ARSC 1992

Final Call for Papers from
Brenda Nelson-Strauss,
2nd Vice-President/Program Chair.

THE DEADLINE for paper proposals is drawing near. Several interesting suggestions have been received to date, but we certainly have room for many more. In the works are sessions devoted to collections at particular archives, spoken word recordings, iconography, and various Eastman related topics (Eastman Wind Ensemble, Howard Hanson, and Dr. Milford Fargo). We are still looking for participants in the last category (Eastman), so if you have an expertise in one of the three suggested topics please contact me immediately. Also, members of ARSC committees (Technical, Dealers, Broadcast, etc.) should notify me if they wish to organize a committee-sponsored session.

I know many of you have other fascinating topics in mind but just have not found the time to put them on paper. Please do so before the holiday season begins. Proposals, suggestions, or ideas must be received by December 15 so I can assemble a preliminary program around year’s end. I may be reached at 312 435-8129 during working hours or at 708 524-3190 evenings and weekend if you would like to discuss your ideas over the phone. Otherwise, please mail proposals to Brenda Nelson-Strauss, ARSC Program Chair, c/o Chicago Symphony Orchestra Archives, 220 So. Michigan Avenue, Chicago IL 60604.

I look forward to receiving a number of creative topics that reflect ARSC’s diverse membership. Also, I visited Rochester over the summer—it is a beautiful city with much to offer, and I know you will not want to miss the opportunity to visit in April. Let’s make ARSC 1992 a memorable conference by providing our members and visitors the Eastman School of Music with some truly mind-boggling, controversial, esoteric, ear-shattering, ether-waverling disc-overies!

Who Should Receive the 1992 ARSC Award for Excellence?

Members are urged to give some thought to possible candidates for next year’s Awards for Excellence in Historical Recorded Sound Research. If you are aware of any worthy book, article, or liner notes published during 1991 that you think should be considered, please notify the Awards Committee at P.O. Box 41, Glenville Station, Greenwich CT 06831. Include as much information about the candidate as possible, including the publisher. The deadline for submissions is January 15, 1992. Nominated works may be about artists or other subjects in any field of recorded music or speech prior to 1981, or about preservation. Nominates are also invited for the Lifetime Achievement Award which will be presented to an individual in recognition of his or her life's work in recorded sound research.

Current members of the Awards Committee are Tim Brooks (chair); Barbara Sawka (ARSC president); Ted Sheldon (editor, ARSC Journal); David Hamilton (classical music); Peter Grendysa (popular music); Phil Elwood (jazz); Richard Spottwood (judge at large).

For more information on the upcoming ARSC conference, please see p. 4.
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

On September 26, I had the great pleasure of chairing an excellent two-hour panel presentation on audio preservation issues at the annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists (SAA) in Philadelphia. Though the session was just one of eleven running concurrently, there was an overflow audience eager to hear the speakers, all of whom were ARSC members (Mike Casey, Mark Roosa, and Bill Storm). ARSC members also contributed to other parts of the SAA program: Brenda Nelson-Strauss spoke, and Chris Paton chaired the Recorded Sound Roundtable in addition to developing program proposals resulting in several sessions on media issues. All these efforts gave ARSC some very positive exposure, which, I hope, will translate into some new memberships as well. At the very least, many people who share our concerns about the preservation and dissemination of sound recordings discovered or became reacquainted with ARSC.

It’s a truism to say that sound recordings and media of all types pervade our lives. The important point for ARSC is that, having dealt with the many issues surrounding sound recordings for over a quarter-century, we are in a position to cooperate with and help other organizations and individuals who are just now grappling with these issues and problems for the first time. To do that effectively, we must work to make ARSC a more visible leader in the field. We have paved the way in many areas of historical, technical, and preservation research and publication. We now need to be more diligent in making our achievements and continuing work known and in encouraging others to join us. ARSC publications are a primary means to that end as are the Grants Program and the ARSC Awards for Excellence. Cooperation and joint efforts with related organizations (IASA, AES, SAA, etc.) are important, too.

Ultimately, though, our best ambassadors and publicists are each of you as individual members. A membership campaign now under way in SAA proposes the ‘each one reach one’ philosophy for increasing membership, an approach that could certainly benefit ARSC, too. If each current member convinces just one new individual or institution to join. To help introduce potential members to ARSC, Membership Committee Chair Brenda Nelson-Strauss has designed and produced a new eye-catching, bright red ARSC brochure, now available from Executive Director Phil Rochlin. It describes all ARSC’s publications, programs, and activities and includes a membership application form.

One of the nicest surprises of my first year as president is how forthcoming and willing to pitch in so many members have been. The more people we can encourage to join us in ARSC’s mission, the greater resources we will all have to draw on. If you have membership development ideas, Brenda Nelson-Strauss will be delighted to hear from you. But even if you can spare only the time to recruit just one new member, you’ll have done ARSC a tremendous service.

Barbara Sawka

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ARSC NEWSLETTER

The ARSC Newsletter is published seasonally four times a year. Submissions should be TYPED (DOUBLE-SPACED) and be clearly understandable by and sent to the editor: David Sommerfield, 101 G Street, S.W., #A-618, Washington DC 20024.

