1995 ARSC Conference

Martin Silver concluded his presidency by announcing that ARSC will hold its next conference jointly with the International Association of Sound Archives (IASA) and the International Federation of Television Archives (FIAT) at the Library of Congress in Washington. The conference is scheduled to take place in mid-September. Some joint sessions will be scheduled. ARSC will resume its customary spring conference in 1996.

Appointments

Holly Mockovak resigned as 2nd Vice-President and Program Chair for personal reasons at the end of the 1994 ARSC Conference. The ARSC Board appointed Vincent Pelote of the Institute of Jazz Studies at Rutgers to fill out the rest of her term.

President Jerome F. Weber announced the appointment of three committee chairs at the end of the annual meeting in New York:

Donald R. Hodgman, a collector from Ridgewood CT, will be chair of the Finance Committee. The committee is charged with assembling the annual budget for adoption by the ARSC Board at its annual fall meeting. The chair also reports at the annual membership meeting on his examination of the books of the association.

Michael Biel, professor at Morehead State University in Kentucky and onetime president of ARSC, resumes the chairmanship of the Membership Committee which is charged with making the association known to prospective members.

David Sommerfield, a music cataloger at the Library of Congress, has accepted the chair of the Local Arrangements Committee for the 1995 ARSC Conference in Washington.

The chair of the Broadcast Collections Committee, which is not a standing committee in the ARSC Bylaws, will not be filled. The committee thus becomes dormant until the association finds a need to revive it.

Kurt Nauck, recently appointed chair of the Dealers’ Committee, and all other chairpersons listed in the most recent ARSC Membership Directory have been reappointed.

The Associated Audio Archives (AAA) Committee, meeting at the end of the New York conference, elected Garrett H. Bowles, of the University of California-San Diego, as chair.

Laura Gayle Green will be the new ARSC Newsletter editor beginning with the next issue. She is currently Music/Media Librarian at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Previously, she was Visiting Assistant Librarian/Music Cataloger for the Title II-C Retrospective Conversion of Music Catalogs grant at Indiana University’s School of Music Library. Laura holds an MLS from Indiana University, an MA in Musicology from the University of Virginia and a B. Music in piano from Ashland College. Laura is also active in the Music Library Association and is currently Continuing Education Coordinator for the Music OCLC Users Group. An eclectic listener and collector, she enjoys music from Bizet’s Carmen to the Carter Family. “I’m looking forward to serving ARSC as Newsletter editor.” Laura’s address, telephone numbers, and e-mail address will be found on the following page—in the usual place.
It is a great pleasure to assume the office of president of our association. I joined ARSC in 1969 in response to the first advertisement welcoming collectors to an association formed for the benefit of sound archives. I attended my first conference (with thirty others, if I remember) in New York in 1971, just as our first president, Phil Miller, was leaving office. How wonderful it was to see Phil at the conference this year!

Over the years the goal of making record collections accessible to all interested people has been advanced by building up those collections, cataloging them, and promoting the participation of many more collections across the country in ARSC’s work; advocating the proper storage, handling, and archival transfer of records; raising standards of discography for all who are interested in performers, labels, or subjects; underwriting, recognizing, and publicizing the best work that is being done; and building contacts between dealers and collectors, as well as the institutions that so often become the repository of so many collections.

I see our purpose as continuing in all these endeavors. The AAA Committee is actively pursuing the enhancements of the Rigler-Deutsch Index to make it more useful and its contents more accessible. Another new member joined the committee in June: the Edison Historic Site. Welcome!

Our next conference will be a joint meeting with IASA and FIAT in Washington [see page 1 - Ed.] Why meet in the fall, a time chosen by IASA? Most of ARSC’s overseas members can attend our conferences only in this way. Also, some American members who belong to IASA would have to choose one or the other for their travel allotments. For the rest of us, a joint meeting is an exciting way of mingling with people we do not see too often, and joint sessions will be stimulating.

We are looking forward for a Far West site for the 1996 conference, our first out there since 1985. Anyone who would like to propose a host location is warmly urged to get in touch. In 1997, the conference should be somewhere between the Appalachians and the Rockies before return to the East again. We would like to consider invitations from potential Midwestern and Southern hosts this year to plan ahead for 1997. Please contact me if you would like to discuss the possibility.

To anyone who wants to become active in ARSC, I offer the formula that worked for me. Attend the conferences, visit the archives, get to know the people who are already doing things. Let all of us know what you can do to contribute to the goals of the association. We are just a lot of ordinary people who share the same purpose.

