

A 1940s Radio Christmas Carol Character Descriptions

Clifton Feddington, 55: Front man for WOV's Nash-Kelvinator Mystery Theatre, Mutual Announcer. Wears wire-frame glasses like Glenn Miller. Known for being cheap. Has a crush on Judith.

William St. Claire, 70: A retired star of stage and screen. With a great mane of dramatic white hair, William is a bit of a curmudgeon and looks down on radio as one of the bastard children of the stage. William's 31-year-old son David was killed in the Air Force in France in June 1943. A guest performer in tonight's show, Mr. St. Claire plays Scrooge.

Charles "Cholly" Butts, 35: A funny man. Has a day job as a baker at Weequahic Diner (where his specialty is the nesselrode pie). A little stout. Lives in Jersey City with his wife, Midge, has no kids, and has a hopeless and unrequited crush on Margie.

Fritz Canigliaro, early 40s: Once an East-coast Florsheim Shoe salesman (and still plugs them whenever he gets an opportunity for a little commission), now a WOV regular. The resident masher, cynic and wise-guy, Fritz plays Frank Nelson cameos in comedy sketches.

"Little" Jackie Sparks, Tenor, 18: Not actually "little," but young with a high speaking voice. Having just graduated from high school, Jackie lives with his mom in suburban Newark. Calls home probably a dozen times a day. Teased a lot. Still has a Sunday paper route.

Judith Davenport, 30s: Although quite the cutup herself, Judith is the resident "leading lady" playing all such roles as a regular. Has two kids and two ex's and wants no more of either. Determined and stubborn. Considers herself a "legit" actress. Day job working as a switchboard operator.

Margie O'Brien, 30: Brassy, flippant, with a voice to match (think Ginger Rogers in "Stage Door"). As a show regular, plays the comic roles. This Irish-American comedienne lives with her two sisters, Zazu and Vi, in a two-room apartment in Queens. She works days as a bookkeeper/typist/stenographer/receptionist.

Sally Simpson, 20: Seems sweet and gentle, but is a tough lady. Lives on the lower East side of Manhattan. As a show regular, plays all animals, babies, insects, little kids. Makes the long train ride to Babylon, Long Island, three days a week, to contribute to the war effort by working for Republic Aviation operating drill presses and riveting guns. Always trying to recruit the other WOV women to join "the cause."

Isadore "Buzz" Crenshaw, 24: His life is his work. The "sound effectician" at WOV. Has a sharp wit and is always agreeable, whistling, and in a good mood. Born and raised in Bayonne by his Aunts Lulu and Gilly. Wears an FDR button. Spends a lot of time with Sally Simpson. Buzz lives alone.

(continued)

Toots Navarre: *This role has been cast.*

Esther Lewis Pirnie - Backstage audio engineer and transmitter supervisor for WOV Radio.

Harold J. Mullins - Concierge of the Hotel Aberdeen in Newark.