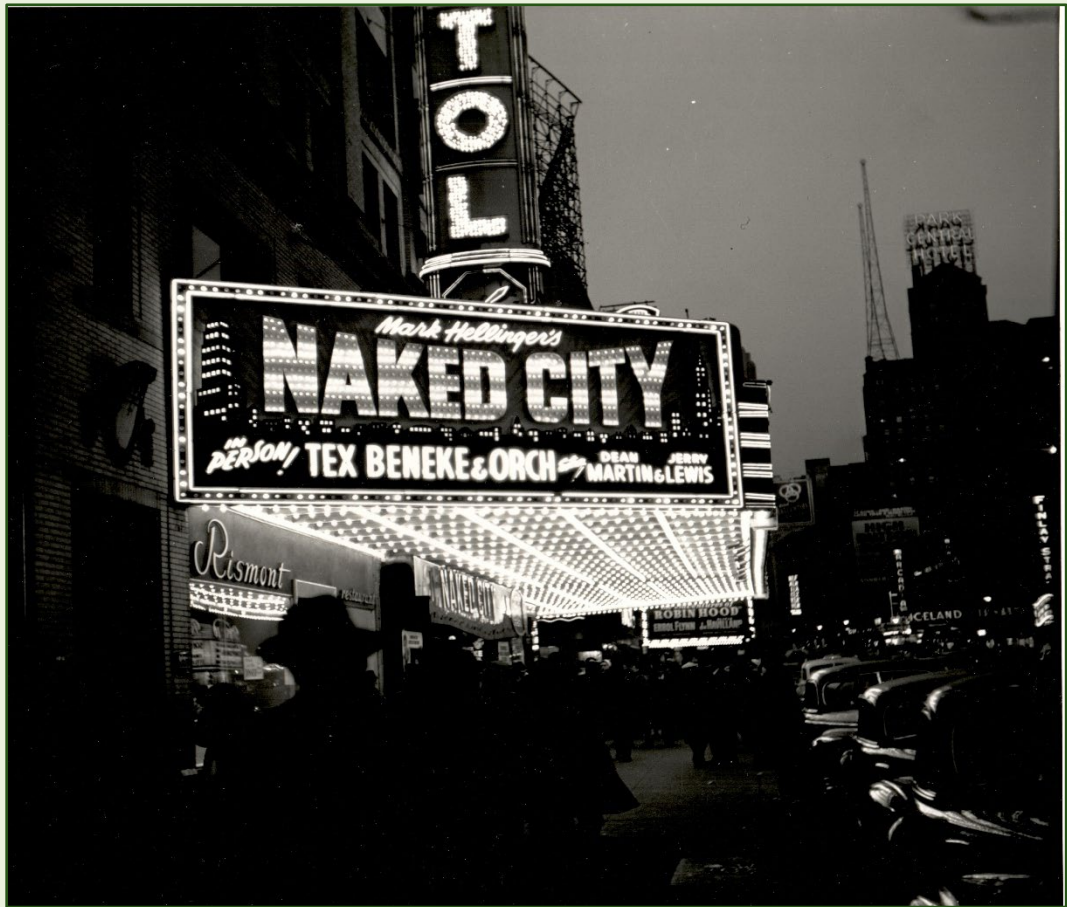
HAREM, N.Y. SETS ARNAZ IN SWITCH TO NAMES

"Harem, New York nitery on the site of the old Hurricane, which used name bands, is itself going for a similar policy with Desi Arnaz orchestra. Arnaz opens March 14 for four week and then moves to the Click, Philadelphia, April 12."¹⁹

¹⁷ Previously identified as originating in Philadelphia

¹⁸ This was the first performance of the tune on the air of "Sterling and Cardinal"

¹⁹ Variety, March 3, 1948, p. 41



Thursday, April 8, 1948

The Slate Brothers replaced Martin and Lewis with the band on the Loew's Capitol Theatre bill. The engagement to date had been a major money-making success for all concerned. The Slate Brothers had appeared in "Winged Victory".

Friday, April 9, 1948

Mutual Longacre Theatre or Loew's Capitol Theater, New York

"On The Beam" 13

(Mutual)

Durward Kirby, announcer

AFRS On The Beam 1

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 27777 (D 4-9-48)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE – DUBBED AFRS OPEN

IDA, SWEET AS APPLE CIDER – Tex Beneke, vocal

THE SAINT LOUIS BLUES MARCH

(GOTTA GET TO) OKLAHOMA CITY

– Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

DREAM GIRL – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

(I'VE GOT A GAL IN) KALAMAZOO

– Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 27778 (D 4-9-48)

MEDLEY:

MY BUDDY

PASSING FANCY – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

IT'S A WONDERFUL WORLD

WABASH BLUES

(Incomplete)

Friday, April 16, 1948

Mutual Longacre Theatre or Loew's Capitol Theater, New York

"On The Beam" 14

(Mutual)

Durward Kirby, announcer

Frankie Carle, guest

Unidentified AFRS On The Beam²⁰

Thursday, April 22, 1948

As Tex Beneke and his Orchestra went into their eighth week at Loew's Capitol Theatre, New York, the film changed from "Naked City" to "Homecoming" (MGM). The Slate brothers continued on the bill.²¹

²⁰ To Be Verified

²¹ Variety, April 21, 1948, p. 11

Friday, April 23, 1948
Mutual Longacre Theatre or Loew's Capitol Theater, New York
"On The Beam" 15
(Mutual) (WOR)
College Syndicated Program 1 (Matrix /-/)
Durward Kirby, announcer
Connie Haines, guest

Unidentified AFRS On the Beam

16" 33 College Syndicated Program 1-1 (/-/)
FANFARE-THE ARMY AIR CORPS - program open
MOONLIGHT SERENADE – program open
IN MY MERRY OLDSMOBILE – Tex Beneke, vocal
THE WHIFFENPOOF SONG (Baa! Baa! Baa!) – Ronnie Deauville and the Moonlight
Serenaders, vocal
AIR FORCE ANNOUNCEMENT AND FANFARE
JUST ONE OF THOSE THINGS – Connie Haines, vocal
FRUSTRATION – Henry Mancini arrangement

16" 33 College Syndicated Program 1-2 (/-/)
BEYOND THE SEA– Ronnie Deauville, vocal
THE FEATHERY FEELIN' – Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal
MOLLY MALONE – Connie Haines, vocal
AIR FORCE ANNOUNCEMENT AND FANFARE
STORMY WEATHER – Ralph Wilkinson's arrangement
MOONLIGHT SERENADE – program close
THE ARMY AIR CORPS – program close
MOONLIGHT SERENADE – program close

Unknown Date, 1948
Mutual Longacre Theatre or Loew's Capitol Theater, New York
"On The Beam"
(Mutual)
Durward Kirby, announcer
Martha Tilton, guest

Probably AFRS On The Beam 13

GMA B-B6-1, AFRS-887

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 31811
MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS open
I MAY BE WRONG (BUT, I THINK YOU'RE WONDERFUL) – Tex Beneke, vocal
BAGATELLE – Henry Mancini arrangement
HAUNTED HEART – Martha Tilton, vocal
CHEROKEE (INDIAN LOVE SONG)
STRANGE AND SWEET – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 31812

THE BEST THINGS IN LIFE ARE FREE – The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal
IT COULD HAPPEN TO YOU – Strings with Wings conducted by Norman Leyden
THAT'S GRATITUDE - Martha Tilton, vocal
SWEET AND LOVELY – Ronnie Deauville, vocal
STAR DUST – Ralph Wilkinson arrangement
MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS close

This program was originally identified incorrectly as April 30, 1948 from Chapel Hill. Martha Tilton was a member of the cast of the Jack Smith Show, which aired on CBS at 7:15 pm (Eastern) weeknights. Tilton alternated with the Clark Sisters (the former Tommy Dorsey Sentimentalists) on the program. Smith, like Tilton, was a Capitol recording artist. The Smith program moved to Hollywood in June 1948.

Wednesday, April 28, 1948

The band completed their eight-week engagement at Loew's Capitol Theatre, New York. Xavier Cugat and his Orchestra started on the bill Thursday, April 29, 1946.²²

ON THE BEAM

The Mutual "On the Beam" series began in January 1948 and aired until September 1948. AFRS recorded the series but did not begin using it until July 1948. Some of the AFRS programs are "out of order" with the Mutual series, such as AFRS 1 and, previously, AFRS 3 and AFRS 6. AFRS deleted the Mutual Air Force announcements (commercials) and edited incidental verbiage/music, which required at least one dubbed insert per program. Items were edited from previous programs and noted in this document where verified. There were 29 AFRS issues of the eventual 34 Mutual network programs. Weekly female guests on the program included a college or high school "Sweetheart of the Air Force," The AFRS series was allocated the code R-70.

Friday, April 30, 1948, 9:00 pm – 1:00 am
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill
(Dance)²³

"On The Beam" was broadcast over the Mutual network from the event.²⁴

²² Variety, May 5, 1946, p. 11

²³ Daily Tar Heel, April 18, 1948, p. 4

²⁴ Daily Tar Heel, April 29, 1948, p. 1

Friday, April 30, 1948, 10:30 – 11:00 pm
University of North Carolina
Woollen Gymnasium, Chapel Hill, NC
“On The Beam” 16
College Syndicated Program 2 (Matrix /-/
(Mutual) (WRAL)
Durward Kirby, announcer
Ed Easter, guest

Unidentified AFRS On The Beam

16” 33: College Syndicated Program 2-1 (/-/)
FANFARE-THE ARMY AIR CORPS - program open
MOONLIGHT SERENADE – program open
BLUE SKIES – Jerry Gray arrangement
FOR EVERY MAN THERE’S A WOMAN – Ronnie Deauville, vocal
AIR FORCE ANNOUNCEMENT AND FANFARE
RAMBLIN’ AROUND – Tex Beneke, vocal
(I’m Left with the) BLUES IN MY HEART – Jerry Gray arrangement

16” 33: College Syndicated Program 2-2 (/-/)
Mutual Broadcasting System Instantaneous Disc (Unidentified) (Part 2)
I’VE GOT YOU UNDER MY SKIN - Ed Easter, vocal
DO YOU EVER THINK OF ME? - The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal
DREAM GIRL - Ronnie Deauville, vocal
AIR FORCE ANNOUNCEMENT AND FANFARE
ALI BABA – Norman Leyden arrangement
MOONLIGHT SERENADE (theme)
THE ARMY AIR CORPS (theme)
MOONLIGHT SERENADE (program close)

Saturday, May 1, 1948
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill
(Concert)²⁵

Saturday, May 1, 1948
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill
(Dance)²⁶

²⁵ Daily Tar Heel, April 29, 1948, p. 1

²⁶ Daily Tar Heel, April 29, 1948, p. 1

Spring Frolics Annual Weekend Announced For May 7-8 By IFC
Big-Name Bands Are Under Consideration

By Marty Lubov

"Spring Frolics, one of Gatorland's greatest social weekends, has been slated for May 7 and 8, Bill Turnbull, president of the Inter-Fraternity Conference announced this week. Again starring one of the nation's top name bands, the gala jamboree will be a fraternity affair. With Spring Carnival tentatively set for April 23 and all other dates in April having conflicting events, May 7 was chosen as the only alternative. A proposal to combine Spring Frolics and the Carnival weekend was voted down by IFC. Some of the country's top swing orchestras have been contracted. Among those under consideration are Charlie Spivak, Vaughn Monroe, Tony Pastor and Johnny Long. As in past Frolics, it has been emphasized that it would be impossible for others than fraternity members to attend the affair. Only half of the fraternities will attend each night's dances. Rivaling only Fall Frolics in the Florida social calendar, this will be the IFC's third post-war Spring Frolics. Previous weekends have featured Harry James and Sonny Durham, Jimmy Dorsey and Les Brown."²⁷

[illegible]

²⁷ The Florida Alligator, March 10, 1948, p. 1

TEX BENEKE IS ORCHESTRA FOR SPRING FROLICS Famous Band Carries On Miller Style

By Marty Lubov

"Tex Beneke and his orchestra, the nation's top name musical aggregation, will star at Spring Frolics, May 7 and 8, Bill Turnball, president of the Inter-Fraternity Conference, announced last night. Beneke, whose orchestra of ex-servicemen has made an amazing rise in the swing world in the last two years, will play at two dances and a concert, Turnball said. Glenn Miller's prodigy adds his name to the famous musical line-up of name bands that Frolics has seen. Previous stars include Jimmy Dorsey, Harry James, Les Brown, Sonny Durham and Georgie Auld. Tentatively, Tex Beneke and his 30-piece orchestra are scheduled to make music at a formal dance Friday night from 9 to 1, a concert Saturday afternoon and another formal affair Saturday night from 8:30 to 12. Singing the tunes that Beneke has popularized will be the "Moonlight Serenaders" and two vocalists whose names have not been released as yet. As in previous social weekend, all dances will be held in the "new" gym. Since the gymnasium must be limited to 1,200 persons, only half the fraternities will be able to attend each night. Negotiations are under way to broadcast the affairs on a network. Tex Beneke's orchestra, now recording under his name rather than "Tex Beneke and the Glenn Miller Orchestra" for RCA-Victor, is one of the few swing aggregations in the country to feature a full string section. It is also one of the few orchestras to be completely composed of ex-servicemen. Most of its members were in the great pre-war Glenn Miller organization and were with Miller in his Army Air Forces Band that entertained in Europe from just after D-Day until the summer of 1945. In June of 1946 Tex Beneke broke the all-time Capitol Theater record in New York and on the new orchestra's first trip topped Glenn Miller's own mark at the famous Sunnybrook Ballroom in Pottstown, Pa. In New Jersey's equally noted Meadowbrook, where Miller first hit the spotlight, the Beneke orchestra played to a sell-out crowd night after night. Carrying on in the Glenn Miller tradition on waxings like "Moonlight Serenade," "In The Mood," "Little Brown Jug" and "Tuxedo Junction," Beneke's latest release of "Saint Louis Blues March" has hit the top of recent well-played records. His first four discs made for Victor sold well over the one million mark.²⁸

²⁸ The Florida Alligator, March 12, 1948, p. 1

BENEKE MAY PLAY CONCERTS

Possibility Both At Florida Field

'Tex Beneke and his new 35-piece sweet-and-hot orchestra may play at two concerts during Spring Frolics, May 7-8, the Inter-Fraternity Conference announced this week. Other plans for the weekend are taking shape, Bill Turnbull, IFC President, said. Beneke, who has contracted to play three hours in concert for Frolics, may make music at a session in Florida Field Friday afternoon. Tentatively this concert will be open to the student body and the general public. Other events for the third post-war Spring Frolics include a formal dance Friday night from 9 to 1, a concert Saturday afternoon and another formal shindig Saturday evening from 8:30 to 12. Negotiations are being made to broadcast the affairs on a national hookup. Carrying on in the great tradition of swingster Glenn Miller, Tex Beneke will bring to Frolics one of the biggest name bands in the nation. Beneke's orchestra is one of the few musical swing groups in the country to have a complete string section. The melody organizations unusual in that it is the only aggregation in the nation to be completely composed of ex-servicemen."²⁹

INTERESTING WEEKEND PROGRAMS OFFERED

Good Radio Shows Listed

By Elgin White

"Many varied and interesting programs are scheduled to hit the airwaves over the weekend, and those lucky students who own radios or have roommates that do so, will have entertainment galore. At WRUF Friday's listening is featured by the presentation of that always-popular program, "Meet the Press" at 10 o'clock. Musical highlight for the evening will be "On The Beam," featuring the artistry of Tex Beneke and his orchestra, who will be the main attraction at the coming Spring Frolics.

FROLICS PLANS NEARLY COMPLETE SAYS TURNBALL

"Plans for Gatorland's biggest social weekend, Spring Frolics, May 7 and 8, are nearly complete, Bill Turnbull, Inter-Fraternity Conference President announced this week. Starring the smooth and hot music of Tex Beneke and his record breaking 36-piece musical aggregation, the two-day festivities will feature two dances and a two-hour concert. Friday night, Glenn Miller's protégé will sweet-note the gala weekend off to a musical start at a formal dance in the "new" gym from 9 to 1. Saturday afternoon, Beneke will make music in the University Auditorium in a gala two-hour concert and show. Saturday evening, the man with the sax-appeal will play at another formal affair from 8:30 till 12. Negotiations are underway to broadcast the dances on a network hookup. Taking the vocal honors with the Beneke group will be songbird Claire Chatwin, songster Ronnie Deauville, and the "Moonlight Serenaders." Drummer-man Jack Sperling and trumpeter Pete Candoli share the instrumental spotlight. Candoli is a winner of the coveted "Esquire" award."³⁰

²⁹ The Florida Alligator, March 19, 1948, p. 3

³⁰ The Florida Alligator, April 7, 1948, p. 1

"One of the few top name orchestras to be composed completely of ex-servicemen, the big Texan's combination includes 33 ex-army vets and two ex-gobs, Beneke and Jack Sperling. The Tex Beneke outfit also is one of the few swing groups in the country to have a complete string section."³¹

AIR FORCE SHOW SEEKS CAMPUS TALENT Beneke's Show Will Feature Spring Frolics

By Fran White

"University of Florida campus talent will be given an opportunity to be heard on a national hook-up when Tex Beneke broadcasts his weekly Friday night Air Force Show Friday night, May 8, during Spring Frolics Weekend, Bill Turnball, Inter-Fraternity Conference president, announced this week. Preliminary tryouts for campus talent will be held April 27-29. At this time auditions will be given for quartets, pianists or musicians, vocalists and entertainers. Bill Turnball, Major Powell of WRUF, and John Sever, audition director of WRUF, will chose one finalist from each of these four classes. The four finalists will be auditioned by the manager of the Air Force Show, who will come to Florida during the first weekend in May. The student or students judged to be the best will then appear on the broadcast of the Air Force Show, a Mutual half-hour program with a national hook-up. These tryouts will be held in conjunction with Gatorland's biggest social weekend, May 8 and 9, when Tex Beneke and his record-playing 36-piece orchestra will be featured at two dances and a concert. Friday night, Glenn Miller's protégé will get the weekend off to a musical start at a formal dance in the "new gym" from 9 to 1 o'clock. Saturday afternoon, Beneke will play in University Auditorium in a two-hour concert and show. Saturday evening, the big Texan will play at another formal dance from 8:30 till 12 o'clock. Plans are being made to broadcast both the dances on a network hookup. Vocalists for the Beneke group will be Songbird Claire Chatwin, Songster Ronnie Deauville and the "Moonlight Serenaders." Drummer Jack Sperling and Trumpeter Pete Candoli, winner of the coveted Esquire award, will share the instrumental spotlight. Beneke's orchestra is one of the few top-name combinations composed completely of ex-servicemen and includes 33 ex-army vets and two ex-gobs, Beneke and Jack Sperling. His outfit is one of the few swing groups in the country to have a complete string section."³²

³¹ The Florida Alligator, March 26, 1948, p. 5

³² The Florida Alligator, April 16, 1948, p. 1

STUDENTS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN BROADCAST

Four Talented Gators To Appear With Beneke During Spring Frolics

'University of Florida's four most talented students will have their big chance Friday night, May 8, when Tex Beneke starts Spring Frolics week-end rolling with his Air Force Show during a formal dance in the "new" gym. Students interested in auditioning for the Air Force Show are asked to phone John Sever, of WRUF, at 20000, extension 467 for appointments. Musicians, pianists, vocalists, quartets, and entertainers are sought. A student talented in any of these lines may have the privilege of trying out. Preliminary tryouts will be held Tuesday, April 27, and Thursday, April 29, at 7:30 pm in the studios of WRUF. Another evening will be added to these if the number interested is large enough. Students will be allowed to select their own numbers and are asked to bring their music. Accompanists will be supplied. Bill Turnbull, Major Powell, director of WRUF, and John Sever, audition director of WRUF, will select top talent at the preliminary auditions. Four finalists will be selected by Jack Roche the following week. Roche, Mutual network producer, will direct the Air Force Show over a national hookup. Roche wrote the University to seek talent for the show and to have it narrow down the group to the best who will audition for him. He is expected to arrive on the campus the week of Spring Frolics. Beneke and his 36-piece top-name orchestra, formerly led by Glenn Miller, will play for Florida's big Spring weekend. Formal dances will be held Friday night from 9 to 1 o'clock and Saturday night from 8:30 to 12 o'clock. Saturday afternoon a two-hour concert will take place. Featured artists of the group will include vocalists Claire Chatwin, Ronnie Deauville, and the "Moonlight Serenaders" drummer Jack Sperling and trumpeter Pete Candoli."³³

D M S

³³ The Florida Alligator, April 23 1948, p. 1

TRUMPETER PETE CANDOLI

Spring Frolics Band Features Bright Star In Jazz World

Tex Beneke Will Broadcast Nation-Wide Army Air Force Show From Gym May 7th.

