Around the Puget Sound, Seattle, Washington, USA

June Meeting Notice

Presented by

The Pacific Northwest Section

of

The Audio Engineering Society

A Closer Look at CBS Record's Legendary 30th Street Studio

with

Former Staff Engineer

Frank Laico

and

David Simons

Author, "Studio Stories"

Presented by

AES Pacific Northwest Section

Crista Rehabilitation Center

19301 King's Garden Drive N

Shoreline, WA 98133

7:15pm, Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Directions to Crista Rehabilitation Center

Another Meeting with CBS Records Legendary Engineer Frank Laico, where we:

- Look at his career;
- Listen to his work;
- Examine the 30th Street Studio as best we can 30+ years after;
- Watch the studio in use;
- Learn some forgotten things about the studio; and
- Pay special attention to the reverb chambers in both 30th St (Studio C) and 799 7th Ave. (Studio A)

Joining us over an audio link will be David Simons, author of the book Studio Stories, as well as many articles for numerous audio magazines.

We will be simultaneously putting this meeting up on the Internet as a Webinar, which will carry the PA feed from the meeting as well as the video feed from the presenting computer. There will be no live cameras.

If you can't attend the meeting in person, then consider joining us via the Webinar feed. Gotomeeting.com will send you an email prior to the meeting that tells you how to access the stream. Your browser needs to have Java enabled and pop-up windows allowed. There is no cost for either the Webinar or for your physical attendance.

> **Note that we will start the video presentation for the webinar at 7:00, showing New York City in Frank's day, to provide some context for his work. If you get to the meeting location at that time, you can also view this content. At the intermission, internet viewers will see pictures that didn't make it into the presentation.**

Moderator and producer of the evening will be Dan Mortensen, PNW Section Chair.

Frank Laico is now 93 years old. He is the most recent recipient of the AES' Honorary Member Award, one of the highest honors awarded to a member of the audio community. He was a staff recording engineer at CBS Records for more than 30 years, and is the only engineer in history to go from recording on wax discs to 24 track digital.

Please be aware that the last year has been pretty rough for Frank; he had a stroke in February 2011, which left his mind mostly intact, but took away much of the functioning of his left arm and leg. He has had an arduous but apparently typical journey though various rehabilitation and care scenarios since. Happily, he is now on a relative plateau physically, emotionally, and residentially, to the point where we (his wife Colette, his caregivers, the AES Committee, and the moderator/producer) feel that this meeting will be good for him and for us. We will minimize our intrusion into his life by meeting in a multi-purpose room at his care facility so he can leave if required, and easily return if possible. While he has up days and down days, he is doing pretty well and is definitely looking forward to seeing the many friends he's made since he has been coming to our meetings, both as a presenter and as an attendee.

David Simons is the author of the book, *Studio Stories,* an engaging account of some of the most memorable moments in New York's recording history, as seen through the eyes (and ears) of the

many producers, engineers, songwriters, and recording artists who helped make them happen. It explores the explosive 30 years between 1950 and 1980 and the numerous ingredients that made them unique: artists performing live in large, vibrant recording spaces; producers and engineers spontaneously creating new effects and techniques; composers writing parts on demand in the studio; and, most important, recording studios that had life, character, and their own fingerprint sound.

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AES PNW Section
2012 Election of Officers and Committee

At our June meeting, we will hold annual elections for the officers and committee positions that form the backbone of our AES section. The committee is in charge of actively planning all logistics for our meetings and activities.

Please plan on attending this meeting.

- Officers hold their positions for one year.
- Committee positions are for two years. There are 10 positions, 5 of them elect every year to ensure continuity in the committee.
- Members and Associate members of the PNW Section may vote.
- Elections require a quorum of 15 members (including associates) to proceed. Failing that, we have to resort to mail-in ballots. If you are a member or associate member, PLEASE attend the June meeting.
- Nominations can be made from the floor at the meeting, or (preferably) submitted to Rick Chinn, nominations chair.

