ARSC Newsletter

Number 93, Fall 2000

The ARSC Board in Action

in its day-long meeting in Washington D.C. on October 21, 2000, the ARSC Board of Directors took several actions and engaged in a number of energetic discussions about ARSC business. The Board unanimously approved a new author-publisher agreement for the ARSC Journal, one similar to those of many other scholarly societies. With this document, ARSC would normally retain copyright for submissions, but individual authors would have the option of using a check-off box to retain copyright themselves. Among the advantages to ARSC's retaining copyright is facilitating reprints and re-uses of submissions in the future. The Board also approved an annual stipend of \$1,000 for the Journal editor. A proposal to split the Discographic Access Committee into two groups, one for discography and the other for cataloging, passed unanimously.

Other important topics of discussion included how ARSC might best manage and make good use of its online presence, the potential need for ARSC to adopt graphic standards for its various publications, the pros and cons of providing an online membership directory, and issues of membership development in general. Plans for indexing the Journal and offering the index online were discussed. Plans for the joint ARSC/IASA meeting in London in September 2001 were discussed and Brenda Nelson-Strauss was appointed to be ARSC's official contact with the planners in London. President Mark Tolleson appointed Jim Farrington as Chair of the new Development Committee which is charged to explore ways to assure the financial future of

the organization. Virginia Danielson, ARSC Secretary.

ARSC Sustaining Members

ccording to ARSC's Bylaws, any "Regular Member who voluntarily contributes an additional amount at least equal to the prescribed annual dues shall be recognized as a Sustaining Member during the year for which dues are being paid." This means that a current Sustaining Member is one who has contributed at least \$36.00 or more above the cost of the annual dues. The Bylaws also state that these members are to be recognized in the final ARSC Newsletter of the year. So at this time, we would like to recognize the following who qualify as Sustaining Members for 2000:

David Annett Tim Brooks **Barrett Crawford** Michael Devecka Milton T. Erickson Edwin Goldstein* J. Wm. Himmelreich Warren W. Keats John W. Lambert Andrew C. Minor Stewart Pearce* Roy Ringo Burton J. Shapiro Gail Sonnemann Gene Tognacci Seth B. Winner

David Barron Sam Brylawski Evan Crawley David J. Diehl Frank Forman Fernando Gonzalez* Marian Himmelreich Walter Keevil Wayne H. Lott Barry Moore* Arthur S. Pfeffer Phil Rochlin Ted. P. Sheldon Suzanne Stover Richard Trombetta*` Steven Wolfe*

Garrett H. Bowles David A. Budd Wlliam A. Davidson Ray Edwards Gary Galo David Hall David R. Hoehl* Bill Klinger Colin Mackenzie Brenda Nelson-Strauss Francois Nouvion* Peter J. Rabinowitz Dennis D. Rooney Brian Smithson* Robert Summers Patricia Turner

Joel Bresler* A. N. Campbell, Jr. Robert A. Davis Phillip Elwood David Giovannoni* Lewis M. Hall* Lawrence Holdridge Konrad Kuchenbach Anna-Maria Manuel Jack Raymond Nancy Seeger* David Sommerfield Gary Thalheimer Robert Van Wallegham

ARSC DONOR MEMBERS

The following are members who have contributed at least \$200 to ARSC for 2000, qualifying them as Donor Members:

Richard L. Benson Roger Snape

David Hamilton Samuel Thorne

Record Technology, Inc.*

We wish to thank these and all other members who have made financial gifts to ARSC during the year. Your contributions help ARSC continue with its programs and undertake new activities which would be difficult if we depended on our modest dues alone. Peter Shambarger, **ARSC Executive Director**

Events

Here is a listing of events to help ARSC members plan for participation.

