

## Make Room For Daddy

**Make Room For Daddy** (Pilot Episode For *The Andy Griffith Show*) Danny Meets Andy Griffith: Aired on CBS, Monday evening at 9:00PM on February 15, 1960.

This episode starred Danny Thomas, Marjorie Lord, Rusty Hamer and Angela Cartwright.

Filmed on Stage 5 at the Desilu-Cahuenga Studios - 846 North Cahuenga Blvd., Los Angeles, California.

*The Danny Thomas Show* also created spin-offs for *The Joey Bishop Show* (1961) and *The Bill Dana Show* (1963).

The pilot episode did not have Barney Fife or any other deputy.

**Ronny Howard** is seen as Sheriff Taylor's son, Opie.

**Frances Bavier** who would eventually play Aunt Bee, was in the pilot as a local citizen named Mrs. Henrietta Perkins. Aunt Bee arrived in the first episode of season one.

**Frank Cady** was Will Hoople, the town drunk in this episode before Hal Smith took over the role as Otis Campbell who arrived in the second episode of season one. Frank Cady is best remembered as Doc Williams on *The Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet*, as Sam Drucker on *Petticoat Junction* and *Green Acres*.

Ronny Howard's father (**Rance**) appears as a television crewman in the pilot. He would make make four other appearances in different roles during the show's run.

**The Andy Griffith Show** - Episode Title: Andy The Marriage Counselor aired on CBS, Monday evening at 9:30PM on February 6, 1961.

The opening credits scene of Andy and Opie walking together were filmed at Franklin Canyon Park (about 5 miles from Rodeo Drive), a public park located near Benedict Canyon at the eastern end of the Santa Monica Mountains. The actual address is 2600 Franklin Canyon Drive, Beverly Hills, California. This location is about eight miles from the Beverly Hillbillies Mansion.

Interior scenes of The Andy Griffith Show were filmed on stages 1 and 2 at **Desilu-Cahuenga Studios** located at 846 North Cahuenga Blvd. in Hollywood. Today, this location is known as the Red Studios.

Exteriors of the town for The Andy Griffith Show were filmed on 40 Acres backlot at the Desilu Studios - 9336 W. Washington Blvd., Culver City, California.

This location was originally known as the **Thomas Ince Studios** in 1919.

**Cecil B. DeMille** used this backlot beginning in 1926 in feature films such as *King Of Kings* and *The Godless Girl*.

In 1937, **David O. Selznick** leased the studio. His most memorable film made at this location was *Gone With The Wind*.

**Howard Hughes** bought this location in 1948. This backlot was also used for scenes from television's Superman in the 1950's. Desilu took over the property in 1958.

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## **Andy Griffith Show Theme Song**

The Fishin' Hole Lyrics (Andy Griffith Show Theme)  
Music written by Earle Hagen and Herbert Spencer.  
Lyrics written by **Everett Sloane**

Album released in 1962

In the second-season episode "The Keeper of the Flame," **Everett Sloane** portrayed farmer and moonshiner Jubal Foster.

**Andy Griffith** - made his television debut in 1955 as Will Stockdale in the United States Steel Hour teleplay *No Time For Sergeants*. Griffith made his film debut in *A Face In The Crowd* in 1957. He reprised his role as Will Stockdale in the 1958 film version of *No Time For Sergeants*, this time with Don Knotts as Corporal John C. Brown.

**Don Knotts** - called Griffith during the developmental stages of the show and suggested the Sheriff needed a deputy. Griffith agreed and Knotts auditioned for the show's creator and executive producer, Sheldon Leonard. He was offered a five-year contract playing Barney Fife. The last name of Fife\* came from a street a little over a mile away from where Knotts went to Morgantown High School in West Virginia.

\*Fife was in honor of William Fife of Charleston, West Virginia. He was promoted to the rank of Lt. Colonel in 1864 during the Civil War.

**Ronny Howard** - In 1959, Howard had his first credited film role in *The Journey*. He appeared in June Allyson's CBS anthology

series *The DuPont Show with June Allyson* in the episode "Child Lost"; in *The Twilight Zone* episode "Walking Distance"; a few episodes of the first season of the sitcom *Dennis the Menace*, as Stewart, one of Dennis's friends; and several first and second season episodes of *The Many Loves of Dobie Gillis*.

He made a memorable appearance in *The Music Man* with Robert Preston and Shirley Jones as Winthrop Paroo, the younger brother of Marian "The Librarian" Paroo.

In the years since *The Andy Griffith Show*, Howard starred in the popular television series *Happy Days* and has become a very successful film director with more than 40 credits including an Academy Award win as the director of *A Beautiful Mind*.

Andy Griffith named his television son "Opie Taylor" after Opie Cates\*, whom Griffith and producer Sheldon Leonard both liked.

