



# International Jack Benny Fan Club

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **39 MAN MARCH** **SET FOR FEBRUARY 14<sup>TH</sup> IN WASHINGTON, D.C.** **TO ADVOCATE FOR JACK BENNY 39-CENT STAMP**

February 14 is best known as Valentines' Day, but is also the birthday of legendary comedian Jack Benny who was perpetually 39 years old. And on this day in Washington, D.C., Benny fans will conduct "**The 39 Man March**" to show their support for honoring Benny on a 39-cent U.S. postage stamp.

The campaign to get Benny on a stamp bearing the number forever associated with him has been in progress for almost two months, and has garnered strong support from across the nation. Celebrities such as Leonard Maltin; comedians David Brenner, Phyllis Diller, and Arte Johnson; columnists Mark Evanier and Garry Kling; and even fantasy author Neil Gaiman have endorsed the effort. The City of Waukegan, Benny's home town, has mobilized behind the effort, including a school-wide student letter-writing campaign at Jack Benny Middle School. An online petition has garnered over 2,600 signatures and continues to grow daily.

The 39 Man March will feature a procession of Benny fans from the Washington Monument to the U.S. Capitol, with a rally at the Capitol to show their support for a Jack Benny 39-cent stamp. Meetings will then be held with members of Congress who have endorsed the stamp, which has inspired bipartisan support.

Waukegan Mayor Richard H. Hyde will be among the Benny marchers. "Not only is Jack Benny known for being 39 years old, he also put Waukegan on the map," said Hyde. "When I was in the service and told people I was from Waukegan, they always said, 'Oh, Jack Benny's from there!' We still love his humor."

Laura Leff, President of the International Jack Benny Fan Club said, "We have seen the strong positive support for the stamp from the public at large. Just saying 'Jack Benny on a 39-cent stamp' brings smiles and enthusiasm. The 39 Man March will help reinforce the political backing of the effort, and demonstrate to the U.S. Postal Service that people truly want this stamp."

Stamp supporters can sign the online petition at [www.jackbenny.org](http://www.jackbenny.org), or write letters directly to the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee in Alexandria, Virginia.

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For further information, please contact Laura Leff of the International Jack Benny Fan Club at [president@jackbenny.org](mailto:president@jackbenny.org) ; or Michael Levine at [MLevine@LCOonline.com](mailto:MLevine@LCOonline.com). Additional information is also enclosed below.

*About the Levine Communications Office:*

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*About the International Jack Benny Fan Club:*

The International Jack Benny Fan Club (IJBFC) has been in operation since 1980, and has over 2,200 members in 19 countries. It is widely regarded in comedy and nostalgia circles as one of the most extensive groups of its kind. For full details, please see the IJBFC Web site at [www.jackbenny.org](http://www.jackbenny.org).