"One of the jazz world's brightest stars, Trumpeter Pete Candoli, will be featured when the Beneke aggregation appears here for Spring Frolics, May 7-8, the IFC revealed this week. According to a poll taken by Esquire magazine in a tab of the nation's swing personalities, Pete Candoli is considered one of the country's top musical artists. Candoli, who is considered by bandleaders to be able to play higher, prettier and jazzier than any trumpeter in the land has been a starred trumpeter with Tommy Dorsey, Woody Herman, Benny Goodman, Freddy Slack and Charlie Barnet. A Purdue University graduate, Candoli is one of the few major swing musicians in the country who is well qualified for classical as well as popular work. He also plays French horn and string bass. Other plans for the big social weekend are nearing completion, the IFC stated. Tex Beneke is slated to swing out the jamboree at a formal dance in the "new" gym Friday night from 9 to 1 o'clock. Saturday afternoon, the music-makers will play in concert tentatively scheduled in the University Auditorium from 4 to 6 o'clock, while the brightly-festooned "new" gym will again rock to the Beneke band Saturday night at 8:30. A nation-wide hook-up of the Beneke Army Air Forces show will be broadcast from the affair Friday night, with four of the school's most talented students will be getting their big break on the program. Auditions and plans for this show are being arranged by Johnny Sever and Major Garland Powell of WRUF."³⁴

D M S

³⁴ The Florida Alligator, April 23 1948, p. 3

BENEKE'S ORCHESTRA TO FEATURE ONE OF THE NATION'S TOP DRUMMERS

By Marty Lubov

"One of the nation's top rhythm-men, Drummer Jack Sperling will be starred with Tex Beneke and his orchestra next weekend when Spring Frolics hits Gatorland, the IFC learned this week. Final plans for the affair have been completed, with the nationwide Beneke air-show in the limelight. One of the two ex-Navy men in the all-veteran swing group was teamed with Beneke in a number of service bands while on duty at the Norman, Okla., Naval Air Station. Upon discharge he filled in the drumming slot for Beneke in the Texan's new orchestra. Formerly with Bunny Berigan in pre-war days, Sperling later fronted his own combination for two years and today is lauded by fellow musicians as being one of the best in the hot-note business. Next week's social shindig promises to be one of Florida's greatest Spring Frolics, members of the Inter-Fraternity Conference say. Besides jiving out at two formal dances, Beneke will play at an hour concert Saturday afternoon at 4:30 in University Auditorium. Both dances are slated for the "new" gym, beginning at 9 Friday night and 8:30 Saturday night. A highlight of the jamboree will be the mutual network airing of the Tex Beneke "On The Beam" show Friday night at 9:30 during the first formal affair. Four talented Gators will get their big break on the show during a local-talent session to be featured as part of the program. Auditions for the "On The Beam" show are now being run by program director Johnny Sever and Major Garland Powell of WRUF. Applications will be accepted until Monday evening, Sever has announced. According to Sever all types of talent are needed. Vocal groups, soloists, instrumentalists, impersonators, and comedy teams will be considered by Jack Roche, Mutual producer of the program."³⁵

D M S

³⁵ The Florida Alligator, April 30, 1948, p. 1

PLANS COMPLETED FOR BIG SPRING FROLICS WEEKEND

"Final plans for Florida's biggest Spring Frolics have been completed, the Inter-Fraternity Conference has announced. Slated for Friday and Saturday, the big weekend will star the music of Tex Beneke and his 36-piece orchestra. Two dances and a concert are scheduled for the two-day festivities. More than 20 fraternities, sororities, and social organizations will participate in the weekend while dates are expected from all over the South. Beneke will sound off the affair Friday night at the first formal dance in the "new" gym. Lasting from 9 until 1 o'clock, the shindig will be highlighted by coast-to-coast Army Air Forces "On The Beam with Tex Beneke" show. A number of Florida's most talented students will be featured on a local talent show to be part of the program. Saturday afternoon, the former Glenn Miller protégé will make music at an hour-long concert in the University Auditorium at 4:30. Saturday evening the Beneke aggregation will top off the weekend at the last formal dance in the "new" gym at 8:30. One of the few orchestras in the country to be composed exclusively of ex-servicemen, the Beneke group also contains a complete string section. Latest reports indicate that trumpeter Pete Candoli will be missing from the bandstand, but that drummer Jack Sperling will handle the skin-beating honors, while Claire Chatwin, Ronnie Deauville and the Moonlight Serenaders will share the vocal spotlights.

Local Vocalist Will Appear With Beneke

Kitty Goodbread, a talented young girl vocalist has been chosen to appear on the Tex Beneke "On The Beam" Air Show Friday night of Spring Frolics, Johnny Sever, WRUF program director announced yesterday. A senior at Gainesville High School, the pretty blonde songstress was selected from an audience of more than 10 applicants by Jack Roche, Mutual producer at tryouts held Monday night at WRUF. Kitty is currently starred with the local newly-formed Lenny Kay orchestra, a 16-piece University student combination. Sponsored by the Army Air Forces, "On The Beam with Tex Beneke" will be piped from the "new" gym Friday night at 9:30 during the first formal Spring Frolics dance. Transcribed in New York, the entire show will be beamed coast to coast by Mutual at 10:30. WRUF will carry the program at that time. An unusual 5-microphone set-up will be used for the broadcast, WRUF chief engineer Duane McConnell has stated. The large number of mikes will be needed to carry the 36-piece orchestra and its various vocal combinations."³⁶

³⁶ The Florida Alligator, May 5, 1948, p. 1

TEX BENEKE LEADS OFF SPRING FROLICS TODAY

Beneke's Orchestra Will Furnish Music For Spring Frolics Weekend Affairs

By Marty Lubov

"Spring Frolics, Florida's biggest annual social event swings into the spotlight today as the sunshine state's loveliest are welcomed into Gainesville by the merry-making fraternity population. Starring in the music of Tex Beneke and his 28-piece platter-shattering orchestra, the two-day festivities will be participated in by 22 fraternities, more than nine sororities, and scores of independents and social organizations. Highlighting the weekend will be two formal dances in the "New" gym, a jivin' two-hour concert in the Auditorium, and breakfasts, pop dances, masquerade balls and picnics given by the fraternities. Another bright spot on the social calendar will be the coast-to-coast airing of the United States Air Forces "On The Beam with Tex Beneke" radio show tonight at 9:30. Tonight at 9 pm, the man with the sax will sound off in the decorated gym for the first formal affair of Frolics. Tomorrow afternoon at 4:30 Beneke will play in concert in a solid-sending show, while tomorrow night at 8:30 the second formal dance will bring the jamboree to a close. Beneke's great half-hour radio program will be piped from the new gym during tonight's formal shindig. Transcribed in Chicago, for Daylight Saving Time listeners, the show will be carried live at 9:30 for all Mutual stations on Eastern Standard Time. WRUF will air the program at that time. Tex Beneke, whose sweet theme, "Moonlight Serenade" will [print blurred] Spring Frolics open tonight [print blurred] one of the few musical organizations in the nation to composed of ex-servicemen. His orchestra is also one of the very few string groups to have a complete string groups to have a complete string section for that mellow mood dance. Now recording exclusively for Victor under the Tex Beneke tag rather than "Tex Beneke and the Glenn Miller Orchestra," the combination has placed such wax hits as "Saint Louis Blues March" on the top platter stacks all over the country. Doing that groovy novelty vocalizing will be the "Moonlight Serenaders" while songbird Claire Chatwin and songster Ronnie Deauville will handle the solo spots. On the instrumental side trumpeter Pete Candoli, "Esquire" award winner and drummer Jack Sperling share the musical honors. And Glenn Miller fans will be listening for the sweet trumpet of Bobby Nichols and trombonist Jimmy Priddy who starred with the pre-war Miller aggregation. "³⁷

Frolics Pocket Preview

Friday, May 7 -

9:00 pm - Formal dance "New" gym

9:30 pm - "On The Beam" radio show, Tex Beneke Mutual Network and WRUF

Saturday, May 8 -

4:30 pm - Tex Beneke in Concert University Auditorium

8:30 pm - Formal dance "New" gym

³⁷ The Florida Alligator, May 7, 1948, p. 1

TEX BENEKE LEADS ORCHESTRA IN BEST GLENN MILLER TRADITION
ORIGINAL BAND MEMBER TOOK OVER EX-SERVICE MUSICMEN WHEN LEADER WAS
KILLED IN CRASH

"When that sweet Tex Beneke theme, "Moonlight Serenade," starts feet shuffling at the first Spring Frolics formal tonight many Glenn Miller fans will be wondering about the new front man for the old record-breaking band. A member of the Glenn Miller band ever since there was a Miller combo, Tex Beneke was part of the original unit recruited by Miller in 1938. As the years progressed and Miller band skyrocketed to the heights, he became one of Glenn's closest professional and personal associates, and the main cog in the band by virtue of his terrific tenor sax and vocal solos. Temporarily parted from the Miller aggregation when Glenn enlisted in the Army Air Corps, Tex took the other way and enlisted in the Navy. He became a Chief Petty Officer and continued his musical career throughout the war in Norman, Oklahoma, a navy aviation maintenance training school for 18,000 sailors. The big Texas with that sax appeal joined the original Miller band through the recommendation of Gene Krupa who heard Tex playing with another outfit while the Krupa band was touring. When Miller started toying with the idea of putting his own group in the field, Gene told Glenn of the embryo sax star he had heard on the road. Miller promptly wired Tex to come to New York. Upon arrival in the big town Beneke shuffled into the hall where the Miller crew was rehearsing, extended his hand, and smiling broadly drawled, 'Hi yah, Glenn, A'hm mighty proud to be heah.' 'Get out your horn, Tex, and let's hear you play," said Glenn and from that time it's been "Tex" instead of Gordon Lee. At the age of 13, Tex was already established as an orchestra leader in Fort Worth. Tootling the sax since he was nine, Tex organized the "Tex Beneke Trio" which included a boy named Ben Hogan on the drums. Hogan now confines his drumming to the golf links, being one of the top-money pros in the country. Months after he joined the Miller group, Tex was discovered as a singer. While driving on an over-night location hop in Miller's car, Beneke took off on a solo version of 'Ida'. Miller said nothing, made an arrangement of the number and then informed Beneke he was to do the vocal. The best description of the new Beneke orchestra and its quiet, unassuming leader comes from Metronome, the music business-bible. His is the best popular all-around popular music group ever assembled ... Glenn would be might proud."³⁸

³⁸ The Florida Alligator, May 7, 1948, p. 1

Editorial

Lack of Campus Talent Shown

"It seems strange that out of a student body of over 8,000 students, we can't find enough talent to fully represent the University of Florida on a nation-wide talent show. This coming weekend, Florida talent has a wonderful opportunity to show its wares before the entire nation on the Air Forces "On The Beam" program, featuring Tex Beneke and his orchestra. The lack of Florida talent appearing before the auditioning board resulted in a high school student representing us. It should be stated, however, that the auditioning board did not realize that the talented young lady was not a member of the University student body. An effort was undertaken by the auditioning board to clear a University student, Harvey Relman, for appearance on the show, but because of circumstances beyond their control, it was impossible to do so. The 'On The Beam' program will be presented as planned, and sincere thanks should be forwarded to all concerned for the hard work and effort that was put forth."³⁹

Friday, May 7, 1948, 9:00 pm – 1:00 am
Spring Frolics University of Florida "Spring Frolics"
Gainesville, Florida

"On The Beam" was broadcast during the event.

Friday, May 7, 1948, 10:30 – 11:00 pm
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida
"On The Beam" 17
(Mutual) (WRUF)
College Syndicated Program 3 (Matrix /-/)
Mitch Emanuel, announcer
Kitty Goodbread, guest

16" 33 College syndicated version Program 3-1 (/-/)
FANFARE-THE ARMY AIR CORPS - program open
MOONLIGHT SERENADE – program open
THE CARIOCA – Perry Burgett arrangement
SATURDAY DATE – Tex Beneke, vocal
NATURE BOY – Ronnie Deauville, vocal
AIR FORCE ANNOUNCEMENT AND FANFARE
MOONLIGHT WHISPERS

³⁹ The Florida Alligator, May 7, 1948, p. 6

16" 33: College syndicated version Program 3-2 (/-/)
(Mutual) Instantaneous disc (Unidentified) (Part 2)

ALL OF ME - Kitty Goodbread, vocal

YOU TURNED THE TABLES ON ME – Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

DREAMY LULLABY – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

AIR FORCE ANNOUNCEMENT AND FANFARE

THE SAINT LOUIS BLUES MARCH

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (theme)

THE ARMY AIR CORPS (theme)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (program close)

This program was previously identified as April 16, 1948, with Frankie Carle as a guest.

Saturday, May 8. 1948, 4:30 pm

Spring Frolics University of Florida "Spring Frolics"

Florida Auditorium

Gainesville, Florida

(Concert)

Saturday, May 8. 1948, 8:30 pm

Spring Frolics University of Florida "Spring Frolics"

University of Florida Gym

Gainesville, Florida

(Dance)

D M S

Monday, May 10, 1948, 9:00 pm – 1:00 am
Hippodrome Ballroom
Nashville, Tennessee
(Dance)⁴⁰

Wednesday, May 12, 1948, 9:00 pm – 1:00 am
“Cotton Carnival of 1948”
Ellis Auditorium
N. Main Street between Poplar and Auction Streets
Memphis, Tennessee
(Dance)

Wednesday, May 12, 1948, 11:30 pm - Midnight
“Cotton Carnival of 1948”
(NBC) (WMC)
Ellis Auditorium
N. Main Street between Poplar and Auction Streets
Memphis, Tennessee

LOC RGA 2193
MOONLIGHT SERENADE – opening theme
‘S WONDERFUL
ENCORE, CHERIE – Ronnie Deauville, vocal
THE FEATHERY FEELIN’ – Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal
MOONLIGHT WHISPERS
SATURDAY DATE – Tex Beneke, vocal
THESE FOOLISH THINGS (REMIND ME OF YOU) - Henry Mancini arrangement
THE BEST THINGS IN LIFE ARE FREE – The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal
THE SONG IS YOU – Ronnie Deauville, vocal
THE SAINT LOUIS BLUES MARCH
MOONLIGHT SERENADE – closing theme

Tex Beneke introduces “The Saint Louis Blues March” as originally introduced on V-Disc by the “Glenn Miller Air Forces Band.” This version includes scoring for the string section not heard on the commercial recording.

Friday, May 14, 1946, 8:00 pm – 12:30 am
Municipal Auditorium
Shreveport, Louisiana
(Dance and Concert)⁴¹

⁴⁰ The Tennessean, April 14, 1946, p. 14

⁴¹ Shreveport Times, May 2, 1948, p. 42

Friday, May 14, 1948, 9:30 – 10:00 pm
“On The Beam”
(Mutual) (Cancelled)

Mutual canceled “On The Beam” this evening due to an address by President Truman.

Saturday, May 15, 1946
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
(Dance)

Friday, May 21, 1948
University of Alabama
Foster Auditorium
Tuscaloosa, Alabama
“On The Beam” 18
(Mutual) (WTBC)
Frank Paris, announcer
Danny McKenna, guest

AFRS On The Beam 15

16” 33 (Unidentified) Instantaneous Lacquer (Part 1)
AFRS (USA) D 32328 (D 5-21-48)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - (Dubbed AFRS open)
SOMEBODY LOVES ME – Tex Beneke, vocal
NIGHT AND DAY – Ronnie Deauville, vocal
THE BEST THINGS IN LIFE ARE FREE – The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal
AIR FORCE ANNOUNCEMENT AND FANFARE – (Deleted on AFRS dub)
SURPRISE SYMPHONY – Henry Mancini arrangement
ONE ALONE – Danny McKenna, vocal

16” 33 AFRS (USA) D 32329 (D 5-21-48)

CHATTANOOGA CHOO CHOO

- Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal
ENCORE, CHERIE – Ronnie Deauville, vocal
FRUSTRATION – Henry Mancini composition and arrangement
BODY AND SOUL - Ralph Wilkinson arrangement
MOONLIGHT SERENADE – dubbed AFRS close

Wednesday, May 26, 1948
Police Ball
Huntington, West Virginia
(Dance)⁴²

Thursday, May 27, 1948
Capitol Theater
Wheeling, West Virginia
(Dance)⁴³

⁴² The Billboard, May 15, 1948, p. 36

⁴³ The Billboard, May 15, 1948, p. 36

Friday, May 28, 1948
Meadowbrook Club
Cedar Grove, New Jersey
"On The Beam" 19
(Mutual) (WOR)
Durward Kirby, announcer
Peggy Mann, guest

AFRS On The Beam 16

GMA B-B29-5, M-40-2, M-43-2, AFRS-517

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 32660 (D 5-28-48)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS open

TUXEDO JUNCTION – Jerry Gray arrangement

DREAM GIRL - Ronnie Deauville, vocal

DO YOU EVER THINK OF ME – The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

SOMEBODY LOVES ME - Peggy Mann, vocal

CHEROKEE CANYON – Tex Beneke, vocal

- Dedicated to the Trainees at Lackland AFB, Texas

BEYOND THE SEA (LA MER) – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 32661 (D 5-28-48)

HALLELUJAH! (dubbed insert)⁴⁴

BUT BEAUTIFUL (Peggy Mann) (arr RB),

(WHEN YOUR HEART'S ON FIRE) SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES

- Strings With Wings conducted by Norman Leyden

ALL THE THINGS YOU ARE

MOONLIGHT SERENADE – dubbed AFRS close

Circa June 1, 1948

MASTER MUSIC CORPORATION

Master Music Corporation was formed. Tex Beneke now owned a percentage of the band and receipts with manager Don Haynes. The RCA Victor recording contract remained with the Glenn Miller Estate and Helen Miller. The Glenn Miller music library was exclusively licensed from the Glenn Miller Estate and Helen Miller.

⁴⁴ From AFRS (USA) OTB 9, March 12, 1948

Thursday, June 3, 1948
Meadowbrook Club
Cedar Grove, New Jersey
AFRS One Night Stand 1711

GMA B-A17-4, D-102-1, AFRS-871

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D28016

MOONLIGHT SERENADE – dubbed AFRS open

CRAZY RHYTHM

BEYOND THE SEA (LA MER) – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

YOU TURNED THE TABLES ON ME

- Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

EAST OF THE SUN (AND WEST OF THE MOON) – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

SURPRISE SYMPHONY (arr HM)

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D28017

DON'T BLAME ME – Norman Leyden arrangement

CHEROKEE CANYON – Tex Beneke, vocal

DREAMY LULLABY – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

THE SAINT LOUIS BLUES MARCH

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS Close

Friday, June 4, 1948
Meadowbrook Club
Cedar Grove, New Jersey
"On The Beam" 20
(Mutual)
Connie Haines, guest

D M S

AFRS On The Beam 17

GMA B-B29-6, M-43-1, AFRS-518

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 32945 (D 6-4-48)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS open

SATURDAY DATE – Tex Beneke, vocal

FOR EVERY MAN THERE'S A WOMAN – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

LOVE IS SO TERRIFIC (OUCH! TERRIFIC THING) - Connie Haines, vocal

LOOSE LIKE – Ray Wright composition and arrangement

STORMY WEATHER (KEEPS RAININ' ALL THE TIME) - Connie Haines, vocal

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 32946 (D 6-4-48)

FRUSTRATION – Henry Mancini composition and arrangement

– Ronnie Deauville, vocal

PUT ‘EM IN A BOX

(TIE ‘EM WITH A RIBBON AND THROW ‘EM IN THE DEEP BLUE SEA)

- Tex Beneke, vocal

- Dedicated to the new Military Air Transport Service

SURE THING (dubbed insert)⁴⁵ - Strings With Wings directed by Norman Leyden

DON'T BLAME ME – Norman Leyden arrangement

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS close

The Moonlight Serenaders were not present for the June 4, 1948 broadcast.

Undated - 1948

Unknown Location

GMA: Private Recording

WITHOUT A SONG

GYPSY IN MY SOUL

Undated - 1948

Voice of America 78

GMA: B16A-4, VOA-4

MOONLIGHT WHISPERS

CRAZY RHYTHM

THE FEATHERY FEELING

HALLELUJAH!

Thursday, June 10, 1948

The band opened an engagement at Frank Palumbo's Click, Philadelphia.⁴⁶

⁴⁵ From AFRS (USA) OTB 2, January 30, 1948

⁴⁶ The Billboard, April 17, 1948, p. 34

Friday, June 11, 1948
Frank Palumbo's "Click"
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
"On The Beam" 21
(Mutual) (WIP)
Louis Armstrong, guest

AFRS On The Beam 18

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 33443/RL 8783 (D 6-11-48)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE – dubbed AFRS open

CRAZY RHYTHM

BETTER LUCK NEXT TIME – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

I WENT DOWN TO VIRGINIA – Tex Beneke, vocal

MUSKRAT RAMBLE - Louis Armstrong, trumpet

WHEN IT'S SLEEPY TIME DOWN SOUTH - Louis Armstrong, trumpet/vocal

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 33344/RL 8784 (D 6-11-48)

EV'RY DAY I LOVE YOU (JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE) – Tex Beneke, vocal

DREAMY LULLABY – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

THESE FOOLISH THINGS (REMIND ME OF YOU) – Henry Mancini arrangement

IN A LITTLE BOOK SHOP – Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

THE SAINT LOUIS BLUES MARCH

MOONLIGHT SERENADE – dubbed AFRS close

Friday, June 11, 1948
Frank Palumbo's Click
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
AFRS One Night Stand 1736

GMA B-B9A-1, AFRS-872

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D29196

MOONLIGHT SERENADE – dubbed AFRS open

CRAZY RHYTHM

BEYOND THE SEA (LA MER) – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

PUT 'EM IN A BOX

(TIE 'EM WITH A RIBBON AND THROW 'EM IN THE DEEP BLUE SEA)

- Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

THESE FOOLISH THINGS (REMIND ME OF YOU) – Henry Mancini arrangement

SOMEBODY LOVES ME – Tex Beneke, vocal

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D29197

FRUSTRATION – Henry Mancini composition and arrangement

NATURE BOY – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

HALLELUJAH!