Finally, a word of appreciation is due Holly Mockovak who was so effective as program chair this year and secretary in the previous term. The breadth and excellence of the program this year were a credit to her organizational skills. We are sorry to lose her abilities.

Jerome F. Weber

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: Laura Gayle Green, Music/Media Librarian, Miller Nichols Library, University of Missouri-Kansas City 5100 Rockhill Road, Kansas City MO 64110-2499 (voice: 816 235-1679; Internet: GREENL@SMTPGATE.UMKC.EDU/34 fax: 816-333-5584)

Claims of 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. 69 is October 10, 1994.

Printed on recycled paper

ARSC members in memoriam

Curt Allen (Supulveda CA)
Paul Harpold (Falls Church VA)
Dr. L. Kaufman (Los Angeles CA)
Raymond Tump (Milwaukee WI)
Donald F. Wetzell (Barrington NJ)

Please see also page 5,
Memorial Donations
Winners of the 1994 ARSC Awards for Excellence

The winners of the fourth annual ARSC Awards for Excellence in Historical Recorded Sound Research were announced in a ceremony concluding the association’s recent Annual Conference in New York.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: William R. Moran

Classical discographer William R. Moran has been named recipient of the Association's fourth annual Lifetime Achievement Award. Previous honorees were Ulysses "Jim" Walsh, Brian A.L. Rust, and Raymond R. Wile. Moran is joint author (with Ted Fagan) of The Encyclopedic Discography of Victor Recordings (2 vols., 1983-1986), editor/compiler of Melba: A Contemporary Review, Herman Klein and the Gramophone, and The Recordings of Lillian Nordica. He is associate editor of the 42-volume reprint series Opera Biographies, has worked on numerous vocal reissue projects for RCA/BMG and others, and has written approximately thirty discographies and articles on operatic subjects for Recorded Sound, The Record Collector, ARSC Journal, and others. His discographies have appeared in a number of recent books, including the 1991 ARSC Award nominee Enrico Caruso: My Father and my Family and this year's winner Adelina Patti: Queen of Hearts.

Following, by category, are the winners for the best research published during 1993.

RECORDED CLASSICAL MUSIC

Adelina Patti: Queen of Hearts, by John Frederick Cone (Amadeus Press, 1993)

RECORDED ROCK, RHYTHM & BLUES OR SOUL

Louie, Louie, by Dave Marsh (Hyperion, 1993)

RECORDED GENERAL POPULAR MUSIC


RECORDED JAZZ, BLUES, OR GOSPEL

Going to Cincinnati: A History of the Blues in the Queen City, by Steven C. Tracy (Univ. of Illinois Press, 1993)

RECORDED COUNTRY MUSIC

The Stonemans, by Ivan M. Tribe (Univ. of Illinois Press, 1993)

RECORDED FOLK OR ETHNIC MUSIC

Lydia Mendoza, A Family Autobiography, compiled and introduced by Chris Strachwitz and Jim Nicolopulos (Arte Publico Press, 1993)

RECORD LABELS OR MANUFACTURERS

The Mercury Labels: A Discography, by Michel Ruppli and Ed Novitsky (Greenwood Press, 1993)

RECORDED TECHNOLOGY

Playback Equalizer Settings for 78 RPM Recordings, by James R. Powell, Jr., and Randall G. Stehle (Gramophone Adventures, 1993)

GENERAL REFERENCE IN THE FIELD OF RECORDED SOUND

The Banjo on Record: A Bio Discography, by Uli Heier and Rainer E. Lotz (Greenwood Press, 1993)

In announcing the awards, ARSC President Martin Silver and Awards Committee Chair Tim Brooks emphasized that all the finalists were exceptional works and deserved attention as valuable resources. The finalists were listed in the previous issue of the Newsletter (No. 67).
I recently received the first 1994 issue of the ARSC Journal and, like some other members, was disappointed to see the preponderance of articles relating to classical music. Being a private collector of popular music recordings from the 1890s to the 1990s, I found little of interest to read in this issue. At first I thought it was the fault of the Journal editor for not having a balanced issue and conveyed this to him. It was then that I learned that no researched articles on popular music had been submitted by the members. This got me to thinking that a call to the membership in general was in order.

A look at the "Current Bibliography" section which appears in each Journal shows that there are many articles being published in the "popular" and rock music vein. The ARSC Award nominees are another place where qualified authors and subjects are represented. If the authors of these articles and books could be encouraged to submit their preliminary writings to the Journal, it would provide both a better balance for each issue and some early free publicity for the author. Because ARSC membership includes experts in the field of recorded sound, the authors would probably also benefit from feedback by publishing their work-in-progress.