Our section's Mission Statement can be found at this LINK.

Slate of Candidates

Officers

- Chair — Dave Tosti-Lane / Cornish College
- Vice Chair — Steve Malott / Shoreline College
- Secretary — Gary Louie / University of Washington, School of Music
- Treasurer — Dave Franzwa / Maple Systems

Section Committee

- James (JJ) Johnston
- Greg Mauser
- Dan Mortensen / Dansound
- Mark Rogers / The Greenbusch Group
- Dr. Ivan Tashev / Microsoft Research
- Rich Williams / Lunchbox Audio

Candidate Bio Information

Officers
Chair — Dave Tosti-Lane / Cornish College

Dave is a sound designer, technical director, lighting designer and technical consultant, and is one of the original founders (and current Chair) of the Performance Production department at Cornish College of the Arts. He is active in professional organizations such as the U.S. Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT), where he is Co-Commissioner for the Sound Commission and the Associate Editor for Sound for *TD&T,* the Journal of the USITT; The International Organization of Scenographers, Theatre Architects and Technicians (OISTAT), where he is a member of the Sound Design Working Group; and the Audio Engineering Society (AES), where he has served on standards committees, and is a past Chair of the Pacific Northwest Audio Engineering Society. Dave holds a BS in Management and an MFA in Technical Theater/Lighting Design from Virginia Polytechnic Institute, however his adventures in sound probably started with the 3" reel to reel message recorder he was given sometime around 1962.

Vice-Chair — Steve Malott / Shoreline Community College

Steve Malott has participated in AES meetings for many years but has only seriously put his money where his mouth is for a few years (by joining AES). As a broadcaster (and former SBE student member), audio engineer, producer and educator, Steve is continually surprised by the talent unearthed and the diverse opportunities available to anyone who has more than a passing interest in audio. Now serving his second term as Governor for the Recording Academy and participating in Producer's and Engineer's Wing, Grammy U and membership activities, Steve's goal is to negotiate a closer alliance between the two organizations, with an eye towards more cooperative cross-participation for both groups. Among the topics Steve is interested in pursuing for PNW AES:

- The economics of audio equipment (who decides to make what, and how much money do they make doing it)
- Math for struggling audio engineers (and why it's good to understand it
- Sharpening listening skills: a primer for audio professionals
- Why is it sometimes $150 mics seem to sound as good and work better than $5,000 mics?
- Why don't most audio engineers win national awards or substantial industry recognition?

Of course, I'm always interested in great hardware or software demos, along the lines of:

- Mic Shootout
- A-D / D-A Shootout
- Loudspeaker Shootout
- CoDec Shootout

and the ever-popular

- DAW Shootout

Even if not elected I am still interested in moving NARAS and AES closer together in membership and participant activities, so my agenda is not too hidden after all...

Secretary — Gary Louie / University of Washington, School of Music

Gary has been the recording engineer for the University of Washington School of Music since 1979, previously earning his BSEE at the UW. He has served as AES PNW Section Chair, Vice Chair, Committee,

and most recently, Secretary since 1993. Gary is also the co-author, with Glenn White, of the *Audio Dictionary* 3rd Ed.

Treasurer — Dave Franzwa / Maple Systems

Dave has been employed in the audio manufacturing industry in the Seattle area since 1979, having worked at TAPCO, Carver, Spectral, and Mackie, and is currently employed as a Technical Support Engineer at Maple Systems in Everett. He graduated from Cogswell College North in 1995 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Electronics Engineering Technology. He enjoys playing music and working with audio and sound reinforcement equipment in his spare time.

Section Committee (alpha order)

Committee - James D. (JJ) Johnston

JJ received the BSEE and MSEE degrees from Carnegie-Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA in 1975 and 1976 respectively.