EAST OF THE SUN (AND WEST OF THE MOON) – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

DON'T BLAME ME – to dubbed AFRS close – Norman Leyden arrangement

Friday, June 18, 1948
Mutual Longacre Theatre, New York
"On The Beam" 22
(Mutual)
Kay Starr, guest

AFRS On The Beam 19

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 33681/RL 8873 (D 6-18-48)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE – dubbed AFRS open

RAMBLIN' AROUND – Tex Beneke, vocal

'S WONDERFUL

SPRING IN DECEMBER (WINTER IN MAY) – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

THE BEST THINGS IN LIFE ARE FREE - Kay Starr, vocal

STEPPIN' OUT WITH MY BABY – Tex Beneke, vocal

ENCORE, CHERIE – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 33682/RL 8874 (D 6-18-48)

A STRING OF PEARLS – Jerry Gray composition and arrangement

CAN'T HELP LOVIN' DAT MAN - Kay Starr, vocal

LONG AFTER TONIGHT

THE FEATHERY FEELIN' – Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal
- Perry Burgett composition and arrangement

MOONLIGHT SERENADE – dubbed AFRS close

D M S

Friday, June 25, 1948
Probably Mutual Longacre Theater
New York
"On The Beam" 23
(Mutual)
Durward Kirby, announcer

AFRS On The Beam 29

GMA B-B31-3, AFRS-524

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 36877/RL 10111 (D 6-25-48)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS open

DON'T BE THAT WAY

SERENADE IN BLUE – Ronnie Deauville and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

CHEROKEE CANYON – Tex Beneke, vocal

ALI BABA – Norman Leyden composition and arrangement

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 36878/RL 10112 (D 6-25-48)

BEYOND THE SEA {LA MER} – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

- (Dedicated to the Air Cadets, Randolph AFB, Texas)

BLUE RAIN

YOU TURNED THE TABLES ON ME

– Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

DREAMY LULLABY (dubbed insert)⁴⁷ – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

MOONLIGHT WHISPERS

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS close

Personnel

As Tex mentions on the broadcast, of this date, the Moonlight Serenaders consisted of Mary Mayo, Claire Chatwin, Bobby Swanson, Red Smith and Bob Mitchell

⁴⁷ From AFRS (USA) OTB 21

Issues:

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (AFRS DUB)

CD Magic (E) DAWE-107, Redmond Nostalgia (USA) CD-1369

DON'T BE THAT WAY

CD Magic (E) DAWE-107, Redmond Nostalgia (USA) CD-1369

SERENADE IN BLUE

CD Magic (E) DAWE-107, Redmond Nostalgia (USA) CD-1369

CHEROKEE CANYON

CD Magic (E) DAWE-107, Redmond Nostalgia (USA) CD-1369

ALI BABA

CD Magic (E) DAWE-107, Redmond Nostalgia (USA) CD-1369

BEYOND THE SEA {LA MER}

CD Magic (E) DAWE-107, Redmond Nostalgia (USA) CD-1369

BLUE RAIN

CD Magic (E) DAWE-107, Redmond Nostalgia (USA) CD-1369

YOU TURNED THE TABLES ON ME

CD Magic (E) DAWE-107, Redmond Nostalgia (USA) CD-1369

DREAMY LULLABY

CD Magic (E) DAWE-107, Redmond Nostalgia (USA) CD-1369

MOONLIGHT WHISPERS

CD Magic (E) DAWE-107, Redmond Nostalgia (USA) CD-1369

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (AFRS DUB)

CD Magic (E) DAWE-107, Redmond Nostalgia (USA) CD-1369

Saturday, July 3, 1948

Central Park Ballroom

Allentown, Pennsylvania (Dance)

D M S

Friday, July 2, 1948

Central Park Ballroom

Allentown, Pennsylvania

"On The Beam" 24

(Mutual)

Mindy Carson, guest

AFRS On The Beam 20

GMA B-30-6, AFRS-519

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 33923 (D 7-2-48)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS open

SOMEBODY LOVES ME – Tex Beneke, vocal

TUXEDO JUNCTION - Jerry Gray arrangement

HOW HIGH THE MOON – The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

DREAMY LULLABY – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

YOU TOOK ADVANTAGE OF ME – Mindy Carson, vocal

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 33924 (D 7-2-48)

DON'T BLAME ME – Norman Leyden arrangement

PUT 'EM IN A BOX

(TIE 'EM WITH A RIBBON AND THROW 'EM IN THE DEEP BLUE SEA)

- Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

CONFESS - Mindy Carson, vocal

THE SAINT LOUIS BLUES MARCH

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS close

Issues:

DREAMY LULLABY

16" 33 AFRS On The Beam 29

Saturday, July 3, 1948

Hershey Park Ballroom

Hershey, Pennsylvania (Dance)⁴⁸

Monday, July 5, 1948

Tex Beneke and his Orchestra opened at the Marine Ballroom, Steel Pier, Atlantic City, New Jersey (attendance: 3,100).

D M S

⁴⁸ Harrisburg Evening News, July 1, 1948 p. 12

THE FIRE

Tuesday, July 6, 1948, 1:40 am
Atlantic City, New Jersey

A two-alarm fire ranged at the Marine Ballroom on Steel Pier as thousands of vacationers watched. The fire was discovered at 1:40 am. The fire raged for more than a half hour above the ceiling of the ballroom. The crowd attending the Beneke performance had mostly departed. The band rushed back into the building to save their instruments, the Glenn Miller music library and themselves.⁴⁹

Tex Beneke and his Orchestra had been scheduled to perform at the Steel Pier through Saturday, July 10, 1948. Ray McKinley and his Orchestra were scheduled to come in Sunday, July 11, 1946 and their engagement was likewise “burn up” or, more precisely, flooded, as owner George Hamid, Jr. described the ballroom to reporters as a “swimming pool” after sprinklers had let loose during the fire.

GAC TO MCA

BENEKE TO MCA IN GAC CASH SETTLEMENT

“General Artists Corp. and Music Corp. of America have worked out a deal which smooths the way for the transfer of the Tex Beneke band to the latter organization. Beneke's obligation to GAC had until November of this year to go, but that impediment has been bridged by a cash settlement to GAC. Letter's prez, Thomas G. Rockwell, admitted Friday (2) that the band was MCA's now free and clear but he declined to disclose the amount of the consideration. Don Haynes and the widow of Glenn Miller, who between them own the orchestra, are reported to have received a bonus of \$25,000 for signing with MCA.”⁵⁰

Friday, July 9, 1948

Undocumented Location (Steel Pier unavailable)

“On The Beam” 25

(Mutual)

Jose Mallus, guest

AFRS On The Beam 21

16” 33 AFRS (USA) D 34560/RL 9158 (D 7-9-48)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE – dubbed AFRS open

CRAZY RHYTHM

NATURE BOY – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

AT THE FLYING “W” – Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

CUMANA - Jose Mallus, piano

⁴⁹ Philadelphia Inquirer, July 6, 1948, p. 1

⁵⁰ Variety, July 7, 1948, p. 33

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 34561/RL 9159 (D 7-9-48)

THE FLIGHT OF THE BUMBLE BEE

LITTLE WHITE LIES – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

BLUE IS THE NIGHT – Jerry Gray arrangement

SATURDAY DATE – Tex Beneke, vocal

DREAMY LULLABY – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

RHAPSODY IN BLUE

MOONLIGHT SERENADE – dubbed AFRS close

STEEL PIER BALLROOM BURNS; 15G DAMAGE

"Atlantic City, July 13 - Steel Pier's Marine Ballroom, on far end of structure a quarter of a mile at sea, escaped destruction by fire last week when recently installed sprinkler system automatically turned in an alarm and blocked flames until arrival of fire department. Blaze started shortly after 2 am, while members of Tex Beneke's band were leaving pier. They rushed out with firemen and grabbed their instruments. Firemen later said damage amounted to \$13,000, fire starting due to cigarette carelessly tossed. It was the second fire in a week for George Hamid. A blaze started on end of his other pier, known as Hamid's Million Dollar Pier, during early hours of June 30. This sustained little loss."⁵¹

FOUR IN TEX BENEKE'S BAND HURT IN CRASH

"Latrobe, Pa. July 22 (UP) – Four members of Tex Beneke's band were injured today when their automobile went out of control four miles east of Blairsville. The band had completed an engagement at Carrolton, Pa. and was enroute to Zanesville, O. when the accident occurred. The band was to play an engagement in Zanesville tonight. Ronnie Deauville, 24, a singer, is in Latrobe hospital with a head injury. Johnny White, 24, a saxophone player from Indianapolis, was in Indiana, Pa. hospital with a neck injury. Pete Candoli, 25, of South Bend, Ind, a trumpet player and Bob Pring, 25, were treated for minor injuries and released. The majority of the band members, including Beneke, traveled by bus."⁵²

Wednesday, July 14, 1948– Tuesday, July 20, 1948
Convention Hall
Ashbury Park, New Jersey
(Dances)

⁵¹ Variety, July 14, 1948, p. 37

⁵² UPI Wire



Ashbury Park, New Jersey Evening Press, July 15, 1948

Friday, July 16, 1948
Convention Hall
Ashbury Park, New Jersey

"On The Beam" 26

(Mutual)

Durwood Kirby, announcer

Mindy Carson, guest

AFRS On The Beam 22

GMA B-30-7, AFRS-520

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 34741 (D 7-16-48)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS open

IT'S SO PEACEFUL IN THE COUNTRY – Norman Leyden arrangement

SPRING IN DECEMBER (WINTER IN MAY) – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

THE BEST THINGS IN LIFE ARE FREE – The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

IT'S MAGIC - Mindy Carson, vocal

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 34742/D (7-16-48)

HALLELUJAH!

- Dedicated to the 36th Fighter Wing, enroute from the Canal Zone to Europe

EV'RY DAY I LOVE YOU (JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE) – Tex Beneke, vocal

HAUNTED HEART – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

GYPSY IN MY SOUL - Mindy Carson, vocal

GOLDEN EARRINGS (dubbed insert)⁵³

(I'M LEFT WITH THE) BLUES IN MY HEART – Jerry Gray arrangement

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS close

Introducing "It's Magic", Tex Beneke mentions that it is Mindy Carson's 21st birthday.

Tuesday, July 21, 1948
Carrollton. Pennsylvania
(Dance)

Thursday, July 22, 1948
Crystal Ballroom
Skateland
Buckeye Lake, Ohio
(Dance)

The automobile accident did not prevent the band from performing at Buckeye Lake the evening of July 22, 1948. Press reports that day were optimistic that Pete Candoli would be able to perform and handle his trumpet solos. As it turned out, Candoli was not able to perform and Ronnie Deauville was also absent due to his injury. Attendance was estimated at 5,000 despite inclement weather.

Friday, July 23, 1948

Tex Beneke and his orchestra opened a two-week engagement at Eastwood Gardens, Gratiot at Eight Mile Road, Detroit, Michigan.

⁵³ From AFRS (USA) OTB 9, March 12, 1948

Friday, July 23, 1948
Eastwood Gardens
Gratiot at 8 Mile Road
Detroit, Michigan
"On The Beam" 27
(Mutual) (WJBK)
Clark Dennis, guest

AFRS On The Beam 24

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 35694

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS open

CRAZY RHYTHM

HOW HIGH THE MOON – The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

BETTER LUCK NEXT TIME – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

TENDERLY - Clark Dennis, vocal

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 35695

I DON'T CARE IF IT RAINS ALL NIGHT

– Ronnie Deauville and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

SUMMERTIME – Ralph Wilkinson arrangement

JEALOUSIE –Clark Dennis, vocal

MEMORIES OF YOU

THE SAINT LOUIS BLUES MARCH

MOONLIGHT SERENADE – dubbed AFRS close

D M S

Friday, July 30, 1948
Eastwood Gardens
Gratiot at 8 Mile Road
Detroit, Michigan
"On The Beam" 28
(Mutual) (WJBK)
Sugar Chile Robinson, guest

AFRS On The Beam 23

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D35713/RL 9583
MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS open
SATURDAY DATE – Tex Beneke, vocal
MY BUDDY
HOW HIGH THE MOON – The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal
THE WHIFFENPOOF SONG (BAA! BAA! BAA!)
– Ronnie Deauville and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal
SUGAR CHILE BOOGIE - featuring Sugar Chile Robinson

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 35714/RL 9584
HEY! BA-BA-RE-BOP - featuring Sugar Chile Robinson
LOOK FOR THE SILVER LINING – Ronnie Deauville, vocal
IN A SENTIMENTAL MOOD – Jerry Gray arrangement
PRELUDE TO A KISS
SOLITUDE
MOONLIGHT SERENADE – dubbed AFRS close

JOHN O'LEARY'S NEW POST

"John O'Leary, for years road manager for Glenn Miller's orchestra and latterly with the Tex Beneke combo, leaves that post soon to become New York rep for Don Haynes, Beneke's manager. Haynes lives in Hollywood and works out of there. O'Leary's place with Beneke will be taken by Vincent Carbone, who'll double from sax."⁵⁴

⁵⁴ Variety, August 4, 1948, p. 39



Tex Beneke – GMC to MCA Representation
(Collection of the Author)

TEX BENEKE APPENDECTOMY AND OTHER BAD LUCK

During the engagement in Detroit, Tex Beneke was admitted to East Side Hospital where he had an emergency appendectomy. The band performed at Eastwood Gardens without him during his recovery. The story was widely reported by the wire services. The Detroit Free Press also reported the Beneke's run of "bad luck" extended from the Atlantic City fire to the Pennsylvania automobile accident, his appendectomy and also that "both girl singers came down with ptomaine poisoning opening night at Eastwood Gardens and Tex's wife Marguerite cracked up a car in Ontario."

Friday, August 6, 1948
Moonlight Gardens, Coney Island, Cincinnati, Ohio
(Dance)

Friday, August 6, 1948
Moonlight Gardens, Coney Island, Cincinnati, Ohio
"On The Beam" 29
(Mutual) (WCPO)
Ramona, guest

AFRS On The Beam 25

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 35806R (D 8-6-48)
MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS open
A GAL IN CALICO – Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal
- Norman Leyden arrangement
ALI BABA - Norman Leyden composition and arrangement
NIGHT AND DAY – Ronnie Deauville, vocal
YOU CALL EVERYBODY DARLING - Ramona, piano and vocal

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 35807R (D 8-6-48)
HANKERIN' – Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal
A STRING OF PEARLS – Jerry Gray composition and arrangement
LOOK FOR THE SILVER LINING – Ronnie Deauville, vocal
BABY, WON'T YOU PLEASE COME HOME - Ramona, piano and vocal
DON'T BLAME ME – Norman Leyden arrangement
MOONLIGHT SERENADE – dubbed AFRS close

The entertainer Ramona was Ramona Davies who was married to network announcer Al Helfer. Davies originally made her name as a pianist and vocalist with Paul Whiteman's orchestra during the early 1930s.

Sunday, August 8, 1948
Crystal Beach Park
Vermillion, Ohio
(Dance)⁵⁵

Tuesday, August 10, 1948
Indian Lake Ballroom
Sandy Beach Park
Russell's Point, Ohio
(Dance)⁵⁶

Wednesday, August 11, 1948
Hyland Gardens
Grand Haven, Michigan
(Dance)⁵⁷

Friday, August 13, 1948
The New Dells
East Lansing, Michigan
"On The Beam" 30
(Mutual) (WILS)

AFRS On The Beam 26

GMA B-30-8, AFRS-521

D M S

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 36083/RL 9723 (D 8-13-48)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE - dubbed AFRS open

IT'S SO PEACEFUL IN THE COUNTRY – Norman Leyden arrangement

AT THE FLYING "W" – Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

BEYOND THE SEA (LA MER) – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

SURPRISE SYMPHONY – Henry Mancini arrangement

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 36084/RL 9724 (D 8-13-48)

THE SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

RAMBLIN' AROUND – Tex Beneke, vocal

I DON'T CARE IF IT RAINS ALL NIGHT

– Ronnie Deauville and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

HOW HIGH THE MOON – The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

BLUE SKIES – Jerry Gray arrangement

MOONLIGHT SERENADE – dubbed AFRS close

⁵⁵ Variety, August 18, 1948, p. 82

⁵⁶ Variety, August 18, 1948, p. 82

⁵⁷ Holland (Michigan) Evening Sentinel, August 11, 1948, p. 7

Tuesday, August 17, 1948
Surf Ballroom
Clear Lake, Iowa
(Dance)⁵⁸

Friday, August 20, 1948
Unknown Location
"On The Beam" 31
(Mutual)

No details discovered.

Thursday, August 25, 1948
West View Park
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
(Dance)

Friday, August 26, 1948
Lakewood Ballroom
Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania
(Dance)

Friday, August 27, 1948
Starlight Ballroom
Wildwood-By-The-Sea, New Jersey
"On The Beam" 32
(Mutual)
Connie Haines, guest

AFRS On The Beam 27

GMA B-B31-1, AFRS-522

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 36269/RL 9758 (D 8-27-48)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE – dubbed AFRS open

SOMEBODY LOVES ME – Tex Beneke, vocal

MOONLIGHT COCKTAIL – Ronnie Deauville and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal
- Jerry Gray arrangement

LOOSE LIKE – Ray Wright composition and arrangement

HOW COME YOU DO ME LIKE YOU DO? – Connie Haines, vocal

⁵⁸ Des Moines Register, August 11, 1948, p. 19

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 36270/RL 9759 (D 8-27-48)

LAURA – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

PUT 'EM IN A BOX

(TIE 'EM WITH A RIBBON AND THROW 'EM IN THE DEEP BLUE SEA)

- Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

IT'S MAGIC - Connie Haines, vocal

ENCORE, CHERIE – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

STORMY WEATHER (KEEPS RAININ' ALL THE TIME)

- Ralph Wilkinson arrangement

MOONLIGHT SERENADE – dubbed AFRS close

Issues:

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (AFRS DUB)

CD Magic (E) DAWE-107, Redmond Nostalgia (USA) CD-1369

SOMEBODY LOVES ME

CD Magic (E) DAWE-107, Redmond Nostalgia (USA) CD-1369

MOONLIGHT COCKTAIL

CD Magic (E) DAWE-107, Redmond Nostalgia (USA) CD-1369

LOOSE LIKE

CD Magic (E) DAWE-107, Redmond Nostalgia (USA) CD-1369

HOW COME YOU DO ME LIKE YOU DO?

CD Magic (E) DAWE-107, Redmond Nostalgia (USA) CD-1369

LAURA

CD Magic (E) DAWE-107, Redmond Nostalgia (USA) CD-1369

PUT 'EM IN A BOX

(TIE 'EM WITH A RIBBON AND THROW 'EM IN THE DEEP BLUE SEA)

CD Magic (E) DAWE-107, Redmond Nostalgia (USA) CD-1369

IT'S MAGIC

CD Magic (E) DAWE-107, Redmond Nostalgia (USA) CD-1369

ENCORE, CHERIE

CD Magic (E) DAWE-107, Redmond Nostalgia (USA) CD-1369

STORMY WEATHER (KEEPS RAININ' ALL THE TIME)

CD Magic (E) DAWE-107, Redmond Nostalgia (USA) CD-1369

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (AFRS DUB)

CD Magic (E) DAWE-107, Redmond Nostalgia (USA) CD-1369

Saturday, August 28, 1948

Sunnybrook Ballroom

Pottstown, Pennsylvania

(Dance)

Friday, September 3, 1948 – Sunday, September 5, 1948
Convention Hall
Ashbury Park, New Jersey
(Dances)

Friday, September 3, 1948
Convention Hall
Ashbury Park, New Jersey
“On The Beam” 33
(Mutual)
Gene Caruso, announcer

AFRS On The Beam 28

GMA B-B31-2, AFRS-523

16” 33 AFRS (USA) D-36359/D 9-3-48

MOONLIGHT SERENADE – dubbed AFRS open

AMERICAN PATROL – Jerry Gray arrangement

EV’RY DAY I LOVE YOU (JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE) – Tex Beneke, vocal

TRY A LITTLE TENDERNESS – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

FRUSTRATION – Henry Mancini composition and arrangement

A WOMEN ALWAYS UNDERSTANDS – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

16” 33 AFRS (USA) D-36360/D 9-3-48

STERLING AND CARDINAL⁵⁹ (dubbed insert)

SATURDAY DATE – Tex Beneke, vocal

YOU TURNED THE TABLES ON ME

– Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

THE BEST THINGS IN LIFE ARE FREE – The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

BLUE CHAMPAGNE – Jerry Gray arrangement

MOONLIGHT SERENADE – dubbed AFRS close

Saturday, September 4, 1948
Pleasure Beach Park
Bridgeport, Connecticut
(Dance)⁶⁰

⁵⁹ From AFRS (USA) OTB 12, April 2, 1946

⁶⁰ Bridgeport Post, August 28, 1948, p. 8

Friday, September 10, 1948

Canobie Lake Park

Salem, New Hampshire

On The Beam 34

(Mutual) (WNAC)

Carl Caruso, announcer

Connie Haines, guest

GMA

MBS-45

16" 33 (2) Mutual Broadcasting System (Undetermined)

THE ARMY AIR CORPS (program open)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (theme)

RAMBLIN' AROUND – Tex Beneke, vocal (dedicated to the USAF)

YOU GO TO MY HEAD – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

DARKTOWN STRUTTERS' BALL - Connie Haines, vocal

A STRING OF PEARLS – Jerry Gray composition and arrangement

HANKERIN' – Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

A TREE IN THE MEADOW – Connie Haines, vocal

THE SAINT LOUIS BLUES MARCH

THE ARMY AIR CORPS (closing fanfare)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (program close & Mutual ID)

This was the final program in the "On The Beam" series.

