

The Millionaire

Episodes For Class:

The Freddie Howard Story aka Ralph The Cat
(Aired October 29, 1958)

Aired on Wednesday nights at 9:00PM on CBS from January 19, 1955 to June 8, 1960. There were 207 episodes filmed for this series.

The benefactor was named John Beresford Tipton. His name was derived from the birthplaces of *The Millionaire* producer **Don Fedderson** who was born in Beresford, South Dakota and his **wife Tido** who was born in Tipton, Missouri.

Seen in a cameo appearance in several episodes as a prominently featured extra was Tido Fedderson, producer Don Fedderson's wife.

The Millionaire was parodied in a 1958 episode titled Dennis Gets A Million Dollars of *The Jack Benny Program*, in which Dennis Day became a Tipton beneficiary, with Marvin Miller as Michael Anthony delivering the unexpected gift.

Since each episode featured a different beneficiary, numerous guest stars appeared during *The Millionaire's* production, including Orson Bean, Charles Bronson, Angie Dickinson, Barbara Eden, Beverly Garland, Dennis Hopper, David Janssen, Jack Lord, Lee Meriwether, Martin Milner, Mary Tyler Moore, Agnes Moorehead, Rita Moreno, Aaron Spelling, Robert Vaughn, Betty White and Dick York.

At least two professional athletes appeared on the show: basketball and baseball player Chuck Connors (who also had a career as an actor) and Hall of Fame baseball pitcher Don Drysdale.

As an additional bit of trivia, the establishing shot of "**Silverstone**" is the mansion at the corner of **Orange Grove Blvd. and Green Streets in Pasadena**, now the headquarters of **Ambassador College** and built, as a winter residence, by a late president of U.S. Steel.

Marvin Miler (Michael Anthony) - While at the Mutual Broadcasting System, he narrated a daily 15-minute radio show titled *The Story Behind The Story*, which offered historical vignettes. He also served as announcer on several Old Time Radio shows of the 1940's and 1950's, including *The Jo Stafford Show* and the mystery series *The Whistler*.

On radio, Miller played Dr. Lee Markham on *The Woman In White* and Howard Andrews in *Midstream* and appeared as "The voice of the Past" on the May 21, 1942 broadcast of *The Right To Happiness*. From 1945 to 1947, he was the announcer for *Songs By Sinatra*. He also played two characters and was the announcer on *The Billie Burke Show* from 1943 to 1946.

In 1952, Miller had a one-man program, *Armchair Adventures*, on CBS Radio. He performed "all voices and narration" in the 15-minute dramatic anthology. He also recorded 260 episodes of the 1950 program *Marvin Miller: Famous radio voice in series of five minute vignettes about famous people*. Miller also won Grammy Awards in 1965 and 1966 for his recordings of Dr. Seuss stories. In films, Miller was often cast as a villain. He portrayed a sadistic henchman in the 1947 Humphrey Bogart film *Dead Reckoning* and was Yamada in the 1945 James Cagney effort *Blood On The Sun*.

In 1946, he plays Sleepy Parsons in *Deadline At Dawn*. Miller played George "Gusty" Gustafson in the George Raft classic *Johnny Angel*.

From 1949 to 1950 he starred on the short-lived series *Mysteries of Chinatown*, with Gloria Saunders cast as his niece. In 1961, Miller guest-starred in *Bat Masterson*.

On *The Millionaire*, Miller played Michael Anthony in more than 200 episodes, conveying the wishes of the wealthy John Beresford Tipton, Jr., voiced by Paul Frees. At the height of *The Millionaire*'s popularity, Miller would hand out a check for "One million dollars ... worth of good luck," made out to the person who made the request. He was the only cast member to be seen in every episode.

Miller also crossed paths with other voice over artists many times in his career, including June Foray in the TV series *Rocky and Bullwinkle* along with Paul Frees, who voiced Boris Badenov in that program. Miller and Frees also performed in separate segments on the audio recording *Stan Freberg Presents The United States of America Volume One The Early Years*. Miller made a guest appearance in 1963 on *Perry Mason*.

His hobbies including woodworking, collecting menus, bookbinding, painting, photography and collecting rare phonograph recordings. For his contribution to the television industry, Marvin Miller has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Paul Frees (John Beresford Tipton - voice) - In the 1930s, Frees first appeared in vaudeville as an impressionist, under the name Buddy Green. He began his career on radio in 1942 and remained active for more than 40 years. During that time, he was involved in more than 250 films, cartoons and television appearances. His appearances were often uncredited.

