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**1984 Convention Update, by Mike Biel**

This is the start of a new feature of the ARSC Newsletter. In the past there have been complaints that members were not kept informed of the plans for the following years' conventions. This has often been caused by delays in setting the dates. Often the first notice members get is in the registration packet mailing. Another complaint heard occasionally concerns how program items are selected and suggested.

In order to alleviate these problems we will include a "Convention Update" in every issue of the newsletter. In this way all members will be kept up-to-date. If there is nothing new to report we will tell you that there is nothing new to report! But this time there is something new to report, so here it is.

The 1984 ARSC Annual Conference is tentatively scheduled for May 7-9 at Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio. This is the home of the Popular Culture Center and the Sound Recordings Archive. Local arrangements will be handled by William L. Schurk. Both Bill and the collection were outlined in the current issue of the ARSC Journal, Vol. XIV, No. 3 (1982).

The Program Chairman is the new Second Vice President, Michael Biel, who is also going to be the author of these Convention Updates. There recently have been some discussions as to why ARSC does not have an announced "Call for Papers." This is because, unlike most organizations, ARSC has a set executive position whose sole function is Program Chairman. Thus, effectively there is a 365 day-a-year "Call for Papers." If you will check your calendars, you will note that this is in effect right now! (In fact, I am going to make an exception to this rule and allow an extra day for submissions on Feb. 29, 1984. This exception will not come again until 1988, so take advantage of it!)

We are always looking for ideas, suggestions, and volunteers for papers, presentations, panel discussions. If you feel that some area has been underrepresented in the past, you can help solve this dilemma by doing some research on the area yourself or bringing the shortcomings to my attention. I am hoping that we can have papers on all areas such as classical music, popular music, jazz, ethnic recordings, spoken word/documentary, humor, record industry history, technical matters, cataloging/collecting. I want all areas represented, if possible.

As a final point, I would like to express my concern that all presentations be authoritative and fully researched. ARSC has a reputation for excellence. Our membership includes the world authorities in many areas; many are noted researchers. While there are differences of opinion occasionally (that's what makes it fun!), all presentations are based on expertise. I do not want to scare off any potential submissions with these comments, only to remind everyone of what ARSC stands for. I do hope that all presentations will reflect a little more research than just getting off the chair and lifting a selection of records off the shelf!

My address is Dr. Michael Biel, Route 5, Box 174, Quail Hollow Road, Morehead, KY 40351. I'll be looking forward to hearing from all interested parties.

ARSC officers for 1983-84 are: Tim Brooks, President; Michael Gray, 1st VP & President Elect; Michael Biel, 2nd VP; J. F. Weber, Treasurer; Louise Spear, Secretary; Samuel Brylawski, Publications; David Hamilton & Mildred Fargo, Members-at-Large; Les Waffan, Executive Secretary. Les Gerber has been appointed by Tim Brooks as chairman of the newly established Publicity Committee. Barbara Sawka will continue as chair of the Membership Committee. And, as Mike Biel pointed out above, William Shurck will be local arrangements chairman for the 1984 meeting in Bowling Green, Ohio.

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Hal C. Birdsall, ARSC member and devoted collector of Len Spencer and Peter Dawson recordings, died on April 19, 1983 at 37 after a terminal illness. He will surely be missed by his friends and fellow ARSC members. Hal gave unselfishly to any collector needing help. He last resided in San Juan Capistrano, CA. The Les Spencer legacy Hal left is now in the Library of Congress. (Steve Ramm, Philadelphia, PA)

### LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES, MUSEUMS

Because the archives of the Dresden Philharmonic were destroyed in the great air raid of 1945, the orchestra has none of the recordings which it made before that event. Readers who have pre-1945 recordings which they are willing to share in some manner with the orchestra should contact Dr. habil. Dieter Haertwig, Stellv. Kuenstlerischer Leiter, Dresden Philharmonie, Kulturpalast am Altmarkt, 8012 Dresden, People's Republic of Germany. Letters to Dr. Haertwig can be in English; his replies will be in German and require translation. (This item supplied by ARSC member Kenneth DeKay, R.D.1-Box 542, Esperance, NY 12066 who would appreciate being mentioned in any correspondence readers have with Dr. Haertwig re this matter.)