Wednesday, September 15, 1948

Lakewood Ballroom

Lincoln Park

Worcester, Massachusetts

(Dance)

D M S

Friday, September 17, 1948 – Sunday, September 19, 1948
State Theater
Hartford, Connecticut
(Stage Shows)⁶¹

Tuesday, September 21, 1948
Golden Slippers Ball
Lowell Memorial Auditorium
Lowell, Massachusetts
(Dance)⁶²

Tuesday, September 28
Wilmington High School Auditorium
Wilmington, Ohio
(Dance)

Wednesday, September 29, 1948
Jefferson County Armory
Louisville, Kentucky
(Dance)

Thursday, September 30, 1948

The band opened at the Hotel Chase, St. Louis, Missouri, for a two-week engagement, closing
Wednesday, October 13, 1948.⁶³

Tuesday, October 12, 1948
Hotel Chase
St. Louis, Missouri
AFRS One Night Stand 1808
From CBS sustaining broadcast (KMOX)

GMA B-B9A-2, AFRS-873

16" 33 AFRS (USA) Unidentified

DUBBED AFRS OPEN
OUT OF NOWHERE
HAUNTED HEART – Mary Mayo, vocal
GYPSY IN MY SOUL – The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal
STAR DUST
HALLELUJAH

⁶¹ Variety, September 15, 1948, p. 52

⁶² Nashua Telegraph, September 20, 1948, p. 1

⁶³ Variety, September 1, 1948, p. 41

16" 33 AFRS (USA) Unidentified

A WOMAN ALWAYS UNDERSTANDS - Bob Mitchell, vocal

ALI BABA (cm/arr NL),

LOOK FOR THE SILVER LINING – Ronnie Deauville, vocal

PUT ‘EM IN A BOX

(TIE ‘EM WITH A RIBBON AND THROW ‘EM IN THE DEEP BLUE SEA)

- Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

DUBBED AFRS CLOSE

Thursday, October 21, 1948

Murat Theater

Indianapolis, Indiana

(Concert)

Friday, October 22, 1948

Pan-Hellenic Dance

University of Illinois

Champaign

(Dance)

Friday, November 5, 1948

Lakeside Park

Dayton, Ohio

(Dance)

Saturday, November 6, 1948

9:30 – 10:00 pm

“National Guard Military Ball”

Northwest Armory

Chicago, Illinois

(CBS) (WBBM)

Larry Alexander, announcer

Ray Heatherton, host

GMA

CBS-613

16" 33 CBS Unidentified (Part 2 only)

SOMEBODY LOVES ME – Tex Beneke, vocal

A WOMAN ALWAYS UNDERSTANDS – Bob Mitchell, vocal

GYPSY IN MY SOUL – The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

DREAMY LULLABY – Bob Mitchell, vocal

RHAPSODY IN BLUE

GOODNIGHT LADIES (National Guard Program Theme)

"Military Ball" was a CBS network series of Saturday evening National Guard broadcasts from various locations around the country.

Saturday, November 13, 1948

Olympia Stadium

Grand River at McGraw

Detroit, Michigan

"Dance Festival"

Joint Appearance with Jimmy Dorsey and his Orchestra

Concert, 9 - 10 pm

Dancing, 10 pm – 1 am

Tuesday, November 16, 1948

Terp Ballroom

Austin, Minnesota

(Dance)

Wednesday, November 17, 1948

Coliseum Ballroom

Davenport, Iowa

(Dance)⁶⁴

Friday, November 26, 1948 – Sunday, November 28, 1948

The band played a three-night engagement at the Hotel Sherman, Chicago.

Tuesday, November 30, 1948

Cobblestone Ballroom

Storm Lake, Iowa

(Dance)

⁶⁴ Iowa City Press-Citizen, November 11, 1948, p. 13

Saturday, December 4, 1948 - Sunday, December 12, 1948
Agriculture Building
Fair Park
Dallas Industrial Exposition
Dallas, Texas
(Dances-Concerts)

The Dallas Manufacturers and Wholesalers Association sponsored this engagement.

Monday, December 13, 1948
Gregory Gymnasium
University of Texas
Austin
(Dance)

BENEKE'S BAND WOWS CROWD IN AUSTIN SHOWING

"Tex Beneke threw down his cigarette, crossed his fingers and said, 'well, here goes nothin.' He raised the Gregory Gym curtain with 'Moonlight Serenade' and a near capacity crowd of 4,800 almost brought the house down in thunderous applause. Beneke uncrossed his fingers and set up his Monday night concert for a two-hour supply of old Glenn Miller, new Tex Beneke and futuristic jazz. He included all of the songs the crowd expected to hear and then some, adding his famous nasal baritone to the oft-heard 'Chattanooga Choo Choo' and 'Kalamazoo.' Glenn Miller, maestro in memoriam, was also recalled with the tunes 'At Last' and 'String of Pearls.' Beneke teamed up with his quartet, the Moonlight Serenaders, on 'Juke Box Saturday Night' and wowed the crowd by singing both ends of the Ink Spots imitation. The Serenaders split up to handle the solo numbers, with Mary Mayo topping them all on 'It's Magic' and 'Haunted Heart.' As a group, the two boys and two girls hit their peak on 'My Darling,' the new favorite from the Broadway musical 'Where's Charley.' Trumpeter Buddy Yeager stepped down to the mike to add the evening's comic relief. Singing in the windblown style of Skinnay Ennis he led off with 'I May Be Wrong' and threw in a few carefully extemporaneous dance steps and enough wasted motion for a mile run. The crowd wouldn't let him go until Beneke promised he'd be back. Departing from old standbys like 'My Buddy,' 'Star Dust,' and 'Body and Soul,' Beneke played three originals that promise not only to remain original but also limited to his private use. Somewhere on the bop side, 'Ali Baba' and 'Serenade To A Shmoo' occasionally sounded like they were shot out of a cannon. Eavesdropping a bit, we got the 'Percussion' number summed up in a nutshell by a cute little thing in the adjoining seat. Turning to her date, she said, 'it's loud enough to be Kenton.' Stan, you know - S. P."⁶⁵

Thursday, December 16, 1948
Junior League Charity Ball
Nat Hotel
Amarillo, Texas
(Dance)

Friday, December 17, 1948 - Saturday, December 19, 1948

The band was enroute to Los Angeles.

⁶⁵ Austin American, December 14, 1948

Tuesday, December 21, 1948

Tex Beneke and his Orchestra opened at the Hollywood Palladium.

INSIDE ORCHESTRAS - MUSIC

"Tex Beneke; who opened at the Palladium, Hollywood, last night (21) is getting \$6,000 against an undisclosed share of the door admissions. He got \$6,500 last year. Harry James crew, which closed Sunday (19), got \$5,500 and a split over \$13,500. Incidentally. Palladium is slower than usual in lining up its spring bookings: Dick Jurgens has been set for March; with Benny Goodman to follow, but no others have been set as yet."⁶⁶

BENEKE MULLS CUT OF STRING SECTION

"Tex Beneke may soon drop the huge string section from his orchestra. The leader and Don Haynes, his personal manager, are currently mulling the slicing of the band's personnel after being urged to do so by Music Corp. of America. In the event the strings are cut, the size of Beneke's band would be reduced by 13 men to 17 or 18, substantially reducing operating costs and making the combination that much easier to book. Form the start of Beneke's band, after its discharge from service almost as a unit (where it played under the late Glenn Miller), its arrangements were written in a manner that would allow dropping of the string section without making it necessary to rewrite the entire library."⁶⁷

INSIDE ORCHESTRAS - MUSIC

"Fans haven't taken to the new style, and theatre and terpery ops haven't taken to the added overhead, so Tex Beneke has axed his 10-piece String section. Move cuts the weekly payroll from \$6,000 to \$4,400. Beneke has been struggling with a 33-man crew for three years and the size of the outfit has proportionately raised the price operators have had to pay standby crews. As a result, Beneke hasn't played a single theatre date since he closed at the N. Y. Capitol last April. Current at the Palladium, Hollywood, Beneke heads out with the smaller crew Jan. 30 for college stands and one-nighters in the northwest and then resumes a theatre tour Feb. 25 in Omaha."⁶⁸

⁶⁶ Variety, December 22, 1948, p. 41

⁶⁷ Variety, December 22, 1948, p. 86

⁶⁸ Variety, January 12, 1949, p. 45



THE TEX BENEKE SHOW

TEX BENEKE

NBC *Thesaurus*

2. 1949

TEX BENEKE AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Trumpets: Pete Candoli, Bobby Nichols, Whitey Thomas, Buddy Yeager
Trombones: Dick Gould, Jimmy Priddy, Bob Pring, Paul Tanner
French Horn: John Graas
Reeds: Tex Beneke (leader, tenor sax, vocals), George Benham, Joe Palmer (tenor sax);
 Walt Milford (alto/baritone sax), Wilbur Schwartz (clarinet/alto sax), Johnny White,
 (alto sax)
Rhythm: Art Wagner (piano); Bobby Gibbons (guitar), Al Ham (string bass/arranger), Jack
 Sperling (drums),
Vocalists: Moonlight Serenaders: Mary Mayo, Bob Mitchell, Claire Chatman; Glenn Douglas
 (Jay Johnson)
Arrangers: Henry Mancini, Norman Leyden

Tuesday, January 4, 1949
Hollywood Palladium
Undocumented Network

AFRS One Night Stand 1859

GMA B-B11-1, D-101-2, AFRS-875

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D-37115

DUBBED AFRS OPEN
JUST YOU, JUST ME
BLUE CHAMPAGNE – Jerry Gray arrangement
CHEROKEE CANYON – Tex Beneke, vocal
THE MAN I LOVE
SATURDAY DATE – Tex Beneke, vocal

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D-37116

MY BUDDY
CAN'T HELP LOVIN' DAT MAN (CW)
A WOMAN ALWAYS UNDERSTANDS – Bob Mitchell, vocal
THE SAINT LOUIS BLUES MARCH – to dubbed AFRS close

Personnel

Stan Fishelson (trumpet) and Sol Libero (clarinet/alto sax) replace Candoli and Schwartz

TEX BENEKE AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Trumpets: **Stan Fishelson**, Bobby Nichols, Whitey Thomas, Buddy Yeager
Trombones: Dick Gould, Jimmy Priddy, Bob Pring, Paul Tanner
French Horn: John Graas
Reeds: Tex Beneke (leader/tenor sax/vocals), George Benham, Joe Palmer (tenor sax);
Walt Milford (alto sax/baritone sax), **Sol Libero** (clarinet/alto sax); Johnny White,
(alto sax)
Rhythm: Art Wagner (piano); Bobby Gibbons (guitar); Al Ham (string bass/arranger); Jack
Sperling (drums)
Vocalists: Moonlight Serenaders: Mary Mayo, Bob Mitchell, Claire Chatman; Glenn Douglas
(Jay Johnson)
Arrangers: Henry Mancini, Norman Leyden

Friday, January 7, 1949

RCA Victor Recording Session

RCA Victor Studios, 1016 N. Sycamore Ave., Hollywood

D9-VB-504-1

MIDNIGHT SERENADE

(Peter Tinturin)

Issues:

10" 78 RCA Victor (USA) 20-3395-A

D9-VB-505-1

LOOK UP

(Al Rinker-Floyd Huddleston)

Vocal refrain by Tex Beneke and The Moonlight Serenaders

Issues:

10" 78 RCA Victor (USA) 20-3340-B

16" 33 AFRS (USA) BML P-1236

D9-VB-506-1

MISSISSIPPI FLYER

(Don Marcotte)

Vocal refrain by Tex Beneke and The Moonlight Serenaders

Issues:

10" 78 RCA Victor (USA) 20-3340-A

16" 33 AFRS (USA) BML P-1236

D9-VB-507-)

BLUES IN THE NIGHT MARCH

(My Mama Done Tol' Me)

From the 1941 Warner Brothers film "Blues in the Night"

(Harold Arlen- Johnny Mercer)

Issues:

10" 78 Rejected⁶⁹

Friday, January 21, 1949

Hollywood Palladium

AFRS One Night Stand 1887

GMA B-B9-1, B-693-3, D-101-1, D-104-3, AFRS-874

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D39531

DUBBED AFRS OPEN

A STRING OF PEARLS - Jerry Gray composition and arrangement

UNTIL - Mary Mayo, vocal

EV'RY DAY I LOVE YOU (JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE) – Tex Beneke, vocal

THE MAN I LOVE,

LITTLE JACK FROST GET LOST – Claire Chatwin, vocal

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D39532

MY BUDDY

EAST OF THE SUN (AND WEST OF THE MOON) – Bob Mitchell and the Band, vocal

AT LAST – Bob Mitchell, vocal

'S WONDERFUL

A STRING OF PEARLS (repeat) – to dubbed AFRC close

- Jerry Gray composition and arrangement

Saturday, January 22, 1949, 4:30 – 5:00 pm

Treasury Bandstand

CBS Studios

Hollywood

(CBS)

⁶⁹ Unissued from this date – remade June 29, 1949

Tuesday, January 25, 1949
Hollywood Palladium
Unidentified Network Sustaining Broadcast

AFRS One Night Stand 1926

GMA D-104-1, AFRS-876

16" 33 AFRS (USA) RL 12223

DUBBED AFRS OPEN

LAURA - Bob Mitchell, vocal

ALI BABA – Norman Leyden composition and arrangement

UNTIL – Mary Mayo, vocal

DOWN AMONG THE SHELTERING PALMS – Tex Beneke, vocal

MY BUDDY

16" 33 AFRS (USA) RL 12224

THESE FOOLISH THINGS (REMINDE ME OF YOU)

– Henry Mancini arrangement

EAST OF THE SUN (AND WEST OF THE MOON) – Bob Mitchell, vocal

BY THE WAY – Mary Mayo, vocal

'S WONDERFUL

A STRING OF PEARLS – to dubbed AFRS close

TEX BENEKE AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Friday, January 26, 1949
RCA Victor Recording Session
RCA Victor Studios
1016 N. Sycamore Ave.
Hollywood

(D9-VB-519-)

KATRINA

From the 1949 Walt Disney film "The Adventures of Ichabod and Mr. Toad"

(Don Raye-Gene DePaul)

Vocal refrain by Tex Beneke

Issues:

10" 78 Rejected⁷⁰

⁷⁰ Remade June 29, 1949

D9-VB-520-1

THE HEADLESS HORSEMAN

From the 1949 Walt Disney film "The Adventures of Ichabod and Mr. Toad"
(Don Raye-Gene De Paul)

Vocal refrain by Tex Beneke and The Moonlight Serenaders

Issues:

10" 78 RCA Victor (USA) 20-3528-B

7" 45 RCA Victor (USA) 47-3015-B

(D9-VB-521-)

IT WAS LOVELY KNOWING YOU

(Unknown)

Vocal refrain by Mary Mayo

Issues:

10" 78 Unissued

Friday, January 28, 1949

Hollywood Palladium

Unidentified Network Sustaining Broadcast

AFRS One Night Stand 1956

GMA B-1352-3, AFRS-877

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 44445

DUBBED AFRS OPEN

JUST YOU, JUST ME

SEÑORITA – Bob Mitchell, vocal – Norman Leyden arrangement

A STRING OF PEARLS – Jerry Gray composition and arrangement

SEPTEMBER IN THE RAIN

CHEROKEE CANYON – Tex Beneke, vocal

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D 44446

DON'T BLAME ME – Norman Leyden arrangement

SOMEBODY LOVES ME – Tex Beneke, vocal

THIS IS THE MOMENT – Bob Mitchell, vocal

THE SAINT LOUIS BLUES MARCH – to dubbed AFRS close



**BOB MITCHELL and the
MOONLIGHT SERENADERS
Featured with
TEX BENEKE And His Orchestra**

**Personal Representative
DON W. HAYNES**



MCA ARTISTS LTD.
MUSIC CORPORATION OF AMERICA
LONDON NEW YORK CHICAGO BOSTON PHILADELPHIA SAN FRANCISCO CLEVELAND DALLAS DETROIT BOSTON MINNEAPOLIS

TEX BENEKE AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Saturday, January 29, 1949
RCA Victor Recording Session
RCA Victor Studios
1016 N. Sycamore Ave.
Hollywood

D9-VB-522-1

THE MERRILY SONG

(No Where In Particular)
(From Walt Disney's "Adventures of Ichabod and Mr. Toad")
(Morey-Gilbert-Churchill-Wolcott)
Vocal refrain by Tex Beneke and The Moonlight Serenaders

Issues:

10" 78 RCA Victor (USA) 20-3528-A
7" 45 RCA Victor (USA) 47-3015-A

D9-VB-523-1

THEY CAN'T TAKE THAT AWAY FROM ME

(Ira and George Gershwin)

Issues:

10" 78 Unissued

D M S

D9-VB-524-1

PIN-STRIPED PANTS

(And Cutaway Coat)
(Ray Gilbert - Bob Russell)
Vocal refrain by Tex Beneke

Issues:

10" 78 RCA Victor (USA) 20-3395-B

"They Can't Take That Away From Me" is an instrumental. This track was overdubbed with a Glenn Douglas vocal on February 10, 1949 and issued on RCA Victor (USA) 20-3446-B.

Saturday, January 29, 1949, 4:30 – 5:00 pm
Treasury Bandstand
CBS Studios
Hollywood
(CBS)

Friday, February 4, 1949
Junior Prom
Oregon State College
Corvallis

Personnel

Dale Pierce (trumpet) replaces Fishelson; Jim Harwood (trombone) replaces Priddy; Mannie Thaler (alto/baritone sax) replaces Milford; Stan Herman (guitar) replaces Gibbons

TEX BENEKE AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Trumpets: Dale Pierce, Bobby Nichols, Whitey Thomas, Buddy Yeager
Trombones: Dick Gould, **Jim Harwood**, Bob Pring, Paul Tanner
French Horn: John Graas (fh);
Reeds: Tex Beneke (leader/tenor sax/vocals), George Benham, Joe Palmer (tenor sax);
Manny Thaler (alto/baritone sax), Sol Libero (clarinet/alto sax); Johnny White, (alto sax)
Rhythm: Art Wagner (piano); **Stan Herman** (guitar); Al Ham (string bass); Jack Sperling (drums)
Vocals: Moonlight Serenaders: Mary Mayo, Bob Mitchell, Claire Chatman; Glenn Douglas (Jay Johnson)
Arrangers: Henry Mancini, Norman Leyden, Billy May

Thursday, February 10, 1949
RCA Victor Recording Session
RCA Victor Studios
1016 N. Sycamore Ave.
Hollywood

D M S

(D9-VB-1200-)

THEY CAN'T TAKE THAT AWAY FROM ME

(Ira Gershwin - George Gershwin)
Vocal refrain by Glenn Douglas

Issues:

10" 78	RCA Victor (USA) 20-3446-B, DJ-706-B
12" 33	RCA Camden CAL-491
CD	BMG (Japan) BVJJ-2905

"They Can't Take That Away From Me" is instrumental recording D9-VB-523-1, recorded January 29, 1949 and over-dubbed with the vocal February 10, 1949.

Friday, February 25, 1949 – Thursday, March 4, 1949

The band appeared at the Orpheum Theatre, Omaha, Nebraska, for a one-week engagement. This was the band's first theatre date in ten months (see preceding articles about why the string section was dropped).⁷¹

Thursday, March 4, 1949
Junior-Senior Prom
University of Nebraska
Lincoln
(Dance)

Sunday, March 6, 1949
Collinsville Park Ballroom
Collinsville, Illinois
(Dance)⁷²

Monday, March 7, 1948
National Guard Armory
Caruthersville, Arkansas
(Dance)

Sunday, March 20, 1949
Rainbow Garden
Freemont, Ohio
(Dance)

Monday, March 21, 1949
Auditorium Theater
Newark, Ohio
(Stage Shows)⁷³

Tuesday, March 22, 1949
Madison Theater
Mansfield, Ohio
(Stage Shows)⁷⁴

Monday, March 28, 1949 – Wednesday, March 30, 1949
Palace Theatre
Youngstown, Ohio
(Stage Shows)⁷⁵

⁷¹ Variety, January 12, 1949, p. 45

⁷² St. Louis Post-Dispatch, March 2, 1948, p. 20

⁷³ Newark Advocate, March 11, 1948, p. 10

⁷⁴ Mansfield News-Journal, March 20, 1949, p. 20

⁷⁵ Variety, March 23, 1949, p. 48

April 1, 1949
"Spinster's Spin"
Michigan State College
East Lansing, Michigan
(Dance)

Thursday, April 21, 1949
Air Force Association Dance
Beckley Field House
Beckley, West Virginia
(Dance)⁷⁶

Monday, April 25, 1949
Jaycee Dance
Civic Auditorium
Kingsport, Tennessee⁷⁷

QUARTET SUES BAND LEADER TEX BENEKE

"Hollywood, April 28 (UP) – The Mellolarks quartet today sought \$18,000 back wages from Tex Beneke's orchestra. The four singers, Robert Smith, John Biermann, Thomas Hamm and Sam Kerner, charged in a breach of contract suit that they were fired without cause halfway through their year's contract with the band."⁷⁸

BENEKE BAND TO USE MILLER STYLE

"Tex Beneke's orchestra is changing its style to conform with the musical groove that made Glenn Miller's prewar orchestra the hottest box office band in the country. Beneke's current combo is the one that Miller led in the U. S. Army Air Forces while the war was on and had Miller come back from service (he disappeared in a flight over the English Channel) he would have been at its helm. For a while, as a matter of fact, the group was known as Glenn Miller's, orchestra, conducted by Tex Beneke. That billing was later changed to read Tex Beneke with Glenn Miller's orchestra. Finally, Miller's name was dropped. Several months ago Beneke dropped the string section he used in the band since it got out of service in a body. Now he intends to revive Miller's original style, a course that's easy since Mrs. Helen Miller, the late leader's widow, owns an interest in Beneke's combo and she has Miller's original library. This will be put to work immediately and all subsequent arrangements will be patterned along those same lines. Don Haynes, Miller's prewar manager, still manages the band and also has an interest. Beneke may come into a New York location in June for the first time. There's a possibility the combo will go into the Astor Roof following Carmen Cavallaro, who opens its season May 16 for a six-week run."⁷⁹

⁷⁶ Beckley Post-Herald, March 7, 1949, p. 3

⁷⁷ Kingsport Times-News, April 10, 1949, p. 16

⁷⁸ UPI Wire

⁷⁹ Variety, April 20, 1949, p. 38

Personnel

Ed Gerlach (tenor sax) replaces Palmer

TEX BENEKE AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Trumpets: Bobby Nichols, Dale Pierce, Whitey Thomas, Buddy Yeager
Trombones: Dick Gould, Jim Harwood, Bob Pring, Paul Tanner
French Horn: John Graas
Reeds: Tex Beneke (leader/tenor sax/vocals) George Benham, **Ed Gerlach** (tenor sax);
Manny Thaler (alto/baritone sax), Sol Libero (clarinet/alto sax); Johnny White, (alto
sax); Art Wagner (piano); Bobby Gibbons (guitar); Al Ham (string bass/arranger),
Jack Sperling (drums)
Vocalists: Moonlight Serenaders: Mary Mayo, Bob Mitchell, Claire Chatman; Glenn Douglas
(Jay Johnson)
Arrangers: Jerry Gray, Henry Mancini, Norman Leyden, Fred Norman

Undated

Probably May 1949

NBC Thesaurus Audition Recording

NBC Radio City, New York

Glenn Riggs, announcer

12" 33 NBC (USA) E0-MM-695

CHEROKEE

CHATTANOOGA CHOO CHOO - Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

TUXEDO JUNCTION

HALLELUJAH!

