



Historical Committee Report to the AES Board of Governors, 125th Convention, San Francisco

Warm congratulations goes to Jay McKnight who received the AES Distinguished Service Medal on Thursday afternoon. We will continue to depend on Jay's wise council as Historical Committee Chair Emeritus. He continues his valuable work on historical projects and standards activities.

1. **This Convention**—Report from Historical Committee Co-Chairs.
2. **Oral History Project**—Thanks to the great work of project video editor Harry Hirsch, we now have 97(!) completed oral history interviews along with master DVDs of these for duplication. Working with Roger Furness, Harry created a marketing plan to initiate their sale via the AES website (Members: \$15, Non-members: \$20, \$14 each for 10-19 DVDs, \$13 each for 20+ DVDs)

The first batch of 20 are now available via the AES web site.

Gary Gottlieb at Webster University wrote the brief bios on each individual listed.

Harry also produced 97 two-minute clips for use in marketing the interview DVDs. AES webmaster Steve Johnson has placed the first batch of 20 “trailers” on [YouTube](#).

Up Next—Harry will produce DVDs of our collection of “Afternoon With...” and other lectures/recordings that we have collected over the years.

Gene Radzik has interviewed electronic music pioneer John Chowning and will send the edited master to Harry for final production for sale.

Myles Cochran Davis will be sending the John Woodgate interview master to Harry.

Committee Technical Advisor John Chester performs voiceover introductions and manages the backup archive of our recordings. All backups are finished. See also John's wish [list of interviewees](#) (needs updating!).

Irv Joel, long-standing project conducted most of these interesting interviews internationally. We are grateful for his contributions over the years. We will be searching for a new project leader. We would also like to have a person to organize US-based interviews, and a second organizer for interviews based in Europe. Marketing to college and universities is a goal.

3. **AES 60th Anniversary CD**—Harry Hirsh produced a DVD commemorating the 60th 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. See this link for a detailed project description:

<http://www.aes.org/aeshc/history-of-audio-engineering-as-told-thru-the-aes-journal.pdf>.

- Volunteer Ty Welborn is assisting Jay, working on extracting convention material (announcements, programs, reports, exhibits, and exhibitors). He has completed 35% and plans to finish in a few weeks.
- See this link for a complete Table of Contents listing of AES journals:
<http://www.aes.org/journal/toc/>
- AES WebMaster Steve Johnson has implemented a search for abstracts of all Journal articles, including a powerful author's affiliation search. See:
<http://aes.org/journal/search.cfm>
- See "Volume 0" of the AES Journal (originally published in Audio Engineering as AES Journal in the years 1948—1952). <http://www.aes.org/aeshc/how-the-aes-began.html>
- Jay continues to update his cumulative index of obituaries. See:
<http://www.aes.org/aeshc/docs/jaesobit.html>

5. **History of the AES**—Jay McKnight is planning further discussions with Roger Furness during the SF convention.

6. **Historical Committee Web Site Design**—Historical Committee Co-Chair Gene Radzik continues work on reorganizing the committee website. He is coordinating with AES webmaster Steve Johnson in an effort to meet several goals:

- Improve search capabilities
- Reorganize the content
- Provide a function-forward design.

Electronic document metadata parameters need to be reviewed to help maximize the value of indexing and search engines. Moving forward, reorganization efforts of a new AES CMS implementation and publishing will be coordinated with the AES webmaster to maintain consistency of functionality and design across the AES site.

7. **Museums Coordination**—Project leader Myles Cochran Davis plans to continue updating the information and links contained on the [Organizations and Institutions](#) web page. Please ask for his contact information if you have any requests for additions or changes.

8. **Historical Committee Email Reflector**—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. Tom Fine will be sending in a few ideas for the next New York convention.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gene Radik

Bill Wray

Co-Chairs, AES Historical Committee

GR/WW 2008-10-01