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The Music Library of Southern Methodist University has been given a large opera collection on open reel audio tapes which considerably strengthens its holdings in this area. Formed by the late Dominic Femiano, a biochemist at the University of Rochester for many years, the collection comes to SMU via a long time friend of Dr. Femiano's, Gary Barragato. The Femiano-Barragato Collection contains some 1100 tapes, primarily of operas, both well-known and obscure. Many of these are air-checks of radio performances from the U.S. and Europe, and a number of the operas have never been available on commercial recordings. The more esoteric items number around 200 but constitute less than one-third of the collection, the remainder consisting of performances of the more standard repertoire. While there are a number of pre-World War II recordings in the collection, the tapes are strongest in performances after 1950. For further information contact Robert Skinner, SMU, Division of Music, Dallas, TX 75275.

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The University of Alabama in Birmingham houses its media materials in its Instructional Resources Center; all standard formats are included. Since 1981, it has acquired video and microcomputer discs. It has over 600 titles of 78s from a private donor which have yet to be cataloged; the records will not be circulated but will be taped for use by patrons. Many of the 78s are from the recording period prior to 1925. If any Newsletter readers have worked on such a project, Carolyn Catalon, Cataloger, Sterne Library, UAB, Birmingham, AL 35294 would be interested in sharing information.

The GERHARDT MARIMBA XYLOPHONE COLLECTION is a unique and comprehensive accumulation of marimba and xylophone lore. It includes literature, phonograph and tape recordings, catalogs, music, methods, pictures, correspondence, personal reminiscences and miscellaneous information. The GERHARDT LIBRARY OF MUSICAL INFORMATION is a representative collection of music literature, phonograph and tape recordings, pictures and artifacts. It includes special sections on Thomas Alva Edison and the phonograph, John Philip Sousa and bands, old popular songs and percussion. Most of the material is out of print and hard to find. Direct all correspondence and phone calls to the curator, Edwin L. Gerhardt, 4926 Leeds Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21227 (301-242-0328).

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NARA NEWS, A JOURNAL OF OLD TIME RADIO, official publication of the North American Radio Archives, celebrated its 10th anniversary with the spring 1983 issue (volume 11/1) all decked out in a golden cover. The journal is published quarterly for distribution to members (a membership costs \$14 per year); sample copies may be purchased for \$2 from Publisher Steve Ham, 4418 Irvington, Fremont, CA 94538.

#### SPECIAL PROJECTS

Barbara J. Pruiett, 2734 Ordway St., N.W., Washington, DC 20008 (202-362-1345) is working with Marty Robbins Enterprises to establish a basic archive collection of information about his life and career. It is her hope that members of ARSC can provide help in identifying anything that may be in special collections around the country as well as lend assistance in locating the resources needed. She is looking for bibliographies, correspondence or notes, clippings and articles, local radio and/or television interviews in the form of tapes or video tapes, photographs, films of performances, billboards, sheet music, recordings, old fan club materials; in short, just about anything. She would eventually like to locate people who may have worked with, or known, him over the last 35 years in order to target areas and periods of his career for which little documentation at this time is known to her.

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M. Novek is seeking recordings (for a P.B.S. documentary) by or about the Algonquin Round Tablers as a group and as individuals: Robert Benchley, Heywood Brown, Marc Connelly, Edna Ferber, George Kaufman, Dorothy Parker, Harold Ross, and Alexander Woollcott. Also Algonquin-related material by Franklin P. Adams, Tallulah Bankhead, Noel Coward, Lynn Fontanne, Alfred Lunt, Ring Lardner, Herman Mankiewicz, Harpo Marx, etc. Please contact M. Novek, Algonquin Round Table Project, 249 W. 102nd St., NYC 10025 (212-222-9628).

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Fred Dahlinger, Jr., 743 Beverly Park Place, Jackson, MI 49203 is researching the history of the calliope, both the steam version and the air models. As early as 1925 the music of these instruments was broadcast on several radio stations, but he has been in a quandry as to how to determine if any recordings of their music survive. Recordings issued since about 1950 are well known to him, but he has yet to find anything predating that decade. He has been told "Crazy" Ray Choisser once cut a calliope band for a sound effect record. This would probably have been done in the 1930's. Recording of a calliope, a steam calliope in particular, would not have been an easy task due to the extremely high sound level it produced. He would guesstimate 60-80 decibels could have been easily achieved, with levels higher

than that obtainable on steamboat mounted instruments. If readers can provide any guidance as to how he may proceed in locating early calliope recordings, he would be very grateful.