Feb 21-25 **MLA Annual Conference** New York

May 2-5 **ASRA Annual Conference** Canherra

May 12-15 AES 110th Convention Amsterdam

Jun 14-20 **ALA Annual Conference** San Francisco

July 8-14 IAML Annual Conference Périgueux, France

Aug 16-25 IFLA 67th Council and Conference Boston, USA

Sept. 23-27 ARSC/IASA Joint Conference London

Oct 5-7 AES 20th Int'l Conference Budapest, Hungary

Jan 18-23 **ALA Midwinter Conference New Orleans**

Feb 16-21 **MLA Annual Conference** Las Vegas

June 13-19 ALA Annual Conference Atlanta

AES = Audio Engineering Society ALA = American Library Association AMIA = Association of Moving Image Archivists IFLA = International Federal of Library Associations IAML = International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and **Documentation Centers** IASA = International Association of Sound and Audio-Visual Archives MLA = Music Library Association

President's Message

n my first President's Message, I listed six issues that I think we would do well to scrutinize.

- •The Internet
- Finance
- Membership
- Copyright
- •The Digital Age
- Identity

I would like to start with membership and identity. But first, some news — Paul Campion, an ARSC member who lives close to London, has generously offered to represent us on the London Local Arrangements Committee. Thank you, Paul! We are grateful for your help and look forward, of course, to seeing you at the London conference.

As to matters at hand — it appears, from anecdotal evidence, that our membership is not especially diverse. Specifically, we're not attracting younger members. The questions that immediately spring to mind upon making this observation are: 1) Is this a bad thing that portends ill for the organization even though we currently have as many members as we have ever had? 2) Is it proof that young people are not interested in collecting sound recordings? 3) Does it indicate that they are not interested in joining organizations, least of all ARSC? or 4) Does it mean that we are projecting an image that is not attractive to them? My thoughts (and please let me know if they seem right, wrong, or somewhere in-between):

Is it a bad thing that ARSC is not attracting a younger audience?

Not necessarily. ARSC is a service organization that exists not to attract members per se, but to provide service to those in need. If that service is needed only by certain demographic groups, then so be it. If in twenty years no one needs our ser-

vices at all, so be that. However, I do believe that younger people need us — they just don't know it.

Are young people into collecting sound recordings? Yes! Vinyl has quite a following among DJ's and many people collect CD's. We should be able to attract these people.

Are young people shy of joining organizations? Possibly, but if we give them compelling enough reasons to join ARSC, they will.

Are we projecting an image that is unattractive to younger collectors? I believe so.

Our message is either not getting out or it is expressed in a way that does not scintillate the younger people among us. Image is vitally important, and I think we should take a hard look at ours. In an attempt to do that, our new publications chair plans to coordinate an evaluation of how we present our association, and in the process identify ways in which it might be changed for the better. This will include public relations, graphics, conference programming, publications, and the web site. We will let you know when we have a timetable for this. If you have ideas, suggestions, or wish to offer help with this interesting project, please contact me.

Mark Tolleson, ARSC President and Assistant Director, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts 521 W. 43rd St., New York, NY 10036 (until spring 2001) (212) 870-1644 voice (212) 714-8522 fax www.nypl.org arscprez00@hotmail.com

Nominations for ARSC Awards for Excellence

veryone is invited to propose candidates for the 2001 Association for Recorded Sound Collections (ARSC) Awards for Excellence in Historical Recorded Sound Research. Nominations may be made by anyone, whether or not a member of ARSC. Eligible publications include any printed work-book, monograph, article, liner notes-first published during 2000. The work may be on any subject related to recorded sound. This includes histories, discographies, and recording artist biographies in any field of music, speech or technology, genre (classical, popular, rock, jazz, country, folk, spoken word, labels, phonographs, etc.), as well as modern techniques for the preservation or reproduction of older recordings. The work should deal primarily with historical periods, defined as at least ten years prior to publication (e.g., pre-1991), with the exception of works related to preservation and technology. In addition, a Lifetime Achievement Award

will be presented to an individual in recognition of his or her life's work in published recorded sound research.

