MEETING NOTICE!

AUDIO ENGINEERING SOCIETY, INC.
SAN FRANCISCO SECTION
3429 MORNINGSIDE DRIVE
EL SOBRANTE, CA 94803
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

AUDIO ENGINEERING SOCIETY, INC.
SAN FRANCISCO SECTION

JUNE 1996 VOL 6

In Memoriam, Harry McCune

Renowned audio engineer and Chairman of the Board of McCune Audio/Visual Video, died suddenly on the 11th of April 1996 of a heart attack. A native of San Francisco, Harry McCune began his career as a teenager with his father's sound company. In the 1930's Harry and his father, Harry Sr., broadcasted live big bands over the radio from ballrooms in San Francisco. During the Korean Conflict, McCune trained in psychological warfare

at the University of Kansas and developed mobile radio broadcasting units. After the war he returned to oversee the expansion of the family firm which now boasts some 300 employees with offices throughout the U.S.

McCune has been credited with inventing many of the concepts of the modern day live performance sound systems. McCune helped develop innovations such as the tri-amped loudspeaker, slider pot consoles, bi-amped monitor speakers and large stadium loudspeakers. He designed touring sound systems for leading entertainers including Bill Cosby, Barbara Streisand, Frank Sinatra, the San Francisco Symphony, as well as the AES Conventions, the NAB conventions, and the Hollywood Bowl.

Kindhearted and philanthropic, McCune created and supported an orphanage in Heidelberg, Germany for abandoned children of US Service men. He provided low or no-cost audiovisual systems to volunteer and charitable organization. McCune was a supporter of the San Francisco Convention Bureau, the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, and long standing member of the AES. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn of San Francisco, son Allan McCune of Burlingame, daughter Sue Morley of Santa Rosa, sister Pat McCune of San Francisco, and six Grandchildren.

In Memoriam, William A. Palmer

Veteran San Francisco filmmaker, inventor, and audio recording pioneer Bill Palmer died of a stroke on Thursday, 6 June 1996. Palmer founded W.A. Palmer & Co. in San Francisco in 1936, later renamed W.A. Palmer Films, Inc., a business over which he actively presided until his death. Working with Bing Crosby, ABC, and Ampex just after World War II, Palmer was the essential catalyst that began the era of high-quality audio magnetic tape recording in America. Palmer and his colleague, John T. Mullin of San Francisco, perfected an American version of the German "Magnetophon" high-fidelity audio tape recorder in 1946. The work of Palmer and Mullin led to an almost immediate acceptance of tape as the standard American recording method for radio, film sound tracks, and records, a sweeping technical revolution. Palmer and Mullin provided Ampex Corporation in Redwood City, California, with essential help in perfecting that company's Model 200, the first U.S. commercial professional audio tape recorder, introduced in 1948. The Palmer-Mullin and Ampex machines also spawned magnetic data recording for instrumentation and computers, and later, videotape recording. In the early 1950s, before the successful introduction of video tape, Palmer developed a unique system for recording the TV image on 16mm film, a modified "kinescope" process called the Palmer Television Film Recorder. The device recorded video without the typical "kine" shutter bar that plagued other designs, and was used around the world. Palmer was one of the first filmmakers in the United States to use optical sound on 16mm film for commercial and educational productions, developing in 1933 his own design for a sound-on-film camera.

Palmer was born in Oakland in 1911, shortly after his birth, his family moved to Palo Alto, where he was raised and educated. He graduated from Stanford University in 1932 with a B.A. degree in engineering. He held numerous film, audio, and video patents. He was a Fellow of both the Audio Engineering Society and the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers, and was an active member of the San Francisco Bohemian Club. He is survived by nieces Nancy D. Palmer of Palo Alto and Nancy Phelps of Felton, nephews Hall Palmer of Palo Alto, Bruce Palmer of Los Altos, and Barton P. Phelps of Sunnyvale, and several grandnephews. The family encourages donations in his honor be made to the Organ Concert Fund, Stanford Memorial Church, Stanford, CA 94305-2090.