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Robert C. Boots, AV Archives, U.S. Army Military History Institute, Carlisle Barracks, PA 17013 is undertaking a project aimed at acquiring transcriptions of commercial radio programs from August 1939 to August 1942 produced locally and nationally that were designed to influence public opinion for or against U.S. entry in WWII and consolidate support for governmental programs in the early months of 1942. Boots is focusing on the contributions of individuals and small organizations. An example would be a radio program produced by KSO, Des Moines, IA, in January 1942, concerning agricultural and industrial production for the war effort. To acquire, catalog, and preserve this programming is the goal of his project. As a side light, he is trying to locate transcriptions made at Radio City Music Hall by the Allegheny College Choir in the late 1930's. The concerts were broadcast over a national network.

#### NEW PUBLICATIONS

Michael Cuscuna of Mosaic Records has recently unearthed what many will consider a major archeological find: Four outstanding, unreleased piano solos by Albert Ammons and one duet by Ammons and Meade Lux Lewis, all from Blue Note's first session on January 6, 1939, have finally been located. Mosaic was just going to press with its THE COMPLETE BLUE NOTE RECORDINGS OF ALBERT AMMONS AND MEADE LUX LEWIS when this long rumored but never heard material was discovered. The company has added the five new tunes to the set and updated Max Harrison's essay for the booklet. The three-disc set which also contains three unissued Meade Lux Lewis solos, thirteen titles previously available only on 78 and ten titles only available on 10" lp sells for \$25.50. The package is currently available in limited edition by mail order only from Mosaic Records, 1341 Ocean Avenue, suite 135, Santa Monica, CA 90401.

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THE EDISON DISC PHONOGRAPHS AND THE DIAMOND DISCS, a history with illustrations, by George L. Frow (cloth bound, 296 pages) is for sale from the author, "Salterns," Seal Hollow Road, Sevenoaks, TN13 3SH, England. The U.K. price is 11.20 pounds; customers in the USA can get a copy for \$22 (sea-mail) or \$29 (air-mail). Prices include postage, packing and dollar conversion charges. ARSC member Ron Dethlefsen contributed "a fair amount of information and illustrative material used in the book." While he won't share in the proceeds, he does hope the new book will have good sales.

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THE LIED: THE UNFOLDING OF ITS STYLE, by Anneliese Landau (2nd edition, 150 pp) offers a delineation of the stylistic development of the LIED from an entertainment in the Rococo salon to the emotional confessions of Romanticism, and further on to critical reflections of human behavior within the twentieth century. Traces the composer's increasing sensitivity to the innate music of a poem and his striving to become the interpreter of the poem. A wide variety of composers and their works are studied. Discography added to each chapter. Paper: \$8.00; Cloth: \$16.25; \$1.00 for handling. Send check with order to: University Press of America, P.O. Box 19101, Washington, DC 20036.

## WANTS

J. A. Bueckert, 104-175 East 17 Ave., Vancouver, BC, Canada V5V 1A5 (604-876-1705) is searching for a record cutting device prominent in the 1950's. The machine was used to cut personal disc recordings at facilities in novelty shops where customers, for a price (coin-operated), could make a disc recording of their voice. He has searched extensively since learning about its existence and has reason to believe Wilcox-Gay, a New York firm, was involved in the manufacture and/or distribution of this machine. However, that firm went into receivership in 1964 and information is difficult to obtain. There is also some suggestion that a USA firm, Ampex Recordings, may have dealt with a German manufactured model of such a machine. He has not been able to verify this. He would be grateful if readers could direct him to one of these machines.

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Michael Robin, 120 Atlanta Place, Pittsburg, PA 15228 (412-341-1686) wishes to obtain 1976, 77, 78 DIAPASON CLASSICAL CATALOGUES and SPANISH EMI CATALOGUE circa 1979 showing quad lps. He would be willing to trade 1980, 2 Diapasons, or 1-1978, 1-1982 Bielefelders. If they can't be purchased he would like to borrow them. Robin buys and sells quad lps, tapes and equipment.

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Martin Williams, 2101 Shenandoah Rd., Alexandria, VA 22308 hopes someone out there knows where there is tape of a broadcast done probably for VOA circa 1957 by Canadian-American composer Colin McPhee called "A Composer in Bali," or something near that. Or anything about McPhee's voice on tape.

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Kazimir Konovalov, Box 120/131, Kiev 1, USSR desires to enter into an exchange of recordings with institutions or individuals in the United States. An exchange program in which he has participated for some ten years with a major university music library in the US has proceeded without problems.

