



RLE

undercurrents

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A Newsletter for the RLE Community at MIT

STARGAZING IN RADIO ASTRONOMY



A RISING STAR, A QUIESCENT STAR

Part-time Senior Staff Assistant Wendy Hunter works with Professor Bernard F. Burke in the Radio Astronomy Group. Wendy grew up in Flagstaff, Arizona, and came to Boston in 1982 to pursue her interest in music and to attend the New England Conservatory. She earned her bachelor's degree in 1985, majoring in vocal performance. After a trip to Europe in the summer of 1988, Wendy started working for Professor Burke that September. She now combines her position at RLE with freelance singing. Wendy's appearances have included Celia in Gilbert and Sullivan's *Iolanthe* for The Publick Theatre, and as Laetitia (pictured above) in Menotti's *The Old Maid and the Thief* for the New England Vocal Arts Ensemble. In November, she gave a recital as part of the MIT Staff Noon Series sponsored by the Music and Theater Arts Department. Her performance included works by Barber, Ravel, Strauss, and Donaudy. Wendy also has several oratorios coming up in December. (Photo by Mark Osler)



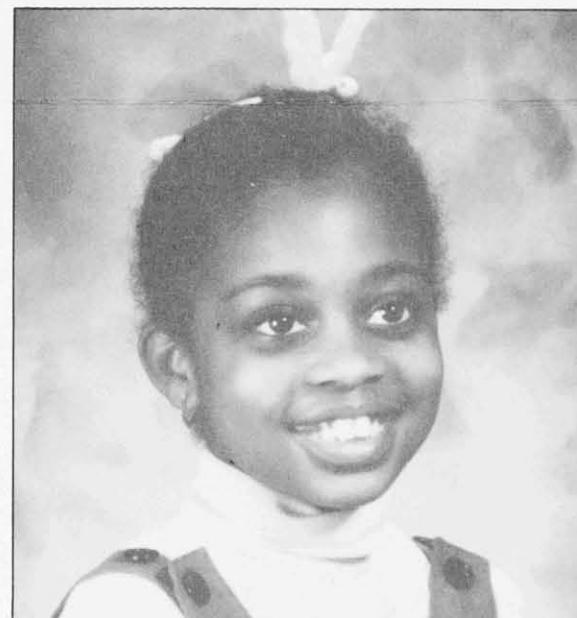
Administrative Staff Assistant Clare F. Smith earned her bachelor's degree from Boston University. After working at secretarial positions with Chance Vought Aircraft Company in Stratford, Connecticut, and National Fireworks Company in West Hanover, Massachusetts, she came to MIT's Acoustics Laboratory in 1950. Clare joined RLE in 1958 as Professor Karl U. Ingard's secretary in the Physical Acoustics Group. In 1976, she became Professor David H. Staelin's secretary in RLE's Radio Astronomy Group, and was promoted to Administrative Staff Assistant in 1983. Quiet and unassuming, Clare has devoted over forty years of service to MIT. Professor Staelin voiced his appreciation, "Over 1,000 students have benefitted from Clare's helpful and cordial nature and her intelligent attention to detail. She cares greatly, and that is enormously appreciated. It is a pleasure to work with her." (Photo by John Cook)



UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN

United Way contributions are being collected by the Headquarters Communications Group. Last year, your generosity enabled 204 agencies to reach out to nearly 1.4 million people in 81 Massachusetts communities. Donations to the United Way address many critical human service needs such as affordable child care, housing, and cancer research. The United Way also supports agencies concerned with AIDS, substance abuse, the elderly, racism, youth development, literacy, and emergency services. Remember, 85 cents of every dollar you give goes directly to people who need it most; less than 15 cents goes to fund raising and administrative costs. For information, please contact Editorial Assistant Mary Ziegler or Communications Officer Barbara Passero (3-2566). Thanks for giving so generously to the United Way!

SHORT WAVES . . .