Those members who attend the annual conferences (and I encourage all members to attend these fun and stimulating events) have heard talks on rock, blues, and humor, as well as on popular music after 1950. Even those who may not collect this music gain new insights from these presentations. The ARSC Journal needs this type of balance, and only the members can make this work.

So, if you're working on a project, submit your topic to the editor, Barry Ashpole. If you know of a researcher who is not an ARSC member, tell him or her about ARSC and ask him or her to submit something. Since all the major music libraries are ARSC members, their research will then endure in a permanent collection.

I hope I can encourage you to submit your ideas to the Journal editor so that the fall issue will have a broader scope.

Sincerely,

Steven I. Ramm
member (and ARSC treasurer)
Memorial Donations

With the recent passing of my very dear ARSC friend and colleague, Ray Tump, I would like to make a contribution in his name to the association to help increase the amount available for research grants. I heartily encourage others in the membership to do the same, not only those who knew Ray well as a very warm and generous spirit, but also those friends of others, like Donald Wetzel, who have died in recent years. I urge the Newsletter to provide a section that will list other contributors sending in funds in the memory of our late colleagues.

Victor Greene, Professor
History
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Anyone wishing to make such a memorial donation should send a check payable to the Association for Recorded Sound Collections, P.O. Box 543, Annapolis MD 21404-0543. The name of the person in whose memory the contribution is made should be clearly noted The Newsletter will print names of contributors and in whose name the contribution is made.

The ARSC Bulletin

The ARSC Bulletin is the official record of the transactions of the association. It is compiled annually by the ARSC Secretary from the minutes of Board of Directors and Executive Committee meetings, officers and committee reports, announcements to the members, and noteworthy correspondence to and from the association.

The Bulletin has been published in various formats since 1968. In recent years the Bulletin has been printed and distributed with or as part of the ARSC Journal. This method of publication has contributed to the rising costs of operating ARSC. It had also come to the attention of the Board of Directors that relatively few members considered the contents of the Bulletin of interest.

During the Spring 1993 meeting of the Executive Committee it was decided, therefore, that starting in 1994 “the materials comprising the Bulletin [would] be reproduced inexpensively and distributed to all attendees at the annual conference; that the members be notified that these materials are available without charge upon request by any member; and that the Bulletin section be dropped from the Journal.”

Bulletin No. 27 (October, 1993 to May, 1994) was distributed to all members who picked it up at the 1994 annual conference in New York. Members who do not attend the annual conference and who wish to receive a copy should notify the ARSC Executive Director at P.O. Box 543, Annapolis MD 21404-0543.
Cuban Music Discography

The first volume of Cristóbal Díaz Ayala’s Discografía de la música cubana has just been published. It covers 1898 to 1925 and is 365 pages in length. It is priced for ARSC members in the United States at $15.00 postpaid. Mr. Díaz needs help in bringing the work to completion. This takes, especially, the form of catalogs of 78 rpm recordings. He will buy, pay for photocopying of, even beg for, the information. Cristóbal Díaz Ayala, Box 190613, San Juan PR 00919-0613.

Melodiya Magazine

Melodiya magazine, formerly the house organ of the USSR state recording enterprise, is now an independent monthly periodical devoted to music and recordings of all the companies operating in Russia. Its articles cover recording history, the current state of the industry and market in Russia. Subscription information may be obtained from General Editor, Larisa Smirnova, P.O. Box 90, 103104, Moscow, Russia (tel 7 095 126-26-34). Subscriptions are also available ($36 per annum) through Victor Kamkin Bookstore, Inc., 4956 Boiling Brook Parkway, Rockville MD 20852 (301 881-5973).

Jean Martinon Discography

Stephen C. Hillyer is compiling a discography of composer-conductor Jean Martinon (1910-1976). He needs help in determining exact details, especially recording dates, for quite a few LPs, CDs, 78s, and other items. Anyone who thinks he or she can help should please contact him at Apt. 707, 1111 Church Street, Evanston IL 60201, for a list.

Classical Recordings for Sale

Mrs. James C.H. Ferdig has fifteen recordings, mostly 78 rpm, to sell. She can supply a complete list for anyone who may be interested. Her address is P.O. Box 2382, Canyon Country CA 91386-2382.

Country Music in Russia and Ex-USSR

A 120-page book in English by Andrei Gorbantov, Wanted: Country Music in Russia and Ex-USSR deals with the growth of country music in Russia and gives details (including discographies and biographical notes) of that country’s country music organizations. Contact Anna West, 109 South 9th Street, Brooklyn NY 11211 (718 599-5360). The price is $12.50.