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New ARSC member Mark Luiz, 1229 Brighton, Apt. 123, Modesto, CA 95355 collects antique phonographs and records. He has an 1897 Columbia Gramophone which plays 2-minute cylinders and would like help in locating records to use with this machine. He is also looking for a 78rpm disc record of Bach's Tocatta and Fugue in d; any 78 recording will do.

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Don C. Seibert, 526 Cumberland Ave., Syracuse, NY 13210 is looking for a record or tape copy of Mario Lanza and Katherine Grayson singing a love duet based on the second movement of the Tchaikovsky 5th Symphony. Supposedly this duet provided the climatic musical encounter between the two in one of their movies. He is also interested in pop songs based on Tchiakovsky piano pieces.

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Lynn Hudecek, 440 9th Ave., SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404 collects 78s of polka bands, Scandinavian bands and mandolin (or tamburitza) orchestras. He has a want list and would buy, sell or trade these items. He can make cassette tapes. He is compiling discographies of various bands and would share information on any of these performing groups.

Lynnette G. Geary, 716 Camp Drive, Waco, TX 76710 wants the following recordings made by Jules Bledsoe in England in the early 1930s. The list is taken from Decca's 1935 catalog.

"Ol Man River"; "Dear Old Southland"	K. 631
"Swanee River"; "My Old Kentucky Home"	F.2559
"That's why Darkies were Born"; "When it's Sleepy Time Down South"	F.2722
"Water Boy"; "There's a Man Goin' Roun' Askin' Names"	F.3113
"Massa's in de Cold, Cold Ground" "Poor Old Joe"	F.3235
"Swing Low Sweet Chariot", "Goin' to Shout All Ober God's Heab'n"	F.3486
"Does I Love You?"; "Cool River"	F.3852

She needs these 78 rpm recordings as part of her research on a biography of Bledsoe. If they are not available to her, would they perhaps be available on cassette tape for an educational institution such as Baylor University of Waco, Texas, or the Texas Collection, also in Waco, which houses Bledsoe's papers? She will appreciate any information readers can give her about Bledsoe's recordings.

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Boris Apostoloff, Via Negroli 43, Milan, Italy (an American opera singer living in Italy) wants to hear the records made in 1902-3 by last of the castrati, Alessandro Moreschi, a castrato-soprano of the Sistine Chapel Choir. Can anyone help him out? Tape copies would serve his purpose.

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Collector-Researcher interested in Pre-WWII acoustic and electric 78's of the following musics: Greek, Jewish, Turkish, Armenian, Arabic, Persian, Rumanian, etc. Also interested in catalogues including ethnic recordings. will buy, or trade discs, tapes, and information. Not interested in immigrant-American comedy and novelty genres. Prof. Martin Schwartz, 2405 Derby St., Berkeley, CA 94705.

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John J. Boyle, 2176 41st Ave., Oakland, CA 94601 collects Irish 78rpm records, as well as catalogs and other record listings which include such records. He has a records want-list and would like to know of shops and/or collectors who specialize in Irish 78s.

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James M. Dourgarian, Bookman, 1299 Las Juntas Way, Walnut Creek, CA 94596 (415-939-7102) has a special interest in materials relating to John Steinbeck. He is looking for copies of Columbia ML 4756 featuring Steinbeck reading two of his short stories, THE SNAKE and JOHNNY BEAR, as well as any other records that feature this writer or his works. He also is looking for an old Woody Guthrie album for which Steinbeck wrote the liner notes. The Columbia lp was part of a Columbia Records Literary Series, edited by Goddard Lieberson. Mr. Dourgarian would like to obtain other lps in that series.

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An ARSC member is trying to locate a copy of Furtwangler's Symphony #3 with Lorin Maazel conducting. This was broadcast by NPR about two years ago; he does not require opening speech. Please contact Aaron Snyder, 1443 Beacon St., Apt. 417, Brookline, MA 02146.



Carmen McRae or other pre-1966 recordings on the Hall of Fame label wanted by Oliver Berliner, P. O. Box 921, Beverly Hills, CA 90213.

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Keith Titterington, 3903 18th St., SW, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2T 4V3 would like to know the whereabouts of and receive any other information on The Calgary Kid (Allen Erwin), Canadian cowboy singer (recorded on Enterprise and Rancho labels, also made a few movie shorts in Hollywood in mid-forties). From same era would appreciate current addresses of any West Coast musicians from Spade Castus Soldi, Tiny Hunt, Muddy Berry, Smokey Rogers, Deuce Spriggens, Joaquin Murphy (some of these may not be living, but may have relatives surviving).