Rasbeena D. Howard, daughter of Headquarters Administrative Assistant Maureen C. Howard, was chosen to personally welcome first ladies Barbara Bush and Raisa Gorbachev during
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PLUG IN TO RLE'S COMPUTING POWER



To better serve the RLE community and streamline the lab's administrative functions, Headquarters staff has announced three new relational database applications, two of which will operate on the RLE mainframe:

On-line RLE Personnel Directory. On-line viewing of unrestricted personnel information is now available to users of the RLE mainframe (MITRLEVM). This information includes name, job title, supervisor, RLE group, MIT room, phone number, and electronic mail address. The database provides up-to-date information used in the RLE Personnel Directory, which is published annually during the fall term. If you have a user account on the RLE mainframe and would like viewing access, please call Administrative Assistant Maureen

Howard in Headquarters (3-2519). To open a user account, please call Computer Facility Manager Dave Foss (3-2528).

Document Room On-line Catalog. The RLE Document Room staff has started to catalog the lab's book collection using a user-friendly library automation software package called "The Assistant." Books are now being organized by Library of Congress call number. Document Room users will be able to conduct an on-line search for materials by subject, title, author, and call number or series. An IBM personal computer located in the Document Room (36-412) can access the new on-line RLE catalog, as well as the MIT Libraries' Barton system. The Document Room staff would be pleased to demonstrate the new system for you. For information,

please call Communications Officer Barbara Passero or Editorial Assistant Mary Ziegler (3-2566).

Sponsored Projects Database. Work continues in Headquarters on the RLE sponsored projects database. New accounts are currently being entered into the database by Financial Assistant Gina Milton. The Fiscal Group is able to produce lists of the over 300 RLE sponsored project accounts sorted by account number, principal investigator, sponsor, type of award, and project end date. In the future, the contract reporting function will provide RLE principal investigators with quarterly information about reporting requirements on sponsored projects.

NEW FACES



Texas native **Felicia G. Brady** began work as part-time Secretary for Professor George Bekefi in the Plasma Physics Group on September 17, 1990. Felicia received her BA from Texas Tech University, where she studied piano. She also earned an artist's diploma in piano from Boston University. Felicia occasionally accompanies vocalist Wendy Hunter, Senior Staff Assistant with the Radio Astronomy Group, at music recitals.



Part-time Administrative Assistant **Ann K. Dix** started work with Professor Louis D. Braida in the Sensory Communications Group on July 30, 1990. Ann received her BA in French from Colorado State University and is currently enrolled in a master's program in speech pathology at Boston University. She previously worked with Professor Bruno Coppi in the Plasma Physics Group. An avid bird-watcher, Ann enjoys singing and playing the piano. Before coming to MIT, she sang with the California rock group The Generics.



Secretary **Sarah L. Larson**, a Missouri native, works with Professor Jin Au Kong in RLE's Center for Electromagnetic Theory Applications. Before coming to RLE on July 23, 1990, Sarah worked in the public relations department of the Oklahoma City Zoo. She earned her BA from the University of Oklahoma and studied at the Sorbonne in Paris.



Gina L. Baskerville Milton joined Headquarters as Financial Assistant to RLE Fiscal Officer Donald F. Duffy on May 21, 1990. A native New Yorker, Gina holds a bachelor's degree in economics from Northeastern University. Before RLE, she worked in payroll at Bank of New England, and as a store manager at Joss Company. Gina, husband Ron, and nine-year-old Rashad are expecting a "bundle of joy" in December at their new home in Milton.



Technician-B **Mark K. Mondol** joined the Materials and Fabrication Group, under the supervision of Research Specialist James M. Carter, on July 25, 1990. A Michigan native, Mark earned an associate's degree from Lansing Community College. He was previously a technician for Ord, Inc., a safari guide in Nepal, and a rigger for Ringling Brothers Circus.

ENCORE!