\*Cates was featured on radio with his own band in the 1930's and became the star of his own radio sitcom, *The Opie Cates Show* on ABC in 1947–1948. Cates was also musical director of the NBC radio show *Meet Me at Parkey's* (1945), starring Parkyakarkus and of *Granby's Green Acres*, a 1950 CBS radio show that later inspired the television series *Green Acres*.

**Frances Bavier** - From 1954 to 1956, she appeared in 62 episodes of *It's A Great Life* which starred James Dunn, William Bishop and Michael O'Shea. She stayed on for two more years as Aunt Bee in *Mayberry RFD* for 24 episodes after *The Andy Griffith Show* ended in 1968.

Her first Broadway appearance was in April 1925 in "The Poor Nut", the start of a successful Broadway career. She traveled with the USO to entertain the U.S. troops in the Pacific during World War II. Her last appearance on Broadway was in the 1951 play, "Point of No Return" starring Henry Fonda. It ran for 356 performances.

**Jesse White** - was born Jesse Marc Weidenfeld in Buffalo, New York and was raised in Akron, Ohio.

He is known for playing the sanitarium orderly Wilson in the story "Harvey" about the invisible rabbit on the stage in New York and in the movie with James Stewart. White was also part of an all-star cast in Stanley Kramer's *It's a Mad Mad Mad Mad World*.

In 1967, the 50-year-old Jesse White would be television's second and longest running Maytag Repairman in a long series of commercials from 1968-1989. He was replaced by Gordon Jump from WKRP in Cincinnati. White's final appearance was in the film *Matinee* from 1993.

**Claudia Bryar** - born Hortense Rizley, Claudia Bryar is perhaps best known for her role as Mrs. Emma Spool in *Psycho II* (1983). She played small parts in mostly Western television series such as *Wanted Dead or Alive*, *Gunsmoke* and *Bonanza*. Bryar also appeared in sitcoms like *The Real McCoys*, *The Bob Newhart Show*, *Gomer Pyle, U.S.M.C.*, and *The Twilight Zone* (Episode: "Mute"). She also had a small role in *Leave It To Beaver* episode "Community Chest" (5/13/1961). She can be seen in small roles in such films as *I Was A Teenage Frankenstein* (1957). Her career ended with her role of Mrs. Prince in *Hill Street Blues* in 1986.

**Forrest Lewis** - can be seen in six episodes of *The Andy Griffith Show*. Guest spots on *The Real McCoys*, *The Dick Van Dyke Show*, *Dennis The Menace* and *Maverick* as various characters were among his 112 credits.

**Norman Levitt** - Of his 235 film and television credits, he made multiple appearances on television shows such as *Perry Mason*, *Laramie*, *December Bride*, *Alfred Hitchcock Presents* and *Wagon Train*.

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After *The Andy Griffith Show*, Griffith starred in the short lived series titled *Headmaster*. He was also featured in two mini-series: *Washington: Behind Closed Doors* and *Centennial*. Another short lived series called *Salvage 1*, ran for only 19 episodes.

From 1986 to 1995, Griffith found television success once again starring as criminal defense attorney Ben Matlock in the series, *Matlock*. After this series ended, Griffith reprised his role as Ben Matlock in the two part episode of *Diagnosis Murder* starring Dick Van Dyke in 1997.

**Don Knotts** played a recurring character named Les Calhoun on Andy Griffith's *Matlock* making 17 appearances on the show.

Other alumni from *The Andy Griffith Show* who appeared on *Matlock* were Betty Lynn (Thelma Lou) - 4 episodes as Ben Matlock's secretary, Aneta Corsault (Helen Crump) - 10 episodes, Jack Dodson (Howard Sprague) - 1 episode and Ron Howard's mother, Jean Speegle Howard - 1 episode.

## **Andy Griffith Statue**

A bronze statue of Sheriff Andy Taylor (Andy Griffith) and his young son, Opie (Ronny Howard), depicts the scene where father and son are walking a dirt road with their fishing poles during the opening sequence and theme song of the show. The monument is located on 218 Rockford St. in Mount Airy, North Carolina. Mt. Airy native Andy Griffith, who was 78 years old at the time, was present at the unveiling ceremony.

**Dedication date:** 9/24/2004 **Creator:** Stuart Williamson, Sculptor

## **Don Knotts Statue**

The Don Knotts statue was unveiled in Morgantown in July 2016 to honor the Morgantown, West Virginia native. The statue can be found at 371 High Street in front of the Metropolitan Theatre in Morgantown. Knotts' daughter, Karen, was on hand to unveil the statue.

**Dedication date:** 7/23/2016 **Sculptor:** Jamie Lester

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### **REFERENCES:**

Internet Movie Database

Wikipedia

Andy & Don by Daniel de Visé