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Don P. Mussey, 355 Gulf Road, Elyria, Ohio 44035 wants to locate a set of three records produced by the Gennett Co. at the Gennett Studios in November 1933 featuring Ted Metzger and the Campus Owls. He believes there was a release on the Champion label through southern variety stores, i.e., Woolworths, Kresges, etc. Any leads will be appreciated.

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As a collector of 78rpm orchestral recordings, Brendan R. Wehrung, 702 Irving Ave., Royal Oak, MI 48067 (313-543-3065) poses two questions--one speculative, one factual--to Newsletter readers:

1. Edison invented the tin-foil phonograph in 1877 and the wax cylinder followed a decade later after his diversion to invent the light bulb. Other claims have been made for similar intuition. How much further back might the tin-foil or wax cylinder phonograph have been invented, had somebody had that same intuition then? Or were the technology and materials that permitted Edison to make the phonograph in 1877 not available before that year?
2. One of the most important aspects of the 78rpm format is that it preserves the performance styles of important musicians for comparison with what we have today. One notable aspect of string playing (both solo and orchestral) in the earliest 78's is use of string portamento, preserved longest by William Mengelberg and the Concertgebouw Orchestra but heard in the recordings of many others up to about 1920. Some believe that portamento playing was a fad that appeared about 1900 while others think that it was an outgrowth of practices going back into the romantic era. Could anybody give further information?

#### ITEMS FOR SALE

Petr Kotick's "chance" composition, MANY MANY WOMEN, to a text by Gertrude Stein is available in a complete recording made in 1980 by the S.E.M. Ensemble (a vocal-instrumental group). The 5-record set described in the Village Voice as "the only Wagner-length experimental work on records," sells for \$30 postpaid and may be ordered from Labor Records, POB 1262, Peter Stuyvesant Station, New York, NY 10009 (212-273-5265). The record # is LAB-6/10. A promotional brochure with a piece on the composition and its composer by Gregory Sandow is available on request.

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Carol Rickers, 15800 N.W. 13th Ave., Miami, FL 33169 (305-620-2639) wants to sell a one-sided Columbia record #7132 (made in Great Britain) featuring Pablo Casals playing the Bouree from Bach's Suite in C for cello. Casals' signature is engraved across the center of the record.

MEMORY LANE RECORDS/FINDER PUBLICATIONS, 2305 Hungary Rd., Richmond VA 23228 have a complete stock of supplies for record collectors: 10" and 12" sleeves, mailing boxes for 78s, etc. They run 78 auction sales periodically. Readers can subscribe to 10 issues of their publication, RECORD FINDER, for \$10. Sample issue available for \$1.

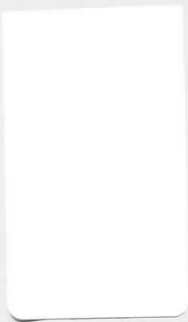
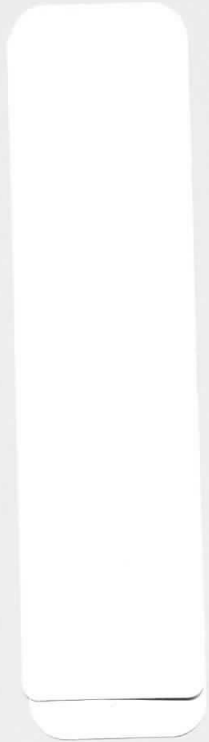
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William C. Love, 5808 Northumberland St., Pittsburgh, PA 15217 has for sale old (but good) amplifiers, tape recorders, turntables, pickups, lateral and vertical reproducers, needles and miscellaneous items, 10,000 pop and jazz 78s, 1000 assorted 12" and 12" radio transcriptions (records and transcriptions dating from 1917 to 1950), 1000 pop and jazz LP records and a couple of hundred old classical, pop, comedy, military band, etc. 78s going back to 1900. No list of the records and transcriptions is available at this time.

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The next ARSC Newsletter (Fall 1983) will be in preparation at the end of August. Please submit items by August 31 to Dick Luce, P.O. Box 1242, Bozeman, MT 59715. Type up submissions in clear, concise manner. Readers are encouraged to share news of their projects, interests, activities, research and publications with the membership.

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