He appeared on Hollywood radio series, including *Escape*, playing lead roles and alternating with William Conrad as the opening announcer of *Suspense* in the late 1940's. He also performed parts on *Gunsmoke* (doing an impersonation of Howard McNear as Doc Adams for at least one episode) and *Crime Classics*. One of his few starring roles in this medium was in the 1949 series *The Green Lama*.

Frees worked extensively with at least nine of the major animation production companies of the 20th century: Walt Disney Productions, Warner Bros. Cartoons, Walter Lantz Productions, UPA, Hanna-Barbera Productions, Filmation, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, DePatie-Freleng Enterprises, Jay Ward Productions, Rankin/Bass and Ruby-Spears.

Frees also provided voices for numerous characters at Disney parks such as the unseen "Ghost Host" at the Haunted Mansion Attraction. For the Pirates of the Caribbean, Frees recorded the iconic "Dead Men Tell No Tales" used in the ride. Frees also provided narration for the Tomorrowland attraction Adventure Thru Inner Space and the original Great Moments with Mr. Lincoln.

Frees was a regular in Jay Ward cartoons, providing the voices of Boris Badenov from *The Rocky and Bullwinkle Show*, Inspector Fenwick from *Dudley Do-Right*, Ape, District Commissioner Alistair and Weevil Plumtree in *George of the Jungle* and the Hoppity Hooper narrator, among numerous others.

On *The Millionaire*, the voice of the unseen John Beresford Tipton was played by Paul Frees in an uncredited role. Frees also appeared on camera in two episodes of this series: *The Thorne Sisters Story* and *The Nancy Wellington Story*.

Although Frees was primarily known for his voice work (like Mel Blanc, he was known in the industry as "The Man of a Thousand Voices"), he was also a songwriter and screenwriter.

Loie Bridge (Amanda Comfort) - She made a very small number of appearances in films and television over a 38 year period. Bridge was an actress who known for *Thriller*, *Single-Handed Sanders* and *O, My Darling Clementine*. She did have three guest roles on *The Farmer's Daughter* television series.

Del Moore (Freddie Howard) - co-starred in *Life with Elizabeth* with Betty White. He also had a morning radio program at local Los Angeles station KMPC radio. Moore appeared in several episodes of *Dragnet*, *Adam-12* and was a regular on *Bachelor Father*. Additionally, he was seen on *The Addams Family*, *F-Troop* and *Get Smart*. During the late 1950's, he was the host of a daily children's program as well as hosting the *Late Late Show* on KTTV Channel 11 in Los Angeles. He was a close friend of Jerry Lewis and appeared in many of his solo films during the 1960s. Moore is best remembered for his role as Dr. Warfield in Lewis's *The Nutty Professor*. For his work on television, Del Moore received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame located at 6405 Hollywood Blvd. on February 8, 1960.

Charles Lane (Simon Whipple) - was born Charles Gerstle Levison in San Francisco. It has been noted that he was one of the last survivors of that city's famous 1906 earthquake.

He made his film debut in an uncredited appearance as a hotel clerk in *Smart Money* starring Edward G. Robinson and James Cagney. His career would soon change as he made 23 films in 1933.

Soon after, he was known for being the cranky, annoying character in films such as *Twentieth Century*, *You Can't Take It With You*, *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*, *It's A Wonderful Life*, *No Time For Sergeants*, *Mr. Deeds Goes To Town*, *Arsenic and Old Lace* and *State Of The Union*. Among his countless number of television credits are *Topper*, *The Real McCoys*, *The Many Loves Of Dobie Gillis*, *I Love Lucy*, *Mister Ed*, *Bewitched*, *Get Smart*, *Gomer Pyle: USMC*, *The Munsters*, *Green Acres*, *The Flying Nun* and *Maude*.

During his 65 year career, he made 378 film and television appearances. Lane was honored on March 16, 2005 at the TVLand Awards for his long career and his 100th birthday. When he received his award, he said in his still-booming voice, "In case anyone's interested, I'm still available!"

Jean Willes (Judy Bennett) - In 1942, Willes started showing up in comedy film shorts for Columbia Studios under her birth name, Jean Donahue. She was a smart, sexy foil to Harry Langdon, The Three Stooges, Andy Clyde, Eddie Foy Jr., Joe DeRita, Sterling Holloway and Hugh Herbert. Willes had small roles in the feature length films *So Proudly We Hail!*, *Here Come The Waves* and *Salty O'Rourke*. At this point in her career, she began to receive co-star status in such films as *Revenue Agent*, *A Yank In Indo-China* and in one of Johnny Weissmuller's *Jungle Jim* series. Other feature roles include *Son Of Paleface*, *From Here To Eternity*, *Invasion Of The Body Snatchers* and *The King and Four Queens*.

