

ROUNDTABLE SESSION: S. S. STEVENS, THE MAN, THE SCIENTIST

Bertram Scharf (Convener)

*Department of Psychology, Northeastern University, Boston, MA 02115
scharf@neu.edu*

As part of Stevens Day, 26 July 2006, some of his former students and collaborators participate in an informal roundtable titled, S. S. Stevens: The man, the scientist. They present a series of vignettes that focus on personal relationships and exchanges, mostly about psychophysics. We hope thereby to gain insight into the way Stevens identified a problem, placed it in its appropriate context, related it to what was already known, developed needed analytic and experimental procedures, provided the theoretical even philosophical underpinnings, and finally came up with clear and impelling presentations in word and figure. A primary goal of the round table is to provide inspiration and advice to our younger colleagues.

The participants are Gene Galanter, Ron Hinchcliffe, Larry Marks, Howie Moskowitz, Bert Scharf and also Stevens's son, Peter, who talks about Smitty's family background, his earlier life, his professional beginnings. Miguelina Guirao, Rhona Hellman, Duncan Luce, Irwin Pollack, and Joe Zwislocki contribute brief written statements to be read at the meeting.

Peter Stevens and Gene Galanter provide photos from Stevens' life (sample overleaf)

Participants (in order of first association with Smitty)

Peter Stevens		Son
Irwin Pollack	late 1940s early 1950s	Graduate student
Josef J. Zwislocki	1951-1957	Research Fellow
Ronald Hinchcliffe	1955-1956.	Research Fellow Studying Stevens' approach to psychoacoustics
Bertram Scharf	1955-1968	Graduate student Doctoral thesis on loudness.
Eugene Galanter	1956-1958	Post Doctoral Fellow. Magnitude estimation technologies
Miguelina Guriao	1960-1962 1962-1966 1972-1973	Postdoctoral fellow Research fellow
Larry Marks	1962-1965	Graduate student Collaborator and coauthor
Rhona Hellman	1966-1973	Research associate Loudness Research
Howard R. Moskowitz	1966-1969	Graduate student Thesis on taste psychophysics and cross-modality matching
R. Duncan Luce	1969-1973	Lecturer



Smitty Relaxing - Alone



Smitty Relaxing – With Colleagues and Friends