Thursday, May 5, 1949, 11:30 pm - Midnight

Meadowbrook Club

Cedar Grove, New Jersey

(Mutual) (WOR) (Sustaining)

AFRS One Night Stand 1986

GMA AFRS-878

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D46314

DUBBED AFRS OPEN

SERENADE TO A SCHMOO

AGAIN - Mary Mayo, vocal

CHATTANOOGA CHOO CHOO – Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

MIDNIGHT SERENADE

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D46315

TULSA – Tex Beneke, vocal

OLD FASHIONED SONG – Glenn Douglas and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

A STRING OF PEARLS – Jerry Gray composition and arrangement

I'M IN THE MOOD FOR LOVE – Mary Mayo, vocal

MISSISSIPPI FLYER – Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

LOOSE LIKE – to dubbed AFRS close – Ray Wright composition and arrangement

Personnel

Joe Ferante replaces Pierce (trumpet); Mike Bryan replaces Herman (guitar)

TEX BENEKE AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Trumpets: **Joe Ferante**, Bobby Nichols, Whitey Thomas, Buddy Yeager

Trombones: Dick Gould, Jim Harwood, Bob Pring, Paul Tanner

French Horn: John Graas

Reeds: Tex Beneke (leader/tenor sax/vocals), George Benham, Ed Gerlach (tenor sax);
 Manny Thaler (as/bar), Sol Libero (clarinet/alto sax); Johnny White, (alto sax)

Rhythm: Art Wagner (piano); **Mike Bryan** (guitar); Al Ham (string bass/arranger); Jack
 Sperling (drums)

Vocalists: Moonlight Serenaders: Mary Mayo, Bob Mitchell, Claire Chatman; Glenn Douglas
 (Jay Johnson)

Arrangers: Jerry Gray, Henry Mancini, Norman Leyden, Fred Norman

Saturday, May 7, 1949, 5:30 – 6:00 pm

"Matinee at the Meadowbrook"

Meadowbrook Club

Cedar Grove, New Jersey

(NBC) (WNBC)

Thursday, May 12, 1949, 11:30 pm - Midnight

Meadowbrook Club

Cedar Grove, New Jersey

(Mutual) (WOR) (Sustaining)

AFRS One Night Stand 1967

GMA B-1352-2, D-105-1, AFRS-879

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D44947

LOOSE LIKE – Ray Wright composition and arrangement

I'M IN THE MOOD FOR LOVE – Mary mayo, vocal

SOMEBODY LOVES ME – Tex Beneke, vocal

UNTIL – Mary Mayo. vocal

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D44948

MISSISSIPPI FLYER – Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

OLD FASHIONED SONG – Glenn Douglas and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

THE SAINT LOUIS BLUES MARCH

BY THE WAY – Mary Mayo, vocal

ALI BABA (incomplete) – Norman Leyden composition and arrangement

Friday, May 13, 1949

RCA Victor Recording Session

RCA Victor Studios

155 E. 24th Street

New York

D9-VB-1472-1 (1A)

LAVENDER COFFIN

(Shirley Albert)

Vocal refrain by Tex Beneke and The Moonlight Serenaders

Issues:

10" 78 RCA Victor (USA) 20-3476-A

7" 45 RCA Victor (USA) 47-2937-A

D9-VB-1473-1 (1A)

A KISS AND A ROSE

(Tommie Connor–Patrick Toohey)

Vocal refrain by Glenn Douglas

Issues:

10" 78 RCA Victor (USA) 20-3476-B

7" 45 RCA Victor (USA) 47-2937-B

This was Tex Beneke's first recording session after RCA Victor introduced the 45-rpm record at the end of March 1949.

REVIEWS

"Lavender Coffin — This dinking captures much of the mechanical rhythm which sparked the old Glenn Miller crew. It's a bright treatment of the amusing yet somber blues ditty.

A Kiss And A Rose — Perfect reincarnation of the Miller clary-led reed ballad sound on a pretty ballad. Douglas' vocal is not on a par with the musical quality."⁸⁰

⁸⁰ The Billboard, July 9, 1949



Tex Beneke and his Orchestra
Meadowbrook Ballroom, Cedar Grove, N. J.
(1949)

Saturday, May 14, 1949, 5:30 – 6:00 pm
“Matinee at the Meadowbrook”
Meadowbrook Club
Cedar Grove, New Jersey
(NBC) (WNBC)

Sunday, May 22, 1949 - Monday, May 23, 1949
Cleary’s Bayside Pavilion
Burlington, Vermont
(Dances)⁸¹

Wednesday, May 25, 1949
Lewiston Armory
Lewiston, Maine
(Dance)⁸²

“Tex Beneke Appears At Local Armory”

“Tex Beneke, who has taken over the baton of the Glenn Miller Orchestra, appeared at the Lewiston Armory, Wednesday night, with his entire crew, Glenn Douglas, Mary Mayo, Buddy Yeager, Bob Mitchell and the Moonlight Serenaders and Jack Sperling. Beneke, a saxophonist, is also a vocalist, his vocal records having been sold in the millions, but he still insists that he can’t sing. His vocal numbers also feature the Moonlight Serenaders, two girls and two boys. Buddy Yeager is the comedy vocalist and is also a trumpet man. He joined the Beneke Band in 1948 after serving as a navigator in the United States Army Air Corps. Many of the instrumentalists of the old Miller band are still with Beneke today and the music is still sweet and swingy. Tex Beneke started his musical career early in life as Gordon Lee Beneke of Fort Worth, Texas. He organized his own orchestra at the age of 13. During the war, Beneke served with the Navy as a Chief Petty Officer.”⁸³

Thursday, May 26, 1949 – Sunday, May 29, 1949
Canobie Lake Park
Salem, New Hampshire
(Dances)⁸⁴

⁸¹ Burlington Free Press, May 19, 1949, p. 9

⁸² Portland Press-Herald, May 25, 1949, p. 18

⁸³ Lewiston Daily Sun, May 26, 1949, p. 2

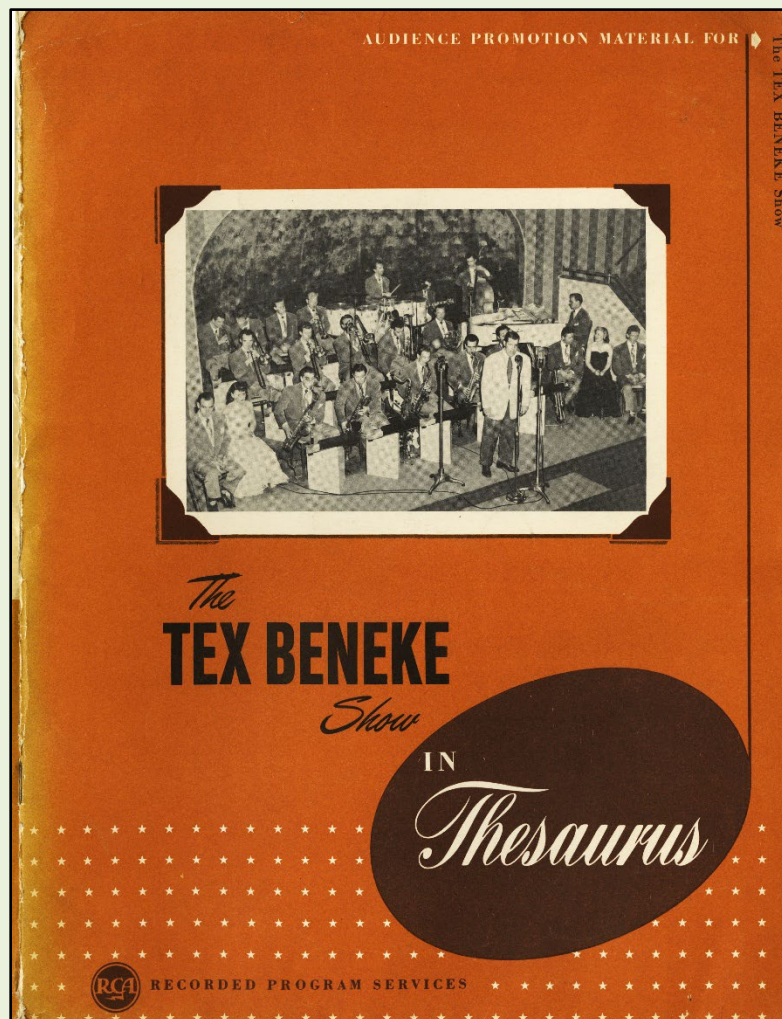
⁸⁴ Nashua Telegraph, May 26, 1949, p. 24

NBC THESAURUS TRANSCRIPTIONS

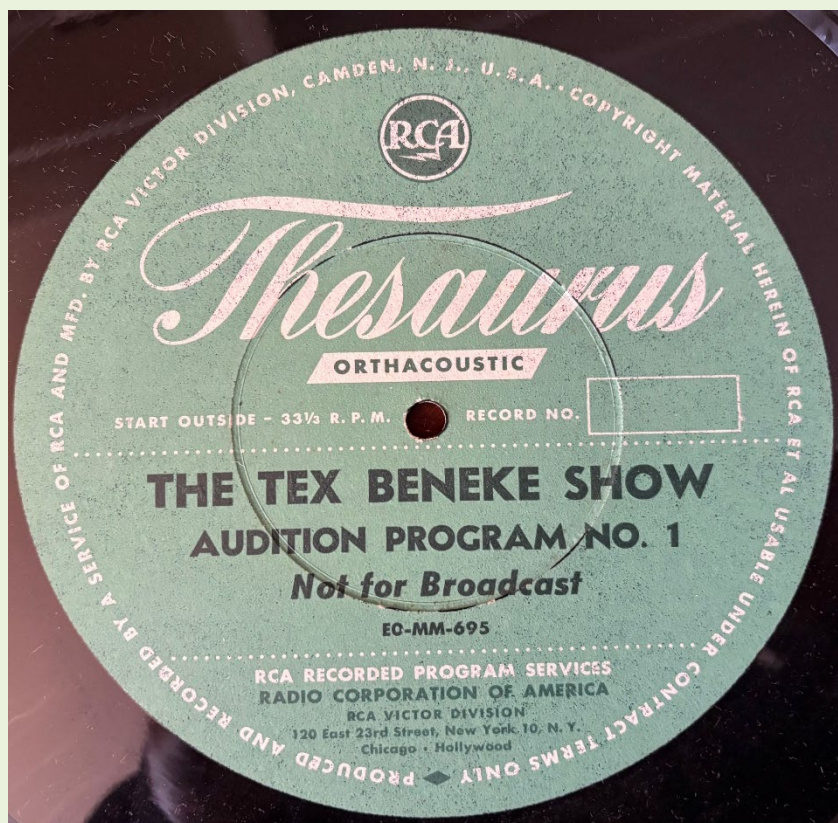
In May 1949 Tex Beneke began to record a series of NBC Thesaurus transcriptions titled "The Tex Beneke Show".

NBC Thesaurus was the transcription library service of RCA and NBC that started licensing a music service to local radio stations in 1935. The transcription discs were originally 16-inch 33-1/3 rpm lateral recordings. During the late 1950s some 7-inch 45 rpm EPs were released including reissues and in 1960 12-inch microgroove LPs were released of reissued material. Until 1949 the disc labels referenced NBC. During 1949 the RCA logo replaced NBC.

The inscribed date on the NBC Thesaurus discs may be the processing date or the release date and not the recording date. Where a date is inscribed the discography includes it with a default toward a recording date pending further confirmation of the stamped date particulars.



Promotional Booklet For Radio Station Clients







Monday, May 30, 1949
NBC Thesaurus Recording Session
NBC Radio City
New York

GMA NBC-391

16" 33 NBC (USA) ND9-MM-8039

STAR DUST (2:53)

AMERICAN PATROL (3:20) – Jerry Gray arrangement

MY BUDDY (2:40)

(I'M LEFT WITH THE) BLUES IN MY HEART (2:00) – Jerry Gray arrangement

CHATTANOOGA CHOO CHOO (2:13)

– Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

Issues:

STAR DUST

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1500

RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1836

CD Soundies SCD-4135

AMERICAN PATROL

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1500

RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1836

CD Soundies SCD-4135

MY BUDDY

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1500

RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1836

CD Soundies SCD-4135

(I'M LEFT WITH THE) BLUES IN MY HEART

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1500

RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1836

CHATTANOOGA CHOO CHOO

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1500

RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1836

CD Redmond Nostalgia CD-673

GMA NBC-392
16" 33 NBC (USA) ND9-MM-8040

IN THE MOOD (3:15)

BALI HA'I (3:21) – Mary Mayo, vocal

A STRING OF PEARLS (2:29) – Jerry Gray arrangement

THEY CAN'T TAKE THAT AWAY FROM ME (2:34)- Glenn Douglas, vocal

HALLELUJAH! (1:55)

Issues:

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1501

IN THE MOOD

BALI HA'I

A STRING OF PEARLS

THEY CAN'T TAKE THAT AWAY FROM ME

HALLELUJAH!

12" 33 RCA Programmed Music Library (USA) LPT-102

A STRING OF PEARLS

GMA NBC-393

16" 33 NBC (USA) ND9-MM-8041

AT LAST (2:25) – Mary Mayo, vocal

LITTLE BROWN JUG (2:57) – Bill Finegan arrangement

SWING LOW, SWEET CHARIOT (3:42) – Bill Finegan arrangement

PIN-STRIPED PANTS (AND CUTAWAY COAT) (2:30) – Tex Beneke, vocal

(I'VE GOT A GAL IN) KALAMAZOO (3:00) (TB-MS)

Issues:

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1502

AT LAST

LITTLE BROWN JUG

SWING LOW, SWEET CHARIOT

PIN-STRIPED PANTS (AND CUTAWAY COAT)

(I'VE GOT A GAL IN) KALAMAZOO

GMA: NBC-390
16" 33 ND9-MM-8046

Inserts for Radio Stations:

Moonlight Serenade (open) (0:46) (3 times)
Moonlight Serenade (open) (0:47) (3 times)
Spoken Introduction By Tex Beneke and Moonlight Serenade (0:49) (3 times)
Moonlight Serenade (close) and spoken signoff by Tex Beneke (0:50) (3 times)

Issues:

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1499

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (open)
MOONLIGHT SERENADE (open)
SPOKEN INTRODUCTION BY TEX BENEKE AND MOONLIGHT SERENADE
MOONLIGHT SERENADE (close) and SPOKEN SIGNOFF BY TEX BENEKE

These tracks are intended for the use of subscribing local radio stations to put together their own programs using the Beneke Thesaurus material. They used either the opening and closing with or without voice-overs by Tex Beneke. Later in the series, there were also generic tune intros spoken by Beneke.

Monday, May 30, 1949
NBC Thesaurus Recording Session
NBC New York

GMA: NBC-394
16" 33 ND9-MM-8042

A WONDERFUL GUY (1:55) – Claire Chatman, vocal
AGAIN (2:46) Mary Mayo, vocal
EAST OF THE SUN (AND WEST OF THE MOON) (3:20) Glenn Douglas, vocal
RAINBOW RHAPSODY (3:35) – Bill Finegan arrangement
OH, LADY BE GOOD! (2:45) – Bill Finegan arrangement

Issues:

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1503
A WONDERFUL GUY
AGAIN
EAST OF THE SUN (AND WEST OF THE MOON)
RAINBOW RHAPSODY
OH, LADY BE GOOD!

CD Soundies SCD-4130
A WONDERFUL GUY

Probably Recorded Monday, May 30, 1949

GMA: M-46-1, NBC-395

16" 33 ND9-MM-8043

THE SAINT LOUIS BLUES MARCH (3:25)

THE BEAUTIFUL BLONDE FROM BASHFUL BEND (2:55)

- Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

BLUE CHAMPAGNE (3:10) – Jerry Gray arrangement

I'LL REMEMBER APRIL (2:22) – Glenn Douglas, vocal

SOMEBODY LOVES ME (2:45) – Tex Beneke, vocal

Issues:

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1504

THE SAINT LOUIS BLUES MARCH

THE BEAUTIFUL BLONDE FROM BASHFUL BEND

BLUE CHAMPAGNE

I'LL REMEMBER APRIL

SOMEBODY LOVES ME

CD Soundies SCD-4130

THE SAINT LOUIS BLUES MARCH

THE BEAUTIFUL BLONDE FROM BASHFUL BEND

BLUE CHAMPAGNE

May-June 1949

NBC Thesaurus Transcription Audition

NBC Hollywood

Tom Hudson, announcer

GMA: M-46-9, NBC-389

16" 33 ND9-MM-4178

Audition Recording Assembled from Thesaurus sources:

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (theme)

OH, LADY BE GOOD! - Bill Finegan arrangement

AGAIN – Mary Mayo, vocal

CHATTANOOGA CHOO CHOO

– Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

AT LAST – Mary Mayo, vocal

HALLELUJAH!

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (theme)

This is a New York recording session and the parts are assembled from May 30, 1949 NBC Thesaurus recordings. This disc was used to show radio stations how to format and present the syndicated transcription series.

Sources:

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (OPEN-CLOSE)	ND9-MM-8046 (45-05-30)
OH! LADY BE GOOD	ND9-MM-8042 (45-05-30)
AGAIN	ND9-MM-8042 (49-05-30)
AT LAST	ND9-MM-8041 (49-05-30)
CHATTANOOGA CHOO CHOO	ND9-MM-8039 (49-05-30)
HALLELUJAH!	ND9-MM-8040 (49-05-30)

Personnel

Gene Cirpiano (tenor sax) and Teddy Lee (alto/baritone sax) replace Benham and Thaler
Barry Galbraith (guitar) replaces Bryan

TEX BENEKE AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Trumpets: Joe Ferante, Bobby Nichols, Whitey Thomas, Buddy Yeager
Trombones: Dick Gould, Jim Harwood, Bob Pring, Paul Tanner
French Horn: John Graas
Reeds: Tex Beneke (leader/tenor sax/vocals), **Gene Cirpiano**, Ed Gerlach (tenor sax);
Teddy Lee (alto/baritone sax), Sol Libero (clarinet/alto sax); Johnny White, (alto sax)
Rhythm: Art Wagner (piano); **Barry Galbraith** (guitar); Al Ham (string bass); Jack Sperling (drums)
Vocalists: Moonlight Serenaders: Mary Mayo, Bob Mitchell, Claire Chatman (voc); Glenn Douglas (Jay Johnson)
Arrangers: Jerry Gray, Henry Mancini, Norman Leyden, Fred Norman



THE TEX BENEKE SHOW

BOB MITCHELL and the
MOONLIGHT SERENADERS

NBC *Thesaurus*

Wednesday, June 1, 1949
Ottawa Auditorium
Ottawa, Ontario
(Dance and Concert)⁸⁵

Featuring Glenn Douglas, Mary Mayo, Bob Mitchell and the Moonlight Serenaders, Buddy Yeager, and Jack Sperling.

The Ottawa Citizen, Ottawa, Ontario, Wednesday, June 1, 1949, p. 23
(Advertisement):

Famous California Orchestra At Auditorium Tonight

In Person "The Grandest Band In The Land"

TEX BENEKE AND HIS ORCHESTRA
Victor Recording Artists

Featuring Glenn Douglas, Mary Mayo, Bob Mitchell and The Moonlight Serenaders, Buddy Yeager and Jack Sperling

"Tex Beneke brings his great Glenn Miller Orchestra to Ottawa for its first local engagement tonight. Seats are on sale in the Auditorium and at C.W. Lindsay's, Sparks Street."