In television, She could be seen in *Richard Diamond - Private Detective*, *The George Burns and Gracie Allen Show*, *The Great Gildersleeve*, *The Twilight Zone*, *Bonanza*, *The Munsters*, *Perry*

Mason, and Walt Disney's *Zorro*. During her 34 year career, Willes had over 200 credits to her name.

Richard Reeves (Officer Tully) - For nearly 25 years and 228 roles, Reeves had the distinction of being the most popular gangster and/or thug in television series based on comic books such as *Superman* and *Batman*. Some of his other "non-bad guy" credits include roles on *I Love Lucy*, *Mr. Ed*, *The Roy Rogers Show*, *Four Star Playhouse*, *The Lone Ranger*, *Zorro*, *Sugarfoot*, *Maverick*, *Tales of Wells Fargo*, *Bat Masterson*, *Tombstone Territory*, *TV Reader's Digest* and *Date With The Angels*.

Terrence Williams (Alfredo) - This appearance in *The Millionaire* is the only known credit this person had.

Edit Angold (Mrs. Shelton) - She began her acting career on the German stage and emigrated to the United States in 1924. Angold settled in New York in 1932. While living in Los Angeles in 1940, she had an busy career on stage, film, radio and television in programs such as *The Adventures Of Jim Bowie*, *Cimarron City*, *Peter Gunn*, *Pete and Gladys* plus *The Alfred Hitchcock Hour*.

Tido Fedderson (Mother of Crying Boy) - This was one of her 165 uncredited appearances on *The Millionaire*.

REFERENCES

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Wikipedia

Continued on next page

How To Marry A Millionaire Notes

Episode for Class: The Method - aired July 30, 1959

Aired in syndication and on the NTA (National Telefilm Associates) Film Network from October 7, 1957 to August 20, 1959. A total of 52 episodes were filmed for this series which was based on the 1953 film of the same name starring Marilyn Monroe, Lauren Bacall and Betty Grable.

The original, unaired pilot episode was shot in Spring 1957. Lori Nelson appeared as Greta Lindquist (the character's last name was later changed to Hanson), Loco Jones was played by Charlotte Austin and Doe Avedon (ex-wife of photographer Richard Avedon) portrayed Mike McCall. After the series was sold, Charlotte Austin's and Doe Avedon's roles were recast. When all three major networks passed on the series, National Telefilm Associates and 20th Century-Fox Television (which owned part of the series) sold and distributed the series to 115 independent syndicated channels.

Lori Nelson's character was written out and a new character, Gwen Kirby (Lisa Gaye), was added to the cast. Nelson later said she chose to quit the show stating, "I felt that I was the biggest of the three actresses in terms of star status...I felt that I needed to move on. I didn't need to be stuck in that little series that was in syndication." However, Nelson's co-star Merry Anders said that Nelson was fired. According to Anders, the series' entire first season, 39 episodes, was shot before the series debuted on television. While promoting the series shortly before its debut, Nelson gave an interview in which she reported that she was disappointed with her role.

She stated that she felt her role was not as well defined as that of her co-stars, who were more clearly based on their film counterparts (Mike McCall was patterned after Lauren Bacall's role while Barbara Eden's character was a combination of the Betty Grable and Marilyn Monroe role). Anders stated that when the series' production company, National Telefilm Associates, got wind of Nelson's remarks, they fired her. After Nelson's departure, her character was written out by having her marry a gas station owner and relocating to California.

The series was filmed at 20th Century Fox Studios - 10201 Pico Blvd., Century City, Los Angeles, California.

The characters: Mike (Merry Anders) works in a stockbroker's office, while Greta (Lori Nelson) is employed as a hostess on a television quiz show called Go For Broke, seen on the United Telecasters network. Kindhearted and naive Loco (Barbara Eden), is pursuing a modeling career, but without her glasses, she is so nearsighted that she can't distinguish between the elevator button and the fire alarm.

Barbara Eden (Loco Jones) - was born Barbara Jean Morehead in Tucson, Arizona. Eden's first public performance was singing in the church choir. As Barbara Huffman, she was elected Miss San Francisco in 1951 and entered the Miss California pageant.

