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# AUDIO engineering society, Inc. Pacific Northwest Section

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## April 29, 1997 Meeting Notice

### The Art and Science of System Troubleshooting A Panel Discussion with Perkins, Perkins, and Chinn Presented in association with WAPS\*

**DATE:** Tuesday, April 29, 1997 7:30pm

**PLACE:** Jack Straw Productions Studio, 4261 Roosevelt Way NE, Seattle, WA

**DIRECTIONS:** From I-5, take the NE 45th St. Exit (Exit 169). Go Eastbound on NE 45th. Turn right onto Roosevelt Way NE (one-way Southbound). Jack Straw is on the right, at the corner of NE 43rd. Limited parking in the lot on the south side of the building, plus street parking.

**Panelists:**

Cal Perkins, Mackie Designs

Mac Perkins, PNTA (Pacific Northwest Theater Associates)

Rick Chinn, Mackie Designs, Uneeda Audio, Seattle Center

All of us have had systems, audio and other, not function as we expected, and then had to try to figure out what was wrong and fix the problem (or problems), often in front of an anxious audience. Sometimes we've succeeded, and sometimes we've probably failed. This meeting is designed to pass along some knowledge and skills to use the next time you face that situation, as well as learning how three acknowledged masters approach, analyze, and fix systems of all sorts. The emphasis will be on using simple tools, combined with your five senses and experience, to develop a troubleshooting gestalt. Fixing especially complicated problems can become a Zen/warrior thing, and we will no doubt hear tales of dragons slain, maidens rescued, and one-handed clapping (well, problems solved, anyway).

Cal Perkins - has a BSEE from Cal Poly. Cal has worked in the sound industry since the early sixties: Swanson Sound in the Bay area, Northwest Sound, Sundown Sound, JBL, Marantz, Fender, and now Mackie. He has co-chaired the AES travelling dog and pony show on Grounding and Shielding along with one or two papers sessions at the AES conventions. He's the Perkins behind the (in)famous Perkins boxes (aka JBL 4550, 4560).

Mac Perkins (no relation) - After being born on a mountaintop and coming to grips at an early age with the fact that the rest of his life would be downhill from there, Mac first came to people's attention in the Pacific NW at the UW School of Drama Scene Shop. He left there amicably, and found a position where he couldn't be fired: as one of the owners of PNTA (Pacific Northwest Theater Associates), a major theatrical supply company, Mac fixes things gone wrong at most of the theaters and event production companies in a three or four state region. Dogs like him. So does his wife.

Rick Chinn has been slaying dragons (at least the electronic type) since the mid sixties. Somehow along the way, he's helped launch two sound companies (one now trailing Hale-Bopp), fixed amplifiers for the stars, worked in a studio or two, and (somehow) managed to work for most of the PNW area audio manufacturers. Currently he's trying to stick a fork into the design of the Mackie SR40\*8 live sound mixer along with running his own live sound company and working (very intermittently) at the Seattle Center Sound department.

\* The Washington Association of Production Services (WAPS) was created by companies in the live event production industry in the State of Washington, whose specialties include: Sound, Lighting, Audio-Visual, Motion Picture, Convention, Trade Show, and Special Event services. Contact Dan Mortensen for more info.

### NON-MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND 1996-97 Officers and Committee Members

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