

Hazard E. "Buz" Reeves K2GL - W2HJR - 4RZ *1906-1986*

Born in Baltimore, MD - Eventually of Manhattan and Tuxedo, N.Y. We are looking at the life of a top flight engineer, inventor and business man. What some are not aware of is simply Buz was one of us, starting out as early as 1924, a pioneer operator and a thorough blue blood Contester. You've heard them on weekends - "CQ Test" His home in Orange County was a place of enchantment with those wonderful towers and antennas, consisting of twelve positions with each its own linear. He aided the war effort and brought us Stereo Sound in Cinerama and many other things.



Not much is known about Buz in his early years but we pick up his life in 1928 when Reeves took his degree from Georgia Tech and headed North for a position in the research engineering department of Columbia Phonograph Co. Shortly after, Buz was appointed as special consultant to Harvard University Film Foundation, a decisive connection.



Radio 284 April 2 1928
Spark worked A.M.
Your C. W. signals heard here. Time 1:05 P.M. Date March 21
Phone
Audibility 95% Character 7 Bps Tone 0c Wave st
Receiving equipment used here Transmitter here consists of
7 circuit trans
2 steps a
Harmonical
Antenna: 4 wire
Ground: cup
Remarks: Had in calling
me using a test set without a
ground. F. B. did not test the
Very truly yours, Wm. 728
Please QSL-QR? Raymond Reeves
Wilmington, N. C.

From the onset in the early 50's when contesting really didn't have much of a stronghold in ham radio, Buz was in the thick of the battle. Known for his contest installation at Tuxedo Park NY, a powerhouse of competition on the east coast. Pictured original Reeves master control deck position in a multi band operation. Included 12 antennas and KW's for each band plus four 75A4 Collins receivers. (I only have one A4 but thankful)

Reeves met Fred Waller, Cinerama's inventor when working on a special installation for Eastman Kodak at NY's World Fair in 1939 - When Waller showed Buz an early model of Cinerama camera, Reeves began envisioning a multidimensional sound to go with it. K2GL aided Waller by investing in the process himself, through a long costly period of designing.



The onset of WW-2, Reeves and associates, founded Reeves-Ely Laboratories with special interest and design manufacturing a difficult X-ray crystal process for the U.S. Army Signal Corps. Within a year the company had contracts totaling many millions of dollars. In the duration the company had won the coveted Army-Navy "E" Award. During the course Reeves-Ely had won the "E" Award four times. Continued on Page two.

Then in 1946 the Reeves Soundcraft Corp., was organized producing recording tape and film plus many items for the TV and sound industry. He would not forget the Cinerama obligations, searching for the highest fidelity of reproduction. More than this he wanted to reproduce in sound new dimensions of the Cinerama screen.

The Cinerama success launched in 1952, Reeves as President, he and Fred Waller founder kept wonderful company with the likes of; Lowell Thomas Vice-Chair; Marian Cooper Co-producer; Michael Todd Producer; Harry Squire and Paul Mantz.

Buz Reeves was a energetic man, another passion in addition to high fidelity sound - good eating! When looking for a restaurant to meet his exacting demands for fine food, proved difficult during the war years, he opened his own. It was Café Nino, on NY's East Side, was an unqualified success. Its specialty - wild game and fish, served to sports lovers in a special club room. It would eventually evolve into another enterprise "Duck Cedar Inn" at Tuxedo, N.Y.

If K2GL had only one dimension in his gifts in engineering we probably would have never heard of him. He received a Class 2 Oscar for invention of a method of applying magnetic oxide to motion picture film in April 1954. He (Buz) looks very solemn being presented the Academy Award by actor Frederick March. He helped fund companies such as Waring Blender and many others.

Time flies when you are having fun! A surprise 80th birthday gathering for Reeves was held in 1986 Tuxedo Park, NY, CQ Manager Dick Ross K2MGA announced there the founding of the CQ Contest Hall of Fame. The first inductee was K2GL Hazard Reeves. His accomplishments were many, Ham of the Year Award; The Dayton Ham-Vention Award; Inducted into the DX Hall of Fame; The Visalia DX Convention etc. But as we are all called, Buz left us later that year in 1986 and his super station passes on along with him.



One of his dreams ended, a super station utilized to the fullest in becoming a perennial winner for the USA.

Buz was a strong ARRL supporter and donated ten Thousand to the Goldwater Scholarship fund. His estate donated most of the K2GL gear to Ga. Tech. University.

With appreciation KR2Q files and Picasa Web Album; CQ Hall of Fame; Cinerama Adventure dot com. The QTH of Hazard Buz Reeves & QSL by KR2Q Picasa Album - - W8SU 2008/2011