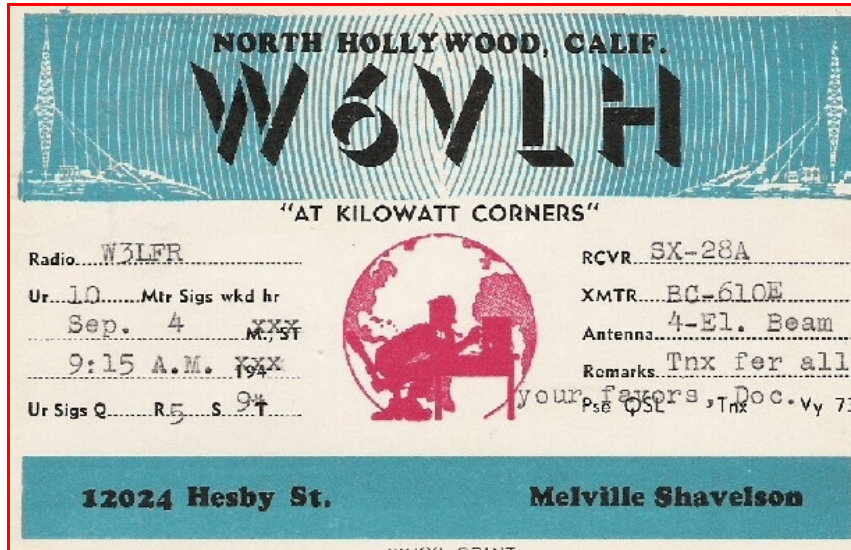


Melville Shavelson *W6VLH* *1917-2007* Born in Brooklyn NY 1917 - educated at Cornell University Ithaca, NY - Known as writer, producer, director and author, major genres comedy and drama. My guess is, Mel was very active in the W2 region but not known.



Mel after college, entered the world of press agency, then with his agency boss Milt Josefsberg wrote some comedy material and submitted it to comedian Bob Hope in 1938. Hope hired them on the spot, and though the comedian was tight with both a dollar and his praise, Shavelson remained with Hope until the late 50's.

It was the Shavelson/Josefsberg team that helped develop the Bob Hope “character” the brave coward, the impotent lover, the braggart with nothing to brag about, the man who never speaks when wise cracking will do.

Mel worked on several of Hope’s best films, including Princess and the Pirate (44) Where there’s live (47) and the Great Lover (49). By 1954 Hope’s box office was drooping, so Shavelson suggested that the comedian try a straight dramatic approach for a change. The result, The Seven Little Foys (55) and Beau James (57) both written and produced by Mel Shavelson. Continuing elsewhere with Five Pennies (59) On the Double (61) Houseboat (58) Yours Mine and Ours (68)

Shavelson on two occasions, was honored with an Academy Award nomination for Best Writing. In addition he concocted comedy scripts for Danny Kaye and Groucho Marx. Mel was the author of two humorous, revelatory books about the movie business. He was President of Writers Guild of America in 1985-1987.

It has been found that Mel enjoys some ATV nowadays! Thanks for the memories Mel! Thanks to www.w8jyz.com for the QSL card! Late entry, check out QST Oct 1971 P62 “How to make a Jewish Movie” a book by W6VLH, a station picture and art by Linn K8LAP.