Eden began her television career as a semi-regular on *The Johnny Carson Show* in 1955. She also made numerous featured appearances on shows such as *I Love Lucy*, *The Millionaire*, *Perry Mason*, *Gunsmoke*, *December Bride*, *Bachelor Father*, *The Andy Griffith Show*, *The Virginian* and *Slattery's People*.

She guest starred in four episodes of *Burke's Law*, playing different roles each time. Next, Eden co-starred in the television series *How To*

Marry A Millionaire. There were about 70 actresses who auditioned for the roles of Loco and Mike before the producers chose Barbara Eden and Merry Anders.

20th Century Fox studios had her make a screen test for the role of Betty Anderson in the 1957 film version of *Peyton Place*, but Terry Moore got the role. She also played in a supporting role as Lt. Cathy Connors in Irwin Allen's *Voyage To The Bottom Of The Sea*. Eden starred in *The Wonderful World Of The Brothers Grimm* for MGM and *Five Weeks In A Balloon* in 1962 for 20th Century Fox.

In 1965, producer Sidney Sheldon signed Eden to star in his sitcom *I Dream Of Jeannie*. Sheldon had seen Eden in *The Brass Bottle* and received numerous recommendations for Eden from various colleagues. Eden played Jeannie in this role for five years and 139 episodes.

Additionally, Barbara Eden headlined major hotel resorts and casinos including Lake Tahoe, Atlantic City and Las Vegas. She also was the star attraction at the MGM Grand, Harrah's, Caesar's Palace and on concert stages and legitimate theaters across the country. She has starred in the national touring musicals *The Sound of Music*, *Last Of The Red Hot Lovers*, *The Best Little Whorehouse In Texas* and *Annie Get Your Gun*.

She has been honored with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and was named one of TV Guide's Most Popular Comedy Stars. She has received Lifetime Achievement Awards from the Broadcasters Hall of Fame, The Hollywood Chamber of Commerce and the TV Land Television Network.

Merry Anders (Michelle "Mike" McCall) - was born Mary Helen Anderson. She made her film debut in the 1951 musical *Golden Girl*. In 1954, Anders joined the cast of *The Stu Erwin Show* where she remained with the series until its cancellation in 1955. In 1956, Anders took over the role of "Rita Malone" (made popular by Jayne Mansfield) in the West Coast touring production of the Broadway hit *Will Success Spoil Rock Hunter?*. By 1957, Anders had landed the role of Mike McCall in the syndicated sitcom *How To Marry A Millionaire*. The first season was fairly successful and it was renewed for a second, abbreviated season. It was cancelled in 1959.

During the early to mid 1960's, she continued her career with mainly supporting film roles and guest spots on television in programs such as *Surfside 6*, *Alfred Hitchcock Presents*, *Hawaiian Eye*, *Death Valley Days*, *77 Sunset Strip*, and *Perry Mason*.

From 1967 to 1968, she appeared in seven episodes of Jack Webb's *Dragnet* series in which she played policewoman Dorothy Miller. She also appeared in a recurring role on *Lassie*.

Lori Nelson (Greta Hansen) - (Season 1) - began her career at the age of two, appearing in local theater productions. At the age of five, she won the title of "Little Miss America".

In 1950, she was signed to a seven-year contract with Universal-International where she made her film debut in the 1952 western *Bend Of The River*. She also appeared as "Rosie Kettle" in the comedy film *Ma and Pa Kettle At The Fair*, followed by a supporting role in *Francis Goes To West Point*. In 1955, Nelson guest starred in two episodes of *It's A Great Life* and reprised her role as "Rosie Kettle" in *Ma and Pa Kettle At Waikiki*. That same year, she co-starred in the

Creature From The Black Lagoon sequel *Revenge Of The Creature* and *Underwater*!

In November 1957, Nelson co-starred with Van Johnson in the television movie *The Pied Piper Of Hamelin*. Also in 1957, she was cast in one of the three lead roles in the syndicated sitcom *How To Marry A Millionaire*. Nelson opted to leave the series after the first season and her character was written out.

After leaving the series, Nelson continued with guest roles on *Wagon Train*, *Tales Of Wells Fargo*, *The Tab Hunter Show*, *Bachelor Father* and *Armstrong Circle Theatre*. She took a 10-year break from acting in 1961 and returned with a guest role in *Family Affair* in 1971. She made only three on-screen appearances in the 1990's. Her last role was in the 2005 low-budget science fiction horror film *The Naked Monster*, in which she reprised her role from *Revenge Of The Creature*.

