

voted to Jussi. The most interesting one is simply called "Jussi Bjorling" ([www.myspace.com/bjorlingbjorling](http://www.myspace.com/bjorlingbjorling)). This group has 220 'friends', lists a nice biography of our favorite tenor, and features three recordings in addition to some very nice pictures.

Another MySpace group is called "Caruso & Bjorling" ([www.myspace.com/carusobjorling](http://www.myspace.com/carusobjorling)) and has 90 'friends'. In addition to a few recordings, this group also features three videos.

**FACEBOOK** JBS-USA has actually setup its own page on Facebook (page: **Jussi-Björling-Society-USA**) with 89 members at present. On this page you can find information about events the Society has planned and also information about new Björling recordings. There are also a few sample recordings to listen to. Members there are from all parts of the world.

Also on Facebook is an even larger group called "Jussi Bjorling fan's" [sic] which has 289 members. Other than a few pictures and audio recordings, there is little to see here other than the members who have shown an interest in Jussi.

Most delightful of all the Facebook assemblies is a group called "**Church of Jussi Bjoerling**". It only has 6 members, but I hope its ranks will swell with time since its purpose is so profound: "A group dedicated to devout classical singing fans gathering together to talk about and worship their God Jussi; discuss other classical singing saints of the past and new, upcoming singers. We await the second coming of Jussi, when he will descend on the earth singing a mighty High C of such power it will destroy all unbelievers and bad singers who are not protected from his wrath and there

will be a new world of glorious singing that rings like a clarion bell throughout eternity ..."

New pages and new groups are being formed all of the time. When you have a few extra minutes, go out and explore. Sometimes you can find some pretty amazing information about Jussi and his career. ■



Internet explorer  
Greg Fitzmaurice

## A Progress Report on Björling Radio Broadcasts from 1937-1952: Good News!

by Dan Shea

Those of us who heard some of Jussi Björling's radio broadcasts from the 1940s and 1950s in good sound, via recordings obtained from the Library of Congress in 2002 by the JB Museum, have wanted to make those generally available. But the legal arrangements agreed to in 2002 forbade general release of that material, and our attempts to negotiate new arrangements with NBC Universal have been met with completely unrealistic financial demands.

Luckily all that material—and more—has become available via interesting new sources, and we have been advised that this material can be published and made available in the USA and elsewhere around the world. Thus JBS has made some preliminary arrangements with a fine record-publishing company, Music&Arts of San Francisco, to co-produce two or more CD, including the *Bell Telephone Hour*, the *Voice of Firestone*, the *Standard Hour*, and the *General Motors Hour*.

The actual programs available include those listed in Sue Flaster's article on the "Library of Congress recordings" published in issue Nr. 14 of the *JBS Journal*, as well as surprisingly good recordings from 1937 of the "Solenne in questora" duet from *Forza del Destino* with Donald Dickson, and the final scene from *Faust* with Dickson and Grace Moore. Our progress has been made possible thanks to deeply-appreciated cooperation by Atty. Christopher Whent, Fred Maroth of Music&Arts, collector Andy Pope, the Seth B. Winner Sound Studios, Anders Björling, the JBS Board of Directors, and others.

We look forward to bringing you regular updates of our progress toward publication of CDs with these radio broadcasts of Björling's performances, never before available in such high-quality sound!