TEX BENEKE PREFERS MUSIC SOFT, SWEET

"A husky Texan with an easy drawl and smile to match admitted here last night he wouldn't trade his brand of sweet music for a barrelful of be-bop. Tex Beneke put that belief into practice before 3,000 fans at the Auditorium as his 17-man band presented a program, which made it easy to realize why the old Glenn Miller outfit was rated tops for dancing. The Beneke band had the Miller clarinet voicing in the reed section, the same smart, well-paced arrangements, the same blending of vocalists. 'I like it that way just as Glenn did,' Tex said. 'We'll never be a bop outfit.' Tex pointed out that the band would keep some numbers with a bop flavor in the library – numbers like 'Serenade To A Schmoos,' which drew a good response last night. But, in the main, there would be ballads, he made it clear. A member of the old Miller band, when it was organized in April, 1938, Tex stayed in the tenor sax chair and then vocalized with the band until he joined the U.S. Navy in 1942. After the war, which saw Miller killed in a plane crash overseas, Tex reorganized the band in the Miller tradition. The band lived up to the tradition last night with such numbers as 'At Last', 'East Of The Sun,' 'I've Got A Gal In Kalamazoo,' and 'Rhapsody In Blue.' Assisting Tex with the vocals were Glenn Douglas, Mary Mayo, Bob Mitchell and the Moonlight Serenaders."⁸⁶

⁸⁵ Ottawa Journal, May 30, 1949, p. 25

⁸⁶ Ottawa Citizen, June 2, 1949, p. 15

Thursday, June 9, 1949
Circle Theater
Indianapolis, Indiana
(Stage Shows)

Thursday, June 16, 1949
Colonial Hotel (Grand Opening)
Rochester, Indiana
(Dance)

Friday, June 17, 1949 – Thursday, June 23, 1949
Eastwood Gardens
Gratiot at 8 Mile Road
Detroit, Michigan
(Stage Shows)

Friday, June 24, 1949
Pier Ballroom
Buckeye Lake, Ohio
(Dance)

Saturday, June 25, 1949
Cedar Point
Sandusky, Ohio
(Dance)⁸⁷

D M S

Sunday, June 26, 1949
Myers Lake
Canton, Ohio
(Dance)⁸⁸

Tuesday, June 28, 1949
West View Park
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
(Dance)⁸⁹

⁸⁷ Sandusky Register, June 18, 1949, p. 2

⁸⁸ Akron Beacon-Journal, June 19, 1949, p. 37

⁸⁹ Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, June 26, 1949, p. 38



Tex Beneke, Bob Mitchell and the Moonlight Serenaders

TEX BENEKE AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Wednesday, June 29, 1949
RCA Victor Recording Session
RCA Victor Studio #2
155 E. 24th Street, New York

D9-VB-0519-

KATRINA

(From Walt Disney's "Adventures of Ichabod and Mr. Toad")
(Don Raye–Gene De Paul)
Vocal refrain by Glenn Douglas

Issues:

10" 78	RCA Victor (USA) 20-3527-A
7" 45	RCA Victor (USA) 47-3014-A

D9-VB-1769-1

BLUES IN THE NIGHT MARCH

(From the Warner Bros. film "Blues in the Night")
(Johnny Mercer–Harold Arlen)

Issues:

10" 78	RCA Victor (USA) 20-3513-A
7" 45	RCA Victor (USA) 47-2989-A
12" 33	RCA Camden CAL-316
CD	BMG (Japan) BVJJ-2894, BMG Special Products (USA) DMC 12173

D9-VB-1770-

CHANGO

(Ascenço Ferreira)
Fred Norman arrangement

10" 78	Unissued
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D9-VB-1771-1

THEY SAY

(Heyman–Mann–Weiss)
Vocal refrain by Glenn Douglas

Issues:

10" 78	RCA Victor (USA) 20-3593-B
7" 45	RCA Victor (USA) 47-3092-B

D9-VB-1772-1

THE ONE WHO GETS YOU

(Charles Tobias–Nat Simon)

Vocal refrain by Tex Beneke and The Moonlight Serenaders

Issues:

10" 78 RCA Victor (USA) 20-3513-B

7" 45 RCA Victor (USA) 47-2989-B

Undated / July 1949

(Probable)

Here's To Veterans 172

Star Dust

Tulsa – Tex Beneke, vocal

Saint Louis Blues March

Probably Recorded Tuesday, July 12, 1949

NBC Thesaurus Recording Session

NBC New York

GMA: B-B14-2, NBC-471

16" 33 ND9-MM-8061

B-B14-2

TUXEDO JUNCTION (2:22) – Jerry Gray arrangement

THESE FOOLISH THINGS (REMIND ME OF YOU) (2:10) Henry Mancini, arrangement

DON'T BE THAT WAY (1:46)

'S WONDERFUL (3:46)

BLUES IN THE NIGHT MARCH (MY MAMA DONE TOL' ME) (2:55)

Issues:

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1506

TUXEDO JUNCTION

THESE FOOLISH THINGS (REMIND ME OF YOU)

DON'T BE THAT WAY

'S WONDERFUL

BLUES IN THE NIGHT MARCH (MY MAMA DONE TOL' ME)

CD Soundies SCD-4130

BLUES IN THE NIGHT MARCH (MY MAMA DONE TOL' ME)

16" 33 ND9-MM-8062

A KISS AND A ROSE (2:50) Glenn Douglas, vocal

WISHING STAR (2:12) Glenn Douglas, vocal

THE ONE WHO GETS YOU (2:55) – Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

LOOK FOR THE SILVER LINING (2:55) – Glenn Douglas, vocal

CHEROKEE (INDIAN LOVE SONG) (1:39)

Issues:

16" 33 Thesaurus 1507

A KISS AND A ROSE

WISHING STAR

THE ONE WHO GETS YOU

LOOK FOR THE SILVER LINING

CHEROKEE (INDIAN LOVE SONG)

Tuesday, July 12, 1949

NBC Thesaurus Recording Session

NBC New York

16" 33 ND9-MM-8063

YOU TURNED THE TABLES ON ME (2:19)

- Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

IDA! SWEET AS APPLE CIDER (3:00) Tex Beneke, vocal

ICHABOD (2:40) Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

KATRINA (2:30) Glenn Douglas, vocal

LAVENDER COFFIN (2:51) Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

Issues:

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1508

YOU TURNED THE TABLES ON ME

IDA! SWEET AS APPLE CIDER

ICHABOD

KATRINA

LAVENDER COFFIN

CD Soundies SCD-4130

YOU TURNED THE TABLES ON ME

IDA! SWEET AS APPLE CIDER

ICHABOD

Saturday, July 16, 1949
Sunnybrook Ballroom
Pottstown, Pennsylvania
(Dance)⁹⁰

Sunday, July 17, 1949 – Saturday, July 23, 1949
Marine Ballroom
Steel Pier
Atlantic City, New Jersey
(Dances)⁹¹

Sunday, July 24, 1949
Carlin's Amusement Park
Baltimore, Maryland
(Dance)

Monday, July 25, 1949 – Sunday, July 31, 1949
Bill Green's
Route 51 at Cloverleaf
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
(Dances)⁹²

Tuesday, August 2, 1949
Tower Theater
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
(Stage Shows)⁹³

D M S

Singer Vic Damone was also on the bill.

Record Reviews

By Owen Callen

"Hollywood (INS) – Golfer Ben Hogan, who was injured in an automobile accident a couple of months ago, was a member of Tex Beneke's original (child) band in Fort Worth, Texas. Hogan played drums in Beneke's three-piece band."⁹⁴

⁹⁰ Philadelphia Inquirer, July 10, 1949, p. 62

⁹¹ Philadelphia Inquirer, July 19, 1949, p. 12

⁹² Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, July 25, 1949, p. 18

⁹³ Philadelphia Inquirer, July 28, 1949, p. 14

⁹⁴ INS Wire

Personnel

Cliff Hills (string bass) replaces Ham; Bryan (guitar) replaces Galbraith

TEX BENEKE AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Trumpet: Joe Ferante, Bobby Nichols, Whitey Thomas, Buddy Yeager
Trombone: Dick Gould, Jim Harwood, Bob Pring, Paul Tanner
French Horn: John Graas
Reeds: Tex Beneke (leader/tenor sax/vocals), Gene Cirpiano, Ed Gerlach (tenor sax);
Teddy Lee (alto/baritone sax), Sol Libero (clarinet/alto sax), Johnny White, (alto sax)
Rhythm: Art Wagner (piano); **Mike Bryan** (guitar); **Cliff Hills** (string bass); Jack Sperling (drums)
Vocalists: Moonlight Serenaders: Mary Mayo, Bob Mitchell, Claire Chatman; Glenn Douglas (Jay Johnson)
Arrangers: Bill Finegan, Jerry Gray, Henry Mancini, Norman Leyden

Wednesday, August 3, 1949

Tex Beneke and his Orchestra opened at the Paramount Theater, New York.

Singer Vic Damone was also on the bill.



Vic Damone

PARAMOUNT HAS NEW DOUBLE BILL

"Hal Willis' "Rope Of Sand" starring Burt Lancaster, Paul Henried, Claude Rains, and Peter Lorre, bows at the New York Paramount Wednesday. The film also introduces in an important role Corinne Calvet. The story has as its background the diamond mining industry of South Africa and the fury, violence, greet and love of those who seek adventure against such savage background. In person the Paramount will present Tex Beneke and his orchestra featuring "Music In The Glenn Miller Mood" with Glenn Douglas, Mary Mayo, Buddy Yeager, Bob Mitchell, The Moonlight Serenaders, and Jack Sperling. Others in person are Cy Reeves, "Hollywood's newest heart-throb," Rudy Cardenas the sensational Mexican juggler, Vic Damone, singing star of Mercury Records and "Saturday Night Serenade" is the extra, added attraction."⁹⁵

in Person
TEX BENEKE **And His ORCHESTRA**
"Music in the Glenn Miller Mood"
featuring GLENN DOUGLAS · MARY MAYO · BUDDY YEAGER
BOB MITCHELL · MOONLIGHT SERENADERS · JACK SPERLING
plus **CY REEVES**
RUDY CARDENAS
Extra Added Attraction!
VIC DAMONE
GEORGE WRIGHT at the Organ

STARTS
TOM'W
(WED.)
DOORS OPEN
8:30 A.M.

The first theatre in the nation to reduce prices and the ONLY
theatre on Broadway where you can see a big 2 for 1 show for...

COOL **PARAMOUNT**
TIMES SQUARE · Midnight Feature Nightly

TO
1 P.M.
55¢
(Tax Included)
Except Sat. · Sun.
& Holidays

⁹⁵ The New York Age, August 6, 1949, p. 19

Friday, August 26, 1949
RCA Victor Recording Session
RCA Victor Studio #2
155 E. 24th Street
New York

D9-VB-2158-1
I CAN DREAM, CAN'T I
(Irving Kahal–Sammy Fain)
Vocal refrain by Glenn Douglas

Issues:

10" 78	RCA Victor (USA) 20-3553-B
7" 45	RCA Victor (USA) 47-3046-B
CD	BMG Special Products (USA) DMC 12173

D9-VB-2159-1
I'M THE MAN WITH THE DREAMS
(Artie Wayne–E. D. Thomas)
Vocal refrain by Glenn Douglas and The Moonlight Serenaders

Issues:

10" 78	RCA Victor (USA) 20-3593-A
7" 45	RCA Victor (USA) 47-3092-A

D9-VB-2160-1
OVER THREE HILLS (Waltz)
(Benedict–West–Sanders–Kendall)
Vocal refrain by The Moonlight Serenaders

Issues:

10" 78	RCA Victor (USA) 20-3553-A
7" 45	RCA Victor (USA) 47-3046-A

Wednesday, August 30, 1949

Tex Beneke and his Orchestra completed a four-week engagement at the Paramount Theater, New York.

September 1949

Saturday, September 2, 1949
Hershey Park Ballroom
Hershey, Pennsylvania
(Dance)

Sunday, September 4, 1949
Starlight Ballroom
Wildwood By-The-Sea, New Jersey
(Dance)

Saturday, September 17, 1949, 9:00 pm to 1:00 am
The Sunset
Altoona, Pennsylvania
(Dance)⁹⁶

Personnel

Hal Tennyson (clarinet/alto sax) replaces Libero; Bobby Gibbons (guitar) replaces Bryan

TEX BENEKE AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Trumpets: Joe Ferante, Bobby Nichols, Whitey Thomas, Buddy Yeager
Trombones: Dick Gould, Jim Harwood, Bob Pring, Paul Tanner
French Horn: John Graas
Reeds: Tex Beneke (leader/tenor sax/vocals), Gene Cirpiano, Ed Gerlach (tenor sax);
Teddy Lee (alto/baritone sax), **Hal Tennyson** (clarinet/alto sax); Johnny White,
(alto sax)
Rhythm: Art Wagner (piano); **Bobby Gibbons** (guitar); Cliff Hills (string bass); Jack
Sperling (drums)
Vocalists: Moonlight Serenaders: Mary Mayo, Bob Mitchell, Claire Chatman; Glenn Douglas
(Jay Johnson)
Arrangers: Bill Finegan, Jerry Gray, Henry Mancini, Norman Leyden

⁹⁶ Altoona Mirror, September 13, 1949, p. 19



THE TEX BENEKE SHOW

MARY MAYO

NBC *Thesaurus*

Mary Mayo



Glenn Douglas

October 4, 1949
Riverside Gardens
Idaho Falls, Idaho
(Dance)⁹⁷

October 8, 1949
Natatorium Park
Spokane, Washington
(Dance)

Wednesday, October 12, 1949
Willamette Park
Eugene, Oregon
(Dance)⁹⁸

Thursday, October 13, 1949
Medford Armory
Medford, Oregon
(Dance)⁹⁹

“Tex Beneke will rate double-takes when he drives around the city in his red jeepster, which is completely equipped with a short-wave radio and towering aerals.”¹⁰⁰

⁹⁷ Idaho Falls Post Register, September 25, 1949, p. 5

⁹⁸ Eugene Guard, October 10, 1949, p. 12

⁹⁹ Medford Mail-Tribune, October 2, 1949, p. 17

¹⁰⁰ Los Angeles Times, October 13, 1949, p. 57

November 1949

Undated

November 1949

Hollywood Palladium

CBS Sustaining Broadcast (KNX)

Dick Gordon, announcer

GMA: Private Acetate

DON'T CRY, JOE – Glenn Douglas and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal
MOONLIGHT SERENADE (closing theme)

Undated

November 1949

Hollywood Palladium

CBS Sustaining Broadcast (KNX)

GMA: Private Acetate

LARGO, THAT LUCKY OLD SUN – Glenn Douglas, vocal

LAURA – Bob Mitchell, vocal

SOMEBODY LOVES ME - Tex Beneke, vocal

MY IDEAL

BLUE ORCHIDS

Undated

November 1949

Hollywood Palladium

CBS Sustaining Broadcast (KNX)

Dick Gordon, announcer

GMA: Private Acetate

A MAN WROTE A SONG – Glenn Douglas, vocal

(YOU'D BE SO) EASY TO LOVE (p)

IT'S SO PEACEFUL IN THE COUNTRY – John Glass, French horn solo

FESTIVALS

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (closing theme)

D M S

Undated
November 1949
Hollywood Palladium
"Music in the Miller Mood"

GMA: Private Acetate

A ROOM FULL OF ROSES – Tex Beneke, vocal
YESTERDAYS (p)
THE HUCKELBUCK
WISHING STAR – Glenn Douglas, vocal
WHO'LL BE THE NEXT ONE? – Glenn Douglas, vocal
SOMEBODY LOVES ME – Tex Beneke, vocal

Undated
November 1949
Here's To Veterans 243

GMA: Private Acetate

LAZY BONES
GEORGIA ON MY MIND
SAINT LOUIS BLUES MARCH
MOONLIGHT SERENADE (close)

Friday, November 18, 1949
RCA Victor Recording Session
RCA Victor Studios
1016 N. Sycamore Ave.
Hollywood

D M S

D9VB 0790
SUNSHINE CAKE
(Johnny Burke-Jimmy Van Heusen)
Vocal refrain by Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders

Issues:

10" 78	RCA Victor (USA) 20-3703
7" 45	RCA Victor (USA) 47-3236-B

D9VB 0791
CAN I CANOE YOU UP THE RIVER
(Marjorie Goetschius-Edna Osser)
Vocal refrain by Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders

Issues:

10" 78	RCA Victor (USA) 20-3616-B
7" 45	RCA Victor (USA) 47-3122-B

D9VB 0792
IT'S DARK ON OBSERVATORY HILL

(Johnny Burke-Harold Spina)

Issues:

10" 78 Unissued

D9VB 0793

CINDY LOU

(Mort Greene-Harry Revel)

Vocal refrain by Tex Beneke

Issues:

10" 78 Unissued

D9VB 0794

MOTHER PRAIRIE

(Peter Tinturin)

Vocal refrain by Tex Beneke

Issues:

10" 78 RCA Victor 20-3616-A

7" 45 RCA Victor 47-3122-A

D9VB 0795

YOUR EYES

(Clifford Grey-Rudolph Friml)

Vocal refrain by Glenn Douglas

Issues:

10" 78 Unissued

D9VB 0796

BUSY SIGNAL

(Jimmy MacDonald-Billie Weber)

Vocal refrain by Buddy Yeager

Issues:

10" 78 RCA Victor 20-3790-B

7" 45 RCA Victor 47-3790-B

D M S





Friday, November 25, 1949
Cotton Club
Lubbock, Texas
(Dance)¹⁰¹

Undated
Fourth Quarter 1949
NBC Thesaurus Recording Session
NBC New York

GMA: NBC-472
16" 33 ND9-MM-8079

ADIOS (2:52) Jerry Gray arrangement
I CAN DREAM, CAN'T I (2:41) – Glenn Douglas, vocal
OVER THREE HILLS (3:22) – The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal
I'M THE MAN WITH THE DREAMS (2:58)
- Glenn Douglas and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal
CRAZY RHYTHM (2:36)

Issues:

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1515

ADIOS
I CAN DREAM, CAN'T I
OVER THREE HILLS
I'M THE MAN WITH THE DREAMS
CRAZY RHYTHM

CD Soundies SCD-4310

ADIOS
I CAN DREAM, CAN'T I
OVER THREE HILLS
I'M THE MAN WITH THE DREAMS
CRAZY RHYTHM

¹⁰¹ Lubbock Morning Avalanche, November 26, 1949, p. 1

GMA: NBC-473
16" 33 D9-MM-2419

Radio Station Inserts

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (open) (0:47) (3 times),
MOONLIGHT SERENADE (close) (with signoff by Tex Beneke) (0:50) (3 times)

Issues:

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1525

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (open) (3 times)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (close) (3 times)

GMA: NBC-474
16" 33 D9-MM-1401

THE HUCKLEBUCK (3:11)
JUST YOU, JUST ME (3:34)
WITHOUT A SONG (3:57)
OUR WALTZ (2:35)
BLUE ORCHIDS (1:34)

Issues:

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1526

THE HUCKLEBUCK
JUST YOU, JUST ME
WITHOUT A SONG
OUR WALTZ
BLUE ORCHIDS

CD Soundies SCD-4130

OUR WALTZ

D M S

GMA: NBC-475
16" 33 D9-MM-1402

I'VE GOT MY LOVE TO KEEP ME WARM (1:54) – Glenn Douglas, vocal
THAT LUCKY OLD SUN (JUST ROLLS AROUND HEAVEN ALL DAY) (2:32)

– Glenn Douglas, vocal

THE EYES OF TEXAS ARE UPON YOU (2:17) - The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

THEY SAY (3:06) – Glenn Douglas, vocal

LOOK UP (2:45) – The Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

Issues:

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1527

I'VE GOT MY LOVE TO KEEP ME WARM

THAT LUCKY OLD SUN

THE EYES OF TEXAS ARE UPON YOU

THEY SAY

LOOK UP

GMA: NBC-476
16" 33 D9-MM-1403

NIGHT AND DAY (2:23) – Glenn Douglas, vocal

THE SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI (2:47) – Bob Mitchell, vocal

LARGO (2:36) - Jerry Gray arrangement

FESTIVALS (2:12),

ELMER'S TUNE (3:17) (MS) - Jerry Gray arrangement

Issues:

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1539

NIGHT AND DAY

THE SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI

LARGO

FESTIVALS

ELMER'S TUNE

CD Soundies SCD-4130

THE SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI

ELMER'S TUNE

GMA: NBC-474
16" 33 D9-MM-1404

THE PEANUT VENDOR (EL MANICERO) (1:56)
THINGS AIN'T WHAT THEY USED TO BE (1:36) – Perry Burgett arrangement
BLUE RAIN (2:01) – Bill Finegan arrangement
NOBODY KNOWS (AND NOBODY SEEMS TO CARE) (3:50)
MY IDEAL (0:55)

Issues:

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1540

THE PEANUT VENDOR (EL MANICERO)
THINGS AIN'T WHAT THEY USED TO BE
BLUE RAIN
NOBODY KNOWS (AND NOBODY SEEMS TO CARE)
MY IDEAL
CD SCD-4130
THE PEANUT VENDOR (EL MANICERO)

Monday, December 26, 1949
Lotos Club
Monroe, Louisiana
(Dance)¹⁰²

Saturday, December 31, 1949
Castle Farm
Cincinnati, Ohio
(New Year's Eve Dance)¹⁰³

D M S

¹⁰² Monroe News-Star, December 27, 1949, p. 7

¹⁰³ Cincinnati Enquirer, December 28, 1949, p. 14



FRAN WARREN and CLAUDE THORNHILL are welcomed into RCA's fast-growing "Thesaurus Family" by Thesaurus star TEX BENEKE...and more big names will soon arrive!



recorded
program
services

Tex Beneke – Café Rouge, Hotel Pennsylvania, New York
With Glenn Miller's Bandstands
(Undated)



(Collection of the Author)

3. 1950

Personnel

Dick Nash (trombone) replaces Pring; Tino Barzie (clarinet/alto sax) replaces Harwood; Danny Perri (guitar) replaces Gibbons; Jimmy Pratt (drums) replaces Sperling; John Graas (French horn) dropped; Bob Shavers (vocalist) added