JULY MEETING

Subject: The Early Sound Field in Performance Halls

Speaker: Anthony Nash, Charles M. Salter Associates, San Francisco

Place: Dolby Labs, San Francisco

Time and Date: July 17th, 7:30pm (refreshments at 7pm)

Over the past twenty years there has been considerable study of the sound field in performance spaces. In the course of this work, researchers have invented many technical terms in an attempt to describe the single parameter most responsible for the human perceptual impression of sound. Recently, it has been proposed that these terms (e.g., lateral fraction, C80, early decay time, etc.) are highly correlated. Most researchers in this area do agree that the early sound field is largely responsible for the perceived "liveness" in a performance hall. The best halls usually have early reflections of approximately the same level as the direct sound. A new analysis and data presentation technique for examining the early sound field will be described. Of course, we have taken the liberty of inventing yet two more new terms: The Instantaneous Sound Envelope, similar to the Energy Time Curve, which reveals the pattern of sound arrivals at the test microphone position; and the Sound Energy Growth, which is a forward integration of the time signal, showing the build-up of sound energy in the room. Measured data from several interesting rooms will be presented along with a discussion of their acoustical qualities.

Anthony Nash has been a consultant in acoustics and vibration for over twenty years. He is currently vice-president of Charles M. Salter Associates in San Francisco. His special area of interest is work on complex problems in buildings involving measurements of sound and structural vibration. He is the author of numerous papers and articles in the areas of acoustics, audio, and noise and vibration control.

Directions:

From the South Bay, take 101 north to the Vermont St. exit, make an immediate left onto Vermont. Go 5 blocks and turn left on Alameda, go 3 blocks to #100 Potrero.

From the Bay Bridge, take 9th street exit, turn south onto Harrison St., follow Harrison to 10th St. Turn left on 10th St. and proceed under the freeway overpass onto Potrero Ave., to #100 Potrero.

From the Golden Gate Bridge, follow signs to Lombard, proceed on Lombard to Van Ness and turn right. Proceed on Van Ness to Fell St. and turn left. Proceed on Fell until it becomes 10th st. Continue on 10th under the freeway overpass and bear right onto Potrero, go to #100.

COMING EVENTS

July 12 - 14
Summer NAMM
Nashville, TN

July 26 - 30
IAAM Conference
Philadelphia, PA

August 6 - 8
SIGGRAPH
New Orleans, LA

August 7 - 10
MacWorld Expo
Boston, MA

JOB BOARD

Speaker Design Engineers
Several of the world's largest speaker and audio equipment manufacturers have a current need for 9 design engineers. The ideal candidates will have a BSEE, BSME or BS in physics with 2-5 years experience in audio and speaker design and or specifying audio design. Positions available in four locations. Qualified candidates should fax their resumes to: Henry Toyes, Snelling Search 423-637-5779 (phone) 423-523-3180 (fax)

THX Product Development Engineer Lucasfilm, Ltd.
Engineer needed to provide support for licensed product development and manage the evaluation of licensed products. Must have EE degree or equivalent, minimum 3 years experience in the consumer electronics industry and product development, 3-5 years experience in project management. Fax Resume to 415-662-2460

Additional job openings are posted on the AES web page.

San Francisco Section

Chairperson Bill Orner
415-903-0301
fax 415-903-0409
71064.104@compuserve.com

Vice Chairperson David Josephson
408-238-6062

Treasurer John Reible
510-763-3754

Secretary Brian Cheney
510-222-4276

Committee
Eric Benjamin
415-558-0236
Louis Fielder
415-558-0218
Paul Howard
408-371-9539
Brian Link
408-438-1921
Richard Marsh
916-885-2279
Ted Marsh
415-933-1659
Roger Powell
415-933-1604
Christopher Struck
415-923-9535
Philip Wiser
415-254-2332

Audio Engineering Society, Inc.

International Headquarters
60 East 42nd Street, Room 2520
New York, NY 10165-2520
Tel. 212-661-8528
Fax 212-682-0477

San Francisco Section
3429 Morningside Drive
El Sobrante, CA 94803
Tel. 510-222-4276
Fax 510-232-3837
eMail aessf@monk.engr.sgi.com
http://reality.sgi.com/csp/aessf

Newsletter Comments
Att: Bill Orner
1637 Gretel Lane
Mountain View, CA 94040
Tel. 415-903-0301
Fax 415-903-0409
eMail 71064.104@compuserve.com