British Music Society Recordings

The British Music Society continues its series of recordings: BMS 415 (cassette only) Viola Sonatas by Edgar Bainnot and Julius Harrison ($12.00 U.S.) and BMS 416 (CD only) Music for Piano Solo and Duet by Lennox Berkeley ($17.00 U.S.). Place orders with and make checks payable to S.A. Trowell, 7 Tudor Gardens, Upminster, Essex RM14 3DE, England. Mr. Trowell can also supply details of other recordings, membership, etc.

Folk Song Reissue

Drive Dull Care Away, a cassette reissue of folk-singer Joseph C. Hickerson’s two solo LPs of 1976 (long unavailable) may now be purchased from Joe at 43 Philadelphia Avenue, Takoma Park MD 20912 (home 301 270-1107; work 202 707-1725) for $12.00. Last year Joe was honored by the Library of Congress for thirty years of service at the Archive of Folk Song and its successor the Archive of Folk Culture.
Russian Recording Exchange

Members interested in developing exchanges and purchases of Russian recordings through contacts with members of the recently organized Russian Association of Sound Recording Collectors (AKV) are invited to write to the ARSC Secretary, Elwood McKee, 118 Monroe Street, #610, Rockville MD 20850. The AKV has suggested that it affiliate with ARSC and the proposal is being considered by the Board of Directors. Further information will be provided you in future issues of the ARSC Newsletter.

Audio Materials for Russian Cities

Asad Haroon is a Peace Corps volunteer in Saratov, Russia, a city of about a million people 800 km southeast of Moscow. He would like to know if ARSC members can donate audio materials needed for Russian-American Centers in Saratov and Volgograd, the latter 500 km south of the former. He and another volunteer in Volgograd have been working with the public libraries of the two cities to establish centers expected to house a collection of American books, magazines, and videotapes covering a wide range of topics. They now have a few books obtained from American organizations in Moscow. They desperately need more books in English, both fiction and non-fiction, on various aspects of American life. The materials in the Russian-American Centers will be widely used, as a large number of the people in both cities understand English and are interested in American culture. Mr. Haroon’s mailing address is Peace Corps/Saratov, Post International Inc., 666 5th Avenue, Suite 572, New York NY 10103, e-mail asad@haroon.saratovsu. Donated materials can be sent to Victor Ciardello, Country Director, American Embassy, Moscow, PSC 77 Peace Corps Saratov, APO, AE 0972, Russia.

IASA/FIAT Conference

This year’s joint conference of the International Association of Sound Archives (IASA) and the Fédération internationale des archives de télévision (FIAT) will take place from September 3 to 8 at the Internationales Bildungs-Centrum Bogensee just outside Berlin. Joint sessions of their respective technical and cataloging committees are planned, as well as other joint ventures, including excursions. The normal complement of separate sessions is also on the agenda. For registration and other information, please contact either Anke Leenings, Deutsches Rundfunkarchiv, Bertramstraße 8, D-60320 Frankfurt/Main (49-69-15687-150; fax 49-69-15687-100), or Klaus Teige, Deutsches Rundfunkarchiv, Standort Berlin, Rudower Chaussee 3, D-12489 Berlin (49-30-6381-6055, resp. 677-64-113; fax 49-30-677-4007, resp. 677-64-100).

Audio-Visual Symposium

A technical symposium “Preserving our Audio-Visual Heritage: Technology's Role in Preserving the Memory of the World” organized by the Technical Coordinating Committee on behalf of the Fédération internationale des archives du film (FIFAF), Fédération internationale des archives de télévision (FIAT), International Association of Sound Archives (IASA), International Council of Archives (ICA), and International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) will be held January 27-29, 1995, National Film Theatre, South Bank, London. Among the expected session chairs and speakers are ARSC members Dietrich Schiller and William Storm. For further information and registration forms, please contact the JTS 95 Secretariat at 14 Dulverton Drive, Furzton, Milton Keynes MK4 1DE, UK.
ARSC Lapel Pin

ARSC members: Wear a lapel pin with the ARSC logo and proudly identify yourself to your fellow members and to others who may learn about us in this way!

ARSC is considering stocking a 5/8-inch-diameter lapel pin, featuring the ARSC logo, in attractive colors. The price would be about $5.00 postpaid in the U.S., with foreign postage additional. If interested, please send your name and address to Peter Shambarge, ARSC Executive Director, at the return address on the outside of the Newsletter. There is no obligation for writing, but we need to know how many pins we might be able to sell before we commit ARSC funds.