



Historical Committee Report to the AES Board of Governors, 122nd Convention, Vienna

4 May, 2007

First, we would like to thank Jay McKnight and Wieslaw Woszczyk for inviting us to be Co-Chairs of the AES Historical Committee and hope we can live up to their expectations. We would also like to thank Jay for his years of dedicated work keeping audio history alive and we will continue to depend on Jay's wise council as Chair Emeritus. As you will see by reading below, he is now busier than ever, continuing work on his historical projects.

1. **123rd Convention**—Historical events planning for the 123rd Convention in New York, with Harry Hirsch as Project Leader, is well under way. He has commitments for four presentations with three additional events being considered.
2. **Historical Committee Secretary** (vacant position)—At the 121st AES Convention in San Francisco, we met with Tom Erbe, recording engineer/lecturer at the University of California San Diego, who expressed an interest in becoming HC Secretary. We are pursuing.
3. **Historical Committee Web site**—
 - Jay has completed extracting/editing the scans of all “In Memoriam” pages from the Journal (Vol 1 No 1, 1953 to Vol 55 No 1, 2007) and uploaded an index, with most names linked to a corresponding pdf file. The 400 names can be found at <http://www.aes.org/aeshc/docs/jaesobit.html>
 - Jay has uploaded six additional “Afternoon With..” articles to <http://www.aes.org/aeshc/aeshctlk.html>
 - Ivan Stamac, VP Southern Europe, suggested at the 9 Oct 2006 AES BOG meeting in San Francisco, that we solicit volunteers for AES historical projects. The Web site now contains a volunteer soliciting statement. See <http://www.aes.org/aeshc/volunteer.html> Adding a statement to the Journal will be discussed with Bill McQuaid.
 - Co-Chair Gene Radzik would like to champion a reorganization of the site. To an outside observer, the current site is a bit overwhelming to digest. The great work by many talented individuals is somewhat difficult to find efficiently. Gene has been in contact with the current webmasters.

4. **AES Journal Scans**—“History of Audio Engineering as Told Through the AES Journal”:
Jay Mcknight has completed the huge project of extracting scans of the rear portion of all AES Journals and creating searchable pdf files. **We now need interested volunteers** to select a topic and organize the content in that category. AES member Ty Welborn is assisting Jay now, working on the convention material (announcements, programs, reports, exhibits, and exhibitors). Other categories needing organization include:

- Advertisements
- News of the Sections/Meeting Reports
- Officers (bios & photos)
- Special Publications
- Available Literature
- Book Reviews/Publications on Audio
- Editorials
- Features and Tutorials
- New Products and Developments
- Patent Reviews
- Standards News

Jay would appreciate **suggestions on the eventual distribution methods for the final results.**

5. **Oral Histories**—Project Leader Irv Joel recorded oral histories at the 121st AES Convention in San Francisco and plans to record more at the 123rd Convention in New York. Gene Radzik will be recording additional interviews in the coming months. Technical Advisor John Chester is backing up oral history tapes (74 of 120 left to do). Harry Hirsch is finishing the editing on seven, and plans to continue. **John is looking for additional volunteer editors.** Discussions on storage methods and location is ongoing.
6. **History of the AES**—Project Leader Roger Furness has retrieved AES historical material from the archives. John Chester will visit headquarters, copy the material, and index it.

We realize there is much more activity than that listed above. In time we will get a handle on the other great work being performed by many individuals.

Bill Wray and Gene Radzik

Co-Chairs, AES Historical Committee