TEX BENEKE AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Trumpets: Joe Ferrante, Bobby Nichols, Whitey Thomas, Buddy Yeager
Trombones: Dick Gould, Jim Harwood, **Dick Nash**, Paul Tanner
Reeds: Tex Beneke (leader/tenor sax/vocals), **Tino Barzie** (clarinet/alto sax), Gene Cirpiano, Ed Gerlach (tenor sax), Teddy Lee (alto/baritone sax), Johnny White (alto sax)
Rhythm: Art Wagner (piano), **Danny Perri** (guitar), Cliff Hills (string bass), **Jimmy Pratt** (drums)
Vocalists: Moonlight Serenaders: Mary Mayo, Bob Mitchell, Claire Chatman; Glenn Douglas, **Bob Shavers**
Arrangers: Bill Finegan, Jerry Gray, Norman Leyden, Henry Mancini

January 1950, Film Release

(Probable December 1949 Recording Session – Date Unidentified)

“Sweet Serenade”

Directed by Will Cowan

Universal-International Studios

3900 Lankershim Boulevard

Lankershim (North Hollywood), California

SWING LOW, SWEET CHARIOT – Bill Finegan arrangement

Unknown

PIN-STRIPED PANTS – Tex Beneke, vocal

TUXEDO JUNCTION – Jerry Gray arrangement

YOU TURNED THE TABLES ON ME

– Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

Unknown

THE SAINT LOUIS BLUES MARCH

January-April 1950
NBC Thesaurus Recording Session
NBC New York

GMA: NBC-478
16" 33 E0-MM-610

CINDY LOU (2:54) – Glenn Douglas and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal
YESTERDAY'S ROSES (2:29) – Glenn Douglas, vocal
WHO'LL BE THE NEXT ONE (TO CRY OVER YOU) (1:47) - Glenn Douglas, vocal
IT'S DARK ON OBSERVATORY HILL (2:59)
– Glenn Douglas and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal
SERENADE IN BLUE (3:00) – Glenn Douglas and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

Issues:

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1565

CINDY LOU
YESTERDAY'S ROSES
WHO'LL BE THE NEXT ONE (TO CRY OVER YOU)
IT'S DARK ON OBSERVATORY HILL
SERENADE IN BLUE

16" 33 E0-MM-612

Radio Station Inserts

Eight tie-ins by: Glenn Douglas (2), Tex Beneke (2), The band (2), Moonlight Serenaders (2) and eleven cross-plugs for various artists

Issues:

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1554

Tuesday, January 3, 1950
RCA Victor Recording Session
RCA Victor Studios
445 N. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago

E0-VB-3300
GEORGIA ON MY MIND
(Stuart Gorrell-Hoagy Carmichael)

Issues:

10" 78	RCA Victor (USA) 20-3650-A
7" 45	RCA Victor (USA) 47-3173-A, WP 267, HMV (E) 7EG8088
12" 33	RCA Camden CAL-316
CD	BMB (Japan) BVJJ-2894

E0-VB-3301
ROCKIN' CHAIR
(Hoagy Carmichael)

Issues:

10" 78	RCA Victor (USA) 20-3649-A
7" 45	RCA Victor (USA) 47-3172-B, WP 267, HMV (E) 7EG8088
12" 33	RCA Camden CAL-316
CD	BMB (Japan) BVJJ-2894

E0-VB-3302
LAZY BONES
(Johnny Mercer-Hoagy Carmichael)

Issues:

10" 78	RCA Victor (USA) 20-3649-B
7" 45	RCA Victor (USA) 47-3172-A, WP 267
12" 33	RCA Camden CAL-316
CD	BMB (Japan) BVJJ-2894

E0-VB-3303

STAR DUST

(Mitchell Parish-Hoagy Carmichael)

Issues:

10" 78	RCA Victor (USA) 20-3648-A
7" 45	RCA Victor 47-3171-A, WP 267, HMV (E) 7EG8088
12" 33	RCA Camden CAL-316
CD	BMB (Japan) BVJJ-2894

E0-VB-3304

LAZY RIVER

(Hoagy Carmichael-Sidney Arodin)

Issues:

10" 78	RCA Victor (USA) 20-3648-B
7" 45	RCA Victor 47-3171-B, WP 267
12" 33	RCA Camden CAL-316
CD	BMB (Japan) BVJJ-2894

E0-VB-3305

RIVERBOAT SHUFFLE

(Mitchell Parish-Dick Voynow-Hoagy Carmichael-Irving Mills)

Issues:

10" 78	RCA Victor (USA) 20-3650-B
7" 45	RCA Victor 47-3173-B, WP 267, HMV (E) 7EG8088
12" 33	RCA Camden CAL-316
CD	BMB (Japan) BVJJ-2894

Wednesday, January 4, 1950

Grand Theater

Terre Haute, Indiana

(Concert)

Saturday, January 7, 1950

Collinsville Ballroom

Collinsville, Illinois

(Dance)

Friday, January 13, 1950, 9:00 pm – 1:00 am

Woolen Gymnasium

University of North Carolina

Chapel Hill

(Dance)¹⁰⁴

Saturday, January 14, 1950, 4:00 pm

Memorial Union

¹⁰⁴ Daily Tar Heel, December 7, 1949, p. 1

University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill
(Concert)¹⁰⁵

Saturday, January 14, 1950, 9:00 pm – 1:00 am
Woolen Gymnasium
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill
(Concert)¹⁰⁶

Saturday, January 21, 1950
Sunnybrook Ballroom
Pottstown, Pennsylvania
(Dance)

Tuesday, January 24, 1950, 9:00 – 10:00 pm
“Cavalcade of Bands”
Television Broadcast
ABC New York
(ABC) (WABD)

Thursday, January 26, 1950
Madison Theater
Mansfield, Ohio
(Stage Shows)

Saturday, January 28, 1950
East Market Gardens
Akron, Ohio
(Dance)¹⁰⁷

Sunday, January 29, 1950
Monessen Italian Hall
Monessen, Pennsylvania
(Dance)

D M S

¹⁰⁵ Daily Tar Heel, January 13, 1949, p. 1

¹⁰⁶ Daily Tar Heel, January 11, 1949, p. 2

¹⁰⁷ Akron Beacon-Journal, January 28, 1950, p. 3

Monday, February 6, 1949
RCA Victor Recording Session
RCA Victor Studio #2
155 E. 24th Street
New York

EOVB 3191

DREAM A LITTLE LONGER

(Donald Kahn)

Vocal refrain by Glenn Douglas and the Moonlight Serenaders

Issues:

10" 78	RCA Victor (USA) 20-3703-A
7" 45	RCA Victor (USA) 47-3236-A

EOVB 3192

WHISPERING RAIN

(Sammy Gallup-Bill Krenz)

Issues:

10" 78	RCA Victor (USA) 20-3703-B
7" 45	RCA Victor (USA) 47-3830-B

EOVB 3193

OUR LOVE STORY

(William Harrison-Norman Newell)

Vocal refrain by Bob Shavers

Issues:

10" 78	RCA Victor (USA) 20-3752-B
7" 45	RCA Victor (USA) 47-3752-B

EOVB 3194

JAVA JUNCTION

(Harry Warren)

Issues:

10" 78	RCA Victor (USA) 20-3752-A
7" 45	RCA Victor (USA) 47-3752-A

D M S

Tuesday, February 7, 1950, 9:00 – 10:00 pm
“Cavalcade of Bands”
Television Broadcast
ABC New York
(ABC) (WABD)

Wednesday, February 15, 1950
Franklin Court Auditorium
Hagerstown, Maryland
(Concert)

Spring 1950
“Music in the Miller Mood”
Possibly Audio of A Television Program
(Home Recording)

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (opening theme)
BLUES IN THE NIGHT MARCH
UNIDENTIFIED INSTRUMENTAL
I CAN DREAM, CAN’T I? - Glenn Douglas, vocal

D M S

BENEKE SEEKS DIVORCE

Fort Worth, Tex. (AP) – G. L. “Tex” Beneke, the orchestra leader, filed suit for divorce yesterday. Beneke charged cruel treatment. His petition said he and Mrs. Marguerite Beneke had been separated since last Jan. 1. They were married here Nov. 1, 1938.”¹⁰⁸

Thursday, February 23, 1950, 900 pm – 1:00 am
Memorial Auditorium
University of Vermont
Burlington
(Dance)¹⁰⁹

Attendance: 2,500

“SOMEBODY ELSE, NOT ME”

“Lufkin, Tex., Feb. 24 (AP) – Gordon Lee “Tex” Beneke, the orchestra leader, said today that a divorce suit filed in District Court at Fort Worth, in his name and against his wife, actually was filed without his knowledge or consent. Mrs. Beneke is the former Marguerite Griffith of Lufkin. Beneke said he has asked immediate withdrawal of the suit and information as to who filed it.”¹¹⁰

BAND LEADER BENEKE PLANS TO WITHDRAW HIS DIVORCE SUIT

“Fort Worth, Feb. 28 (AP) – Band leader Tex Beneke told the Fort Worth Star Telegram today he is going to withdraw his divorce suit filed here in 48th District Court. Beneke, leader of a dance band, said he had written a letter to the district clerk here asking the suit be withdrawn. Judge R. B. Young said yesterday he intended to ‘pay no attention’ to a letter received asking that the suit be withdrawn. Beneke’s lawyer, John N. Harris, hadn’t heard anything about Beneke’s withdrawing the suit as Beneke failed to notify him. The band leader said he mailed the letter to his wife’s attorney, Louis Renfro of Lufkin, and that Renfro mailed it to the clerk here. The letter received here was postmarked Lufkin.”¹¹¹

Friday, March 3, 1950
Junior Promenade
Princeton University
Princeton, New Jersey
(Dance)

¹⁰⁸ AP Wire, February 19, 1950

¹⁰⁹ Burlington Free Press, February 23, 1950, p. 11

¹¹⁰ AP Wire, February 24, 1950

¹¹¹ AP Wire, February 28, 1950

JERRY GRAY

GLENN MILLER ARRANGER SETS OWN BIG BAND

"Hollywood, Apr. 1 (AP) – Musician Jerry Gray is through arranging fame for other people. From now on he intends to beat his own path to the musical big time. Gray, whose arrangements boosted the Artie Shaw and Glenn Miller bands to the top before the war, is pushing out with his own orchestra in a big recording drive that he hopes will (a) establish him as a leader and (b) subdue the current rash of Miller-style bands. 'I never wanted to cash in on Glenn's reputation,' says Gray, whose scoring of *Chattanooga Choo Choo* and his own *String of Pearls* and *Pennsylvania 6-5000*, became Miller hallmarks. 'But these 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.'

"He made it plain that he has no quarrel with Tex Beneke, the man who took over the Miller band and maintained many of the ideas of the leader, who apparently crashed in the English Channel on a London to Paris flight in 1944 (the plane was never found).

"Since the war, Gray has been doing well in radio work, but the itch to have a big band finally got to him. His recording orchestra numbers 18 musicians, several of them from the old Shaw and Miller combines. The Gray band has been signed by Decca, which plans to bring it along on a balanced diet of old standard tunes and Gray's originals. His second coupling – *Crewcut* (his own) and *By The Waters of Minnetonka* – is a dance-happy blending, reminiscent of both Miller and Shaw."¹¹²

Tuesday, March 7, 1950 – Saturday, March 11, 1950
Persian Terrace
Hotel Syracuse
Syracuse, New York
(Dancing)¹¹³

Wednesday, March 22, 1950
Maryland Theater
Cumberland, Maryland
(Stage Shows)

Saturday, March 25, 1950
Broadwood Hotel
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
(Dance)

Monday, April 1, 1950
Castle Farm
Cincinnati, Ohio
(Dance)

¹¹² AP Wire, April 1, 1950

¹¹³ Syracuse Post-Standard, March 5, 1950, p. 70

Personnel

Billy Ainsworth (clarinet/alto sax) replaces Barzie; Sam Drugan (guitar) replaces Perri; add Helen Lee and Greg Lawrence (vocalists)

TEX BENEKE AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Trumpets: Joe Ferrante, Bobby Nichols, Whitey Thomas, Buddy Yeager
Trombones: Dick Gould, Jim Harwood, Dick Nash, Paul Tanner
Reeds: Tex Beneke (leader/tenor sax/vocals); **Billy Ainsworth**, Johnny White (clarinet/alto sax); Gene Cirpiano, Ed Gerlach (tenor sax); Teddy Lee (alto/baritone sax)
Rhythm: Art Wagner (piano), **Sam Drugan** (guitar), Cliff Hills (string bass), Jimmy Pratt (drums)
Vocalists: The Moonlight Serenaders (voc), **Helen Lee, Greg Lawrence**
Arrangers: Bill Finegan, Jerry Gray, Norman Leyden, Henry Mancini

Tuesday, April 18, 1950
Surf Ballroom
Clear Lake, Iowa
(Dance)

Tuesday, April 25, 1950
Raveno Ballroom
Neenah, Wisconsin
(Dance)

D M S

TEX BENEKE MIXES MUSIC WITH RADIO

"Tex Beneke mixes music with radio with the artistry of a juggler. He keeps them both going all of the time. Traditions of the Glenn Miller Orchestra are carried on by Beneke as if the bespectacled leader were still with the unit, as dancers at the Surf affirmed Tuesday night. But Tex also carries on with "radio hams" as enthusiastically as a veteran, and he has had his FCC amateur radio license since only last October. At the surf, dancers delighted in *Moonlight Serenade*, *Tuxedo Junction*, *Juke Box Saturday Night*, *Chattanooga Choo Choo* and *In The Mood*, selections of the Miller music library, turned over to the band by Mrs. Miller. That's all part of the band brought together again by Tex following the war. All afternoon Tex spent at Herb & George radio service, assembling his own sending and receiving station in his Cadillac convertible. Beneke, who was with the orchestra before the war, is again on the road playing one night stands 10 months out of the year. For 2 months he and his wife reside in their New York apartment, where they plunge deep into radio for, yes, his wife is also a "radio ham" of the nth degree. While Tex was working on his car, with various members of his band, "radio hams" watched every move, his wife was studying code in their room at the hotel so that she too may get her FCC license. It was 2 years ago that Beneke first became interested in radio. While playing an engagement at Miami, Florida, former bandleader Clyde Lucas invited the Benekes to his home. Lucas, now with a television station in Florida, convinced Tex to become a "radio ham" so now everywhere Tex goes, radio is as much on his mind as music. Every spare moment when he is not rehearsing or playing, he is working on his set. At present, Tex is trying to make connections with a Cuban "ham" from every state in the Union. In his car he has a dynameter stepped up to give his transmitter set 300 volts. He has a 3 watt receiving set which he can take into his hotel room. 'Wherever we go we meet hams,' said Beneke, 'And we've never run into a nicer bunch of people, or have more supportive people than the ham operators.' The 'hams' will do everything to show the Benekes a good time, give them a piece of equipment or help them stay on the air. 'It's going to be a lifetime hobby for me,' said Tex, 'Even when I'm old and gray, I'll still be able to turn the knob and talk to people everywhere.'¹¹⁴

¹¹⁴ Mason City Globe Gazette, April 20, 1950, p. 24

May 1950

Personnel

Danny Gregus (g) replaces Drugan; Maurice Purtill (d) replaces Pratt

TEX BENEKE AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Trumpets: Joe Ferrante, Bobby Nichols, Whitey Thomas, Buddy Yeager
Trombones: Dick Gould, Jim Harwood, Dick Nash, Paul Tanner
Reeds: Tex Beneke (leader/tenor sax/vocals) Billy Ainsworth, Johnny White (clarinet/alto sax); Gene Cirpiano, Ed Gerlach (tenor sax); Teddy Lee (alto/baritone sax)
Rhythm: Art Wagner (piano); **Danny Gregus** (guitar); Cliff Hills (string bass); **Maurice Purtill** (drums)
Vocals: The Moonlight Serenaders, Helen Lee, Greg Lawrence
Arrangers: Bill Finegan, Jerry Gray, Norman Leyden, Henry Mancini

Friday, May 5, 1950 – Sunday, May 7, 1950
New Casino Ballroom
Walled Lake, Michigan
(Dances)

Monday, May 8, 1950
St. Stephen Gymnasium
Port Huron, Michigan
(Concert and Dance)

Saturday, May 13, 1950
Chase College Spring Prom
Topper Club
Cincinnati, Ohio
(Dance)

Monday, May 15, 1950

Tex Beneke and his Orchestra opened a four-week engagement at the Café Rouge, Hotel Statler (formerly the Hotel Pennsylvania), New York.¹¹⁵

¹¹⁵ The Billboard, April 22, 1950, p. 26

AGVA PUTS 2G BITE ON HAYNES

"New York, May 20 – Don Haynes, manager of Tex Beneke's band and former manager of the Mellow Larks, was hit by a \$2,700 bite by the American Guild of Variety Artists (AGVA) on an old claim brought against him by the latter group. The Mellow Larks brought the case to the coast office of AGVA some time ago, alleging that Don Haynes had cancelled their contract and, at the same time, owed them \$4,000. The case went to the California courts and AGVA came into the picture. When Tex Beneke opened at the Statler, New York, Don Haynes came to town and AGVA threatened to bring action against the hotel if Haynes didn't discuss it. Talks began and Haynes and AGVA agreed to settle the Mello Lark claim for \$2,700."¹¹⁶

VOICE OF BROADWAY

By Dorothy Kilgallen

"The Tex Benekes have kissed and made up."¹¹⁷

LIGHTS OF NEW YORK

By L. L. Stevenson

"To Hotel Statler's Café Rouge for the opening of Tex Beneke and his orchestra, in which Helen Lee and Greg Lawrence are featured. On entering, we noted that the music stands bore the letter "G. M.," fitting enough since Beneke took over when Glenn Miller met his untimely end. Inquiry disclosed the fact that the stands dated back to Miller's first appearance at the Statler, which was then the Hotel Pennsylvania. They were made of steel from which the Pennsylvania Railroad's first streamline train was built and were presented to Miller by the management of the railroad. At that time, Beneke was Miller's star saxophonist. AS usual, we enjoyed the Beneke music."¹¹⁸

Tuesday, May 30, 1950, 8:00 – 9:00 pm

"Cavalcade of Bands"

Television Broadcast

New York

(Du Mont)

¹¹⁶ The Billboard, May 27, 1950, p. 46

¹¹⁷ Syndicated Column, June 1, 1950

¹¹⁸ Syndicated Column, June 2, 1950

June-October 1950
NBC Thesaurus Recording Sessions
NBC New York

GMA: NBC-479
16" 33 E0-MM-608

LAZY RIVER (3:20)
RIVERBOAT SHUFFLE (2:44)
THE WAY YOU LOOK TONIGHT (3:05)
LA ROSITA (2:45)
EL CUMBACHERO (2:16)

Issues:

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1571

LAZY RIVER
RIVERBOAT SHUFFLE
THE WAY YOU LOOK TONIGHT
LA ROSITA
EL CUMBACHERO

CD Soundies SCD-4130
EL CUMBACHERO

GMA: NBC-480
16" 33 E0-MM-609

SHANGHAI CALCULATIONS (3:22)
SEÑORITA (2:45) – Norman Leyden arrangement
GEORGIA ON MY MIND (3:10)
BLUE IS THE NIGHT (2:06) – Jerry Gray arrangement
SUNRISE SERENADE (3:02) – Bill Finegan arrangement

Issues:

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1576

SHANGHAI CALCULATIONS
SEÑORITA
GEORGIA ON MY MIND
BLUE IS THE NIGHT
SUNRISE SERENADE

CD Soundies SCD-4130
SUNRISE SERENADE

GMA: M-46-1, NBC-481

16" 33 E0-MM-611

LAZY BONES (3:02) – Jerry Gray arrangement

ROCKIN' CHAIR (3:01)

TULSA (2:01) – Tex Beneke, vocal

IT'S SO PEACEFUL IN THE COUNTRY (3:25)

FALLING LEAVES (3:15) – Norman Leyden arrangement

Issues:

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1591

LAZY BONES

ROCKIN' CHAIR

TULSA

IT'S SO PEACEFUL IN THE COUNTRY

FALLING LEAVES

GMA: M-46-2, NBC-482

16" 33 E0-MM-669

THE BREEZE IS MY SWEETHEART (2:25) – Greg Lawrence, vocal

DON'T YOU KNOW I CARE (OR DON'T YOU CARE TO KNOW) (2:19)

– Greg Lawrence, vocal

C'EST SI BON (IT'S SO GOOD) (2:21) – Greg Lawrence, vocal

TZIN-TZUN-TZAN (3:06) – Greg Lawrence, vocal

(DAY AFTER DAY) I'LL ALWAYS LOVE YOU (QUERIDA MIA) (1:56)

– Greg Lawrence, vocal

Issues:

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1593

THE BREEZE IS MY SWEETHEART

DON'T YOU KNOW I CARE (OR DON'T YOU CARE TO KNOW)

C'EST SI BON (IT'S SO GOOD)

TZIN-TZUN-TZAN

(DAY AFTER DAY) I'LL ALWAYS LOVE YOU (QUERIDA MIA)

CD Soundies SCD-4130

TZIN-TZUN-TZAN

(DAY AFTER DAY) I'LL ALWAYS LOVE YOU (QUERIDA MIA)

GMA: M-46-3, NBC-483

16" 33 E0-MM-668

ALWAYS (2:48)

JAVA JUNCTION (3:17)

MAMA INEZ (OH! MOM-E-NEZ) (2:35)

PENNSYLVANIA 6-5000 (3:20)

I'VE GOT A HEART FILLED WITH LOVE (2:35) – Tex Beneke, vocal

Issues:

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1597

ALWAYS

JAVA JUNCTION

MAMA INEZ (OH! MOM-E-NEZ)

PENNSYLVANIA 6-5000

I'VE GOT A HEART FILLED WITH LOVE

CD Soundies SCD-4130

I'VE GOT A HEART FILLED WITH LOVE

GMA: NBC-484

16" 33 E0-MM-670

MY DESTINY (1:48) – Greg Lawrence

TENDERLY (2:29)

OUR LOVE STORY (2:20) – Greg Lawrence

I HEAR A RHAPSODY (2:44) – Greg Lawrence

WARM KISSES IN THE COOL OF THE NIGHT (2:00) – Greg Lawrence, vocal

Issues:

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1601

MY DESTINY

TENDERLY

OUR LOVE STORY

I HEAR A RHAPSODY

WARM KISSES IN THE COOL OF THE NIGHT

GMA: NBC-485
16" 33 E0-MM-671

PERFIDIA (3:35)

FRENESI (3:06)

WHISPERING RAIN (3:02)

MY MELANCHOLY BABY (2:27) – Tex Beneke, vocal

THE ANNIVERSARY WALTZ (2:30)

Issues:

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1608

PERFIDIA

FRENESI

WHISPERING RAIN

MY MELANCHOLY BABY

THE ANNIVERSARY WALTZ

16" 33 E0-MM-(---)

Christmas Voice Tracks for 1950 Christmas Cards and Carols
(Jingles and Voice Tracks)

Issues:

16" 33 RCA Recorded Program Services (USA) Thesaurus 1610

GMA: NBC-486

16" 33 E0-MM-695

D M S

Glenn Riggs, announcer

Audition Recording

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (opening theme)

CHEROKEE (INDIAN LOVE SONG)

CHATTANOOGA CHOO CHOO - Tex Beneke and the Moonlight Serenaders, vocal

TUXEDO JUNCTION – Jerry Gray arrangement

HALLELUJAH!

