

In Memoriam

Arthur Gruber, a prominent member of the AES for over 40 years, died on November 27, 2001, in Potomac, MD. He was a fellow of the society and recipient of its Distinguished Service Medal and Bronze Medal awards. He held many offices in the AES including that of governor, treasurer (for over 23 years), chair of the Finance Committee, Regions and Sections and Future Directions. He was active in the New York Section during the time he resided in New York and later founded the Phoenix (now Arizona) Section. He also was section treasurer from 1979 to 1982.

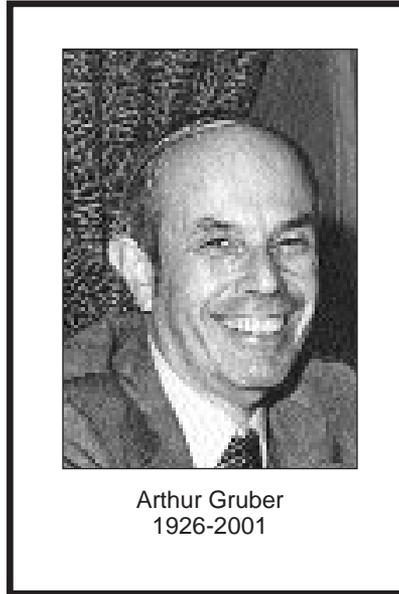
In 1946 Arthur graduated from New York University with a degree in mechanical engineering. His father, Morris, was a founder of Presto Recording Corporation and its chief mechanical engineer. Arthur worked at Times Facsimile Corp. from 1946 to 1958 and was chief engineer and vice president of Scully Recording Corp from 1961 to 1968. In between and after his corporate work he operated his own consulting firm.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Ellen; daughters Margery and Deborah, and a granddaughter.

Arthur was an effective, dedicated and hardworking member of the AES during the period of its greatest growth in numbers and financial strength. In all of the positions he held, he worked quietly, meticulously and effectively for the society. He always gave his best. His friends, in the AES and outside, will miss him.

Robert Sherwood
New York, NY

Editor's Note: The following personal remembrance was written by Donald J. Plunkett, former AES executive director.



Arthur Gruber
1926-2001

The privilege that comes to individuals working in the recording industry is the privilege of meeting and befriending a wide range of people and personalities with unique traits and talents. Arthur Gruber was such a person.

I first met Arthur during my early days in the disc recording business, long before digital and solid state disciplines—or even tape. It was during the days of only one way to record: acetate (lacquer) was a long, long time ago. Arthur came from a family of recording pioneers. His father, Morris, was the founder of Presto Recording, manufacturers of recording media (lacquer blanks) and recording machines. To dedicate a pun in Arthur's memory, "He was a chip off the old blank."

Recording sound was not easy then. Some individuals became tenacious working in pursuit of solutions to problems and in pursuit of perfection. Arthur was a case in point. And yet he could separate himself from the tasks at hand and enjoy traveling and culinary adventures. A long time fascination with railroading made his

train travel a passion. He would photograph the landscape from train windows. A quiet man, Arthur was a devoted husband and father. He was interested and knowledgeable about the history of New York and baseball. A dedicated and astute stamp collector and trader, Arthur was also an expert on weather patterns and conditions. He kept information logs on weather throughout the world, which became useful in planning AES conventions.

Arthur was active in AES activities long before his election to the position of treasurer, which he held for more than 23 years. In an effort to widen the fiscal horizons of the society, he promoted the growth and stability of the AES. As chair of the Sections and Regions Committee, he worked to increase the geographical span of the society. The expanded world landscape of the AES today is to his credit. He was, in short, a man for all seasons and disciplines.

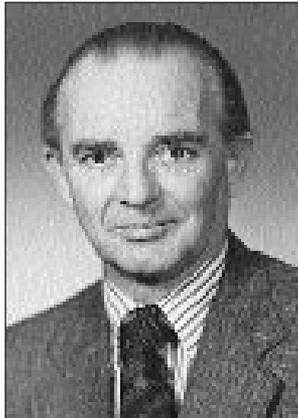
Donald J. Plunkett
Larchmont, NY

James Gibson, AES fellow, died at the age of 78 on May 23 at The Medical Center in Princeton, New Jersey. He was a central figure in the development of television.

Gibson was born in St. Albans, England, but later lived in Belgium and Sweden. He lived in Princeton since 1956. He earned a bachelor's degree in engineering from the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, Sweden, and a doctorate in electrical engineering.

Gibson worked for RCA from 1956, conducting research and development of communication systems for technology and consumer electronics. In the 60s he was a leader in CMOS memory technology and in

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James Gibson
1924-2001

1969 he became a fellow of RCA Laboratories. He worked on various information technologies for consumers including color television standards, RCA Videodisc, high-definition television and antennas.

Gibson received five awards from RCA Laboratories for Outstanding Achievement for his technical contributions, including the development of multichannel television sound standards for the United States, for which he received an Emmy Award in 1986.

In 1985 he received the David Sarnoff Award for Outstanding Technical Achievement for his numerous contributions to consumer electronics and broadcast systems. He was issued 31 U.S. patents and one Swedish patent.

A fellow of the IEEE, Gibson also was a member of Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society. In 1985 he was awarded an honorary doctor-of-science degree from Chalmers University of Technology in Sweden.

After retiring in 1987 he worked as a consultant to Sarnoff Corp and for the FCC, where he was involved in the development of standards for stereo television.

He is survived by his wife, two sons and a daughter.