The deadline for nominations is January 31, 2001. A list of past winners is available on the ARSC website at www.arscaudio.org. The Awards Committee especially welcomes information concerning eligible foreign and small press publications that might otherwise be overlooked. Please forward the author, title, publisher, and publisher's address for each nominee to either of the ARSC Awards Co-Chairs:

Brenda Nelson-Strauss Chicago Symphony Orchestra 220 So. Michigan Ave. Chicago, IL 60604 bnelsonstrauss@cso.org Vincent Pelote Institute of Jazz Studies Rutgers State University of NJ Newark, NJ 07102 pelote@andromeda.rutgers.edu

Sound Preservation Conference

embers, especially institutional archivists of sound and video, will want to make plans to attend the 20th International Conference of the Audio Engineering Society on "Archiving, Restoration, and New Methods of Recording." The conference will take place in Budapest, Hungary from October 5 through October 7, 2001. Conference co-chairs are Gábor Heckenast and Dietrich Schüller (email: 20thconf_cochair@aes.org). Papers co-chairs are Zoltán Vajda and Heinrich Pichler (email: 20th_papers@aes.org).

Help ARSC Grow with Matching Grants

Does your employer have a "matching contribution" program?
Many do. This doubles your contribution to ARSC at no cost
to you. Ask your employer and send your employer's form to
Peter Shambarger, ARSC Executive Director
along with your contribution.

Volunteer Needed Assistant Editor, ARSC Journal

The Board of Directors of ARSC has created a new position and seeks qualified candidates for the position of Assistant Editor of the ARSC Journal, the premier journal of its kind in the world. The successful candidate will work directly with the editor of the ARSC Journal and assume responsibility for publication design and page layout, following agreed upon guidelines and specifications. The individual also will be responsible for production coordination, working primarily with the designated printing company. Familiarity with computer technology in publication work, including page design/layout software is a prerequisite and experience in print production is an asset.



For information or to apply: Contact Barry R. Ashpole, Editor, ARSC Journal at ashpole@telsec.net – or by phone at (416) 362-4804 (during normal business hours), or (416) 486-9669 (evenings or weekends).

WANTED:GOOD NEEDLE FOR COLUMBIA GRAPHAPHONE: I have a 1902 Columbia graphaphone and either need to get a new needle for it or find someone who can restore the one I have. I am also looking for another type of needle that would enable me to record with my graphaphone. Contact: David Katznelson, 2221 Bowmont Dr, Beverly Hills, CA 90210. e-mail: oakiedog@aol.com

WANTED FOR RESEARCH on the career of singer "Midge" Williams, tapes of these NBC radio shows: Shell Chateau (Al Jolson), Jan. 4, 1936; Studebaker Champions (Richard Himber), Dec. 7, 1936; Ben Bernie (for American Can), June 9, 1937. Also, any of the Blue Monday Jamboree CBS 1935 summer series. Contact: Bob Arnold, 6301 Dana St., Oakland, CA 94609. Tele: 510.655.6543.

ARSC TREASURER Steve Ramm reminds members that contributions made in the form of appreciated securities or mutual funds are fully deductible at the fair market value on the date of the transfer. This is a way to exclude taxable gain on your investments and help ARSC at the same time. For further information contact Steve Ramm at 420 Fitzwater St., Phila., PA 19147, or email him at stevenramm@aol.com.

FREE ADS!

Place free personal (not-for-profit) ads in the ARSC Newsletter. ARSC Members can place one free personal classified ad in each issue of the Newsletter (on a space available basis).

Try it; you'll like it. Contact Ricki Kushner at: Telephone: 202.707.0164 or 202.671.3434; Fax: 202.707.8464; Email: fkus@loc.gov

SCHUBERT'S GREAT C MAJOR Symphony, D.944, A Discography. 218 pages. 172 recordings. Three indexes. Foreword by Dr. Jose' A. Bowen. Just published. Regularly \$30; special price to ARSC members \$25 postpaid with check. Contact: J. F. Weber, 1613 Sunset Ave., Utica, NY 13502-5437.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

We are in process of attempting to replicate the 1920s acoustical recording studio of the Gennett Records Company formerly located in Richmond, Indiana. We have secured the original building site and plan to replicate the studio building there. We are trying to locate actual acoustical recording equipment such as was used around 1923 and 1924 when Jelly Roll Morton was recording here on the Gennett label. We hope to set up the original style equipment and have a working 1920s acoustical studio.

