



## Historical Committee Report to the AES Board of Governors, 124<sup>th</sup> Convention, Amsterdam

1. **Listing of historical events for [this convention](#).**

Historical Committee meeting to be held Tuesday May 20, 10:00 AM, Room N. All are welcome.

2. **Oral History Project**—Irv Joel, long-standing project leader has decided to step down after conducting many many interesting and successful interviews internationally. We are grateful for his contributions over the years. The interviews he conducted are now being prepared for sale. We will be searching for a new project leader. Ideally, we would like to have a person who could organize US-based interviews, and a second organizer for interviews based in Europe.

Project video editor Harry Hirsch is enjoying the video work (“Following the evolution of our industry has enriched my life”). He has finished editing 100 interviews to date, a major accomplishment. Approximately 900 copies are being produced for sale at conventions, and via the AES web site. Proposed price \$14.99 + postage. There are roughly 185 in total. He plans to complete at least 15-17 per month. Harry suggests selling the interviews to colleges & universities.

Technical Advisor John Chester is doing the voiceover work and managing the archive of our recordings. He has volunteered to help produce new interviews at the 125<sup>th</sup> convention if we can arrange. See the wish [list of interviewees](#) (needs updating!) and feel free to help in creating these.

3. **AES 60th Anniversary CD**—Harry Hirsh produced a DVD commemorating the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary and distributed it to the Sections. Click on this link to view it:

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-126464322540981781&hl=en>

4. **AES Journal Scans**—“History of Audio Engineering as Told Through the AES Journal”:

Jay McKnight is busy continuing his work on this project. For his updated project details, see: <http://www.aes.org/aeshc/history-of-audio-engineering-as-told-thru-the-aes-journal.pdf>.

For a complete table of contents listing of AES journals, see: <http://www.aes.org/journal/toc/>

WebMaster Steve Johnson has now implemented a search for abstracts of all Journal articles. See: <http://aes.org/journal/search.cfm>

Jay has finished "Volume 0" of the AES Journal (originally published in *Audio Engineering as AES Journal* in the years 1948—1952). See: <http://www.aes.org/aeshc/how-the-aes-began.html>

Project volunteer Ty Welborn, working with Jay, is extracting Journal convention reports of the last decade. Abstracts will then be generated.

Jay has updated the cumulative index of obituaries. See:

<http://www.aes.org/aeshc/docs/jaesobit.html>

The author's affiliation index mentioned in our last report is now incorporated into the online Journal Index and the Journal Search. For example, see: <http://aes.org/journal/search.cfm>

## 5. **History of the AES**

Project Leader Roger Furness has retrieved AES historical material from the archives. John Chester plans to copy and index the material. See this project summary link: [memo](#).

Jay McKnight is awaiting further discussions with Roger on making this history publicly available.

6. **Historical Committee Web Site Design**—Historical Committee Co-Chair Gene Radzik continues work on reorganizing the web site. Gene is working with Jay McKnight, Steve Johnson, Peter Cook, Josh Tidsbury, Valerie Tyler, and others. Current activities include imbedded search engine testing, best practices, and tools available for site functions. Wordpress and other readily available blog-based tools are being used by AES sections including the Eastern Region (<http://aeseastern.wordpress.com/>) and Brazil (<http://www.aesbrasil.org/blog>).

Meanwhile, audio history enthusiast and local AES member Michael Knowles has been supplementing online audio related historical biographies via Wikipedia's web site.

7. **Western Electric/Bell Labs**—Thomas Rhodes, who has published articles on vintage audio and the engineering history of the Orthophonic Victrola, has volunteered to do a research project on the role of Western Electric/Bell Telephone Labs in electro-acoustics research and design, his long-time field of expertise. His articles published in several collecting monthlies and quarterlies may also be of interest to us. Gene Radzik is following up.
8. **Historical Committee Email Reflector**—Active and ongoing. See the guidelines [here](#), Join our reflector at <http://www.aes.org/aeshc/mail-sub.html>  
The reflector continues on the "recordist.com" server, with thanks to David Josephson.
9. **Historical Events at Future Conventions**—Ideas for events and volunteers are always welcome.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bill Wray and Gene Radzik

Co-Chairs, AES Historical Committee