JJ temporarily retired in 2002 but worked 26 years for AT&T Bell Labs and its successor AT&T Labs Research. He was one of the first investigators in the field of perceptual audio coding, one of the inventors and standardizers of MPEG 1/2 audio Layer 3 and MPEG-2 AAC, as well as the AT&T Bell Labs or AT&T Labs-Research PXFM (perceptual transform coding) and PAC (perceptual audio coding) and the ASPEC algorithm that provided the best audio quality in the MPEG-1 audio tests.

Most recently he has been working in the area of auditory perception of soundfields, ways to capture soundfield cues and represent them, and ways to expand the limited sense of realism available in standard audio playback for both captured and synthetic performances. He was most recently employed by DTS Audio and his current status is *retired.*

Mr. Johnston is an IEEE Fellow, and AES Fellow, a NJ Inventor of the Year, an AT&T Technical Medalist and Standards Awardee, and a co-recipient of the IEEE Donald Fink Paper Award. Mr. Johnston was a presenter at the 2004 AES Section Meeting, "From Hear to Infinity." In 2006, he received James L. Flanagan Signal Processing Award from the IEEE Signal Processing Society.

Committee - Greg Mauser

Greg has a Bachelor's Degree in Electronics Engineering from Bradley University. He previously worked as an Embedded Hardware and Software Engineer, developing a variety of products for Industrial, Aerospace, and Automotive industries. For the past 15 years he has worked as a C++ Software Engineer developing and testing Windows applications used in such areas as Aerospace and Energy Management Systems.

Greg's audio interest started at an early age when he began playing guitar and building related musical equipment such as amplifiers, synthesizers, and effects pedals. He has been an avid home recording enthusiast since 1983 and has produced several CDs of his own original music. He has played in many PNW bands for the past 20 years and his recent audio focus has been on the design and modification of electron tube guitar amplifiers, effects pedals, and guitar pickups. He has served for the past two years as a committee member of the AES PNW Section.

Committee - Dan Mortensen

Dan is President of Dansound Inc., which specializes in live sound reinforcement and is Washington State dealer for Meyer Sound Laboratories, among other dealerships. He is current AES PNW Section Chair, past Vice-Chair, Treasurer, & Committee member. He is the current Executive Director of the Washington Association of Production Services. After more than 20 years, Dan continues to find that serving on the AES PNW Committee is one of his favorite things.

Committee - Mark Rogers / The greenbusch Group

Mark is Director of the AV Department at the Greenbusch Group, a Seattle acoustical consulting firm. He is a designer of audio/visual systems, including sound reinforcement, audio reproduction, video projection and displays, videoconferencing and audioconferencing, and related control systems. Typical projects include corporate boardrooms, convention centers, universities and hospitals. He has designed and installed AV for over 30 years, and also teaches classes and seminars on AV technology. He is a registered Professional Engineer (Idaho) and earned his BSEE at the University of Idaho. He is a past Vice Chair and Committee member of the PNW AES Section and has presented several topics to the section.

Committee - Dr. Ivan Tashev

Dr. Tashev works on creation of novel sound capturing and sound rendering devices and audio processing algorithms at Microsoft Research. He created and implemented the algorithm for the microphone array support in Windows Vista. He has published more than 60 scientific papers and has 34 submissions for US patents. Four of them have already been granted and all are in the area of novel audio processing algorithms. He holds the Ph.D. degree in Computer Science (1990) and the Masters Degree in Electronics (1984), both from the Technical University of Sofia, Bulgaria.

Dr. Tashev's book, *Sound Capture and Processing: Practical Approaches* was published in 2009.

Committee 3 - Rich Williams / Lunchbox Audio

Rich is the owner of Lunchbox Audio, a local and online audio retailer for recording & live sound equipment, software, and accessories. Previously he ran a humble project studio producing demos for bands in the Midwest but the lure of getting a rain-tan caused him to relocate to Seattle. Rich is also a member of the Recording Academy, BMI, and NAMM.