We need information as to where we might locate 1920s style equipment and/or engineering drawings for repairs and/or replication. Can [anyone] provide any information that might help us in this project? Thanks,

Al Gentry, Board of Directors Starr-Gennett Foundation(NFP) 404 South 22nd Street Richmond, IN 47374 Telephone: (765) 966-7259

ARSC Newsletter

The ARSC Newsletter is published quarterly in February, June, September, and November. All submissions, including advertising, must be typed and clearly worded. Electronic email submissions are strongly encouraged to this address:

Ted Sheldon, Editor

Ted Sheldon, Editor UMKC, Miller Nichols Library 5100 Rockhill Road Kansas City, MO 64110-2499 Email: sheldont@umkc.edu Fax: 816.333.5584 Telephone: 816.235.1531

To arrange advertising in all ARSC publications contact: Esther Gillie, ARSC Advertising Manager

Esther Gille, Aldo Adversors Sibley Music Library Eastman School of Music 27 Gibbs Street Rochester, NY 14604 Phone: (716) 274-1330 Fax: (716) 274-1380

Email: esth@mail.rochester.edu

Claims or other notification of issues not received must be sent to: Executive Director, ARSC

P.O. Box 543 Annapolis, MD 21404-0543

Web site: www.arsc-audio.org for back issues of the ARSC Newsletter and further information about ARSC.

Future Submission Deadlines

 Issue
 Classified Adv.
 Editorial Materials

 No. 94 Winter 2001
 February 15, 2001
 February 15, 2001

 No. 95 Spring 2001
 May 15, 2001
 May 15, 2001

 No. 96 Summer 2001
 August 1, 2001
 August 1, 2001

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A Association for recorded sound collections



ARSC Grants Program

he Association for Recorded Sound Collections (ARSC) Grants Program is designed to encourage and support scholarship and publication by individuals in the field of sound recordings or audio preservation. Specific projects eligible for support include discography, bibliography, historical studies of the sound recording industry and its products, and any other subject likely to increase the public's understanding and appreciation of the lasting importance of recorded sound. Recipients are encouraged to submit articles about their projects to be considered for publication in the ARSC Journal.

Both ARSC members and non-members are eligible for grants in amounts up to \$1000. Grant funds can be used to underwrite clerical, travel, and editorial expenses; funds may not be used to purchase capital equipment or recordings, to reimburse applicants for work already performed, or to support projects which form part of a job or academic program. Grant recipients are required to submit brief descriptions of

their projects for publication in the ARSC Journal & documentation of their expenses before reimbursement; and funds must be disbursed within eighteen months of the grant award.

Applications for an ARSC grant should include:

- 1. A summary of the project (one page maximum), with samples of the work attached if possible,
- 2. A budget covering the entire project and highlighting the expenses the ARSC grant will cover (one page maximum),
- 3. A curriculum vitae,
- 4. An indication of the prospects for publication or other public presentation of the project results.

Applications should be sent to: Richard Warren, Grants Committee Chairman, Historical Sound Recordings, Yale University Library, P. O. Box 208240, New Haven, CT 06520-8240, U.S.A. The deadline for receipt of applications is February 28, 2001. Grants will be awarded as the ARSC Board of Directors meeting held each spring.

ARSC Members Contribute to www.grammy.com

everal ARSC members have contributed articles to the growing array of information appearing on the web site of the National Association of recording Arts and Sciences. Most recently, Sara Velez, Rodgers & Hammerstein Archives of Recorded Sound, New York Public Library for the Performing Arts has contributed an article entitled: "Latin Music Research Resources." The article concludes with an online bibliography of selected resources. It was commissioned to appear in conjunction with the presentation of the first Latin Grammy Awards. To read Sara's contribution, as well and those of other ARSC members, visit the NARAS web site at: www.grammy.com/gateway.