After a one-year absence, **Janice L. Balzer** returned as Senior Staff Assistant to Professors William T. Peake, William M. Siebert, and Thomas F. Weiss in the Auditory Physiology Group. During her "sabbatical," Janice was the registrar at Cushing Academy in Ashburnham. In addition to fishing, reading, and cooking, Janice has been busy renovating her 76-year-old home in Gardner.



Arlene E. Wint has returned to the Speech Communication Group after a two-year absence. Arlene previously worked in the Speech Communication Group from 1986-88, and came back on September 13, 1990, as part-time Senior Staff Assistant for Professor Kenneth N. Stevens. A native of Jamaica, West Indies, Arlene earned her BA from the University of the West Indies and headed the Spanish department at Montego Bay High School.

IN MEMORIAM

Arthur E. Berg of Dedham, 75, died suddenly on July 27, 1990. Arthur was a member of the MIT Radiation Lab (Group 63), and joined RLE as a technician in 1946. He worked with several RLE research groups, including the Communications Biophysics Laboratory, and became an engineering assistant. He transferred to the Plasma Fusion Center in 1975 and retired in 1980. Donations in Arthur's memory can be made to: American Diabetes Foundation, 190 North Main Street, Natick, MA 01760.

Younes Borki, 19, died suddenly on October 1, 1990. Younes was a UROP student who worked with Senior Research Scientist Nathaniel I. Durlach in the Sensory Communication Group. A native of Morocco, Younes was a sophomore in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.

RLE undercurrents

undercurrents is a publication of the Research Laboratory of Electronics for the RLE community at MIT. The following individuals contributed their time and energy to this issue: John F. Cook, Dorothy A. Fleischer, David W. Foss, Barbara Passero, Robert H. Priest, and Donna Maria Ticchi.

Inquiries may be addressed to:
RLE *undercurrents* (36-412)

SHORT WAVES . . . cont. from page 1

their visit to Boston last June. Sheena (then a fourth grader) graciously led her Mather School classmates as they participated in a brief historic ceremony on the Boston Common. (Photo courtesy of Mather School)

Administrative Assistant **Susan E. Nelson** of the Circuits and Systems Group is the proud mother of Ethan George, born on August 18, 1990. Ethan weighed 9 pounds, 6 ounces and measured 20-1/2 inches. Ethan's older brother James will be five in December.

Research Specialist **Mark I. Shepard** of the Materials and Fabrication Group and Rebecca Lyne Michael were married on August 18, 1990, in

Arlington, Virginia. Rebecca attends New England Conservatory where she is seeking teacher certification in music. The couple resides in Cambridge.

You'd Better Watch Out! The annual RLE holiday party will be held on Thursday, December 20th from noon to 2:00 p.m. in 34-401 (Grier Room). Santa Claus will arrive to share the joy of the season with us.



Once Is Not Enough.

RLE is participating in the new MIT paper recycling program, so be sure to look for specially designated recycling bins in your area. For information, call

RLE Facilities Officer Gerry Power (3-2541).



Current and former RLEers celebrate at the MIT Quarter Century Club's annual picnic last June. Front row, from left: John T. Connolly, John A. McKenzie, Gladys Barron, John B. Sanroma, Mary B. Scalleri, Ionia Lewis, Dorothea C. Scanlon. Back row, from left: Elaine J. Cook, Paul L. Smith, Francis Bowes and Thomas Lynch (two non-RLE "tag-a-longs" from MIT Property Office), William J. Mulligan, Daniel W. Calileo, Richard V. Keyes, John F. Cook, Edward W. Fitzgerald, Jr. (Photo by Sarah Cook)



Support Staff members get their piece of the pie at Secretary's Day Luncheon held last April. From left: Administrative Assistants Susan E. Nelson, Maureen C. Howard, Nora M. Luongo, and Administrative Buyer Assistant Maxine P. Samuels.



Associate Director Professor Daniel Kleppner models whimsical gift from Headquarters staff at a gathering last June in appreciation of his six-month tenure as RLE Acting Director.

Photos by John Cook