The Newsletter policy statement is published in the Winter issue.

Claims or other notification of issues not received should be addressed to the Executive Director of ARSC. His address serves as the return address of every issue of the ARSC Newsletter.

The Winter deadline for No. 58 is January 6, 1992.

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ARSC "Disposal of Property" Amendment Adopted

The proposed amendment to the ARSC bylaws was approved 9 to 1. The amendment was reported in the President’s Message in the Winter 1991 ARSC Newsletter (No. 54) and was discussed at the ARSC Annual Conference May 1991 in Atlanta. The deadline for returning ballots was September 30, 1991.

The new Article XV, Section 1 (ArchivalRecords) states: "Article XI, Section 1, and Article XV, Section 2, notwithstanding, the Board of Directors may provide for the transfer of all ARSC official records and materials to a suitable archival institution or repository."

Our thanks to all who took the time and effort to vote.
ARSC Grants Program Guidelines

The ARSC Grants Program is designed to encourage and support scholarship and publication by individuals in any 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, oral history, and any other subject likely to increase the public's understanding and appreciation of the lasting importance of recorded sound.

Both ARSC members and non-members are eligible for grants in amounts up to $500. Grant funds can be used to underwrite clerical, travel, and editorial expenses; funds may not be used to purchase capital equipment or recordings. Grant recipients are required to submit 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: Grants Committee Chair Richard Warren, Historical Sound Recordings Archive, Yale University Library, Box 1603A Yale Station, New Haven CT 06520. Only applications received by February 28 will be considered. Grants will be awarded at the ARSC Board of Directors meeting held each spring in connection with the ARSC Annual Conference.

Correction:
Wagner Society of New York

Please correct the listing on pp. 73 and 117 of your copy of the ARSC Membership Directory, 1991-1992, which was inadvertently given as the "Richard Wagner Society," to "Wagner Society of New York." (If a cross-reference is desired, it can be entered on p. 97.) Also the correct title of their publication is Wagner Notes, not as printed. ARSC regrets any possible inconvenience caused by these errors.

ARSC has received with thanks a generous gift from Ted and Beverly Sheldon as a memorial to their fathers Preston O. Sheldon and Charles A. Stebel.

ARSC has received donations in memory of recently deceased ARSC member and long-time collector James D. Lewis Sr. from Phillip Rochlin and Elwood McKee.

Music Library Association to Meet in Baltimore in February

The Music Library Association's 1992 annual meeting will be held in Baltimore MD at the Stouffer Harborplace Hotel, February 19-22. Registration is open to anyone interested in the events and is available on a complete-meeting or day-by-day basis.

A preconference workshop entitled "Small Academic Music Libraries: Pressing Problems, Sensible Solutions—An Update" will be held February 18-19 at the same location. A "revisit" to the topic discussed in the 1983 preconference workshop, the meeting will emphasize such topics as dealing with technological change, budgetary reductions, demographic changes, career changes, issues in cataloging, and managing stress, among others.

The annual meeting will feature a plenary session each day beginning February 20: "World Music in the Music Library," "Doing the Right Thing: Professional Ethics and the Music Librarian," and "Baltimore's Music." Late mornings and afternoons will be filled with concurrent presentations, discussion groups, and committee meetings. Among events scheduled at this time are "Online Reference Services," "National and International Standards," "African-American Women and Music," "Users or Abusers: The Homeless and the Library," "Who Owns What in the Film Music World, and How to Find Out," "Analyzing Reference Performance," and "Examples in Resource Sharing." A new special feature of the 1992 meeting will be several "Ask MLA" sessions, an open forum during which members can share their concerns about a variety of issues facing music librarians.

For further information, please contact Richard E. Jones, MLA Publicity Officer, 1904 Sandalwood Drive, Greencastle IN 46135 (317 653-9379; email RJones@DEPAUW.BITNET).
Collections for Sale

A private collection, now in an estate, of over 2,300 items, mostly LPs and 45s is for sale to the highest bidder. For a complete list send $5.00 to: Marvin L. Metheney, Personal Rep., Estate of Carl Creel, P.O. Box 1631, Fort Myers FL 33902.

Over 14,000 records for sale, all 10" big bands, celebrities, Vogue Picture Records, major jazz, country, etc. and in first-class condition. Record shelves go with collection. Also available is an Ami Model 500 Jukebox, value over $3,000, for best offer. Please contact M.E. "Doc" McElwain, Briarcliff Manor, Apt. 102A, Wheeling WV 26003 (304 242-6942).

Recent and Forthcoming


Those wishing to attend the Rochester conference and would prefer to share a room are invited to inform the Newsletter editor (address on p. 2). A list will be published in the Winter issue by means of which members may make their own arrangements.

PAID ADVERTISING

Classified advertising is $1.50 per line, prepaid (eight words per line, three-line minimum). Deadlines are January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1. Make checks payable to Association for Recorded Sound Collections and mail along with advertising copy to Charles J. Haddix, ARSC Advertising Editor, Marr Sound Archive, University of Missouri-KC, 5100 Rockhill Road, Kansas City MO 64110.