Lisa Gaye (Gwen Kirby) - (Season 2) - was born Leslie Gaye Griffin. Her mother was determined that Lisa and her siblings make their careers in show business. Her siblings, Judith (Teala Loring), Debralee (Debra Paget) and Frank (Ruell Shayne) all entered the business as either cast or crew.

She made her first professional film appearance at the age of 7. At 17, she signed a seven-year contract with Universal Studios. Her first starring role was in *Drums Across The River* in 1954.

Among her television appearances were three episodes of *The George Burns and Gracie Allen Show* in 1956, 13 episodes of *The Bob Cummings Show*, five episodes each of *Hawaiian Eye* and *77 Sunset Strip*, two episodes of *Bourbon Street Beat*, seven episodes of *Perry*

Mason and eleven episodes of *Death Valley Days*, along with several episodes of *Sea Hunt* and an episode of *Colt .45*. With almost 100 film and television credits, she is best known for her role of "Gwen Kirby" in 13 episodes of *How To Marry A Millionaire*. Her final television appearance was in an episode of *The Mod Squad* in January of 1970.

Ron Ely (Philip Jackson) - has played three fictional adventure characters: *Tarzan* in the 1966 television series, *Doc Savage*, a 1975 film and *Superman* in a guest role on the 1988 *Superboy* series. As *Tarzan*, he refused to use a stunt double in his vine swinging or animal fights. As a result, he was injured quite often.

In a much different role, he was the host of the [Miss America](#) pageant telecast in 1980 and 1981.

Ely made five guest appearances in episodes of *Fantasy Island*. Ely also starred in the series *The Aquanauts* in 1960–1961 and the western adventure film *The Night Of The Grizzly*. During the 1980's, he hosted the musical game show *Face The Music*. Additionally, Ely starred in a 1987–1988 revival of the 1960's adventure series *Sea Hunt* as Mike Nelson. Ely retired from acting in 2001, but he returned to acting with an appearance in the television movie *Expecting Amish* in 2014.

Alexander Campbell (Silas Jackson) - His career began in 1933 with many uncredited roles in films. By the 1950's, he was regularly appearing television programs such as *The Great Gildersleeve*, *The George Burns and Gracie Allen Show*, *The People's Choice*, *Perry Mason* and *77 Sunset Strip*. He also played Dr. W. Gregory Harcourt in the 1959 feature film *Anatomy Of A Murder*.

Gordon Polk (Mr. Coleman) - began his career singing in films with the Jimmy Dorsey band in the 1940's. Among his 24 film and television credits are *Richard Diamond, Private Detective*, *Have Gun Will Travel*, *Wanted: Dead Or Alive* and *The Real McCoys*.

Michael Quinlivan (Jim Frazer) - had an extremely brief career in front of the camera appearing in television programs *It Takes A Thief*, *How To Marry A Millionaire* and an uncredited role in *Breakfast At Tiffany's*.

Leslie Denison (Charles) - His career, which began in 1940, lasted for almost 50 years. He was also an actor who voiced Donald Duck's look-a-like. Plus, Denison was known for his roles in *The Black Arrow*, *The Bandit of Sherwood Forest* and *The Fighting O'Flynn*.

Frank Mills (Bum) - began his career in silent films. From 1926 to 1962, Mills had 430 film and television roles (many of them uncredited) on his résumé. Some of his films appearances were in *King Kong*, *The Gold Diggers Of 1933*, *You Can't Take It With You*, *Kitty Foyle* and *Sullivan's Travels*. On television, he played a variety of characters in *The Barbara Stanwyck Show*, *Perry Mason*, *Laramie* and *The Untouchables*. He finished his career with six appearances on episodes of *Gunsmoke*.

Jack Chefe (Waiter) - He too, started off working in silent and early sound films in uncredited roles in comedies with Charley Chase and Laurel & Hardy. Among his nearly 400 credits include film roles in *A Night At The Opera*, *My Man Godfrey*, *Swing Time*, *Rhapsody In Blue*, *The Big Sleep* and *Ma and Pa Kettle Go To Town*. In television, he was usually a butler, waiter or headwaiter in *The Mickey Rooney Show*,

Maverick, *77 Sunset Strip*, *Perry Mason*, *The Ann Southern Show* and *The Millionaire*. His career spanned from 1928 to 1963.

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