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (closing theme)

Wednesday, June 7, 1950

The band closed at the Café Rouge, Hotel Statler (Pennsylvania), New York

Thursday, June 8, 1950
West View Park
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
(Dance)¹¹⁹

Friday, June 9, 1950

Tex Beneke and his Orchestra opened a four-week engagement at the Edgewater Beach Hotel, Chicago.¹²⁰

Saturday, July 1, 1950, 7:30 - 8:00 pm

“Your Saturday Dance Date”

(NBC) (WMAQ)

Marine Dining Room

Edgewater Beach Hotel

5555 North Sheridan Road

Chicago, Illinois

Bill Griskey, announcer

LOC RWC 773 B1-2
GMA NBC-388

D M S

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (opening theme)

WHISPERING RAIN

IDA! SWEET AS APPLE CIDER - Tex Beneke, vocal

THE MAN I LOVE – Helen Lee, vocal

LITTLE BROWN JUG

I’LL ALWAYS LOVE YOU – Greg Lawrence, vocal

JAVA JUNCTION,

IT ISN’T FAIR - Helen Lee, vocal

TZIN-TZUN-TZAN – Greg Lawrence, vocal

MY DESTINY

MOONLIGHT SERENADE (closing theme)

¹¹⁹ Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, June 8, 1950, p. 7

¹²⁰ The Billboard, April 29, 1950, p. 15

Thursday, July 6, 1950

The band closed at the Edgewater Beach Hotel, Chicago.

Saturday, July 8, 1950
Pla-Mor Ballroom
Kansas City, Missouri
(Dance)

BROADWAY

By Walter Winchell

"Glenn Miller's widow Helen shares in the profits from Tex Beneke's crew, the only band legally entitled to render Glenn's beautiful arrangements. She doesn't get a cent from the many other bands using his style."¹²¹

Saturday, August 5, 1950
Castle Farm
Cincinnati, Ohio
(Dance)

AUTO ACCIDENT

August 10, 1950 - Three members of the band were slightly injured in an automobile accident two miles south of St. Mary's, Pennsylvania. Bobby Nichols, Dick Nash and Mel Lewis were hurt when their convertible was crowded off the highway while trying to pass a panel truck on Route 255. Nash was shaken up, Nichols had lacerations of the mouth and lips and lost two teeth and Lewis received only minor bruises. Dillon Saupp, a local drummer, filled in for Lewis at the evening engagement.

Thursday, August 10, 1950
Lakewood Park
Pennsylvania
(Dance)

Friday, August 11, 1950 – Thursday, August 17, 1950
Marine Ballroom
Steel Pier
Atlantic City, New Jersey
(Dances)¹²²

¹²¹ Syndicated Column, July 11, 1950

¹²² Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, August 4, 1950, p. 20

Saturday, August 19, 1950
Hershey Park Ballroom
Hershey, Pennsylvania
(Dance)

Monday, August 21, 1950 – Saturday August 26, 1950
5:00 pm and 9:00 pm
Central Canada Exposition
Ottawa, Ontario
(Dances)¹²³

Wednesday, August 30, 1950
The New Dells
Lansing, Michigan
(Dance)

Undated / 1950
Voice of America 214

GMA: B16A-5, VOA-2

LAZY RIVER
I'LL ALWAYS LOVE YOU – Greg Lawrence, vocal
THE DIXIELAND BAND – Helen Lee, vocal
LITTLE BROWN JUG

Undated / 1950
Voice of America 220

GMA: B16A-6, VOA-5

ALWAYS
(I'M LEFT WITH THE) BLUES IN MY HEART
DON'CHA GO 'WAY MAD – Helen Lee, vocal
I'VE GOT MY LOVE TO KEEP ME WARM – Greg Lawrence, vocal
C'EST SI BON - Helen Lee, vocal

¹²³ Ottawa Journal, August 16, 1950, p. 23

September 1950

Sunday, September 3, 1950 – Friday, September 8, 1950
Indiana State Fair
Indianapolis
(Dancing)

Thursday, September 14, 1950
B'nai B'rith Charity Dance
Virginia Gardens
Rock Springs Park
Chester, West Virginia
(Dance)

Wednesday, September 20, 1950
Hecla Park
Bellefonte, Pennsylvania
(Dance)

Thursday, September 21, 1950
Walton Armory
Walton, New York
(Dance)

Saturday, September 23, 1950
Sunnybrook Ballroom
Pottstown, Pennsylvania
(Dance)

Tuesday, September 26, 1950, 9:00 – 10:00 pm
“Cavalcade of Bands”
Television Broadcast
(Du Mont)

D M S

Personnel

Al DeRisi replaces Nichols (trumpet), Bill Forman and Freddy Zito (trombone) replace Gould and Nash; Bob Peck (tenor sax) replaces Gerlach; Don Zito (string bass) replaces Hills; add Eydie Gorme (vocalist); drop Moonlight Serenaders (vocalists)

TEX BENEKE AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Trumpets: Joe Ferrante, **Al DeRisi**, Whitey Thomas, Buddy Yeager
Trombones: **Bill Forman**, Jim Harwood, Paul Tanner, **Freddy Zito**
Reeds: Tex Beneke (leader/tenor sax/vocals), Billy Ainsworth, Johnny White (clarinet/alto sax); Gene Cirpiano, **Bob Peck** (tenor sax); Teddy Lee (baritone sax)
Rhythm: Art Wagner (piano), Danny Gregus (guitar), **Don Zito** (string bass), Maurice Purtill (drums)
Vocalists: **Eydie Gorme**, Greg Lawrence
Arrangers: Bill Finegan, Jerry Gray, Norman Leyden, Henry Mancini

October 1950

Monday, October 2, 1950
Kingston Auditorium
Kingston, New York
(Dance)

Tuesday, October 3, 1950
Theater No. 2 (7:00 pm) and Gibbs Hall (9:00 pm – 1:00 am)
Fort Monmouth, New Jersey
(Concert and Dance)

Tuesday, October 10, 1950, 10:00 – 11:00 pm
“Cavalcade of Bands”
Television Broadcast
(Du Mont)

Personnel

Gordon Dooley, Bobby Styles and Nick Travis (trumpet) replace Ferrante, Thomas and Yeager; George Monte (trombone) replaces Foreman, Freddy Zito (trombone) dropped; Shelly Robbins (piano) replaces Wagner; Buddy Clark (string bass) replaces D. Zito; Mel Lewis (drums) replaces Purtill

TEX BENEKE AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Trumpets: **Gordon Dooley**, Al DeRisi, **Bobby Styles**, **Nick Travis**
Trombones: Jim Harwood, **George Monte**, Paul Tanner
Reeds: Tex Beneke (leader/tenor sax/vocals); Billy Ainsworth, Johnny White (clarinet/alto sax), Gene Cirpiano, Bob Peck (tenor sax); Teddy Lee (baritone sax)
Rhythm: **Shelly Robbins** (piano), Danny Gregus (guitar), **Buddy Clark** (string bass), **Mel Lewis** (drums)
Vocalists: Eydie Gorme, Greg Lawrence
Arrangers: Bill Finegan, Jerry Gray, Norman Leyden, Henry Mancini (arr)

VOICE OF BROADWAY

By Dorothy Kilgallen

"Tex Beneke is offering a \$1,000 reward for the return of Glenn Miller's trombone, which was stolen from the Beneke bandstand. Tex always kept it on view for sentimental reasons."¹²⁴

Tuesday, October 17, 1950
Elon College Gymnasium
Elon College
Burlington, North Carolina
(Dance)

BENEKE SKEDDED FOR PALLADIUM

"Hollywood, Oct. 7 – Palladium Ballroom here is turning into this year's battleground of the Glenn Miller-styled bands, with Tex Beneke the latest linked to mount its podium. Beneke will open December 19 and be followed January 23 by the Ralph Flanagan orchestra. So far, Palladium drew top biz with Jerry Gray, and expects a hefty turnout for Ray Anthony, who opens Tuesday (10). Heretofore, Beneke has held the holiday season booking at the dancery. His return this year during the same time may offset proper comparison of the drawing power of the four bands, inasmuch as the Christmas season brings an unusual turnout as compared to other times during the year."¹²⁵

¹²⁴ Syndicated Column, October 9, 1950

¹²⁵ The Billboard, October 14, 1950, p. 13

VOICE OF BROADWAY

By Dorothy Kilgallen

"Since Tex Beneke announced that Glenn Miller's trombone was stolen he's had 5,000 replies from people who claim to know where it is."¹²⁶

Thursday, October 19, 1950
City Auditorium (8:30 pm) and Armory (10:30 pm)
Danville, Virginia
(Concert and Dance)

Friday, October 26, 1950 – Saturday, October 27, 1950
Duke University
Durham, North Carolina
(Concert and Dances)

Personnel

Eddy Zandy, Art Depew and Red Rodney (tp) replace Styles, Travis and Dooley; Johnny Hayes (ts) replaces Ciripriano; Harry Biss (p) replaces Robbins

TEX BENEKE AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Trumpets: Art Depew, Al DeRisi, Red Rodney, Eddy Zandy
Trombones: Jim Harwood, George Monte, Paul Tanner
Reeds: Tex Beneke (leader/tenor sax/vocals), Billy Ainsworth, Johnny White (clarinet/alto sax), Johnny Hayes, Bob Peck (tenor sax), Teddy Lee (baritone sax)
Rhythm: Harry Biss (piano), Danny Gregus (guitar), Buddy Clark (string bass), Mel Lewis (drums)
Vocalists: Eydie Gorme, Greg Lawrence
Arrangers: Bill Finegan, Jerry Gray, Norman Leyden, Henry Mancini

¹²⁶ Syndicated Column, October 16, 1950

RALPH FLANAGAN

RECORD FIRMS GET DIG FROM REVIEWER

By Jim Wilson
Free Press Staff Writer

"Paul Jackson, an ex-Detroiter who has done much to make Schenectady jazz-conscious, writes to say that he doesn't think much of the way the big record companies try to palm off imitations of good music as good music. I think he has a very good point. When RCA Victor recently lost Sammy Kaye and Tommy Dorsey to Columbia and Decca, it refused to take the losses philosophically (although in the case of Kaye I should think they would have been happy to see him go). These two orchestras had been on the Victor label for more than a decade, producing some everlasting best-sellers and the waxery seemed to think it owned a chunk of their popularity even after their contracts ran out. So what did Victor do? It said, in effect, these bands did not have anything that can't be duplicated – and put over big by a major disc firm like Victor. As a result we now have Victor records by the Bob Dewey band – a la Kaye – and the Buddy Morrow crew – which tries to match T. D. In the case of Dewey the music is frightful. In the case of Morrow, the music is just plain pathetic. Dorsey may have had his off moments but his records were never juvenile or stereotyped as Morrow's are. Another example of inept piracy involves the Glenn Miller band. Here is what Paul Jackson has to say on this subject, 'Just now there's a four-cornered race to see who will wear the musical mantle of the late Glenn Miller. Wearing Victor's colors as a field entry are Ralph Flanagan and Tex Beneke. Flanagan, who never even knew Glenn much less arranged for him, was given a buildup and now we have Fearless Flanagan's Frantic Foxtrots.

"Tex Beneke has a clear title to the crown, having played in the old Miller band and having taken over in the postwar period. He still retains some of the key arrangements from the Miller book, and some managerial and financial commitments. Jerry Gray is the lone entry from the Decca stable. Gray also has a fairly legitimate claim, having performed the majority of arranging chores for the old Miller group and it was arrangements that 'made' that band. Capitol's Ray Anthony once played a rather consistent fourth trumpet in the Miller band and occasionally some of the Miller scoring clichés pop up in his arrangements. That, briefly is the standing of the entries. No odds have been posted yet. Columbia, MGM and the others have elected to remain in the stands and watch the fun."¹²⁷

¹²⁷ Detroit Free Press, October 28, 1950, p. 10

November 1950

Personnel

Nick Capezuto (trumpet) replaces Rodney

TEX BENEKE AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Trumpets: Art Depew, Al DeRisi, **Nick Capezuto**, Eddy Zandy
Trombones: Jim Harwood, George Monte, Paul Tanner
Reeds: Tex Beneke (leader/tenor sax/vocals), Billy Ainsworth, Johnny White (clarinet/alto sax), Johnny Hayes, Bob Peck (tenor sax), Teddy Lee (baritone sax)
Rhythm: Harry Biss (piano), Danny Gregus (guitar), Buddy Clark (string bass), Mel Lewis (drums)
Vocalists: Eydie Gorme, Greg Lawrence
Arrangers: Bill Finegan, Jerry Gray, Norman Leyden, Henry Mancini

Thursday, November 2, 1950

The band opened a four-week engagement at the Paramount Theater in New York. The Ames Brothers were on the same bill. The film was "I'll Get By" (Fox).

D M S



The Ames Brothers

PARAMOUNT, N. Y.
Thursday, November 2

"Without the Ames Brothers, the current bill would have been weak. The Coral Records' vocal group made the rest of the show, though they shared billing with the Tex Beneke crew. Closing the bill, the four boys were near terrific. The act is young looking, musically, fast, and loaded with laughs in the right spots. Opening with *Tzena, Tzena, Tzena*, the group went right into *Can Anyone Explain* and *Clancy Lowered the Boom* – the latter two a pair of their disc hits. A change of pace, *Because*, sold exceedingly well. With their now famous *Rag Mop* rendition, they bowed off to a solid hand. Encores were *Sentimental Me*, a current Ames platter, and a capella version of the spiritual, *Who Built the Ark?*

Tex Opened

Opening the bill was the Tex Beneke ork (8 brass, 5 reeds, 3 rhythm and Beneke fronting and playing tenor). From their recorded version of *Saint Louis Blues March*, the band went into *All My Love*, sung by Beneke's new chirp, Eydie Gorme. The gal was little more than adequate. Greg Lawrence, the band's boy singer, walked on to teen-age oohs and aahs and effectively handled *Dream A Little Dream Of Me*. Later on the bill, Beneke himself handled the vocal on *Chattanooga Choo Choo*. His playing of the Glenn Miller version of *In The Mood*, a hunk of nostalgia, got the best house reaction ... the Beneke band did a competent show-backing job."¹²⁸

Friday, November 17, 1950
MIT Junior Prom
Hotel Copley Plaza
Boston, Massachusetts
(Dance)¹²⁹

D M S

Wednesday, November 29, 1950

The band completed their engagement at the Paramount Theater, New York.

¹²⁸ The Billboard, November 11, 1950, p. 44

¹²⁹ The Tech (MIT), October 17, 1950, p. 1



Eydie Gorme

December 1950

Saturday, December 2, 1950
Castle Farm
Cincinnati, Ohio
(Dance)

Tuesday, December 5, 1950
Starline Ballroom
Carroll, Iowa
(Dance)

Saturday, December 9, 1950 – Sunday December 10, 1950
Jerry Jones Rainbow Randevu
404 South Main
Salt Lake City, Utah
(Dances)¹³⁰

Tuesday, December 19, 1950

Tex Beneke and his Orchestra opened an engagement at the Hollywood Palladium.¹³¹

December 28, 1950

Hollywood Palladium

Unidentified Network Sustaining Broadcast

GMA: AFRS-967

AFRS One Night Stand 2378

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D-71086

DUBBED AFRS OPEN

STAR DUST

THE THING – Tex Beneke, vocal

BE MY LOVE – Greg Lawrence, vocal

ORANGE COLORED SKY – Eydie Gorme, vocal

16" 33 AFRS (USA) D-71087

MY HEART CRIES FOR YOU

IDA (SWEET AS APPLE CIDER) – Tex Beneke, vocal

DREAM A LITTLE DREAM OF ME – Greg Lawrence, vocal

BEGIN THE BEGUINE

ST. LOUIS BLUES MARCH

DUBBED AFRS CLOSE

¹³⁰ Salt Lake City Tribune, December 8, 1950, p. 45

¹³¹ The Billboard, October 14, 1950, p. 13

THE SPLIT

BENEKE - HAYNES - MILLER TEAM HITS BUMPY ROAD

Orkster Wants Mrs. Miller in, But Loses Name, Arrangements, Manager

"HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 9 - The Tex Beneke-Don Haynes-Mrs. Helen Miller combine, which posthumously perpetuated the Glenn Miller band has split at the seams. As a result Beneke has lost all legal right to the Miller name, right to play Miller arrangements and will no longer be handled by his manager Don Haynes. Forty-eight Miller arrangements have been pulled from his book leaving the first of the Miller-styled bands in the peculiar position of being sans the tunes it helped keep alive. Order to pull the arrangements came from Mrs. Miller after Beneke and Haynes split.

"Beneke and Haynes were 50-50 owners of Master Music Corporation, which handled the band. Master Music, in turn, paid Mrs. Miller 25 percent of the band's net earnings. Split came when Beneke informed Music Corporation of America's (MCA) Larry Barnet that Beneke will henceforth approve all contracts and receive all monies earned. Heretofore, Master Music collected all coin. Beneke is currently playing in Salt Lake City and working his way to L. A. via one-nighter tour.

"No action will be taken in settling the matter until Beneke arrives here to open a stand at the Palladium within a couple of weeks. Haynes will seek to collect 50 percent of the band's take on all dates set by Master Music. Final date set by Haynes is a \$3,000 two-day booking at Clemson College, Clemson, S. C. May 4-5. Beneke recently backed out of the RCA Victor recording stable over a beef with the diskery's promotion of the Ralph Flanagan band. Beneke, in remaining in the band biz will be virtually starting from scratch. He will be sans a record company affiliation as well as without the Miller book upon which he built his popularity.

"Haynes told "The Billboard" he intends to retire from showbiz. He had handled the Miller band since 1940 and following the disappearance of the late batoner by arrangement with Mrs. Miller continued the band with Beneke fronting. Haynes said the Miller book will be put on the shelf and at least for the immediate future will not be made available to other batoners. Beneke could not be reached for comment. Haynes blamed the split on long-brewing personal differences."¹³²

¹³² The Billboard, December 16, 1950, p. 14

TEX'S SIDE

"NEW YORK, Dec. 9 - Spokesmen for Tex Beneke here say that the orkster terminated his arrangement with Master Music legally as provided for in his contract with that corporation. "Beneke notified David Mackay, attorney for Mrs. Miller, that he wishes to continue the arrangements whereby Mrs. Miller shares in the net profits of the band," the Beneke office stated. They also minimized the withdrawal of the original Miller book from the library, saying "it became necessary to rearrange most of the old Miller favorites and only about a dozen of the original scores remained in the books." The spokesmen went on to say that "very few old Miller arrangements (were) still active in the library and the removal of those do not hamper the band's immediate jobs." It is believed here that Beneke felt that he had not been faring too well under Haynes' management, having slipped noticeably on records and that he wanted to free himself from Haynes but continue the association with Mrs. Miller. The latter, however, is obviously throwing in with Haynes."¹³³

Reviews

On The Stand - Tex Beneke

Reviewed at Palladium, Hollywood, January 10

"Tex Beneke is still Tex Beneke despite the loss of the Miller book. The move has revitalized the men and as a result they are working harder. Split with Mrs. Miller and Don Haynes has taken away the Glenn Miller crutch that has held the band since its inception. Beneke came here with practically a new group compared with his last visit. Since May 14 men have been replaced. Ork, however, shows no signs of inexperience or lack of coordination and is commercially sound. Band leans toward standards mixing tempos in a way that makes for good dancing. Beneke is trying to get away from the Miller tunes but at times is forced by requests to play songs associated with Miller such as Chattanooga Choo-Choo, At Last, String of Pearls and Kalamazoo. Band maintains the Miller style more than other orks in the business. A little variety, such as the addition of a vocal group, would go a long way toward giving valid presentation. As is the vocals of Greg Lawrence (who is leaving the band when they exit here), Eydie Gorme and Beneke don't pack enough punch to give dancers well-rounded sets. Palladium crowds during Beneke's run have been good and a tribute to the orkster who came in here on the heels of his split with the Miller combo. But the ork has proved it can stand alone and should pick up added sparkle now that it is truly Tex Beneke's band."¹³⁴

¹³³ The Billboard, December 16, 1950, p. 49

¹³⁴ The Billboard, January 27, 1951, p. 16

Acknowledgments

Contributors:

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Tex Beneke is regularly featured on Dennis M. Spragg and Rick Crandall's weekly Star-Spangled Radio Hour broadcasts and podcasts.

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