

**Alvino Rey -W6UK - 6UE - 8BOP \*1909-2004\*** With pleasure to write about this wonderful VIP - Our famous orchestra leader, performer, inventor and star of the ABC TV Show, The King Family. Born Alvin H. McBurney 1909 in sunny California.

Alvino the only child of Frank & Lily Star Cline McBurney moved to Cleveland Ohio at the age of 10 years. Early on Alvino loved wireless and became 8 BOP (eight bottles of pop) as he advised your author during a 20 Meter QSO. He saved his first bottle (Final Tube) had

many friends in the Ohio area including founder of Bird Wattmeter Company and Doctor Victoreen, founder of fine radio products. He had fond memories of the Ohio Region.

*Alvino Rey*  
10275 South 2505 East  
Sandy, Utah 84092

**W6UK**

79 YEARS  
IN HAM RADIO

6UE-1920  
8BOP  
8AUS  
9YGP  
W6RDX

TUNE QSO

ANT 109 PERIODIC

RADIO W8SU	CONFIRMING 2-WAY QSO SSB	DATE June 7th 1999	UTC 1455
FREQ 14	RST 5 9 +	RIG YAESU - Ten Tec	KLDHA - Finn

Alvino was very approachable and willing to discuss his personal life. I enjoyed his description of the Utah country side and how he loved the afternoon rains which made the lush vegetation

prosper. Our subject enjoyed 20 Meters and hung out with a talented morning group around 14.220 Mhz. I called Mr. Rey - “Maestro” and advised how much we respected his work and enjoyed his webpage on the Internet. He operated a very competitive station in Utah.

Maestro learned the banjo and formed his first band when he was 16 years old. By the time he was 20, he was playing for the Phil Spitalny Orchestra in NYC.

In 1929 Alvino cashed in on the Latin music craze by changing his name to Alvino Rey. Alvino in Spanish for Alvin and Rey means “King.”

An early developer, builder and player of the electric guitar, Alvino was the father of the Pedal Steel Guitar and first inductee into the Steel Guitar Hall of Fame in 1978. Rey’s career truly spanned every aspect of the modern broadcast media. He was a lifelong Pioneer ham radio operator, he built and improved some of the earliest electric guitars and served in the Navy during World War II. He had number one hits including many top ten chart songs!

He did pioneering work in Stereo, Television, then mastered the computer and digital recording technology. Rey lost his beloved Luise in 1997, but never stopped working or performing. His musical library was donated to BYU. I’ve got “Blues In The Night” playing in the background, what a fine instrumental! Here is a salute to \* Eight Bottles of Pop\*! Thanks for the memories Maestro! W8SU 2006